



The nextstep Survey 2005

on the destinations of
Year 12 school leavers

Regional Report

Central West



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Acronyms and abbreviations

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
AQF	Australian Qualifications Framework
CATI	Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing
CPCSE	Certificate of Post-Compulsory School Education
ETRF	Education and Training Reforms for the Future
FP	Field Position
FT	Full-time
LBOTE	Language Background Other Than English (this term is now used nationally in preference to NESB)
MCEETYA	Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training and Youth Affairs
NILF	Not In the Labour Force
OESR	Office of Economic and Statistical Research
OGS	Office of the Government Statistician
OP	Overall Position (indicator of academic performance ranking used for university entrance)
PT	Part-time
QCE	Queensland Certificate of Education
QSA	Queensland Studies Authority
SAT	School-based apprenticeship and traineeship
SD	Statistical division
SES	Socio-economic status
SSD	Statistical sub-division
TAFE	Technical and Further Education
VET	Vocational Education and Training

AIMS OF THE PROJECT

The objectives of the Next Step survey were to collect information on the post-school destinations of Year 12 students in Queensland in order to assist:

- Parents and the wider public to know the achievements of students and to appreciate the range of options available to students
- Schools to review and plan their services for students, especially in the senior years of schooling
- School systems to review their education policies as they affect the transition from school to further study and employment
- Training bodies, universities, business and industry, local government and regional planners to plan their services.

METHODOLOGY

The Next Step Destination Survey 2005 was conducted by the Office of the Government Statistician (OGS) on behalf of the Department of Education and the Arts. Data were analysed and written up for this report by the Centre for Post-compulsory Education and Lifelong Learning at the University of Melbourne.

The survey targeted 39 458 students who completed Year 12 in Queensland in 2004. Young people were surveyed five months after completing Year 12. On completion of the survey, a total of 23 650 completed surveys were received, representing a response rate of 59.9%. Of the responses, 11 010 were completed by returned mail, 1 286 through the website, and 11 354 by telephone.

Regional reports are based on statistical divisions and subdivisions used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

The response rate for this region was 62.9 per cent.

Students were allocated to this region on the basis of the location of the school they attended in 2004. This data is shown in the Appendix (Table AA).

MAIN FINDINGS FOR THE REGION OF CENTRAL WEST (44 responses)

Destinations (table 2)

- 54.6 per cent of young people who completed their Year 12 in Central West in 2004 continued in some recognised form of education and training in the year after they left school.
- 29.5 per cent commenced employment-based training, either as an apprentice (6.8 per cent) or trainee (22.7 per cent).
- 20.5 per cent enrolled in university degree programs.
- 4.6 per cent enrolled in campus-based VET programs (this number does not include apprentices and trainees).
- 45.4 per cent did not enter post-school education or training. Most were employed (36.3 per cent), while some were looking for work (6.8 per cent) or neither in the labour force nor studying (2.3 per cent).

Sex differences in education and training destinations (table 2)

- Females were more likely than males to enter university or traineeships, while males were slightly more likely to enter apprenticeships or to be working full-time.

Studying and working (table 3)

- Full-time work was more common than part-time work among those who were not studying.

Field of study (table 5)

- Two fields of study - Management and Commerce and Society and Culture - accounted for eight out of sixteen student destinations.

Earning

- Including apprentices and trainees, 23 of the 44 respondents were full-time workers. (table 3)
- The survey also showed high proportions of respondents working in just two industry areas – Retail Trade and Hospitality. Between them, these two categories accounted for 46.1 per cent of school completers. (table 8)

Reasons for not continuing in study (table 9)

- This survey indicates that the main reason why young people do not continue in study are because they do not feel ready, followed by the need to consider their options and working in order to finance further study.

Destinations by Year 12 studies (table 10)

- 10 Year 12 graduates (22.7 per cent) left secondary school with a VET qualification.
- Graduates with a VET qualification were much less likely to enrol in university (1 in 10 respondents compared with 8 in 34).

Differences from State patterns (figure 2)

- A lower rate of transfer than the state average was evident for university entrance and higher level VET.
- A higher rate of transfer than the state average was evident for transfer to apprenticeships, and for direct entry to the workforce.
- The commonest occupational category accessed by Year 12 completers in South West was the same as that for Year 12 completers statewide – Sales Assistants (table 7).
- The two commonest industry categories accessed by Year 12 completers in South West were the same as those for Year 12 completers statewide – Retail and Hospitality (table 8).

NB: There was one response from a student who had completed the Certificate in Post-compulsory School Education (CPCSE) and no responses from students with a language background other than English.

REGIONAL REPORT

CENTRAL WEST

Main destinations

All respondents were categorised into their main destination, be it study or work, as outlined in Table 1. Students (in university or VET) were assigned to the study categories regardless of their labour force status.

Table 1 **Categorisations used to determine Main Destination**

<i>Higher Education</i>	
University (degree)	Respondents studying at degree level. N.B. Some are also in the labour market
<i>VET categories</i>	
VET Cert IV+	Respondents studying Certificate IV, Diploma or Advanced Diploma (excluding apprentices and trainees). N.B. Some are also in the labour market. This category is referred to as higher level VET in the report.
VET Cert III	Respondents studying Certificate III (excluding apprentices and trainees). N.B. Some are also in the labour market.
VET Cert I-II	Respondents studying Certificate I or II (excluding apprentices and trainees). This category also includes 274 respondents in an “unspecified” VET certificate and 358 with an unknown course level. N.B. Some are also in the labour market. This category is referred to as lower level VET in the report.
Apprentice	Working and in employment-based apprenticeship.
Trainee	Working and in employment-based traineeship.
<i>No further education and training</i>	
Working full-time	Working full-time (35 hours or more) and not in a study or training destination. This includes people with part-time jobs that total 35 hours or more.
Working part-time/casual	Working part-time or casual (fewer than 35 hours) and not in a study or training destination.
Seeking work	Looking for work and not in a study or training destination (Unemployed in the Australian Bureau of Statistics classification).
Not studying and not in the labour force	Not in study or training, not working and not looking for work.

Table 2 Main destinations of Year 12 completers by sex, Central West, 2005

<i>Destination</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	
	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Per cent</i>
University (degree)	2	7	9	20.5
VET Cert IV+	0	1	1	2.3
VET Cert III*	0	1	1	2.3
VET Cert I-II*	0	0	0	0
Apprentice	3	0	3	6.8
Trainee	2	8	10	22.7
<i>(VET Total)</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>34.1</i>
Working full-time	6	4	10	22.7
Working part-time/casual	3	3	6	13.6
Seeking work	2	1	3	6.8
Not studying/ not in the labour force	0	1	1	2.3
Total	18	26	44	100.0

* Students not in apprenticeships or traineeships

Figure 1 Main destinations of Year 12 completers, Central West, 2005

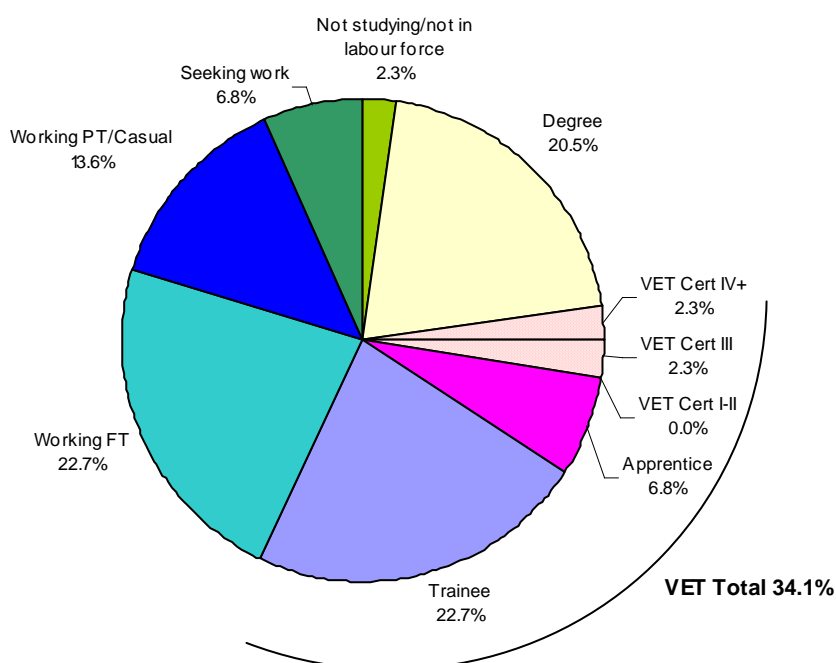
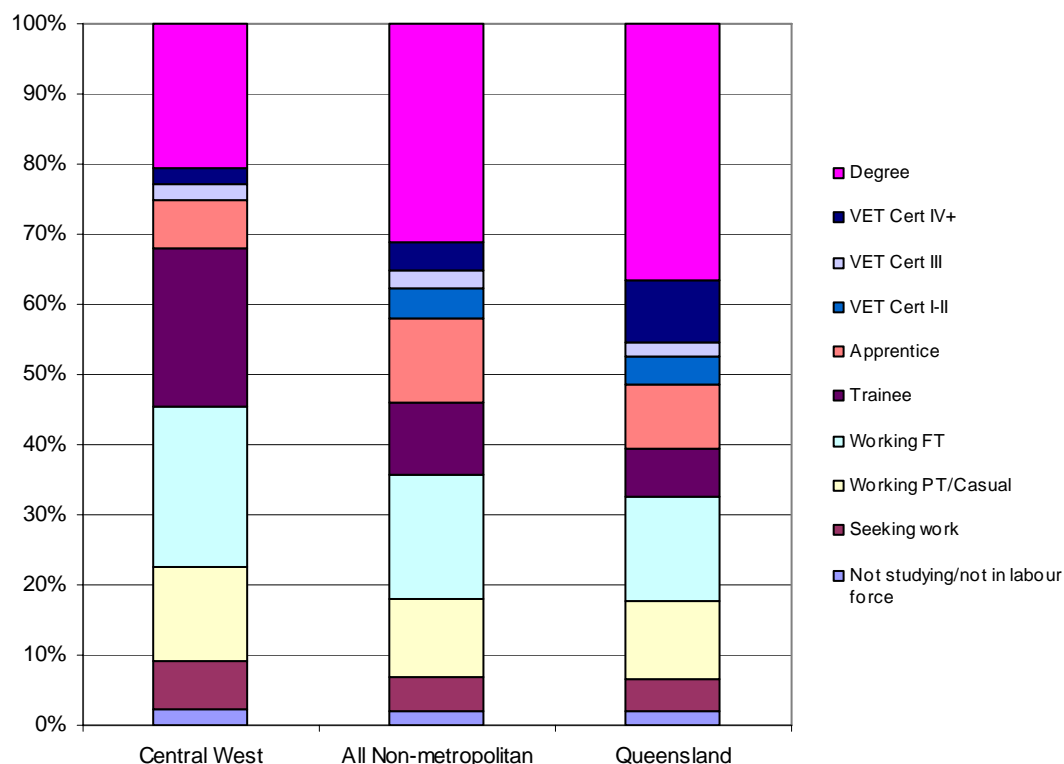


Figure 2 Main destinations of Year 12 completers, Central West, All Non-metropolitan and Queensland, 2005



Study and work

Table 3 Study and labour force destinations of Year 12 completers, Central West, 2005 (numbers)

<i>Employment Destination</i>	<i>Uni Degree</i>	<i>VET Cert IV+</i>	<i>VET Cert III</i>	<i>VET Cert I-II</i>	<i>Unknown study</i>	<i>No study</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
Full-time work	0	0	0	0	0	10	10
PT/Casual work	1	1	0	0	0	6	8
Apprentice	0	0	1	0	2	0	3
Trainee	0	0	2	2	6	0	10
Seeking work	6	0	1	0	0	3	10
Not working/not seeking work	2	0	0	0	0	1	3
TOTAL	9	1	4	2	8	20	44

Post-schooling Institutions entered

Table 4 Post-school institutions of Year 12 completers, Central West, 2005

<i>Institution</i>	<i>Number</i>
James Cook University	3
Griffith University	2
Central Queensland University	2
Central Queensland Institute of TAFE	2
Other Private Training Colleges	2
Other Queensland TAFEs	2
Queensland University of Technology	1
Barrier Reef Institute of TAFE	1
Other/unknown	9
Total	24

Note: Other/unknown category includes apprentices and trainees who did not specify study location.

Field of study

Table 5 Post-school field of study of Year 12 completers by sex, Central West, 2005 (numbers)

<i>Post-School Field of Study</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Management & Commerce	0	5	5
Society & Culture	1	2	3
Health	0	2	2
Engineering & Related Technologies	2	0	2
Natural & Physical Sciences	0	1	1
Education	0	1	1
Food, Hospitality & Personal Services	0	1	1
Information Technology	1	0	1
Total	4	12	16

Note: This table uses the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Standard Classification of Education. Further information on which courses are in which fields is available at <http://www.ausstats.abs.gov.au/> under publication 1272.0

Employment Destinations

Table 6 Employment destinations of Year 12 school completers not in education or training, Central West, 2005 (numbers)

<i>Employment Destination</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>
Working full-time	6	4	10
Working part-time/casual	3	3	6
Seeking work	2	1	3
Not studying/not in labour force	0	1	1
Total	11	9	20

Table 7 Occupational categories of all working respondents, Central West and Queensland, 2005

<i>Occupational Category</i>	<i>Central West Number</i>	<i>Central West Per cent</i>	<i>Qld Per cent</i>
Sales Assistants	7	22.6	30.3
Food Handlers	3	9.7	16.9
Clerks, Receptionists & Secretaries	5	16.1	9.7
Waiters	2	6.5	6.5
Storepersons	2	6.5	4.5
Building & Construction Skilled Workers	0	0.0	6.2
Child Care & Education-Related Workers	1	3.2	3.4
Health, Fitness, Hair & Beauty Workers	1	3.2	3.0
Labourers	0	0.0	2.2
Automotive Workers	3	9.7	2.6
Factory and Machine Workers	1	3.2	1.7
Electrical & Electronics Trades	0	0.0	2.1
Gardeners, Farmers & Animal Workers	3	9.7	2.9
Marketing & Sales Representatives	0	0.0	1.0
Engineering & Science Related	0	0.0	1.3
Cleaners	1	3.2	1.2
Other (fewer than 1% of respondents statewide)	2	6.5	4.5
Total	31	100.0	100.0

Table 8 Industry categories of all working Year 12 completers, Central West and Queensland, 2005

<i>Industry Category</i>	<i>Central West Number</i>	<i>Central West Per cent</i>	<i>Qld Per cent</i>
Retail trade	9	34.6	35.0
Hospitality (Accommodation, cafes, restaurants)	3	11.5	26.1
Construction	1	3.8	7.1
Health and Community Services	2	7.7	3.8
Manufacturing	0	0.0	4.1
Education	1	3.8	2.5
Personal and Other Services	2	7.7	3.3
Cultural and Recreational Services	0	0.0	2.0
Property and Business Services	0	0.0	2.3
Government Administration and Defence	2	7.7	2.5
Transport and Storage	0	0.0	1.8
Finance and Insurance	1	3.8	1.6
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	0	0.0	2.0
Wholesale Trade	0	0.0	1.2
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	2	7.7	2.9
Other (fewer than 1% of respondents statewide)	3	11.5	1.8
Total	26	100.0	100.0

Not in Study

Table 9 Main reasons of Year 12 completers for not studying by sex, Central West, 2005

<i>Main Reason</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>
I don't feel ready for more study	2	4	6
I am taking time to consider my options (gap year)	2	1	3
I am working in order to finance further study	3	0	3
My work commitments	1	0	1
The costs of undertaking study	0	1	1
I don't meet the entry criteria for the program I want to do	0	1	1
Total	8	7	15

Destinations by VET in school

Table 10 Main destinations of Year 12 completers by VET qualification at school, Central West, 2005

<i>Destination</i>	<i>VET Qualification</i>	
	<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>
	<i>no.</i>	<i>no.</i>
University (degree)	8	1
VET Certificate IV+	1	0
VET Certificate III	0	1
VET Certificate I-II	0	0
Apprentice	2	1
Trainee	9	1
Working FT	9	1
Working PT Casual	3	3
Seeking work	2	1
Not studying/not in labour force	0	1
Total	34	10

There were no school-based apprenticeships and traineeships (SATs) among survey respondents in this region.

Destinations by Indigenous status

Table 11 Main destinations of Year 12 completers by Indigenous status, Central West, 2005

<i>Destination</i>	<i>Indigenous no.</i>
University (degree)	0
VET Certificate IV+	0
VET Certificate III	0
VET Certificate I-II	0
Apprentice	0
Trainee	1
Working FT	2
Working PT Casual	0
Seeking work	0
Not studying/not in labour force	0
Total	3

Appendix

Table AA Schools attended in 2004 by Year 12 completers, Central West

Barcaldine State School
Blackall State School
Longreach State High School
Winton State School
