



## WACE Achievement Data 2019

### 2019 Outcomes

Set out below is achievement data for the fourth cohort of students (2019) who completed the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) under the requirements introduced for 2016 onwards.

#### Year 12 population

- In 2019, 25 783\* Year 12 students undertook studies towards the WACE. This is a slight decrease on the 25 974 students in 2018.
- In addition, in 2019, 2226 (2521 in 2018) 17-year-olds were on Notices of Arrangement and engaged in apprenticeships, traineeships, employment and/or training. These young people were not enrolled in schools.

\* These students have completed at least one course unit, one unit of competence or one endorsed program.

#### Secondary WACE achievement

- Of the 25 783 Year 12 students (25 974 in 2018), 24 097<sup>†</sup> full-time students were eligible to achieve a WACE (24 347 in 2018).
- In 2019, 22 008 (91.3 per cent) of eligible Year 12 students achieved a WACE. This compares to 22 293 (91.6 per cent) in 2018.

† These students have completed at least eight course units, or equivalent, in Year 12 and are eligible to achieve a WACE.

#### ATAR courses

- There were 12 143 Year 12 students (50.4 per cent of Year 12 students who undertook full-time studies towards the WACE) who sat four or more ATAR course examinations in 2019.
- Comparable figures for Year 12 students who sat four or more ATAR course examinations in recent years are:
  - 2019 – 12 143 (50.4 per cent)
  - 2018 – 13 093 (53.8 per cent)
  - 2017 – 13 299 (54.7 per cent)
  - 2016 – 13 540 (58.0 per cent).

#### VET qualifications<sup>‡</sup>

- In 2019, 15 496 Year 12 students completed at least one VET qualification at Certificate II or higher in Years 10, 11 or 12, compared with 14 975 in 2018.
- In 2019, students completed 3658 Certificate III qualifications and 1192 Certificate IV qualifications. The respective numbers in 2018 were 3654 and 1021.

‡ 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)

- 22 729 (94.3 per cent) of **WACE eligible** Year 12 students demonstrated all three, numeracy, reading and writing standards by the end of Year 12 compared with 22 970 (94.3 per cent) in 2018.
- Of the 2019 Year 12 cohort, 7327 (30.4 per cent) satisfied all three standards through prequalification based on their Year 9 NAPLAN results and a further 15 402 (63.9 per cent) achieved the standard by sitting the OLNA (in Years 10, 11 or 12).
- Of the 24 097 full-time WACE eligible Year 12 students:
  - 23 269 (96.6 per cent) demonstrated the numeracy standard
  - 23 589 (97.9 per cent) demonstrated the reading standard
  - 23 402 (97.1 per cent) demonstrated the writing standard.

### STEM Enrolments 2019

#### Students enrolled in four or more ATAR examinations – 12 143 students

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

Course enrolments	1 course only		≥2 courses		Total	
Course type						
Mathematics ATAR	9 613	79.2%	1 485	12.2%	11 098	91.4%
Mathematics (but not ATAR mathematics)	320	2.6%	0	0.0%	320	2.6%
Mathematics – at least one mathematics course	9 897	81.5%	1 521	12.5%	11 418	94.0%

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

Course enrolments	1 course only		≥2 courses		Total	
Course type						
Science ATAR	4 322	35.6%	4 762	39.2%	9 084	74.8%
Science (but not ATAR science)	129	1.1%	1	0.0%	129	1.1%
Science – at least one science course	4 332	35.7%	4 881	40.2%	9 213	75.9%

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

Course enrolments	1 course only		≥2 courses		Total	
Course type						
STEM ATAR	2 875	23.7%	8 783	72.3%	11 658	96.0%
STEM (but not ATAR STEM)	185	1.5%	5	0.0%	190	1.6%
STEM – at least one STEM course	2 836	23.4%	9 012	74.2%	11 848	97.6%

#### Students enrolled in ≤ three ATAR examinations – 11 957 students

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

Course enrolments	1 course only		≥2 courses		Total	
Course type						
Mathematics ATAR	949	7.9%	0	0.0%	949	7.9%
Mathematics (but not ATAR mathematics)	9 616	80.4%	0	0.0%	9 616	80.4%
Mathematics – at least one mathematics course	10 532	88.1%	33	0.3%	10 565	88.4%

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

Course enrolments	1 course only		≥2 courses		Total	
Course type						
Science ATAR	261	2.2%	28	0.2%	2 890	2.4%
Science (but not ATAR science)	3 447	28.8%	282	2.4%	3 729	31.2%
Science – at least one science course	3 662	30.6%	356	3.0%	4 018	33.6%
Science-related Cert II or higher (but not ATAR nor General science)	1 707	14.3%	0	0%	1 707	14.3%
Science – at least one science course or science-related Cert II or higher	5 369	44.9%	356	3.0%	5 725	47.9%

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

Course enrolments	1 course only		≥2 courses		Total	
Course type						
STEM ATAR	959	8.0%	147	1.2%	1 106	9.2%
STEM (but not ATAR STEM)	7 066	59.1%	2 962	24.8%	10 028	83.9%
STEM – at least one STEM course	7 618	63.7%	3 516	29.4%	11 134	93.1%
STEM-related Cert II or higher (but not ATAR nor General STEM)	91	0.8%	0	0%	91	0.8%
STEM – at least one STEM course or STEM-related Cert II or higher	7 709	64.5%	3516	29.4%	11 225	93.9%

All full-time Year 12 students eligible to achieve WACE – 24 100 students

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

Course enrolments	1 course only		≥2 courses		Total	
Course type						
Any Mathematics course	20 429	84.8%	1 554	6.4%	21 983	91.2%

**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)	7 994	33.2%	5 237	21.7%	13 231	54.9%
Any Science course or Science-related Cert II or higher	9 701	40.3%	5 237	21.7%	14 938	62.0 %

**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)	10 454	43.4%	12 528	52.0%	22 982	95.4%
Any STEM course or STEM-related Cert II or higher	10 545	43.8%	12 528	52.0%	23 075	95.7%

<sup>1</sup> Tables include all full-time Year 12 students eligible to achieve WACE in 2019.

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.