

## Students and Courses 2009: Terms and definitions

NCVER

This document was produced as an added resource for the publication *Students and Courses 2009*. The publication is available on NCVER's website:  
<<http://www.ncver.edu.au>>

The views and opinions expressed in this document are those of NCVER and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Australian Government or state and territory governments.

© Commonwealth of Australia, 2010

This work has been produced by the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) on behalf of the Australian Government and state and territory governments, with funding provided through the Australian Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations. Apart from any use permitted under the *Copyright Act 1968*, no part of this publication may be reproduced by any process without written permission. Requests should be made to NCVER.

# Introduction

---

This document covers the data terms used in the *Students and Courses 2009* publication and its associated data tables. The primary purpose of this document is to assist users of the publication to understand the specific data terms used within it.

Terms that appear in the publication are listed in alphabetical order with the following information provided for each:

- ✧ Definition: a brief explanation of the term
- ✧ Classification categories: where applicable, defined categories that apply to each term are listed
- ✧ Source: a description of the source of this information, including details of any calculations or derivations.

Unless stated otherwise, all data are sourced from the national VET Provider Collection. The VET Provider Collection is an administrative collection governed by the *Australian Vocational Education and Training Management Information Statistical Standard: VET Provider Collection Specifications Release 6.0* (AVETMISS Release 6.0) and *AVETMISS Data Element Definitions Edition 2*, which are available at NCVER's website: <<http://www.ncver.edu.au>>. References to the applicable field definitions within AVETMISS Release 6.0, which further define the data collected, are provided in the 'Source' section.

Terms and acronyms which have a broader vocational education and training application have not been included in this document. Readers are referred to the *VET glossary*, which is available at NCVER's website: <<http://www.ncver.edu.au/resources/glossary.html>>.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Classification categories</b>	<b>Source</b>
Age	The age of the student as at 30 June of the collection year. It is generally reported in age ranges.	14 years and under 15 to 19 years 20 to 24 years 25 to 44 years 45 to 64 years 65 years and over Not known	Calculated based on the AVETMISS field <i>Date of Birth</i> from the <i>Client</i> file.
Apprentice/ trainee status	Whether a student is undertaking some training under an Apprenticeship/ Traineeship Training Contract.	Apprentices and trainees (undertaking off-the-job training) Not apprentices and trainees	Calculated based on the AVETMISS field <i>Client Identifier – New Apprenticeships</i> from the <i>Enrolment</i> file.
AQF qualification level	The level of an Australian Qualification Framework (AQF) qualification in which a student is enrolled.  The AQF is a unified system of national qualifications in schools, vocational education and training (TAFE institutes and private providers) and the higher education sector (mainly universities).	Diploma or higher Certificate IV Certificate III Certificate II Certificate I	Collected in the AVETMISS field <i>Qualification/Course Level of Education Identifier</i> from the <i>Course</i> file.
Course enrolment	The courses in which students are enrolled in a given period. For students enrolled in multiple courses, all courses are counted.	N/A	Calculated based on the AVETMISS fields <i>Qualification/Course Identifier</i> , <i>Client Identifier</i> and <i>Training Organisation Delivery Location Identifier</i> from the <i>Enrolment</i> file.
Current qualification level	The level of a qualification in which a student is enrolled.  For students with subject enrolments in more than one qualification level, a highest current qualification level is assigned, based on the hierarchical order presented under the classification categories.	AQF qualification Diploma or higher Certificate IV Certificate III Certificate II Certificate I Non AQF qualification Other recognised courses Non-award courses Subject only-no qualification	Collected in the AVETMISS field <i>Qualification/Course Level of Education Identifier</i> from the <i>Course</i> file.
Delivery type	The predominant style or mode of delivery for a subject enrolment.	College/campus based Online/remote access Employment based Other Not applicable	Collected in the AVETMISS field <i>Delivery Mode Identifier</i> from the <i>Enrolment</i> file.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Classification categories</b>	<b>Source</b>
Disability (including impairment or long-term condition)	Whether the student self-identifies as having a disability, impairment or long term condition.	With a disability Without a disability Not known	Collected in the AVETMISS field <i>Disability Flag</i> from the <i>Client</i> file.
English (Main language spoken at home)	Whether the student speaks a language other than English at home.	English Others	Collected in the AVETMISS field <i>Main Language other than English Spoken at Home Identifier</i> from the <i>Client</i> file.
English-speaking background (based on Country of birth)	The language region (English-speaking or non English-speaking) of the country in which a student was born.	English speaking background countries Australia Other English speaking background countries Non-English speaking background countries Not known	Collected in the AVETMISS field <i>Country Identifier</i> from the <i>Client</i> file.
Field of education	Describes the broad area of study related to a qualification or subject in which a student is enrolled.	Natural and physical sciences Information technology Engineering and related technologies Architecture and building Agriculture, environmental and related studies Health Education Management and commerce Society and culture Creative arts Food, hospitality and personal services Mixed field programs Subject only — no field of education	Collected in the AVETMISS field <i>Module/Unit of Competency Field of Education Identifier</i> from the <i>Module/Unit of Competency</i> file for subject enrolments and the field <i>Qualification/Course Field of Education Identifier</i> from the <i>Course</i> file for qualification enrolments.
Full –Year Training Equivalents (FYTEs)	Measures the training activity undertaken by a student on a full-time basis for one year.	N/A	Calculated based on <i>Hours of delivery</i> (720 hours = 1 FYTE).
Funding source	The predominant source of the funding for a subject enrolment.  For students with subject enrolments in more than one funding category, a major funding source is assigned in hierarchical order (Commonwealth and state funding, Domestic full-fee paying and International full-fee paying).	Commonwealth and state funding Domestic full-fee paying International full-fee paying	Collected in the AVETMISS field <i>Funding Source – National</i> from the <i>Enrolment</i> file.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Classification categories</b>	<b>Source</b>
Highest school level completed	The highest level of schooling completed by a student prior to commencing training.	Year 12 Year 11 Year 10 Year 9 or lower Did not go to school Not known	Collected in the AVETMISS field <i>Highest School Level Completed</i> from the <i>Client</i> file.
Hours of delivery	The hours of supervised training under a traditional delivery strategy for each subject enrolment.	N/A	Calculated based on nationally agreed nominal hours for national reporting collected as the AVETMISS field <i>Nominal Hours</i> from the <i>Module/Unit of Competency</i> file.
Indigenous status	Whether a student self-identifies as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent.	Indigenous students Others	Collected in the AVETMISS field <i>Indigenous Status Identifier</i> from the <i>Client</i> file.
Industry Skills Councils	Refers to categories of training package qualifications by their specific industry sectors. Industry skills councils represent particular industries and groups of training packages.  See appendix A for a complete list of training packages grouped by industry skills councils.	Agri–Food Community Services & Health Construction & Property Services Electrocomms & Energy Utilities ForestWorks Government Innovation & Business Manufacturing Services SkillsDMC Transport & Logistics	Calculated based on the AVETMISS field <i>Qualification/Course Identifier</i> from the <i>Course</i> file.
Labour force status	The student's employment status.	Employed Unemployed Not in the labour force Not known	Collected in the AVETMISS field <i>Labour Force Status Identifier</i> from the <i>Client</i> file.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Classification categories</b>	<b>Source</b>
Occupation (ANZSCO) group	The intended occupational outcome of a qualification/course. Occupations are classified using the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZSCO).	Managers and Administrators Professionals Technicians and Trades Workers Community and Personal Service Workers Clerical and Administrative Workers Sales Workers Machinery Operators and Drivers Labourers Occupational Non-Specific – General Education Non-Industry Specific Training Non-VET Course – No Occupational Outcome	Collected in the AVETMISS field <i>ANZSCO Identifier</i> from the <i>Course file</i> .
Previous highest education level	The highest level of education, including post-compulsory education, a student had successfully completed before commencing training.	Bachelor degree or Higher degree level Advanced diploma or Associate degree Diploma Certificate IV Certificate III Year 12 Year 11 Certificate II Year 10 Certificate I Miscellaneous education Year 9 or lower Did not go to school Not known	Calculated based on the hierarchical order of the classification collected as AVETMISS fields <i>Prior Educational Achievement Identifier</i> from the <i>Prior Educational Achievement</i> file and <i>Highest School Level Completed</i> from the <i>Client</i> file.
Prior education	Whether a student has successfully completed post secondary education.	Prior education No prior education Not known	Collected in the AVETMISS field <i>Prior Educational Achievement Flag</i> from the <i>Client</i> file.
Proficiency in spoken English	The self-assessed level of ability to speak English.	English Non-English Very well or well Not well or not well at all Not known	Collected in the AVETMISS field <i>Proficiency in Spoken English Identifier</i> from the <i>Client</i> file.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Classification categories</b>	<b>Source</b>
Provider type profile	The type of institution or organisation providing the training.	TAFE and other government providers Community education providers Other registered providers Students attending various providers	Collected in the AVETMISS field <i>Training Organisation Type Identifier</i> from the <i>Training Organisation</i> file.
Qualification completed	Indicates that a student has completed a structured and integrated program of education or training.	N/A	Calculated based on the AVETMISS file <i>Qualification Completed (NAT00130)</i> , excluding those qualifications that are associated with training provided by a school, non-VET qualifications, and qualifications that are classed as 'other education', including non-award courses and miscellaneous education.
Qualification completed only	Indicates that a student's qualification has been awarded but their study had been completed in a year prior to that of the data submission.	Award only Non award only	Calculated based on the AVETMISS field <i>Client Identifier</i> . A client is an award only student when the <i>Client Identifier</i> appears in the <i>Qualification Completed</i> file but not in the <i>Enrolment</i> file.
Qualification completed and issued	Indicates that a student has been issued with a recognised credential for the successful completion of a recognised qualification or course.	Issued Not issued	Collected in the AVETMISS field <i>Qualification Issued Flag</i> from the <i>Qualification Completed</i> file.
Qualification equivalents	Express skill outputs in terms of equivalent qualifications within each AQF level and Field of Education.  See appendix B for qualification equivalents notional values.	N/A	Calculated based on the Total Hours of Delivery divided by the associated Qualification Equivalents value.
School status	Whether a student is still at school or not.	Still attending school Not attending school Not known	Collected in the AVETMISS field <i>At School Flag</i> from the <i>Client</i> file.
Student postcode region	Whether activity by the student is undertaken interstate or not in relation to the data submitter.	Within state Interstate Outside Australia Not known	Calculated based on the AVETMISS field <i>Postcode</i> from the <i>Client</i> file.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Classification categories</b>	<b>Source</b>
Student Remoteness (ARIA+) Region	<p>The degree of remoteness of a location in terms of the ease or difficulty people face in accessing services in non-metropolitan Australia.</p> <p>Using the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), postcodes are assigned to Remoteness Areas based on ARIA+ scores for postcodes.</p> <p>ARIA+ is an index of remoteness derived from measures of road distance between populated localities and service centres. These road distance measures are then used to generate a remoteness score for any location in Australia.</p> <p>The ASGC divides Australia into six Remoteness Areas and is used for collection and dissemination of geographically classified statistics. It groups locations together into comparative classes of remoteness so that data can be collected, analysed and disseminated for broad regions which are more or less remote.</p>	<p>Major cities</p> <p>Inner regional</p> <p>Outer regional</p> <p>Remote</p> <p>Very remote</p> <p>Outside Australia</p> <p>Not known</p>	<p>Calculated based on the AVETMISS field <i>Postcode</i> from the <i>Client</i> file, and mapped to the Access/Remoteness Index of Australia Plus (ARIA+), developed by the National Centre for Social Applications of GIS (GISCA).</p>
Study mode	<p>Whether a student undertakes full-time or part-time study. A student who undertakes 540 hours of delivery or more annually is considered a full-time student.</p>	<p>Full-time</p> <p>Part-time</p>	<p>Calculated based on nationally agreed nominal hours for all enrolments and aggregated for each student.</p>
Subject result	<p>The result that is recorded against a student's subject enrolment.</p>	<p>Assessed-passed</p> <p>Recognition of prior learning</p> <p>Recognition of current competency</p> <p>Recognition of prior learning – Not granted</p> <p>Assessed – failed</p> <p>Withdrawn</p> <p>Continuing studies</p> <p>Not assessed-completed</p> <p>Not assessed-not completed</p>	<p>Collected in the AVETMISS field <i>Outcome Identifier – National</i> from the <i>Enrolment</i> file.</p>
Subjects successfully completed	<p>The proportion of subjects a student has successfully completed.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Calculated based on the AVETMISS field <i>Outcome Identifier – National</i> from the <i>Enrolment</i> file.</p>
Type of accreditation	<p>The level of accreditation of a student's qualification.</p>	<p>National training package qualifications</p> <p>Nationally accredited courses</p> <p>Other courses</p> <p>Subject only – no accreditation</p>	<p>Collected in the AVETMISS field <i>Qualification/ Course Recognition Identifier</i> from the <i>Course</i> file.</p>
Type of subject	<p>Whether a subject is vocational, in that it is intended to develop competency in skills relevant to the workplace or non vocational.</p>	<p>Vocational</p> <p>Non vocational</p>	<p>Collected in the AVETMISS field <i>VET Flag</i> from the <i>Module/Unit of Competency</i> file.</p>
VET course	<p>Whether a course is vocational, in that it is intended to develop competency in skills relevant to the workplace or non vocational.</p>	<p>Vocational course</p> <p>Non vocational course</p>	<p>Collected in the AVETMISS field <i>VET Flag</i> from the <i>Course</i> file.</p>



## Appendix A: training packages grouped by industry skills councils

Industry skills council	Training packages
<b>Agri-Food</b>	MTM – Australian Meat Industry
	FDF – Food Processing Industry
	RTF – Amenity Horticulture
	RUH – Horticulture (superseded by RTF)
	RTE – Rural Production
	RUA – Agriculture (superseded by RTE)
	AGF – Agri-Food
	AGR – Conditionally endorsed Agri-Food (superseded by AGF)
	RGR – Racing Industry
	RTD – Conservation and Land Management
	RUV – Animal Care and Management
	SFI – Seafood Industry
	SUG – Sugar Milling
<b>Community Services and Health</b>	CHC – Community Services
	HLT – Health
	ZBS – Australasian Red Cross Blood Services (confidential)
<b>Construction and Property Services</b>	PRM – Asset Maintenance
	PRS – Asset Security (superseded by CPP)
	BCG – General Construction (superseded by CPC)
	BCF – Off-site Construction (superseded by CPC)
	BCP – Plumbing and Services (superseded by CPC)
	PRD – Property Development and Management (superseded by CPP)
	CPP – Property Services
	CPC – Construction, Plumbing & Services Integrated Framework
<b>Electocomms and Energy Utilities</b>	UET – Transmission, Distribution and Rail
	UTT – Electricity Supply Industry – Transmission and Distribution (superseded by UET)
	UEE – Electrotechnology Industry
	UTE – Electrotechnology Industry (superseded by UEE)
	UEG – Gas Industry
	UTG – Gas Industry (superseded by UEG)
	UEP – Electricity Supply Industry – Generation Sector
	UTL – Lifts Industry (superseded by and included in UEE)
	UTP – Electricity Supply Industry – Generation (superseded by UEP)
<b>ForestWorks</b>	FPI – Forest and Forest Products Industry
	FPP – Pulp and Paper Manufacturing Industries

<b>Government</b>	CSC – Correctional Services
	LGA – Local Government
	PSP – Public Sector
	NWP – Water Industry
	UTW – Water Industry (superseded by NWP)
	PUA – Public Safety (confidential)
<b>Innovation and Business</b>	BSA – Administration (superseded by BSB)
	BSB – Business Services
	FNA – Finance (superseded by FNB)
	FNB – Financial Services (superseded by FNS)
	FNS – Financial Services
	ICA – Information and Communications Technology
	ICT – Telecommunications
	BSZ – Assessment and Workplace Training (superseded by TAA)
	CUE – Entertainment Industry
	CUF – Screen and Media
	CUL – Museum and Library/Information Services
	CUS – Music
	CUV – Visual Arts, Craft and Design
	ICP – Printing and Graphic Arts
TAA – Training and Assessment	
<b>Manufacturing Skills Australia</b>	MEM – Metal and Engineering Industry
	PMB – Plastics, Rubber and Cablemaking
	AUM – Automotive Industry Manufacturing
	AUR – Automotive Industry Retail, Service and Repair
	LMF – Furnishing Industry
	LMT – Textiles, Clothing and Footwear
	MCM – Competitive Manufacturing (superseded by MSA)
	MEA – Aeroskills
	MSA – Manufacturing
	MSL – Laboratory Operations
	PMA – Chemical, Hydrocarbons and Oil Refining
	PMC – Manufactured Mineral Products
	PML – Laboratory Operations (superseded by MSL)
	ZCA – Service Technician – Portable Fire Equipment (Chubb Fire)
<b>Service Skills Australia</b>	WRB – Beauty
	WRH – Hairdressing
	THH – Hospitality (superseded by SIT)
	SIT – Tourism, Hospitality and Events
	SIR – Retail Services
	WRR – Retail (superseded by SIR)

	SIF – Funeral Services
	SRC – Community Recreation Industry
	SRF – Fitness Industry
	SRO – Outdoor Recreation Industry
	SRS – Sport Industry
	THC – Caravan Industry
	THT – Tourism (superseded by SIT)
	WFS – Funeral Services (superseded by SIF)
	WRF – Floristry
	WRP – Community Pharmacy (superseded by SIR)
	WRW – Wholesale (superseded by SIR)
	ZWA – Woolworths (confidential)
<b>SkillsDMC</b>	BCC – Civil Construction
	RII – Resources and Infrastructure
	MNQ – Extractive Industry
	MNM – Metalliferous Mining
	DRT – Drilling Industry
	MNC – Coal
<b>Transport and Logistics</b>	TDT – Transport and Distribution (superseded by TLI)
	TDA – Aviation (superseded by AVI)
	AVI – Aviation
	TDM – Maritime
	TLI – Transport and Logistics
	ZPO – P & O Ports
	ZQF – Qantas (confidential)
	ZQR – Queensland Rail – Civil Infrastructure (confidential)
<b>No industry skills council</b>	TAL – Transport and Logistics (conditionally endorsed)
	ZBE – Boral Interior Lining (confidential)
	ZKO – Kodak Australasia (confidential)
	ZRG – Ricegrowers Co-operative Limited (confidential)
	ZWV – Humanitarian (confidential)

## Appendix B: qualification equivalents notional values

	Natural & Physical Sciences	Information technology	Engineering & related technologies	Architecture & building	Agriculture, environment & related studies	Health
Graduate Diploma	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>
*Professional Specialist qualification at Graduate Diploma Level	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>
Graduate Certificate	<i>360</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>360</i>
*Professional Specialist qualification at Graduate Certificate Level	<i>360</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>360</i>
*Bachelor Degree (Hons)	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>
Bachelor Degree (Pass)	<i>2160</i>	<i>2160</i>	<i>2160</i>	<i>2160</i>	<i>2160</i>	<i>2160</i>
*Associate Degree	<i>1440</i>	<i>1440</i>	<i>1440</i>	<i>1440</i>	<i>1440</i>	<i>1440</i>
Advanced Diploma	<i>1440</i>	<i>1820</i>	<i>1480</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>1440</i>	<i>830</i>
Diploma	<i>1440</i>	<i>1150</i>	<i>910</i>	<i>1580</i>	<i>1300</i>	<i>1330</i>
Certificate IV	<i>790</i>	<i>920</i>	<i>1180</i>	<i>780</i>	<i>530</i>	<i>820</i>
Certificate III	<i>500</i>	<i>480</i>	<i>860</i>	<i>860</i>	<i>640</i>	<i>540</i>
Certificate II	<i>360</i>	<i>370</i>	<i>390</i>	<i>640</i>	<i>490</i>	<i>250</i>
Certificate I	<i>240</i>	<i>240</i>	<i>250</i>	<i>210</i>	<i>180</i>	<i>240</i>
	Education	Management & commerce	Society & Culture	Creative Arts	Food, hospitality, personal services	Mixed field programs
Graduate Diploma	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>
*Professional Specialist qualification at Graduate Diploma Level	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>
Graduate Certificate	<i>360</i>	<i>320</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>360</i>
*Professional Specialist qualification at Graduate Certificate Level	<i>360</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>360</i>
*Bachelor Degree (Hons)	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>	<i>720</i>
Bachelor Degree (Pass)	<i>2160</i>	<i>2160</i>	<i>2160</i>	<i>2660</i>	<i>2160</i>	<i>2160</i>
*Associate Degree	<i>1440</i>	<i>1440</i>	<i>1440</i>	<i>1440</i>	<i>1440</i>	<i>1440</i>
Advanced Diploma	<i>1440</i>	<i>1200</i>	<i>1230</i>	<i>1630</i>	<i>1440</i>	<i>1440</i>
Diploma	<i>510</i>	<i>680</i>	<i>1030</i>	<i>1480</i>	<i>1660</i>	<i>1000</i>
Certificate IV	<i>320</i>	<i>430</i>	<i>770</i>	<i>780</i>	<i>1080</i>	<i>570</i>
Certificate III	<i>400</i>	<i>380</i>	<i>540</i>	<i>570</i>	<i>820</i>	<i>360</i>
Certificate II	<i>460</i>	<i>350</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>380</i>	<i>420</i>	<i>340</i>
Certificate I	<i>340</i>	<i>150</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>230</i>	<i>170</i>	<i>360</i>

Values in italics indicate insufficient data to calculate a robust median. Values assigned are based on the notion of Full-Year Training Equivalent (FYTE) and are fractions or multiples of 720 hours.

\*Indicates no data for this entire level of education