



## Fields of Education in the Vocational Education and Training (VET) sector

The Field of Education<sup>1</sup> classification was introduced in the AEI International Student Data with the release of the year-to-date January 2008 data. The classification has also been applied to historical AEI data. This snapshot outlines some key analyses that can be made for the VET sector using this new approach.

### At the broad level

In 2007<sup>2</sup>, four in five (79.9%) of all international student enrolments<sup>3</sup> in the VET sector were in the top three fields of education:

- 57.5% in Management and Commerce;
- 13.6% in Food, Hospitality and Services; and
- 8.8% in Society and Culture.

Enrolments across all Broad Fields of Education experienced growth between 2005 and 2007. Of the top three broad fields, Food, Hospitality and Personal Services grew the most (212.9%) between 2005 and 2007. Management and Commerce grew 83.5%; and Society and Culture grew 86.2%.

### At the detailed level

#### Management and Commerce

The largest proportion of enrolments was in Hospitality Management where there has been a three-fold increase in enrolments between 2005 and 2007. India and China accounted for the largest proportion of enrolments in Hospitality Management. The growth from India was strong at 658.3%. Although from a much smaller base, enrolments from Nepal also grew strongly.

Enrolments in Business and Management, the next largest detailed field grew 16.4% between 2005 and 2007. One in five enrolments

were from China although growth from this market has been small. There was strong growth from Thailand (181.0%) and Brazil (78.6%).

#### Food, Hospitality and Personal Services

In 2007, more than three-quarters of enrolments in this broad field were in Cookery and Hairdressing. Growth between 2005 and 2007 was very strong for both detailed fields, accounting for most of the growth in Food, Hospitality and Personal Services. However, overall enrolments in Cookery and Hairdressing accounted for just 6.2% and 4.4% respectively of all enrolments in VET in 2007.

Most enrolments in Cookery were from India although the growth from China, the second largest market, was stronger. Although from smaller bases, enrolments from the Republic of Korea and Nepal also grew strongly.

Most enrolments in Hairdressing were from China; however the growth from India, the second largest market, was particularly strong.

#### Society and Culture

Half of all enrolments in this broad field were in Welfare Studies and Religious Studies. In 2007, 70.6% of enrolments in Welfare Studies were from India, up from just 5.8% in 2005. Most of this growth occurred in 2007. China was the next largest market in this detailed field, followed by Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Half of all enrolments in Religious Studies were from the United States of America and Canada. The field of Sports Coaching and Officiating is the third largest in Society and Culture. The growth in this field has come from Brazil and the Czech Republic.

International student enrolments in VET: Top 3 Fields of Education, 2005 to 2007

Broad Field Of Education	Detailed Field Of Education	Year			Growth on 2005	Per cent of 2007
		2005	2006	2007		
Management and Commerce	Hospitality Management	9,356	16,768	30,036	221.0%	25.1%
	Business and Management	12,905	14,304	19,638	52.2%	16.4%
	Other Detailed Fields of Education	15,213	16,746	19,109	25.6%	16.0%
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>37,474</b>	<b>47,818</b>	<b>68,783</b>	<b>83.5%</b>	<b>57.5%</b>
Food, Hospitality and Personal Services	Cookery	1,929	4,038	7,378	282.5%	6.2%
	Hairdressing	1,546	2,881	5,290	242.2%	4.4%
	Baking and Pastry-making	503	1,264	1,887	275.1%	1.6%
	Other Detailed Fields of Education	1,224	1,351	1,721	40.6%	1.4%
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>5,202</b>	<b>9,534</b>	<b>16,276</b>	<b>212.9%</b>	<b>13.6%</b>
Society and Culture	Welfare Studies	325	853	2,700	730.8%	2.3%
	Religious Studies	2,003	2,307	2,529	26.3%	2.1%
	Sports Coaching, Officiating	530	964	1,513	185.5%	1.3%
	Other Detailed Fields of Education	2,781	2,484	3,757	35.1%	3.1%
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>5,639</b>	<b>6,608</b>	<b>10,499</b>	<b>86.2%</b>	<b>8.8%</b>
Other Broad Fields of Education	Other Detailed Fields of Education	17,222	18,498	24,064	39.7%	20.1%
<b>Total</b>		<b>65,537</b>	<b>82,458</b>	<b>119,622</b>	<b>82.5%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

<sup>1</sup> Classification based on the 'Australian Standard Classification of Education (ASCED), 2001' (ABS Catalogue No. 1272.0).

<sup>2</sup> Calculated from the February 2008 AEI International Student Data pivot table.

<sup>3</sup> AEI data on enrolments relate only to international students in Australia on a student visa.

More information is available at: <http://aei.dest.gov.au/AEI/MIP/Statistics/Default.htm>.