



Longitudinal Surveys of Australian Youth

COHORT REPORT

THE 2003 LSAY COHORT OF 15 YEAR-OLDS: 15 YEAR-OLDS IN 2003

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**THE 2003 LSAY COHORT OF 15 YEAR-OLDS:
15 YEAR-OLDS IN 2003**

This report provides details of the 2003 cohort of 15 year-olds of the Longitudinal Surveys of Australian Youth (LSAY). Information on this cohort was first collected in 2003 when these young people participated in the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), conducted by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). A follow-up telephone interview that year collected further information on the cohort. Information about the activities of the 2003 cohort of 15 year-olds in subsequent years is available in other reports in this series, which are available as free downloads from the LSAY section of the ACER website (<http://www.acer.edu.au>). Summary statistics on the cohort in 2003 are contained in the table below. More detail is provided in the appendix. All figures in this cohort report are based on weighted data.

Background characteristics of the 2003 LSAY cohort

Background characteristic	Number (n)	Distribution (%)
<i>Gender</i>		
Male	5276	51
Female	5094	49
<i>Indigenous Australians</i>		
Indigenous	195	2
Non-indigenous	10175	98
<i>Country of birth</i>		
Australia	9019	88
Other	1217	12
<i>Home Language</i>		
English	9405	91
Other	886	9
<i>Type of school attended</i>		
Government	6334	61
Catholic	2317	22
Independent	1719	17
<i>Location of school attended</i>		
Metropolitan	6196	60
Provincial	2265	22
Rural/remote	1909	18
<i>Number in sample</i>	<i>10370</i>	<i>100</i>

Notes: Section columns may not sum to number in sample because of missing data for some groupings. 2003 data weighted for sampling. Type of school based on categories used in original sampling. School location based on MCEETYA Schools Geographic Location Classification, with groupings to allow consistency with earlier LSAY cohorts; these groupings are different from those reported in PISA.

WHAT WERE THEY DOING IN 2003?

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Table 1.1.1 Education and training status of the 2003 LSAY cohort in 2003, by level of education and training and gender

Level of education and training	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
<i>Secondary school</i>			
Year 9 (or below)	11	7	9
Year 10	71	73	72
Year 11	18	20	19
Year 12	<1	<1	<1
<i>Total secondary school</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>Higher education</i>			
University full-time	--	--	--
University part-time	--	--	--
<i>Total higher education</i>	<i>--</i>	<i>--</i>	<i>--</i>
<i>Vocational education and training</i>			
TAFE full-time	--	--	--
TAFE part-time	--	--	--
Apprenticeship	--	--	--
Traineeship	--	--	--
<i>Total vocational education and training</i>	<i>--</i>	<i>--</i>	<i>--</i>
Other education and training	--	--	--
<i>Total in education and training</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>Not currently in education and training</i>	<i>--</i>	<i>--</i>	<i>--</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>Number in sample</i>	<i>5276</i>	<i>5094</i>	<i>10370</i>

Note: Columns may not sum to section totals due to rounding.

EMPLOYMENT**Table 1.2.1 Weekly hours worked and earnings of the 2003 LSAY cohort in 2003, by gender**

	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
Not working	52	46	49
Hours worked per week in main job			
1-5 hours	7	8	7
6-10 hours	16	21	18
11-15 hours	11	13	12
16-20 hours	6	7	6
21 or more hours per week	6	4	5
No regular hours/unsure	1	1	1
Waiting to start a job	1	1	1
<i>Total</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>
Median hours worked per week	11	11	10
Median net weekly earnings	\$90	\$80	\$85
<i>Number in sample</i>	<i>5276</i>	<i>5094</i>	<i>10370</i>

Notes: Median hours worked per week is based on those who were working and stated regular hours. Median net weekly earnings is based on those who were working and provided income details. Hours and earnings based on main job only. Columns may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Table 1.2.2 Employment status of the 2003 LSAY cohort in 2003, by gender

Employment status	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
In a full-time job at time of interview	4	2	3
In a part-time job at time of interview	41	51	46
Unemployed at time of interview	--	--	--
Outside the labour force and full-time study at time of interview	--	--	--
Other	54	48	51
<i>Number in sample</i>	<i>5276</i>	<i>5094</i>	<i>10370</i>

Notes: A full-time job is one in which the person works 30 hours or more per week. Based on the person's main job if working in more than one job. Persons who are unemployed are not working, are looking for work and are able to start work if offered a job. 'Other' includes persons in full-time education and training and not working, and those who have jobs but have not yet started working with regular hours.

Table 1.2.3 Occupation groups of the 2003 LSAY cohort employed in 2003, by gender

Occupation group	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
Managers and administrators	<1	--	<1
Professionals	1	1	1
Associate professionals	4	2	3
Tradespersons and related workers	9	3	6
Advanced clerical and service workers	<1	<1	<1
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	4	13	9
Intermediate production and transport workers	11	2	6
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	29	59	45
Labourers and related workers	41	19	29
Uncodeable	<1	<1	<1
<i>Total</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>Number in sample</i>	<i>2449</i>	<i>2699</i>	<i>5148</i>

Notes: Occupation groups are based on the second edition of the *Australian Standard Classification of Occupations* (ASCO) (ABS, 1997). Groups are based on the person's main job only. Columns may not sum to 100% due to rounding. Includes those who did not provide information on hours or earnings.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON
THE 2003 LSAY COHORT OF 15 YEAR-OLDS**

Table A.1 Country of birth of 2003 LSAY cohort members and their parents

Country of birth (major groups)	Student (%)	Mother (%)	Father (%)
Australia	88	69	68
Other Oceania and Antarctica	2	4	3
North-West Europe	1	7	8
Southern and Eastern Europe	2	6	8
North Africa and the Middle East	1	3	3
South-East Asia	2	5	4
North-East Asia	2	2	2
Southern and Central Asia	1	2	2
Americas	1	1	1
Sub-Saharan Africa	1	1	1
<i>Total</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>Number in sample</i>	<i>10236</i>	<i>10262</i>	<i>10217</i>

Notes: Country groups are based on the Standard Australian Classification of Countries (SACC) (ABS, 1998; catalogue no 1269.0). Columns may not sum to 100% due to rounding. Data may be missing for some cohort members.

Table A.2 Language spoken at home 'most of the time' by 2003 LSAY cohort members

Broad language group	Total (%)
English	91
Other Northern European Languages	<1
Southern European Languages	1
Eastern European Languages	2
Southwest Asian and North African Languages	2
Southern Asian Languages	1
Southeast Asian Languages	1
Eastern Asian Languages	2
Australian Indigenous Languages	<1
Other Languages (including African, Oceanic, Sign)	<1
<i>Total</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>Number in sample</i>	<i>10291</i>

Notes: Language groups are based on the Australian Standard Classification of Languages (ASCL), first edition (ABS, 1997; catalogue no 1267.0). Column may not sum to 100% due to rounding. Data may be missing for some cohort members.

Table A.3 Parents' highest educational attainment and 2003 LSAY cohort members' expected highest educational attainment

Educational level	ISCED level	Mother (%)	Father (%)	Student (%)
None	0	3	2	- -
Primary school	1	1	2	<1
Secondary school (less than Year 12)	2	21	20	2
Year 12 or equivalent	3 or 4	35	34	26
Diploma, advanced diploma or associate degree	5B	12	12	8
Bachelor degree or higher	5A or 6	28	30	63
<i>Total</i>		<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>Number in sample</i>		<i>10004</i>	<i>9711</i>	<i>10359</i>

Notes: Educational levels are based on the Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED) (ABS, 1998; catalogue no 1269.0), and its correspondence with the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED-97) (UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 1999). Columns may not sum to 100% due to rounding. Data may be missing for some cohort members.

Table A.4 Occupations of 2003 LSAY cohort members' parents and cohort members' expected occupation at age 30

Occupation major group	Mother (%)	Father (%)	Student (%)
Legislators, senior officials and managers	8	17	5
Professionals	23	15	40
Technicians and associate professionals	12	11	17
Clerks	15	3	1
Service workers and shop and market sales workers	12	5	9
Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	1	4	1
Craft, etc., trades workers	2	18	7
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	2	10	<1
Elementary occupations	8	4	<1
Other	8	3	6
Not available	9	9	12
<i>Total</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>100</i>
<i>Number in sample</i>	<i>10370</i>	<i>10370</i>	<i>10370</i>

Notes: Occupation major groups based on the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-88) (ILO, 1990). 'Other' includes parents identified as 'housewives', 'students' and 'social beneficiaries', which are not standard classifications of ISCO. Columns may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

Table A.5 Distribution of the 2003 LSAY cohort in 2003, by State/Territory and geographic zone

State or Territory	Geographic zone			<i>Total in state (%)</i>	<i>Number in sample</i>
	Metropolitan (%)	Provincial (%)	Rural/remote (%)		
Australian Capital Territory	--	2	--	2	196
New South Wales	19	6	6	32	3282
Victoria	17	4	4	24	2502
Queensland	9	6	5	19	1998
South Australia	7	--	2	9	928
Western Australia	8	2	1	11	1153
Tasmania	--	2	<1	2	233
Northern Territory	--	1	<1	1	78
<i>Total in zone</i>	60	22	18	100	
<i>Number in sample</i>	6196	2265	1909		10370

Notes: Geographic zones determined by location of cohort members' schools, and based on the MCEETYA Schools Geographic Location Classification, which uses ARIA+ scores (GISCA, 2003). The metropolitan zone comprises mainland state capital city regions; the provincial zone comprises major urban statistical districts, provincial city statistical districts (50,000–99,999, including Darwin) and provincial city statistical districts (25,000–49,999); and the rural/remote zone comprises inner provincial areas, outer provincial areas, remote areas and very remote areas. These groupings are different from those reported in PISA, but allow consistency with earlier LSAY cohorts. Cells may not sum to row and column totals due to rounding.