**Higher Education Attrition Rate (Dropout Rate) Data, 2005-2013**

All data is for commencing domestic bachelor students at Table A (public) universities only.

**Definition of Attrition Rate:**

Attrition rate is the proportion of students who did not complete a course and left the following year. The formal definition is: Attrition rate for year(x) is the proportion of students who commenced a bachelor course in year(x) who neither complete nor return in year(x + 1). For example:

Eg. Attrition rate for 2009= 100 x Students in 2009 who did not complete or return in 2010

                                            Students in 2009

Attrition rate is based on a match process using the students' StudentID. This gives a "crude" attrition rate, which identifies students that neither complete a course nor are retained the following year at the same institution. Students who remained at the same institution, but changed course are not counted in the attrition group. It is only those students who changed institutions that are counted as attrited.

**Data Sets:**

HE Attrition Data Main, 2005-2013.csv

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| **Variable** | **Description** |
| Reference\_year | Year that the attrition rate relates to  |
| attrition\_rate | Overall attrition rate |
| nesbattrition | Attrition rate for students from a non-English speaking background |
| disattrition | Attrition rate for students with a disability. ‘Disability’ includes students with an impairment in one or more of the following areas: hearing, learning, mobility, vision, medical and other |
| seslow2006attrition | Attrition rate for students from a low socio-economic background. Low socio-economic status is based on students’ postcode of permanent home residence mapped against the 2006 Australian Bureau of Statistics' Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) Index of Education and Occupation by postal area, with the postal areas containing the bottom 25% of the population aged 15-64 on the SEIFA file being classified as low socio-economic |
| seslow2011attrition | Attrition rate for students from a low socio-economic background. Low socio-economic status is based on students’ postcode of permanent home residence mapped against the 2011 Australian Bureau of Statistics' Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA) Index of Education and Occupation by postal area, with the postal areas containing the bottom 25% of the population aged 15-64 on the SEIFA file being classified as low socio-economic |
| indigenousattrition | Attrition rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students |
| modeinternalatt | Attrition rate for students studying by an internal mode of attendance. Includes classroom based study |
| modeexternalatt | Attrition rate for students studying by an external mode of attendance. Includes electronic based, online and correspondence study |
| modemultiatt | Attrition rate for students studying by a mixture of internal and external study |
| typeftatt | Attrition rate for students studying full-time |
| typeptatt | Attrition rate for students studying part-time |
| genderfemaleatt | Attrition rate for female students |
| gendermaleatt | Attrition rate for male students |
| ageunder25att | Attrition rate for students aged under 25 |
| age25to39att | Attrition rate for students aged 25 to 39 |
| agegt39att | Attrition rate for students aged greater than 39 |
| boahigheredatt | Attrition rate for students who were admitted to their course on the basis of a prior higher education course (complete or incomplete) |
| boasecondaryatt | Attrition rate for students who were admitted to their course on the basis of secondary education (undertaken at school, VET or other Higher Education Provider) |
| boavetatt | Attrition rate for students who were admitted to their course on the basis of a prior VET course (complete or incomplete) |
| boamatureatt | Attrition rate for students who were admitted to their course on the basis of mature age entry provisions |
| boaproffatt | Attrition rate for students who were admitted to their course on the basis of professional qualification |
| boaotheratt | Attrition rate for students who were admitted to their course on the basis of ‘other’ entry provisions. For example, interviews, principal recommendation, tests, portfolio submission etc.  |
| atarunder70att | Attrition rate for students with an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) under 70. Includes students admitted to higher education on the basis of secondary education only. |
| atar70to89att | Attrition rate for students with an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) between 70 and 89. Includes students admitted to higher education on the basis of secondary education only |
| atargt89 | Attrition rate for students with an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) of 90 or above. Includes students admitted to higher education on the basis of secondary education only |
| bfoescienceatt | Attrition rate for students studying in the broad field of education of Natural and Physical Sciences  |
| bfoeITatt | Attrition rate for students studying in the broad field of education of Information Technology  |
| bfoeengineeratt | Attrition rate for students studying in the broad field of education of Engineering and Related Technologies |
| bfoearchatt | Attrition rate for students studying in the broad field of education of Architecture and Building |
| bfoeagricatt | Attrition rate for students studying in the broad field of education of Agriculture, Environmental and Related Studies |
| bfoehealthatt | Attrition rate for students studying in the broad field of education of Health  |
| bfoeeducatt | Attrition rate for students studying in the broad field of education of Education  |
| bfoemanageatt | Attrition rate for students studying in the broad field of education of Management and Commerce |
| bfoesocietyatt | Attrition rate for students studying in the broad field of education of Society and Culture  |
| bfoeartsatt | Attrition rate for students studying in the broad field of education of Creative Arts |

SA3 HE Attrition Data, 2005-2013.csv (Geographical data)

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| --- | --- |
| **Variable** | **Description** |
| SA3code | Statistical Area Level 3 code from the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Australian Statistics Geography Standard (ASGS) 2011 |
| SA3name | Statistical Area Level 3 name from the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Australian Statistics Geography Standard (ASGS) 2011 |
| 2005 to 2013 | Attrition rate for the year indicated |

LGA HE Attrition Data, 2005-2013.csv (Geographical data)

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| **Variable** | **Description** |
| LGAcode | Local Government Area (LGA) code using 2015 boundaries from the Australian Bureau of Statistics definition (latest available boundaries) |
| LGAname | Local Government Area (LGA) name using 2015 boundaries from the Australian Bureau of Statistics definition (latest available boundaries) |
| 2005 to 2013 | Attrition rate for the year indicated |

**Data note** ‘-‘ indicates that the attrition rate cannot be published due to insufficient data (less than 5 students) within the cell.