

# Apprenticeships in focus

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Unlocking the potential of traditional trades across the Sunshine Coast

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General Manager

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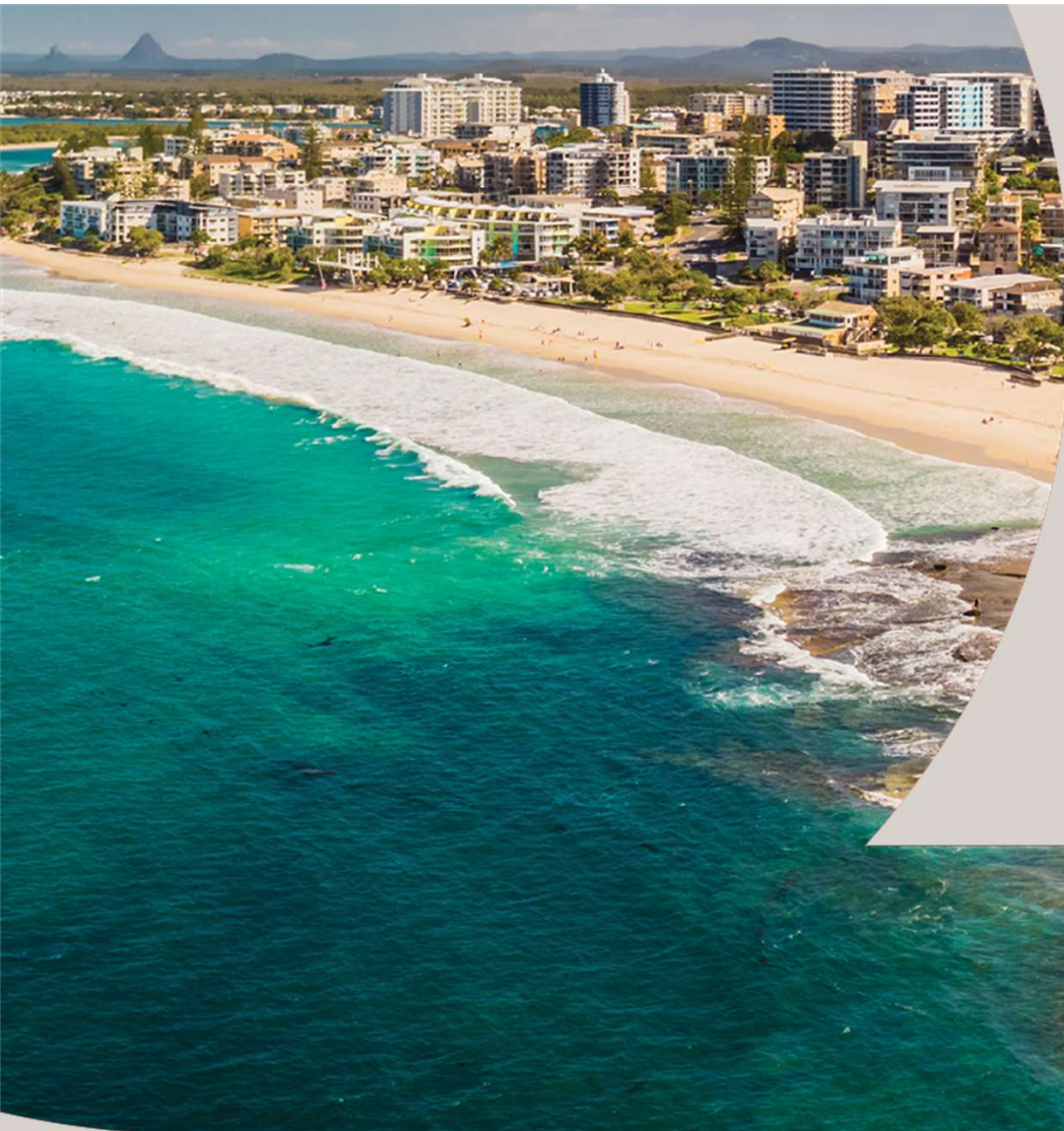
## A changing labour market

Innovation and new technologies

VET on the Sunshine Coast is critical

Traditional trades are vital to the economy





# Sunshine Coast

- Housing crisis
- Rising cost of construction
- Apprentices and trainees are fundamental to a strong economy



# Traditional trades and their role in economic growth



# Growth in construction costs

Annual rate of change

**x 2.8**

Pre-COVID rate

**3.6%**

Queensland growth

**1.2%** quarterly

**11.6%** annual

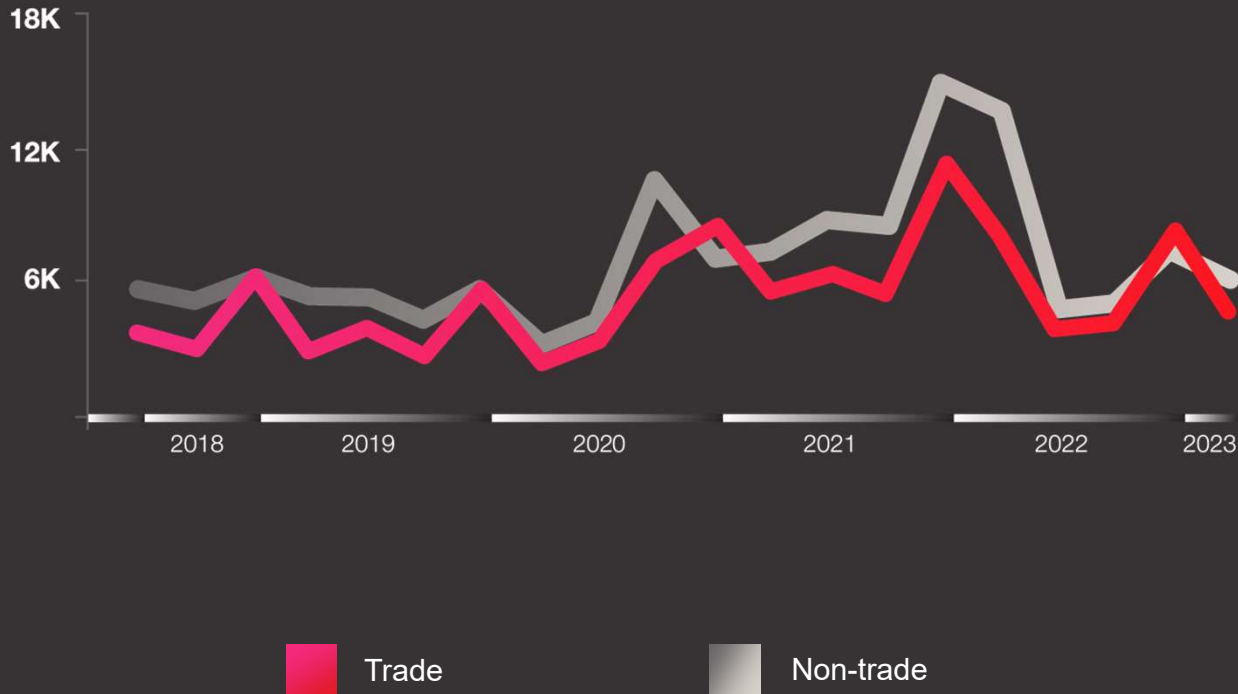
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South Australia and  
Western Australia

**0.9%**  
quarterly

**8.8%**  
annual

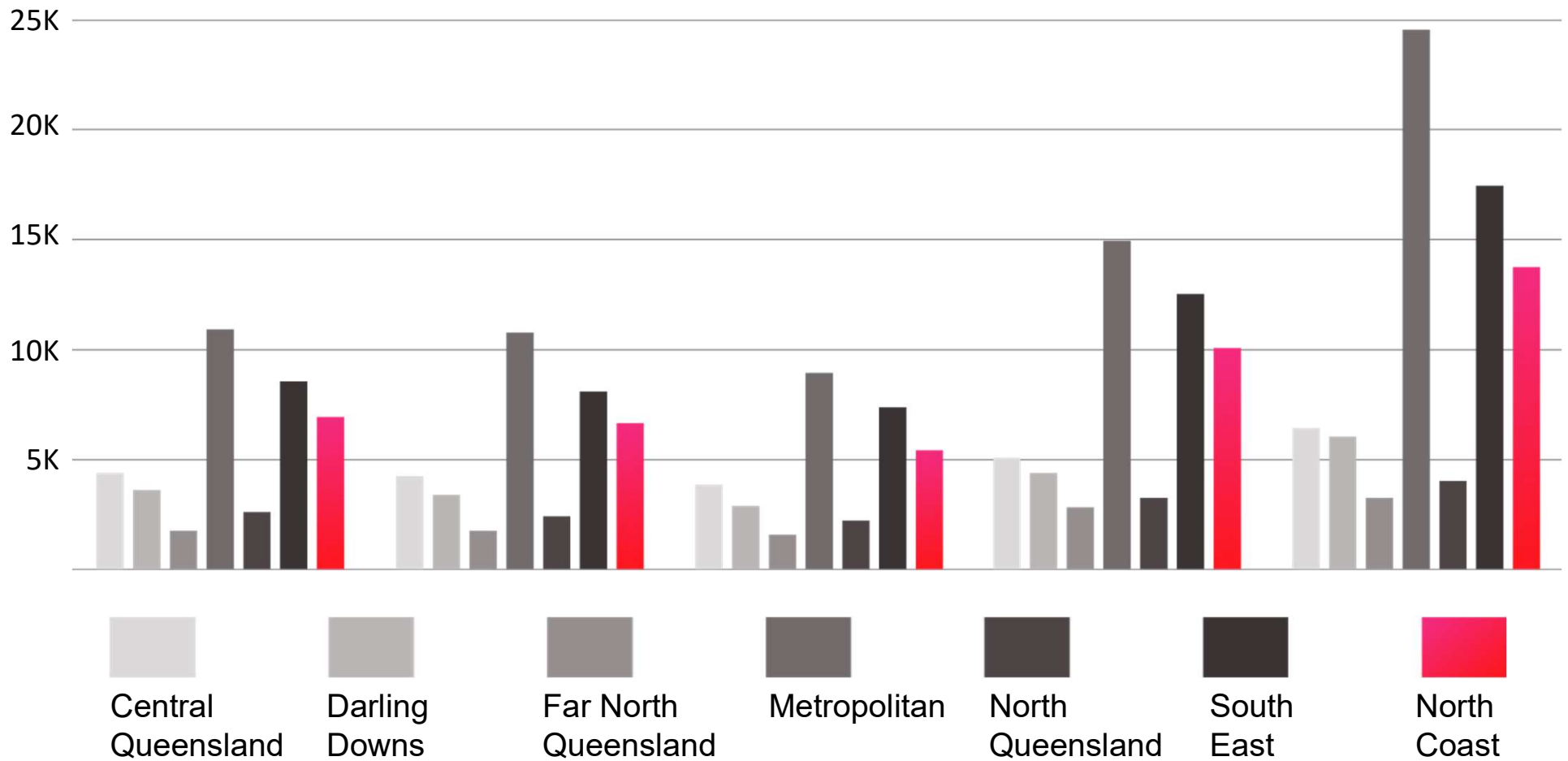
# Commencement trends



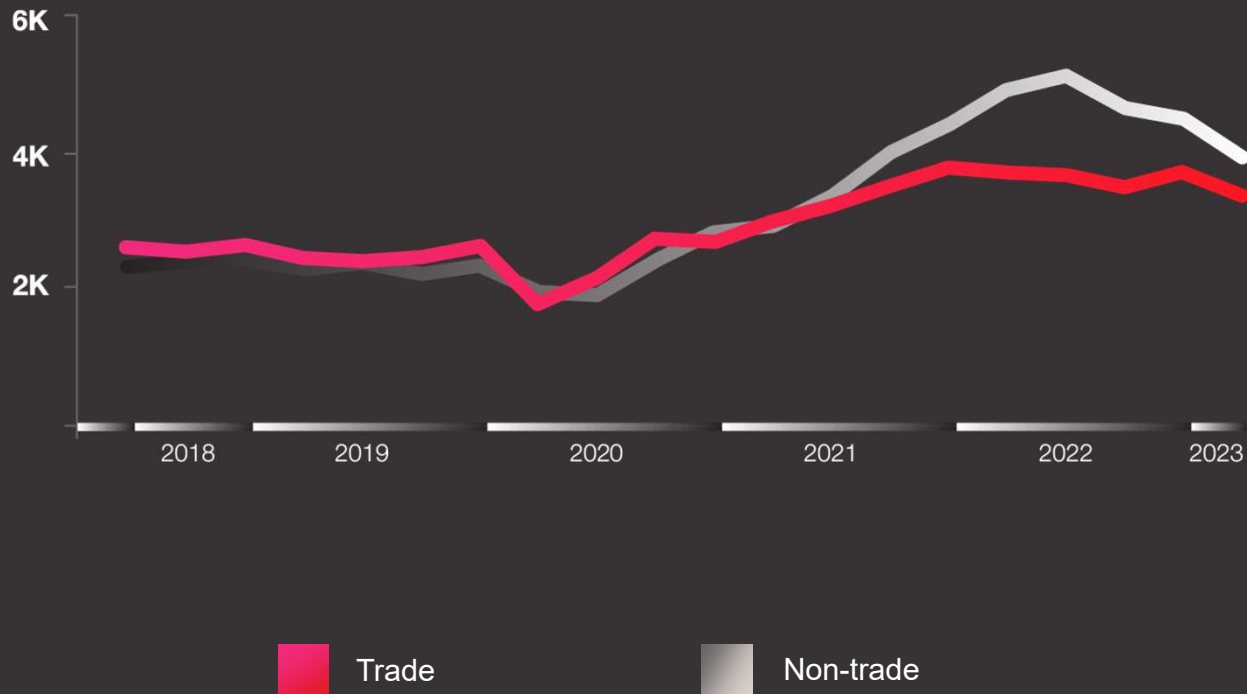
## June 2023 quarter

Apprentices and trainees dropped by **50.8%** (YoY).

# Commencement trends



# Cancellation trends



**June 2023 quarter**

**7,240** cancellations and withdrawals.

This is a drop of **15.6%** (YoY).



## Cancellations and completions



↓ **39.5%**

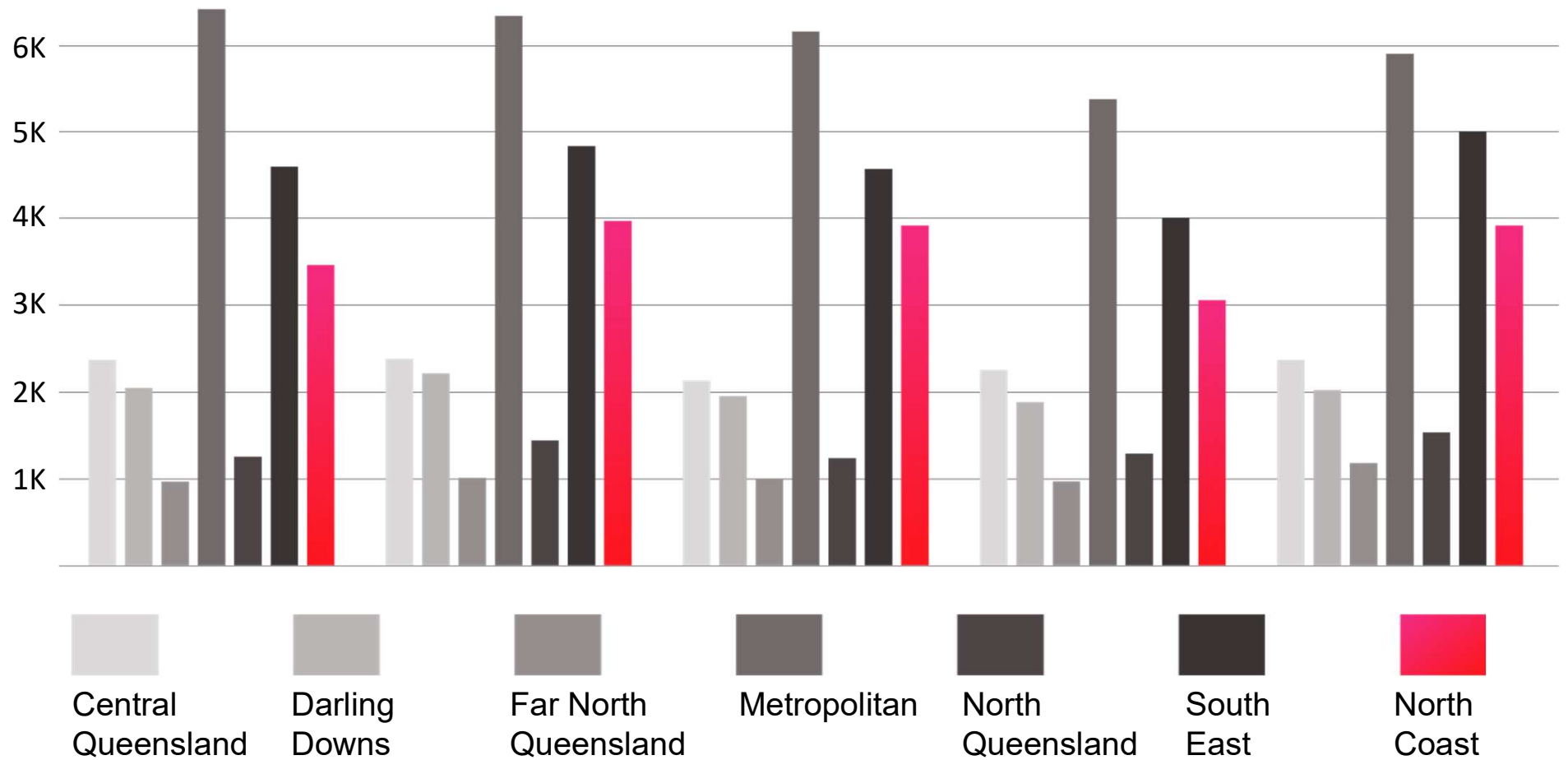
Engineering, ICT and Science Technicians (trade)

↓ **22.3%**

Construction Trade workers (trade)



# Completion trends

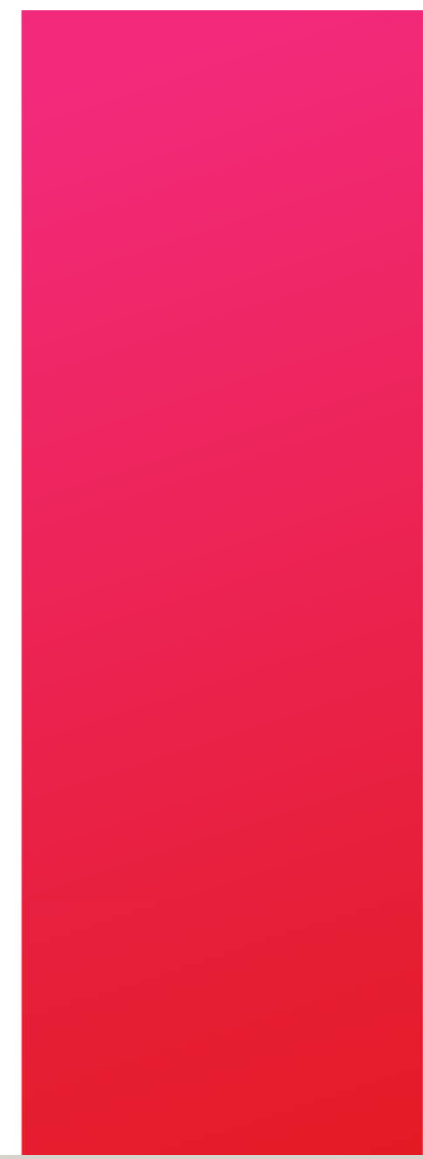


Region	Start	Completion	Percentage
Central Queensland	4402	2272	51%
Darling Downs	3622	1891	52%
Far North	1772	959	54%
Metro	10951	5379	49%
<b>North Coast</b>	<b>6928</b>	<b>3090</b>	<b>44%</b>
North Queensland	2597	1289	50%
South East	8566	4003	47%

**2017/18 to  
2020/21**

Region	Start	Completion	Percentage
Central Queensland	4227	2364	56%
Darling Downs	3381	2020	60%
Far North	1769	1182	67%
Metro	10770	5898	55%
<b>North Coast</b>	<b>6658</b>	<b>3908</b>	<b>59%</b>
North Queensland	2405	1538	64%
South East	8060	5002	62%

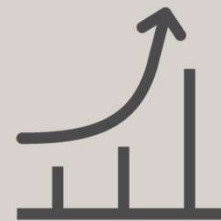
**2018/19 to  
2021/22**



## The next steps...

Investment in training and skills is one of the most important levers to **increase participation** in employment, **boost productivity**, and **foster innovation**.

Increase employment



Boost productivity

Foster innovation



## What is happening in high school?

1 in 5 students leave school before year 12



In 2022, about **79%** of students started year 12

**9 out of 10** jobs in the next 5 years will require post-secondary education



# Year 12 student focus group



- Schools promote university over vocational training education
- Not enough access to information about student career pathways
- Discovery of career options is often self-directed with minimal school guidance.





- Basic Key Skills Builder assessment
- Misalignment between numeracy requirements of traditional trade programs and school advice



## Essential partnerships

- Meeting schools halfway with frequent campus visits, open days, trade testing and information sessions
- Working closely with school principals
- Positioning ourselves as an essential partner
- Increasing the traditional trade workforce on the Sunshine Coast



# Thank you

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General Manager  
TAFE Queensland East Coast region

