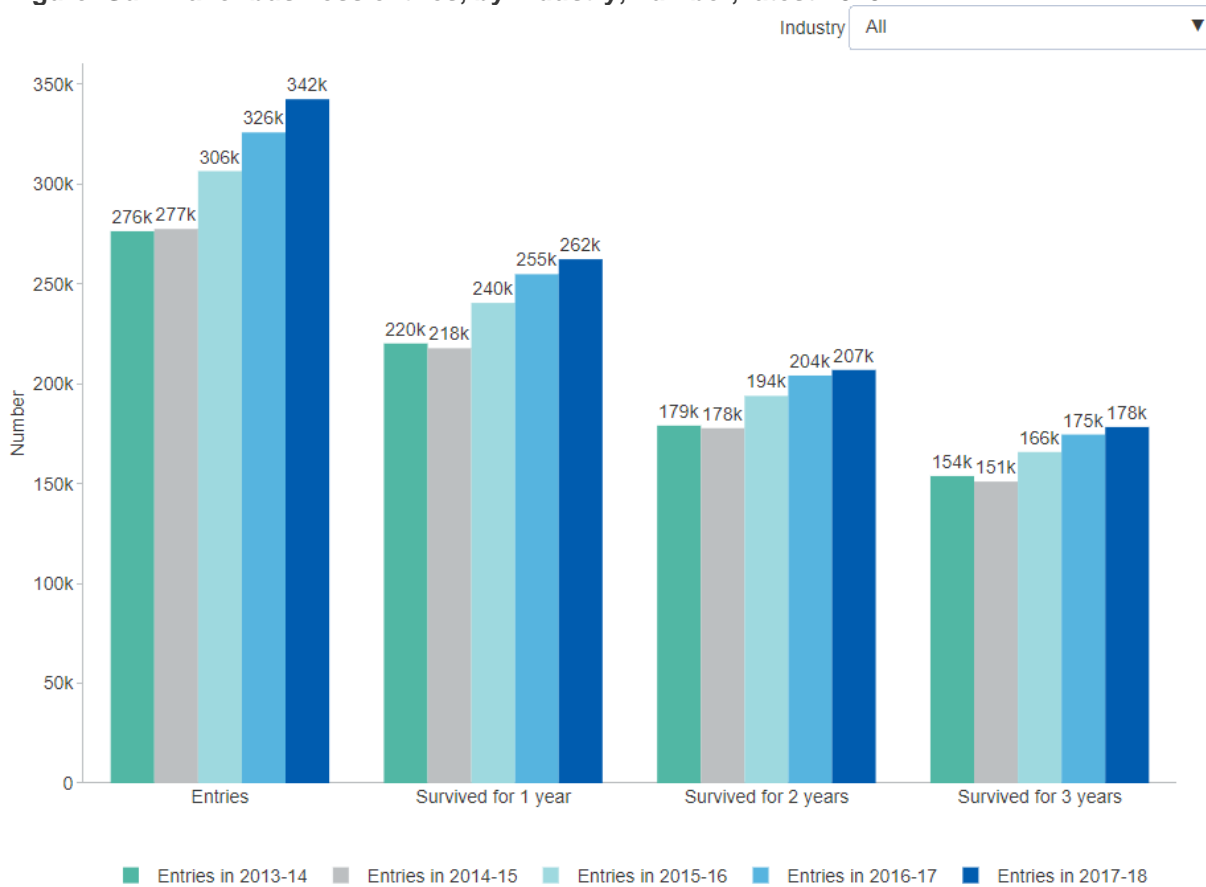


### 2.1.3 Survival of business entries by industry

The aggregate rate of business survival, while determined by many factors, provides a simple summary measure of the likelihood of entrepreneurial success. Of the 342,462 businesses that entered during 2017–18, some 76.6 per cent (262,338 businesses) survived to June 2019, and 60.4 per cent (206,908 businesses) were still operating two years later in June 2020. The proportion of this cohort that survived the three years to June 2021 was 52.1 per cent (178,338 businesses). Within this cohort, businesses in the *Health care and social assistance* industry had the highest survival rate (65.9 per cent) at the end of 2020–21, closely followed by those in *Agriculture, forestry and fishing* (65.3 per cent), whilst businesses in the *Transport, postal and warehousing* industry had the lowest survival rate (38.5 per cent). (Note: The totals shown in the chart exclude businesses where the industry is *Currently Unknown*, resulting in a small difference from the aggregate totals).<sup>1</sup>

**Figure: Survival of business entries, by industry, number, latest 2020–21**



<sup>1</sup> ABS, *Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits*, Cat. No. 8165.0 (<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/economy/business-indicators/counts-australian-businesses-including-entries-and-exits/latest-release>)