



Export income to Australia from international education activity in 2016-17

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

Size of exports

International education activity^(b) arising from international students studying and living in Australia contributed \$28.0 billion to the economy in 2016-17. This is a 16.1% increase from the earnings recorded in financial year 2015-16 (\$24.1 billion^(c)).

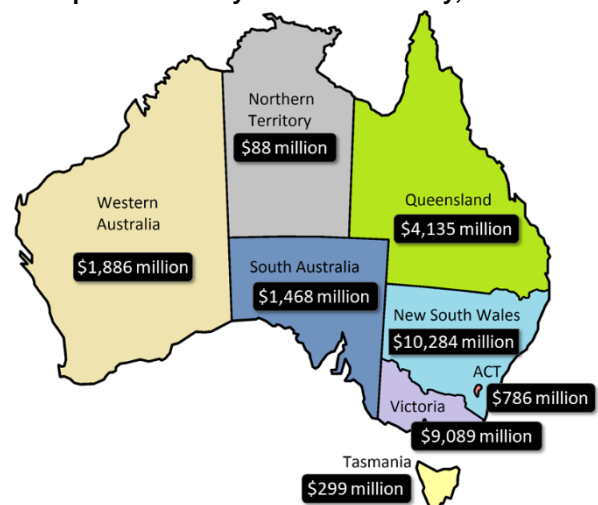
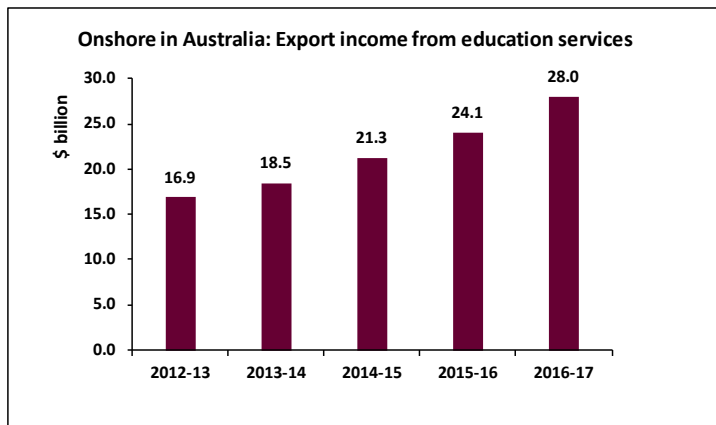
The *total* export income generated by all international education activity was \$28.6 billion. This comprised spending by onshore students (the ABS uses the term *education-related personal travel* for this item), as well as offshore earnings from other educational services and royalties which generated an additional \$521 million, as outlined in the table below.

Education-related personal travel is Australia's 3rd largest export after iron ore (\$62.8 billion) and coal (\$54.3 billion). It is the largest *services* export (34.3% of total services exports), ahead of *other personal travel services* (\$21.6 billion); and *professional and management consulting services* (\$4.8 billion).

Education sector^(d)

In 2016-17, the higher education sector generated \$19.1 billion in export income (68.1% of total on-shore earnings). The VET sector generated \$4.8 billion in earnings (17.3% of total), ELICOS was \$1.4 billion (5.2%); schools was \$1.2 billion (4.4%); and non-award was \$981 million (3.5%).

Export income by state and territory, 2016-17



Australia's total exports of education-related services

	A\$ million			% share of 2016-17	% change from 2015-16
	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17		
Education-related personal travel	21,258	24,145	28,035	98.2%	16.1%
China (excluding SARs and Taiwan)	5,548	7,010	8,987	31.5%	28.2%
India	2,342	2,733	3,153	11.0%	14.7%
Malaysia	889	1,067	1,270	4.4%	19.0%
Viet Nam	1,198	1,195	1,215	4.2%	1.7%
Nepal	728	816	1,050	3.7%	28.7%
Republic of Korea	912	930	951	3.3%	2.3%
Thailand	773	791	806	2.8%	1.9%
Indonesia	698	748	802	2.8%	7.2%
Hong Kong (SAR of China)	528	642	754	2.6%	17.4%
Brazil	583	605	695	2.4%	14.9%
<i>Other countries</i>	<i>7,059</i>	<i>7,608</i>	<i>8,352</i>	<i>29.2%</i>	<i>9.8%</i>
Educational services^(e)	568	489	486	1.7%	-0.6%
Education consultancy services	137	136	138	0.5%	1.5%
Correspondence courses	13	12	13	0.05%	8.3%
Services through educational institutions	341	291	282	1.0%	-3.1%
Other education services	77	50	53	0.2%	6.0%
Royalties on education services	37	21	35	0.1%	66.7%
Total education-related services exports	21,863	24,655	28,556	100.0%	15.8%

(a) Sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics' publication *International Trade in Services, by Country, by State and by Detailed Services Category, Financial Year, 2016-17* (ABS Catalogue no. 5368.0.55.003) published on 24 November 2017. (b) Includes international students studying onshore on student visas only. (c) ABS revised estimate, up from \$24.1 billion published in November 2016 (d) International students from New Zealand and those on Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade/Defence scholarships contributed an additional \$217 m and \$208 m respectively. (e) Export income does not include income generated by the operations of offshore campuses of Australian institutions.