



The nextstep Survey 2005

on the destinations of
Year 12 school leavers

Regional Report

South West



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Contents

Acknowledgments	1
List of tables.....	2
List of figures	2
Acronyms and abbreviations	3
Main destinations.....	6
Study and work.....	9
Post-schooling Institutions entered.....	10
Field of study	11
Employment Destinations.....	11
Not in Study.....	13
Destinations by Year 12 Studies	14
Destinations by Indigenous status.....	15

List of tables

Table 1	Categorisations used to determine Main Destination	6
Table 2	Main destinations of Year 12 completers by sex, South West, 2005.....	7
Table 3	Study and labour force destinations of Year 12 completers, South West, 2005.....	9
Table 4	Post-school institutions of Year 12 completers, South West, 2005	10
Table 5	Post-school field of study of Year 12 completers by sex, South West, 2005.....	11
Table 6	Employment destinations of Year 12 school completers not in education or training, South West, 2005.....	11
Table 7	Occupational categories of all working respondents, South West and Queensland, 2005....	12
Table 8	Industry categories of all working Year 12 completers, South West and Queensland, 2005	13
Table 9	Main reason of Year 12 completers for not studying by sex, South West, 2005	13
Table 10	Main destinations of Year 12 completers by VET qualification, South West, 2005	14
Table 11	Main destinations of Year 12 completers by Indigenous Status, South West, 2005	15
Table AA	Schools attended in 2004 by Year 12 completers, South West	16

List of figures

Figure 1	Main destinations of Year 12 completers, South West, 2005.....	8
Figure 2	Main destinations of Year 12 completers, South West, All metropolitan and Queensland, 2005	9
Figure 3	Employment destinations of Year 12 completers not in education or training, South West, All Metropolitan and Queensland, 2005	12

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 54.8 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 SOUTH WEST (86 respondents)

Destinations (table 2)

- 54.8 per cent of young people who completed their Year 12 in South West in 2004 continued in some recognised form of education and training in the year after they left school.
- The most likely destination was university (24.4 per cent). Another 3.6 per cent transferred to campus-based VET programs.
- 26.8 per cent commenced employment-based training, either as an apprentice (14.0 per cent) or trainee (12.8 per cent).
- 45.2 per cent did not enter post-school education or training, with most employed (39.6 per cent), 1.2 per cent seeking work and 4.7 per cent neither in the labour market nor studying.

Sex differences in education and training destinations (table 2)

- Females were more likely than males to enter university (35.4 per cent compared to 10.5 per cent of males).
- Males were more likely than females to commence an apprenticeship (28.9 per cent compared to 2.1 per cent) whereas females were more likely to commence a traineeship (18.8 per cent compared to 5.3 per cent).

- Males were more likely to be in employment, in either full-time or part-time/casual jobs.

Field of study (table 5)

- Management and Commerce was the commonest field of study entered, accounting for fourteen out of thirty-one student destinations.

Earning

- Including apprentices and trainees, 55.9 per cent of the respondents were full-time workers. (table 2)
- 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 45.7 per cent of school completers. (table 8)

Reasons for not continuing in study (tables 9)

- This survey indicates that the main reasons why young people do not continue in study are because they do not feel ready for further study or they are taking time to consider their options.

Destinations by Year 12 studies (table 10)

- 29 Year 12 graduates (33.7 per cent) left secondary school with a VET qualification.
- Graduates with a VET qualification were more likely to enter apprenticeships, traineeships and full-time employment.

Destinations by Indigenous Status (table 11)

- Comparisons between Indigenous and non-Indigenous school completers were not possible due to low numbers of Indigenous respondents.

Differences from State patterns (figure 2)

- South West respondents had a lower rate of transfer to university and campus-based VET, compared with all non-metropolitan and statewide respondents.
- A higher rate of transfer than the state average was evident for transfer to apprenticeships and traineeships, and for direct entry to the workforce.
- The three commonest occupational categories accessed by Year 12 completers in South West were the same as those for Year 12 completers statewide – Sales Assistants, Food Handlers and Clerks, Receptionists and Secretaries (table 7).
- The three commonest industry categories accessed by Year 12 completers in South West were the same as those for Year 12 completers statewide – Retail, Hospitality and Construction — with a lower proportion in retail in this region than across the state (table 8).

NB: It was not possible to draw conclusions about the destinations of some sub-groups of students, due to the low number of responses from them, namely students with a language background other than English (no responses), those who completed a Certificate in Post-compulsory School Education (CPSCE, 1 response) and School-based Apprentices and Trainees (2 responses).

REGIONAL REPORT

SOUTH 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, South West, 2005

<i>Destination</i>	<i>Males</i>		<i>Females</i>		<i>Total</i>	
	<i>No.</i>	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Per cent</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Per cent</i>
University (degree)	4	10.5	17	35.4	21	24.4
VET Cert IV+	1	2.6	0	0.0	1	1.2
VET Cert III*	0	0.0	1	2.1	1	1.2
VET Cert I-II*	0	0.0	1	2.1	1	1.2
Apprentice	11	28.9	1	2.1	12	14.0
Trainee	2	5.3	9	18.8	11	12.8
<i>(VET Total)</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>36.8</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>25.1</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>30.4</i>
Working full-time	13	34.2	12	25.0	25	29.1
Working part-time/casual	5	13.2	4	8.3	9	10.5
Seeking work	0	0.0	1	2.1	1	1.2
Not studying/ not in the labour force	2	5.3	2	4.2	4	4.7
Total	38	100.0	48	100.1	86	100.3

* Students not in apprenticeships or traineeships

Note: The totals do not add to 100.0 per cent due to rounding error

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

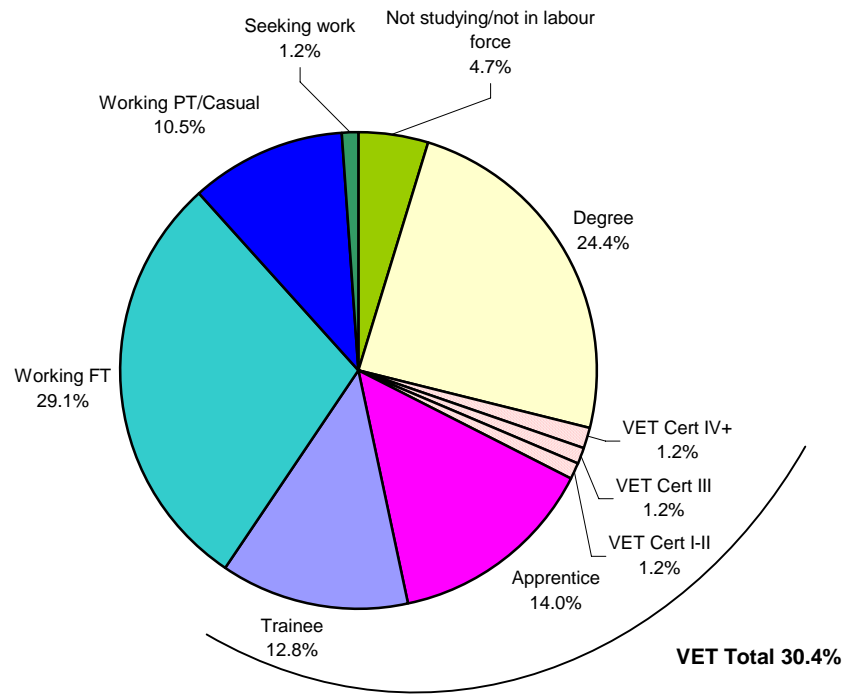
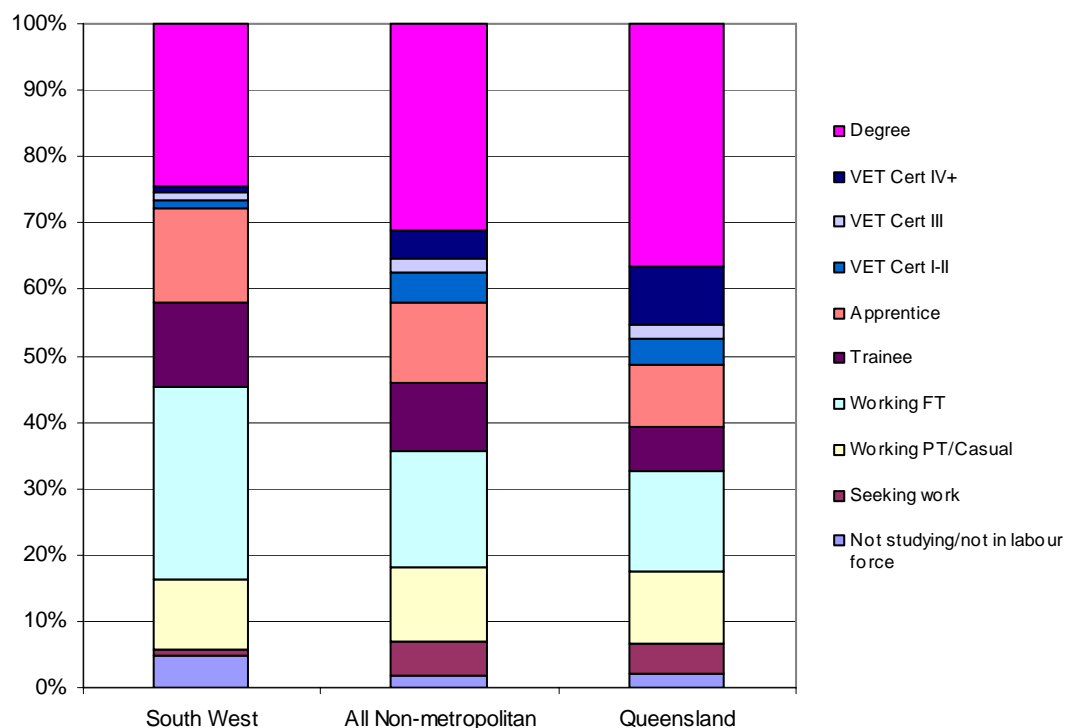


Figure 2 Main destinations of Year 12 completers, South West, All metropolitan and Queensland, 2005



Study and work

Table 3 Study and labour force destinations of Year 12 completers, South West, 2005

<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	<i>No.</i>	2	0	0	0	0	25	27
	<i>%</i>						64.1	31.4
PT/Casual work	<i>No.</i>	6	0	1	0	0	9	16
	<i>%</i>						23.1	18.6
Apprentice	<i>No.</i>	0	1	0	0	11	0	12
	<i>%</i>						0.0	14.0
Trainee	<i>No.</i>	0	0	6	2	3	0	11
	<i>%</i>						0.0	12.8
Seeking work	<i>No.</i>	9	0	0	0	0	1	10
	<i>%</i>						2.6	11.6
Not working/not seeking work	<i>No.</i>	4	1	0	0	1	4	10
	<i>%</i>						10.3	11.6
TOTAL	<i>No.</i>	21	2	7	2	15	39	86
	<i>%</i>						100.0	100.0

Post-schooling Institutions entered

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

<i>Institution</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per cent</i>
University of Southern Queensland	8	17.0
Southern Queensland Institute of TAFE	7	14.9
The University of Queensland	3	6.4
Queensland University of Technology	3	6.4
James Cook University	3	6.4
Griffith University	2	4.3
Central Queensland University	2	4.3
Central Queensland Institute of TAFE	1	2.1
Other Queensland TAFEs	2	4.3
Other/unknown	16	34.0
Total	47	100.0

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, South West, 2005

<i>Post-School Field of Study</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	
	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	
Management & Commerce	4	10	14	
Education	1	5	6	
Health	0	4	4	
Creative Arts	0	3	3	
Society & Culture	0	1	1	
Natural & Physical Sciences	0	1	1	
Engineering & Related Technologies	1	0	1	
Food, Hospitality & Personal Services	0	1	1	
Total	6	25	31	

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, South West, 2005

<i>Employment Destination</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	
	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Per cent</i>
Working full-time	13	12	25	64.1
Working part-time/casual	5	4	9	23.1
Seeking work	0	1	1	2.6
Not studying/not in labour force	2	2	4	10.3
Total	20	19	39	100.0

Figure 3 Employment destinations of Year 12 completers not in education or training, South West, All Metropolitan and Queensland, 2005

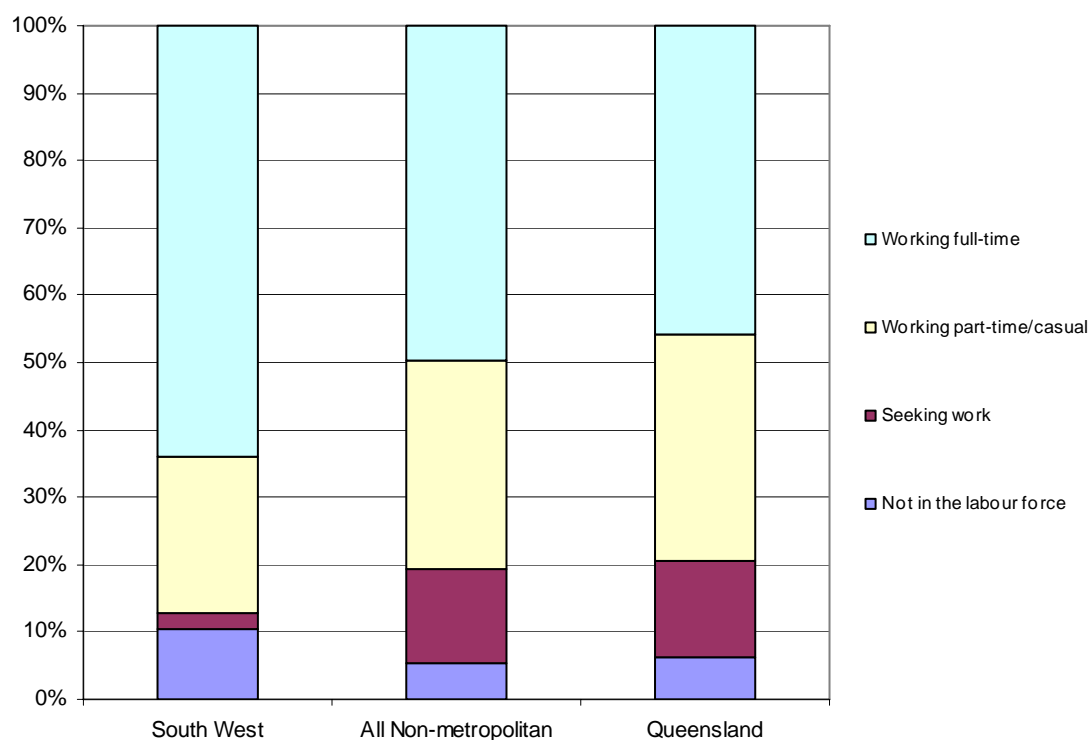


Table 7 Occupational categories of all working respondents, South West and Queensland, 2005

<i>Occupational Category</i>	<i>South West Number</i>	<i>South West Per cent</i>	<i>Qld Per cent</i>
Sales Assistants	17	25.8	30.3
Food Handlers	7	10.6	16.9
Clerks, Receptionists & Secretaries	8	12.1	9.7
Waiters	5	7.6	6.5
Storepersons	1	1.5	4.5
Building & Construction Skilled Workers	5	7.6	6.2
Child Care & Education-Related Workers	1	1.5	3.4
Health, Fitness, Hair & Beauty Workers	2	3.0	3.0
Labourers	3	4.5	2.2
Automotive Workers	4	6.1	2.6
Factory and Machine Workers	0	0.0	1.7
Electrical & Electronics Trades	2	3.0	2.1
Gardeners, Farmers & Animal Workers	5	7.6	2.9
Marketing & Sales Representatives	0	0.0	1.0
Engineering & Science Related	0	0.0	1.3
Cleaners	1	1.5	1.2
Other (fewer than 1% of respondents statewide)	5	7.6	4.5
Total	66	100.0	100.0

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

<i>Industry Category</i>	<i>South West Number</i>	<i>South West Per cent</i>	<i>Qld Per cent</i>
Retail trade	15	25.4	35.0
Hospitality (Accommodation, cafes, restaurants)	12	20.3	26.1
Construction	7	11.9	7.1
Health and Community Services	3	5.1	3.8
Manufacturing	1	1.7	4.1
Education	0	0.0	2.5
Personal and Other Services	2	3.4	3.3
Cultural and Recreational Services	0	0.0	2.0
Property and Business Services	1	1.7	2.3
Government Administration and Defence	4	6.8	2.5
Transport and Storage	3	5.1	1.8
Finance and Insurance	5	8.5	1.6
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	2	3.4	2.0
Wholesale Trade	0	0.0	1.2
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	4	6.8	2.9
Other (fewer than 1% of respondents statewide)	0	0.0	1.8
Total	59	100.0	100.0

Not in Study

Table 9 Main reason of Year 12 completers for not studying by sex, South West, 2005

<i>Main Reason</i>	<i>Males No.</i>	<i>Females No.</i>	<i>Total No.</i>
I don't feel ready for more study	2	4	6
I am taking time to consider my options (gap year)	2	3	5
I am working in order to finance further study	3	1	4
My work commitments	2	2	4
The costs of undertaking study	2	1	3
Unsure I would be able to cope with the study program	1	2	3
Family commitments	0	1	1
The program I would like to do is not offered locally	1	0	1
Total	13	14	27

Destinations by Year 12 Studies

Table 10 Main destinations of Year 12 completers by VET qualification, South West, 2005

<i>Destination</i>		<i>VET Qualification</i>	
		<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>
University (degree)	<i>No.</i>	19	2
	<i>%</i>	33.3	6.9
VET Certificate IV+	<i>No.</i>	1	0
	<i>%</i>	1.8	0.0
VET Certificate III	<i>No.</i>	0	1
	<i>%</i>	0.0	3.4
VET Certificate I-II	<i>No.</i>	1	0
	<i>%</i>	1.8	0.0
Apprentice	<i>No.</i>	6	6
	<i>%</i>	10.5	20.7
Trainee	<i>No.</i>	5	6
	<i>%</i>	8.8	20.7
Working FT	<i>No.</i>	15	10
	<i>%</i>	26.3	34.5
Working PT Casual	<i>No.</i>	6	3
	<i>%</i>	10.5	10.3
Seeking work	<i>No.</i>	1	0
	<i>%</i>	1.8	0.0
Not studying/not in labour force	<i>No.</i>	3	1
	<i>%</i>	5.3	3.4
Total	<i>No.</i>	57	29
	<i>%</i>	100.0	100.0

Destinations by Indigenous status

Table 11 Main destinations of Year 12 completers by Indigenous Status, South West, 2005

<i>Destination</i>	<i>Non-Indigenous No.</i>	<i>Indigenous No.</i>
University (degree)	21	0
VET Certificate IV+	1	0
VET Certificate III	1	0
VET Certificate I-II	1	0
Apprentice	12	0
Trainee	9	2
Working FT	25	0
Working PT Casual	8	1
Seeking work	0	1
Not studying/not in labour force	2	2
Total	80	6

Appendix

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

Charleville State High School
Cunnamulla State School
Southern Queensland Institute of TAFE (SQIT) Roma College
St George State High School
St John's School
