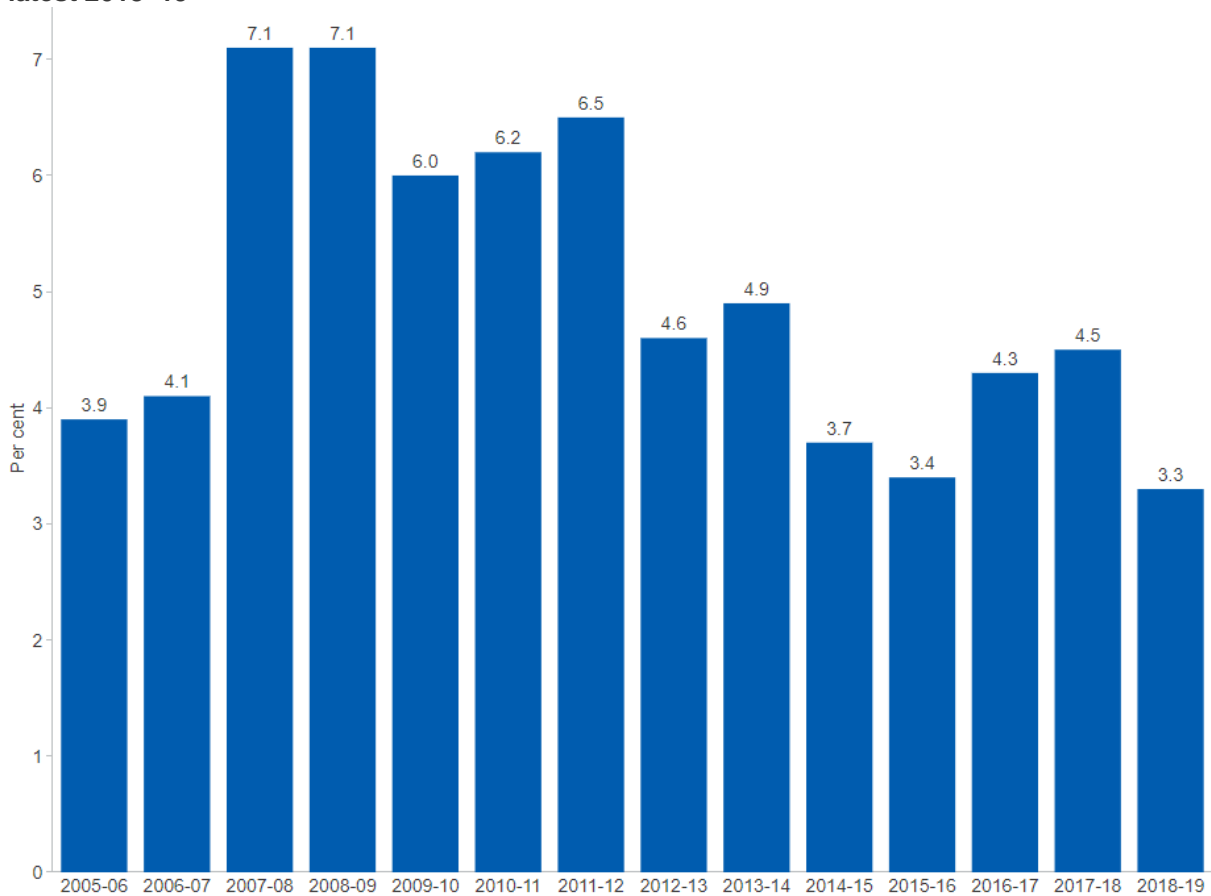


4.1.3 Businesses collaborating on R&D

A modest subset of innovation-active businesses undertake research and development (R&D). Survey evidence suggests that Australian innovation-active businesses report relatively low rates of collaboration on R&D. In 2018–19, only 3.3 per cent of Australia's *innovation-active businesses collaborated on R&D*, which is the lowest proportion since 2005–06. By business size (data not shown), large innovation-active businesses reported the highest rates of joint R&D activity, 6.3 per cent in 2018–19. This compares to only 5.6 per cent of innovation-active medium sized businesses and 2.2 per cent of innovation-active small businesses collaborating on R&D in the same period. By industry (data not shown), the mining industry reported the highest share of innovation-active businesses with joint R&D activities at 8.5 per cent.¹

Figure: Businesses collaborating on R&D, share of innovation-active businesses, per cent, latest 2018–19



¹ ABS, *Characteristics of Australian Business*, Cat. No. 8129.0, Cat. No. 8158.0, Cat. No. 8166.0, Cat. No. 8167.0 and ABS.Stat (<https://www.abs.gov.au/>)