

FACT SHEET

Highest Level of Education (all persons aged 15 years and over)

Australia

	2011			2006		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Postgraduate Degree	631,121 (3.6%)	53.6%	46.4%	413,093 (2.6%)	57.1%	42.9%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate	297,282 (1.7%)	36.6%	63.4%	228,553 (1.4%)	37.1%	62.9%
Bachelor Degree	2,340,509 (13.5%)	44.1%	55.9%	1,840,663 (11.6%)	44.9%	55.1%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma	1,393,049 (8.0%)	42.7%	57.3%	1,130,468 (7.1%)	42.5%	57.5%
Certificate III/IV	2,653,126 (15.3%)	70.4%	29.6%	2,218,372 (13.9%)	74.2%	25.8%
Year 12	2,883,589 (16.6%)	46.8%	53.2%	2,570,380 (16.1%)	46.5%	53.5%
Year 11 or below (includes Certificate I/II/nfd)	4,998,113 (28.8%)	43.6%	56.4%	5,155,221 (32.4%)	42.7%	57.3%
Total persons	17,363,696 (100.0%)	49.0%	51.0%	15,918,080 (100.0%)	48.9%	51.1%

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- In 2011, there was a significant increase in the number of persons who reported completing a Postgraduate Degree. This increased from 413,093 in 2006 to 631,121 in 2011 (a 52.8% increase).
- There has also been a significant increase in numbers of those who reported completing a Graduate Diploma or Graduate Certificate as their highest level of education. This increased from 228,553 in 2006 to 297,282 in 2011 (an increase of 30.1%).
- There was a significant increase (27.2%) in the number of persons who reported completing a Bachelor Degree as their highest level of education, from 1,840,663 in 2006 to 2,340,509 in 2011.
- The proportion of those who reported Year 12 as their highest level of qualification increased by 12.2% from 2,570,380 persons in 2006 to 2,883,589 persons in 2011.
- There has been a decline in the number of persons who reported Year 11 and below (including Certificate level I/II) as their highest level of education, from 5,155,221 in 2006 to 4,998,113 in 2011.
- A higher proportion of females than males reported their highest level of education as Graduate Diploma or Graduate Certificate, Bachelor Degree and Advanced Diploma or Diploma (63.4%, 55.9% and 57.3% respectively).
- Of those who reported completing Certificate III/IV as their highest level of education, a higher proportion were males (70.4%).



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For a brighter future

FACT SHEET

Highest Level of Education (all persons aged 15 years and over)

States and Territories

New South Wales

	2011			2006		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Postgraduate Degree	238,853 (4.3%)	53.5%	46.5%	162,916 (3.1%)	56.6%	43.4%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate	82,616 (1.5%)	37.7%	62.3%	65,829 (1.3%)	37.2%	62.8%
Bachelor Degree	787,335 (14.1%)	44.9%	55.1%	635,027 (12.1%)	46.0%	54.0%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma	462,060 (8.3%)	42.1%	57.9%	387,653 (7.4%)	41.2%	58.8%
Certificate III/IV	819,782 (14.7%)	70.3%	29.7%	718,478 (13.7%)	74.4%	25.6%
Year 12	883,963 (15.8%)	47.7%	52.3%	804,097 (15.3%)	47.5%	52.5%
Year 11 or below (includes Certificate I/II/nfd)	1,577,920 (28.3%)	43.0%	57.0%	1,649,800 (31.4%)	42.1%	57.9%
Total persons	5,585,148 (100.0%)	48.8%	51.2%	5,250,260 (100.0%)	48.8%	51.2%

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Victoria

	2011			2006		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Postgraduate Degree	170,380 (3.9%)	53.0%	47.0%	108,122 (2.7%)	57.3%	42.7%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate	95,353 (2.2%)	35.8%	64.2%	74,048 (1.9%)	36.3%	63.7%
Bachelor Degree	641,216 (14.7%)	44.5%	55.5%	502,514 (12.6%)	44.9%	55.1%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma	364,758 (8.4%)	43.8%	56.2%	289,645 (7.3%)	43.4%	56.6%
Certificate III/IV	611,193 (14.0%)	70.1%	29.9%	516,488 (13.0%)	74.1%	25.9%
Year 12	730,258 (16.8%)	46.6%	53.4%	650,896 (16.3%)	46.1%	53.95%
Year 11 or below (includes Certificate I/II/nfd)	1,208,773 (27.8%)	44.0%	56.0%	1,254,285 (31.5%)	43.1%	56.9%
Total persons	4,355,244 (100.0%)	48.7%	51.3%	3,982,038 (100.0%)	48.5%	51.5%

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Highest Level of Education (all persons aged 15 years and over)

States and Territories

Queensland

	2011			2006		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Postgraduate Degree	94,645 (2.7%)	53.1%	46.9%	60,399 (1.9%)	56.3%	43.7%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate	49,477 (1.4%)	36.1%	63.9%	36,177 (1.2%)	37.2%	62.8%
Bachelor Degree	404,771 (11.7%)	42.1%	57.9%	309,327 (10.0%)	42.9%	57.1%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma	260,780 (7.5%)	41.7%	58.3%	204,041 (6.6%)	42.7%	57.3%
Certificate III/IV	589,002 (17.0%)	70.6%	29.4%	471,771 (15.2%)	74.5%	25.5%
Year 12	614,440 (17.8%)	45.9%	54.1%	538,796 (17.4%)	45.8%	54.2%
Year 11 or below (includes Certificate I/II/nfd)	1,026,518 (29.7%)	43.3%	56.7%	1,041,162 (33.6%)	42.6%	57.4%
Total persons	3,456,874 (100.0%)	49.1%	50.9%	3,097,997 (100.0%)	49.1%	50.9%

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South Australia

	2011			2006		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Postgraduate Degree	36,000 (2.7%)	54.2%	45.8%	22,896 (1.9%)	58.1%	41.9%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate	20,273 (1.5%)	36.2%	63.8%	16,099 (1.3%)	37.5%	62.5%
Bachelor Degree	152,187 (11.6%)	43.1%	56.9%	120,978 (9.8%)	44.1%	55.9%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma	95,692 (7.3%)	43.3%	56.7%	79,698 (6.5%)	44.2%	55.8%
Certificate III/IV	205,850 (15.7%)	69.4%	30.6%	176,067 (14.3%)	73.0%	27.0%
Year 12	214,069 (16.3%)	45.9%	54.1%	195,335 (15.8%)	45.3%	54.7%
Year 11 or below (includes Certificate I/II/nfd)	435,091 (33.2%)	44.5%	55.5%	458,605 (37.2%)	43.6%	56.4%
Total persons	1,309,637 (100.0%)	48.9%	51.1%	1,233,516 (100.0%)	48.7%	51.3%

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Highest Level of Education (all persons aged 15 years and over)

States and Territories

Western Australia

	2011			2006		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Postgraduate Degree	51,628 (2.9%)	56.0%	44.0%	31,669 (2.0%)	59.3%	40.7%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate	29,483 (1.6%)	36.3%	63.7%	20,698 (1.3%)	36.8%	63.2%
Bachelor Degree	234,399 (13.0%)	44.3%	55.7%	173,245 (11.1%)	45.2%	54.8%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma	146,283 (8.1%)	42.9%	57.1%	116,162 (7.4%)	42.7%	57.3%
Certificate III/IV	299,823 (16.7%)	71.9%	28.1%	230,621 (14.8%)	74.9%	25.1%
Year 12	311,821 (17.3%)	46.2%	53.8%	263,066 (16.8%)	46.2%	53.8%
Year 11 or below (includes Certificate I/II/nfd)	495,079 (27.5%)	43.7%	56.3%	488,470 (31.3%)	42.8%	57.2%
Total persons	1,799,701 (100.0%)	50.0%	50.0%	1,562,653 (100.0%)	49.4%	50.6%

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Tasmania

	2011			2006		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Postgraduate Degree	9,537(2.4%)	51.9%	48.1%	6,335(1.7%)	57.1%	42.9%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate	5,967(1.5%)	35.6%	64.4%	4,311(1.1%)	37.8%	62.2%
Bachelor Degree	41,518(10.3%)	40.9%	59.1%	34,865(9.1%)	41.7%	58.3%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma	26,609(6.6%)	43.0%	57.0%	22,654(5.9%)	43.6%	56.4%
Certificate III/IV	69,351(17.3%)	69.1%	30.9%	57,169(14.9%)	73.1%	26.9%
Year 12	50,201(12.5%)	45.8%	54.2%	46,636(12.2%)	45.5%	54.5%
Year 11 or below (includes Certificate I/II/nfd)	152,554(38.0%)	43.9%	56.1%	158,389(41.4%)	43.1%	56.9%
Total persons	401,483(100.0%)	48.5%	51.5%	382,454(100.0%)	48.4%	51.6%

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Highest Level of Education (all persons aged 15 years and over)

States and Territories

Northern Territory

	2011			2006		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Postgraduate Degree	4,309 (2.6%)	47.9%	52.1%	2,872 (2.0%)	50.5%	49.5%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate	2,920 (1.8%)	33.5%	66.5%	2,195 (1.5%)	35.3%	64.7%
Bachelor Degree	16,961 (10.4%)	38.9%	61.1%	12,910 (8.9%)	39.5%	60.5%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma	10,655 (6.5%)	45.6%	54.4%	8,477 (5.8%)	44.8%	55.2%
Certificate III/IV	26,139 (16.1%)	71.0%	29.0%	20,720 (14.3%)	74.8%	25.2%
Year 12	21,636 (13.3%)	47.5%	52.5%	18,050 (12.4%)	46.9%	53.1%
Year 11 or below (includes Certificate I/II/nfd)	50,155 (30.8%)	48.6%	51.4%	50,198 (34.5%)	47.6%	52.4%
Total persons	162,802 (100.0%)	51.8%	48.2%	145,292 (100.0%)	51.5%	48.5%

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Australian Capital Territory

	2011			2006		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Postgraduate Degree	25,734(8.8%)	57.1%	42.9%	17,860(6.8%)	60.3%	39.7%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate	11,157(3.8%)	39.9%	60.1%	9,177(3.5%)	40.9%	59.1%
Bachelor Degree	61,952(21.3%)	46.0%	54.0%	51,658(19.7%)	47.2%	52.8%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma	26,086(9.0%)	44.1%	55.9%	22,047(8.4%)	43.3%	56.7%
Certificate III/IV	31,701(10.9%)	67.4%	32.6%	26,813(10.2%)	70.5%	29.5%
Year 12	56,943(19.6%)	49.4%	50.6%	53,266(20.3%)	49.0%	51.0%
Year 11 or below (includes Certificate I/II/nfd)	51,570(17.7%)	41.7%	58.3%	53,788(20.5%)	40.4%	59.6%
Total persons	290,876(100.0%)	49.0%	51.0%	262,106(100.0%)	48.9%	51.1%

nfd: not further defined



Highest Level of Education (all persons aged 15 years and over)

Capital Cities

Sydney

	2011			2006		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Postgraduate Degree	198,877 (5.6%)	53.6%	46.4%	134,910 (4.1%)	56.5%	43.5%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate	56,260 (1.6%)	39.0%	61.0%	44,336 (1.3%)	38.0%	62.0%
Bachelor Degree	600,955 (16.9%)	46.3%	53.7%	484,221 (14.6%)	47.2%	52.8%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma	318,514 (9.0%)	43.0%	57.0%	267,647 (8.1%)	42.0%	58.0%
Certificate III/IV	439,053 (12.4%)	70.5%	29.5%	393,783 (11.9%)	74.3%	25.7%
Year 12	632,086 (17.8%)	48.1%	51.9%	570,996 (17.2%)	47.9%	52.1%
Year 11 or below (includes Certificate I/II/nfd)	835,242 (23.5%)	42.3%	57.7%	872,876 (26.3%)	41.4%	58.6%
Total persons	3,548,457 (100%)	48.7%	51.3%	3,314,162 (100%)	48.7%	51.3%

nfd: not further defined

Melbourne

	2011			2006		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Postgraduate Degree	152,808 (4.7%)	53.2%	46.8%	96,578 (3.3%)	57.4%	42.6%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate	75,900 (2.3%)	36.4%	63.6%	58,815 (2.0%)	36.7%	63.3%
Bachelor Degree	540,964 (16.6%)	45.6%	54.4%	422,046 (14.3%)	46.0%	54.0%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma	285,845 (8.8%)	44.5%	55.5%	226,463 (7.7%)	43.8%	56.2%
Certificate III/IV	414,091 (12.7%)	70.4%	29.6%	352,901 (11.9%)	74.3%	25.7%
Year 12	589,182 (18.1%)	47.2%	52.8%	522,537 (17.7%)	46.6%	53.4%
Year 11 or below (includes Certificate I/II/nfd)	806,080 (24.7%)	43.5%	56.5%	836,742 (28.3%)	42.5%	57.5%
Total persons	3,260,801 (100%)	48.7%	51.3%	2,956,446 (100%)	48.5%	51.5%

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Highest Level of Education (all persons aged 15 years and over)

Capital Cities

Brisbane

	2011			2006		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Postgraduate Degree	63,929 (3.9%)	53.9%	46.1%	40,744 (2.8%)	56.7%	43.3%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate	29,356 (1.8%)	37.3%	62.7%	21,378 (1.5%)	37.9%	62.1%
Bachelor Degree	239,317 (14.5%)	44.2%	55.8%	182,534 (12.4%)	44.7%	55.3%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma	132,718 (8.0%)	43.2%	56.8%	105,615 (7.2%)	43.9%	56.1%
Certificate III/IV	253,721 (15.4%)	69.8%	30.2%	205,411 (13.9%)	73.7%	26.3%
Year 12	318,192 (19.3%)	46.8%	53.2%	280,355 (19.0%)	46.5%	53.5%
Year 11 or below (includes Certificate I/II/nfd)	435,072 (26.3%)	42.2%	57.8%	445,472 (30.2%)	41.3%	58.7%
Total persons	1,651,494 (100%)	48.8%	51.2%	1,474,169 (100%)	48.6%	51.4%

nfd: not further defined

Adelaide

	2011			2006		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Postgraduate Degree	33,487 (3.3%)	54.5%	45.5%	21,236 (2.2%)	58.3%	41.7%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate	17,377 (1.7%)	36.9%	63.1%	13,792 (1.5%)	38.3%	61.7%
Bachelor Degree	132,754 (13.2%)	44.2%	55.8%	105,329 (11.1%)	45.1%	54.9%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma	78,565 (7.8%)	44.3%	55.7%	65,843 (6.9%)	45.1%	54.9%
Certificate III/IV	152,890 (15.2%)	69.1%	30.9%	132,846 (14.0%)	72.6%	27.4%
Year 12	174,870 (17.3%)	46.3%	53.7%	160,077 (16.9%)	45.7%	54.3%
Year 11 or below (includes Certificate I/II/nfd)	305,940 (30.3%)	43.2%	56.8%	325,581 (34.3%)	42.1%	57.9%
Total persons	1,008,605 (100%)	48.5%	51.5%	948,071 (100%)	48.3%	51.7%

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2011 Census
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Highest Level of Education (all persons aged 15 years and over)

Capital Cities

Perth

	2011			2006		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Postgraduate Degree	47,273 (3.4%)	56.0%	44.0%	28,906 (2.4%)	59.4%	40.6%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate	24,938 (1.8%)	37.1%	62.9%	17,338 (1.4%)	37.6%	62.4%
Bachelor Degree	201,759 (14.4%)	45.1%	54.9%	148,736 (12.2%)	46.3%	53.7%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma	120,401 (8.6%)	43.5%	56.5%	96,358 (7.9%)	43.3%	56.7%
Certificate III/IV	221,448 (15.9%)	71.3%	28.7%	175,046 (14.4%)	74.5%	25.5%
Year 12	254,182 (18.2%)	46.0%	54.0%	215,006 (17.7%)	45.9%	54.1%
Year 11 or below (includes Certificate I/II/nfd)	357,146 (25.6%)	42.3%	57.7%	354,908 (29.2%)	41.3%	58.7%
Total persons	1,396,458 (100%)	49.2%	50.8%	1,217,260 (100%)	48.9%	51.1%

nfd: not further defined

Hobart

	2011			2006		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Postgraduate Degree	6,060 (3.5%)	52.4%	47.6%	4,044 (2.5%)	56.8%	43.2%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate	3,475 (2.0%)	36.0%	64.0%	2,518 (1.5%)	38.3%	61.7%
Bachelor Degree	22,708 (13.2%)	43.0%	57.0%	19,169 (11.8%)	43.7%	56.3%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma	12,272 (7.1%)	44.5%	55.5%	10,776 (6.6%)	45.2%	54.8%
Certificate III/IV	27,418 (16.0%)	68.6%	31.4%	22,594 (13.9%)	72.3%	27.7%
Year 12	25,016 (14.6%)	47.2%	52.8%	23,415 (14.4%)	47.2%	52.8%
Year 11 or below (includes Certificate I/II/nfd)	55,435 (32.3%)	41.8%	58.2%	58,169 (35.7%)	40.8%	59.2%
Total persons	171,884 (100%)	47.9%	52.1%	162,970 (100%)	47.7%	52.3%

nfd: not further defined



Highest Level of Education (all persons aged 15 years and over)

Capital Cities

Darwin

	2011			2006		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Postgraduate Degree	3,000 (3.2%)	49.3%	50.7%	2,022 (2.5%)	51.8%	48.2%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate	1,911 (2.0%)	34.1%	65.9%	1,449 (1.8%)	36.2%	63.8%
Bachelor Degree	11,486 (12.1%)	39.6%	60.4%	8,746 (10.7%)	40.2%	59.8%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma	7,182 (7.5%)	45.9%	54.1%	5,668 (6.9%)	46.2%	53.8%
Certificate III/IV	16,970 (17.8%)	70.8%	29.2%	13,361 (16.3%)	74.8%	25.2%
Year 12	14,381 (15.1%)	48.2%	51.8%	12,370 (15.1%)	48.0%	52.0%
Year 11 or below (includes Certificate I/II/nfd)	23,445 (24.6%)	48.4%	51.6%	23,637 (28.8%)	47.2%	52.8%
Total persons	95,207 (100%)	52.5%	47.5%	82,076 (100%)	52.2%	47.8%

nfd: not further defined

Canberra

	2011			2006		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Postgraduate Degree	25,689 (8.8%)	57.1%	42.9%	17,826 (6.8%)	60.3%	39.7%
Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate	11,142 (3.8%)	39.9%	60.1%	9,173 (3.5%)	40.8%	59.2%
Bachelor Degree	61,829 (21.3%)	46.0%	54.0%	51,546 (19.7%)	47.2%	52.8%
Advanced Diploma and Diploma	26,046 (9.0%)	44.1%	55.9%	22,010 (8.4%)	43.3%	56.7%
Certificate III/IV	31,640 (10.9%)	67.4%	32.6%	26,752 (10.2%)	70.5%	29.5%
Year 12	56,857 (19.6%)	49.4%	50.6%	53,151 (20.3%)	49.0%	51.0%
Year 11 or below (includes Certificate I/II/nfd)	51,456 (17.7%)	41.6%	58.4%	53,641 (20.5%)	40.4%	59.6%
Total persons	290,303 (100%)	49.0%	51.0%	261,505 (100%)	48.9%	51.1%

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