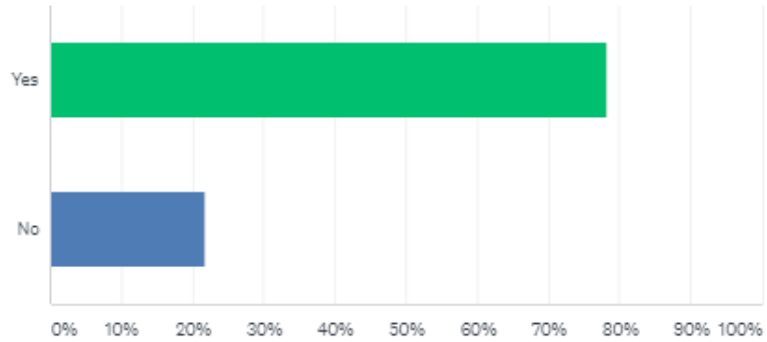


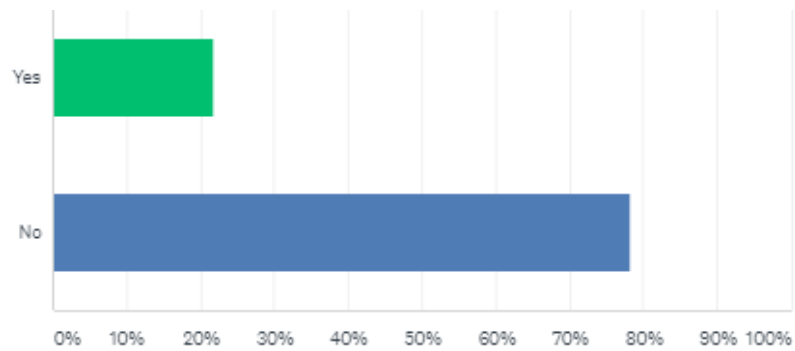
SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS 1 AND 3 OF CONSULTATION

Do you support the retention of two classes of registration (Tradesman and Certifying) for plumbers, gasfitters and drainlayers?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
▼ Yes	78.29%
▼ No	21.71%

Do you consider that having two classes unnecessarily restricts the registration or licensing of tradespeople?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
▼ Yes	21.85%
▼ No	78.15%

SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS 2 AND 4 OF CONSULTATION

A: Reasons where respondents supported retention of two classes of registration

- Running a business
- Being an employer
- Protecting the public
- Keeping standards high
- Public safety
- Promoting competence
- Need distinction between people just qualified and people who can sign off work
- Public reassurance
- Protection property
- Greater security and control over work practices
- Only certifiers can design and supervise
- Not everyone wants to be certifier
- Recognition that some people more skilled, some people less so
- Tradesman basic qualification and more training & experience required to reach certifying
- Electricians only have one licence and it's a problem in their industry
- Two licences make you work harder
- Assist in career development, further learning, and progression in the industry
- Extra 2 years allows people to improve knowledge and skills
- Tradesman too easy to achieve
- Confusing if just one class
- Extra training is a good thing ever since the Board dumbed down the registration exams
- Experience assists with better decision making
- Plumbing alone is too basic – need specialist qualification to show competency and protect health
- Our industry needs to be protected and all tradespeople need to be skilled to keep our services safe. These skills need to be earned and not just given away to meet a shortage of people
- A tradesman is still learning
- Only certifiers should be able to own companies
- Maintaining a high quality of workmanship
- Point of difference between someone committed to further upskilling and more responsibility
- It would be irresponsible to drop the standards just because there is a shortage
- Recognises continuing skills development and learning which is required in our industry
- Gives greater flexibility for people within the industry
- Better public health and safety outcomes of levels of licence are linked to qualifications and learning
- Protecting the industry from cowboys
- Better staff retention at tradesman level
- Maintaining high standards
- Allow a range of tradesmen to work to their abilities

- By becoming a certifier it shows you are committed to quality and care in your trade
- Certifying shows committed to industry, public health and safety, protection of property and promotion of competency

B: Reasons where respondents did not support retention of two classes of registration

- Too expensive
- Two licence system unnecessary
- Electricians have only one licence and can sign off own work so why should we be different
- Competent tradespeople held back by requirement to complete second exam
- It is revenue gathering
- Certifying class is pointless and demeaning
- No difference in knowledge between two classes
- If a person is not competent after first exam then that is a reflection of poor training
- Plumbing and drainage is not rocket science – plumbing can be carried out quite well by handymen
- Should be fully licensed when pass first exam
- Two levels is archaic and needs to move with the times to encourage more people to become plumbers
- Having two classes is outdated and unnecessary as a tradesman plumber has all the skills necessary to carry out the job safely and competently after completing their apprenticeship
- Person completing the work should be responsible for signing it off
- Just makes it expensive and slows down construction projects
- It is an old system that has no use in the industry
- Two levels of registration has no more impact on health and safety than one level would
- Customers are confused by the endless changes
- Need to open up the field to our tradesmen to grow the industry rather than importing substandard workers
- A lot of people struggle with reading and writing skills and exams put people off
- There should only be a single level reached after five years
- No difference between the two classes
- Public health and safety will be improved if everyone is responsible for their own work, the grey area with insurance will be removed and there wouldn't be any confusion for the public
- If you are not competent at the end of your training then the training is not good enough
- Australia doesn't do it. Why make people jump through unnecessary hoops
- The need to have our work inspected means we don't need two classes of registration
- Too confusing
- All workers are liable for their own actions and everything is covered by insurance anyway
- Tradesmen plumbers have learnt how to protect public health, safety and property

- Strengthen the current apprenticeship learning and education and spread it over 5 years and a trained apprentice who has passed the registration exam should be competent to work unsupervised and sign off their own work
- You shouldn't need to be supervised if you have done an apprenticeship and got the qualification

C: Reasons where respondents thought two classes of registration did not unnecessarily restrict registration or licensing

- Clarifies situation for public
- Restricted to those with experience and knowledge to perform certain tasks
- Have to prove competency to undertake higher level responsibility
- Makes better tradesmen
- Once passed first exam, need some experience to reach next level
- Possible to work, train apprentices and earn good money without having to be certifier
- Provides further experience before people can go on their own
- Needs to be restriction as anyone can pass tradesman exam
- People with the skill have no difficulty reaching certifying
- Allows people who are serious to move ahead
- Any restriction is not unnecessary
- Need to slow people down and protect the health of the public
- Filters out incompetent workers who shouldn't work without supervision
- If people put in the effort and actually study they can get to certifying level
- Two classes provides an incentive to achieve a higher standard rather than just the minimal standard
- One class is too restrictive
- Essential for protecting the services and the public
- Knowledge and competency is gained over time
- Cannot afford to have incompetent people doing this work
- Two classes raises the standard for our trade that has been considerably dumbed down since the 80s
- If they can't pass the exam, they shouldn't be doing it
- Some people aren't capable of working at the certifying level
- There are no shortcuts to becoming fully qualified
- Extra level of registration protects the public
- Discarding the two tier system will either dumb down the certifier qualification or drive tradesmen out of the industry
- There are sufficient safeguards in legislation to protect consumers
- Does not unnecessarily restrict registration but it does stop some people as it should
- Rushing tradesmen through is dangerous and won't do them any favours
- Quality of training and trainees these days is very low
- It maintains good standards of workmanship
- It clearly shows two different levels of qualification and experience

D: Reasons where respondents thought two classes of registration did unnecessarily restricted registration or licensing

- Too expensive
- Arbitrary
- Why can't tradesman practitioner sign off own work if they are competent to do it
- Restrict growth in the trade
- Creates a gap that shouldn't be there because it means nothing
- Requires too much effort to pass outdated exams
- Period on the tools and a practical competency test is all that is required
- Many experienced gasfitters are capable of auditing their own work and carry out the duties of a certifier
- The registration exam is enough to test the competency of a plumber
- Places an unfair burden on these trades that does not apply to other trades like electrical and building
- Too complicated – should be registered or not
- Revenue generation for the Board and educators
- Exams create a barrier to tradespeople progressing. It is a logistics issue with only having limited opportunities to sit the exams and other issues such as family, location etc.
- It is too hard and off-putting
- Takes too long
- You should be able to work unsupervised at the end of your training
- If you are a brilliant plumbing but struggle with exams, you will fail. People who pass certifying don't always know what they are doing
- Not necessary and insulting
- Struggle to get enough people to do drainlaying. Plumbing and gasfitting needs two levels of registration but drainlaying only needs one
- It causes tradesmen plumbers to leave the trade and puts people off from getting into the trade
- Too complicated
- Other trades don't have it
- The 1 year Certifier knows less than the 10 year Tradesman plumber
- If people aren't safe working on jobs unsupervised after their apprenticeship then lengthen the time it takes to complete an apprenticeship
- A person may do no additional study in the 2 years it takes before they can become a Certifier
- The industry operated with only one level of qualification for many years and it was fine
- Not enough Certifiers to supervise all Tradesmen, let alone train apprentices and supervise other classes
- The system is out of date