

Overseas Student Enrolments, 2020

In 2020 there were 1,699 overseas students enrolled in independent schools in Queensland, a significant decrease of 228 students from 1,927 overseas students in 2019. This followed relative stability in overseas enrolments from 2018 to 2019. Overseas students were enrolled in 81 schools in 2020, compared to 80 schools catering for overseas students in 2019.

In 2020 there were 105 more overseas students enrolled in Years 1 to 12 than there were enrolled in Prep to Year 11 in 2019 (who became the Year 1 to Year 12 cohort in 2020). This is lowest annual net gain achieved in recent years, with net gains having decreased consistently from a peak net gain of 513 students in 2015-16.

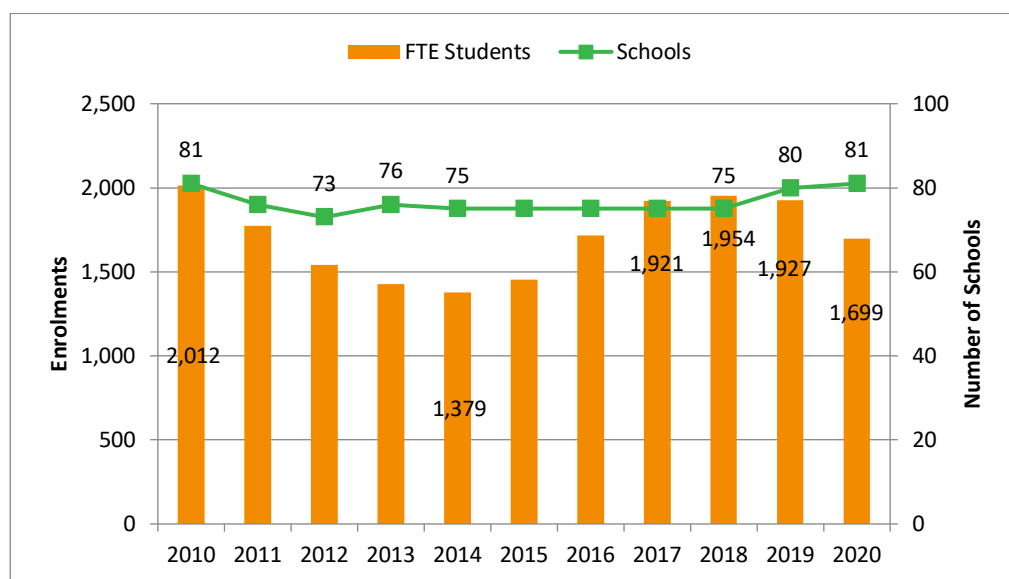
Just over half of schools (55%) that enrolled overseas students enrolled less than 10 overseas students, together catering for 9% of overseas student enrolments. Thirteen schools enrolled at least 50 overseas students, together accounting for 61% of overseas students.

Schools located in Brisbane City, Gold Coast City, Logan City and Ipswich City accounted for 87% of overseas students attending independent schools.

Enrolments

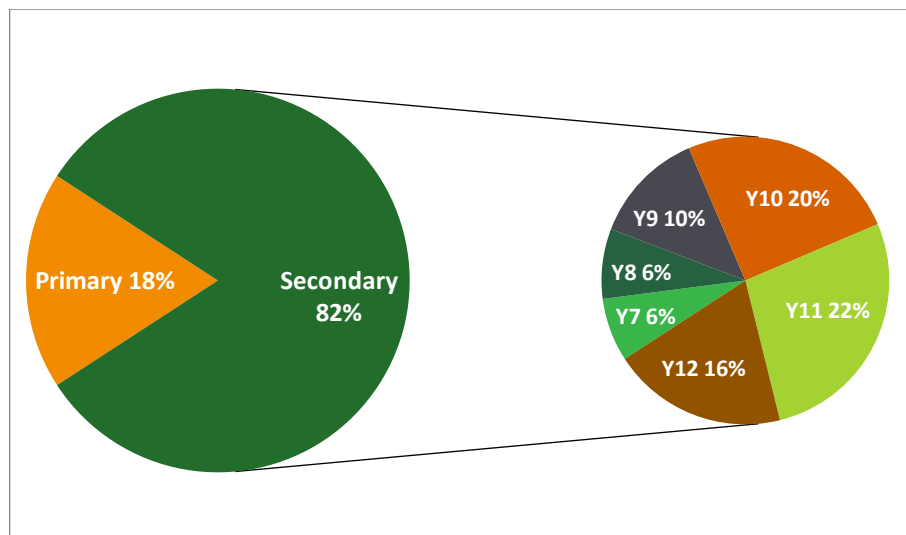
In 2020 there were 1,699 overseas students enrolled in 81 independent schools, an 11.8% decrease from 2019 when there were 1,927 overseas students enrolled. This decrease follows relative stability from 2017 to 2019 (refer Figure 1). As there were 222 independent schools in 2020, approximately 36% of independent schools catered for overseas students.

Figure 1: Overseas Student Enrolments and Number of Providers - Queensland Independent Schools, 2010-20



Most overseas students were enrolled in secondary year levels, with 82% of overseas students enrolled in Years 7-12 in 2020 (refer Figure 2).

Figure 2: Proportion of Overseas Student Enrolments by Year Level, 2020



Highest enrolment levels in 2020 were in Year 11, with 382 overseas students enrolled. These students represented 22% of all overseas students (refer Figure 2 and Table 1). Next highest enrolments were in Year 10, with 347 students (20% of overseas students), followed by Year 12 with 273 students (16% of overseas students).

With the exception of Prep, Year 6 and Year 7, enrolments in each year level in 2020 was lower than evidenced in 2019 (refer Table 1). Prep enrolments remained unchanged from 2019 to 2020, while Year 6 and Year 7 enrolments, respectively, were 12 and 16 higher in 2020 than in 2019.

Table 1: Independent School Overseas Enrolment History by Year Level, 2015-20

Year	Prep	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Y12	TOTAL
2015	23	28	16	32	30	33	37	54	86	130	313	392	280	1,454
2016	29	15	25	21	32	39	44	68	90	198	403	449	303	1,716
2017	19	24	24	35	37	37	43	73	120	190	445	494	380	1,921
2018	23	31	42	36	47	41	60	77	104	233	425	481	354	1,954
2019	23	40	40	42	49	74	64	83	116	182	425	433	356	1,927
2020	23	28	39	38	47	61	76	99	109	177	347	382	273	1,699

Number of Schools

Despite enrolments decreasing by 228 students from 2019 to 2020, the number of schools servicing overseas enrolments increased from 80 schools to 81 schools. In 2015 there were 75 schools catering for overseas students.

Since 2015 there have been 105 schools that have enrolled overseas students, half of these schools (53 schools) have consistently enrolled overseas students each year.

Trends in Apparent Progression

Apparent progression rates identify the net gain or net loss in students entering or leaving the school by year level, each year.

For example, in 2020 there were 105 more overseas students enrolled in Years 1 to 12 than there were overseas students in Prep to Year 11 in 2019 (who became the Year 1 to Year 12 cohort in 2020). This is lowest level of net gain achieved over the five-year timeframe from 2015 to 2020, with net gains decreasing consistently from a peak of 513 students in 2015-16.

The highest net gain in 2020 was from Year 9 to Year 10, with a net gain of 165 overseas students into Year 10. This reflects a 191% increase over Year 9 enrolments in 2019 (refer Table 2 and Table 3 below). Next highest net gain was into Year 9 in 2020, with 61 more Year 9 students enrolled in 2020 than the number of Year 8 students enrolled in 2019 (a 153% increase).

Table 2: Apparent Overseas Student Progression (Numbers), 2015-20

	P-1	Y1-2	Y2-3	Y3-4	Y4-5	Y5-6	Y6-7	Y7-8	Y8-9	Y9-10	Y10-11	Y11-12	NET GAIN
2015-16	-8	-3	5	0	9	11	31	36	112	273	136	-89	513
2016-17	-5	9	10	16	5	4	29	52	100	247	91	-69	489
2017-18	12	18	12	12	4	23	34	31	113	235	36	-140	390
2018-19	17	9	0	13	27	23	23	39	78	192	8	-125	304
2019-20	5	-1	-2	5	12	2	35	26	61	165	-43	-60	105

Table 3: Apparent Overseas Student Progression (Proportion), 2015-20

	Y6-7	Y7-8	Y8-9	Y9-10	Y10-11	Y11-12
2015-16	184%	167%	230%	310%	143%	77%
2016-17	166%	176%	211%	225%	123%	85%
2017-18	179%	142%	194%	224%	108%	72%
2018-19	138%	151%	175%	182%	102%	74%
2019-20	155%	131%	153%	191%	90%	63%

For the first time in-migration from Year 10 to Year 11 was below 100% over the five-year period from 2015 to 2020, with 43 fewer students in Year 11 than were in the Year 10 cohort in 2019. Progression rates from Year 10 to Year 11 have decreased consistently during the past five years.

The number of Year 12 students in 2020 represented an apparent progression of 63% of students enrolled in Year 11 in 2019 (refer Table 3). This reflects schools having enrolled 60 fewer Year 12 students in 2020 than Year 11 students in 2019. This is the lowest Year 11-12 progression rate evidenced in the five-year timeframe.

Size of Overseas Enrolments in Schools

In 2020, overseas student enrolments at individual Queensland independent schools ranged from one (1) student to 199 students.

Most schools that enrolled overseas students (55%) enrolled less than 10 overseas students; with 38% of schools enrolling less than 5 overseas students and another 17% of schools enrolling from 5 to less than 10 overseas students (refer Table 4). These schools catered for only 9% of overseas student enrolments.

Only 13 schools enrolled at least 50 overseas students, together accounting for 61% of overseas students.

Table 4: Overseas Students Enrolments by Size, 2020

Number of Overseas Students	Schools		Students	
	No.	%	No.	%
<5 Students	31	38%	68	4%
5-<10 Students	14	17%	90	5%
10-<25 Students	13	16%	199	12%
25-<50 Students	10	12%	314	18%
50-<100 Students	11	14%	709	42%
100-<200 Students	2	2%	319	19%
Total	81	100%	1,699	100%

Location of Schools

Distribution

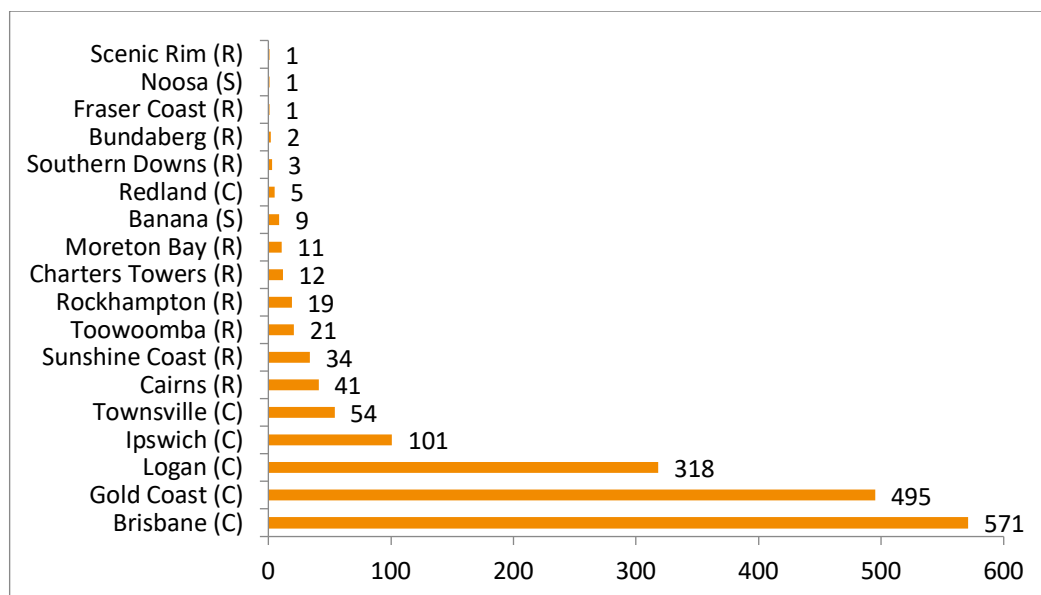
In 2020 schools catering for overseas students were distributed across 18 local government areas (LGAs) in Queensland, most of these schools are in South-East Queensland (refer Figure 3).

Brisbane City had the highest number of schools catering for overseas students in 2020 (21 schools) and the highest number of overseas students enrolled (571 students), followed closely by Gold Coast City which had 76 fewer students enrolled than Brisbane City in 2020 (495 students in 12 schools). Next highest number of overseas students were in schools located in Logan City (318 students in 4 schools), followed by Ipswich City (101 students in 5 schools). These four LGAs within South-east Queensland accounted for 87% of overseas students enrolled in independent schools.

Outside of South-East Queensland the highest number of overseas students were in Townsville City (54 students in 5 schools) and Cairns Regional Council areas (41 students in 3 schools).

The only other LGAs to cater for at least 20 overseas students were Sunshine Coast (34 students in 9 schools) and Toowoomba (21 students in 4 schools).

Figure 3: Overseas Students by School LGA, 2020



Change

Since 2015 highest growth over the five-year period occurred in schools located in Brisbane City (+133 students), followed by Gold Coast City (+111 students), Ipswich City (+33 students) and Sunshine Coast Region (+18 students) (refer Table 5). Conversely, the two main LGAs that have evidenced a decline in enrolments over this period were Cairns Region (-38 students) and Toowoomba Region (-12 students) (refer Table 5).

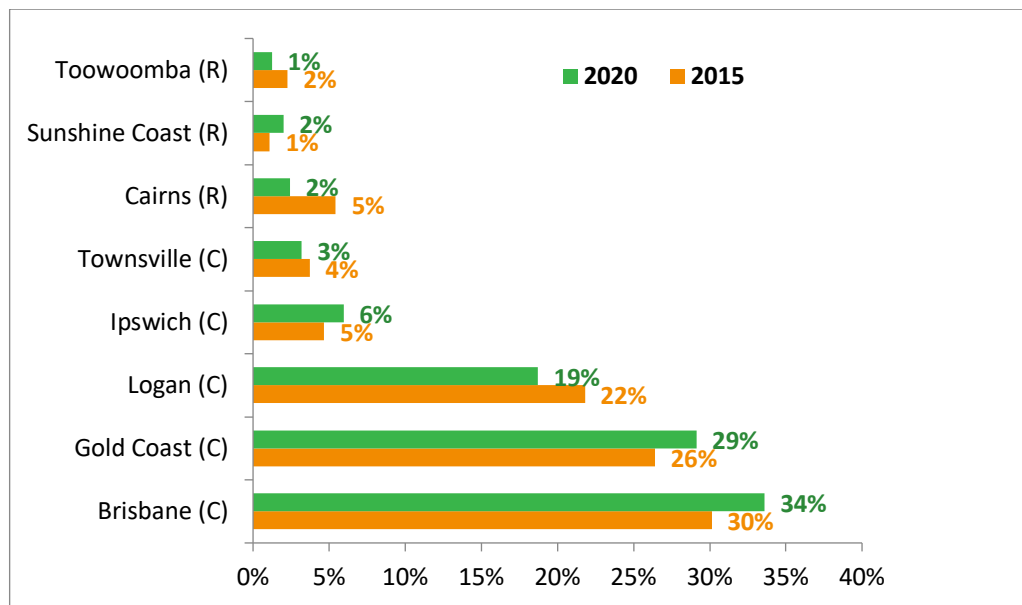
Table 5: Main LGA Overseas Enrolment Histories, 2015-20

LGA	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Increase 2015-20	Increase 2019-20
Brisbane (C)	438	528	540	587	588	571	133	-17
Gold Coast (C)	384	446	526	573	587	495	111	-92
Logan (C)	317	402	470	432	375	318	1	-57
Ipswich (C)	68	95	109	97	104	101	33	-3
Townsville (C)	54	72	72	74	69	54	0	-15
Cairns (R)	79	69	66	53	47	41	-38	-6
Sunshine Coast (R)	16	15	24	42	49	34	18	-15
Toowoomba (R)	33	29	36	33	36	21	-12	-15

In the past year from 2019 to 2020, all of the main LGAs evidenced decline, with the majority of the decline (65%) attributed to Gold Coast City (-92 students) and Logan City (-57 students) (refer Table 5 above).

As a result of different patterns of growth across the main LGAs in the 2015 to 2020 period, Cairns Region and Logan City reduced in importance over this timeframe, while Brisbane City and Gold Coast City have increased in importance (refer Figure 4). Ipswich City, Townsville City, Sunshine Coast Region and Toowoomba Region schools have retained similar market share levels of overseas students attending independent schools.

Figure 4: Proportion of Overseas Student Enrolments by Main LGAs, 2015 and 2020



Market Share

Between Catholic and independent schools, independent schools are the largest enroller of overseas students.

In 2020 independent schools catered for approximately 88% of all overseas students attending non-government schools compared to 12% in the Catholic sector.

Independent schools market share has increased to 88% up from 86% in both 2018 and 2019.

Figure 5: Overseas Student Enrolments, Sector Share, 2020

