

Fact Sheet:

University History Staffing in Australia and New Zealand

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Document prepared for the Heads of History by the AHA secretariat

The second *University History Staffing in Australia and New Zealand* Report, based on 2022 data, was finalised in October 2023. The report seeks to quantify the recent impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Morrison Government's Job-Ready Graduates Package, in the context of the longer history of staffing levels and student loads in History.

- In 2022, there were 378.5 FTE historians employed in Australian and New Zealand universities in total. Australian universities employed 318.7 FTE historians.
 - 85.7 per cent of staff were employed in continuing roles, while 8 per cent worked under fixed contracts, and 6 per cent held postdoctoral/research fellowships.
- The total staffing decline between 2016 (the year of the previous survey) and 2022 amounted to 30.7 FTE positions, or 7.5 per cent.
 - There was a 49 per cent reduction in the number of FTE historians holding fellowships.
 - The number of historians employed on fixed-term contracts doubled in the same period.
 - Please note that the recent round of redundancies at the Australian Catholic University is not captured in the survey.
- 54.6 per cent of all continuing positions were at the professor or associate professor level.
- Non-Go8 universities employed the majority of senior lecturers (57.5 FTE, compared with 26.8 FTE at Go8 universities).
- Women held 52.9 per cent of all appointments, 71.3 per cent of fixed-term appointments, and 74.9 per cent of all fellowships in FTE terms.
 - Women outnumbered men in non-Go8 universities (109.4 appointments for women compared with 84.3 men and 1 non-binary appointment), but men remained the largest cohort in the Go8 sector (65.3 appointments compared with 58.7 for women).
 - Women's share of professorial positions measured at 42.8 per cent, and associate professor positions at 59.5 per cent.
- There were 14 Indigenous or Maori appointments in Australia and a further 6 in New Zealand in 2022.
 - This amounted to a share of 4.4 per cent and 10 per cent of total staffing levels in Australia and New Zealand respectively.
- The average proportion of teaching performed by casual staff at Go8 universities was 37.9 per cent, the figure for non-Go8 universities 29.4 per cent.
- There were 303 honorary staff attached to History groupings in Australia in 2022, with 56.8 per cent of them concentrated in Go8 universities.
 - Across Australia and New Zealand, there was a 23 per cent decline in honorary appointments from 2016 to 2022.
- The total student load across all categories fell by 22.9 per cent in Australia between 2016 and 2022. Despite staffing reductions, this amounted to an improved staff-student ratio of 17.5 (previously 20.81).
 - In both countries, undergraduate EFTSL fell by 16.4 per cent, honours by 14.8 per cent, and HDR load by 45.7 per cent.