Empowering the next generation with even more international education data

Steve Nerlich
Part 1: More data
In 2017, there were 624,001 international students on a student visa who generated 799,371 enrolments.
Go to: internationaleducation.gov.au

- Data and research
- Data visualisations
The drop down menu lets you pick Australia and all states and territories.

And it lets you pick the previous full year (currently 2017)
Mouse-hover over a country to get its share and growth rate on previous period.

Get the data let's you download what you are looking at as a csv file.
Go to: internationaleducation.gov.au

- Data and research
- Data visualisations
A complete report card look at each of over 200 source countries with students, enrolments and commencements.

You can also select last full year and get the data.
Keep scrolling down for each country’s, fields of education and levels of study.

And you can mouse-hove to get share and growth figures.
Go to: internationaleducation.gov.au

- Data and research
- Data visualisations
Student data by region across Australia.

You can:
- Pick state/territory and then region
- Pick enrolments or commencements
- Switch to last full year
- Scroll down for sector, level of study, field of study and source country
- Mouse-hover for share and growth figures.
- Get the data
International students in regional areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State / Territory</th>
<th>Share (%)</th>
<th>Enrolments</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Major Cities area</td>
<td>Regional area</td>
<td>Major Cities Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSW</td>
<td>98.8%</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td>292,972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIC</td>
<td>99.1%</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>247,331</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QLD</td>
<td>94.0%</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
<td>115,605</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WA</td>
<td>99.6%</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
<td>53,468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SA</td>
<td>99.8%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>35,657</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACT</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>16,910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAS</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NT</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>96.9%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>761,943</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
International students in regional areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State / Territory</th>
<th>Region*</th>
<th>Enrolments</th>
<th>Share (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TAS</td>
<td>Hobart</td>
<td>6,702</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QLD</td>
<td>Cairns</td>
<td>2,685</td>
<td>11.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NT</td>
<td>Darwin</td>
<td>2,423</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QLD</td>
<td>Toowoomba</td>
<td>2,086</td>
<td>8.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QLD</td>
<td>Townsville</td>
<td>1,944</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSW</td>
<td>Richmond - Tweed</td>
<td>1,458</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAS</td>
<td>Launceston and North East</td>
<td>1,385</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSW</td>
<td>New England and North West</td>
<td>1,351</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIC</td>
<td>Ballarat</td>
<td>1,029</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIC</td>
<td>Geelong</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other locations</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>2,649</strong></td>
<td><strong>11.0%</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>24,128</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* SA4 regions as derived from the ABS Australian Statistical Geography Standard.
International students in regional areas

Share of international student enrolments by sector in regional areas, 2017

*Including foundation and study abroad (exchange program) courses.
Go to: internationaleducation.gov.au

- Data and research
- Data visualisations

<table>
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<th>Data visualisations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International student data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research snapshot I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research snapshot II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Output education data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian students overseas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archived data</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data visualisations to explore the international student demographics in Australian institutions. JavaScript must be enabled on the browser.

**Student numbers**
A graph showing actual student numbers on a student visa in Australia by nationality and state.
Data can be disaggregated by state, and the user can toggle between the current and last year's data.

**Where do international students come from and what do they study?**
An overview of where international students studying in Australia on a student visa come from and what they are studying here.

**International student enrolments by Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) SA4 region**
The geographic areas (categorised by ASGS SA4 level) where international enrolments and commencements are in Australia can be explored by the data visualisation.
The regional data is updated monthly with each release of the international student data.

**Student location map**
(WARNING: 2MB data download)
A map showing the distribution of international student enrolments across Australia. Enrolments data can be disaggregated by nationality and education sector.

**Pathways of international students while studying on a student visa**
Pathways of international students while on a student visa. Various pathways can be downloaded, including pathways post EUCOS, post Schools, prior to VET and prior to Higher Education. Pathways cohorts can be examined by nationality.
The pathways data is updated monthly with each release of the international student data.
Student location:

- Shows location of CRICOS providers, but not their enrolment count (so you can’t get the data).
- Can highlight regional versus city locations.
- Can select different source countries and education sectors.
Zoom in to anywhere across the country.

Mouse hover identifies the CRICOS provider.
Go to: internationaleducation.gov.au

- Data and research
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Can pick:

• Post-ELICOS or post-schools pathways; and
• Pre-higher education or pre-VET pathways.
• And do these by individual student source countries.
In 2017, there were 624,001 international students on a student visa who generated 799,371 enrolments.
Study pathways to VET - All nationalities

Sector studied before commencement of VET course in 2018

- **ELICOS**: 30% - 10,285
- **Higher-Education**: 14% - 4,732
- **Non-Award**: 1% - 468
- **Schools**: 2% - 589
- **None**: 53% - 18,193

Source: DET data visualisations
Study pathways to VET - India

Sector studied before commencement of VET course in 2018

- Higher-Education: 43% (1,568)
- None: 52% (1,911)
- Schools: 1% (38)
- ELICOS: 3% (124)
- Non-Award: 0% (13)

Source: DET data visualisations
Study pathways to VET - Brazil

Sector studied before commencement of VET course in 2018

- ELICOS - 84% - 2,778
- Higher Education 0% - 5
- Non-award - 1% - 18
- None - 15% - 508
- Schools - 0% - <5

Source: DET data visualisations
Study pathways to VET - UK

Sector studied before commencement of VET course in 2018

- None - 98% - 811
- ELICOS - 0% - <5
- Higher Education - 1% - 12
- Non-award - 0% - <5

Source: DET data visualisations
Over two-thirds of ELICOS students on a student visa are on a study pathway.

Since most pathway students arrive on a different visa type, ELICOS visa data hasn’t been very useful in identifying future trends.

Until now....
In 2018, we worked out how to identify visa grantees who were going to study ELICOS, as either:

- Independent ELICOS; or
- Pathway ELICOS.

So, while ELICOS enrolments in 2018 are tracking around 0% growth, this is apparently due to a 10% decline in Independent ELICOS visa grants countered by an 8% growth in Pathway ELICOS visa grants.
Part 2: Even more data
In 2017 and 2018, DET worked with state and territory governments, education providers and education peak bodies, to identify further data needs.

Feedback involves many areas of government, but some specific areas for the department included:

- Enhancing data on international students in regional areas;
- Offshore educational delivery (aka TNE);
- Graduate outcome data; and
- Student experience data.
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- Student experience data.
Offshore educational delivery (aka TNE)

Existing data sources are Australia’s mainstream higher education and VET data collections, namely:

• The Higher Education Statistics Collection; and
• The Total VET Activity data collection.

• In 2016, there were 119,351 enrolments in Australian higher education courses offshore.
• In 2017, there were 36,765 enrolments in Australian VET courses offshore.
Offshore educational delivery (aka TNE)

Existing data sources are Australia’s mainstream higher education and VET data collections, namely:

• The Higher Education Statistics Collection; and
• The Total VET Activity data collection.

• In 2016, there were 119,351 enrolments in Australian higher education courses offshore.
• In 2017, there were 36,765 enrolments in Australian VET courses offshore.

But what is their student experience like?
In 2018, a number of higher education providers surveyed their offshore students using the i-graduate *International Student Barometer*.

There were 8,341 student respondents:

- 86% reported being satisfied or very satisfied with their overall experience (compared with 89% of onshore international student respondents).
- Reasons for offshore students choosing their Australia course were similar to onshore students – quality and reputation of course and institution.
- There was slightly more emphasis on career benefit and earning potential.
- Personal safety was also a key issue.
- Most respondents were from Malaysia, Singapore & China (mirrors known student numbers).

Source: DET (pending publication, funded by an *Enabling Growth and Innovation* project grant)
Current 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: DET (pending publication, funded by an Enabling Growth and Innovation project grant)
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- Student experience data.
Current research – Graduate outcomes:

Higher education

A 2018 survey of university graduates who studied in Australia is being undertaken by ACER in collaboration with the Australian Universities International Directors Forum:

• This is work in progress.
• Findings will capture responses from graduates on and offshore.
• We anticipate this will become a regular national survey and establish a time series data stream going forward.

Source: DET (pending publication, funded by an Enabling Growth and Innovation project grant)
In May 2018, the NCVER released findings of a 2017 survey of over 11,000 international VET students who completed a course in Australia in 2016:

- 82% were employed or in further study.
- 89% would recommend their training to others.
- 85% would recommend their provider to others.

NCVER, in collaboration with DET intend to continue this survey on an annual basis going forward. And create a time series data stream.

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- Offshore educational delivery (aka TNE); ✔
- Graduate outcome data; and ✔
- Student experience data. ✔ ✔ ✔ ✔ ✔
The 2018 survey collected responses from over 84,000 international students in all sectors, the highest number since these biennial surveys commenced in 2010.
Thank you

Any questions?