

New Business Index

• February 2026 •

Executive Summary

Statistics For February 2026

Key growth signals from the ABN registry and Australia's latest new business registrations.

Australia's Business Formation

A closer look at how Australia's new businesses are taking shape, from the structures they choose to the regions driving growth.

Demographic Analysis

Age distribution and geographic origins of Lawpath company founders

Monthly ABN registrations

• January 2024 – February 2026 •

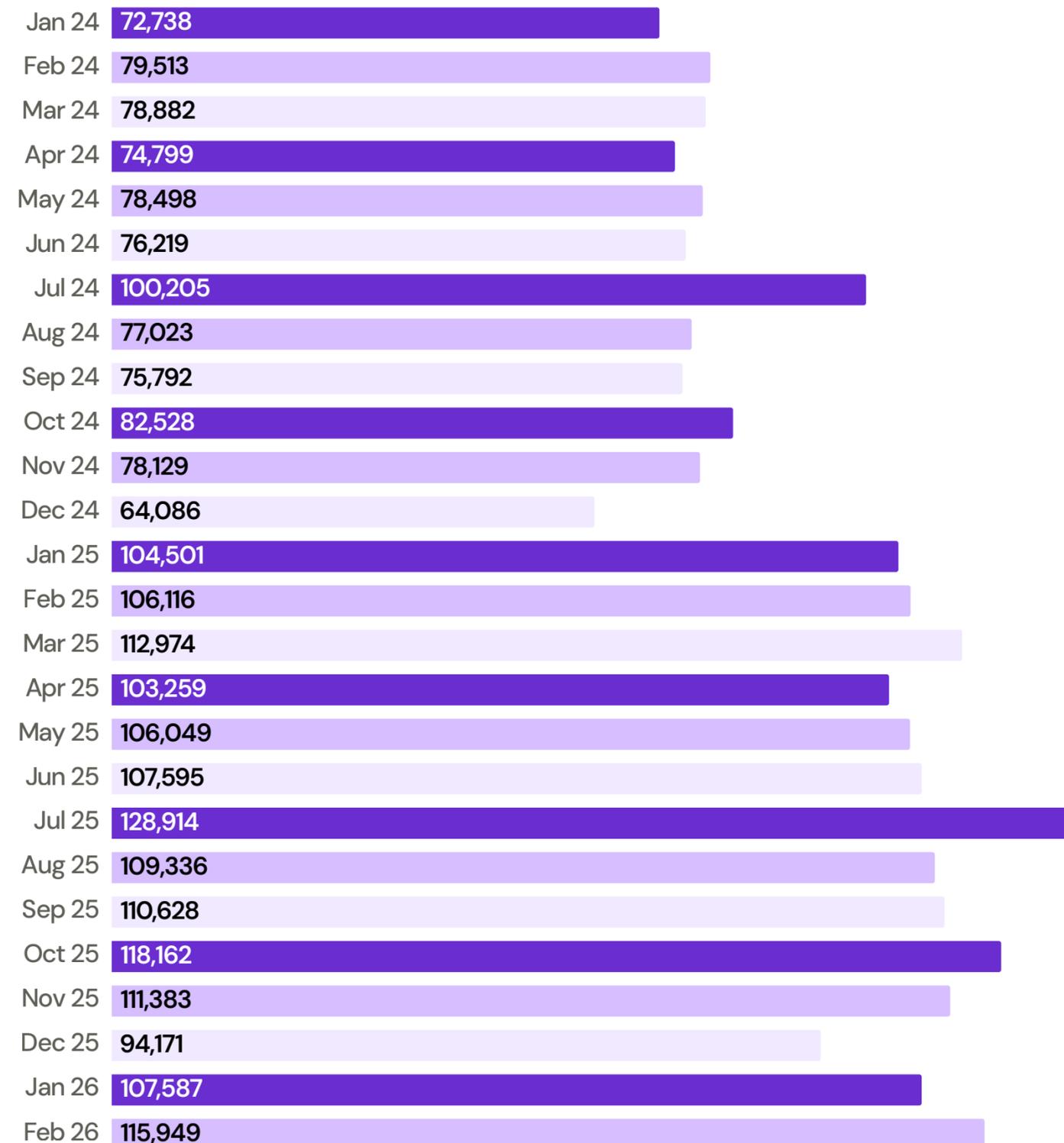
NEW BUSINESS REGISTERED

+9.32% YoY

115,949

Total ABN registrations this month

Source: [Australian Business Register](#) – ABN Bulk Extract



Monthly ACN registrations

• January 2024 – February 2026 •

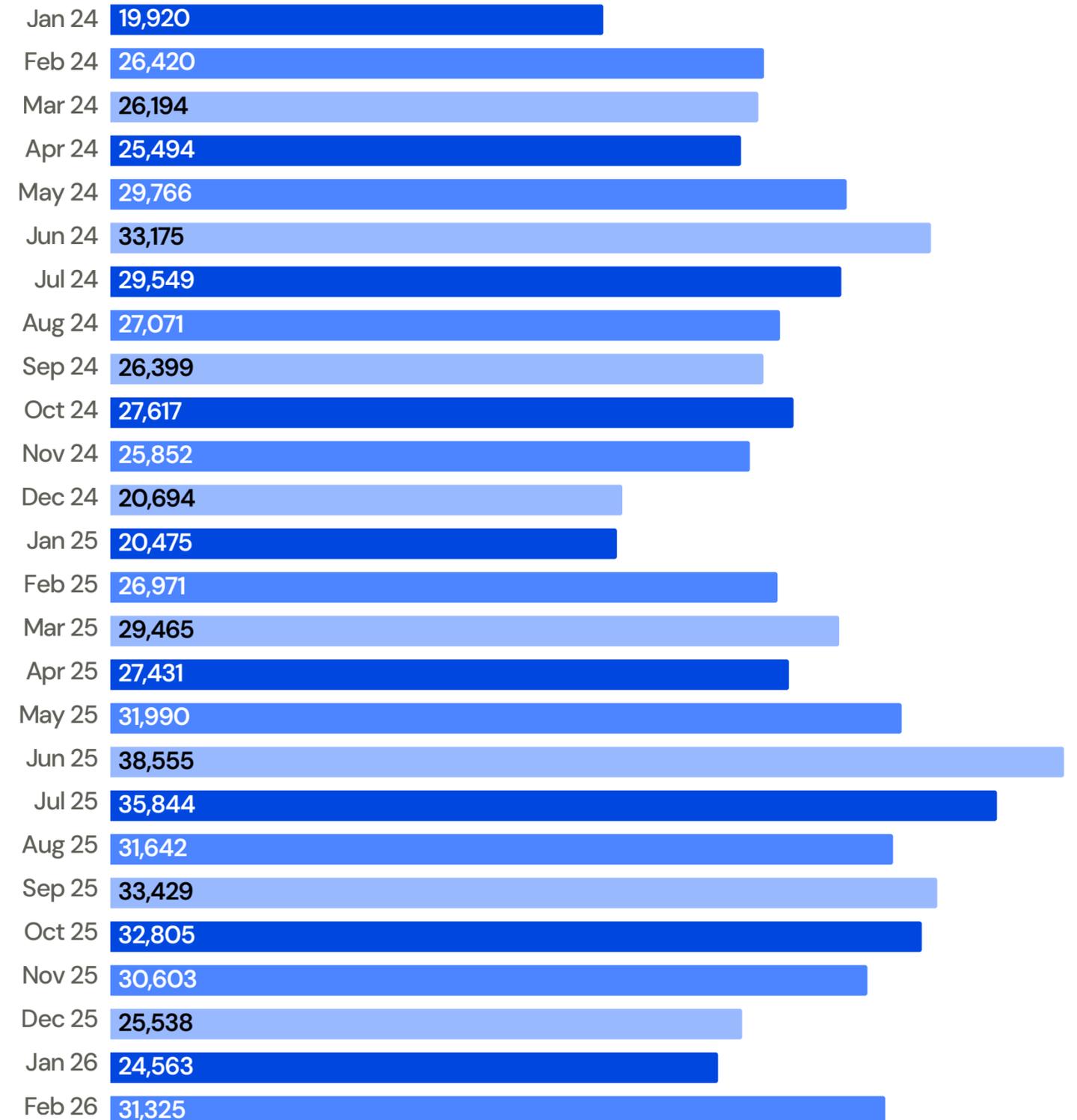
NEW COMPANIES REGISTERED

+16.14% YoY

31,325

Total ACN registrations this month

Source: [ASIC – Company registration statistics](#)



Monthly GST registrations

• January 2024 – February 2026 •

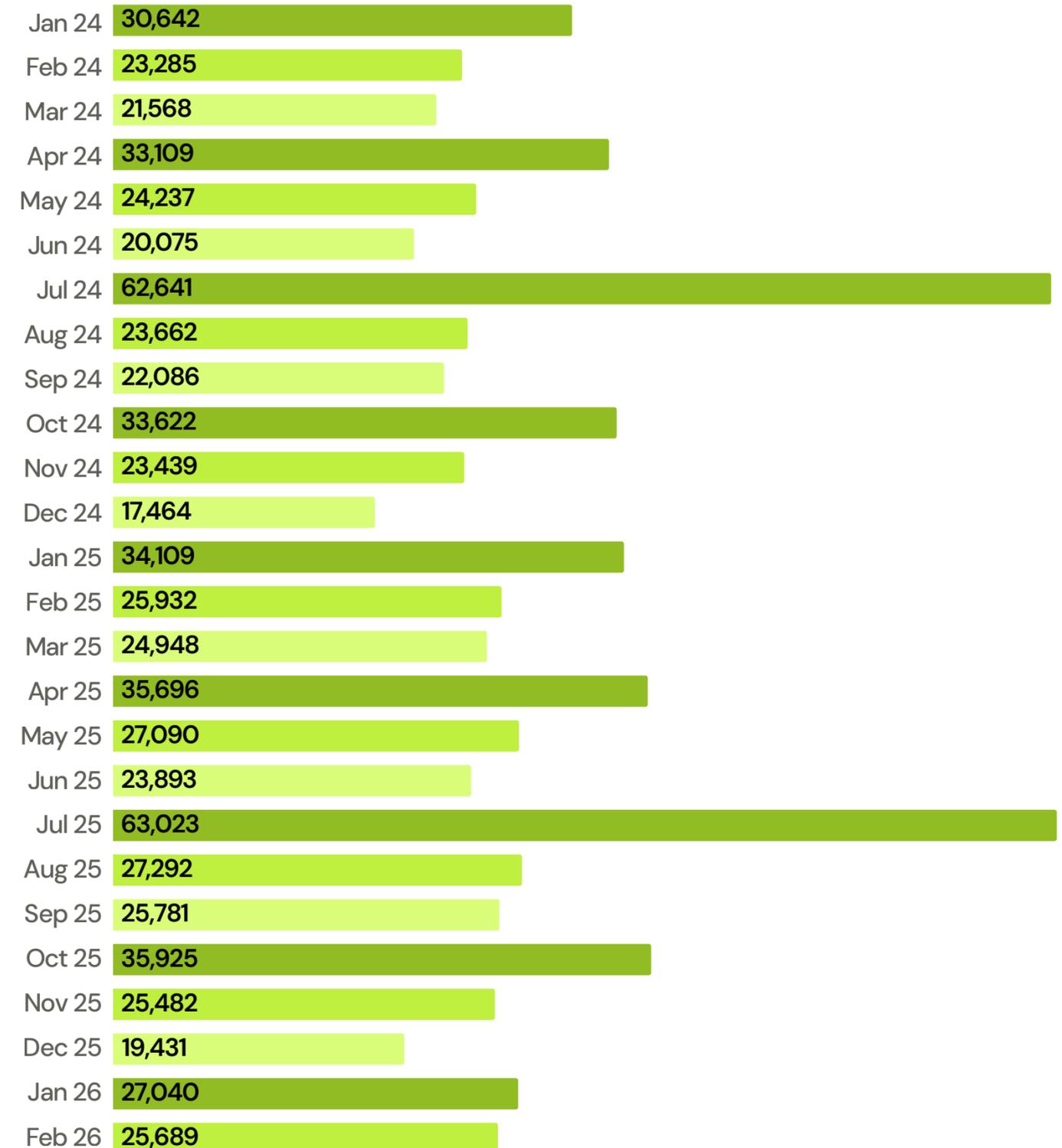
GST STATUS

-0.19% YoY

25,689

Businesses registered for GST

Source: [Australian Business Register – ABN Bulk Extract](#)



Statistics For February 2026

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GST STATUS

25,689 -0.19% YoY

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February suggests Australia's startup momentum is turning into something more sustained. 115,949 new businesses were registered, a 9.32% increase year-on-year, signalling that the early-year wave of entrepreneurship has continued well beyond the typical January reset.

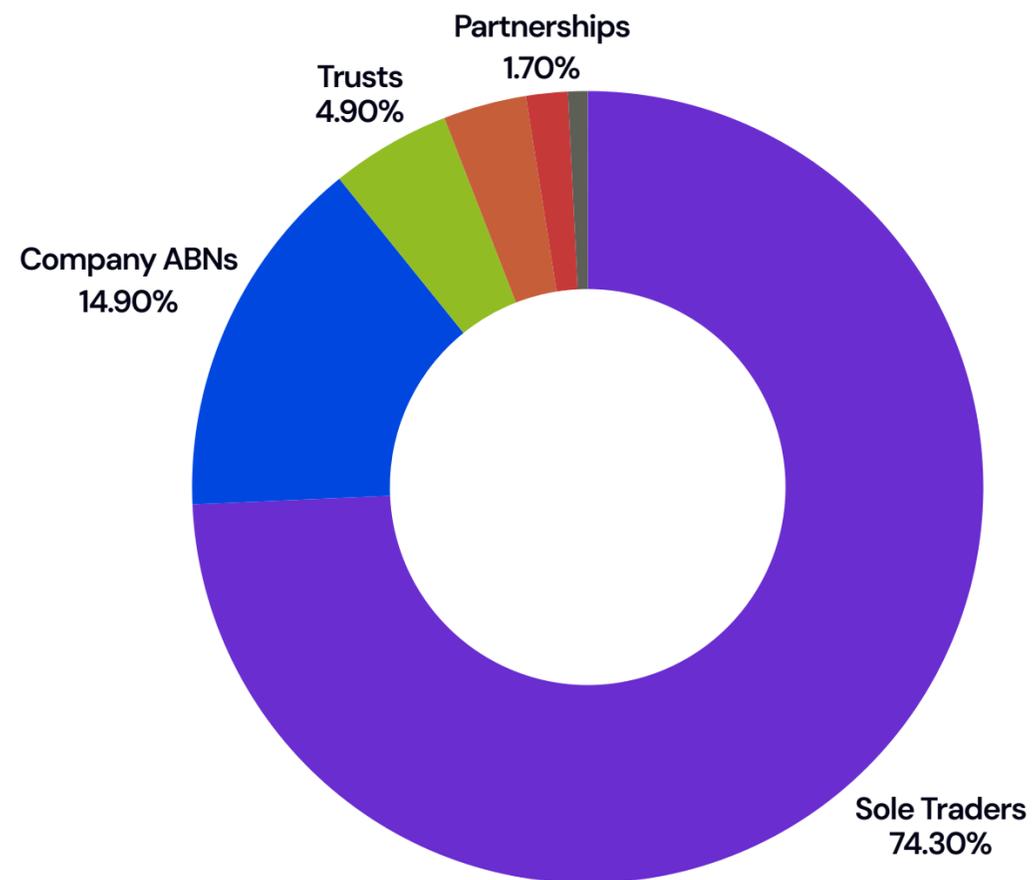
What's notable is how founders are choosing to structure those businesses. 31,325 new companies were registered, up 16.14 % YoY, pointing to a growing preference for formal company structures rather than purely experimental side projects.

Yet the data also shows a cautious streak. GST registrations fell slightly to 25,689, down 0.19% YoY, suggesting many new founders are still testing ideas and delaying additional compliance until revenue becomes clearer.

The geographic spread tells a similar story. While the largest states continue to dominate overall registrations, Tasmania recorded the fastest growth nationally, reinforcing a broader shift: new businesses are increasingly emerging from places and founders that historically sat outside Australia's traditional startup centres.

Business Structures

Australia's Business Formation

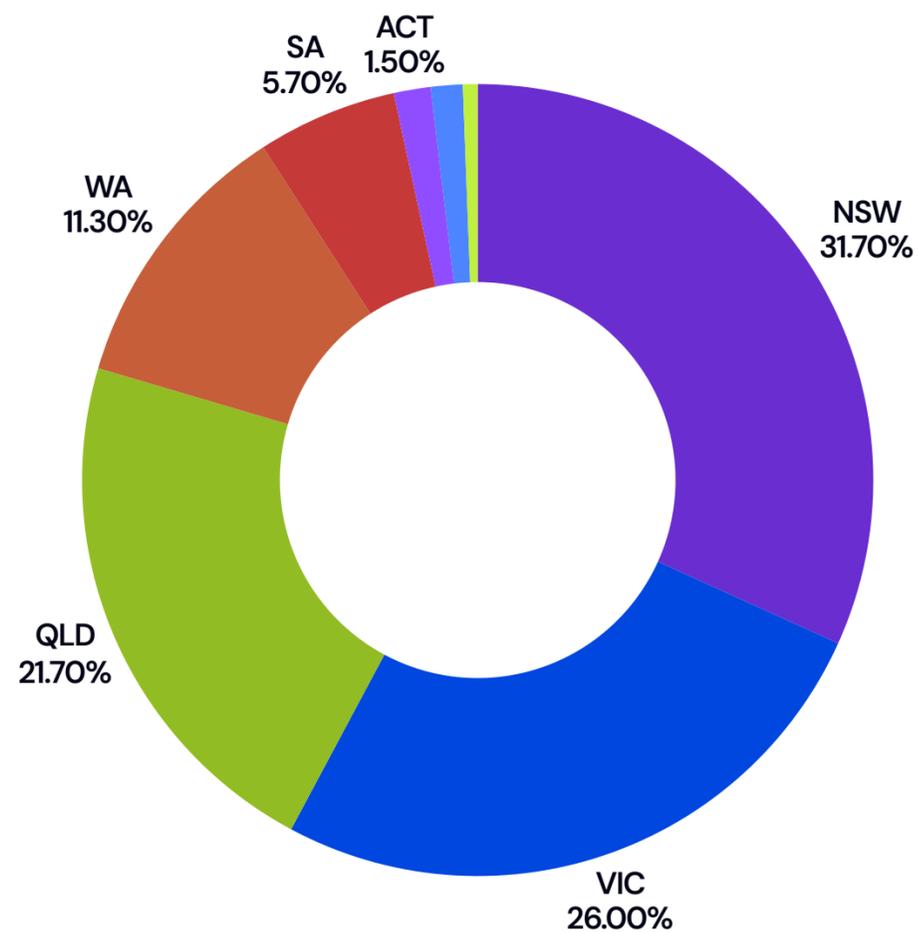


CATEGORY	VALUE	SHARE	YOY GROWTH
• Sole Traders	85,901	74.30%	10.94%
• Company ABNs	17,272	14.90%	8.57%
• Trusts	5,631	4.90%	-5.54%
• Super Funds	3,961	3.40%	9.78%
• Partnerships	1,997	1.70%	-6.51%
• Other	916	0.80%	-6.91%

Source: [Australian Business Register – ABN Bulk Extract](#) (monthly new company registrations)

States & Territories

Australia's Business Formation



STATE	VALUE	SHARE	YOY GROWTH
• NSW	36,664	31.70%	7.74%
• VIC	30,048	26.00%	5.34%
• QLD	25,097	21.70%	11.51%
• WA	13,029	11.30%	17.68%
• SA	6,621	5.70%	9.31%
• ACT	1,712	1.50%	10.31%
• TAS	1,560	1.30%	18.27%
• NT	750	0.60%	1.90%

Source: [Australian Business Register – ABN Bulk Extract](#) (monthly new company registrations)

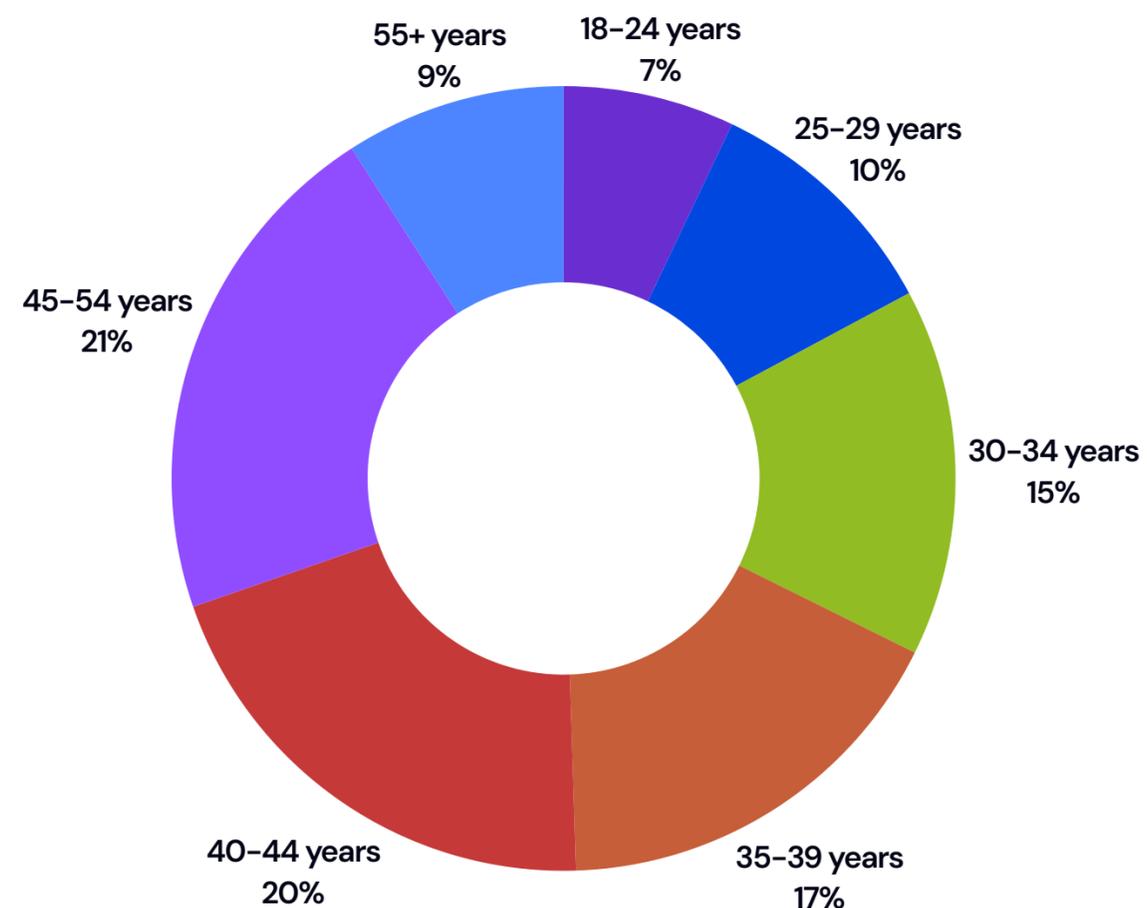
Suburbs On The Rise

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA	STATE	BUSINESSES REGISTERED (February 2025)	BUSINESSES REGISTERED (February 2026)	YOY GROWTH
Wyndham	Victoria	1,073	1,190	10.90%
Melbourne	Victoria	999	1,004	0.50%
Sydney	New South Wales	362	412	13.81%
Melbourne	Victoria	626	768	22.68%
Wyndham	Victoria	619	582	-5.98%
Cardinia	Victoria	549	572	4.19%
Sydney	New South Wales	509	508	-0.20%
Brisbane	Queensland	514	610	18.68%

Source: [Australian Business Register – ABN Bulk Extract](#) (monthly new company registrations)

Age Distribution of Founders

Demographic Analysis

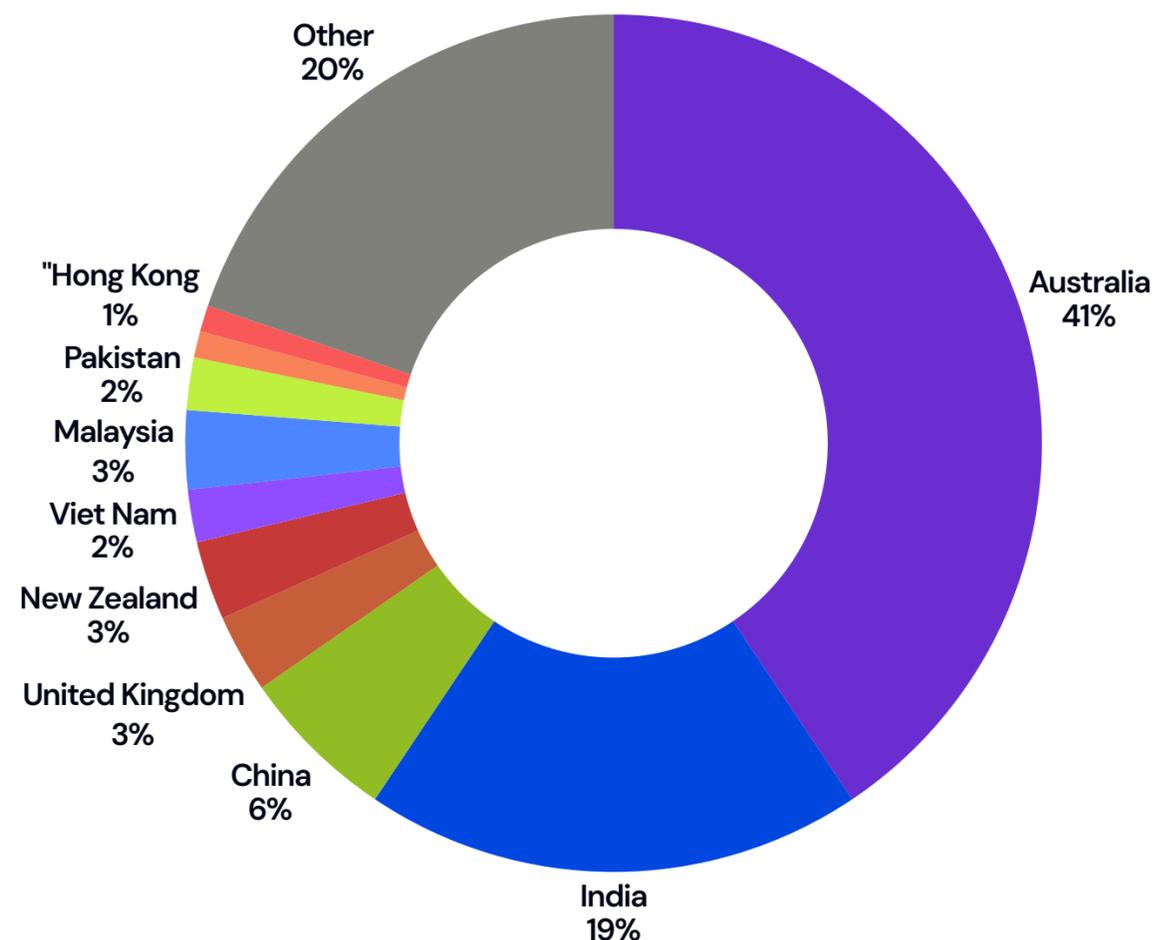


CATEGORY	SHARE	YOY GROWTH
• 18-24 years	7%	16.67%
• 25-29 years	10%	9.18%
• 30-34 years	15%	28.00%
• 35-39 years	17%	3.53%
• 40-44 years	20%	41.06%
• 45-54 years	21%	50.68%
• 55+ years	9%	75.00%

Source: [The Lawpath Business Index: Uncovering Australia's Hidden Entrepreneurs](#)

Countries of Birth

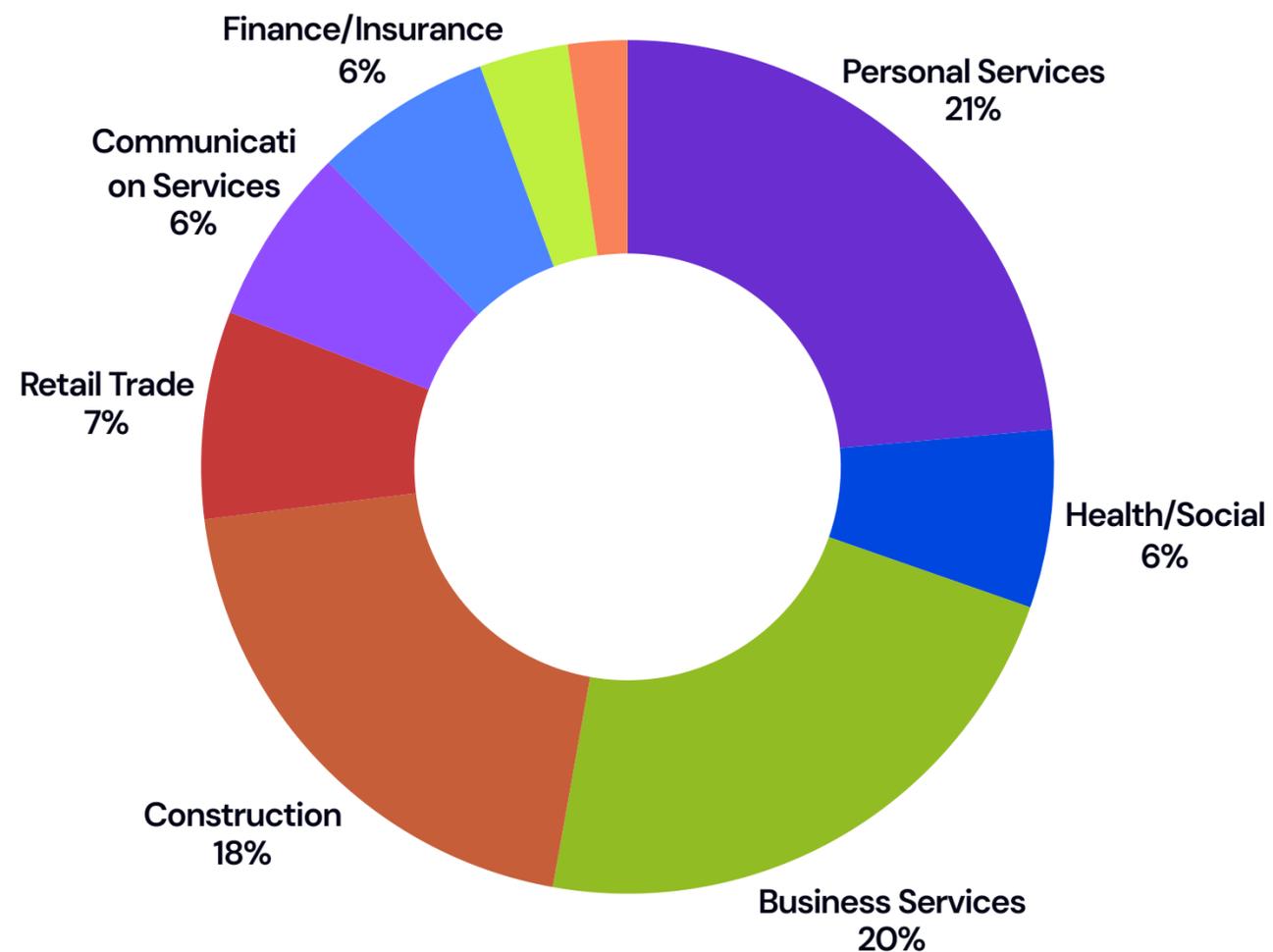
Demographic Analysis



COUNTRY	SHARE	YOY GROWTH
• Australia	41%	55.20%
• India	19%	16.96%
• China	6%	-10.00%
• United Kingdom	3%	50.00%
• New Zealand	3%	106.25%
• Viet Nam	2%	-23.81%
• Malaysia	3%	80.00%
• Pakistan	2%	77.80%
• Sri Lanka	1%	15.38%
• Hong Kong	1%	300.00%
• Other	20%	5.70%

Source: [The Lawpath Business Index: Uncovering Australia's Hidden Entrepreneurs](#)

Industry Distribution



CATEGORY	SHARE	YOY GROWTH
• Personal Services	21%	67.27%
• Health/Social	6%	-44.00%
• Business Services	20%	114.29%
• Construction	18%	54.72%
• Retail Trade	7%	0.00%
• Communication Services	6%	211.11%
• Finance/Insurance	6%	38.89%
• Transport/Storage	3%	-6.25%
• Wholesale Trade	2%	10.00%

Source: [The Lawpath Business Index: Uncovering Australia's Hidden Entrepreneurs](#)

Methodology

Each month, the Lawpath New Business Index captures how entrepreneurship in Australia is evolving.

Using verified data from the Australian Business Register (ABR) and ASIC, combined with anonymised insights from thousands of registrations processed through the Lawpath platform, we deliver a verified, month-by-month view of who is starting businesses, where they are based, and the industries they are choosing.

