

Introduction

This publication presents early estimates of apprentice and trainee commencements for the December quarter 2011. Indicative information about this quarter is presented here; the most recent figures are estimated, taking into account reporting lags that occur at the time of data collection.

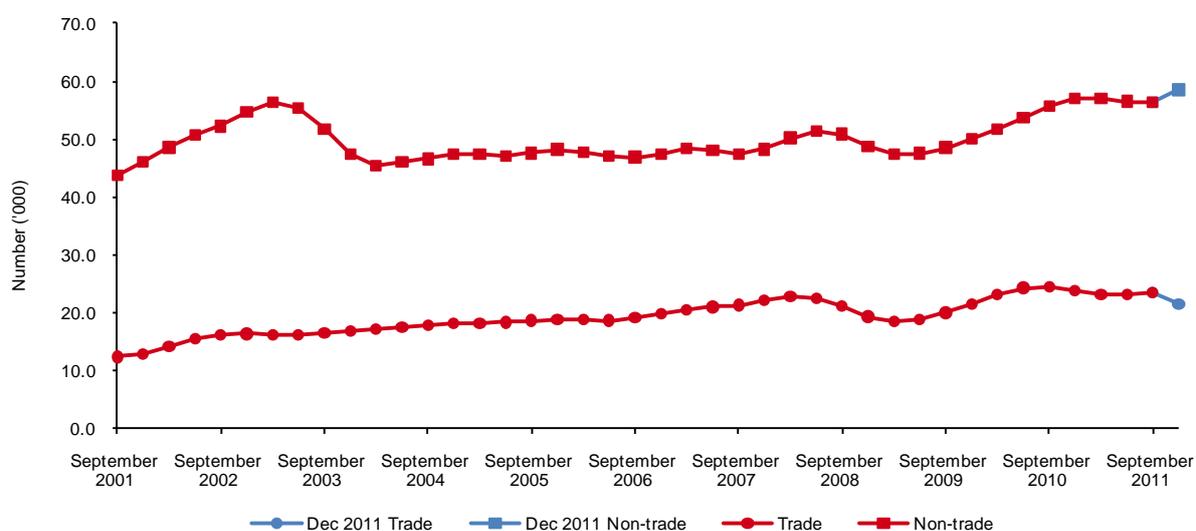
The early trend estimates are derived from the National Apprentice and Trainee Collection no.70, December 2011. Data are only available for commencements at the national level and have been seasonally adjusted and smoothed. Further information at the disaggregated level for the December quarter 2011 will be released in early June 2012.

Highlights

Early indications for the December quarter 2011 show that:

- Trade commencements have decreased, after only one quarter of slight growth. Trade commencements have now decreased in four of the last five quarters.
- Non-trade commencements have increased, marking a return to the steady upward trend displayed from the June quarter 2009 to the March quarter 2011, following declines in the June and September quarters of 2011.

Figure 1 Trade and non-trade commencements, seasonally adjusted and smoothed, September 2001 – December 2011



Data for this publication are compiled under the Australian Vocational Education and Training Management Information Statistical Standard (AVETMISS) for the Apprentice and Trainee Collection Specifications, Release 6.0, March 2008. Information on AVETMISS is available from <http://www.ncver.edu.au/avetmiss/21061.html>.

For terms used in this publication, refer to <http://www.ncver.edu.au/publications/2479.html>. For further details on the estimates methodology, refer to <http://www.ncver.edu.au/publications/2267.html>.

Table 1 Trade and non-trade commencements, seasonally adjusted and smoothed, September 2001 – December 2011 ('000)

	Trade	Non-trade	Total
September 2001	12.4	43.7	56.1
December 2001	12.9	46.0	58.9
March 2002	14.1	48.6	62.6
June 2002	15.4	50.7	66.1
September 2002	16.2	52.3	68.4
December 2002	16.4	54.8	71.0
March 2003	16.2	56.4	72.5
June 2003	16.2	55.4	71.7
September 2003	16.5	51.6	68.4
December 2003	16.9	47.5	64.6
March 2004	17.2	45.5	62.7
June 2004	17.5	46.0	63.5
September 2004	17.8	46.6	64.4
December 2004	18.1	47.3	65.5
March 2005	18.2	47.5	65.9
June 2005	18.3	47.2	65.7
September 2005	18.6	47.6	66.2
December 2005	18.9	48.2	67.0
March 2006	18.7	47.7	66.3
June 2006	18.6	47.0	65.5
September 2006	19.2	46.9	66.1
December 2006	19.9	47.5	67.4
March 2007	20.6	48.4	68.9
June 2007	21.0	48.1	68.9
September 2007	21.3	47.5	68.6
December 2007	22.1	48.3	70.3
March 2008	22.8	50.2	73.1
June 2008	22.5	51.4	73.9
September 2008	21.1	50.8	71.8
December 2008	19.3	48.8	67.9
March 2009	18.4	47.4	65.8
June 2009	18.9	47.5	66.3
September 2009	20.0	48.5	68.5
December 2009	21.6	50.0	71.6
March 2010	23.0	51.7	74.8
June 2010	24.3	53.8	77.9
September 2010	24.5	55.8	79.9
December 2010	23.9	56.9	80.5
March 2011	23.2	57.0	80.0
June 2011	23.1	56.5	79.5
September 2011	23.5	56.4	79.6
December 2011 ^(a)	21.4	58.6	80.2

Note: (a) The December quarter 2011 estimate is based on an early estimate which is seasonally adjusted (based on data from September 2001 to December 2011) and 7-point Henderson smoothed. Only the December quarter 2011 estimate from this series is presented. The quarterly data presented to September 2011 have been seasonally adjusted (based on data from September 2001 to September 2011) and 7-point Henderson smoothed. These are consistent with the forthcoming September quarterly 2011 publication.

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