

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

Financial and Performance Outcomes, 2024-25

Matt Carrick

Secretary, Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions

27 November 2025



Jobs, Skills,
Industry
and Regions

DJSIR supports 9 Ministerial portfolios

Community Sport

Creative Industries

Industry and
Advanced
Manufacturing

Economic Growth
and Jobs

Outdoor
Recreation

Regional
Development

Small Business and
Employment

Skills and TAFE

Tourism, Sport and
Major Events

Who we are

- At the end of 2024-25, the department had 1,743 staff working across Metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria
- The department has 23 international trade and investment offices strategically located in Victoria's key export markets
- The department acts as the responsible department for 46 entities
- In 2024-25 DJSIR met or exceeded 77% of its 142 performance measures.

What we are here to do

In 24-25 DJSIR focused on growing Victoria's prosperity, building the productive capacity of our economy and increasing participation.

For Victoria, this meant:



Creating more opportunities for people through skills and jobs



Helping businesses and industries to thrive



Building vibrant communities and regions.

Our role in delivering the Economic Growth Statement

The Economic Growth Statement is a strategic roadmap to drive economic growth, boost investment, foster innovation, and ensure prosperity for all Victorians.

- The Economic Growth Statement was released in December 2024.
- The department is leading delivery of more than half of the statement's 40+ initiatives, including:
 - Boosting Victorian Exports Package
 - Investment Coordinator General
 - Investment Front Door
 - Future of Housing Construction Centre of Excellence
 - Yes to International Students Fund
 - Digital Jobs
 - Destination Marketing
 - Skills Solutions Partnerships


Building on the Statement, the Victorian Industry Policy was released in June 2025, providing a framework to drive competitiveness and productivity, build economic resilience, and seize emerging opportunities.



The department worked closely with businesses to grow Victorian jobs by supporting international competitiveness, productivity and economic resilience:

- Stimulated the **creation of 3,054 jobs** and **capital expenditure of \$1,172 million** in the Victorian economy
- Secured **37 foreign direct investment projects** expected to deliver **1,847 direct jobs** and **\$205 million in innovation expenditure**
- Maintained Melbourne's ranking as **Australia's best student city** in the **QS Best Student City Rankings 2025**
- Opened Stage 1 of the **\$170 million Hanwha Armoured Vehicle Centre of Excellence** in August 2024 – the company's first overseas production base
- Launched the **\$35 million Children's Cancer CoLab** to undertake collaborative research to tackle childhood cancer
- Secured the Australian and New Zealand **headquarters of Firstsource**, creating **400 jobs**.





Our achievements
2024-25

Regional Development


The department worked to drive economic development in the regions and foster vibrant, thriving, and inclusive regional communities:

- Progressed Round 1 of the **Regional Worker Accommodation Fund** supporting more than 20 projects
- Commenced delivery of an **industry capability program** to **upskill regional businesses**
- Released an expression of interest for contractors to deliver the **\$45 million Bendigo Art Gallery Redevelopment** project
- Ongoing delivery of **32 projects** under the **\$676 million Geelong City Deal**
- Oversaw the delivery of **8 Albury Wodonga Regional Projects**
- Enabled **Latrobe Magnesium in Gippsland** to deliver a first stage **magnesium production facility** in the **Latrobe Valley**
- Supported the expansion of businesses in the **Grampians**, including **CE Bartlett (defence)** and **J.G King (window joinery)**

The department championed and supported the state's vibrant and resilient tourism and events sectors, and the creative industries for the benefit of Victorians:

- Reached a record tourism spend across Victoria of **\$43.7 billion**
- Supported **61 new and improved tourism infrastructure projects** in regional Victoria through the **\$8 million Enabling Tourism Fund 2024** and the **\$62 million Regional Tourism Investment Fund**
- Launched the **\$3.6 million First Peoples Tourism Industry Strengthening Program**
- Recorded **over 11.6 million attendances** at cultural institutions
- Supported **144 live music venues** through the first round of **10,000 Gigs: The Victorian Gig Fund**
- Invested in the **VICSCREEN strategy**, which created **over 8,100 local jobs** and generated **\$502 million** in direct expenditure.





Our achievements
2024-25

Skills and TAFE

Small Business and Employment

The department worked to give Victorians access to the skills they need today and into the future, and supported small businesses to start and grow:

- Saved **47,000+** students more than **\$166 million** in fees through **Free TAFE** in 2024
- Secured **\$139 million** in Commonwealth funding through the **National Skills Agreement**
- Delivered the **Victorian Skills Plan for 2024 into 2025**
- Celebrated **15 years of the Small Business Bus**
- Established employment '**Thrive Hubs**' in Broadmeadows and Frankston in partnership with the Brotherhood of St Laurence.
- Delivered **86 grants** to Aboriginal businesses servicing regional Victoria under the **Aboriginal Business Investment Program**

The department worked to create positive experiences by coordinating outdoor recreation functions, and enabling Victorians to be more active and participate in sport and recreation:

- Distributed **more than 41,000 vouchers** through the **Get Active Kids Voucher Program**, supporting families with the cost of children's sport
- Provided **\$129 million** towards **152 community sport infrastructure projects**
- Provided **more than 913 grants** totalling **over \$1.3 million** through **Sporting Club Grants** and **Aboriginal Sport Participation Grants**
- Helped remove barriers for people with disabilities to get involved in sport and recreation through the **\$40 million All Abilities Sport Fund**
- Progressed commitments in the **Government Response to the Select Committee into Victoria's Recreational Gamebird Hunting Arrangements**
- Delivered the **Wildlife (Game) Regulations 2024**, to improve hunting practices and strengthen environmental and wildlife protections.

