



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

12 May 2014

National Office

Graduate
Achievement, Vocations &
Careers
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Max Christoffersen
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Dear Max

Thank you for your email of 20 March 2014 in which you seek, under the Official Information Act 1982:

How many international students enrolled in the tertiary sector failed to complete (withdrawn) or failed to pass their courses in the 2012/2013 academic years.

The 2013 data is still undergoing quality checks and has yet to be supplied to the Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment. Therefore we are withholding the 2013 data under section 9(2)(g) of the Official Information Act 1982.

The earlier year data is set out in the tables below:

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Total number of international students	39,777	43,384	45,602	48,071	47,678
Number of students passing all their courses	24,301	27,118	28,731	30,702	31,067
Number of students failing or withdrawing from one or more courses	9,466	10,026	10,195	10,147	9,630
Number of students failing or withdrawing from all of their courses	2,451	2,747	2,860	2,644	2,322
Other (yet to complete courses)	3,559	3,493	3,816	4,578	4,659
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Percentage of students passing all their courses	61%	63%	63%	64%	65%
Percentage of students failing or withdrawing from one or more courses	24%	23%	22%	21%	20%
Percentage of students failing or withdrawing from all of their courses	6%	6%	6%	6%	5%
Other (yet to complete courses)	9%	8%	8%	10%	10%

The following table gives the EFTS (Equivalent Full-time student units) weighted course completion rates for domestic and international students.

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
International	92.3%	92.2%	92.7%	91.6%	92.5%
Domestic	75.6%	77.3%	79.7%	82.4%	83.2%
All students	75.7%	77.3%	79.7%	82.4%	83.2%

Notes:

A course is a component of a qualification. Students typically take several courses at the same time. The numbers cover only students enrolled in formal qualifications in tertiary education providers that receive government funding for their domestic students. Information is not available on the achievement of students who study at private training establishments that receive no government funding.

From the above table, international students have a higher course completion rate than domestic students.

Under sections 19 and 28(3) of the Official Information Act 1982 you have the right to ask an Ombudsman to review this decision.

Yours sincerely



Claire Douglas
Deputy Secretary, Graduate Achievement, Vocations and Careers
Ministry of Education