

## Introduction

This new publication presents early estimates of apprentice and trainee commencements in the March quarter 2010. Indicative information about the current quarter is presented here in response to the demand for more timely data. The most recent figures are estimated, taking into account reporting lags that occur at the time of data collection.

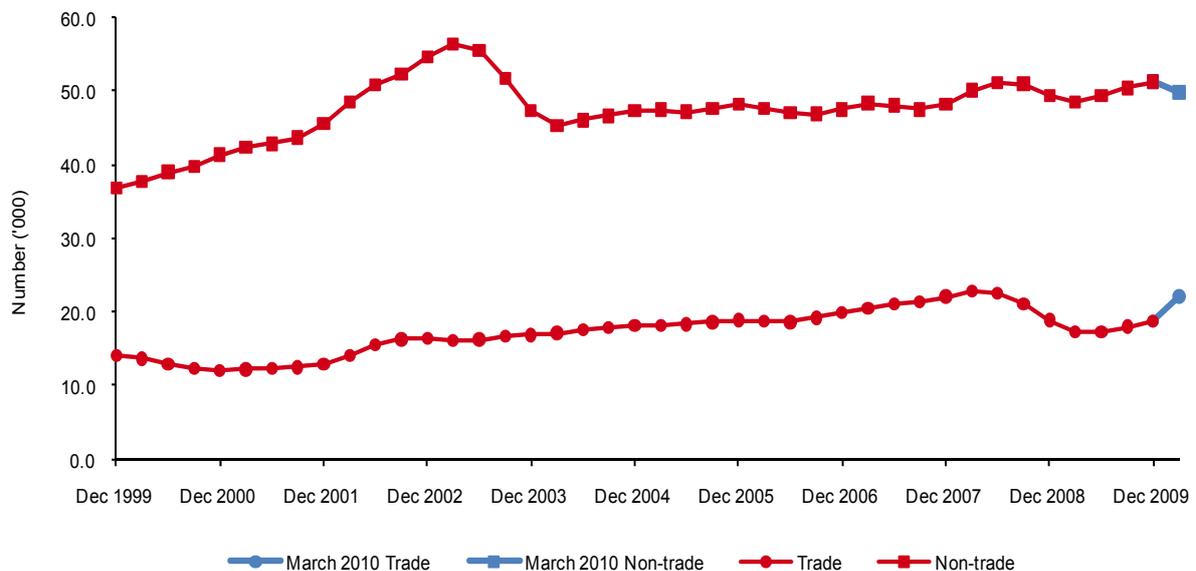
The early trend estimates are derived from the National Apprentice and Trainee Collection no.63, March 2010. Data are only available for commencements at the national level and have been seasonally adjusted and smoothed. Further information at the disaggregated level for the December quarter 2009 will be available in the quarterly publication to be released in early June 2010.

## Highlights

Early indications show that:

- Trade commencements continue to trend upward from the June quarter 2009, with the March quarter 2010 figure indicating a particularly large increase.
- Non-trade commencements indicate a drop in the March quarter 2010, thus ending the upward trend of the previous three quarters.

**Figure 1 Trade and non-trade commencements, seasonally adjusted and smoothed, December 1999 – March 2010**



Data for this publication are compiled under the Australian Vocational Education and Training Management Information Statistical System (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 or further detail on the estimates methodology, refer to <<http://www.ncver.edu.au/publications/2256.html>>.

**Table 1 Trade and non-trade commencements, seasonally adjusted and smoothed, December 1999 – March 2010 ('000)**

	Trade	Non-trade	Total
December 1999	14.0	36.9	50.7
March 2000	13.7	37.8	51.6
June 2000	12.9	39.0	52.1
September 2000	12.3	39.8	52.1
December 2000	12.1	41.4	53.4
March 2001	12.2	42.4	54.5
June 2001	12.4	42.9	55.3
September 2001	12.5	43.7	56.3
December 2001	12.9	45.7	58.6
March 2002	14.1	48.5	62.4
June 2002	15.5	50.9	66.4
September 2002	16.3	52.3	68.6
December 2002	16.4	54.6	70.8
March 2003	16.2	56.3	72.4
June 2003	16.2	55.6	71.8
September 2003	16.6	51.7	68.5
December 2003	16.9	47.4	64.5
March 2004	17.1	45.4	62.6
June 2004	17.5	46.1	63.6
September 2004	17.9	46.6	64.4
December 2004	18.1	47.3	65.4
March 2005	18.2	47.5	65.9
June 2005	18.3	47.2	65.7
September 2005	18.6	47.6	66.2
December 2005	18.9	48.2	67.0
March 2006	18.7	47.7	66.3
June 2006	18.6	47.0	65.5
September 2006	19.2	46.9	66.0
December 2006	19.9	47.5	67.4
March 2007	20.6	48.4	68.9
June 2007	21.0	48.1	68.9
September 2007	21.3	47.5	68.6
December 2007	22.1	48.3	70.3
March 2008	22.8	50.1	73.0
June 2008	22.5	51.2	73.9
September 2008	21.0	51.0	71.8
December 2008	18.9	49.4	68.0
March 2009	17.3	48.6	65.8
June 2009	17.3	49.3	66.7
September 2009	18.0	50.4	68.7
December 2009	18.8	51.3	70.2
March 2010 <sup>(a)</sup>	22.1	49.8	72.5

Notes: (a) The March quarter 2010 estimate is based on an early estimate which is seasonally adjusted (based on data from December 1999 to March 2010) and 7-point Henderson smoothed. Only the March quarter 2010 estimate from this series is presented. The quarterly data presented to December 2009 have been seasonally adjusted (based on data from December 1999 to December 2009) and 7-point Henderson smoothed. These are consistent with the forthcoming December quarterly 2009 publication.

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