INTRODUCTION

This report is based on the findings of the Queensland Government Next Step survey, which targeted all students who completed Year 12 and gained a Senior Certificate or Certificate of Post-Compulsory School Education in 2006, whether they attended a Government, Catholic or independent school, or a TAFE secondary college. The Office of the Government Statistician conducted the survey between 2 April and 19 May 2007, approximately six months after the young people left school. Responses were predominantly collected via computer aided telephone interview with a paper-based survey collected from a small number of students for whom telephone details were not available.

The survey results were compiled and reported on by the Performance Monitoring and Reporting Branch of the Department of Education, Training and the Arts.

The statewide and regional reports of the Next Step survey can be located at the Next Step website at www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep

RESPONSE RATE FOR SOUTHPORT STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Table 1 below reports the response rate for Southport State High School. It expresses the number of respondents from this school, as a percentage of all Year 12 completers attending Southport State High School in 2006.

It has not been possible to ascertain how representative these responses are of all students at this school.

Table 1 Survey response rate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of respondents</th>
<th>Number of students who completed Year 12</th>
<th>Response rate (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>126</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>86.3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

DEFINED MAIN DESTINATIONS

The pathways of Year 12 completers were categorised into ten main destinations. Respondents who were both studying and working were reported as studying for their main destination. A table defining these categories can be found in the statewide report at www.education.qld.gov.au/nextstep

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

In 2007, 50.8 per cent of young people who completed their Year 12 at Southport State High School in 2006 continued in some recognised form of education and training in the year after they left school.

The most common study destination was university (27.0 per cent). The combined VET study destinations accounted for 23.8 per cent of respondents, including 15.1 per cent in campus-based VET programs, with 10.3 per cent of Year 12 completers entering programs at Certificate IV level or higher.

8.7 per cent commenced employment-based training, either as an apprentice (3.2 per cent) or trainee (5.6 per cent).

In addition to the above study destinations, a further 7.1 per cent of respondents from this school deferred a tertiary offer in 2007 (deferrers are shown in Figure 1 in their current destination).

49.2 per cent did not enter post-school education or training, and were either employed (37.3 per cent), seeking work (7.9 per cent) or neither studying nor in the labour force (4.0 per cent).

Figure 1 Main destinations of Year 12 completers

* included in VET total

VET total = 23.8%