Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-2014

Outcome 3 - Higher Education, Research and International

Department of Education Question No. ED0135_14
Senator McKenzie provided in writing.

Question
Student support – Victorian regional universities

Can you please indicate how many students undertook training at a university in regional Victoria in 2013, and what percentage of the total number of university students this is? Can you please indicate how many students living in regional Victoria have an outstanding HECS debt? For each of the above mentioned requests, can you please provide a comparison of Victoria's student numbers to the other states?

Answer

The table below shows the number of students, domestic and international, enrolled at regional campuses in 2012 for each state and territory. Verified data for 2013 calendar year does not become available until mid-2014. 2012 data is provided. It also shows those students as a proportion of all students studying in Australia. Campuses have been classified as regional based on the Australian Statistical Geography Standard.

Higher education students at regional campuses, 2012

State	Students at regional campuses	State regional students as a proportion of all students in Australia
New South Wales	83 003	7.1%
Victoria	21 899	1.9%
Queensland	59 897	5.1%
Western Australia	2 579	0.2%
South Australia	1 471	0.1%
Tasmania	24 137	2.1%
Northern Territory	4 853	0.4%
Australian Capital Territory	-	-
Total	**197 839**	**16.9%**

Source: Higher Education Student Data Collection.
Note: This table may include some double counting for students who were studying at more than one campus in 2012.

The Department of Education does not have geographic information on which individuals have an outstanding Higher Education Loan Program liability and considerable resources would be required to obtain that information for students and graduates living in regional Victoria.

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