

Year 12 certification summary

2020 cohort

Introduction

The following dataset summarises the achievements of students who finished Year 12 in Queensland each year from 2016 to 2020 inclusive. It has been compiled from information provided to the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) by:

- Queensland schools
- the Department of Education
- the Department of Employment, Small Business and Training
- the International Baccalaureate Organisation
- other learning providers.

Readers should note that the:

- 2019 graduating cohort was smaller than usual because these students were part of Queensland's first Prep Year cohort in 2007
- 2020 Year 12 cohort was the first to graduate in the new Queensland Certificate of Education (QCE) system.

Senior Education Profiles

The QCAA issues a Senior Education Profile (SEP) to each student who completes Year 12 in Queensland. The SEP will contain one of the following combinations:

- a QCE and a Senior Statement
- a Senior Statement
- a Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement (QCIA) and a Senior Statement
- a Senior Statement that provides a record of studies undertaken towards an International Baccalaureate Diploma (IBD).

The Senior Statement is a transcript of a student's learning account. It shows all QCE-contributing studies and the results.

Table 1: The number of students who received a SEP 2016–2020

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
All schools	51605	53105	51867	37738	49486
Government schools	30287	31095	30430	21390	28655
Non-government schools (Catholic)	10825	11206	10885	7749	10523
Non-government schools (Other)	10493	10804	10552	8599	10308

Queensland Certificate of Education

The QCE is Queensland's senior school qualification. It recognises broad learning options and offers flexibility in what, where and when learning occurs. QCEs were awarded to students who attained at least 20 credits in the required pattern. Their program of studies must have included a minimum of 12 credits from core courses and 8 credits from any combination of other courses of study. To be awarded a QCE, students must also have met literacy and numeracy requirements.

Table 2: The number of students who were awarded a QCE 2016–2020

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
48653	50219	49334	35620	45188

Queensland Certificate of Individual Achievement

The QCIA recognises the achievements of students who are on individualised learning programs. To be eligible, students must have impairments or difficulties in learning that are not primarily due to socioeconomic, cultural or linguistic factors. The certificate is an official record that students have completed at least 12 years of education. It provides students with a summary of their skills and knowledge that they can present to employers and training providers.

Table 3: The number of students awarded a QCIA 2016–2020

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
877	964	904	753	1003

Vocational education and training

Vocational education and training (VET) qualifications provide pathways for all young people, including those seeking further education and training and those seeking employment-specific skills. Students may access VET through school, TAFE and private providers.

Certificate I courses develop basic skills required by industry or for participation in life and further learning. Certificate II courses develop skills in specific career-related fields as preparation for employment. Certificate III courses develop the ability to apply a range of well-developed work skills in specific careers. Apprenticeships usually involve a Certificate III level course. Certificate IV courses usually develop supervisory and/or advanced technical skills. These often build on skills acquired in the workplace and/or Certificate III courses. Diploma and Advanced Diploma courses develop specialised knowledge and skills for paraprofessional work and/or further learning.

Table 4: The number of students awarded one or more VET qualifications 2016–2020

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Certificate I	15243	14858	13154	9579	10746
Certificate II	20479	22247	22895	16639	24304
Certificate III	10159	10533	11118	8187	13844
Certificate IV	607	610	777	578	1099
Diploma	1339	1682	2124	2123	1945
Advanced Diploma	11	11	5	7	20

Table 5: The number of students who were completing or had completed a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship (SAT) 2016–2020

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
6304	6594	6586	4976	5948

International Baccalaureate Diploma

The IBD is one of many programs administered by the International Baccalaureate Organisation (IBO) in more than 140 countries around the world. In Queensland, the IBD is recognised as study contributing to a QCE. To be awarded this qualification, a student must meet defined standards and conditions set out by the IBO.

Table 6: The number of students awarded an IBD 2016–2020

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
416	408	551	471	634

University subjects

University subjects completed while a student is enrolled at school may contribute up to 4 credits towards a QCE.

Table 7: The number of students who completed a university subject while at school 2016–2020

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
1663	1775	1634	911	1194

General, Applied, and General (Senior External Examination) subject results

Please note the subject result tables include a small number of students who have completed subjects earlier than their final year.

General subjects

General subjects prepare students for tertiary study, further education and training and work. They include Extension subjects. General subjects may contribute up to 4 credits per subject towards a QCE. The assessment program in each subject comprises 3 internal assessments set and marked by schools and an external assessment set and marked by the QCAA.

Subject	Number of students	A		B		C		D		E	
Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Studies*	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accounting	2113	462	21.9%	773	36.6%	773	36.6%	103	4.9%	2	0.1%
Aerospace Systems	155	18	11.6%	52	33.5%	75	48.4%	10	6.5%	0	0.0%
Agricultural Science	466	77	16.5%	233	50.0%	150	32.2%	6	1.3%	0	0.0%
Ancient History	2547	592	23.2%	934	36.7%	889	34.9%	131	5.1%	1	0.0%
Biology	13039	3162	24.3%	6111	46.9%	3549	27.2%	217	1.7%	0	0.0%
Business	4635	733	15.8%	1700	36.7%	1909	41.2%	280	6.0%	13	0.3%
Chemistry	8066	2349	29.1%	3221	39.9%	2408	29.9%	88	1.1%	0	0.0%
Chinese	613	362	59.1%	191	31.2%	47	7.7%	13	2.1%	0	0.0%
Chinese Extension*	45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dance	1044	352	33.7%	461	44.2%	187	17.9%	44	4.2%	0	0.0%
Design	3622	658	18.2%	1490	41.1%	1154	31.9%	314	8.7%	6	0.2%

Subject	Number of students	A		B		C		D		E	
Digital Solutions	1906	428	22.5%	599	31.4%	728	38.2%	146	7.7%	5	0.3%
Drama	3530	1093	31.0%	1230	34.8%	1005	28.5%	201	5.7%	1	0.0%
Earth & Environmental Science	321	54	16.8%	168	52.3%	96	29.9%	3	0.9%	0	0.0%
Economics	2190	513	23.4%	1050	47.9%	580	26.5%	47	2.1%	0	0.0%
Engineering	1237	168	13.6%	386	31.2%	576	46.6%	100	8.1%	7	0.6%
English	26608	5099	19.2%	10757	40.4%	9356	35.2%	1391	5.2%	5	0.0%
English as an Additional Language	644	47	7.3%	204	31.7%	374	58.1%	19	3.0%	0	0.0%
English & Literature Extension	597	337	56.4%	198	33.2%	50	8.4%	12	2.0%	0	0.0%
Film, Television & New Media	2555	673	26.3%	736	28.8%	947	37.1%	188	7.4%	11	0.4%
Food & Nutrition	1159	132	11.4%	430	37.1%	485	41.8%	112	9.7%	0	0.0%
French	629	315	50.1%	233	37.0%	71	11.3%	10	1.6%	0	0.0%
French Extension*	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Mathematics	19542	2027	10.4%	7970	40.8%	8536	43.7%	1000	5.1%	9	0.0%
Geography	2523	340	13.5%	903	35.8%	1120	44.4%	158	6.3%	2	0.1%
German	321	142	44.2%	145	45.2%	33	10.3%	1	0.3%	0	0.0%
German Extension*	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Health	2236	353	15.8%	877	39.2%	893	39.9%	112	5.0%	1	0.0%
Italian	133	60	45.1%	53	39.8%	16	12.0%	4	3.0%	0	0.0%
Japanese	1366	507	37.1%	562	41.1%	247	18.1%	48	3.5%	2	0.1%

Subject	Number of students	A		B		C		D		E	
Legal Studies	4776	687	14.4%	1998	41.8%	1718	36.0%	365	7.6%	8	0.2%
Literature	2686	968	36.0%	1044	38.9%	630	23.5%	43	1.6%	1	0.0%
Marine Science	835	84	10.1%	332	39.8%	388	46.5%	31	3.7%	0	0.0%
Mathematical Methods	9936	2451	24.7%	3755	37.8%	3106	31.3%	622	6.3%	2	0.0%
Modern History	4514	1263	28.0%	1739	38.5%	1380	30.6%	132	2.9%	0	0.0%
Music	2451	966	39.4%	842	34.4%	543	22.2%	99	4.0%	1	0.0%
Music Extension (Composition)	187	127	67.9%	43	23.0%	17	9.1%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Music Extension (Musicology)*	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Music Extension (Performance)	583	374	64.2%	176	30.2%	30	5.1%	3	0.5%	0	0.0%
Philosophy & Reason	488	168	34.4%	199	40.8%	102	20.9%	18	3.7%	1	0.2%
Physical Education	6463	1142	17.7%	2185	33.8%	2683	41.5%	443	6.9%	10	0.2%
Physics	5780	2059	35.6%	2001	34.6%	1671	28.9%	48	0.8%	1	0.0%
Psychology	2916	688	23.6%	1244	42.7%	948	32.5%	36	1.2%	0	0.0%
Spanish	244	119	48.8%	87	35.7%	35	14.3%	3	1.2%	0	0.0%
Specialist Mathematics	3233	1067	33.0%	1173	36.3%	802	24.8%	190	5.9%	1	0.0%
Study of Religion	3357	819	24.4%	1693	50.4%	789	23.5%	56	1.7%	0	0.0%
Visual Art	3951	613	15.5%	1810	45.8%	1208	30.6%	306	7.7%	14	0.4%

*Results are not reported for subjects completed by fewer than 50 students.

Applied subjects

Applied subjects focus on practical skills that prepare students for further education and training and work. Applied subjects may contribute up to 4 credits per subject towards a QCE. The assessment program in each subject comprises 4 internal assessments set and marked by schools. The exceptions are Essential English and Essential Mathematics. These subjects have 3 internal assessments set and marked by schools and a common internal assessment (CIA) set by the QCAA and marked by schools.

Subject	Number of students	A		B		C		D		E	
Agricultural Practices	636	100	15.7%	232	36.5%	285	44.8%	19	3.0%	0	0.0%
Aquatic Practices	2171	286	13.2%	946	43.6%	850	39.2%	83	3.8%	6	0.3%
Arts in Practice	238	51	21.4%	66	27.7%	99	41.6%	21	8.8%	1	0.4%
Building and Construction Skills	1659	230	13.9%	655	39.5%	701	42.3%	69	4.2%	4	0.2%
Business Studies	1035	158	15.3%	376	36.3%	449	43.4%	49	4.7%	3	0.3%
Dance in Practice	328	72	22.0%	142	43.3%	101	30.8%	13	4.0%	0	0.0%
Drama in Practice	519	114	22.0%	187	36.0%	195	37.6%	23	4.4%	0	0.0%
Early Childhood Studies	1190	169	14.2%	437	36.7%	514	43.2%	64	5.4%	6	0.5%
Engineering Skills	1854	180	9.7%	728	39.3%	866	46.7%	75	4.0%	5	0.3%
Essential English	15895	1090	6.9%	5694	35.8%	8126	51.1%	926	5.8%	59	0.4%
Essential Mathematics	15003	1014	6.8%	5212	34.7%	7257	48.4%	1365	9.1%	155	1.0%
Fashion	504	114	22.6%	187	37.1%	175	34.7%	26	5.2%	2	0.4%
Furnishing Skills	2624	309	11.8%	994	37.9%	1192	45.4%	125	4.8%	4	0.2%
Hospitality Practices	2767	391	14.1%	981	35.5%	1168	42.2%	196	7.1%	31	1.1%
Industrial Graphics Skills	1152	209	18.1%	438	38.0%	431	37.4%	64	5.6%	10	0.9%

Subject	Number of students	A		B		C		D		E	
Industrial Technology Skills	2297	312	13.6%	898	39.1%	986	42.9%	88	3.8%	13	0.6%
Information and Communication Technology	1426	223	15.6%	484	33.9%	634	44.5%	73	5.1%	12	0.8%
Media Arts in Practice	1062	164	15.4%	369	34.7%	448	42.2%	71	6.7%	10	0.9%
Music in Practice	526	95	18.1%	209	39.7%	186	35.4%	32	6.1%	4	0.8%
Religion and Ethics	6062	1202	19.8%	2444	40.3%	2189	36.1%	210	3.5%	17	0.3%
Science in Practice	1861	156	8.4%	594	31.9%	982	52.8%	120	6.4%	9	0.5%
Social and Community Studies	2443	307	12.6%	884	36.2%	1116	45.7%	126	5.2%	10	0.4%
Sport and Recreation	6708	714	10.6%	2919	43.5%	2854	42.5%	209	3.1%	12	0.2%
Tourism	1496	201	13.4%	569	38.0%	631	42.2%	89	5.9%	6	0.4%
Visual Arts in Practice	3401	530	15.6%	1255	36.9%	1426	41.9%	175	5.1%	15	0.4%

General (Senior External Examination) subjects

The Senior External Examination is a program of individual subject examinations offered to eligible Year 12 students and adult learners. These exams are set and marked by the QCAA. Results are based solely on a student's examination performance. Any class tests or assignments during the year do not contribute to results.

Subject	Number of students	A		B		C		D		E	
Accounting*	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ancient History*	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arabic	72	3	4.2%	5	6.9%	43	59.7%	20	27.8%	1	1.4%
Biology*	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chemistry*	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chinese	169	149	88.2%	17	10.1%	2	1.2%	1	0.6%	0	0%
English*	49	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Mathematics*	42	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Indonesian*	32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Korean	62	37	59.7%	19	30.6%	5	8.1%	1	1.6%	0	0%
Latin*	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Legal Studies*	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mathematical Methods*	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Modern Greek*	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Modern History*	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Philosophy & Reason*	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Subject	Number of students	A		B		C		D		E	
Physics*	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polish*	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Punjabi*	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Russian*	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vietnamese	107	47	43.9%	50	46.7%	9	8.4%	1	0.9%	0	0%
Visual Art*	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

*Results are not reported for subjects completed by fewer than 50 students.

More information

If you would like more information, please email analysis.reporting@qcaa.qld.edu.au.



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