

# Research Snapshot

May 2017

# Export income to Australia from international education activity in 2016

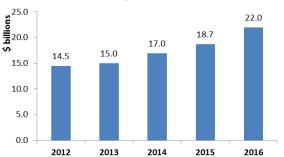
This snapshot highlights the latest data on international education exports released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in its *International Trade in Services* series<sup>(a)</sup>.

### Size of exports

International education activity arising from international students studying and living in Australia contributed \$22.0 billion to the economy in 2016. This is a 10.5% increase from the earnings recorded in financial year 2015-16 (\$19.9 billion); up 17.7% on calendar year 2015 (\$18.7 billion).

The *total* export income generated by all international education activity was \$22.4 billion. This comprised spending by onshore students (the ABS uses the term 'education-related personal travel' for this item), as well as offshore earnings from other educational services (\$410 million) and royalties (\$28 million) which generated an additional \$438 million, as outlined in the table below.

#### Onshore in Australia: Export income from education services

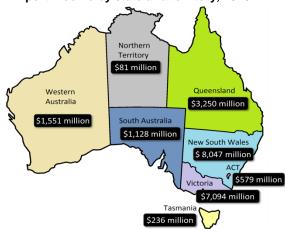


Education-related personal travel is Australia's 3rd largest export after iron ore (\$53.7 billion) and coal (\$41.1 billion). It is the largest services export (30.8% of total services exports), ahead of other personal travel services (\$17.4 billion); and professional and management consulting services (\$4.8 billion).

## Education sector(c)

In 2016 the higher education sector generated \$15.1 billion in export income (68.9% of total on-shore earnings). VET was the second largest, generating \$3.7 billion in earnings (16.8%). Export income from ELICOS was \$1,087 million (4.9%); schools, \$872 million (4.0%); and non-award, \$805 million (3.7%).

## Export income by state and territory, 2016



Education-related personal travel	17,046	18,659	21,966	98.0%	17.7%
China	4,472	4,932	6,060	27.0%	22.9%
India	1,705	2,131	2,581	11.5%	21.1%
Vietnam	989	1,008	1,087	4.9%	7.8%
Malaysia	733	774	929	4.1%	20.0%
Republic of Korea	762	778	875	3.9%	12.5%
Nepal	558	652	806	3.6%	23.6%
Thailand	618	678	797	3.6%	17.6%
Indonesia	572	603	659	2.9%	9.3%
Brazil	471	512	643	2.9%	25.6%
Pakistan	459	523	569	2.5%	8.8%
Other countries	5,707	6,068	6,960	31.1%	14.7%
Other educational services (d)	552	508	410	1.8%	-19.3%
Education consultancy services	140	122	79	0.3%	-35.2%
Correspondence courses	9	12	16	0.1%	33.3%
Services through educational institutions	332	301	266	1.2%	-11.6%
Other education services	71	73	49	0.2%	-32.9%
Royalties on education services	31	31	28	0.1%	-9.7%
Total education-related services exports	17,629	19,198	22,404	100.0%	16.7%

(a) Sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics' publication *International Trade in Services, by Country, by State and by Detailed Services Category, Calendar Year, 2016* (ABS Catalogue no. 5368.0.55.004) published on 24 May 2017. (b) Includes international students studying onshore on student visas only. (c) International students from New Zealand and those on Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade/Defence scholarships contributed an additional \$187 m and \$193 m respectively. (d) Export income does not include income generated through offshore tuition provided by Australian institutions.