Using training indicators to improve VET planning

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"Training indicators" are a crucial part of the VET planning game. These refer to "current and future indicators of VET demand and supply, used by governments, enterprises, training providers or individuals, to guide decisions about investments in skill training".

An NCVER project has been studying their use and effectiveness in ANTA, State and Territory VET planning. NCVER itself produces indicators on enrolments, training and outcomes. States and Territories also use other banks of indicators to compile their VET plans.

With diversification and deregulation of VET, more training indicators could be directed to regional and TAFE institute-level planning, which is often expressed in terms of planning *educational* courses for *industry and regional* demands. In formulating such plans, it makes sense to use a range of VET demand-side and supply-side indicators.

The project also recommends (a) improved reporting of youth transition issues and against KPM 2, stocks of VET skills (b) greater timeliness and interpretive quality in NCVER enrolment and outcome publications (c) online development of NCVER training indicators (d) more regional detail in the VET student outcomes surveys and (d) quality reforms in VET student and careers information.