

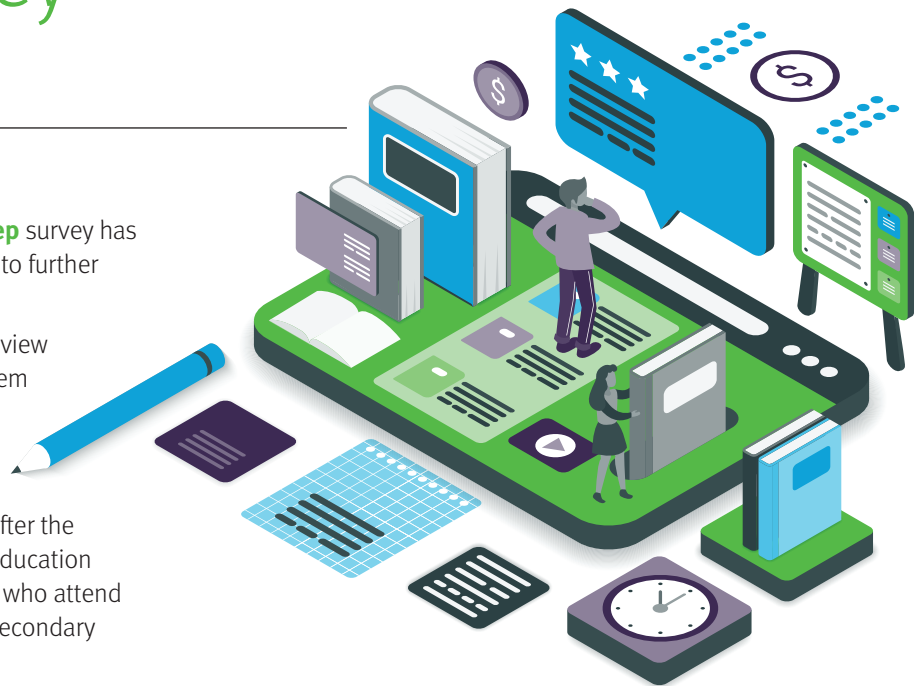
2021 Next Step survey

Destinations of Year 12 completers from 2020 in Queensland

Since 2005, the Department of Education's **Next Step** survey has captured information about the journey from school to further study and employment for Year 12 completers.

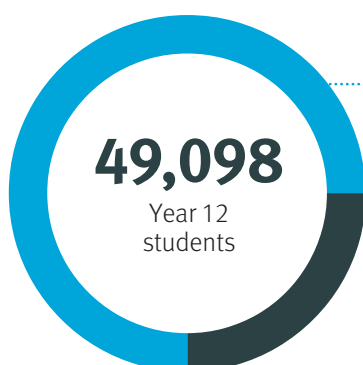
Insights gained from **Next Step** assists schools to review and plan their services for students, and school system personnel to evaluate education policies as they affect the transition from school to further study and employment.

The survey is conducted approximately six months after the end of the school year, timed to occur after tertiary education places for the year have been accepted. All students who attend state, Catholic and independent schools, and TAFE secondary colleges in Queensland are included.



2021 Next Step survey

Year 12 students from 2020 were
included in the 2021 survey
from Queensland schools and colleges



36,741
respondents

74.8%
response rate

22,084 State schools

7361 Catholic schools

7210 Independent schools

86 TAFE

Find out more



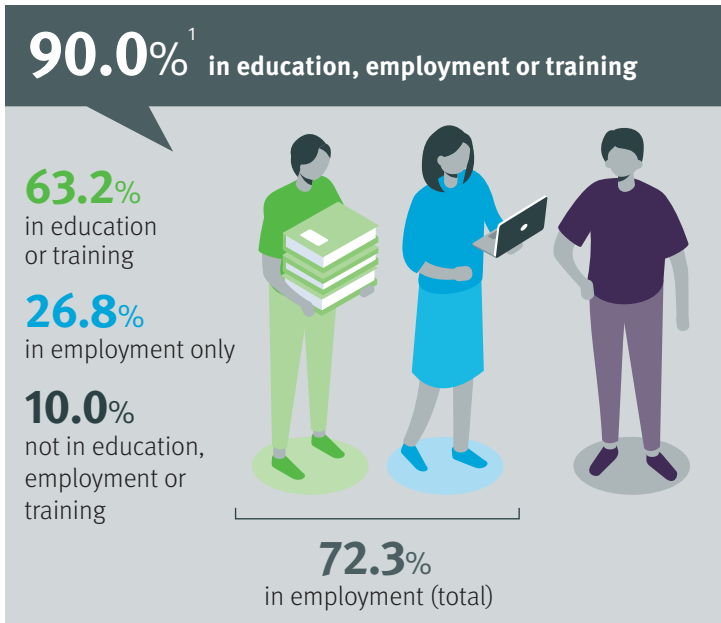
For more information on the survey or to build a customised **Next Step** report for your region visit the **Next Step** website www.qld.gov.au/year12completers



**Queensland
Government**

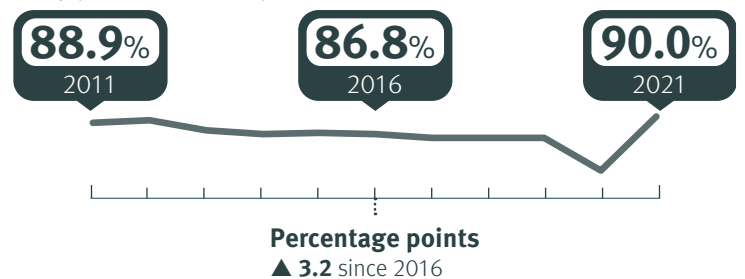
Post-school engagement

Engagement in education, employment or training



All Year 12 completers were assigned to a **main destination**. This categorisation system prioritises education related destinations over other destinations. Those who were both studying and working are reported as studying for their main destination.

In 2021 engagement was almost 10 percentage points higher than in 2020. This was driven by marked increases in the proportion of Year 12 completers who were in employment only or in apprenticeships and traineeships. This indicates improved economic conditions supported by targeted government stimulus and recovery packages. The data also shows a greater reluctance amongst graduates to take a gap year or defer study.



Engagement by subgroups



in education or training

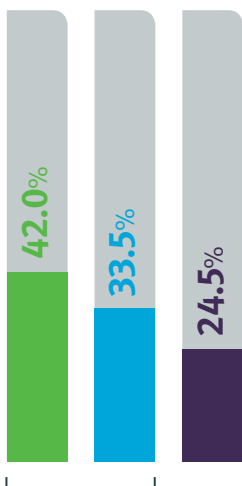


in employment only



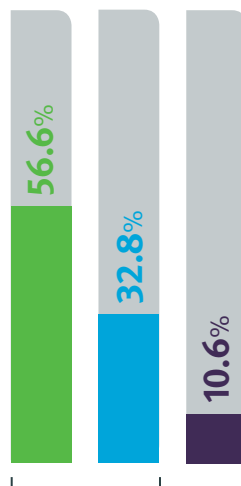
not in education, employment or training

Indigenous



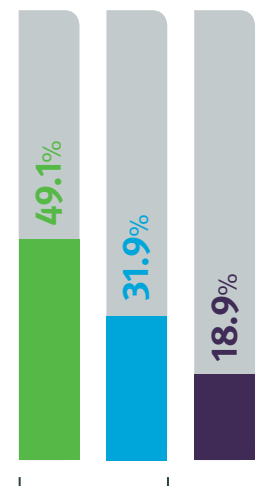
75.5% of 1704 Indigenous respondents² were engaged

Regional and Remote



89.4% of 12,372 regional and remote respondents³ were engaged

Disadvantaged



81.1% of 5294 respondents from disadvantaged areas⁴ were engaged

¹ Percentages in this report have been rounded to one decimal point

² Comparisons with other groups should be interpreted with caution due to the lower survey response rate for Indigenous persons (60.0%)

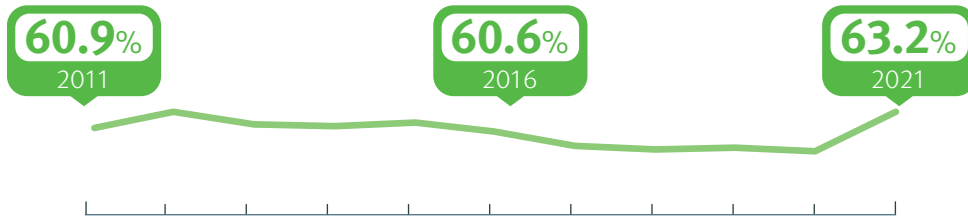
³ Students who were not living in a 'Major Cities' category area of the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Remoteness Structure

⁴ Australian Bureau of Statistics' Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (Queensland, Quintile 1, area based).

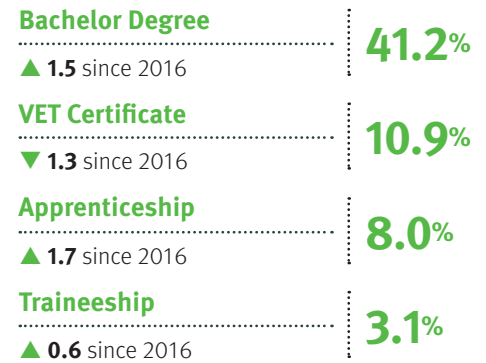
Main destination

In education or training

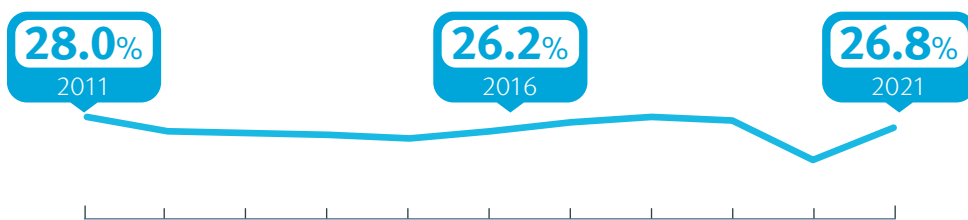
Percentage point change



Bachelor Degree study remains high and is the most popular destination for Year 12 completers. All education and training categories increased since 2020 with a marked increase in apprenticeships and traineeships. This corresponds with targeted government support and stimulus in areas such as construction as well as a decline in the proportion of graduates choosing to take a gap year or deferring study.



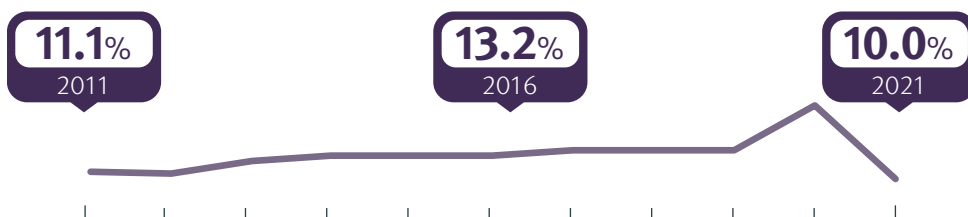
In employment only



The increase in the proportion of Year 12 completers in employment indicates that the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the economy is less severe on young people than it was a year ago. Those in employment only have almost recovered from pre-pandemic levels (27.7% in 2019).



Are not in education, employment or training



The proportion of Year 12 completers who were not in education, employment or training but who deferred a place at university or were taking a gap year declined by 4.1 percentage points to 36.6%. A further 8.4% were waiting for a job or study course to begin.

Females

91.8% engaged in work or study



More likely than males to be undertaking Bachelor Degree study

47.5% compared to 34.4%

Males

88.1% engaged in work or study

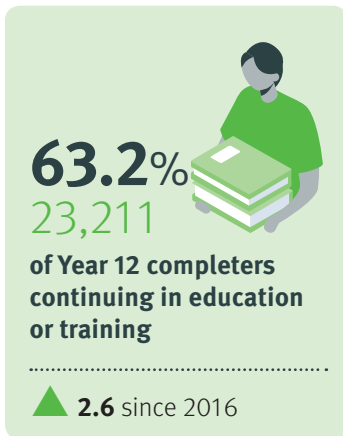


More likely than females to be undertaking employment-based training as an apprentice

14.4% compared to 2.2%

Destination:

Education and training



Where are they studying?

◆ Percentage point change



University

68.6%

▲ 1.2 since 2016

TAFE

17.1%

▲ 0.5 since 2016

Private training provider

8.9%

▼ 1.7 since 2016

Other institution

5.4%

▲ 0.1 since 2016

In education or training

Females

66.2%



More likely than males to study in the fields of Health or Society and Culture

Males

59.9%



More likely than females to study in the field of Engineering and Related Technologies

What are they studying?^{5,6}



Health

18.6%
4313

- 1724 Nursing
- 638 Rehabilitation Therapies
- 252 Pharmacy



Society and Culture

18.5%
4300

- 1159 Behavioural Science
- 919 Law
- 699 Human Welfare



Engineering and Related Technologies

15.8%
3657

- 860 Electrical & Electronic
- 552 Mechanical & Industrial
- 484 Automotive



Management and Commerce

13.4%
3117

- 1889 Business & Management
- 429 Sales & Marketing
- 333 Banking & Finance

How are they studying?



enrolled in a double degree



studying full-time



combining study with paid employment



⁵Field of study categories are based on the Australian Standard Classification of Education (broad, narrow and detailed).

⁶Both fields of study are counted where students are enrolled in a double degree in different study fields.

Destination:

Employment (total)

◆ Percentage point change

72.3%
26,580
of Year 12 completers
were in paid employment
▲ 9.7 since 2016



Which industries are they working in?



Accommodation & Food Services

33.5%

▼ 1.1 since 2016



Retail Trade

23.4%

▼ 2.0 since 2016



Construction

8.9%

▲ 0.9 since 2016



Health Care & Social Assistance

6.0%

▲ 1.6 since 2016



Education & Training

4.3%

▲ 0.7 since 2016

In paid employment

Females

73.7%



More likely than males to be working as Sales Workers or Community and Personal Service Workers

Males

70.9%



More likely than females to be working as Technician and Trades Workers or Labourers

What jobs are they doing?⁸



Sales Workers

33.5%

8912

▼ 3.4 since 2016

5971

Sales Assistants & Salespersons

2799

Checkout Operators & Office Cashiers

57

Sales Support Workers



Community and Personal Service Workers

20.1%

5340

▲ 1.6 since 2016

3014

Hospitality Workers

717

Sports & Fitness Workers

664

Child Carers



Labourers

17.3%

4591

▼ 0.1 since 2016

1764

Food Preparation Assistants

562

Construction & Mining Labourers

468

Farm, Forestry & Garden Workers



Technicians and Trades Workers

14.1%

3755

▼ 1.4 since 2016

519

Food Trades Workers

513

Electricians

488

Bricklayers, Carpenters & Joiners

How are they working?



employed on a **casual basis**

66.4%



working **full-time**

27.8%



combining work with **further study**

62.9%

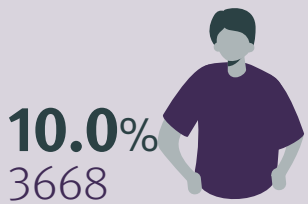
⁷ This section examines the labour market outcomes for all Year 12 completers. The 72.3% figure includes 26.8% who were only working and 45.5% who were both working and studying. Those who were working and studying are reported as studying for their main destination.

⁸ Occupation categories are based on the Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupation (major and minor groups).

Destination:

Not in education, employment or training

Percentage point change



of Year 12 completers were not in education, employment or training

▼ 3.2 since 2016

Main reason not studying



Undecided and considering options

14.8%

▼ 0.1 since 2016



Looking for work, apprenticeship or traineeship

12.5%

▼ 2.2 since 2016



Not interested/already finished study

11.3%

▲ 1.8 since 2016



Disability

9.9%

▲ 4.9 since 2016



Waiting for course/training to begin

8.8%

▲ 1.6 since 2016

Not in education, training or employment

Females

8.2%

More likely than males to take a gap year but intend to study in the future

Males

11.9%

More likely than females to prioritise getting a job or apprenticeship over further study

Worked since leaving school



27.2%
999

Main reason left previous job

239 Seasonal/temporary job

109 Was laid off/sacked

216 Not satisfied with the job

102 Moved location

Taking a gap year



35.6%
1304

Post-gap priority

390 University study

249 Work

313 Other study

178 Undecided

Received a QTAC offer to study



11.8%
434

Response to offer

216 Deferred

66 Waiting to start

87 Withdrew from course

61 Declined

Not seeking work



25.8%
946

Main reason not seeking work

389 Disability or health

103 Future study commitment

111 Waiting for job to start

70 Don't feel ready for work

Where to from here?



Are **seeking work**

74.2%
2722



Deferred a university offer

5.9%
216



Are **waiting for employment or study to commence**

13.0%
477



23.8% of job seekers believe that the main reason they have been unsuccessful in getting a job is due to **lack of experience, skills or qualifications** and a further **15.8%** say that there are **not enough jobs available**.