



Ministerial Submission

MS25-001260

FOR INFORMATION – Digital Technology Jobs Update - August Quarter 2025

TO: Minister for Industry and Innovation; Minister for Science

CC: Assistant Minister for Science, Technology and the Digital Economy

KEY POINTS

- There were 958,441 technology-related jobs in the August quarter 2025, 1.3 per cent higher than the May quarter 2025. This follows 3 consecutive quarterly declines between November 2024 and May 2025.
 - However, technology-related jobs were 3.3 per cent lower than the August quarter 2024 (see [Attachment A](#)). Further details on the estimates are outlined at [Attachment B](#).
 - Data in future quarters will help assess if the August quarter 2025 represents a sustained rebound in technology-related jobs.
 - The number of technology-related jobs has grown from 903,986 in August 2022 when the Albanese Government set a target of 1.2 million technology-related jobs by 2030.
- The recent increase in technology-related jobs coincided with nearly 21,000 advertisements for technology-related jobs in the August quarter 2025. This is 36.1 per cent higher than the August quarter 2024, or 5,547 additional vacancies.
 - The high volume of job vacancies reflects robust demand for technology-related roles, particularly within the Professional, Scientific and Technical Services and Public Administration and Safety sectors.
- Despite the recent increase, the department is projecting that total technology-related jobs will still **not** reach the 1.2 million target by 2030.
 - Using an 8-quarter average projection, the expected number of jobs by 2030 is higher than our May forecast but remains around 210,000 below the 1.2 million target.
- The August quarter 2025 revealed a mixed outcomes across technology-related jobs, reflecting both sectoral shifts and occupational dynamics.
 - Technology-related jobs in non-tech sectors rose by 12,655 jobs (2.4 per cent), rebounding from a low base in the May quarter 2025.
 - This reflects a broader trend of non-tech sectors increasingly embedding AI and digital technologies to boost productivity and modernise operations.

- It indicates potential redeployment of workers affected by recent big tech and telecommunication layoffs, with their skills being absorbed into sectors looking for employees with these skills.
- Technology-related jobs in technology-related sectors declined by around 1,000 jobs.
 - The declines were recorded in most technology occupations with the largest quarterly reductions in Computer Network Professionals (lost 1,617 jobs); Database and Systems Administrators, and ICT Security Specialists (lost 1,562 jobs); Telecommunications Trades Workers (lost 1,068 jobs).
 - Increases were recorded in roles for managers, graphic and web designers and illustrators.
- Non-technology jobs in technology-related industries rebounded by nearly 1,000 jobs in the August quarter 2025, after declining by 1,800 jobs in the May quarter 2025.
 - This indicates that technology-related businesses have maintained or expanded other non-technology (e.g. administrative) functions while reducing the number of technology jobs.
- Overall, Australian employment remained flat in seasonally adjusted terms over the same quarter.
 - Declines were recorded in traditional industries, including rental and hiring (9.3 per cent), mining (7.9 per cent), wholesale (7.0 per cent), financial and insurance services (6.1 per cent).
 - Growth in technology-related jobs aligned more closely with hiring expansions in other services (7.3 per cent), information media and telecommunication (6.0 per cent), energy (3.9 per cent), and education (2.1 per cent).

SENSITIVITIES AND HANDLING:

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- The department continues to engage with the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR) and key industry organisations such as Future Skills Organisation and Jobs and Skills Australia (JSA) to understand the impact of AI on the workforce.
 - In August, JSA released their AI capacity study 'Our GenAI Transition – Implications for Work and Skills'. The study estimates that generative AI is more likely to augment jobs rather than replace them, but that impacts will vary across occupations, industries, regions and groups of people. JSA briefed you on this study alongside Minister Giles on 31 July 2025.

CONSULTATION

- Technology and Digital Policy Division.

Clearance Officer

Kate Penney

General Manager, Business, Innovation and Economic Insights
Analysis, Insights and Strategy Division

Ph: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Mo

Clearance date: 15/10/2025

Contact Officer

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Acting Manager, Firm, Innovation and
Technology Analysis

Analysis, Insights and Strategy Division

Ph: s 22(1)(a)(ii)

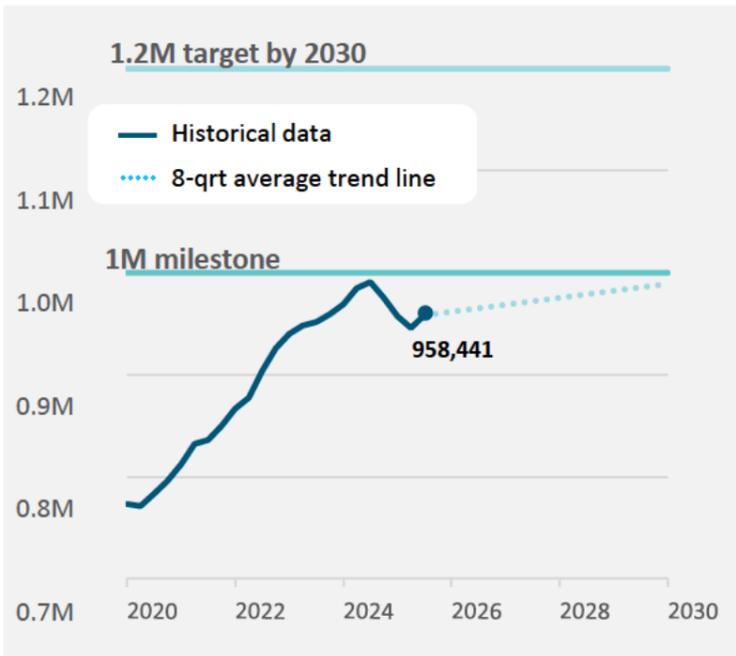
ATTACHMENTS

A: Digital Technology Jobs Placemat August Quarter 2025

B: Digital Technology Jobs Dashboard Background

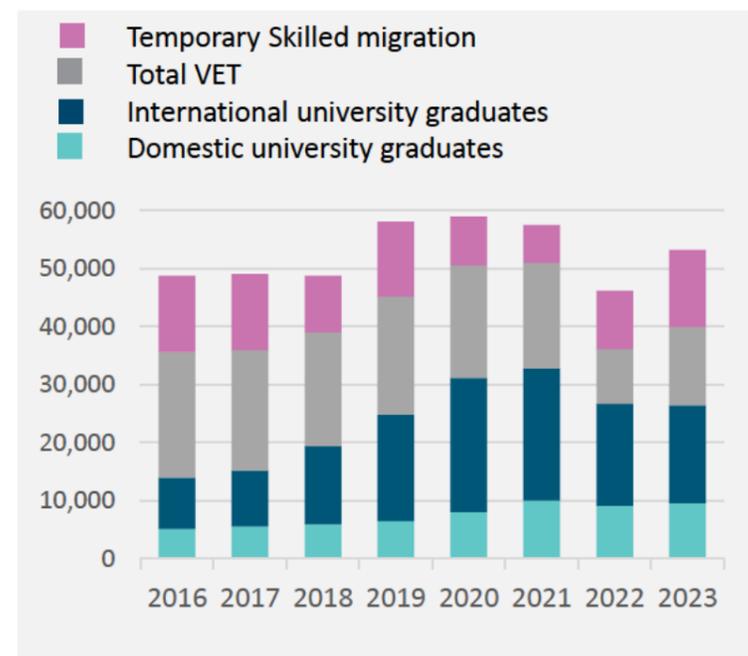
Tech-related Jobs in Australia

Total employment in tech-related jobs



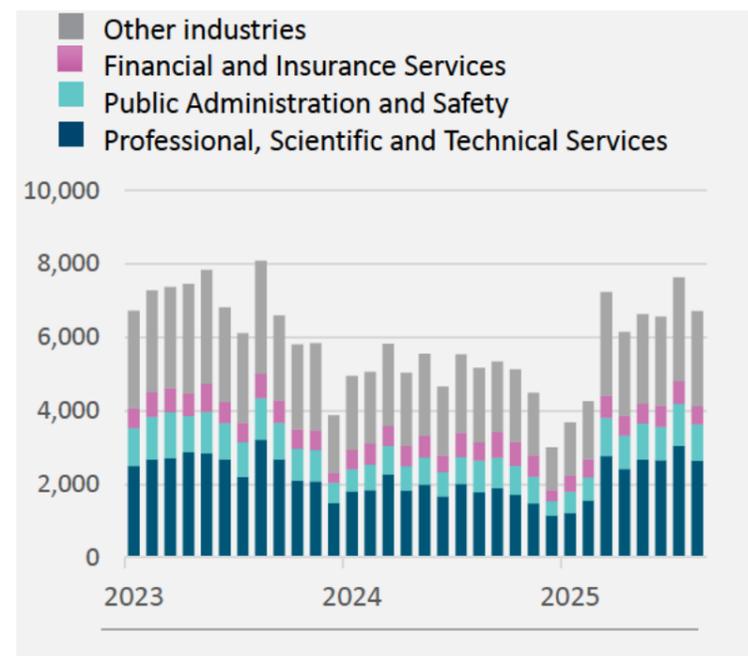
SOURCE: ABS Labour Force Detailed

Sources of tech-related talent

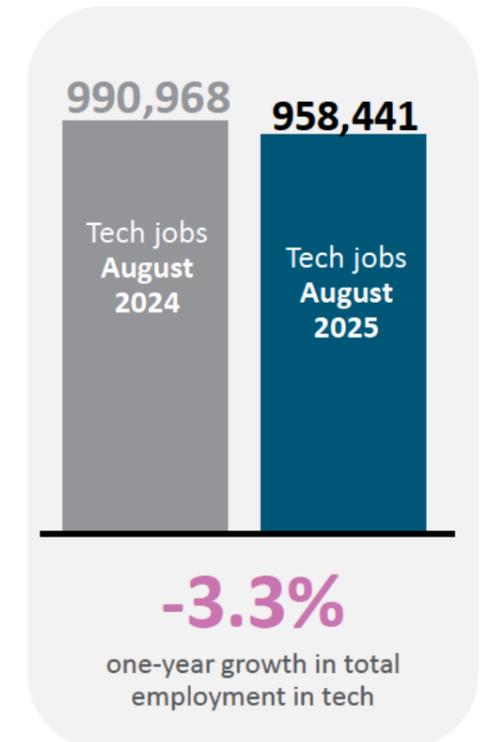


SOURCE: VOCTSTATS; DoE; Permanent Migration Program Outcomes

Total vacancies by industry

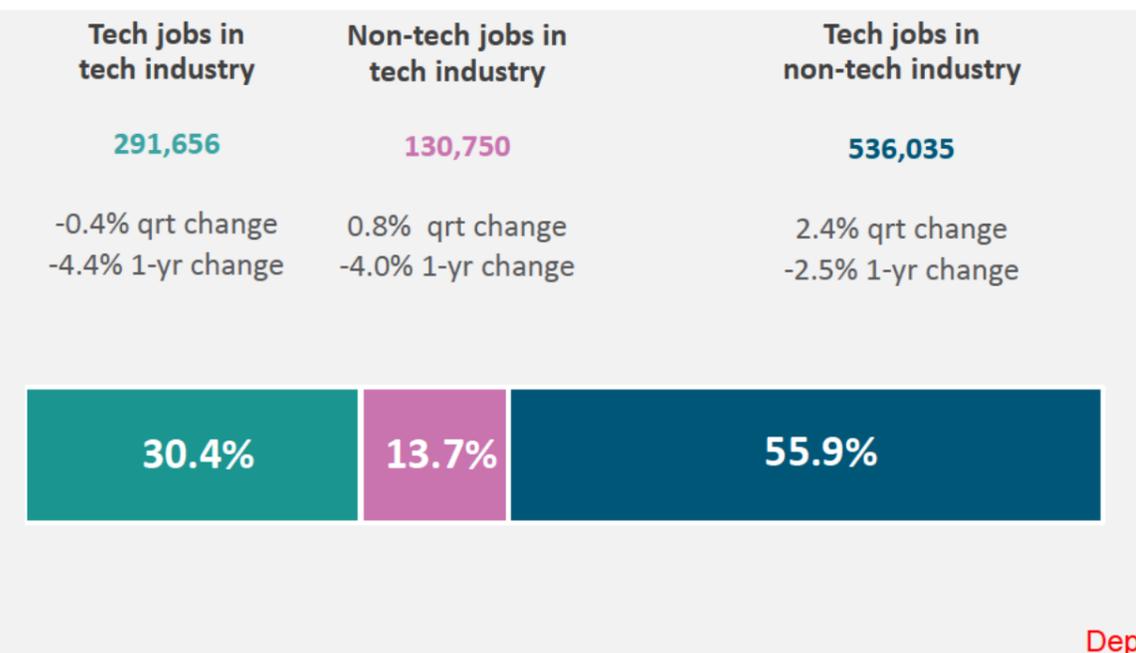


SOURCE: Lightcast Jobs and Skills Australia as at August 2025



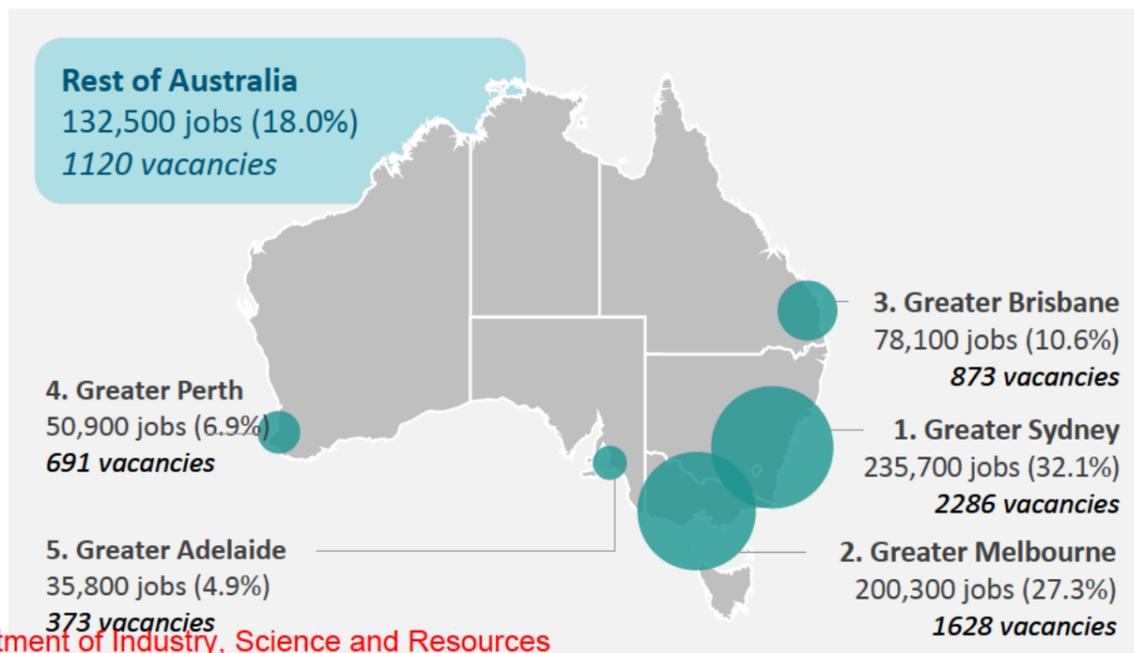
SOURCE: ABS Labour Force Detailed

Composition of tech-related jobs

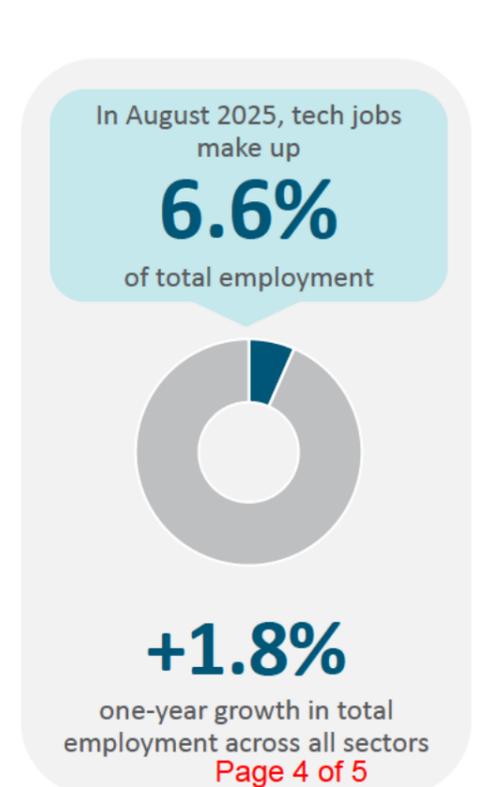


NOTE: As at August 2025 SOURCE: ABS Labour Force Detailed

Top regions by number of tech job vacancies



NOTE: Jobs as at 2023, vacancies as at August 2025 – three-month average
 SOURCE: Census Population and Housing (jobs); Lightcast Jobs and Skills Australia (vacancies)



SOURCE: ABS Labour Force Detailed

ATTACHMENT B**Digital Technology Jobs Dashboard Background**

1. The technology-related jobs in Australia dashboard (the dashboard) provides insights into the current state of the Australian digital technology job market. The latest dashboard for the August quarter 2025 is at [Attachment A](#).
2. The dashboard shows a range of variables including tech-employment, tech-job vacancies, and sources of tech-talent. This helps us understand the dynamics of the technology-related job market and identify trends and emerging issues.
3. The jobs estimate is calculated by applying the Tech Council of Australia's definition of the technology sector to the detailed Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Quarterly Labor Force dataset.
 - a. Technology jobs include 25 Australia New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations Standard (ANZSCO) occupations including software and applications programmers, ICT project managers, cybersecurity specialists and more.
 - b. The technology industry encompasses 4 broad technology categories including: computer system design; internet publishing and broadcasting; internet service providers, web search and data processing services; and telecommunication services.
4. Other estimates of technology jobs, such as Jobs and Skills Australia's Occupations and Industries Analysis and the Australian Computer Society's IT Occupation List, use different definitions for the technology sector, which may result in different tech-job counts.

Data referenced

1. ABS Labor Force Detailed, August quarter 2025, viewed 25 September 2025.
2. Lightcast data, August quarter 2025, viewed 25 September 2025.