

VCE Annual Report

2016



VCE At RMIT

The VCE program at RMIT provides a unique opportunity for students to complete their VCE in a university setting allowing for a smooth transition into university as well as preparing them for work and life. The program is run by the Vocational Education (VE) section of the School of Education and is registered with the Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA) as well as with the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA). The VRQA registration has been renewed for five years in 2016. The program is housed in Building 51 of the RMIT City Campus, situated on the Corner of Victoria and Cardigan Streets in Carlton, right in the heart of Melbourne's CBD.

The Context of the VCE programs

With an enrolment of nearly 400 students in 2016 with approximately 270 students enrolled in Units 3 & 4 and 130 in Units 1 & 2, RMIT is the largest provider of an Adult VCE program. A student is required to be 17 years of age before commencing a VCE program at RMIT. About two thirds of our students are adults returning to study after a break due to career, family, or health reasons while the remaining third comprises of 17 year olds who wish to study in a university environment. A number of our mature age students tend to take up a part-time study opting to complete their Year 12 over two years or more, owing to their personal circumstances. Hence our completion rates are often not reflective of the achievements made by our many disadvantaged students. A number of our students also opt for satisfactory completion of the VCE without an ATAR or graded scores. While this may impact on our Study Score and ATAR statistics, RMIT is proud of the outcomes and success stories of many individuals who could not have made it without the supportive VCE program offered by RMIT.

In 2016 the program offered 22 studies at the Year 12 level and 17 studies at the Year 11 level. Classes are run in two hour blocks, twice a week for each study and students are only required on campus during class times. This flexible learning environment enables many adult learners to work around other commitments and complete their VCE.

VCE at RMIT is taught by a team of expert teachers who are all registered with the Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT). Professional development of teachers is a priority at RMIT and they are well supported by the School of Education to maintain currency of knowledge, teaching practice and educational technologies.

Partner School in China

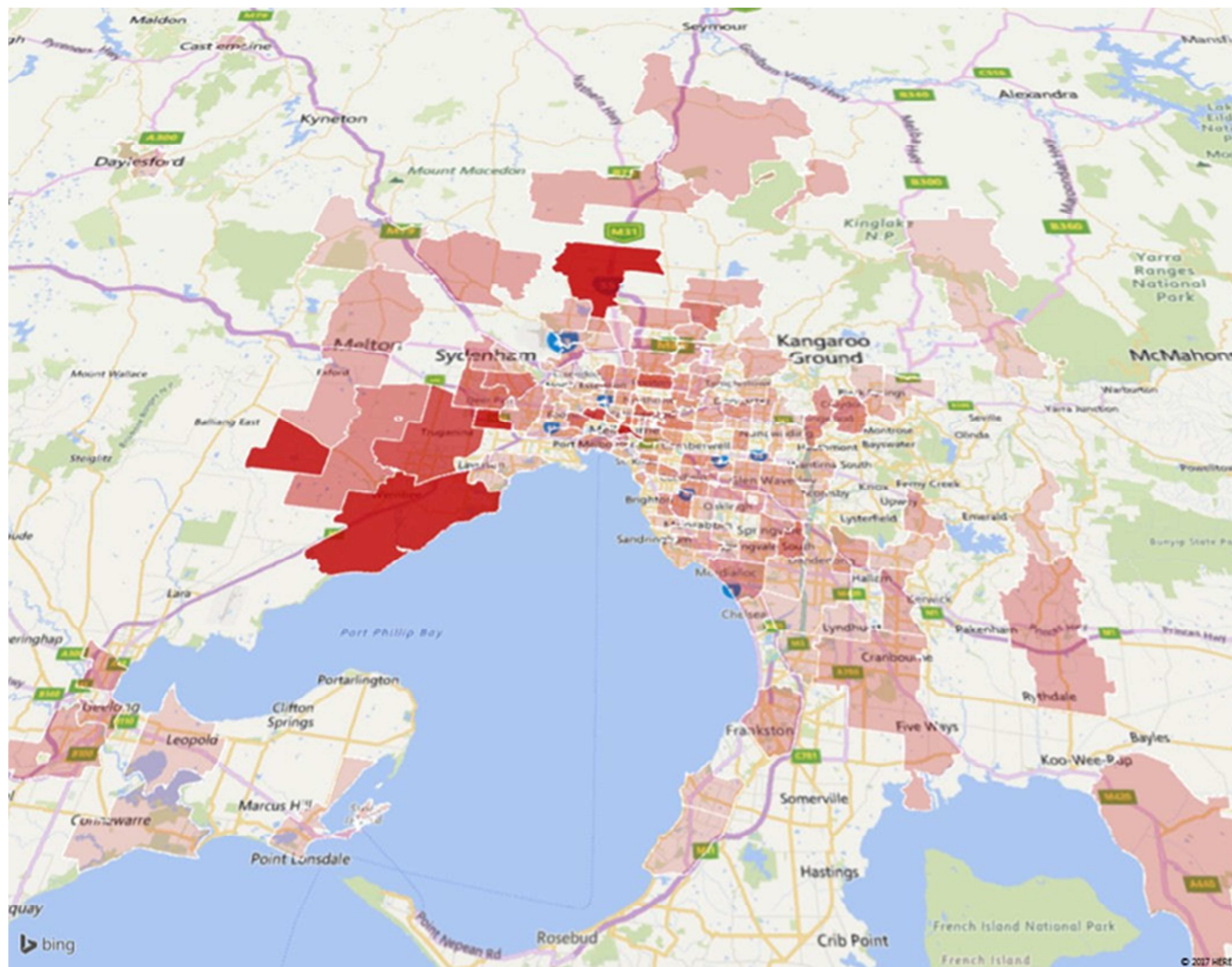
RMIT has a partner school in Beijing, providing VCE to offshore students in China. In 2016 the first group of 38 students commenced their Year 11 studies after completing a Gateway Bridging English program at the school towards the end of 2015. They are expected to complete their Year 12 in 2017 with VCE examinations to be conducted in Beijing. A new cohort of 50 students commenced the Gateway Bridging English program in September 2016 and are expected to commence Year 11 in 2017. VCE teachers in China are mentored by teaching staff at RMIT and a VCE China Coordinator liaises between RMIT, VCAA and the partner school and oversees the processes.



Demographics

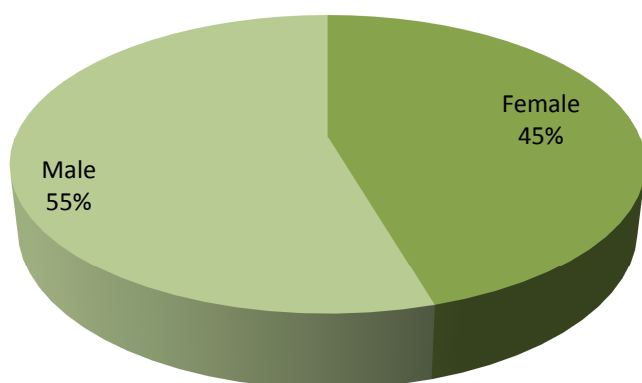
VCE student home locations

RMIT VCE's prime location enables it to service a wide range of students from across Melbourne. Easy travel allows our mature age students to fit in this program around their work and family commitments, thus providing an opportunity to many who could not otherwise have achieved this.

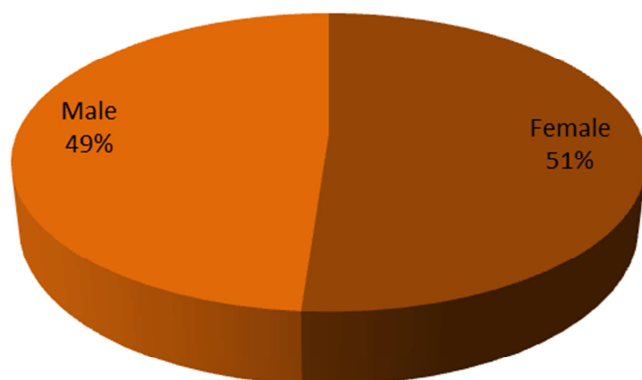


Gender Distribution 2016

Year 11



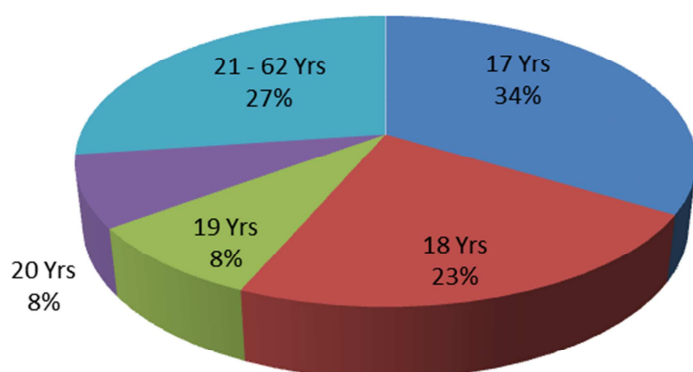
Year 12



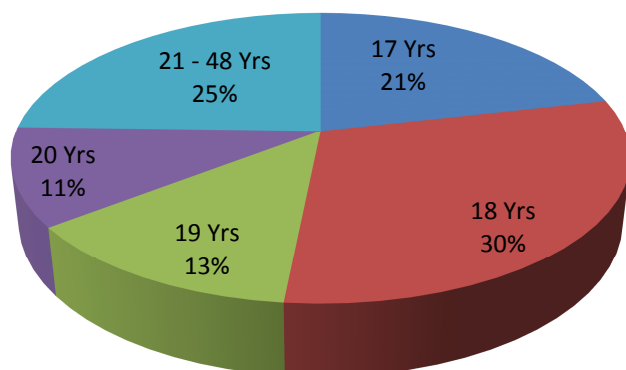
Age Distribution 2016

About a third of our cohort are 17 year olds who have opted out of the school system and preferred to study in a university setting either due to health/personal reasons, or with the intention of a smooth transition into tertiary education. Another quarter of our cohort is comprised of mature age students aged 21 years or above. The remaining students aged from 18 to 20 years form the majority of our cohort.

Year 11



Year 12



Special Needs

Owing to the nature of our program and the flexibility it offers, we enable a large number of students with special needs to complete the VCE or at least try their best to do so. These include students with physical/mental health issues, as well as personal, family or financial circumstances that pose severe disadvantages to them. Such students receive good support and guidance from the year level coordinators who direct them to appropriate support services at RMIT. Students with health related special needs are well supported by a Special Needs Coordinator who liaises with the student, their parents and medical practitioners, RMIT's Disability Liaison Unit (DLU) and the VCAA.

In 2016, 40 students in Year 12 had serious health related special needs. 36 were granted special examination arrangements (SEAs) by VCAA. Of these 15 students were approved with special rooms for their assessments and end of year examinations.

Support services

Student wellbeing is a priority at RMIT and a range of policies and procedures are in place to support students who need assistance. Areas of wellbeing include assistance with the following matters:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander,
- Accommodation,
- Chaplaincy,
- Childcare,
- Counselling,
- Disability,
- Finance,
- Health and safety,
- International students and
- Legal matters.

Details of student wellbeing can be found at <http://www1.rmit.edu.au/student/wellbeing>

Child Safety

RMIT is committed to the safety of children and is actively involved in implementing the legislative requirements of the Child Safe Standards (CSS). VCE staff are all well informed of the new legislations and well aware of their responsibilities. All teaching staff being VIT registered ensures that they have undergone the Working With Children Check.

2016 Year 12 Outcomes

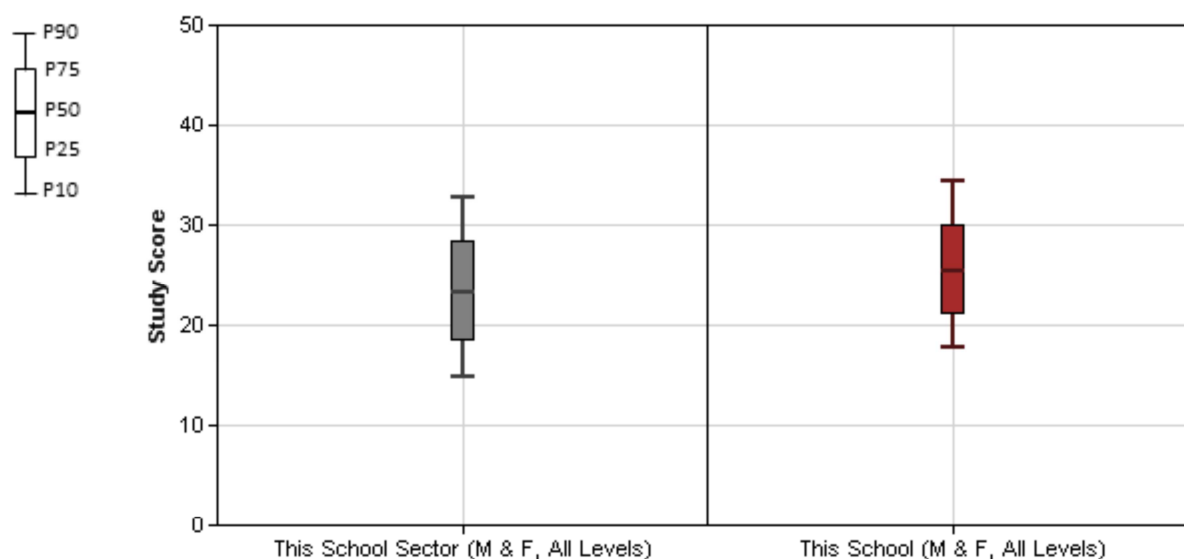
As a non-secondary provider of VCE, our results outperform our sector every year and this year despite many special needs students struggling with severe disadvantages, our students have again performed better than our sector average. We have had a number of success stories of people completing their VCE under many difficult circumstances.

Five students received ATARs > 90 placing them in the top 10% in the state. The top score was 98.95 ranking the student in the top 2% in the state. Another eight students received ATAR scores above 80 placing them in the top 20% of the state.

Various VASS reports generated from VCAA data are presented below and in the following pages:

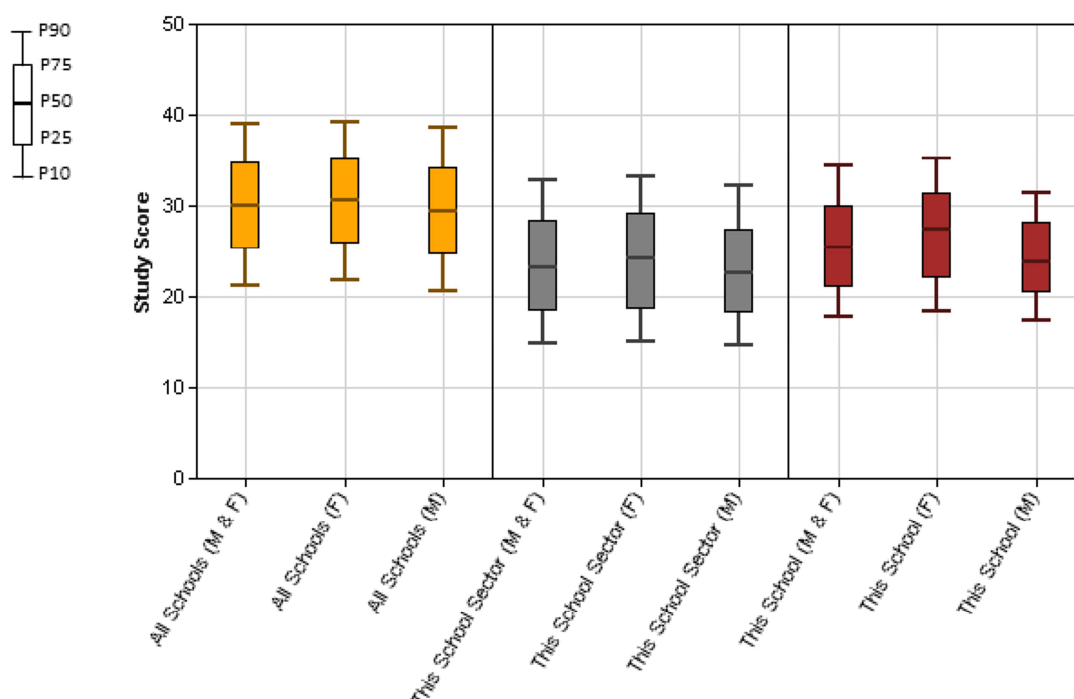
All VCE Studies (VCAA Study Score) 2016 RMIT TAFE Home School Data

Description	No of Study Scores	No of Studies	Min	10 th Percentile	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile	90th Percentile	Max
This School Sector (All)	1957	51	4.0	14.8	18.5	23.3	28.4	32.7	49.0
This School	578	33	7.0	17.9	21.2	25.4	30.1	34.4	49.0



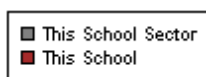
All VCE Studies by Gender (VCAA Study Score) 2016 RMIT TAFE Home School Data

Description	No of Study Scores	No of Studies	Min	10 th Percentile	25th Percentile	50th Percentile	75th Percentile	90th Percentile	Max
All Schools (All Gender, All Levels)	257065	110	4.0	21.2	25.4	30.1	34.8	39.0	50.0
All Schools (Females, All Levels)	138012	109	5.0	21.7	25.9	30.6	35.2	39.3	50.0
All Schools (Males, All Levels)	119053	107	4.0	20.7	24.8	29.4	34.2	38.6	50.0
This School Sector (All Gender, All Levels)	1957	51	4.0	14.8	18.5	23.3	28.4	32.7	49.0
This School Sector (Females, All levels)	952	44	6.0	15.0	18.7	24.2	29.2	33.3	48.0
This School Sector (Males, All Levels)	1005	44	4.0	14.5	18.4	22.7	27.5	32.1	49.0
This School (All Gender, All Levels)	578	33	7.0	17.9	21.2	25.4	30.1	34.4	49.0
This School (Females, All Levels)	298	29	10.0	18.5	22.2	27.4	31.5	35.2	48.0
This School (Males, All Levels)	280	29	7.0	17.5	20.6	23.8	28.2	31.5	49.0

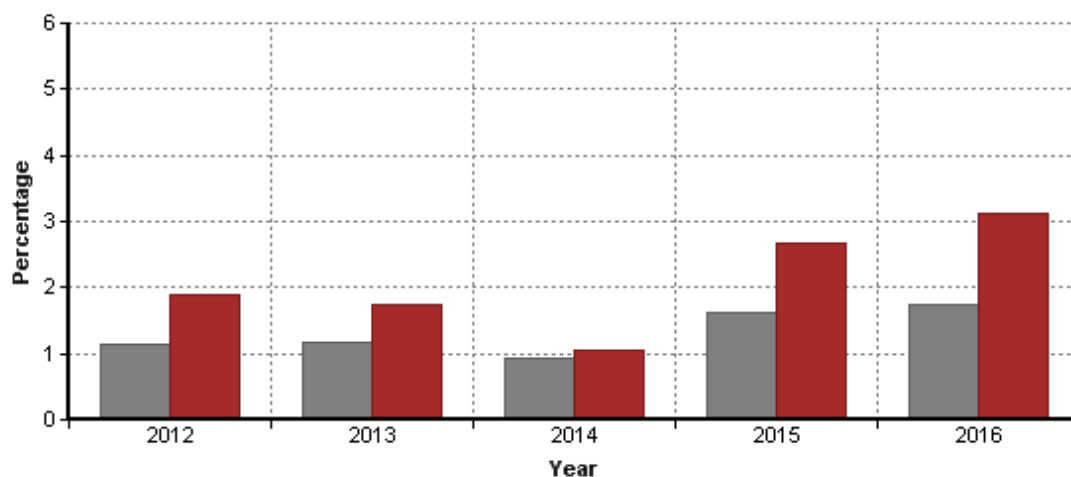


Study Scores of 40 and above All VCE Studies RMIT TAFE Home School Data

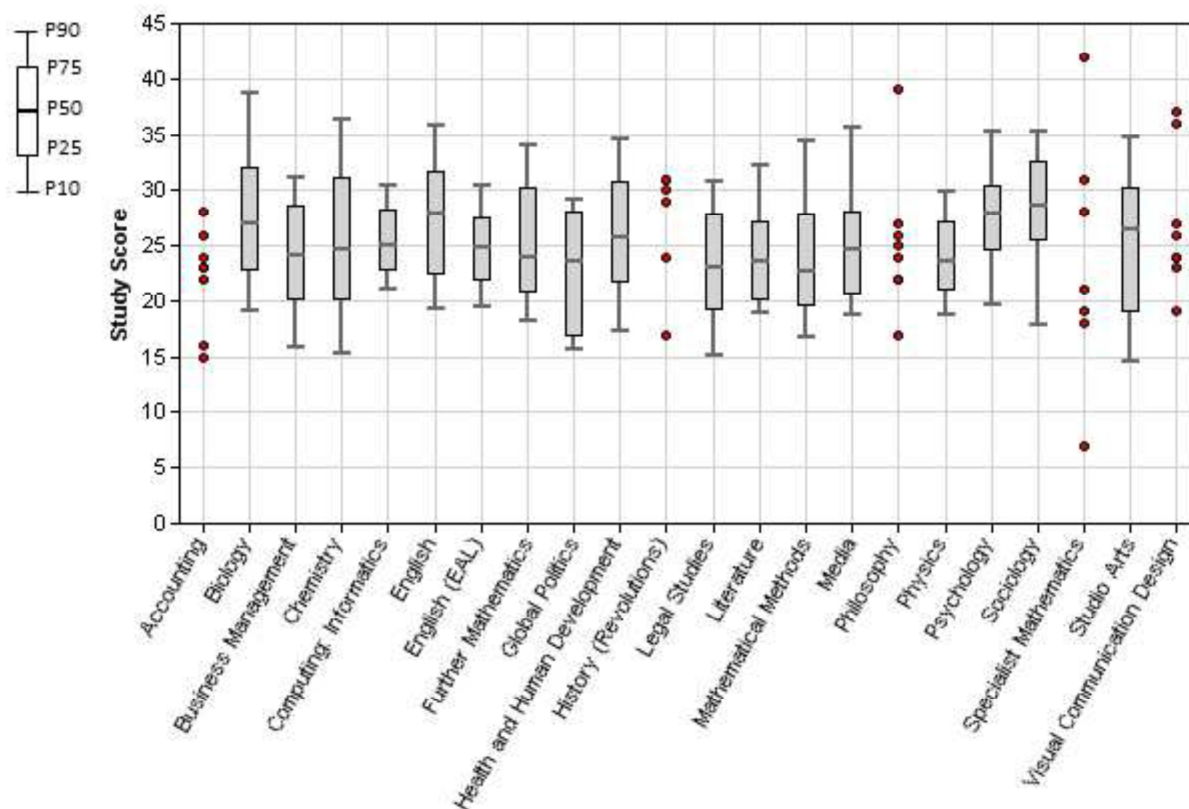
	This School Sector	This School	
	%40 or above	Total Study Scores	%40 or above
2012	1.1	578	1.9
2013	1.2	695	1.7
2014	0.9	753	1.1
2015	1.6	634	2.7
2016	1.7	578	3.1



All VCE Studies



Selected* VCE Studies (VCAA Study Score) 2016 RMIT TAFE Home School Data



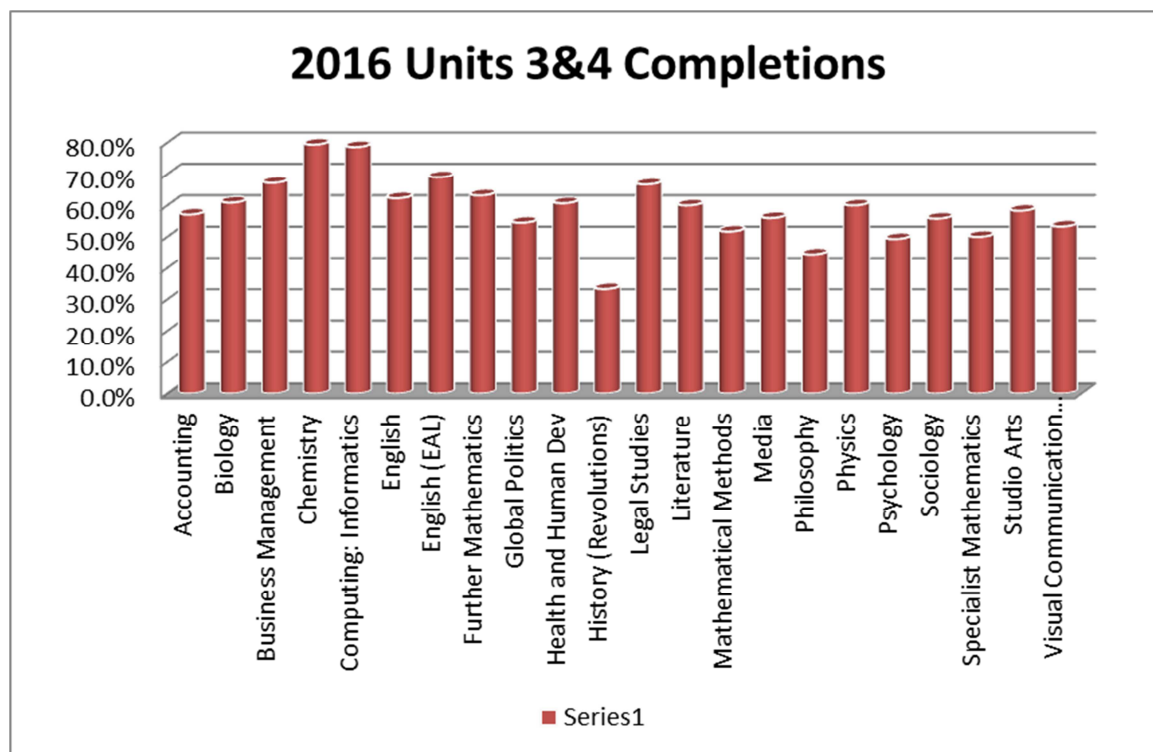
* Note that selected studies indicates all the 22 Studies offered at RMIT selected from the VCAA list to run this report.

VCE Data System Report



240 students enrolled at RMIT with 175 (73%) successful completions and 137 students receiving an ATAR.

2016 Units 3&4 Completions				
Code	Study	No of students	Study scores awarded	%
AC03	Accounting	14	8	57.1%
BI03	Biology	46	28	60.9%
BM03	Business Management	64	43	67.2%
CH03	Chemistry	34	27	79.4%
IT02	Computing: Informatics	14	11	78.6%
EN01	English	154	96	62.3%
EN09	English (EAL)	29	20	69.0%
MA07	Further Mathematics	95	60	63.2%
PS05	Global Politics	22	12	54.5%
HH03	Health and Human Development	61	37	60.7%
HI13	History (Revolutions)	18	6	33.3%
LS03	Legal Studies	27	18	66.7%
LI01	Literature	45	27	60.0%
MA11	Mathematical Methods	60	31	51.7%
ME03	Media	25	14	56.0%
PL03	Philosophy	18	8	44.4%
PH03	Physics	35	21	60.0%
PY03	Psychology	75	37	49.3%
SO03	Sociology	43	24	55.8%
MA09	Specialist Mathematics	14	7	50.0%
SA03	Studio Arts	24	14	58.3%
VC03	Visual Communication Design	15	8	53.3%



Student Offers Data

Based on data available to date, 113 put in Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) applications for tertiary study. Of these 99 students received offers into Higher Education or Vocational Education programs in Victoria. Nine students applied direct to institutions here or overseas. Four students have decided to take a gap year and one has joined the workforce.

PREFERENCES As at 2/2/17

- Students who applied through VTAC - 113
- Students with RMIT as 1st preference – 52
- Students with RMIT as 1st and or 2nd preference - 66
- Students with RMIT as 1st and/or 2nd and/or 3rd preference - 75
- Students with RMIT in their preference list 98

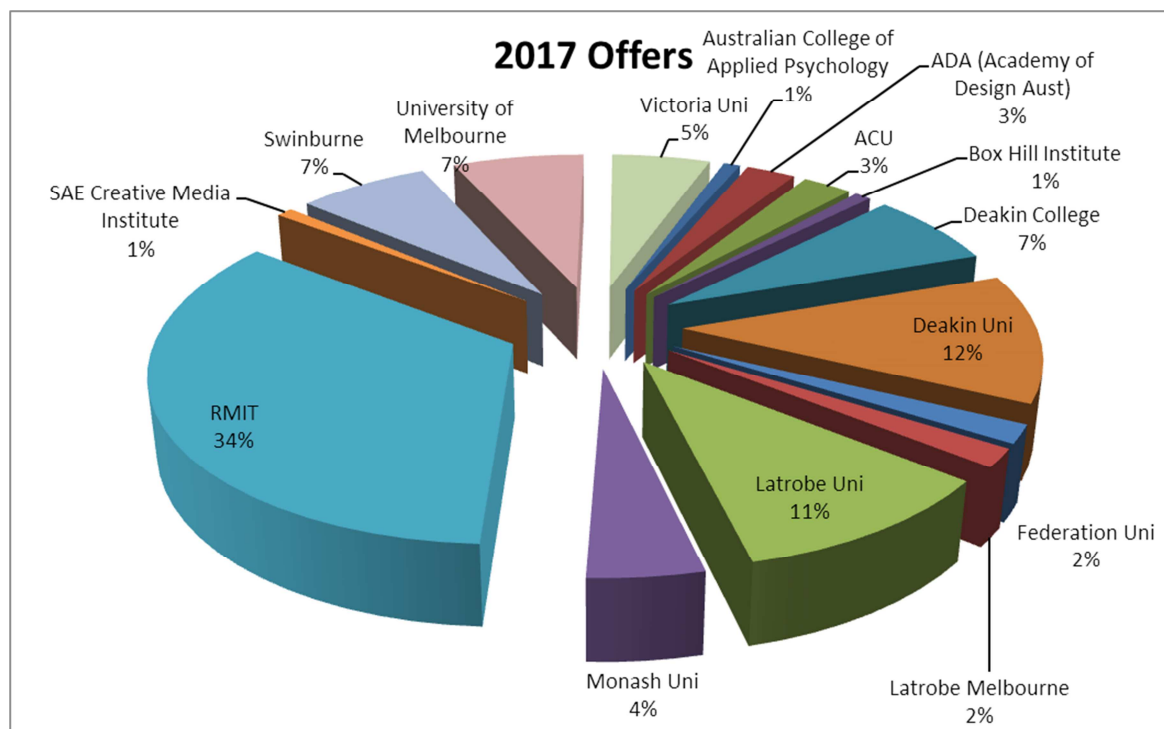
Offers as per information available at the time of publication of this report is shown on the following pages.

Of the students known to have received an offer for tertiary education:

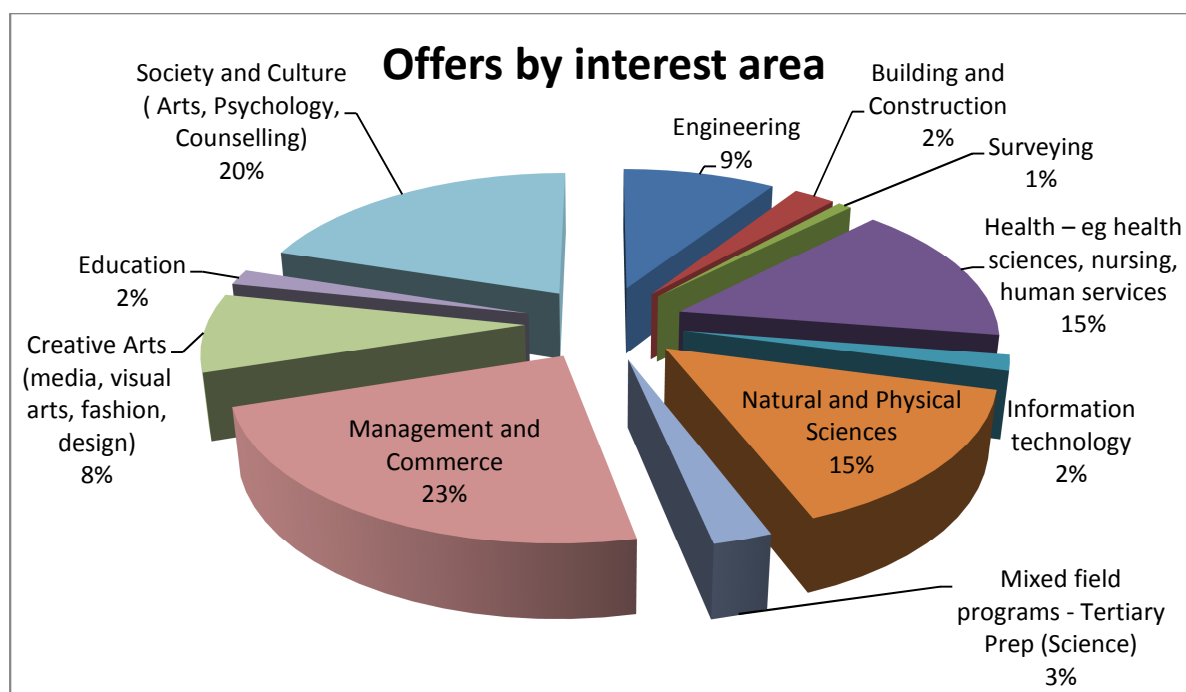
- Offers by institution shows that 38 have received offers into programs at RMIT.
- Distribution of offers by interest area of the 2016 data:
 - Science, Engineering and Health areas: 47%
 - Business area: 23%
 - Design and Social Context area: 30%

Further destination information will be available on the Government website 'On Track' during the second half of 2017.

OFFERS BY INSTITUTION			
INSTITUTE	HE	VE	TOTAL
Australian College of Applied Psychology		1	1
ADA (Academy of Design Aust)	3		3
ACU	3		3
Box Hill Institute		1	1
Deakin College		8	8
Deakin University	14		14
Federation University	2		2
Latrobe Melbourne		2	2
Latrobe University	12		12
Monash University	5		5
RMIT University	17	22	39
SAE Creative Media Institute	1		1
Swinburne University	6	2	8
University of Melbourne	8		8
Victoria University	6		6
	77	36	113



OFFERS BY INTEREST AREA		
AREA OF INTEREST	No	%
Engineering	11	9
Building and Construction	3	3
Surveying	1	1
Health – eg health sciences, nursing, human services	18	15
Information technology	2	2
Natural and Physical Sciences	18	15
Mixed field programs - Tertiary Prep (Science)	3	3
Management and Commerce	28	23
Creative Arts (media, visual arts, fashion, design)	10	8
Education	2	2
Society and Culture (Arts, Psychology, Counselling)	24	20
	120	



[Science, Engineering & Health areas: 47%, Business area: 23%, Design & Social Context areas: 30%]



Plans for 2017

Our first priority is to provide a good student experience from start to finish and to support our students to achieve their best irrespective of their circumstances. We strive to do our best to reflect on needs and feedback and incorporate continuous improvement as we act in response. Accordingly, a number of improvements were planned for 2017 and are in the process of being implemented. These include:

- A new VCE timetable allowing for improved subject selection.
- New student spaces.
- New staff spaces.
- Staffing restructure to include a greater emphasis on curriculum, quality and student outcomes.
- Liaising with several schools of RMIT to inform and implement smoother transitions and pathways into tertiary education at RMIT.
- Strengthened partnership with RMIT's MTP (Masters of Teaching Practice) program to the mutual benefit of both programs.
- Strengthened partnership with the Beijing school providing VCE in China to an increased number of students and overseeing the running of GAT and VCE external examinations in Beijing.

In conclusion, VCE at RMIT was re-registered with VRQA for the next five years commencing with 2016, and our aim is to take the program from strength to strength in this period, as we strive to provide opportunities for hundreds of students to achieve their dream of completing their secondary schooling in a mature learning environment.

Report Produced by:
Dr. Nancy Varughese
Program Manager (Principal)
VCE Programs
School of Education
RMIT University
April 2017.