

## Answers to questions taken on notice

Supplemental submission to the *Inquiry into the Future development of the NSW tertiary education sector*

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1. Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: Could I take you to table 2 on page 2 of your submission. What is the source of that data? Are the revenue figures there gross revenue figures? Are they adjusted for inflation?

### Answer:

The data underlying my paper are drawn from:

ABS. (2020). 6401.0 - Consumer Price Index, Australia, March 2020. Retrieved from <https://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/6401.0>.

DESE. (2020). *Finance Publication*. Retrieved from <https://www.education.gov.au/finance-publication>.

DESE. (2020). *uCube: Enrolment Count by Citizenship Category by Type Of Attendance*. Retrieved from <http://highereducationstatistics.education.gov.au/>.

The figures reported in Table 2 of my paper represent gross revenues, adjusted for inflation, expressed in per EFTSL terms.

Gross revenues are drawn from DESE (2020). The raw *Finance Publication* figures are reported in current dollars. I have updated them for inflation using the Consumer Price Index (CPI) to real 2018 dollars using CPI data from the ABS (2020). A simple average of then four quarterly CPI figures for each year has been used as an annual CPI figure. Using the GDP deflator produces similar results (available from the author) to those reported here. Other methods of inflation adjustment, however, can produce quite different results, particularly the use of various government expense deflators. Since the comparison of financial figures over time is highly sensitive to inflation adjustment, these potential sources of variability should be kept in mind. The CPI and GDP deflator are, however, the most broadly-based and widely-used benchmarks for adjusting for inflation. All financial figures reported in this paper are 'real' (i.e., adjusted for inflation using the CPI).

The gross revenues are divided by equivalent full-time student load (EFTSL) to produce revenues per student. Student numbers are drawn from the DESE's (2020) *uCube* database. Student numbers based on EFTSL have been used in my submission. Parallel analyses conducted on the basis of raw student headcounts produce substantively similar results.

2. Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: Sorry, my last question is: To make meaning of this can you give me the cumulative effect? If this is compound annual decrease or increase, can you give us on notice what the cumulative effect of that is over the 10 years?

Answer:

**Table 2a. University domestic revenue trends per EFTSL, 2008-2018, total cumulative change over the ten-year study period (adjusted for inflation)**

<b>Location / Group</b>	<b>Gross domestic revenue (10-year cumulative change)</b>	<b>Dom. revenue per dom. student (10-year cumulative change)</b>	<b>Domestic student enrollment (10-year cumulative change)</b>	<b>Int'l student enrollment (10-year cumulative change)</b>
Australian Capital Territory	23.29%	-10.92%	38.40%	130.31%
New South Wales	32.04%	3.94%	27.04%	88.34%
Northern Territory	-7.34%	-28.01%	28.72%	334.42%
South Australia	10.06%	-13.06%	26.60%	-7.48%
Tasmania	22.57%	-12.85%	40.64%	65.80%
Victoria	25.44%	-10.18%	39.66%	71.83%
Western Australia	14.74%	-14.55%	34.28%	5.53%
<b>Group of Eight</b>	<b>17.39%</b>	<b>-0.40%</b>	<b>17.86%</b>	<b>115.02%</b>
<b>Australia</b>	<b>25.96%</b>	<b>-6.14%</b>	<b>34.20%</b>	<b>56.11%</b>

3. The Hon. COURTNEY HOUSSOS: I wanted to come to that, because you make assertions in your submission about the growth of these research-only academics. I appreciate that you say that the purpose of a university is that students have access to these cutting-edge researchers. Where do you get this information? Is this your anecdotal experience? Is this something that you have found in speaking to your academic colleagues? How have you collated this information?

Answer:

I was honest but incorrect in my testimony when I said that "I believe that is broken down by State. We have no reports at all, as far as I am aware, of the breakdown of academics by function at individual universities." In fact, the DESE does provide this breakdown. The main source of data is:

DESE. (2020). *uCube: Staff Count by Function by State - Institution*. Retrieved from <http://highereducationstatistics.education.gov.au/>.

Tables A and B below reproduces *uCube* data on staff counts by function by state and institution for 2010 and 2020, respectively. The number of research-only academics in Australia has grown by 22.5% over the last ten years. The percentage rise in teaching-only academics has been even greater, but from a much smaller base, while the number of conventional teaching-and-research academics has actually declined.

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**Table A. Staff count by function by state - institution (uCube data, 2010)**

		Staff Count			
		Teaching only function	Research only function	Teaching and research function	Other function
		2010	2010	2010	2010
New South Wales	Avondale University College	5	5	60	96
	Charles Sturt University	82	57	559	1,234
	Macquarie University	10	206	797	1,152
	Southern Cross University	107	48	194	614
	The University of New England	3	68	432	727
	The University of Newcastle	35	461	770	1,511
	The University of Sydney		1,431	1,987	3,256
	University of New South Wales	324	1,657	3,209	2,540
	University of Technology Sydney		202	755	1,419
	University of Wollongong		237	706	1,029
	Western Sydney University	27	22	700	1,393
<b>Total</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>4,394</b>	<b>10,169</b>	<b>14,971</b>	
Victoria	Deakin University	62	250	874	1,561
	Federation University Australia	39	14	211	519
	La Trobe University	72	314	994	1,482
	Monash University		1,499	1,936	3,846
	RMIT University		219	1,000	1,935
	Swinburne University of Technology	24	87	535	866
	The University of Melbourne	12	1,333	1,723	3,743
	University of Divinity	30	6	76	42
	Victoria University	128	103	409	1,200
	<b>Total</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>3,825</b>	<b>7,758</b>	<b>15,194</b>
Queensland	Bond University	63	9	225	402
	CQUniversity	12	56	301	720
	Griffith University	31	453	1,010	2,172
	James Cook University	6	209	566	1,011
	Queensland University of Technology	112	443	1,337	2,271
	The University of Queensland	199	1,891	1,469	3,295
	University of Southern Queensland	70	17	374	814
	University of the Sunshine Coast		4	223	379
<b>Total</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>3,082</b>	<b>5,505</b>	<b>11,064</b>	
Western Australia	Curtin University	207	281	872	1,954
	Edith Cowan University	44	79	524	1,095
	Murdoch University	31	104	455	884
	The University of Notre Dame Australia	65	5	240	248
	The University of Western Australia	64	795	982	2,108
	<b>Total</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>1,264</b>	<b>3,073</b>	<b>6,289</b>
South Australia	Flinders University		317	622	1,091
	The University of Adelaide	3	839	899	1,416
	University of South Australia	2	322	770	1,508
	<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1,478</b>	<b>2,291</b>	<b>4,015</b>
Tasmania	University of Tasmania	128	245	782	1,436
	<b>Total</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>782</b>	<b>1,436</b>
Northern Territory	Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Educati	49	13		181
	Charles Darwin University	25	74	188	472
	<b>Total</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>653</b>
Australian Capital Territory	The Australian National University		1,292	689	2,004
	University of Canberra	6	1	365	503
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1,293</b>	<b>1,054</b>	<b>2,507</b>
Multi-State	Australian Catholic University		43	485	737
	<b>Total</b>		<b>43</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>737</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>2,077</b>	<b>15,711</b>	<b>31,305</b>	<b>56,866</b>

**Table B. Staff count by function by state - institution (uCube data, 2020)**

		Staff Count			
		Teaching only function	Research only function	Teaching and research function	Other function
		2020	2020	2020	2020
New South Wales	Avondale University College			47	108
	Charles Sturt University	421	77	508	1,443
	Macquarie University	111	436	911	1,840
	Southern Cross University	105	38	212	605
	The University of New England	3	125	430	794
	The University of Newcastle	94	640	826	1,769
	The University of Sydney	319	1,386	2,188	4,459
	University of New South Wales	315	1,615	1,379	3,924
	University of Technology Sydney	122	586	1,068	2,094
	University of Wollongong		363	818	1,576
	Western Sydney University	36	146	919	1,743
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,526</b>	<b>5,412</b>	<b>9,306</b>	<b>20,355</b>
Victoria	Deakin University	299	608	1,121	2,919
	Federation University Australia	86	32	265	909
	La Trobe University		396	1,016	1,789
	Monash University		1,524	2,166	4,771
	RMIT University		519	1,367	2,828
	Swinburne University of Technology	91	233	601	1,369
	The University of Melbourne	607	1,956	1,797	5,006
	University of Divinity	18	12	115	104
	Victoria University	107	144	293	1,086
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,208</b>	<b>5,424</b>	<b>8,741</b>	<b>20,781</b>
Queensland	Bond University	93	29	186	483
	CQUniversity	360	109	301	1,125
	Griffith University	274	481	781	2,560
	James Cook University	187	244	438	1,109
	Queensland University of Technology	161	585	1,685	2,559
	The University of Queensland	223	2,305	1,333	3,973
	University of Southern Queensland	89	132	415	908
	University of the Sunshine Coast	7	77	409	761
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,394</b>	<b>3,962</b>	<b>5,548</b>	<b>13,478</b>	
Western Australia	Curtin University	331	481	580	2,100
	Edith Cowan University	176	138	390	1,134
	Murdoch University	157	142	318	1,021
	The University of Notre Dame Australia		17	544	489
	The University of Western Australia	225	765	848	2,075
	<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>1,543</b>	<b>2,680</b>	<b>6,819</b>
South Australia	Flinders University	273	341	440	1,253
	The University of Adelaide	152	690	826	2,175
	Torrens University Australia	215	23	42	
	University of South Australia	275	485	506	1,700
	<b>Total</b>	<b>915</b>	<b>1,539</b>	<b>1,814</b>	<b>5,128</b>
Tasmania	University of Tasmania	187	366	835	1,732
<b>Total</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>1,732</b>	
Northern Territory	Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Educati	15		3	15
	Charles Darwin University	60	63	151	531
	<b>Total</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>546</b>
Australian Capital Territory	The Australian National University	5	706	1,289	2,811
	University of Canberra	123	88	276	634
	<b>Total</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>794</b>	<b>1,565</b>	<b>3,445</b>
Multi-State	Australian Catholic University	406	143	217	1,296
	<b>Total</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>1,296</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,728</b>	<b>19,246</b>	<b>30,860</b>	<b>73,580</b>	

**END OF SUPPLEMENTAL SUBMISSION**