

# Chapter 4 Earning: Employment destinations



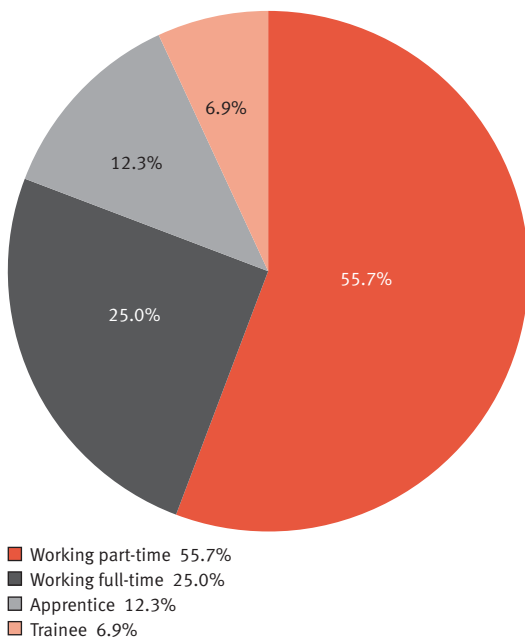
This chapter examines the labour market outcomes of Year 12 completers from 2007 in Queensland. It deals separately with the group as a whole, those not in education or training, those who were studying and working, and apprentices and trainees.

## All Year 12 completers in employment

Most young people who completed Year 12 in 2007 entered the workforce, whether or not they were undertaking further education. Ignoring study or training status, 26 007 (or 77.5 per cent) of Year 12 graduates were working at the time of the survey.

One-quarter of those in employment (25.0 per cent) held a full-time job (see Figure 4.1) with a further 55.7 per cent working part-time. Apprentices and trainees who predominantly work full-time (see Figure 4.9) made up 12.3 per cent and 6.9 per cent respectively.

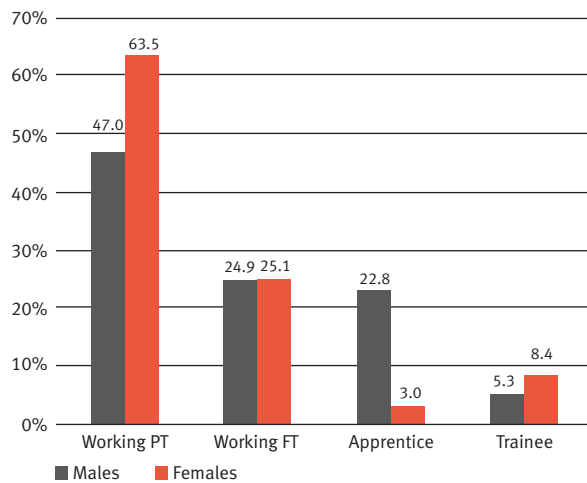
**Figure 4.1 Work destinations of all Year 12 completers in employment, Queensland 2008**



Note: Based on all Year 12 completers in some form of employment.

Sex differences are evident in relation to part-time work, apprenticeships and traineeships (see Figure 4.2). Female Year 12 graduates in employment were more likely than their male counterparts to be working in part-time jobs (63.5 per cent compared to 47.0 per cent) and were more likely to be a trainee (8.4 per cent compared to 5.3 per cent). Conversely, male Year 12 graduates in employment were around seven times more likely to have commenced an apprenticeship (22.8 per cent compared to 3.0 per cent for females).

**Figure 4.2 Work destinations of all Year 12 completers in employment, by sex, Queensland 2008**



Note: Based on all Year 12 completers in some form of employment.

Table 4.1 reports the occupational groups of all Year 12 graduates in employment. It shows that nearly half of the Year 12 graduates in Queensland (46.1 per cent) were working in just two occupational groups – Sales Assistants and Food Handlers. These are occupational groups dominated by part-time workers, where wages and skill requirements are low. The other main occupations were Clerks, Receptionists and Secretaries, Waiters and Building and Construction Skilled Workers, which account for a further 24.5 per cent of workers. In considering these findings, it should be noted that six in ten of all Year 12 completers in employment were combining work with further education or training (58.5 per cent).



**Table 4.1 Occupational groups of all Year 12 completers in employment, Queensland 2008**

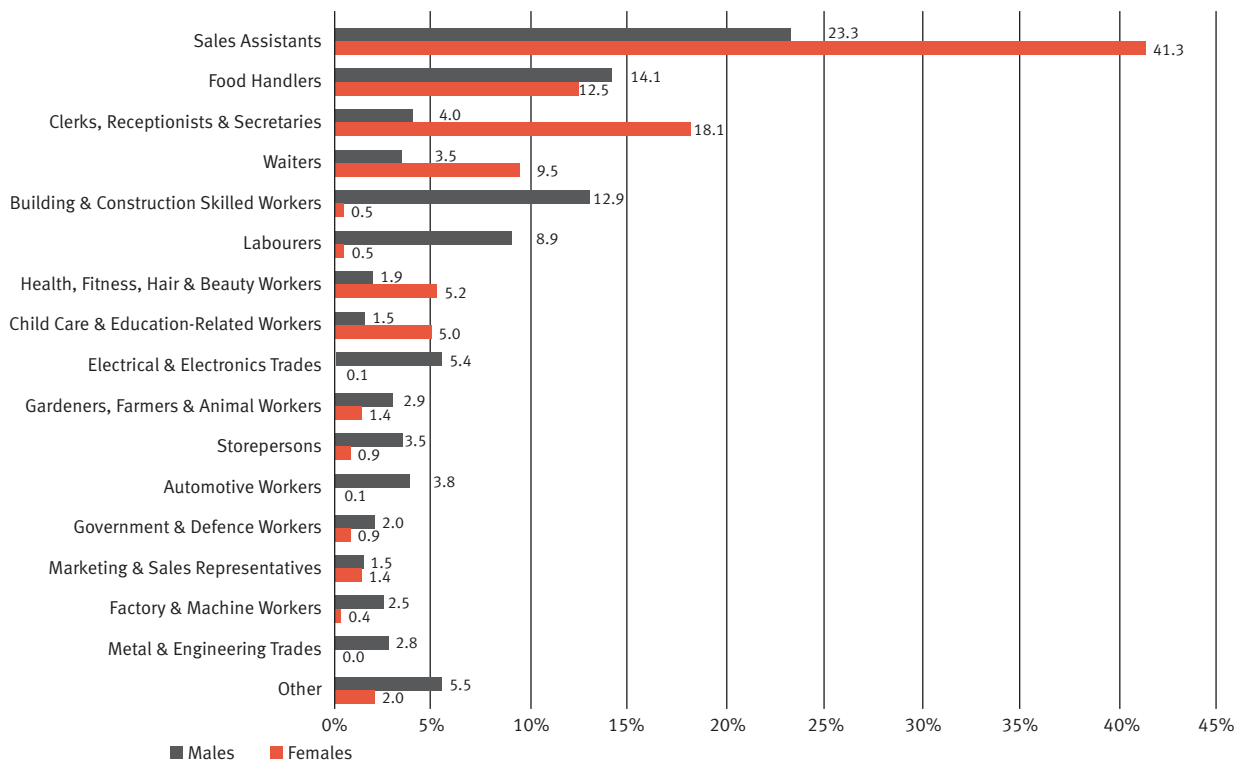
Occupational groups	no.	%
Sales Assistants	8 541	32.8
Food Handlers	3 456	13.3
Clerks, Receptionists & Secretaries	2 991	11.5
Waiters	1 738	6.7
Building & Construction Skilled Workers	1 641	6.3
Labourers	1 151	4.4
Health, Fitness, Hair & Beauty Workers	957	3.7
Child Care & Education-related Workers	876	3.4
Electrical & Electronics Trades	674	2.6
Gardeners, Farmers & Animal Workers	552	2.1
Storepersons	550	2.1
Automotive Workers	480	1.8
Government & Defence	373	1.4
Marketing & Sales Representatives	371	1.4
Factory & Machine Workers	362	1.4
Metal & Engineering Trades	342	1.3
Other	952	3.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>26 007</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Note: Occupational groups are based on those used by the Commonwealth Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

There are also important sex differences in occupations, as illustrated in Figure 4.3. The most common areas of employment for female Year 12 graduates were as Sales Assistants, Clerks, Receptionists and Secretaries, Food Handlers and Waiters, which together accounted for 81.6 per cent of female employment, while for male Year 12 graduates, Sales Assistants, Food Handlers, Building and Construction Skilled Workers and Labourers accounted for

59.2 per cent of employment. Employment in most other occupational groups showed segmentation along sex lines with females more frequently employed as Child Care & Education-Related Workers and in Health, Fitness, Hair and Beauty Workers, while male employment was more frequent in Electrical and Electronics Trades, Automotive Workers, Storepersons and Metal and Engineering Trades.

**Figure 4.3 Occupational groups of all Year 12 completers in employment, by sex, Queensland 2008**

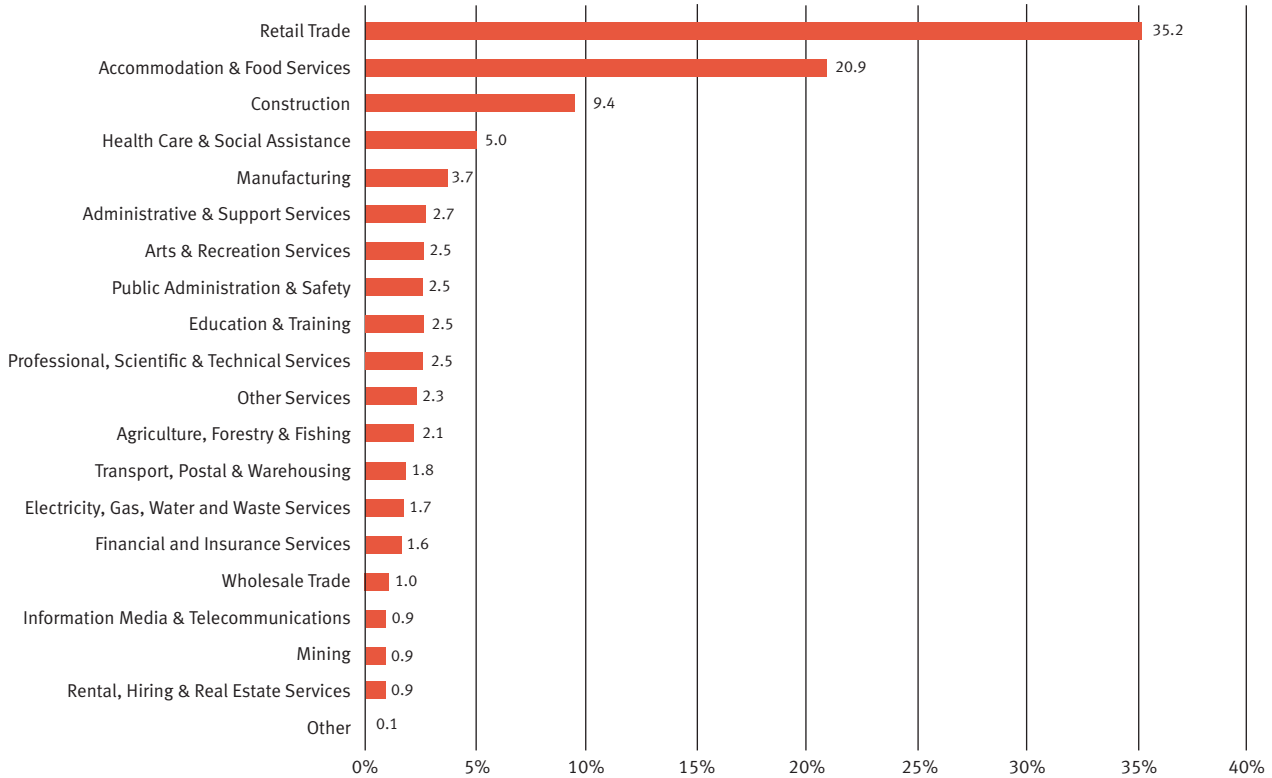


In addition to details of occupation, Year 12 graduates provided details of the industry in which their employment takes place (see Table A4B in Appendix 4 for categories). Figure 4.4, which details the industry categories for all workers, supports the findings for occupation, and shows high proportions of Year 12 completers working in just

two industry areas — Retail Trade, and Accommodation and Food Services. Between them, these two categories account for 56.1 per cent of all Year 12 completers in the labour market. It should be noted that almost four in ten of all Year 12 completers in employment (38.7 per cent) were students working part-time.



**Figure 4.4 Industry categories of all Year 12 completers in employment, Queensland 2008**



Note: This figure and subsequent tables use industry categories based on the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification. See Appendix 4 for further information.

### Casual workers

Overall, there were 15 693 Year 12 graduates who were employed on a casual basis, which accounts for six in ten (60.3 per cent) of the 26 007 in paid employment.

Table 4.2 shows the distribution of Year 12 completers in casual employment across four 'work destination and study status' groups. Those working part-time (fewer than

35 hours per week) made up 86.2 per cent of all casual workers (58.4 per cent who were combining part-time work with study, and 27.7 per cent who were working part-time with no further education or training).

Year 12 graduates working full-time made up only 13.8 per cent of all casual workers (12.6 per cent who were working full-time with no further education or training, and 1.2 per cent who were combining full-time work with study).

**Table 4.2 Work destination and study status of Year 12 completers in casual employment, by sex, Queensland 2008**

Work destination and study status	Males		Females		Total	
	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%
Student, working part-time	3 457	55.4	5 447	60.6	8 904	58.4
Student, working full-time	72	1.2	115	1.3	187	1.2
Not in education or training, working part-time	1 720	27.5	2 504	27.8	4 224	27.7
Not in education or training, working full-time	995	15.9	927	10.3	1 922	12.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>6 244</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>8 993</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>15 237</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Note: This table excludes 456 apprentices and trainees who stated they were employed on a casual basis.

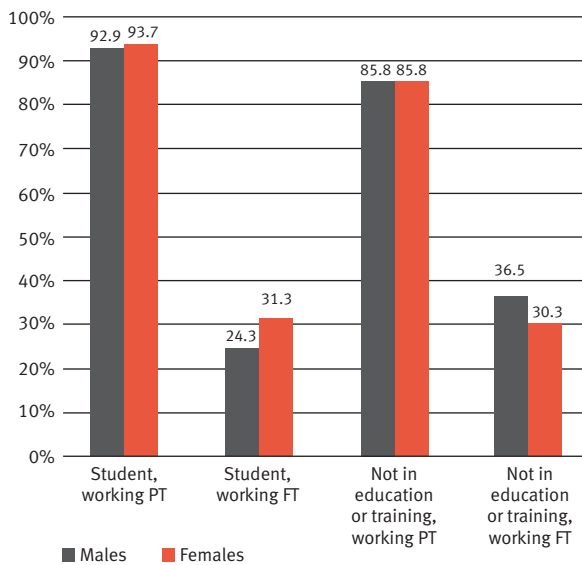


Figure 4.5 also shows a relationship between casual work and work load (that is, part-time or full-time work).

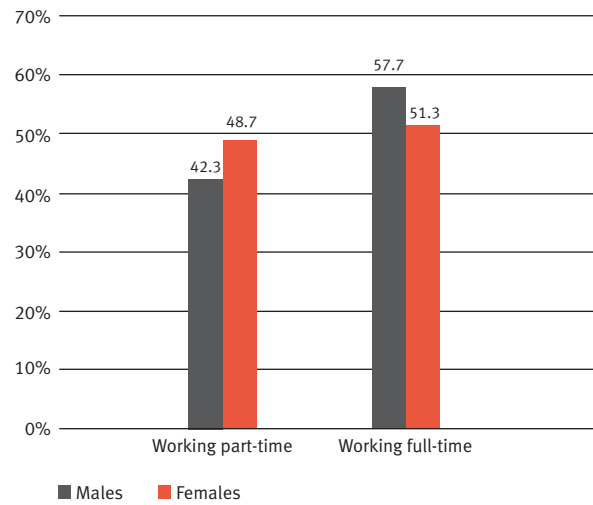
For Year 12 graduates who were combining full-time work with study, the rate of casual employment was 24.3 per cent for males and 31.3 per cent for females, while the rate of casual employment for those who were working full-time without any further education or training was 36.5 per cent for males and 30.3 per cent for females.

Among Year 12 graduates who were combining part-time work with study, the rate of casual employment was high, accounting for more than nine in every ten students. The rate of casual employment was also high among the group who entered part-time work with no further education or training, accounting for 85.8 per cent of both males and females.

**Figure 4.5 Proportion of Year 12 completers in casual employment, by sex, Queensland 2008**



**Figure 4.6 Work destinations of Year 12 completers in employment and not in education or training, by sex, Queensland 2008**



### Working and not in education or training

This section examines the labour market outcomes of those Year 12 completers who have made a direct entry to employment, with no further education or training. This is an important group, comprising almost one-third of all Year 12 completers in 2008.

Data for the 10 780 Year 12 graduates in this group are shown in Figure 4.6. Males were more likely than females to be in a full-time job (57.7 per cent compared to 51.3 per cent), while females were more likely to be working part-time (48.7 per cent compared to 42.3 per cent).

**Table 4.3 Hours worked by Year 12 completers in employment and not in education or training, Queensland 2008**

	Hours worked per week						Total
	1-7	8-14	15-24	25-34	35-39	40+	
no.	130	514	1 804	2 494	2 796	3 042	10 780
%	1.2	4.8	16.7	23.1	25.9	28.2	100.0

Table 4.3 reports the hours worked by Year 12 graduates not in further education or training. Over three-quarters of these Year 12 graduates (77.3 per cent) were working 25 hours or more.

Figure 4.7 compares in further detail male and female workers who were not in study or training on the basis of the number of hours worked per week. It shows that male workers were most likely to be working 40 hours or more per week (34.7 per cent), while female workers were most likely to be working 35-39 hours per week (28.3 per cent).

Figure 4.8 shows the occupations entered by Year 12 completers not in further education or training, by sex. For both males and females in this group, the single largest

occupational group in which they were employed was Sales Assistants, followed by Labourers for males and Clerks, Receptionists & Secretaries for females. For the most part, these were the same kinds of work that tertiary students were likely to obtain, and require a minimum of training to access.

For males, the next largest category was Food Handlers, followed by Building and Construction Skilled Workers. In total, these four categories account for more than six in ten of all male Year 12 completers in Queensland making a direct entry to the labour market (61.9 per cent).

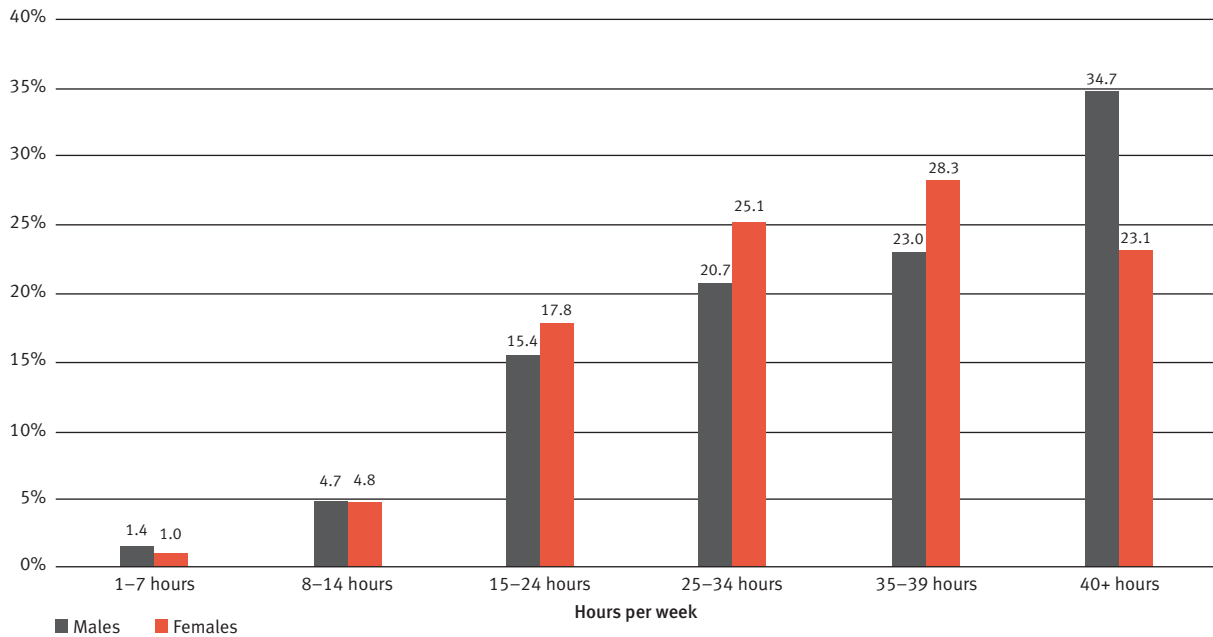
Among female Year 12 completers, the top four occupations of Sales Assistants, Clerks, Receptionists

and Secretaries, Food Handlers and Waiters account for over eight in ten (83.2 per cent) of all females entering the labour market with no further education or training.

The next most common occupational groups were Child Care and Education-Related Workers and Health, Fitness, Hair and Beauty Workers.



**Figure 4.7 Hours worked by Year 12 completers in employment and not in education or training, by sex, Queensland 2008**



**Figure 4.8 Occupational groups of Year 12 completers in employment and not in education or training, by sex, Queensland 2008**

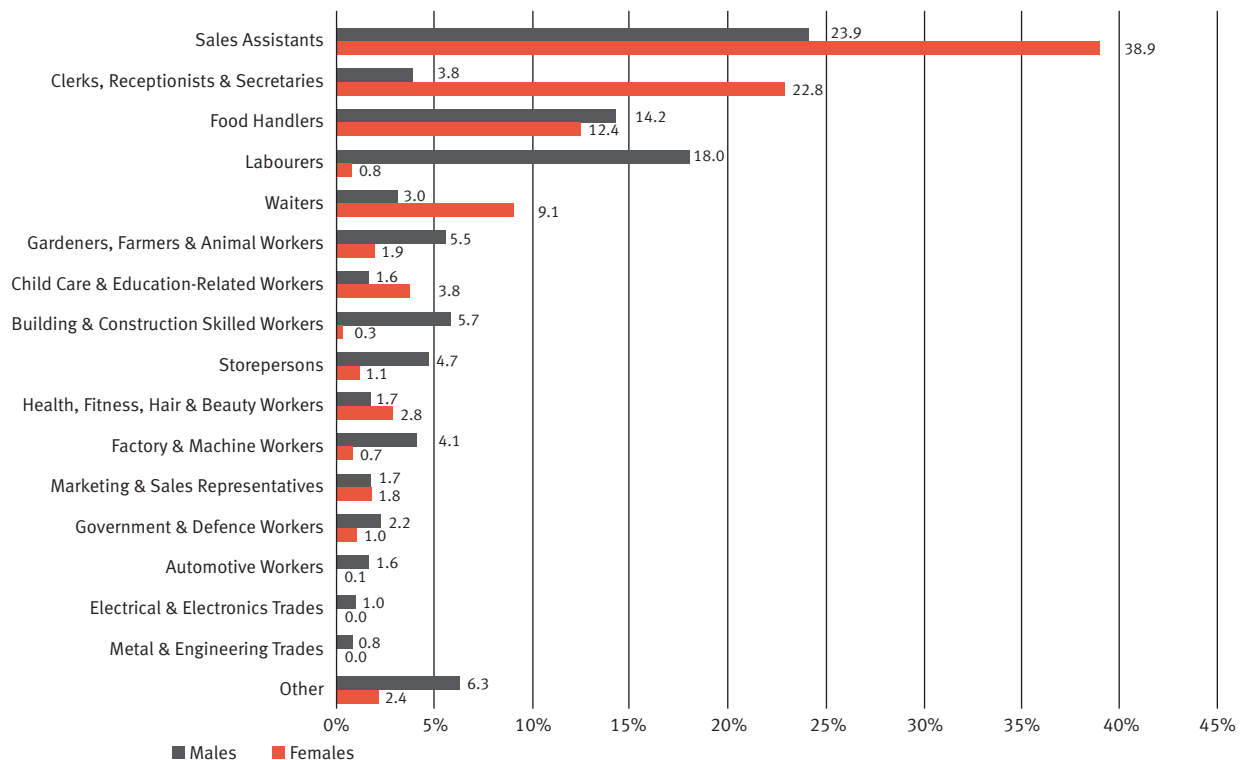


Table 4.4 reports the main industry areas entered by Year 12 completers not in further education or training. It shows that Retail and Accommodation and Food Services were the main industry areas for both full-time and part-time workers. In the case of Year 12 completers working part-

time, approximately three-quarters (76.2 per cent) worked in Retail and Accommodation and Food Services. In the case of Year 12 completers working full-time, while these two categories still dominated (38.6 per cent), there was a greater distribution across other industry areas.



**Table 4.4 Industry categories of Year 12 completers in employment and not in education or training, by work destination, Queensland 2008**

Industry category	Working full-time		Working part-time	
	no.	%	no.	%
Retail Trade	1 458	25.0	2 317	46.9
Accommodation & Food Services	790	13.5	1 442	29.2
Construction	664	11.4	170	3.4
Health Care & Social Assistance	303	5.2	164	3.3
Manufacturing	370	6.3	78	1.6
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	314	5.4	83	1.7
Administrative & Support Services	301	5.2	85	1.7
Public Administration & Safety	282	4.8	28	0.6
Arts & Recreation Services	107	1.8	173	3.5
Transport, Postal & Warehousing	196	3.4	64	1.3
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	201	3.4	43	0.9
Education & Training	147	2.5	96	1.9
Financial & Insurance Services	158	2.7	39	0.8
Wholesale Trade	123	2.1	27	0.5
Other Services	93	1.6	53	1.1
Information Media & Telecommunications	89	1.5	35	0.7
Rental, Hiring & Real Estate Services	91	1.6	11	0.2
Mining	77	1.3	6	0.1
Electricity, Gas, Water & Waste Services	59	1.0	16	0.3
Other	8	0.1	6	0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>5 831</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>4 936</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Note: Excludes 13 workers who did not provide industry details.

### Working and in education or training

Work is also important for young people who are studying (either VET or university). In fact, of the 26 007 Year 12 graduates working, the majority (15 227 or 58.5 per cent) were also studying.

Table 4.5 compares the hours worked by Year 12 completers in employment and study, according to study level. Approximately half of the university students who

have jobs work up to 14 hours per week (49.4 per cent) and a further one-third work between 15 and 24 hours per week (39.2 per cent). VET Certificate IV+ students have a similar pattern of employment, although they tend to work longer hours. VET Certificate I–II and VET Certificate III students and all others who were in study or training were likely to work even longer hours, reflecting the inclusion in this group of substantial numbers of apprentices and trainees.

**Table 4.5 Hours worked by Year 12 completers in employment and study, by level of study, Queensland 2008**

		Hours worked per week						Total
		1–7	8–14	15–24	25–34	35–39	40+	
University (degree)	no.	959	2 965	3 113	613	143	146	7 939
	%	12.1	37.3	39.2	7.7	1.8	1.8	100.0
VET Cert IV+	no.	121	423	564	214	245	374	1 941
	%	6.2	21.8	29.1	11.0	12.6	19.3	100.0
VET Cert III	no.	48	75	161	177	1 102	1 543	3 106
	%	1.5	2.4	5.2	5.7	35.5	49.7	100.0
VET Cert I–II	no.	16	45	66	57	150	119	453
	%	3.5	9.9	14.6	12.6	33.1	26.3	100.0
Study other/unspecified	no.	49	103	151	132	525	828	1 788
	%	2.7	5.8	8.4	7.4	29.4	46.3	100.0
<b>Total</b>	no.	<b>1 193</b>	<b>3 611</b>	<b>4 055</b>	<b>1 193</b>	<b>2 165</b>	<b>3 010</b>	<b>15 227</b>
	%	<b>7.8</b>	<b>23.7</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>19.8</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Figure 4.9 Hours worked by Year 12 completers in employment and study, by broad study destination, Queensland 2008

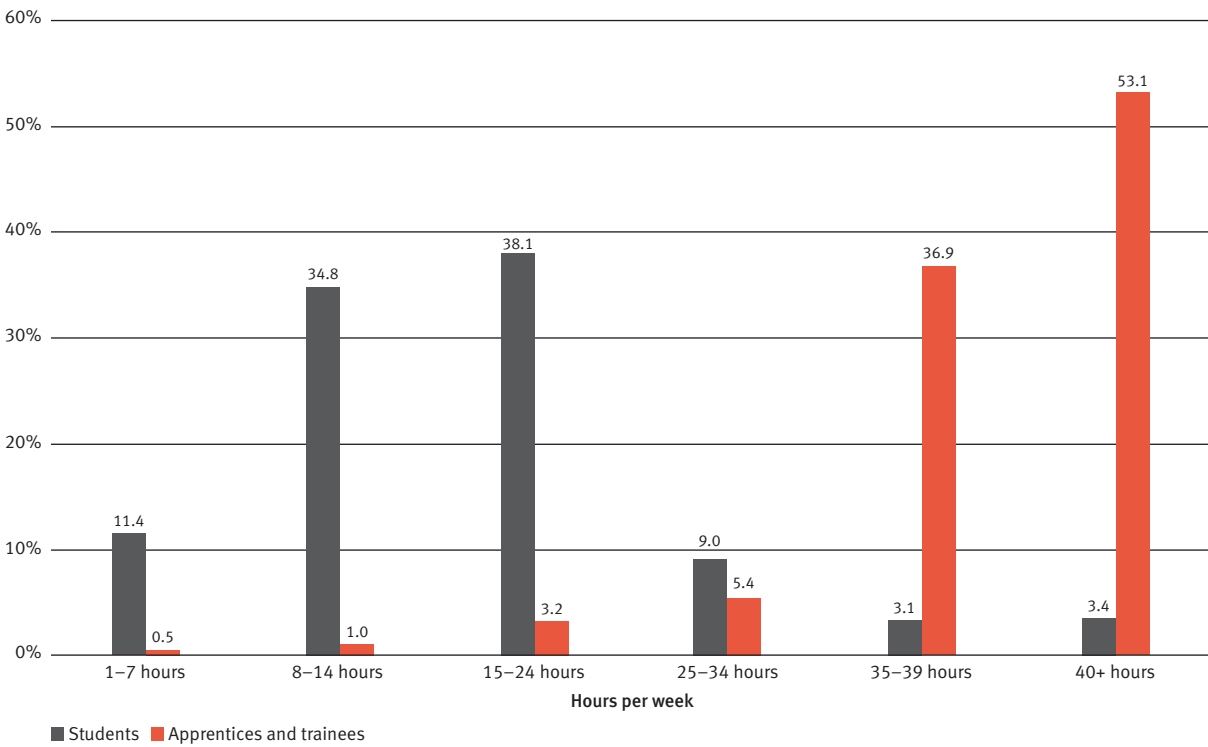


Figure 4.9 graphically demonstrates the differences in the work patterns of the different groups examined in this section — students, and apprentices and trainees. It shows that students work predominantly in part-time employment, whereas apprentices and trainees are predominantly employed full-time.

Table 4.6 shows the occupational groups in which Year 12 completers in employment and study were working. It can be seen that over half (56.0 per cent) were working in the three main occupational groups of Sales Assistants (33.2 per cent), Food Handlers (13.3 per cent) and Clerks, Receptionists & Secretaries (9.4 per cent), while the remainder were dispersed in small numbers across a large range of occupational groups.

Table 4.6 Occupational groups of Year 12 completers in employment and study, Queensland 2008

Occupational group	no.	%
Sales Assistants	5 060	33.2
Food Handlers	2 030	13.3
Clerks, Receptionists & Secretaries	1 436	9.4
Building & Construction Skilled Workers	1 347	8.8
Waiters	1 046	6.9
Health, Fitness, Hair & Beauty Workers	706	4.6
Electrical & Electronics Trades	625	4.1
Child Care & Education-related Workers	573	3.8
Automotive Workers	397	2.6
Metal & Engineering Trades	303	2.0
Storepersons	260	1.7
Labourers	247	1.6
Government & Defence	208	1.4
Marketing & Sales Representatives	182	1.2
Gardeners, Farmers & Animal Workers	173	1.1
Factory & Machine Workers	125	0.8
Other	509	3.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>15 227</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Note: Occupational groups are based on those used by the Commonwealth Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.





## Apprentices and trainees

As discussed earlier, apprentices and trainees enter a contract of employment while undertaking VET training either on-the-job or with a training provider. Table 4.7 indicates the level of study reported by apprentices and trainees in this survey. More than half of all apprenticeship and traineeship study occurs at the VET Certificate III level (54.7 per cent). Trainees, however, were more than five times as likely as apprentices to undergo training at the VET Certificate II level (10.3 per cent compared to 1.9 per cent).

It is also important to note that the industry areas and occupational groups of apprentices and trainees were quite different from those entered by the broader cohort of Year 12 completers, especially students. Table 4.8 shows that the occupations entered by this group were not predominantly in the areas of Sales Assistants and Food Handlers, but were Building and Construction, Electrical and Electronic Trades, and Clerks, Receptionists and Secretaries. These three categories account for almost half of all apprentices and trainees (48.9 per cent).

**Table 4.7 Level of study of Year 12 completers in apprenticeships and traineeships, Queensland 2008**

Level of study	Apprentices		Trainees		Total	
	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%
VET Dip/Adv Dip	89	2.8	88	4.9	177	3.5
VET Cert IV	275	8.6	114	6.3	389	7.8
VET Cert III	1 901	59.4	833	46.2	2 734	54.7
VET Cert II	62	1.9	185	10.3	247	4.9
VET Cert I	32	1.0	25	1.4	57	1.1
VET unspecified	384	12.0	133	7.4	517	10.3
Unknown/other study	456	14.3	425	23.6	881	17.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 199</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1 803</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>5 002</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 4.8 Occupational groups of Year 12 completers in apprenticeships and traineeships, Queensland 2008**

Occupational group	no.	%
Building & Construction Skilled Workers	1 238	24.8
Electrical & Electronics Trades	608	12.2
Clerks, Receptionists & Secretaries	601	12.0
Food Handlers	394	7.9
Automotive Workers	390	7.8
Health, Fitness, Hair & Beauty Workers	381	7.6
Metal & Engineering Trades	292	5.8
Sales Assistants	282	5.6
Child Care & Education-related Workers	137	2.7
Gardeners, Farmers & Animal Workers	101	2.0
Government & Defence	90	1.8
Labourers	82	1.6
Factory & Machine Workers	77	1.5
Waiters	51	1.0
Marketing & Sales Representatives	45	0.9
Storepersons	27	0.5
Other	206	4.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>5 002</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Note: Occupational groups are based on those used by the Commonwealth Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.

While overall, Year 12 completers in employment and study were most likely to be working in industries that support large numbers of part-time and low-paid occupations, apprentices were concentrated in industry areas such as Construction, Manufacturing, Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services, and Other Services, while trainees were more evenly distributed across a range

of industry areas (see Table 4.9). For the latter group, Retail, Accommodation and Food Services, and Health Care and Social Assistance were the most common areas, but many other industry areas also emerge as important destinations — namely Administrative and Support Services, Public Administration and Safety, and Professional, Scientific and Technical Services.



**Table 4.9 Industry categories of Year 12 completers in apprenticeships and traineeships, Queensland 2008**

Industry category	Apprentices		Trainees	
	no.	%	no.	%
Construction	1 282	40.1	119	6.6
Manufacturing	355	11.1	64	3.6
Electricity, Gas, Water & Waste Services	331	10.4	24	1.3
Other Services	330	10.3	36	2.0
Accommodation & Food Services	212	6.6	211	11.7
Retail Trade	173	5.4	271	15.0
Transport, Postal & Warehousing	109	3.4	31	1.7
Mining	99	3.1	28	1.6
Health Care & Social Assistance	83	2.6	200	11.1
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	74	2.3	128	7.1
Public Administration & Safety	33	1.0	145	8.1
Wholesale Trade	28	0.9	34	1.9
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	26	0.8	51	2.8
Arts & Recreation Services	16	0.5	67	3.7
Education & Training	14	0.4	80	4.4
Information Media & Telecommunications	11	0.3	25	1.4
Administrative & Support Services	8	0.3	147	8.2
Financial & Insurance Services	5	0.2	84	4.7
Rental, Hiring & Real Estate Services	3	0.1	56	3.1
Other	2	0.1	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>3 194</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1 801</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Note: Excludes seven apprentices and trainees who did not provide industry details.

Table 4.10 compares the hours worked by apprentices and trainees. The great majority of apprentices and trainees work 35 or more hours per week on average (96.0 per cent and 79.4 per cent respectively).

**Table 4.10 Hours worked by Year 12 completers in apprenticeships and traineeships, Queensland 2008**

		Hours worked per week						Total
		1-7	8-14	15-24	25-34	35-39	40+	
Apprentices	no.	5	15	35	74	1 068	2 002	3 199
	%	0.2	0.5	1.1	2.3	33.4	62.6	100.0
Trainees	no.	18	33	125	195	776	656	1 803
	%	1.0	1.8	6.9	10.8	43.0	36.4	100.0





## Chapter 5 Not learning or earning

While the majority of Year 12 completers were building on their schooling through further education or training, 13 234 (39.4 per cent) were not. The reasons for this are complex and reflect the diversity of Year 12 graduates today. Included in this group are young people who were offered a university degree place and chose to defer it. Deferrals are discussed in further detail in Chapter 2.

Earlier we have seen that three-quarters of Year 12 graduates were in paid employment at the time of the survey. Of the one-quarter that were not working, almost two-thirds were in full-time study (63.8 per cent) with a further 3.7 per cent engaged in part-time study.

The survey also identified that 5.8 per cent of Year 12 completers were looking for work and not in study or training, and a further 1.5 per cent were neither studying nor in the labour force.

This chapter highlights the data captured regarding the Year 12 completers who were not learning or earning at the time of the survey.

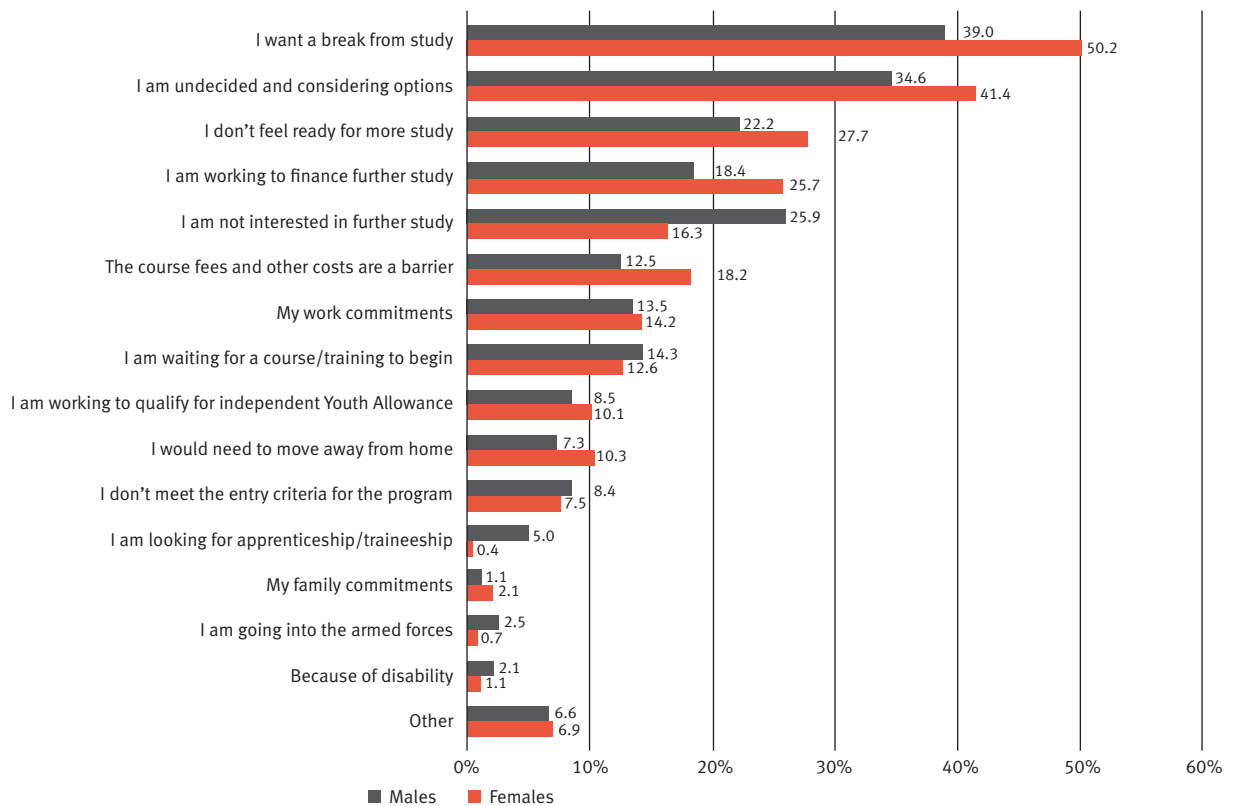
### Not learning

More than eight in ten of the Year 12 graduates who did not enter further education or training were working in either a full-time (44.1 per cent) or part-time (37.3 per cent) capacity. Females were more likely than males to be working part-time, and less likely than males to be seeking work (see Table 5.1).

The reasons given by Year 12 completers for not being in study are shown in Figure 5.1. The key reason for not continuing in study was because they wanted to have a break from study (cited by 39.0 per cent of males and 50.2 per cent of females). The next most common reason given was that they were undecided and considering options (34.6 per cent of males and 41.4 per cent of females).

Among males, the third most common reason cited was no interest in further study (25.9 per cent), while females cited that they did not feel ready for further study (27.7 per cent).

Figure 5.1 Reasons of Year 12 completers for not studying, by sex, Queensland 2008



Note: These figures may include multiple responses from each person.

**Table 5.1 Year 12 completers not in education or training, by sex, Queensland 2008**

	Males		Females		Total	
	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%
Working full-time	2 747	45.2	3 091	43.2	5 838	44.1
Working part-time	2 010	33.1	2 932	40.9	4 942	37.3
Seeking work	1 088	17.9	861	12.0	1 949	14.7
Not studying/not in the labour force	227	3.7	278	3.9	505	3.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>6 072</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>7 162</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13 234</b>	<b>100.0</b>



Year 12 graduates were also asked to indicate the single most important reason for not being in study or training, which is shown in Table 5.2. The data in Table 5.2 supports the patterns described above in broad terms.

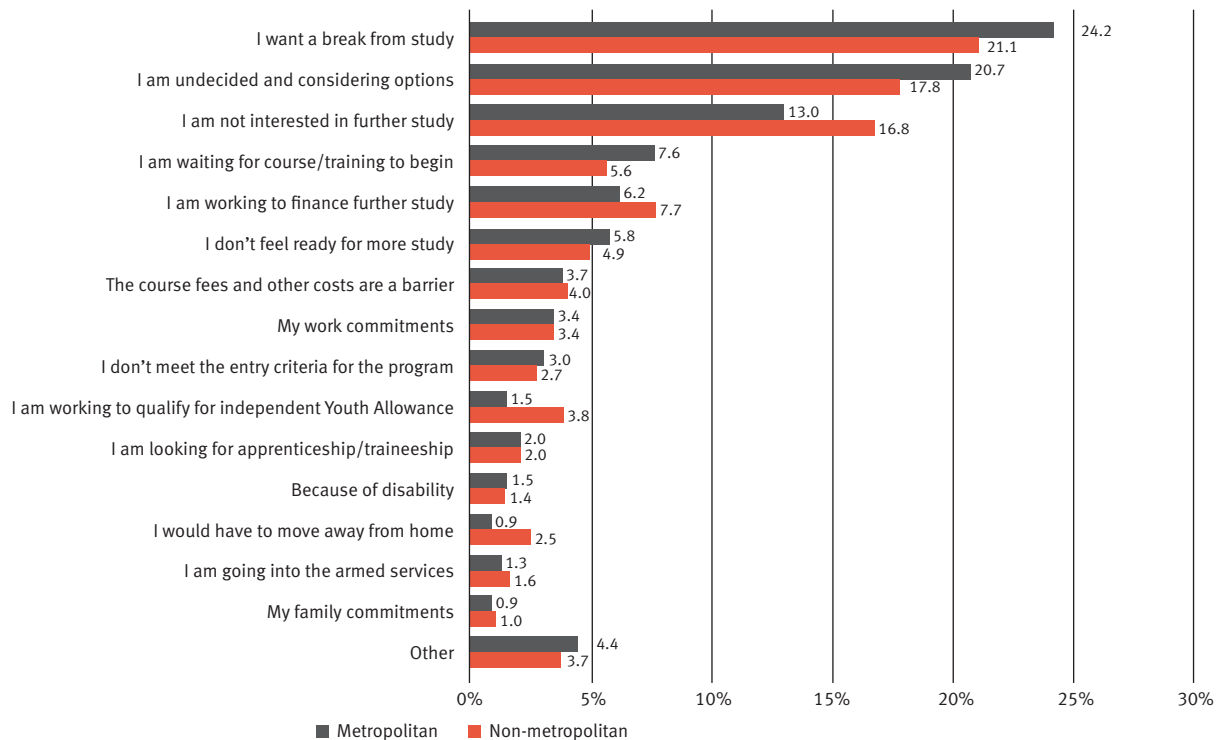
Reasons for not continuing with study showed little difference in relation to the geographical location of the Year 12 completers' school (see Figure 5.2).

**Table 5.2 Main reason of Year 12 completers for not studying, by sex, Queensland 2008**

	Males	Females	Total
	%	%	%
I want a break from study	18.9	26.6	23.1
I am undecided and considering options	17.2	21.8	19.7
I am not interested in further study	18.8	10.6	14.3
I am waiting for the course/training to begin	7.8	6.1	6.9
I am working to finance further study	5.8	7.5	6.7
I don't feel ready for more study	5.3	5.6	5.5
The course fees and other costs are a barrier	3.0	4.6	3.8
My work commitments	3.7	3.1	3.4
I don't meet the entry criteria for the program	3.0	2.8	2.9
I am working to qualify for independent Youth Allowance	2.2	2.5	2.3
I am looking for an apprenticeship/traineeship	4.1	0.3	2.0
I would have to move away from home	1.2	1.7	1.5
Because of disability	2.0	1.0	1.5
I am going into the armed services	2.3	0.7	1.4
My family commitments	0.5	1.3	0.9
Other	4.4	3.9	4.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>



**Figure 5.2 Main reason of Year 12 completers for not studying, by metropolitan/non-metropolitan location, Queensland 2008**



Note: Metropolitan/non-metropolitan location based on address of school attended in 2007.

The desire to take a break from study and being undecided and considering options were reasons more frequently cited by Year 12 graduates from metropolitan schools, while a lack of interest in further study was more important for Year 12 graduates from non-metropolitan schools.

Of the 2454 Year 12 completers who were not learning or earning there were two distinct groups of young people – the 1949 young people (5.8 per cent) who were seeking work, and the 505 (or 1.5 per cent) who were not in the labour force.

### Not studying and seeking work

Table 5.3 provides key characteristics of the 1949 Year 12 graduates who were not studying and seeking work. A high proportion of CPCSE graduates (18.6 per cent) were in this category. Indigenous Year 12 graduates were also more likely to be not studying and seeking work than their non-Indigenous counterparts (14.4 per cent compared to 5.8 per cent in the broader population).

It should be noted that the proportion of Year 12 graduates who were not studying and seeking work reflects the situation at the time of the survey only.

**Table 5.3 Year 12 completers not studying and seeking work, by key characteristics, Queensland 2008**

	no.	%
All Year 12 graduates	1 949	5.8
Males	1 088	6.8
Females	861	4.9
Indigenous	116	14.4
LBOTE	96	5.8
Metropolitan	1 219	5.3
Non-metropolitan	730	6.9
CPCSE	68	18.6
SAT	113	3.9
International visa	3	1.2
VET qualification (awarded a Year 12 VET in Schools qualification)	861	6.4

## Not studying and not in the labour force

The survey found that 505 Year 12 graduates were neither studying nor in the labour force, representing 1.5 per cent overall.

The Year 12 completers in this category were analysed according to key characteristics. Table 5.4 indicates which groups were more or less likely to be not studying and not in the labour force at the time of the survey. A high proportion of CPCSE graduates (24.4 per cent) were in this category.

Figure 5.3 shows the main reasons given for not studying by those Year 12 graduates who were not in the labour

force. The most common main reason for males was because of disability (23.8 per cent), while the most common main reason for females was because they wanted to take a break from study (22.7 per cent).

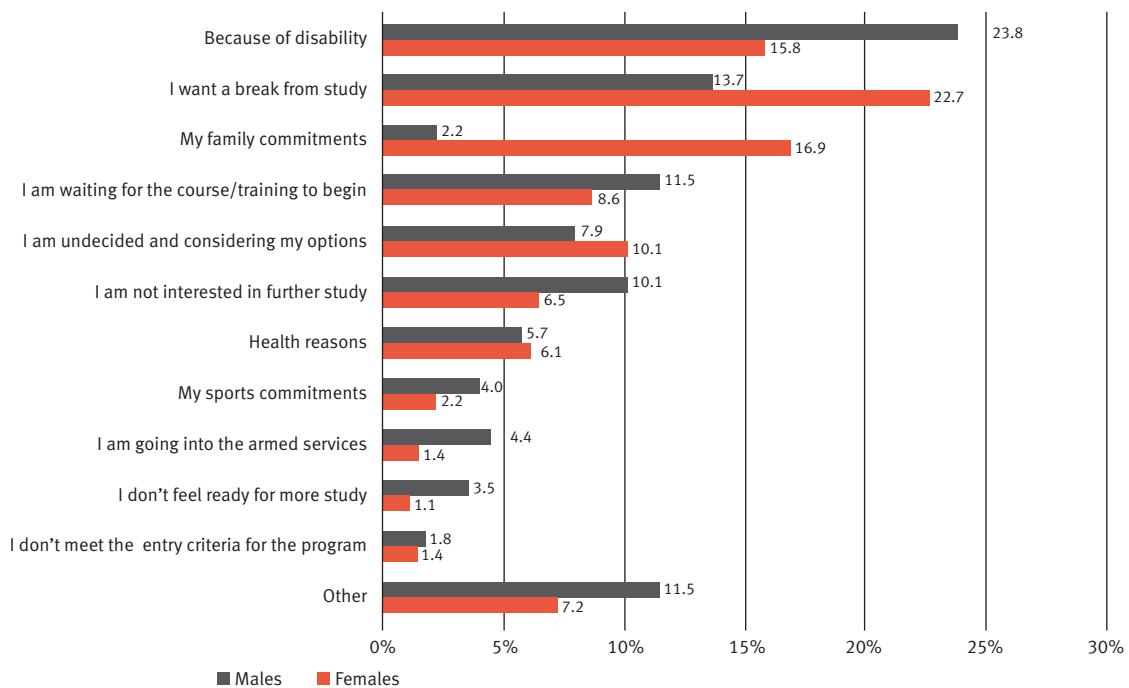
Wanting a break from study (e.g. to travel) also emerged as a common main reason among males (cited by 13.7 per cent) along with waiting for a course or training to begin (11.5 per cent). Among females, family commitments was the second most common main reason for not studying (cited by 16.9 per cent, compared to 2.2 per cent of males). Disability also emerged as a common main reason among females (15.8 per cent).



**Table 5.4 Year 12 completers not studying and not in the labour force, by key characteristics, Queensland 2008**

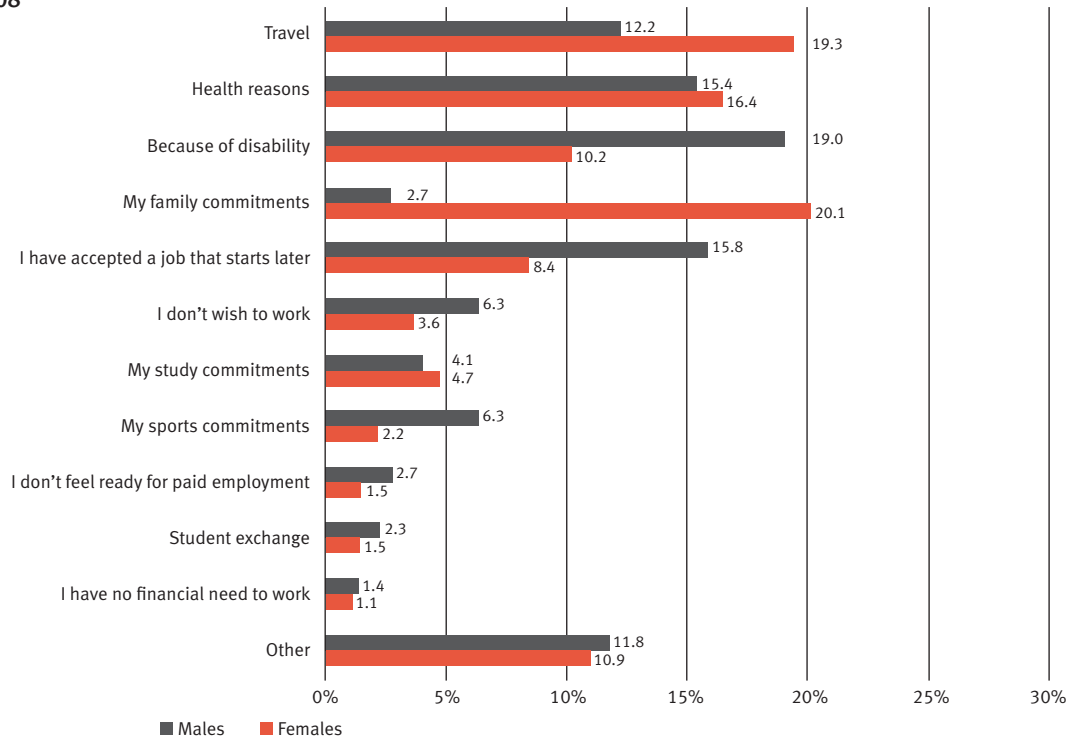
	no.	%
All Year 12 graduates	505	1.5
Males	227	1.4
Females	278	1.6
Indigenous	28	3.5
LBOTE	37	2.2
Metropolitan	345	1.5
Non-metropolitan	160	1.5
CPCSE	89	24.4
SAT	25	0.9
International visa	5	2.0
VET qualification (awarded a Year 12 VET in Schools qualification)	145	1.1

**Figure 5.3 Main reason for not studying of Year 12 completers not studying and not in the labour force, by sex, Queensland 2008**





**Figure 5.4 Main reason for not looking for work of Year 12 completers not studying and not in the labour force, by sex, Queensland 2008**

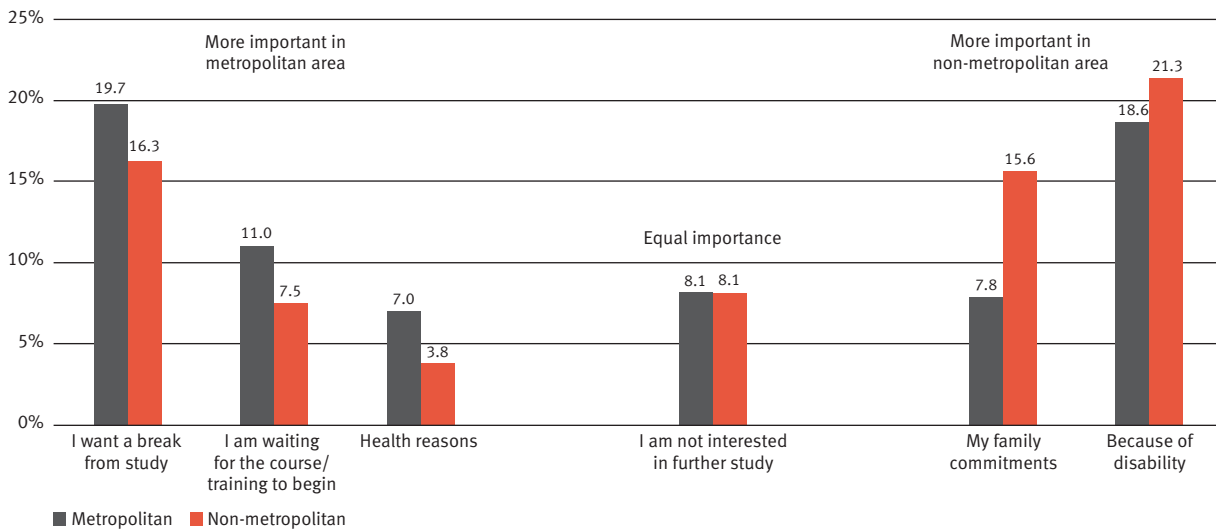


The survey also allowed an examination of reasons for not seeking work among this group (as shown in Figure 5.4). Again, sex differences were evident, with travel figuring prominently as the main reason given by Year 12 completers in this group, accounting for 19.3 per cent of females and 12.2 per cent of males.

Among male Year 12 graduates, the most common main reason for not seeking work was because of a disability (19.0 per cent), followed by waiting for a job to commence (15.8 per cent) and health reasons (15.4 per cent). Females most commonly cited family commitments (20.1 per cent) as the main reason for not looking for work, with health reasons also common (16.4 per cent).

Geographical location also influences the main reason given for not studying by Year 12 completers who were not seeking work. Figure 5.5 shows Year 12 completers in the metropolitan area were more likely than those in non-metropolitan Queensland to cite main reasons of wanting a break from study, waiting for a course or training to begin, and health reasons. Non-metropolitan Year 12 graduates were more likely than their metropolitan counterparts to cite main reasons relating to family commitments and disability. The main reason of not being interested in further study shows no discernible difference between metropolitan and non-metropolitan regions.

**Figure 5.5 Main reason for not studying of Year 12 completers not studying and not in the labour force, by metropolitan/non-metropolitan location, Queensland 2008**



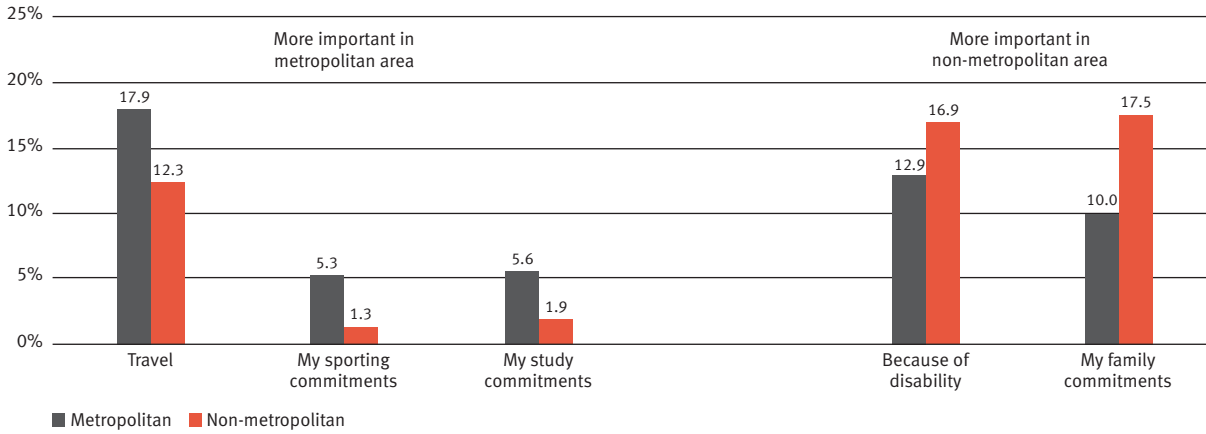
Note: Metropolitan/non-metropolitan location based on address of school attended in 2007.

Main reasons given by Year 12 completers for not looking for work also show some regional differentiation (see Figure 5.6). A desire to travel, sporting commitments and study commitments were more common for Year

12 completers in metropolitan Queensland, while disability and family commitments were main reasons more commonly given by Year 12 graduates in non-metropolitan Queensland.



**Figure 5.6 Main reason for not looking for work of Year 12 completers not studying and not in the labour force, by metropolitan/non-metropolitan location, Queensland 2008**



Note: Metropolitan/non-metropolitan location based on address of school attended in 2007.