Australia has one of the best higher education systems in the world.
This handy data snapshot gives a sense of the profound economic, social and cultural contributions of Australia’s world class universities.

Belinda Robinson
Universities Australia
Chief Executive
University education added an estimated $140 billion to the Australian economy in 2014. Our universities educated more than 1.3 million Australian and international students in 2016 and directly employed 120,000 full-time equivalent staff.
ALL ENROLLED STUDENTS 2016 = 1,457,209

Domestic students 1,066,073
International students 391,136

Bachelor 950,932
Other Undergraduate 56,503
Postgraduate coursework 335,848
Postgraduate research 66,010
Enabling 28,500
Non-Award 19,416

Commencing students 595,220
Continuing students 861,989

COMMONWEALTH FUNDED STUDENT PLACES IN 2016 616,196

Source: DET, Selected Higher Education Statistics - 2016 Student Data
39 outstanding universities are members of Universities Australia.
Australia has 41 local universities (including a small specialist university) and 2 overseas institutions that operate here. All 37 of Australia’s public universities are UA members, as are two of the three private universities.

**UNIVERSITY SIZE BY NUMBER OF ENROLLED STUDENTS**

- **6** institutions: <10,000
- **4** institutions: 10,001-20,000
- **11** institutions: 20,001-30,000
- **6** institutions: 30,001-40,000
- **7** institutions: 40,001-50,000
- **5** institutions: 50,001-60,000
- **1** institution: >60,000

**AVERAGE COMMONWEALTH GRANT SCHEME FUNDING PER STUDENT PLACE (EFTSL)** $11,233
Australia has a diverse mix of 1.5 million students at our world class higher education system.
DOMESTIC STUDENT PROPORTIONS BY CATEGORY 2016

- Commonwealth supported students (EFTSL) 83.2%
- Studying bachelor degree 71.2%
- Studying on-campus 66.4%
- Studying full-time 65.9%
- Less than 25 years old 61%
- Female 58%

Source: DET, Selected Higher Education Statistics - 2016 student data and uCube
Local and international students pursue a wide range of academic disciplines.
COMMONWEALTH SUPPORTED AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PLACES, BY FIELD OF EDUCATION, 2016

Commonwealth supported student places 615,728

Overseas students places 293,795

Source: DET, uCube
Australian universities make it possible to study part-time around work and family responsibilities.
STUDENT ENROLMENTS AND EQUIVALENT FULL-TIME STUDENT LOAD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total students</th>
<th>EFTSL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
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<td>2002</td>
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<td>2016</td>
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Source: DET, uCube
OVER THE LAST DECADE, THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS FROM LOW SES BACKGROUNDS HAS INCREASED BY MORE THAN 50%.
GROWTH IN DOMESTIC UNDERGRADUATE ENROLMENTS BY EQUITY GROUP

* Definition changes from 2006 SEIFA to 2011 SEIFA from 2015
** Definition changes from 2006 MCEETYA to 2011 ASGS from 2015

106% increase in students with a disability

89% increase in Indigenous students

55% increase in students from low SES*

48% increase in regional and remote students**

Source: DET, Selected Higher Education Statistics - 2016 Student Data
More than 330,000 higher education students graduated in 2016.
AUSTRALIA’S UNIVERSITY COMPLETION RATES REMAIN HIGH.
NUMBER OF AWARD COURSE COMPLETIONS FOR ALL STUDENTS, BY CITIZENSHIP CATEGORY

- Domestic students
- International students
39% OF 25-34 YEAR OLD IN AUSTRALIA NOW HAVE A BACHELOR DEGREE OR HIGHER.
PROPORTION OF PEOPLE IN AUSTRALIA AGED 25-34 WITH A BACHELOR DEGREE OR HIGHER

Source: ABS 6227.0, Education and Work, May 2017
People from major cities are twice as likely to hold a degree than those from regional and remote areas.
PROPORTION OF PEOPLE AGED 25-34 WITH A BACHELOR DEGREE OR HIGHER, BY REMOTENESS AREA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Remoteness Area</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Major Cities</td>
<td>39.6%</td>
<td>44.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inner Regional</td>
<td>18.8%</td>
<td>20.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Outer Regional</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>20.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Remote and Very Remote</td>
<td>14.5%</td>
<td>22.9%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

39.4% Australian average 2017

Source: ABS 6227.0, Education and Work, May 2017
WITH A REPUTATION FOR EXCELLENCE, AUSTRALIA IS ONE OF THE TOP DESTINATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
Our universities welcome students from all around the world.
THE EDUCATION OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS IS AUSTRALIA’S 3RD LARGEST EXPORT BEHIND IRON ORE AND COAL.
AUSTRALIA'S INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION SECTOR IS VALUED AT
$30.9 BILLION A YEAR

Interim 2017 calendar year estimate ABS 5368, Dec 2017
GDP CONTRIBUTIONS OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION SECTOR, BY STATES (2016 - 2017)

Source: ABS International trade: Supplementary Information, Financial Year, 2016-17 [Cat. No 5368.0.55.003]
AUSTRALIA’S WORLD CLASS UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INCREASINGLY ATTRACTS GLOBAL AND INDUSTRY FUNDING.

Source: 2017-18 SRI Budget Tables and DET, 2016 HERDC - Research Income publication
Australian universities have diversified their sources of INCOME in recent years.
2016 TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE ($30.1 BILLION)

- Australian Government grants: 38.6%
- HELP payment: 17.5%
- International student fees: 20.7%
- Upfront student contributions: 1.7%
- Other fees and charges: 5.7%
- Consultancy and contract research: 4.0%
- Investment income: 3.2%
- State and local governments: 2.2%
- Other income: 6.3%

UNIVERSITIES ALSO INVEST HEAVILY IN THEIR PEOPLE
2016 TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE ($28.6 BILLION)

- Academic staff expenses 28.6%
- Non-academic staff expenses 25.8%
- Other expenses 32.3%
- Depreciation and amortisation 7.2%
- Repair and maintenance 2.7%
- Payroll tax 2.7%
- Finance cost 0.7%

As student enrolments have grown over the past decade, so have staff numbers.
TOTAL ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL STAFF, INCLUDING CASUAL STAFF (FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT)

Source: DET, Selected Higher Education Statistics - Staff Data (various years)
SOME STAFF SPECIALISE IN TEACHING OR RESEARCH BUT MANY COMBINE BOTH
NUMBER OF FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT ACADEMIC STAFF, BY FUNCTION

Source: DET, Selected Higher Education Statistics - 2016 Staff Data
These figures are a reminder of the many ways in which our universities drive Australia’s economic growth, extend the frontiers of human knowledge, make life-saving breakthroughs and help the nation to transition in an era of digital disruption.
Data as of 5 February 2018

The student data reported in this publication includes all higher education providers reporting their student data to Department of Education and Training (DET) through the Higher Education Information Management System (HEIMS). In 2016, 92 per cent of these higher education students studied at 39 UA member universities.