

2 August 2011

## Diversity moderates UK and Australian enrolment challenges

Global education services provider Navitas Limited (ASX: NVT) today announced worldwide student enrolments for the second semester of 2011 (201102) for its University Programs Division.

Following on from enrolment trends reported in the first semester of 2011, a softening of demand in Australia and the UK has been partially mitigated by strong enrolment growth in Singapore (44%) and Canada (36%) against the prior corresponding period (pcp).

This has resulted in an overall 7% decline in equivalent full time student unit (EFTSU) enrolments against pcp across the Division.

Sector wide demand in Australia has been impacted by a number of well reported factors including uncertainty caused by changes to government policy, the relative strength of the Australian dollar and damage to Australia's reputation as a safe education destination.

Improvements to student visa assessment levels for higher education study implemented in April 2011 have yet to have a discernible impact though it is anticipated that the government's response to the Knight review into the student visa regime will further improve the environment for long term sustained growth.

Changes to migration policy and education regulation have also affected UK enrolments though Navitas continues to contribute to ongoing policy dialogue and work with university partners to meet regulatory change. All but one operational Navitas college has now secured Branch Sponsorship or Highly Trusted Sponsor status with the final accreditation pending.

In addition the recently released Higher Education White Paper has signaled greater access for private providers, particularly in higher education said Navitas Chief Executive Officer Rod Jones.

"Although we are facing challenges in two markets, the continued strong enrolment growth from Singapore and Canada highlights the importance of Navitas' geographic diversification strategy," said Mr Jones.

Enrolments in Navitas' five USA colleges continue to grow, though at a slower rate than initially expected, due to ongoing new market start-up factors. There are currently 60 students studying at Navitas colleges with a further 20 recruited but doing preparatory English study. Student numbers in the USA are expected to increase markedly next semester.

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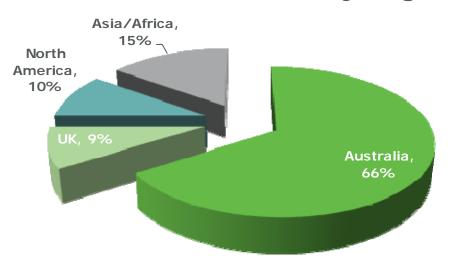
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"Ultimately demand for international education is strong and we believe that our diversity, strong university partnerships and reputation for quality student outcomes will allow Navitas to capitalise on this opportunity," Mr Jones said.

By geographical region, EFTSUs are distributed as follows:



## 201102 EFTSU by Region

By geographical region, EFTSU variance against the pcp was:

- North America up 43%
- Asia/Africa up 14%
- Australia down 14%
- UK down 16%

Individual colleges/campuses showing strong growth in EFTSU's compared to the pcp, include:

- Curtin Singapore 388 EFTSU
- Fraser International College 244 EFTSU
- International College Manitoba 120 EFTSU
- International College Portsmouth 48 EFTSU

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## For further information contact:

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## **About Navitas**

Navitas is a leading global education provider that offers an extensive range of educational services for students and professionals including university programs, English language training and settlement services, creative media education, workforce education and student recruitment.

Navitas is the industry leader in pre-university and university pathway programs offering university programs from colleges in Australia, UK, USA, Canada, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Africa.

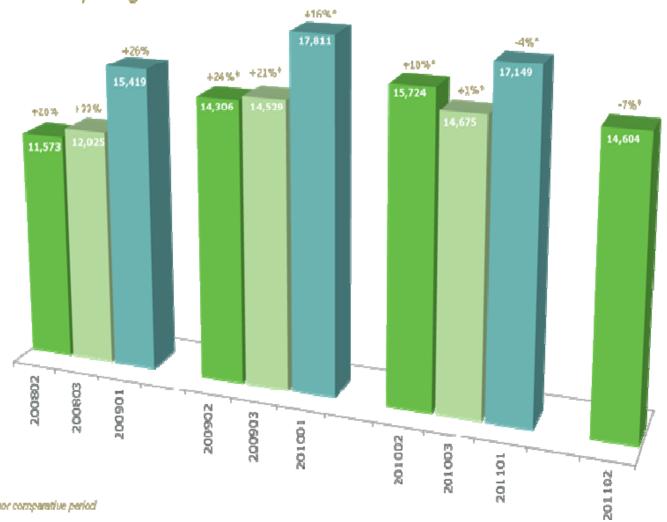
Via SAE and Qantm colleges Navitas is now a leader in creative media education offering audio, film and new media qualifications around the world.

English Language training includes the provision of English as second language courses for international students and English language, settlement and work preparation programs for migrants and refugees.

Navitas Workforce provides quality vocational, employment and placement services in areas of key demand and Navitas Student Recruitment offers student recruitment services in India and China for universities around the world.

Further details about Navitas are available at <u>www.navitas.com</u>.





University Programs EFTSU

\*Prior comparative period