

Female representation in traditional trades

Traditional trades continue to be dominated by male apprentices. In 2016 female representation in these trades in the ACT was 2.2 percent (Table 1). This outcome has not changed significantly in the last 10 years. In the most popular apprenticeship qualification in the ACT – Certificate III in Carpentry – women have comprised less than one percent of the total commencements since 2007 (Table 2). Even in electrotechnology and automotive qualifications which receive the greatest number of female apprentices the representation of women has never exceeded 5% (Table 3).

Table 1: Commencements by female apprentices in traditional trades, as a percentage of total commencements, 2007-2016

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
Female	28	26	21	26	27	35	28	24	34	28	277
Male	1213	1174	1082	1333	1311	1239	1339	1183	1122	1221	12217
Total	1241	1200	1103	1359	1338	1274	1367	1207	1156	1249	12494
Female %	2.26%	2.17%	1.90%	1.91%	2.02%	2.75%	2.05%	1.99%	2.94%	2.24%	2.22%

Table 2: Commencements by female apprentices in top 5* trade qualifications as a percentage of total commencements, 2007-2016

Qualification	Female	Male	Total	Female %
Certificate III in Carpentry	10	2479	2489	0.40%
Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician	53	1817	1870	2.83%
Certificate III in Plumbing	10	1511	1521	0.66%
Certificate III in Light Vehicle Mechanical Technology	48	1376	1424	3.37%
Certificate III in Telecommunications	9	647	656	1.37%

*Top 5 in terms of total commencements by all apprentices in trade qualifications from 2007-2016

Table 3: Commencements by female apprentices, by number of commencements*, in top 5** trade qualifications, as a percentage of total commencements, 2007-2016

Qualification	Female	Male	Total	Female %
Certificate III in Electrotechnology Electrician	53	1817	1870	2.83%
Certificate III in Light Vehicle Mechanical Technology	48	1376	1424	3.37%
Certificate III in Parks and Gardens	24	109	133	18.05%
Certificate III in Cabinet Making	21	509	530	3.96%
Certificate III in Painting and Decorating	16	177	193	8.29%

*In order by highest female commencements to lowest female commencements

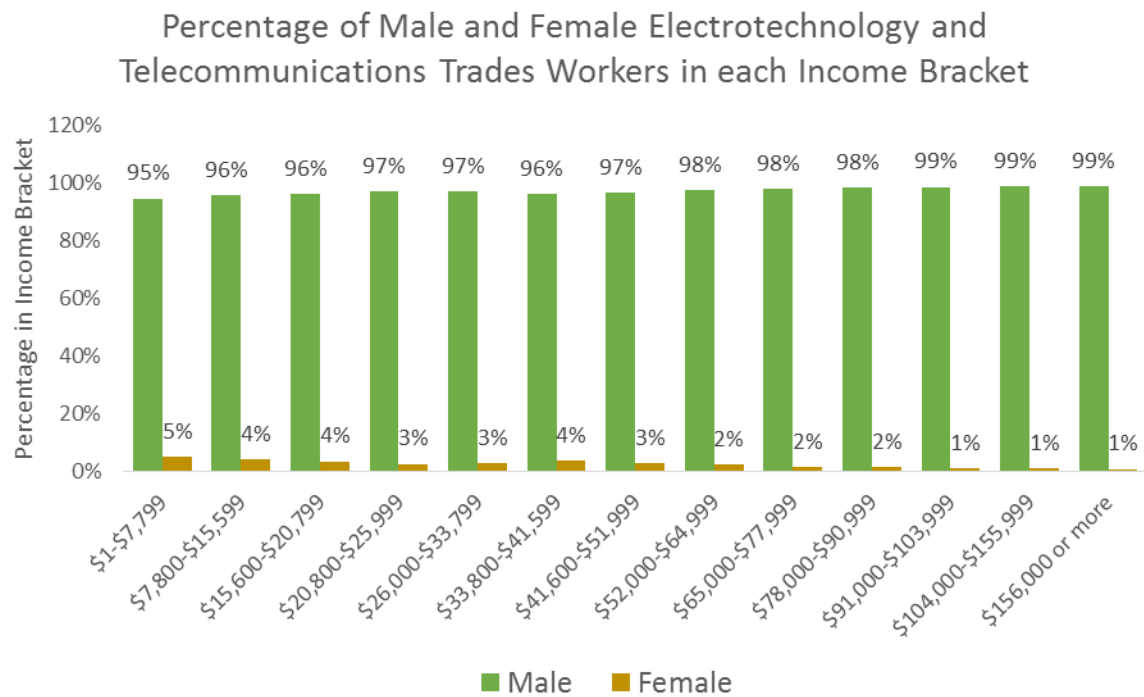
**In terms of top 5 trades chosen by female apprentices

Source (Tables 1, 2 and 3): ACT Vocational Education and Training Administration Records System (AVETARS) (Accessed 10/7/2017). Analysis uses the ANZSCO classification system and the National Register on Vocational Education and Training's classification of qualifications by ANZSCO classification.

Income comparison

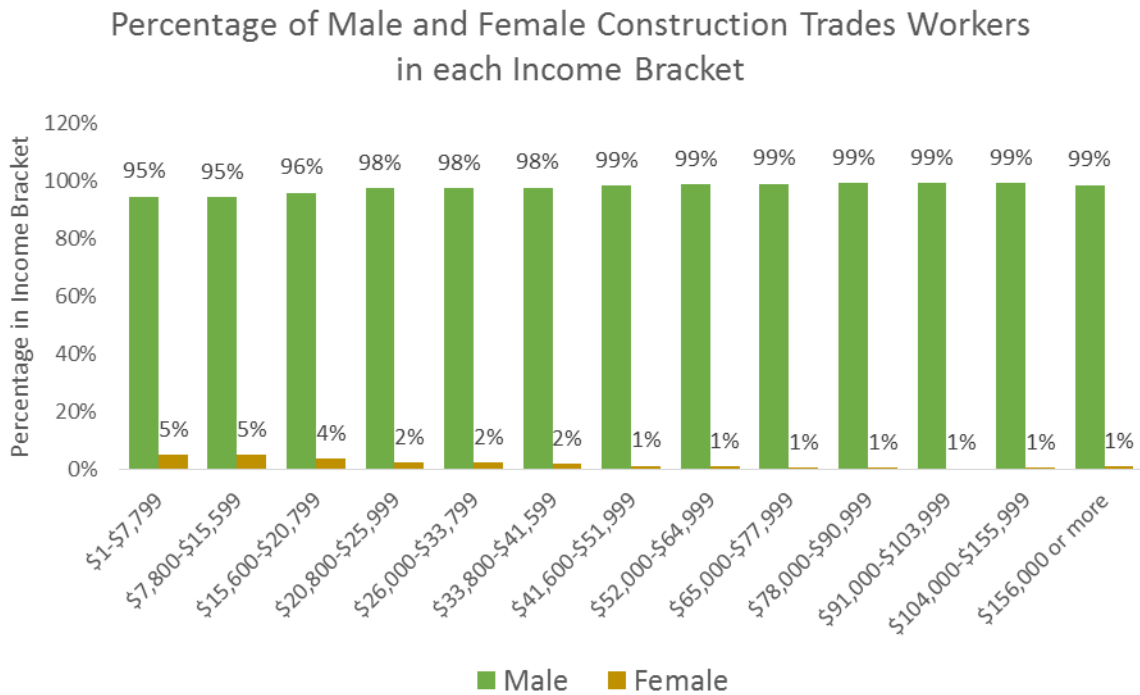
Across the electrotechnology and telecommunications, construction and automotive industries (Figures 1, 2 and 3 respectively) the percentage of tradeswomen in each income bracket consistently declines. There are proportionately less women at higher level positions.

Figure 1: Percentage of Australian Male and Female Electrotechnology and Telecommunications Trades Workers in each Income Bracket



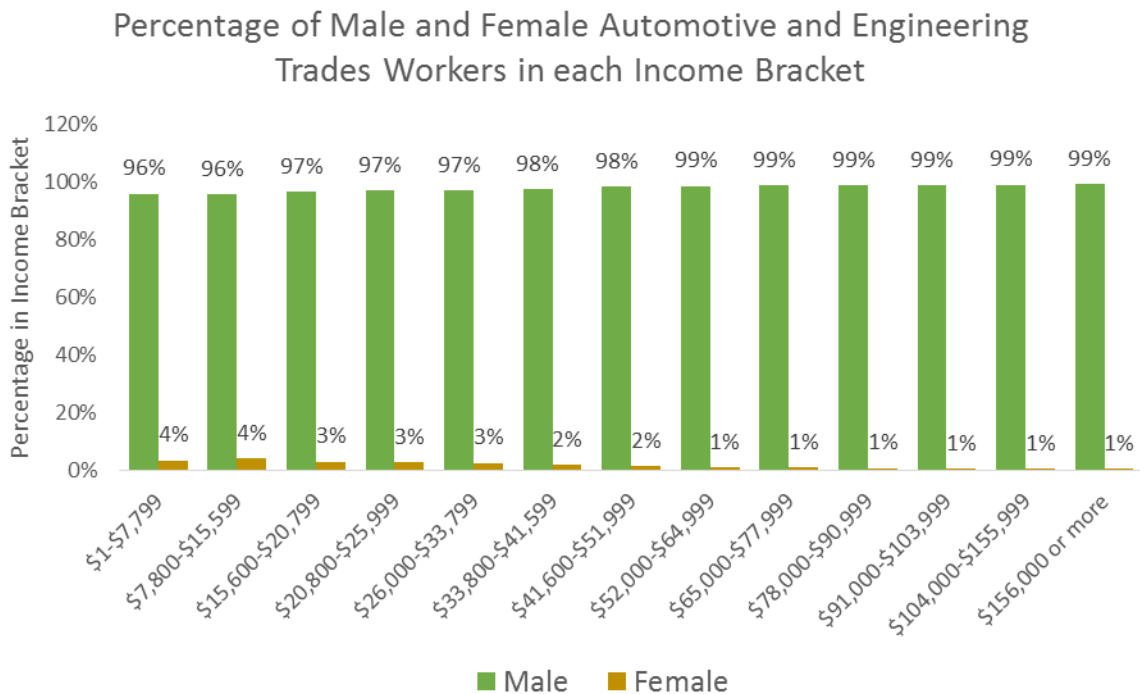
Source: ABS 2016 Census of Population and Housing

Figure 2: Percentage of Male and Female Construction Trades Workers in each Income Bracket



Source: ABS 2016 Census of Population and Housing

Figure 3: Percentage of Male and Female Automotive and Engineering Trades Workers in each Income Bracket



Source: ABS 2016 Census of Population and Housing

Appendix

Classification of traditional trades

Occupation (ANZSCO - NTIS) group	ANZCO Code
Automotive Electricians	3211
Motor Mechanics	3212
Metal Casting, Forging and Finishing Trades Workers	3221
Sheetmetal Trades Workers	3222
Structural Steel and Welding Trades Workers	3223
Aircraft Maintenance Engineers	3231
Metal Fitters and Machinists	3232
Precision Metal Trades Workers	3233
Toolmakers and Engineering Patternmakers	3234
Panelbeaters	3241
Vehicle Body Builders and Trimmers	3242
Vehicle Painters	3243
Bricklayers and Stonemasons	3311
Carpenters and Joiners	3312
Floor Finishers	3321
Painting Trades Workers	3322
Glaziers	3331
Plasterers	3332
Roof Tilers	3333
Wall and Floor Tilers	3334
Plumbers	3341
Electricians	3411
Airconditioning and Refrigeration Mechanics	3421
Electrical Distribution Trades Workers	3422
Electronics Trades Workers	3423
Telecommunications Trades Workers	3424
Gardeners	3622
Greenkeepers	3623
Nurserypersons	3624
Cabinetmakers	3941
Wood Machinists and Other Wood Trades Workers	3942