Victorian Digital Technology Sector Factsheet

Victoria's digital technology sector is both a direct contributor and enabler of economic growth in the state. The continued growth of the sector and workforce is lifting digitisation and productivity across all sectors of the economy.

This factsheet provides a snapshot of the sector, including opportunities and challenges, and is primarily based on ABS data and research conducted as part of the State Government's annual Victorian Digital Technology Sector Survey (September 2023), which is delivered by Deloitte Access Economics.

KEY FINDINGS



Over **22,500** Victorian-headquartered ICT businesses in 2023, which accounts for **29%** of ICT businesses in Australia. This has **grown at an average of 2.3% per year since 2018**



Over **279,000** people were employed in the Victorian technology workforce in 2022, accounting for **30%** of the national technology workforce



The Victorian ICT sector contributed **\$33.7 billion** to the economy in FY22, accounting for 5% of Victorian value added



From 2000 to 2023, the increased use of digital technologies across the Victorian economy has contributed to a productivity uplift equivalent to \$40.2 billion in GSP and 80,278 jobs



FY23 revenue of **25,000** Victorian digital technology businesses was nearly **\$129 billion**



Revenue increased by **7.1% (\$2.3 billion)** for the 11 largest Victorian digital technology businesses in FY23

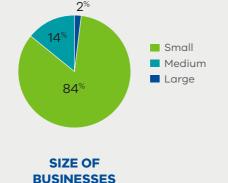


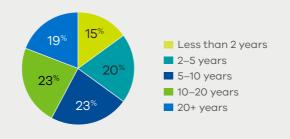
34% of surveyed businesses are exporting tech products or services and exports make up **40%** of the revenue for exporting digital technology businesses



Victoria has one of the highest levels of investment in research and development by key ICT fields, having invested **\$742 million** in FY22

SURVEYED BUSINESSES





Regional Victoria
11* | 54 responses

Inner Melbourne
34* | 172 responses

Outer Melbourne
55* | 275 responses

AGE OF BUSINESSES

PRIMARY LOCATION OF OPERATIONS



ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION

The Victorian digital technology sector contributed \$33.7 billion to the economy in FY22, accounting for 29% of the national sector.



The Victorian digital technology sector, as measured through value added, is similar in size to the entire retail trade industry in Victoria and almost twice as large as Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing.



From 2000 to 2023, the increased use of digital technologies across the Victorian economy has contributed to a productivity uplift equivalent to \$40.2 billion in GSP and 80,278 jobs.



The productivity uplift from the adoption of digital technologies is concentrated in knowledge-intensive industries.

Industry	Uplift in GSP (\$m)	Uplift in jobs
Financial & Insurance Services	7,957	9,497
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	7,404	12,492
Public Administration & Safety	5,208	12,580
Information, Media & Telecommunications	3,924	7,223
Education & Training	2,130	5,347

REVENUE

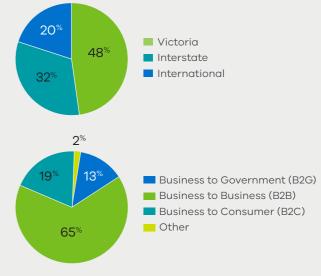
Nearly \$129 billion in revenue was generated by Victorian digital technology businesses in FY23.

Information, media and technology (IMT) services are the biggest customer of Victorian digital technology businesses in terms of revenue:



Source: Victorian Digital Technology Survey 2023

Most businesses sell intrastate, and to other businesses:



Note: figures may not add to 100% due to rounding

Businesses forecast strong revenue growth over the short and long term:



Source: Victorian Digital Technology Survey 2023

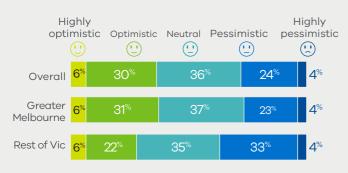


Source: Deloitte Access Economics

OUTLOOK

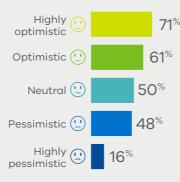
Outlook expectations for the Australian economy going forward are mixed, with optimistic businesses more likely to hire new workers.

Sentiment about the Australian economy going forward:



Source: Victorian Digital Technology Survey 2023

Businesses intending to hire:



Source: Victorian Digital Technology Survey 2023

DRIVERS OF GROWTH

The most important drivers of growth for Victorian digital technology businesses were:*

68% Increasing demand for existing products/services

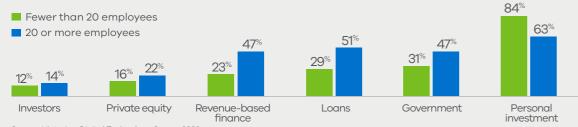
57% Introducing new products/services

Access to government contracts/procurement opportunities

46% Access to new domestic markets

36% Access to new international markets

Personal investment was the largest source of investment for businesses:*



Source: Victorian Digital Technology Survey 2023

BARRIERS TO GROWTH

The largest barriers to growth for Victorian digital technology businesses were:*

45%

Cost of developing products/ services

34% Access to investment/

capital

33% Access to skilled employees

31% Lack of access to government contracts

/procurement

Competition from international business

The largest barriers to commercialisation for Victorian digital technology businesses were:*

Lack of access to finance

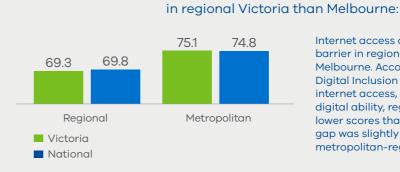
31% Wariness of customers to new technologies

30% Risk averse culture in business

29% Length of time for returns

Lack of experience with commercialisation

Internet access and inclusion is a larger barrier



Internet access and inclusion is a larger barrier in regional Victoria than in Melbourne. According to the Australian Digital Inclusion Index (ADII), which captures internet access, internet affordability and digital ability, regional areas in Victoria had lower scores than metropolitan areas. This gap was slightly larger than the national metropolitan-regional gap:

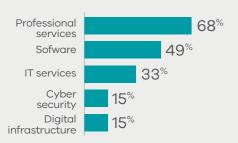
Source: Australian Digital Inclusion Index.Note: values are the digital inclusion index, which captures "internet access, internet affordability and digital ability"



^{*%} represents the proportion of businesses that selected these drivers and barriers in their top three responses.

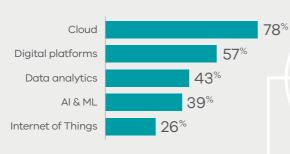
SECTOR CHARACTERISTICS

Products and services offered by the sector:



Source: Victorian Digital Technology Survey 2023

Digital technologies used in the delivery of products and services:

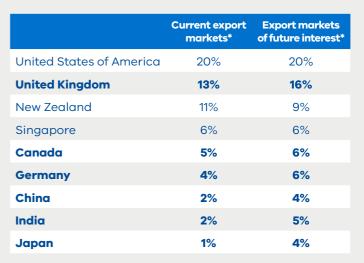


Source: Victorian Digital Technology Survey 2023

EXPORTS

34% of surveyed businesses are exporting tech products or services and exports make up **40% of the revenue** for exporting digital technology businesses.

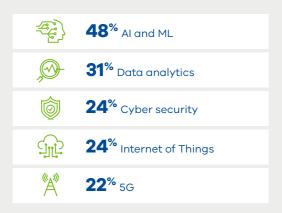
North America and Europe are the most common export markets for Victorian digital technology businesses and interest in UK, India, and Japan is rising.



% represents the proportion of businesses that selected these markets in their top three responses. Bold represents markets for which future interest is higher than current interest. Source: Victorian Digital Technology Survey 2023

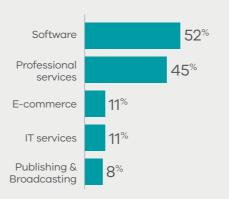
INNOVATION

The priority technologies for deployment were:*



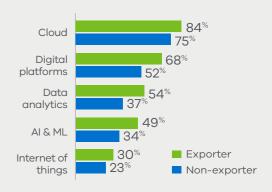
^{* %} represents the proportion of businesses that selected these technologies in their top five responses. Source: Victorian Digital Technology Survey 2023

Products and services offered by exporting businesses:



Source: Victorian Digital Technology Survey 2023

Digital technologies used in the delivery of products and services:



Source: Victorian Digital Technology Survey 2023



TECHNOLOGY WORKFORCE

From 2014 to 2022, the Victorian technology workforce has increased by 100,000 to reach 279,000 employees, making up 30% of the national technology workforce. The ICT Employment Index shows that the technology workforce has grown rapidly and is forecasted to have an annual growth rate of 5% until 2030:



Source: Australian Digital Pulse
Note: For both indexes, 2014 = 100. The average annual growth rates are calculated across 2014-2022.

Of the Victorian technology workforce:



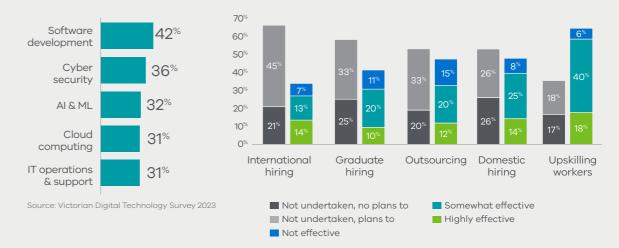
54% of the workforce work outside of the ICT industry. Technology workers account for significant shares of the workforce in knowledge-intensive industries including:



Note: Only the top 4 industries for those working outside of ICT are shown

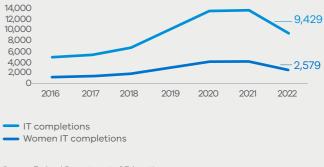
SKILLS

Over three-quarters of Victorian digital technology businesses face skill and capability gaps, compared to 38% of businesses in the Australian economy. Software development is the most common skill gap, with upskilling the most common way to address this:



EDUCATION

Victoria's university sector produces a strong pipeline of tech graduates and is the most IT-intensive in the country, with 9% of enrolments being in IT course. Victoria had 9,429 IT completions in 2022, with 27% of those being women.



Source: Federal Department of Education



Victorian State Government

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