

**Department of Education, Science and Training Supplementary Submission to the
Standing Committee on Employment, Workplace Relations and Workforce Participation
Inquiry into Workforce Challenges in the Australian Tourism Sector**

In November 2006 the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) made a written submission to the above inquiry. On 22 March 2007 three officials from the department appeared before the Committee to give evidence on the submission. During the hearing the departmental representatives undertook to provide additional information in response to the following question raised by the Committee:

“I was just curious about the many and varied paths that students have to access vocational education in these areas and the courses available. Do you have any information on where the bulk of those students would come from? Is it true that the bulk of students accessing these courses would be school based or are we seeing people taken in on midlife apprenticeships? I am talking about particularly in hospitality and cookery” (page 4 of the transcript)

Response:

National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) data shows that people of all ages are undertaking courses within the Hospitality Training Package. Hospitality students have a younger age profile than that for all students, however. School Based Apprenticeships accounted for 10.4 per cent of all commencements in hospitality apprenticeships and traineeships in the 12 months to September 2006, making this the second most popular area of School Based Apprenticeships after retail.

Apprentice and trainee commencements by whether school based, 12 months to Sept 2006

| | School based | Proportion (%) | Not school based | Proportion (%) | Total |
|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Hospitality training package | 2,140 | 10.4 | 18,386 | 89.6 | 20,526 |
| All apprentices | 15,902 | 6 | 249,026 | 94 | 264,928 |

Source: NCVER datacubes, 2006

Students, by age and major training package, 2005

| | Hospitality training package | Proportion by age (%) | All students | Proportion by age (%) |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Age 14 or under | 492 | 0.6 | 10,075 | 0.6 |
| Age 15-19 | 32,582 | 42.5 | 374,194 | 22.8 |
| Age 20-24 | 17,730 | 23.1 | 272,855 | 16.6 |
| Age 25-29 | 6,264 | 8.2 | 162,501 | 9.9 |
| Age 30-39 | 7,896 | 10.3 | 297,691 | 18.1 |
| Age 40-49 | 6,281 | 8.2 | 265,754 | 16.2 |
| Age 50-59 | 3,259 | 4.2 | 156,498 | 9.5 |
| Age 60-64 | 511 | 0.7 | 31,606 | 1.9 |
| Age 65 or over | 329 | 0.4 | 28,468 | 1.7 |
| Unknown | 1,388 | 1.8 | 41,612 | 2.5 |
| Total | 76,732 | 100 | 1,641,254 | 100 |

Source: NCVER datacubes, 2005

Apprentice and trainee commencements, by age and training package, 12 months to Sept 2006

| | Hospitality training package | Proportion by age (%) | All apprentices | Proportion by age (%) |
|-----------------|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Age 14 or under | 179 | 0.9 | 1,664 | 0.6 |
| Age 15-19 | 10,722 | 52.2 | 106,440 | 40.2 |
| Age 20-24 | 4,230 | 20.6 | 45,966 | 17.4 |
| Age 25-29 | 1,442 | 7 | 24,357 | 9.2 |
| Age 30-39 | 1,703 | 8.3 | 37,232 | 14.1 |
| Age 40-49 | 1,375 | 6.7 | 30,680 | 11.6 |
| Age 50-59 | 765 | 3.7 | 16,138 | 6.1 |
| Age 60-64 | 96 | 0.5 | 2,079 | 0.8 |
| Age 65 or over | 12 | 0.1 | 372 | 0.1 |
| Unknown | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 20,526 | 100 | 264,928 | 100 |

Source: NCVET datacubes, 2006