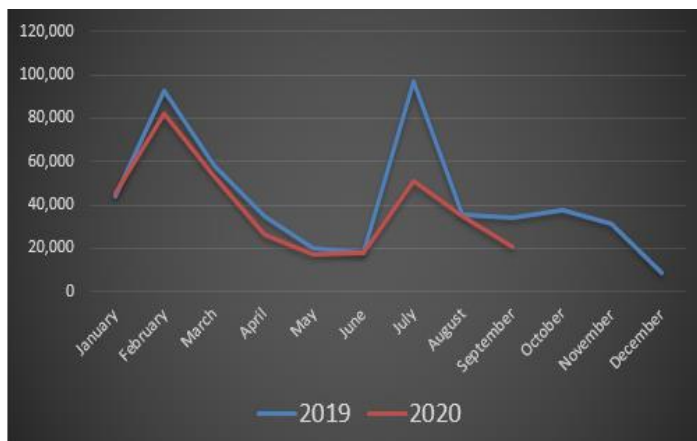




## Student commencements in the third quarter of 2020

Figure 1: International student commencements, month-by-month, 2019 and 2020



Commencements in the July-September 2020 quarter were 106,377, compared with 166,465 in the same period of 2019, a decline of 36 per cent.

By matching commencement data with student visa data, it appears that at least 23 and as much as 34 per cent of these commencements were made by students outside Australia. Of the 23 per cent (24,197) that could be confirmed as outside Australia, the majority were from China (19,533).

Commencements are difficult to accurately match to student visa data, hence the location of 11 per cent in this period could not be confirmed.

### How many 'new' students commenced in third quarter of 2020?

Commencements for the period July-September 2020 are shown below by education sector for 2020, with comparable figures for 2019. In both years, commencements by 'new' students who had no previous enrolment record in Australia, are also shown. In July-September 2020, China had the highest proportion of 'new' commencements in July-September 2020 (32%), indeed over half (53%) of all 'new' commencements in 2020 were from China. In 2019, 'new' commencements from China were only 23 per cent of the total.

A pivot table of this data is available [here](#), incorporating source country, state/territory as well as education sector elements.

Table 1: Commencements, including 'new' commencements in July-September 2020, by sector

Sector	Commencements	'New' commencements	% 'New' commencements
Higher Education	43,224	11,755	27%
VET	47,869	3,594	8%
Schools	706	349	49%
ELICOS	12,698	3,358	26%
Non-Award	1,880	1,001	53%
<b>Total</b>	<b>106,377</b>	<b>20,057</b>	<b>19%</b>

Table 2: Commencements, including 'new' commencements in July-September 2019, by sector

Sector	Commencements	'New' commencements	% 'New' commencements
Higher Education	64,613	33,670	52%
VET	51,044	12,457	24%
Schools	3,295	2,894	88%
ELICOS	33,537	20,604	61%
Non-Award	13,976	12,600	90%
<b>Total</b>	<b>166,465</b>	<b>82,225</b>	<b>49%</b>