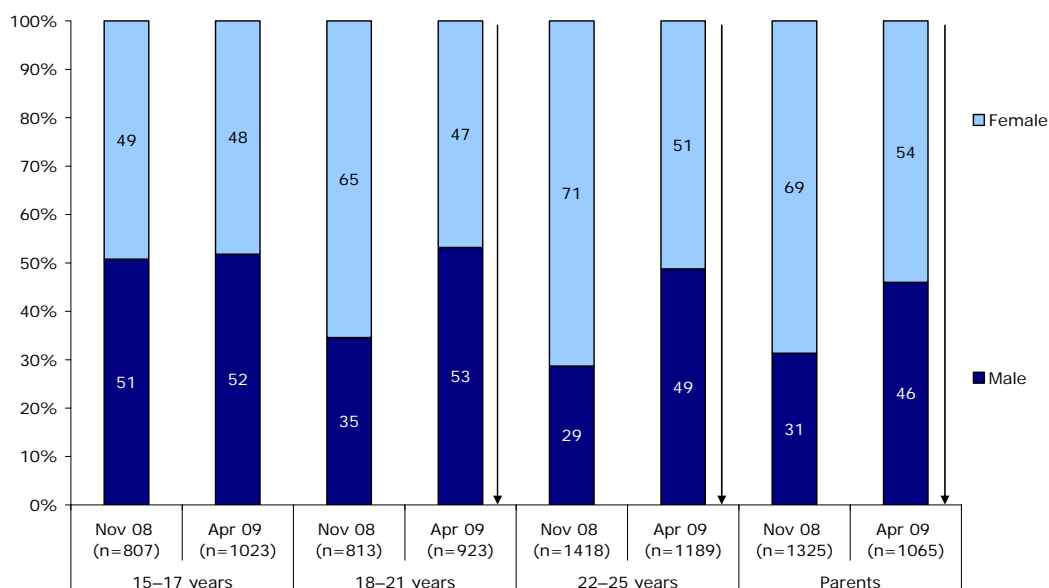


APPENDIX E: SAMPLE PROFILE

Demographic characteristics of the youth and parent samples are presented in this section.

Gender

Figure 122. Gender unweighted distribution (15–25 year-olds and parents)



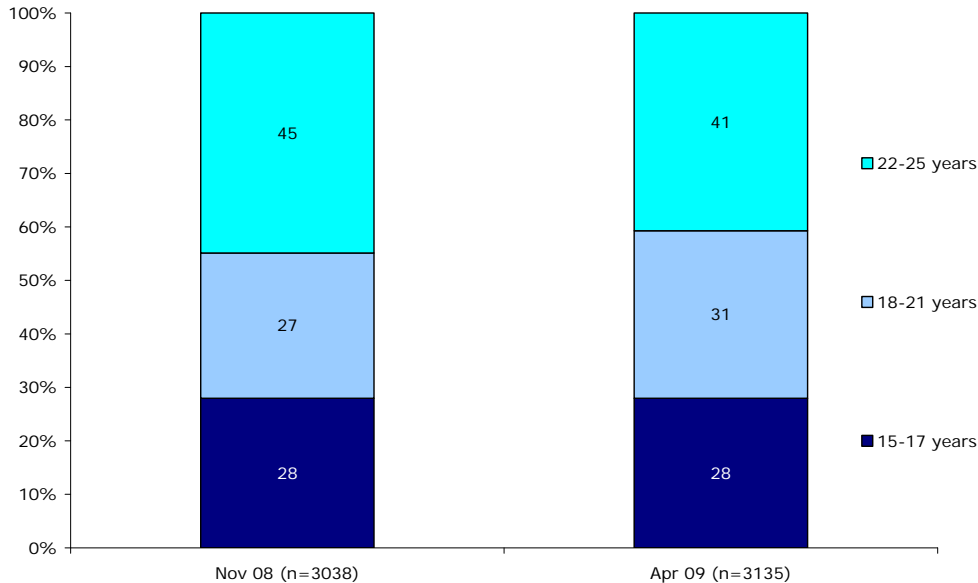
As shown in Figure 122, a more representative distribution of males and females was obtained in the April 2009 survey than in the November 2008 survey. Significantly larger proportions of males aged 18–21 years and 22–25 years and male parents participated in April 2009 than in November 2008. Among young people aged 18–21 years, the proportion of males increased from 35% to 53% (Kendall's tau-b, $p < .001$); in the 22–25 year age group it increased from 29% to 49% (Kendall's tau-b, $p < .001$); and among parents it increased from 31% to 46% (Kendall's tau-b, $p < .001$). The proportions of male and female 15–17 year-olds surveyed in April 2009 were not significantly different from those surveyed in November 2008, when the gender distribution was in line with proportions in the general population (51% male and 49% female).

In April 2009, the gender distributions of 18–21 year-olds and 22–25 year olds were not significantly different from the general population.

The gender distribution of the survey sample within each age and location category was matched to its true proportion in the population via weighting, as described in Section 3.2.

Age

Figure 123. Age unweighted distribution (15–25 year-olds)



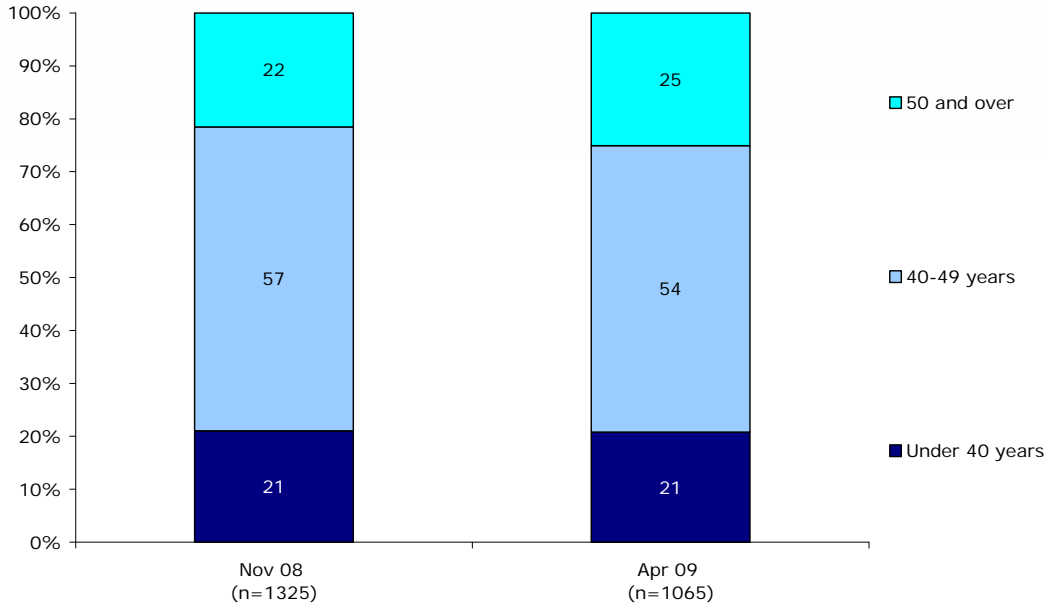
The age distribution of participants aged 15–25 years surveyed in April 2009 was not significantly different from that obtained in November 2008, as shown in Figure 123. In April 2009, 28% of the sample was aged 15–17 years, 31% aged 18–21 years and 41% aged 22–25 years. This is significantly different from the age distribution of 15-25 year olds amongst the population (27% aged 15-17 years, 36% aged 18-21 years and 37% aged 22-25 years, chi-square, $p < .001$). Weighting corrected for this over-representation of people in the older age categories.

Figure 124, overleaf, displays the distribution of age within the parent sample in November 2008 and April 2009. There was no significant change in the proportions aged under 40, 40-49 and 50 and over from November 2008 to April 2009. The majority of surveyed parents in April 2009 were 40-49 years of age (54%), with 21% under 40 years and 25% aged 50 years and over.

Weighting was applied to the survey sample to match the age distribution of parents to the true distribution within the population as at the 2006 census, when 18% of parents of 13-17 year

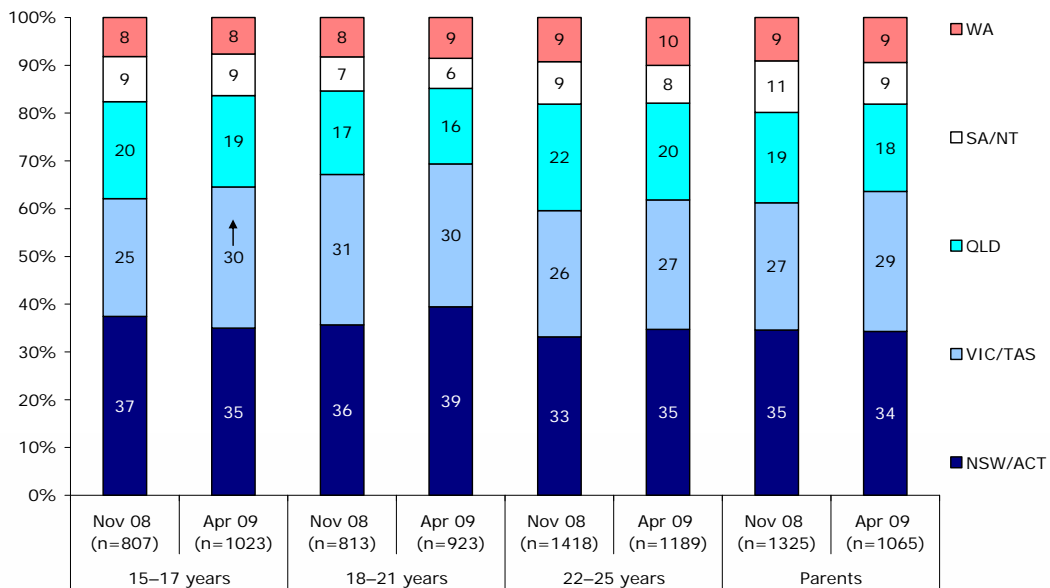
old children were aged under 40 years, 61% were aged between 40-49 years, and 21% were aged 50 years and over.

Figure 124. Age unweighted distribution (Parents)



Location

Figure 125. Location unweighted distribution (15–25 year-olds and parents)

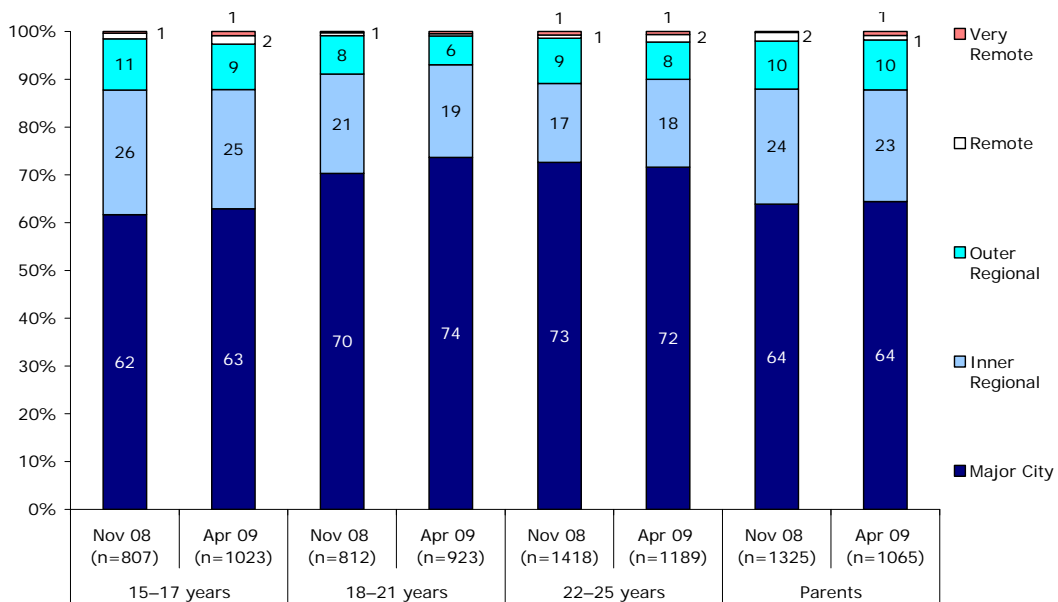


As shown in Figure 125, there was no significant difference between November 2008 and April 2009 in the geographical distribution of participants. In April 2009, between 34% and 39% of each sample group resided in NSW/ACT, between 27% and 30% in Victoria/Tasmania, between 16% and 20% in Queensland, between 6% and 9% in South Australia/Northern Territory and between 8% and 10% in Western Australia.

Differences between the geographical distribution of the survey sample and the actual population were corrected for via weighting.

All subsequent charts contain data weighted by age, gender and location to the true proportions in the population.

Figure 126. ARIA + Categories (15–25 year-olds and parents)



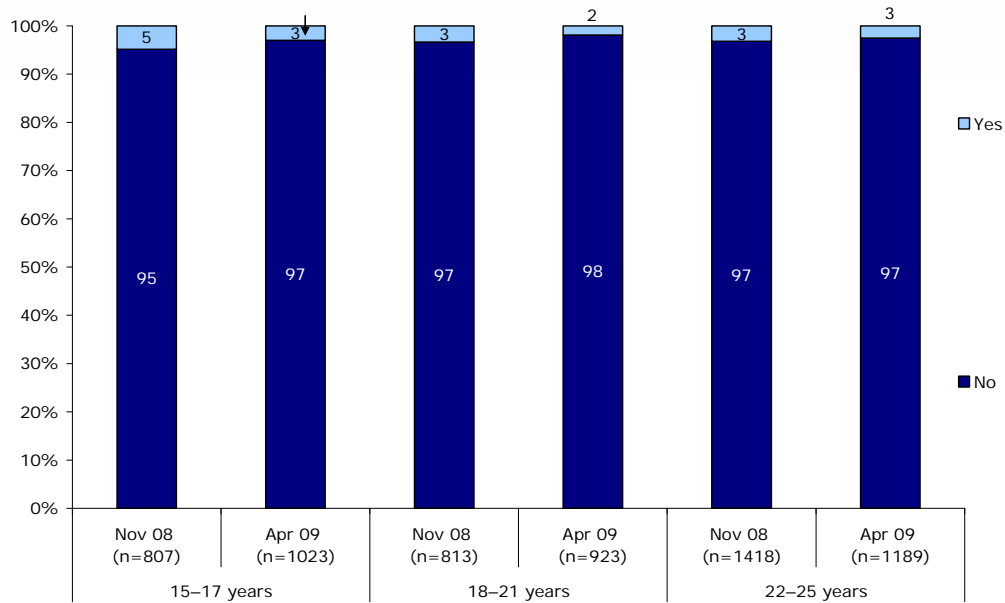
Participant postcodes were classified according to the ARIA+ measure of remoteness¹³. Figure 126 shows the proportion of participants within each sample group whose location falls into each ARIA+ category of remoteness. The distributions of proportions for the two survey waves

¹³ ARIA+ is the standard Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) endorsed measure of remoteness. The classification is derived from measures of road distance between populated localities and service centres. These road distance measures are then used to generate a remoteness score for any location in Australia. Remoteness scores are classified into five categories, 'Major City', 'Inner Regional', 'Outer Regional', 'Remote' and 'Very Remote'.
See: http://www.gisca.adelaide.edu.au/products_services/ariav2_about.htm.

were almost identical, with the majority of participants in each wave located in major cities (between 63% and 74% of sample group in April 2009). No significant differences were observed between November 2008 and April 2009.

Cultural background

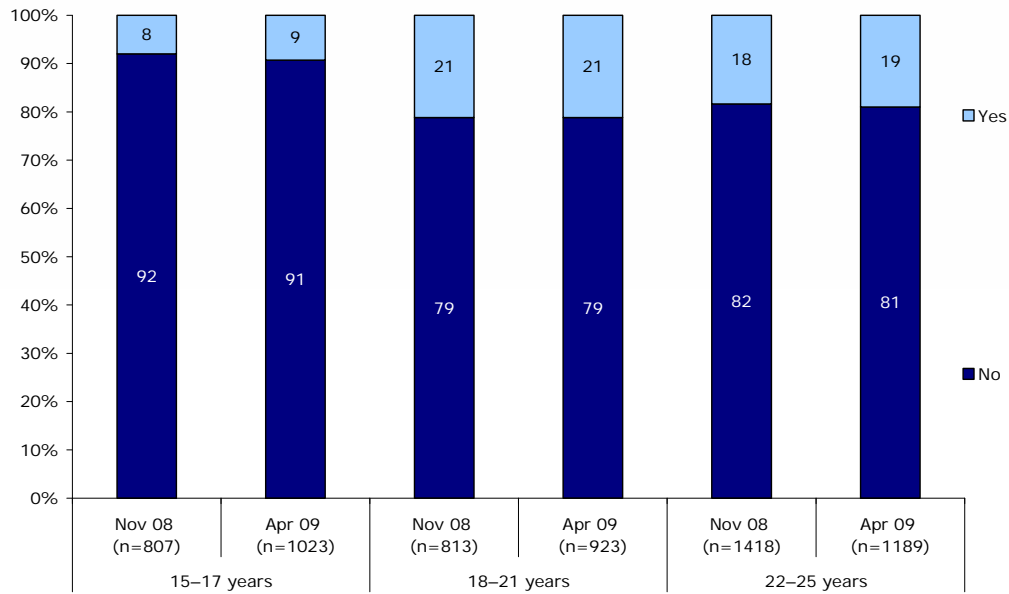
Figure 127. Identification as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (15–25 year-olds)



As shown in Figure 127, the proportion of young people identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander within each age group remained relatively stable between November 2008 and April 2009, with a small but significant decrease in the proportion of 15–17 year-olds identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (5% in November 2008, decreasing to 3% in April 2009, chi-square, $p=0.023$). There were no significant differences when compared to the proportions in the population.

Figure 128 (overleaf) displays the proportion of young people within each age group that speaks a language other than English at home. In April 2009, 9% of 15–17 year-olds, 21% of 18–21 year-olds and 19% of 22–25 year-olds spoke a language other than English at home. These proportions did not differ significantly from those obtained in November 2008. The proportion of those speaking a language other than English at home was lower in the sample for 15-17 year olds (9%) than the population (18%, t-test, $p<0.001$), and for 22-25 year olds (19% compared to 27% in the population, t-test, $p<0.001$).

Figure 128. Language other than English spoken at home (15–25 year-olds)



Cultural background questions were only asked of 15–25 year-olds.

Household structure and income

Figure 129. Household structure (Parents)

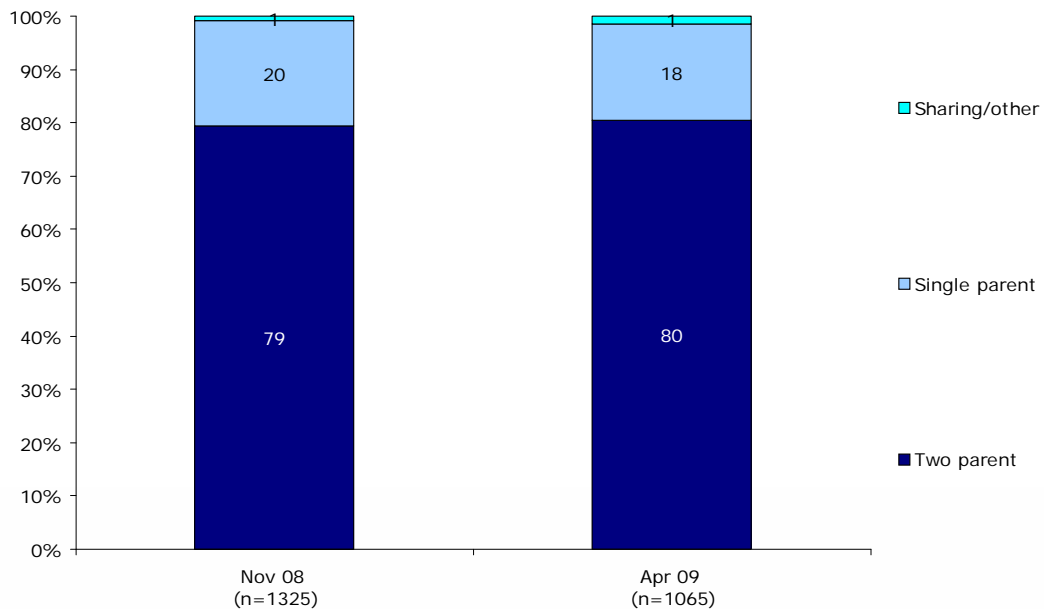
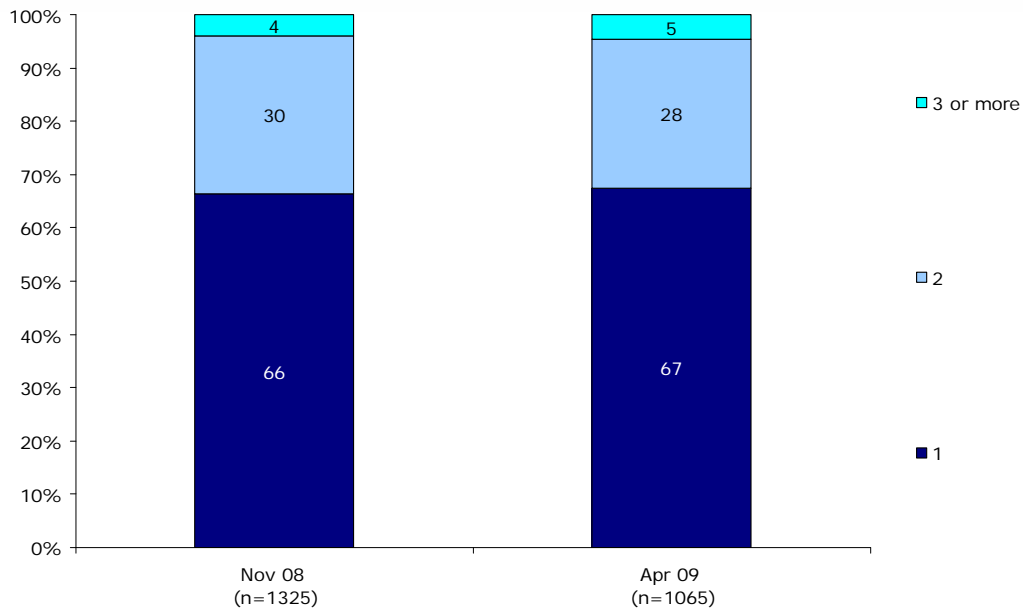


Figure 129 displays the proportion of parents within each wave who live in a single parent, two parent, or other type of household. In April 2009, 80% of parents lived in two parent

households, 18% were single parents, and 1% of parents were living in a shared or other type of household. There were fewer two-parent households (80%) represented in the sample than in the population (86%, t-test, $p < 0.001$), and a greater representation of single parent households (18% compared to 14% in the population, t-test, $p < 0.001$).

This was not significantly different from proportions obtained in November 2008.

Figure 130. Number of children aged 13–17 (Parents)



Parents were asked to indicate how many of their children are aged between 13 and 17 years of age. Responses are shown in Figure 130. No significant differences were observed between November 2008 and April 2009, with two-thirds (67%) of parents having one child, 28% having two children, and 5% having three or more children between the ages of 13 and 17 in the most recent survey wave. The proportion of one child households in the sample in April 2009 (67%) was fewer than the corresponding figure in the population (72%, t-test, $p < 0.001$), while there was a greater representation of parents with two children (28% compared to 25% in the population, t-test, $p < 0.001$), and parents with three or more children (5% compared to 3% in the population, t-test, $p < 0.001$).

As shown in Figure 131 (overleaf), there were some significant differences between the November 2008 and April 2009 samples in terms of household structure. Among 22–25 year-olds, there was an increase in the proportion living alone with their partner (from 22% in November 2008 to 25% in April 2009, chi-square, $p < 0.001$), and decreases in the proportions living with their partner and child(ren) (from 18% in November 2008 to 15% in April 2009, chi-

square $p < 0.001$), living with their child(ren) as a single parent (from 4% to 2%, chi-square, $p < 0.001$) and living in some other type of household (from 3% to 1%, chi-square, $p < 0.001$).

In the sample of April 2009, the proportion of 15-17 year olds living with their parents (96%) was higher than that found in the population (87%, t-test, $p < 0.001$). The sample proportion of 22-25 year olds living with their parents (28%) was lower than that found in the population (30%, t-test, $p < 0.001$).

The proportion of 18-21 year olds sampled living alone (5%) was higher than that found in the population (3%, t-test, $p < 0.001$), as was the proportion of 22-25 year olds (8% compared to 7%, t-test, $p < 0.001$).

The sampled proportion of those living alone with their partner was lower than the population for 18-21 year olds (9% compared to 6%, t-test, $p < 0.001$) and for 22-25 year olds (22% compared to 8%, t-test, $p < 0.001$).

The sample over-represented those living with partner and their children among 18-21 year olds (3% compared to 2% in the population, t-test, $p < 0.001$), and among 22-25 year olds (15% compared to 8% in the population, t-test, $p < 0.001$).

Figure 131. Household structure (15–25 year-olds)

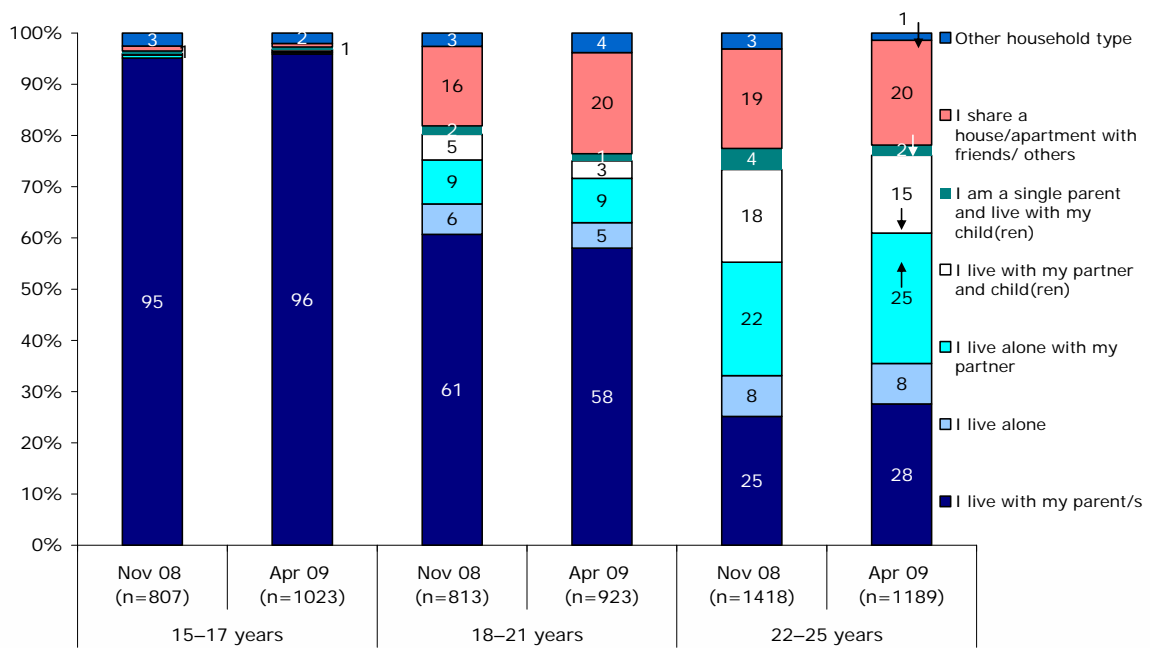
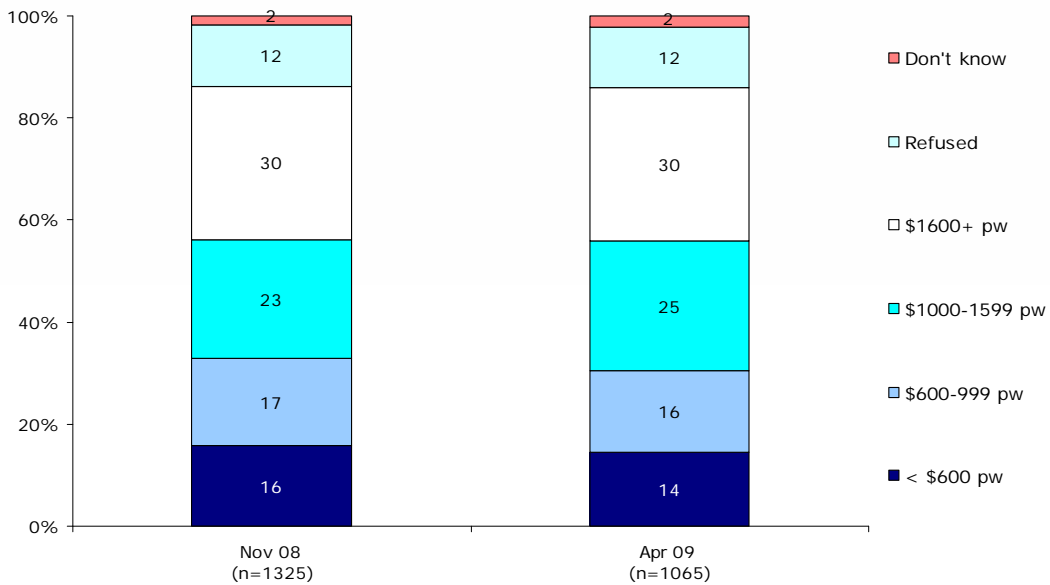


Figure 132. Pre-tax household income (Parents)

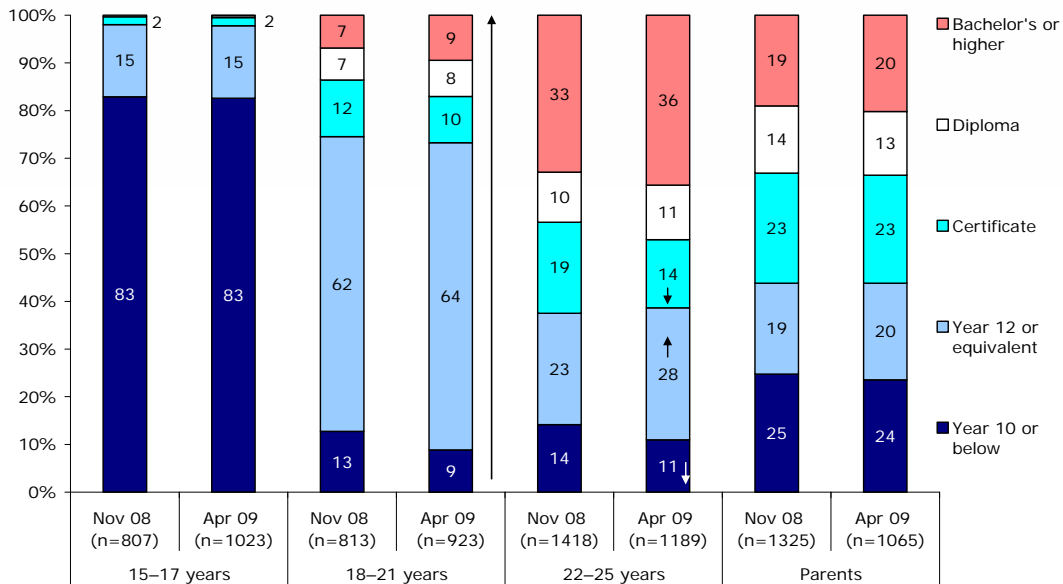


There were no significant differences in the distributions of parents' household income between November 2008 and April 2009, as shown in Figure 132. As in November 2008, the largest proportion of parents (30%) reported having a household income of over \$1600 per week.

The April 2009 sample had a lower proportion of those in the highest income bracket (30%) than the population (38%, t-test, $p < 0.001$). There was a greater proportion of those in the 'less than \$600 per week' income bracket (14% compared to 10% in the population, t-test, $p < 0.001$) and of those in the '\$600-999 per week' income bracket (16% compared to 12% in the population, t-test, $p < 0.001$).

Education and employment

Figure 133. Highest educational qualification completed (15–25 year-olds and parents)



The highest level of educational attainment by 15–25 year-olds and parents is displayed in Figure 133. Some significant differences between the November 2008 and April 2009 survey samples were noted. Among young people aged 18–21 years, those in the latter survey wave were more likely overall to have completed higher levels of education than those in the baseline survey (Kendall's tau-b, $p=0.035$). In the 22–25 year age group, there was a significant increase in the proportion that had finished year 12 (from 23% in November 2008 to 28% in April 2009, $p=0.006$) and a significant decrease in the proportion that had completed a certificate (from 19% in November 2008 to 14% in April 2009, chi-square, $p=0.006$).

The survey sample over represents the proportion of parents of 13–17 year olds within the population that have completed Year 12 or its equivalent (13%) and a Diploma (9%) (t-test, $p<0.001$, for both comparisons).

The survey sample had fewer 15–17 year olds who had attained year 10 or below than the general population (83% compared to 89%, t-test, $p<0.001$). The sample over represents the proportion of 15–17 year olds who have completed Year 12 or its equivalent (15% compared to 10%) or completed a Certificate (2% compared to 1%, t-test, $p<0.001$).

Significantly fewer 18–21 year olds in the survey sample had completed year 10 or below than in the general population (9% compared to 24%, t-test, $p<0.001$), and the survey sample over represented 18–21 year olds in all other categories (t-test, $p<0.001$ for all comparisons).

Significantly more 22-25 year olds in the survey sample had completed a diploma than in the general population (11% compared to 8%, t-test, $p < 0.001$) or completed a bachelor's degree or higher (36% compared to 25%, t-test, $p < 0.001$). The survey sample under represented 22-25 year olds in all other categories (t-test, $p < 0.001$ for all comparisons).

Figure 134. Studying (15–25 year-olds)

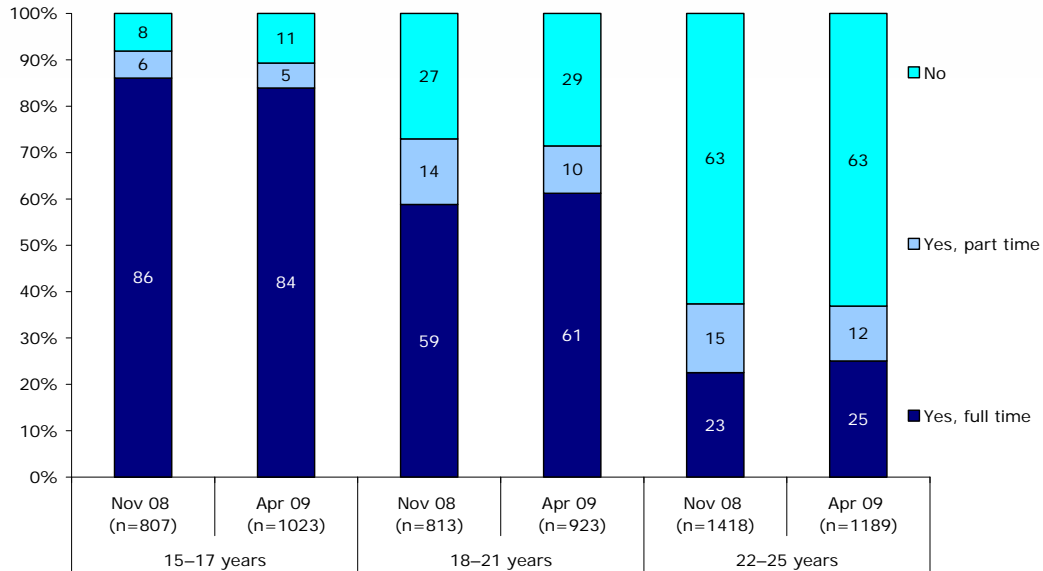
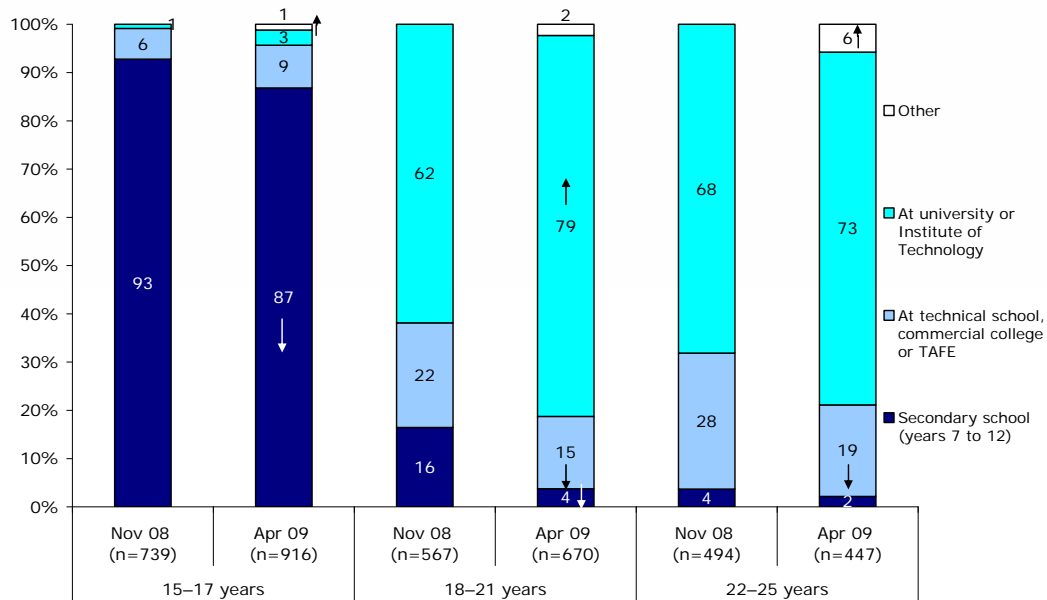


Figure 134, above, displays the proportions studying full-time, part-time or not at all at the time of survey. In April 2009, the majority of 15–17 year-olds (84%) were studying full time, while 5% were studying part time and 11% were not studying at all. The majority (61%) of 18–21 year-olds were also studying full time, while 10% were studying part time and 29% not at all. Among 22–25 year-olds, the majority (63%) were not studying at all, while 25% were studying full time and 12% were studying part time. These proportions were not significantly different from those obtained in November 2008.

The survey sample over represents the proportion of 18-21 year olds in the population (55%) that are currently studying full-time (t-test, $p < 0.001$).

Figure 135. Study location (15–25 year-olds)

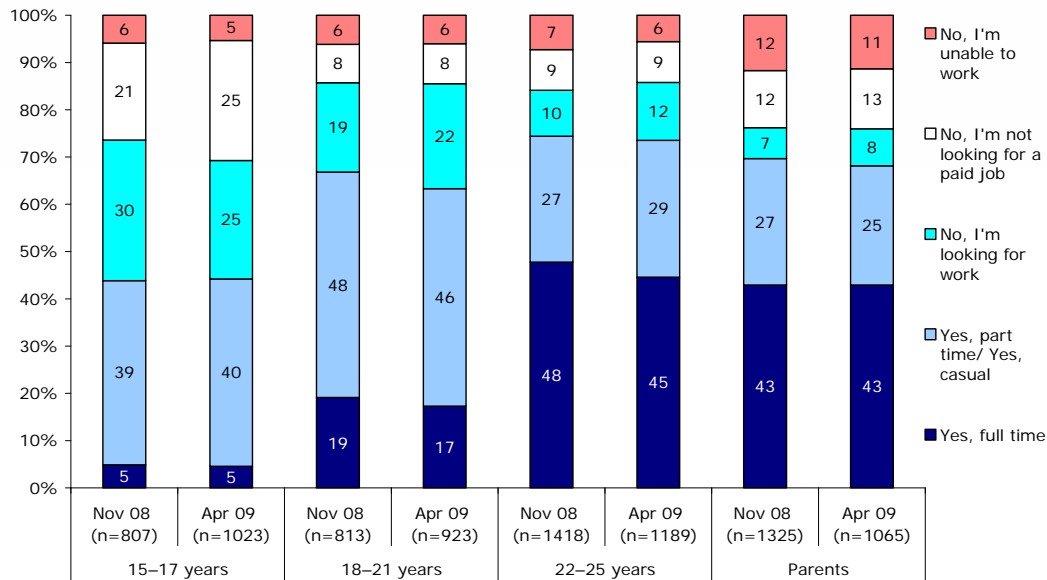


The proportion of people aged 15–17 years, 18–21 years and 22–25 years currently studying at different types of institutions is shown in Figure 135. Among all age groups, significant differences were observed from November 2008 to April 2009 in the proportions studying in certain locations. Among the 15–17 year age group, there was a significant decrease in the proportion studying at secondary school (from 93% in November 2008 to 87% in April 2009, chi-square, $p < 0.001$) and a significant increase in the proportion studying at ‘other’ locations (from 0% to 1%, chi-square, $p < 0.001$). In the 18–21 year group, the proportion studying at a university or an Institute of Technology increased significantly (from 62% to 79%, chi-square, $p < 0.001$), while the proportions studying at a technical school, commercial college or TAFE, and at secondary school decreased significantly (from 22% to 15% for technical school, college or TAFE and from 16% to 4% for secondary school, chi-square, $p < 0.001$, for each comparison). Among 22–25 year-olds, there was a significant decrease in the proportion studying at a technical school, commercial college or TAFE (from 28% to 19%, chi-square, $p < 0.001$) and a significant increase in the proportion studying at ‘other’ locations (from 0% to 6%, chi-square, $p < 0.001$). The significant decrease in the number of 18–21 year-olds who were studying at secondary school in April 2009 may reflect the fact that few students in year 12 would have turned 18 at this early stage in the year.

Significantly fewer 18-21 year olds in the survey sample in April 2009 were currently studying at secondary school (4%, compared with 11%, t-test, $p < 0.001$) or TAFE (15% compared to 28%, t-test, $p < 0.001$) than among 18-21 year olds in the general population, and the sample over represented 18-21 year olds studying at a University or Institute of Technology (3% compared to 1%, t-test, $p < 0.001$).

Fewer 15–17 year-olds were currently studying at secondary school than in the general population (87% compared with 94%, t-test, $p < 0.001$).

Figure 136. Employment (15–25 year-olds and parents)



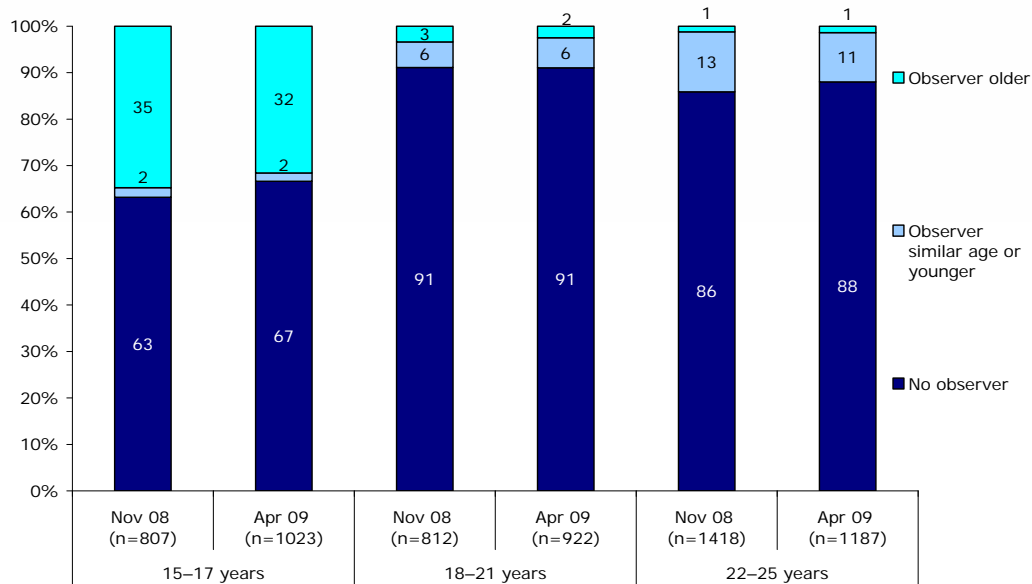
As shown in Figure 136, the largest proportion of 15–17 year-olds (40%) and 18–21 year-olds (46%) were employed in part time or casual work in April 2009, while the largest proportion of 22–25 year-olds (45%) and parents (43%) were employed full time. These and all other proportions did not differ significantly from the corresponding proportions in November 2008.

The survey sample in April 2009 significantly over represents the proportions of 15-17 (25% compared to 6%), 18-21 (22% compared to 8%) and 22-25 year olds (8% compared to 6%) in the population that are currently looking for work (t-test, $p < 0.001$, for all three comparisons) and the proportions of 15-17 year olds (40% compared to 29%) and 18-21 year olds (46% compared to 36%) that are employed in part time or casual work (t-test, $p < 0.001$, for both comparisons). The survey sample under represents the proportions of 18-21 year olds (17% compared to 32%) and 22-25 year olds (45% compared to 53%) that are currently employed in full time work (t-test, $p < 0.001$, for both comparisons).

The survey sample in April 2009 significantly over represents the proportions of parents looking for work (8% compared to 3%, t-test, $p < 0.001$), and not in labour force, i.e. not looking for work or unable to work (24% compared to 18%, t-test, $p < 0.001$). The sample under represents the proportion of parents working full-time (43% compared to 50%, t-test, $p < 0.001$).

Observation of survey completion

Figure 137. Observer present while responding (15–25 year-olds)



Young people aged 15–25 years were asked whether or not they had been observed by anyone while completing the survey and, if they had, to indicate whether this observer was older, younger or about the same age. Answers to this question are shown in Figure 137. The overall majority of participants (67% of 15–17 year-olds, 91% of 18–21 year-olds and 88% of 22–25 year-olds) did not have an observer present while they completed the survey. As in November 2008, young people aged 15–17 years were most likely to have completed the survey with an observer present, with 32% responding in April 2009 that an older observer was present, and 2% completing the survey with an observer of similar age or younger. Among 22–25 year-olds, 11% were observed by someone of similar age or younger and 1% had an older responder present. Six percent (6%) of 18–21 year-olds were observed by someone of similar age or younger and 2% had an older observer present. These results are not significantly different from those recorded in November 2008.