

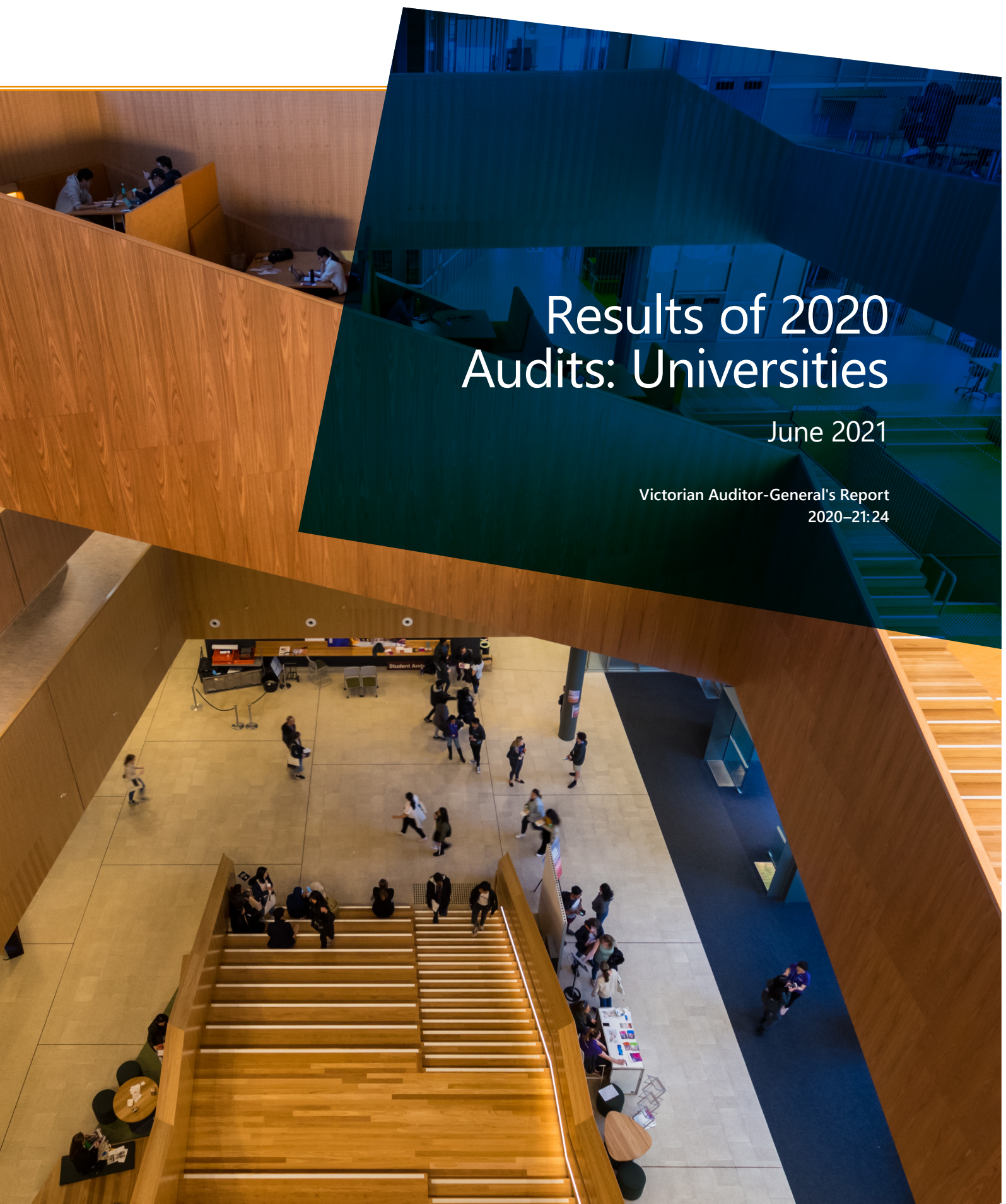
VAGO

Victorian Auditor-General's Office

Results of 2020 Audits: Universities

June 2021

Victorian Auditor-General's Report
2020–21:24



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Results of 2020 Audits: Universities

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Victorian Auditor-General's Office

The Hon Nazih Elasmr MLC
President
Legislative Council
Parliament House
Melbourne

The Hon Colin Brooks MP
Speaker
Legislative Assembly
Parliament House
Melbourne

Dear Presiding Officers

Under the provisions of the *Audit Act 1994*, I transmit my report *Results of 2020 Audits: Universities*.

Yours faithfully



Andrew Greaves
Auditor-General

24 June 2021

The Victorian Auditor-General's Office acknowledges Australian Aboriginal peoples as the traditional custodians of the land throughout Victoria. We pay our respect to all Aboriginal communities, their continuing culture and to Elders past, present and emerging.

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Report snapshot

The sector faced financial pressure caused by the pandemic. Financial strategies enacted in 2020 maintained financial resilience. Longer-term financial risks are emerging should the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic be prolonged.

Results of audits

We issued clear audit opinions across the sector, meaning the financial reports of universities and their controlled entities are reliable, and Parliament and the community can use them with confidence.

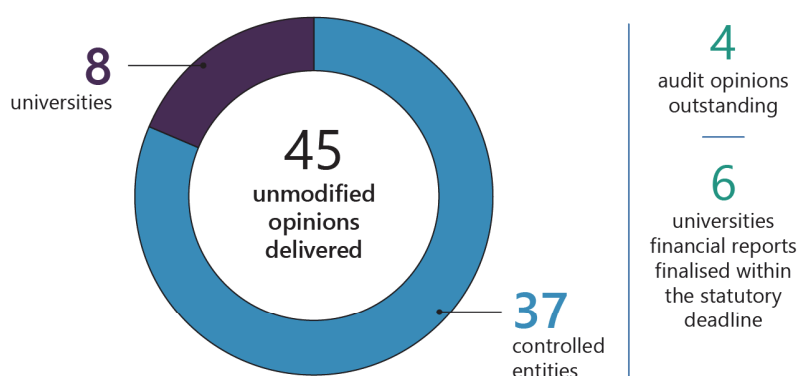
Financial resilience

Revenue from international students declined because of border restrictions. Investment income was also adversely affected. Universities managed the financial pressure this caused through cost reduction strategies—such as reducing staff numbers and deferring non-essential capital expenditure—and by increasing debt.

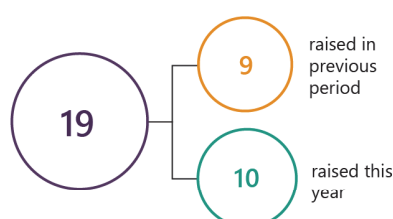
Key audit matters

We are concerned that we continue to find control issues relating to information technology weaknesses at some universities. Several prior year IT issues also remain unresolved. Universities must prioritise and address these issues promptly, particularly with the shift to remote working and course delivery.

Number of unmodified opinions delivered 2020



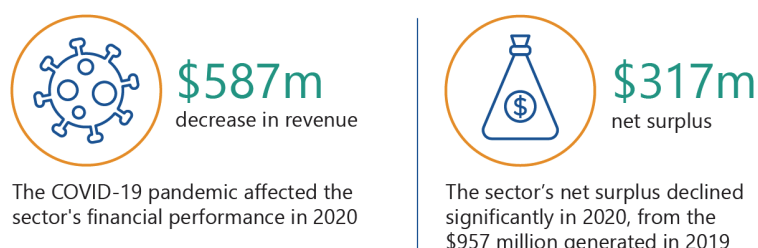
New and unresolved prior period issues 2020



Financial statement errors 2020



Financial sustainability 2020



Recommendation

We recommend that all universities:

1. prioritise the resolution of prior period internal control issues (see Section 2.4).
-

Submissions and comments received

We have consulted with the Department of Education and Training (DET) and the eight public universities in Victoria, and we considered their views when reaching our conclusions.

As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, we gave a draft copy of this report to those agencies and asked for their submissions or comments. We also provided a copy of the proposed report to the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC) and the Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF) for their information.

The following is a summary of responses. The full responses are included in Appendix A:

- DET notes our findings and supports our recommendation to all universities.
- RMIT University has provided additional information on their overseas student enrolments, which we present in Chapter 1. The university has also commented on the repairs and maintenance to depreciation ratio, which we discuss in Appendix E.

1.

Audit context

The Victorian public university sector comprises eight universities and their 41 controlled entities. They principally provide higher education and conduct research.

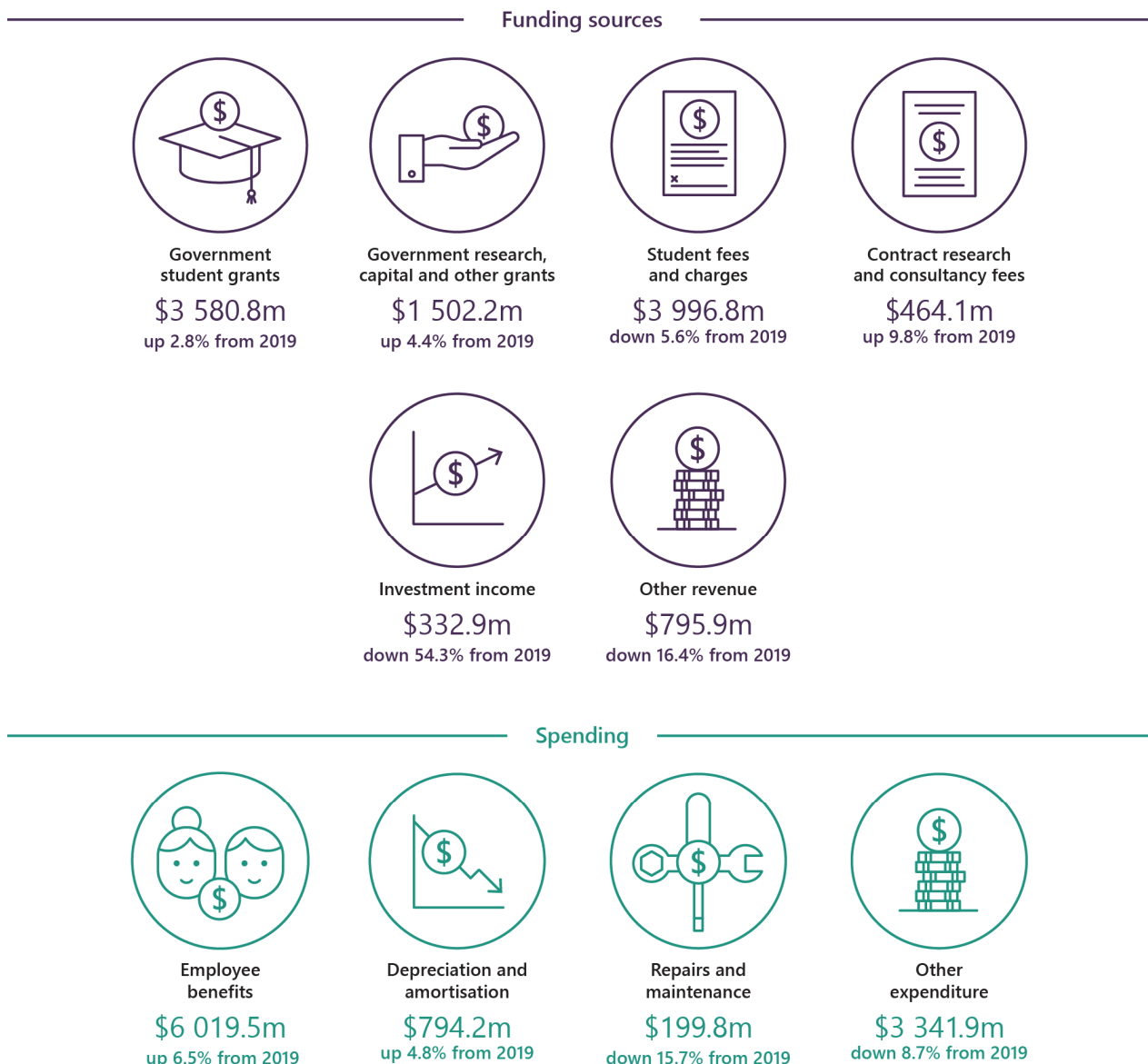
This chapter provides background information about:

- The Victorian public university sector
 - Legislative and financial reporting frameworks
 - Our audit approach
-

1.1 The Victorian public university sector

Figure 1A provides an overview of the Victorian public university sector.

FIGURE 1A: Overview of the Victorian public university sector

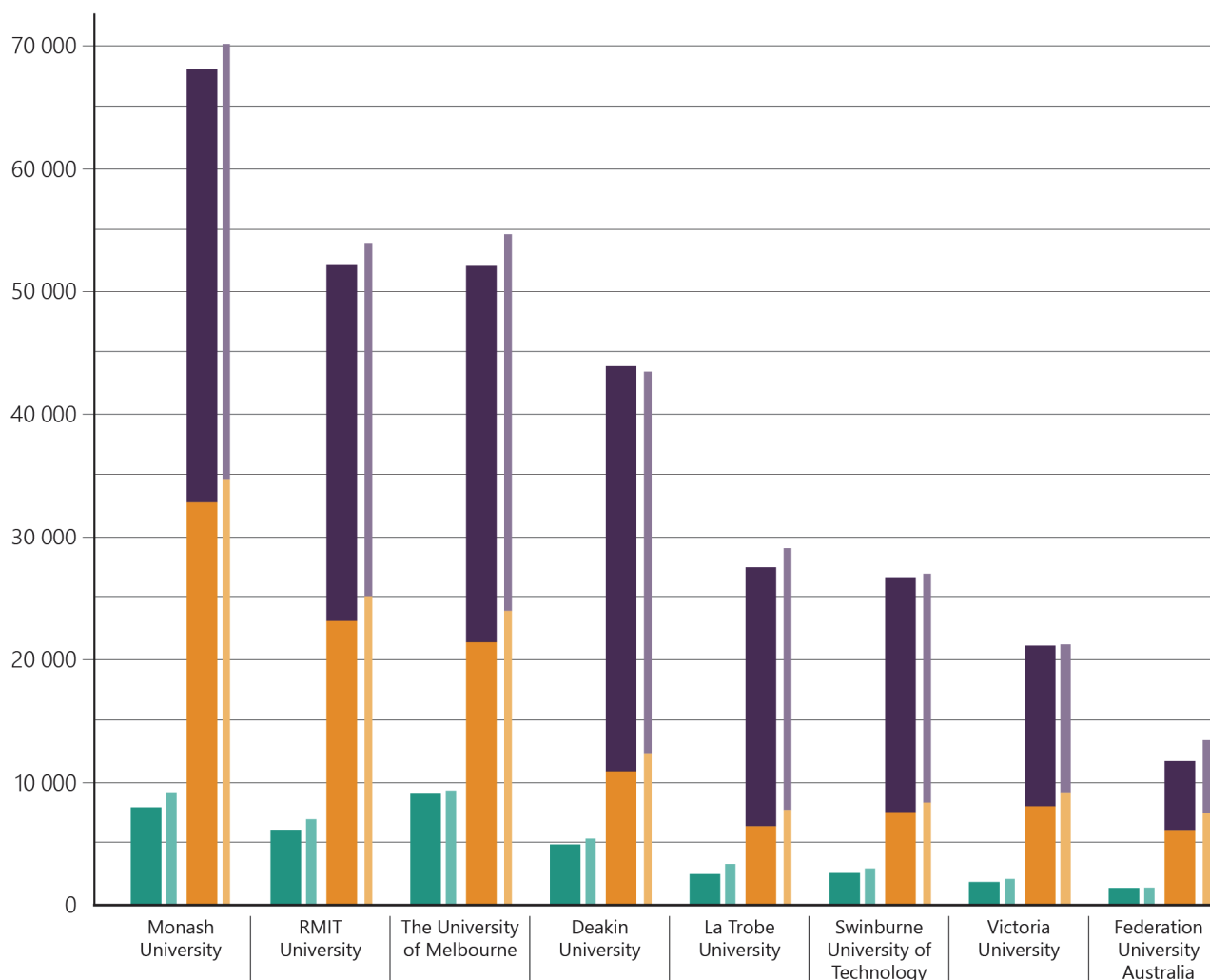


Source: VAGO.

Figure 1B shows each university's relative size, based on the number of equivalent full-time student load (EFTSL) enrolled, and the number of staff employed.

Victoria's two largest universities, Monash University and The University of Melbourne, are also members of the Group of 8 (Go8). Go8's members include Australia's leading research-focused universities.

FIGURE 1B: Student and full-time equivalent staff numbers by university for the year ended 31 December 2020



Number of employees 2020
Number of employees 2019

Overseas students 2020
Overseas students 2019

Domestic students 2020
Domestic students 2019

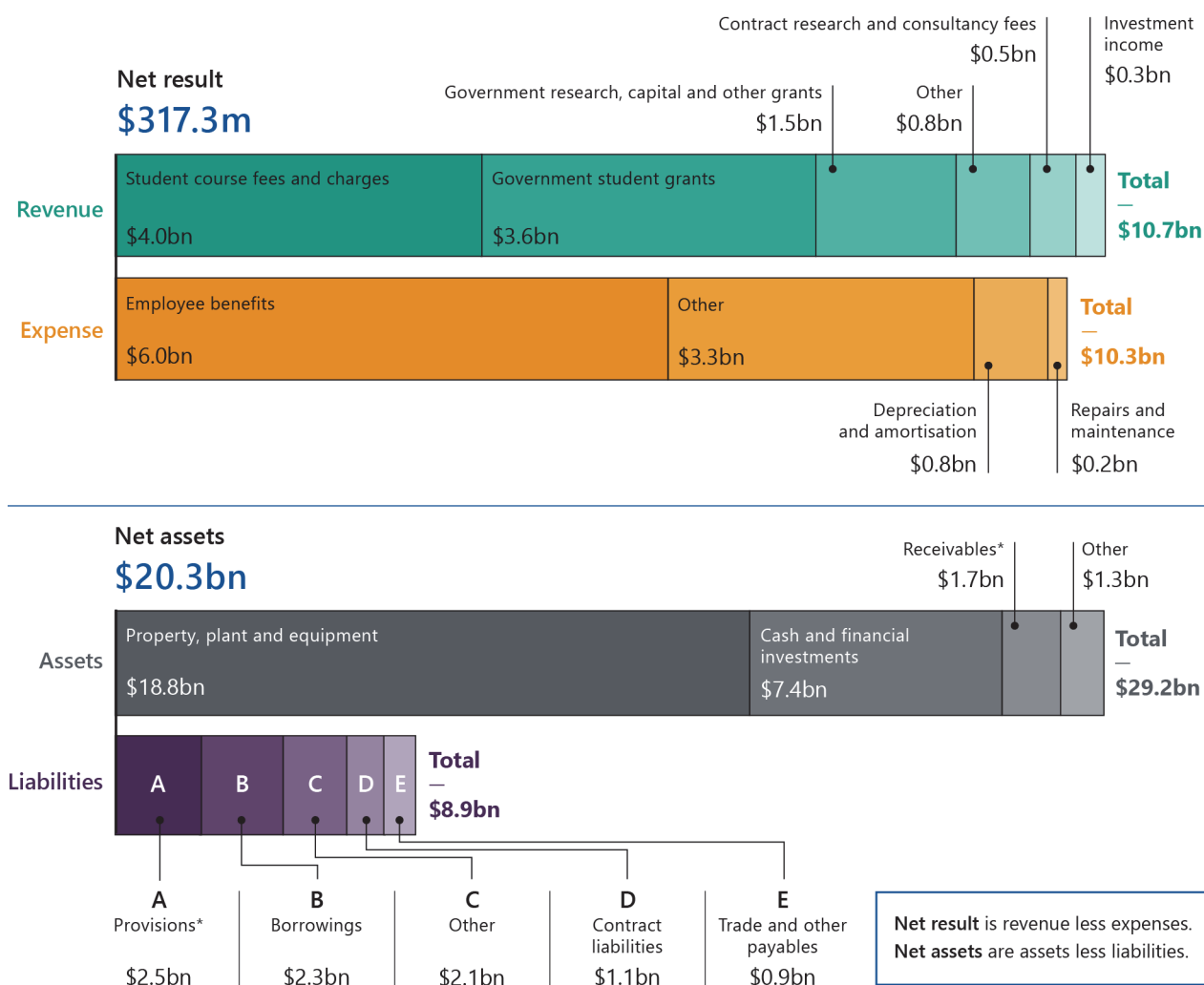
Note: One EFTSL represents the equivalent of a student who is studying on a full-time basis for a year. Overseas EFTSL includes both onshore and offshore student loads. Where relevant, EFTSL excludes vocational education student loads.

Source: VAGO.

Financial context

Figure 1C provides a financial snapshot of the university sector for the year ended 31 December 2020.

FIGURE 1C: Financial snapshot for 2020



Note: *Provisions include the sector's estimated deferred superannuation contributions of \$1.25 billion (\$1.23 billion in 2019). An identical amount is included in receivables as the Australian and Victorian governments have agreed to meet this liability.

Source: VAGO.

Most of the sector's revenue comes from student fees and Australian Government student funding, both of which are driven by student numbers.

Publicly and privately funded research is the sector's next largest revenue source. The majority of the sector's assets consist of the property, plant and equipment that it needs to deliver its services. The sector also holds significant amounts of cash and financial investments.

1.2 Legislative and financial reporting framework

In Victoria, public universities are established by their own respective enabling legislations. As a result, they fall within the definition of a public body under the *Financial Management Act 1994* (FMA) and must comply with its requirements for the

preparation of financial reports. However, since the universities are not controlled by the State of Victoria, their financial results are not consolidated into the state's annual financial report.

Universities are registered with the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency and are therefore subject to the regulation of the *Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency Act 2011* (TEQSA Act).

They receive most of their grant funding from the Australian Government and fall within the scope of any legislation associated with this funding, including the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* (HESA Act).

The TEQSA and HESA Acts, and many of their funding agreements that underpin the funding universities receive for research and other purposes, also impose other financial reporting requirements on the universities in addition to the requirements of the state-legislated FMA. The requirements prescribed by the Acts are outlined in the *Financial Statement Guidelines for Australian Higher Education Providers*, which all universities follow.

The Commonwealth requires some of these reporting requirements to be included in universities' financial reports. As a result, universities' financial reports contain disclosures that are not usually found in general-purpose financial reports.

Many universities and their controlled entities are also registered charities with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission. This means they have further reporting obligations under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

Entities controlled by the universities do not automatically fall within the scope of the FMA, but may be required by the respective enabling legislation of their parent entity to produce financial reports in a form approved by the Assistant Treasurer administering Part 7 of the FMA.

1.3 Our audit approach

Our method

We conduct our financial audits of the sector in accordance with the *Audit Act 1994* and the Australian Auditing Standards. As part of an audit, we:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report (whether due to fraud or error), design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for an opinion
- obtain an understanding of internal controls relevant to the audit to design audit procedures that are appropriate to the circumstances
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosure
- conclude on the appropriateness of using the going-concern basis of accounting
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

Going concern means that an entity is expected to be able to pay its debts when they fall due and continue in operation without any intention or necessity to liquidate or otherwise wind up its operations.

Our independence

The Auditor-General is:

- an independent officer of the Parliament of Victoria
- appointed under legislation to examine, on behalf of Parliament and taxpayers, the management of resources within the public sector
- not subject to control or direction of either Parliament or the government.

The Auditor-General and staff of VAGO are required to meet the ethical requirements of:

- the Australian Auditing Standards and the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*
- the Code of Conduct for Victorian Public Sector Employees of Special Bodies and the *Public Administration Act 2004*.

Our costs

The cost of this report and the supporting dashboard was \$150,000, which is funded by parliamentary appropriation.

2.

Results of audits

Conclusion

We provided clear audit opinions for financial reports across the sector. The financial reports of the universities and their controlled entities are reliable. Parliament and the community can use them with confidence.

At the date of this report, the financial audits of four controlled entities are still in progress.

This chapter discusses:

- Audit opinions
 - Timeliness of reporting
 - Quality of financial reports
 - Internal control observations
 - AASB 1059 *Service Concession Arrangements*
-

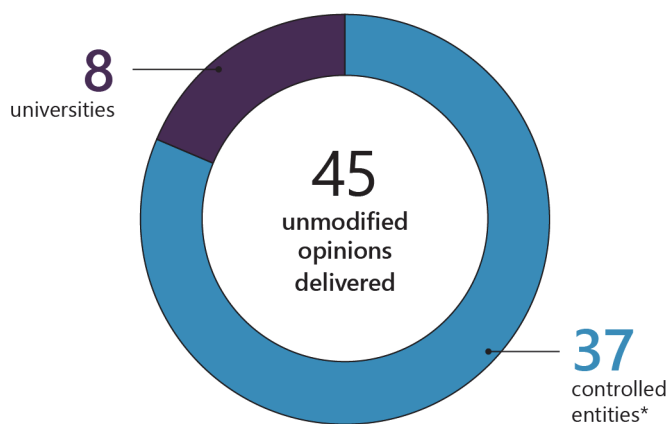
2.1 Audit opinions

A clear audit opinion adds credibility to a financial report by providing reasonable assurance that the reported transactions and balances are reliable, accurate and comply with the Australian Auditing Standards.

A financial report outlines an entity's financial performance and position. Universities and their controlled entities prepare their financial reports in compliance with the Australian Accounting Standards and applicable legislation.

Figure 2A details the number of clear audit opinions issued for the universities and their controlled entities.

FIGURE 2A: Number of clear audit opinions issued for 2020



Note: *4 opinions outstanding.
Source: VAGO.

Overall, the sector's financial reports are accurate and reliable. See Appendix C for details on the date and nature of audit opinions issued.

At the date of this report, the audits of four controlled entities are in progress, because the entities did not provide draft financial reports to be audited within the required timeframe. These entities are:

- FIKA Entertainment Pty Ltd
- Monash University Indonesia Limited
- Goulburn Valley Equine Hospital Pty Ltd
- Melbourne Teaching Health Clinics Ltd.

While we issued no modified audit opinions, the audit opinion of the Australian Music Examinations Board (Victoria) Limited highlighted a material uncertainty relating to it as a going concern, due to the potential merger of the company with the national body, the Australian Music Examinations Board (Australia).

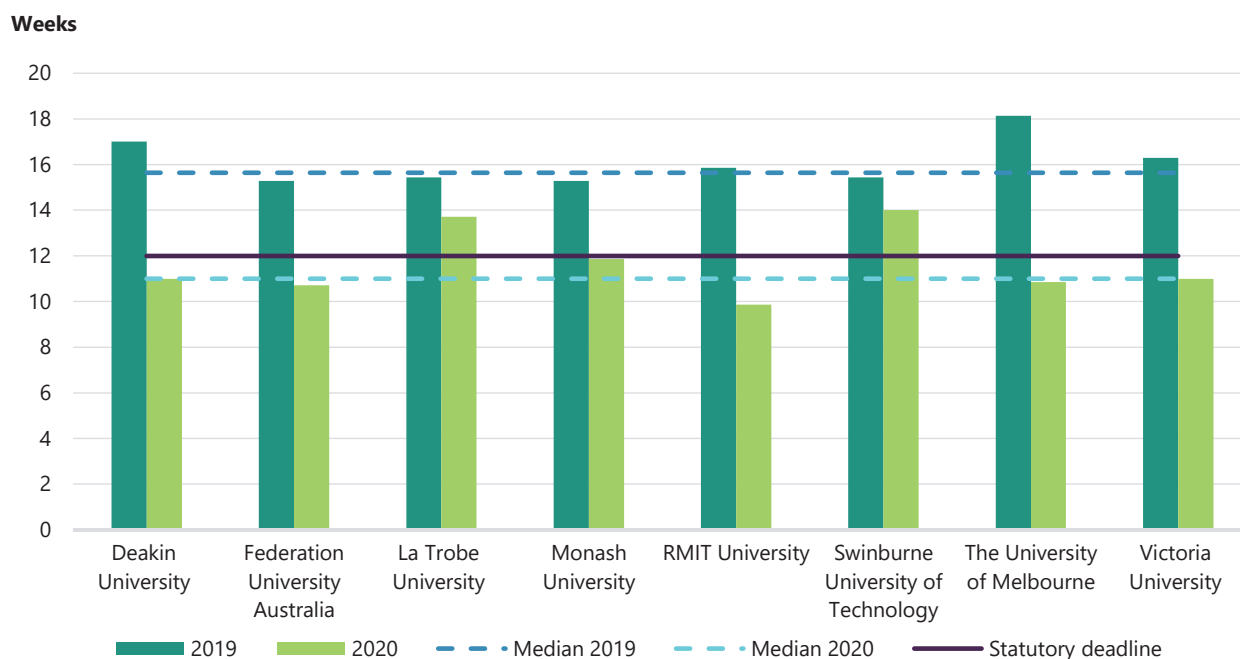
2.2 Timeliness of reporting

The sooner after year end that audited financial reports are published the more relevant and useful they are to their users.

Universities are required to finalise their audited financial reports within 12 weeks of the end of the financial year, as required by the FMA.

Figure 2B shows universities finalised their financial reports earlier in 2020 compared to 2019. In 2020, universities took a median of 11 weeks compared to 15.6 weeks in 2019.

FIGURE 2B: Timeliness of reporting by universities



Source: VAGO.

Six universities met their statutory deadline in 2020, finalising their financial reports within 12 weeks from year end. Two universities (La Trobe University and Swinburne University of Technology) did not meet the statutory deadline because university management delayed the certification of their financial reports until their full annual report was also finalised.

2.3 Quality of financial reports

High-quality financial reports reliably represent an entity's financial performance and position and should not contain material errors. The nature, frequency and size of any error affects a financial report's quality. We communicate material errors that we identify in a draft financial report with the entity. These errors must be corrected before we can issue a clear audit opinion. High-quality financial reports that are free of material errors reliably represent an entity's financial performance and position.

Material errors are significant misstatements or omissions of information in a financial report that may influence a user's decision-making.

Material errors identified during audits must be corrected by management before we can issue a clear audit opinion.

We identified:

- five financial errors in the financial reports of two universities totalling \$21.3 million
- nine classification or disclosure errors.

The value of the errors we identified were not material.

This is an improvement from the 25 errors identified in 2019 and demonstrates the sector's continued focus on improving quality assurance procedures over financial reporting processes.

2.4 Internal control observations

The FMA requires each public body to develop effective internal control systems to maintain proper accounts and records. The *Standing Directions 2018 Under the Financial Management Act 1994* also require each accountable officer to maintain an effective internal control system for their entity's financial management, performance and sustainability.

Effective internal controls help universities to reliably and cost-effectively meet their objectives. Good financial reporting controls are also a prerequisite for delivering sound, accurate and timely financial reports.

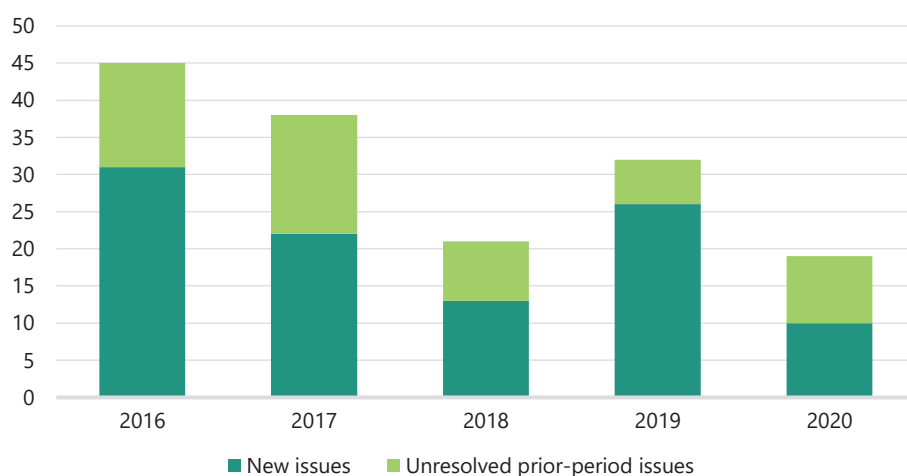
In our financial audits, we consider the internal controls relevant to financial reporting and assess whether universities have managed the risk that their reports will not be complete or accurate. Poor internal controls increase the risk of fraud or error, and also increase audit risk and cost.

Overall, universities' internal controls remain adequate for reliable financial reporting. However, we found instances where important control activities could be improved.

Figure 2C shows we identified fewer new issues in 2020, compared to 2019 and the three preceding years. This shows that universities are actively monitoring their internal controls and seeking to improve their internal control systems.

Figure 2C also shows the pattern of unresolved prior period issues. For 2020, the unresolved prior period issues increased from six in 2019 to nine. The preceding three years also demonstrate higher unresolved issue rates. Universities must address the recommendations relating to these issues reported in our management letters promptly, to strengthen the effectiveness of their internal control environment and financial reporting.

FIGURE 2C: Number of new and unresolved prior-period internal control issues for 2016 to 2020—medium and high-rated



Note: As low-rated issues are minor and/or may present opportunities to improve existing processes, we have excluded them from this figure.

Source: VAGO.

New issues

We reported 10 new medium or high-rated internal control issues in 2020, compared to 26 in 2019. Appendix D contains the risk rating definitions we use in our audit reporting to management and our expected timelines for issues to be resolved.

All 10 deficiencies identified relate to IT weaknesses. While the number of new issues reported in 2020 is lower, control weakness over information systems remain the key area that requires management attention.

Figure 2D summarises the IT issues we identified this year, categorised by rating and issue type.

FIGURE 2D: Internal control issues identified at universities during 2020 audits

Area of issue	High rated	Medium rated	Total
User access and authentication	–	5	5
Audit logging	1	3	4
Other	–	1	1
Total	1	9	10

Note: We reported seven new low-rated internal control issues in 2020. As these issues are minor and/or may present opportunities to improve existing processes, we have excluded them from this figure.

Source: VAGO.

Effective user-access management and authentication controls reduce the likelihood of unauthorised access to an entity's systems and underlying data. Audit logging controls record and monitor the access and changes made within systems. Together these controls decrease the risk of fraud or errors and the loss of data.

One high-rated issue was identified at Victoria University as no review of audit logs occurred to detect unauthorised access or updates to their key systems.

The remaining medium-rated issues were identified across six universities and relate to user access or audit logging control weaknesses over key systems. While reviews of audit logs were occurring, we found the frequency needs to increase and the retention of logs needs to be strengthened.

It is concerning to find these types of weaknesses continue around key IT controls. Universities need to prioritise and address IT issues promptly. It is increasingly important for universities to strengthen their IT control systems with the shift to remote course delivery, and growth in the number of staff accessing key information systems remotely. The risk of theft or loss of sensitive information is elevated by the increasing prevalence of cybersecurity threats.

Unresolved prior period issues

We monitor internal control issues raised in prior-year management letters to see if they are resolved.

During 2020, the sector resolved 10 (53 per cent) of the 19 medium-rated audit issues from prior years. Nine unresolved medium-risk issues remain at 31 December 2020 (compared to six at 31 December 2019). Two-thirds of these unresolved issues relate to IT controls.

The sector-wide high-rated issue we identified in 2019 relating to the accounting treatment of research grants has been revised to a low-rating issue this year. The issue remains unresolved due to the ambiguity of the current accounting guidance on termination for convenience clauses contained in most research grants, and the divergent views in regard to how to account for them.

We encourage the sector to engage and remain informed about developments on this matter.

2.5 AASB 1059 Service Concession Arrangements: Grantors

AASB 1059 applied to the university sector for the first time in the 2020 reporting period.

Service concession arrangements are contracts between a public sector entity and an operator, where the operator:

- builds or uses an asset (service concession asset) to deliver public services on behalf of the public sector entity
- is responsible for at least some of the management of public services provided through the asset
- is compensated for its services over a specified contract period.

AASB 1059 requires the public sector grantor to recognise a service concession asset and a liability in relation to the arrangements, where the grantor controls the underlying asset.

This new standard did not have a significant impact to the university sector in 2020, as there was only one university with service concession arrangements. The University of Melbourne applied AASB 1059 retrospectively at the date of initial application, meaning it applied the requirements of the standard from 1 January 2019 and restated its 2019 prior year comparative.

The University of Melbourne has service concession arrangements with private sector operators for the provision of student accommodation. The impact of applying the new standard was the recognition of \$196 million of service concession assets and a \$152 million related liability at 1 January 2019. The impact to the net result is minimal.

3.

Financial performance and sustainability

Conclusion

The COVID-19 pandemic significantly affected the financial performance of the university sector during 2020. The loss of international students and consequential decline in revenue led to the implementation of cost-saving measures by the sector so it could remain financially sustainable in the short term.

The longer-term financial sustainability risk to the sector increases the longer the international borders stay closed. Universities need to actively manage costs and may need to rethink their business models to remain financially sustainable.

This chapter discusses:

- The sector's financial performance and position
 - Risks to financial sustainability
-

3.1 Financial performance

The sector's financial performance was significantly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic during 2020. Figure 3A shows that the sector generated a collective net surplus of \$317 million, a decline of \$640 million (or 67 per cent) from the \$957 million surplus generated in 2019.

The prior year net result reflected strong revenue growth from student enrolment numbers and fair value gains on financial investments. The growth in these revenue streams declined in 2020 because of the pandemic.

Of the eight universities, five reported a net surplus in 2020, compared to all eight in 2019. The financial challenges posed by the pandemic required cost-saving measures to offset the revenue shortfall.

To assist in interpreting this year's results, it is important to first understand the impact of COVID-19 to the sector. Universities:

- moved to remote course delivery via digital platforms
- received Australian and Victorian government assistance through payroll tax relief and JobKeeper subsidies in some instances
- restructured, slowed recruitment activity and offered voluntary redundancies
- deferred non-essential capital programs
- closely monitored and reduced operating expenditure
- planned sales of land and buildings
- sought approval of the Victorian Government to increase regulated borrowing limits.

FIGURE 3A: Financial performance of the university sector for the years ended 31 December 2016–20



Note: Figures for 2016 to 2018 have been adjusted for the two universities with qualified audit opinions.

Source: VAGO.

Revenue

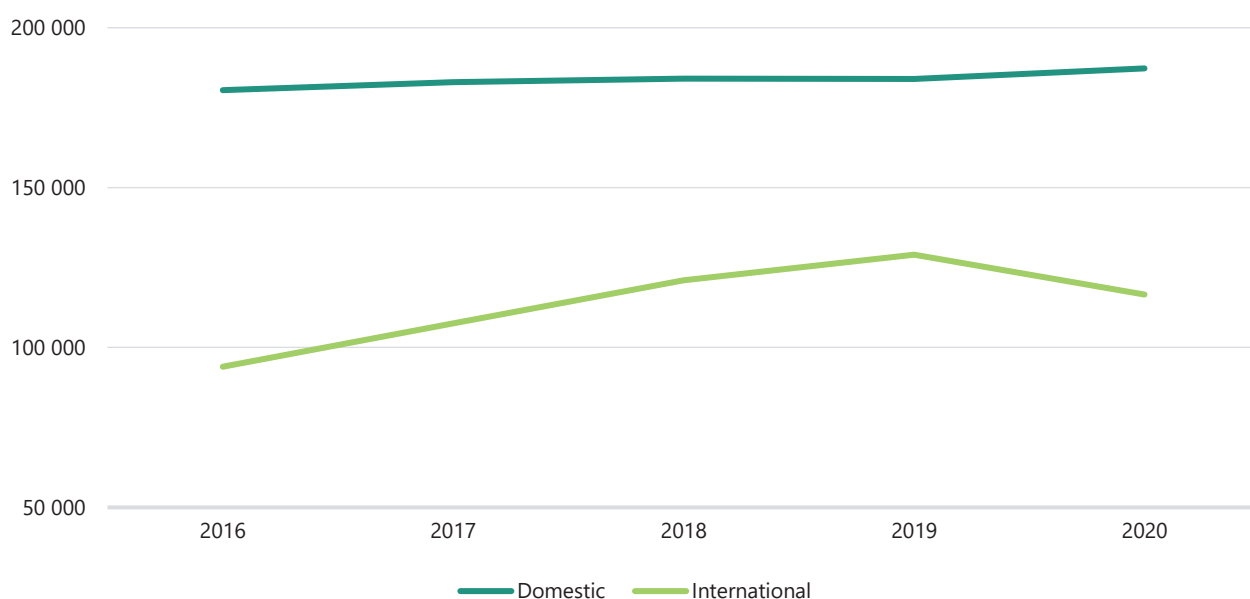
As can be seen in Figure 3A, the sector's revenue fell by \$587 million (or 5 per cent).

Student enrolments are a key driver of revenue for the sector. In 2020, total EFTSL declined for the first time in five years. Figure 3B shows international EFTSL fell by 10 per cent to 116 490 in 2020 due to the international border closures, which were a result of the Australian Government's response to the pandemic.

Domestic student numbers improved in 2020 with 2 per cent growth from 2019 to 187 226 EFTSL.

One **equivalent full-time student load (EFTSL)** represents the equivalent of a student who is studying on a full-time basis for a year.

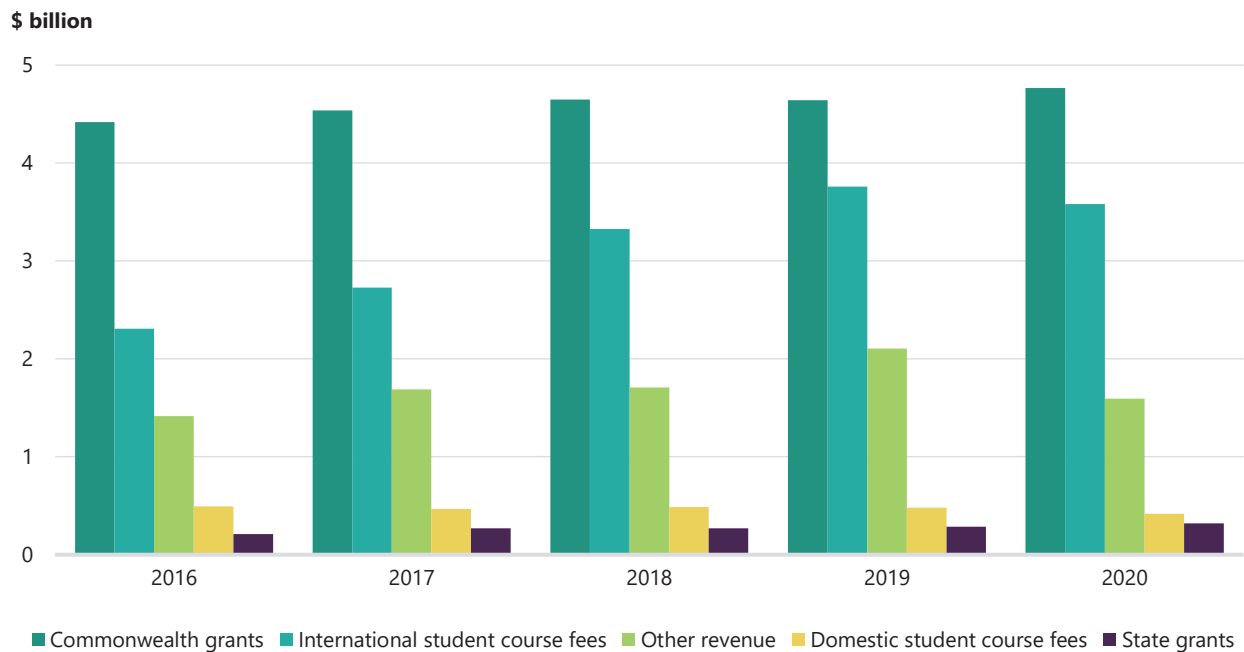
FIGURE 3B: University sector number of domestic and international EFTSL for the years ended 31 December 2016–20



Source: VAGO.

Figure 3C shows the university sector revenue by type for the past five years.

FIGURE 3C: University sector revenue by type for the years ended 31 December 2016–20



Note: Figures for 2016 to 2018 have been adjusted for the two universities with qualified audit opinions.

Source: VAGO.

Grants from the Australian Government are the sector's largest source of revenue making up 45 per cent of total revenue in 2020. The sector increased its reliance from this source in 2020 with an additional \$125 million in grants received, partly due to the 2 per cent growth in domestic student enrolments and guaranteed Commonwealth Grant Scheme and HELP funding from the Australian Government.

Revenue from international students is still the second largest revenue source, making up 34 per cent of total revenue in 2020, despite a fall of \$178 million (or 5 per cent) due to the pandemic.

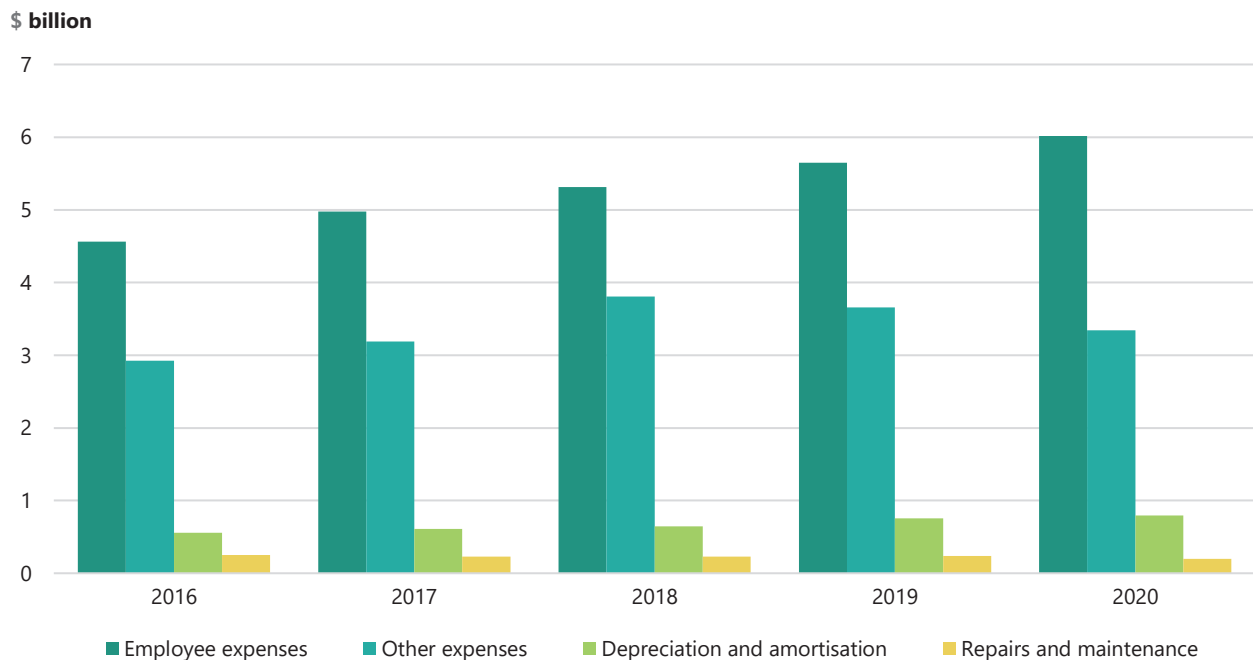
Other revenue fell significantly by \$510 million (or 24 per cent) in 2020. This is due to:

- lower income from investments of \$396 million, with the weakening of the global economy as a result of the pandemic
- other student fees and charges declining by \$116 million, with student accommodation, student services and amenities, rent and the use of facilities and parking revenue streams all impacted by the loss of international students and the restriction of on-campus activities.

Expenses

As Figure 3D shows, the steady growth in expenses from 2016 to 2019 slowed in 2020, increasing only by \$53 million (or 0.5%).

FIGURE 3D: University sector expenses by type for the years ended 31 December 2016–20



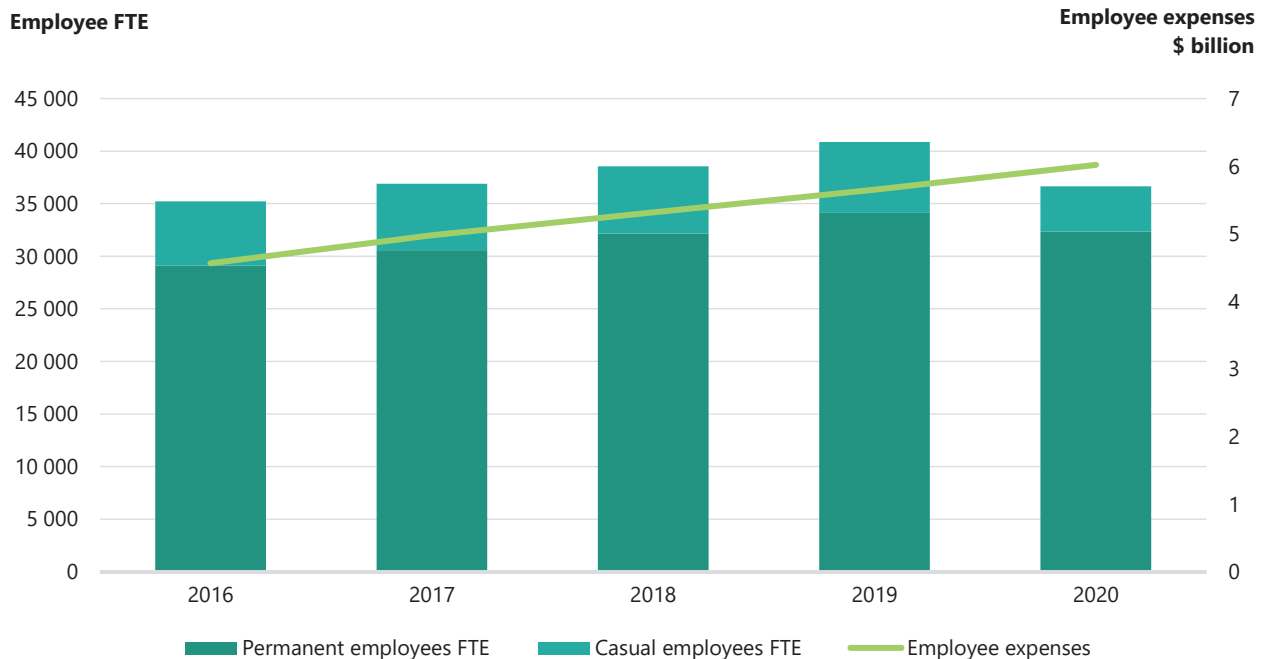
Source: VAGO.

Employee expenses continue to be the most significant cost to the sector. To manage the loss of international student numbers and consequential decline in revenue, the sector reduced its employee base by 4 210 full-time equivalents (FTE) (or 10 per cent) in 2020. Forty-two per cent of staff losses were permanent employees.

Figure 3E shows that despite the fall in employee numbers, employee expenses continued to grow and increased by \$370 million (or 6.5 per cent) to \$6 billion in 2020. This is partly due to the significant cost of the redundancy programs. In 2020, the sector reported \$233.8 million in termination expenses (\$36.8 million in 2019).

The cost savings from staff losses will be realised in 2021.

FIGURE 3E: University sector permanent and casual employees FTE and employee expenses for the years ended 31 December 2016–20



Source: VAGO.

In addition to constraining employee costs, the sector scaled back on non-essential discretionary expenses. In 2020, other expenses fell by \$318 million (or 9 per cent).

International travel restrictions and lockdowns implemented by the Victorian Government contributed to significant savings in travel and staff-related costs. Expenses in this category fell by \$228 million (or 64 per cent) in 2020 providing the largest area of cost savings for the sector.

Contracted and professional services is the second largest area of cost savings, declining by \$84 million (or 11 per cent) in 2020. International agent and partnership costs were impacted by border closures and decreased by \$40 million (or 24 per cent).

Universities spent \$65 million (or 62 per cent) more to support students through the COVID-19 pandemic year.

3.2 Financial position

As at 31 December 2020, total assets increased by \$2 billion (or 8 per cent), and total liabilities increased by \$1 billion (or 14 per cent) compared to the prior year.

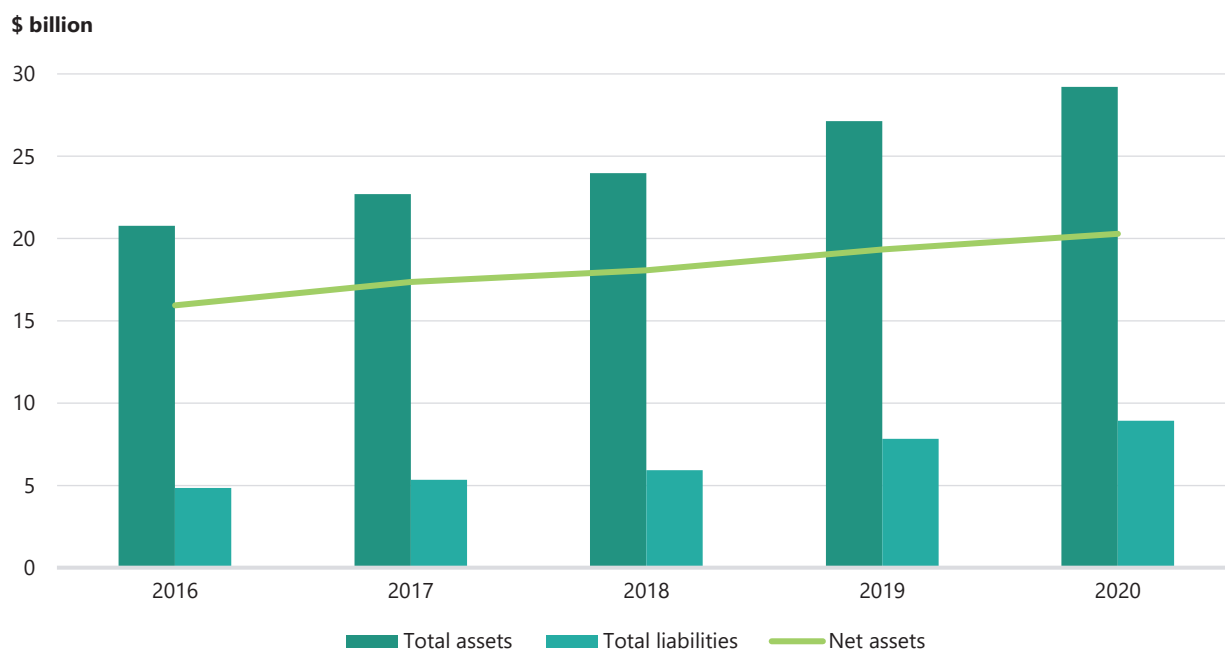
The main drivers for the movement in total assets are a \$1 billion increase in the fair value of property, plant and equipment held by the sector because of asset valuations performed and the addition of right-of-use and service concession assets. An increase of \$0.8 billion in cash and other financial investments, partly from increased

A **right-of-use asset** is an asset that the lessee has the right to use for the term of the lease.

borrowings, also contributed to the increase in total assets. Figure 3H includes further analysis on the sector's cashflows.

The increase in total liabilities was driven by the sector taking on an additional \$338 million of borrowings to manage short-term cashflow needs, as well as \$333 million of additional liabilities associated with new lease arrangements in 2020. Provisions also increased by \$183 million due to fewer staff taking leave, and the recognition of liabilities for staff restructures and leased assets.

FIGURE 3F: Total assets, total liabilities and net assets of the university sector as at 31 December 2016–20



Note: Figures for 2016 to 2018 have been adjusted for the two universities with qualified audit opinions.

Source: VAGO.

Figure 3F shows that despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the net asset position of the sector is still strong. This reflects its large portfolio of land, buildings and equipment, which the universities use to deliver their services.

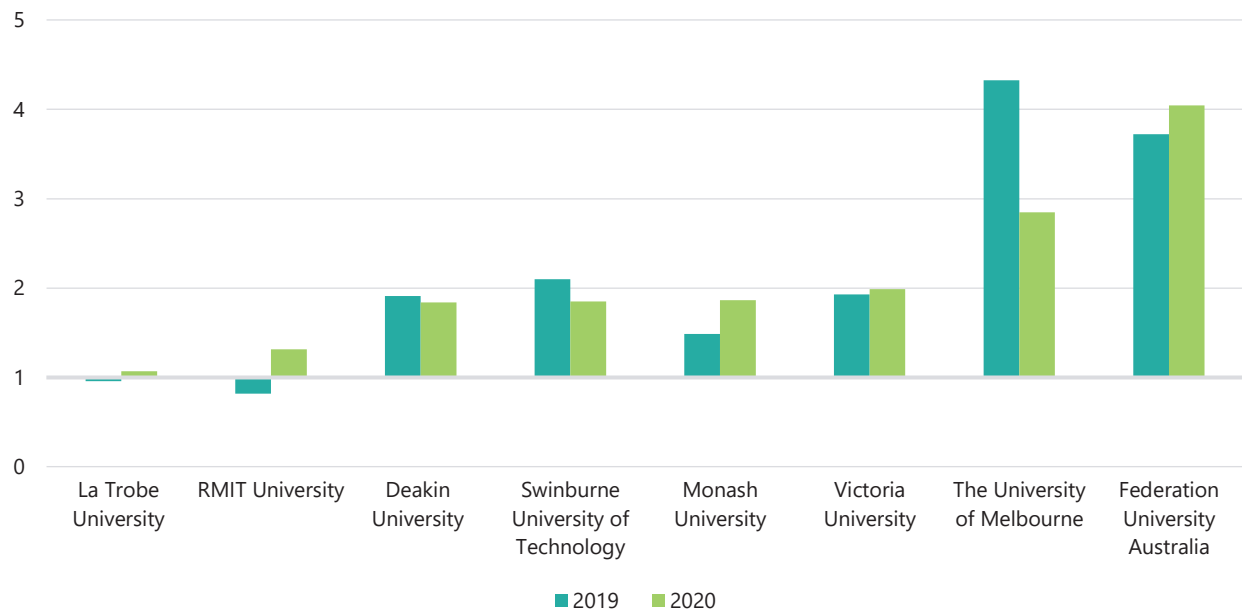
However, these assets are illiquid, and cannot be relied upon if a university requires cash to meet its short-term debts.

The adjusted liquidity ratio is a better indication of whether universities are likely to be able to service their debt obligations in the immediate future. Figure 3G shows the adjusted liquidity ratio for universities for the past two years.

The **adjusted liquidity ratio** includes non-current financial investments as most of them can be converted to cash or cash equivalents at short notice and are available to the universities to meet any liabilities if required.

FIGURE 3G: **Adjusted liquidity ratio for universities as at 31 December 2019–20**

Adjusted liquidity ratio



Source: VAGO.

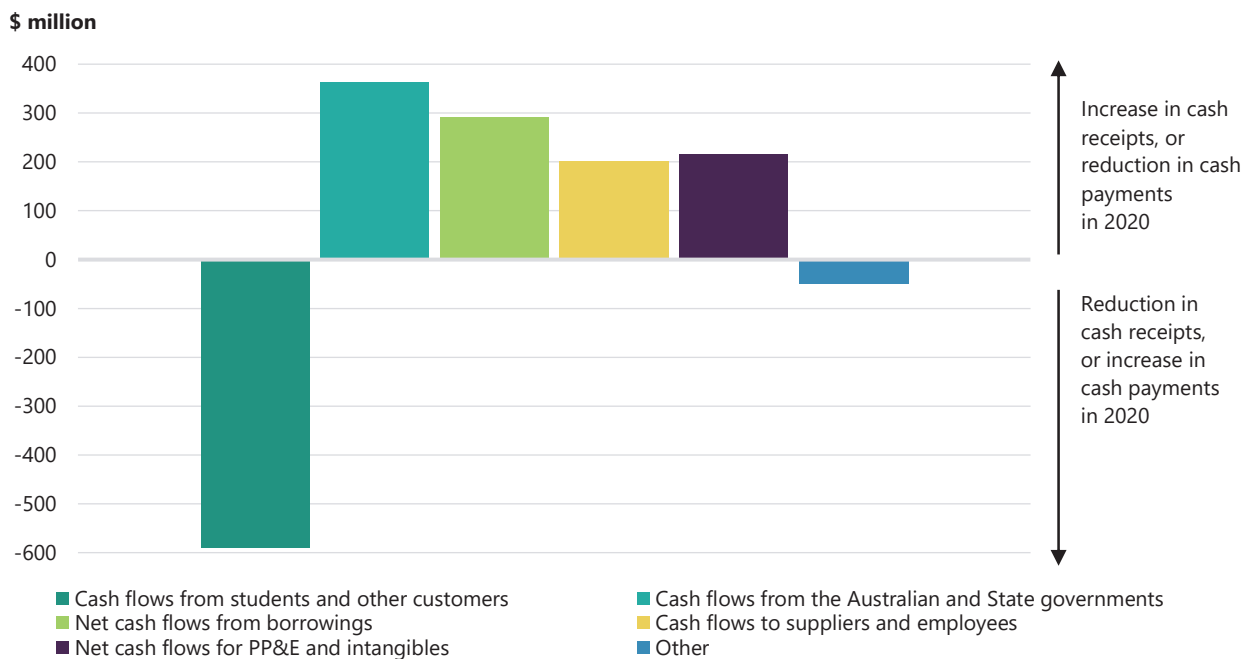
As at 31 December 2020, all eight universities have adjusted liquidity ratios above 1.0, meaning they held enough liquid assets to meet their short-term liabilities.

La Trobe University's adjusted liquidity ratio at 31 December 2020 was 1.07. To enable the university to continue to meet short-term obligations as they fall due, La Trobe University increased cash holdings with an additional \$195 million of debt during 31 December 2020. They will also continue with cost reduction measures into 2021. The university will need to consider their ongoing ability to service and pay down their debt in the medium-long term.

In 2020, RMIT University reclassified \$73.6 million of land and buildings in the central business district from non-current to current assets in anticipation of its sale. This factor, together with an increase in its debt facilities, contributed to the improvement in the university's liquidity position.

The sector took significant steps to ensure sufficient cash balances are held in the short term. Despite the loss of international student revenue, the sector's cash balances increased by \$503 million (or 34 per cent) in 2020. The main drivers contributing to this increase in 2020 are shown in Figure 3H.

FIGURE 3H: Changes in cashflows from 2019 to 2020 by category



Source: VAGO.

As Figure 3H shows, the decline in international students and restricted on-campus activities resulted in \$591 million less cash from students for the sector.

Despite this, the sector achieved higher cash balances in 2020. To ensure they have available cash in the short term, the sector:

- received increased funding from the Australian and Victorian governments
- increased medium-to-long-term borrowings
- reduced non-discretionary spending and accepted the Victorian Government's temporary cash relief through the deferral of payroll tax payments resulting in less cash payments made to suppliers and employees
- deferred non-essential capital project expenditure resulting in \$259 million less spend on property, plant and equipment and intangible assets.

3.3 Financial sustainability risks to the sector

The COVID-19 pandemic had a significant impact to the sector's financial performance in 2020. The decline in international student numbers will continue to affect revenue over the next few years because students completing their multi-year degree in 2020 will not be replaced by new students. The longer-term financial sustainability risk to the sector increases as borders stay closed. The risk of losing international student market share increases in likelihood.

Universities moved to online course delivery in 2020. They may need to further rethink their business models to create a teaching and learning experience that will diversify the markets from which they attract students.

There is greater emphasis on the need for upskilling and reskilling the community as Australia recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Reforms under the Australian Government's Job-ready Graduates Package became effective on 1 January 2021. It changed the cost of degrees, and is designed to encourage domestic students to enrol in priority areas such as engineering, computing, allied health, education, and nursing to help the community and economy recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. It was also designed to increase opportunities for regional, remote and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

These reforms may present an opportunity to increase domestic student enrolments and revenue for the sector.

We expect the prolonged border closures to continue to disrupt the sector and create financial challenges into 2021 and beyond. While steps were taken by the sector to manage their financial resilience, several of these measures are not sustainable in the longer term.

APPENDIX A

Submissions and comments

We have consulted with DET and the eight public universities in Victoria, and we considered their views when reaching our audit conclusions. As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, we gave a draft copy of this report, or relevant extracts, to those agencies and asked for their submissions and comments.

Responsibility for the accuracy, fairness and balance of those comments rests solely with the agency head.

We also provided a copy of the report to DTF and DPC for their information.

Responses were received as follows:

DET	27
RMIT University	28



Department of
Education and Training

Office of the Secretary

2 Treasury Place
East Melbourne Victoria 3002
Telephone: 03 9637 2000
DX210083

BRI2178137

Mr Andrew Greaves
Auditor-General
Victorian Auditor-General's Office
Level 31, 35 Collins Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

UniSnapshot21@audit.vic.gov.au

Dear Auditor-General

Thank you for your letter of 7 June 2021 inviting the Department of Education and Training (the Department) to provide submissions or comments on the proposed audit report *Results of 2020 Audits: Universities* (the Report).

The Department welcomes the Report and its findings. I note your conclusion that the financial reports of the universities and their controlled entities are reliable. I also support the recommendation made.

The eight university Acts contain no general Ministerial power of direction over universities. The legislative responsibilities of the Minister for Training and Skills and Minister for Higher Education under the Acts are limited to making some Council appointments, approving the acquisition, disposal and leasing of some land, approving certain commercial activities, and approving the amendment of university statutes.

I am therefore supporting, rather than formally accepting, your recommendation.

If your team would like to discuss this matter further, please contact Ms Susan Thomas, A/Executive Director, TAFE and Tertiary Institutions, Department of Education and Training, on (03) 7022 0304 or by email: Susan.Thomas@education.vic.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Jenny Atta
Secretary
15 / 06 / 2021

Your details will be dealt with in accordance with the *Public Records Act 1973* and the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014*. Should you have any queries or wish to gain access to your personal information held by this department please contact our Privacy Officer at the above address





RMIT Classification: Trusted



Financial Control

GPO Box 2476
Melbourne VIC 3001
Australia
Tel. +61 3 9925 7241

15 June 2021

Charlotte Jeffries
Director – Financial Audit
Victorian Auditor-General's Office
Level 31, 35 Collins Street,
Melbourne VIC 3000

Dear Charlotte,

**Invitation for comment: Proposed Financial Audit Report - Results of 2020 Audits:
Universities**

We refer to your email of 7 June 2021 regarding the abovementioned report and thank you for the offer to provide formal feedback. Outlined below 2 areas of feedback that we bring to your attention and consideration

1. On page 4 of the report, you provide a representation of the student population (EFTSL) split between domestic and international students (higher education only, i.e. excluding vocation education). As previously suggested to you, we believe this simplified view of our student population is misleading.

RMIT has a global presence. More pertinently, we have a large campus and student population based in Vietnam. For the purposes of the metrics contained in your report, these students are considered "international".

We believe it is important to distinguish between those international students who come to Australia to complete their studies ("international onshore" students) and those who are studying in other parts of the world ("international offshore" students), particularly where those studies are being undertaken in the student's home country.

We believe the need to highlight this distinction is heightened by the impact that Covid-19 related international border closures are having on the Australian higher education sector and our ability to retain international students.



RMIT Classification: Trusted

For your reference, these proportions for RMIT in 2020 were:

	2020		2019	
	No. (excl VE)	%	No. (excl VE)	%
International Onshore	12,703	24%	14,924	28%
International Offshore	10,448	20%	10,216	19%
Total International	23,151	44%	25,140	47%
Domestic	29,328	56%	28,864	53%
Total EFTSL	52,479		54,004	

** Please note that the 2020 total EFTSL figures are as per the Annual Report. These figures have since been further refined and verified with an immaterial difference being noted.*

2. On page 33 you make the following comment in relation to the 'repairs and maintenance to depreciation' ratio:

"This measures the rate of assets being replaced or renewed. Generally, a ratio above 100 per cent indicates long-term assets are being adequately renewed."

We disagree with the use of such a ratio in the manner described. We believe the more relevant metric for this comment should be capital expenditure to depreciation, rather than repairs and maintenance.

Should you wish to discuss any of these matters in further detail, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,



Clare Lezaja
Chief Financial Officer

APPENDIX B

Acronyms and abbreviations

Acronyms

DET	Department of Education and Training
DPC	Department of Premier and Cabinet
DTF	Department of Treasury and Finance
EFTSL	equivalent full-time student load
FMA	<i>Financial Management Act 1994</i>
FTE	full-time equivalent
Go8	Group of 8
HESA Act	<i>Higher Education Support Act 2003</i>
TEQSA Act	<i>Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency Act 2011</i>
VAGO	Victorian Auditor-General's Office

Abbreviations

AASB 1059	<i>AASB 1059 Service Concession Arrangements: Grantors</i>
COVID-19	coronavirus

APPENDIX C

Audit opinions

Figure C1 lists the entities included in this report. It details the type of audit opinion for their 2020 financial reports, and the date it was issued to each entity.

FIGURE C1: **Audit opinions issued for the university sector for the year ended 31 December 2020**

Entity	Clear audit opinion issued	Audit opinion signed date
Deakin University	✓	24 March 2021
Deakin Residential Services Pty Ltd	✓	25 March 2021
FIKA Entertainment Pty Ltd	n/a	n/a
Unilink Limited	✓	25 March 2021
Universal Motion Simulator Pty Ltd	✓	25 March 2021
Federation University Australia	✓	20 March 2021
Brisbane Education Services Pty Ltd	✓	20 March 2021
Datascreen Pty Ltd	✓	20 March 2021
Inskill Pty Ltd	✓	20 March 2021
The School of Mines and Industries Ballarat Limited	✓	24 March 2021
La Trobe University	✓	8 April 2021
Unitemps La Trobe Ltd	✓	16 June 2021
Monash University	✓	1 April 2021
Monash Accommodation Services Pty Ltd	✓	14 April 2021
Monash College Pty Ltd	✓	30 March 2021
Monash Commercial Pty Ltd	✓	13 April 2021
Monash Investment Holdings Pty Ltd	✓	16 April 2021
Monash Investment Trust	✓	16 April 2021
Monash University Foundation Pty Ltd	✓	12 April 2021
Monash University Foundation	✓	12 April 2021

Entity	Clear audit opinion issued	Audit opinion signed date
Monash University Indonesia Limited	n/a	n/a
RMIT University	✓	16 March 2021
RMIT Holdings Pty Ltd	✓	21 May 2021
RMIT Indonesia Pty Ltd	✓	4 March 2021
RMIT Online Pty Ltd	✓	4 March 2021
RMIT Spain SL	✓	4 March 2021
RMIT Training Pty Ltd	✓	4 March 2021
Swinburne University of Technology	✓	8 April 2021
Capsular Technologies Pty Ltd	✓	12 April 2021
National Institute of Circus Arts Limited	✓	9 April 2021
Swinburne Academy	✓	12 April 2021
Swinburne Intellectual Property Trust	✓	13 April 2021
Swinburne International (Holdings) Pty Ltd	✓	12 April 2021
Swinburne Student Amenities Association Ltd	✓	13 April 2021
Swinburne Ventures Ltd	✓	13 April 2021
The University of Melbourne	✓	30 March 2021
Australian Music Examinations Board (Victoria) Limited	Material uncertainty related to going concern	30 March 2021
Goulburn Valley Equine Hospital Pty Ltd	n/a	n/a
Melbourne Business School Limited	✓	27 April 2021
Melbourne University Publishing Limited	✓	3 May 2021
Melbourne Teaching Health Clinics Ltd	n/a	n/a
Mt Eliza Graduate School of Business and Government Limited	✓	8 June 2021
Nossal Institute Limited	✓	12 April 2021
UM Commercialisation Pty Ltd	✓	26 May 2021
UM Commercialisation Trust	✓	10 May 2021
UOM Commercial Ltd	✓	13 April 2021
Victoria University	✓	26 March 2021
Victoria University Enterprises Pty Ltd	✓	18 March 2021
VU Online Pty Ltd	✓	18 March 2021

Note: n/a = not applicable. Financial reports were not yet signed, so we have not been able to issue an audit opinion for this entity at the date of this report.

Source: VAGO.

APPENDIX D

Control issues risk ratings

Figure D1 shows the risk ratings applied to issues raised in management letters. It also details what they represent and the expected timeline for the issue to be resolved.

FIGURE D1: **Risk definitions applied to issues reported in audit management letters**

Rating	Definition	Management action required
High	<p>The issue represents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a material misstatement in the financial report that has occurred, or an issue that could potentially result in a modified audit opinion if not addressed as a matter of urgency by the entity, or a control weakness which could cause or is causing a major disruption of the process or the entity's ability to achieve process objectives in relation to financial reporting and comply with relevant legislation. 	<p>Requires executive management to correct the misstatement in the financial report, or address the issue, as a matter of urgency to avoid a modified audit opinion.</p> <p>Requires immediate management intervention with a detailed action plan to be implemented within one month.</p>
Medium	<p>The issue represents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a misstatement in the financial report that is not material and has occurred, or that may occur, the impact of which has the possibility to be material, or a control weakness that could have or is having a moderate adverse effect on the ability to achieve process objectives and comply with relevant legislation. 	<p>Requires management intervention with a detailed action plan implemented within three to six months.</p>
Low	<p>The issue represents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a misstatement in the financial report that is likely to occur but is not expected to be material, or a minor control weakness with minimal but reportable impact on the ability to achieve process objectives and comply with relevant legislation, or an opportunity to improve an existing process or internal control. 	<p>Requires management intervention with a detailed action plan implemented within six to 12 months.</p>

Source: VAGO.

APPENDIX E

Financial and non-financial sustainability indicators

Figure E1 shows the financial indicators used to assess the financial sustainability risks of universities. These indicators should be considered collectively and are more useful when assessed over time as part of a trend analysis.

Our analysis of financial sustainability risk in this report reflects on the position of each university.

FIGURE E1: **Financial and non-financial sustainability indicators, formulas and descriptions**

Indicator	Formula	Description
Net result margin (%)	Net result/ Total revenue	<p>A positive result indicates a surplus, and the larger the percentage, the stronger the result.</p> <p>A negative result indicates a deficit. Operating deficits cannot be sustained in the long term.</p> <p>The net result and total revenue are obtained from the comprehensive operating statement.</p> <p>The adjusted net result margin is the net result margin adjusted for the one-off accounting changes introduced by AASB 9 <i>Financial Instruments</i> in 2018.</p>
Liquidity (ratio)	Current assets/ Current liabilities	<p>This measures the ability to pay existing liabilities in the next 12 months.</p> <p>A ratio of one or more means that there are more cash and liquid assets than short-term liabilities</p>
Adjusted liquidity (ratio)	(Current assets + Non-current financial investments)/ Current liabilities	<p>Liquidity ratio adjusted to include non-current financial investments, since most of these can be converted to cash or cash equivalents at short notice and are available to the universities to meet any liabilities if required.</p> <p>The ratio should ideally be above 1, indicating that there are sufficient liquid assets to meet short-term liabilities.</p>
Capital replacement (ratio)	Cash outflows for property, plant and equipment/ Depreciation	<p>Comparison of the rate of spending on infrastructure with its depreciation. Ratios higher than 1:1 indicate that spending is faster than the depreciating rate.</p>

Indicator	Formula	Description
		This is a long-term indicator, as capital expenditure can be deferred in the short term if there are insufficient funds available from operations and borrowing is not an option. Cash outflows for infrastructure are taken from the cashflow statement. Depreciation is taken from the comprehensive operating statement.
Internal financing (%)	Net operating cashflow/ Net capital expenditure	<p>This measures the ability of an entity to finance capital works from generated cashflow.</p> <p>The higher the percentage, the greater the ability for the entity to finance capital works from their own funds.</p> <p>Net operating cashflows and net capital expenditure are obtained from the cashflow statement.</p> <p>Note: The internal financing ratio cannot be less than 0. Where a calculation has produced a negative result, this has been rounded up to 0%.</p>
Debt to equity (%)	Total borrowings/ Equity	This measures the reliance on debt as a source of funding. A higher ratio indicates greater reliance on debt and an increased risk of insolvency.
Cost of debt (%)	Finance costs/ Total borrowings	This measures the effective rate of interest and other costs paid on borrowings.
Employee benefits ratio (%)	Employee expenses/ Total revenue	<p>This measures how efficiently each university uses its staff to deliver revenue-generating services.</p> <p>Generally, a smaller ratio indicates a more efficient and sustainable workforce.</p>
Repairs and maintenance to depreciation (%)	Repairs and maintenance expenses/ Depreciation	<p>This measures the rate of assets being replaced or renewed.</p> <p>Generally, a ratio above 100 per cent indicates long-term assets are being adequately renewed.</p>
Effective Full-Time Student Load (EFTSL) to Employee Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) (ratio)	Total EFTSL/ Total FTE employees	This measures the adequacy of available resources per student load.
Employee expenses per EFTSL (ratio)	Employee expenses/ Total EFTSL	<p>This measures the cost of employees per student.</p> <p>Generally, a smaller ratio indicates greater cost efficiency.</p>
Operating expenses per EFTSL (ratio)	Operating expenses/ Total EFTSL	<p>This measures the operational cost per student.</p> <p>Generally, a smaller ratio indicates greater cost efficiency.</p>

Source: VAGO.

Financial and non-financial sustainability analysis results

Figures E2 to E9 show the financial and non-financial sustainability indicators for each university and its controlled entities (each consolidated university), for the financial years ended 31 December 2016–20.

We have also published detailed benchmarking, the underlying raw data and each universities' results for each indicator from 2016 to 2020 on our website as part of our interactive data dashboard.

FIGURE E2: **Deakin University**

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Net result margin	5.10%	9.72%	4.45%	7.98%	1.39%
Adjusted net result margin	n/a	n/a	7.50%	n/a	n/a
Liquidity	0.93	0.96	0.77	0.53	0.54
Adjusted liquidity	2.02	2.10	2.05	1.91	1.84
Capital replacement	2.01	1.61	1.84	2.14	1.12
Internal financing	110%	145%	126%	91%	151%
Debt to equity	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cost of debt	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Employee benefits ratio	56.50%	54.07%	54.79%	53.60%	59.27%
Repairs and maintenance to depreciation	63.81%	54.27%	54.98%	53.98%	39.08%
EFTSL to Employee FTE	8.39	8.45	8.03	8.06	8.91
Employee expenses per EFTSL (\$'000)	15.10	15.38	16.10	16.68	16.76
Operating expenses per EFTSL (\$'000)	23.22	23.36	25.07	26.24	25.10

Source: VAGO.

FIGURE E3: **Federation University Australia**

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Net result margin	0.20%	-2.54%	2.00%	9.75%	1.13%
Adjusted net result margin	n/a	n/a	2.00%	n/a	n/a
Liquidity	2.78	2.36	1.76	1.83	1.39
Adjusted liquidity	4.05	3.91	3.18	3.72	4.05
Capital replacement	0.48	1.26	1.52	1.21	1.04
Internal financing	12%	25%	166%	77%	152%
Debt to equity	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cost of debt	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Employee benefits ratio	57.05%	59.99%	48.03%	42.37%	51.95%
Repairs and maintenance to depreciation	35.62%	50.11%	44.13%	33.74%	38.87%
EFTSL to Employee FTE	8.56	8.52	10.65	10.85	9.61
Employee expenses per EFTSL (\$'000)	12.98	14.46	11.57	10.34	13.36
Operating expenses per EFTSL (\$'000)	21.28	23.20	22.28	20.35	23.34

Note: 2019 ratios have been revised to reflect the university's restated comparative amounts.

Note: EFTSL for the calculation of the above ratios where relevant, includes vocational education student loads.

Source: VAGO.

FIGURE E4: **La Trobe University**

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Net result margin	5.10%	3.77%	3.76%	2.23%	-6.54%
Adjusted net result margin	n/a	n/a	3.62%	n/a	n/a
Liquidity	0.78	0.62	0.66	0.53	0.82
Adjusted liquidity	1.15	1.01	1.09	0.96	1.07
Capital replacement	2.30	2.11	1.72	2.73	1.78
Internal financing	87%	101%	103%	49%	38%
Debt to equity	4.64%	4.06%	3.68%	9.26%	23.99%
Cost of debt	6.09%	5.29%	4.28%	0.95%	0.55%
Employee benefits ratio	52.19%	54.44%	52.44%	53.15%	58.17%
Repairs and maintenance to depreciation	23.00%	22.83%	23.73%	25.40%	21.90%
EFTSL to Employee FTE	9.35	9.08	9.22	8.70	10.90
Employee expenses per EFTSL (\$'000)	13.31	14.18	14.24	15.88	16.64
Operating expenses per EFTSL (\$'000)	21.67	22.64	23.61	26.46	27.49

Source: VAGO.

FIGURE E5: **Monash University**

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Net result margin	7.80%	5.97%	6.06%	11.84%	9.47%
Adjusted net result margin	n/a	n/a	8.95%	n/a	n/a
Liquidity	0.35	0.40	0.56	0.50	0.86
Adjusted liquidity	1.48	1.70	1.86	1.49	1.86
Capital replacement	3.16	3.47	2.42	2.01	1.35
Internal financing	86%	59%	87%	114%	167%
Debt to equity	17.46%	23.78%	25.56%	23.35%	22.02%
Cost of debt	5.44%	5.03%	4.94%	5.39%	5.16%
Employee benefits ratio	48.02%	48.81%	46.73%	44.79%	49.37%
Repairs and maintenance to depreciation	37.73%	38.31%	33.21%	24.07%	17.47%
EFTSL to Employee FTE	7.41	7.80	7.99	7.65	8.50
Employee expenses per EFTSL (\$'000)	16.38	15.99	16.60	17.58	19.94
Operating expenses per EFTSL (\$'000)	29.04	28.58	30.02	31.66	32.85

Note: EFTSL for the calculation of the above ratios where relevant, includes student loads for significant operations within the Monash University Group.

Source: VAGO.

FIGURE E6: **RMIT University**

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Net result margin	7.62%	5.43%	6.21%	4.14%	-3.83%
Adjusted net result margin	n/a	n/a	6.65%	n/a	n/a
Liquidity	0.53	0.53	0.48	0.51	0.89
Adjusted liquidity	0.77	0.80	0.77	0.82	1.31
Capital replacement	2.84	2.60	1.67	1.54	0.71
Internal financing	93%	69%	121%	105%	29%
Debt to equity	11.94%	13.42%	10.96%	13.28%	17.40%
Cost of debt	2.97%	2.59%	3.95%	2.64%	1.97%
Employee benefits ratio	55.23%	56.14%	55.45%	56.66%	65.86%
Repairs and maintenance to depreciation	51.03%	22.85%	19.62%	27.77%	19.63%
EFTSL to Employee FTE	9.96	10.04	9.82	9.03	9.92
Employee expenses per EFTSL (\$'000)	12.13	12.60	13.26	13.67	15.84
Operating expenses per EFTSL (\$'000)	18.67	19.35	20.17	21.06	22.53

Note: EFTSL for the calculation of the above ratios where relevant, includes vocational education student loads.

Source: VAGO.

FIGURE E7: **Swinburne University of Technology**

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Net result margin	3.25%	15.60%	-1.13%	4.44%	-6.50%
Adjusted net result margin	n/a	n/a	0.97%	n/a	n/a
Liquidity	0.90	0.90	0.87	0.51	0.48
Adjusted liquidity	2.40	2.67	2.27	2.10	1.85
Capital replacement	0.44	1.83	1.56	2.39	0.99
Internal financing	545%	118%	21%	43%	92%
Debt to equity	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cost of debt	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Employee benefits ratio	48.34%	45.06%	53.79%	50.53%	56.20%
Repairs and maintenance to depreciation	40.77%	43.17%	35.88%	28.00%	21.22%
EFTSL to Employee FTE	13.36	12.67	11.90	11.99	13.06
Employee expenses per EFTSL (\$'000)	9.50	10.31	11.50	11.08	12.31
Operating expenses per EFTSL (\$'000)	17.74	18.34	20.07	19.69	21.76

Note: EFTSL for the calculation of the above ratios where relevant, includes vocational education student loads.

Source: VAGO.

FIGURE E8: **The University of Melbourne**

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Net result margin	7.39%	9.33%	3.26%	10.96%	6.26%
Adjusted net result margin	n/a	n/a	7.77%	n/a	n/a
Liquidity	1.38	1.61	1.87	1.36	0.83
Adjusted liquidity	4.92	5.65	5.72	4.33	2.85
Capital replacement	1.15	1.58	2.88	1.27	3.02
Internal financing	256%	320%	209%	283%	136%
Debt to equity	11.02%	10.49%	10.61%	9.69%	8.82%
Cost of debt	4.52%	4.49%	4.95%	5.26%	5.35%
Employee benefits ratio	48.88%	47.39%	48.99%	49.47%	56.82%
Repairs and maintenance to depreciation	65.86%	51.69%	55.98%	40.85%	42.50%
EFTSL to Employee FTE	5.87	5.88	5.86	5.83	5.68
Employee expenses per EFTSL (\$'000)	23.91	24.57	25.40	26.21	29.29
Operating expenses per EFTSL (\$'000)	41.74	43.32	44.50	43.23	45.08

Note: 2019 ratios have been revised to reflect the university's restated comparative amounts.

Source: VAGO.

FIGURE E9: **Victoria University**

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Net result margin	-2.52%	-6.57%	1.53%	5.06%	1.28%
Adjusted net result margin	n/a	n/a	1.72%	n/a	n/a
Liquidity	0.68	0.71	1.05	0.90	0.98
Adjusted liquidity	1.26	0.89	1.95	1.93	1.99
Capital replacement	0.82	1.30	1.67	2.24	0.76
Internal financing	109%	51%	57%	229%	253%
Debt to equity	0.07%	0.04%	1.24%	0.01%	0.00%
Cost of debt	77.93%	173.16%	4.04%	241.73%	2380.00%
Employee benefits ratio	64.77%	68.05%	58.67%	57.86%	61.43%
Repairs and maintenance to depreciation	54.98%	76.99%	57.27%	46.17%	39.43%
EFTSL to Employee FTE	12.75	13.42	13.53	13.60	15.07
Employee expenses per EFTSL (\$'000)	10.31	11.18	9.85	9.64	10.32
Operating expenses per EFTSL (\$'000)	15.02	16.18	14.80	13.93	14.51

Note: EFTSL for the calculation of the above ratios where relevant, includes vocational education student loads.

Source: VAGO.

Auditor-General's reports tabled during 2020–21

Report title

Rehabilitating Mines (2020–21: 1)	August 2020
Management of the Student Resource Package (2020–21: 2)	August 2020
Victoria's Homelessness Response (2020–21: 3)	September 2020
Reducing Bushfire Risks (2020–21: 4)	October 2020
Follow up of Managing the Level Crossing Removal Project (2020–21: 5)	October 2020
Early Years Management in Victorian Sessional Kindergartens (2020–21: 6)	October 2020
Accessibility of Tram Services (2020–21: 7)	October 2020
Accessing Emergency Funding to Meet Urgent Claims (2020–21: 8)	November 2020
Auditor-General's Report on the Annual Financial Report of the State of Victoria: 2019–20 (2020–21: 9)	November 2020
Sexual Harassment in Local Government (2020–21: 10)	December 2020
Systems and Support for Principal Performance (2020–21: 11)	December 2020
Grants to the Migrant Workers Centre (2020–21: 12)	February 2021
Results of 2019–20 Audits: State-controlled Entities (2020–21: 13)	March 2021
Results of 2019–20 Audits: Local Government (2020–21: 14)	March 2021
Maintaining Local Roads (2020–21: 15)	March 2021
Service Victoria—Digital Delivery of Government Services (2020–21: 16)	March 2021
Reducing the Harm Caused by Gambling (2020–21: 17)	March 2021
Implementing a New Infringements Management System (2020–21: 18)	May 2021
Measuring and Reporting on Service Delivery (2020–21: 19)	May 2021
Delivering the Solar Homes Program (2020–21: 20)	June 2021
Responses to Performance Audit Recommendations: Annual Status Update (2020–21: 21)	June 2021
Clinical Governance: Health Services (2020–21: 22)	June 2021
Results of 2020 Audits: Technical and Further Education Institutes (2020–21: 23)	June 2021
Results of 2020 Audits: Universities (2020–21: 24)	June 2021

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