

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2003-2004 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2
Output Group: 2.4 – Funding for higher education

DEST Question No. E306_04

Senator Harradine asked on 5 June 2003

Question:

What is the situation in Tasmania with regard to students from disadvantaged backgrounds?
Please provide details including a statistical profile of disadvantaged students in Tasmania?

Answer:

Statistical profile of disadvantaged higher education students in Tasmania

The following tables provide statistics on students from identified equity groups in Tasmania as a whole as well as for each of the two higher education institutions in Tasmania - the University of Tasmania and the Australian Maritime College (AMC). An explanation of the performance indicators of access, participation, retention and success is given in the footnotes to the tables.

All Tasmania (University of Tasmania and AMC)

	Access (a)	Participation (b)	Retention (c)	Success (d)
Low Socio-Economic Status	32.53%	30.71%	82.56%	86.60%
Non-English Speaking Background	0.78%	0.71%	83.56%	72.85%
Students With Disabilities	4.07%	4.73%	84.76%	77.33%
Students From Rural Areas	42.50%	41.15%	83.46%	87.19%
Students From Isolated Areas	0.69%	0.50%	47.69%	86.82%

University of Tasmania

	Access	Participation	Retention	Success
Low Socio-Economic Status	31.51%	30.40%	87.07%	86.64%
Non-English Speaking Background	0.87%	0.73%	84.51%	72.50%
Students With Disabilities	4.50%	5.02%	85.04%	77.25%
Students From Rural Areas	42.21%	41.02%	86.40%	87.42%
Students From Isolated Areas	0.30%	0.26%	80.77%	79.06%

Australian Maritime College

	Access	Participation	Retention	Success
Low Socio-Economic Status	37.08%	33.38%	33.07%	85.70%
Non-English Speaking Background	0.37%	0.50%	50.00%	88.11%
Students With Disabilities	2.15%	2.15%	75.00%	84.49%
Students From Rural Areas	43.82%	42.26%	44.77%	86.93%
Students From Isolated Areas	2.43%	2.65%	25.64%	95.65%

Notes

- (a) Access is the number of commencing students for the equity group as a percentage of total domestic commencing students.
(b) Participation is the number of students for the equity group as a percentage of total domestic students.
(c) Retention is the number of equity group students who re-enrol at an institution in a given year, as a proportion of the equity group students who were enrolled in the previous year less those equity group students who have completed their course.
(f) Success is the proportion of units passed within a year compared to the total units enrolled.