What is the main destination of early school leavers?

NSW Secondary Students’ Post-School Destinations and Expectations Research 2014

Key results

- Entering an apprenticeship is the main post-school destination among early school leavers in NSW.
- Since 2010, the proportion of early school leavers employed in full time or part time work has decreased. This trend has coincided with an increase in those reportedly looking for work and those who had not entered the labour force or further education and training at the time of the survey.
- There has been a slight increase in the proportion of early leavers participating in traineeships since 2010.
- There has been a decrease in the proportion of early leavers participating in VET Certificate I-III courses since 2010.

This document presents results from 7,000 interviews undertaken with students who left school prior to completing Year 12 (early school leavers). It focuses on the main post-school destination of this group and makes comparisons to surveys of early school leavers undertaken in 2010 and 2013. Care should be taken when interpreting time series results given the small samples in previous rounds (311 in 2010 and 193 in 2013).

Main post-school destination is based on self-reported participation in further education and current employment status. The classification system prioritises education related post-school destinations over participation in employment.

For more information: refer to the NSW Secondary Students’ Post-School Destinations and Expectations Research 2014 Report Section 2.1.2 Main Destination of Early School Leavers (Page 16)

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Main post-school destinations of early school leavers (%)

- Bachelor degree
- VET Cert IV+
- VET Cert I-III
- Apprenticeship
- Traineeship
- Full-time work
- Part-time work
- Looking for work
- NILFET

Some form of education or training: 56% in 2014

Employed or looking for work: 38% in 2014

NILFET^: 6% in 2014

* Indicates result is significantly different to 2010 (p<.01)
^ Not in the labour force or further education or training