

## Summary of the 2010 first half year student statistics

### Student numbers

- The total number of student enrolments reached 1 037 945 in the first half of 2010, an increase of 6.1 per cent from the first half of 2009.
- There were 770 781 domestic students in the first half of 2010 - comprising 74.3 per cent of all enrolments, an increase of 5.9 per cent from the first half of 2009. Overseas student enrolments increased by 6.9 per cent over the same period to 267 164 in the first half of 2010.
- More than half (55.7 per cent) of all student enrolments were female.
- Nearly three quarters (73.5 per cent) of students were studying full time.
- The majority (93.9 per cent) of students were enrolled at public universities (Table A providers).

### Commencing student numbers

- The total number of commencing student enrolments increased by 5.7 per cent to 357 843 in the first half of 2010.
- More than three quarters (76.5 per cent) of commencements were domestic students (273 653). Domestic commencements increased by 7.7 per cent between the first half of 2009 and the first half of 2010, while overseas commencements fell by 0.2 per cent to 84 190 over the same period.
- More than half (57.0 per cent) of all commencing student enrolments were female.

### Indigenous student numbers

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students comprised less than one per cent (9 462) of all enrolments in the first half of 2010, and 1.1 per cent (3 955) of commencements. Enrolments for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students increased by 6.5 per cent for commencing students and 6.4 per cent for all students between the first half of 2009 and the first half of 2010.

### National priority areas and courses of special interest

- Commencing student enrolments in courses leading to provisional registration as a medical practitioner increased by 1.7 per cent from 3 700 in the first half of 2009 to 3 763 in the first half of 2010. Over the same period, commencements in courses leading to provisional registration as a dental practitioner increased by 0.5 per cent from 582 to 585, commencing students undertaking courses for initial registration as nurses increased by 10.5 per cent from 13 268 to 14 656 and commencements in initial teacher training courses increased by 9.7 per cent from 22 555 to 24 741.
- There was a 4.7 per cent increase in the number of commencing students undertaking courses leading to provisional registration as a veterinary practitioner, up from 470 in the first half of 2009 to 492 in the first half of 2010.
- There was a 4.1 per cent increase in the number of commencing students in courses in clinical psychology (as defined by the Commonwealth Grants Scheme Guidelines), from 658 in the first half of 2009 to 685 in the first half of 2010.

### Field of education

- Increases in commencing student enrolments were seen for most broad fields of education between the first half of 2009 and the first half of 2010 - Natural and Physical Sciences (up 12.0 per cent), Society and Culture (up 10.0 per cent), Health (up 9.8 per cent), Engineering and Related Technologies (up 7.0 per cent), Agriculture, Environmental and Related Studies (up 7.0 per cent), Education (up 6.8 per cent), Architecture and Building (up 5.3 per cent) and Creative Arts (up 2.5 per cent).
- Moderate percentage increases were also seen in the commencements for Mixed Field Programmes (14.3 per cent), following a large increase of 31.4 per cent in the first half of 2009.
- Decreases in commencements were seen in Information Technology (down 1.6 per cent), Management and Commerce (down 0.6 per cent) and Food, Hospitality and Personal Services (down 20.0 per cent).