



International Student Enrolments in Vocational Education and Training in 2008

Vocational Education and Training (VET) was the fastest growing sector for international students studying in Australia in 2008. Enrolments grew 46% to 175,461, the second largest by volume after the higher education sector. Commencements growth was also very strong, up 46% to 106,180, the largest by volume of any of the sectors.

Nationality

Asian markets dominated activity with 82.9% of enrolments and 82.6% of commencements. India, China and Nepal were the three largest VET markets. Enrolments and commencements in all the top five markets grew strongly in 2008. The growth in enrolments from Nepal and India was far stronger than any of the other markets in the sector—up 139% and 94% respectively over 2007 figures. In comparison, enrolments growth of all other markets combined was 26% and 31% respectively.

States and territories

Enrolments and commencements increased in all states. The strongest growth was seen in Victoria and Queensland. About four in every five VET enrolments were in New South Wales and Victoria in 2008.

Provider type

The majority of all VET enrolments were with the 437 non-government providers. The non-government provider share has grown from 73% in 2002 to 84% in 2008 and is more dominant in New South Wales than in any other state or territory—92% of VET enrolments in the state are enrolled with a non-government provider.

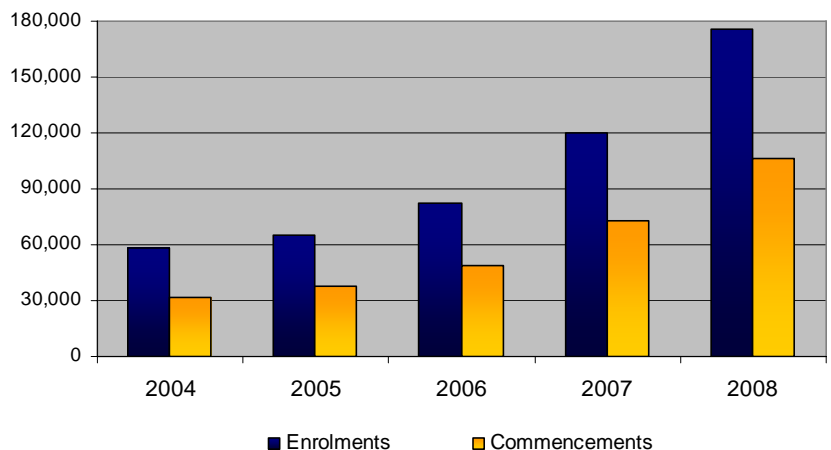
Level of study

Nearly four in five VET enrolments were at the Diploma and Advanced Diploma levels. However, the strongest growth by volume of enrolments has been at the Certificate III and IV levels—2008 figures are three times that of 2006. At the Certificate III and IV levels, India was the largest market by enrolments and commencements in 2008, with a three-fold increase on 2007 figures. However, Nepal was the fastest growing market, with enrolments up by 230% over the same period.

Field of education

The top three fields of education accounted for four in five enrolments and commencements in the VET sector in 2008. "Management and Commerce" dominated the broad field of education in VET with 55% of enrolments and 51% of commencements. "Food, Hospitality and Personal Services" ranked second, contributing 17% and 19%, followed by "Society and Culture" with contributions of 10% and 11% respectively. All other broad fields of education contributed less than 10%.

VET enrolments and commencements, 2004 to 2008



Top five nationalities	Enrolments			Commencements		
	Growth on 2006	Growth on 2007	2008	Growth on 2006	Growth on 2007	2008
India	161%	94%	52,381	151%	76%	32,776
China	29%	38%	25,431	32%	45%	15,248
Nepal	335%	139%	12,813	400%	93%	8,643
Republic of Korea	26%	23%	9,383	16%	36%	5,407
Thailand	23%	25%	8,634	24%	25%	4,744
Sub-total	74%	67%	108,642	82%	61%	66,818
Other nationalities	21%	22%	66,819	22%	26%	39,362
Total	45%	46%	175,461	50%	46%	106,180

State	Enrolments			Commencements		
	2008	Growth on 2007	% of 2008	2008	Growth on 2007	% of 2008
NSW	80,197	39%	46%	47,068	39%	44%
Vic.	57,183	49%	33%	33,200	41%	31%
Qld	20,084	72%	11%	13,779	79%	13%
SA	5,209	76%	3%	3,540	100%	3%
WA	11,398	41%	6%	7,734	51%	7%
Tas.	362	-1%	0%	235	0%	0%
NT	119	68%	0%	93	60%	0%
ACT	909	20%	1%	531	30%	1%
Aust	175,461	46%	100%	106,180	46%	100%

Level of study	Enrolments			Commencements		
	2008	Growth on 2007	% of 2008	2008	Growth on 2007	% of 2008
Diploma	92,294	41%	53%	51,863	34%	49%
Adv. Diploma	37,456	35%	21%	20,532	38%	19%
Certificate IV	18,259	52%	10%	12,677	56%	12%
Certificate III	22,716	92%	13%	17,159	94%	16%
Certificate II	3,748	92%	2%	3,317	104%	3%
Certificate I	274	10%	0%	181	-20%	0%
Assoc. Degree	714	86%	0%	451	111%	0%
Total	175,461	46%	100%	106,180	46%	100%