

TAFE Division

(All courses surveyed)

Sample size	2828	
Total valid responses	739 (26.1%)	
Responses by year	2002: 323	2003: 410

Background

This report provides information gathered through the Graduate Destination Survey conducted by SPS in June/July 2004. It includes summaries of the main reasons that respondents chose to do the course, their educational and work background, whether they felt they achieved their aims, their overall satisfaction with the course, and post-study work and educational outcomes.

A paper based survey was sent out to graduates from 2002 and 2003 across a range of 55 course areas which related in particular to courses identified as low priority by OTTE and other areas of interest. The response to the paper based survey was approximately 10% and this was followed up with telephone interviews which were recorded using surveyor and the data from the two methods was combined to form a response rate of approximately 26%.

It should be noted when reading this aggregate report that many of the course areas surveyed have been identified by OTTE as areas where there are more graduates in a region than the jobs available and so may not reflect the employment outcomes in other courses in the TAFE Division. It should also be noted that the responses for some courses are very low and no significant conclusions can be drawn.

Summary:

Employment and Further Study

Approximately 74% of respondents cited vocational reasons for doing the course and 81% of respondents were in paid employment at June/July 2004 and of the 19% not in paid employment 57% are in further study and 34% in unpaid or volunteer work. Of the 26% (143) of respondents in paid work which is unrelated to the course, 38% (53) are enrolled in further education and approximately 70% (36) of those in further education are in courses related to the original course.

35% of respondents are enrolled in further study with the highest proportion (56%) enrolled in undergraduate degrees. 87% of this further study was related or somewhat related to the original course.

Of the 8% not in paid employment or further study, 53% indicated that they were in some form of unpaid or volunteer work. The area with the highest proportion of respondents not in work or further study was the Arts area with 15% however it should also be noted that this area had the highest proportion of respondents unemployed and looking for work prior to the course (33.67%) and the highest mean satisfaction with the quality of the course. Other areas which may require further investigation include Community Services, particularly in relation to Community Development and Community Work where 8/14 respondents were not in work or further study.

Satisfaction

43% of comments in relation to what respondents gained personally from doing the course, related to knowledge and skills followed by 16% of comments relating to confidence.

34% of comments in relation to what Swinburne did well in their time here related to the excellence of teaching practice and staff with 17% relating to facilities and resources.

20% of comments in relation to suggested improvements related to practical or industry experience with other comments spread across areas such as course content, structure, administration, teaching practice and facilities and resources.

In general, the mean ranking of the quality of the courses surveyed was 7.8 which is higher than the mean rating in the 2003 NCVER graduate destination survey of 2002 graduates.

Before the course:

Main reason for doing the course (N = 670)

	%
To get a job	25%
To develop an existing business	1%
To start a new business	1%
To get a different job	12%
To get a better job	15%
It was a requirement of my job	5%
To get extra skills for my job	15%
To get into further study	7%
Personal interest	11%
Other	8%

74% of respondents cited vocational reasons for doing the course, however 19% cited personal interest or other reasons.

Respondents employed before the start of the course: 68% (505/739 respondents)

Educational background (N=739)

	Year 12	Year 11	Year 10	Year 9 or below
Highest Level of secondary schooling	74%	15%	8%	3%

Qualifications prior to starting the course

Completed TAFE Qualification 38% (n=739)

Completed Australian Higher Education Qualification 8% (n=739)

Started but did not complete Australian Higher Education Qualification 10% (n=739)

After the course:

Course satisfaction

N=726	Yes	Partly	No
Did you achieve your main aim for doing the course?	78%	12%	10%

How would you rank the quality of the course?

(1-2 = Poor, 3-4 Below Average, 5-6 Average, 7-8 Above Average, 9-10 Excellent)

Mean Response for courses surveyed: 7.8 (N = 722) (StDev= 1.39)

NCVER Mean 2002 graduates 7.4

Current employment:

	Percentage	Responses/N
Respondents in paid employment at June/July 2004	81%	589/732
Total respondents in unpaid work (inc. those with paid work or study)	15%	106/709

Of respondents not in paid employment, 57% (78/137) are in further study and 34% are in unpaid or volunteer work (47/139).

N=589	Full Time	Part Time	Casual	Other
Current job status	57% (338)	27% (161)	12% (73)	3% (17)
% of above looking for additional work	13%	27%	38%	75%

Approximately 21% of those in paid employment are looking for additional work

	Related	Somewhat related	Not related
Current job related to the course?	62%	13%	26%

	Same as previous job	Similar to previous job	Promotion or other improvement	Not related to previous job	Not employed before course
Current job's relationship to job before the course	29%	4%	12%	33%	22%

	Yes %	Number/Responses
Did your TAFE course assist you to get this job?	62%	362/580
Did the course help you with the skills that you need in this job?	78%	455/581
Are you looking for additional work	22%	124/582
Are you looking for alternative work	24%	139/569

Of respondents who are in paid employment which is not related to their course (150), 50 are in further study and of these 35 of these are in study related to their previous course.

Further education

35% of respondents are enrolled in further study. (249/705) Of those enrolled in further study, 46% are studying at Swinburne.

Course details

N = 251	CII	CIII	CIV	Dip	ADip	Grad Cert	Degree	Masters	Other
Course level (Number)	3	8	23	33	9	9	141	13	12

N=253	Full Time	Part Time
Study mode	54%	44%

N=237	Related to course	Somewhat related	Not related
New course relationship to completed course	67%	20%	12%

Respondents not in work or study:

8.0% of respondents are not enrolled in further study or in paid work. (59/739)

Of these, 53% are in unpaid or volunteer work. 67% of these respondents cited vocational reasons for doing the course and approximately 30% for personal or other reasons.

The mean rating of the quality of the course in this group of respondents was 8.1, which would indicate that although they are not in paid employment, they considered that the quality of the course was quite high.

List three things you gained personally from doing the course.

(NB this item only appeared on the paper version of the survey)

1. Qualifications	31	6. Career Path	63
2. Knowledge and Skills	320	7. Industry Understanding or experience	62
3. Connection with teachers & other students	61	8. Other	54
4. Satisfaction	28	9. No gain	1
5. Confidence	120	Total Comments (Up to 3 per respondent)	740

List three things that you felt Swinburne did well in your time here.

(NB this item only appeared on the paper version of the survey)

1. Course Structure	54	6. Practical Industry Experience	37
2. Course Content	73	7. Other	62
3. Course Administration	46	8. Negative Statement	5
4. Teaching Practice	194		
5. Facilities and Resources	96	Total Comments (Up to 3 per respondent)	567

Suggest three things that you believe are the most important things that Swinburne should do to improve the course.

1. Course Structure	155	6. Practical Industry Experience	195
2. Course Content	157	7. Happy – No comment	78
3. Course Administration	136	8. Other	36
4. Teaching Practice	136		
5. Facilities and Resources	104	Total Comments (Up to 3 per respondent)	997

Graduate Destination Survey (Graduates from 2002 and 2003) Swinburne University of Technology – TAFE

Sample and Responses

#	Course Code(s)	Course Name	Sample 2002 & 2003	Valid Resp	Resp Rate	Resp 2003	Resp 2002	% in job-pre	% Looking for work in 6 months before course	% paid employ after course	% job related to course	% in further study now	% not in study or paid employment	Mean Quality
1	V2603AAC	Advanced Diploma of Arts (Electronic Design and Interactive Media)	33	12	36.36	8	4	58.33	12.50	66.67	62.50	41.67	8.33	7.92
15	C2203AGB	Certificate II in Arts (Interactive Multimedia)	47	19	40.43	10	9	57.89	27.27	68.42	15.38	55.56	10.53	7.63
33	V12861VIC	Diploma of Arts (Graphic Arts)	15	3	20.00	0	3	33.33	100.00	100.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	9.50
34	V12857VICM	Diploma of Arts (Visual Arts - New Media)	13	2	15.38	2	0	100.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	8.00
35	V12857VIC	Diploma of Arts (Visual Arts)	32	13	40.63	10	3	76.92	28.57	53.85	28.57	53.85	7.69	8.77
		All Arts related courses	140	49	30.56	30	19	65.29	33.67	67.79	31.29	40.22	15.31	8.36
14	B14246ACT	Advanced Diploma of Management	23	9	39.13	2	7	88.89	33.33	88.89	50.00	12.50	11.11	8.27
18	TBSA30197	Certificate III in Business (Office Administration)	86	15	17.44	10	5	53.33	30.77	93.33	64.29	35.71	0.00	8.33
2	B20055VIC	Advanced Diploma of Business (Human Resource Management)	31	15	48.39	8	7	60.00	25.00	73.33	36.36	53.33	13.33	6.00
24	TBSA40197, TBSB40201	Certificate IV in Business (Administration)	26	5	19.23	3	2	40.00	25.00	60.00	66.67	40.00	40.00	7.89
3	K20055VIC	Advanced Diploma of Business (International Business)	31	6	19.35	4	2	50.00	0.00	66.67	25.00	66.67	0.00	7.78
36	F2504AGC, Y2504AGC	Diploma of Business (Accounting)	153	29	18.95	18	11	62.07	27.27	62.07	83.33	35.71	20.69	7.33
37	TBSA50197	Diploma of Business (Administration)	138	48	34.78	24	24	66.67	23.33	82.98	79.49	30.23	4.17	7.47
38	F2504ABC F90025NSW	Diploma of Business (Banking and Finance)	48	10	20.83	4	6	80.00	16.67	90.00	33.33	70.00	0.00	7.40
39	F2504ACA	Diploma of Business (Credit Management)	10	2	20.00	0	2	50.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	8.11
4	T20055VICP	Advanced Diploma of Business (Public Relations)	15	7	46.67	7	0	57.14	33.33	71.43	25.00	57.14	0.00	8.04
42	G14870SA	Diploma of Community Services (Management)	54	10	18.52	2	8	100.00		100.00	90.00	30.00	0.00	7.80
5	B2604ACC F2604ACC	Advanced Diploma of Business (Accounting)	190	39	20.53	19	20	48.72	14.81	66.67	61.54	60.53	7.69	6.00
52	TACT3497, TCUL50199	Diploma of Library and Information Studies & Services incl	43	11	25.58	10	1	54.55	12.50	90.00	66.67	0.00	0.00	7.10
53	B14247ACT, BNSW4254	Diploma of Management	113	37	32.74	20	17	91.89	7.14	86.49	70.00	16.67	2.70	7.56
6	B2604AEC/M, K20055VICM K2604AEC/M	Advanced Diploma of Business (Marketing)	189	68	35.98	39	29	72.06	22.58	86.76	38.60	36.36	2.94	9.33
		All Business and Finance Related Course	1150	311	27.87	170	141	65.02	14.26	81.24	59.35	36.32	6.84	7.63
16	DCHC20399	Certificate II in Community Services (Children's Services)	31	6	19.35	3	3	50.00	0.00	100.00	80.00	25.00	0.00	7.61
19	DCHC30399	Certificate III in Community Services (Children's Services)	146	20	13.70	13	6	70.00	6.25	65.00	84.62	42.11	20.00	7.60

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#	Course Code(s)	Course Name	Sample 2002 & 2003	Valid Resp	Resp Rate	Resp 2003	Resp 2002	% in job-pre	% Looking for work in 6 months before course	% paid employ after course	% job related to course	% in further study now	% not in study or paid employ ment	Mean Quality
20	GCHC30299	Certificate III in Community Services (Alcohol and Other Drugs Work)	26	1	3.85	0	1	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.45
21	RCHC30199	Certificate III in Community Services (Aged Care Work)	148	46	31.08	30	13	69.57	35.71	91.30	73.81	31.82	8.70	7.00
25	GCHC40299	Certificate IV in Community Services (Alcohol and Other Drugs Work)	55	2	3.64	2	0	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	50.00	0.00	8.13
26	GCHC40799	Certificate IV in Community Services (Disability Work)	102	14	13.73	11	3	71.43	16.67	92.86	84.62	7.69	7.14	8.00
27	GCHC40999	Certificate IV in Community Services (Youth Work)	30	3	10.00	3	0	33.33	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	7.64
28	RCHC40199D	Certificate IV in Community Services (Aged Care Work)	29	9	31.03	9	0	88.89	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	7.67
29	G0046SOCHS	Certificate IV in Community Services (Social Housing)	11	1	9.09	0	1	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	6.13
40	D10556ACT DCHC50399	Dip Children's Services (Centre Based Care), Dip Comm Services (Children's Serv - Centre Based Care)	227	83	36.56	44	39	72.29	8.51	87.95	70.83	35.44	6.02	7.00
41	DCHC50399S	Diploma of Community Services (Children's Services - Out of School Hours Care)	22	13	59.09	7	6	100.00	33.33	100.00	92.31	0.00	0.00	8.23
43	G2507ACC	Diploma of Community Services (Community Development)	20	6	30.00	3	3	83.33	0.00	66.67	50.00	0.00	33.33	7.62
44	GCHC50699	Diploma of Community Services (Community Work)	25	8	32.00	6	2	37.50	25.00	25.00	50.00	0.00	75.00	6.80
45	GCHC50899	Diploma of Community Services (Mental Health Work - non clinical)	15	4	26.67	2	2	25.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	7.83
46	G2507ABC	Diploma of Community Services (Welfare Studies)	29	11	37.93	4	7	72.73	12.50	90.91	77.78	27.27	9.09	8.00
7	D14869SA	Advanced Diploma of Community Services (Management)	15	4	26.67	2	2	75.00	0.00	66.67	100.00	33.33	0.00	8.67
8	DCHC60399	Advanced Diploma of Community Services (Children's Services)	38	18	47.37	7	11	100.00	0.00	94.44	82.35	16.67	5.56	8.45
		All Community Services related courses	969	249	25.4	146	99	73.47	8.12	87.11	79.2	27.61	9.7	7.70
10	S12832VICM	Advanced Diploma of Computer Science (Multimedia)	39	8	20.51	4	3	12.50	0.00	50.00	0.00	42.86	25.00	8.60
11	S12832VICS	Advanced Diploma of Computer Science (Software Development)	12	4	33.33	3	1	25.00	33.33	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	7.00
47	E2506AJC	Diploma of Computer Systems	50	3	6.00	2	1	0.00	0.00	33.33	0.00	66.67	0.00	7.75
50	C2509AAC/S, CICA50299	Diploma of Information Technology (Software Development)	126	25	19.84	13	12	56.00	6.25	65.22	13.33	58.33	8.00	7.33
51	CICA50499	Diploma of Information Technology (Network Engineering)	32	10	31.25	10	0	80.00	0.00	90.00	44.44	40.00	0.00	7.88
9	S12832VICI	Advanced Diploma of Computer Science (Instrumentation)	33	5	15.15	3	2	60.00	33.33	80.00	0.00	40.00	0.00	7.70
		All Communication and Information Technology courses	292	55	21.01	35	19	38.92	12.15	53.09	9.63	57.98	5.5	7.71
12	A20020VIC	Advanced Diploma of Engineering Technology	22	4	18.18	2	2	75.00	50.00	75.00	100.00	66.67	0.00	7.50
13	A20020VICM	Advanced Diploma of Engineering Technology (Mechanical)	11	2	18.18	0	2	50.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	8.50
31	A2406ADC	Certificate IV in Renewable Energy Technology	12	4	33.33	0	4	75.00	50.00	66.67	0.00	66.67	25.00	7.67
32	SQLD3522/C	Diploma of Applied Science (Chemical Laboratory Technology)	11	2	18.18	2	0	50.00	0.00	50.00	100.00	50.00	0.00	7.50
48	A2506AIC, E2506AIC	Diploma of Electronics	27	2	7.41	0	2	50.00	0.00	100.00	50.00	50.00	0.00	7.00

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55	A0046DAV	Diploma of Technology (Aviation)	4	2	50.00	2	0	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00
		All Science and Engineering related courses	87	16	24.21	6	10	66.67	16.67	81.95	41.67	47.22	4.17	7.20
17	JRUH20198	Certificate II in Horticulture	28	10	35.71	1	9	40.00	37.50	80.00	62.50	66.67	0.00	7.40
22	JRUH30498	Certificate III in Horticulture (Landscape)	33	6	18.18	5	1	100.00	0.00	100.00	80.00	0.00	0.00	7.17
23	JRUH30598	Certificate III in Horticulture (Nursery)	28	8	28.57	3	5	75.00	25.00	100.00	62.50	12.50	0.00	8.38
30	J2401AEA/G	Certificate IV in Horticulture (Gardening)	12	1	8.33	0	1	100.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.00
49	JRUH50198	Diploma of Horticulture	49	19	38.78	8	11	57.89	18.18	78.95	53.33	16.67	21.05	7.53
54	J2509ACC	Diploma of Natural Resource Management	40	20	50.00	9	10	85.00	14.29	80.00	43.75	26.32	10.00	7.70
		All Horticulture and NRM related courses	190	64	29.93	26	37	76.32	15.83	89.83	50.35	20.36	5.18	7.70
		Totals for all courses surveyed	2828	739	26.13	410	323	68.34	17.76	80.47	61.55	35.14	7.98	7.84