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 2007, 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 17 May 2008, approximately six months after the young people left school. Responses were predominantly collected via computer-assisted telephone interview with a paper-based survey collected from a small number of students for whom telephone details were not available.

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 EMERALD STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Table 1 below reports the response rate for Emerald State High School. It expresses the number of respondents from this school, as a percentage of all Year 12 completers attending Emerald State High School in 2007.

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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>84.3</td>
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DEFINITIONS OF 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 2008, 42.9 per cent of young people who completed their Year 12 at Emerald State High School in 2007 continued in some recognised form of education and training in the year after they left school.

The most common study destination was apprenticeships (15.7 per cent). The combined VET study destinations accounted for 34.3 per cent of respondents, including 5.7 per cent in campus-based VET programs.

In addition to apprentices, a further 12.9 per cent of respondents commenced employment-based training as trainees.

The third most common study destination was university (8.6 per cent).

In addition to the above study destinations, a further 8.6 per cent of respondents from this school deferred a tertiary offer in 2008 (deferrers are shown in Figure 1 in their current destination).

57.1 per cent did not enter post-school education or training, and were either employed (47.1 per cent), seeking work (7.1 per cent) or neither studying nor in the labour force (2.9 per cent).

Figure 1  Main destinations of Year 12 completers