



The nextstep Survey 2005

on the destinations of
Year 12 school leavers

Regional Report

Sunshine Coast



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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 58.6 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 SUNSHINE COAST (1 355 respondents)

Destinations (table 2)

- 60.3 per cent of young people who completed their Year 12 in Sunshine Coast in 2004 continued in some recognised form of education and training in the year after they left school.
- The most likely destination was university (35.2 per cent), followed by campus-based VET programs (13.2 per cent), with the majority of VET students entering programs at Certificate IV level or higher (7.3 per cent).
- The vast majority of university and higher level VET students were studying full-time (97.9 per cent and 83.8 per cent respectively).
- About two thirds of other VET students were studying full-time (77.1 per cent of Certificate III students and 51.1 per cent of Certificate I/II students).
- 11.9 per cent commenced employment-based training, either as an apprentice (6.3 per cent) or trainee (5.6 per cent).
- 39.7 per cent did not enter post-school education or training, and were either employed (33.1 per cent), looking for work (4.5 per cent) or neither in the labour force nor studying (2.1 per cent).

Sex differences in education and training destinations (table 2)

- Females were more likely than males to enter university (38.4 per cent compared with 31.2 per cent of males), and campus-based VET programs (14.9 per cent compared to 11.0 per cent).
- Males were more likely than females to commence an apprenticeship (12.3 per cent compared with 1.5 per cent) whereas females were more likely to commence a traineeship (7.0 per cent compared with 3.8 per cent).
- Females and males were approximately equally likely to be in employment, in either full-time or part-time/casual jobs.

Studying and working (table 3)

- Approximately half of the university and higher level VET students combined study with part-time/casual employment (56.0 per cent and 46.3 per cent respectively).
- Respondents who were not in study were equally likely to be in full-time jobs as in part-time/casual employment (42.0 per cent and 41.3 per cent respectively).

Field of study (table 5)

- Two fields of study - Society and Culture and Management and Commerce - accounted for almost four out of ten student destinations (37.7 per cent) while Creative Arts, Natural and Physical Sciences, Education and Health accounted for a further 39.6 per cent of enrolments.
- Females were much more likely to enter study in Society and Culture, Management and Commerce, Health, Education, and Food, Hospitality and Personal Services.
- Males significantly outnumbered females in Engineering and Related Technologies, Information Technology and Architecture and Building courses.

Earning

- Including apprentices and trainees, 28.6 per cent of the respondents were full-time workers. (table 2)
- Among respondents not in education or training, females were more likely than males to be working in part-time/casual jobs (45.1 per cent compared with 36.8 per cent). (table 6)
- 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 70.8 per cent of working school completers. (table 8)

Reasons for not continuing in study (tables 9, 10)

- This survey indicates that the main reasons why young people do not continue in study are because they are taking time to consider their options (47.3 per cent) or they do not feel ready (17.1 per cent)
- Some graduates were working in order to finance future study (9.0 per cent). The next most cited reason was work commitments (8.7 per cent).
- Sunshine Coast respondents were more likely to nominate reasons associated with taking time to consider their options than their counterparts elsewhere.

Destinations by Year 12 studies (table 11)

- 33.1 per cent of Year 12 graduates left secondary school with a VET qualification, while a small proportion of Year 12 graduates (5.5 per cent) were school-based apprentices.
- Graduates with a VET qualification were much less likely to enrol in university (21.0 per cent compared with 42.2 per cent of the non-VET cohort). However they tended to balance lower levels of transition to university with much higher rates of transition to employment-based training (18.7 per cent compared with 8.5 per cent).
- Graduates with a VET qualification were slightly more likely to enter employment with no further education and training (37.5 per cent compared with 30.9 per cent).
- School-based apprentices were more likely to undertake apprenticeships and traineeships than other graduates (16.0 per cent compared with 11.6 per cent).

Destinations by socioeconomic status (table 13)

- Although the number of graduates in each destination category is too small to allow firm conclusions to be made, the data suggest that graduates from the highest socioeconomic quartile transferred to university at a higher rate than those from lower socioeconomic quartiles.

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 direct entry to the workforce.
- 69.8 per cent of Year 12 completers in Sunshine Coast were working in the four occupational categories of sales assistants, food handlers, clerks/secretaries and waiters, compared with 63.4 per cent statewide (table 7).
- Year 12 completers in Sunshine Coast were slightly more likely to be working in the two industry categories of Retail Trade and Hospitality than their counterparts elsewhere (70.8 per cent compared with 61.1 per cent) (table 8).

REGIONAL REPORT

SUNSHINE COAST

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, Sunshine Coast, 2005

Destination	Males		Females		Total	
	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent
University (degree)	187	31.2	290	38.4	477	35.2
VET Cert IV+	34	5.7	65	8.6	99	7.3
VET Cert III*	9	1.5	26	3.4	35	2.6
VET Cert I-II*	23	3.8	22	2.9	45	3.3
Apprentice	74	12.3	11	1.5	85	6.3
Trainee	23	3.8	53	7.0	76	5.6
(VET Total)	163	27.1	177	23.4	340	25.1
Working full-time	113	18.8	113	15.0	226	16.7
Working part-time/casual	92	15.3	130	17.2	222	16.4
Seeking work	36	6.0	25	3.3	61	4.5
Not studying/ not in the labour force	9	1.5	20	2.6	29	2.1
Total	600	100.0	755	100.0	1 355	100.0

* Students not in apprenticeships or traineeships

Figure 1 Main destinations of Year 12 completers, Sunshine Coast, 2005

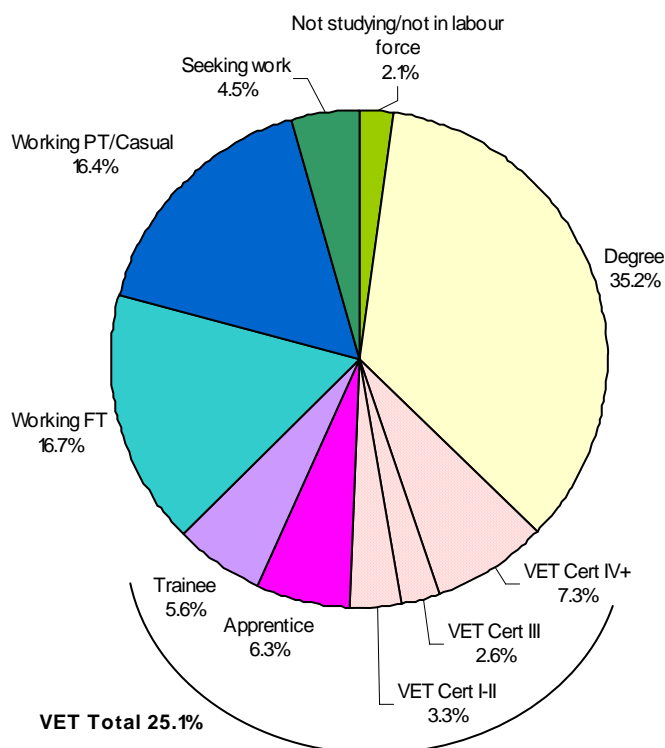
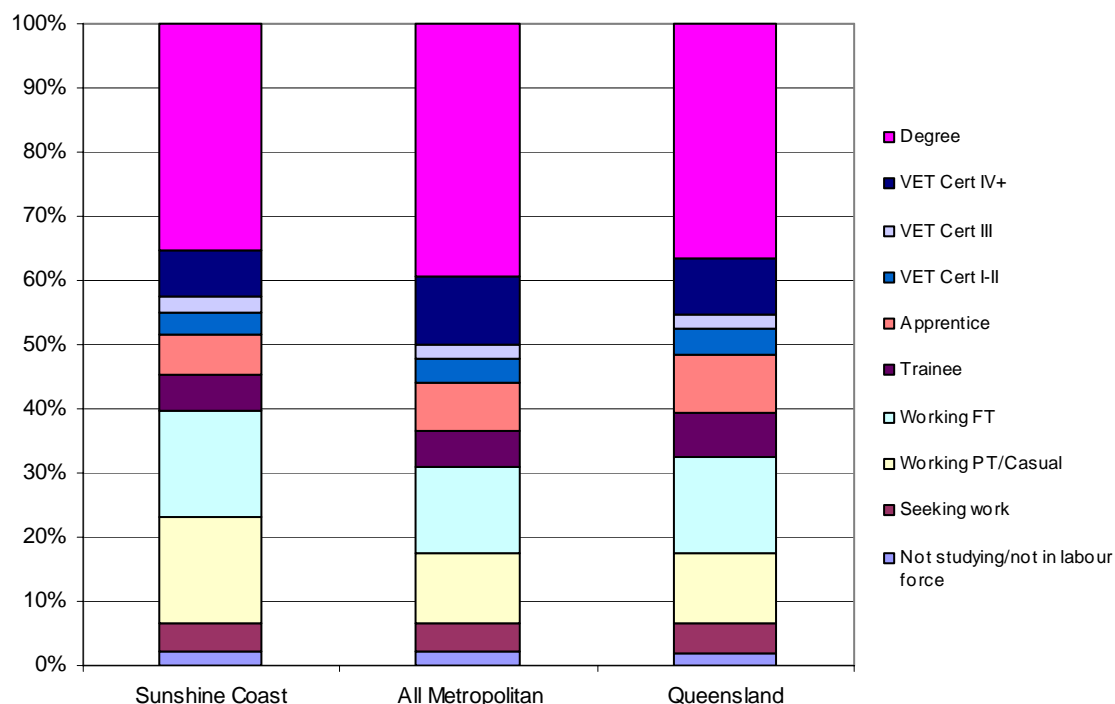


Figure 2 Main destinations of Year 12 completers, Sunshine Coast, All Metropolitan and Queensland, 2005



Study and work

Table 3 Study and labour force destinations of Year 12 completers, Sunshine Coast, 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>	17	11	1	1	2	226	258
	<i>%</i>	3.6	10.2	1.7	5.9	1.3	42.0	19.0
PT/Casual work	<i>No.</i>	267	50	17	3	12	222	571
	<i>%</i>	56.0	46.3	29.3	17.6	7.6	41.3	42.1
Apprentice	<i>No.</i>	2	3	9	2	71	0	87
	<i>%</i>	0.4	2.8	15.5	11.8	45.2	0	6.4
Trainee	<i>No.</i>	1	6	14	1	55	0	77
	<i>%</i>	0.2	5.6	24.1	5.9	35.0	0	5.7
Seeking work	<i>No.</i>	101	23	7	10	5	61	207
	<i>%</i>	21.2	21.3	12.1	58.8	3.2	11.3	15.3
Not working/not seeking work	<i>No.</i>	89	15	10	0	12	29	155
	<i>%</i>	18.7	13.9	17.2	0.0	7.6	5.4	11.4
TOTAL	<i>No.</i>	477	108	58	17	157	538	1 355
	<i>%</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Post-schooling Institutions entered

Table 4 Post-school institutions of Year 12 completers, Sunshine Coast, 2005

<i>Institution</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Per cent</i>
University of the Sunshine Coast	197	24.1
Cooloola Sunshine Institute of TAFE	96	11.8
The University of Queensland	94	11.5
Queensland University of Technology	74	9.1
Griffith University	35	4.3
Central Queensland University	20	2.4
University of Southern Queensland	10	1.2
Southbank Institute of TAFE	6	0.7
James Cook University	5	0.6
Moreton Institute of TAFE	4	0.5
Bond University	4	0.5
Brisbane North Institute of TAFE	3	0.4
Qantm College	3	0.4
Australian Catholic University	2	0.2
Australian College of Natural Medicine	2	0.2
Central Queensland Institute of TAFE	2	0.2
Wide Bay Institute of TAFE	2	0.2
Yeronga Institute of TAFE	1	0.1
The Bremer Institute of TAFE	1	0.1
Southern Queensland Institute of TAFE	1	0.1
Other Private Training Colleges	38	4.7
Other Queensland TAFEs	35	4.3
Interstate Universities	7	0.9
Other/unknown	175	21.4
Total	817	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, Sunshine Coast, 2005

<i>Post-School Field of Study</i>	<i>Females</i>		<i>Males</i>		<i>Total</i>	
		%		%		%
Society & Culture		27.0		12.2		21.2
Management & Commerce		18.3		13.7		16.5
Creative Arts		11.1		9.8		10.6
Natural & Physical Sciences		10.4		10.2		10.3
Education		11.9		5.5		9.4
Health		12.1		4.7		9.3
Engineering & Related Technologies		0.0		21.2		8.2
Food, Hospitality & Personal Services		5.7		2.4		4.4
Architecture & Building		0.7		8.2		3.6
Information Technology		0.5		7.8		3.3
Mixed Field Programmes		2.0		2.4		2.1
Agriculture, Environmental & Related Studies		0.2		2.0		0.9
Total		100.0		100.0		100.0

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, Sunshine Coast, 2005

<i>Employment 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>
Working full-time	113	45.2	113	39.2	226	42.0
Working part-time/casual	92	36.8	130	45.1	222	41.3
Seeking work	36	14.4	25	8.7	61	11.3
Not studying/not in labour force	9	3.6	20	6.9	29	5.4
Total	250	100.0	288	100.0	538	100.0

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

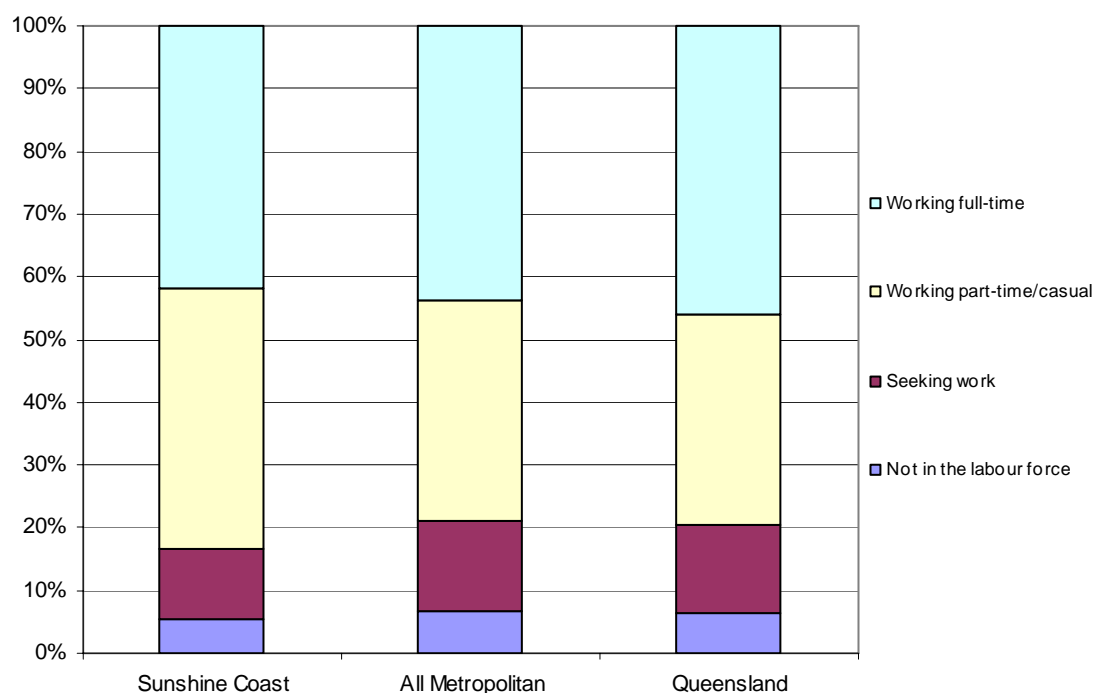


Table 7 Occupational categories of all working respondents, Sunshine Coast and Queensland, 2005

<i>Occupational Category</i>	<i>Sunshine Coast Number</i>	<i>Sunshine Coast Per cent</i>	<i>Qld Per cent</i>
Sales Assistants	324	32.8	30.3
Food Handlers	195	19.7	16.9
Clerks, Receptionists & Secretaries	79	8.0	9.7
Waiters	92	9.3	6.5
Building & Construction Skilled Workers	56	5.7	6.2
Storepersons	50	5.1	4.5
Child Care & Education-Related Workers	14	1.4	3.4
Health, Fitness, Hair & Beauty Workers	30	3.0	3.0
Gardeners, Farmers & Animal Workers	20	2.0	2.9
Automotive Workers	10	1.0	2.6
Labourers	24	2.4	2.2
Electrical & Electronics Trades	13	1.3	2.1
Factory and Machine Workers	10	1.0	1.7
Engineering & Science Related	7	0.7	1.3
Cleaners	7	0.7	1.2
Marketing & Sales Representatives	8	0.8	1.0
Other (fewer than 1% of respondents statewide)	50	5.0	4.5
Total	989	100.0	100.0

Table 8 Industry categories of all working Year 12 completers, Sunshine Coast and Queensland, 2005

<i>Industry Category</i>	<i>Sunshine Coast Number</i>	<i>Sunshine Coast Per cent</i>	<i>Qld Per cent</i>
Retail trade	355	38.7	35.0
Hospitality (Accommodation, cafes, restaurants)	294	32.1	26.1
Construction	70	7.6	7.1
Manufacturing	24	2.6	4.1
Health and Community Services	36	3.9	3.8
Personal and Other Services	20	2.2	3.3
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	14	1.5	2.9
Education	11	1.2	2.5
Government Administration and Defence	14	1.5	2.5
Property and Business Services	21	2.3	2.3
Cultural and Recreational Services	12	1.3	2.0
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply	14	1.5	2.0
Transport and Storage	7	0.8	1.8
Finance and Insurance	6	0.7	1.6
Wholesale Trade	9	1.0	1.2
Other (fewer than 1% of respondents statewide)	10	1.1	1.8
Total	917	100.0	100.0

Not in Study

Table 9 Main reason of Year 12 completers for not studying by sex, Sunshine Coast, 2005

<i>Main Reason</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>
I am taking time to consider my options (gap year)	77	48.7	97	46.2	174	47.3
I don't feel ready for more study	27	17.1	36	17.1	63	17.1
I am working in order to finance further study	13	8.2	20	9.5	33	9.0
My work commitments	16	10.1	16	7.6	32	8.7
The costs of undertaking study	6	3.8	17	8.1	23	6.3
I don't meet the entry criteria for the program I want to do	4	2.5	9	4.3	13	3.5
I was unsure I would be able to cope with the study program	5	3.2	3	1.4	8	2.2
I don't know what is available	3	1.9	4	1.9	7	1.9
My family commitments	4	2.5	3	1.4	7	1.9
Transport difficulties	2	1.3	3	1.4	5	1.4
The program I would like to do is not offered locally	1	0.6	1	0.5	2	0.5
The program is not available after hours or externally	0	0.0	1	0.5	1	0.3
Total	158	100.0	210	100.0	368	100.0

Table 10 Main reason for not studying, Sunshine Coast, All Metropolitan and Queensland, 2005

<i>Main reason</i>	<i>Sunshine Coast</i>	<i>All Metro</i>	<i>Queensland</i>
	%	%	%
I am taking time to consider my options (gap year)	47.3	40.7	40.3
I don't feel ready for more study	17.1	20.1	19.6
My work commitments	8.7	9.9	9.8
I am working in order to finance further study	9.0	7.6	7.9
The costs of undertaking study	6.3	7.6	7.6
I don't meet the entry criteria for the program I want to do	3.5	3.7	3.7
My family commitments	1.9	3.2	3.2
Transport difficulties	1.4	2.4	2.3
I was unsure I would be able to cope with the study program	2.2	1.7	1.9
I don't know what is available	1.9	2.0	2.0
The program I would like to do is not offered locally	0.5	0.9	1.5
The program is not available after hours or externally	0.3	0.2	0.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Destinations by Year 12 studies

Table 11 Main destinations of Year 12 completers by Year 12 studies, Sunshine Coast, 2005

<i>Destination</i>		<i>VET Qualification</i>		<i>School-based apprentice or trainee (SAT)</i>		<i>CPCSE</i>
		<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Yes</i>
University (degree)	<i>No.</i>	383	94	458	19	0
	<i>%</i>	42.2	21.0	35.8	25.3	
VET Certificate IV+	<i>No.</i>	71	28	92	7	0
	<i>%</i>	7.8	6.3	7.2	9.3	
VET Certificate III	<i>No.</i>	19	16	34	1	0
	<i>%</i>	2.1	3.6	2.7	1.3	
VET Certificate I-II	<i>No.</i>	28	17	45	0	6
	<i>%</i>	3.1	3.8	3.5	0.0	
Apprentice	<i>No.</i>	37	48	76	9	0
	<i>%</i>	4.1	10.7	5.9	12.0	
Trainee	<i>No.</i>	40	36	73	3	0
	<i>%</i>	4.4	8.0	5.7	4.0	
Working FT	<i>No.</i>	137	89	206	20	1
	<i>%</i>	15.1	19.9	16.1	26.7	
Working PT Casual	<i>No.</i>	143	79	207	15	1
	<i>%</i>	15.8	17.6	16.2	20.0	
Seeking work	<i>No.</i>	32	29	61	0	5
	<i>%</i>	3.5	6.5	4.8	0.0	
Not studying/not in labour force	<i>No.</i>	17	12	28	1	2
	<i>%</i>	1.9	2.7	2.2	1.3	
Total	<i>No.</i>	907	448	1 280	75	15
	<i>%</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	

Destinations by Indigenous status and Language Background

Table 12 Main destinations of Year 12 completers by Indigenous Status and Language Background, Sunshine Coast, 2005

<i>Destination</i>	<i>Indigenous No.</i>	<i>LBOTE No.</i>
University (degree)	3	9
VET Certificate IV+	0	5
VET Certificate III	0	1
VET Certificate I-II	1	0
Apprentice	1	2
Trainee	2	0
Working FT	2	1
Working PT Casual	3	1
Seeking work	0	1
Not studying/not in labour force	1	0
Total	13	20

Destinations by Socioeconomic status

Table 13 Main destinations of Year 12 completers by socioeconomic quartile, Sunshine Coast, 2005

<i>Destination</i>		<i>Lowest SES</i>	<i>Second lowest SES</i>	<i>Second highest SES</i>	<i>Highest SES</i>
University (degree)	<i>No.</i>	84	97	81	79
	<i>%</i>	33.9	33.3	27.5	50.6
VET Certificate IV+	<i>No.</i>	16	22	21	9
	<i>%</i>	6.5	7.6	7.1	5.8
VET Certificate III	<i>No.</i>	6	8	10	2
	<i>%</i>	2.4	2.7	3.4	1.3
VET Certificate I-II	<i>No.</i>	9	12	9	4
	<i>%</i>	3.6	4.1	3.1	2.6
Apprentice	<i>No.</i>	12	27	20	8
	<i>%</i>	4.8	9.3	6.8	5.1
Trainee	<i>No.</i>	11	13	20	7
	<i>%</i>	4.4	4.5	6.8	4.5
Working FT	<i>No.</i>	39	49	61	18
	<i>%</i>	15.7	16.8	20.7	11.5
Working PT Casual	<i>No.</i>	48	47	54	22
	<i>%</i>	19.4	16.2	18.3	14.1
Seeking work	<i>No.</i>	16	9	12	4
	<i>%</i>	6.5	3.1	4.1	2.6
Not studying/not in labour force	<i>No.</i>	7	7	7	3
	<i>%</i>	2.8	2.4	2.4	1.9
Total	<i>No.</i>	248	291	295	156
	<i>%</i>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Appendix

Table AA Schools attended in 2004 by Year 12 completers, Sunshine Coast

Burnside State High School	Mountain Creek State High School
Caloundra Christian College	Nambour Christian College
Caloundra State High School	Nambour Special School
Coolum State High School	Nambour State High School
Currimundi Special School	Siena Catholic College
Good Shepherd Lutheran College	St John's College, Nambour
Immanuel Lutheran College	Suncoast Christian College
Kawana Waters State High School	Sunshine Beach State High School
Maroochydore State High School	Sunshine Coast Grammar School
Matthew Flinders Anglican College	
