

Young Futures Project Phase 4 research description –Analysis of ‘On Track data’

Selected tables from the published reports of the ‘On Track’ survey results 2018 were analysed to compare results across the six sites. The On Track survey is undertaken annually by the Victorian government, of young people six months after leaving school. It focuses primarily on destinations but also includes a small number of questions on careers advice while at school. The surveys covers Year 12 completers from the previous year, and also those who left school without completing during that year.

The 2018 survey therefore captured young people who finished Year 12, or were non-completers of year 12, during 2017. They were six months out of school, while Phase 3 of our study followed young people up to 18 months out.

For this analysis the published reports for the Local Government Areas (LGAs) covering each of the six case study sites (www.education.vic.gov.au/ontrack) were analysed for key variables, including destinations and views about career advice received at school.

The numbers of On Track responses varied considerably across sites, from 105 (Horsham LGA) to 932 (Casey LGA), with a response rate from 76% of Year 12 or equivalent completers at Horsham and just over 50% at the other locations; and it should be noted that the survey data is gathered by LGA, which in many instances were considerably larger and more diverse than our target towns.

The comparative tables produced in the analysis were:

- Post-school destinations of Year 12 or equivalent completers six months after leaving school, by site (Main activity: Options of Bachelor degree; Certificate/Diploma; Apprentice/Trainee; Employed; Looking for work; Not in the labour force or education/training);
- Post-school destinations of Year 12 or equivalent completers who exited school in 2017, by gender, by site;
- Particular university destinations by site - percentages;
- Particular TAFE Institute destinations by site - percentages;
- Proportion of Year 12 or equivalent completers who deferred tertiary study, by site;
- Career advice activities participated in while at school (11 items), completers vs non-completers;
- Perceived usefulness of career advice received, completers vs non-completers.

