



## International student numbers 2013

This snapshot provides an overview of the number of international students<sup>1</sup> studying in Australia on a student visa in 2013. The Department of Education's international student monthly data records student 'enrolment' and 'commencement' numbers rather than actual student numbers. This approach avoids double counting students who follow study pathways (for example enrolling in an English Language Intensive Courses for Overseas Students (ELICOS) course and then a higher education course in the same year). This snapshot is on actual student numbers.

There were 410,925 international students from 193 countries studying on a student visa in Australia in 2013. This represents a 2.3 per cent increase over 2012 figures.

Students from China contributed 29.0 per cent of all international students in Australia, the highest of any nationality. India and the Republic of Korea were the next highest, contributing 8.8 per cent and 4.9 per cent respectively. Nationalities in the top ten countries (see table below) together contributed 66.9 per cent of total international student numbers. Nine of the top ten nationalities recorded more than 11,000 students studying onshore in Australia. Of these top ten, five nationalities had more students in the higher education sector than any other. The exceptions were India, Thailand and the Republic of Korea which had larger shares of students in vocational education and training (VET); Brazil with greater numbers of students in ELICOS; and the USA with more students in the non-award sector than any other.

Across all nationalities combined, there was a slightly higher proportion of males (52.6%). Nonetheless, for some nationalities more than 60% of students were female including Thailand (62.5%) and the USA (61.5%).

In 2013, the most common age range for international students was between 20 and 24 years (44.6%) while 6.0 per cent were over 35 years and 3.4 per cent were under 18 years. Students in the VET sector tended to be slightly older, where 37.2 per cent were aged 25 to 29. Students in the schools sector were commonly younger with 62.1 per cent aged less than 18 years. Students in the higher education, ELICOS and non-award sectors were predominately aged 20 to 24 years (54.4%, 41.2% and 66.8% respectively).

Sector	2012	2013	Growth
Higher Education	215,792	217,520	0.8%
VET	103,234	98,792	-4.3%
ELICOS	78,970	93,436	18.3%
Non-award	25,263	28,110	11.3%
Schools	18,447	17,711	-4.0%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>401,722</b>	<b>410,925</b>	<b>2.3%</b>

\* The total is less than the sum of its components as individual students can undertake study in more than one sector during the year

### International Student Numbers, 2013

Top 10 Nationalities	Age group							Gender Distribution		Sector Distribution				
	<18	18-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	≥ 35	Total	Female	Male	Higher Education	VET	Schools	ELICOS	Non-award
China	5,750	12,659	70,553	26,125	3,146	1,004	119,237	51.3%	48.7%	61.9%	8.2%	6.0%	19.0%	5.0%
India	114	1,258	12,169	15,671	5,602	1,394	36,208	32.4%	67.6%	41.8%	49.8%	0.3%	7.3%	0.8%
Republic of Korea	1,398	1,045	6,115	5,172	4,039	2,387	20,156	51.8%	48.2%	31.1%	32.4%	7.6%	26.5%	2.4%
Vietnam	1,432	2,814	9,550	4,325	1,341	616	20,078	52.0%	48.0%	45.5%	15.5%	7.7%	29.1%	2.2%
Malaysia	350	1,742	11,688	2,835	1,104	1,136	18,855	49.8%	50.2%	74.5%	14.8%	2.3%	4.8%	3.6%
Thailand	384	559	3,094	4,668	3,352	1,934	13,991	62.5%	37.5%	18.7%	37.1%	2.7%	40.8%	0.8%
Indonesia	459	2,263	6,498	2,010	980	1,109	13,319	47.5%	52.5%	55.7%	28.4%	1.8%	9.9%	4.3%
Brazil	304	376	5,087	3,995	2,076	796	12,634	48.0%	52.0%	5.4%	27.5%	2.4%	57.1%	7.6%
Nepal	25	681	3,405	5,060	1,671	426	11,268	36.4%	63.6%	60.3%	27.3%	0.2%	10.1%	2.1%
United States of America	68	512	6,399	1,354	501	339	9,173	61.5%	38.5%	25.6%	15.0%	0.8%	0.2%	58.4%
Other nationalities	3,851	6,492	48,867	41,887	21,513	13,396	136,006	44.7%	55.3%	42.5%	24.0%	2.9%	22.6%	8.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,135</b>	<b>30,401</b>	<b>183,425</b>	<b>113,102</b>	<b>45,325</b>	<b>24,537</b>	<b>410,925</b>	<b>47.4%</b>	<b>52.6%</b>	<b>47.7%</b>	<b>21.7%</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>20.5%</b>	<b>6.2%</b>

<sup>1</sup> International student numbers relate only to international students in Australia on a student visa and are derived from AEI enrolments data by matching a number of different variables such as date of birth, name and gender.

Note: Highlighted cells indicate the largest shares within 'age group', 'gender' and 'sector' for each nationality.