Education participation, attainment and retention are increasing in general.

The exception is Indigenous young people (15-19), whose participation has decreased since 2008.

Our recent report, The New Work Order: ensuring young Australians have the skills and experience for the jobs of the future, not the past, describes issues ahead for young people as the world of work faces the biggest disruption since the industrial revolution, through technology, globalisation and more flexible employment.

This report card, the 17th in the Foundation for Young Australians’ annual series, examines how young people are faring in the transition from school to work and how prepared they are for the future economy.

**Young people are staying longer in education which will help for the high skilled work of the future**

- Education participation, attainment and retention are increasing in general.
- The exception is Indigenous young people (15-19), whose participation has decreased since 2008.

**Despite this, a significant minority are not developing the enterprise skills they will need for future work**

**FUTURE JOBS:**

- 75%* of future jobs will involve digital literacy (50% advanced digital skills)
- 35% of 15 year olds are not digitally literate

Proficiency in maths, science and reading is getting worse and Australia is falling in international ratings.

The majority of Indigenous* young people, (as high as 77% for maths), are not proficient in the skills that will be sought after in future work.

35% are not proficient in problem solving

30% are not financially literate

* PwC A smart move 2015

Throughout this document the term ‘Indigenous’ is used to refer to both Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples. Unless noted otherwise, the term should be considered inclusive of both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
A third (30%) of young workers want more work.

On average, it takes young people 4.7 years from leaving full-time education to entering full-time work. (was around one year in 1986)

The proportion of young people (20-24) in full-time work decreased from 52% (2008) to 42% (2014) while the proportions in part-time and casual work have increased.

The New Work Order report suggests that:

- 70% of young people's entry-level jobs are at risk of automation in the future.
- 60% of young people are currently studying for jobs that will be radically altered by automation.

It is likely difficulties moving into full-time work will continue into the future.

Only 65% of university graduates, and 58% of Cert III or higher graduates, are in full-time work four months after graduating.
An enterprise education strategy would:

- begin early in primary school and build consistently, year on year, throughout high school
- be provided in ways that young people want to learn: through experience, immersion and with peers
- provide accurate information and exposure about where future jobs will exist and the skills to craft and navigate multiple careers
- engage students, schools, industry and parents in co-designing opportunities in and outside the classroom.

Our policy choices today will determine whether Australia’s young people are ready to take on the challenges of the future for decades to come. These are not just challenges for individual young people. They are challenges for our nation. We must act now to ensure young Australians can thrive in this new work order.
Australian young people are staying in education longer which will help prepare them for the higher skilled work of the future.

**KEY:** ✭ = All young people  ✳️ = Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander young peoples

'THIS GENERATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE WILL [NEED TO] PROMOTE INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURIALISM AND GROW OUR ECONOMY TO MAINTAIN OUR STANDARD OF LIVING.'

– PHILIP LOWE, RESERVE BANK OF AUSTRALIA 2014
Young women are more likely to ...

- Be in full-time education or higher education
- Complete year 12, a Cert III or above, or a bachelor degree

Young men are more likely to ...

- Be in VET or an apprenticeship
Young people are not learning the enterprise skills in schools they need for the changing and flexible work of the future.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Literacy Measure</th>
<th>% NOT proficient (15 years old)</th>
<th>International performance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Financial</td>
<td>2012 30%</td>
<td>2nd 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Problem solving</td>
<td>2012 35%</td>
<td>11th 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>2003 33% 2012 42%</td>
<td>5th 2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>2000 31% 2012 36%</td>
<td>16th 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2012 69%</td>
<td>10th 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>2006 33% 2012 35%</td>
<td>4th 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2012 67%</td>
<td>8th 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital</td>
<td>2005 39% 2011 35%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2011 64%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civics and citizenship</td>
<td>2004 61% 2013, Yr 10 56%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2013 83%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

KEY: ⭐️ = All young people
⭐️ = Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander young peoples
It takes on average 4.7 years for young people to find full-time work after completing full-time education and 2.7 years to find any work (from one year respectively in 1986).

Transitions from education to full-time work are becoming harder

Young women are more proficient in...
- Reading
- Digital
- Civics and citizenship

Young men are more proficient in...
- Maths/numeracy

There is no difference in...
- Problem solving
- Science

Transitions from education to full-time work are becoming harder

It takes on average 4.7 years for young people to find full-time work after completing full-time education and 2.7 years to find any work (from one year respectively in 1986).

Four months after graduating...

% of university graduates in full-time work:
- 2008: 84%
- 2014: 65%

% of Cert III or higher graduates in full-time work:
- 2006: 70%
- 2014: 58%

15-19 years old

- Full-time employed:
  - 2008: 17%
  - 2014: 10%

- Part-time employed:
  - 2008: 33%
  - 2014: 33%

- Casually employed:
  - 2002: 53%
  - 2012: 52%

- Self-employed:
  - 2013: 1%

20-24 years old

- Full-time employed:
  - 2008: 52%
  - 2014: 42%

- Part-time employed:
  - 2008: 24%
  - 2014: 27%

- Casually employed:
  - 2002: 30%
  - 2012: 34%

- Self-employed:
  - 2013: 6%
### Under-employed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15-19 years old</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24 years old</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**KEY:** ⭐ = All young people  ⚫ = Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander young peoples

#### Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>15-19 years old</th>
<th>20-24 years old</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Young women

- are more likely to be...
  - under-employed
  - employed in part-time or casual work

### Young men

- are more likely to be...
  - in full-time work
  - unemployed
  - self-employed

#### The main activity of a 21 year old NEET is...

- Home duties/looking after children: 49%
- Other: 23%
- Studying/training: 16%
- Travelling/holiday: 10%
- Unable to work or ill: 3%

30% of 21 year olds are working but want more hours.
Where are they now?
A snapshot

15-19 years old

- Attending full-time education: 77.5%
- Employed full-time: 2.8%
- Employed part-time: 6.6%
- Casually employed: 3.8%
- Self-employed: 9.3%

20-24 years old

- Attending full-time education: 30.6%
- Employed full-time: 40.6%
- Employed part-time: 5.6%
- Casually employed: 13.5%
- Self-employed: 2.8%

RESEARCH SUGGESTS:

Young people will have 17 jobs over five careers throughout their lifetime

Prepared by:
Jeanette Pope and Rachel Mutch, Strategy, Policy and Research, Foundation for Young Australians, November 2015, using data from National Centre for Vocational Education Research report How are young people faring in the transition from school to work. This report is part of FYA’s Unlimited Potential: an information and data resource on Australian young people. Available at: unlimitedpotential.fya.org.au. Contact 03 96705436.

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FYA is a national for-purpose organisation that is all about backing the next generation of young people who are going to rethink the world and create a better future. At FYA we connect and inspire young changemakers - the innovators, the makers, the dreamers, the thinkers, the doers and the creators.

Find out more at fya.org.au

Foundation for Young Australians
21-27 Somerset Place, Melbourne VIC 3000
T: 03 9670 5436 E: info@fya.org.au
fya.org.au