



# Success not just in the city

Most rural and regional Australians  
feel disadvantaged when it comes to  
their work and training opportunities.





**REGIONAL** Australians are at a serious disadvantage when it comes to their career, according to a study by training organisation Upskilled.

The online study of 1000 people found that 87 per cent of them believe that rural Australians do not receive the same training and on-the-job opportunities as their metropolitan counterparts.

The report, commissioned by Upskilled, one of Australia's leading registered training organisations, also revealed that nearly half of rural Australians felt their relationships, health or general wellbeing suffered because of dissatisfaction and frustration in their careers.

In the group aged 18 to 29, that figure was 62 per cent.

The survey also found that rural communities are right to be concerned about the rate at which young people leave home never to return, with 22 per cent of 18- to 24-year-olds planning to up sticks and move to major cities in search of better training and workplace opportunities.

"So many people in rural Australia feel that they are missing out when it comes to opportunities to grow in their profession and develop new skills," Upskilled managing director Joel Gabe said.

"What's worrying is how many people see moving to a metropolitan area as the only solution."

Mr Gabe said his company had a new initiative,

Upskilling Australia, with which residents in 50 locations throughout Australia could access free professional training courses.

"It's only a start, but we hope it will show regional Australians that training opportunities do exist for them," he said.

The research also found:

- Tasmanians are more likely to move for their jobs than other Australians, with one in four planning a career-based relocation.
- Rural Victorians are the most optimistic about their opportunities, with 23 per cent claiming regional opportunities match those of metro areas.
- Northern Territory citizens are the most damning of opportunities to upskill rurally, with 100 per cent asserting that metro work opportunities outweighed regional ones.

Upskilled provides business courses to thousands of students at 70 regional and metro locations across Australia. Most attract government funding and come at no cost to the business or employee.

Training is delivered to suit via a choice of classroom, online e-learning or customised sessions at the workplace and provides nationally recognised Certificate IV and Diploma training.

Visit [upskilled.edu.au](http://upskilled.edu.au) for information.