



# OUR 2017 RESULTS

An employment initiative for young people with disability



## National Manager's Message

Ticket to Work is committed to providing a pathway to employment for young people with disability. Using collaborative partnerships, schools, employment services, NDIS providers, apprenticeship services and employers work together to ensure students with disability have the opportunity to achieve their aspirations.

In 2017, Ticket to Work achieved the milestone of securing over 1,000 jobs in just over three years. The ripple effect of this has been huge – opportunities for over 2,800 young people to participate in work experience and work preparation activities, with involvement from over 1,900 employers. None of this could have occurred without the support of our partners and funders.

Following the allocation of additional funding, we have seen the Ticket to Work initiative expand to provide after-school jobs employment. After-school work is an important rite of passage for young people and a great way to learn about the workforce and gain social skills.

Our team's focus is now on securing a sustainable funding model while continuing to influence policy and practice to create an employment-first approach in Australia.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "M. Wakeford". The signature is stylized with a large, flowing "M" and a series of connected loops for the last name.

**Michelle Wakeford**

National Ticket to Work Manager



# 2017 ACHIEVEMENTS



843

young people with disability engaged  
in career development activities



425

jobs created for  
young people  
with disability



479

employers  
supported young  
people in their  
workplace



261

schools  
engaged



373

organisations  
and agencies  
engaged

# OUR NATIONAL RESULTS

An independent study found that Ticket to Work is creating positive longer-term social and economic outcomes for young people with disability.

**Compared to other young people with similar disabilities, Ticket to Work participants were:**



Experiencing **higher levels** of social participation, **quality of life** and wellbeing



Almost **50% more likely** to complete Year 12



**100% gained further education qualifications**



**Four times** more likely to be in work



**86% were in work** two to three years after leaving school

## Our participants:



**86%**

of participants attend special schools or special education units



**84%**

of participants have an intellectual disability and/or autism



**98%**

of participants felt that taking part in Ticket to Work will improve their opportunities for employment in future



**95%**

of participants felt that participating in Ticket to Work increased their confidence

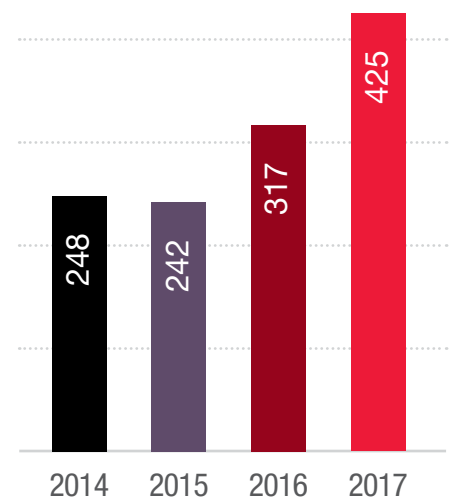


**84%**

of participants felt that participating in Ticket to Work increased their understanding of the world of work

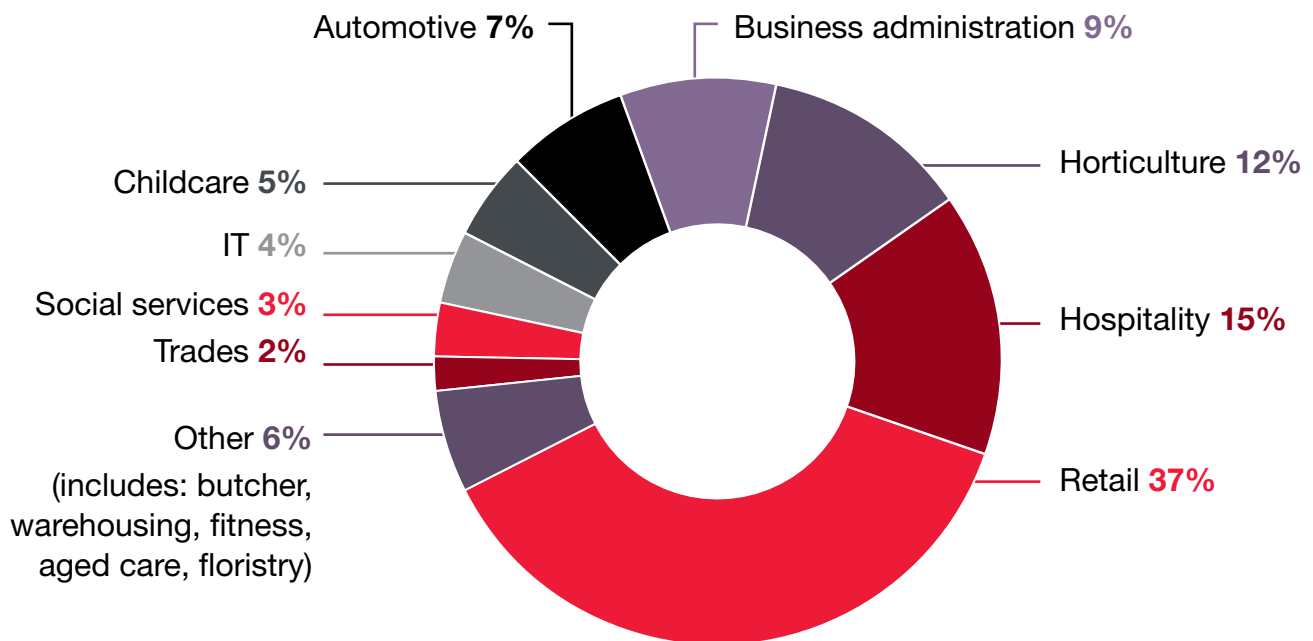
**Ticket to Work has created real jobs for real wages for young people with disability.**

The number of young people in work since the initiative commenced:



# INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT

In 2017, 479 new employers across a range of sectors supported young people with disability in their workplaces. Here is a breakdown of the industries that have engaged with Ticket to Work.



## What employers told us:



100%

of employers saw an improvement in young workers' abilities to get along with others in the workplace.



93%

of employers saw an improvement in young workers' abilities to adhere to workplace practices and policies.

**74% of Ticket to Work apprentices and trainees complete their apprenticeship or traineeship.**

This is significantly higher than traineeship completion rates - which sit at 53% (NCVER 2018)

It has benefited the business because with the Ticket to Work trainees have been so productive. They are so enthusiastic about their training and the work they do so it brings a level of productivity to the whole team.

# WHAT PARENTS TOLD US:

## What parents told us:



95%

of parents/carers saw an increase in confidence in their child after participation in Ticket to Work



100%

of parents/carers thought that involvement in Ticket to Work improved their child's employment opportunities in the future



# What young people have said about Ticket to Work



“Ticket to Work helped me find a job. I benefitted a lot from that because my employer liked my work and I learned a lot from him. I’d like to thank Ticket to Work for that.”

**Stephen**

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“It was a really good thing to put on my resume and was a thing to help me finish school. At school I had a lot of social issues, normal things I guess, in the start of year 11 I wanted to leave school, I didn’t want to be there, this helped me to motivate me to finish school....If it wasn’t for Ticket to Work, I wouldn’t have gone back to school. It really helped me.”

**Phillip**

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“I have enjoyed everything about doing my traineeship. I have been very well supported by everyone. I was very worried at first and did not think I would be able to do it. But now I would tell everyone to just give it a try.”

**Hannah**

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“Ticket to Work gave me options and allowed me to find the right job for me. The job I got through Ticket to Work is helping me to save for a house, insurance and other goals.”

**Andrew**

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“If I think about where I am today, I don’t think I could have done it without Ticket to Work. I’ve got so much more independence. I’ve even gone on holidays with friends. I’ve got my own personal car and finances. I couldn’t ask for a lot more at the moment.”

**Nomaan**

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# What parents, employers and schools have said about Ticket to Work:



“Going through this (Ticket to Work) means she now wants a proper job and she is very proud and is quite strong now, a job is important. She continues to develop this awareness of people need jobs”

## Parent

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“All Charlotte wants is to have the opportunity to have a normal life and we could offer that... I think any business can do it and making sure they are doing it for the right reasons and they have an ability to make an environment for the student to progress. It’s definitely been worth it.”

## Employer

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“Ticket to Work meant I was able to employ an enthusiastic and reliable worker.”

## Employer

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“Ticket to Work has been great in a way I did not expect, the Grade 7 students want to do the jobs the older students are doing, because they heard about them working and know they get paid for it so they are a great role model for our students.”

## Teacher

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“This (Ticket to Work) sets him up for life.”

## Parent

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“I have seen Eli’s confidence increase as his skills increase. I am really positive about him finishing school now as he wants to work in IT. He will finish school with a qualification and that is huge.”

## Parent

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“I am so proud of Kyal. This has finally made him feel worthwhile and shows he can achieve something with his disability ... Kyal's confidence has gone through the roof.”

- Kyal's mum, Amanda-Jane -

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# JULIAN'S STORY

Julian loves basketball and with the support of Ticket to Work has scored himself a job at Nunawading Basketball Stadium – a dream of his.

As a year 11 student with Down syndrome, Julian wanted the same rite of passage as his peers – the chance to have an after-school job. Thanks to philanthropic funding and the Victorian Government, Julian is just one of 40 Victorian students with disability who will have the opportunity to participate in after-school work.

Julian now works casually after school in the basketball stadium canteen. Julian is supported to learn all of the tasks like preparing food and making coffees. Julian says “I have learnt to fry hot chips, dim sims, potato cakes and chicken chips” and “I like making coffee...my customers tell me how happy they are with my coffee”. He thinks “the people I work with are very nice, we are the canteen team”.

Julian and his girlfriend want to get married in 2026 and he is saving for his future to buy a house and a car. Julian says “when I am grown up I want a job during the week, like my mum and dad...I want a job so I can get my own money and put it in the bank”.

Since Julian has started his job he's gone from strength to strength. Manager at the Nunawading Basketball Stadium's canteen, Catriona Vargas, calls him an asset to their business. “Julian is great, he is eager, enthusiastic and gives his full attention to any task he is asked to do. I have enjoyed seeing his progress over the time he has worked for us and am especially pleased with his mastery of coffee.” She said.

“I hope you come and see me, I will serve you with a big smile” Julian says.





## TO LEARN MORE



For more information, visit [tickettowork.org.au](http://tickettowork.org.au).  
You can also contact the national office or your  
local network via the website for further information.

**NDS** National  
Disability  
Services

Ticket to Work is an initiative of NDS



[tickettowork.org.au](http://tickettowork.org.au)