Australian Government
Department of Education

Undergraduate Applications and Offers, February 2014

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The document must be attributed as the *Undergraduate Applications and Offers, February 2014* report.

Produced by the Department of Education, 2014.

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1. Introduction

Purpose of the Report

This report looks at the third round data submission on university applications and offers processed through Tertiary Admissions Centres (TACs) for the first semester of the 2014 academic year. It provides trends in the number of applications, offers and characteristics of applicants. As such, these trends are leading indicators of the response of universities to the demand for higher education in 2014.

Overview of the Data

Data in this report are derived from the University Applications and Offers Data Collection. The data refer to domestic undergraduate student applications and offers as of 27 February 2014. While over 99 per cent of all first semester TAC applications are received by this date, applicants can make decisions on their offers until the close of the application process.

It is an interim report based on applications and offers data received from the TACs as of 27 February 2014. The report includes comparisons between the 2013 third round submission data (22 February 2013) and the 2014 third round submission data (27 February 2014).

The report looks at domestic undergraduate highest preference applications and total offers processed by TACs for Table A institutions. More comprehensive applications and offers data, including direct applications and offers data, will be available and analysed by the department between April 2014 and June 2014. Interim figures included in this report are subject to change following subsequent submissions of applications and offers data. A final report is scheduled for publication by the department in September 2014.

Applications and offers reports are published on the department's website:
www.education.gov.au/higher-education-statistics.

Acknowledgements

The department would like to thank all officers of TACs for submitting high quality third round applications and offers data for the 2014 academic year.

2. Highlights

Highest Preference Applications

- As of 27 February 2014, there were 273 743 applications made through TACs, a decrease of 135 applications, or 0.05%, compared with the same time in 2013. This follows an increase of 0.5% between 2012 and 2013.
- Nationally, Year 12 applications increased by 0.8% while non-Year 12 applications decreased by 1.1% in 2014.

Offers

- During the same period, there were 224 663 offers made, an increase of 0.7% compared with the same time in 2013.
- Nationally, Year 12 offers increased by 1.3% in 2014. All states and territories recorded increases in offers to Year 12 applicants, except Victoria and Western Australia (WA).
- Offers to non-Year 12 applicants fell by 0.2% nationally.
- Applications from Year 12 students were more likely to receive an offer than applications from non-Year 12 students. As of 27 February 2014, the Year 12 offer rate was 84.4% compared with the non-Year 12 offer rate of 79.2%. Offer rates for both Year 12 students and non-Year 12 students increased in 2014, up from 84.0% and 78.4% respectively in 2013.
- Above-average Year 12 offer rates were recorded in Queensland (88.5%), New South Wales (NSW)/the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) (86.9%) and WA (85.0%) in 2014.

Field of Education

- Health received the largest number of applications (72 951 or 26.6% of all applications).
- Natural and Physical Sciences recorded the largest increase in applications (8.3%). This was followed by Health (2.9%).
- Society and Culture received the largest number of offers (49 764 or 22.2% of total offers).
- Health recorded the largest increase in offers (7.2%). This was followed by Natural and Physical Sciences (6.4%).
- Applications for Agriculture, Environmental and Related Studies and Natural and Physical Sciences are most likely to receive an offer (offer rates of 98.4% and 97.6% respectively).

Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)

- In 2014, 69.4% of all offers made to Year 12 applicants were for those with an ATAR above 70. Offers to Year 12 applicants who achieved an ATAR above 90 accounted for 27.0% of all offers.
- The share of Year 12 offers for applicants with a low ATAR score (50 or less) increased from 2.1% in 2011 to 5.5% in 2014.
- Over the past four years, the likelihood of an applicant with a low ATAR score (50 or less) receiving an offer has recorded a greater increase (18.2% to 39.2%) than an applicant with a high ATAR score (above 90) (90.5% to 90.7%), which has remained steady.

Socioeconomic Status (SES)

- Applicants from a low SES background have shown the largest increase (0.9%) compared with those from a medium SES background (0.4%) and a high SES background (-1.0%).
- Offers to applicants from a low SES background have also shown the largest increase (1.6%) compared with offers to applicants from a medium SES background (1.2%) and a high SES background (-0.4%).

- However, applicants from a low SES background were less likely to result in an offer. Their offer rate was 80.5% compared with 82.0% for applicants from a medium SES background and 83.8% for applicants from a high SES background in 2014.

Regional

- Offers to metropolitan residents increased by 1.0% while there was a small increase in offers to non-metropolitan residents of 0.01% in 2014.
- Applications from non-metropolitan areas were more likely to receive an offer compared with applicants from metropolitan areas, (85.5% and 81.3% respectively).

Indigenous Status

- As of 27 February 2014, around three quarters, 75.2%, of Indigenous applicants had attracted an offer, compared with 82.1% for non-Indigenous applicants.

University Group

- Applications to the Australian Technology Network (ATN) universities and the Group of Eight (Go8) universities increased by 1.5% and 0.3% respectively in 2014. Applications to the Innovative Research Universities (IRU) and the Regional Universities Network (RUN) decreased by 3.2% and 3.3% respectively.
- RUN universities recorded the largest increase in offers (4.6%) in 2014, followed by ATN universities (2.9%).
- Applicants to Go8 universities and ATN universities were less likely to receive an offer in 2014, with offer rates of 69.0% and 75.1% respectively, reflecting higher entry requirements at these universities.

3. Highest Preference Applications

Overall trends

- As of 27 February 2014, there were 273 743 applications made through TACs, a decrease of 135 applications or 0.05% compared with the same time in 2013 (see Table 1 below). This follows an increase of 0.5% between 2012 and 2013.

Table 1: Highest preference applications by state and territory, February 2013 and February 2014

State/Territory	2013	2014	% Change
NSW/ACT	88,690	88,450	-0.3%
Vic.	72,069	72,239	0.2%
Qld	56,607	55,044	-2.8%
WA	18,941	18,073	-4.6%
SA/NT	26,587	28,206	6.1%
Tas.	10,984	11,731	6.8%
Australia	**273,878**	**273,743**	**-0.05%**

Year 12 status

- Nationally, Year 12 applications increased by 0.8% in 2014, following an increase of 2.2% in 2013.
- All states and territories recorded increases in Year 12 applications, except for Tasmania (5.9%), WA (0.7%) and Queensland (a marginal fall of 12 applications) which recorded decreases in Year 12 applications.
- Non-Year 12 applications decreased by 1.1% in 2014, following a decrease of 1.5% in 2013. WA recorded a decrease of 11.9% in non-Year 12 applications in 2014, following a decrease of 6.5% in 2013. This consecutive reduction in non-Year 12 applications is, in part, likely associated with relatively stronger labour market conditions experienced in that state.

Table 2: Highest preference applications by Year 12 status, by state and territory, February 2013 and February 2014

State/Territory	Year 12			Non-Year 12		
	2013	2014	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
NSW/ACT	49,371	49,835	0.9%	39,319	38,615	-1.8%
Vic.	44,345	45,427	2.4%	27,724	26,812	-3.3%
Qld	28,178	28,166	0.0%	28,429	26,878	-5.5%
WA	12,400	12,310	-0.7%	6,541	5,763	-11.9%
SA/NT	12,951	13,004	0.4%	13,636	15,202	11.5%
Tas.	3,779	3,555	-5.9%	7,205	8,176	13.5%
Australia	**151,024**	**152,297**	**0.8%**	**122,854**	**121,446**	**-1.1%**

- Nationally, Year 12 applications represent 55.6% of total applications, an increase of 0.5 percentage points compared with 2013.
- WA recorded the highest proportion of Year 12 applications (68.1%), an increase of 2.6 percentage points compared with 2013.

Table 3: Proportion of Year 12 highest preference applications by state and territory, February 2013 and February 2014

State/Territory	2013	2014	Change (p.p)
NSW/ACT	55.7%	56.3%	0.7
Vic.	61.5%	62.9%	1.4
Qld	49.8%	51.2%	1.4
WA	65.5%	68.1%	2.6
SA/NT	48.7%	46.1%	-2.6
Tas.	34.4%	30.3%	-4.1
Australia	**55.1%**	**55.6%**	**0.5**

4. Offers

Overall trends

- As of 27 February 2014, there were 224 663 offers made, an increase of 1 463 (0.7%) compared with the same time in 2013. This follows a similar increase of 0.6% between 2012 and 2013.
- The largest growth was recorded in Tasmania[1] (34.6%), followed by SA/NT (3.5%).
- More than four-fifths of applications (81.5%) attracted an offer in 2014, an increase of 0.6 percentage points over 2013. This follows an increase of 0.1 percentage points between 2012 and 2013.

Table 4: Offers and offer rates by state and territory, February 2013 and February 2014

State/Territory	Offers			Offer rates		
	2013	2014	% Change	2013	2014	Change (p.p)
NSW/ACT	73,501	74,170	0.9%	82.9%	83.9%	1.0
Vic.	59,664	58,369	-2.2%	82.8%	80.8%	-2.0
Qld	46,739	46,530	-0.4%	82.6%	84.5%	2.0
WA	15,974	15,120	-5.3%	84.3%	83.7%	-0.7
SA/NT	20,293	21,011	3.5%	76.3%	74.5%	-1.8
Tas.	7,029	9,463	34.6%	64.0%	80.7%	16.7
Australia	**223,200**	**224,663**	**0.7%**	**81.5%**	**82.1%**	**0.6**

Year 12 status

- Nationally, offers to Year 12 applicants increased by 1.3% in 2014. This follows an increase of 3.3% in 2013.
- The majority of states and territories recorded increases in offers to Year 12 applicants, except Victoria (down 0.7%) and WA (down 2.2%). Growth in offers to Year 12 applicants was strongest in Tasmania (16.8%). This was followed by NSW/ACT (2.7%) and SA/NT (2.2%).
- Offers to non-Year 12 applicants fell by 0.2% nationally. This follows a fall of 2.7% in 2013. In 2014, Tasmania and SA/NT recorded increases in offers to non-Year 12 applicants (43.7% and 4.9% respectively).

Table 5: Offers by Year 12 status, by state and territory, February 2013 and February 2014

State/Territory	Year 12			Non-Year 12		
	2013	2014	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
NSW/ACT	42,177	43,305	2.7%	31,324	30,865	-1.5%
Vic.	36,897	36,647	-0.7%	22,767	21,722	-4.6%
Qld	24,585	24,931	1.4%	22,154	21,599	-2.5%
WA	10,696	10,461	-2.2%	5,278	4,659	-11.7%
SA/NT	10,172	10,393	2.2%	10,121	10,618	4.9%
Tas.	2,371	2,770	16.8%	4,658	6,693	43.7%
Australia	**126,898**	**128,307**	**1.3%**	**96,302**	**96,156**	**-0.2%**

[1] The number of offers increased sharply in Tasmania, due largely to the introduction of a range of health related courses at the University of Tasmania.

- Nationally, applications from Year 12 students were more likely to receive an offer than non-Year 12 students. In 2014, the Year 12 offer rate was 84.4% compared with the non-Year 12 offer rate of 79.2%.
- Offer rates for both Year 12 students and non-Year 12 students increased in 2014. Offer rates for Year 12 students increased by 0.4 percentage points in 2014 and 0.9 percentage points in 2013. Offer rates for non-Year 12 students increased by 0.8 percentage points in 2014 following a decrease of 1.0 percentage point in 2013.
- In 2014, Year 12 offer rates were higher than the non-Year 12 offer rates in all states and territories except Victoria and Tasmania.
- Above-average offer rates to Year 12 applicants were recorded in Queensland (88.5%), NSW/ACT (86.9%) and WA (85.0%) in 2014.

Table 6: Offer rates by Year 12 status, by state and territory, February 2013 and February 2014

State/Territory	Year 12			Non-Year 12		
	2013	2014	Change (p.p)	2013	2014	Change (p.p)
NSW/ACT	85.4%	86.9%	1.5	79.7%	79.9%	0.3
Vic.	83.2%	80.7%	-2.5	82.1%	81.0%	-1.1
Qld	87.2%	88.5%	1.3	77.9%	80.4%	2.4
WA	86.3%	85.0%	-1.3	80.7%	80.8%	0.2
SA/NT	78.5%	79.9%	1.4	74.2%	69.8%	-4.4
Tas.	62.7%	77.9%	15.2	64.6%	81.9%	17.2
Australia	**84.0%**	**84.4%**	**0.4**	**78.4%**	**79.2%**	**0.8**

- In 2014, offers to Year 12 applicants represented 57.2% of total offers, an increase of 0.3 percentage points from 2013.
- WA recorded the highest proportion of offers to Year 12 applicants (69.2%). Tasmania recorded the largest decrease in the proportion of offers to Year 12 applicants (4.5 percentage points) compared with 2013.

Table 7: Proportion of offers to Year 12 applicants by state and territory, February 2013 and February 2014

State/Territory	2013	2014	Change (p.p)
NSW/ACT	57.4%	58.4%	1.0
Vic.	61.8%	62.8%	1.0
Qld	52.6%	53.6%	1.0
WA	67.0%	69.2%	2.2
SA/NT	50.1%	49.5%	-0.7
Tas.	33.7%	29.3%	-4.5
Australia	**56.9%**	**57.2%**	**0.3**

5. Field of Education

Highest preference applications

- The most popular broad field of education (in terms of number of applications) in 2014 was Health (72 951 highest preference applications or 26.6% of all applications). This was followed by Society and Culture (55 537 applications or 20.3% of all applications) and Management and Commerce (34 621 applications or 12.6% of all applications).
- Among all broad fields of education, Natural and Physical Sciences recorded the largest increase in applications (8.3%). This was followed by Health (2.9%) and Management and Commerce (0.4%).
- The largest decrease in applications was recorded in Education (-8.3%), followed by Engineering and Related Technologies (-5.3%).

Offers

- Society and Culture received the largest number of offers (49 764 or 22.2% of total offers). This was followed by Health (48 176 or 21.4% of total offers).
- Among all broad fields of education, Health recorded the largest increase in offers (7.2%). This was followed by Natural and Physical Sciences (6.4%).

Table 8: Highest preference applications and offers by field of education, February 2013 and February 2014

Field of education	Highest Preference Applications			Offers		
	2013	2014	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
Natural and Physical Sciences	24,084	26,090	8.3%	23,936	25,474	6.4%
Information Technology	7,112	6,879	-3.3%	5,919	5,795	-2.1%
Engineering	18,520	17,536	-5.3%	15,698	14,848	-5.4%
Architecture	8,314	7,945	-4.4%	6,023	5,914	-1.8%
Agriculture, Environmental and Related Studies	4,470	4,250	-4.9%	4,519	4,181	-7.5%
Health	70,876	72,951	2.9%	44,920	48,176	7.2%
Education	23,416	21,467	-8.3%	18,891	18,217	-3.6%
Management and Commerce	34,478	34,621	0.4%	31,311	31,976	2.1%
Society and Culture	55,389	55,537	0.3%	51,314	49,764	-3.0%
Creative Arts	25,369	24,967	-1.6%	18,578	18,573	0.0%
Australia	**273,878**	**273,743**	**-0.05%**	**223,200**	**224,663**	**0.7%**

Note: Hospitality and Mixed Field Programs are not shown due to the small number of applications/offers. Hence, the total number of applications/offers does not equal the sum of applications/offers by broad field of education in the above table.

Offer rate

- Among all broad fields of education, Agriculture, Environmental and Related Studies recorded the highest offer rate (98.4%), followed by Natural and Physical Sciences (97.6%).
- Health (66.0%) and Architecture and Creative Arts (both 74.4%) recorded the lowest offer rates in 2014.

Table 9: Offer rates by field of education, February 2013 and February 2014

Field of education	Offer Rate		
	2013	2014	Change (p.p)
Natural and Physical Sciences	99.4%	97.6%	-1.7
Information Technology	83.2%	84.2%	1.0
Engineering	84.8%	84.7%	-0.1
Architecture	72.4%	74.4%	2.0
Agriculture, Environmental and Related Studies	101.1%	98.4%	-2.7
Health	63.4%	66.0%	2.7
Education	80.7%	84.9%	4.2
Management and Commerce	90.8%	92.4%	1.5
Society and Culture	92.6%	89.6%	-3.0
Creative Arts	73.2%	74.4%	1.2
Australia	**81.5%**	**82.1%**	**0.6**

Note: Offer rates are expressed as the number of offers as a percentage of first preference applications. Given that offers may result from lower order preferences, offer rates for fields of education may exceed 100%.

6. Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR)

- In 2014, 69.4% of all offers made to Year 12 applicants were for those with an ATAR of at least 70.05. Offers to Year 12 applicants who achieved an ATAR above 90 accounted for 27.0%.
- The share of offers for applicants in the ATAR band "50.00 or less" has increased from 2.1% in 2011 to 5.5% in 2014.

Table 10: Share of Year 12 offers by ATAR band, February 2011-February 2014

ATAR band	2011	2012	2013	2014
50.00 or less	2.1%	3.0%	4.1%	5.5%
50.05-60.00	8.0%	8.8%	9.2%	9.6%
60.05-70.00	15.7%	15.7%	15.2%	15.5%
70.05-80.00	21.5%	21.2%	20.6%	19.4%
80.05-90.00	24.2%	23.6%	23.5%	22.9%
90.05 or more	28.5%	27.8%	27.4%	27.0%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

- From 2011 to 2014, the likelihood of an applicant with a low ATAR score receiving an offer has recorded a greater increase than an applicant with a higher ATAR score. Offer rates for Year 12 applicants in the ATAR band "50.00 or less" have recorded the largest increase from 18.2% in 2011 to 39.2% in 2014. The offer rates for the top three ATAR bands, while already high, have remained relatively steady.

Figure 1: Year 12 offer rates by ATAR band, February 2011-February 2014

- Natural and Physical Sciences (41.6%) and Engineering (41.5%) recorded a large share of offers made to applicants who achieved an ATAR in the highest band (90.05 or more). This was followed by Society and Culture (27.8%) and Health (27.2%). This reflects the relatively high ATAR entry requirements for courses in these fields.

Table 11: Share of Year 12 offers by ATAR band for each field of education, February 2014

Field of education	50.00 or less	50.05-60.00	60.05-70.00	70.05-80.00	80.05-90.00	90.05 or more	Total
Natural and Physical Sciences	2.4%	4.8%	10.1%	16.0%	25.2%	41.6%	100.0%
Information Technology	7.4%	17.6%	23.1%	23.4%	18.2%	10.3%	100.0%
Engineering	1.4%	3.7%	9.1%	16.7%	27.6%	41.5%	100.0%
Architecture	3.4%	7.2%	15.3%	27.6%	28.8%	17.6%	100.0%
Agriculture, Environmental and Related Studies	4.2%	7.9%	16.1%	24.0%	29.8%	18.1%	100.0%
Health	5.4%	9.9%	16.4%	19.5%	21.7%	27.2%	100.0%
Education	12.0%	15.5%	27.2%	23.9%	15.8%	5.6%	100.0%
Management and Commerce	6.4%	10.9%	16.1%	18.6%	22.3%	25.6%	100.0%
Society and Culture	7.2%	10.9%	14.2%	17.5%	22.4%	27.8%	100.0%
Creative Arts	5.0%	11.0%	19.0%	24.1%	24.3%	16.6%	100.0%
Australia	**5.5%**	**9.6%**	**15.5%**	**19.4%**	**22.9%**	**27.0%**	**100.0%**

7. Under-Represented Groups

Socioeconomic status

- In February 2014, 18.8% of total applications were from applicants from a low socioeconomic status (SES) background, compared with 49.3% for applicants from a medium SES background and 30.3% for applicants from a high SES background (based on the postcode measure of SES[2]). To be represented in proportion to their share in the population, low and high SES applicants would each need to constitute 25.0% of the pool of applicants, with medium SES applicants constituting the remaining 50.0%.
- In 2014, applicants from a low SES background have shown the largest increase (0.9%) compared with those from a medium SES background (0.4%) and a high SES background (-1.0%).

Table 12: Applications and Offers by socioeconomic status, February 2013 and February 2014

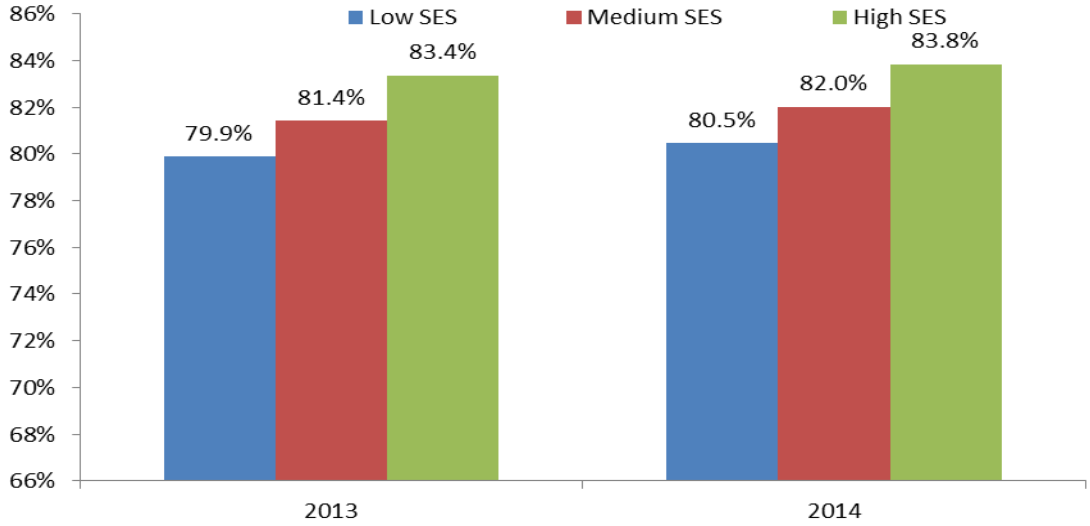
SES	Applications			Offers		
	2013	2014	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
Low	50,907	51,342	0.9%	40,668	41,310	1.6%
Medium	134,467	135,052	0.4%	109,492	110,758	1.2%
High	83,749	82,933	-1.0%	69,811	69,527	-0.4%
Total*	**273,878**	**273,743**	**-0.05%**	**223,200**	**224,663**	**0.7%**

* The Australia total includes data that could not be coded to an SES value.

- Since 2013, offers to applicants from a low SES background have also shown the largest increase (1.6%) compared with offers to applicants from a medium SES background (1.2%) and high SES background (-0.4%).
- However, applicants from a low SES background were less likely to receive an offer. Their offer rate was 80.5% compared with 82.0% for applicants from a medium SES background and 83.8% for applicants from a high SES background in 2014.

[2] SES in this report is based on the students' postcode of permanent home residence, with the SES value derived from the 2011 ABS Socio-Economic Index for Areas (SEIFA) Index of Education and Occupation (IEO) (2013 SES figures might differ from those published in The Demand Driven System: Undergraduate Applications and Offers, February 2013 report, which derived SES values from the 2006 ABS SEIFA IEO). The postcode measure of SES provides an indication of the level of disadvantage of an applicant by providing data on the disadvantage associated with the geographical area (postcode) of the applicant's home address. The postcode measure uses a population reference point of 25% for low SES. The postcodes that comprise the bottom 25% of the population aged between 15 to 64 years are considered low SES postcodes. Applicants with home address in low SES postcodes are classified as applicants from a low SES background. Applicants with residential addresses outside Australia, and Australian resident applicants with postcodes that do not have SEIFA values are classified as 'unknown'.

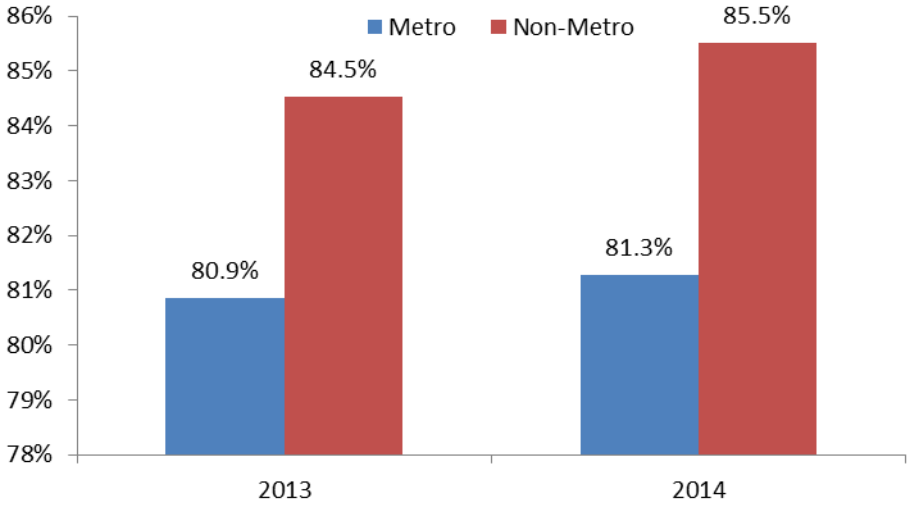
Figure 2: Offer rates by socioeconomic status, February 2013 and February 2014



Regional status3

- Over three quarters of applications (75.4%) were from applicants living in metropolitan areas in 2014.
- In 2014, applications from metropolitan residents increased by 0.5%, while applications from non-metropolitan residents decreased by 1.2%.
- Offers made to metropolitan applicants increased by 1.0% compared with a small increase of 0.01% in offers made to non-metropolitan applicants.
- Applications from non-metropolitan residents were more likely to result in an offer compared with applications from metropolitan residents, 85.5% compared with 81.3% respectively.
- In 2014, offer rates for both metropolitan and non-metropolitan applicants increased from 80.9% to 81.3% and from 84.5% to 85.5% respectively.

Figure 3: Offer rates by region, February 2013 and February 2014

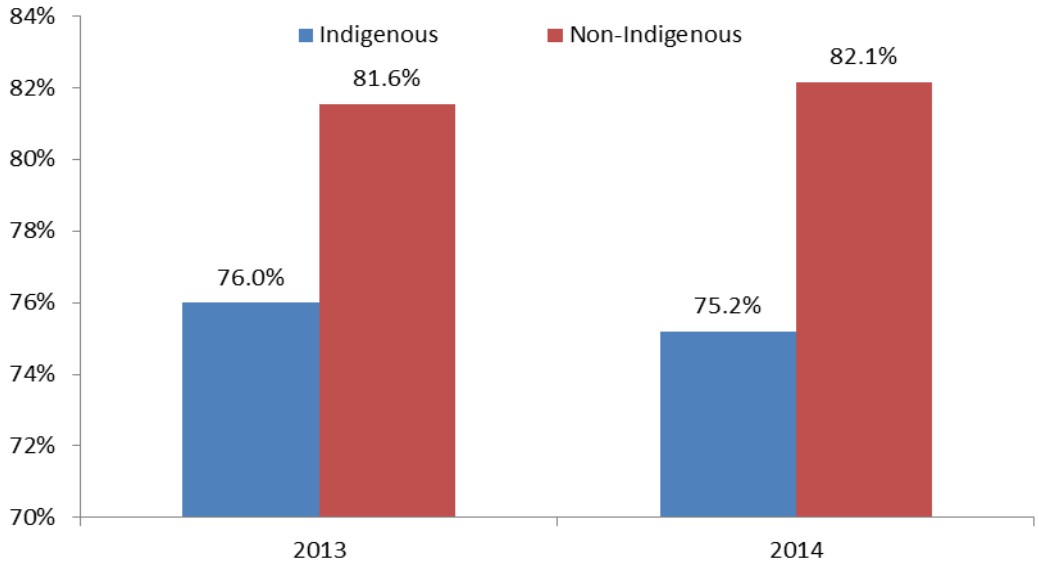


[3] Applicants' postcode of permanent home residence has been used to construct indicators of applicants' geographic region. To categorise applicants, postcodes are assigned to two groups (metropolitan and non-metropolitan) based on the ABS Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS). Geographic designations for 2013 might vary from those that appear in the previous year's publication, which derived location from the Ministerial Council on Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs (MCEETYA) classification of regions.

Indigenous status

- Nationally, there were 3884 applications from applicants who identified as Indigenous (Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, or both). This represents 1.4% of all applications received by TACs.
- Nationally, 2921 offers were made to Indigenous applicants.
- As of 27 February 2014, just over three quarters (75.2%) of Indigenous applicants had received an offer. This is a decrease of 0.8 percentage points compared with the same period last year. The offer rate for non-Indigenous applicants was 82.1% in 2014, an increase of 0.5 percentage points over 2013.

Figure 4: Offer rates by Indigenous status, February 2013 and February 2014



8. University Group

Highest preference applications

- Applications to the Australian Technology Network (ATN) universities and the Group of Eight (Go8) universities recorded an increase of 1.5% and 0.3% respectively in 2014.
- Applications decreased among the Innovative Research Universities (IRU) and Regional Universities Network (RUN) universities, by 3.2% and 3.3% respectively.

Offers

- The RUN universities recorded the largest increase in offers (4.6%) in 2014, followed by ATN universities (2.9%).

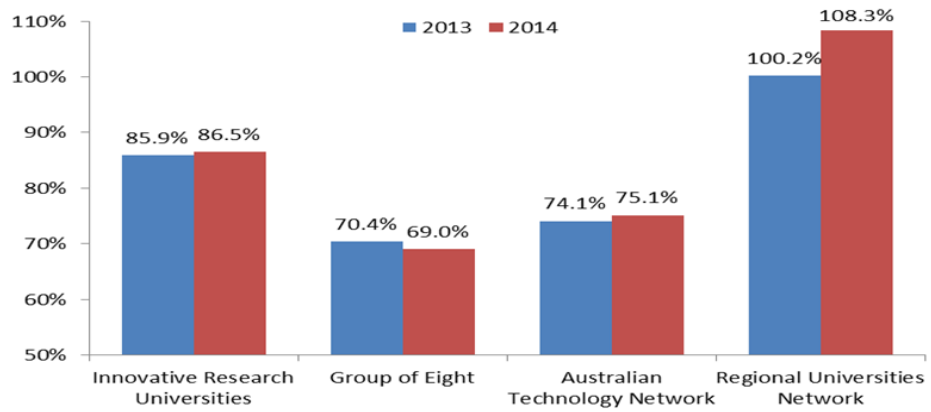
Table 13: Highest preference applications and offers by university group, February 2013 and February 2014

Type of university	Highest Preference Applications			Offers		
	2013	2014	% Change	2013	2014	% Change
Australian Technology Network (ATN)	53,469	54,262	1.5%	39,621	40,753	2.9%
Group of Eight (Go8)	84,943	85,205	0.3%	59,779	58,788	-1.7%
Innovative Research Universities (IRU)	47,663	46,123	-3.2%	40,955	39,915	-2.5%
Regional Universities Network (RUN)	14,578	14,099	-3.3%	14,601	15,275	4.6%
Australia	**273,878**	**273,743**	**-0.05%**	**223,200**	**224,663**	**0.7%**

Offer rates

- Applications to Go8 and ATN universities were less likely to receive an offer in 2014 (offer rates of 69.0% and 75.1% respectively), reflecting the higher entry requirements at these universities. Figure 5 shows the offer rates by university group.
- Offer rates increased at RUN universities (up 8.1 percentage points to 108.3%), at ATN universities (up 1.0 percentage point to 75.1%) and the IRU universities (up 0.6 percentage points to 86.5%).
- The offer rate at Go8 universities declined by 1.4 percentage points to 69.0 per cent in 2014.

Figure 5: Offer rates by university group, February 2013 and February 2014



Note: Offer rates are expressed as the number of offers as a percentage of first preference applications. Given that offers may result from lower order preferences, offer rates for university groups may exceed 100%.

9. Data Qualifications

The data referred to in this report are for highest preference applications and offers for domestic undergraduate university places through TACs as at 27 February 2014. This data represents approximately 99.4% of final highest preference applications data and 99.3% of final offers data in 2013 (based on analysis of 2013 third round submissions data).

It should be noted that:

- Applications and offers data in this report refer to TAC data only. More comprehensive comparisons, including direct applications and offers, will be incorporated in the final report.
- Only applications made to Table A institutions are included in the analysis.
- The data does not include applications from overseas students.
- All references to "applications" in this report relate to highest preference applications.
- A small proportion of applicants make applications to more than one TAC resulting in some double counting of applicants.
- "State and territory" in this report refers to state and territory of the Tertiary Admissions Centre.
- All references to "2014" in this report relate to the 2014 third round submission reference date of 27 February 2014.
- Unless otherwise specified, all references to "2013" in this report relate to the 2013 third round submission reference date of 22 February 2013.
- Reference dates for Tasmanian applications and offers data may vary from year to year. Hence, data may not be directly comparable across years.
- All references to "Year 12" applicants in this report relate to applicants who attempted an ACACA Year 12 program or the International Baccalaureate in the year of application.
- While completing Year 12 and gaining a tertiary entrance score is the most common way to gain entry to university, TACs and universities take a number of other qualifications into consideration, particularly for adults applying who have not recently completed Year 12. Some pathways to gaining entry to a university degree include sitting the Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT), articulating from certificate and/or diploma level studies in vocational education and training (VET), university bridging or foundation programs and previous higher education (completed or commenced).

10. Glossary

Australasian Curriculum Assessment Certification Authorities (ACACA) Year 12 programs: Each State has its own approved Year 12 program. ACACA is the national body responsible for monitoring senior secondary curricula and certification in Australia and New Zealand. The current programs by State are: NSW Higher School Certificate, ACT Year 12 Certificate, Queensland Certificate of Education, Queensland Senior Certificate, South Australian Certificate of Education, Northern Territory Certificate of Education, Tasmanian Certificate of Education, Victorian Certificate of Education, Western Australian Certificate of Education. ACACA Year 12 programs may be undertaken in schools, VET institutions or higher education providers.

Current Year 12 applicant: An applicant who attempted an ACACA Year 12 program or the International Baccalaureate in the year of application.

Offer rate: The offer rate is a percentage calculated as the number of valid offers made to applicants with at least one valid preference divided by the number of applicants with at least one valid preference.

University Group

Australian Technology Network

Curtin University of Technology
Queensland University of Technology
RMIT University
University of South Australia
University of Technology, Sydney

Group of Eight

Monash University
The Australian National University
The University of Adelaide
The University of Melbourne
The University of New South Wales
The University of Queensland
The University of Sydney
The University of Western Australia

Innovative Research Universities

Charles Darwin University
Flinders University of South Australia
Griffith University
James Cook University
La Trobe University
Murdoch University
The University of Newcastle

Regional Universities Network

Central Queensland University
Southern Cross University
Federation University Australia
University of New England
University of Southern Queensland

Note: The following Table A universities are not aligned to a university group: Australian Catholic University; Charles Sturt University; Deakin University; Edith Cowan University; Macquarie University; Swinburne University of Technology; University of Canberra; University of Tasmania; University of Western Sydney; University of Wollongong; and Victoria University.