



## WACE Achievement Data 2018

### 2018 Outcomes

Set out below is achievement data from the third cohort of students (2018) who completed the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) under the requirements introduced for 2016 onwards.

#### Year 12 population

- 25 974 Year 12 students undertook studies towards the WACE, an increase of 0.8 per cent on the 25 954 students in 2017.
- In addition, in 2018, 2521 (3272 in 2017) 17-year-olds were on Notice of Arrangements and engaged in apprenticeships, traineeships, employment and/or training. These young people were not enrolled in schools.

#### Secondary WACE achievement

- Of the 25 974 Year 12 students, 24 347 full-time students were eligible to achieve a WACE (24 332 in 2017).
- In 2018, 22 293 (91.6 per cent) of eligible Year 12 students achieved a WACE. This compares to 22 174 (91.1 per cent) in 2017. It should be remembered that the WACE is now significantly more rigorous as a result of the requirement for students to demonstrate minimum literacy and numeracy standards, attain a minimum number of 'C grades' and the completion of a Certificate II or higher for students not enrolled in ATAR courses.

#### ATAR course examinations

- There were 13 093 Year 12 students (53.8 per cent of Year 12 students who undertook full time studies towards the WACE) who sat four or more ATAR course examinations in 2018. In 2017, there were 13 229 Year 12 students (54.7 per cent) who sat four or more ATAR course examinations. Students who sit four or more ATAR course examinations may be eligible for an ATAR.

#### VET\* qualifications

- In 2018, 14 975 Year 12 students completed at least one VET qualification at Certificate II or higher in Years 10, 11 or 12, compared with 14 774 in 2017.
- In 2018, 3654 students completed a Certificate III and 1021 students achieved a Certificate IV. The respective numbers in 2017 were 3692 and 957.

\*VET qualifications, reported by schools, are not awarded by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority and need to be verified by sighting the relevant certificate.

#### Literacy and numeracy (excluding international students)

- 22 970 (94.3 per cent) of **WACE eligible students** demonstrated all three numeracy, reading and writing standards by the end of Year 12 compared with 22 757 (93.5 per cent) in 2017.
- Of the 2018 Year 12 cohort, 8259 (33.9 per cent) satisfied all three standards through prequalification based on their Year 9 NAPLAN results and a further 14 711 (60.4 per cent) achieved the standard by sitting the OLN (in Years 10, 11 or 12). This improvement is due to the

sustained efforts of schools and their teachers across the State who have embraced the importance of students developing satisfactory levels of literacy and numeracy as part of the WACE.

## STEM Enrolments 2018

### Students enrolled in four or more ATAR examinations – 13 096 students

**Table 1: Students with Mathematics courses in their enrolment**

Course enrolments	1 course only		≥2 courses		Total	
<b>Course type</b>						
Mathematics ATAR	10 232	78.1%	1 635	12.5%	11 867	90.6%
Mathematics (but not ATAR mathematics)	411	3.1%	0	0.0%	411	3.1%
Mathematics – at least one mathematics course	10 598	80.9%	1 680	12.8%	12 278	93.8%

**Table 2: Students with Science courses in their enrolment**

Course enrolments	1 course only		≥2 courses		Total	
<b>Course type</b>						
Science ATAR	4 581	35.0%	5 300	40.5%	9 881	75.5%
Science (but not ATAR science)	102	0.8%	1	0.0%	103	0.8%
Science – at least one science course	4 564	34.9%	5 420	41.4%	9 984	76.2%

**Table 3: Students with STEM courses in their enrolment**

Course enrolments	1 course only		≥2 courses		Total	
<b>Course type</b>						
STEM ATAR	3 153	24.1%	9 427	72.0%	12 580	96.1%
STEM (but not ATAR STEM)	215	1.6%	2	0.0%	217	1.7%
STEM – at least one STEM course	3 092	23.6%	9 705	74.1%	12 797	97.7%

### Students enrolled in ≤ three ATAR examinations – 11 254 students

**Table 4: Students with Mathematics courses in their enrolment**

Course enrolments	1 course only		≥2 courses		Total	
<b>Course type</b>						
Mathematics ATAR	909	8.1%	7	0.1%	916	8.1%
Mathematics (but not ATAR mathematics)	9 148	81.3%	4	0.0%	9 152	81.3%
Mathematics – at least one mathematics course	10 028	89.1%	40	0.4%	10 068	89.5%

**Table 5: Students with Science courses in their enrolment**

Course enrolments	1 course only		≥2 courses		Total	
Course type						
Science ATAR	285	2.5%	25	0.2%	310	2.8%
Science (but not ATAR science)	3 220	28.6%	278	2.5%	3 498	31.1%
Science – at least one science course	3 459	30.7%	349	3.1%	3 808	33.8%
Science-related Cert II or higher (but not ATAR nor General science)	1 746	15.5%	0	0.0%	1 746	15.5%
Science – at least one science course or science-related Cert II or higher	5 205	46.3%	349	3.1%	5 554	49.4%

**Table 6: Students with STEM courses in their enrolment**

Course enrolments	1 course only		≥2 courses		Total	
Course type						
STEM ATAR	929	8.3%	155	1.4%	1 084	9.6%
STEM (but not ATAR STEM)	6 563	58.3%	2 851	25.3%	9 414	83.7%
STEM – at least one STEM course	7 061	62.7%	3 437	30.5%	10 498	93.3%
STEM-related Cert II or higher (but not ATAR nor General STEM)	85	0.8%	0	0.0%	85	0.8%
STEM – at least one STEM course or STEM-related Cert II or higher	7 146	63.5%	3 437	30.5%	10 583	94.0%

All full-time Year 12 students eligible to achieve WACE – 24 350 students

**Table 7: Students with Mathematics courses in their enrolment**

Course enrolments	1 course only		≥2 courses		Total	
Course type						
Any Mathematics course	20 626	84.7%	1 720	7.1%	22 346	91.8%

**Table 8: Students with Science courses in their enrolment**

Course enrolments	1 course only		≥2 courses		Total	
Course type						
Any Science course (excludes VET programs)	8 023	32.9%	5 769	23.7%	13 792	56.6%
Any Science course or Science-related Cert II or higher	9 769	40.1%	5 769	23.7%	15 538	63.8 %

**Table 9: Students with STEM courses in their enrolment**

Course enrolments	1 course only		≥2 courses		Total	
Course type						
Any STEM course (excludes VET programs)	10 153	41.7%	13 178	54.0%	23 331	95.8%
Any STEM course or STEM-related Cert II or higher	10 238	42.0%	13 178	54.1%	23 416	96.2%

<sup>1</sup> Tables include all full-time Year 12 students eligible to achieve WACE in 2018.

Note:

- Science: Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Human Biology, Earth and Environmental Science, Integrated Science, Engineering Studies, Marine and Maritime Science, Applied Information Technology, Computer Science
- Science-related VET Certificate II or higher: VET Certificate II or higher in science, engineering, health and ICT
- STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics courses.