

Highest Level of Schooling
Occupational Major Group by Age and Total Employed Workforce by Age
and Employed Persons Without Schooling by Occupational Group and Age
– tables downloaded from www.jobmarkets.com.au –

The *Job Markets Australia* database on www.jobmarkets.com.au provides for over 1,060 occupations statistical analysis of the highest level of schooling attained by those currently employed in each occupation by selected age-groups. The movement towards ever higher levels of schooling across the overall workforce is apparent in this short paper's tables that deal with occupational major groups and the total employed workforce.

The increases in school retention to Year 12 or its equivalent for employed persons that have been occurring for some time in all occupational major groups are clearly shown by analysis of the detailed employment statistics from the *2021 Population Census*. This is shown in the tables on pages 2 and 3.

The original and analysed statistics for the total employed workforce are set out on page 4, illustrating that, whereas 56.6% of those aged 50 to 69 obtained that level of schooling, 77.7% of the 40 to 49 age-group and 83.0% of the 30 to 39 age-group did so.

The trend to increasing school retention is evident across the older age-groups, but it was strongest among 40 to 49 year olds – that is, those born between 1972 and 1981. This trend occurred in every occupational major group.

The figure of 77.4% for school retention to Year 12 or its equivalent in the 15 to 29 age-group is held down by the participation of teenagers still at school who are working, usually part-time in the Labourers major group (generally as kitchenhands, shelf fillers and fast food cooks) and the Sales Workers major group (mainly as sales assistants). The same understatement for the 15 to 29 age-group affects the occupations that supply entry-level jobs for school leavers.

The tables in this paper allow comparisons to be made between the levels of schooling in and among occupational major groups (and the overall workforce) and occupations of interest in the *Job Markets Australia* database on www.jobmarkets.com.au. Each occupation in that database has analysis of the highest qualification level achieved by age-group of those currently employed in the occupation.

In what might seem to be an anomalous result, the *2021 Population Census* identified over 42,000 employed persons who did not go to school. The original and analysed statistics for those who gave their employing industry are set out on page 4. The Labourers major group accounts for about a third, followed by Technicians and Trades Workers and Machinery Operators and Drivers. Skills and abilities acquired through natural aptitude and intelligence and informal training on-the-job – as well as enterprise and economic necessity – have enabled those without schooling to earn their living.

Major Group 1 Managers

	<u>15 to 29</u>	<u>30 to 39</u>	<u>40 to 49</u>	<u>50 to 69</u>	<u>All Ages</u>	<u>15 to 29</u>	<u>30 to 39</u>	<u>40 to 49</u>	<u>50 to 69</u>	<u>All Ages</u>
Year 12 or equivalent	144,120	343,005	376,732	357,012	1,220,869	85.9%	86.8%	83.4%	64.1%	77.6%
Year 11 or equivalent	9,869	19,694	27,361	63,832	120,756	5.9%	5.0%	6.1%	11.5%	7.7%
Year 10 or equivalent	11,992	28,858	42,591	120,644	204,085	7.1%	7.3%	9.4%	21.6%	13.0%
Year 9 or less schooling	1,892	3,669	5,157	15,855	26,573	1.1%	0.9%	1.1%	2.8%	1.7%
Total	167,873	395,226	451,841	557,343	1,572,283	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Major Group 2 Professionals

	<u>15 to 29</u>	<u>30 to 39</u>	<u>40 to 49</u>	<u>50 to 69</u>	<u>All Ages</u>	<u>15 to 29</u>	<u>30 to 39</u>	<u>40 to 49</u>	<u>50 to 69</u>	<u>All Ages</u>
Year 12 or equivalent	541,706	810,860	633,159	623,577	2,609,302	96.7%	96.1%	93.9%	84.4%	92.6%
Year 11 or equivalent	8,426	14,506	17,200	42,967	83,099	1.5%	1.7%	2.6%	5.8%	2.9%
Year 10 or equivalent	8,471	16,539	21,741	66,642	113,393	1.5%	2.0%	3.2%	9.0%	4.0%
Year 9 or less schooling	1,415	1,703	2,069	6,035	11,222	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.8%	0.4%
Total	560,018	843,608	674,169	739,221	2,817,016	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Major Group 3 Technicians and Trades Workers

	<u>15 to 29</u>	<u>30 to 39</u>	<u>40 to 49</u>	<u>50 to 69</u>	<u>All Ages</u>	<u>15 to 29</u>	<u>30 to 39</u>	<u>40 to 49</u>	<u>50 to 69</u>	<u>All Ages</u>
Year 12 or equivalent	303,619	260,299	180,014	149,084	893,016	66.8%	67.8%	60.9%	39.6%	59.1%
Year 11 or equivalent	59,882	43,446	37,550	62,104	202,982	13.2%	11.3%	12.7%	16.5%	13.4%
Year 10 or equivalent	80,082	70,802	68,561	144,909	364,354	17.6%	18.4%	23.2%	38.5%	24.1%
Year 9 or less schooling	11,035	9,566	9,458	20,489	50,548	2.4%	2.5%	3.2%	5.4%	3.3%
Total	454,618	384,113	295,583	376,586	1,510,900	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Major Group 4 Community and Personal Service Workers

	<u>15 to 29</u>	<u>30 to 39</u>	<u>40 to 49</u>	<u>50 to 69</u>	<u>All Ages</u>	<u>15 to 29</u>	<u>30 to 39</u>	<u>40 to 49</u>	<u>50 to 69</u>	<u>All Ages</u>
Year 12 or equivalent	388,183	230,959	182,475	167,925	969,542	80.1%	81.4%	74.3%	50.3%	71.9%
Year 11 or equivalent	42,306	20,131	22,338	49,484	134,259	8.7%	7.1%	9.1%	14.8%	10.0%
Year 10 or equivalent	41,502	28,807	35,578	101,385	207,272	8.6%	10.1%	14.5%	30.4%	15.4%
Year 9 or less schooling	12,507	3,936	5,054	15,226	36,723	2.6%	1.4%	2.1%	4.6%	2.7%
Total	484,498	283,833	245,445	334,020	1,347,796	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Major Group 5 Clerical and Administrative Workers

	<u>15 to 29</u>	<u>30 to 39</u>	<u>40 to 49</u>	<u>50 to 69</u>	<u>All Ages</u>	<u>15 to 29</u>	<u>30 to 39</u>	<u>40 to 49</u>	<u>50 to 69</u>	<u>All Ages</u>
Year 12 or equivalent	262,182	286,624	268,915	272,313	1,090,034	88.2%	85.2%	79.9%	53.0%	73.5%
Year 11 or equivalent	15,955	20,471	26,359	80,279	143,064	5.4%	6.1%	7.8%	15.6%	9.6%
Year 10 or equivalent	16,606	26,734	38,227	147,397	228,964	5.6%	7.9%	11.4%	28.7%	15.4%
Year 9 or less schooling	2,508	2,513	3,227	13,706	21,954	0.8%	0.7%	1.0%	2.7%	1.5%
Total	297,251	336,342	336,728	513,695	1,484,016	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Major Group 6 Sales Workers

	<u>15 to 29</u>	<u>30 to 39</u>	<u>40 to 49</u>	<u>50 to 69</u>	<u>All Ages</u>	<u>15 to 29</u>	<u>30 to 39</u>	<u>40 to 49</u>	<u>50 to 69</u>	<u>All Ages</u>
Year 12 or equivalent	307,791	122,161	96,645	95,031	621,628	66.7%	80.1%	71.7%	45.7%	65.0%
Year 11 or equivalent	61,745	11,424	13,198	32,625	118,992	13.4%	7.5%	9.8%	15.7%	12.4%
Year 10 or equivalent	60,071	16,741	22,042	69,749	168,603	13.0%	11.0%	16.4%	33.6%	17.6%
Year 9 or less schooling	31,642	2,190	2,879	10,347	47,058	6.9%	1.4%	2.1%	5.0%	4.9%
Total	461,249	152,516	134,764	207,752	956,281	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Major Group 7 Machinery Operators and Drivers

	<u>15 to 29</u>	<u>30 to 39</u>	<u>40 to 49</u>	<u>50 to 69</u>	<u>All Ages</u>	<u>15 to 29</u>	<u>30 to 39</u>	<u>40 to 49</u>	<u>50 to 69</u>	<u>All Ages</u>
Year 12 or equivalent	115,263	97,871	76,686	80,392	370,212	72.3%	63.3%	52.2%	32.0%	52.0%
Year 11 or equivalent	18,290	17,093	19,652	35,674	90,709	11.5%	11.1%	13.4%	14.2%	12.7%
Year 10 or equivalent	21,817	33,338	42,235	109,260	206,650	13.7%	21.6%	28.7%	43.5%	29.0%
Year 9 or less schooling	3,947	6,250	8,388	26,041	44,626	2.5%	4.0%	5.7%	10.4%	6.3%
Total	159,317	154,552	146,961	251,367	712,197	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Major Group 8 Labourers

	<u>15 to 29</u>	<u>30 to 39</u>	<u>40 to 49</u>	<u>50 to 69</u>	<u>All Ages</u>	<u>15 to 29</u>	<u>30 to 39</u>	<u>40 to 49</u>	<u>50 to 69</u>	<u>All Ages</u>
Year 12 or equivalent	229,477	120,294	90,788	99,978	540,537	61.3%	64.9%	55.0%	36.0%	53.9%
Year 11 or equivalent	52,786	19,651	20,395	38,589	131,421	14.1%	10.6%	12.4%	13.9%	13.1%
Year 10 or equivalent	63,739	37,050	43,607	110,975	255,371	17.0%	20.0%	26.4%	39.9%	25.5%
Year 9 or less schooling	28,133	8,419	10,286	28,460	75,298	7.5%	4.5%	6.2%	10.2%	7.5%
Total	374,135	185,414	165,076	278,002	1,002,627	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Total Employed Workforce

	<u>15 to 29</u>	<u>30 to 39</u>	<u>40 to 49</u>	<u>50 to 69</u>	<u>All Ages</u>	<u>15 to 29</u>	<u>30 to 39</u>	<u>40 to 49</u>	<u>50 to 69</u>	<u>All Ages</u>
Year 12 or equivalent	2,333,614	2,312,729	1,936,807	1,872,784	8,455,934	77.4%	83.0%	77.7%	56.6%	72.9%
Year 11 or equivalent	274,507	169,850	187,700	411,752	1,043,809	9.1%	6.1%	7.5%	12.4%	9.0%
Year 10 or equivalent	310,815	265,076	321,306	885,812	1,783,009	10.3%	9.5%	12.9%	26.8%	15.4%
Year 9 or less schooling	94,810	39,390	47,761	139,050	321,011	3.1%	1.4%	1.9%	4.2%	2.8%
Total	3,013,746	2,787,045	2,493,574	3,309,398	11,603,763	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Source: 2021 Population Census, original data from TableBuilder on www.abs.gov.au, analysis on the www.jobmarkets.com.au website.

Employed Persons who did not go to school, Australia, as at August, 2021

	<u>15 to 29</u>	<u>30 to 39</u>	<u>40 to 49</u>	<u>50 to 69</u>	<u>All Ages</u>	<u>15 to 29</u>	<u>30 to 39</u>	<u>40 to 49</u>	<u>50 to 69</u>	<u>All Ages</u>
Managers	289	695	803	1,636	3,423	4.7%	7.0%	8.3%	9.8%	8.1%
Professionals	452	934	536	655	2,577	7.4%	9.4%	5.5%	3.9%	6.1%
Technicians and Trades Workers	1,201	2,034	1,819	2,620	7,674	19.7%	20.5%	18.8%	15.7%	18.1%
Community and Personal Service Workers	666	914	913	1,202	3,695	10.9%	9.2%	9.4%	7.2%	8.7%
Clerical and Administrative V Workers	251	456	271	597	1,575	4.1%	4.6%	2.8%	3.6%	3.7%
Sales Workers	379	475	441	756	2,051	6.2%	4.8%	4.6%	4.5%	4.8%
Machinery Operators and Drivers	631	1,110	1,067	2,603	5,411	10.3%	11.2%	11.0%	15.6%	12.8%
Labourers	1,640	2,533	3,110	5,727	13,010	26.9%	25.5%	32.1%	34.3%	30.7%
Total	5,509	9,151	8,960	15,796	39,416	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Preceding Total as % of the Total Employed Workforce

<u>15 to 29</u>	<u>30 to 39</u>	<u>40 to 49</u>	<u>50 to 69</u>	<u>All Ages</u>
0.18%	0.36%	0.39%	0.50%	0.37%

Source: 2021 Population Census, original data from TableBuilder on www.abs.gov.au, analysis done for the www.jobmarkets.com.au website; inadequately described occupational responses (about 3,000 in all) are excluded