

Introduction

This publication presents early estimates of apprentice and trainee commencements for the December quarter 2014. 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.

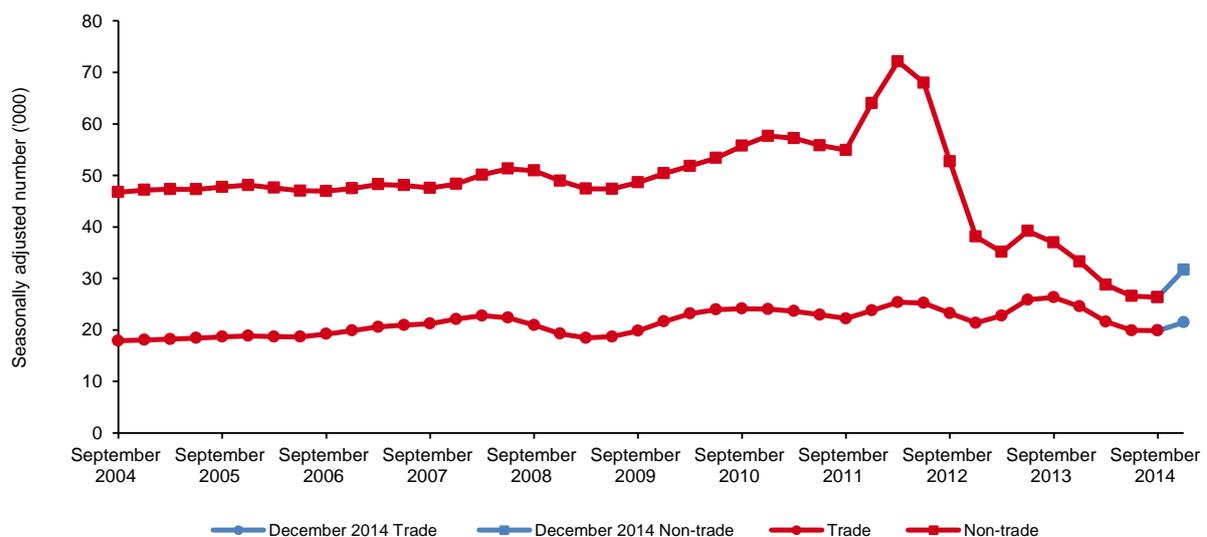
The early trend estimates are derived from the National Apprentice and Trainee Collection no.82, December 2014. Data are only available for commencements at the national level and have been seasonally adjusted. Further information at the disaggregated level for the December 2014 quarter will be released in early June 2015.

Highlights

Early indications for the December 2014 quarter show that:

- Seasonally adjusted trade commencements increased from 19 900 in the September 2014 quarter to 21 500, thus ending a series of declines since September 2013.
- Seasonally adjusted non-trade commencements increased from 26 400 in the September quarter 2014 to 31 700, suggesting an end to the series of declines since June 2013.

Figure 1 Trade and non-trade commencements, seasonally adjusted, September 2004 – December 2014



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/2779.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, September 2004 – December 2014 ('000)

	Trade	Non-trade	Total
September 2004	17.9	46.7	64.8
December 2004	18.1	47.2	65.4
March 2005	18.2	47.3	65.7
June 2005	18.4	47.3	65.9
September 2005	18.7	47.7	66.5
December 2005	18.9	48.1	66.9
March 2006	18.7	47.6	66.2
June 2006	18.7	47.0	65.6
September 2006	19.2	47.0	66.2
December 2006	19.9	47.5	67.5
March 2007	20.6	48.3	68.8
June 2007	20.9	48.1	68.9
September 2007	21.2	47.5	68.7
December 2007	22.1	48.3	70.4
March 2008	22.8	50.1	73.0
June 2008	22.4	51.3	73.8
September 2008	20.9	50.9	71.9
December 2008	19.3	49.0	68.2
March 2009	18.4	47.4	65.8
June 2009	18.7	47.4	66.1
September 2009	19.8	48.6	68.6
December 2009	21.7	50.4	72.2
March 2010	23.2	51.8	75.1
June 2010	24.0	53.4	77.4
September 2010	24.1	55.8	79.8
December 2010	24.0	57.7	81.4
March 2011	23.7	57.2	80.7
June 2011	23.0	55.8	78.9
September 2011	22.2	54.9	77.0
December 2011	23.8	64.0	87.6
March 2012	25.4	72.1	97.7
June 2012	25.2	68.0	93.6
September 2012	23.3	52.7	76.4
December 2012	21.4	38.1	59.7
March 2013	22.8	35.1	58.0
June 2013	25.9	39.2	64.9
September 2013	26.3	37.0	62.7
December 2013	24.6	33.2	57.4
March 2014	21.6	28.8	50.5
June 2014	19.9	26.6	46.5
September 2014	19.9	26.4	45.8
December 2014	21.5	31.7	52.0

Notes:

- (a) The December quarter 2014 estimate is based on an early estimate which is seasonally adjusted and smoothed (based on data from September 2004 to December 2014). The quarterly data presented to September 2014 have been seasonally adjusted and smoothed (based on data from September 2004 to September 2014). These are consistent with the forthcoming September 2014 quarterly publication.
- (b) The substantial growth in non-trade commencements leading up to the June quarter 2012 and the subsequent decline is predominantly due to changes to Commonwealth incentive payments for existing workers. Under the changes, commencement incentive payments for those apprenticeships and traineeships not on the National Skills Needs List (NSNL) were removed from 1 July 2012. From 3 August 2013, non-NSNL existing workers who commenced an apprenticeship or traineeship were no longer eligible to claim completion incentive payments (priority occupations such as aged care, childcare, disability care and enrolled nurses were exempt from this change).

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