



nextstep 2010

A report on the
destinations of Year 12
completers from 2009
in Queensland



nextstep

2010

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destinations of Year 12
completers from 2009
in Queensland**

Tomorrow's Queensland: strong,
green, smart, healthy and fair

Toward 
Tomorrow's Queensland

 **Queensland**
Government



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Foreword



Queenslanders who graduated from Year 12 in 2009 have an unprecedented range of study, training and career opportunities.

The choices they make now will be pivotal in shaping their future.

To determine how well our schools are preparing our young people for success after school, the Queensland Government this year commissioned its sixth annual statewide survey of all Year 12 graduates.

The 2010 *Next Step* survey, held between March and May, attracted contributions from more than 36 500 young people who graduated from Year 12 in state, Catholic and independent schools and TAFE secondary colleges across Queensland in 2009.

This report is a comprehensive snapshot of their employment, study and life choices.

It shows the overwhelming majority are moving from school into constructive study and work activities, reflecting the 'learning or earning' objective of the Queensland Government's *Education and Training Reforms for the Future*.

It also reflects the state government's *Toward Q2* vision, which seeks to boost the number and level of Queenslanders' qualifications so they can enjoy all the benefits of a strong, prosperous economy and a better quality of life.

The Council of Australian Governments too has recognised the significant benefits that flow from the successful transition from schooling to further education and training and employment.

Our Year 12 graduates are poised to reap those benefits.

I thank all who contributed to the survey and wish graduates every success.

I now commend this report to the people of Queensland and encourage you to reflect on the choices made by our young people.

I invite you to share their next exciting steps on their journey as they move on to further education, training and career and life success.

Geoff Wilson MP
Minister for Education and Training



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Glossary

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics — the central statistical authority for the Australian Government. The ABS provides the official national source of statistics for use by the government and the community.
ARIA	Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia — measures remoteness in terms of access along the road network from 11 340 populated localities to four categories of service centres.
ASGC	The Australian Standard Geographical Classification — a hierarchical geographical classification, defined by the ABS, which is used in the collection and dissemination of official statistics. The ASGC provides a common framework of statistical geography and thereby enables the production of statistics which are comparable and can be spatially integrated.
CATI	Computer-assisted telephone interviewing — a type of telephone interviewing in which the interviewer keys answers to questions as they are received onto a data entry keyboard.
Casual work	Casual workers do not have permanency or paid leave entitlements (such as sick leave and holiday leave). They usually receive a higher rate of pay to compensate for this.
DET	Department of Education and Training.
Full-time work	The ABS definition of an employed person who usually works 35 hours or more a week (in all jobs).
IBD	The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme — a two-year international curriculum resulting in a qualification that is widely recognised by the world's leading universities. In order to be awarded the IBD, a student must meet defined standards and conditions set out by the International Baccalaureate Organisation. For further information regarding IBDs, go to the International Baccalaureate Organisation website: www.ibo.org/diploma/
Indigenous	Refers to people who identify themselves as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin.
LBOTE	Language background other than English — now used nationally in preference to 'non-English speaking background' (NESB). For the purpose of this report, international visa students have been excluded from this category.
MCEECDYA	Ministerial Council for Education, Early Childhood Development and Youth Affairs — a body comprising state, territory, Australian government and New Zealand Ministers with responsibility for the portfolios of school education, early childhood development and youth affairs, with Papua New Guinea, Norfolk Island and East Timor having observer status.
MCEECDYA zones	A geographic classification based on type of population centre, size of population and ARIA score.
NILF	Not in the labour force — refers to people who are not working and not looking for work.

OGS	Office of the Government Statistician — the Queensland Government's lead statistical agency, which regularly conducts surveys with individuals, households and businesses to collect official statistics about issues of interest to government and to people in Queensland.
OP	Overall positions — provide a statewide ranking of students based on achievement in Queensland Studies Authority subjects studied for the Queensland Certificate of Education. To receive an OP, students must study a certain number and pattern of QSA subjects, complete Year 12, and sit for the Queensland Core Skills Test.
Part-time work	The ABS definition of an employed person who usually works less than 35 hours a week (in all jobs).
QCE	Queensland Certificate of Education — Queensland's senior school qualification, which is awarded to eligible students usually, at the end of Year 12. The QCE recognises broad learning options and offers flexibility in what, where and when learning occurs. For further information regarding the QCE, go to the Queensland Studies Authority website www.qsa.qld.edu.au
QCIA	Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement — recognises the schooling achievements of students who have impairments or difficulties in learning that are not primarily due to socioeconomic, cultural or linguistic factors. Before 2009, the certificate was known as the Certificate of Post-Compulsory School Education. For further information regarding the QCIA, go to the Queensland Studies Authority website www.qsa.qld.edu.au
Regional Queensland	Includes all ABS Statistical Divisions except Brisbane, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast and West Moreton. See Appendix 2, Figure A2A.
SAT	School-based apprenticeships and traineeships — allow high school students — typically those in Years 11 and 12 — to undertake a training qualification and work with an employer as a paid employee while studying for their senior statement.
SD	Statistical Division — an ASGC-defined area which represents a large, general purpose, regional type geographic area. SDs represent relatively homogeneous regions characterised by identifiable social and economic links between the inhabitants and between the economic units within the region, under the unifying influence of one or more major towns or cities.
SEIFA	Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas have been developed as a way of assessing socioeconomic status across the population. SEIFA enable areas in Australia to be ranked according to four different indexes. One of these is the Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage, which provides a method of determining and comparing levels of social and economic disadvantage in given areas at a given point in time.
Senior Statement	A transcript of the learning account for all students completing Year 12 at a Queensland School. The Senior Statement shows all studies and the results achieved that may contribute to the award of a QCE or Tertiary Entrance Statement.





SES	Socioeconomic status — a relative position in the community determined by occupation, income and amount of education.
South-East Queensland	Includes the ABS Statistical Divisions of Brisbane, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast and West Moreton. See Appendix 2, Figure A2B.
TAFE	Technical and further education — a publicly funded post-secondary organisation that provides a range of technical and vocational education and training courses and other programs.
VET	Vocational education and training — post-compulsory education and training, excluding degree and higher level programs delivered by further education institutions, which provides people with occupational or work-related knowledge and skills. VET also includes programs which provide the basis for subsequent vocational programs.