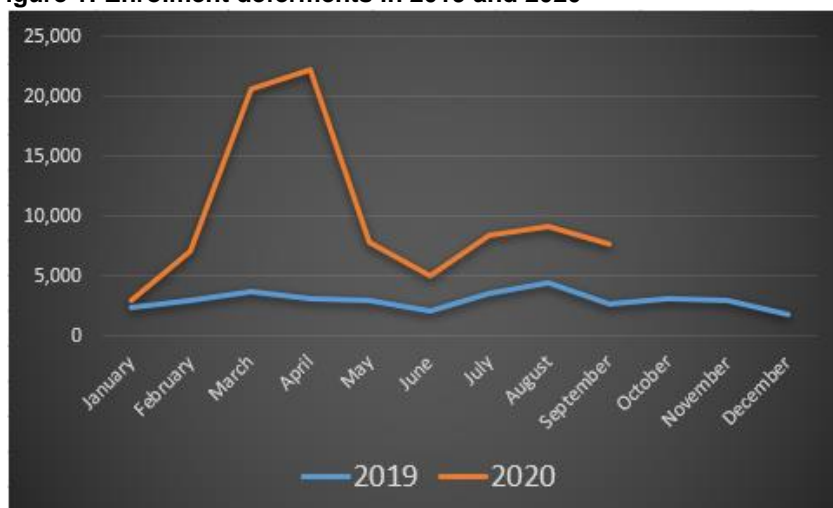




September 2020 international student data update

Figure 1: Enrolment deferments in 2019 and 2020



For the year-to-date September 2020, there were a total of 90,945 enrolment deferments. At the end of September 2020:

- 32,700 (36%) had since recommenced studying or finished;
- 30,262 (33%) have a new proposed start date: 9% in 2020; 83% in 2021 and 8% after 2021;
- 27,866 (31%) do not currently have a new proposed start date.

The 90,945 year-to-date enrolment deferments were generated by less than 71,000 individual students.

Data matching to estimate how many enrolled students are currently in and outside Australia

The location of enrolled students in or outside Australia can be achieved by matching with concurrent student visa data, which leaves just 5 per cent of enrolments with location unknown. Matching data on a single day (15 September 2020) gives a close proxy for the number of enrolled students on that day.

The Department of Home Affairs' student visa location data includes the subset *Outside Australia – No Movement*. Students in this category have been granted visas but have not yet used those visas to travel from the country in which they were granted. Hence, it is likely the majority are students who were granted a visa after travel restrictions to Australia were imposed in March 2020.

So, on 15 September 2020, there were at least 87,626 enrolled students outside Australia and not more than 111,256 (87,626 + 23,630). Of those students confirmed to be outside Australia, 13,049 were in the category *Outside Australia – No Movement*. A pivot table is available [here](#) with this data, incorporating source country, state/territory as well as education sector elements. On 15 September 2019, there were 562,184 enrolled students, presumably all in Australia.

Table 1: Location of international students, 15 September 2020, by education sector

| Sector | In Australia | Outside Australia - Movement | Outside Australia - No Movement | Outside Australia - Total | Unknown | Grand Total | % outside | % unknown |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|----------------|------------|-----------|
| Higher Education | 221,365 | 64,751 | 9,670 | 74,421 | 7,429 | 303,215 | 25% | 2% |
| VET | 135,407 | 3,850 | 199 | 4,049 | 13,801 | 153,257 | 3% | 9% |
| Schools | 15,737 | 1,730 | 162 | 1,892 | 304 | 17,933 | 11% | 2% |
| ELICOS | 13,680 | 1,084 | 2,048 | 3,132 | 1,787 | 18,599 | 17% | 10% |
| Non-Award | 5,312 | 3,162 | 970 | 4,132 | 309 | 9,753 | 42% | 3% |
| Grand Total | 391,501 | 74,577 | 13,049 | 87,626 | 23,630 | 502,757 | 17% | 5% |

As can be calculated from the pivot table, of all student source countries, China had the highest proportion of its enrolled students outside Australia (42%). Indeed of the global total of 87,626 enrolled students confirmed as outside Australia, 71 per cent were Chinese (62,099). Of the 13,049 student confirmed in the category *Outside Australia – No Movement*, 81 per cent were Chinese (10,540).