

Australian vocational education and training statistics

VET student outcomes 2020

National Centre for Vocational Education Research



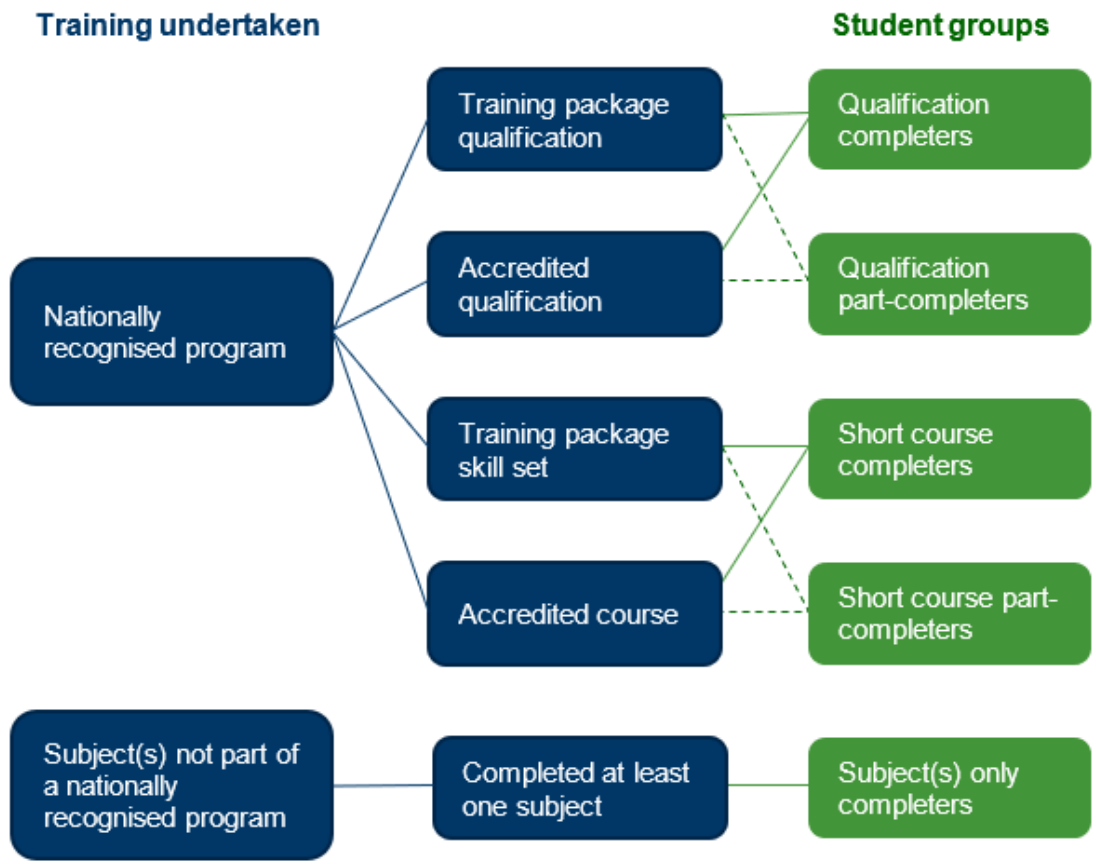
Introduction

Historically the National Student Outcomes Survey included graduates (students who completed a qualification) and subject completers (students who completed at least one subject and left the VET system without obtaining a qualification).

To better reflect the training undertaken in the VET system, the survey has been segmented by training type, consistent with the *Total VET students and courses* publication, by:

- qualification completers - students who completed a training package qualification or an accredited qualification (previously known as graduates)
- qualification part-completers - students who enrolled in but only completed part of a training package qualification or an accredited qualification (and are no longer undertaking that training)
- short course completers - students who completed a training package skill set or an accredited course
- short course part-completers - students who enrolled in but only completed part of a training package skill set or accredited course (and are no longer under taking that training)
- subject(s) only completers - students who completed one or more subjects not delivered as part of a nationally recognised program and who are no longer undertaking training in the VET sector (figure 1).

Figure 1 Student groups surveyed and how they align with type of training



Refer to the explanatory notes and technical notes supporting documentation for information about the scope of this publication, the survey design and important information to assist with interpreting survey data (specifically understanding the confidence intervals presented graphically and the margins of error available in the DataBuilder product).

Highlights

Main reason for undertaking training

In 2020, the most common reason for undertaking training:

- for qualification completers and part-completers was ‘to get a job’, at 25.7% and 22.4% respectively
- for short course completers, part-completers and subject(s) only completers was because ‘it was a requirement of my job’, ranging from 39.6% to 50.2%.

Employment status before training

Lower proportions of qualification completers and qualification part-completers were employed before training than any other group. Proportions employed before training were:

- 64.7% for qualification completers
- 64.1% for qualification part-completers
- 82.2% for short course completers
- 83.2% for short course part-completers
- 86.2% for subject(s) only completers.

Improved employment status after training

In 2020, a lower proportion of qualification part-completers had an improved employment status after training than any other group. Proportions with an improved employment status after training were:

- 56.0% for qualification completers
- 49.7% for qualification part-completers
- 58.4% for short course completers
- 59.4% for short course part-completers
- 61.3% for subject(s) only completers.

Satisfaction with training

In 2020, a lower proportion of qualification part-completers was satisfied with the overall training than any other group. Proportions satisfied with the overall quality of training were:

- 88.4% for qualification completers
- 76.1% for qualification part-completers
- 93.3% for short course completers
- 89.6% for short course part-completers
- 92.2% for subject(s) only completers.

Qualification completers and part-completers

Qualification completers are students who completed a training package qualification or an accredited qualification. Qualification part-completers are students who enrolled in but only completed part of a training package qualification or an accredited qualification (and are no longer undertaking that training). Of the VET students who responded to the survey, 165 761 were qualification completers and 16 056 qualification part-completers.

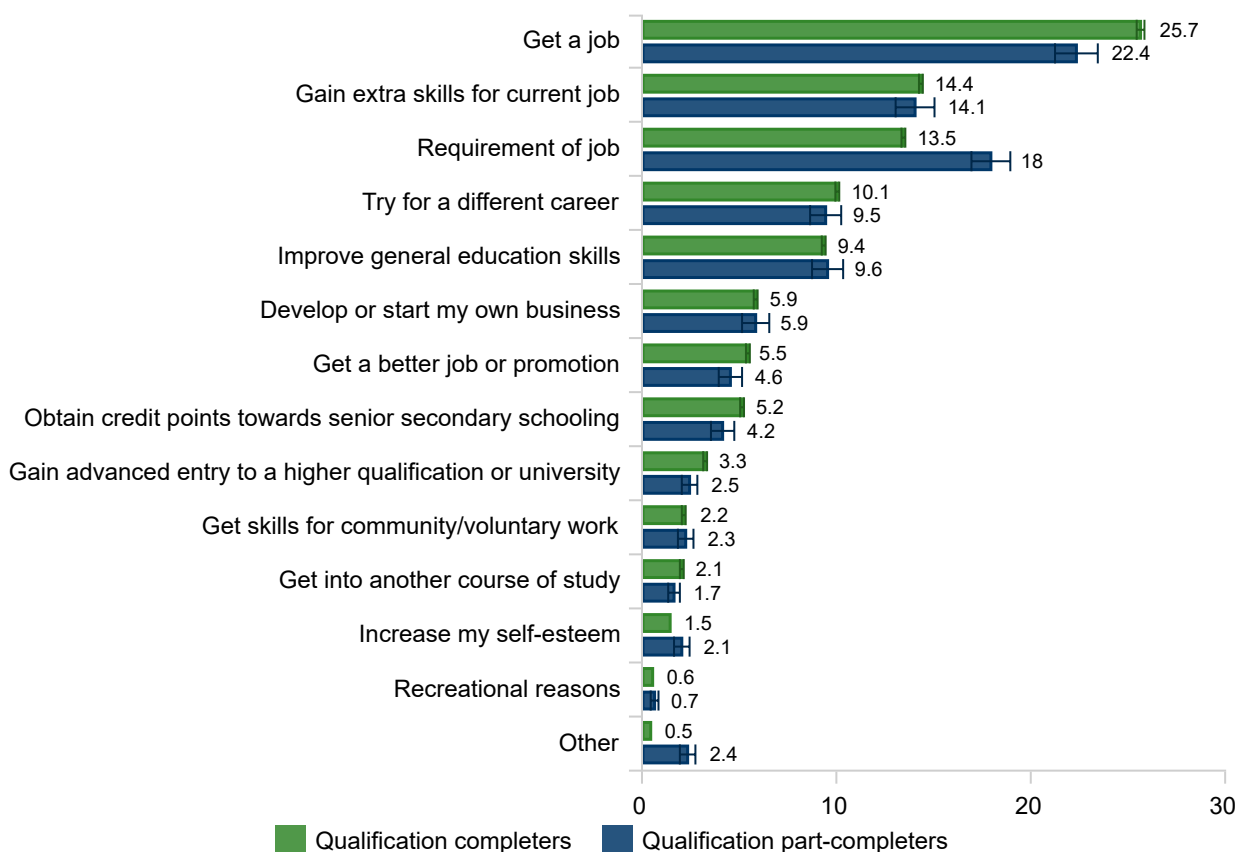
Main reason for training

Overall, 75.2% of qualification completers and 74.4% of part-completers undertook training for employment-related reasons. The main reason for training was 'to get a job', as cited by 25.7% of qualification completers and 22.4% of qualification part-completers.

In 2020:

- 83.6% of qualification completers achieved their main reason for training, down 0.2 percentage points from 2019
- 75.1% of part-completers achieved their main reason for undertaking training, down 4.1 percentage points from 2019.

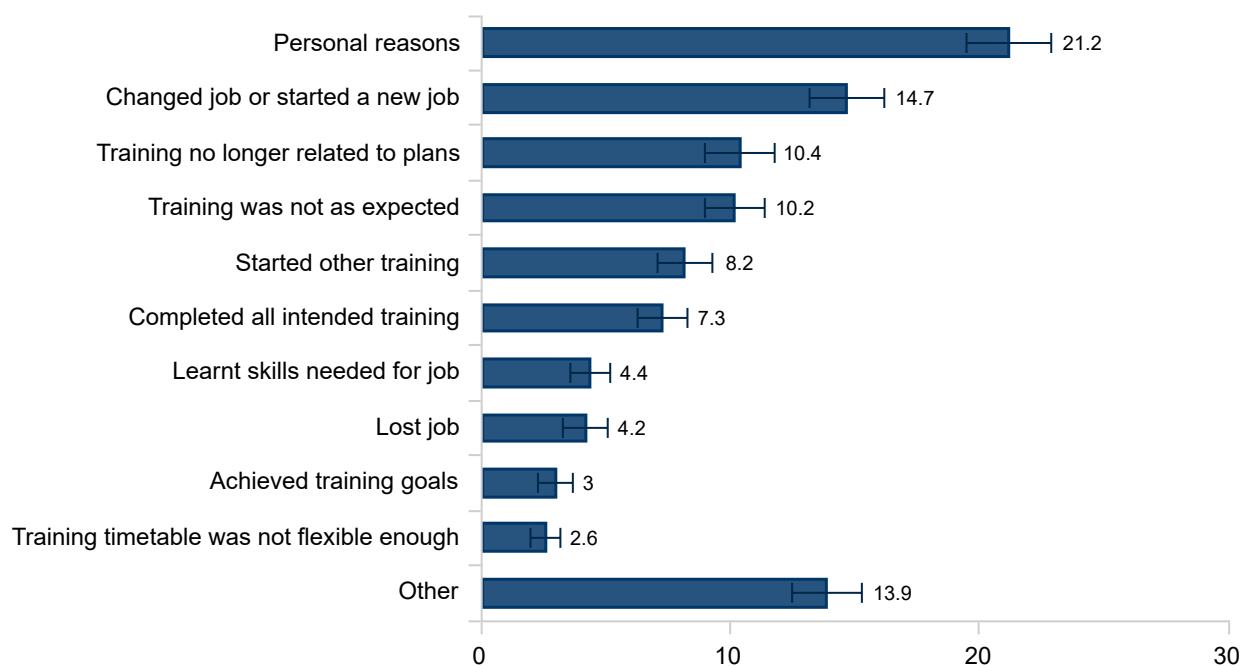
Figure 2 Main reason for undertaking training, for qualification completers and part-completers, 2020 (%)



Reasons for not completing training

21.2% of qualification part-completers did not complete their training due to personal reasons, while 14.7% did not complete because they changed jobs or started a new job.

Figure 3 Main reason for not completing the training, for qualification part-completers, 2020 (%)



Employment outcomes

In 2020, 56.0% of qualification completers had an improved employment status after training, down 9.8 percentage points from 2019.

- 64.7% of qualification completers were employed before training. Of these:
 - 13.9% were employed at a higher skill level after training, down 4.1 percentage points from 2019
 - 33.3% were employed in a better job after training, down 4.2 percentage points from 2019.
- 35.3% of qualification completers were not employed before training. Of these:
 - 36.2% were employed after training, down 10.6 percentage points from 2019.

25.4% of qualification completers were employed after training in the same occupation as their qualification, down 2.1 percentage points from 2019. A further 25.0% were employed in a different occupation but found the training similar to their current job, down 6.6 percentage points from 2019.

The median annual income for students who completed a certificate II or higher level qualification and were employed full-time after training was \$60 000. By field of education, income was highest for those who completed a qualification in Education (\$78 300) and lowest for Food, hospitality and personal services and Mixed field programs (both \$44 300).

In 2020, 49.7% of qualification part-completers had an improved employment status after training, down 8.9 percentage points from 2019.

- 64.1% of qualification part-completers were employed before training. Of these:
 - 10.6% were employed at a higher skill level after training, similar to 2019
 - 28.0% were employed in a better job after training, similar to 2019.
- 35.9% of qualification part-completers were not employed before training. Of these:
 - 33.3% were employed after training, down 5.9 percentage points from 2019.

Figure 4 Improved employment status after training for qualification completers, 2019 and 2020 (%)

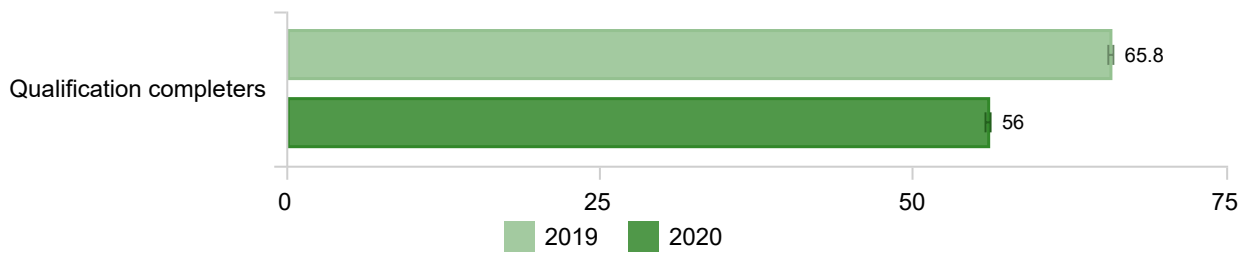
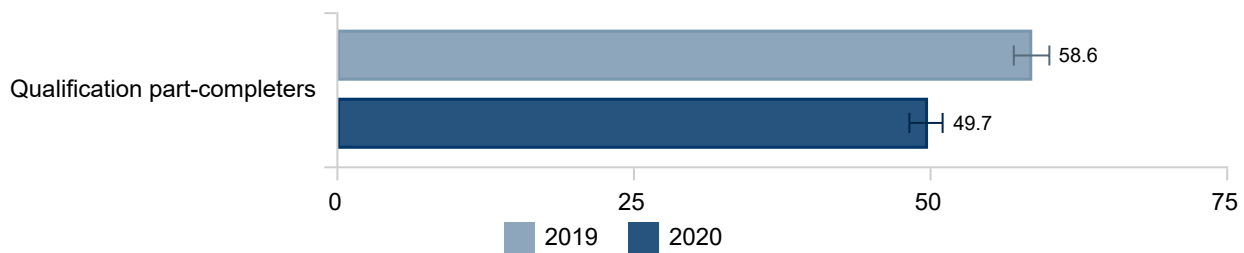


Figure 5 Improved employment status after training for qualification part-completers, 2019 and 2020 (%)

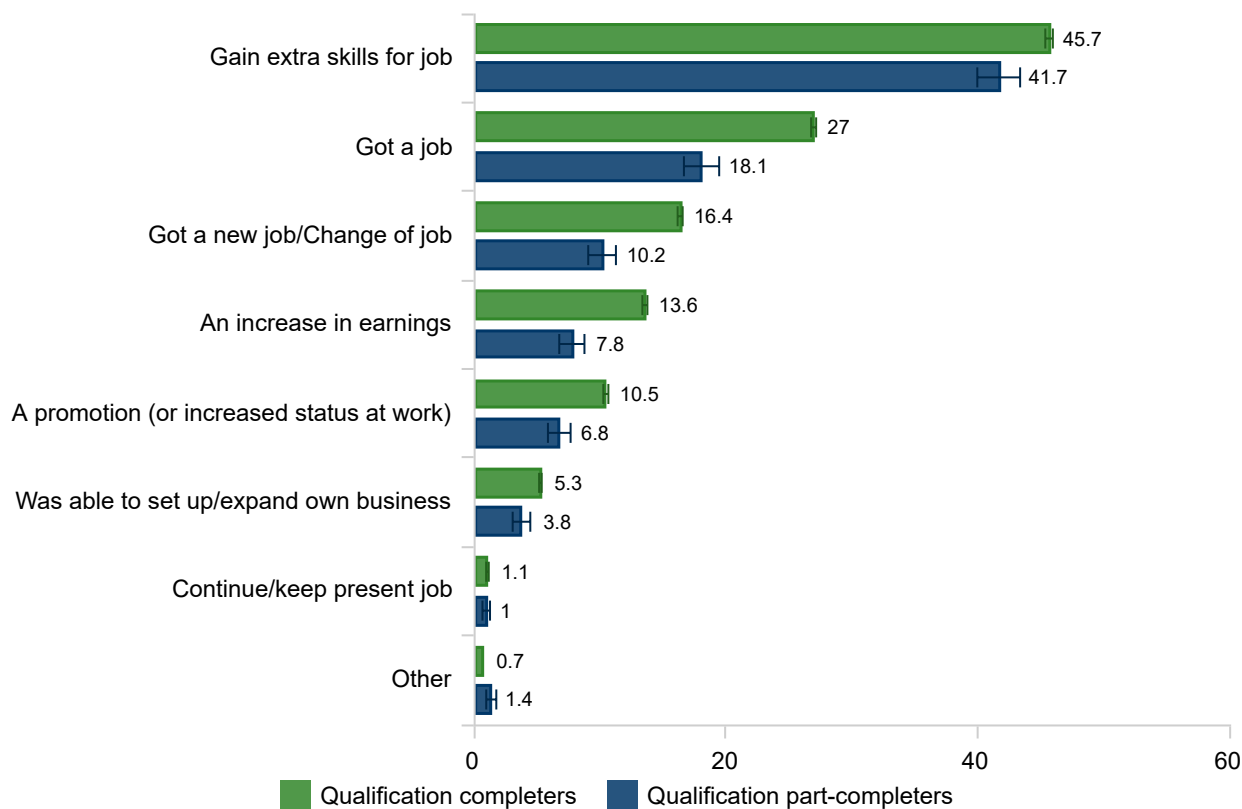


Job-related benefits

Of those employed after training:

- 78.8% of qualification completers received at least one job-related benefit
- 68.5% of qualification part-completers received at least one job-related benefit
- the most commonly cited benefit was 'gained extra skills for my job', cited by 45.7% of qualification completers and 41.7% of part-completers, followed by 'got a job' (27.0% of qualification completers and 18.1% of part-completers).

Figure 6 Job-related benefits of undertaking training, for qualification completers and part-completers, 2020 (%)



Note: Totals sum to more than 100% as respondents could choose more than one response category.

Effect of COVID-19

Of the qualification completers who were employed after training:

- 35.3% had their hours reduced after the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and 13.3% had their hours increased
- 7.1% were temporarily stood down due to COVID-19.

Of the qualification completers who were not employed on the reference date of 29 May 2020, 20.6% had a job previously that they lost due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Of the qualification part-completers who were employed after training:

- 33.3% had their hours reduced after the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and 12.5% had their hours increased
- 7.4% were temporarily stood down due to COVID-19.

Of the qualification part-completers who were not employed on 29 May 2020, 19.5% had a job previously that they lost due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Further study outcomes

In 2020:

- 33.1% of qualification completers enrolled in further study after training, up 2.7 percentage points from 2019
- 25.8% of qualification part-completers enrolled in further study after training, up 16.4 percentage points from 2019.

Figure 7 Enrolled in further study after training, for qualification completers, 2019 and 2020 (%)

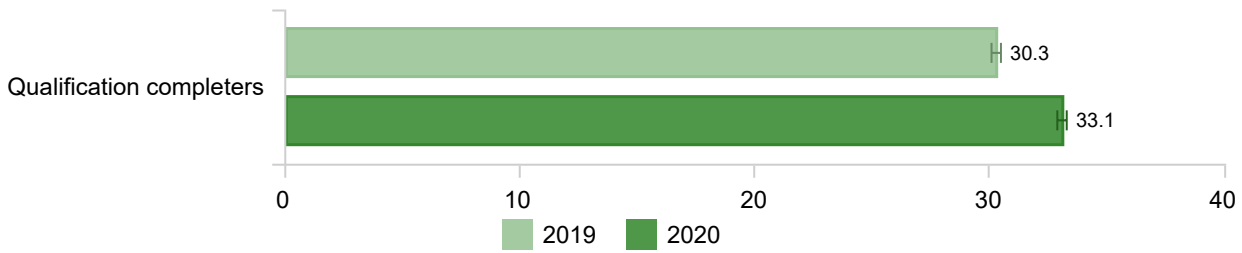
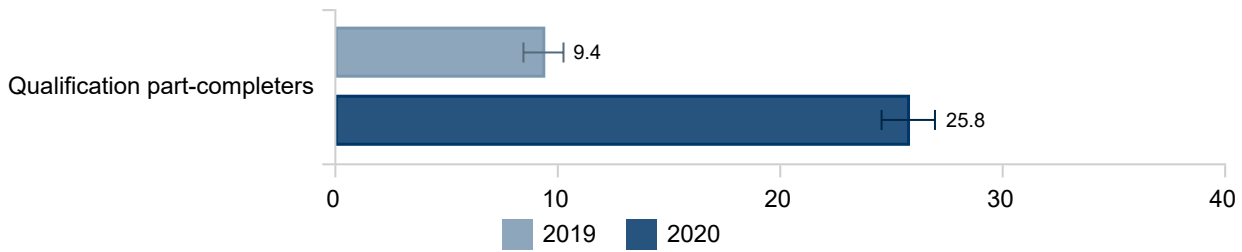


Figure 8 Enrolled in further study after training, for qualification part-completers, 2019 and 2020 (%)



Satisfaction with training

In 2020:

- 88.4% of qualification completers were satisfied with the overall quality of training, up 0.3 percentage points from 2019
- 76.1% of qualification part-completers were satisfied with the overall quality of training, down 3.5 percentage points from 2019
- 84.3% of qualification completers and 74.2% of qualification part-completers are likely to recommend their training provider.

Figure 9 Satisfaction with training, for qualification completers and part-completers, 2020 (%)

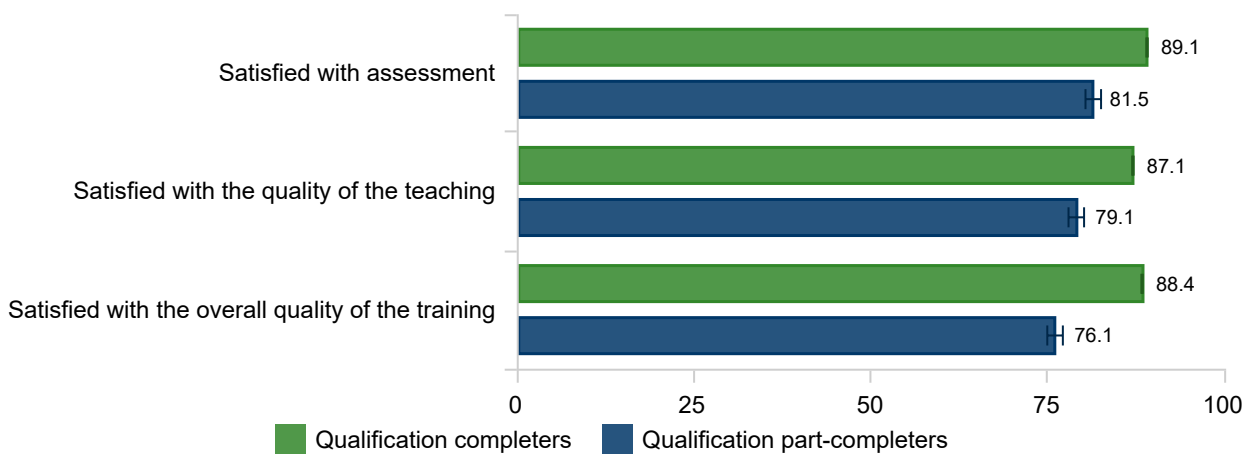
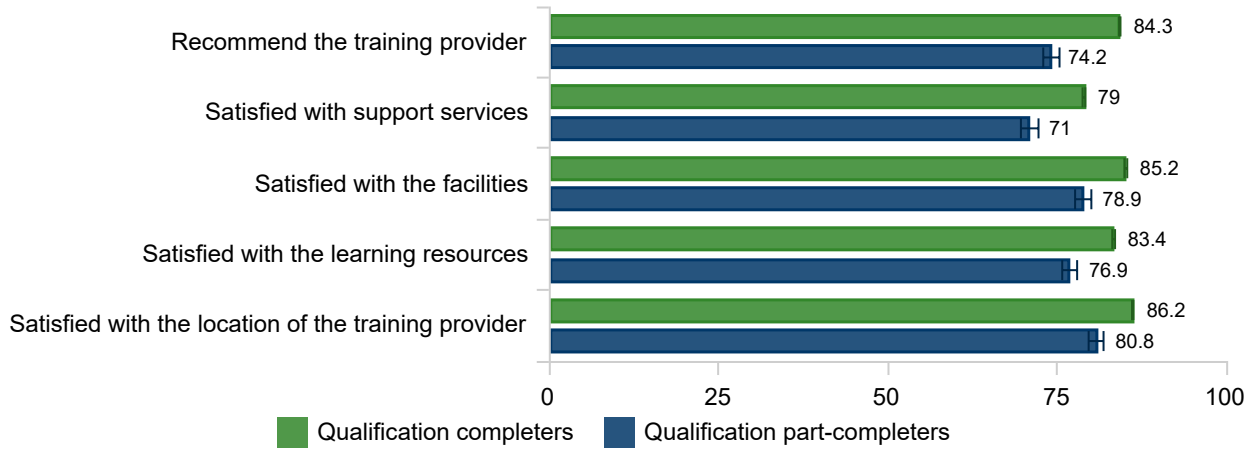


Figure 10 Satisfaction with training provider, for qualification completers and part-completers, 2020 (%)



Short course completers and part-completers

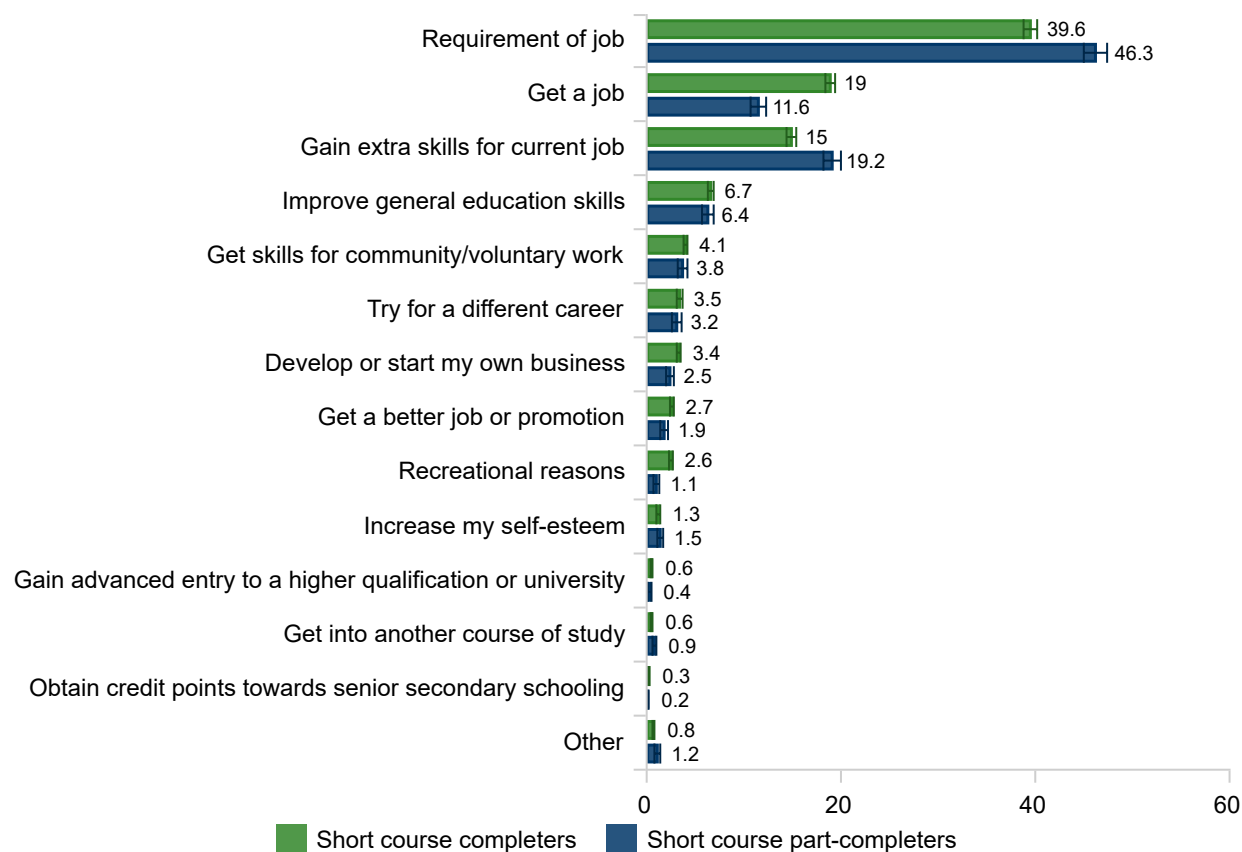
Short course completers are students who completed a training package skill set or accredited course. Short-course part-completers are students who enrolled in but only completed part of a training package skill set or accredited course (and are no longer undertaking that training). Of the VET students who responded to the survey, 17 048 were short course completers and 5 407 short course part-completers.

Main reason for training

Overall, 83.1% of short course completers and 84.6% of part-completers undertook training for employment-related reasons. The main reason for training was 'it was a requirement of my job', as cited by 39.6% of short course completers and 46.3% of short course part-completers.

In 2020, 89.3% of short course completers and 89.5% of short course part-completers achieved their main reason for undertaking training.

Figure 11 Main reason for undertaking training, for short course completers and part-completers, 2020 (%)



Reasons for not completing training

28.2% of short course part-completers did not complete their training due to personal reasons.

Figure 12 Main reason for not completing the training, for short course part-completers, 2020 (%)



Employment outcomes

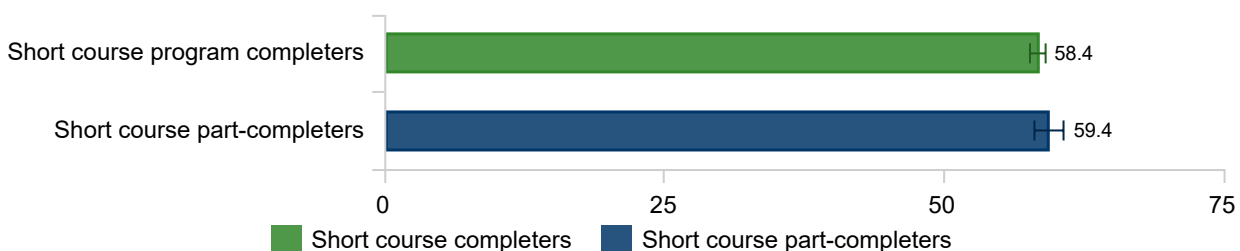
In 2020, 58.4% of short course completers had an improved employment status after training.

- 82.2% of short course completers were employed before training. Of these:
 - 4.9% were employed at a higher skill level after training
 - 21.6% were employed in a better job after training.
- 17.8% of short course completers were not employed before training. Of these:
 - 38.7% were employed after training.

In 2020, 59.4% of short course part-completers had an improved employment status after training.

- 83.2% of short course part-completers were employed before training. Of these:
 - 4.0% were employed at a higher skill level after training
 - 19.6% were employed in a better job after training.
- 16.8% of short course part-completers were not employed before training. Of these:
 - 32.0% were employed after training.

Figure 13 Improved employment status after training, for short course completers and part-completers, 2020 (%)

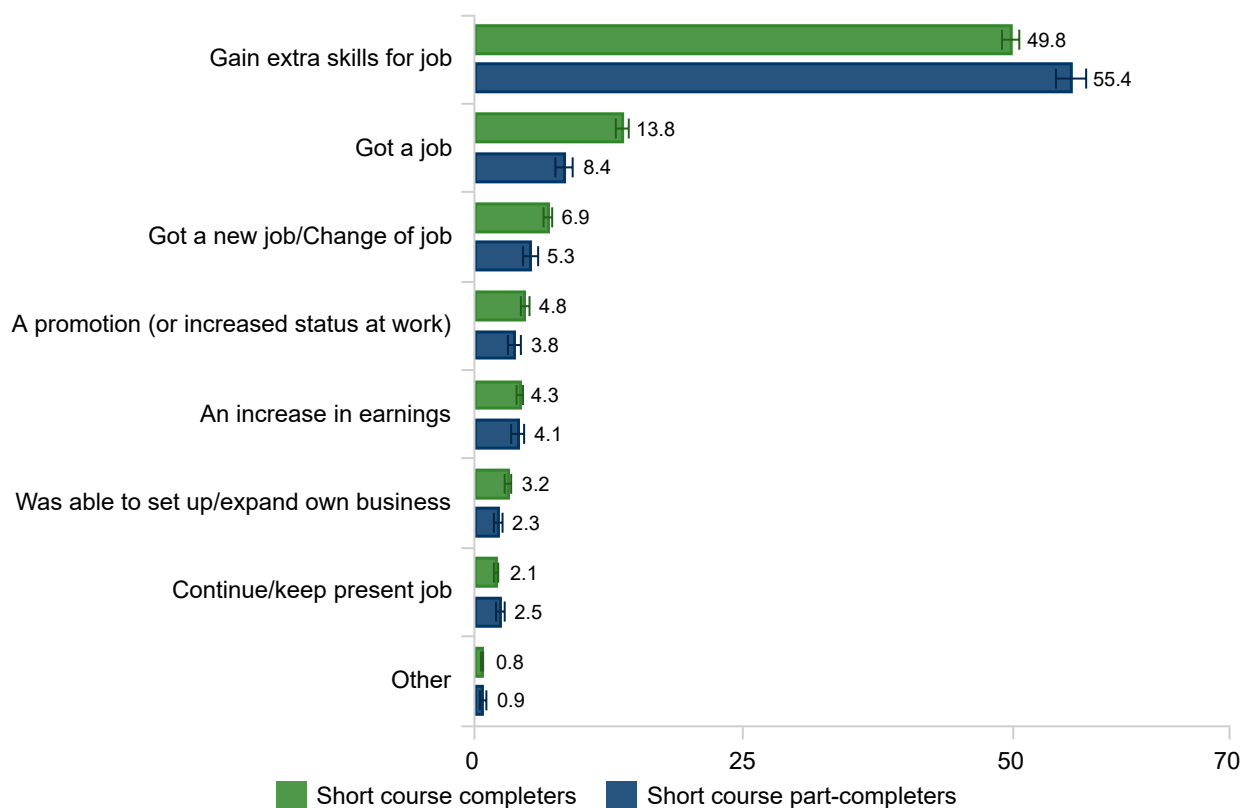


Job-related benefits

Of those employed after training:

- 71.1% of short course completers and 71.4% of part-completers received at least one job-related benefit
- the most commonly cited benefit was 'gained extra skills for my job', reported by 49.8% of short course completers and 55.4% of part-completers. This was followed by 'got a job', reported by 13.8% of short course completers and 8.4% of part-completers.

Figure 14 Job-related benefits of undertaking training, for short course completers and part-completers, 2020 (%)



Note: Totals sum to more than 100% as respondents could choose more than one response category.

Effect of COVID-19

Of the short course completers who were employed after training:

- 31.1% had their hours reduced after the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and 10.3% had their hours increased
- 6.9% were temporarily stood down due to COVID-19.

Of the short course completers who were not employed on the reference date of 29 May 2020, 31.6% had a job previously that they lost due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Of the short course part-completers who were employed after training:

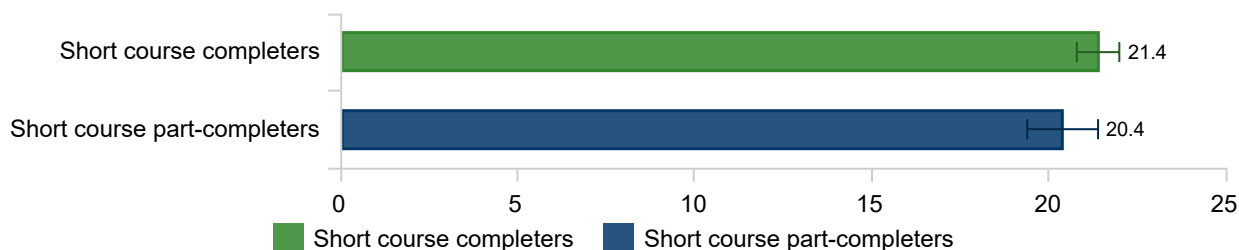
- 26.1% had their hours reduced after the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and 11.0% had their hours increased
- 4.5% were temporarily stood down due to COVID-19.

Of the short course part-completers who were not employed on 29 May 2020, 24.2% had a job previously that they lost due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Further study outcomes

In 2020, 21.4% of short course completers and 20.4% of short course part-completers enrolled in further study after training.

Figure 15 Enrolled in further study after training, for short course completers and part-completers, 2020 (%)



Satisfaction with training

In 2020:

- 93.3% of short course completers and 89.6% of short course part-completers were satisfied with the overall quality of training
- 89.1% of short course completers and 84.8% of short course part-completers are likely to recommend their training provider to others.

Figure 16 Satisfaction with training, for short course completers and part-completers, 2020 (%)

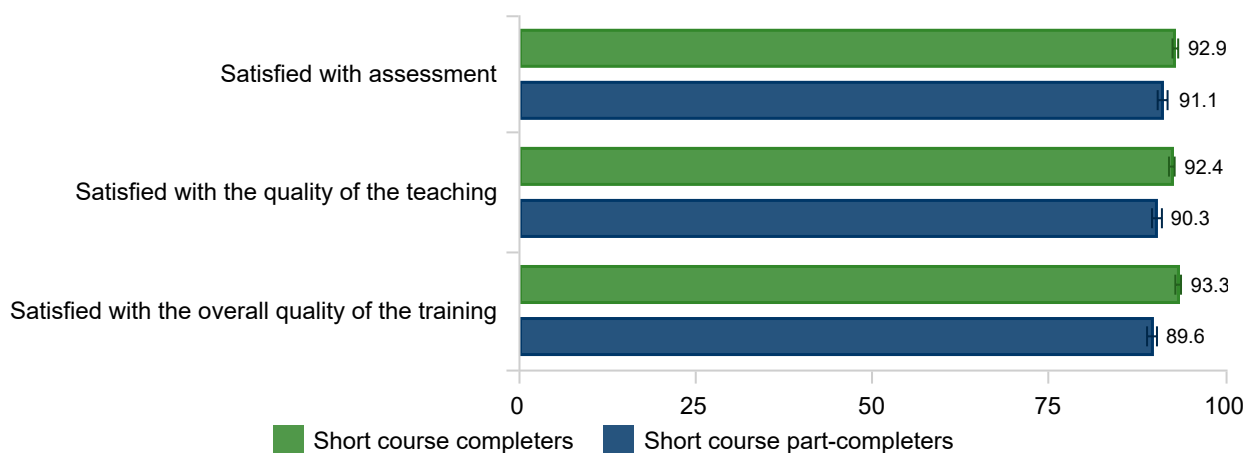
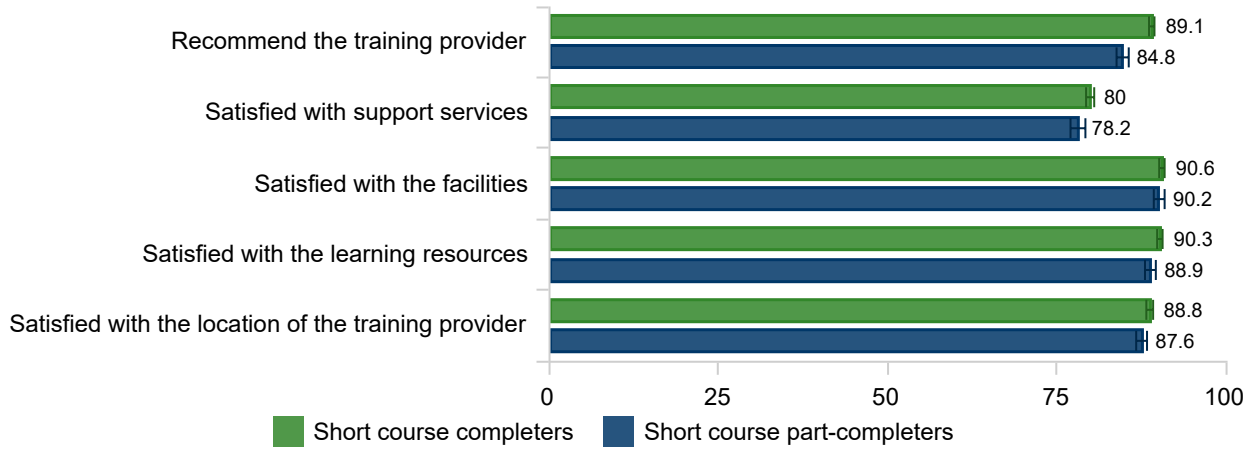


Figure 17 Satisfaction with training provider, for short course completers and part-completers, 2020 (%)



Subject(s) only completers

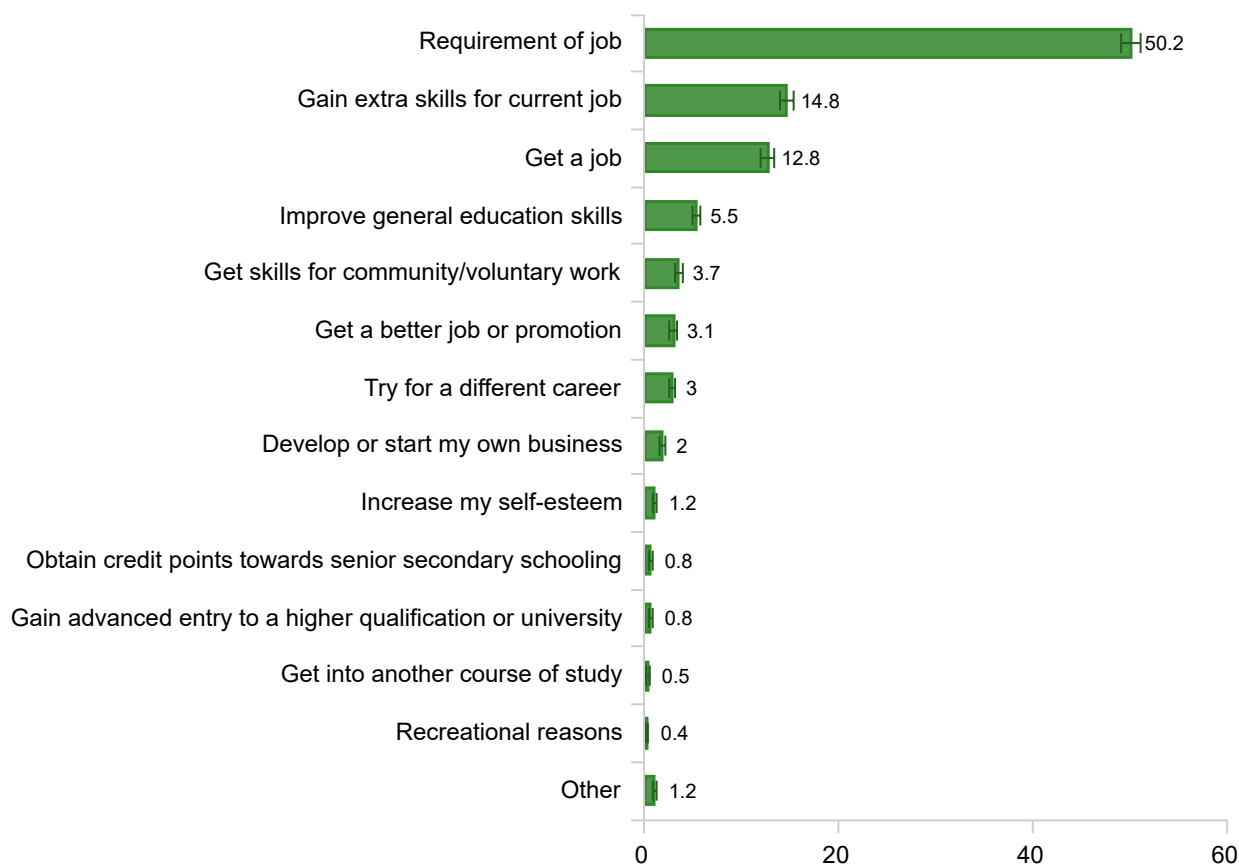
Subject(s) only completers are students who completed one or more subjects not delivered as part of a nationally recognised program and who are no longer undertaking training in the VET sector. Of the VET students who responded to the survey, 40 541 were subject(s) only completers.

Main reason for training

Overall, 85.9% of subject(s) only completers undertook training for employment-related reasons. The main reason for training was 'it was a requirement of my job', as cited by 50.2% of subject(s) only completers.

In 2020, 88.5% of subject(s) only completers achieved their main reason for undertaking training.

Figure 18 Main reason for undertaking training, for subject(s) only completers, 2020 (%)



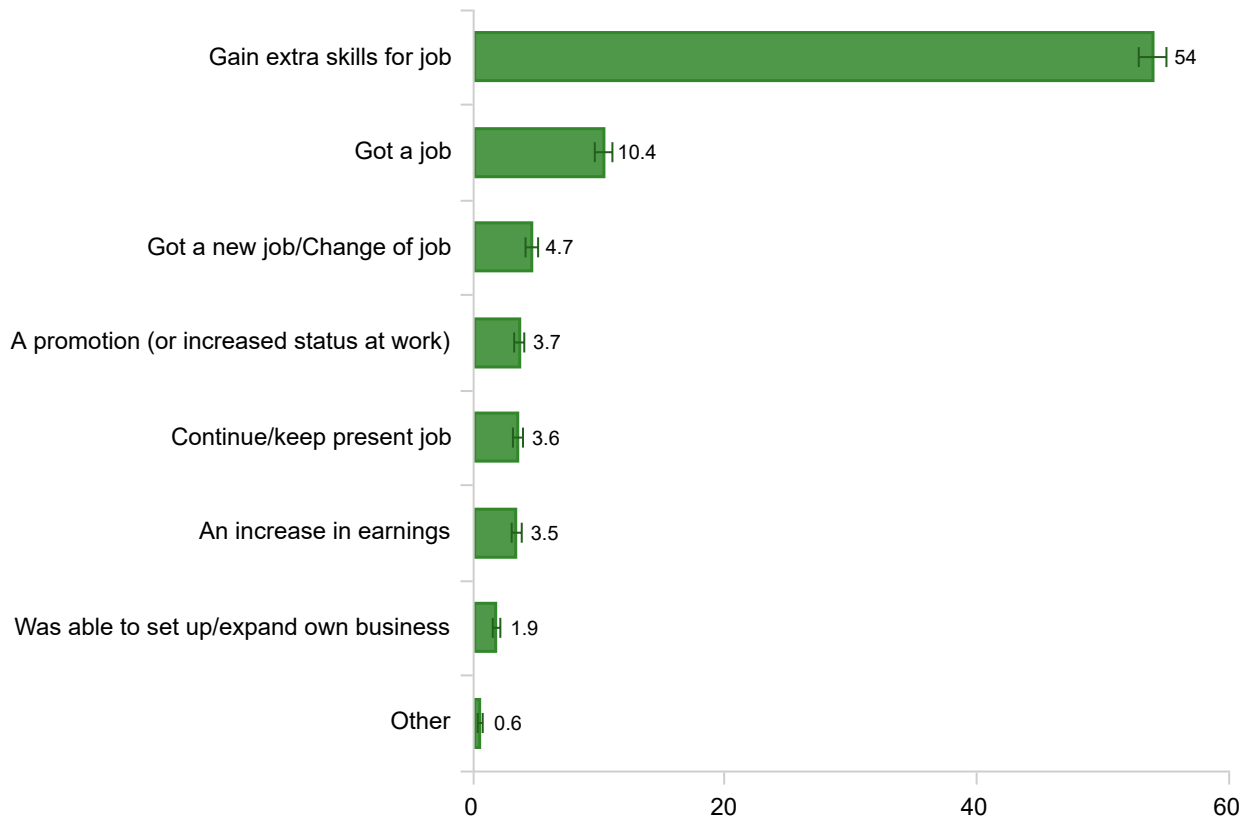
Employment outcomes

In 2020, 61.3% of subject(s) only completers had an improved employment status after training.

Job-related benefits

Of the subject(s) only completers employed after training, 72.0% received at least one job-related benefit. The most commonly reported benefit was 'gained extra skills for my job' (54.0%), followed by 'got a job' (10.4%).

Figure 19 Job-related benefits of training, for subject(s) only completers, 2020 (%)



Note: Totals sum to more than 100% as respondents could choose more than one response category.

Satisfaction with training

In 2020:

- 92.2% of subject(s) only completers were satisfied with the overall quality of training
- 86.2% of subject(s) only completers are likely to recommend their training provider to others.

Figure 20 Satisfaction with training, for subject(s) only completers, 2020 (%)

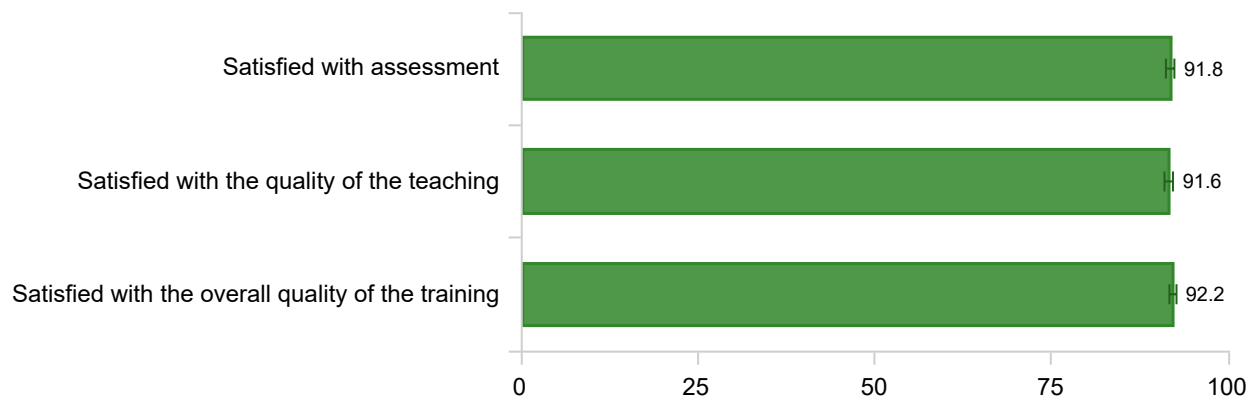
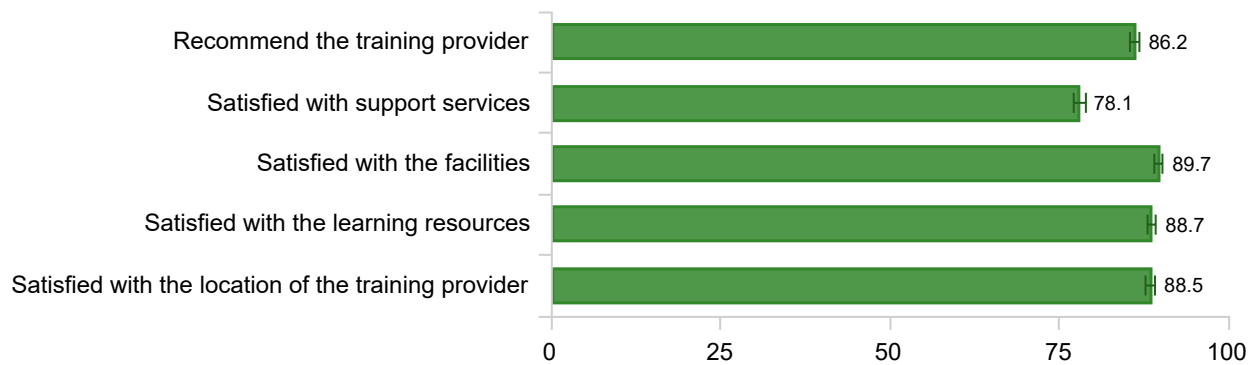


Figure 21 Satisfaction with training provider, for subject(s) only completers, 2020 (%)



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