

# Data snapshot

July 2022



UNIVERSITIES  
AUSTRALIA



**Australia has one of the best higher education systems in the world.**

This handy data snapshot gives a sense of the profound economic, social and cultural contributions of Australia's world class universities.

Catriona Jackson  
Chief Executive  
Universities Australia





Australia's universities contributed **\$41b** to the economy and supported almost **260,000 jobs**



For every **\$1** invested in research, **\$5** is returned to the economy



For every **one per cent** increase in university R&D spending, Australia's productivity rises by **0.13 per cent points**



Friends and relatives  
visiting international  
students generated  
**\$369m** to the  
economy in 2018



The university-qualified  
workforce has meant the  
Australian economy was  
**\$161b** larger and Australia's  
**GDP 8.5 per cent** higher

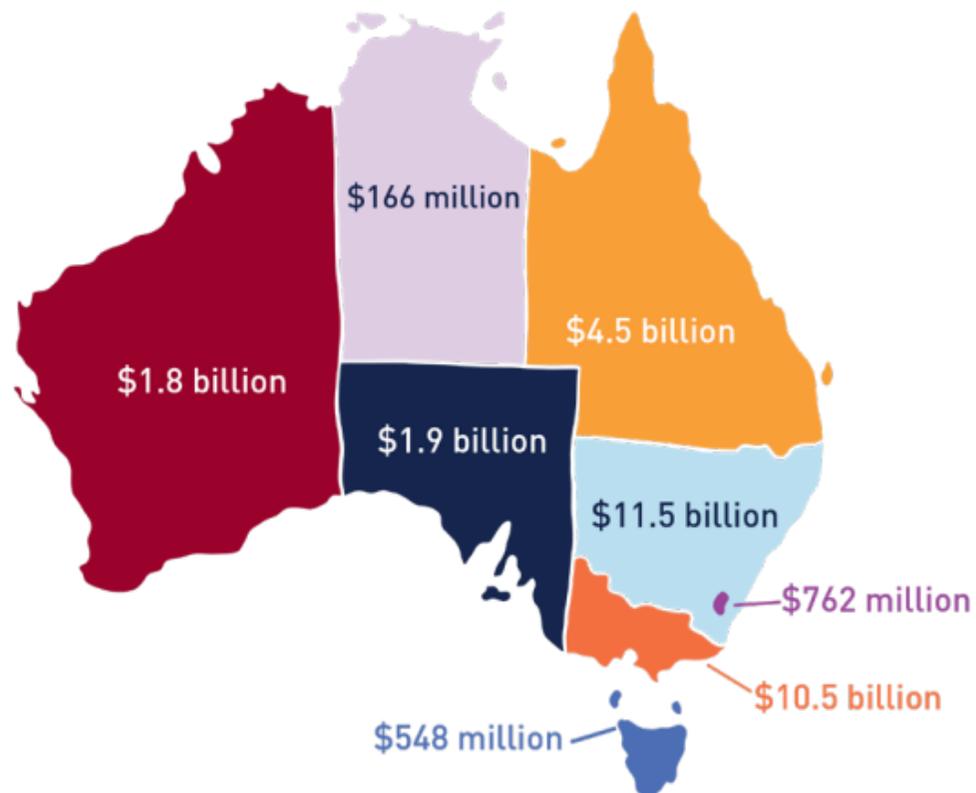


For every **\$1** invested  
in teaching,  
**\$3** in tax revenue  
is generated for  
government



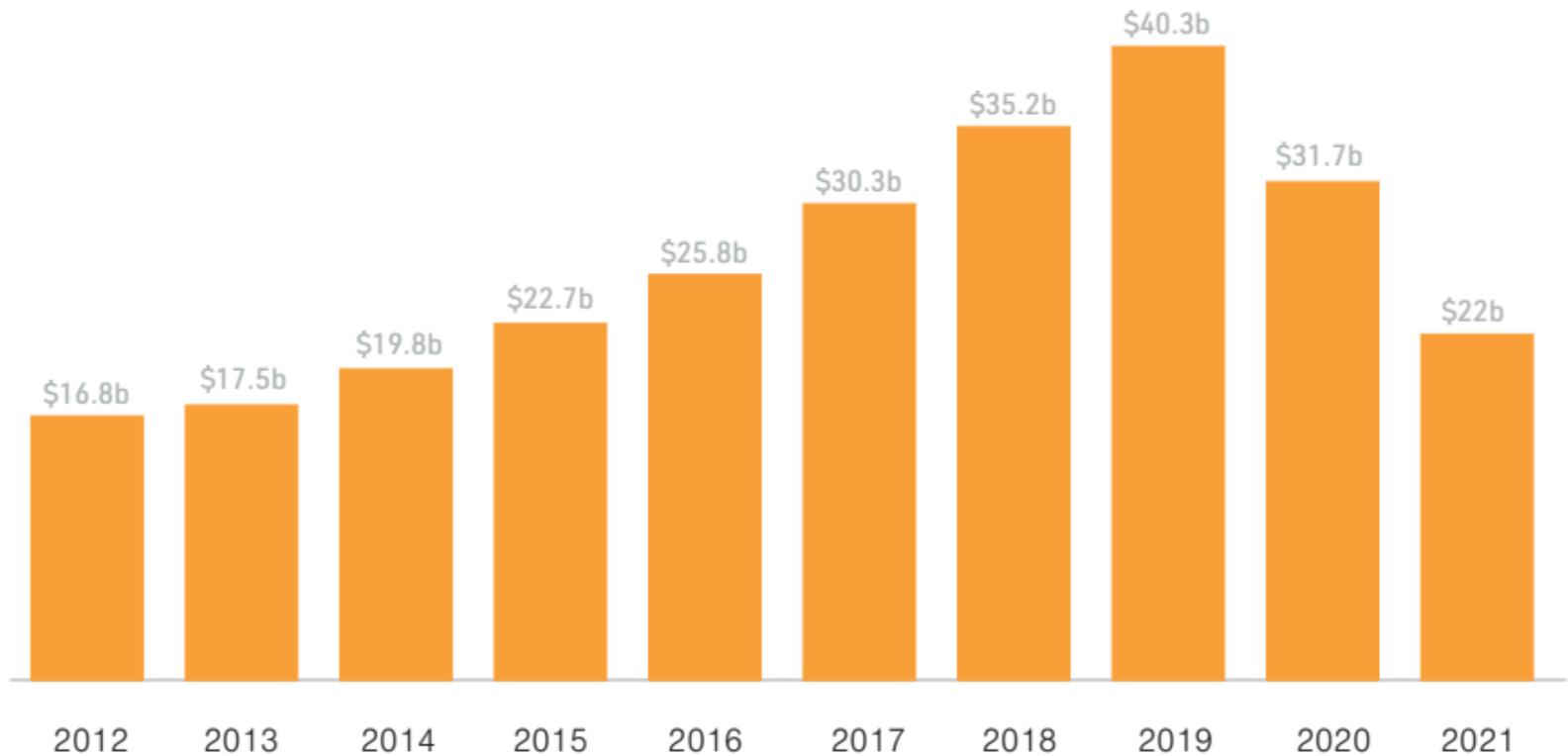
In 2019, international education was Australia's **largest services export** and **third largest export**, generating export revenues of **\$41b.**

## Export contributions of international education sector, by states, 2020



Note: Only includes the value of education-related travel exports.

## The value of international education exports (\$ billion)



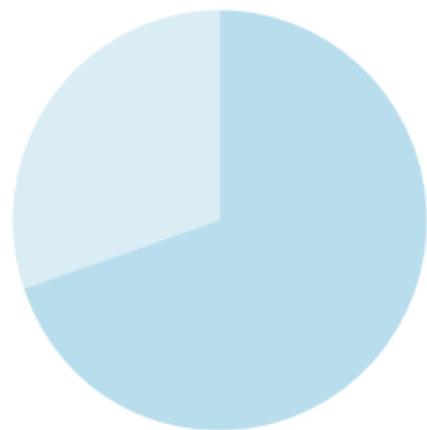
Source: ABS, International Trade in Goods and Services, Australia, March 2022



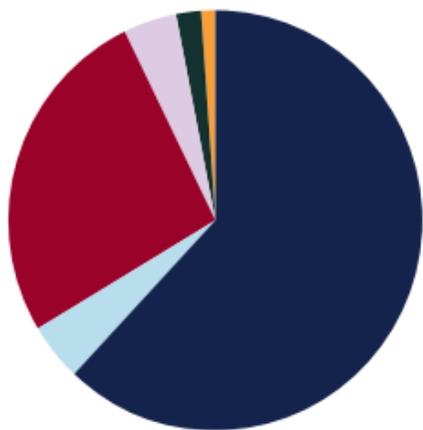
All enrolled students 2020: 1,622,867

Commonwealth funded student places in 2020: 639,566

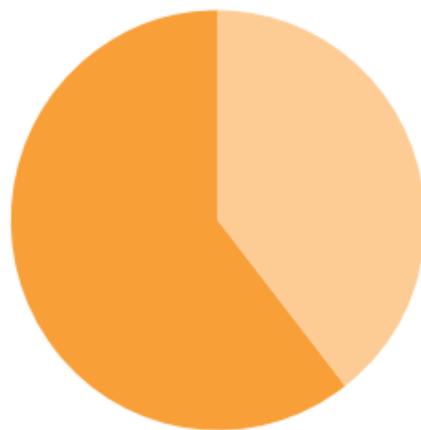
Our member universities educated almost 1.5 million Australian and international students in 2020 and directly employed almost 130,000 full-time equivalent staff.



■ Domestic students	1,133,519
■ International students	489,348



■ Bachelor	1,007,203
■ Other undergraduate	71,045
■ Postgraduate coursework	430,041
■ Postgraduate research	66,556
■ Enabling	32,579
■ Non-award	15,470



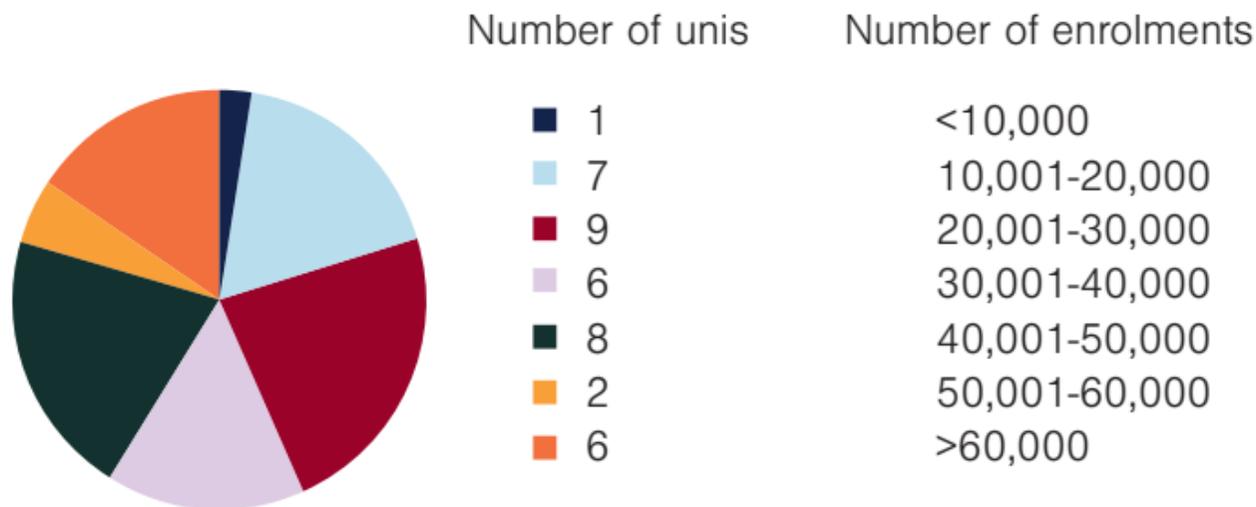
■ Commencing students	641,377
■ Continuing students	964,470

# 39

outstanding universities  
are members of  
**Universities Australia.**

Australia has 42 local universities, four university colleges and one overseas university. All 39 of Australia's comprehensive universities are Universities Australia members.

### University size by number of enrolled students (2020)

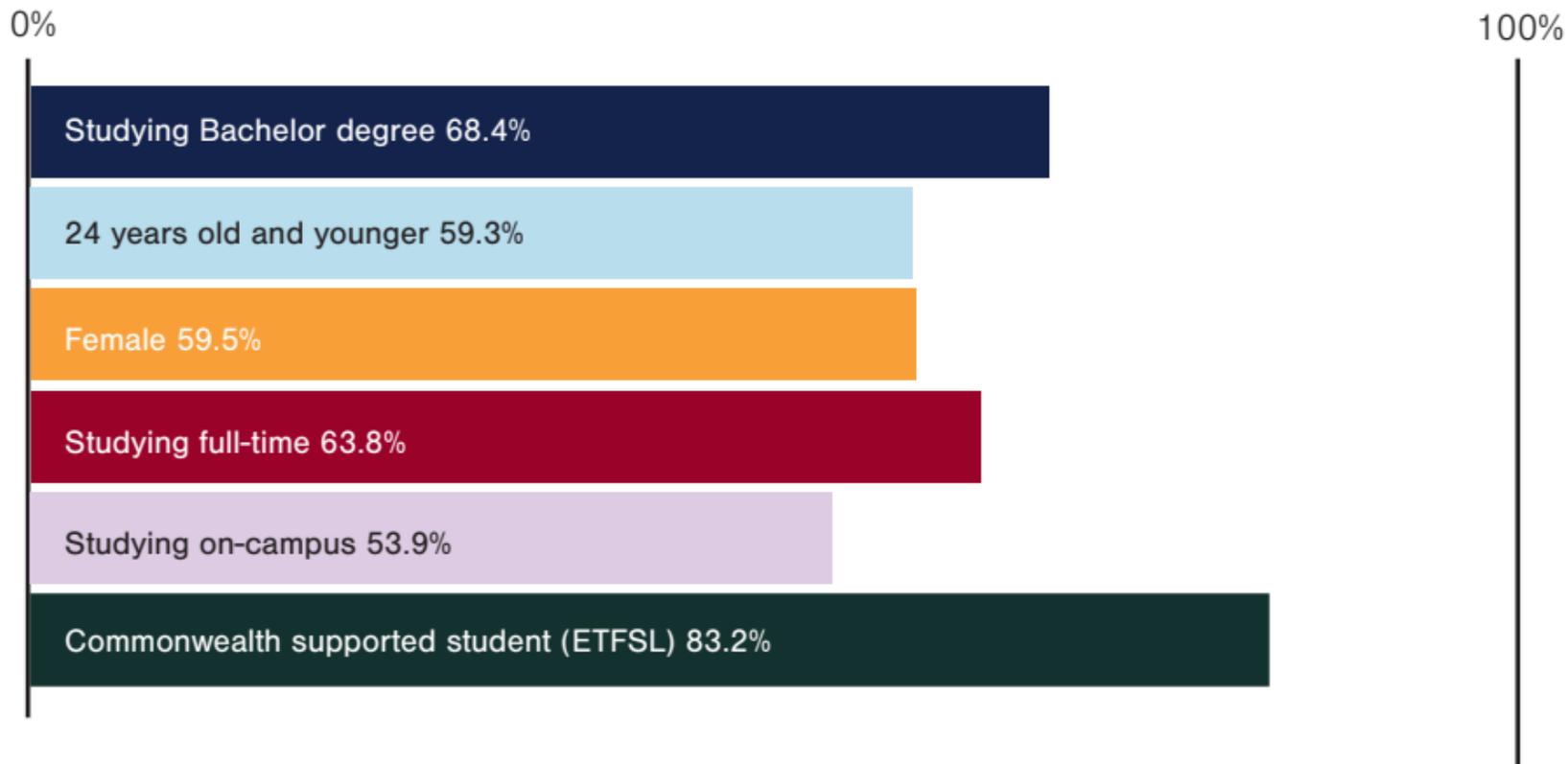


Average Commonwealth Grant Scheme funding per EFTSL: \$11,390



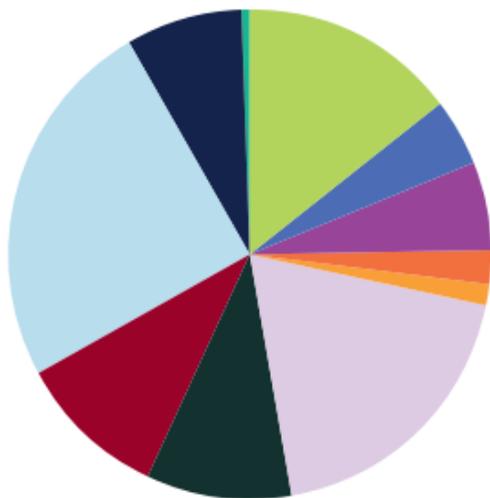
Australia has a diverse mix of more than 1.6 millions students in our world class higher education system - almost 1.5 million of them enrolled at UA member universities.

## Domestic student proportions by category 2020

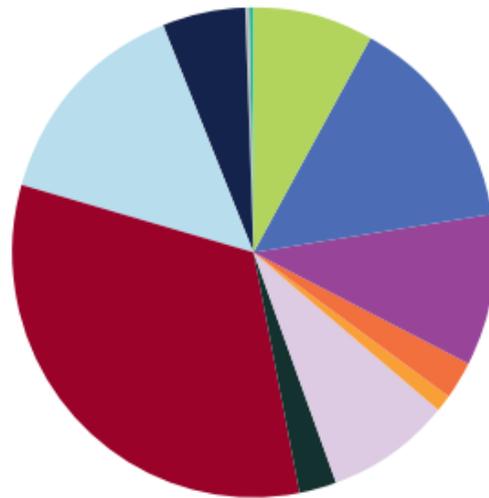


## Commonwealth Supported and international student places, by field of education, 2020

Commonwealth  
supported student  
places **639,566**



Overseas students  
places **364,186**



Source: DESE 2022, Selected Higher Education Statistics - 2020 Student Data, Student Load Pivot Table

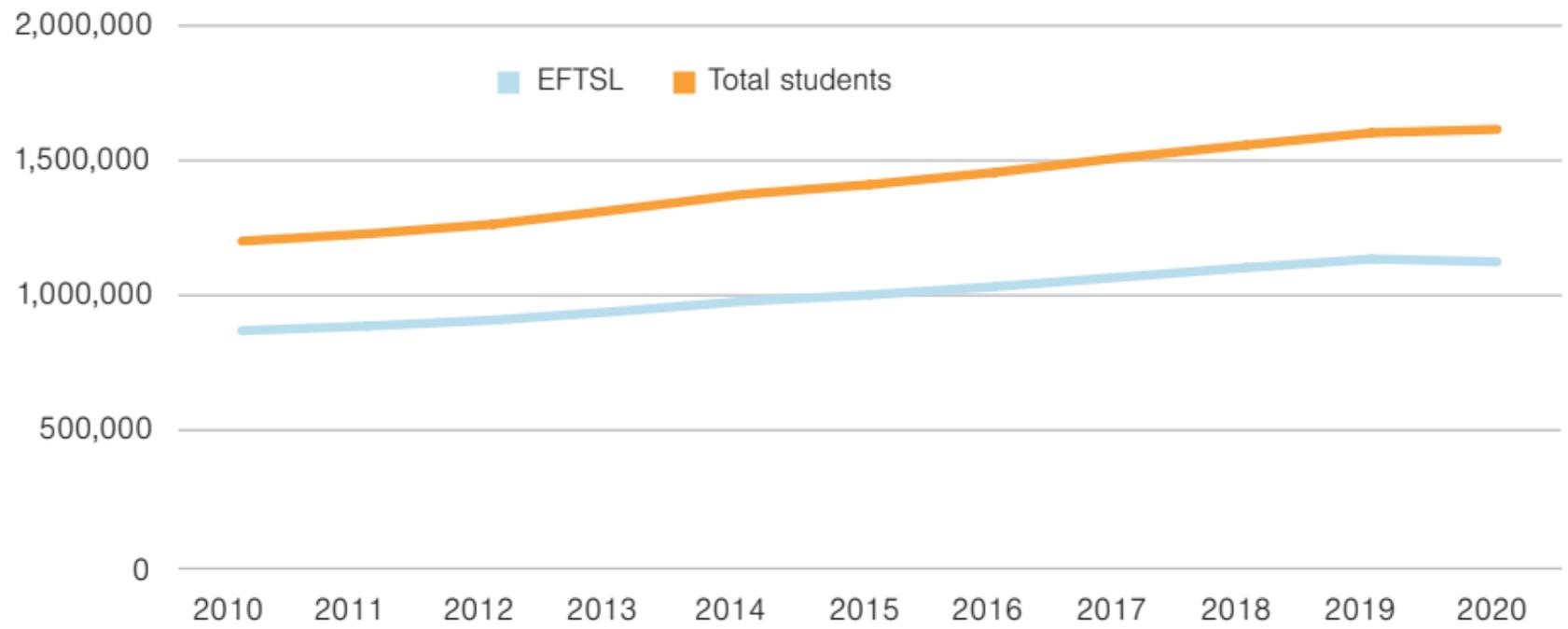
- Natural and physical sciences
- Information technology
- Engineering and related technologies
- Architecture and building
- Agriculture, environmental and related studies
- Health
- Education
- Management and commerce
- Society and culture
- Creative arts
- Food hospitality and personal services
- Mixed field programs





**Australian universities make it possible to study part-time around work and family responsibilities.**

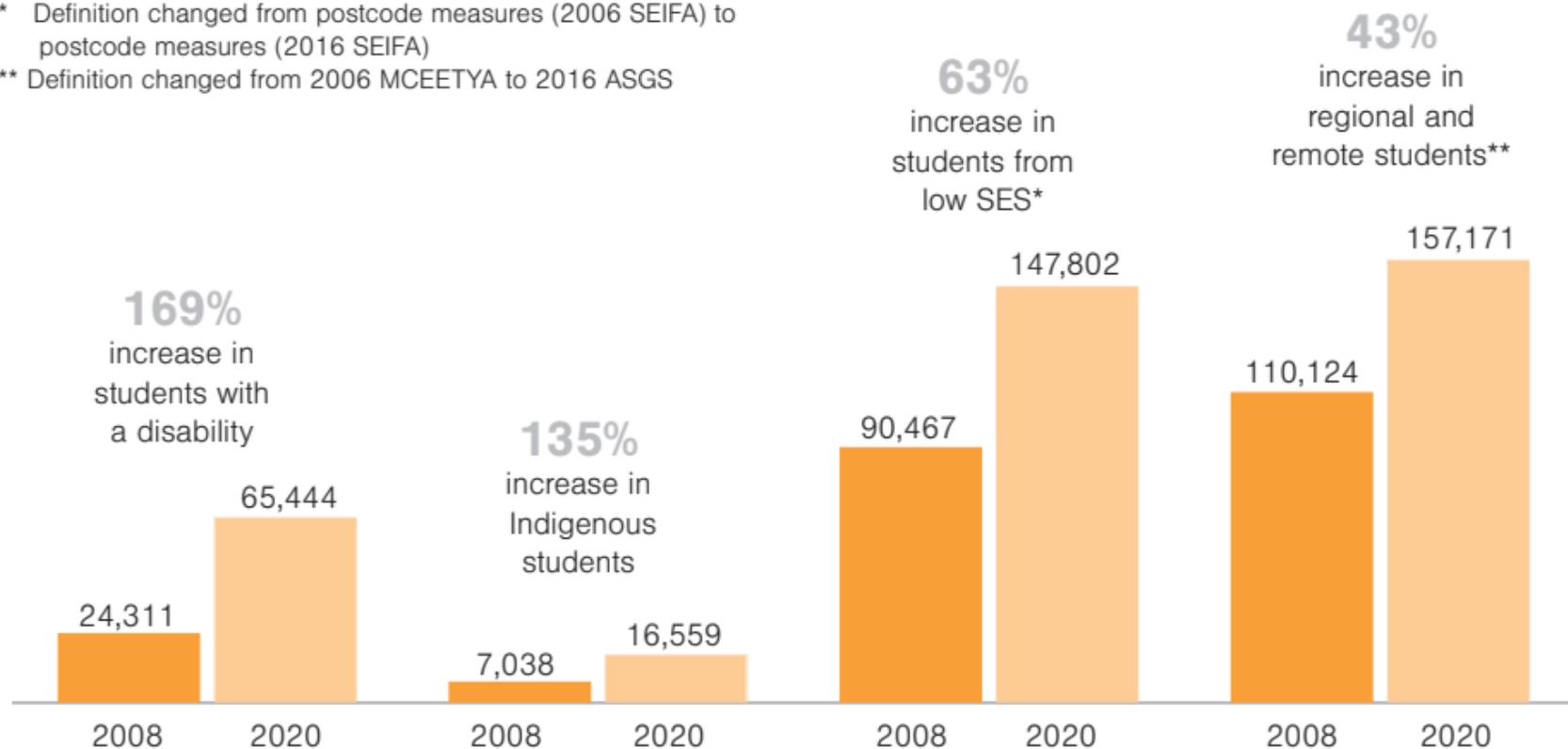
### Total student numbers (headcount) and equivalent full-time student load (EFTSL)



## Growth in domestic undergraduate enrolments by equity group

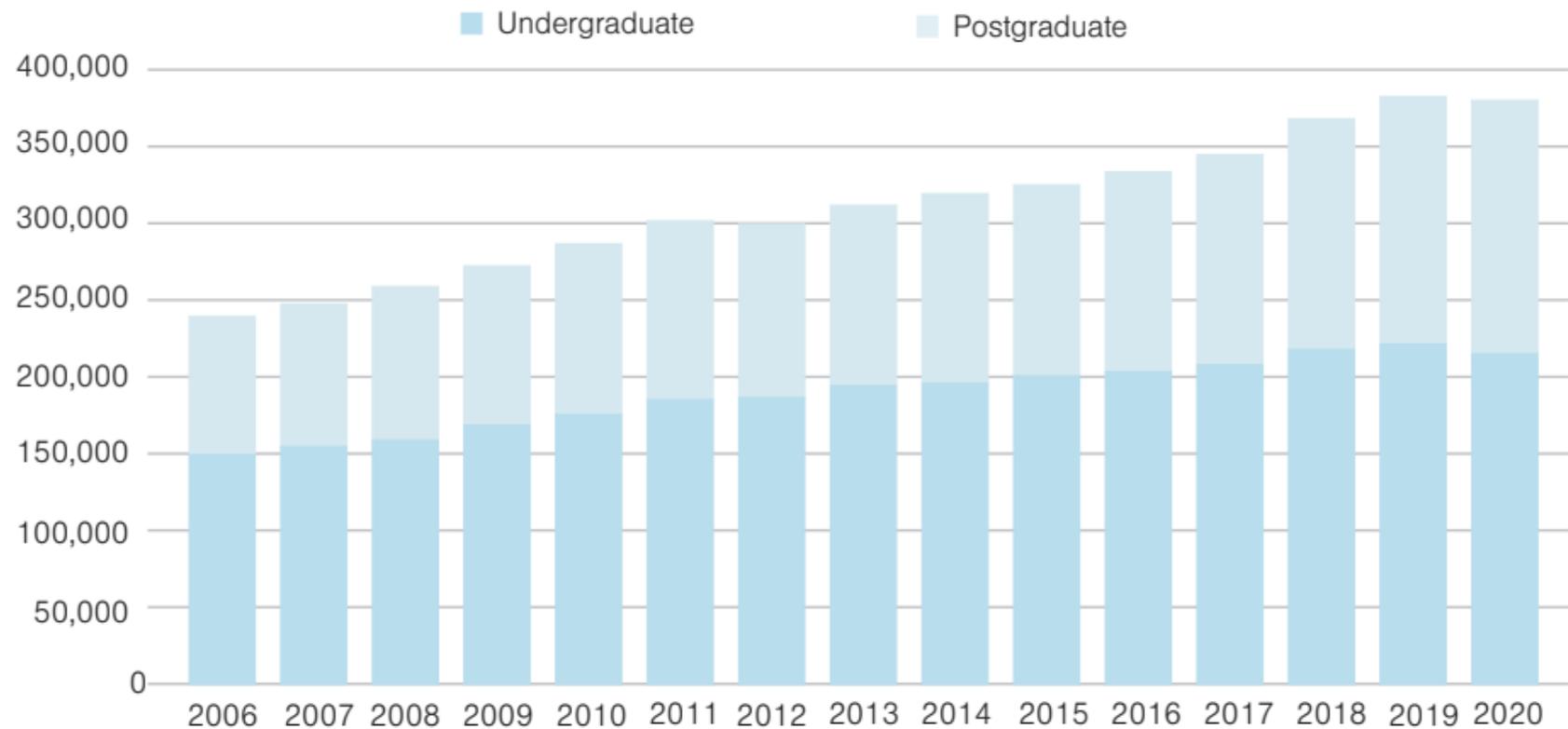
\* Definition changed from postcode measures (2006 SEIFA) to postcode measures (2016 SEIFA)

\*\* Definition changed from 2006 MCEETYA to 2016 ASGS

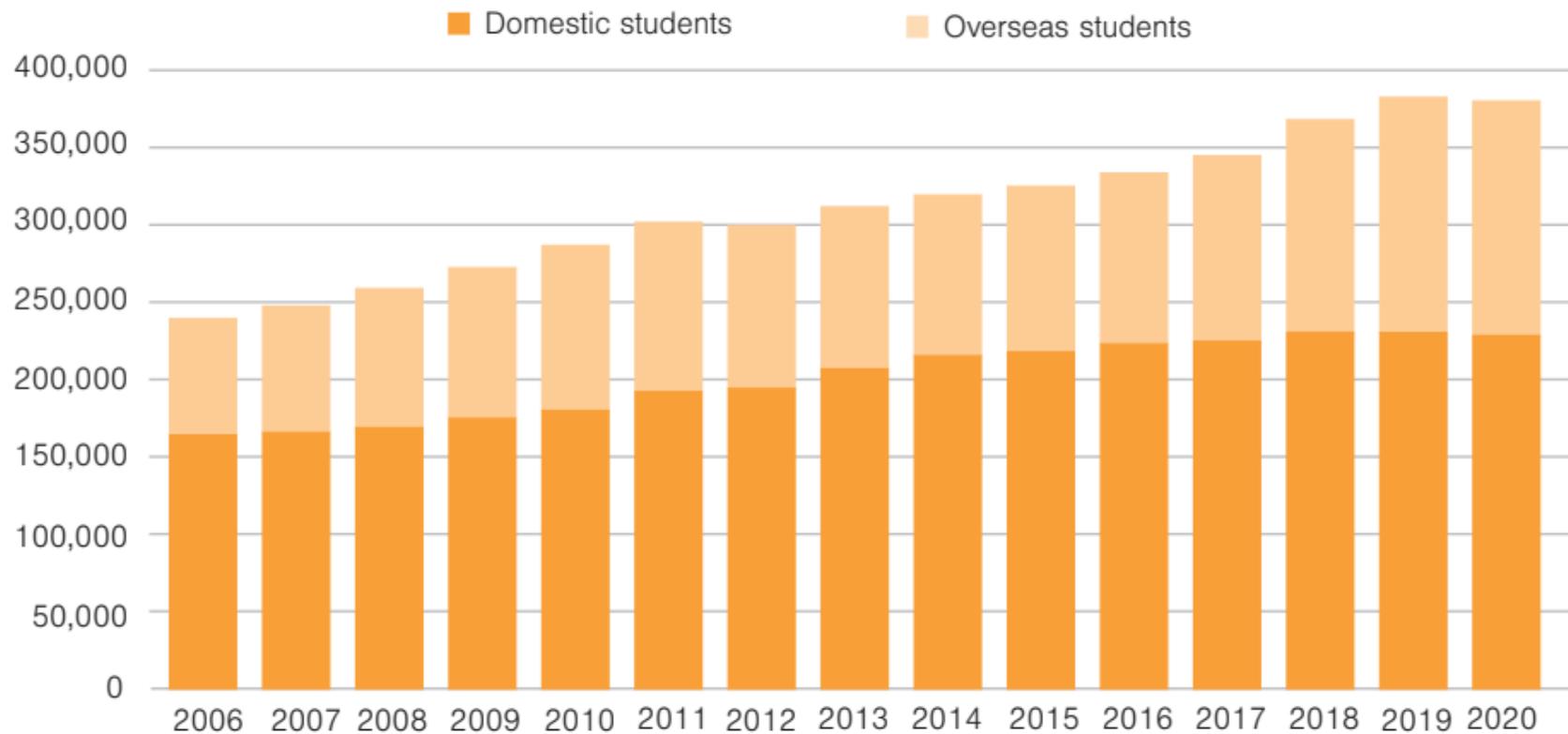


Since 2008, the number of  
undergraduate students  
from the poorest quarter  
of Australian households  
has increased by more than  
**63%.**

## Number of award course completions for all students, by course level



## Number of award course completions for all students, by citizenship category

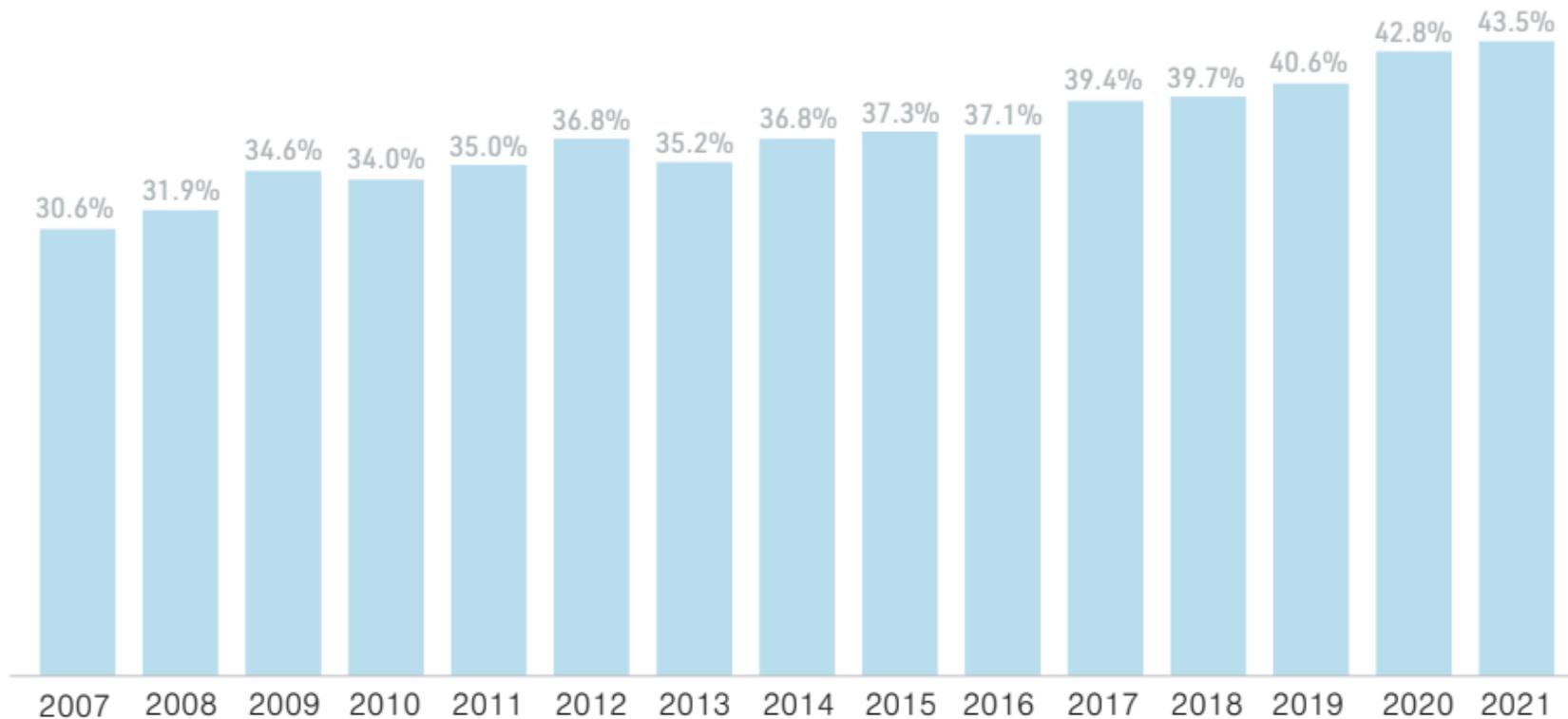




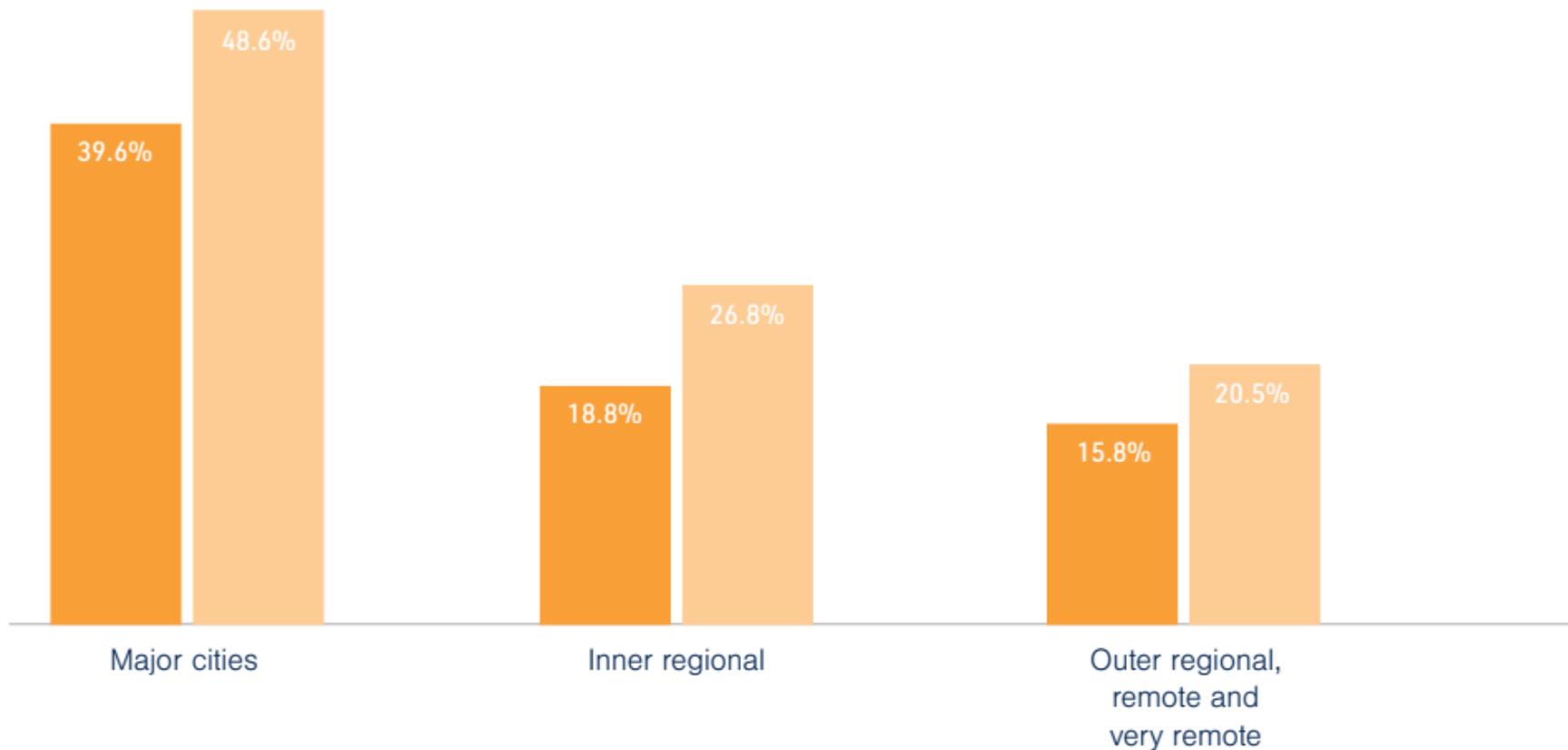
# 43.5%

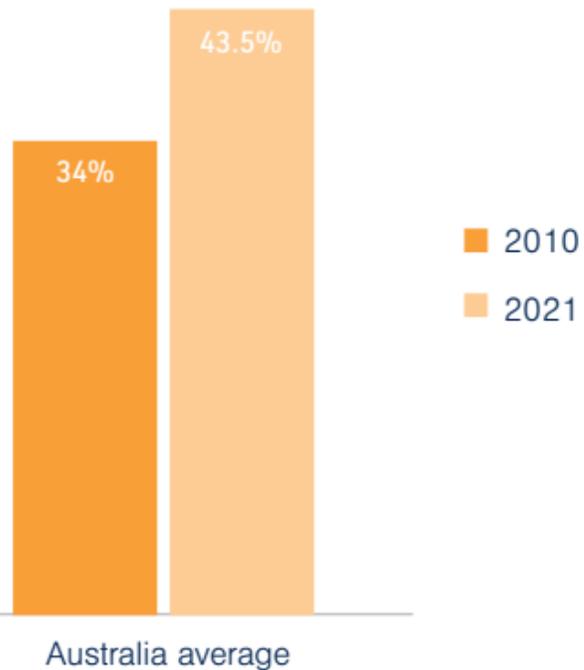
of 25-34 year olds in Australia now  
have a Bachelor degree or higher.

## Proportion of persons aged 25-34 with a Bachelor degree or higher



## Proportion of persons aged 25-34 with a Bachelor degree or higher, by remoteness areas





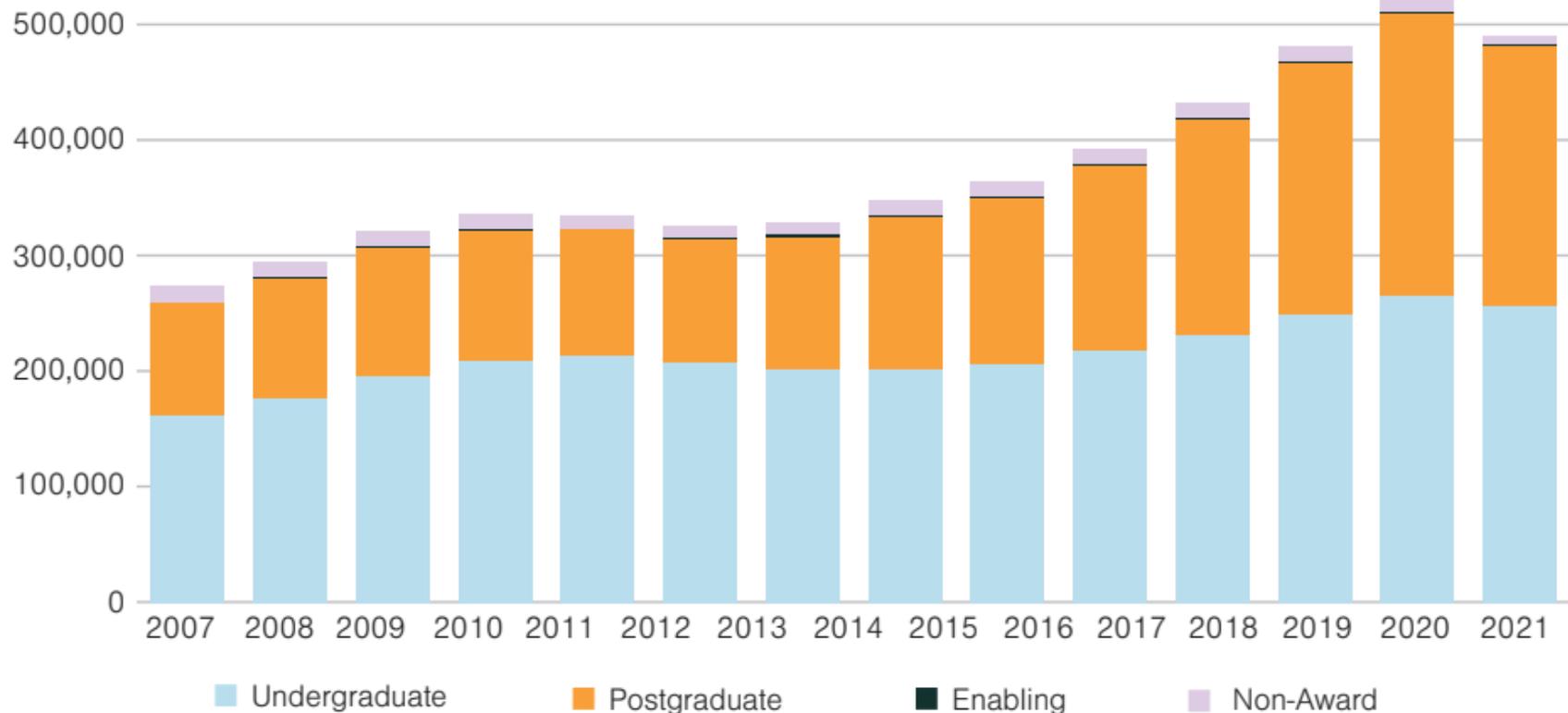
Source: ABS 2021, Education and Work, May 2021.

People from major cities  
are twice as likely to hold a  
university degree than those  
from regional or remote areas.



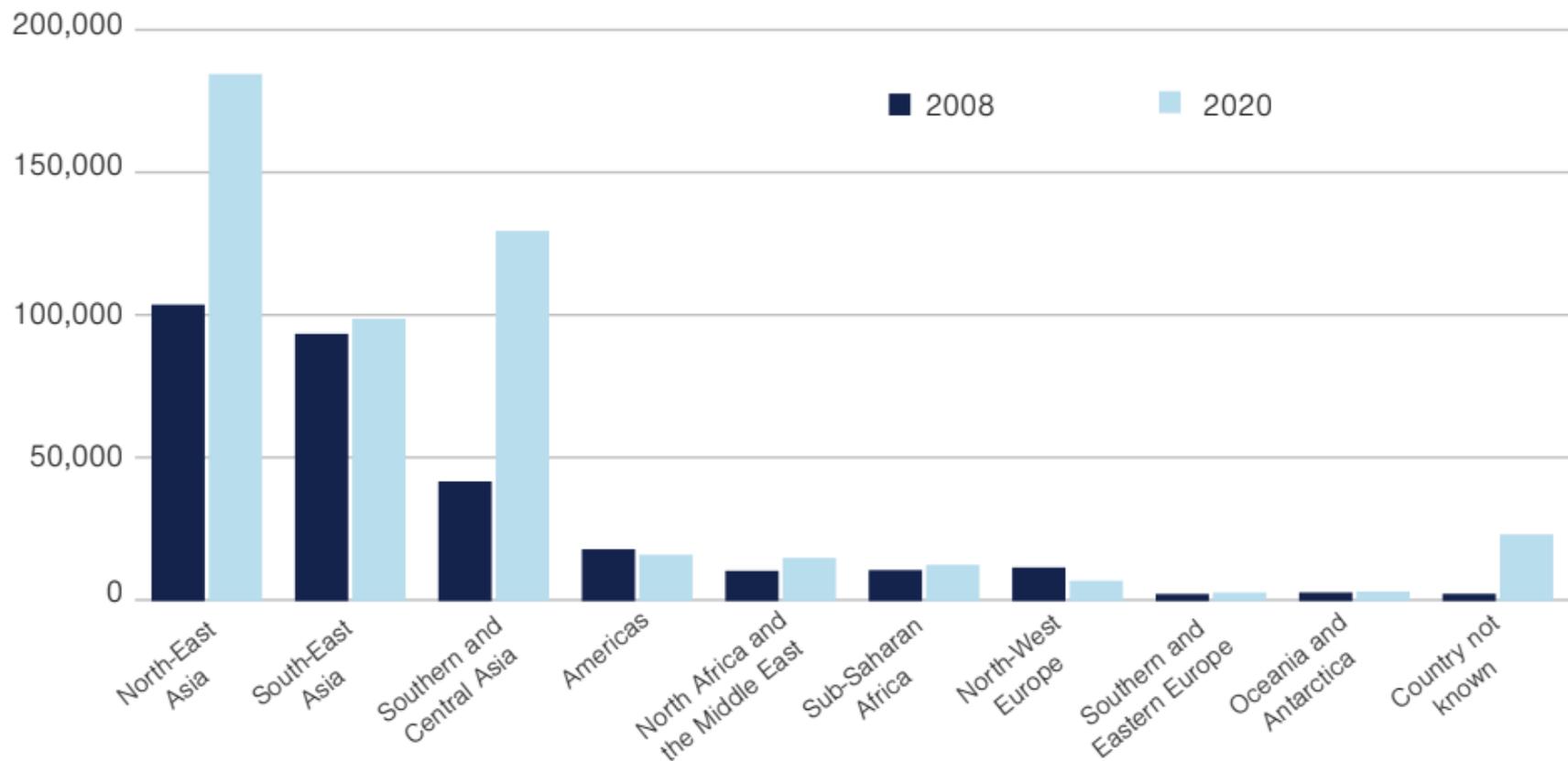


## International student enrolments



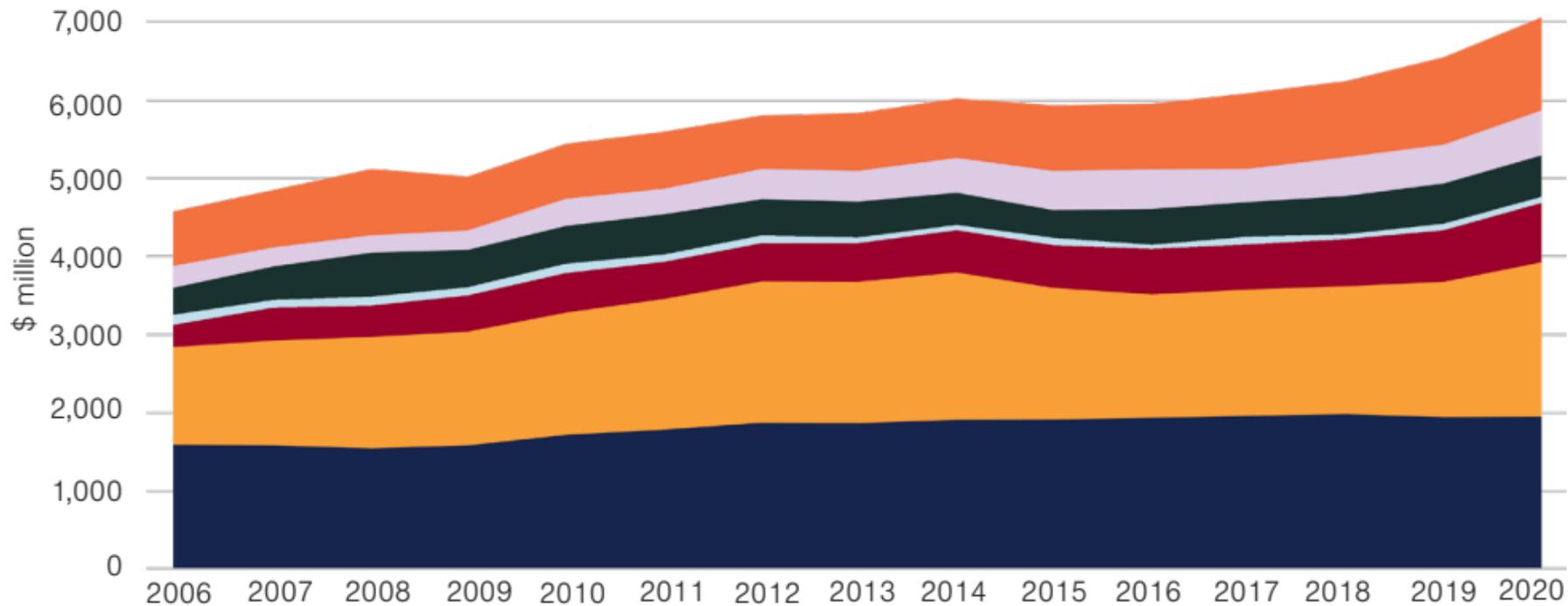
Source: DESE 2022, Selected Higher Education Statistics - 2020 Student Data, Student Enrolment Pivot Table

## International students by country of permanent home residence





Sources of university research income (in 2020 CPI constant dollars)

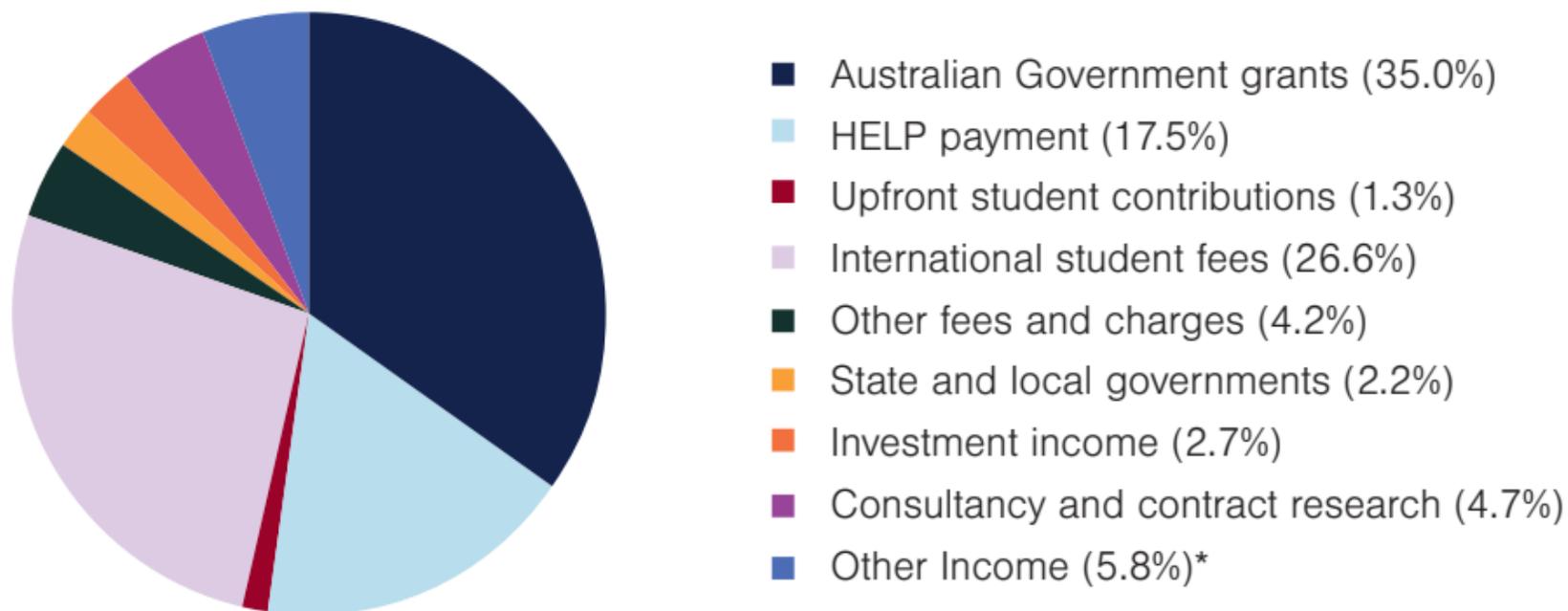


- Research block grant funding
- Australian Government competitive grants
- Australian Government - other public sector
- Australian Government - CRC
- State and local government
- International funding
- Industry and other funding



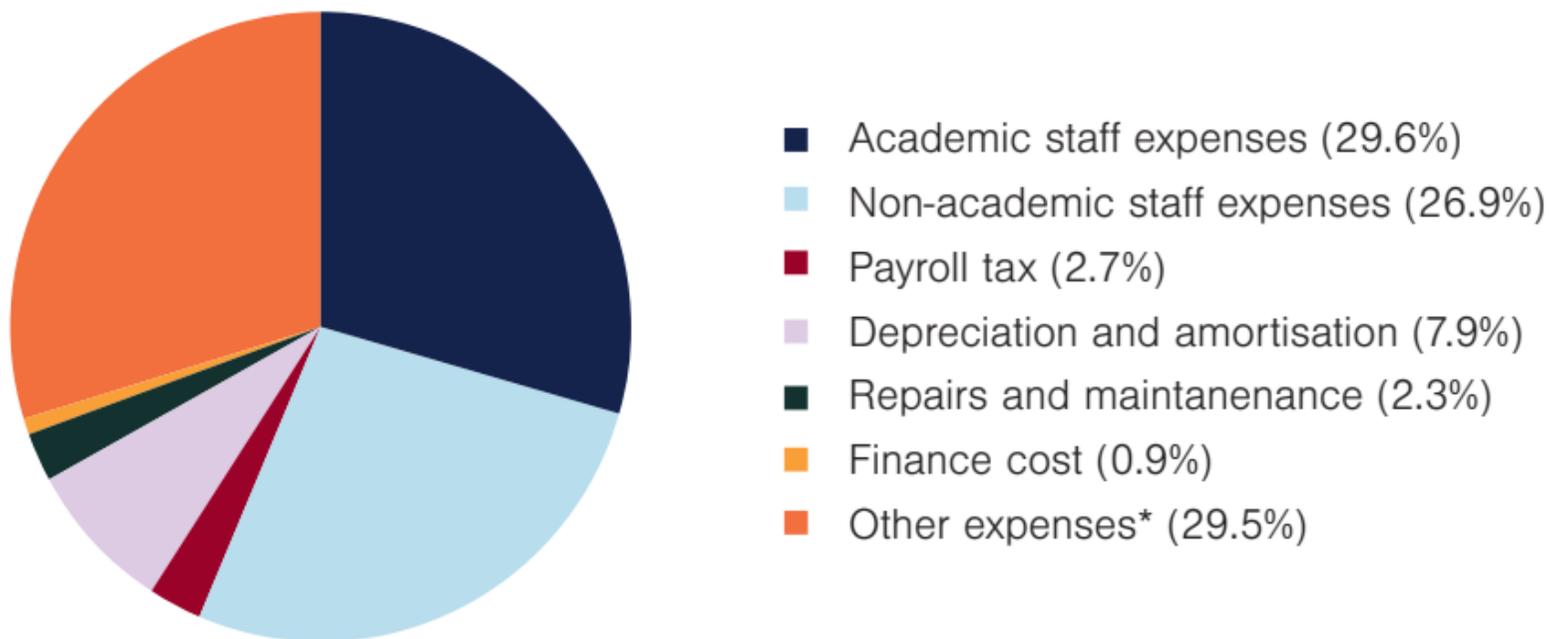
Source: DESE 2021, HERDC Research Income Data 1994 to 2020 and Research Block Grants Allocations 2001 to 2022

## 2020 Total Operating Revenue (\$34.7 billion)



\* Other income includes royalties, trademarks and licences and the share of net result of associates and joint ventures accounted for using the equity method.

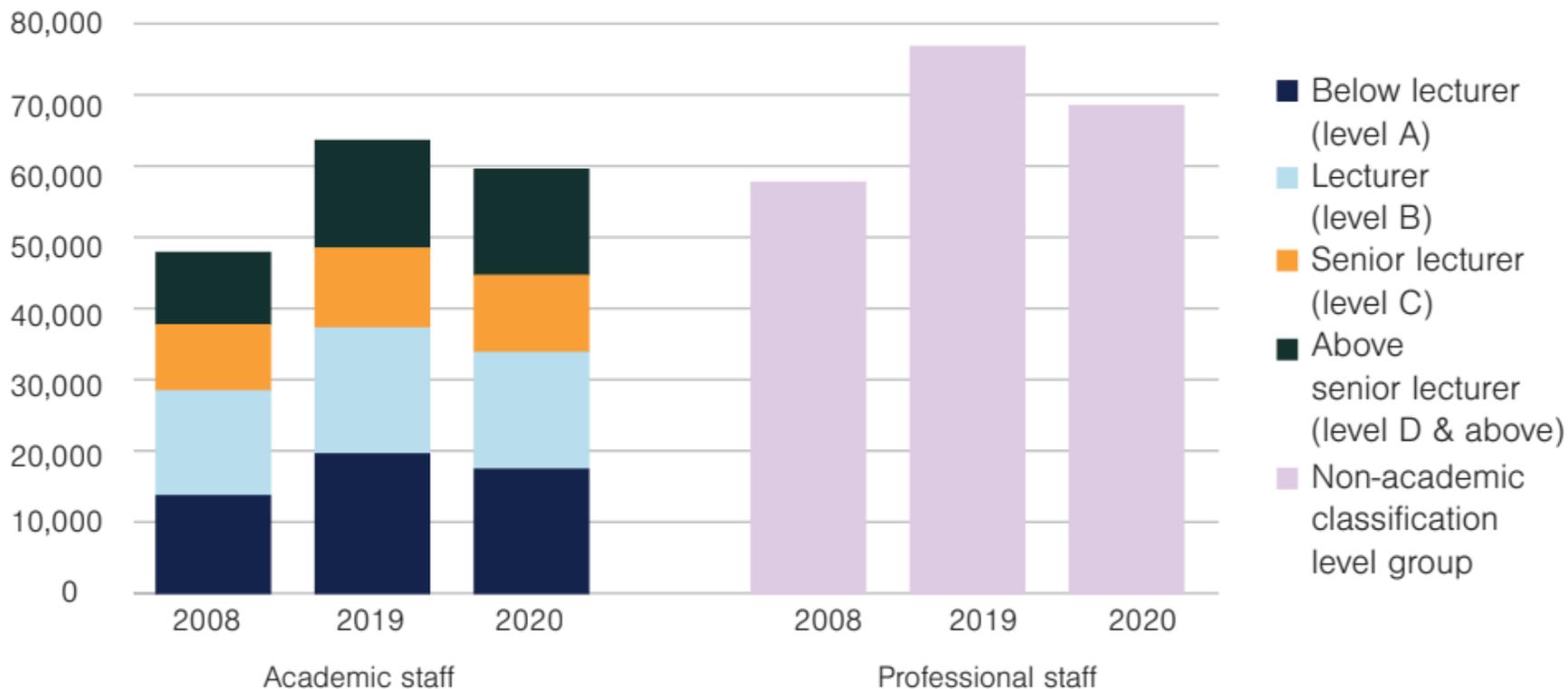
## 2020 total operating expenditure (\$33.4 billion)



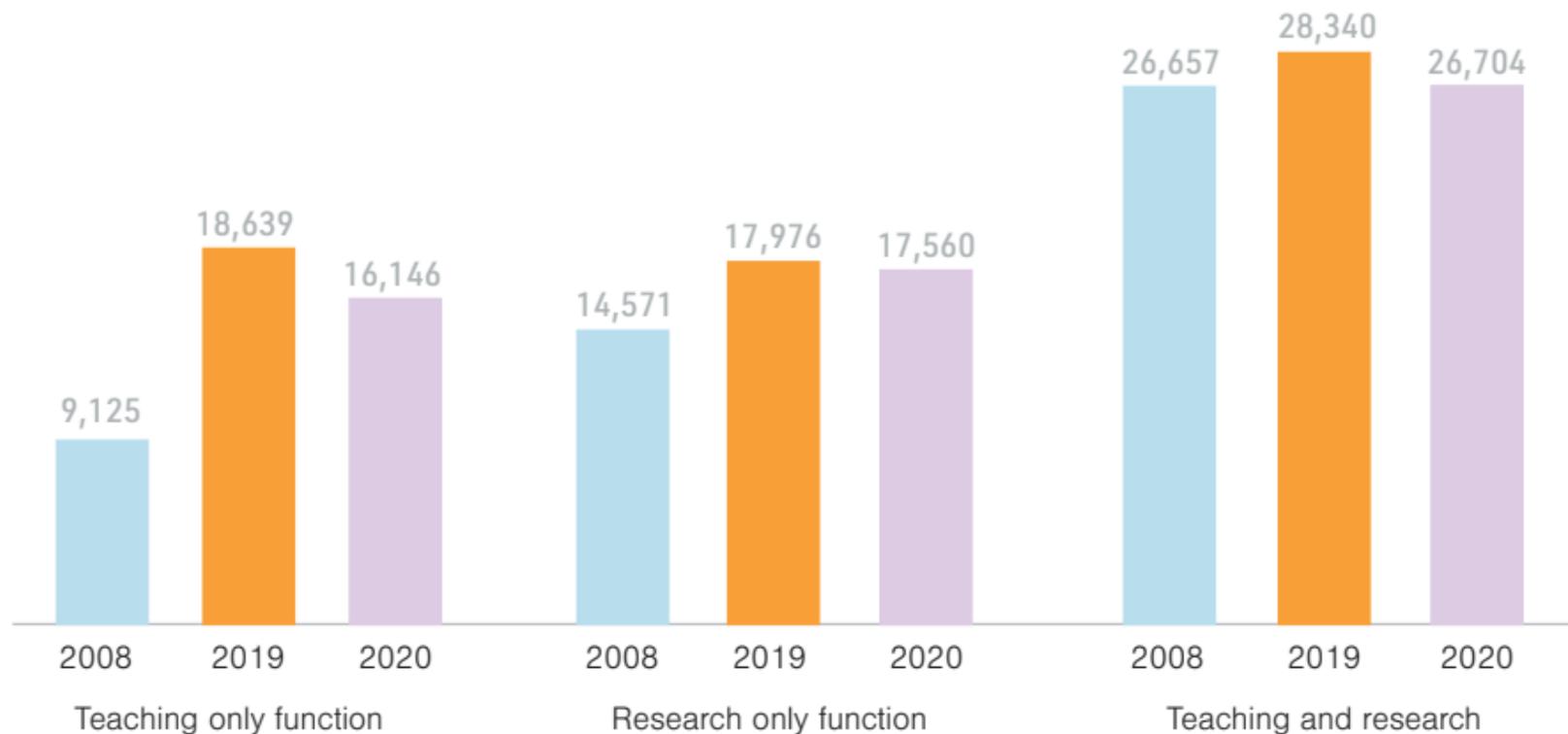
\* Other expenses includes impairment of assets, investment losses and deferred superannuation expenses



## Full-time equivalent staff by current duties classification, including casual staff



## Number of full-time equivalent academic staff, by function



Data as of 16 June 2022

The student data reported in this publication includes all higher education providers reporting their student data to Department of Education, Skills and Employment (DESE) through the Tertiary Collection of Student Information (TCSI). In 2020, 91 per cent of these higher education students studied at the 39 Universities Australia member universities.

