

Year 12 certification summary

2021 cohort

Introduction

The following dataset summarises the achievements of students who finished Year 12 in Queensland each year from 2017 to 2021 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 Year 12 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 2017–2021

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
All schools	53105	51867	37738	49486	51672
Government schools	31095	30430	21390	28655	29482
Non-government schools (Catholic)	11206	10885	7749	10523	10606
Non-government schools (Other)	10804	10552	8599	10308	11584

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 2017–2021

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
50219	49334	35620	45188	47918

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 2017–2021

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
964	904	753	1003	1188

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 2017–2021

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Certificate I	14858	13154	9579	10746	10105
Certificate II	22247	22895	16639	24304	26466
Certificate III	10533	11118	8187	13844	15444
Certificate IV	610	777	578	1099	1261
Diploma	1682	2124	2123	1945	2630
Advanced Diploma	11	5	7	20	10

Table 5: The number of students who were completing or had completed a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship (SAT) 2017–2021

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
6594	6586	4976	5948	5978

International Baccalaureate Diploma

The International Baccalaureate Diploma (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 2017–2021

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
408	551	471	634	691

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 2017–2021

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
1775	1634	911	1194	1395

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*	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accounting	2141	427	19.9%	807	37.7%	790	36.9%	112	5.2%	5	0.2%
Aerospace Systems	140	21	15.0%	43	30.7%	67	47.9%	9	6.4%	0	0.0%
Agricultural Science	393	77	19.6%	205	52.2%	106	27.0%	5	1.3%	0	0.0%
Ancient History	2439	553	22.7%	934	38.3%	855	35.1%	95	3.9%	2	0.1%
Biology	13435	3564	26.5%	6279	46.7%	3466	25.8%	125	0.9%	1	0.0%
Business	4452	776	17.4%	1682	37.8%	1747	39.2%	244	5.5%	3	0.1%
Chemistry	8210	3002	36.6%	3339	40.7%	1790	21.8%	79	1.0%	0	0.0%
Chinese	703	422	60.0%	210	29.9%	65	9.2%	6	0.9%	0	0.0%
Chinese Extension	58	53	91.4%	5	8.6%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Dance	927	358	38.6%	415	44.8%	141	15.2%	13	1.4%	0	0.0%

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

Subject	Number of students	A		B		C		D		E	
Design	3326	513	15.4%	1282	38.5%	1171	35.2%	352	10.6%	8	0.2%
Digital Solutions	1721	384	22.3%	523	30.4%	665	38.6%	142	8.3%	7	0.4%
Drama	3131	924	29.5%	1371	43.8%	727	23.2%	109	3.5%	0	0.0%
Earth & Environmental Science	334	68	20.4%	193	57.8%	73	21.9%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Economics	2407	674	28.0%	1105	45.9%	585	24.3%	43	1.8%	0	0.0%
Engineering	1359	263	19.4%	446	32.8%	540	39.7%	104	7.7%	6	0.4%
English	26938	5387	20.0%	11291	41.9%	9644	35.8%	616	2.3%	0	0.0%
English as an Additional Language	687	73	10.6%	282	41.0%	309	45.0%	23	3.3%	0	0.0%
English & Literature Extension	640	366	57.2%	202	31.6%	64	10.0%	8	1.3%	0	0.0%
Film, Television & New Media	2648	768	29.0%	914	34.5%	826	31.2%	136	5.1%	4	0.2%
Food & Nutrition	966	132	13.7%	337	34.9%	401	41.5%	95	9.8%	1	0.1%
French	577	287	49.7%	229	39.7%	55	9.5%	6	1.0%	0	0.0%
French Extension*	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Mathematics	20283	2325	11.5%	8658	42.7%	8163	40.2%	1130	5.6%	7	0.0%
Geography	3114	468	15.0%	1088	34.9%	1362	43.7%	191	6.1%	5	0.2%
German	286	138	48.3%	109	38.1%	36	12.6%	3	1.0%	0	0.0%
German Extension	67	38	56.7%	23	34.3%	6	9.0%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Health	2128	293	13.8%	912	42.9%	839	39.4%	83	3.9%	1	0.0%
Italian	147	58	39.5%	47	32.0%	35	23.8%	7	4.8%	0	0.0%

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

Subject	Number of students	A		B		C		D		E	
Japanese	1255	486	38.7%	488	38.9%	235	18.7%	44	3.5%	2	0.2%
Legal Studies	4740	814	17.2%	1880	39.7%	1715	36.2%	322	6.8%	9	0.2%
Literature	2977	1147	38.5%	1208	40.6%	591	19.9%	31	1.0%	0	0.0%
Marine Science	792	114	14.4%	352	44.4%	311	39.3%	14	1.8%	1	0.1%
Mathematical Methods	9837	2547	25.9%	3762	38.2%	3024	30.7%	497	5.1%	7	0.1%
Modern History	4876	1444	29.6%	1810	37.1%	1492	30.6%	130	2.7%	0	0.0%
Music	2327	964	41.4%	851	36.6%	454	19.5%	58	2.5%	0	0.0%
Music Extension (Composition)	232	151	65.1%	74	31.9%	6	2.6%	1	0.4%	0	0.0%
Music Extension (Musicology)*	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Music Extension (Performance)	630	398	63.2%	193	30.6%	39	6.2%	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Philosophy & Reason	582	201	34.5%	217	37.3%	136	23.4%	28	4.8%	0	0.0%
Physical Education	6025	1144	19.0%	2221	36.9%	2254	37.4%	389	6.5%	17	0.3%
Physics	5982	2455	41.0%	2129	35.6%	1347	22.5%	51	0.9%	0	0.0%
Psychology	3644	850	23.3%	1741	47.8%	1017	27.9%	36	1.0%	0	0.0%
Spanish	247	101	40.9%	103	41.7%	40	16.2%	3	1.2%	0	0.0%
Specialist Mathematics	3061	1100	35.9%	1199	39.2%	636	20.8%	125	4.1%	1	0.0%
Study of Religion	3236	856	26.5%	1635	50.5%	697	21.5%	48	1.5%	0	0.0%
Visual Art	3739	678	18.1%	1588	42.5%	1154	30.9%	317	8.5%	2	0.1%

*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	712	114	16.0%	287	40.3%	289	40.6%	21	2.9%	1	0.1%
Aquatic Practices	2370	305	12.9%	1045	44.1%	924	39.0%	93	3.9%	3	0.1%
Arts in Practice	190	29	15.3%	66	34.7%	77	40.5%	14	7.4%	4	2.1%
Building and Construction Skills	1710	180	10.5%	677	39.6%	788	46.1%	58	3.4%	7	0.4%
Business Studies	1165	156	13.4%	439	37.7%	516	44.3%	51	4.4%	3	0.3%
Dance in Practice	299	93	31.1%	127	42.5%	71	23.7%	8	2.7%	0	0.0%
Drama in Practice	604	112	18.5%	260	43.0%	213	35.3%	18	3.0%	1	0.2%
Early Childhood Studies	1269	186	14.7%	468	36.9%	565	44.5%	44	3.5%	6	0.5%
Engineering Skills	2016	272	13.5%	803	39.8%	852	42.3%	81	4.0%	8	0.4%
Essential English	17374	1875	10.8%	7061	40.6%	7728	44.5%	662	3.8%	48	0.3%
Essential Mathematics	16331	1311	8.0%	6467	39.6%	7113	43.6%	1307	8.0%	133	0.8%
Fashion	465	109	23.4%	154	33.1%	167	35.9%	26	5.6%	9	1.9%
Furnishing Skills	2650	361	13.6%	993	37.5%	1176	44.4%	113	4.3%	7	0.3%
Hospitality Practices	2975	403	13.5%	1101	37.0%	1259	42.3%	198	6.7%	14	0.5%
Industrial Graphics Skills	1255	260	20.7%	429	34.2%	485	38.6%	69	5.5%	12	1.0%

Subject	Number of students	A		B		C		D		E	
Industrial Technology Skills	2580	345	13.4%	1054	40.9%	1058	41.0%	117	4.5%	6	0.2%
Information and Communication Technology	1427	271	19.0%	456	32.0%	590	41.3%	98	6.9%	12	0.8%
Media Arts in Practice	1139	179	15.7%	417	36.6%	471	41.4%	64	5.6%	8	0.7%
Music in Practice	694	146	21.0%	275	39.6%	256	36.9%	16	2.3%	1	0.1%
Religion and Ethics	6372	1456	22.8%	2662	41.8%	2040	32.0%	199	3.1%	15	0.2%
Science in Practice	2082	210	10.1%	821	39.4%	953	45.8%	95	4.6%	3	0.1%
Social and Community Studies	3042	449	14.8%	1183	38.9%	1274	41.9%	130	4.3%	6	0.2%
Sport and Recreation	7079	882	12.5%	3314	46.8%	2700	38.1%	172	2.4%	11	0.2%
Tourism	1532	217	14.2%	604	39.4%	633	41.3%	73	4.8%	5	0.3%
Visual Arts in Practice	3765	609	16.2%	1403	37.3%	1592	42.3%	140	3.7%	21	0.6%

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	
Ancient History*	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arabic	69	7	10.1%	33	47.8%	22	31.9%	7	10.1%	0	0.0%
Biology*	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chemistry*	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chinese	180	139	77.2%	28	15.6%	11	6.1%	2	1.1%	0	0.0%
English*	41	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Mathematics*	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Indonesian*	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Korean	54	46	85.2%	6	11.1%	1	1.9%	1	1.9%	0	0.0%
Latin*	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Legal Studies*	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mathematical Methods*	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Modern Greek*	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Modern History*	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Philosophy & Reason*	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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

Subject	Number of students	A		B		C		D		E	
Physics*	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polish*	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Punjabi*	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Russian*	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Vietnamese	133	68	51.1%	52	39.1%	12	9.0%	1	0.8%	0	0.0%

*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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