# Understanding Australia’s Research Commercialisation

Since 2000, the National Survey for Research Commercialisation (NSRC) has collected information on commercialisation in Australia’s universities, medical research institutes (MRIs) and publicly funded research agencies (PRFAs).

This infographic explains research commercialisation with some key facts from the 2015 NSRC data collection.

## What is research commercialisation?

New technologies begin as ideas or research. Commercialisation transforms ideas and research into marketable products and processes.

Commercialisation leads to tangible outcomes and products including: medical breakthroughs; clean energy; improved agricultural methods; advanced manufacturing processes; innovative transport technologies; new high-tech products; new mining technologies; environmental technologies; and cutting-edge software.

Ultimately commercialisation also leads to more efficient use of resources, higher employment, international competitiveness, economic growth, and quality of life.

## Start-up companies

Start-up companies are set up to commercialise innovative technologies.

The number of new start-up companies formed by unis, MRIs and PRFAs in 2015**: 42.**

The number of start-up companies formed has increased by 147 percent in the last 5 years.

## Commercialisation staff

Commercialisation staff are employed to help the commercialisation process.

The number of commercialisation staff in unis, MRIs and PRFAs in 2015: **571.**

The number of commercialisation staff has decreased by 15 percent in the last 5 years.

## Collaboration

Collaboration often leads to more commercialisation.

The number of research contracts, consultancies and collaborations in 2015: **18,076.**

This figure has increased by 17 percent in the last 5 years.

The total value of research contracts, consultancies and collaborations in 2015: **$1,783 million**.

This figure has increased by 22 percent in the last five years.

## Training

Training helps researchers to collaborate with industry.

The number of participants in industry skills training in 2015: **10,138.**

The number of training participants has increased by 85 percent in the last 5 years.

## Source

Source for all data: 2015 National Survey of Research Commercialisation.