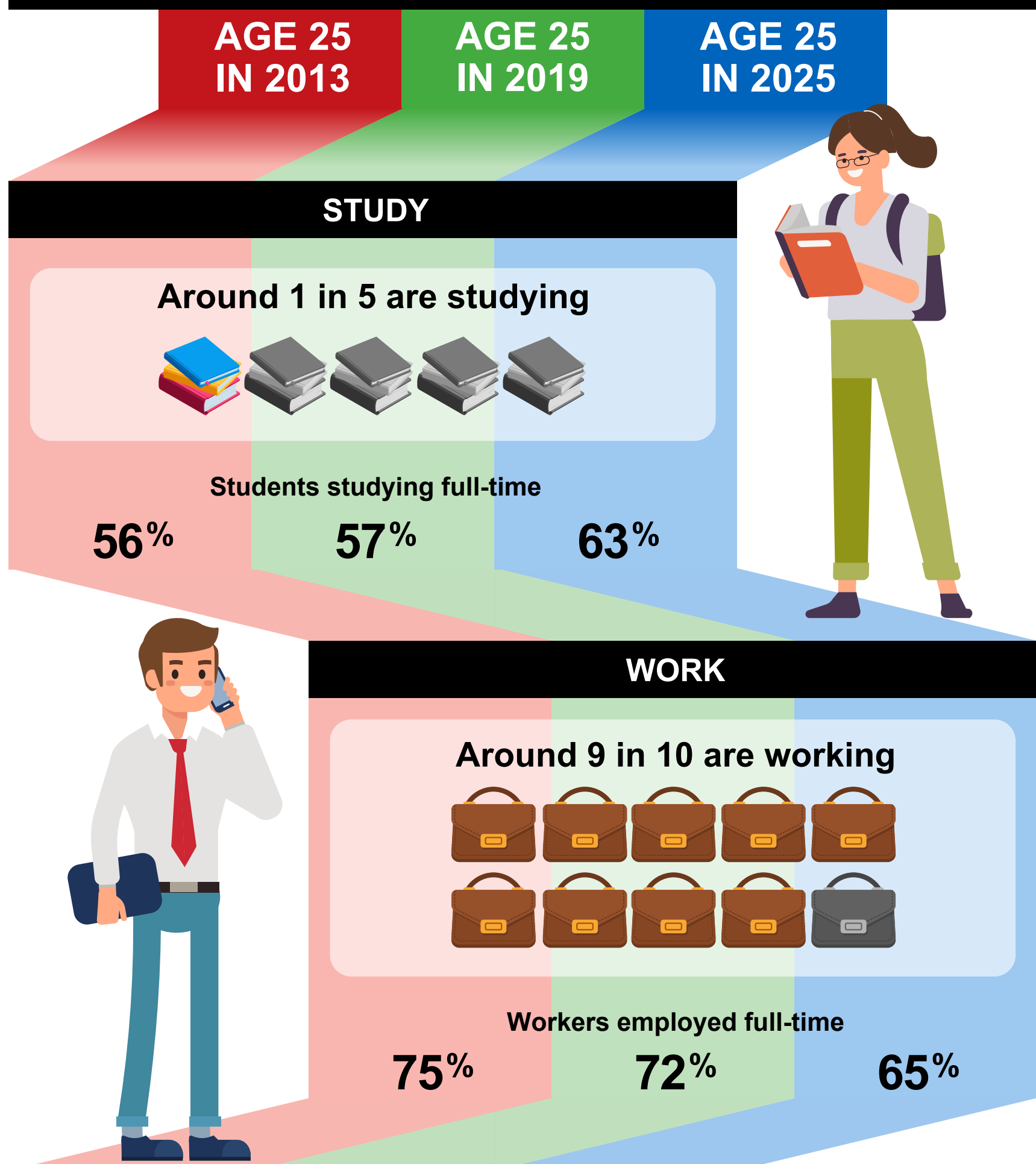


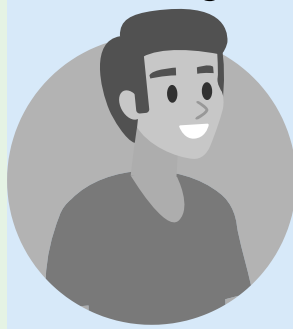
GENERATION Z: NAVIGATING LIFE AT 25

The Longitudinal Surveys of Australian Youth (LSAY) follow young Australians from the age of 15 up until they are 25, exploring young people's experiences as they leave school, begin post-school study, and enter the workforce.

Generation Z: navigating life at 25 compares the experiences of young Australians surveyed at age 25 in 2013, 2019 and 2025. Bringing together insights on education, employment, health and wellbeing, living arrangements and young people's aspirations for the future, the infographic provides a snapshot of what life looks like for young Australians at age 25.

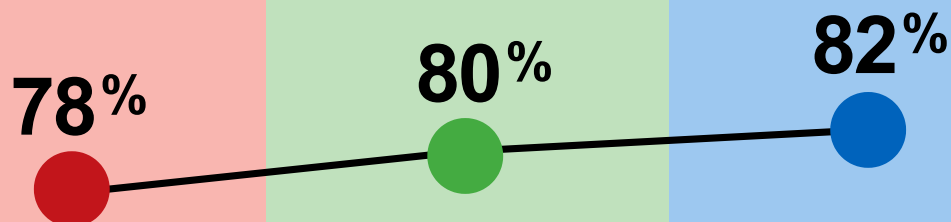


Around 2 in 3 have a permanent job

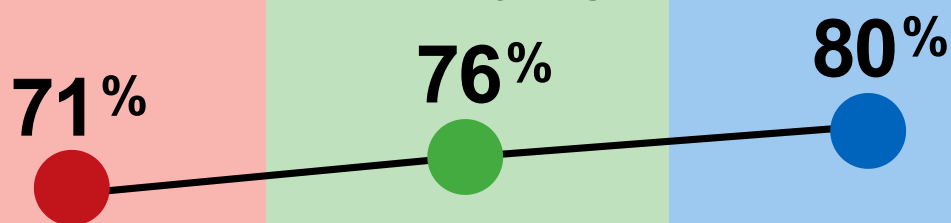


Share in a permanent job
by highest qualification completed

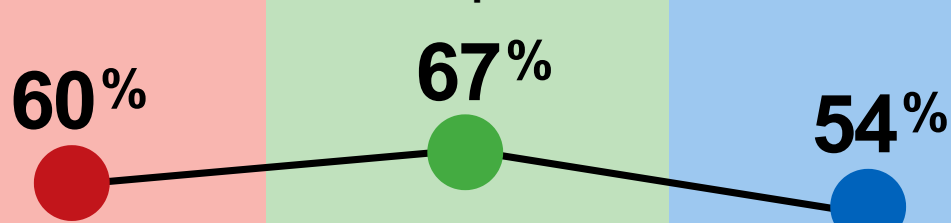
An apprenticeship or traineeship



A university degree



Other VET qualification



Those with an apprenticeship or traineeship consistently had the **highest rates of permanent employment** at age 25

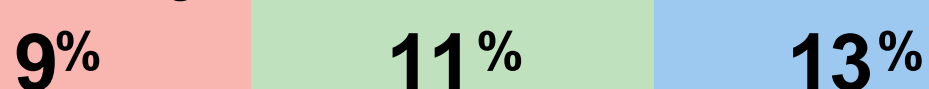


Top jobs
for those in permanent work

- | Rank | Primary School Teachers | Registered Nurses | Registered Nurses |
|------|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. | | | |
| 2. | | | |
| 3. | | | |

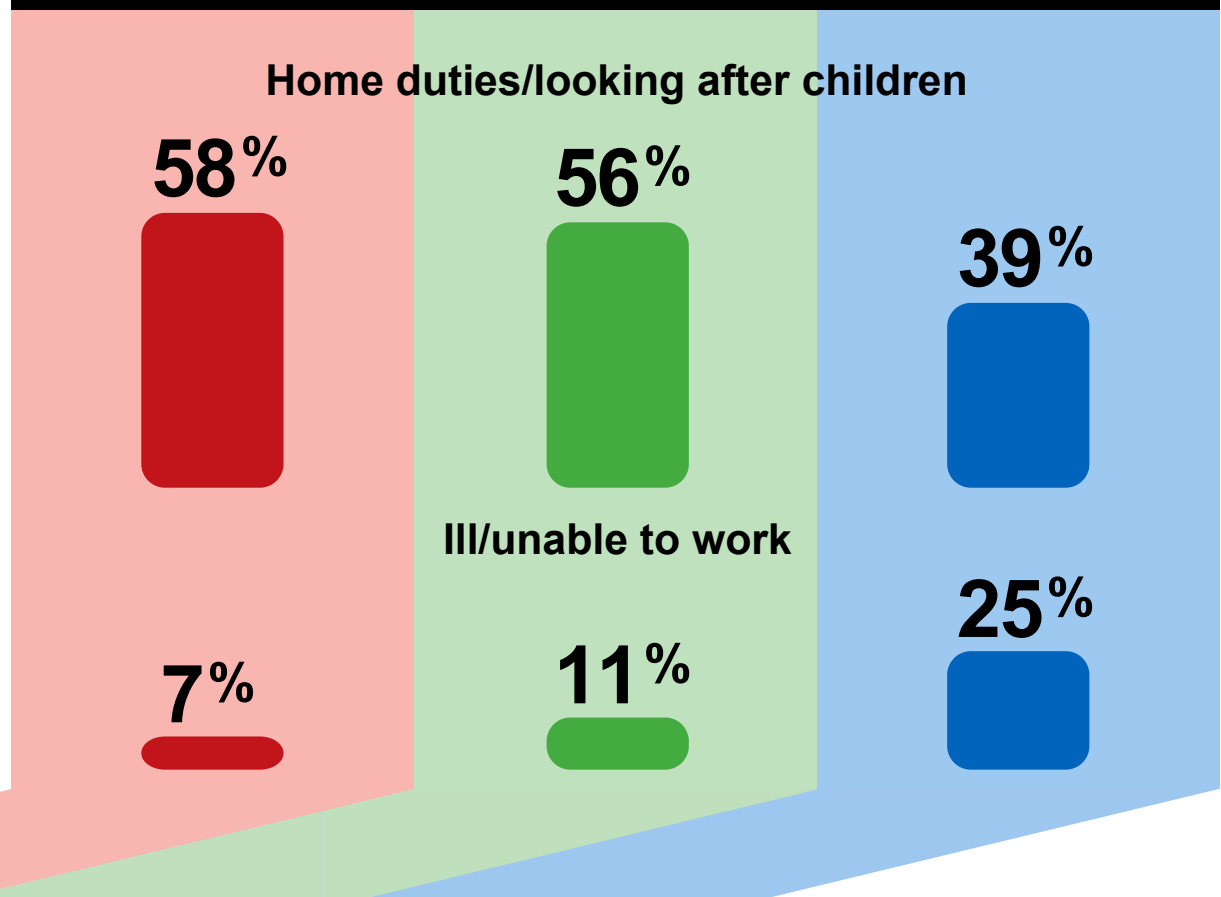
Underemployment

Wanting and available to work more hours

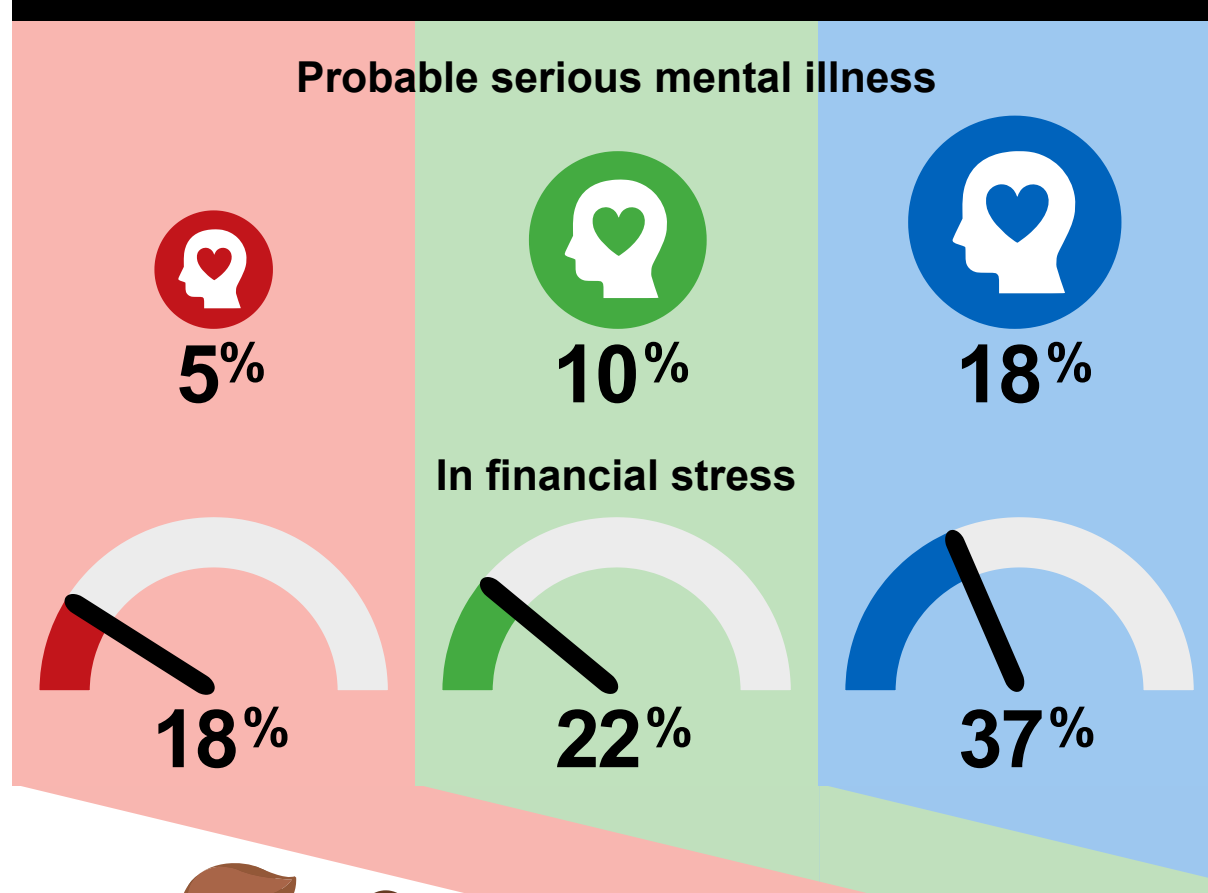




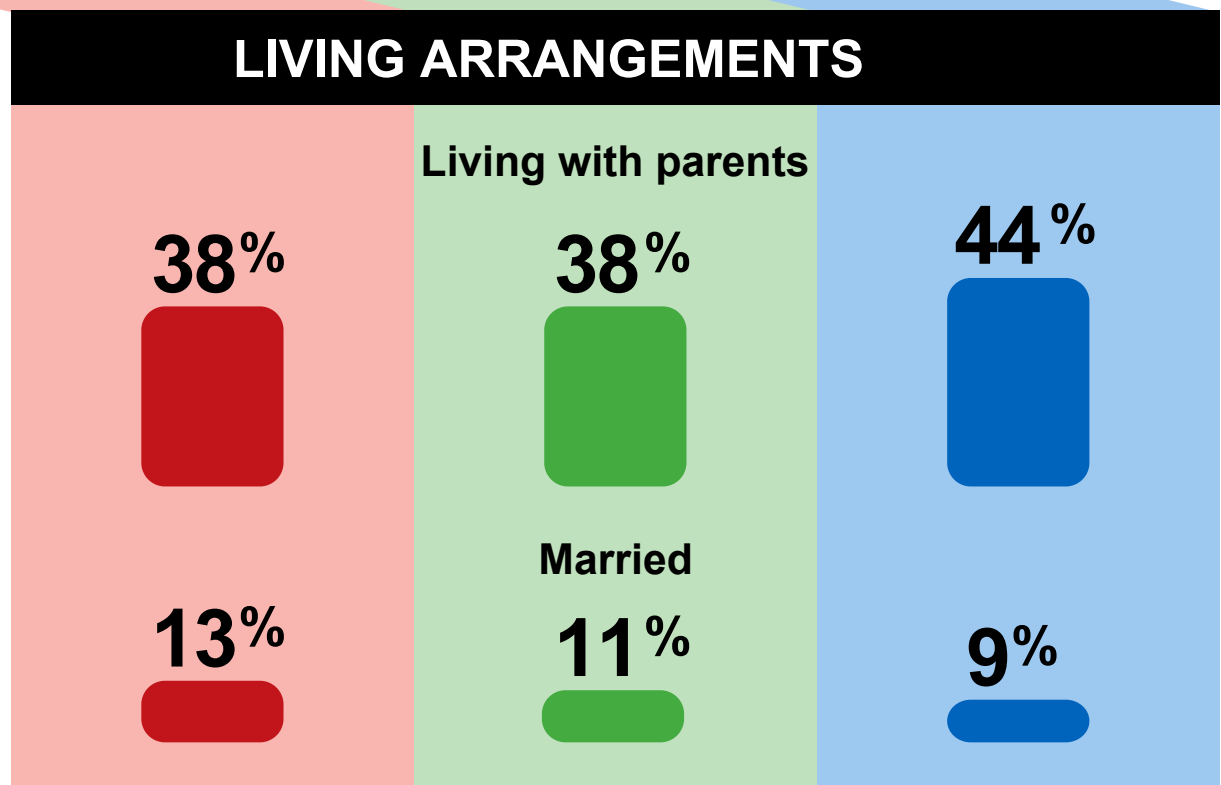
MAIN ACTIVITY FOR THOSE NOT STUDYING, WORKING OR LOOKING FOR WORK



HEALTH AND WELLBEING



LIVING ARRANGEMENTS



GOALS FOR THE FUTURE

Thinking about the next five years, in which aspect of your life do you hope to make the biggest change?



Life satisfaction - be content with relationships, living conditions and to travel more

Have a job that I can earn enough to live comfortably and be able to pay my medical bills



Moving out of my parents' house into my own place and finding my independence as an adult



I'd like to have more time to spend with friends, make new friends who I connect with better. It feels like everyone's struggling so much at the moment it's hard to get out

I would love to have a family, to have kids. But I would need probably to find a more constant and better paying job and flexibility. Otherwise, I would hope at least my career would align better with what I had studied/dreamed



PAVING FUTURE PATHWAYS

For 30 years, LSAY participants have shared important information about their life experiences as they transition from school into adulthood. The data for all six LSAY cohorts is freely available to researchers, policymakers and those with an interest in youth transitions.

Visit www.lsay.edu.au to find out more.



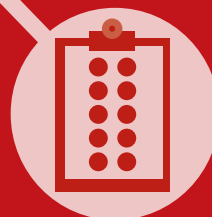
60,000+

young people surveyed since LSAY commenced in 1995



6 cohorts

have been surveyed since 1995



11 survey waves

available for each cohort

NOTES ON THE DATA

Permanent jobs

Permanent jobs include permanent/ongoing jobs.

Share in a permanent job by highest qualification completed

For respondents who completed more than one post-school qualification, the highest qualification level is recorded. Apprenticeships and traineeships are reported separately and are excluded from 'other VET qualification'. They take precedence over other VET qualifications, including certificates I–IV, certificate level unknown and diplomas. Respondents who are working but whose employment status is unknown are excluded.

Underemployed

Underemployed are those who are employed and prefer to work more hours or are looking for additional jobs, as a proportion of all those who are employed.

Main activity for those not studying, working or looking for work

Main activity for those not studying refers to those not studying for a qualification. Only a selection of main activity categories is presented. Other categories include 'Informal study/training', 'Time off – including travel or holiday' and 'Other'.

Health and wellbeing

"Probable serious mental illness" is derived using responses to the six Kessler Psychological Distress Scale (K6) question items. Figures exclude those who didn't answer one or more of the six psychological distress questions. For each question, a 5-point Likert scale is used with scores (which take the values 1 to 5) indicating the frequency of the symptom. The total possible values across the six items range from 6–30 and are categorised as:

- Likely to have a serious mental illness (total score = 6–17)
- Not likely to have a serious mental illness (total score = 18–30).

These categories have been adapted from Kessler et al (2010). See ABS 2012, 'Use of the Kessler Psychological Distress Scale in ABS Health Surveys, Australia, 2007–08', <https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/lookup/4817.0.55.001chapter92007-08>

Financial stress

"In financial stress" includes those who responded "Yes" to two or more of the following shortage of money events: You sold something because you needed money; You went without meals; You had to ask family or friends for money; You had to borrow money just to live on; Didn't get medicines or go to a doctor; You couldn't buy text books or other study materials; You couldn't buy other things you needed; You couldn't pay electricity, gas or telephone bills on time; You couldn't pay mortgage/rent on time; You couldn't afford to heat your home.

The following questions were only asked of those who were no longer living in their parental home: You couldn't pay electricity, gas or telephone bills on time; You couldn't pay mortgage/rent on time; You couldn't afford to heat your home.

Living arrangements

Living with parents includes those living with their parents, step-parents or the parents of their partner, girlfriend or boyfriend.

Goals for the future

Selection of responses from the 2015 cohort (age 25 in 2025) to the question: 'Thinking about the next five years, in which aspect of your life do you hope to make the biggest change?'

SOURCES

National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) 2026, Longitudinal Surveys of Australian Youth, 2015 cohort (version 10.0).

—2020, Longitudinal Surveys of Australian Youth, 2009 cohort (version 9.0).

—2020, Longitudinal Surveys of Australian Youth, 2003 cohort (version 7.1).

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