

**TOP SINGLES FOR 2005**

**U.S.**

- 1) SINCE YOU'VE BEEN GONE- KELLY CLARKSON**
- 2) HOLLABACK GIRL- GWEN STEFANI**
- 3) SUGAR WE'RE GOIN' DOWN- FALLOUT BOY**
- 4) WE BELONG TOGETHER- MARIAH CAREY**
- 5) GOLDDIGGER- KANYE WEST FEAT. JAMIE FOX**

**AUSTRALIA**

- 1) THE PRAYER- ANTHONY CALLEA**
- 2) DON'T CHA- THE PUSSY-CAT DOLLS**
- 3) LONELY-AKON**
- 4) AXEL F- CRAZY FROG**
- 5) OVER AND OVER-NELLY**

**WHAT IS HAPPENING WITH IYDS?**

- In 2005 the study took a break from data collection.
- This year we will be contacting schools again to survey our youngest cohort of students, who are in Year 9 this year.

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DEVELOPMENT STUDY!



We are living in a time of great change and there are new technologies such as the internet that are making educational experiences very different. These changes mean that it is important to find out from young people what it is like growing up today. The International Youth Development Study is one of the only sources of information that can be used to compare the experience of young people who are growing up in Australia and the United States (US). The study is valuable because the range of young people participating reflects the general

characteristics of young people in each of the states of Victoria, Australia and Washington in the US. Young people tell us they are answering the questions frankly, only a few have said that they couldn't answer honestly. You may recall from the previous years that this study was started with funding from the US National Institute for Health. The study has impressed people in our country and we are pleased to announce that the Australian Research Council has agreed to fund the next three years.

We continue to work hard to ensure your effort in completing the surveys leads to societal improvements. So far the study has resulted in over sixteen scientific papers being published in international journals and a similar number of presentations at international policy meetings. In Australia we have been invited to present findings to meetings of policy makers in our state of Victoria and to the federal government in Canberra. The response from policy makers has been very positive. So thank you for your ongoing participation and please be reassured - it is making a difference.

Associate Professor John W. Toumbourou (Victoria) and Professor Richard F. Catalano (Washington State)



**TRIVIA**



**Recreation**

- The favourite leisure activity of Australian kids aged 5-15 is watching TV or videos... in fact 98% of kids watch TV or videos
- Australian youth spend an average 22 hours over a school fortnight watching television or videos

**Sport**

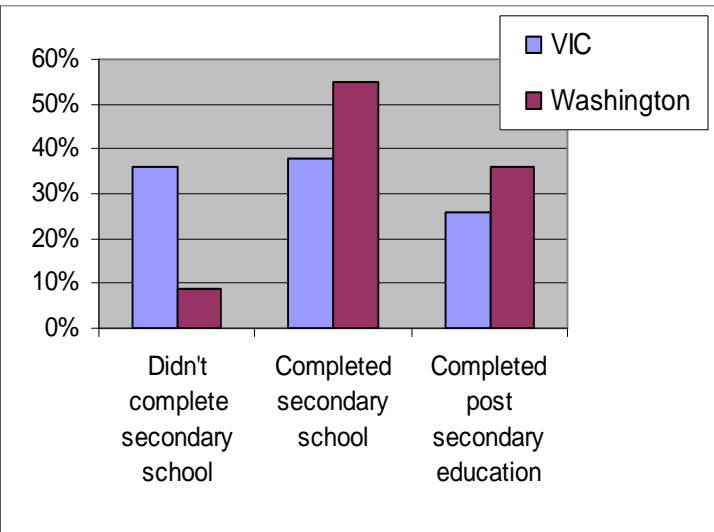
- 62% of Aussie kids participate in organised sport
- For boys, the most popular sports are outdoor soccer, swimming and Aussie rules football
- For girls, the most popular sports are netball, swimming and tennis

**Internet Use**

- More and more Australian youth have access to the internet, with 21% of children aged 5 years using the Internet, compared with 90% of 14 year olds

**SURVEY RESULTS FOR 2004**

**SCHOOL COMPLETION BY DADS IN OUR STUDY**



In the first IYDS survey in 2002, parents were asked their highest level of education attained. For fathers, completion of secondary school or higher was considerably greater in Washington (91%) than Victoria (64%).



**Fun Fact**

The average Australian can expect to eat during his or her lifetime: 17 beef cattle, 92 sheep, 406 loaves of bread, 165,000 eggs, 8 tons of fruit, half a ton of cheese and ten tons of veggies.

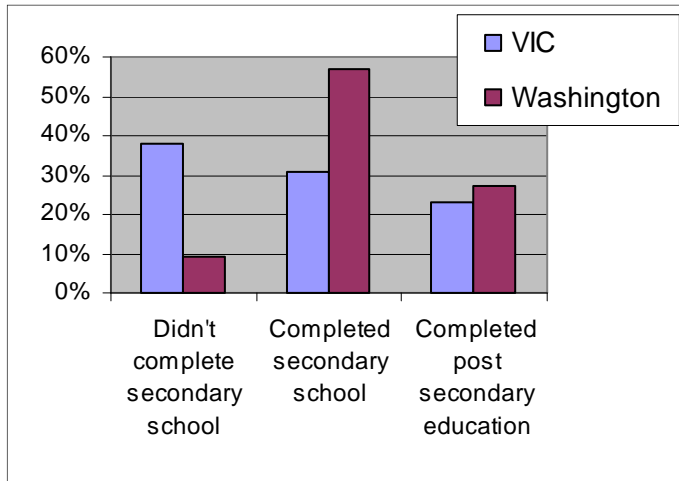


**Fun Fact**

Australia's most watched TV program in 2005 was the broadcast of the Australian Open Tennis Final between Aussie Lleyton Hewitt and Russian Marat Safin. 4.04 million Australians watched the game!

**SCHOOL COMPLETION BY MUMS IN OUR STUDY**

The level of education was pretty similar for Mums and for Dads. 91% of Washington mothers completed secondary school or higher, compared with only 62% of Victorian mothers.



**DO STUDENTS LOOK FORWARD TO SCHOOL?**

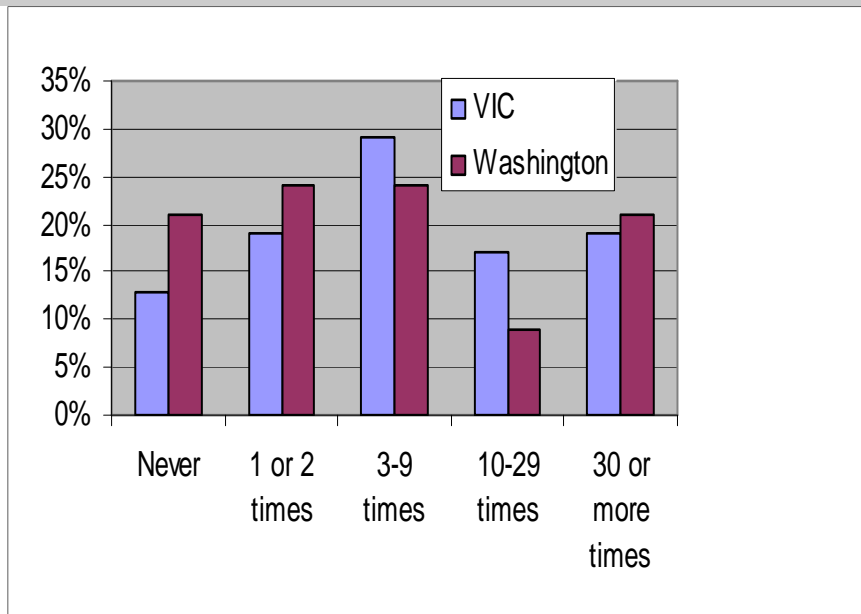
In 2004, we asked students how many times, in the past year, they looked forward to going to school. The answers might surprise some parents and teachers but the Year 9 students in 2004 responded that they often looked forward to going to school. In fact, 91% of Victorian students looked forward to going to school at least once and 19% looked forward to school 40 or more times that year. These numbers were quite similar to their Washington peers.

	Victoria	Washington
Never	9%	5%
1 or 2 times	17%	13%
3-9 times	22%	19%
10-29 times	20%	22%
30-39 times	9%	10%
40 or more times	19%	30%

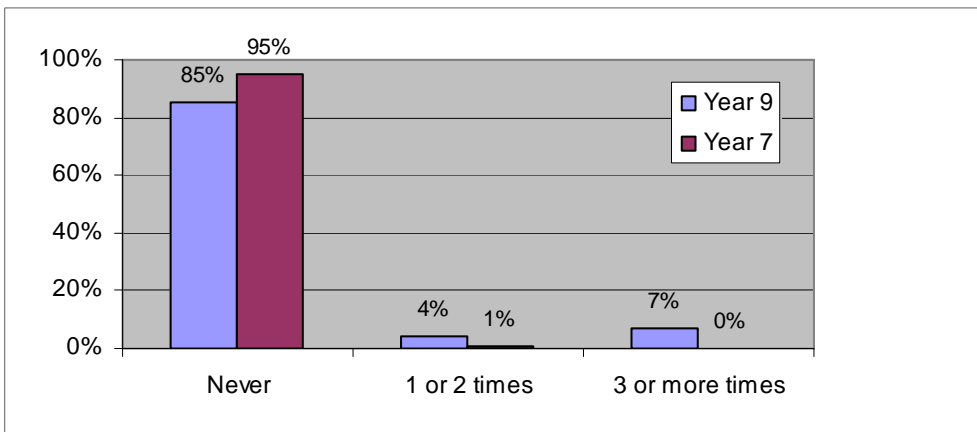
**SURVEY RESULTS FOR 2004**

**INVOLVEMENT IN SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

Students were asked “How many times, in the past year, they had been involved in sports, clubs, organizations, or other activities at school?” A number of students from both states indicated that they were very involved in school activities with 87% of VIC Year 9 students and 79% of their WASH Year 9 peers saying they had participated at least once in an activity at school.



**MARIJUANA USE**



We asked students how many times in the past year they had used marijuana. Most Year 7 (95%) and Year 9 (85%) students said they had never used marijuana. None of the Year 7 students in our study said they had used marijuana 3 or more times in the past year.

**¿ ANTHEM TRIVIA ¾**

Until 1984, Australia’s National Anthem was ***'God Save the Queen/ King'***. In 1977 a national ballot was conducted to find out the public’s choice for a national anthem. ***'Advance Australia Fair'*** received 43.2% of votes and was declared the official national anthem in April 1984 (*'Waltzing Matilda'* received 28.3% of votes).

The national anthem of the United States of America is ***'The Star-Spangled Banner'***- originally a poem written in 1814 by Francis Scott Key. He wrote it after witnessing the bombardment of Fort McHenry in Baltimore by British ships during the War of 1812. It was made the national anthem by a Congressional resolution on 3 March 1931.

**We are on the web!**  
**IYDS website: [www.iyds.org](http://www.iyds.org)**

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**DID YOU KNOW...**

- Australia is the world's 6th largest country after Russia, Canada, China, USA and Brazil
- **Australian Rules Football is the most attended sport by Australians, with 17% of Aussies going to the footy at least once last year.**
- The majority of the world's highest paid athletes play team sports in the United States in sports including baseball, American football, ice hockey, and basketball.
- **The United States does not have an official language. English is spoken by about 82 percent of the population as a native language.**

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Q. How many years will this project continue?**

**A.** The Australian arm of the study has received funding from the Australian Research Council to continue the IYDS research. Both the US and Australian arms of the study hope to obtain more funding to continue the study. The longer the project is, the more useful it becomes.

**Q. When will I take the survey again?**

**A.** We are planning to survey students in our youngest cohort this year, who are in Year 9 in 2006. We hope to continue to follow all of the young people in our study as they progress through high school and into adulthood.

**Q. What if I change schools, leave school or move homes?**

**A.** Your perspective is unique and continue to be valuable to us. In fact, many of you have moved, changed schools or left school already. The study will follow you as an individual. We are interested in talking with you no matter where you are. It's important that we talk to all of the same participants each year to see how your experiences and attitudes change over time. If you move or change schools or are planning to in the near future, please contact us. You can call us toll-free at 1800 200 141 or email us at: [internationalyouth.developmentstudy@rch.org.au](mailto:internationalyouth.developmentstudy@rch.org.au) (Please remember that we cannot guarantee the confidentiality of any information sent via email)

**Q. Why do you ask the same questions every year?**

**A.** This is so we can see how behaviour and attitudes change over a period of time, and what social and other factors influence these changes.

**Q. Why do you ask personal questions?**

**A.** We seek to get an integrated picture of the different factors influencing the health and well-being of young people today, from physical changes, to attitudes through to social relationships. This does mean that some of the questions we are asking are very personal. We can guarantee that all of your individual answers remain private and confidential.

**Our research seeks to promote achievement and success as well as prevent and treat health and behaviour problems among young people.**