

Year 12 certification summary

2023 cohort

Introduction

The following dataset summarises the achievements of students who finished Year 12 in Queensland each year from 2019 to 2023. The Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority (QCAA) compiled this dataset using information provided by:

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

Please 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 contains 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: Students issued a SEP 2019–2023

| | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| All schools | 37738 | 49486 | 51672 | 51305 | 53143 |
| Government schools | 21390 | 28655 | 29482 | 28678 | 29887 |
| Non-government schools (Catholic) | 7749 | 10523 | 10606 | 10737 | 11021 |
| Non-government schools (Other) | 8599 | 10308 | 11584 | 11890 | 12235 |

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: Students awarded a QCE 2019–2023

| 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 35620 | 45188 | 47918 | 47755 | 49680 |

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: Students awarded a QCIA 2019–2023

| 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 753 | 1003 | 1188 | 1112 | 1194 |

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: Students awarded one or more VET qualifications 2019–2023

| | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Certificate I | 9579 | 10746 | 10105 | 8452 | 8273 |
| Certificate II | 16639 | 24304 | 26466 | 26995 | 28079 |
| Certificate III | 8187 | 13844 | 15444 | 16202 | 16498 |
| Certificate IV | 578 | 1099 | 1261 | 1212 | 1251 |
| Diploma | 2123 | 1945 | 2630 | 2797 | 2849 |
| Advanced Diploma | 7 | 20 | 10 | 6 | 19 |

Table 5: Students who were completing or completed a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship (SAT) 2019–2023

| 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 4976 | 5948 | 5978 | 5704 | 6038 |

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: Students awarded an IBD 2019–2023

| 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 471 | 634 | 691 | 558 | 650 |

University subjects

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

Table 7: Students who completed a university subject while at school 2019–2023

| 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 911 | 1194 | 1395 | 1277 | 1236 |

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.

Table 8: Students who completed a General subject in 2023 and distribution of results

| Subject | Number of students | A | | B | | C | | D | | E | |
|---|--------------------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|-----|------|---|------|
| Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Studies | 53 | 12 | 22.6% | 20 | 37.7% | 14 | 26.4% | 5 | 9.4% | 2 | 3.8% |
| Accounting | 2263 | 528 | 23.3% | 815 | 36.0% | 805 | 35.6% | 113 | 5.0% | 2 | 0.1% |
| Aerospace Systems | 79 | 16 | 20.3% | 29 | 36.7% | 30 | 38.0% | 4 | 5.1% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Agricultural Science | 417 | 90 | 21.6% | 227 | 54.4% | 94 | 22.5% | 6 | 1.4% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Ancient History | 2638 | 643 | 24.4% | 937 | 35.5% | 980 | 37.1% | 77 | 2.9% | 1 | 0.0% |
| Biology | 13635 | 4488 | 32.9% | 6103 | 44.8% | 2929 | 21.5% | 115 | 0.8% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Business | 4729 | 789 | 16.7% | 1650 | 34.9% | 2075 | 43.9% | 211 | 4.5% | 4 | 0.1% |
| Chemistry | 8709 | 3704 | 42.5% | 3588 | 41.2% | 1375 | 15.8% | 41 | 0.5% | 1 | 0.0% |
| Chinese | 506 | 333 | 65.8% | 140 | 27.7% | 31 | 6.1% | 2 | 0.4% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Chinese Extension* | 31 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Dance | 752 | 318 | 42.3% | 327 | 43.5% | 99 | 13.2% | 8 | 1.1% | 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 | 2971 | 525 | 17.7% | 1053 | 35.4% | 1158 | 39.0% | 227 | 7.6% | 8 | 0.3% |
| Digital Solutions | 1578 | 477 | 30.2% | 553 | 35.0% | 458 | 29.0% | 89 | 5.6% | 1 | 0.1% |
| Drama | 2439 | 827 | 33.9% | 988 | 40.5% | 555 | 22.8% | 69 | 2.8% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Earth & Environmental Science | 294 | 78 | 26.5% | 164 | 55.8% | 50 | 17.0% | 2 | 0.7% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Economics | 2901 | 831 | 28.6% | 1274 | 43.9% | 760 | 26.2% | 36 | 1.2% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Engineering | 1588 | 404 | 25.4% | 518 | 32.6% | 567 | 35.7% | 97 | 6.1% | 2 | 0.1% |
| English | 26601 | 5475 | 20.6% | 11653 | 43.8% | 9142 | 34.4% | 331 | 1.2% | 0 | 0.0% |
| English as an Additional Language | 634 | 104 | 16.4% | 304 | 47.9% | 224 | 35.3% | 2 | 0.3% | 0 | 0.0% |
| English & Literature Extension | 709 | 446 | 62.9% | 214 | 30.2% | 42 | 5.9% | 7 | 1.0% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Film, Television & New Media | 2324 | 637 | 27.4% | 844 | 36.3% | 726 | 31.2% | 115 | 4.9% | 2 | 0.1% |
| Food & Nutrition | 808 | 104 | 12.9% | 298 | 36.9% | 328 | 40.6% | 74 | 9.2% | 4 | 0.5% |
| French | 569 | 298 | 52.4% | 208 | 36.6% | 59 | 10.4% | 4 | 0.7% | 0 | 0.0% |
| French Extension* | 26 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| General Mathematics | 20028 | 2462 | 12.3% | 8903 | 44.5% | 7593 | 37.9% | 1055 | 5.3% | 15 | 0.1% |
| Geography | 2502 | 433 | 17.3% | 898 | 35.9% | 1051 | 42.0% | 117 | 4.7% | 3 | 0.1% |
| German | 301 | 143 | 47.5% | 115 | 38.2% | 41 | 13.6% | 2 | 0.7% | 0 | 0.0% |
| German Extension* | 42 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Health | 2212 | 300 | 13.6% | 858 | 38.8% | 931 | 42.1% | 121 | 5.5% | 2 | 0.1% |
| Italian | 116 | 50 | 43.1% | 48 | 41.4% | 17 | 14.7% | 1 | 0.9% | 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 | 1272 | 487 | 38.3% | 501 | 39.4% | 243 | 19.1% | 40 | 3.1% | 1 | 0.1% |
| Legal Studies | 4630 | 809 | 17.5% | 1700 | 36.7% | 1788 | 38.6% | 326 | 7.0% | 7 | 0.2% |
| Literature | 4661 | 1913 | 41.0% | 1892 | 40.6% | 841 | 18.0% | 15 | 0.3% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Marine Science | 892 | 135 | 15.1% | 413 | 46.3% | 322 | 36.1% | 22 | 2.5% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Mathematical Methods | 10912 | 3174 | 29.1% | 4364 | 40.0% | 2943 | 27.0% | 425 | 3.9% | 6 | 0.1% |
| Modern History | 5105 | 1599 | 31.3% | 1840 | 36.0% | 1537 | 30.1% | 126 | 2.5% | 3 | 0.1% |
| Music | 2130 | 900 | 42.3% | 809 | 38.0% | 365 | 17.1% | 56 | 2.6% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Music Extension (Composition) | 169 | 117 | 69.2% | 47 | 27.8% | 5 | 3.0% | 0 | 0.0% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Music Extension (Musicology)* | 11 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Music Extension (Performance) | 552 | 379 | 68.7% | 151 | 27.4% | 21 | 3.8% | 1 | 0.2% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Philosophy & Reason | 661 | 195 | 29.5% | 254 | 38.4% | 194 | 29.3% | 17 | 2.6% | 1 | 0.2% |
| Physical Education | 5525 | 984 | 17.8% | 2111 | 38.2% | 2153 | 39.0% | 268 | 4.9% | 9 | 0.2% |
| Physics | 6835 | 2936 | 43.0% | 2563 | 37.5% | 1274 | 18.6% | 62 | 0.9% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Psychology | 4971 | 1299 | 26.1% | 2243 | 45.1% | 1380 | 27.8% | 49 | 1.0% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Spanish | 215 | 71 | 33.0% | 111 | 51.6% | 31 | 14.4% | 2 | 0.9% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Specialist Mathematics | 3612 | 1459 | 40.4% | 1360 | 37.7% | 666 | 18.4% | 126 | 3.5% | 1 | 0.0% |
| Study of Religion | 3525 | 1016 | 28.8% | 1728 | 49.0% | 754 | 21.4% | 27 | 0.8% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Visual Art | 3674 | 803 | 21.9% | 1327 | 36.1% | 1250 | 34.0% | 291 | 7.9% | 3 | 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.

Table 9: Students who completed an Applied subject in 2023 and distribution of results

| Subject | Number of students | A | | B | | C | | D | | E | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|-----|------|----|------|
| Agricultural Practices | 714 | 155 | 21.7% | 270 | 37.8% | 261 | 36.6% | 26 | 3.6% | 2 | 0.3% |
| Aquatic Practices | 2969 | 434 | 14.6% | 1329 | 44.8% | 1069 | 36.0% | 114 | 3.8% | 23 | 0.8% |
| Arts in Practice | 265 | 44 | 16.6% | 110 | 41.5% | 97 | 36.6% | 12 | 4.5% | 2 | 0.8% |
| Building and Construction Skills | 1837 | 245 | 13.3% | 744 | 40.5% | 794 | 43.2% | 50 | 2.7% | 4 | 0.2% |
| Business Studies | 1348 | 208 | 15.4% | 598 | 44.4% | 511 | 37.9% | 27 | 2.0% | 4 | 0.3% |
| Dance in Practice | 309 | 84 | 27.2% | 143 | 46.3% | 76 | 24.6% | 6 | 1.9% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Drama in Practice | 658 | 170 | 25.8% | 292 | 44.4% | 184 | 28.0% | 12 | 1.8% | 0 | 0.0% |
| Early Childhood Studies | 1345 | 285 | 21.2% | 573 | 42.6% | 462 | 34.3% | 23 | 1.7% | 2 | 0.1% |
| Engineering Skills | 1833 | 244 | 13.3% | 792 | 43.2% | 724 | 39.5% | 70 | 3.8% | 3 | 0.2% |
| Essential English | 18015 | 2555 | 14.2% | 7917 | 43.9% | 7131 | 39.6% | 393 | 2.2% | 19 | 0.1% |
| Essential Mathematics | 17597 | 1956 | 11.1% | 7750 | 44.0% | 6868 | 39.0% | 941 | 5.3% | 82 | 0.5% |
| Fashion | 642 | 199 | 31.0% | 234 | 36.4% | 179 | 27.9% | 27 | 4.2% | 3 | 0.5% |
| Furnishing Skills | 2699 | 424 | 15.7% | 1062 | 39.3% | 1135 | 42.1% | 74 | 2.7% | 4 | 0.1% |
| Hospitality Practices | 2923 | 506 | 17.3% | 1148 | 39.3% | 1126 | 38.5% | 134 | 4.6% | 9 | 0.3% |

| Subject | Number of students | A | | B | | C | | D | | E | |
|--|--------------------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|-----|------|----|------|
| Industrial Graphics Skills | 1137 | 253 | 22.3% | 448 | 39.4% | 372 | 32.7% | 51 | 4.5% | 13 | 1.1% |
| Industrial Technology Skills | 2535 | 417 | 16.4% | 1066 | 42.1% | 959 | 37.8% | 87 | 3.4% | 6 | 0.2% |
| Information and Communication Technology | 1139 | 244 | 21.4% | 435 | 38.2% | 419 | 36.8% | 33 | 2.9% | 8 | 0.7% |
| Media Arts in Practice | 1192 | 270 | 22.7% | 474 | 39.8% | 405 | 34.0% | 39 | 3.3% | 4 | 0.3% |
| Music in Practice | 736 | 184 | 25.0% | 294 | 39.9% | 244 | 33.2% | 13 | 1.8% | 1 | 0.1% |
| Religion and Ethics | 7471 | 2072 | 27.7% | 3003 | 40.2% | 2171 | 29.1% | 216 | 2.9% | 9 | 0.1% |
| Science in Practice | 2434 | 356 | 14.6% | 1044 | 42.9% | 945 | 38.8% | 78 | 3.2% | 11 | 0.5% |
| Social and Community Studies | 3438 | 587 | 17.1% | 1440 | 41.9% | 1293 | 37.6% | 106 | 3.1% | 12 | 0.3% |
| Sport and Recreation | 7676 | 1160 | 15.1% | 3747 | 48.8% | 2625 | 34.2% | 133 | 1.7% | 11 | 0.1% |
| Tourism | 1476 | 277 | 18.8% | 555 | 37.6% | 596 | 40.4% | 45 | 3.0% | 3 | 0.2% |
| Visual Arts in Practice | 4067 | 783 | 19.3% | 1573 | 38.7% | 1558 | 38.3% | 146 | 3.6% | 7 | 0.2% |

General (Senior External Examination) subjects

The Senior External Examination (SEE) 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.

Table 10: Students who completed a General (SEE) subject in 2023 and distribution of results

| Subject | Number of students | A | | B | | C | | D | | E | |
|----------------------|--------------------|----|-------|----|-------|----|-------|---|-------|---|------|
| Ancient History* | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Arabic | 82 | 6 | 7.3% | 36 | 43.9% | 29 | 35.4% | 9 | 11.0% | 2 | 2.4% |
| Chemistry* | 13 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Chinese | 119 | 59 | 49.6% | 47 | 39.5% | 13 | 10.9% | 0 | 0.0% | 0 | 0.0% |
| English* | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| General Mathematics* | 7 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Indonesian* | 11 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Korean | 57 | 49 | 86.0% | 7 | 12.3% | 0 | 0.0% | 0 | 0.0% | 1 | 1.8% |
| Latin* | 16 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Modern Greek* | 10 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Physics* | 9 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Polish* | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Punjabi* | 4 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Russian* | 15 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Tamil* | 6 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

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

| Subject | Number of students | A | | B | | C | | D | | E | |
|------------|--------------------|----|-------|----|-------|---|-------|---|------|---|------|
| Vietnamese | 59 | 21 | 35.6% | 27 | 45.8% | 6 | 10.2% | 5 | 8.5% | 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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