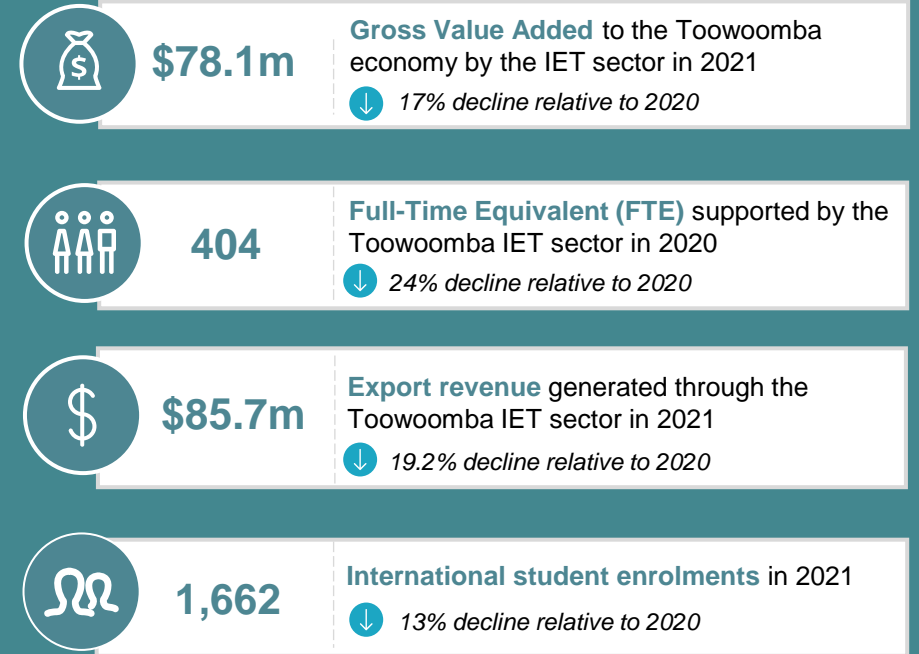


# International education & training snapshot:

## Toowoomba 2021

Publication date: September 2023



# International student enrolments

## International student enrolments

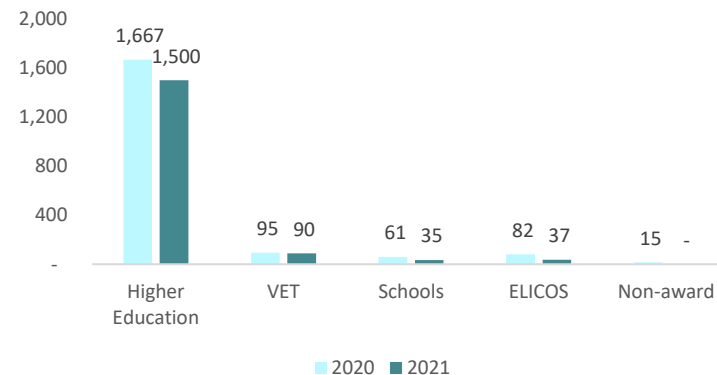
**1,662**  
enrolments in 2021

In 2021, student enrolments in Toowoomba (on student visas) totalled 1,662. **Higher education (HE)** remained the largest sub-sector, with **1,500** enrolments, followed by the VET and ELICOS sub-sectors.

**-13%**  
decline in enrolments 2020 to 2021

Total international student enrolments in Toowoomba **declined by 13% compared to 2020 levels**. ELICOS and Non-award programs experienced the largest percentage decline of 55% and 100% respectively.

**Chart 1: IET enrolments by sub-sector, 2021**



Source: Australian Government Department of Education, international student enrolment data. Enrolments in December each year.

Note: (1) The totals presented in each table may differ slightly from the sum of each of the component parts due to rounding (2) The total number of enrolments by subsector and source market may differ due to differences in the underlying data provided by the Department of Education.

## Enrolments by source market

The largest source markets for international student enrolments in Toowoomba were **India** and **Nepal**, which together accounted for **44% of total enrolments in 2021**.

Compared to the other regions in Queensland, Toowoomba as a region attracts higher share of students from India, Nepal, Hong Kong and Singapore.



**Two of Toowoomba's top ten source markets recorded growth** in IET enrolments in 2021. These were Hong Kong (7%) and Philippines (28%).

**Table 2: Enrolments in top five source markets, 2020 to 2021**

Country	2020		2021		Growth (share)
	Enrolments	Share	Enrolments	Share	
India	596	30%	479	27%	↓
Nepal	321	16%	285	16%	-
China	229	23%	199	11%	↓
Hong Kong	83	4%	89	5%	↑
Singapore	64	3%	60	3%	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,293</b>	<b>65%</b>	<b>1,112</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>↓</b>

Source: Australian Government Department of Education.



**64%**

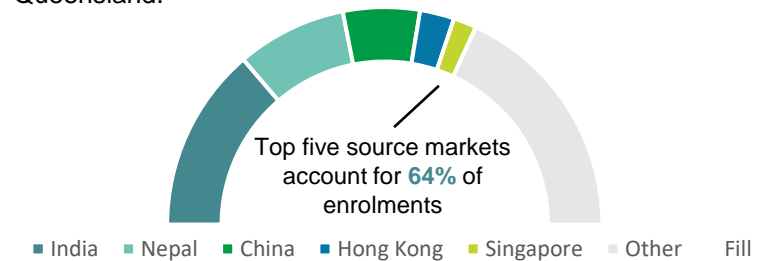
The share of total enrolments attributable to the top five source markets, higher than the Queensland total of 56%.

## Source market concentration

Overall, Toowoomba **is the fifth most concentrated IET sector in Queensland**, with a diversity index score of **1,230 in 2021**.\* In 2021, Toowoomba has become slightly less concentrated, with the diversity index decreasing from 1,343 in 2020.

This was driven by a slight decrease in the concentration of enrolments in Toowoomba's top five source markets, which have decreased to account for 64% of enrolments in 2021, relative to 65% in 2020.

The top five source markets accounted for **64%** of IET enrolments in Toowoomba, compared to 56% for Queensland.



\*Deloitte Access Economics measures the degree of enrolment source market concentration within a region by the Herfindahl-Hirschman index. This is defined as the sum of square of the source market shares of enrolments. The index can range from 0 to 10,000, with a low index suggesting that enrolments in the IET sector are spread over a diverse range of source markets. This can make the sector more resilient to shocks in the global market.

## Regional concentration

Geographically, Toowoomba accounted for **1.7% of IET enrolments in Queensland in 2021**.

## Export revenue

**\$85.7m**  
Export revenue in 2021

Total export revenue from international student expenditure on tuition fees and goods and services was **\$85.7 million in 2021**.

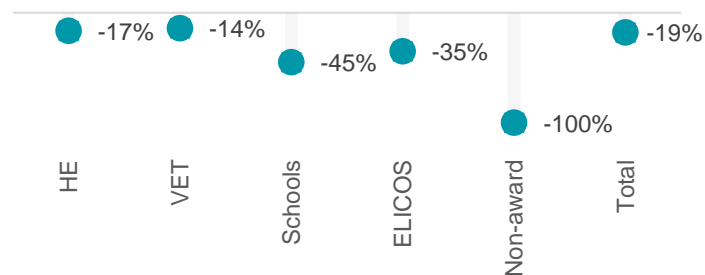
The HE sub-sector made the largest contribution to revenue in Toowoomba, with \$80.8 million revenue for 2021, constituting 94% of total IET export revenue.

**-19.2%**  
decline in export revenue from 2020 to 2021

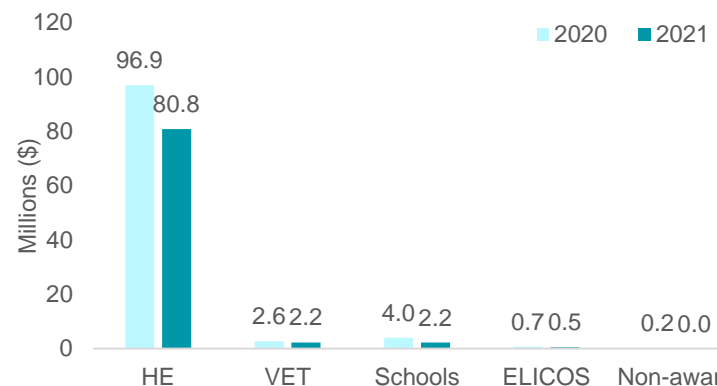
Overall, export revenue declined 19.2% from 2020 to 2021.

Export revenue declined at a faster rate than enrolments partly due to an increased proportion of student holders being located offshore.

**Chart 3: Growth rate (%) of export revenue by IET sub-sector, 2020 to 2021**

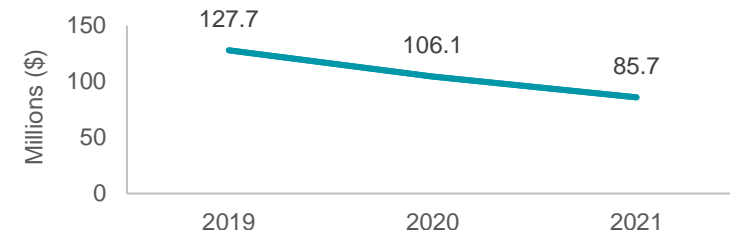


**Chart 4: IET revenue by sub-sector, 2020 and 2021 (\$m)**



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian Government Department of Education. Deloitte Access Economics estimates.

**Chart 5: IET export revenue from 2019 to 2021 (\$m)**



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian Government Department of Education. Deloitte Access Economics estimates.

## Regional breakdown

Toowoomba was the third largest segment of the Queensland IET sector, attracting **2.2% of export revenue** in 2021. Export revenue declined by **19.2%** in 2021.

## Capacity of CRICOS providers

**51%**  
Operating capacity of Toowoomba institutions

In 2021, there were approximately 15 CRICOS education providers in Toowoomba with a total capacity of 3,245 CRICOS registered places.\*

**Toowoomba's educational institutions were operating at approximately 51% capacity in 2021.**

Toowoomba is operating at the third highest capacity compared to other regions in the state, and higher than Queensland's operating capacity of 47%. However, there exists capacity to facilitate further growth.

\*Deloitte Access Economics uses CRICOS registered places as a measure of capacity and student enrolments as a measure of demand.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australian Government Department of Education, Deloitte Access Economics estimates.

Note: (1) The totals presented in each table may differ slightly from the sum of each of the component parts due to rounding (2) The total number of enrolments by subsector and source market may differ due to differences in the underlying data provided by the Department of Education.

# Economic contribution of the IET sector

## Direct economic contribution

The IET sector directly contributed **\$48.2 million** to the Toowoomba economy and supported **242 full-time equivalent (FTE)** jobs in 2021 (Table 1).

This represents the value of economic activity associated with businesses that directly supply goods and services to international students and their visitors.

**Table 1: Direct economic contribution of the IET sector, 2021**

	Value added (\$m)	Employment (FTE)
Onshore students	35.3	225
Offshore students	12.9	16
VFRs	0.1	1
<b>IET sector</b>	<b>48.2</b>	<b>242</b>

Source: Deloitte Access Economics estimates.

## Indirect economic contribution

The IET sector also indirectly contributed **\$29.9 million** and **162 jobs (FTE)** to Toowoomba in 2021. This represents the flow-on effects for industries that supply goods and services to the IET sector. This includes the maintenance services supplied to training providers, and the agricultural producers that restaurants source their food from.

**Table 2: Indirect economic contribution of the IET sector, 2021**

	Value added (\$m)	Employment (FTE)
Onshore students	25.0	141
Offshore students	4.8	21
VFRs	0.1	0
<b>IET sector</b>	<b>29.9</b>	<b>162</b>

Source: Deloitte Access Economics estimates.

## Total economic contribution



**\$78.1m**

Value added to the Toowoomba economy by the IET sector in 2021

In total, the IET sector contributed **\$78.1 million** and supported **404 full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs** in the Toowoomba regional economy in 2021. This represents a decline of **17%** in total value added contribution, and **24%** in employment from 2020.

**Table 3: Growth in economic contribution of the IET sector, 2020 to 2021**

	2020 to 2021
Value added	-17%
Employment (FTE)	-24%

Source: Deloitte Access Economics estimates; Australian Bureau of Statistics.

## Key industries

The most significant industries supporting the IET sector in region are accommodation (34%), cafes, restaurants and takeaway food services (16%) and education and training (16%). Together, they accounted for 66% of the direct FTE supported by the IET sector in Toowoomba.

**Table 4: Direct employment breakdown by IET industry (economic contribution), 2021**

Industry	Employment (FTE)
Accommodation	82
Cafes, restaurants and takeaway food services	38
Clubs, pubs, taverns and bars	13
Rail transport	1
Road transport and transport equipment rental	16
Air, water and other transport	2
Travel agency and tour operator services	0
Cultural services	3
Casinos and other gambling services	1
Other sports and recreation services	6
Retail trade	26
Education and training	40
All other industries	13

Source: Deloitte Access Economics estimates.

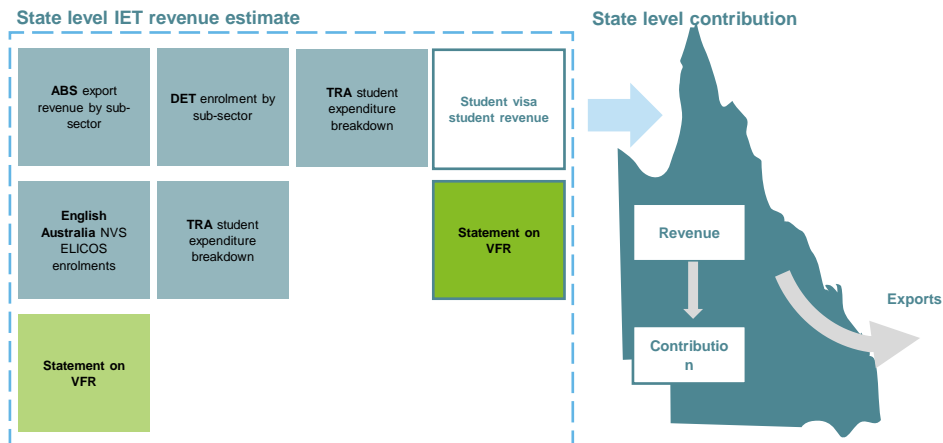
# Frequently Asked Questions

## Methodology

Trade and Investment Queensland has worked with Deloitte Access Economics to produce consistent and comparable regional estimates of the contribution of IET to Queensland and its regions. The analysis has been informed by publicly available enrolment and expenditure data from the Commonwealth Department of Education, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), and Tourism Research Australia (TRA).

The ABS accounts for the impact of COVID-19 on IET export revenue by: (1) capturing the course fee of students studying offshore through 'correspondence courses' rather than 'education-related personal travel', (2) reflecting lower expenditure resultant from any students that have deferred their enrolments, and (3) reflecting any potential changes in students' expenditure on goods and services by using the latest TRA data on student expenditure.

Economic contribution estimates are produced using modelling assumptions consistent with Tourism Research Australia's Regional Tourism Satellite Account (RTSA) model. This model is the most contemporary and sophisticated of its kind in Australia, and been applied in a wide range of contexts to understand the economic contribution of tourism related industries. This is the first year in which this methodology has been available to use in the IET context, and hence represents a substantial methodological change to previous years. To account for this change and enable fair year-on-year comparisons, the 2020 economic contribution estimates in these factsheets have been 'back-cast' by applying the new methodology to the previous year's data. Hence, there are minor differences between the 2020 results presented in these factsheets, and those included in the previous year's factsheets (as noted in the results).



## Understanding economic contribution

The economic contribution estimates presented in these factsheets (including both value added and employment) represent the total economic contribution of international students in Queensland to a specific region (e.g. Brisbane or Cairns). This means that in smaller regional markets (e.g. Mackay) a substantial portion of the economic contribution of the sector is driven by students from other regions in Queensland travelling to the area and spending money on goods and services, or local businesses supplying goods and services being consumed by students in other regions.

## Using the results

For consistency in reporting, value added and employment (rather than export revenue) are the correct metrics to use in measuring the significance of the IET sector to a region. While it is appropriate to refer to the *total* value added and employment when referring to the overall size or contribution of the IET sector in a particular region, only the *direct* value added and employment figures should be used when comparing the IET sector against other industries within the same region.

## Glossary

### Contribution

<i>Direct contribution</i>	The contribution generated by direct transactions between the international student and the producer of goods and services. This includes their education fees, as well as living expenses.
<i>Indirect contribution</i>	The subsequent flow-on effects created by the requirement for inputs from those industries supplying goods and services to IET. For example, this might include the fresh produce supplied to supermarkets visited by students.
<i>Total contribution</i>	The sum of the direct and indirect contributions from IET.

### Export revenue

The sales revenue received by the IET sector in providing goods and services to international students.

### Value added

A measure of the sector's return on its capital and labour. It is the indication of the sector's value and contribution to the regional economy. Export revenue and value added should not be summed.

### Visiting friends and relatives (VFR)

Visitors who specifically indicate in the International Visitor Survey that they are visiting Queensland for the purpose of visiting an international student.

### Disclaimer

These are Deloitte Access Economics' estimates for international student enrolments and contribution based on the best available data. The results do not include the contribution to Queensland from international students studying elsewhere in Australia (e.g. through tourism).

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