

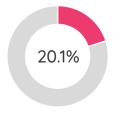




2024 International Key Findings Student Experience Survey

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 2024 SES responses from international students by course level





Undergraduate

Postgraduate coursework

139

Participating higher education institutions, including 42 universities

89,668Valid online survey

responses

37.5%

Response

International Student Profile

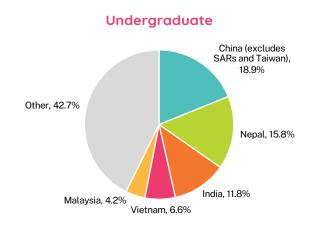
(Proportions based on responses to the 2024 SES)

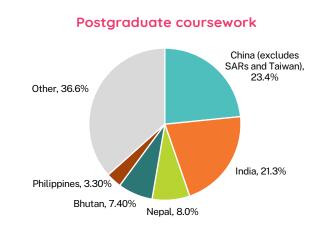
In 2024, international students made up 20.1 per cent of undergraduate survey responses, closely matching their share of the undergraduate population (20.8 per cent). Among postgraduate coursework students, international respondents were slightly over-represented at 58.0 per cent, compared to 54.8 per cent of the population.

The top 3 source countries of international students were China (excludes SARs and Taiwan), India and Nepal at both course levels.

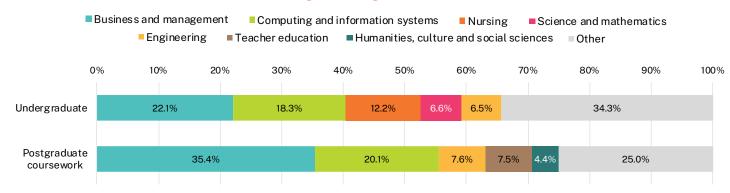
International students were mainly clustered in a small number of study areas-predominantly Business and management, Computing and information systems, Engineering, Nursing and Teacher education.

Source countries by course level





Study areas by course level



The Undergraduate Student Experience

Since 2022, international undergraduate students have rated most aspects of their education experience more positively than domestic students—a reversal of trends seen prior to that year. The only exception is Overall Educational Experience, where domestic ratings remain slightly higher. Peer Engagement stands out, with international students rating it much higher, likely due to more frequent participation in on-campus classes. Student Support and Services is another focus area with a notable gap in 2024: where domestic ratings trailed international ratings by 8.3 percentage points.

Undergraduate student experience by citizenship status, 2017-2024 (% positive rating)



The Postgraduate Coursework Student Experience

At the postgraduate coursework level, international students have consistently rated aspects such as Peer Engagement and Skills Development more highly than domestic students. Other areas have fluctuated over time, with a noticeable dip in 2020. By 2022, similar to undergraduate trends, international postgraduate coursework students rated most aspects of their educational experience more positively than domestic students. Between 2023 and 2024, ratings remained relatively stable for both groups across most focus areas, except for Peer Engagement among international postgraduate coursework students, which rose by 3.4 percentage points.

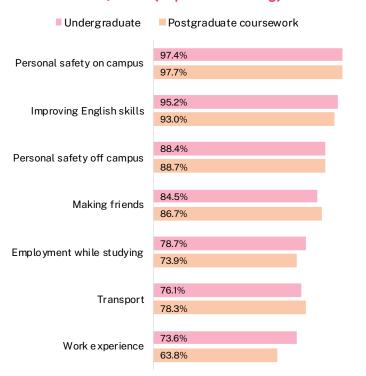
Postgraduate coursework student experience by citizenship status, 2017-2024 (% positive rating)



The international student living experience

International students typically rate their overall living experience in Australia highly, and this continued in 2024 with 92.5 per cent of international undergraduate students and 92.0 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 by course level, 2024 (% positive rating)



Satisfaction with living in Australia, 2024 (% positive rating)

Overall living experience

Undergraduate

92.5%

Postgraduate Coursework

92.0%

Accommodation experience

Undergraduate

90.1%

Postgraduate Coursework

90.0%

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 continued to be the most important reasons international students chose to study in Australia in 2024.

Top 5 reasons international students chose to study in Australia, 2024 (% importance rating)



Personal safety and security

Undergraduate

97.1%

Postgraduate Coursework

97.7%



of living

Undergraduate

95.0%

Postgraduate Coursework

95.6%



Reputation of Australia's education system

Undergraduate

94.1%

Postgraduate Coursework

95.1%



Opportunity to study in an English-speaking country

Undergraduate

91.9%

Postgraduate Coursework

93.3%



Chance to experience a new culture/lifestyle

Undergraduate

89.2%

Postgraduate Coursework

91.9%