Australian VET courses for international students

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DISTRIBUTION OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS IN TERTIARY EDUCATION BY COUNTRY OF DESTINATION, 2016

- NON OECD COUNTRIES* 30%
- OTHER OECD COUNTRIES 26%
- UNITED STATES 19%
- UNITED KINGDOM 9%
- AUSTRALIA 7%
- FRANCE 5%
- GERMANY 5%

5 MILLION INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS WORLD WIDE

Data source: UNESCO
International students in Australia

International student enrolments

- Higher Education
- VET
- Schools
- ELICOS
- Non-award
International VET student numbers

• In 2018, enrolments grew by 13% to 244,000 (= around 185,000 students).

• So far in 2019 (January-April) enrolments have grown by 17% to 164,000 (=143,000 students).

• 93% of enrolments are with private providers in 2019.
International students in Australia

• Education is Australia’s fourth largest export after iron ore, coal and natural gas.

• According to the ABS, all international students studying and living in Australia contributed $35.2 billion to the Australian economy in 2018.

• International VET students contributed $6.3 billion in 2018, an 21% increase on their contribution in 2017.
International VET student enrolments: Major source countries

There was 18% enrolments growth in this period

Source: Department of Education
Study pathways to VET - All nationalities

Sector studied before commencement of VET course in 2019

- ELICOS - 29%
- Higher-Education - 17%
- Non-Award - 1%
- None - 51%
- Schools - 1%

Source: DET data visualisations
Study pathways to VET - India

Sector studied before commencement of VET course in 2019

- None - 45%
- Higher-Education - 48%
- ELICOS - 6%
- Non-Award - 0%
- Schools - 0%

Source: DET data visualisations
Study pathways to VET - Brazil

Sector studied before commencement of VET course in 2019

- ELICOS: 92%
- Higher Education: 1%
- Non-award: 0%
- None: 7%

Source: DET data visualisations
Study pathways to VET - UK

Sector studied before commencement of VET course in 2019

None - 99% - 899
ELICOS - 0%
Higher Education - 0%
Non-award - 1%
Schools - 0%

Source: DET data visualisations
A national biennial survey of over 80,000 international students in Australia.

2018 INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SURVEY RESULTS

Vocational Education and Training (VET)

VET STUDENT EXPERIENCE

- 92% ARRIVAL SATISFACTION
- 90% LIVING SATISFACTION
- 86% LEARNING SATISFACTION
- 88% SUPPORT SATISFACTION

Source: 2018 international student survey (VET sector)
89% of VET respondents were happy with their education provider.

- >90% Teaching & learning support strategies
- 94% Personal safety
- 89% Quality accommodation
- 86% Employability
- 94% Support from career advisory service

Source: 2018 international student survey (VET sector)
International VET student employment

International students studying in Australia on a student visa may work for up to 40 hours a fortnight and for unlimited time in term breaks.

- Paid work related to field of study: 37%
- Paid work unrelated to field of study: 47%
- Unpaid work: 42%

*(these categories were not mutually exclusive)*

Source: 2018 international student survey (VET sector)
International onshore VET outcomes

A 2018 survey of over 47,000 international VET students who completed a course in Australia in 2017:

- 68% were employed after training, similar to 2017;
- 39% were undertaking further study (some while employed)
- 88% would recommend their training to others.
- 85% would recommend their provider to others.

Source: NCVER
In 2017:

- 57% of enrolments were in China
- 58% were with providers from Victoria
- enrolments declined 7% since 2016, although this incorporates a 21% decline from China and a 21% increase in all other locations combined
- enrolments have been slowly declining since 2009, mostly from China
- there are anecdotes of much activity in India, but only 85 enrolments were reported to NCVER.
Survey research: Offshore VET students: Who are they and where are they headed?

2018 focus group and survey research with ACER. Largely focused on China.

A typical student in China choosing an Australian VET provider:

- Did not perform as well as they wanted to in the *Gaokao*
- Can’t afford to study overseas
- Can afford a premium “international” course in China
- Diploma-level study is most popular
- The fields of architecture/building; hospitality management; and business management/finance are most popular.

Source: Australian Council for Educational Research