



Monthly Summary of International Student Enrolment Data¹ – Australia – YTD March 2015

As at year-to-date (YTD) March 2015, there were 413,032 enrolments by full-fee paying international students in Australia on a student visa. This represents an 11.5% increase on YTD March 2014 and compares with the average YTD March growth rate for enrolments of 4.7% per year over the preceding ten years.

There were 146,964 commencements in YTD March 2015, representing a 9.3% increase over YTD March 2014. This compares with the average YTD March growth rate for commencements of 5.3% per year over the preceding ten years.

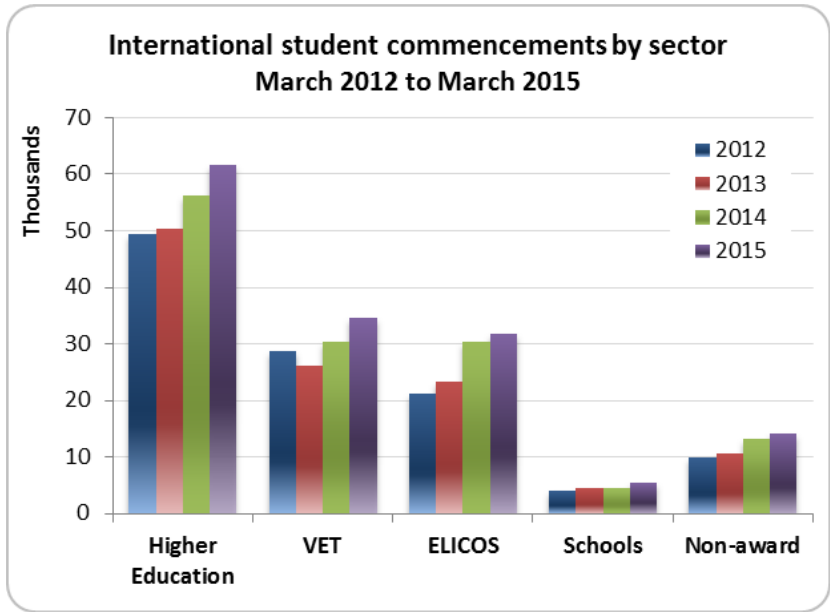
In YTD March 2015, the higher education sector had the largest share of enrolments (52.6%). Enrolments and commencements increased by 10.1% and 9.4% over the same period in 2014. China and India accounted for 35.4% and 11.7% respectively of enrolments by students in higher education. In YTD March 2015, post-graduate research commencements declined slightly by 0.7%, while other post-graduate commencements in higher education grew by 4.2% over the same period in 2014. Bachelor degree level commencements also increased, by 18.1%.

The VET sector accounted for 22.5% of total enrolments. Enrolments in the sector increased by 15.5% and commencements grew by 13.4% on YTD March 2014 figures. India had the largest share of total enrolments (18.3%) in YTD March 2015. China had the next largest share of VET enrolments with 8.2%, followed by the Republic of Korea (8.1%).

The English Language Intensive Courses for Overseas Students (ELICOS) sector accounted for 15.8% of total enrolments and 21.5% of total commencements in YTD March 2015. Enrolments grew by 8.7% and commencements by 4.6% on the same period in 2014. China accounted for the largest cohort of enrolments and commencements in ELICOS with shares of 25.5% and 22.2% respectively. Brazil was the next largest nationality for ELICOS enrolments with 8.5%, followed by Thailand and Colombia (7.7% and 6.8% respectively).

In YTD March 2015, the schools sector accounted for 3.6% of total enrolments and 3.7% of total commencements. Enrolments for the sector grew by 13.5% and commencements by 23.6% on YTD March 2014 figures. Asia contributed 87.6% of enrolments and 81.7% of commencements. By nationality, China and Vietnam had the largest shares of enrolments in schools, accounting for 49.7% and 9.6% respectively.

Enrolments and commencements in the non-award courses (such as exchange and foundation programs) increased by 15.7% and 5.6% respectively. China (29.0%), USA (14.0%) and Brazil (11.1%) accounted for more enrolments in non-award courses than any other nationality. Commencements from China and the USA increased by 40.9% and 4.4% respectively and commencements from Brazil decreased by 19.4% on 2014 figures.



Sector	Enrolments			Commencements		
	YTD Mar. 2014	YTD Mar. 2015	Growth on YTD Mar. 2014	YTD Mar. 2014	YTD Mar. 2015	Growth on YTD Mar. 2014
Higher Education	197,381	217,281	10.1%	56,207	61,493	9.4%
VET	80,425	92,901	15.5%	30,339	34,414	13.4%
ELICOS	60,204	65,462	8.7%	30,272	31,664	4.6%
Schools ²	13,167	14,944	13.5%	4,388	5,423	23.6%
Non-award	19,395	22,444	15.7%	13,227	13,970	5.6%
Total in Australia	370,572	413,032	11.5%	134,433	146,964	9.3%

The Top 5 nationalities contributed 52.5% of Australia's enrolments in all sectors					Double-digit increases in markets with over 4,000 enrolments (outside top 5)			
Nationality	YTD Mar. 2014	YTD Mar. 2015	Growth on YTD Mar. 2014	Share of all nationalities	Nationality	YTD Mar. 2015	Growth on YTD Mar. 2014	Rank
China	102,277	115,311	12.7%	27.9%	Thailand	14,421	11.7%	6
India	35,521	46,367	30.5%	11.2%	Nepal	13,444	18.3%	7
Vietnam	19,406	20,038	3.3%	4.9%	Pakistan	10,849	19.3%	10
Malaysia	16,609	17,701	6.6%	4.3%	Taiwan	7,042	29.1%	15
Republic of Korea	17,076	17,153	0.5%	4.2%	Sri Lanka	4,871	17.4%	19
Other nationalities	179,683	196,462	9.3%	47.6%	Italy	4,720	34.8%	20
All nationalities	370,572	413,032	11.5%	100.0%				

¹ The Department of Education and Training data on enrolments and commencements (including the data in this update) relate only to international students in Australia on a student visa.
² Commencements in schools for the current reference period are not strictly comparable to earlier years due to recent changes to secondary school level courses at a single large provider.