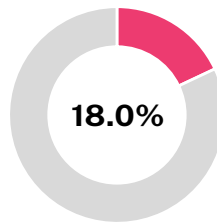


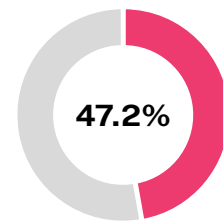
# 2023 International Key Findings Student Experience Survey

A study of international students enrolled at Australian higher education institutions. It reports on aspects of the international student experience that are measurable and linked with learning and development outcomes, as well as their life in Australia.

Proportion of 2023 SES responses from international students by course level



Undergraduate



Postgraduate coursework

**134**

participating higher education institutions, including 42 universities

**71,479**

Valid online survey responses (student level)

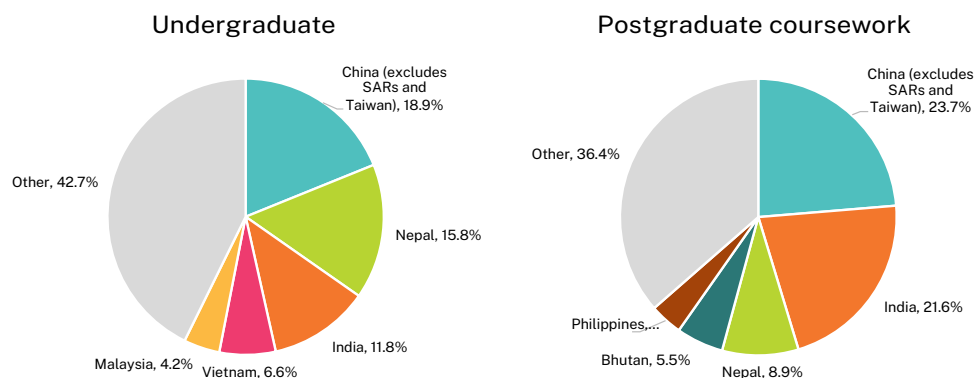
**36.3%**

Response rate achieved

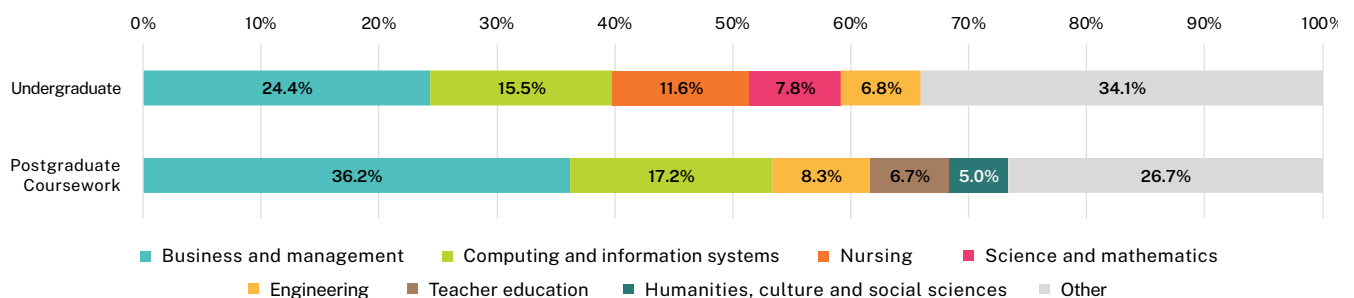
## International Student Profile (proportions based on responses to the 2023 SES)

International students represented 18.0 per cent of undergraduate responses and 47.2 per cent of postgraduate coursework level responses in the 2023 SES. The top 3 source countries of international students were China (excludes SARs and Taiwan), India and Nepal at both course levels. International students were mainly clustered in a small number of study areas; predominantly Business and management, Computing and information systems, Engineering, Nursing and Teacher education.

### Source countries by course level



### Study areas by course level



## The Undergraduate Student Experience

Prior to 2022, domestic undergraduate students had typically rated their education experience more positively than international undergraduate students. However, since 2022, international undergraduate student ratings have overtaken domestic ratings in most aspects of the education experience, with the exception of Learning Resources and the overall rating that measures the 'Quality of entire educational experience'. In particular, international undergraduate ratings of Peer Engagement\* were much higher than domestic ratings, likely due to more frequent participation in on-campus classes. Student Support and Services\* is the only focus area that domestic student ratings have declined year on year since 2020 while international undergraduate ratings have trended upwards.

Undergraduate student experience by citizenship status, 2017-2023 (% positive rating)



\* Note that in 2023 a review was conducted on the SES instrument and revisions were made to the Peer Engagement (formally Learner Engagement) and Student Support and Services focus areas. For more information about these changes, refer to Appendix 2 of the 2023 SES International Report.

## The Postgraduate Coursework Student Experience

At the postgraduate coursework level, international students have always rated some aspects higher than domestic students, such as Peer Engagement\* and Skills Development. Other aspects have fluctuated over time with ratings dipping notably in 2020. Like results at the undergraduate level, by 2022, international postgraduate coursework students rated most aspects of their educational experience more positively than domestic students and this gap grew larger in 2023.

Postgraduate coursework student experience by citizenship status, 2017-2023 (% positive rating)

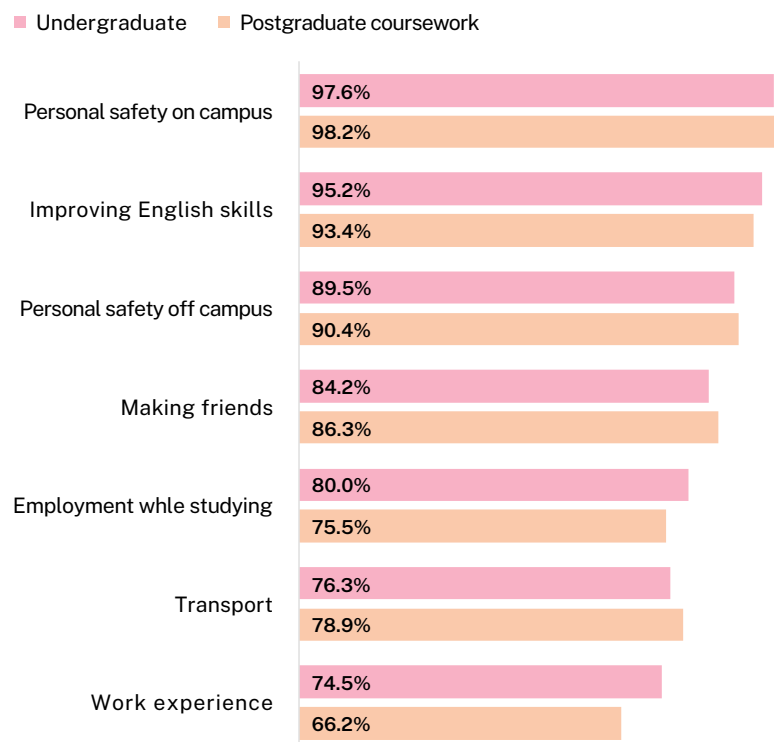


\* Note that in 2023 a review was conducted on the SES instrument and revisions were made to the Peer Engagement (formally Learner Engagement) and Student Support and Services focus areas. For more information about these changes, refer to Appendix 2 of the 2023 SES International Report.

## The international student living experience

International students typically rate their overall living experience in Australia highly, and this continued in 2023 with 93.1 per cent of international undergraduate students and 93.2 per cent of postgraduate coursework students rating their living experience positively. Aspects of the international student living experience rated highly by international students included personal safety on campus, improving English skills and personal safety off campus. Work experience in their field of study was rated lowest.

### International student living experience, 2023 (% positive rating)



**Overall living experience**

<b>Undergraduate</b>	<b>Postgraduate Coursework</b>
<b>93.1%</b>	<b>93.2%</b>

**Accommodation experience**

<b>Undergraduate</b>	<b>Postgraduate Coursework</b>
<b>89.4%</b>	<b>89.1%</b>

## Reasons for choosing to study in Australia

International students were asked to rate the importance of a number of reasons for choosing to study in Australia. Personal safety and security, the cost of living and the reputation of Australia’s education system were the most important reasons international students chose to study in Australia in 2023.

### Top 5 reasons international students chose to study in Australia, 2023 (% importance rating)

