

A stylized map of China in shades of blue and white, serving as a background for the text.

Straight from China: Gaokao and HKDSE

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www.spre.com.au

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China

- **The Gaokao: Research on China's National College Entrance Examination**
- **<http://www.austrade.gov.au/Export/Export-Markets/Industries/Education/Market-Information-Package/Content/China/default.aspx>**

Gaokao

- In China, the National College Entrance Examination (NCEE or Gaokao) is undertaken at the completion of secondary schooling for admission to higher education
- Age cohort 20 million
- Gaokao candidates 10 million
- University places 6 million

AEI Research

- Research on Gaokao for AEI seeks to provide an easily understandable explanation on how China's NCEE system works in practice, and to provide recommendations to Australian universities on best practices for admission of undergraduates from China

Acknowledge

- Iain Watt, Quentin Stevenson-Perks in AEI Beijing
- Cathryn Hlavka in China
- “Enormous support for this research initiative by the Chinese officials and the institutions visited during this research”
- All Australian universities

International Perspective

- Global divide by higher education systems
- Four year systems take students directly from Gaokao
- Three year systems demand foundation
- Not that simple

Australia

- Research in 2009
- 18 universities accept Gaokao
- 20 universities demand foundation
- Perversity
- Risk of perversity

AEI Decliner Study 2009

- 1,416 students who had declined an offer to study in Australia
- Including 120 from China

Quantitative Research: China

- **Academic ability matters: students from China with higher academic self ratings are more likely to accept offers outside Australia**
- **Field of study matters: students from China in fields other than Management/Commerce are more likely to accept offers outside Australia**

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Quantitative Research: China

- **Is it the intention of Australian universities that students from China with lower academic self ratings will cluster in Business?**

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Gaokao

- How would Australian universities go about admitting students directly from Gaokao?
- IELTS 6.0 for undergraduate student visa

Gaokao Cutoffs

- Gaokao cutoffs by province
- Targets: top 10% of Gaokao candidates are eligible for admission to Tier One universities and the next 20% of candidates are eligible for admission to Tier Two universities
- Market for places, but targeting is the important point

Gaokao Cutoffs

- Tier 1: Top 10% of candidates, Top 5% of Age Cohort, ATAR 95.0
- Tier 2: Top 30% of candidates, Top 15% of Age Cohort, ATAR 85.0
- By province, published list of cutoffs

Gaokao Cutoffs

Table 1: Provincial cut-off points for entry to Tier One and Two universities⁵⁸

BEIJING Maximum points 750	Tier	2009		2008		2007	
		Humanities	Science	Humanities	Science	Humanities	Science
	1st	532	501	515	502	528	531
	2nd	489	459	472	455	486	478
GUANGDONG Maximum points 750	Tier	2009		2008		2007	
		Humanities	Science	Humanities	Science	Humanities	Science
	1st	587	585	570	565	591	557
	2nd	540	530	524	510	551	502

Australian Cutoffs

- Universities transparently can set Gaokao cut-offs by province for entry into undergraduate courses
- Students who achieve those transparent cut-offs would meet the academic requirements for direct entry to undergraduate degree programs in Australia

Other Issues

- English language requirements
- IELTS 6.0 for undergraduate student visa
- Subject prerequisites
- Autonomous learning

Potential for Australia

- This new cohort will not be empty. Universities in China, including Tier 1 universities, receive 120 applicants for every 100 places
- Students with outstanding ability may not achieve the first preference, may miss out on a Tier 1 university and may be interested in Australia if the Gaokao result enables direct entry

Potential for Australia

- This new cohort also may be more diverse across fields of education than the current cohort, where 70% of undergraduates from China in Australian universities are in Business

Gaokao 2010

- <http://gaokao.eol.cn/include/cer.net/gaokao/zhuanti/2006fsx.shtml>

Gaokao 2010

中国教育在线特在第一时间发布历年各地高考录取分数线！

快速查询：北京 上海 天津 重庆 河北 湖南 山西 江苏 山东 安徽 湖北 河南 浙江 江西 福建 广东
广西 海南 辽宁 吉林 四川 贵州 云南 西藏 陕西 甘肃 宁夏 青海 新疆 内蒙古 黑龙江

山东	2010年录取分数线 (>>详细)		2009年录取分数线 (>>详细)		2008年分数线 (>>详细)	
	文科	理科	文科	理科	文科	理科
一批	606	580	596	586	584	582
二批	578	542	576	557	567	557

新疆	2010年录取分数线 (>>详细)		2009年录取分数线 (>>详细)		2008年分数线 (>>详细)	
	文科	理科	文科	理科	文科	理科
一批	485	471	499	480	525	515
二批	433	415	445	426	467	454
三批	385	380	385	380	385	380

海南	2010年录取分数线 (>>详细)		2009年分数线 (>>详细)		2008年分数线 (>>详细)	
	文科	理科	文科	理科	文科	理科
一批	670	624	670	632	658	625
二批	600	563	600	573	597	566

Hong Kong

- 3+3+4: The Reform of Hong Kong's Education System (and what it means to Australia)
- <http://www.austrade.gov.au/Export/Export-Markets/Industries/Education/Market-Information-Package/Content/Hong-Kong/default.aspx>

AEI Research

- Two years old
- Updated
- Acknowledge Heidi Fung in Hong Kong and Quentin Stevenson-Perks in Beijing

Hong Kong: Unmet Demand

- Policy until 2010 is that two thirds of age cohort leaves school after HKCEE after Form 5
- Policy to provide first year, first degree places to 18% of age cohort
- Massive unmet demand

334 Reforms

- HKDSE after six years (3+3) replaces both HKCEE after five years and HKALE after seven years
- Near universal access to HKDSE: everyone will finish school
- Four years (+4) of higher education

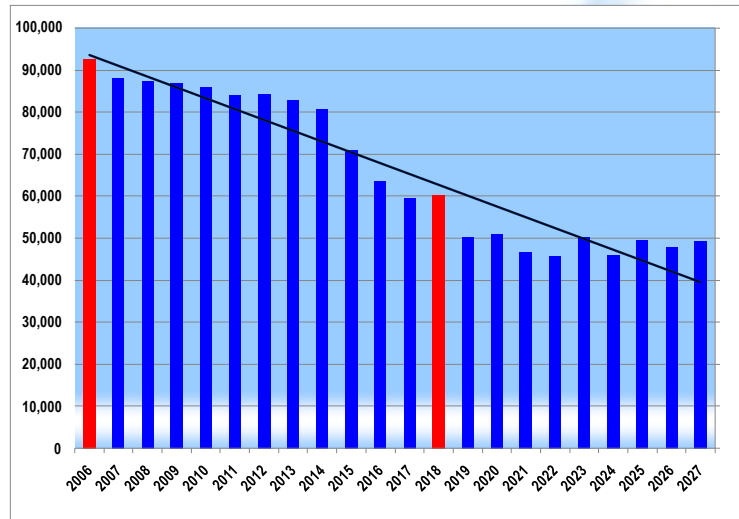
HKDSE

- Standards referenced not peer referenced
- Level 5 down
- Level 5 equivalent to HKALE Grades A-C
- Level 4 equivalent to HKALE Grade D
- Level 3 equivalent to HKALE Grade E
- Level 2 equivalent to HKCEE Grade E

Complications

- Falling birth rate: 92,400 18 year olds in 2006 to 45,900 in 2022 (but perhaps with an increasing readiness to pay for education)
- Double cohort

Number of 18 Year Olds in HK



Double Cohort

- 14,500 students from the last HKALE commencing the last three-year degrees in 2012 (*the morning shift*), at the same time as 14,500 students from the first HKDSE commence the first four-year degrees (*the afternoon shift*); double cohort increases undergraduate numbers by 30%

Issues for Australia

- Recognition of HKDSE
- Continuing need for pathways
- Continued recognition of Australian three year degrees in Hong Kong
- Implications for TNE in Hong Kong

Recognition of HKDSE

- Simply get on with it
- Probably three subjects at Level 3
- 27% of an age cohort will matriculate, will meet general entry requirements
- Places for up to 18% of an age cohort
- 10% will matriculate but miss a place, many will study overseas

Pathways

- 27% will matriculate
- 60% will complete HKDSE with five at Level 2 (equivalent to HKCEE at Grade E) or better including English and Chinese and will meet entry requirements for Associate Degree and HKVTC Higher Diploma
- 33% will need pathways and will qualify for those pathways

Australian Three Year Degrees

- International city, mutual recognition
- What matters is acceptance in Australia
- Universities may be precious: three year ordinary degree compared with four year "honours" degree
- No issue with research
- Coursework masters?

Transnational Education

- When Hong Kong Bachelor degrees change from three to four years, no general requirement for fresh registration of transnational courses
- HKCAAVQ: what is important in continuing recognition is that course offered in HK is the same as offered in home country, taught at standards recognised in home country

Opportunities for Australia

- School: flight to certainty, including flight from double cohort
- Undergraduates: 10% of an age cohort
- Pathway students: 33% of an age cohort
- Top up degrees: 20% of an age cohort



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