

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



Melbourne has a large professional services industry, underpinned by strong capabilities in accounting, architecture, computer system design, legal, management consulting and urban planning.

91,030 Companies in Victoria	\$2b+ Value of exports	262,175 Jobs in Victoria	\$42.1b Gross Value Add
--	----------------------------------	------------------------------------	-----------------------------------

Professional services is the city's largest sector

The professional services sector is the largest segment of the economy in Melbourne and Victoria. It is internationally competitive, with broad-based capability. Australia's

free trade agreements enable trade with other countries making Melbourne the ideal location for headquarters servicing the Asia-Pacific.

Melbourne's strong industry performance attracts global talent

Legal services – Major global players with local operations include Allens, Ashurst, King & Wood Mallesons and Herbert Smith Freehills.

Melbourne is also home to Australian giants Clayton Utz and Minter Ellison.

Management consulting and accounting – Premier global management consulting firms including Bain and Company, Boston Consulting Group, Kearney, L.E.K. Consulting and McKinsey and Company all have operations in Melbourne, as do the 'big 4' international accounting firms, Deloitte, EY, KPMG and PwC.

Computer system design – Global players such as DXC Technology, Infosys, NEC and Oracle Corporation all have Melbourne-based operations.

Other areas of capability include advertising, computer system design, market research, professional photography, scientific research and testing, and surveying and mapping services*.

Melbourne's industry is globally focused

Many Melbourne-based professional services companies have a strong focus on overseas markets. Earth Systems advises companies across Africa, the Americas and the Asia-Pacific on energy and carbon issues, environmental management, sustainability and water projects.

Computershare was one of Melbourne's first professional services startups, which sought to provide computer and automation services to local businesses. It is now a global enterprise with a market cap of almost \$15 billion, offering a range of financial, governance and technology services to more than 25,000 clients and their 75 million customers across more than 20 countries.

*Also refer to the *Financial Services Industry Snapshot*

Nous Group – Helping organisations overcome key challenges and achieve greater success

Nous Group is a Melbourne-based international management consultancy that has a team of 750 people around the world. It works with executives across the public, private and community sectors on their most complex and consequential issues. Nous supports clients by assisting them with strategy creation, policy analysis, organisational performance, leadership development and data analytics. Its work in human-centred design has led to it receiving multiple accolades from the Australian Good Design Awards.

The consultancy's clients include local, state and national governments, leading universities, innovative community organisations and major corporations. It has officially been recognised as a Great Place to Work.

5

Countries

10

Capabilities

12

Sectors

Aurecon – Tackling the worlds' most complex challenges

Aurecon is an international design, engineering and advisory company headquartered in Melbourne with a strong presence in Asia, Australia and New Zealand. The company employs over 7,000 people across 29 areas of expertise in 11 locations, including Australia, Hong Kong, Mainland China, Indonesia, Macau, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

Aurecon has delivered landmark award-winning global projects including the design of Shanghai Tower's façade, China's tallest building. Aurecon also designed Landmark 81 in Vietnam, the tallest skyscraper in south-east Asia and helped transform The Reef in Singapore, a decommissioned shipping dock, into a luxury residential precinct.

7,000+

Employees

29

Areas of expertise

11

Locations

Melbourne is the ideal location for your business



Melbourne is the economic heart of Victoria.

Four of Australia's 15 largest companies are headquartered in the centre of Melbourne, including Australia's largest telecommunication provider, Telstra, Australia Post and NBN Co.

Laid out in an easy-to-navigate grid, with free public transport, Melbourne has the largest central city office market in Australia, with 314,000 m2 of premium working space.

Adjacent to Melbourne's central city district, Docklands Business Precinct sits on a 200-hectare waterfront and is home to local and international professional services companies including Arup, Aurecon, BDO, Link Group, Maddocks Lawyers, and Marsh and McLennan. Docklands is also home to two of Australia's top 15 companies, ANZ and NAB.

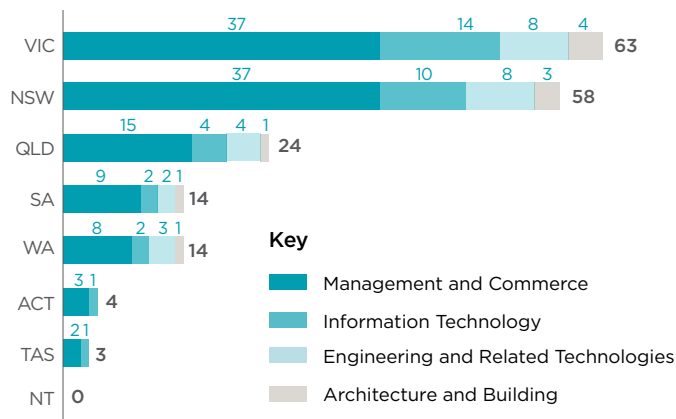
Melbourne universities produce job ready graduates



Melbourne's leading universities offer globally recognised courses in professional services disciplines.

The University of Melbourne, Australia's leading university, has highly ranked courses in Business and Management (first nationally, 37th globally), Law (first nationally, 11th globally), Architecture (first nationally, 23rd globally) and Accounting and Finance (second nationally, 23rd globally). This quality supports Australia's largest pipeline of job-ready graduates.

Number of graduates in professional services study areas by state (thousands, 2021)



A favourable business environment



Multicultural labour force with 260 languages spoken across Melbourne and ranking second in the world for inclusivity and wellbeing.



Access to a reduced withholding tax on specified distributions from management funds, enabling an internationally competitive taxation system for foreign investors.



Free Trade Agreements which provide transparent and predictable operating conditions for professionals and mutual recognition of professional qualifications.



World class international dispute resolution services and expertise to promote global trade, safeguard commercial relationships and manage risk in cross-border investment.



Favourable visa settings attracting top-tier talent through dedicated visa programs such as the Global Talent Visa and Global Talent Employer Sponsored program.



Melbourne is a gateway to the Asia-Pacific opening access to global investors looking to operate in these time zones and creating opportunities to capitalise on a growing market.



Lower business costs with industrial leases and office space rentals 35 per cent cheaper than Sydney. Victoria boasts the lowest business tax rate in Australia, attractive payroll tax rates and energy costs that are 45 per cent lower than Sydney.



Melbourne is the epicentre of co-working, accounting for more than half the total available co-working spaces across Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane, with over 2,000 desks in prime locations



Melbourne has exceptional liveability, ranked as the fourth most liveable city in the world. Melbourne is a global capital for sports, arts, culture and food, with many of the most sought-after events in Australia taking place in Melbourne – a key drawcard for attracting and retaining top talent.

Thinking about starting a business in Melbourne?

Visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/invest or email us at investmelbourne@melbourne.vic.gov.au.

Want help identifying products and services produced in Melbourne?

Visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/international or email us at global@melbourne.vic.gov.au.



Disclaimer: This document is provided for information and it does not purport to be complete. While care has been taken to ensure the content in the report is accurate, we cannot guarantee it is without flaw of any kind. There may be errors and omissions or it may not be wholly appropriate for your particular purposes. In addition, the publication is a snapshot in time based on historic information which is liable to change. The City of Melbourne accepts no responsibility and disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information contained in this report.

© Copyright City of Melbourne 2024. To receive this publication in an accessible format, email: global@melbourne.vic.gov.au