

A snapshot of a selection of items added to VOCEDplus

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The [full list](#) of new additions to VOCEDplus is available at www.voced.edu.au

It seems clear that individuals benefit from undertaking a VET qualification.

Outcomes of VET in Australia

Long-term outcomes from Australian vocational education / Cain Polidano and Chris Ryan.

Melbourne, Victoria: Melbourne Institute of Applied Economics and Social Research, 2016. 46 pages.

This longitudinal study examines the long-run effects of completing VET on a set of labour market outcomes (employment, wages, earnings, hours and occupational status). It uses two novel approaches. First, it uses fixed effects regression methods to estimate effects from acquiring new qualifications. Second, it measures effects of acquiring qualifications at lower, the same and at higher levels than previously attained. In the longer term, the results point to considerable stability in estimated effects - significant effects apparent in the first year after course completion tend to remain evident up to five years later. Completed qualifications that are not higher than those already held by individuals do not consistently improve the labour market outcomes studied here, but may provide other benefits.

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A demand-driven system now enables more Australians to gain entry to higher education by a variety of pathways. However, in the process, admissions requirements are becoming more complex and harder to understand.

Higher education admission in Australia

Improving the transparency of higher education admissions: final report / Higher Education Standards Panel.

Canberra, Australian Capital Territory: Department of Education and Training, 2016. 75 pages.

This is the report of the Higher Education Standards Panel's investigation into how to improve the transparency of admissions processes at Australia's roughly 170 higher education providers. The report places students firmly at the centre of the admissions process. The recommendations are intended to: achieve greater transparency through the use of common language about admissions processes and the publication of consistent information; widen the accessibility of information to prospective students; improve the comparability of information available from providers about their admissions processes and entry requirements; enhance the accountability of higher education providers for the information they publish about their admissions policies; ensure all higher education providers are subject to the same reporting requirements; and give students, parents, teachers and career advisors the knowledge and capacity to more easily navigate higher education admissions policies and processes.

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Most youth have access only to poor quality public services, low and informal savings, and little social mobility.

Financing strategies can (and should) play a central role in enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of training systems.

There is global concern (not just Australian) regarding access to quality and capable VET teachers who have both teaching and industry expertise and currency.

Improving youth inclusion in Latin America

Latin American economic outlook 2017: youth, skills and entrepreneurship / OECD, UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and Corporacion Andina de Fomento.

Paris, France: OECD, 2016. 309 pages.

This report focuses on youth, skills and entrepreneurship for more inclusive and sustainable growth in the region. It provides in-depth analysis of youth participation in society as well as in productive activities by examining the role of youth in the labour market, their acquired skills and entrepreneurial activities. It includes a macroeconomic analysis and explores how the global context influences the region's economy. The different chapters analyse the social, political and economic integration of young people, as well as the education, skills and entrepreneurship opportunities and barriers they face. Finally, the report portrays how the future of jobs, politics and cities will present new challenges and opportunities for youth in the region and offers recommendations for improving public policies.

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Innovative financing mechanisms

Funding mechanisms for financing vocational training: an analytical framework / Adrian Ziderman.

Bonn, Germany: IZA, 2016. 30 pages.

This paper describes innovative financing mechanisms that have been adopted in many national training systems. These mechanisms aim at correcting shortcomings of conventional training finance systems to better meet labor market needs, improve both the quality and relevance of training provision and to contain training costs. Directions of change include a greater diversification of funding sources for skills development (including cost sharing and training levies, mainly based on company payrolls), budgeting public training centres through objective funding formulas, encouraging more and higher quality enterprise training, the development of private training markets, increased competition between public and private training providers and the establishment of independent national training funds. Autonomous national training authorities, with broad powers and sizeable stakeholder representation, can be effective in both coordinating and steering national training systems.

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Quality of VET teaching

Improving the quality, capability and status of the VET teacher workforce / Claire Rasmussen.

Melbourne, Victoria: International Specialised Skills Institute, 2016. xii, 37 pages.

This study tour of the UK, Switzerland and Germany aimed to explore VET teacher qualifications, professional teaching standards and/or registration, professional development, and the impact of the broader VET system on quality teaching. The author looked at models of leadership in teacher training, professional development and practice in countries across Europe with the aim of informing how the quality of VET teaching can be improved at a national and registered training organisation (RTO) level in Australia.

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Some groups in Australia have no choice but to pursue self-employment due to their constrained opportunities in the labour market.

In the Japanese labor market, there are dramatic contrasts between full-time workers who remain at companies for long periods of time, and part-time workers hired for short periods of time.

Even within the same field of education, employment rates and earnings are generally higher for men than for women, partly due to the different types of jobs and responsibilities men and women hold.

Choosing self-employment?

Refugee women as entrepreneurs in Australia / John Van Kooy.

Forced migration review, number 53, October 2016, pages 71-73.

The Stepping Stones to Small Business programme provides business training, networking opportunities and mentoring for refugee women in Melbourne, Australia. The programme is appreciated by participants but has shown that 'entrepreneurship' is a problematic concept in the context of women from refugee backgrounds. Setting up a small business may be a decision made by refugee women out of necessity due to labour market barriers as much as out of ambition or 'entrepreneurship'. In this article, the author examines the 'push and pull' factors which may influence the women to become entrepreneurs, and the elusiveness of commercial success.

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Employment in Japan

Labor situation in Japan and its analysis: general overview 2015/2016 / Japan Institute for Labour Policy and Training.

Tokyo, Japan: Japan Institute for Labour Policy and Training, 2016. vi, 216 pages.

This publication addresses labor issues and labor policies in Japan. The chapters are: Japanese economy and labor situation; Labor market; Human resource management; Labor-management relations; Labor administration and legislation; Social security system.

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Labour market outcomes of education

Fields of education, gender and the labour market / Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Paris, France: OECD, 2016. 4 pages.

More and more adults are earning a tertiary qualification, but not all tertiary degrees have the same value on the labour market. In general, postgraduate degrees such as master's and doctoral degrees are associated with higher employment rates and earnings than bachelor's degrees. Labour market outcomes also vary by field of education. Some fields of education differ markedly in their gender composition, reflecting the sex-typing of occupations and gender stereotypes. Graduates' field of education is closely related with their occupational choices; therefore a better understanding of gender disparities in this area can help to identify some of the mechanisms that lie behind gender differences in the labour market and beyond.

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