

**Question on Notice**

**No. 381**

**Asked on 8 March 2007**

**Ms Struthers** asked the Minister for Education and Training and Minister for the Arts (Mr Welford) —

**QUESTION:**

With reference to the recognition of International Women's Day, and as it timely to acknowledge the achievements of women in training—

- (1) How many women are taking up apprenticeships in non-traditional trade areas in Queensland?
- (2) How many female students are involved in vocational education and training (VET) in schools and of these, what percentage are involved in non-traditional trades?

**ANSWER:**

A total of 422 women were undertaking apprenticeships in non-traditional trade callings in Queensland by the end of 1996. Ten years on, this figure had increased nearly 180 per cent to 1,177 women in non-traditional trades.

Traditionally, hairdressing and cooking have been popular trade callings amongst women. Non-traditional female trades are defined as trade areas other than hairdressing and cooking.

Around 22,000 female students undertook vocational education and training in Queensland secondary schools as part of their senior phase of learning in 2005. As at 30 June 2005, 31 of these students were undertaking a non-traditional apprenticeship, nearly four times the number for 2001 (eight students). By mid-2006, the figure had increased to 35 female students.