

Our universities make an enormous contribution to Australia's economic & social prosperity

The work of our 39 universities drives economic growth, extends the frontiers of knowledge, makes life-saving breakthroughs and helps the nation to transition in an era of sweeping digital disruption.

In coming years, Australia will need to create new jobs and new industries to replace the 40 per cent of jobs tipped to disappear within two decades.

To make the dramatic economic transformation ahead, we will rely even more heavily on the research breakthroughs and highly-skilled graduates produced by our world class universities.



Universities Australia is the voice of Australia's universities

Member
Universities



To learn more about the extraordinary contribution of Australian university education and research, visit universitiesaustralia.edu.au and keepitclever.com.au

We encourage you to share this success story widely with your networks.

UNIVERSITIES AUSTRALIA

**AUSTRALIA'S WORLD CLASS
UNIVERSITY SYSTEM:
AT A GLANCE**



UNIVERSITIES
AUSTRALIA

UNIVERSITIES

AUSTRALIA is the voice of 39 outstanding Australian universities



\$140b



Powering Australia's economy

Universities directly contributed \$25 billion to our GDP in 2013 and the skills of our **graduates were worth \$140 billion** to the economy in 2014.

\$160b



Bigger than mining

The total value of Australian university research is estimated at **\$160 billion** – more than the entire value of Australia's mining industry.

120,000 FULL-TIME STAFF



A major employer

Universities employ over **120,000 full-time equivalent staff** and help support another **40,000 jobs** in the broader economy.



LIFTING WAGES & LIVING STANDARDS

Transforming lives

Every day, more than a billion people around the world rely on Australian university research discoveries that improve their lives. The national income from such innovations helps to **lift wages and living standards** for Australians. For **every 1000 new graduates** entering the workforce, **120 new jobs** are created for people without a degree. The wages of people without a degree are boosted by **\$655 a year** (or **\$12.60 a week**) when more graduates join the national workforce.

1.3m STUDENTS



Skilling Australia

In 2015, there were over **1.3 million university students** and 300,000 skilled graduates to meet the workforce needs of a rapidly changing economy.

89%

World-leading research

Australia produces 3.9 per cent of the world's research with only 0.3 per cent of the world's population. In the latest Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) rankings, **89 per cent** of Australia's university research areas were rated as **at or above world standard**, with 62 per cent above world standard. Outstanding university research has enabled us to achieve national research strengths in **43 research areas**.

\$10b/YEAR



Innovation powerhouse

University research has **added \$10 billion to Australia's GDP each year for the last 30 years** – equivalent to one-third of the growth in our living standards over those three decades.

6,700 INVENTIONS



Industry collaboration

Australian universities have listed **around 6,000 inventions** online at SourcelP, enabling business to use them in industry to improve processes and profitability. Half of university research income comes from industry and other users of research.

\$24b/YEAR



A major export

International education is **Australia's third largest export** and our largest services sector export, generating income of **\$24 billion** a year and underpinning Australia's research, trade, investment and diplomatic engagement with the world.

\$2b/YEAR



The lifeblood of regional economies

Universities contribute over **\$2 billion each year** to Australia's regional economies and sustain over **14,000 regional jobs**.

3.8m GRADUATES



Graduate demand keeps growing

Australia's economy will need another **3.8 million skilled graduates** in the next decade. Growth sectors such as education, training and health care are projected to need at least 30 per cent more skilled graduates by 2025.

TOP 5%



Recognised for excellence

Australia's world class university system is in the top 5 per cent of the world in 2017-18.

- * The QS World University Rankings had 7 Australian universities in the **top 100**, 9 in the **top 200** and 20 in the **top 400** universities globally.
- * The Times Higher Education World Rankings had 24 Australian universities in the **top 400** universities globally. Australia also had 17 universities in the **top 100** universities aged under 50 years.
- * The Academic Ranking of World Universities from Shanghai Jiao Tong University has 21 Australian universities in the **top 400** globally.

9,171

GLOBAL AGREEMENTS



Globally connected

There are now **9,171 formal agreements** (up from 4,485 in 2003) between Australian universities and their global counterparts, **enabling crucial research collaborations** and the exchange of students and staff. These include 1,402 in China, 996 in the US, 558 in Germany, 568 in Japan and 441 in France. Through Universities Australia, the sector also has major country-to-country agreements with China, Japan, India, the US, the UK, Canada, Germany, Switzerland, France, Spain, Israel, Peru, Colombia and Brazil.