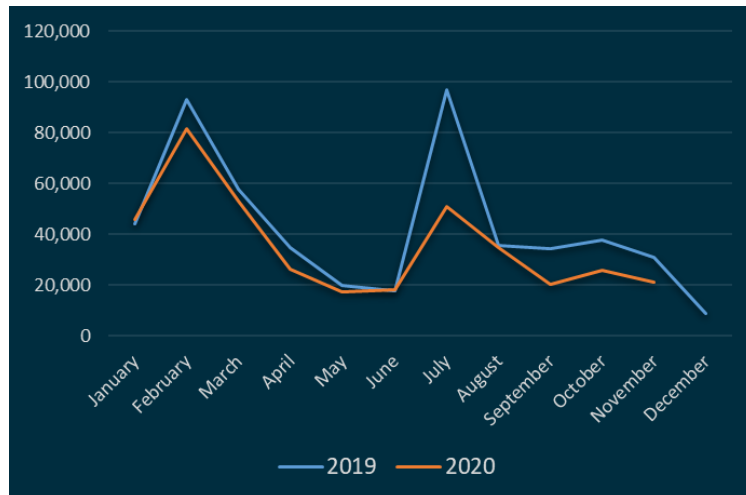




Student commencements in the period July-November 2020

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



Commencements in the July-November 2020 period were 152,965, compared with 234,880 in the same period of 2019, a decline of 35 per cent.

By matching commencement data with student visa data, it appears that at least 21 and as much as 32 per cent of these commencements were made by students outside Australia. Of the 21 per cent (32,547) that could be confirmed as outside Australia, the majority were from China (24,392).

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

How many 'new' students commenced in the period July - November 2020?

Commencements for the period July-November 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.

A pivot table of this data is available [here](#), incorporating source country, state/territory as well as education sector elements. From the pivot table it can be calculated that China had a high proportion of all commencements (27%). Indeed, almost half (48%) of all 'new' commencements in July-November 2020, were from China. In the same period of 2019, 24 per cent each of all commencements and 'new' commencements were from China.

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

Sector	Commencements	'New' commencements	% 'New' commencements
Higher Education	50,540	15,114	30%
VET	76,562	6,033	8%
Schools	925	483	52%
ELICOS	21,460	7,056	33%
Non-award	3,478	2,204	63%
Total	152,965	30,890	20%

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

Sector	Commencements	'New' commencements	% 'New' commencements
Higher Education	76,358	40,490	53%
VET	82,097	20,576	25%
Schools	4,040	3,511	87%
ELICOS	55,816	36,433	65%
Non-award	16,569	14,838	90%
Total	234,880	115,848	49%