

Brazil Australia Higher Education Forum

Royal Tulip Hotel Brasilia

9-10 June 2015

In June 2015 the Australian Department of Education and Training will jointly convene with Universities Australia and the Council of Rectors of Brazilian Universities, the inaugural Brazil Australia Higher Education Forum.

The event will bring together representatives of Australian and Brazilian universities, peak bodies and relevant Government agencies.

The purpose of the event is to explore opportunities to deepen academic and research engagement between our two countries and build on the links already established through the hugely successful *Science without Borders* scholarship programme.

We envision new institutional relationships being formed, deeper and more active engagement between the respective peak bodies and stronger, more comprehensive links between our two Governments.

Background Briefing

The Federal Republic of Brazil

The Federative Republic of Brazil is the fifth largest country in the world (approximately 10 per cent larger than Australia) and the largest country in Latin America. Brazil has around 16,000 kilometres of land borders with nine countries and French Guiana.

Brazil, like Australia, has a huge diversity in geography and temperatures, with the tropical Amazon in the north, semi-arid Brazilian outback (Sertão) in the Northeast, the massive Pantanal wetlands and hot central tablelands in the central west; sub-tropical to temperate in the south and south east, and even snow in the south during winter. Brazil's name comes from the Brazilwood tree which was the first natural resource to be exploited by the Portuguese following their arrival in 1500. The capital of Brazil is Brasília, a planned city like Canberra.

Brazil is the fifth most populous country in the world, with over 201 million people (2013 est), most of whom are descendants of Europeans and Africans. Indigenous communities represent 0.4% of the population. Roman Catholicism is the main religion, while other

significant populations of other Christian denominations are present. Other religions and non-religious make up a small minority. Portuguese is the official language of Brazil.

Brazil is the world's seventh largest economy, with a GDP of US\$2.2 trillion. Brazil's per capita GDP is lower than Chile's, but higher than fellow BRICS members, China and India. Brazil's economy grew by 2.5 per cent in 2013 but was subdued in 2014. Inflation increased slightly from 6.2 to 6.4 per cent from 2013 to 2014. Economic growth in 2015 is expected to remain low while inflation should remain at or near its current level. Brazil's unemployment rate averaged 5.5 per cent in 2014. The World Economic Forum *Global Competitiveness Index* for 2014-15 ranked Brazil 57 out of 144 countries and the World Bank's 2014 rankings for 'ease of doing business' placed Brazil 120 out of 189.

With large and well-developed agricultural, mining, oil and gas, manufacturing and service sectors, Brazil is expanding in world markets. China has replaced the United States as Brazil's largest trading partner. Brazil is second to Australia as the world's largest iron ore exporter. Brazil is also the largest, or second-largest, exporter of beef, soybeans, orange juice, sugar and chicken. It is the world's second-largest producer and largest exporter of ethanol. Still, Brazil is facing a number of challenges including manufacturing competition from China, slow productivity gains, and infrastructure bottlenecks.

Externally, Mercosul is the most important economic grouping for Brazil. Under the Mercosul treaty, tariffs between members are lowered gradually on most products and common external tariffs are applied to non-members. Mercosul represents a market of over 280 million people with an estimated combined GDP in 2014 of more than US\$3.2 trillion.

Commonwealth of Australia

Australia is a stable, democratic and culturally diverse nation with a highly skilled workforce and one of the strongest performing economies in the world.

With spectacular landscapes and a rich ancient culture, Australia is a land like no other. It is the earth's sixth-largest country in land area and is the only nation to govern an entire continent.

With a spectacular natural environment, high quality of life and great diversity, Australia is a sought after destination for international tourists and students. It has 10 per cent of the world's biodiversity and a great number of its native plants and animals exist nowhere else on earth. From tropical rainforests in the north to the red deserts of the centre, from the snowfields of the south-east to the Australian Antarctic Territory, it is a vast and varied land. Australia has many World Heritage sites including the Great Barrier Reef, Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park and the Sydney Opera House.

Australia is home to one of the world's oldest living cultures, with Aboriginal communities established nearly 60,000 years before European settlement. Today, Australia is one of the world's most multicultural countries, rich in Indigenous and immigrant cultures. Australia is a successful and prosperous nation, ranked second in the United Nations Development Programme's Human Development Report 2014.

Australia's economy is consistently ranked among the strongest of advanced economies in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. It is the world's twelfth largest economy and a top performing nation on almost every measure of excellence, from health to wealth, from ease of doing business to educational attainment.

With low unemployment, low inflation and a highly skilled workforce, and with strong links with the fastest-growing region in the world, the Indo-Pacific, Australia's economy is set to prosper well into the future.

Key figures:

- POPULATION: 23 Million (December 2013)
- PROPORTION OF POPULATION BORN OVERSEAS: 28% (June 2013)
- PROPORTION OF POPULATION WHO IDENTIFY AS BEING OF ABORIGINAL OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ORIGIN: 2.5% (2011)
- CAPITAL CITY: Canberra
- LARGEST CITY: Sydney Population 4.67 million (2013)
- SURFACE AREA: 7.69 million sq kms (2.96 million sq miles)
- MAIN LANGUAGE: English + more than 300 others
- GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT PER CAPITA: A\$67,100 (2013)
- WORKFORCE: 12.3 million (June 2014)
- INFLATION RATE: 3% (June 2014)
- VALUE OF EXPORTS OF GOODS AND SERVICES: A\$318.5 billion (2013)
- MAJOR GOODS AND SERVICES EXPORTS: Iron ores and concentrates, coal, natural gas, education travel services, gold
- MAJOR IMPORTS: Recreational travel services, crude petroleum, passenger motor vehicles, refined petroleum, freight transport services
- MAIN TRADING PARTNERS: China, Japan, United States, Republic of Korea, Singapore

Bilateral relations

Under the 2012 Australia-Brazil Strategic Partnership, leaders agreed to hold regular leaders' meetings, Foreign and Trade Minister Consultations at least every two years, and expand the bilateral senior officials' meetings to include defence representatives in a "Strategic Dialogue". The Strategic Partnership contains initiatives aimed at improving bilateral links,

including education, resources and energy, science and technology and trade and investment as well as furthering multilateral and regional cooperation.

President Rousseff and then Foreign Minister Figueiredo Machado visited Australia in November 2014 for the G20 Leaders' Summit in Brisbane chaired by Prime Minister Tony Abbott. In the sidelines of the G20 meetings, Foreign Ministers Bishop and Figueiredo Machado signed a MoU on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters. In December 2014, Trade and Investment Minister, the Hon Andrew Robb AO MP, visited Rio de Janeiro to promote Brazilian investment in Australia and participate in the COALAR-supported Energy-Water-Food Nexus Seminar, which helped build linkages between Australian and Brazilian specialists in these areas which are of significant importance to both countries.

Australian and Brazilian foreign and trade policy interests coincide in several important areas and the two countries cooperate multilaterally on issues of mutual interest including climate change and agricultural trade reform in the World Trade Organization (WTO) through the Cairns Group. Brazil and Australia have a close working relationship in the G20. Reform of international financial institutions (such as the World Bank and IMF) to give developing countries a greater voice in these organisations is a shared G20 priority for Australia and Brazil.

In 2001, the Australian Government established the [Council on Australia-Latin America Relations \(COALAR\)](#) which aims to enhance commercial, political and cultural relations between Australia and Latin America. Since its inception, COALAR has been active in promoting business, education, tourism and cultural links between Australia and Latin America. It has supported a range of activities in Brazil, including cultural and trade promotion events.

In 2014 Universities Australia was awarded funding through the COALAR grants program to develop and implement a pilot executive Leadership Program with Brazil – details are provided below.

People-to-people links

In addition to a strong trade and investment relationship, Australia and Brazil have growing people-to-people links. The inaugural Australia-Brazil Dialogue took place in São Paulo in March 2013, bringing together high-level representatives from government, business, academia, media and think-tanks. Brazil is the largest Latin American market for visitors to Australia. Tourism between the two countries is also growing steadily, with over 41,000 Australian tourists visiting Brazil in 2014 and over 35,000 Brazilians visiting Australia in 2013. Around 20,000 Australians travelled to Brazil for the 2014 FIFA World Cup, representing one of the largest groups of foreigners that visited Brazil for the event. In 2016, Brazil will

be the focus country of a major Australian cultural programme that will strengthen and deepen ties with Brazil through arts and cultural events and activities.

In 1901, just 105 Brazilian-born persons were living in Australia. A small but growing number of Brazilians began migrating to Australia in the late 1960s and early 1970s. According to the 2011 census, around 14,500 people living in Australia were born in Brazil.

Bilateral economic and trade relationship

Australian economic engagement with Brazil has grown steadily since the mid-1990s, most notably in mining, agribusiness, services, and more recently in the education sector. Brazil is Australia's largest trading partner in South America, with two-way merchandise trade between Australia and Brazil totalling A\$1.414 billion in Financial Year 2013-14. Merchandise trade comprised exports of A\$815 million to Brazil and imports of A\$600 million from Brazil. Major exports to Brazil included coal, crude petroleum, nickel ores and concentrates, and aluminum. Major imports from Brazil included medicaments, civil engineering equipment and parts, coffee and fruit juices.

Australian investment in Brazil was A\$13.049 billion in 2013. There are currently 110 Australian companies with a presence in Brazil, around one quarter of which are ASX200 listed. Major Australian companies with a presence in Brazil include BHP Billiton, Macquarie, Pacific Hydro, Rio Tinto and Orica. Brazilian companies with investments in Australia include JB Swift, Vale, WEG and Natura Cosmetics. JB Swift is now the largest meat processing company in Australia and has investments of around A\$2.5 billion in Australia.

Trade and investment

Opportunities exist for increased Australian trade and investment in areas such as information technology, biotechnology, transportation (rail and marine), banking and insurance, mining, water and waste water management, oil and gas, renewable energy, education, agribusiness, retail, tourism and infrastructure. A growing number of Australian companies are now operating in Brazil, though a lack of mutual awareness remains an obstacle to expanding commercial ties.

COALAR

The Council on Australia Latin America Relations (COALAR) was formed in response to the Joint Standing Committee of Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade - Trade Sub Committee report, [Building Australia's Trade and Investment Relationship with South America \(September 2000\)](#).

One of the report's recommendations was to 'establish a mechanism with funding to promote initiatives, provide leadership and display commitment to developing the relationship through tangible achievements,' through an Australia – South America Foundation. As a result, COALAR's formation was announced in March 2001 by the then Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Brazil Australia Executive Leadership Program

In 2014, Universities Australia was granted COALAR funding to host an executive shadowing programme between Australian and Brazilian universities with the aim of increasing collaboration in research. Four senior Brazilian university representatives came to Australia for a period of two weeks to strengthen their engagement with the Australian university sector. As part of the program they attended various events organised by Universities Australia and participated in a shadowing program at a host Australian university for the remainder of their time. Participating Brazilian institutions were Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Universidade de São Paulo and Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais.

All Australian universities were provided an opportunity to meet with the visiting delegation and four institutions were able to host one of the participants for one week. Those institutions were Swinburne University of Technology, the University of Melbourne, Macquarie University and the University of Technology, Sydney. In addition, the Australian National University hosted all four Brazilian delegates for a half day campus visit.

The programme was successful in meeting its aims and has received strong support from the Brazilian and Australian universities involved.

Higher Education in Australia

There are three types of higher education institutions in Australia: Universities; other self-accrediting higher education institutions; and non-self-accrediting higher education institutions. Higher Education institutions offer [Australian Qualifications Framework \(AQF\)](#) qualifications.

Australia has 40 universities, 37 are public and three are private. There are 39 Universities Australia members, and one specialised university that does not meet the Universities Australia membership criteria – see the [University Profiles](#) document for more information.

Under the [Higher Education Standards Framework](#) all universities must self-accredit, offer undergraduate and postgraduate courses, undertake research, contribute to higher education outcomes, have good practice in teaching and learning, be involved in the community, and offer quality higher education. There are provider standards and qualifications standards.

Universities Australia member universities differ in size with enrolments ranging from 10,000 to more than 40,000 students. Many are located in major cities but others are in smaller regional areas. Many universities have several campuses including a number offshore.

Australian universities are subject to quality assurance by the [Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency](#) (TEQSA) which was established in July 2011 taking over the functions of the Australian Universities Quality Agency. TEQSA regulates the sector through registration and re-registration of institutions; and through accreditation and re-accreditation of courses.

Universities Australia

Universities Australia was established on 22 May 2007 as the peak body representing the university sector. Universities Australia represents [Australian universities](#) in the public interest, both nationally and internationally. Members of Universities Australia are the universities, represented by their Chief Executive Officer - the Vice-Chancellor.

Universities Australia strives to:

- advance and promote the benefits of Australian Universities to the nation
- support Australian universities in the performance of their roles
- develop policy positions on higher education matters through discussing higher education issues, including teaching, research and research training
- advance internationalisation of Australian universities
- provide information for and about Australian universities
- provide services and programs to Australian universities including the negotiation of common purchasing arrangements
- promote the welfare of students, staff and graduates of Australian universities
- facilitate opportunities for Australian universities (in particular, their students, staff and graduates) to develop their knowledge and skills
- study the problems and needs of Australian universities and their relations with other education institutions, organisations and the community and to encourage and sponsor their study
- assist in the further development of Australian universities.

Internationalisation

The internationalisation of Australia's universities has played out over the last half century. The history of international education in universities started in 1950 following the meeting of Commonwealth foreign ministers in Colombo, Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) which recommended the creation of a scheme under which aid could flow to developing countries in South and Southeast Asia. Australia's universities then opened their doors to thousands of Colombo Plan students. This period of aid-based delivery of education is characterised as the first wave of internationalisation.

With the passing of legislation in the mid 1980s allowing universities to enrol full fee international students, in this the second wave, education moved from a sole focus on aid to include a heavy focus on trade and has become a significant source of revenue (on average 15 per cent) for universities.

Universities Australia considers that universities are now in the midst of a third wave of internationalisation. This involves the development of engagement strategies that enable universities, their staff and students to fully engage in a global knowledge economy. Universities strive to produce graduates that are able to compete in the global employment market with high quality learning outcomes and a high quality student experience. Universities in Australia are increasingly investing resources into ensuring all students, domestic and international, receive a high quality experience during their studies. This means having access to safe and affordable housing, access to transport concessions, careers advice, internships, and community engagement activities.

The Australian Government is presently consulting on the draft National Strategy for International Education which sets out goals for strengthening the international education sector.

Universities Australia is also working closely with the Australian Department of Education in Australia on strengthening the [Education Services for Overseas Students](#) legislation and the [National Code](#) which together form the cornerstone of international education in Australia by protecting the rights of international students and setting out minimum standards for the provision of international education.

Universities Australia is also working closely with the Australian Department of Immigration to ensure that the student visa system is as efficient and easy to navigate as possible while still maintaining the integrity of sector.

Key Facts

- 240 campuses including 15 offshore campuses
- Enrol 1.3 million students (including 330,000 international students)
- Employ around 120,000 people directly
- Fourth largest export industry worth \$17 billion
- Largest non-resources export industry
- Australia is the equal third major destination of international students worldwide, with more than one in two foreign students in tertiary education enrolled in Australia

Brazilian Higher Education

The National Education Guidelines and Framework Law of 1996 describes the education system of Brazil as divided into three levels of education: basic (early childhood primary and secondary education), which is compulsory for all; further education; and tertiary education. Admission to tertiary education in Brazil is through the Vestibular, a university entrance examination that students need to sit for each institution for which they apply. All levels of education in Brazil, from basic to higher education, are overseen by the Ministry of Education. The Brazilian education system comprises of private and public institutions, which can be federal, state or municipal. While private institutions may charge tuition fees, public institutions must offer education free of charge. A commonly followed path by those who can afford it is to send their children to the best private schools allowing them to prepare for acceptance in the best universities, which are public and therefore free of charge.

In Brazil the higher education institutions (HEIs) are the legal providers of undergraduate and postgraduate courses for Brazilian students. These institutions can be public or private, depending on how they obtain the funds to achieve their academic purposes.

The public institutions are created and maintained by the government - at federal, state or municipal levels. In public institutions, the higher education and the stricto sensu post-graduations must be provided free of charge according to the Brazilian Constitution.

Private institutions are created and maintained by private, profit-making entities or nonprofit entities, also known as community, confessional or philanthropic institutions.

It is noteworthy that state universities are under the jurisdiction of the respective state system, while other higher education institutions (both public and private) are part of the Federal System.

The higher education system in Brazil also counts with a different structure, in terms of its organizational nature. In this sense, we have the following division based on Decree No. 5,773 / 06:

- Universities - multidisciplinary institutions, which are characterized by the integration of teaching, research and extension and to have, necessarily, in its teaching staff, one third of teachers with master's degree and doctorate and 1/3 full time teachers (art. 52 of Law 9394/96). The universities shall have didactic, scientific, administrative, financial and asset management autonomy and should respect the indivisibility principle of teaching, research and extension.
- University Centres - according to Decree No. 3860, art. 11, University Centres are top, multi curricular educational institutions, which are characterized by the excellence of the provided education, proven by the performance of their courses in coordinated assessments carried out by the Ministry of Education, the qualifications of its staff and the academic work conditions." Like universities, they have the autonomy to create, organize and extinguish courses and higher education programs; according paragraph 2 of Article 54 of the LDB.

- Colleges – Colleges are defined in Decree No. 5,773 / 06 as institutions with curricular proposal in more than one area of knowledge, organized to act with common regulations and unified command. The creation of new degree courses must be authorized by the government (Decree 3860, Articles 12 and 13). Colleges are not necessarily multi curricular institutions, and do not need, necessarily, develop research and extension programs, like universities.

The higher education scenario in Brazil provides funding opportunities through three channels:

- CAPES — Federal Agency for the Support and Evaluation of Higher Education – Ministry of Education - one of the largest finance and evaluation agencies globally for undergraduate and graduate studies.
- CNPq — National Council for Scientific and Technological Development – Ministry of Science and Technology, which finances research at graduate and undergraduate level.
- State Foundations, such as the São Paulo Research Foundation (FAPESP) in São Paulo, which is the largest foundation agency in Brazil.

In July 2011 the Brazilian Government announced a scholarship program, *Science without Borders* (SWB), with the goal of sending 101 000 Brazilian students and researchers to study abroad by 2014. The program seeks to strengthen and expand the initiatives of science and technology, innovation and competitiveness through international mobility of undergraduate and graduate students and researchers. It is a joint effort of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Science and Technology through their respective funding agencies CAPES and CNPq. The specifics of Phase Two of the SWB is still under consideration by the Brazilian Government.

The main activity of international cooperation of CAPES is through bilateral agreements, programs that foster joint research projects between Brazilian and foreign groups. CAPES finances work missions (teacher exchange), scholarships for student exchange and project activities. CAPES also has bi-national university partnerships programs that are aimed primarily at increasing the exchange of undergraduate students and fostering the exchange of postgraduate students and teachers. The partnerships are implemented between Brazilian and foreign universities, ensuring mutual recognition of credits for students in the area chosen for the project.

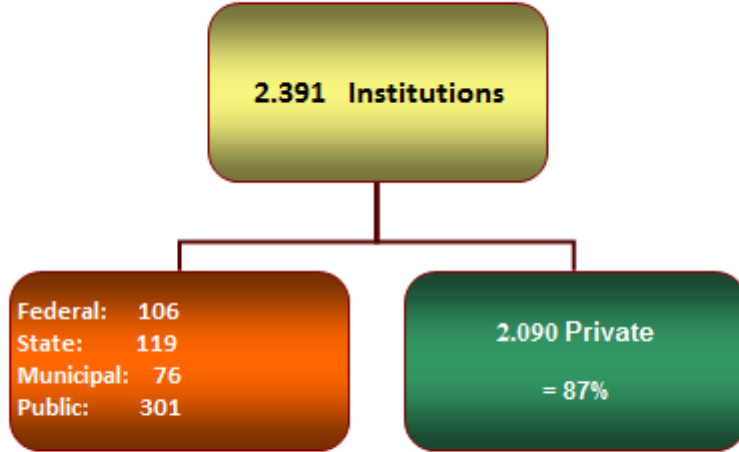
The international cooperation of CNPq is through joint research projects (scientific and technological exchange between institutions), scientific visits, among several types of scholarships for training and fostering research, high school students, undergraduate, graduate, recently qualified doctors and researchers already experienced in Brazil and abroad.

Researchers supported by FAPESP grants are encouraged to develop international collaborations. Most scholarships granted by FAPESP include resources that can be used at the discretion of the researcher and according to the rules of FAPESP for international research collaboration. FAPESP has a large number of agreements with foreign agencies, research institutions and companies to select and co-finance collaborative research. Generally, there are two types of arrangements: agreements that offer initial funding ('seed fund'), mainly for researchers exchange, student exchange and small seminars. In this case, the foreign partner is generally a university or research institution; and agreements that provide full funding for research projects selected jointly by FAPESP and the agency or business partner. In this case, the foreign partner is generally a sponsoring agency or an industrial research laboratory.

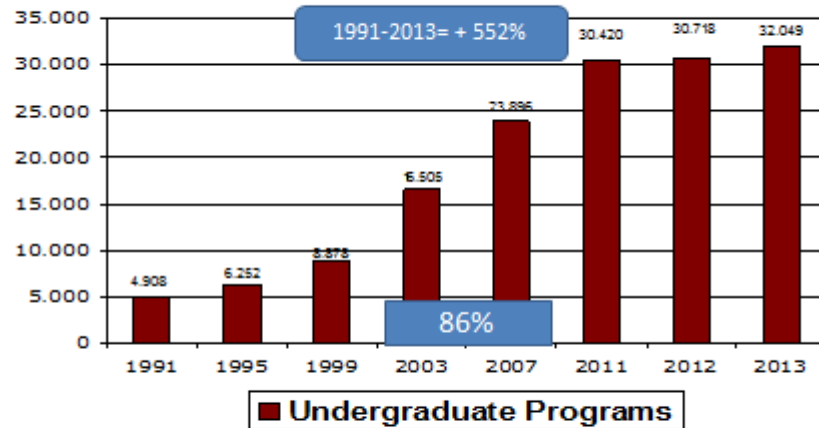
The National Institutes of Science and Technology (INCT) promote the advancement of the country's competence in their respective areas of expertise and are expected to create an attractive and stimulating environment for talented students of different levels, from high-school to postgraduate. The program is also directly responsible for

- training young researcher's
- supporting the installation and operation of laboratories in educational institutions and research centre's
- establishing programs that contribute to the improvement of science education and dissemination of science to ordinary people
- qualifying the country in their priority areas for regional and national development.

HEI by Administrative Category 2013

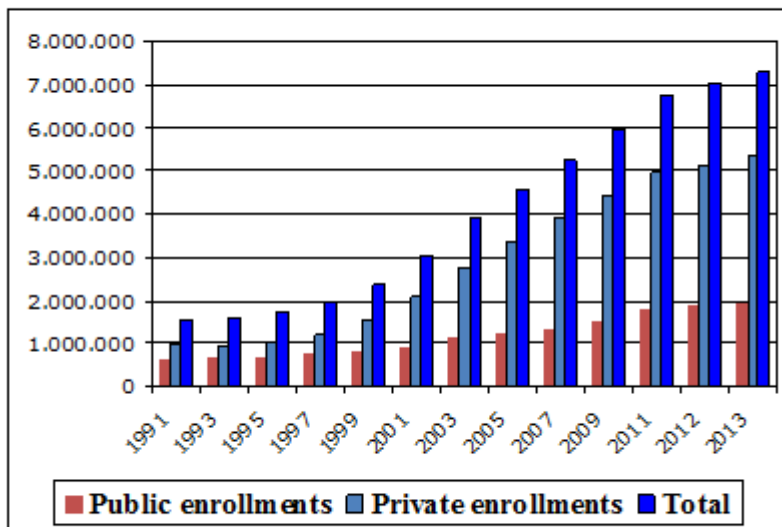


Number of Undergraduate Programs 1991-2013

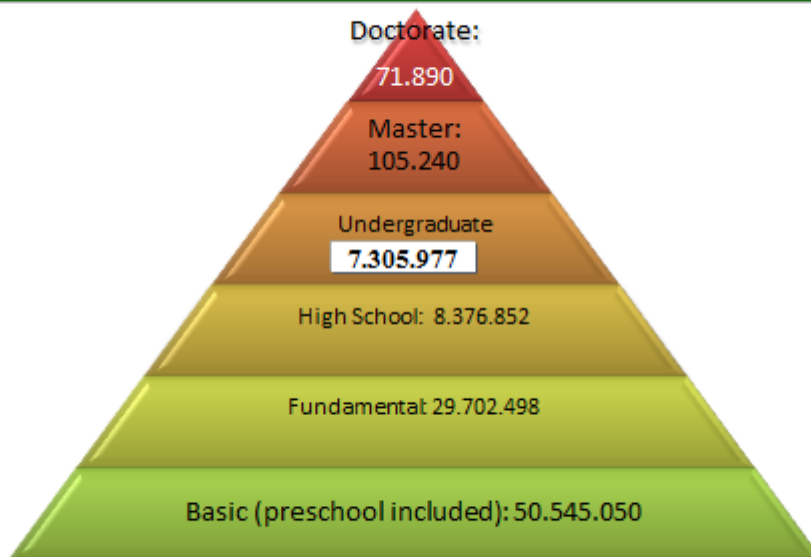




Enrollments by Administrative Category 1991-2013



Enrollments by educational level



Source: MEC - SESU

The Brazilian Universities Rectors Council (CRUB)

The CRUB contributes decisively for the establishment of a link between the Brazilian universities and to intervene in cases of common problems, designing goals and creating a more objective dialogue between institutions.

Brazilian institutions associated with the CRUB, are among the best universities in the world according to the QS World University Rankings 2014. 22 universities in Brazil appear in the select list of the best 800 in the world: 14 are federal, five are state funded and three of them are private, 21 of these are associated to CRUB.

Australia – Brazil Higher Education Engagement

Education engagement between Australia and Brazil is forging strong links between the two countries and Brazil is currently the largest source of international students in Australia outside of Asia. More than 21,000 Brazilians study in Australia annually.

Many of the Brazilian students studying in Australia in higher education institutions are doing so under President Rousseff's international scholarship programme, *Science without Borders*.

Australian education institutions have more than 80 active agreements with Brazilian governments and institutions.

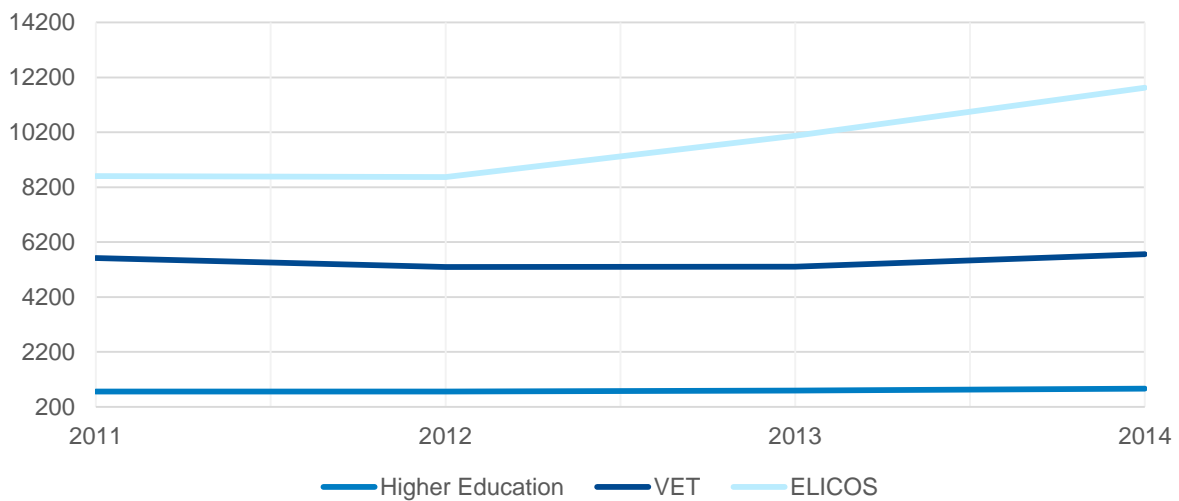
Brazilian Students in Australia: 2011-2014

Enrolments as at December							
	2011	2012	% change 2011-2012	2013	% change 2012-2013	2014	% change 2013-2014
Higher Education	765	759	-1%	789	4%	868	10%
VET	5,618	5,290	-6%	5,307	0	5,761	9%
Schools	221	191	-14%	343	80%	272	-21%
ELICOS	8,603	8,569	0	10,076	18%	11,820	17%
Non-award	63	289	359%	1070	270%	3,546	231%
Grand Total	15,270	15,098	-1%	17,585	16%	22,267	27%

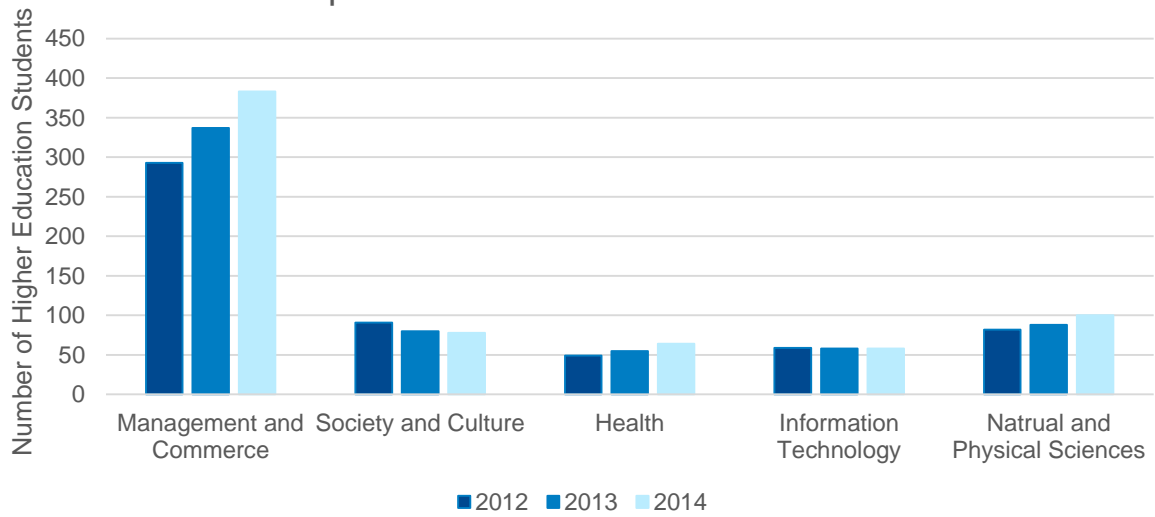
Commencements as at December							
	2011	2012	% change 2011-2012	2013	% change 2012-2013	2014	% change 2013-2014
Higher Education	321	320	0	338	6%	368	9%
VET	3,798	3,589	-6%	3,650	2%	4,070	12%
Schools	207	183	-12%	332	81%	258	-22%
ELICOS	6,928	6,846	-1%	8,355	22%	8,356	0
Non-award	56	272	386%	846	211%	3,048	260%
Grand Total	11,310	11,210	-1%	13,521	21%	16,100	19%

*source Australian Trade Commission, International Student Data www.austrade.gov.au/education

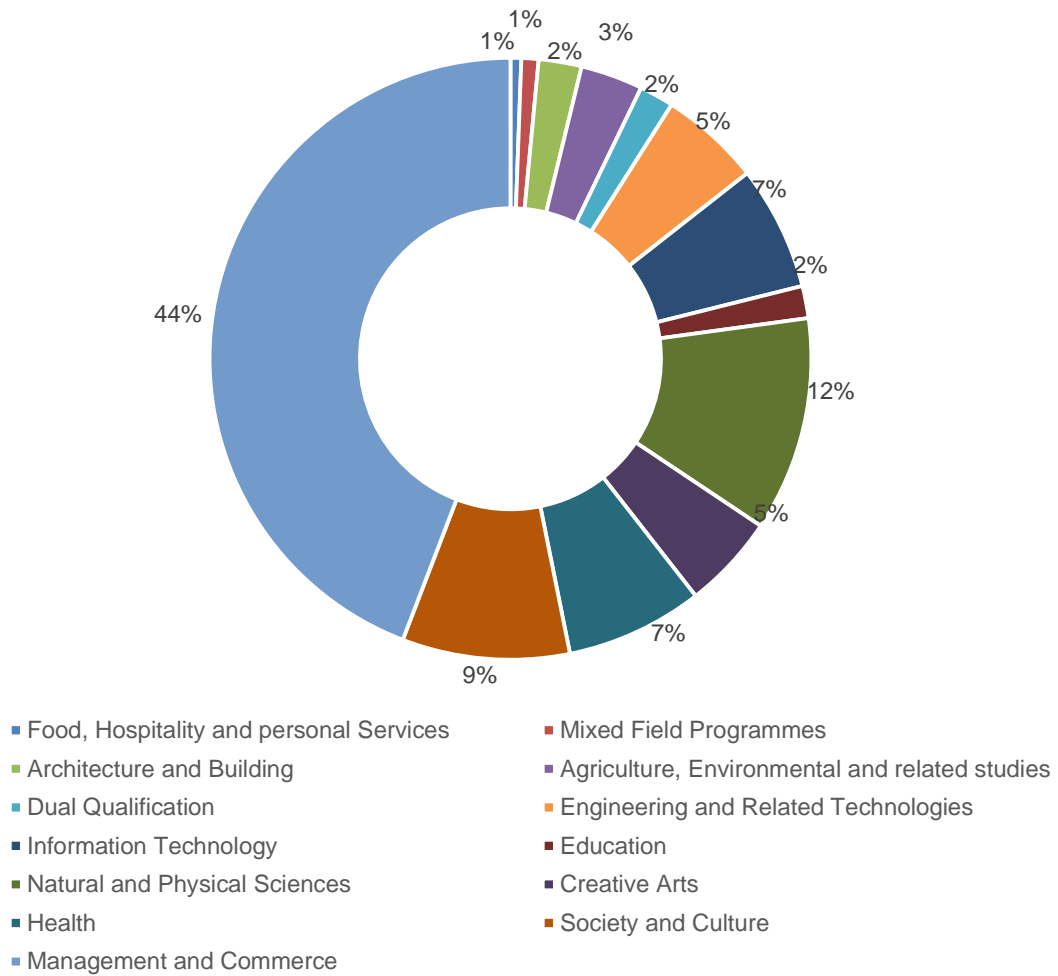
Brazilian Students in Australia: Enrolments by Sector 2011-2014



Brazilian Students in Australia: Top Fields of Education 2012-2014



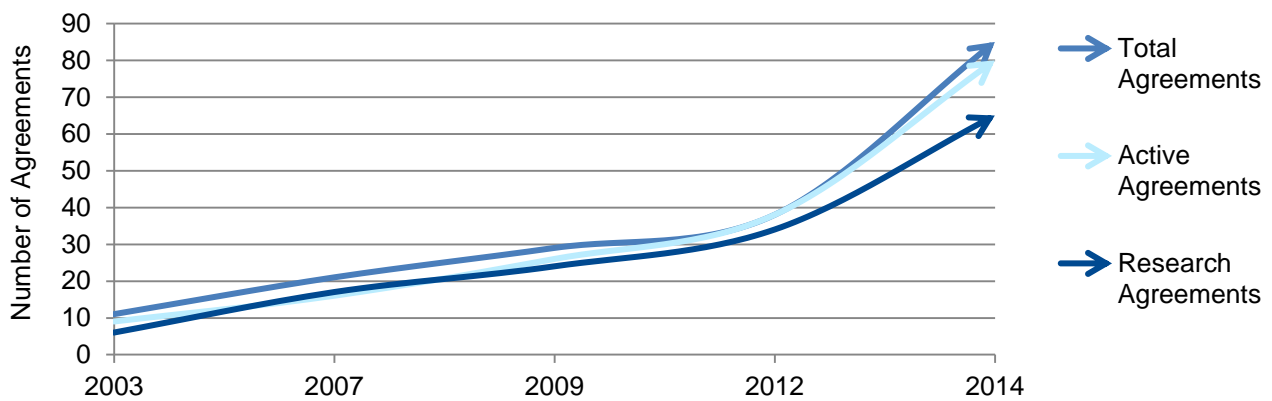
Brazilian Students in Australia: Broad Fields of Education December 2014



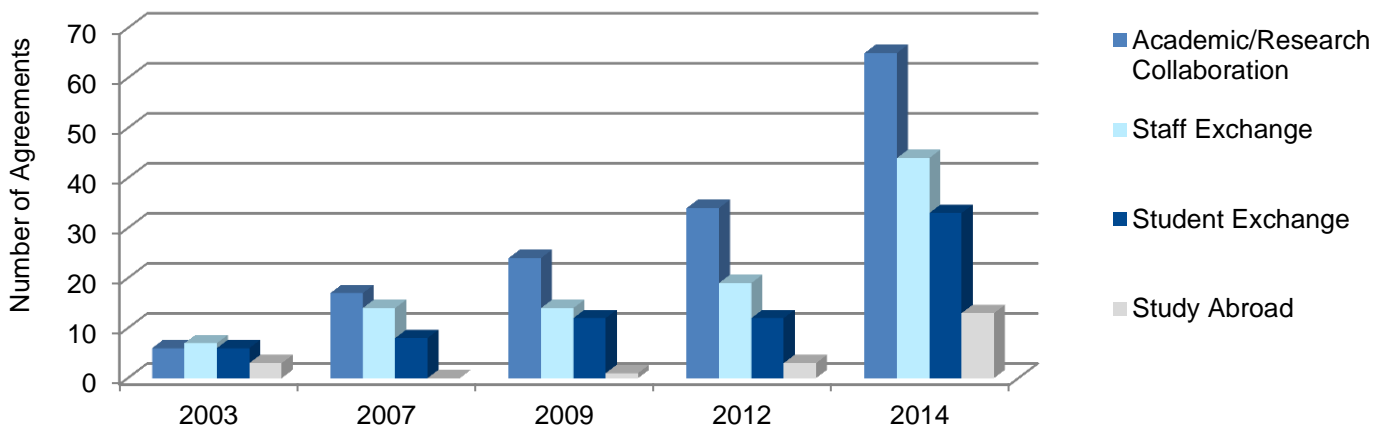
*source Australian Trade Commission, International Student Data www.austrade.gov.au/education

Formal Agreements between Australian and Brazilian universities

Total Number of Agreements between Australia and Brazil
2003-2014



Formal Agreements by Type of Activity 2003-2014



*For full international links data set visit www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au/global-engagement