



Longitudinal Surveys of Australian Youth

COHORT REPORT

THE 1998 LSAY YEAR 9 COHORT: 21 YEAR-OLDS IN 2005

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**THE 1998 LSAY YEAR 9 COHORT:
21 YEAR-OLDS IN 2005**

This report provides details of the experiences of the 1998 Year 9 cohort of the Longitudinal Surveys of Australian Youth (LSAY). Information on this cohort was first collected in 1998 when these young people were Year 9 students in Australian schools. The reference period for this report is 2005, when the modal age of respondents was 21 years. Information about the 1998 Year 9 LSAY cohort's activities in previous years is available in earlier reports in this series, which are available as free downloads from the LSAY section of the ACER website (<http://www.acer.edu.au>). Summary statistics on the cohort, in 1998 and 2005, are contained in the table below. All figures in this cohort report are based on weighted data.

Background characteristics of the 1998 LSAY cohort in 2005 and in 1998

Background characteristic	Number in 1998 (n)	Distribution in 1998 (%)	Number in 2005 (n)	Distribution in 2005 (%)	Per cent retained in sample (%)
<i>Gender</i>					
Male	6912	49	2626	49	38.0
Female	7116	51	2718	51	38.2
<i>Indigenous Australians</i>					
Indigenous	362	3	103	2	28.5
Non-indigenous	13090	97	5070	98	38.7
<i>Country of birth</i>					
Australia	12104	89	4701	90	38.8
Other	1425	11	499	10	35.0
<i>Home Language</i>					
English	12068	89	4672	90	38.7
Other	1534	11	538	10	35.1
<i>Type of school attended in 1998</i>					
Government	9518	67	3611	67	37.9
Catholic	2880	20	1074	20	37.3
Independent	1720	12	670	13	38.9
<i>Location of school attended in 1998</i>					
Metropolitan	9911	70	2969	55	30.0
Provincial	2306	16	1295	24	56.1
Rural/remote	1901	13	1092	20	57.4
<i>Number in sample</i>	<i>14118</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>5344</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>37.9</i>

Notes: Section columns may not sum to number in sample because of missing data for some groupings. 1998 data weighted for sampling; data for 2005 weighted for sampling and attrition. School location based on categories used in original sampling.

WHAT WERE THEY DOING IN 2005?

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Table 1.1.1 Education and training status of the 1998 LSAY cohort in 2005, by level of education and training and gender

Level of education and training	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
<i>Higher education</i>			
University full-time	25	29	27
University part-time	2	2	2
<i>Total higher education</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>Vocational education and training</i>			
TAFE full-time	2	2	2
TAFE part-time	1	3	2
Apprenticeship	10	2	6
Traineeship	1	2	2
<i>Total vocational education and training</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>12</i>
Other education and training	1	1	1
<i>Total in education and training</i>	<i>43</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>42</i>
<i>Not currently in education and training</i>	<i>57</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>58</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>Number in sample</i>	<i>2626</i>	<i>2718</i>	<i>5344</i>

Notes: Columns may not sum to section totals due to rounding.

EMPLOYMENT**Table 1.2.1 Weekly hours worked and earnings of the 1998 LSAY cohort in 2005, by education and training status and gender**

	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
In education and training			
Not working	18	15	16
Hours worked per week in main job			
1-10 hours	16	26	21
11-20 hours	19	25	22
21-30 hours	7	9	8
31-40 hours	27	20	23
More than 40 hours	12	3	8
No regular hours per week	<1	1	<1
Waiting to start a job	1	1	1
<i>Total</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>Number in education and training</i>	<i>1123</i>	<i>1120</i>	<i>2243</i>
Median hours worked per week	30	17	24
Median gross weekly income	\$400	\$260	\$316
Not in education and training			
Not working	11	14	13
Hours worked per week in main job			
1-10 hours	4	6	5
11-20 hours	6	11	8
21-30 hours	8	12	10
31-40 hours	44	48	46
More than 40 hours	25	9	17
No regular hours/unsure	1	1	1
Waiting to start a job	1	<1	1
<i>Total</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>Number not in education and training</i>	<i>1503</i>	<i>1597</i>	<i>3101</i>
Median hours worked per week	40	38	39
Median gross weekly income	\$650	\$550	\$600
<i>Number in sample</i>	<i>2626</i>	<i>2718</i>	<i>5344</i>

Notes: The category 'In education and training' combines those at school, university or TAFE with those in apprenticeships, traineeships and other study. 'Not working' includes those who were unemployed and those who were not in the labour force. Median hours worked per week is based on those who were working and stated regular hours. Median net weekly income is based on those who were working and provided income details. Hours and income based on main job only. Columns may not sum to section totals due to rounding.

Table 1.2.2 Employment status of the 1998 LSAY cohort in 2005, by gender

Employment status	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
In a full-time job at time of interview	59	47	53
In a part-time job at time of interview	26	37	32
Unemployed at time of interview	5	4	5
Outside the labour force and full-time education and training at time of interview	3	5	4
Other	7	6	6
Mean number of months employed during 2005	10.2	9.8	10.0
<i>Number in sample</i>	<i>2626</i>	<i>2718</i>	<i>5344</i>

Notes: A full-time job is one in which the person works 30 hours or more per week. Based on the person's main job if working in more than one job. Persons who are unemployed are not working, are looking for work and are able to start work if offered a job. Number of months worked based on previous 12 months. Persons outside the labour force and full-time education and training may be engaged in part-time education and training. 'Other' includes persons in full-time education and training and not working.

Table 1.2.3 Occupation groups of the 1998 LSAY cohort employed in 2005, by gender

Occupation group	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
Managers and administrators	1	<1	<1
Professionals	11	12	12
Associate professionals	13	12	12
Tradespersons and related workers	26	4	15
Advanced clerical and service workers	1	4	2
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	12	35	24
Intermediate production and transport workers	11	1	6
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	13	26	20
Labourers and related workers	13	5	9
Occupation uncodeable	<1	<1	<1
<i>Total</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>Number in sample</i>	<i>2251</i>	<i>2293</i>	<i>4544</i>

Notes: Occupation groups are based on the second edition of the *Australian Standard Classification of Occupations* (ASCO) (ABS, 1997). Groups are based on the person's main job only. Columns may not sum to 100% due to rounding. Includes those who did not provide information on hours or earnings.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AND ATTITUDES

Table 1.3.1 Participation in spare-time leisure activities at least once a week by the 1998 LSAY cohort in 2005, by type of activity and gender

Leisure activity	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
Visit library	6	9	7
Read books	41	53	47
Read newspapers or magazines	91	89	90
Use the Internet	80	83	81
Play sport or exercise	85	84	84
Community based activity	10	12	11
None of the above	<1	1	<1
<i>Number in sample</i>	<i>2626</i>	<i>2718</i>	<i>5344</i>

Note: Columns may sum to more than 100% because cohort members can participate in more than one activity.

Table 1.3.2 Happiness with various aspects of their lives for the 1998 Year 9 LSAY cohort in 2005

Happiness with....	Very Happy (%)	Happy (%)	Unhappy (%)	Very Unhappy (%)	Unsure (%)
Work you do at school, at home or in a job	31	63	5	1	1
What you do in your spare time	48	49	3	<1	<1
How you get on with people in general	56	43	1	<1	<1
The money you get each week	19	63	15	3	<1
Your social life	52	44	3	<1	<1
Your independence	61	36	3	<1	<1
Your career prospects	40	53	6	1	1
Your future	45	52	2	<1	1
Your life at home	51	46	2	<1	<1
Your standard of living	53	45	2	<1	<1
The way the country is run	5	58	25	8	4
The state of the economy	6	68	16	3	7
Where you live	48	47	4	1	<1
Your life as a whole	54	45	1	<1	<1
<i>Number in sample</i>					<i>5344</i>

Note: Rows may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Table 1.3.3 Type of accommodation among members of the 1998 LSAY cohort in 2005

Type of accommodation	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
In parents'/partner's parents' home	63	55	59
In a shared house or flat	11	12	12
Renting	19	24	21
Buying	3	5	4
Own outright	1	1	1
In a private house as a boarder	2	2	2
A university or TAFE residence	1	1	1
A hostel or boarding house	<1	<1	<1
Somewhere else	1	2	1
<i>Total</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>Number in sample</i>	<i>2626</i>	<i>2718</i>	<i>5344</i>

Note: Columns may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Table 1.3.4 Relationships among members of the 1998 LSAY cohort in 2005

Relationship	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
Married	2	4	3
Living with a de facto/partner	11	17	14
Living with own children	1	8	4
<i>Number in sample</i>	<i>2626</i>	<i>2718</i>	<i>5344</i>

WHAT HAVE THEY DONE SO FAR?

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Table 2.1.1 Participation in Year 12 and post-school education and training by the 1998 LSAY cohort to 2005, by gender

	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
<i>Year 12</i>			
Ever in Year 12	80	87	83
Ever in VET subject as part of secondary school	25	29	27
<i>Post-school vocational education and training (VET)</i>			
Ever started an Australian Apprenticeship	28	27	28
Ever enrolled in non-apprenticeship VET	31	19	25
<i>Ever enrolled in post-school VET</i>	50	42	46
<i>Higher education</i>			
Ever enrolled at university	43	55	49
Ever enrolled in post-graduate study	1	1	1
<i>Ever enrolled in higher education</i>	43	55	49
<i>Ever enrolled in post-school education and training</i>	87	90	88
<i>Number in sample</i>	2626	2718	5344

Note: Participation in Year 12 includes those who did Year 12 at a TAFE institution. 'Australian Apprenticeship' includes apprenticeships and traineeships. Columns sum to more than 100% because cohort members may have enrolled in more than one type of education and training. Categories are not mutually exclusive.

Table 2.1.2 Completion of Year 12 and post-school education and training by the 1998 LSAY cohort to 2005, by gender

	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
<i>Year 12</i>			
Completed Year 12	79	86	82
<i>Post-school vocational education and training</i>			
Completed apprenticeship	8	1	5
Completed traineeship	5	9	7
Completed non-apprenticeship certificate	11	13	12
Completed diploma	5	7	6
Completed advanced diploma or associate degree	2	2	2
<i>Completed post-school vocational education and training</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>29</i>
<i>Certificate levels (non-apprenticeship)</i>			
Completed Certificate I	1	1	1
Completed Certificate II	3	3	3
Completed Certificate III	4	7	5
Completed Certificate IV	3	4	3
Completed certificate (level unknown)	1	1	1
<i>Higher education</i>			
Completed bachelor degree	9	17	13
Completed graduate diploma or certificate	<1	<1	<1
Completed post-graduate degree	<1	<1	<1
<i>Completed higher education</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>Completed a post-school qualification</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>47</i>	<i>42</i>
<i>Number in sample</i>	<i>2626</i>	<i>2718</i>	<i>5344</i>

Notes: Completion of Year 12 includes those who did Year 12 study at a TAFE institution. Those who have completed more than one certificate, diploma or degree are included in this table, and may be counted more than once. Certificates in this table are restricted to those obtained through non-apprenticeship VET study only. Apprentices and trainees obtain certificates as part of their training, but they were not asked about such certificates until the 2001 interviews.

EMPLOYMENT**Table 2.2.1 Employment experience in 2005 of the 1998 LSAY cohort, by gender**

Employment experience	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
Employed in 6 consecutive months during 2005	84	80	82
Not working and looked for work in 6 consecutive months during 2005	4	3	3
Outside the labour force and full-time education and training in 6 consecutive months during 2005	3	3	3
Mean number of months employed since January 2000	49.4	49.5	49.4
<i>Number in sample</i>	<i>2626</i>	<i>2718</i>	<i>5344</i>

Note: Those employed in 6 consecutive months may have been employed part-time or full-time in any of those months. Persons outside the labour force and full-time education and training may have been engaged in part-time education and training during the period. January 2000 is the first month for which monthly employment data are available for the 1998 LSAY cohort.