



VICTOR HARBOR, SA | CASE STUDY

Is your community ready for the future of work? To answer this question we need to explore the opportunities and challenges in your local community, how the local job market stacks up and the predicted changes in employment in the next 15 years.

Understanding the skills required to succeed and preparing the next generation for the future of work has never been more important. It's time to get ready – visit www.thefutureofwork.net.au to access the *Future of Work* online toolkit and join the conversation.

27%

of current jobs are predicted to be **at risk** from digital disruption in the future

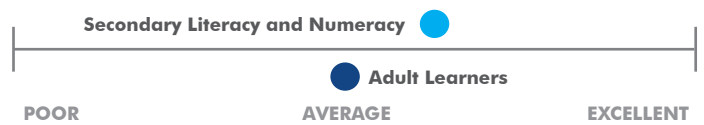


Retail trade, agriculture and manufacturing make up some of the largest proportions of jobs at risk. While healthcare, social assistance, accommodation and food services have the highest proportion of jobs least likely to be at risk.

Future of Work Scorecard

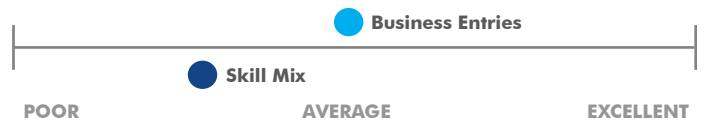
Learning Ready

Victor Harbor performs above average in secondary literacy and numeracy and meets national average levels for adult learners.



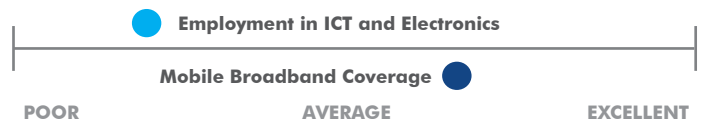
Innovation Ready

Victor Harbor is showing early signs of an innovative economy with a good rate of new business entries. To improve its innovative capacity, Victor Harbor will need to lift the level of its current skills mix.



Digital Ready

While Victor Harbor has good digital infrastructure such as mobile broadband coverage, this has not yet translated into employment in industries like Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and electronics.



Jobs at Risk

Compared to other regions, Victor Harbor has a relatively low proportion (27 per cent) of jobs at risk from technology change over the next 15 years. Victor Harbor will still need to be proactive to ensure its workforce can continue to meet the demands of the future of work.



REGIONAL AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE



Australia's broadband network



The future of jobs in Victor Harbor

Known for its natural beauty and only 85kms from Adelaide, Victor Harbor is a popular spot for tourists and new residents alike.

Currently this Connected Lifestyle Area www.regionalaustralia.org.au/home/the-future-of-work/ is feeling the impacts of a growing and ageing population. With this change the town and its future job mix will see an increase in the community and personal service sector. To make the most of the growing industry, the future workforce will need a combination of hard and soft skills. These same skills will be vital for many of the occupations in the future.



SOFT SKILLS

- collaboration
- problem solving
- critical thinking
- communication
- creativity
- embrace culture
- utilise connectivity



HARD SKILLS

- science
- technology
- engineering
- maths
- design
- programming
- entrepreneurialism

Upskilling the Next Generation

Victor Harbor measures up quite well on higher education. The percentage of the population with a university qualification is roughly equivalent to the national average. A little under half of the population have technical qualifications.

The outcomes, however, are poorer for primary and secondary education. Different learning environments and digital technology can help to re-engage disinterested students in these age groups. As one of the first communities to have access to the **nbn**™ network, Victor Harbor has a significant advantage.

Research is showing that kids will need a mix of both hard specialised knowledge and soft personal skills such as critical thinking, communication and collaboration. Hard specialised knowledge in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths, as well As Entrepreneurship, Art and Design will also be critical.

Helping students to develop a combination of hard and soft skills should be a key priority for parents and educators.



In Focus: The Nest

'The Nest' is a learning hub that caters to the whole community. Built as part of the expansion of Encounter Lutheran College, 'The Nest' hosts a variety of learning spaces, a library and the school's IT facilities.

'The Nest' encourages students to work collaboratively in small breakout rooms. Both primary and secondary students learn side by side along with pre-school students as part of the literacy program, and community members who attend adult learning classes. This encourages students to interact with a variety of people in a positive way.

Collaboration, flexibility and working with a diverse range of people are critical skills for students to learn how to thrive in the future of work. 'The Nest' is a dynamic and engaging way for students of all ages to cultivate these skills.

The Future of Work

With 27 per cent of jobs in Victor Harbor at risk from technological disruption in the future, the types of jobs available in the town are likely to change.

Low skill jobs based on routine tasks are the most at risk of disruption from technological change. On the other side, jobs based on high level technical knowledge, strong interpersonal contact, or involving individualised care activities, are the least likely to be at risk. The strongest future employment growth areas place more reliance on the right mix of technical and personal (hard and soft) skills.

Victor Harbor's occupation projections suggest that the region is expected to see growth in higher skilled occupations. If Victor Harbor follows national trends, it could see 257 new positions within professional occupations and 73 new managers across several industries in the next five years.

With the **nbn**[™] network rollout in Victor Harbor already complete, it is likely the local community will start to see the impacts of improved connectivity on the job market as local businesses start to take advantage of technology.

Looking Ahead

Victor Harbor has the advantage of being one of the first communities with access to the **nbn**[™] network. The town has already taken several steps to make the most of the advantage of better internet. Victor Harbor Council is helping local businesses identify some of the different ways they can use the internet to build their company.

Likewise, the **nbn**[™] network is making a host of new education tools available to local kids, as well as their parents and teachers, to help them build the hard and soft skills that will be critical for the future of work.

One of the biggest challenges for Victor Harbor will be to continue to translate tech opportunities into long term jobs for its people. Access to digital infrastructure, however, is just the first step. Good outcomes will rely on people developing the skills they need to take up these jobs and make the most of flexible working arrangements.



In Focus: Questacon

Living in a regional area means students don't have access to the same facilities as those in the capital cities. With technology, kids can now take virtual tours and enjoy some of the experiences without leaving their classrooms or home.

[Questacon: the national science and technology centre](#), for example, has created a [series of videos](#) that allow kids to explore science in a hands on way. With the help of a parent or a teacher, kids can build rockets and learn about chemical reactions, or make an octopus float using static electricity. These interactive experiments are an exciting way for kids to learn about some of the different fields of science and maybe ignite a new passion that they can pursue in their future career.

As one of the first areas to have access to the **nbn**[™] network, Victor Harbor can utilise digital technology to increase access to a wide range of educational opportunities.

Is Victor Harbor ready?

As Victor Harbor prepares for the future of work, think about these questions:

- Are kids in Victor Harbor given the opportunity to develop their hard and soft skills?
- Do teachers in Victor Harbor have access to the skills and tools they need to use digital technology to help students build essential skills?
- Do students and parents have access to practical information about the expected changes to jobs and industries in Victor Harbor? Are they using this information to inform their choices about their future careers?
- Are there clear pathways from education and training to work for young workers?

To find out more about tools and resources to help your kids develop the right mix of skills, visit the Future of Work Toolkit at www.thefutureofwork.net.au.

For more information on the Future of Work visit
www.regionalaustralia.org.au/home/the-future-of-work/

