

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome 3
Output Group: 3.3 – Support for the Australian education and training export industry and international relationships.

DEST Question No. E806_05

Senator Carr provided in writing.

Refers to DEST Question No. E166_05

Question:

Can DEST provide data on the number of United States students enrolled in Australian educational institutions as international students?

Please also provide information on the number of Australian education providers currently operating in the United States.

Does DEST believe that the US constitutes a significant potential market for Australian education? On what basis? Has market research been undertaken? Please provide details and any reports.

Answer:

The table below shows United States student enrolments in Australian educational institutions for 2002, 2003 and 2004.

	2004	2003	2002
Higher Education	2635	2521	2358
VET	976	986	890
Schools	156	186	183
ELICOS	19	18	12
Other *	8862	8506	7625
Total	12648	12217	11068

* Discussions with institutions suggest that the Other category for the United States is predominantly higher education study abroad programs of one or two semesters coded as non-award courses.

DEST is unaware of any Australian education provider with a physical presence in the United States, although Australian universities do provide distance education courses to United States students. Australian universities are largely represented by a number of key US agents primarily focused on the provision of study abroad programs to US students.

Yes. Current student numbers from the United States are significant and growing. An international education experience as part of an undergraduate program appears to be becoming a more accepted part of US undergraduate programs; a large number of linkages exist between Australian and United States universities, and strong science and technology related linkages are present. Prior to the establishment of the Australian education international offices in Washington and Los Angeles, a group of Australian providers managed their own Washington based office. Australian providers are regular participants at major industry events such as the NAFSA: Association of International Educators conference. No USA specific research has been commissioned by DEST.