



**WORKING
WEEK 2025**

AND

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THE NATIONAL GEOSPATIAL CONFERENCE

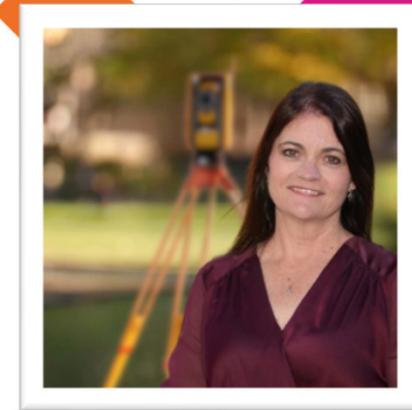
Collaboration, Innovation and Resilience:
Championing a Digital Generation

Presented at the FIG Working Week 2025,
6-10 April
Brisbane, Australia 6-10 April
FIG | **Geospatial**
Council of Australia

Surveying Sustainability: Insights, Challenges, and Opportunities from the Sustainability Assessment Tool



Surveyors Australia



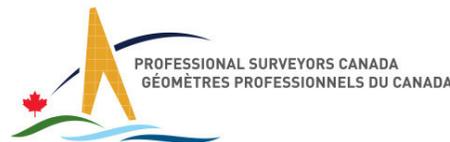
Michelle Blicavs
Chief Executive Officer, Surveyors Australia

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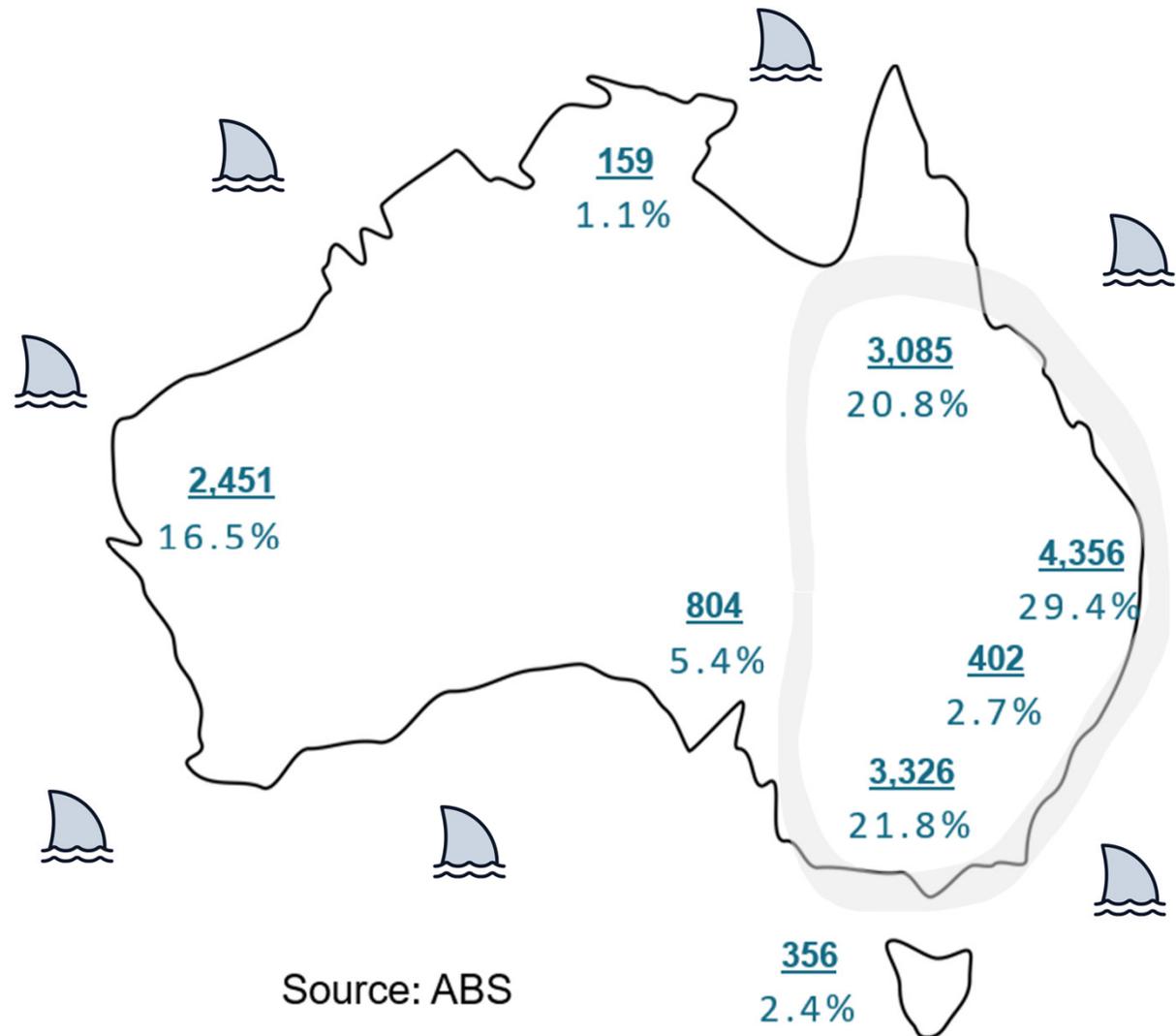
In Collaboration With



Mapping Australia's Surveying Workforce

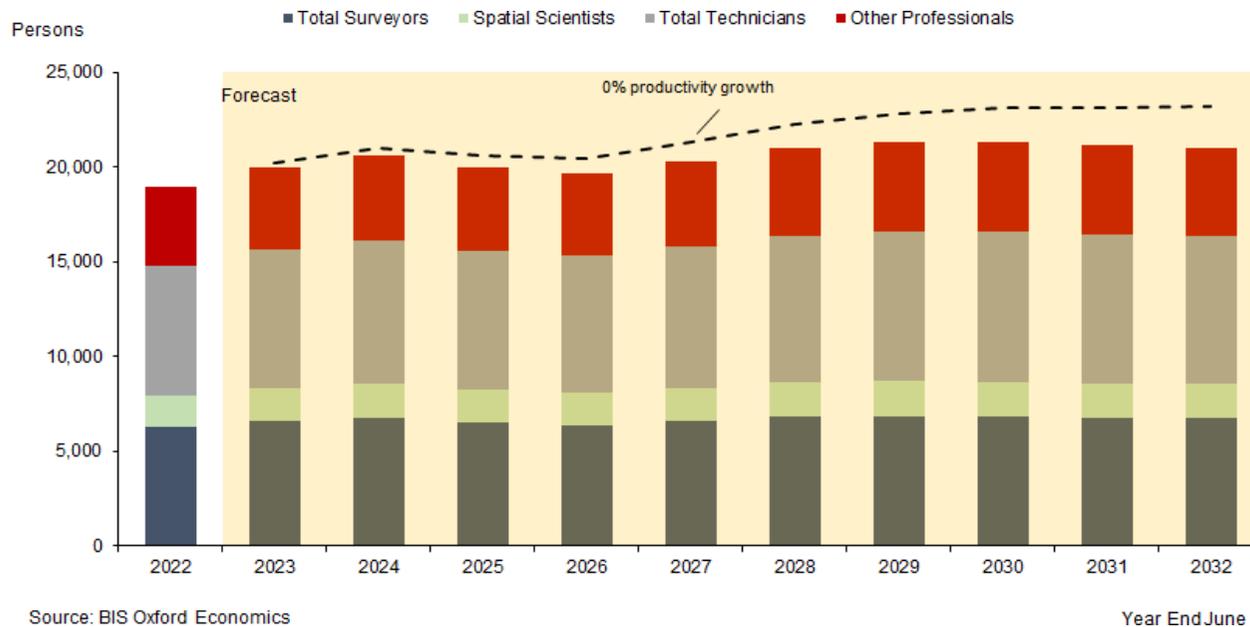
Current total workforce is around 19,000 persons – 15,000 surveying and geospatial professionals and 4,000 allied professionals.

East Coast accounts for 72% of the total skilled surveying and geospatial professionals



THE SITUATION ACROSS AUSTRALIA

Forecast Of Total Demand For Skilled Labour



Average 21,000 professionals needed per year:

- 6,700 surveyors
- 1,800 spatial scientists
- 7,800 technicians
- 4,600 allied professionals

NATIONAL WORKFORCE CAPABILITY POSITION

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032
Surveyors & spatial scientists	Deficit					Deficit				
	470	752	485	356	645	924	1014	1011	954	925
Surveying & spatial science technicians	Deficit					Deficit				
	403	656	446	359	620	883	1013	1040	977	911

- Current capability gap is 1408 surveyors and spatial scientists and technicians
- This gap rises to more than 2,000 in 2029

IMPACT ON THE PROFESSION

940 university students are needed each year across Australia over the next decade.

This could represent a **170%** increase on the forecasted levels.

517 vocational students are needed each year across Australia over the next decade.

This could represent a **167%** increase on the forecasted levels.

- **Sustained workload pressure for current surveyors**
- **Less and less vocationally trained surveyors available to assist with project completion**





FOUR RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OUR RESEARCH

①

Increase the number of enrolments in related educational courses

②

Improve the educational progression across a surveyor's career

③

Focus efforts on improving flexibility in internal labour mobility

④

Utilise technologies and systems to improve productivity



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Surveying Sustainability



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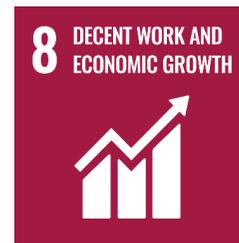
Surveyors' Impact on Sustainability:

- **SDG 6** – Water resource management
- **SDG 7** – Development of clean energy
- **SDG 9** – Industry innovation and infrastructure
- **SDG 11** – Sustainable urban planning
- **SDG 12 & SDG 13** – Waste management and climate action
- **SDG 14 & 15** – Hydrography, Sea change and land surveying lead to life



Beyond Climate:

- **SDG 3** – Good health & well-being – a focus for small business
- **SDG 4** – Education & workforce development
- **SDG 5 & SDG 10** – Gender equality & diversity in surveying
- **SDG 8** – Decent work and economic growth – economy built on surveying
- **SDG 17 - Collaboration is Key** – Industry data & collective action



The landscape

Australian small businesses (SMEs) & schools are key to achieving a more sustainable future.



99.8%

of all Australian businesses



1/3

total GDP



4.7 million

employees

The problem

They have fewer resources to drive sustainability initiatives and meet reporting requirements.



7.7%

globally have a sustainability plan



73%

concerned about upfront costs



65%

see current reporting standards as complex

The opportunity

Sustainable development isn't just a cost, it drives commercial & social outcomes. Sustainability Delivers Growth.



83%

say sustainability is important to their business



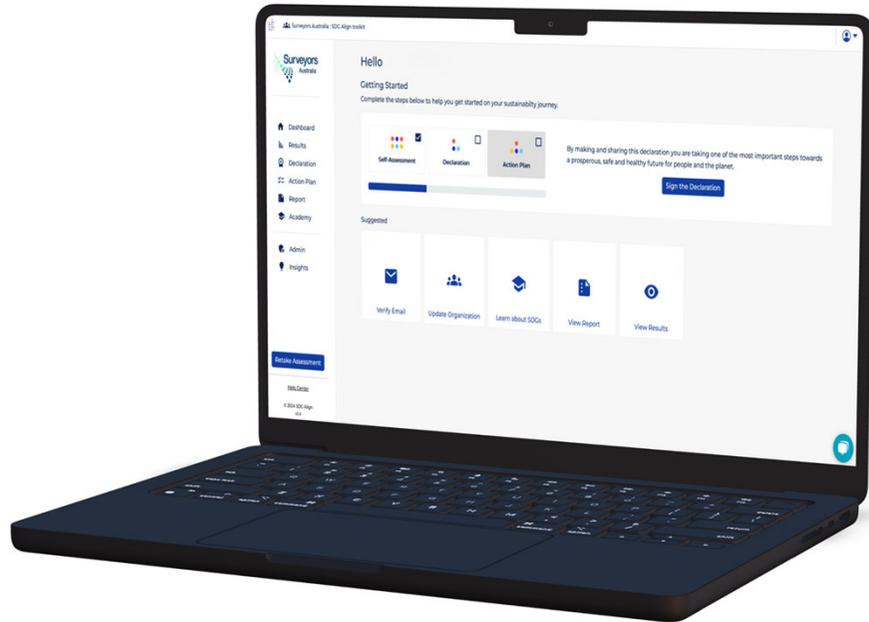
58%

are making sustainability commitments



70%

see digital technology play a role in developing a plan



**SDG ALIGN
TOOLKIT**



A New Toolkit to Support Surveyors

<https://www.consultingsurveyors.com.au/about/sustainability/>



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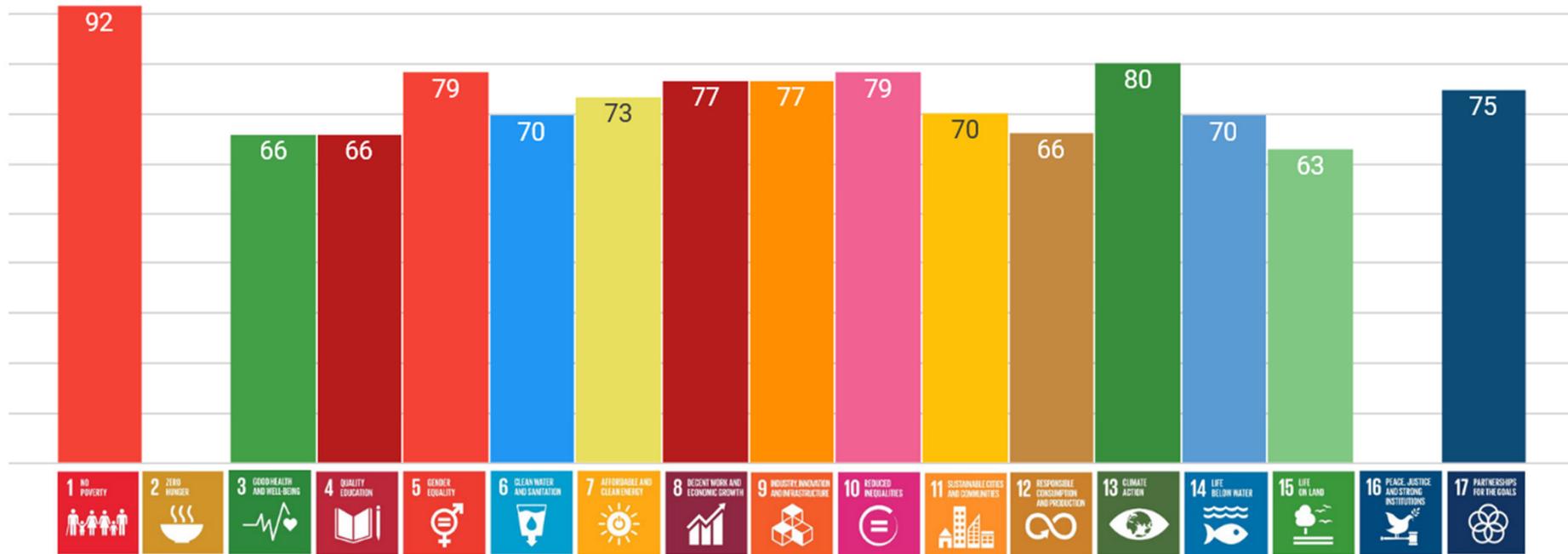
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SURVEYOR DATA INSIGHTS



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CHCNAV



SURVEYOR DATA INSIGHTS



SURVEYOR DATA INSIGHTS



Average Benchmark score
ALL Surveyors Australia USERS





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Sustainable business transformation as a service

A self-service, platform for SME business owners wanting to kickstart their sustainability journey.



Discover

Find out where you're at with a 10-minute Quickscan self-assessment to understand your current impact.



Direction

Explore the results for guidance on how to progress your sustainability journey to the next milestone.



Action

Prioritise your opportunity cards for an action plan to engage your team and move to the top.



Reward

Celebrate your plan of action with a commitment to change, by signing your online declaration.



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Collaboration, Innovation and Resilience: Championing a Digital Generation



Geospatial Council of Australia

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Business sustainability journey with SDG Align



A SPECIAL FOCUS ON BUSINESS

Join us in P10 at 2:00pm and
4:00pm



