



AUSTRALIAN
BOARDING
SCHOOLS
ASSOCIATION

Making Boarders' Lives Better

CENSUS 2025

compiled by
Richard Stokes



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www.boarding.org.au



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Introduction

Our 2025 Census once again collects together data from every member school in our Association, and shows, through various charts, how the boarding market looks across Australia. Throughout the document you will also see preceding years, and it is interesting to note the changes which have occurred in our sector over these years.

The first section shows the number of boarding schools in each State. Whilst the numbers for 2011 and 2012 are quite low, this reflects the membership of ABSA at that time. Since 2013, however, we have collected from all schools, and thus the pie charts are an accurate reflection of the boarding school makeup of Australia. We are pleased to be able to include the Residential Colleges in Western Australia in this data from 2017 onwards. Please note that there was an error in 2023 - the total number was actually 200 as we missed one school in Western Australia.

Section 2 shows the number of boarders broken down by State (with the ACT and NSW combined), and also shows the split between male and female boarders, from 2012 onwards. We have also included graphs showing co-ed/male/female boarding school numbers.

Section 3 shows the makeup of Year levels in boarding per State and combined for the whole of Australia from 2014 onwards.

The 4th section shows the number of Indigenous and International boarders from 2012 onwards, and the number of rural boarders from 2016 onwards. We have also developed a combined chart showing the numbers of these specific groups over the years.

Section 5 details the number of boys and girls boarding and the number of weekly and metro boarders - with the total number of boarders in the State listed on the Y Axis.

Section 6 details the number of staff working in boarding in each State, and graphs the number of new staff alongside the number of GAP Assistants. New last year was a graph of the number of staff living onsite, and we have continued this in 2024.

We trust you will find this information useful for your school and organisation, and ask that if you wish to publish any of this data yourself you first contact the ABSA office - absa@boarding.org.au - and note the source of the data published.

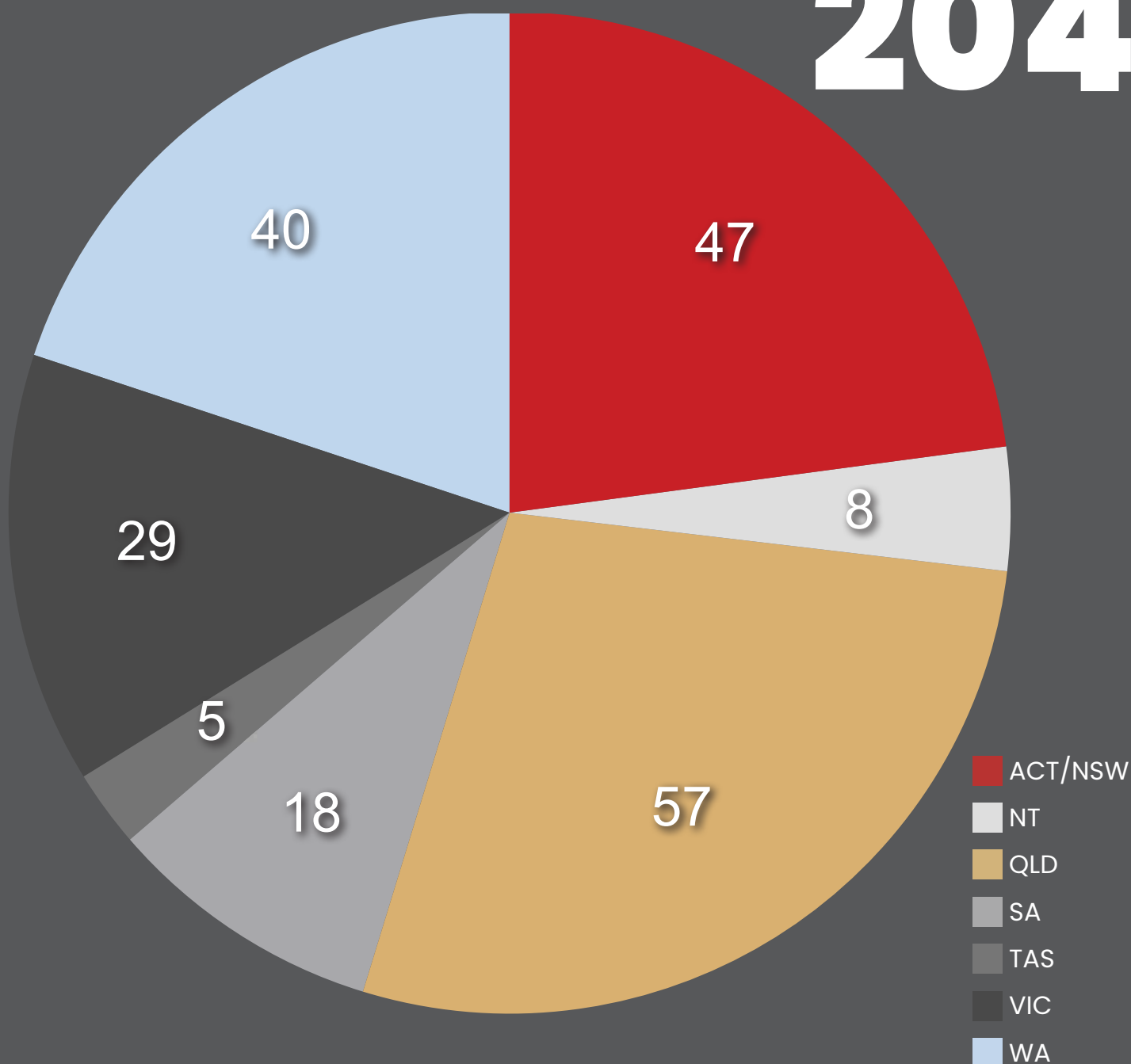
Richard Stokes
June 2025

SECTION 1:

The number of boarding schools across Australia as members of the Australian Boarding Schools Association

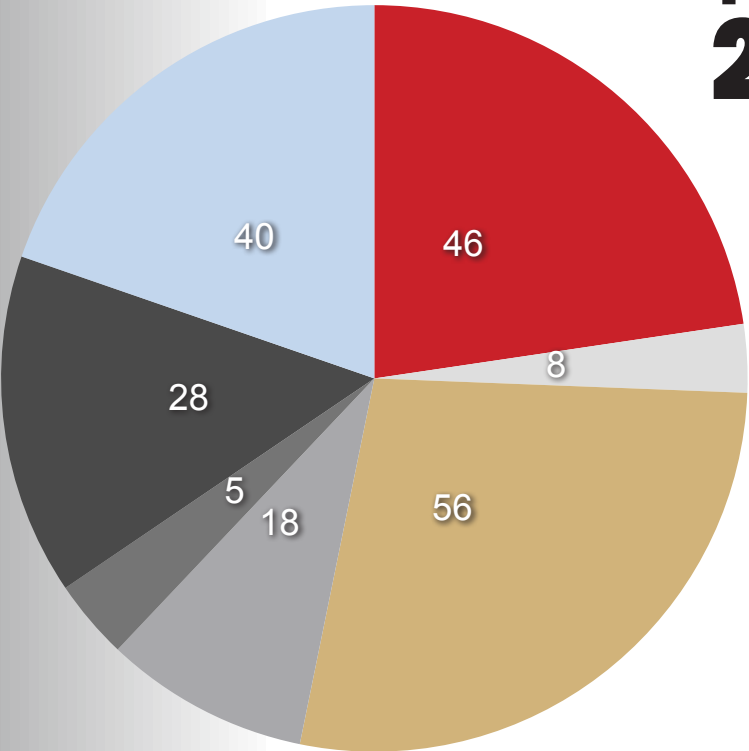
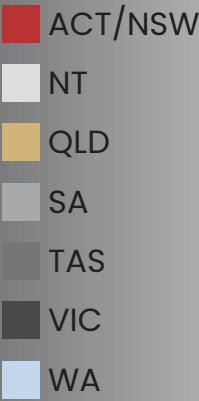
2025 BOARDING SCHOOLS

**TOTAL
204**



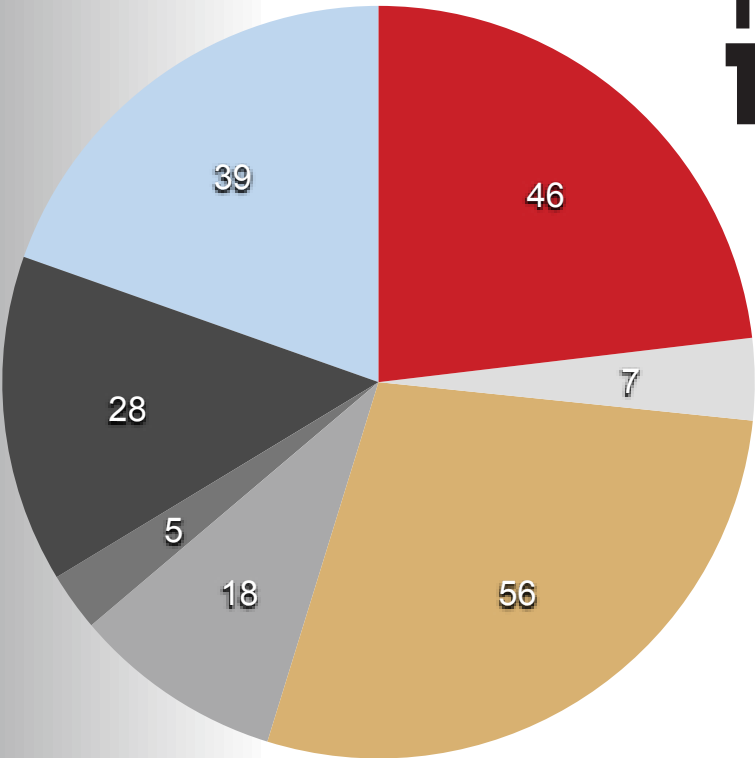
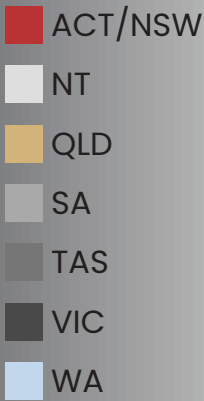
2024 BOARDING SCHOOLS

**TOTAL
201**



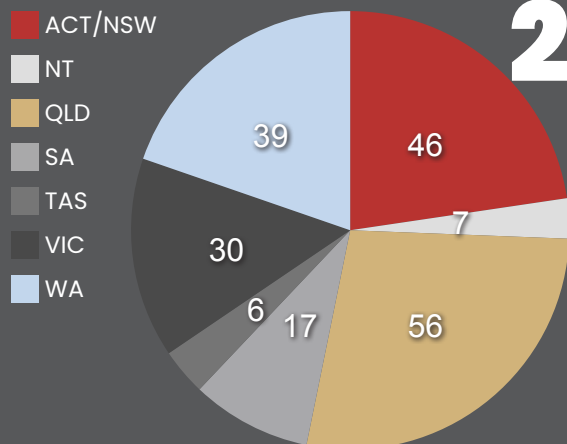
2023 BOARDING SCHOOLS

**TOTAL
199**



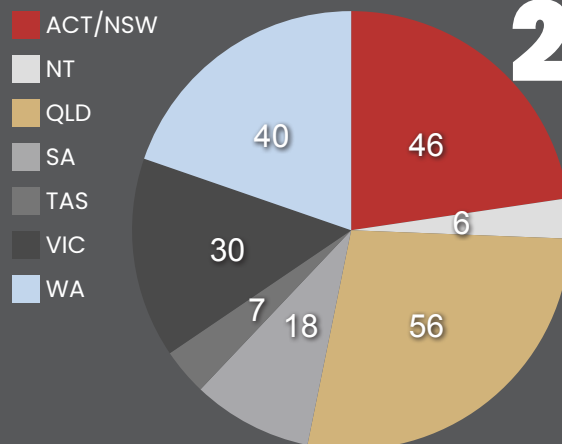
2022 BOARDING SCHOOLS

**TOTAL
201**



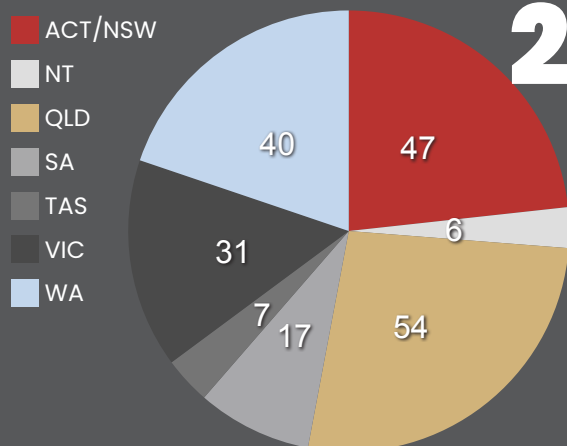
2021 BOARDING SCHOOLS

**TOTAL
202**



2020 BOARDING SCHOOLS

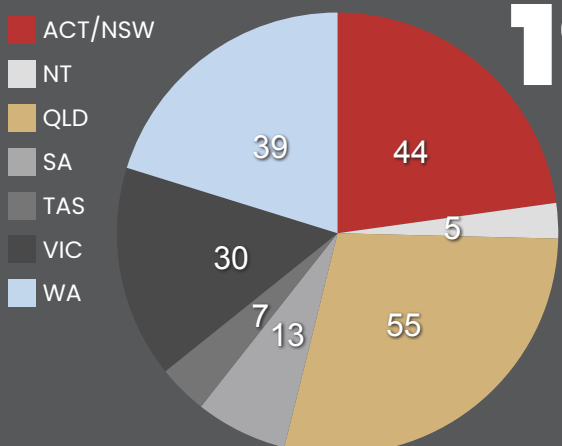
**TOTAL
202**



2019 BOARDING SCHOOLS

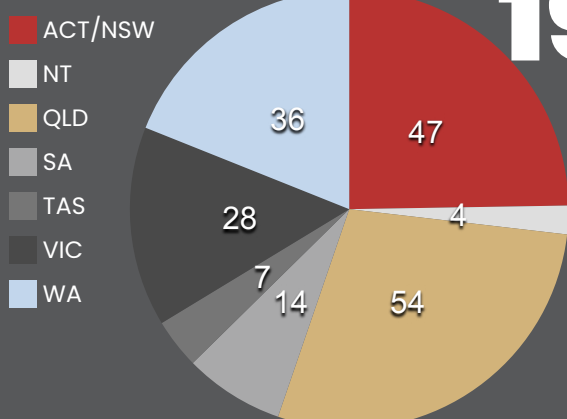
(including the Country High School Hostels in WA)

**TOTAL
193**



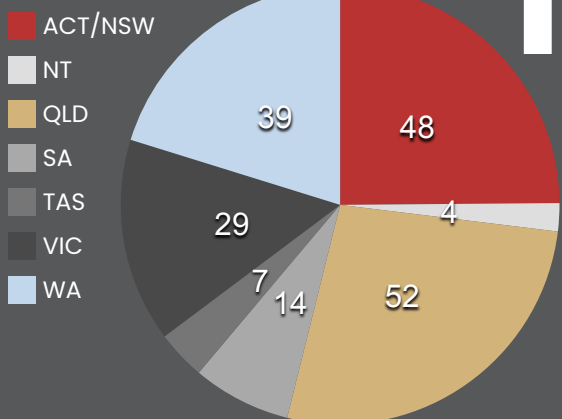
2018 BOARDING SCHOOLS

**TOTAL
193**



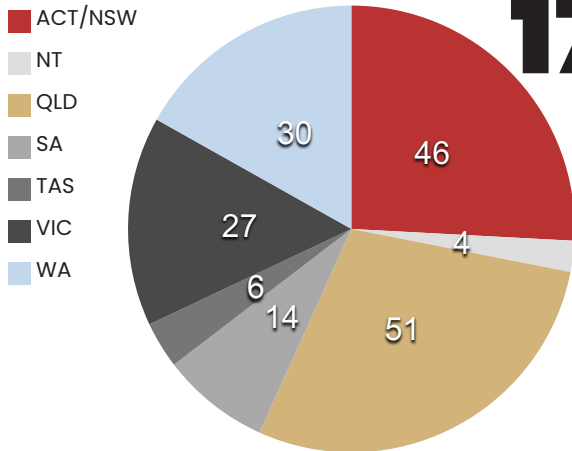
2017 BOARDING SCHOOLS

**TOTAL
178**



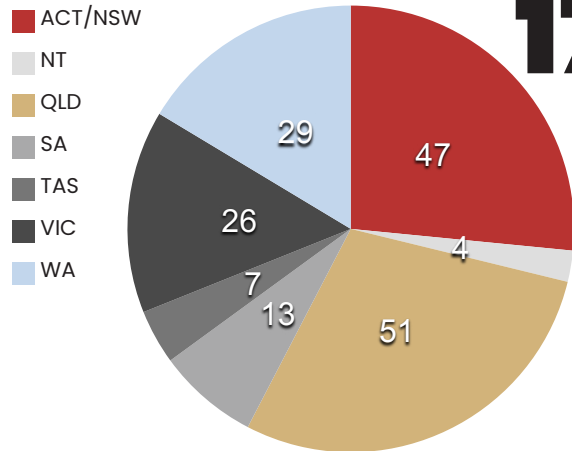
2016 BOARDING SCHOOLS

**TOTAL
178**



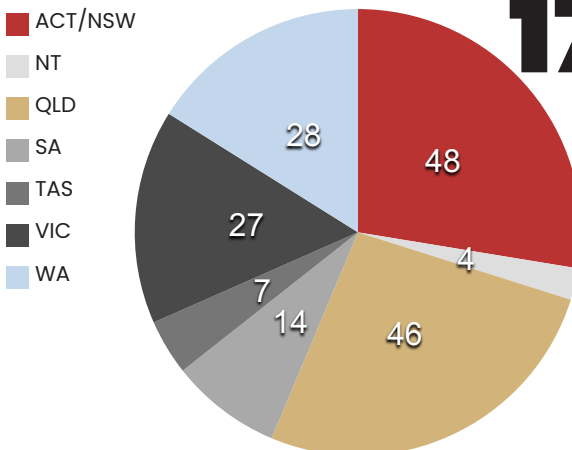
2015 BOARDING SCHOOLS

**TOTAL
177**



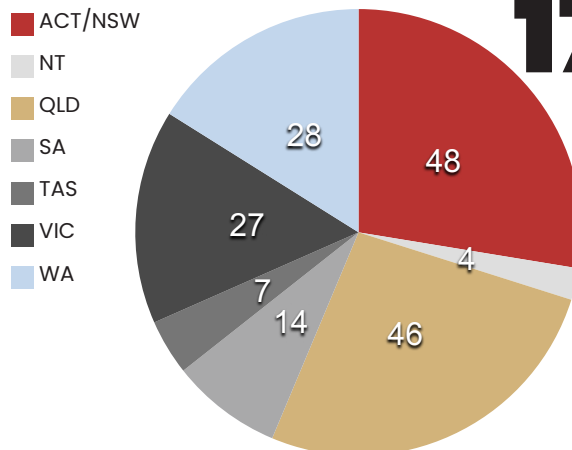
2014 BOARDING SCHOOLS

**TOTAL
179**



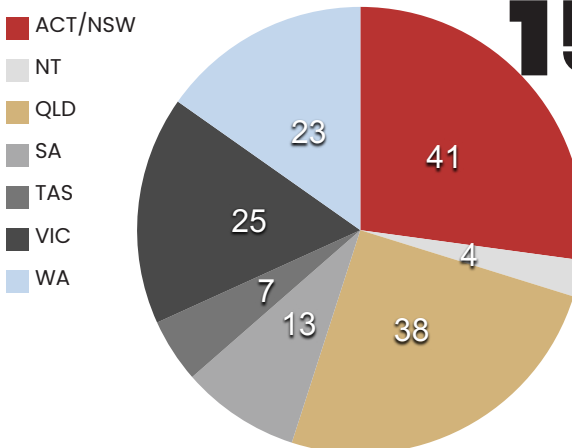
2013 BOARDING SCHOOLS

**TOTAL
174**



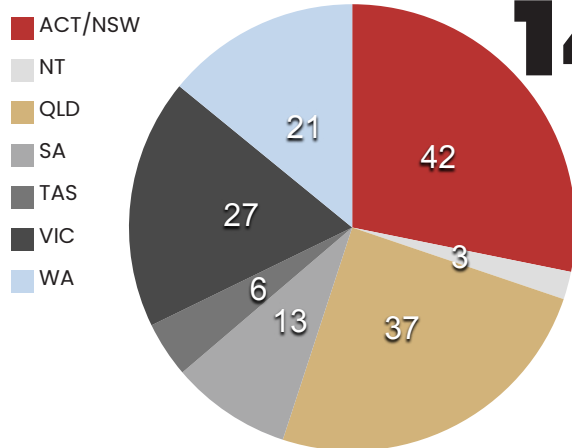
2012 BOARDING SCHOOLS

**TOTAL
151**



2011 BOARDING SCHOOLS

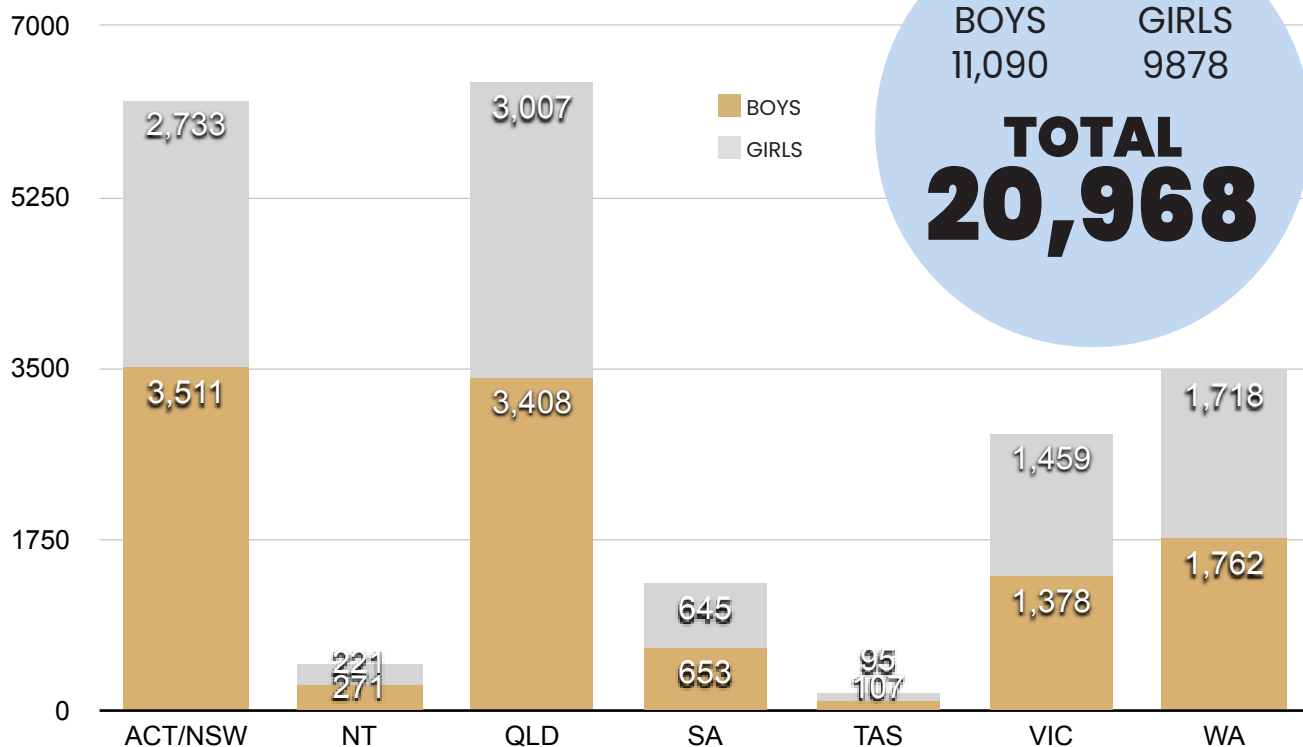
**TOTAL
149**



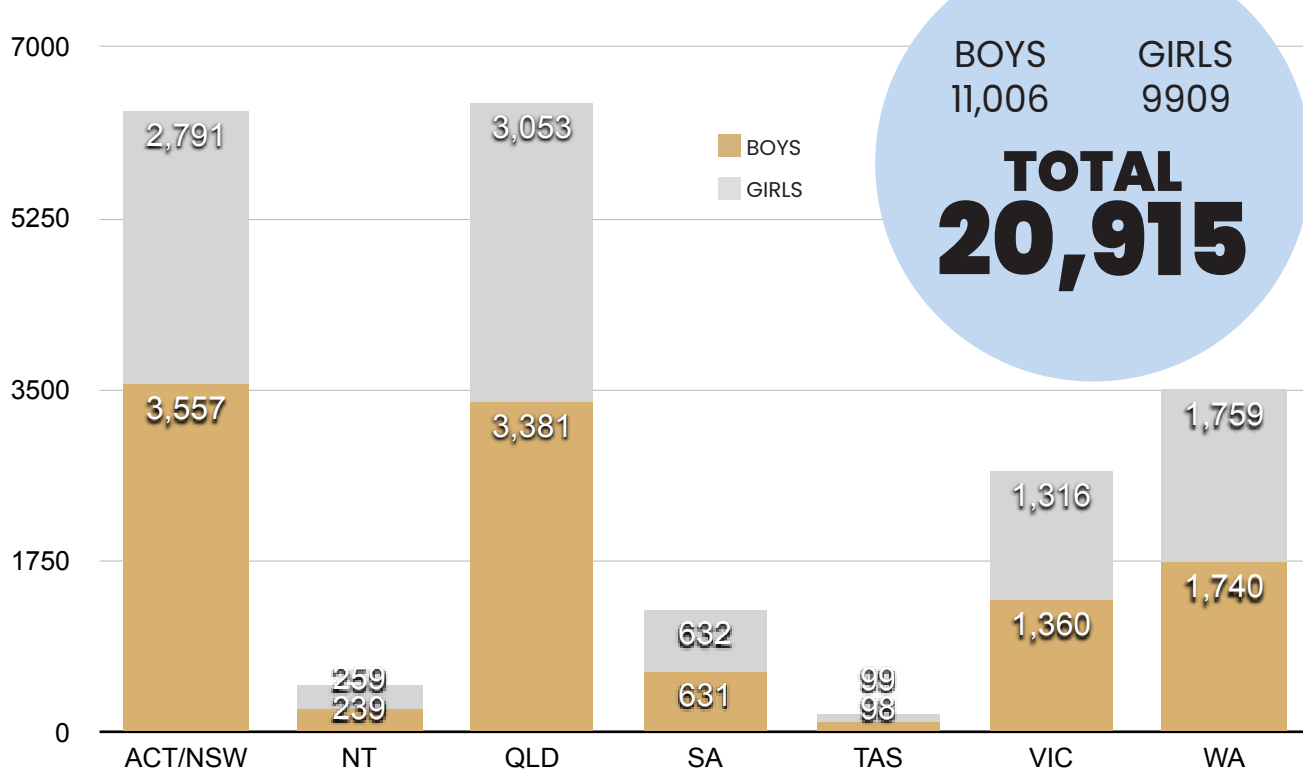
SECTION 2:

The number of boarders per State:

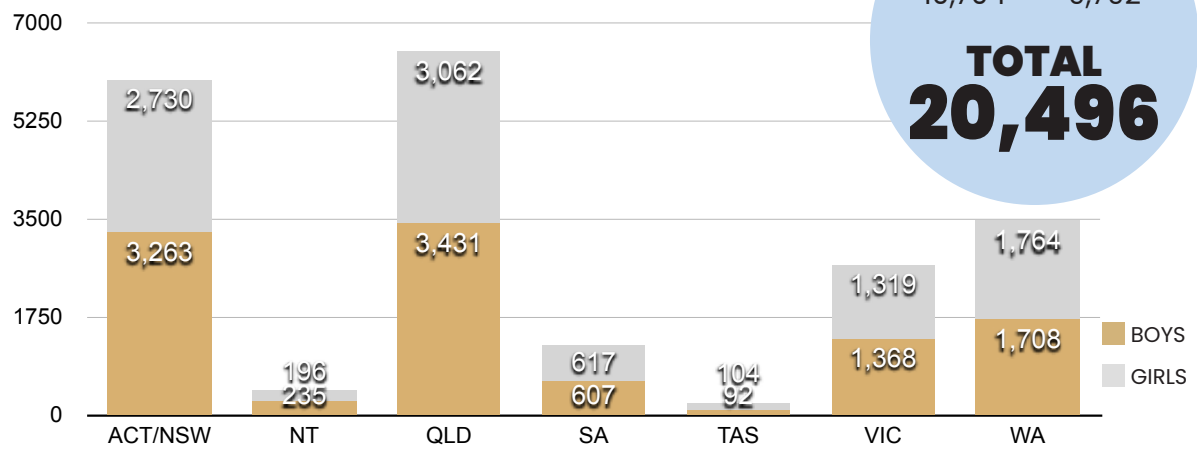
2025 BOARDERS PER STATE



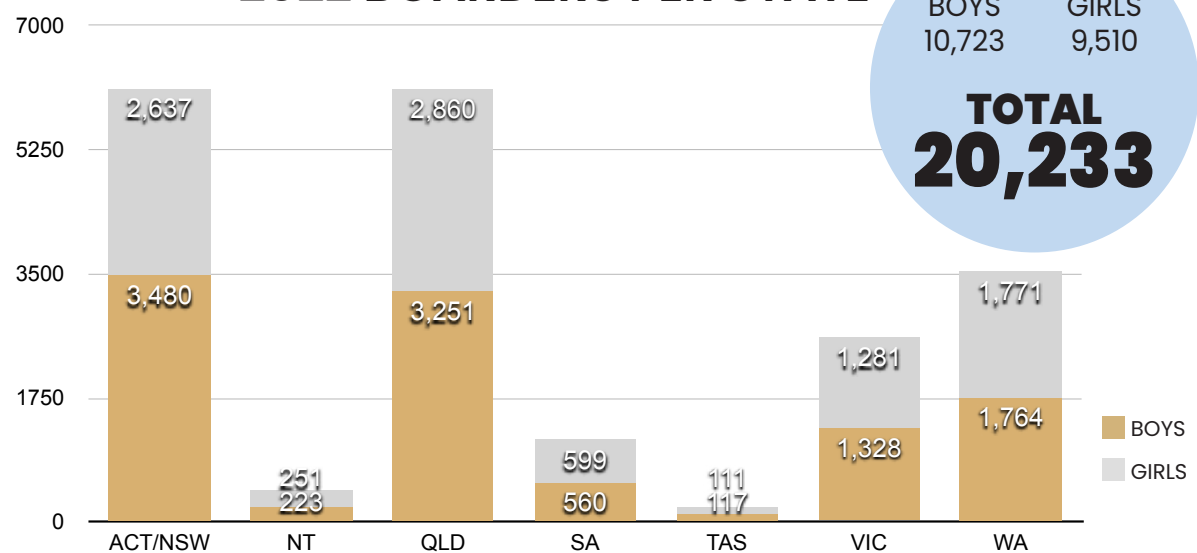
2024 BOARDERS PER STATE



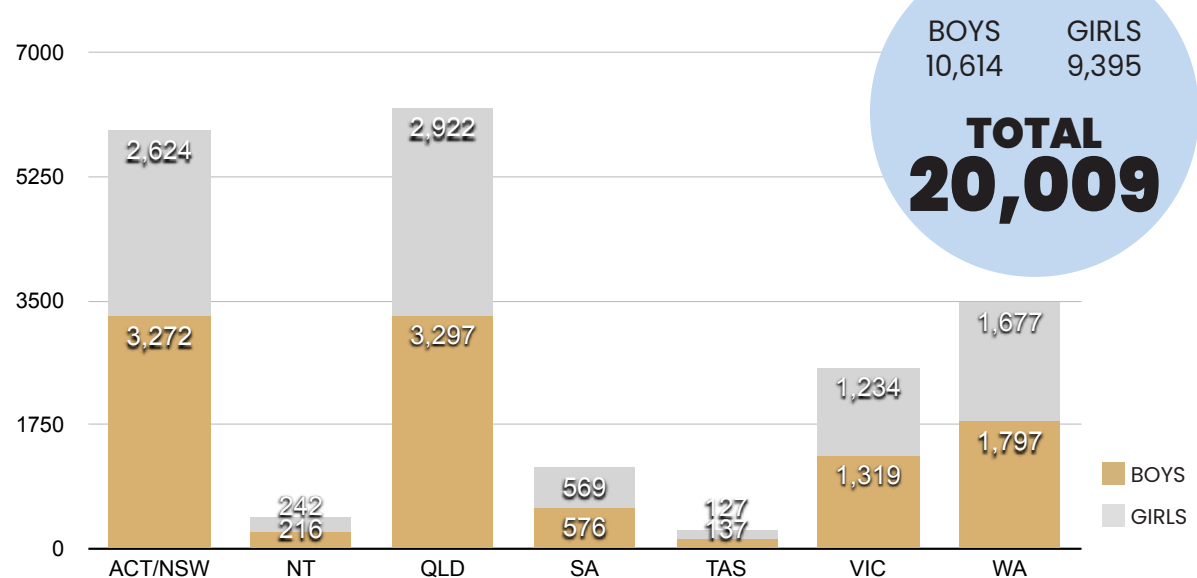
2023 BOARDERS PER STATE



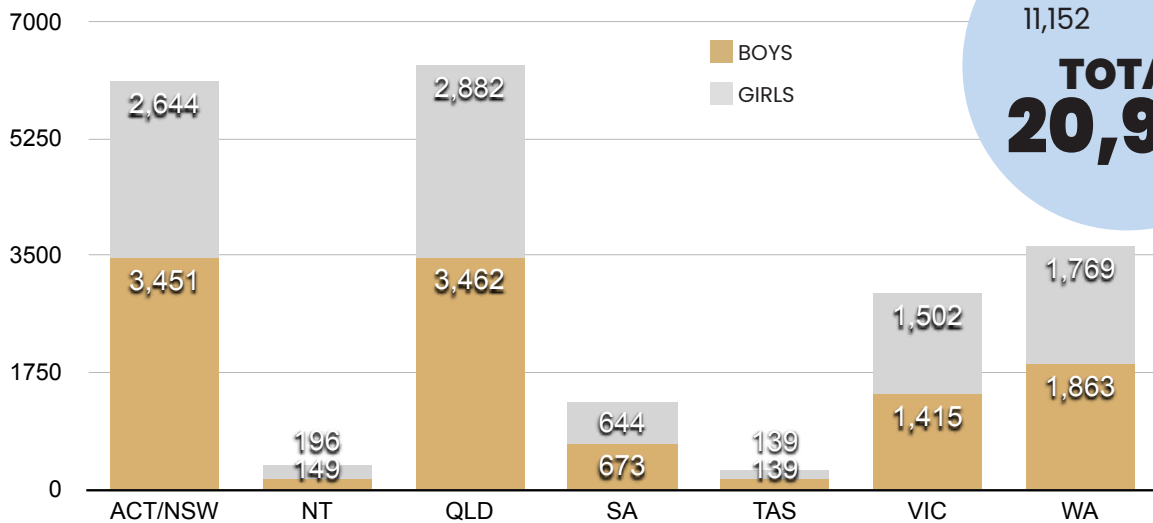
2022 BOARDERS PER STATE



2021 BOARDERS PER STATE



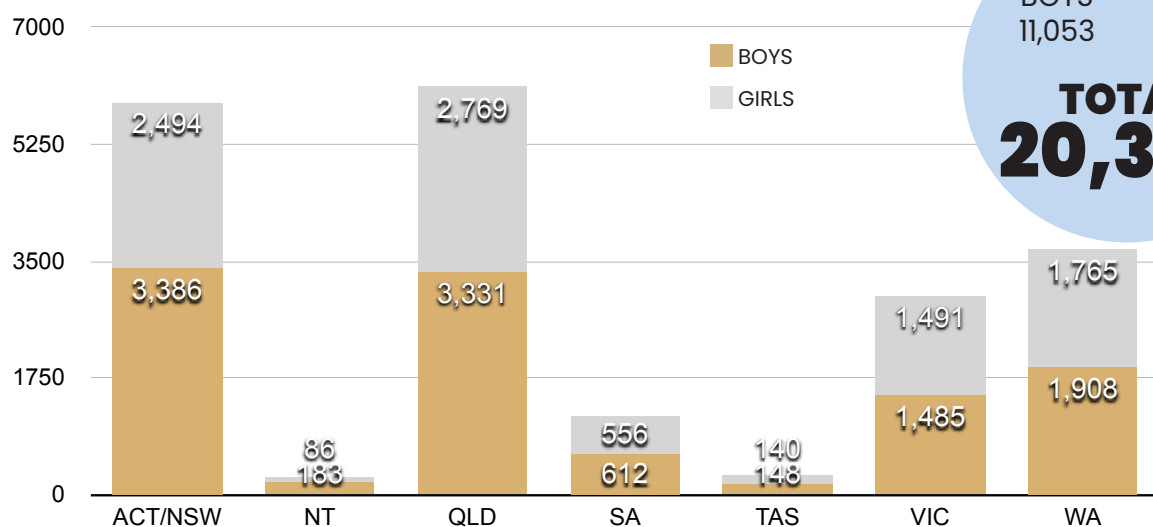
2020 BOARDERS PER STATE



BOYS 11,152
GIRLS 9,776

**TOTAL
20,929**

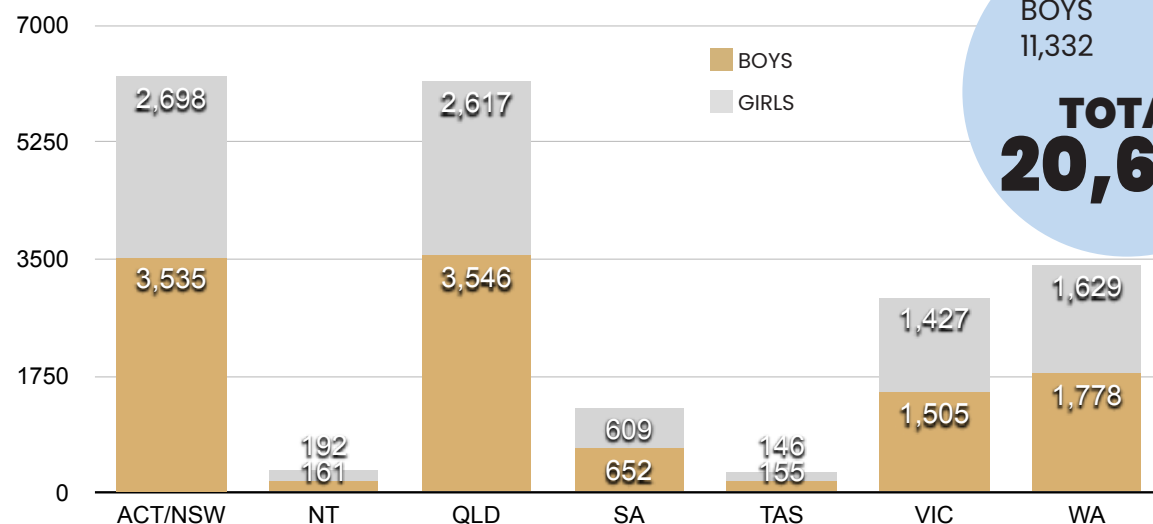
2019 BOARDERS PER STATE



BOYS 11,053
GIRLS 9,301

**TOTAL
20,354**

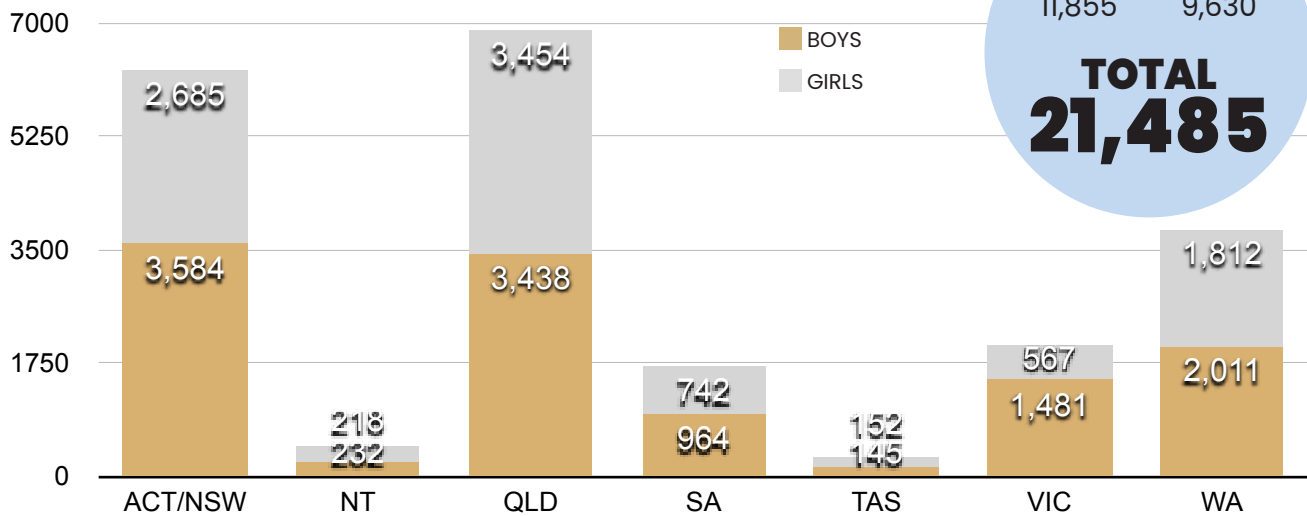
2018 BOARDERS PER STATE



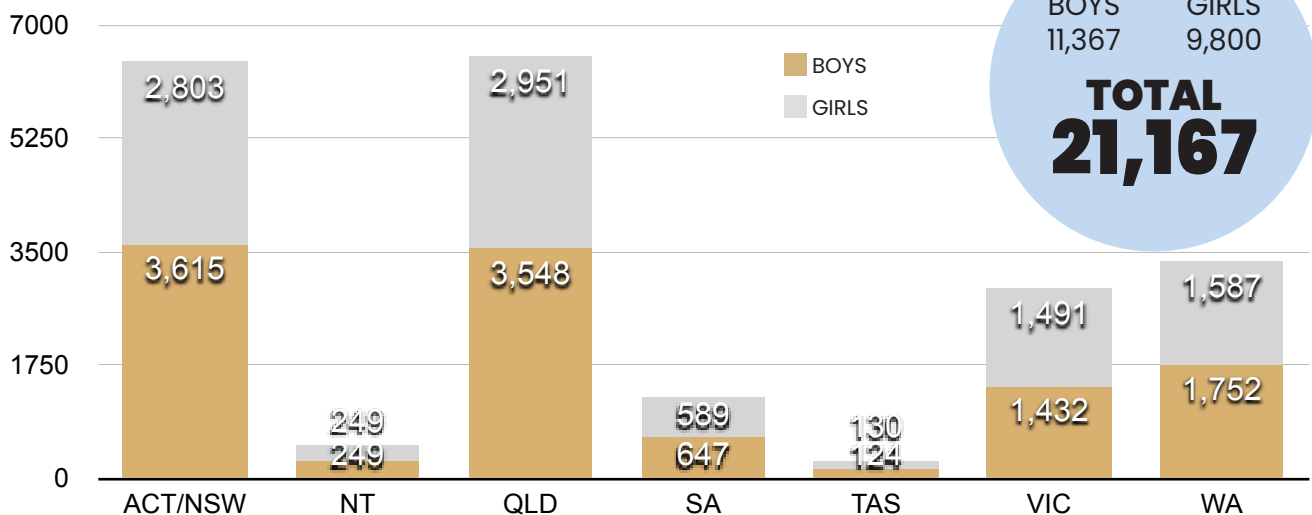
BOYS 11,332
GIRLS 9,318

**TOTAL
20,650**

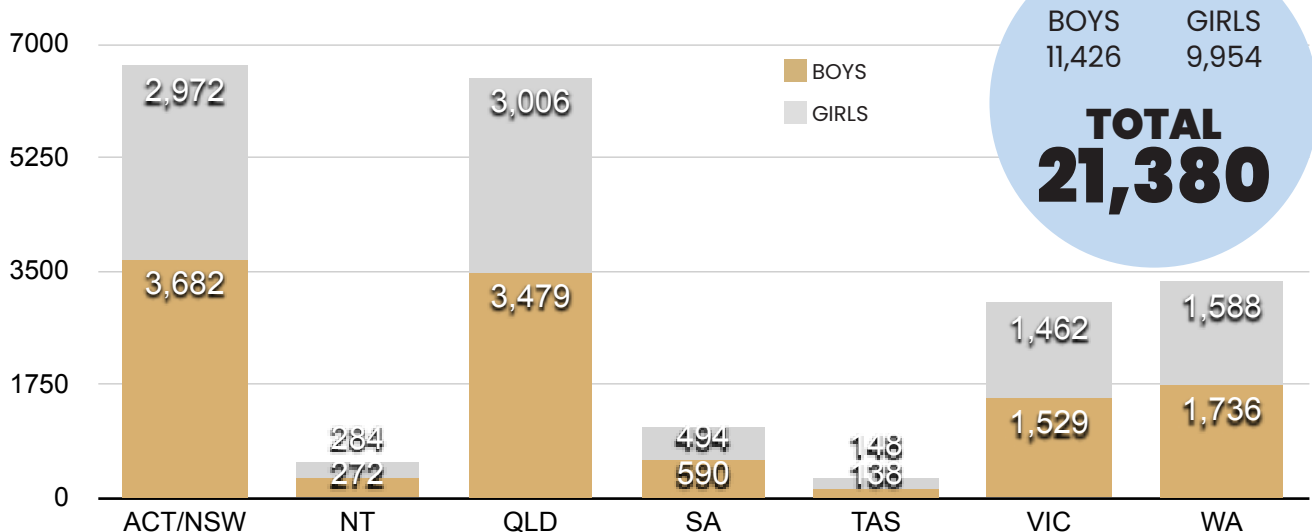
2017 BOARDERS PER STATE



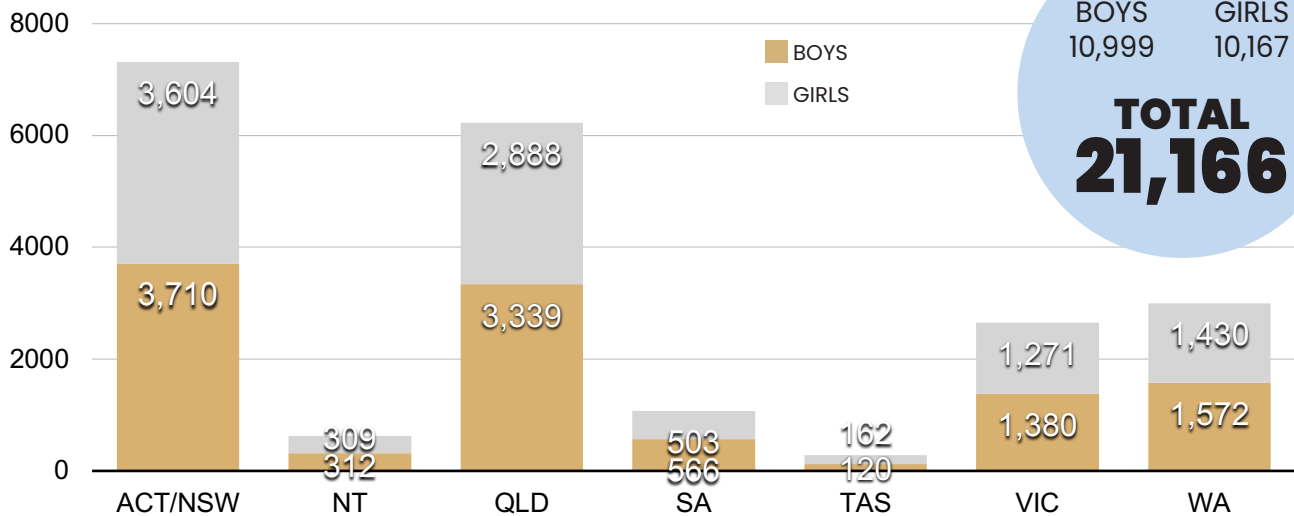
2016 BOARDERS PER STATE



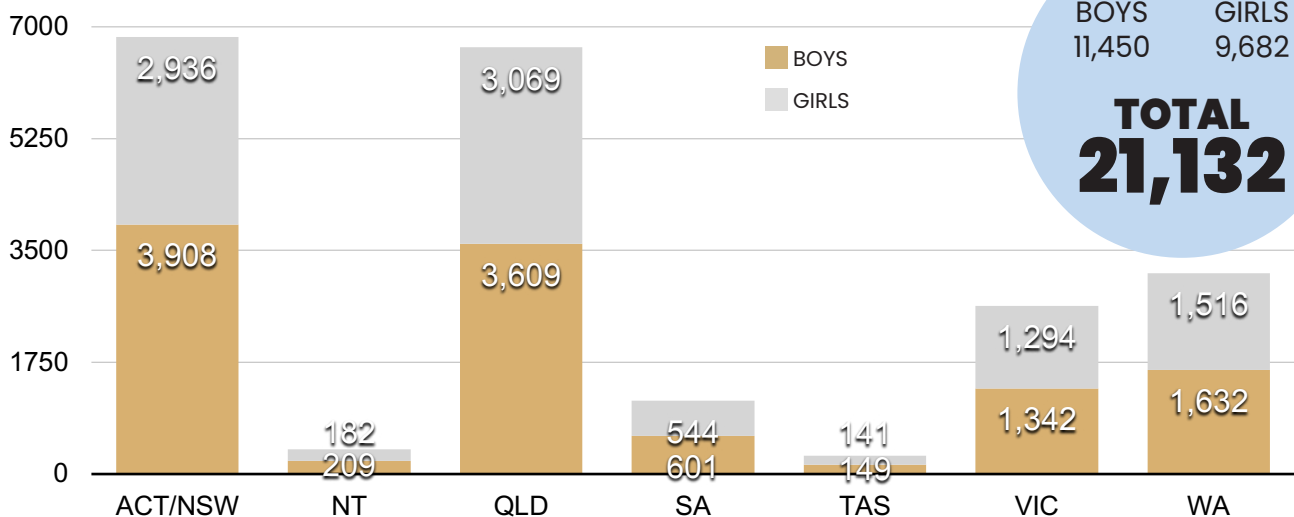
2015 BOARDERS PER STATE



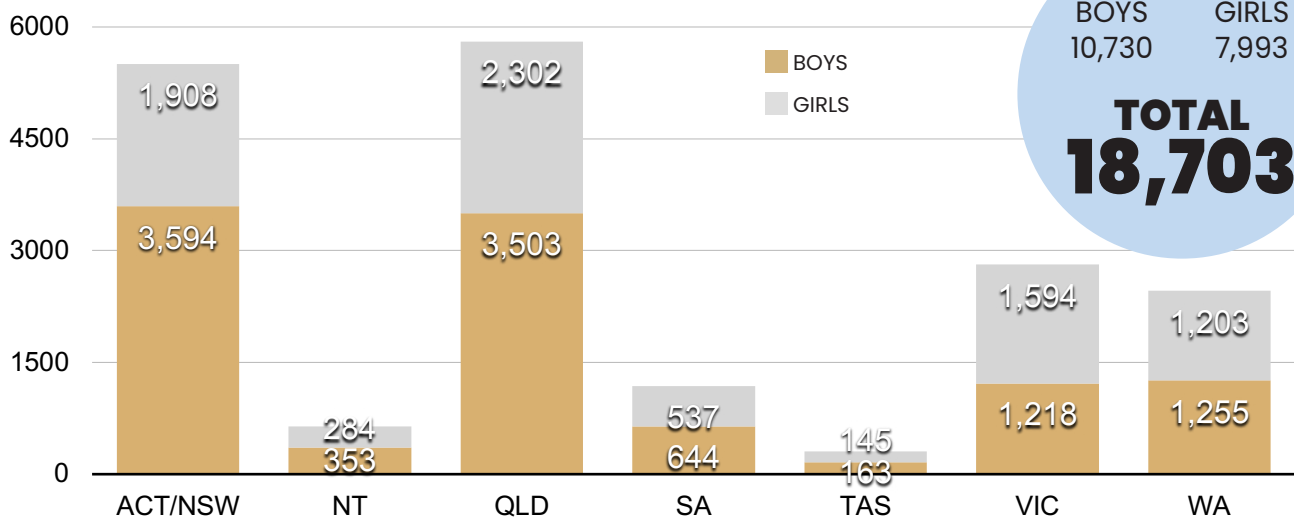
2014 BOARDERS PER STATE



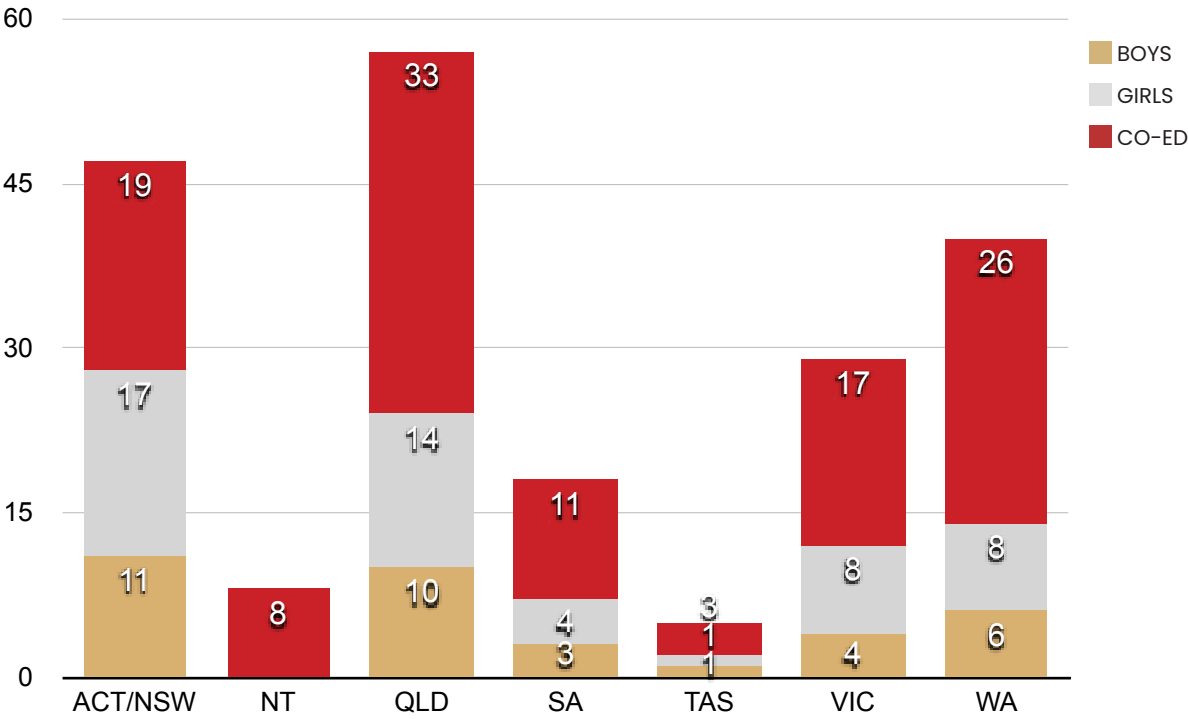
2013 BOARDERS PER STATE



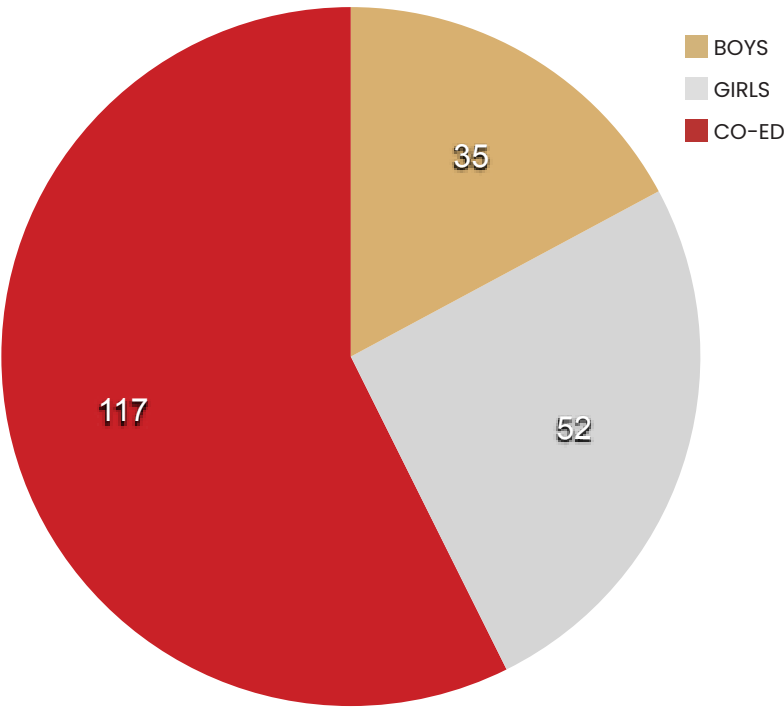
2012 BOARDERS PER STATE



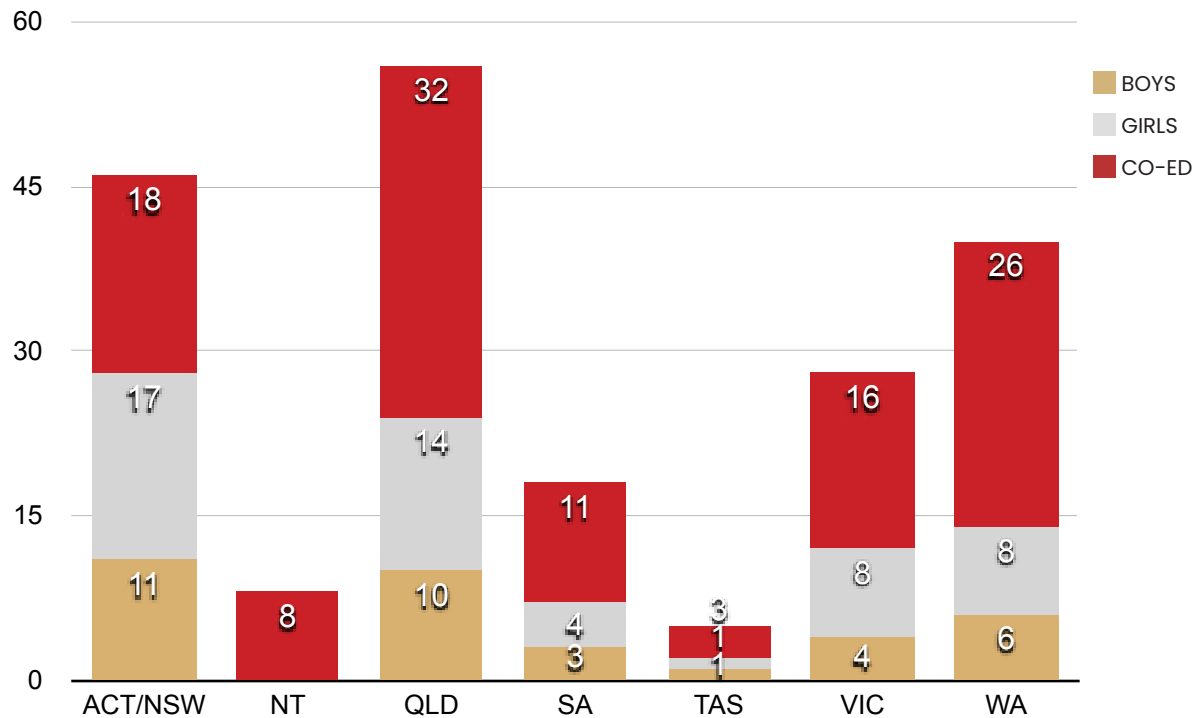
2025 BOARDING SCHOOLS BY GENDER AND STATE



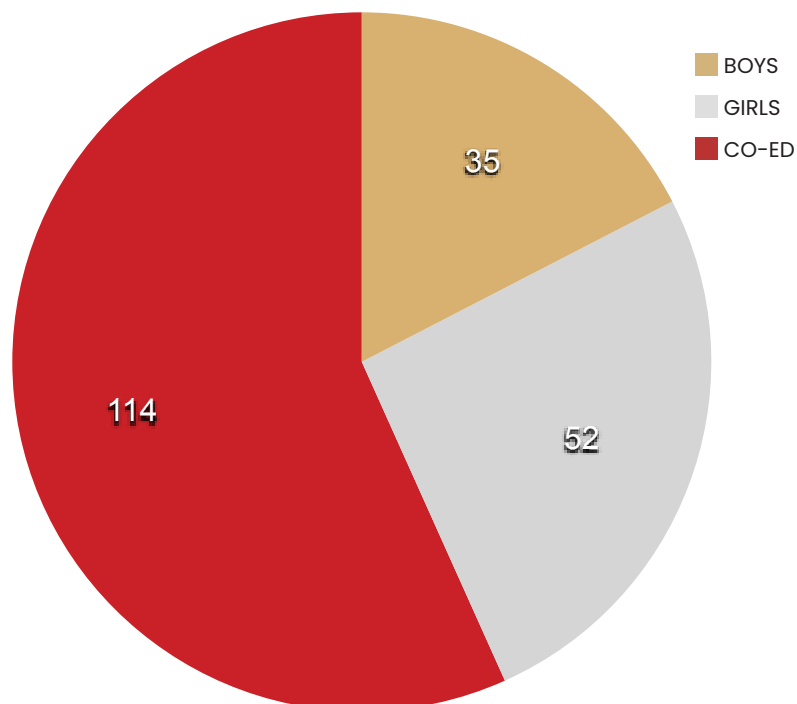
2025 BOARDING SCHOOLS BY GENDER Australia Wide



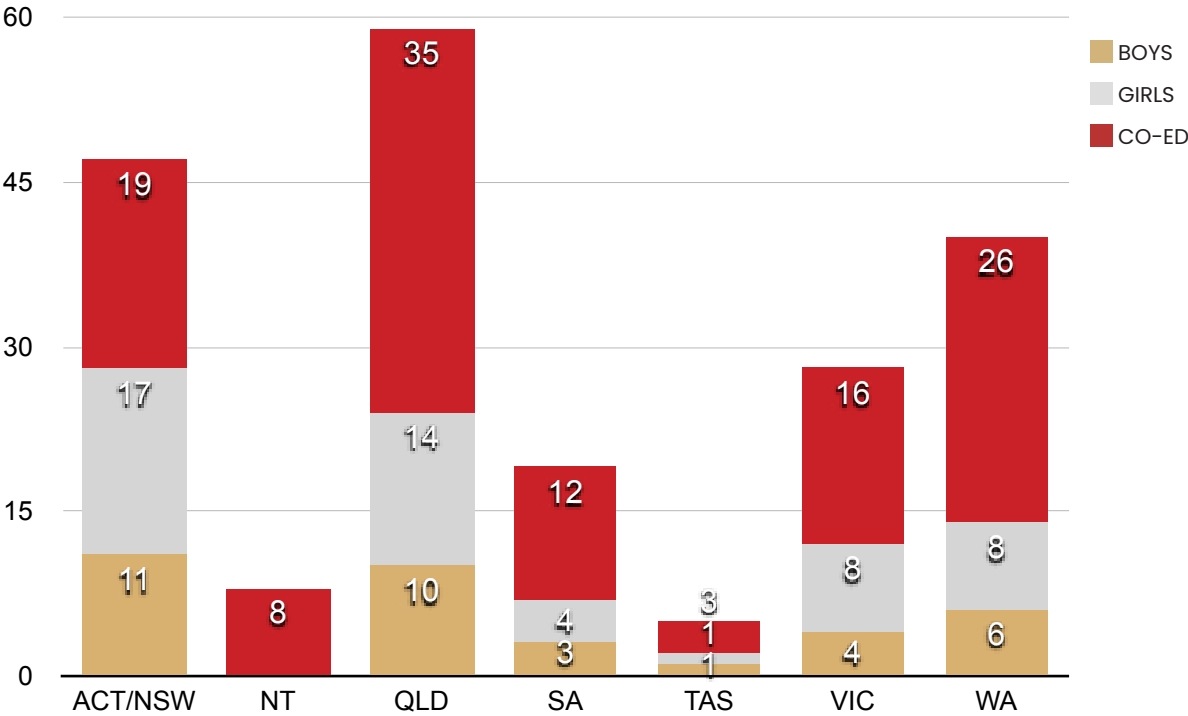
2024 BOARDING SCHOOLS BY GENDER AND STATE



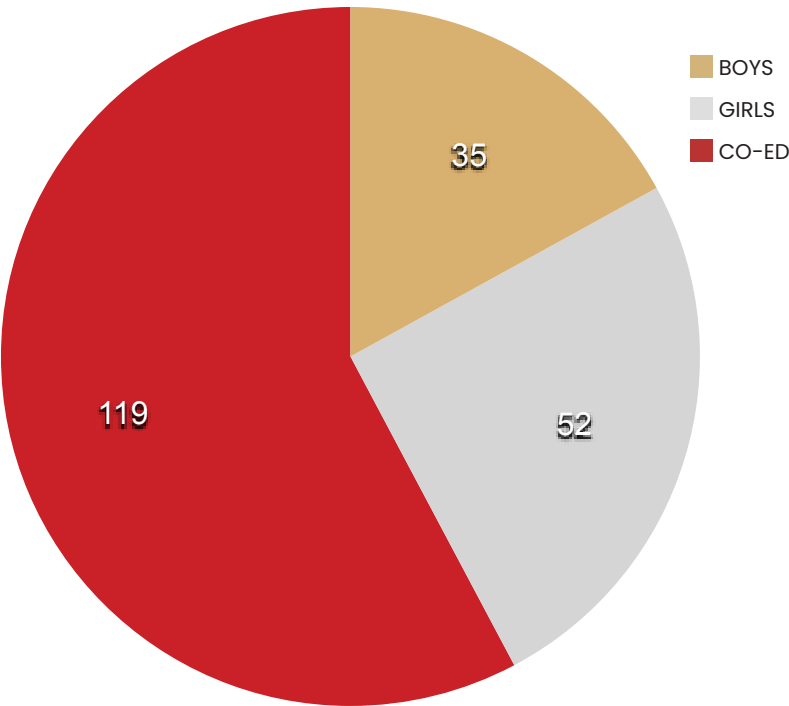
2024 BOARDING SCHOOLS BY GENDER Australia Wide



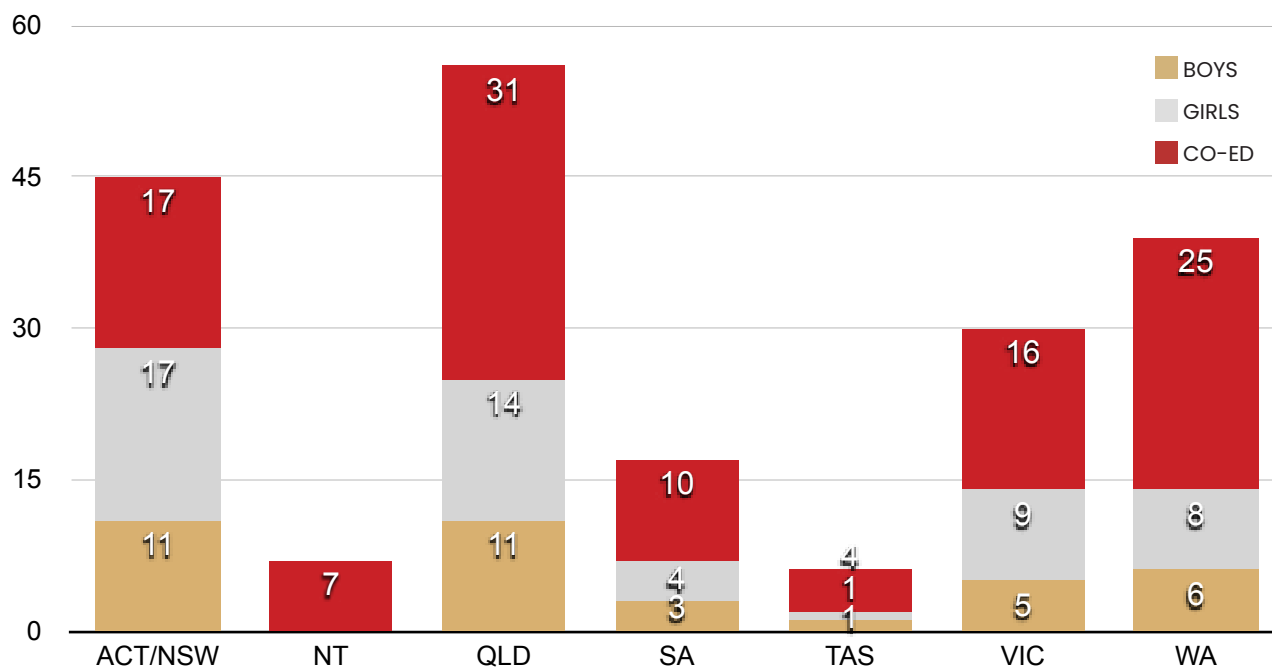
2023 BOARDING SCHOOLS BY GENDER AND STATE



2023 BOARDING SCHOOLS BY GENDER Australia Wide

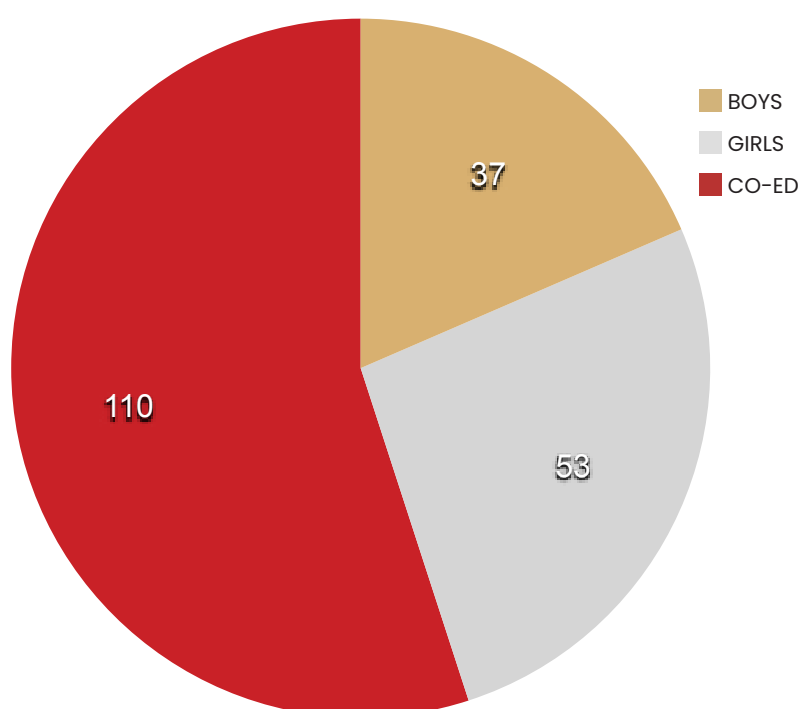


2022 BOARDING SCHOOLS BY GENDER AND STATE

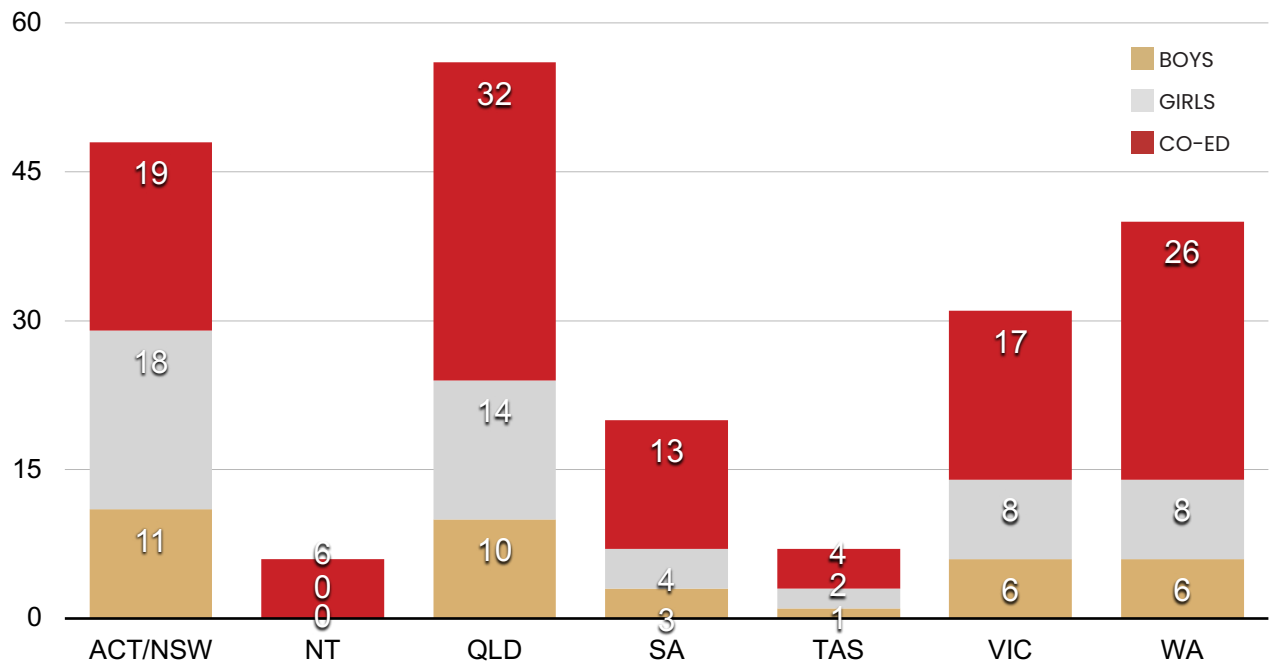


2022 BOARDING SCHOOLS BY GENDER

total percentage

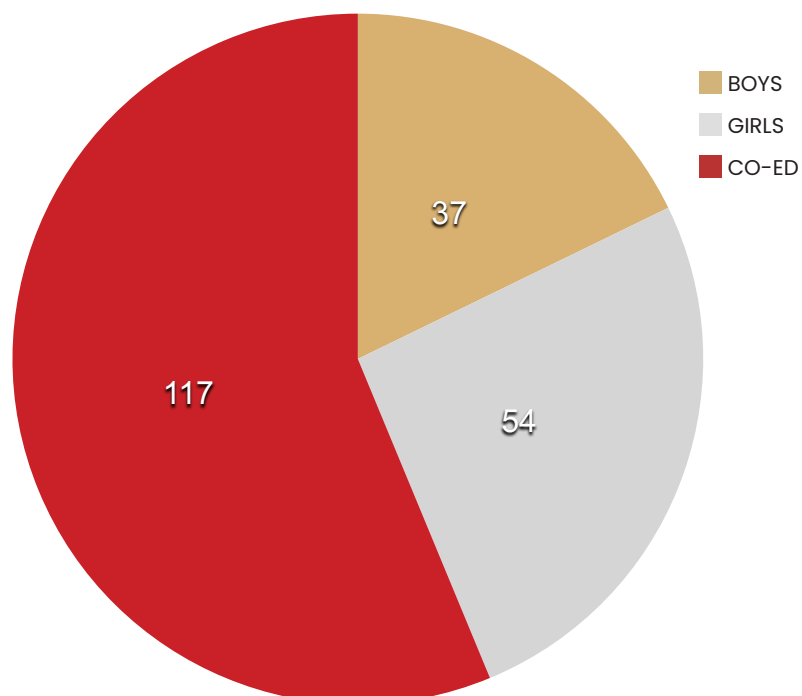


2021 BOARDING SCHOOLS BY GENDER AND STATE

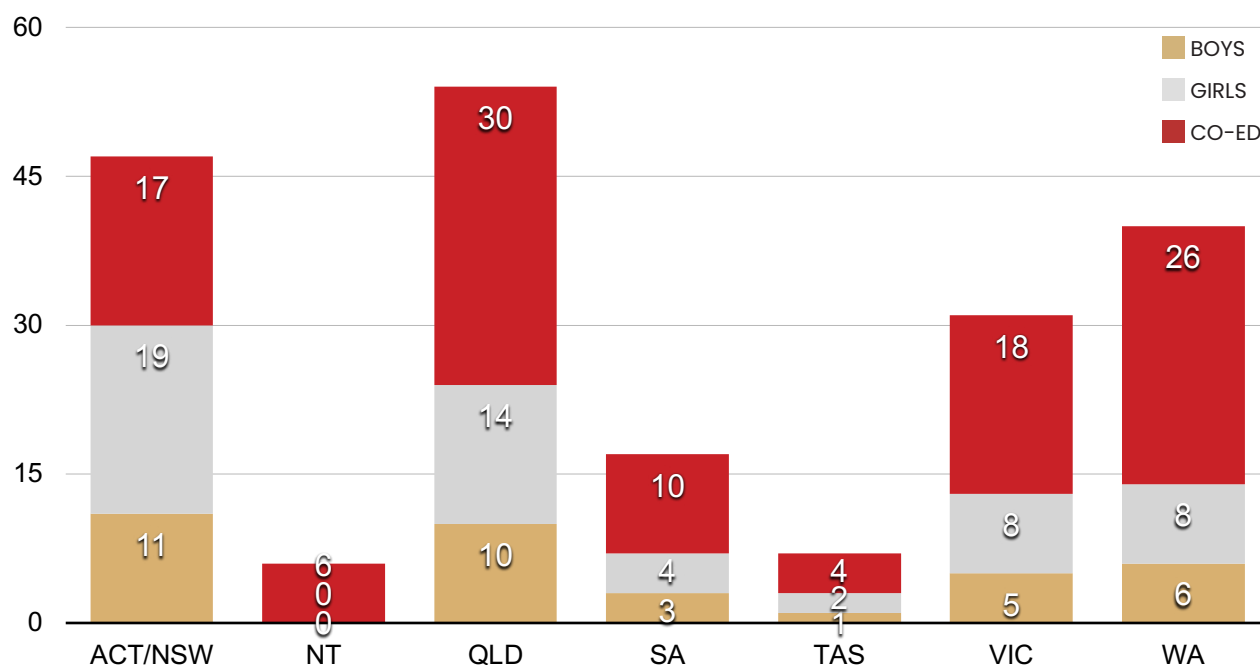


2021 BOARDING SCHOOLS BY GENDER

total percentage

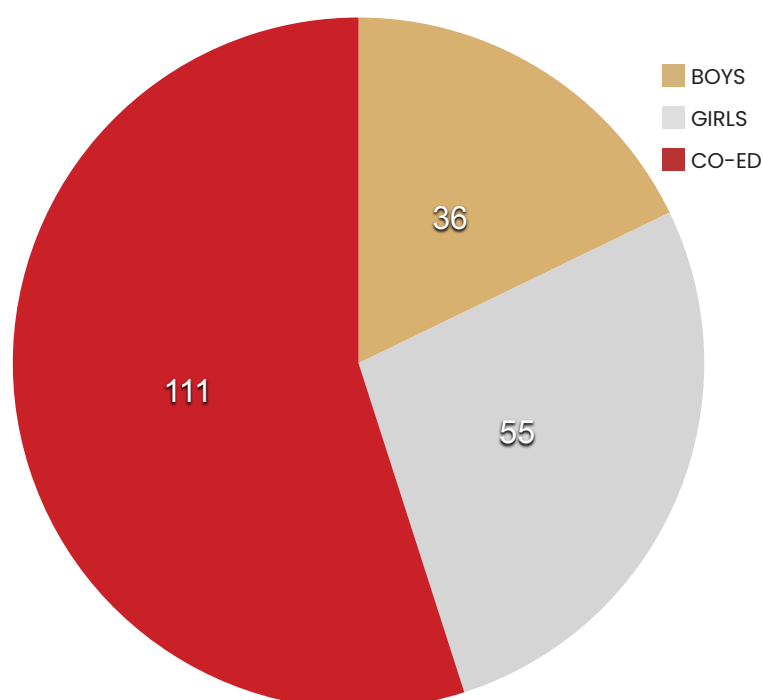


2020 BOARDING SCHOOLS BY GENDER AND STATE

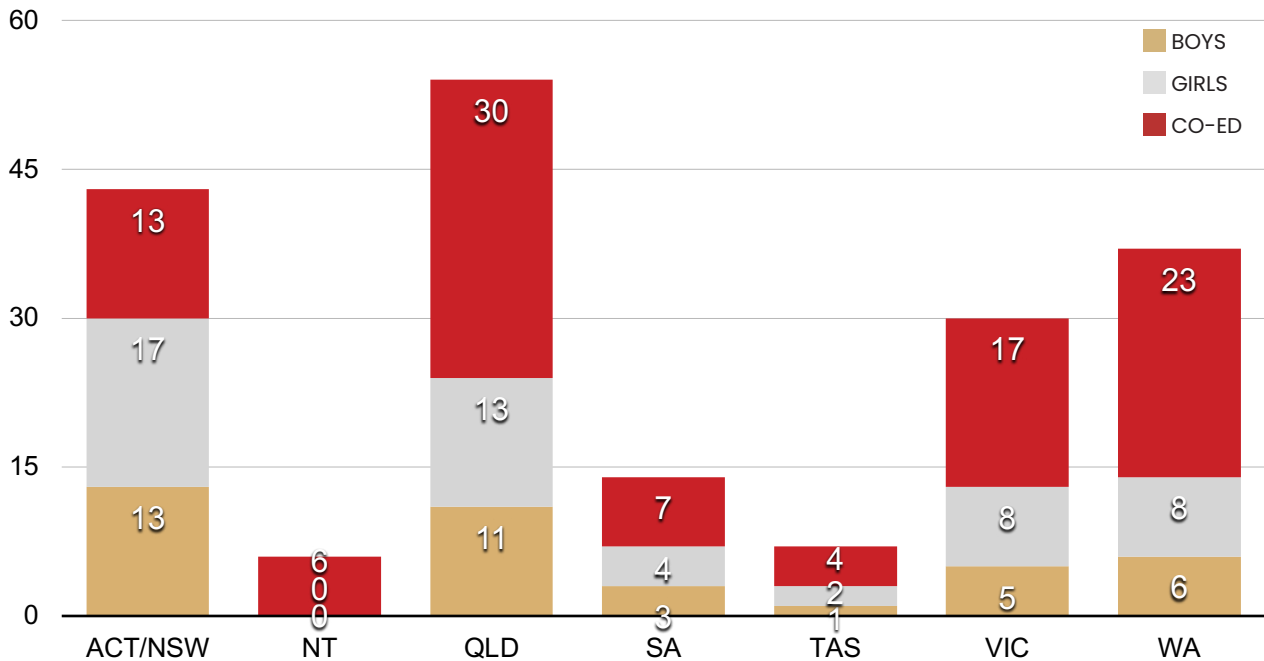


2020 BOARDING SCHOOLS BY GENDER

total percentage

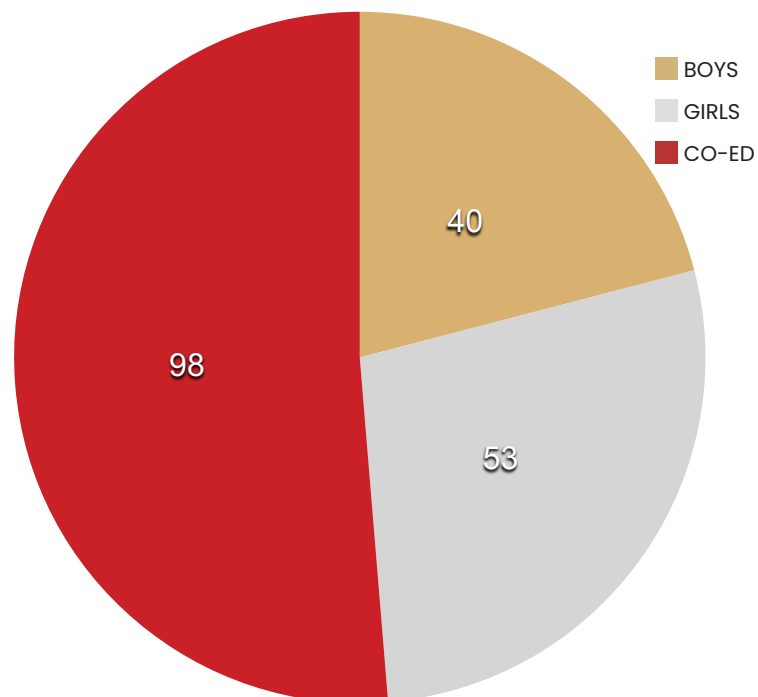


2019 BOARDING SCHOOLS BY GENDER AND STATE



2019 BOARDING SCHOOLS BY GENDER

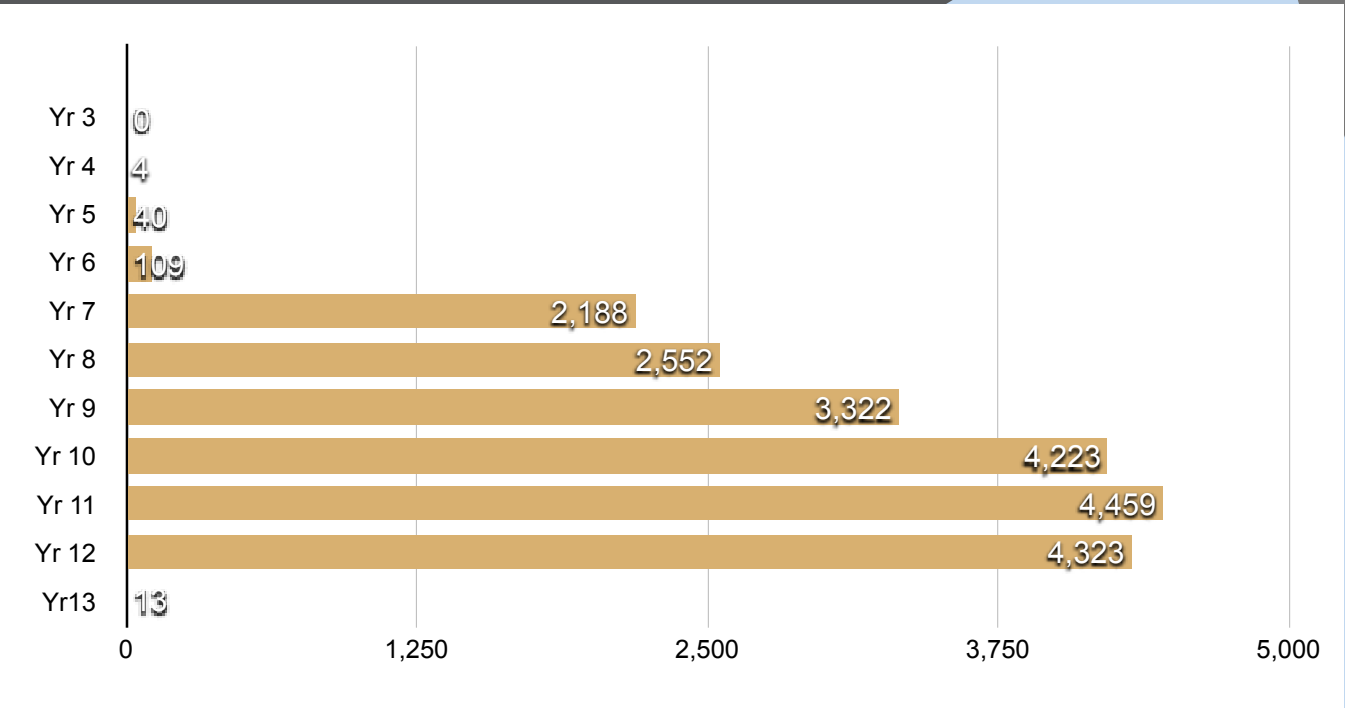
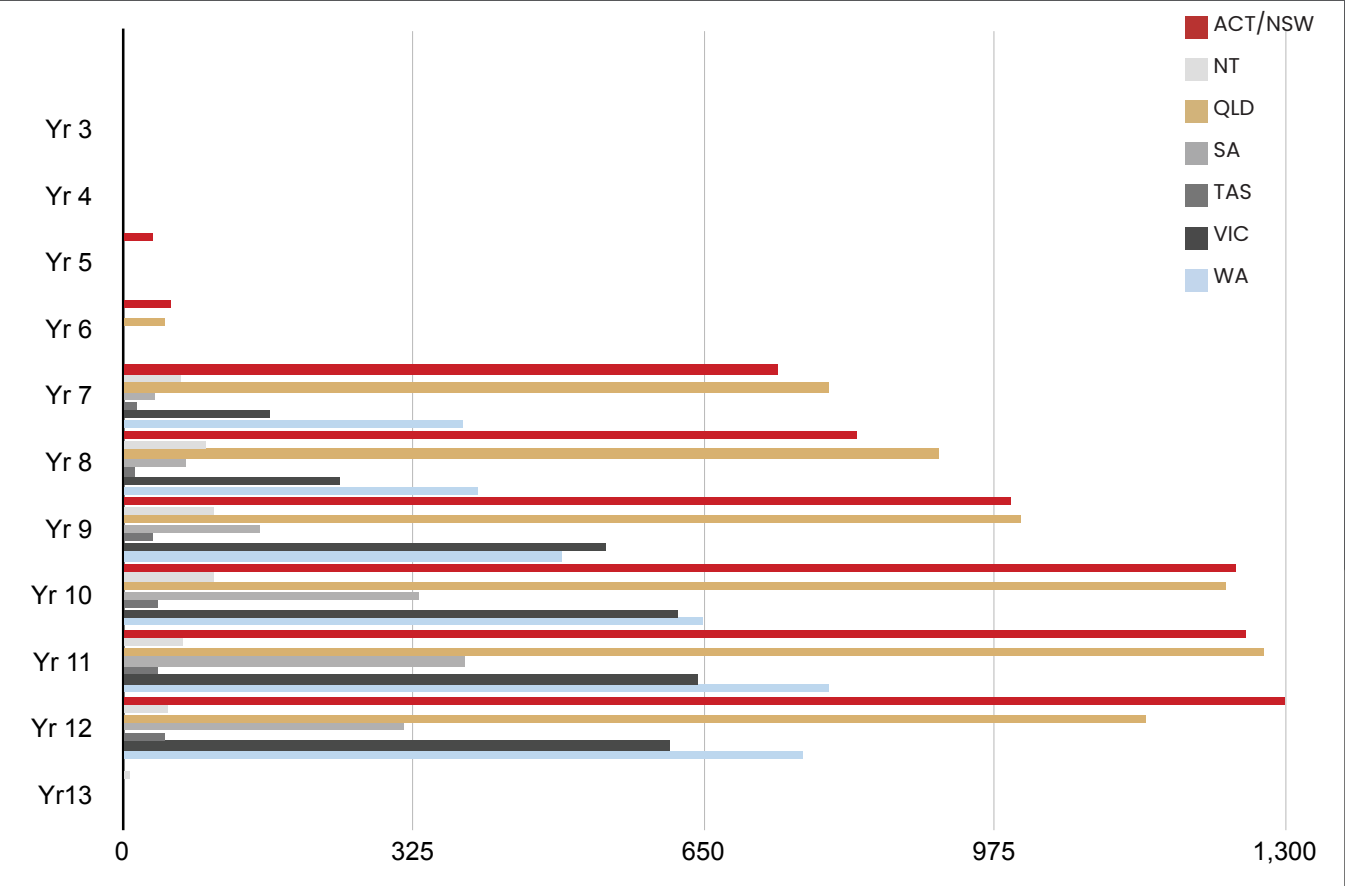
total percentage



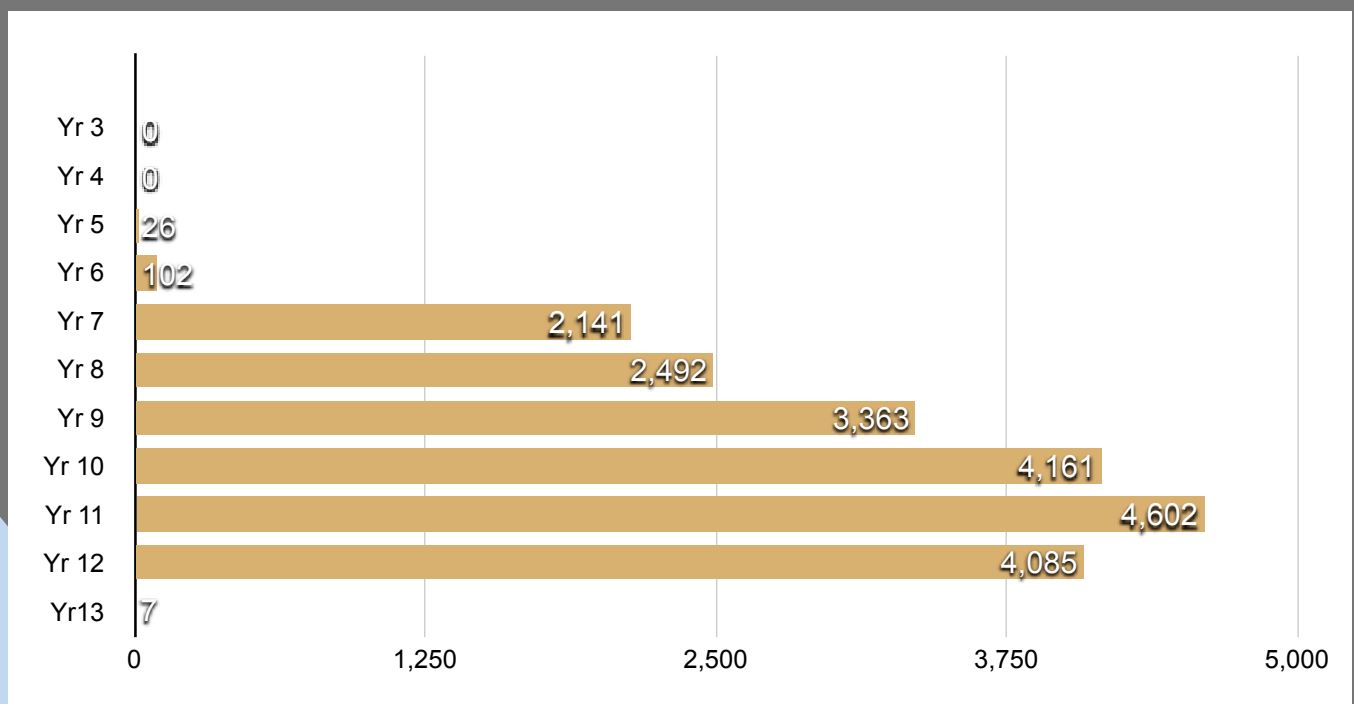
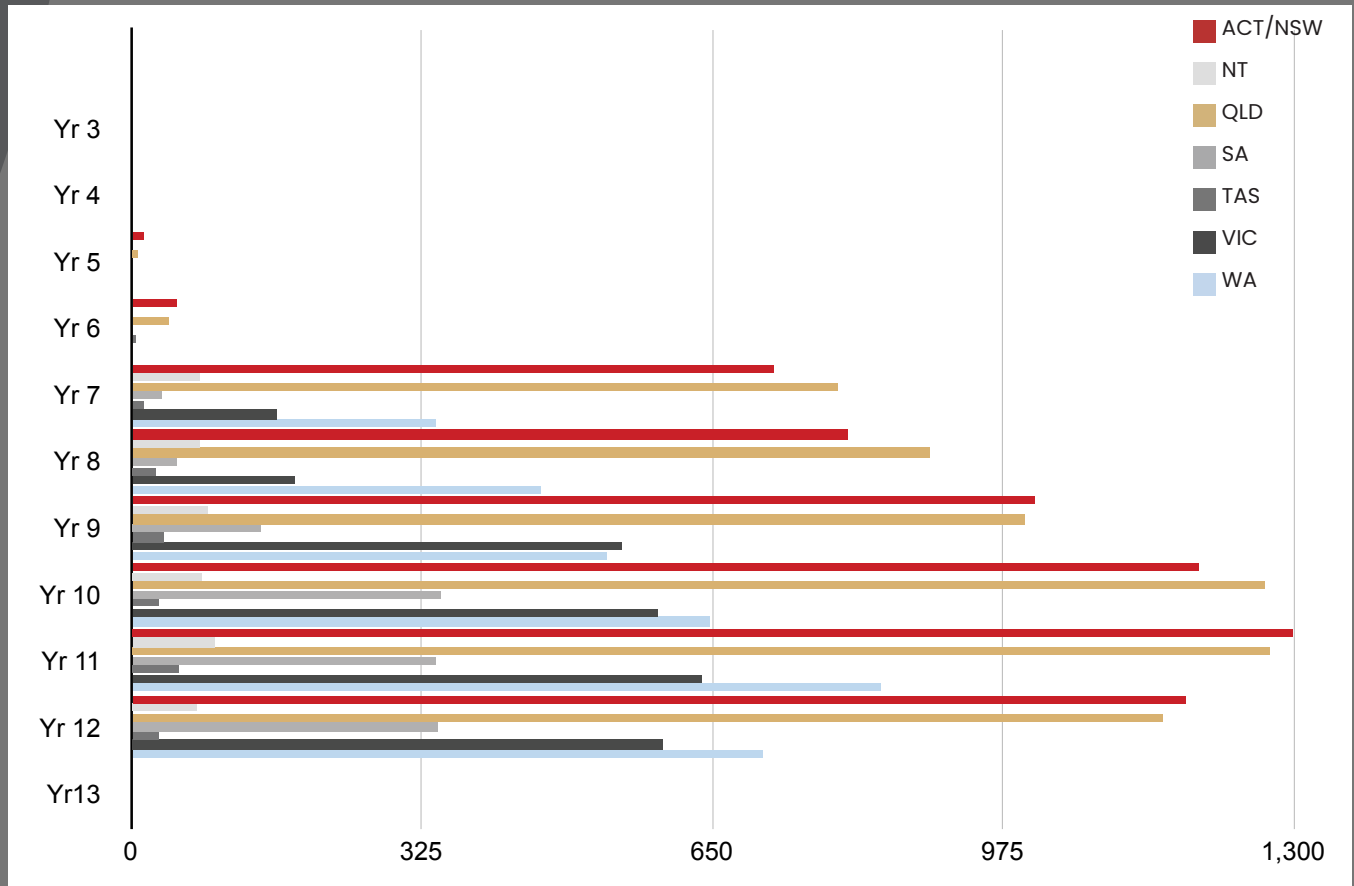
SECTION 3:

Numbers per year level in Boarding.

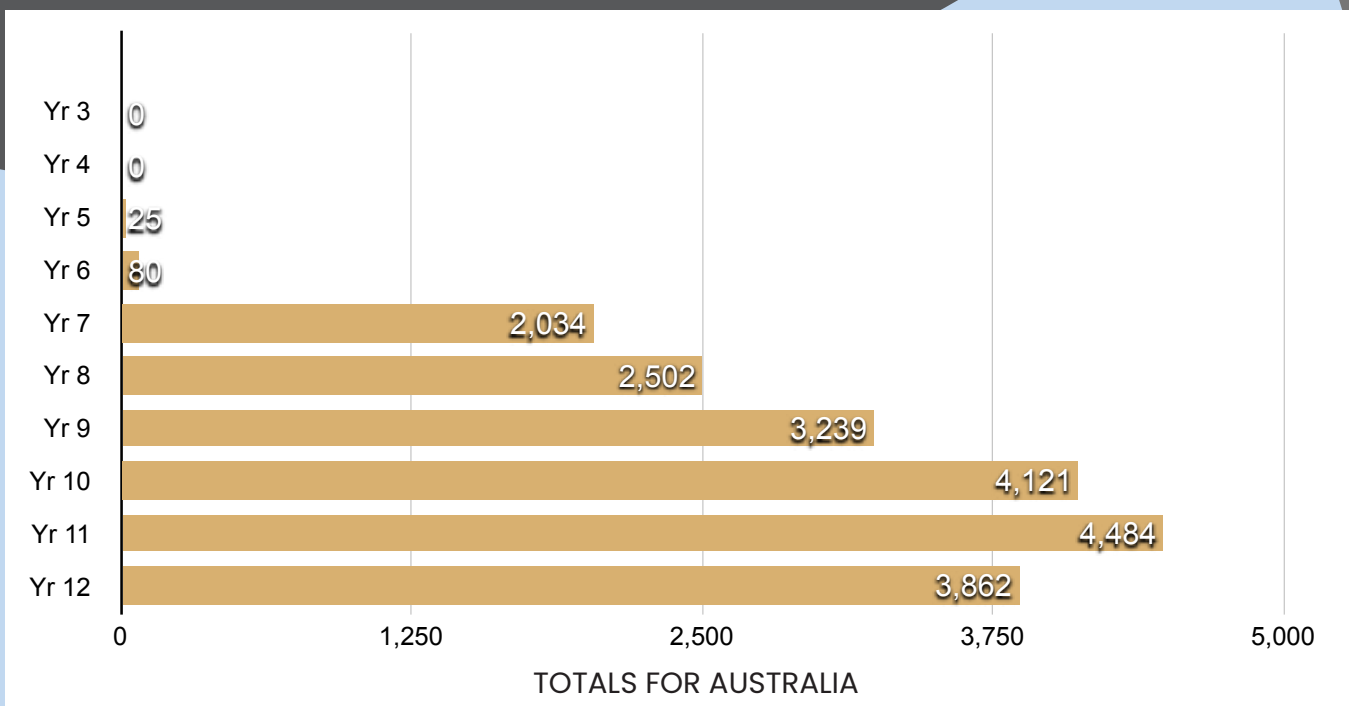
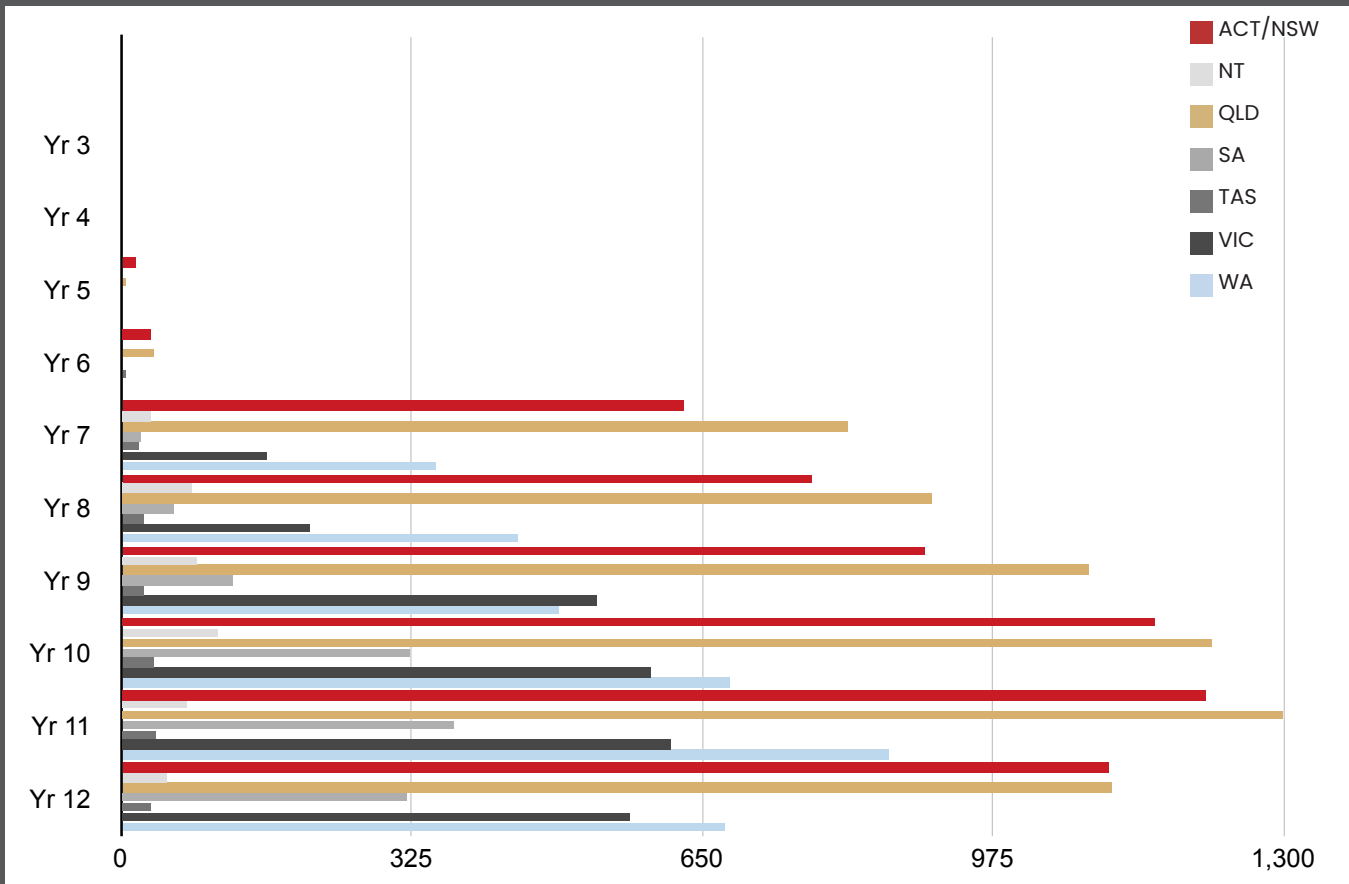
NUMBERS PER YEAR LEVEL IN BOARDING – 2025



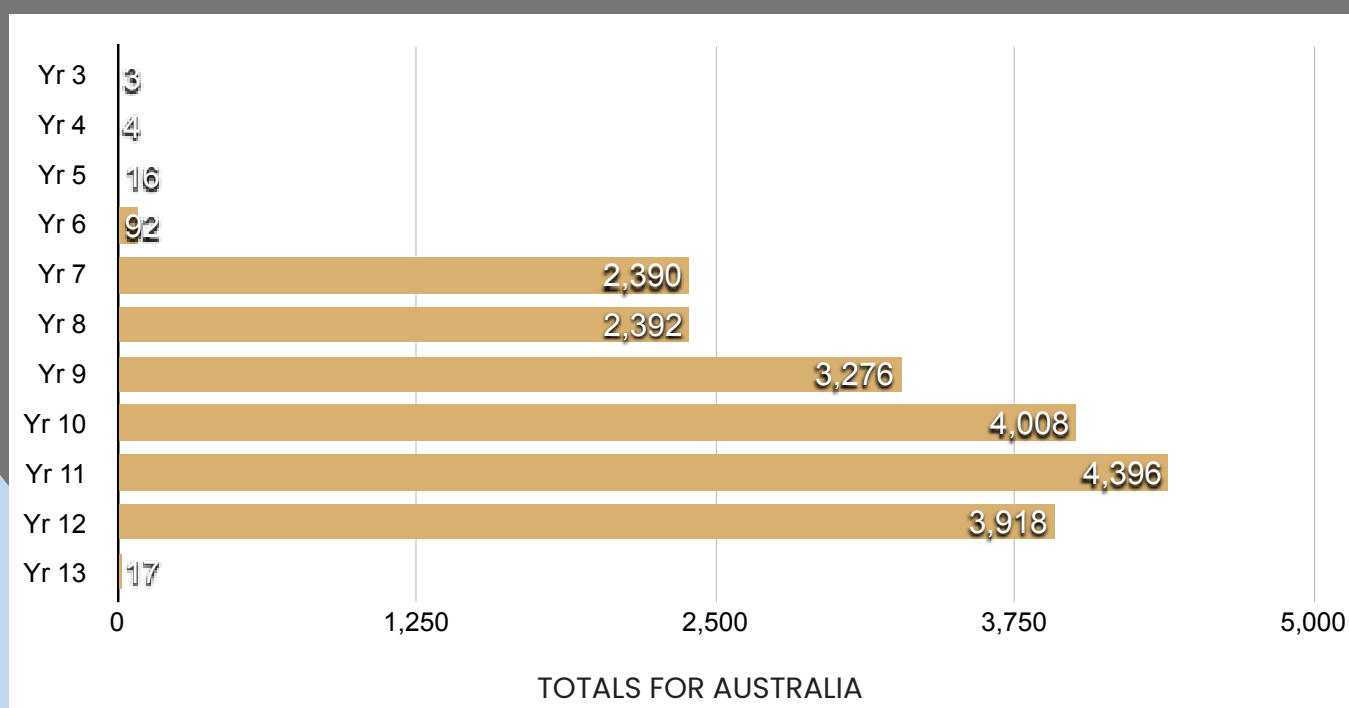
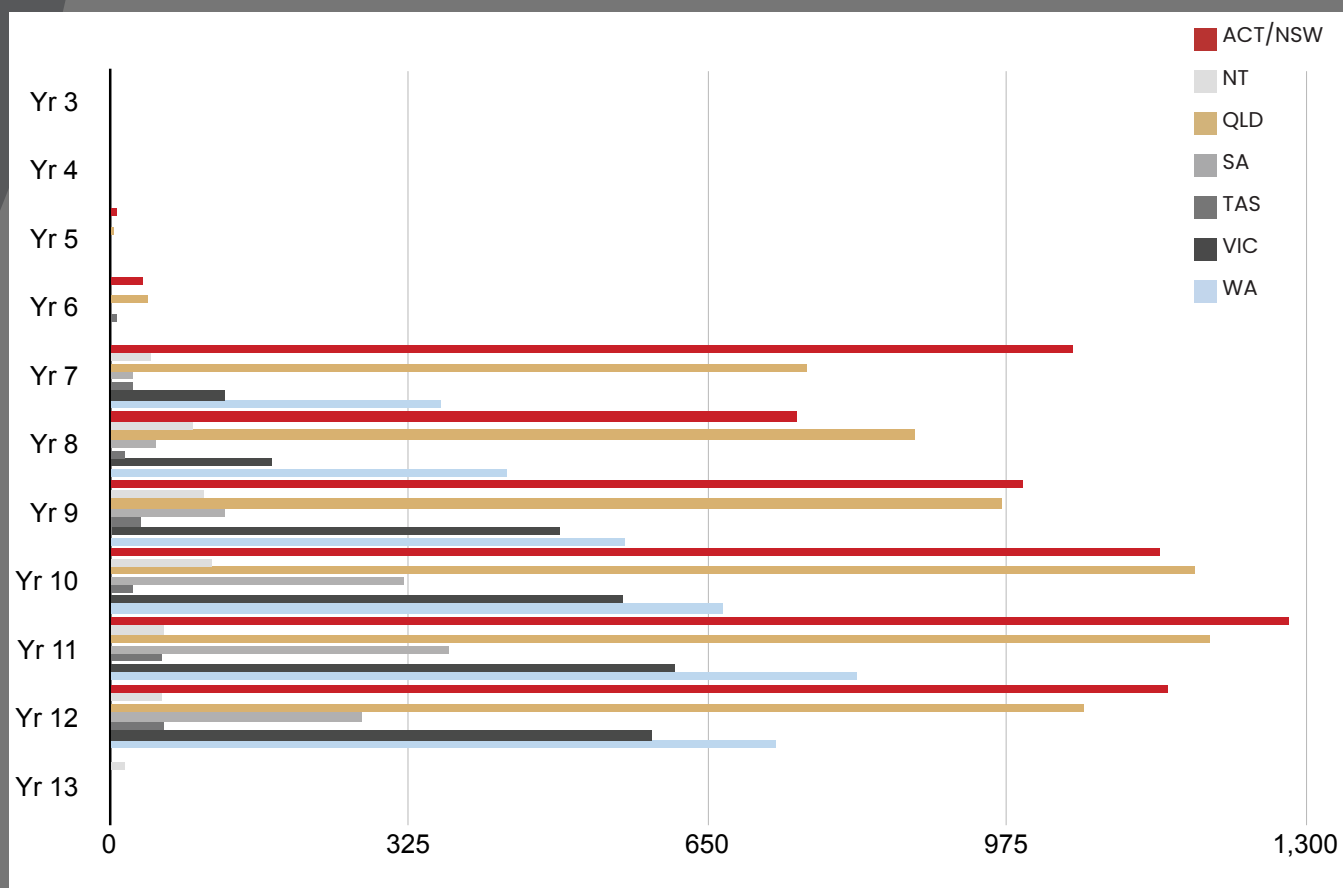
NUMBERS PER YEAR LEVEL IN BOARDING – 2024



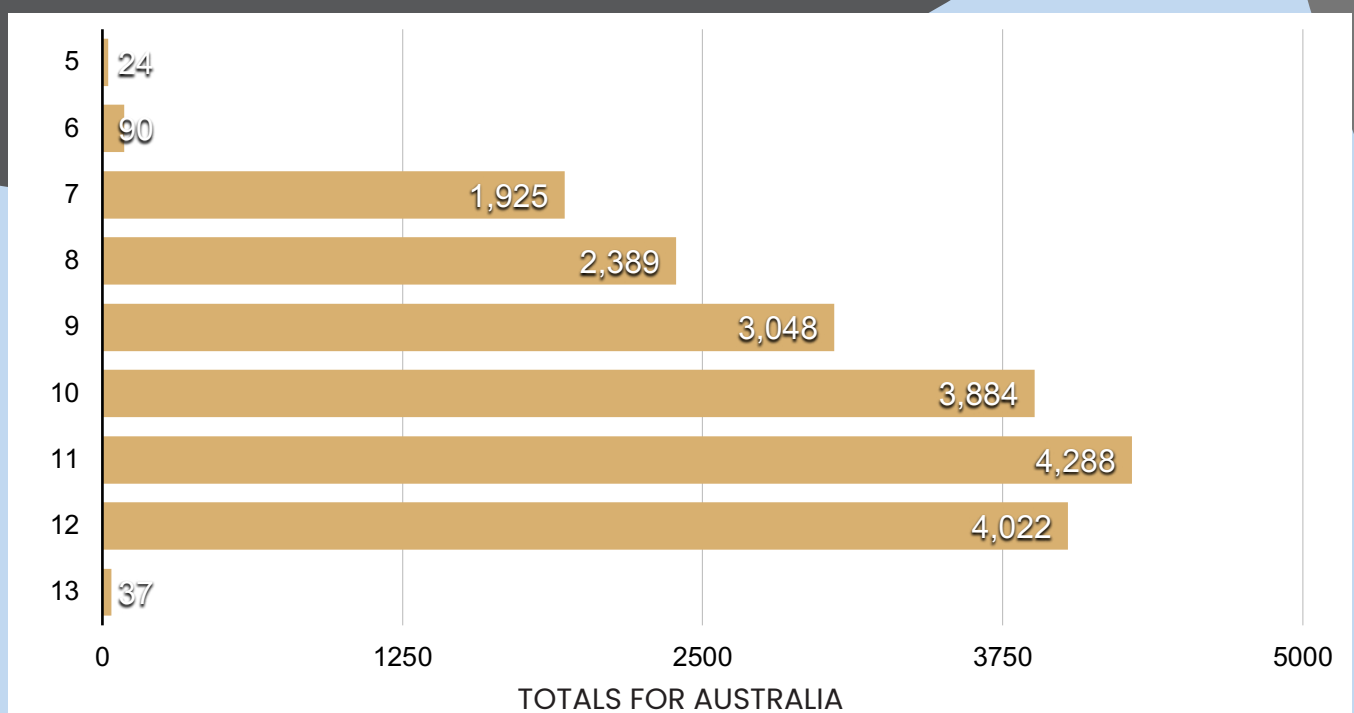
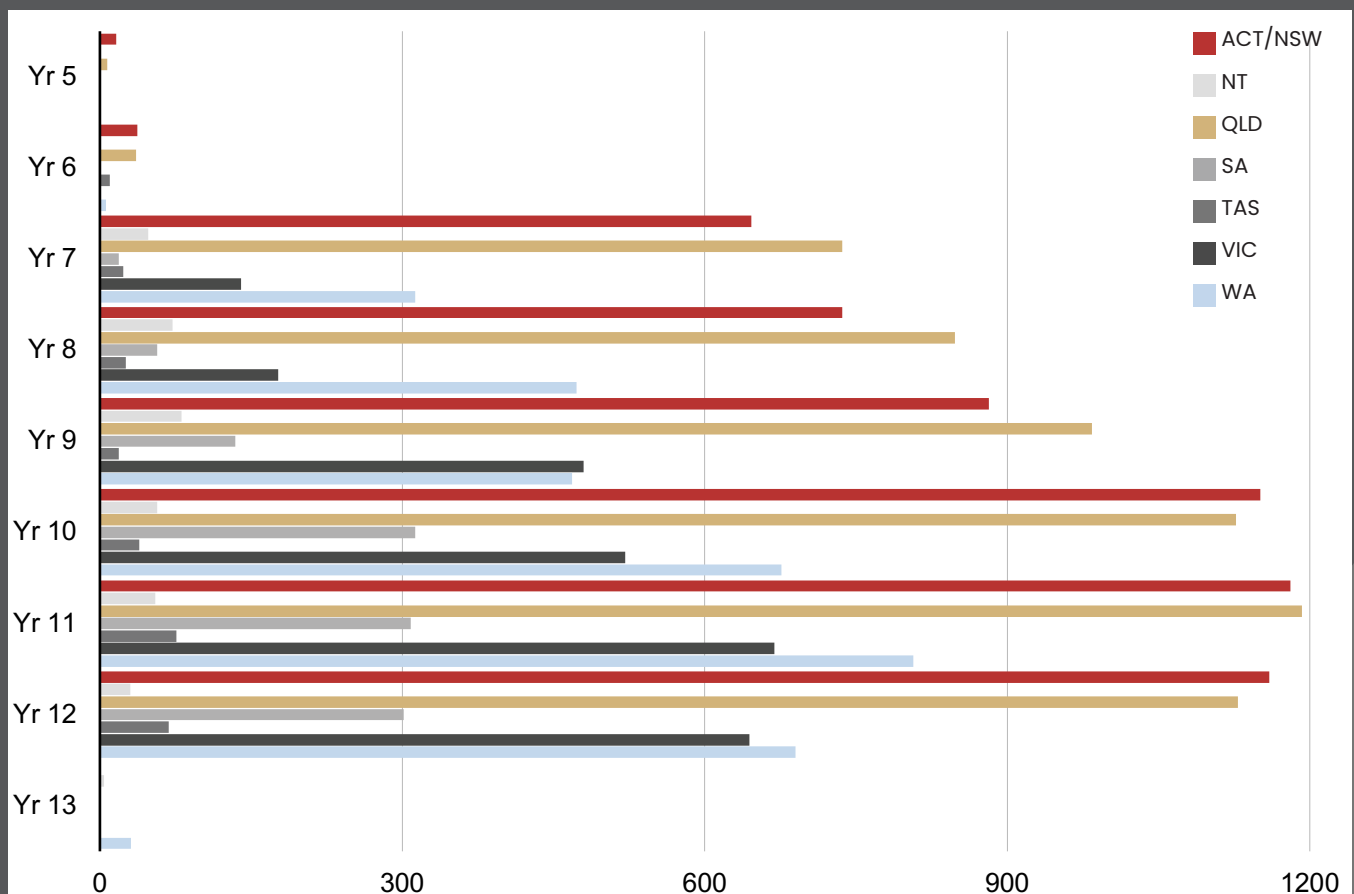
NUMBERS PER YEAR LEVEL IN BOARDING – 2023



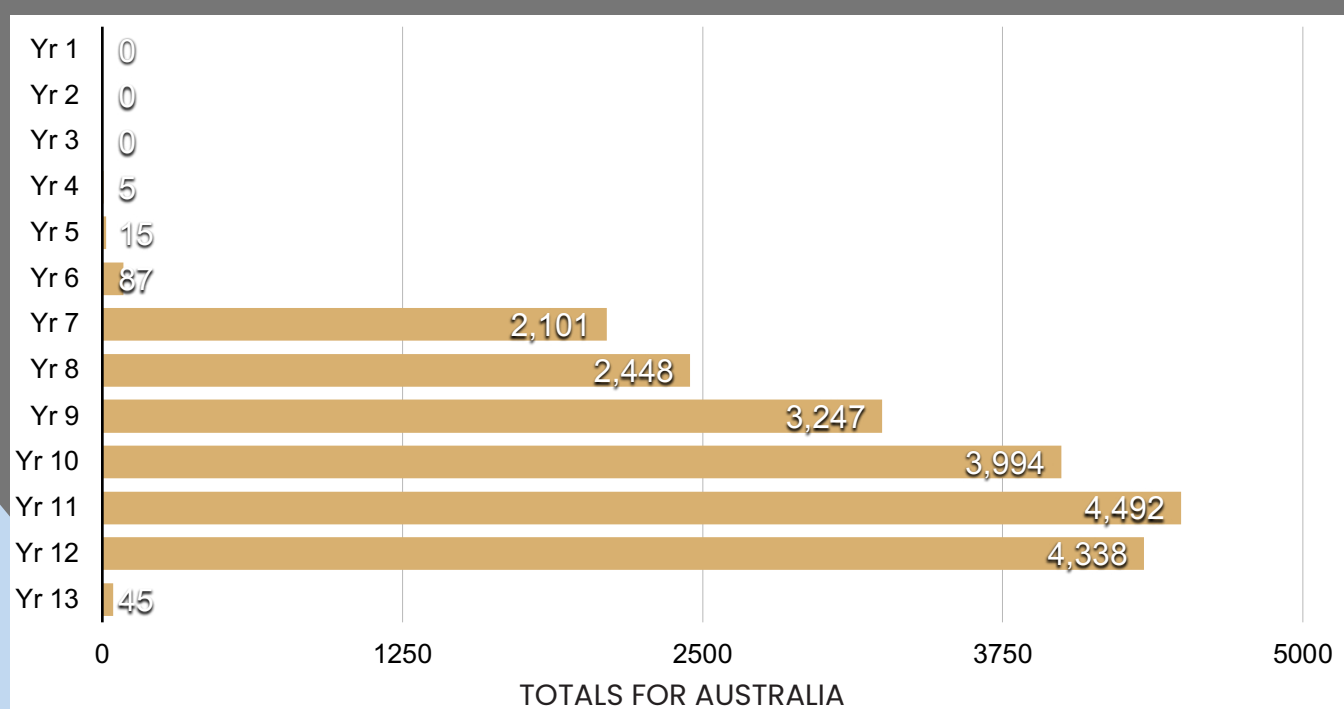
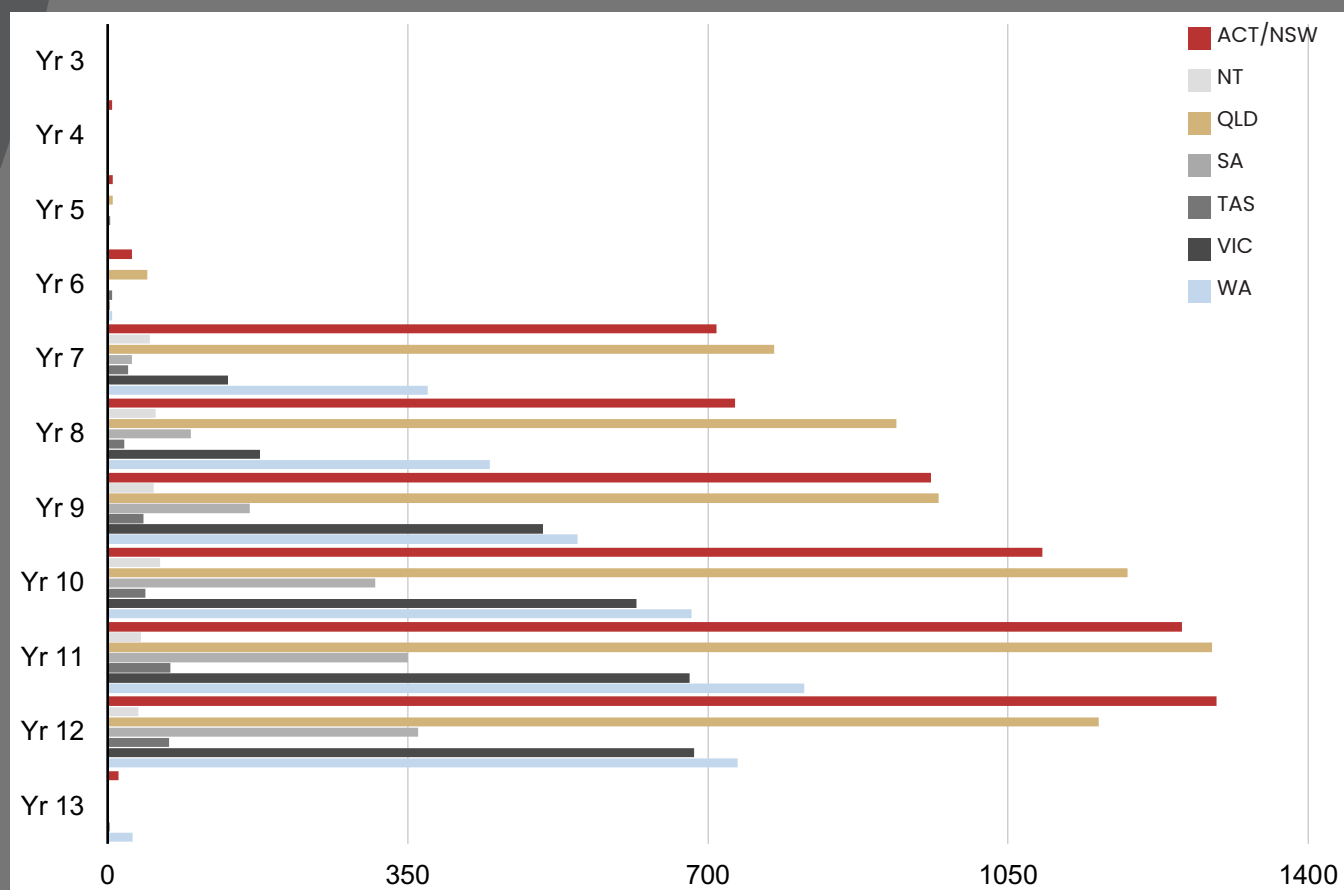
NUMBERS PER YEAR LEVEL IN BOARDING – 2022



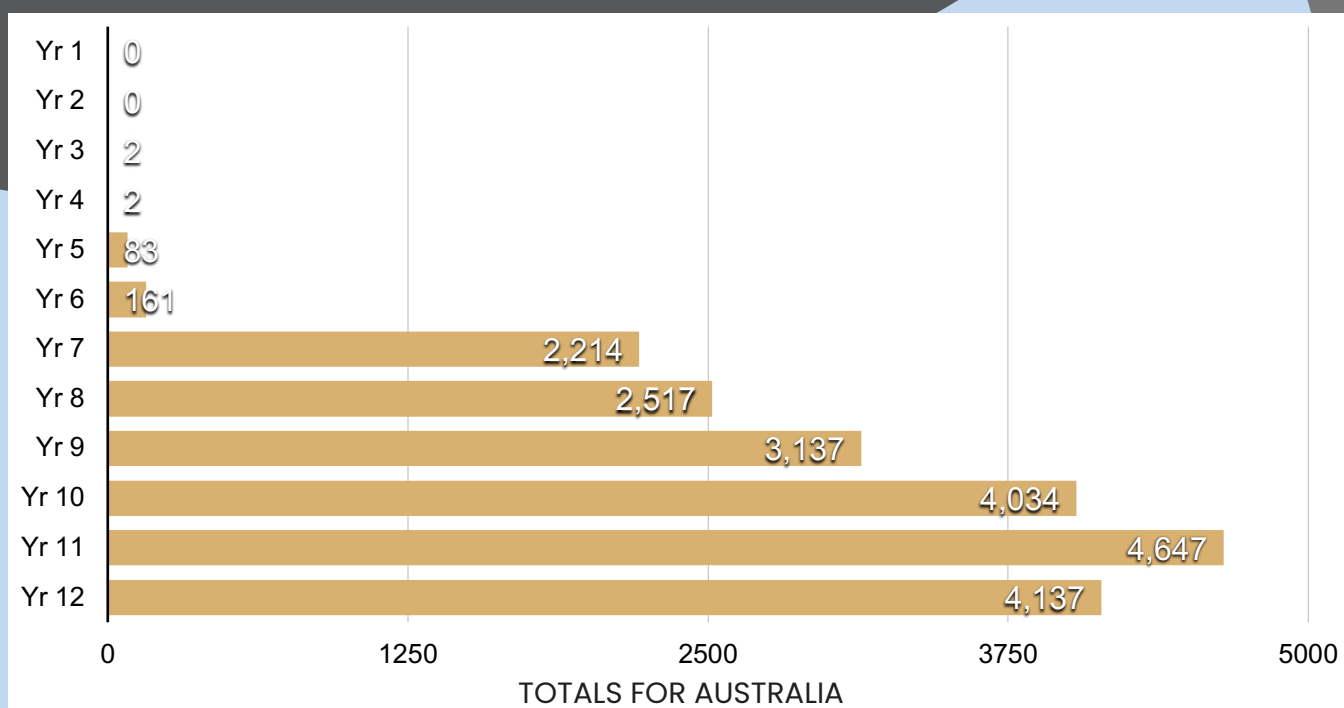
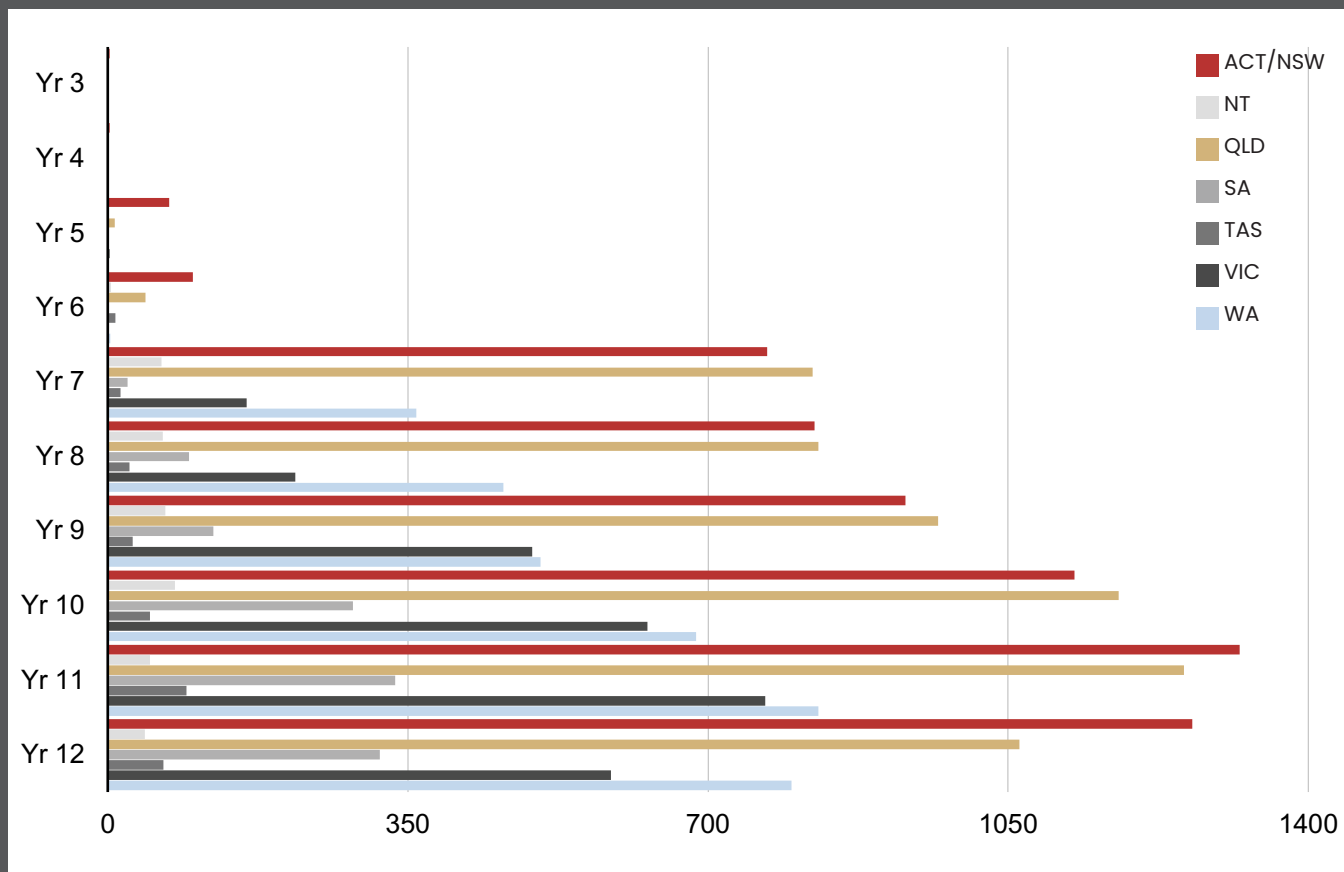
NUMBERS PER YEAR LEVEL IN BOARDING – 2021



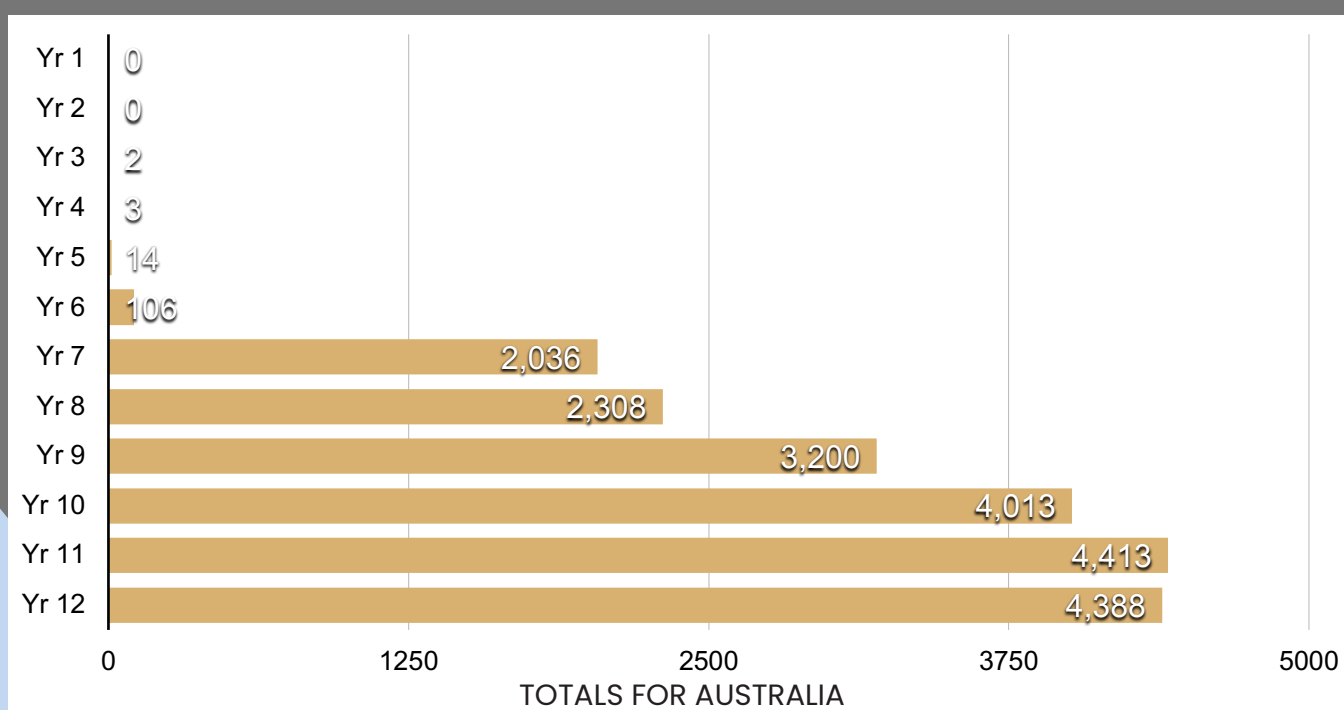
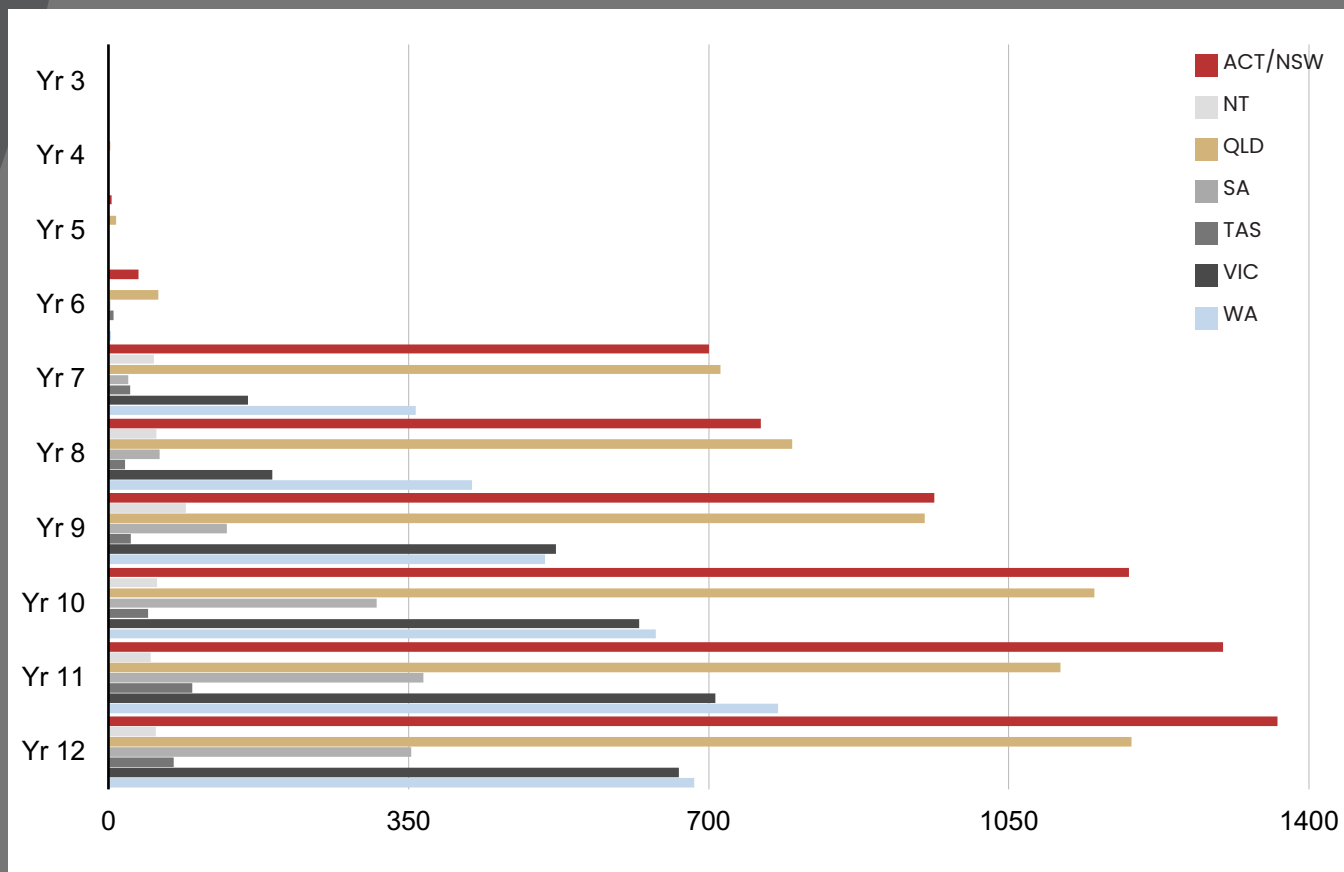
NUMBERS PER YEAR LEVEL IN BOARDING – 2020



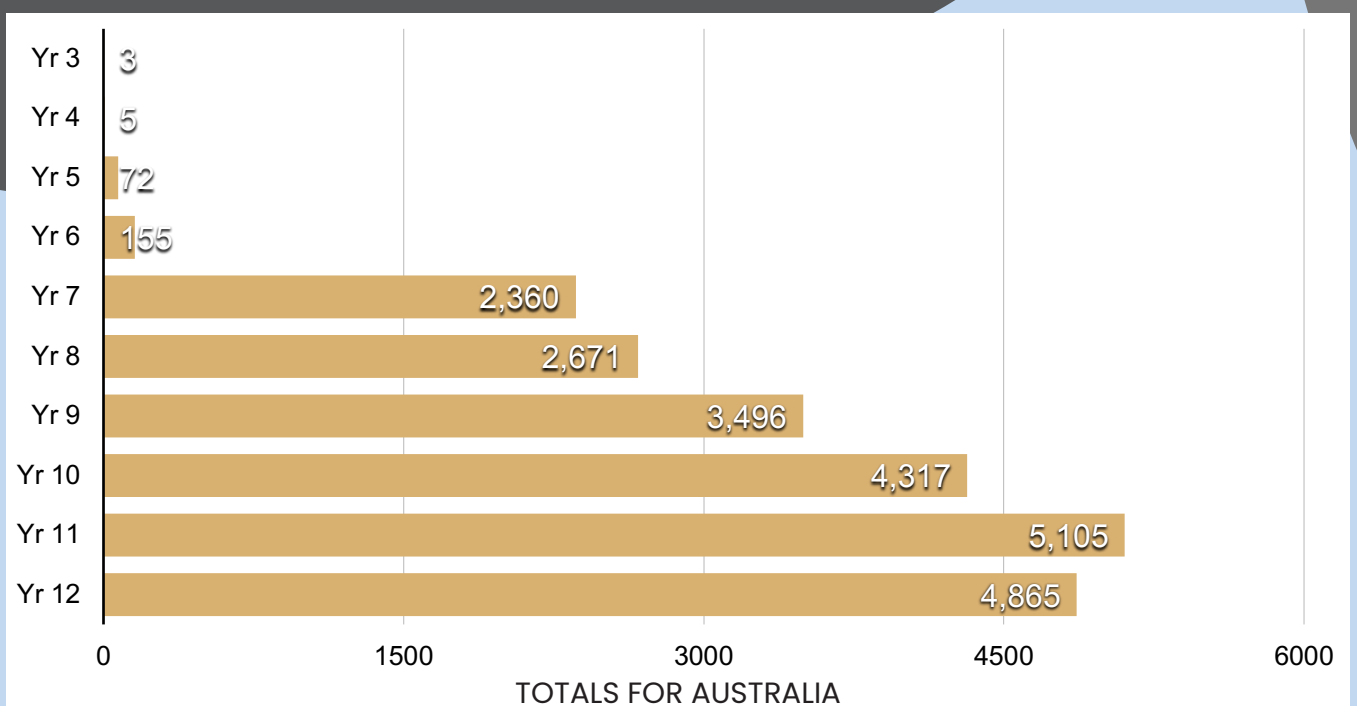
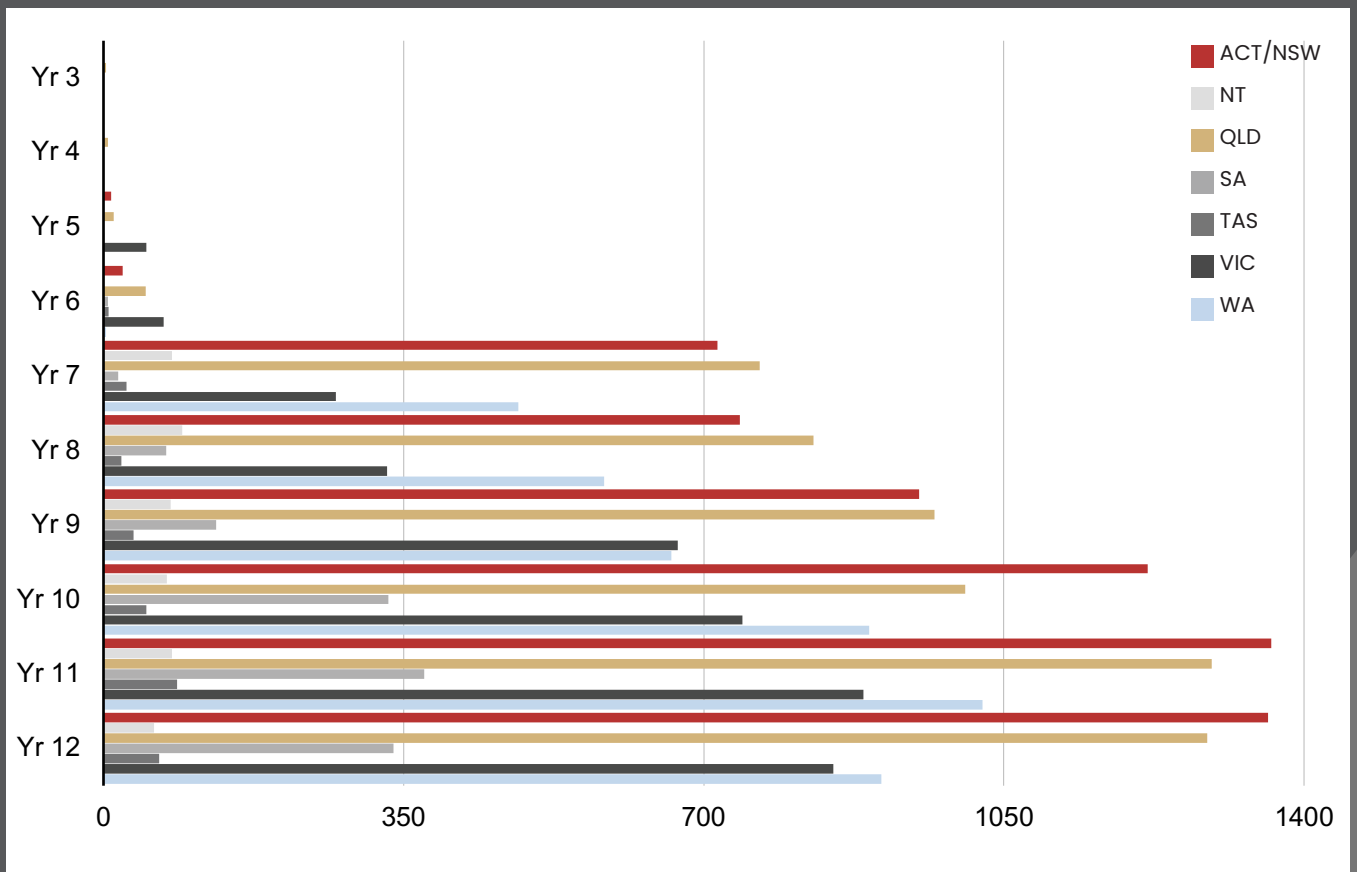
NUMBERS PER YEAR LEVEL IN BOARDING – 2019



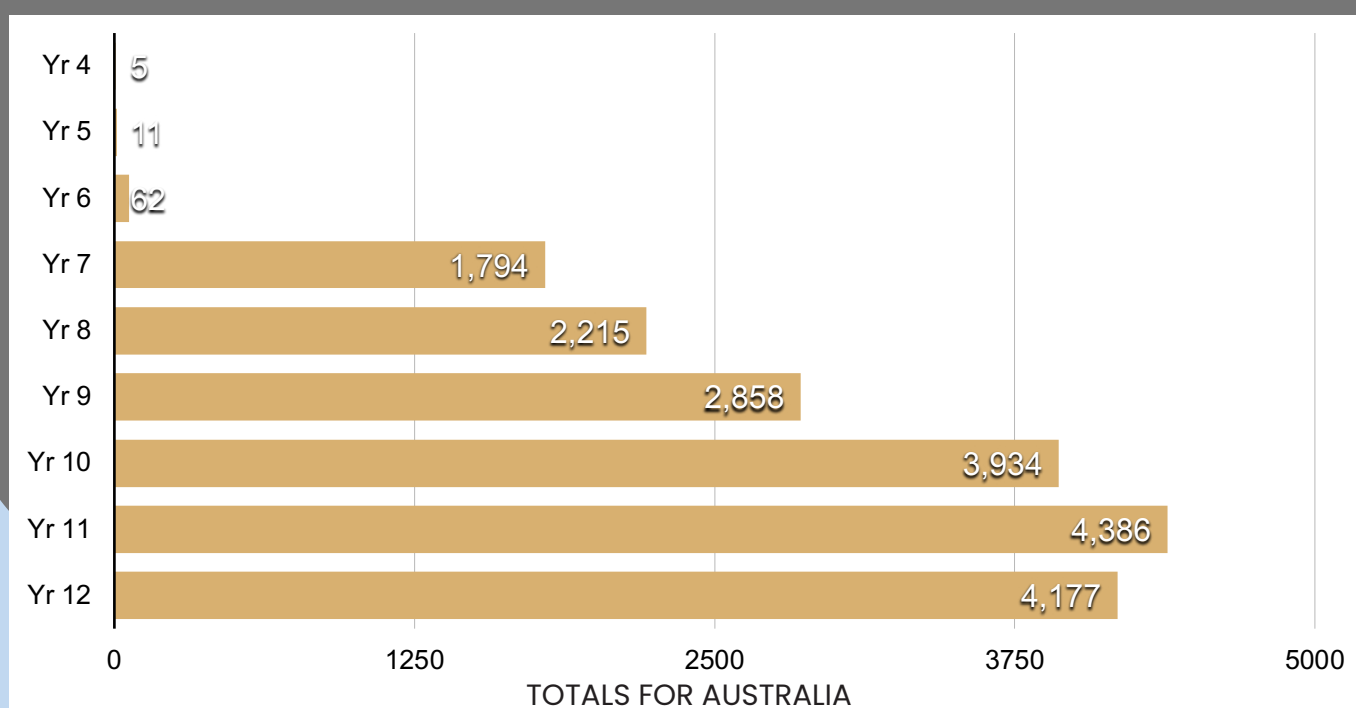
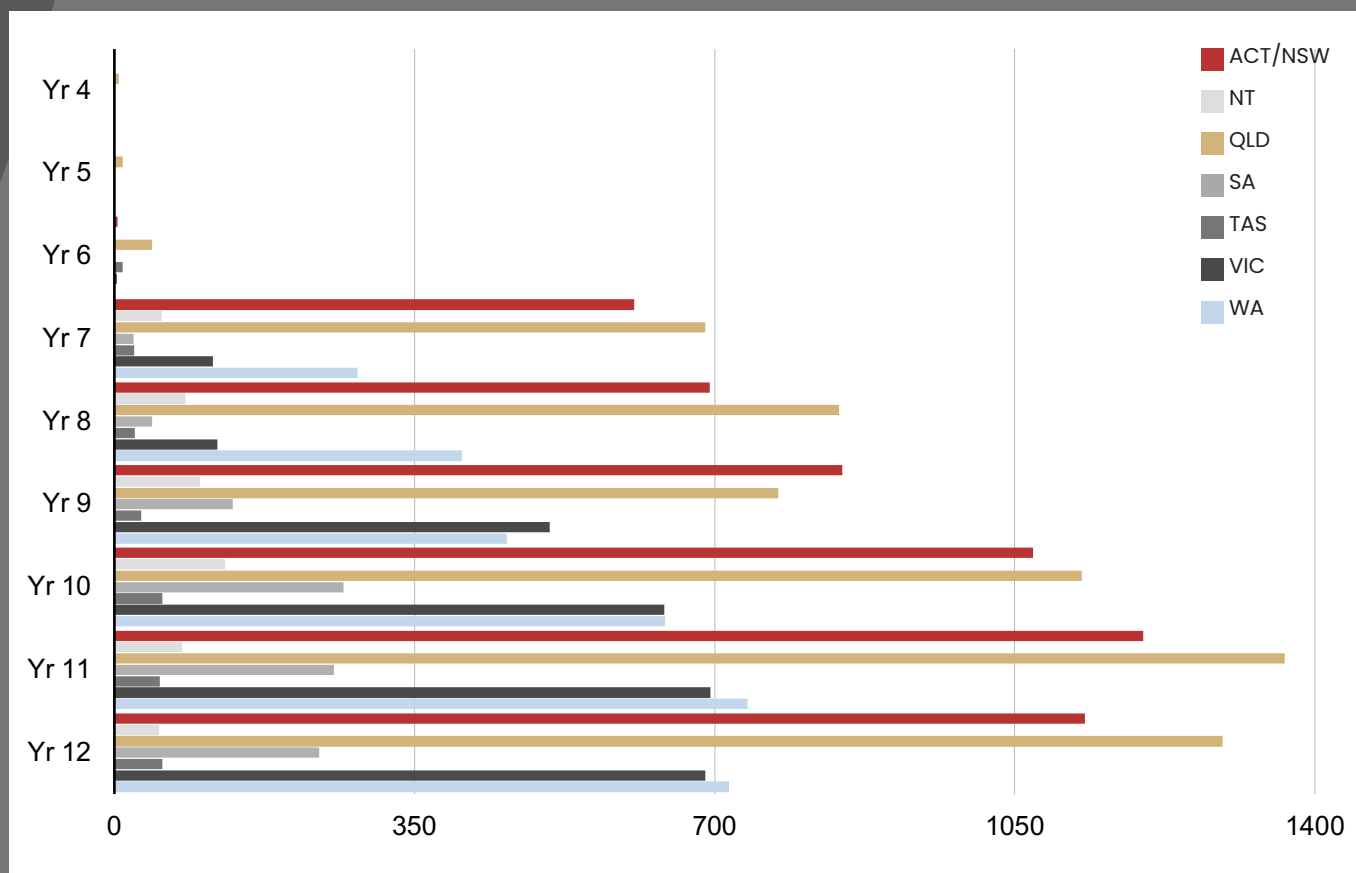
NUMBERS PER YEAR LEVEL IN BOARDING – 2018



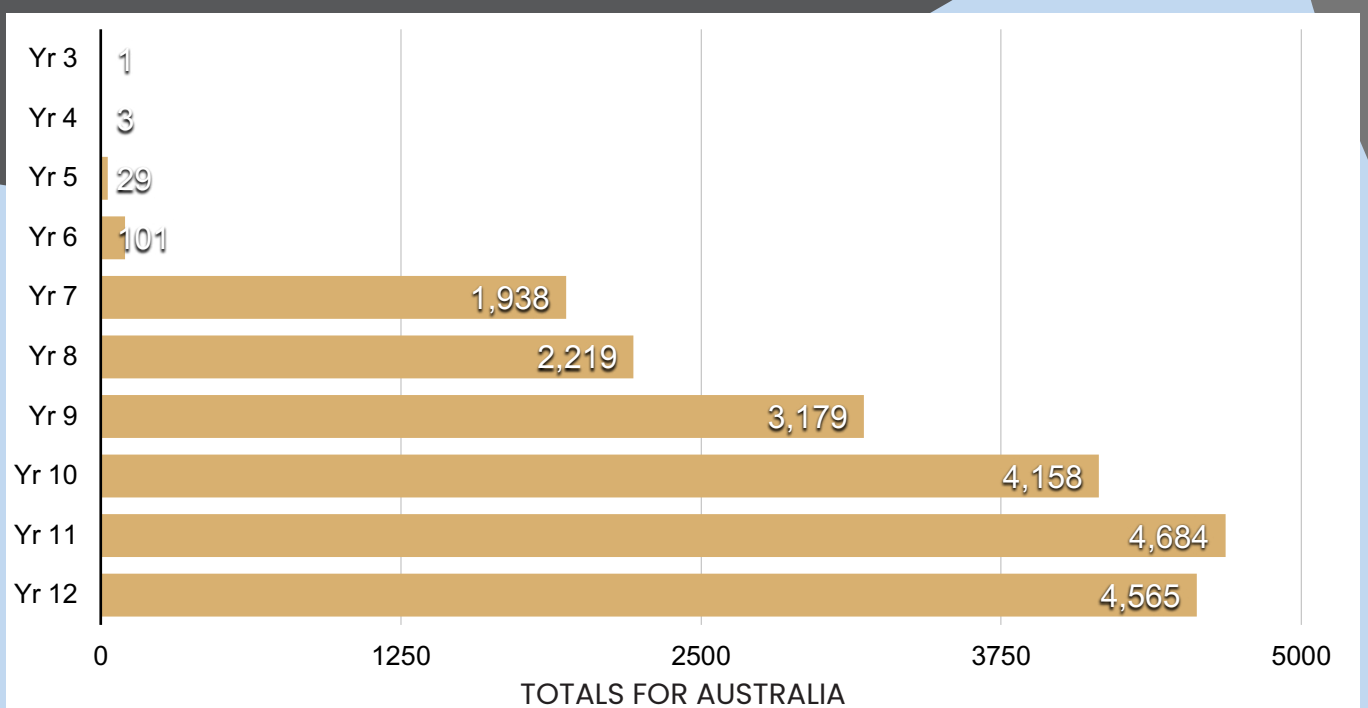
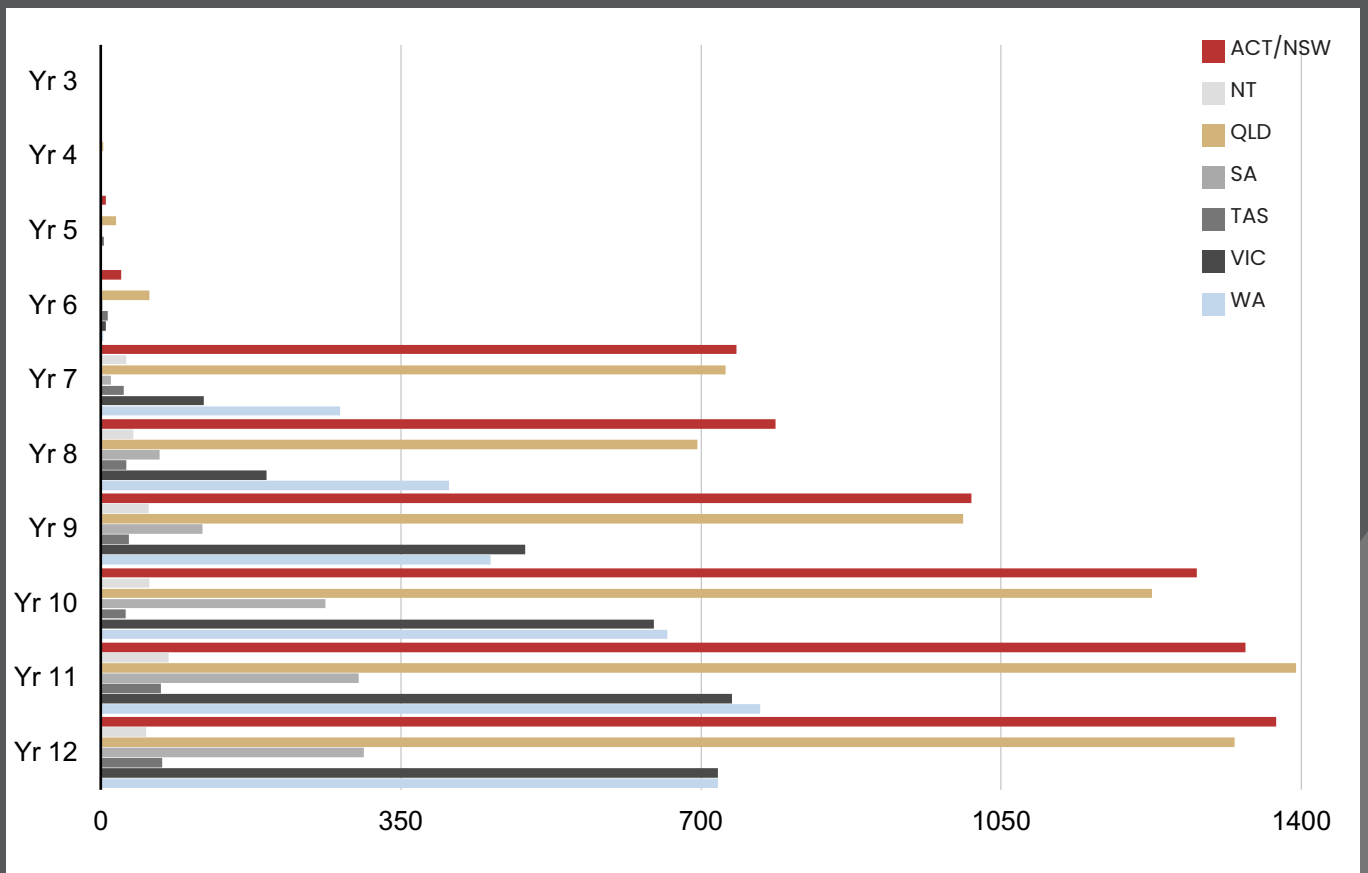
NUMBERS PER YEAR LEVEL IN BOARDING – 2017



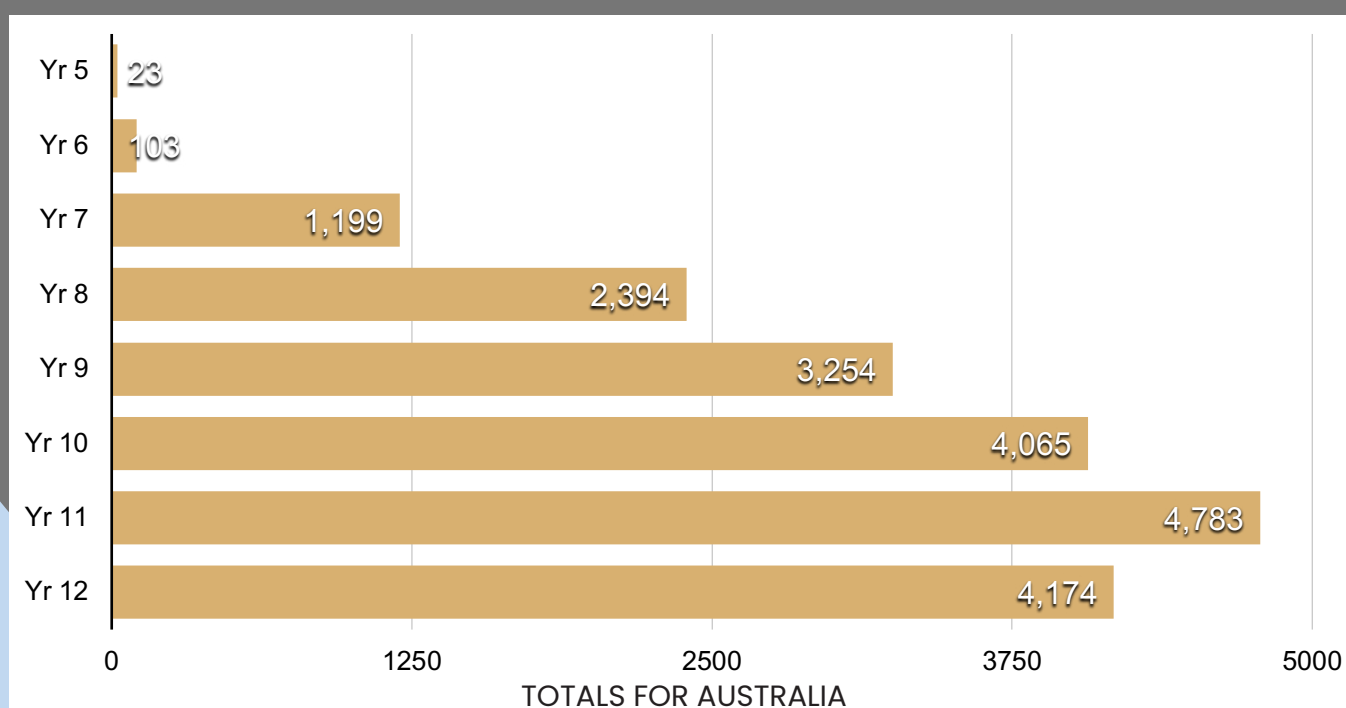
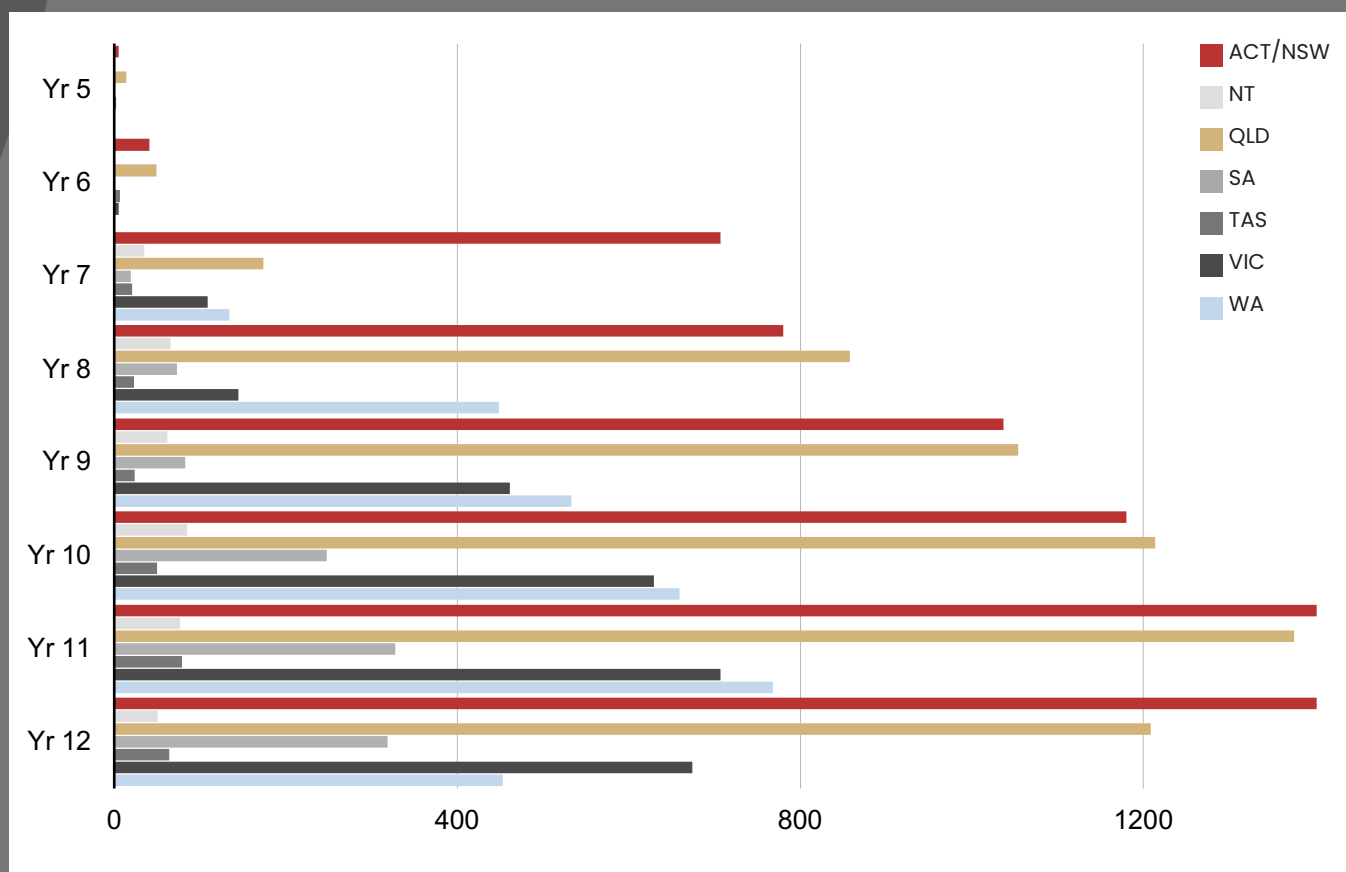
NUMBERS PER YEAR LEVEL IN BOARDING – 2016



NUMBERS PER YEAR LEVEL IN BOARDING – 2015



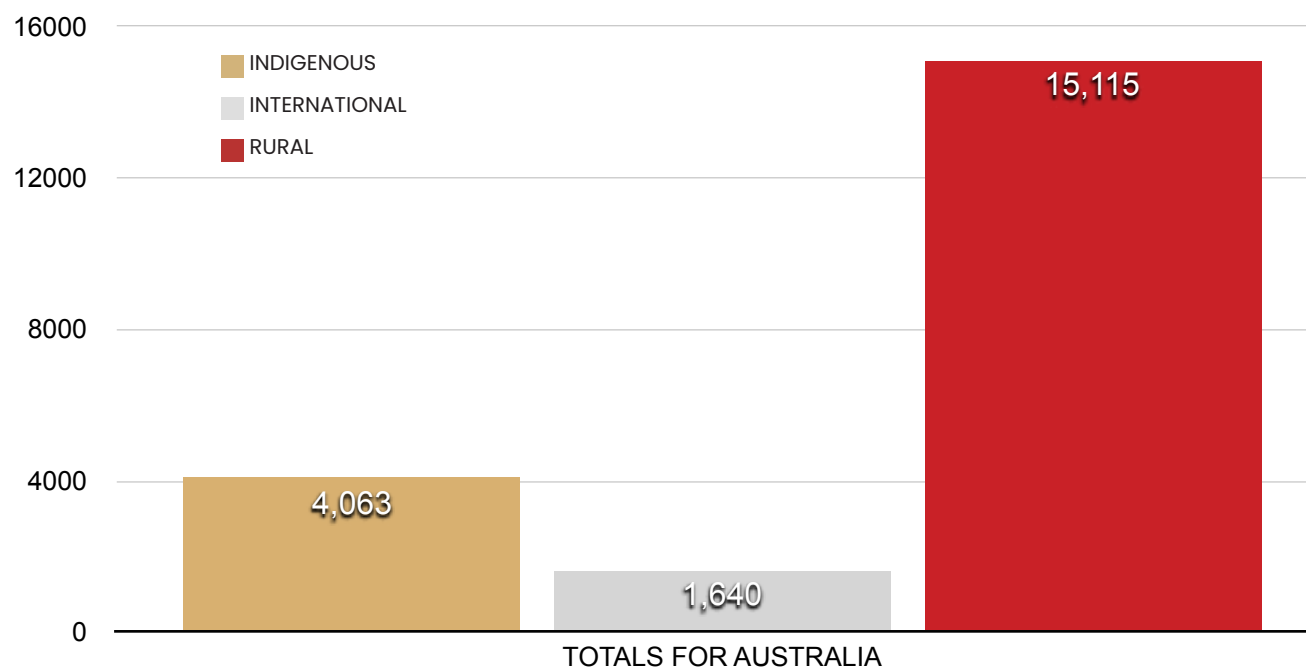
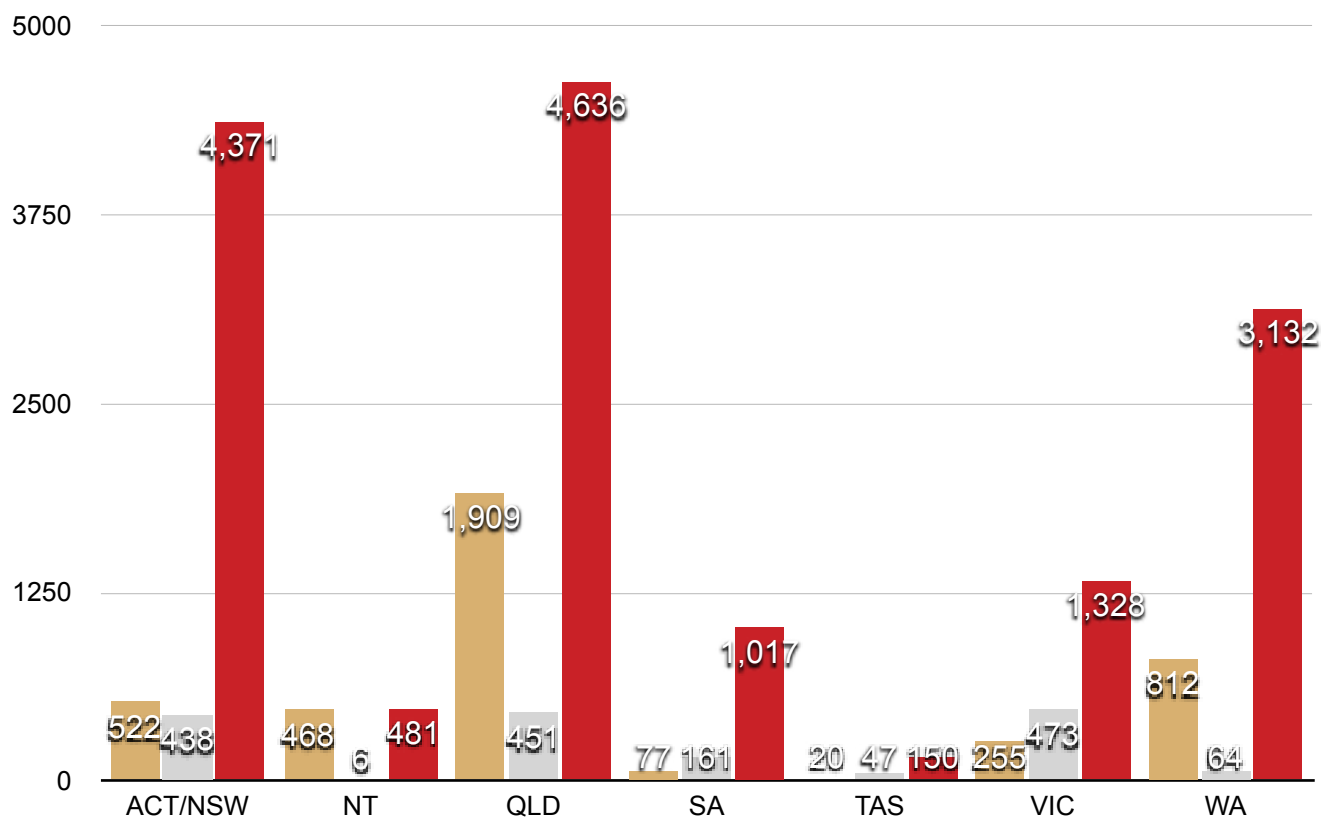
NUMBERS PER YEAR LEVEL IN BOARDING – 2014



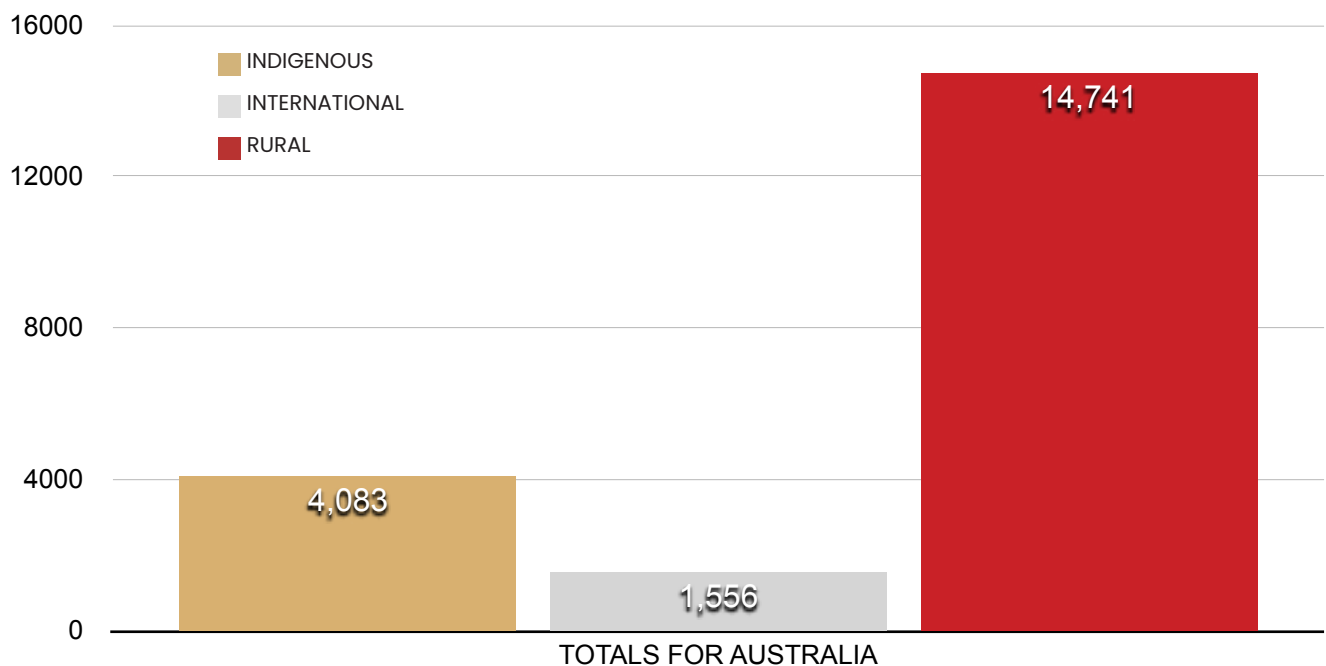
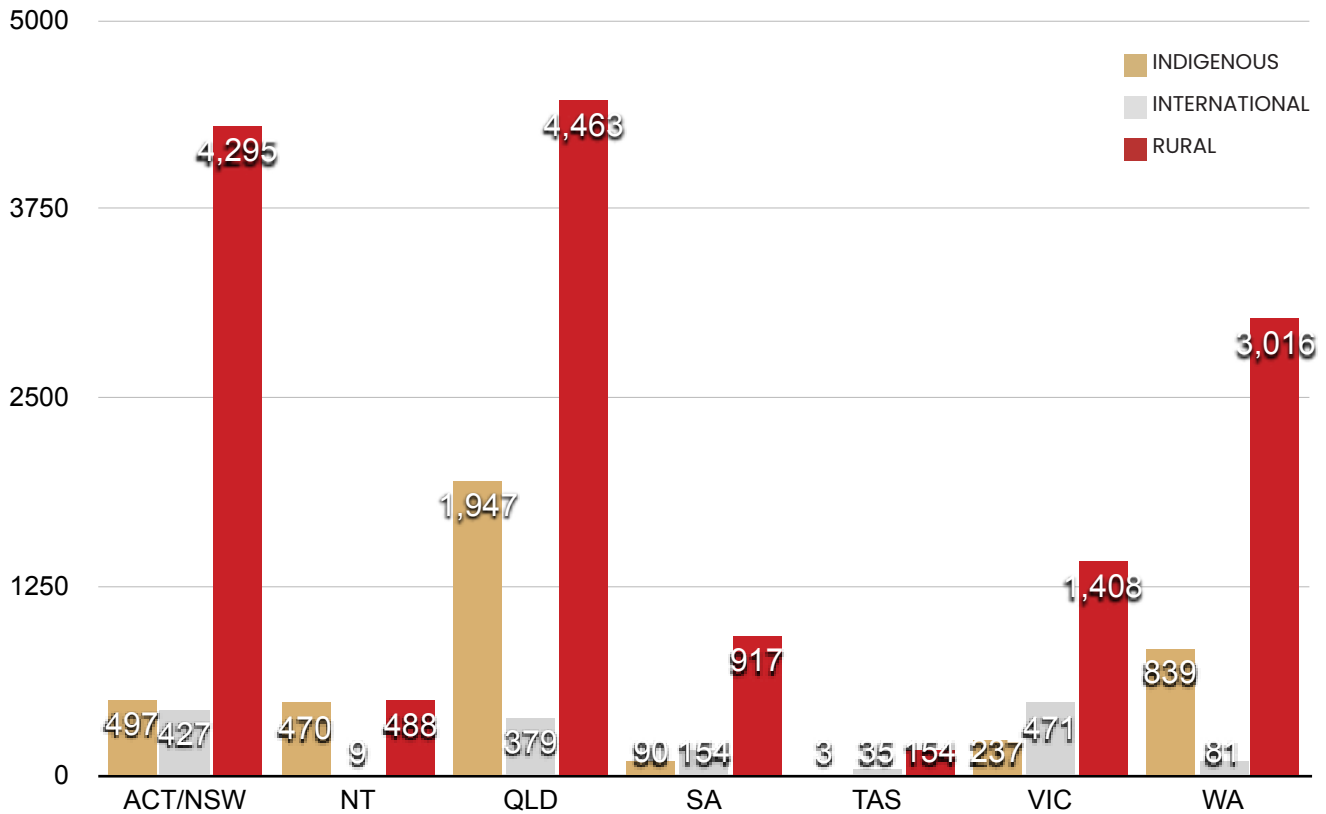
SECTION 4:

Specific Groups in Boarding

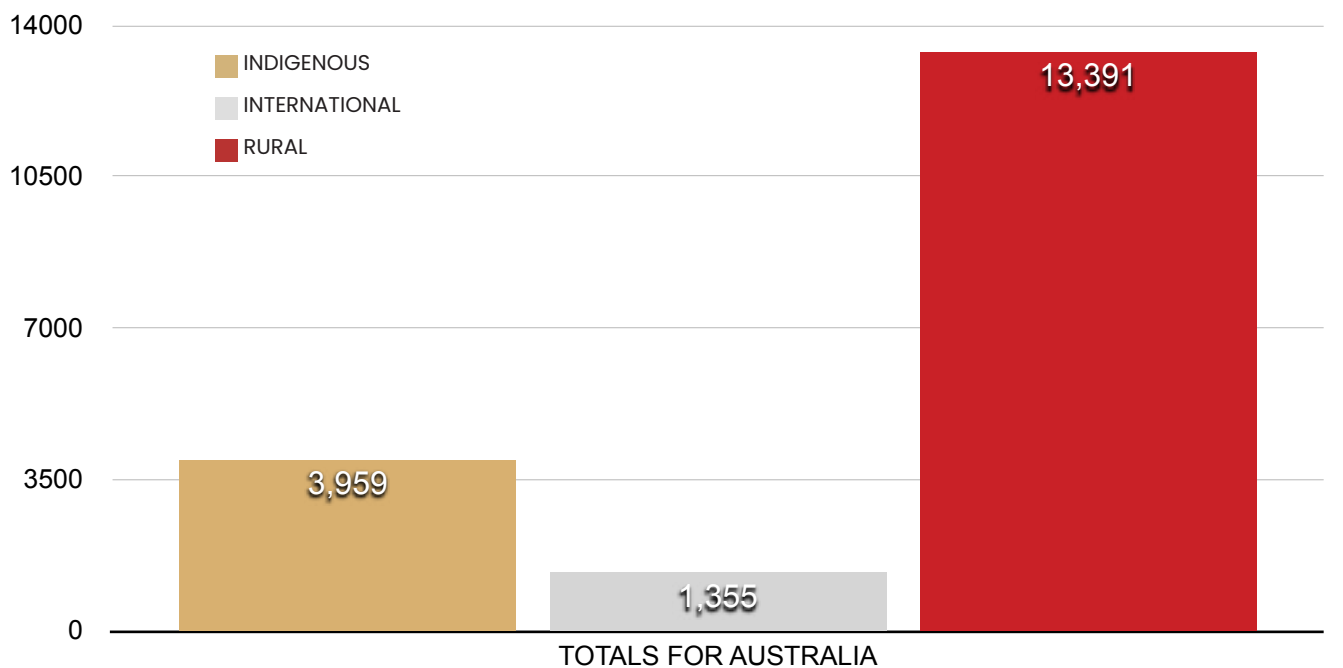
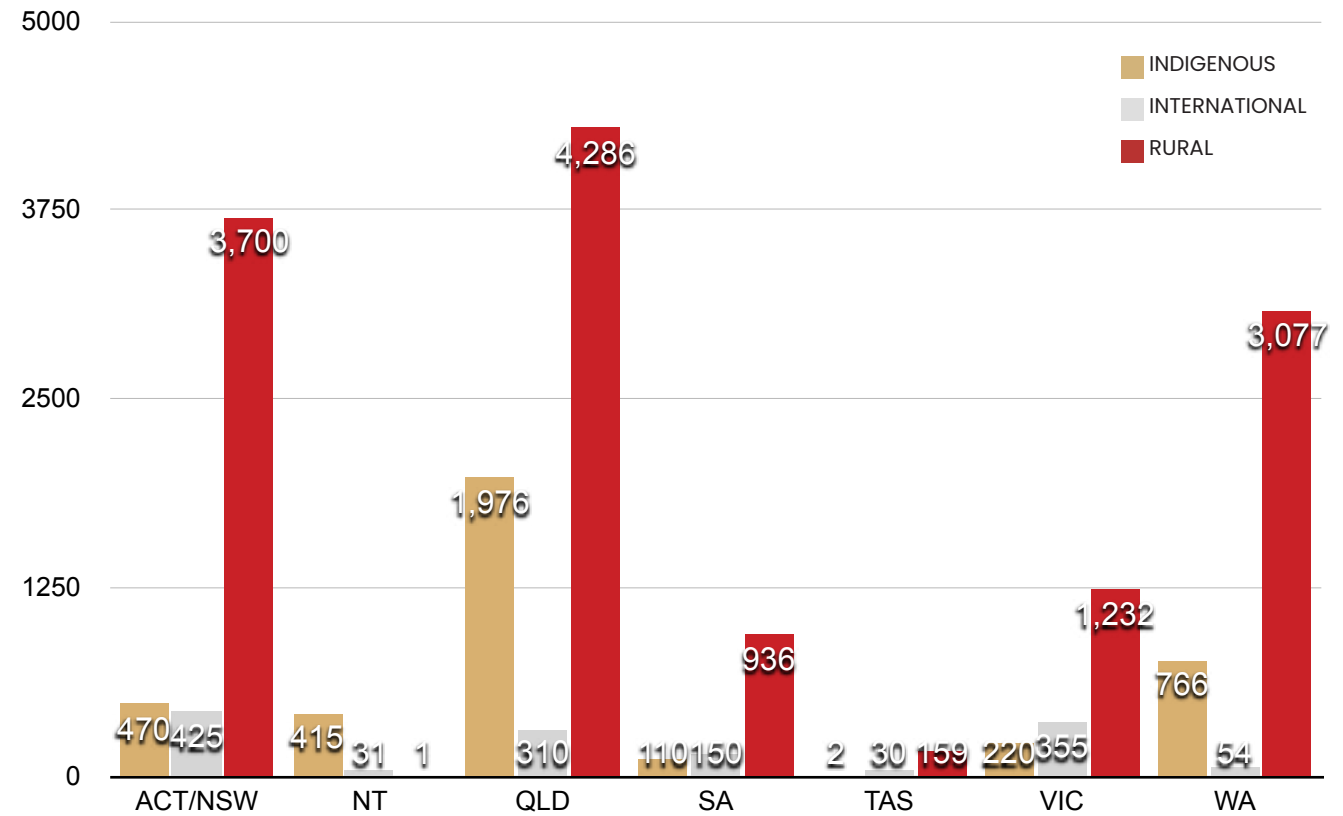
SPECIFIC GROUPS IN BOARDING – 2025



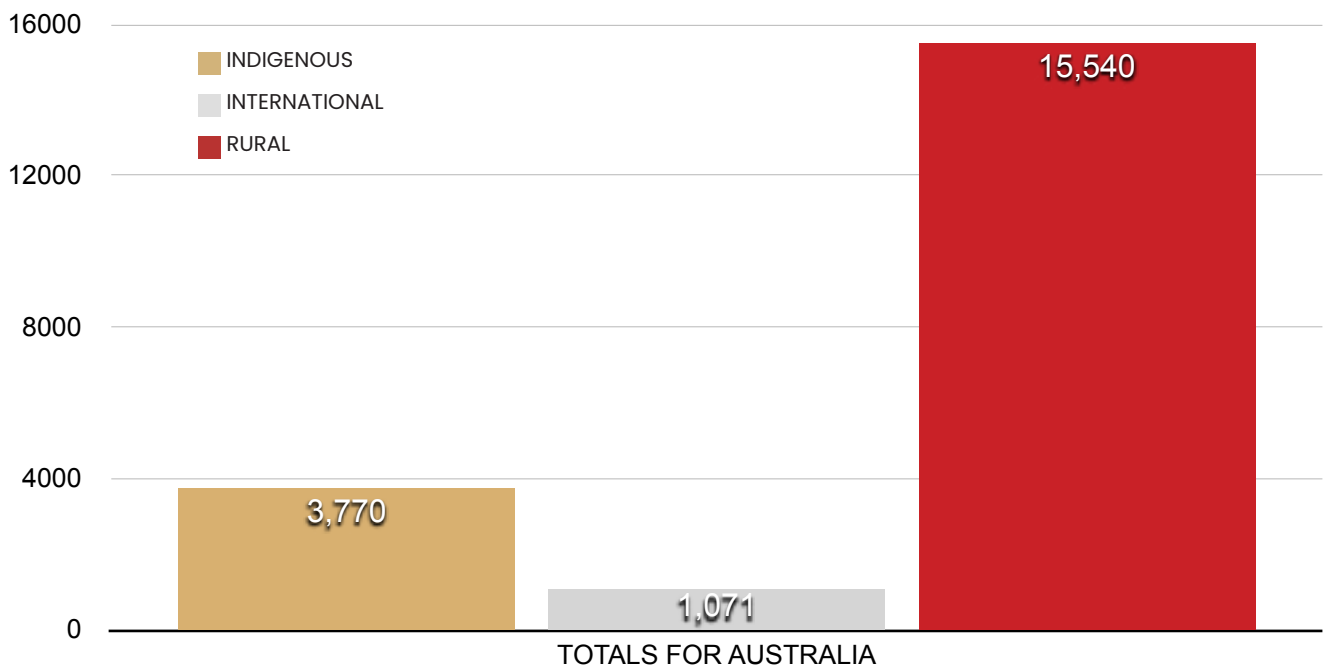
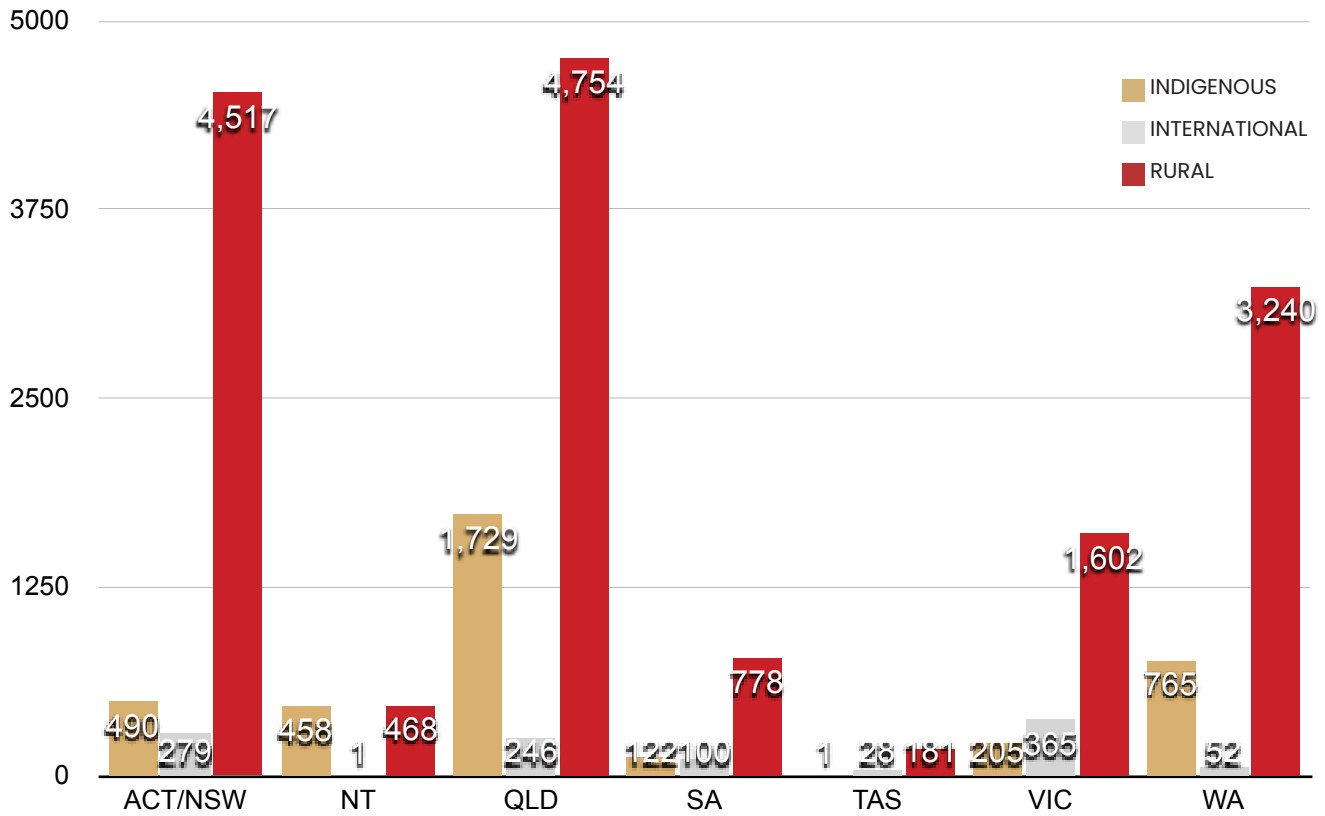
SPECIFIC GROUPS IN BOARDING – 2024



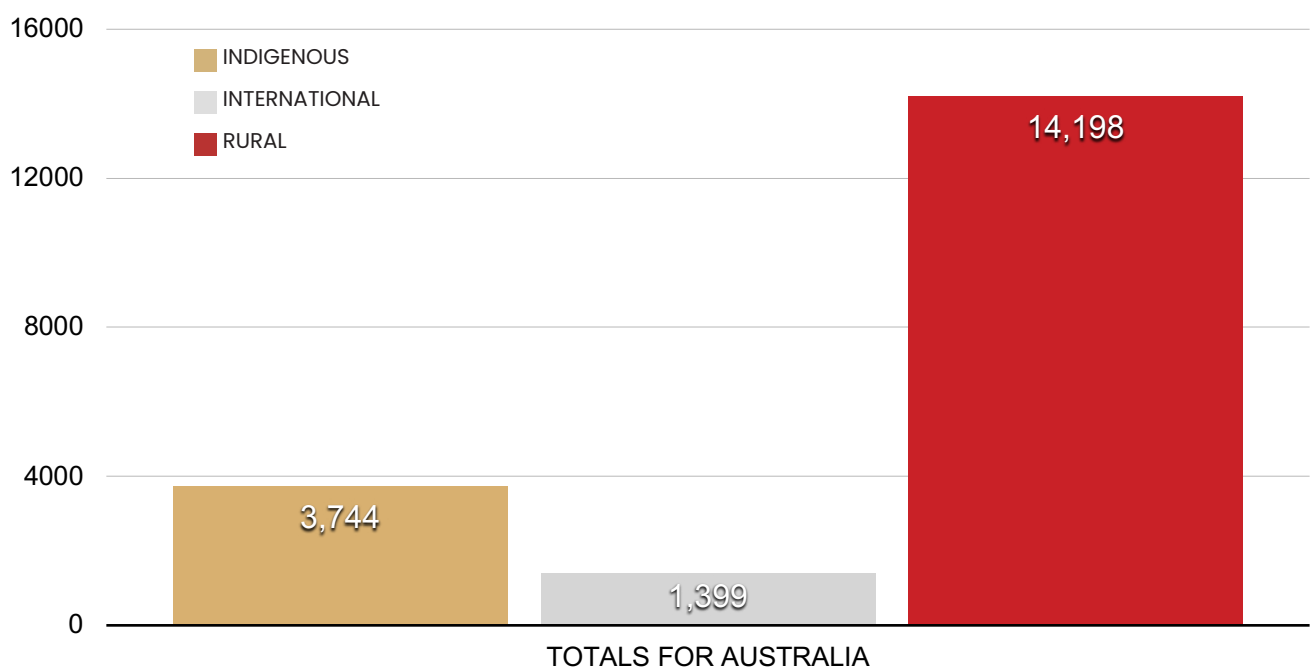
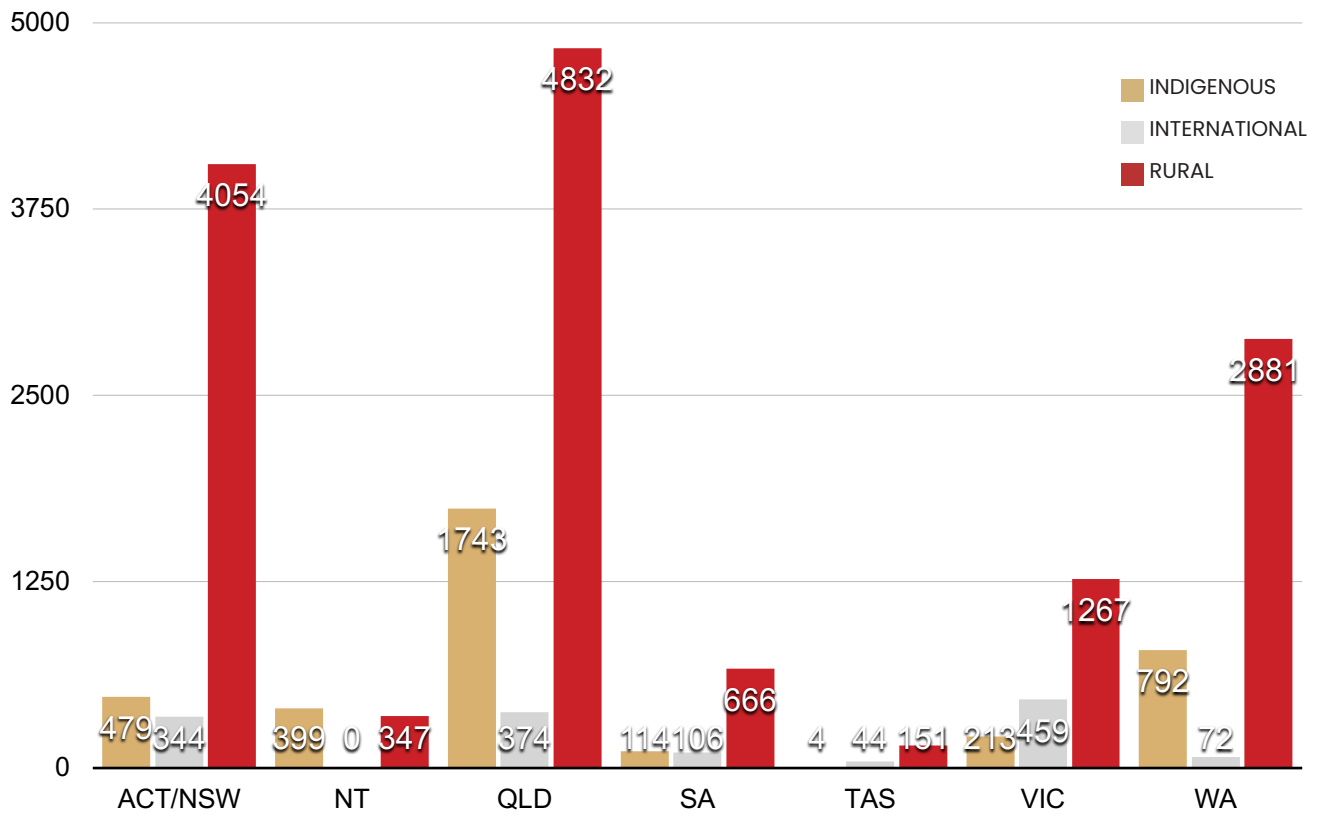
SPECIFIC GROUPS IN BOARDING – 2023



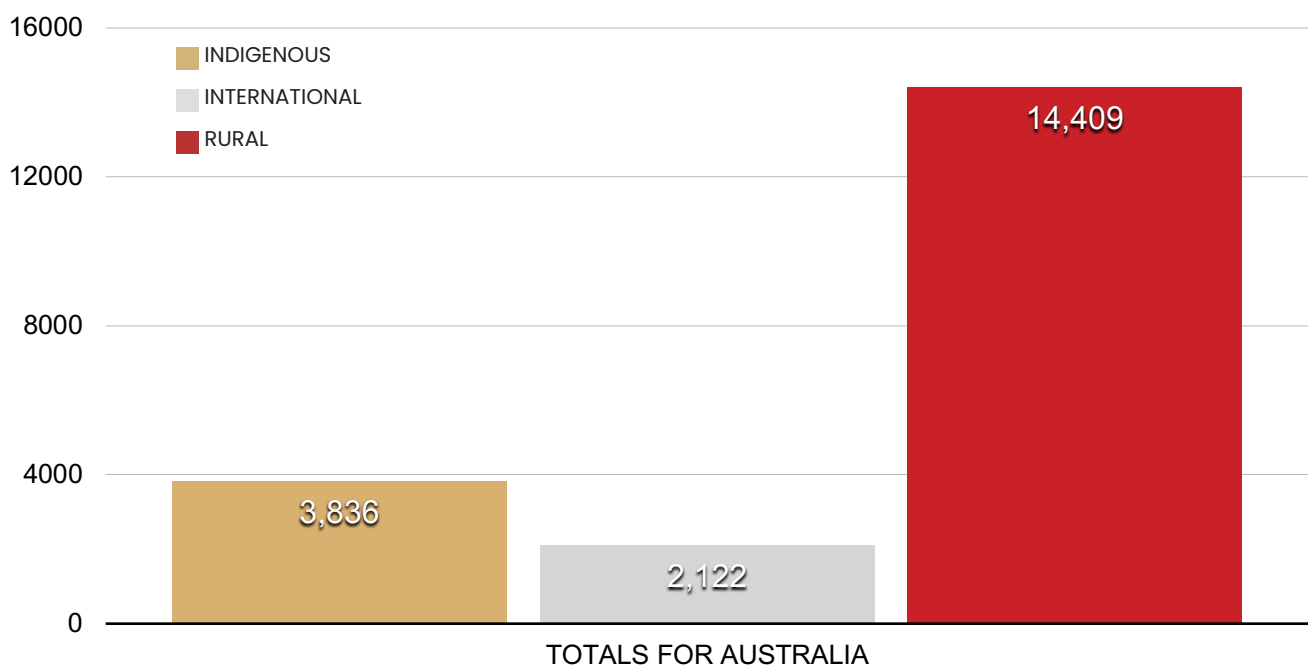
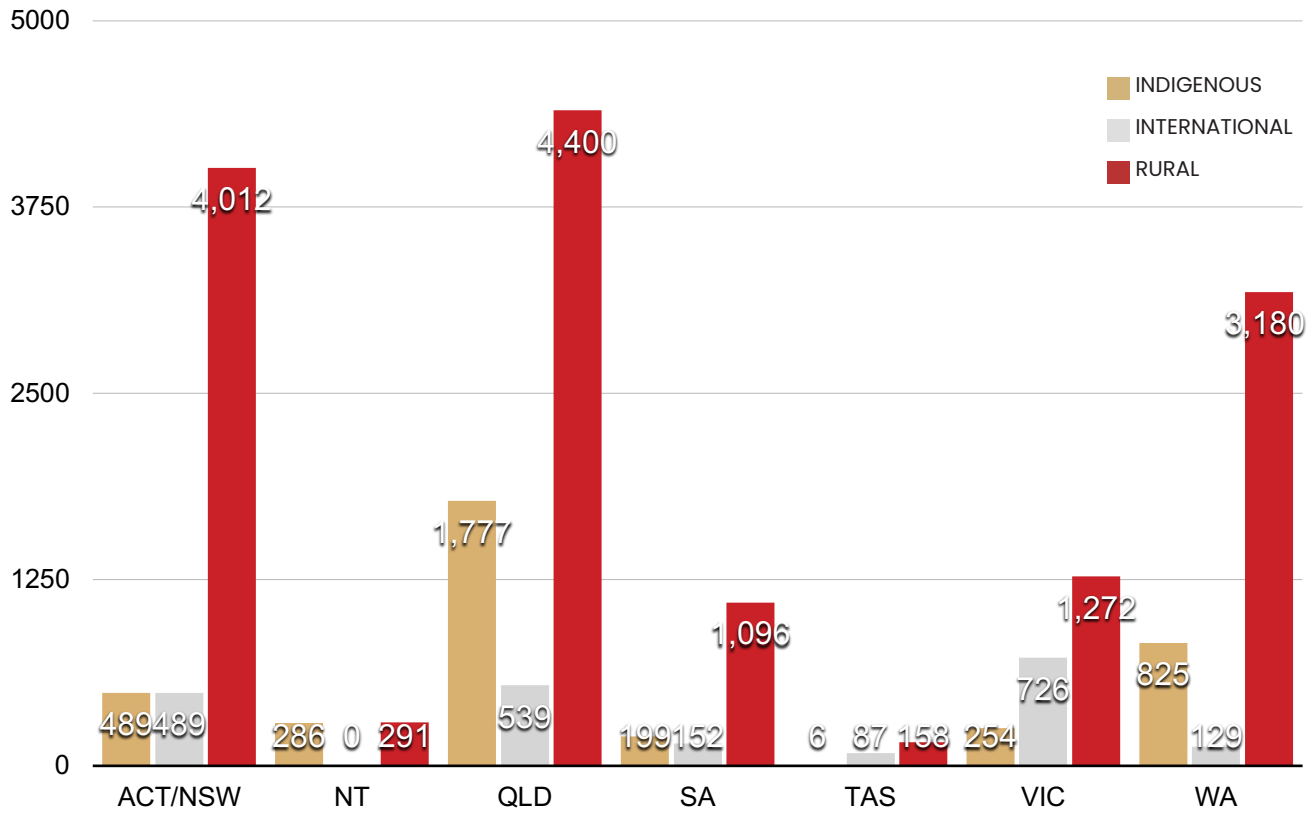
SPECIFIC GROUPS IN BOARDING - 2022



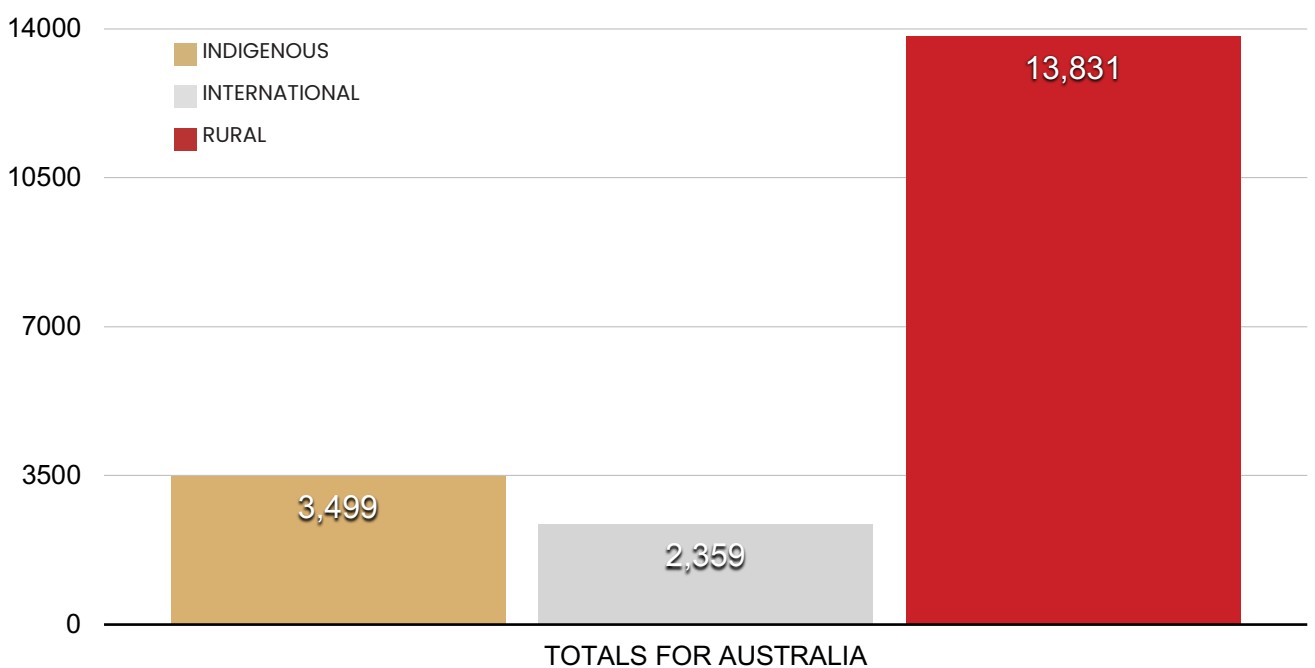
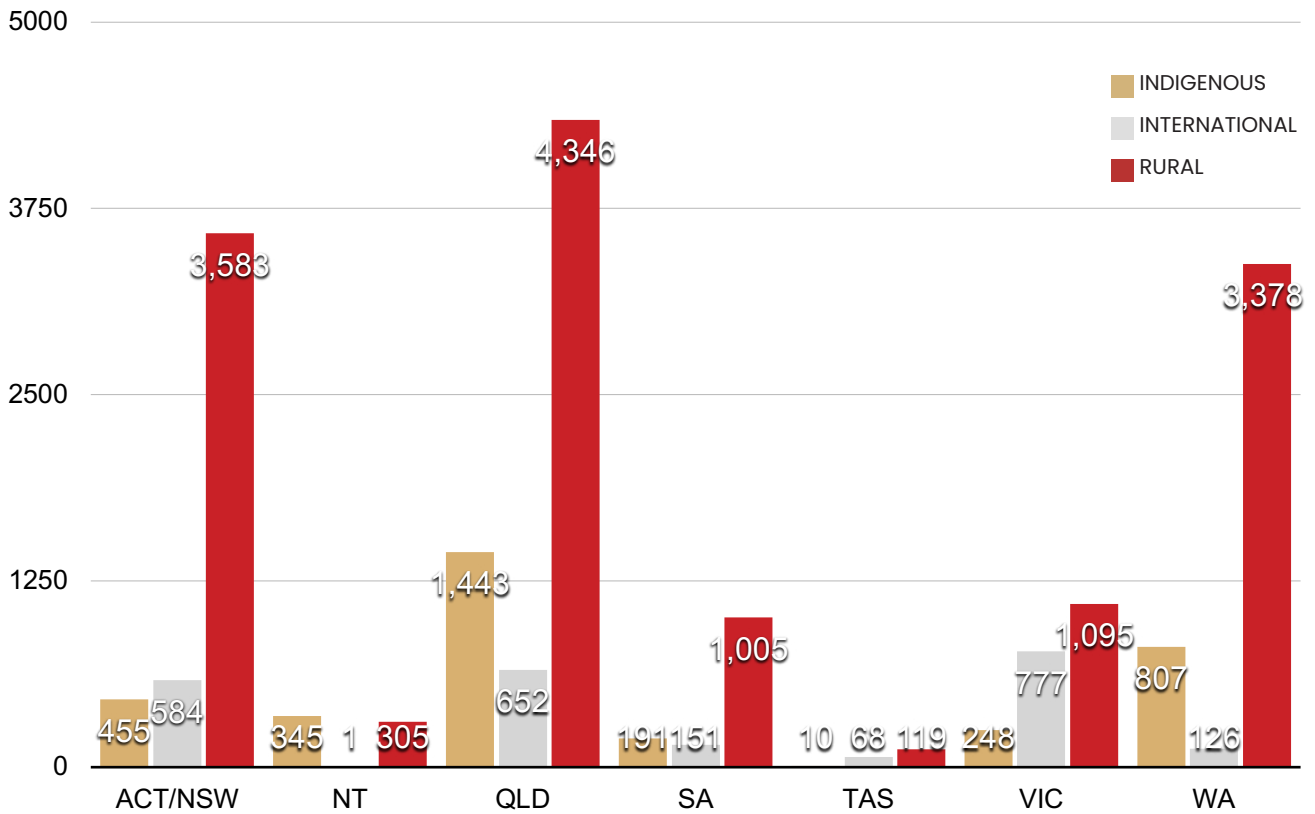
SPECIFIC GROUPS IN BOARDING - 2021



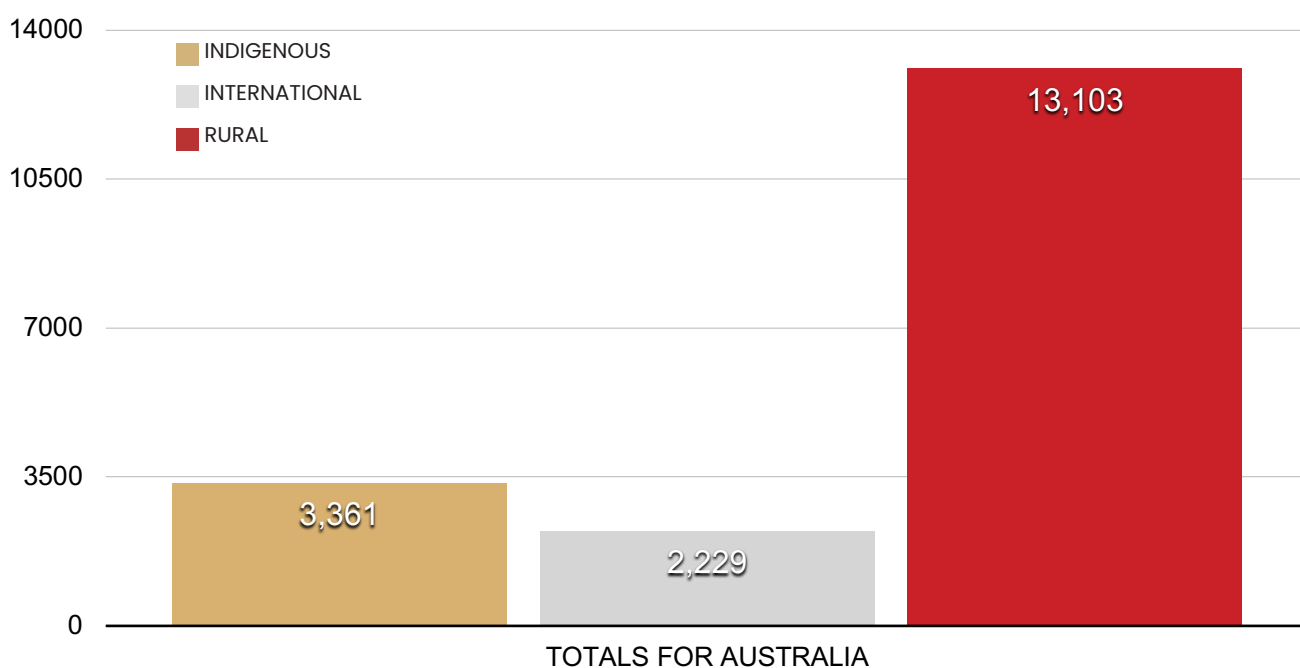
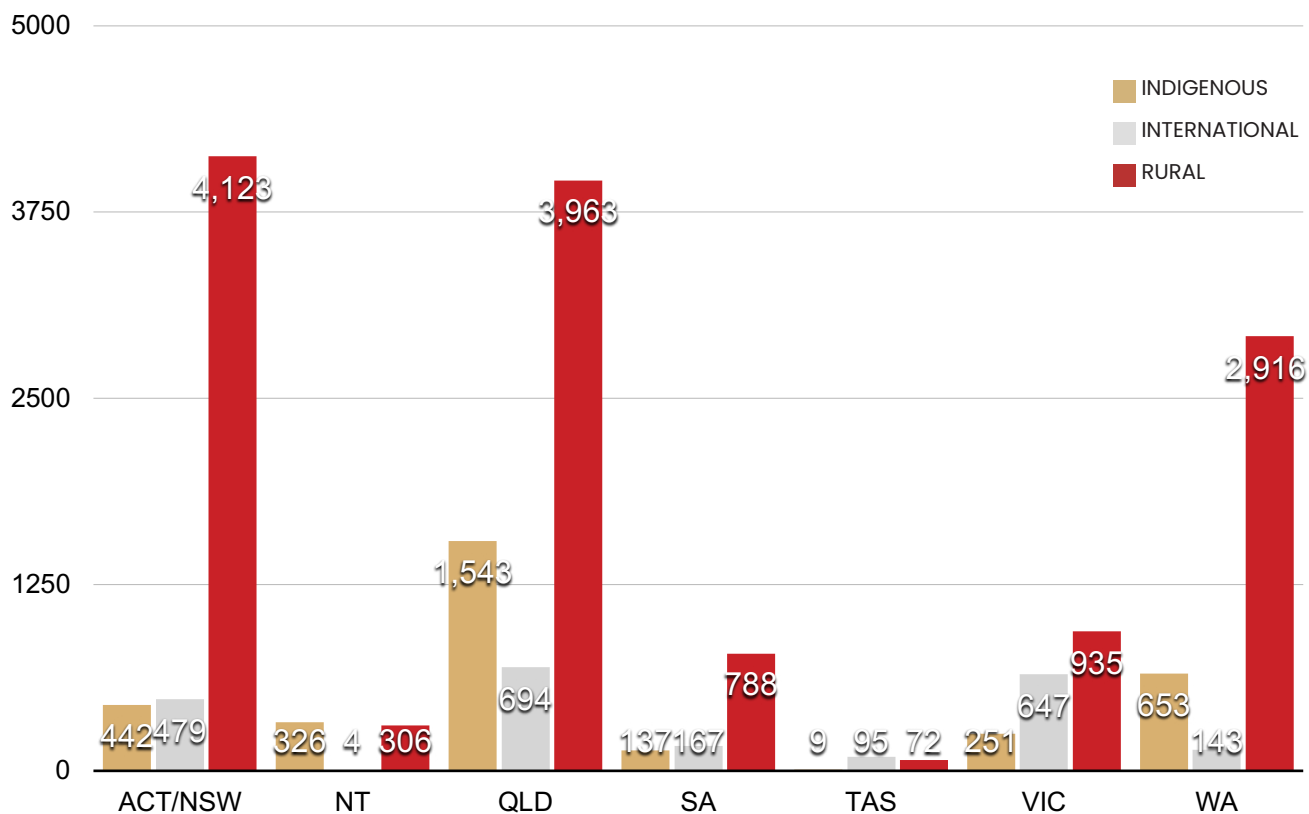
SPECIFIC GROUPS IN BOARDING - 2020



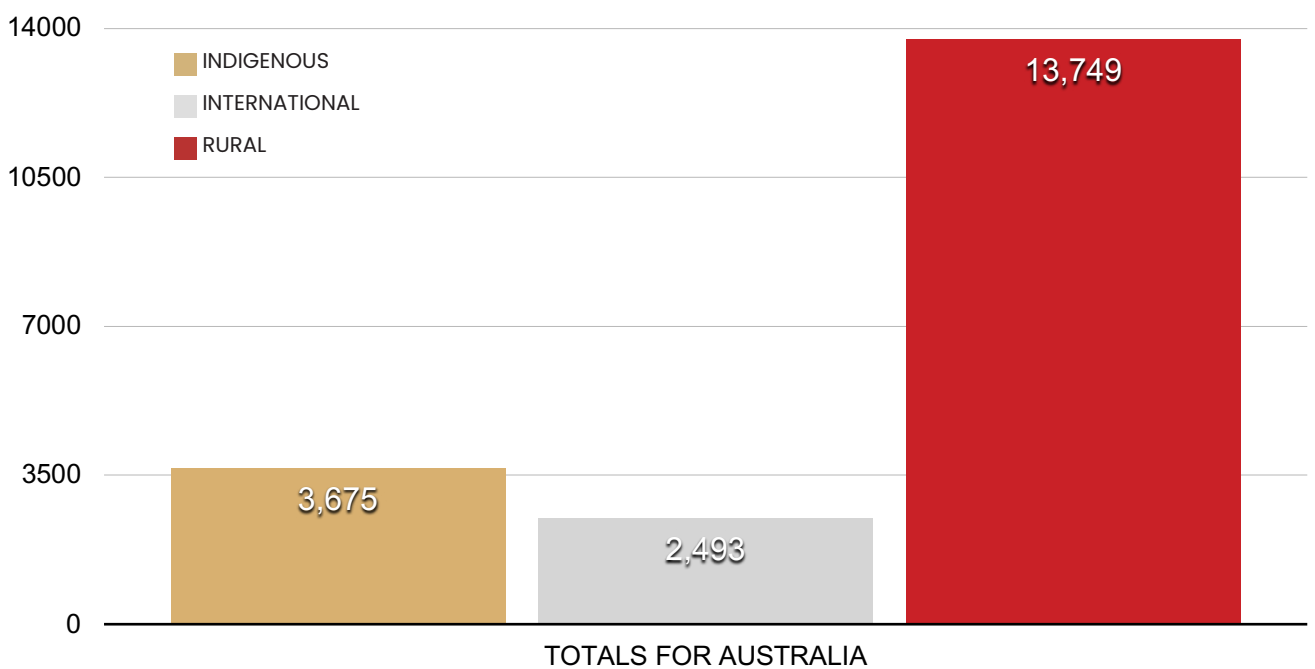
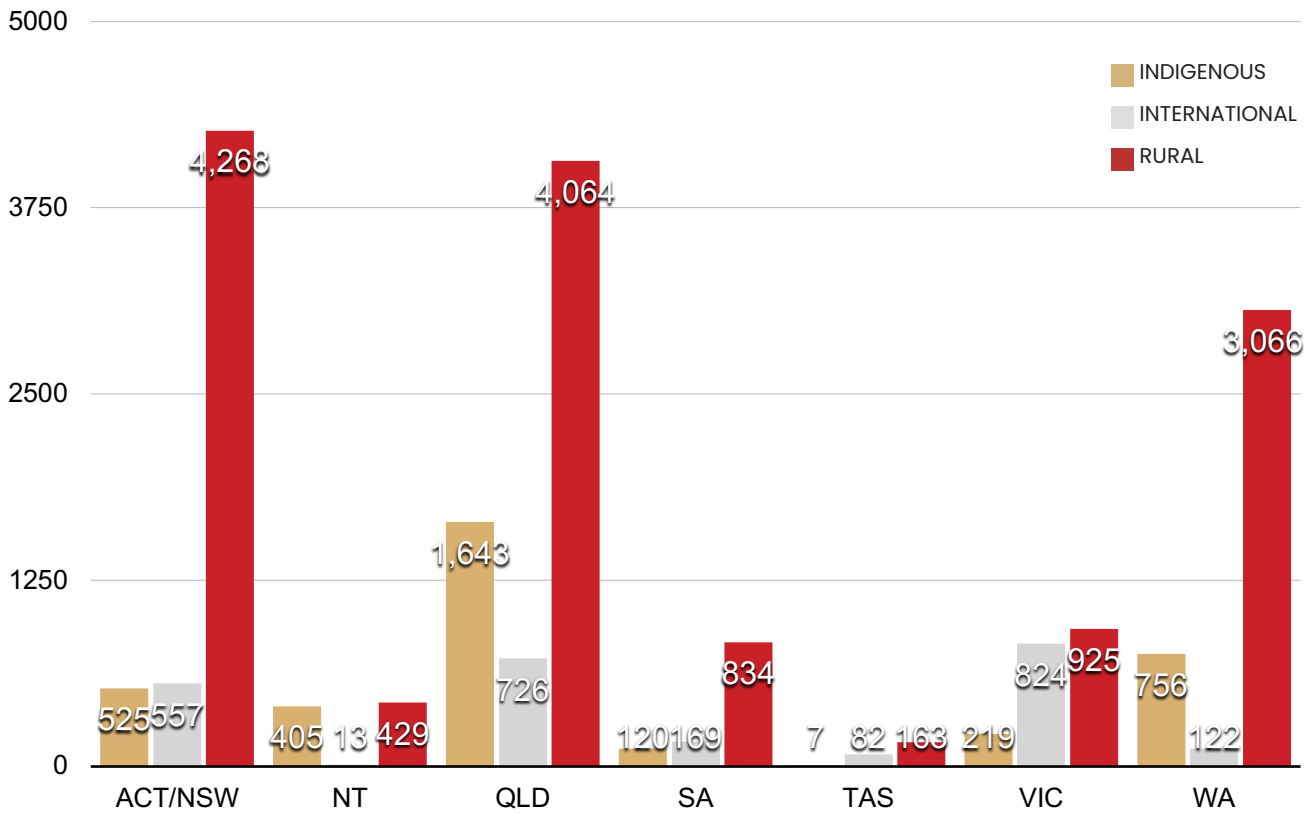
SPECIFIC GROUPS IN BOARDING - 2019



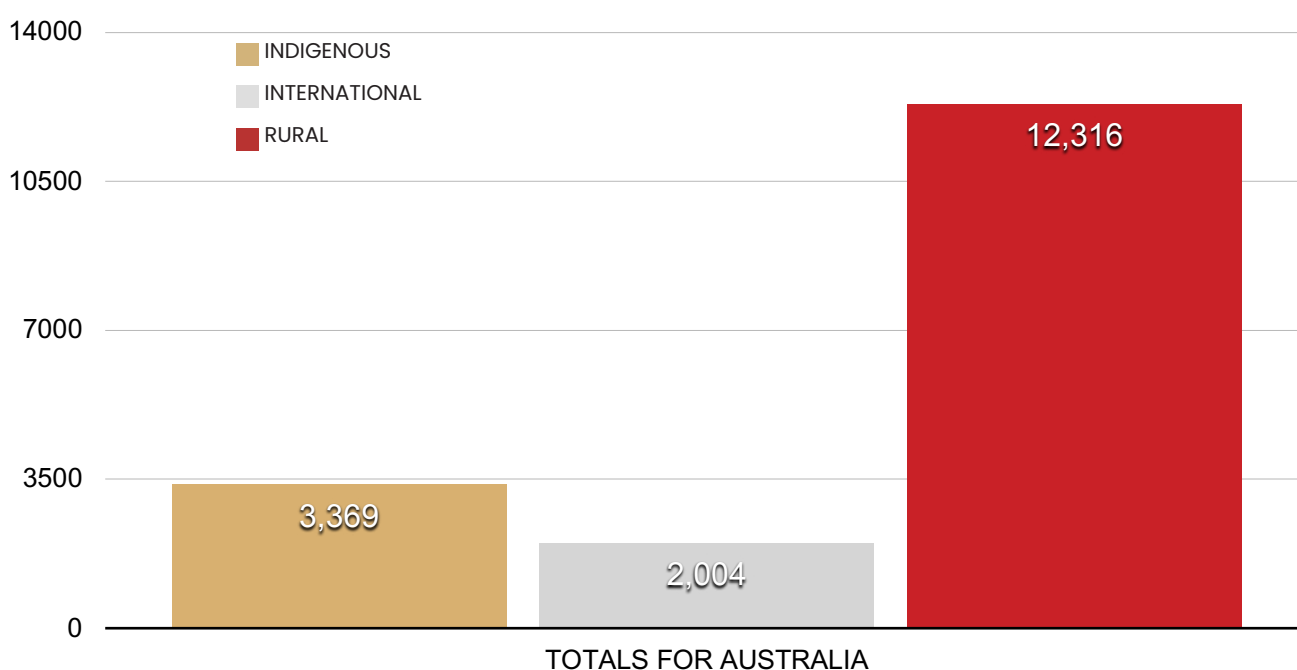
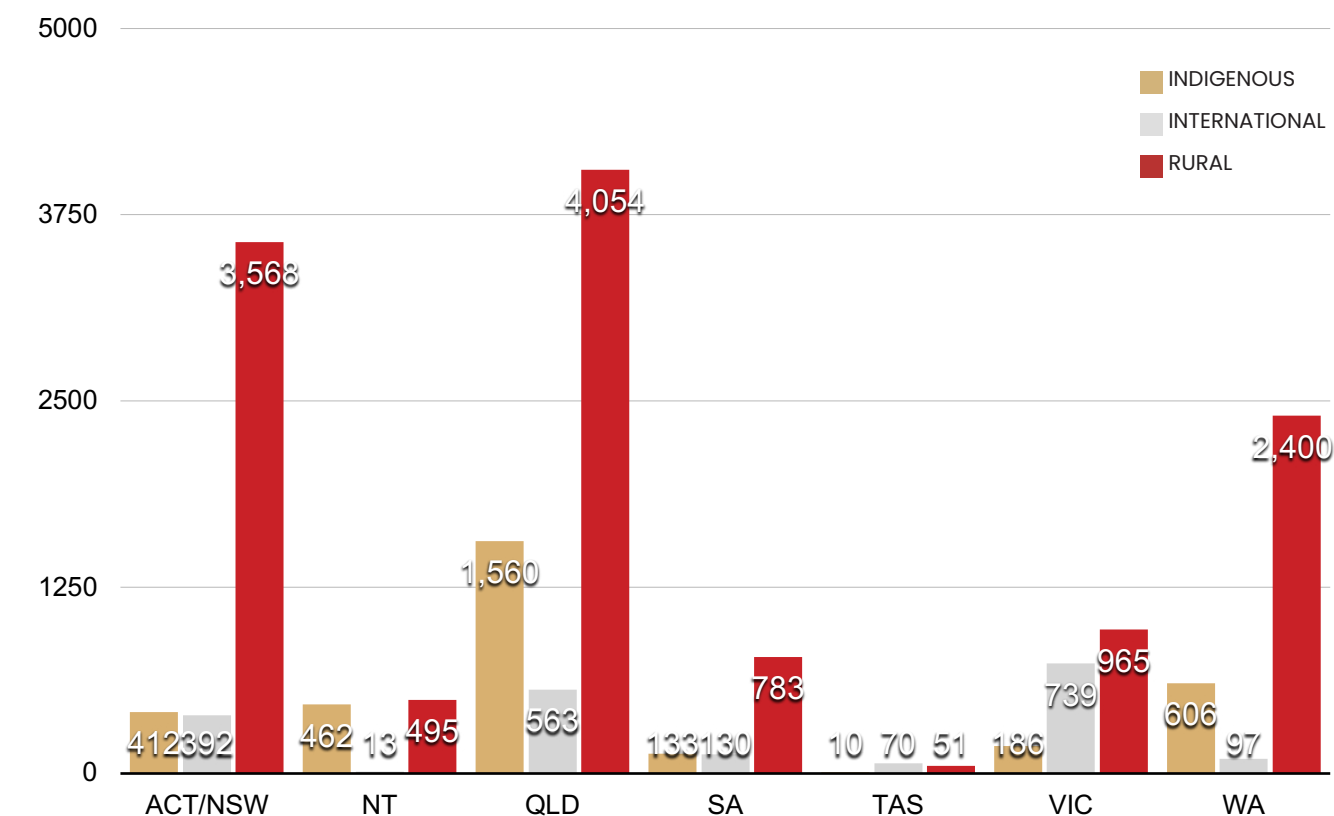
SPECIFIC GROUPS IN BOARDING - 2018



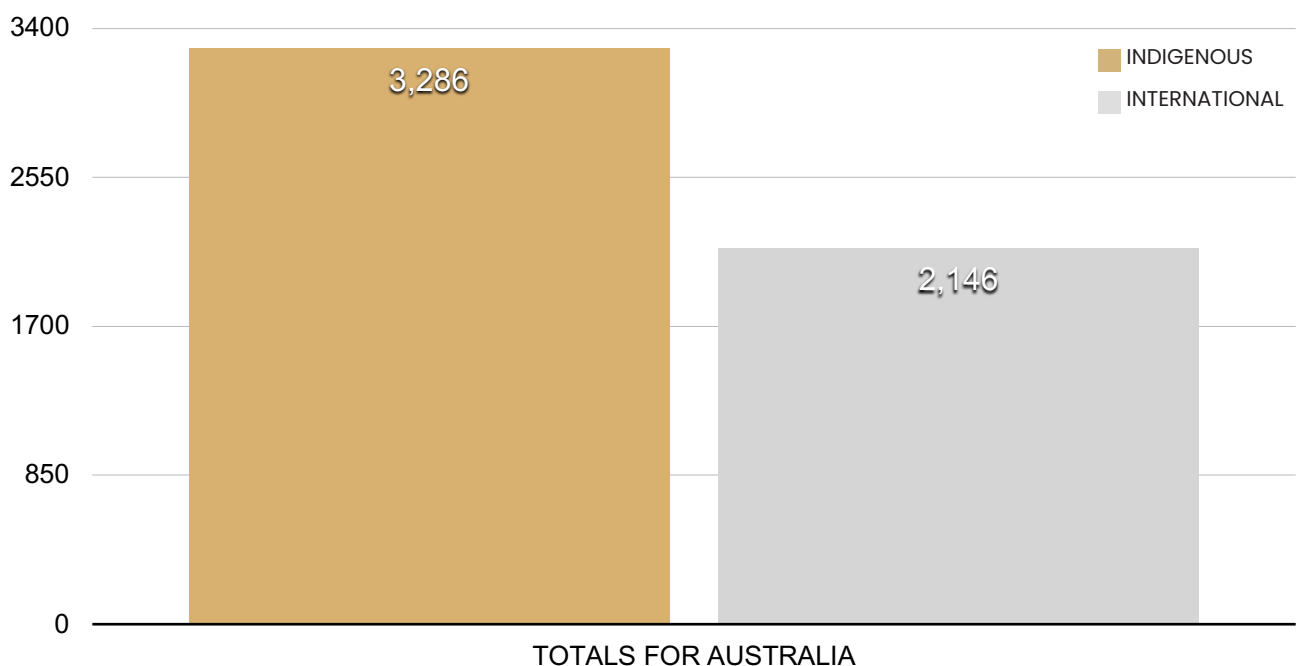
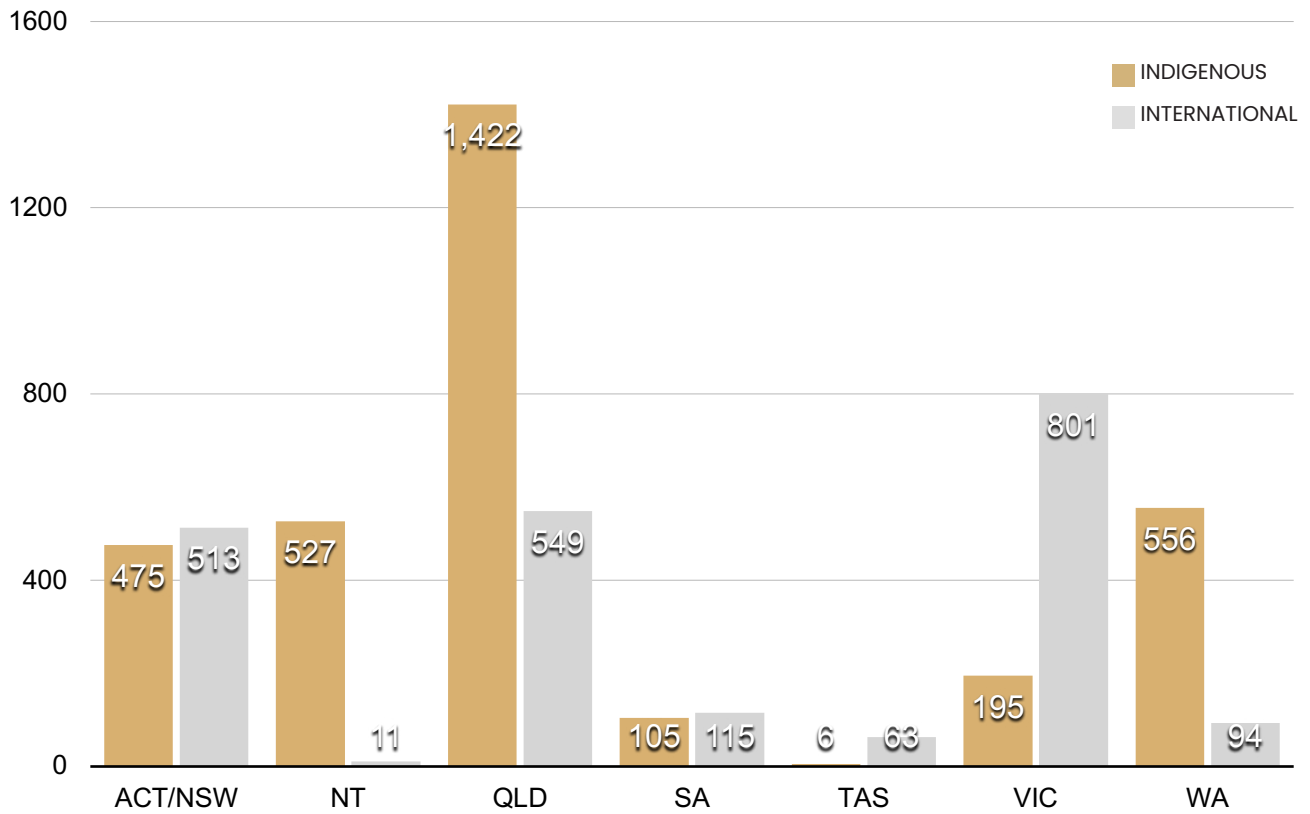
SPECIFIC GROUPS IN BOARDING - 2017



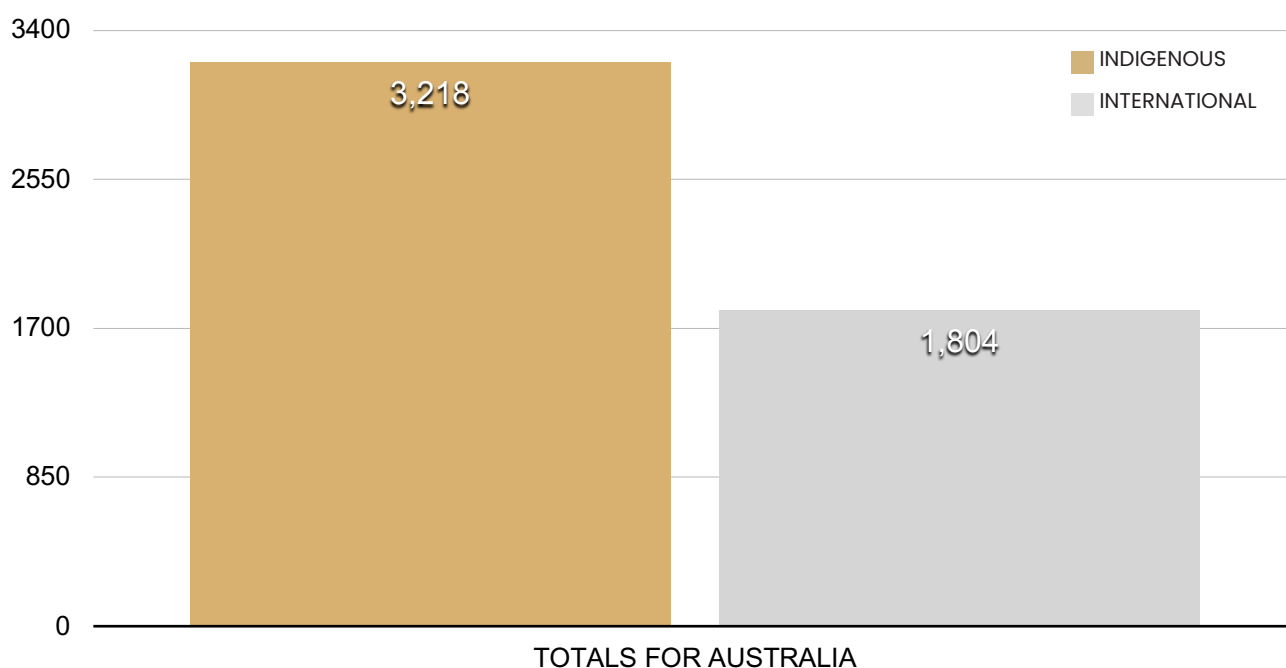
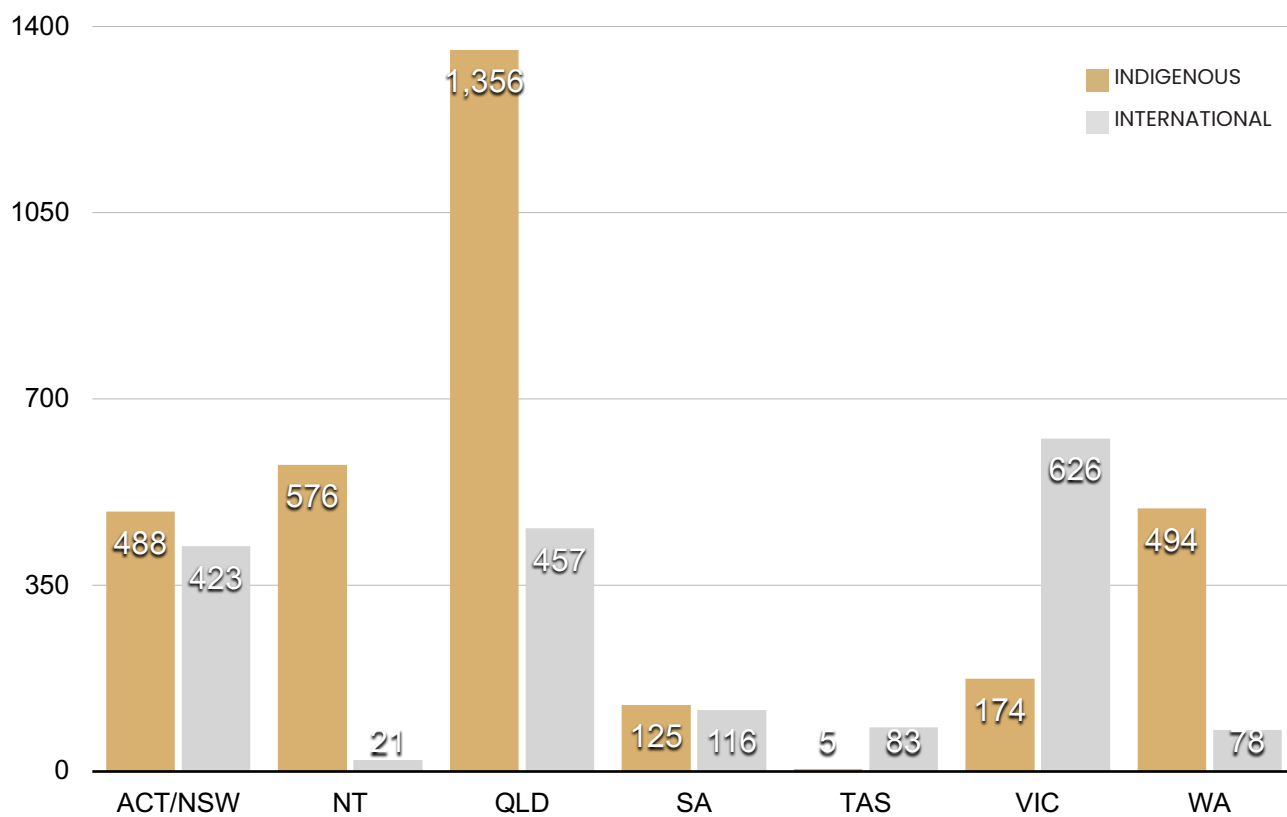
SPECIFIC GROUPS IN BOARDING - 2016



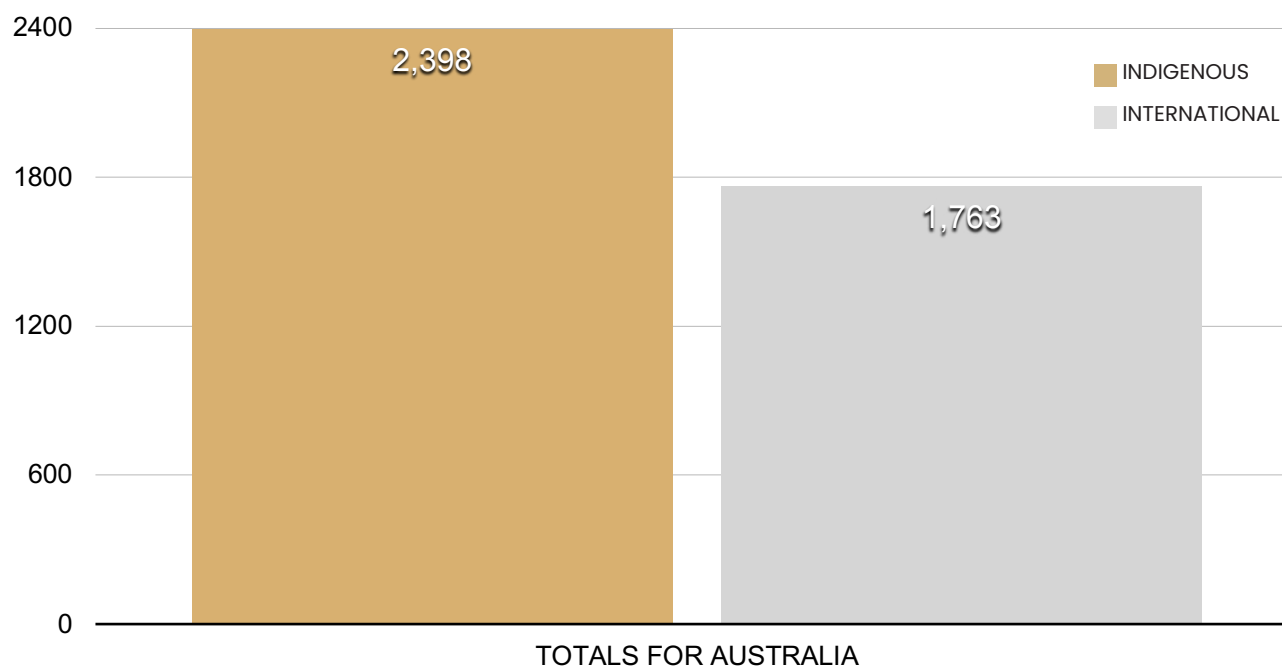
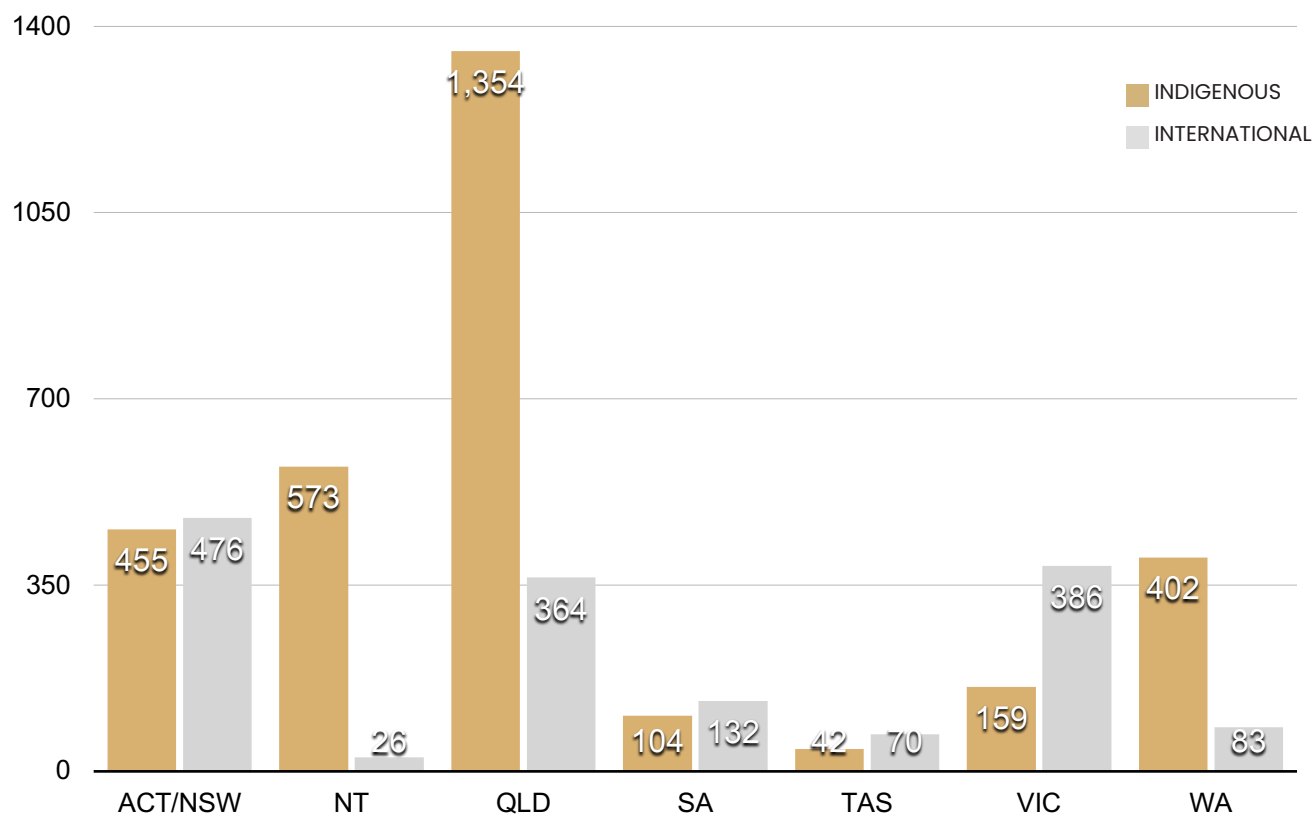
SPECIFIC GROUPS IN BOARDING - 2015



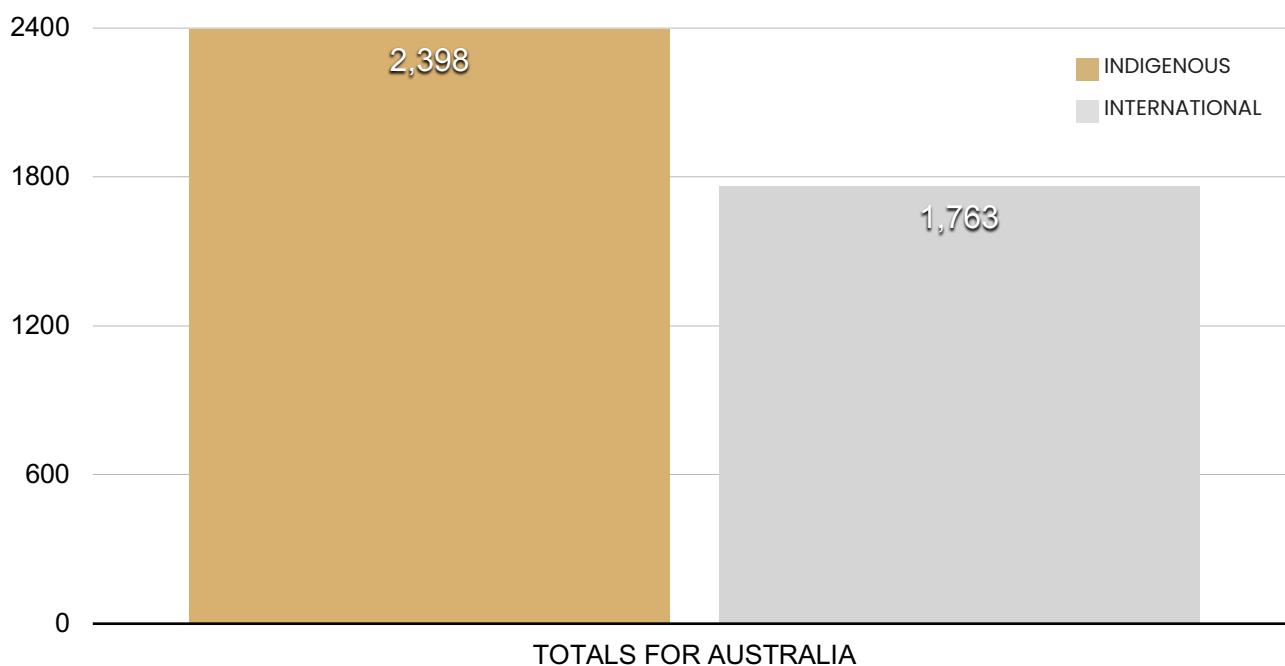
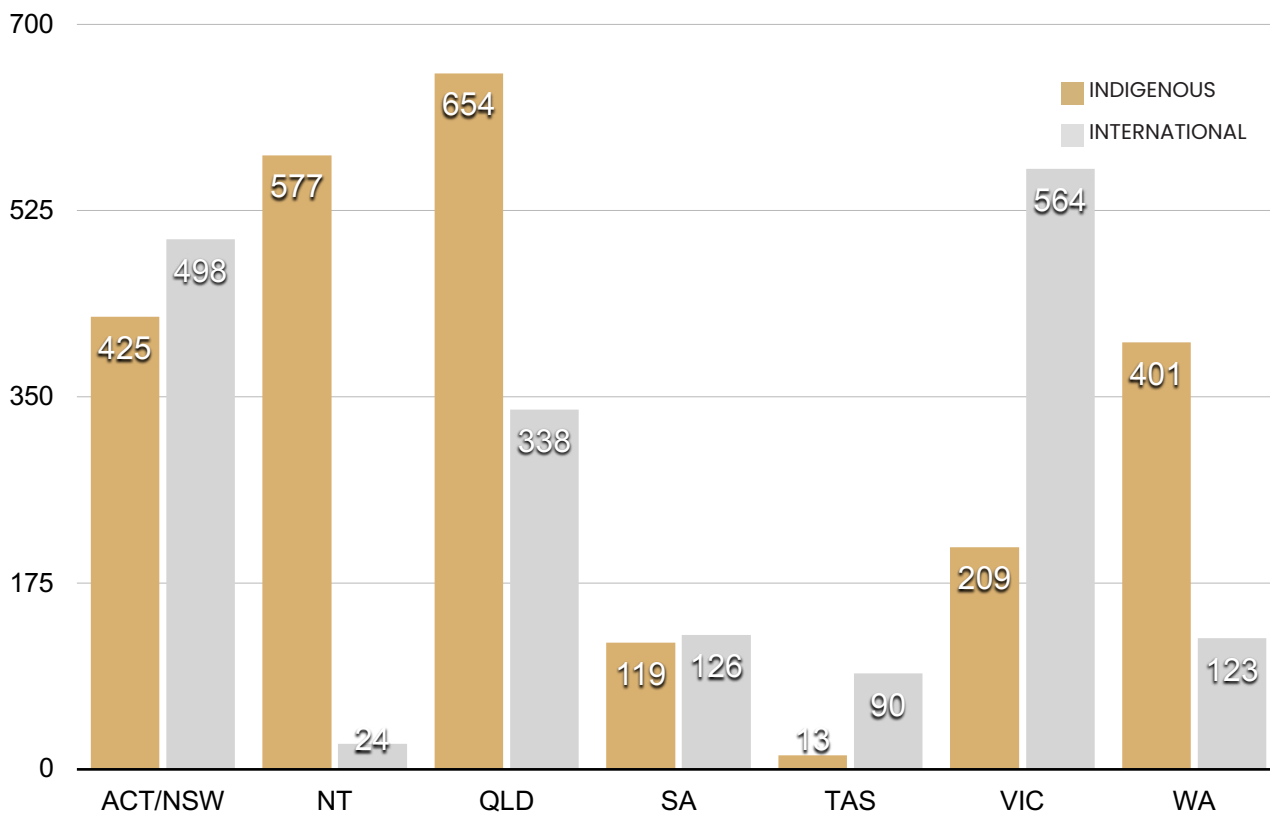
SPECIFIC GROUPS IN BOARDING - 2014



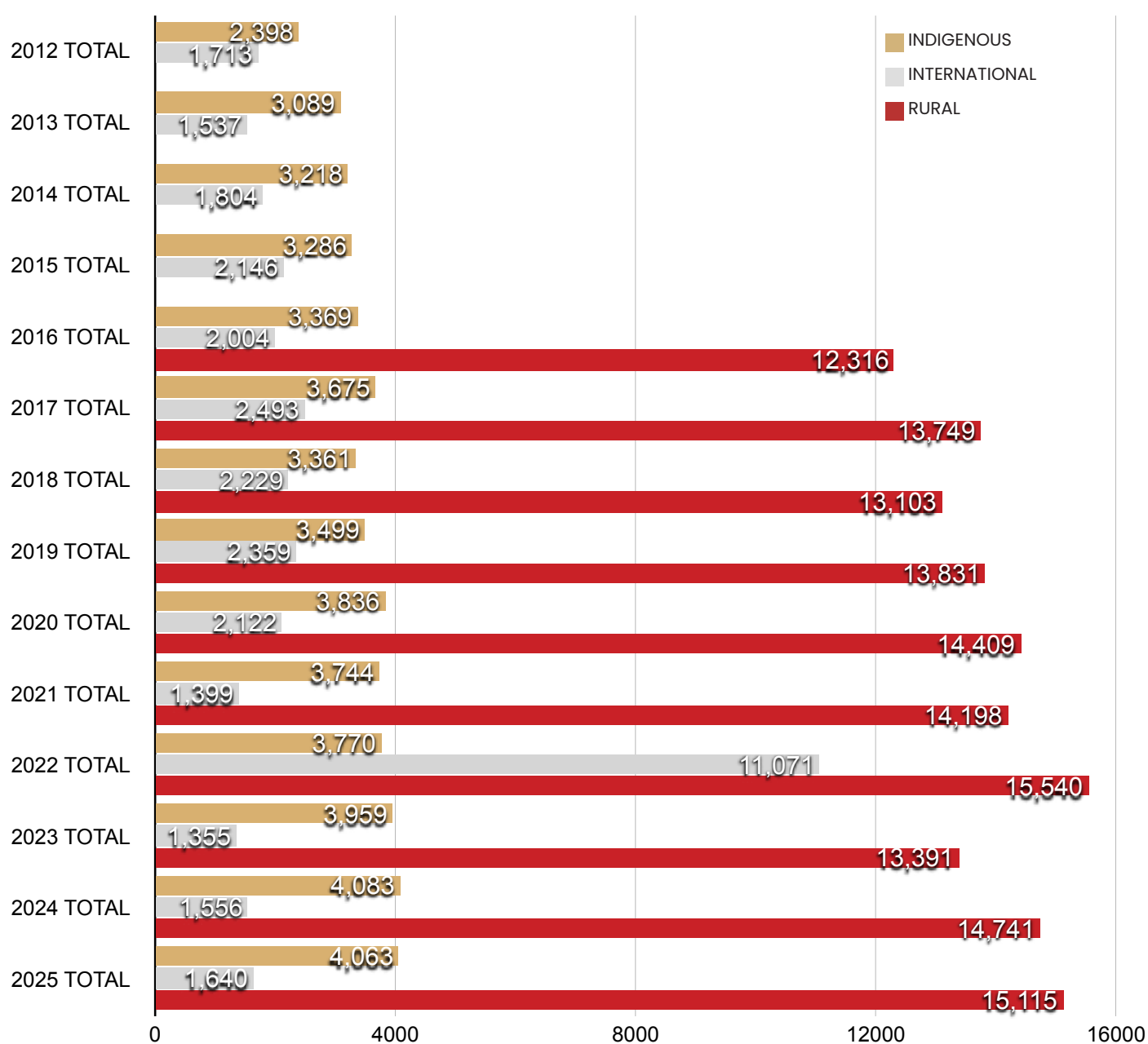
SPECIFIC GROUPS IN BOARDING - 2013



SPECIFIC GROUPS IN BOARDING - 2012



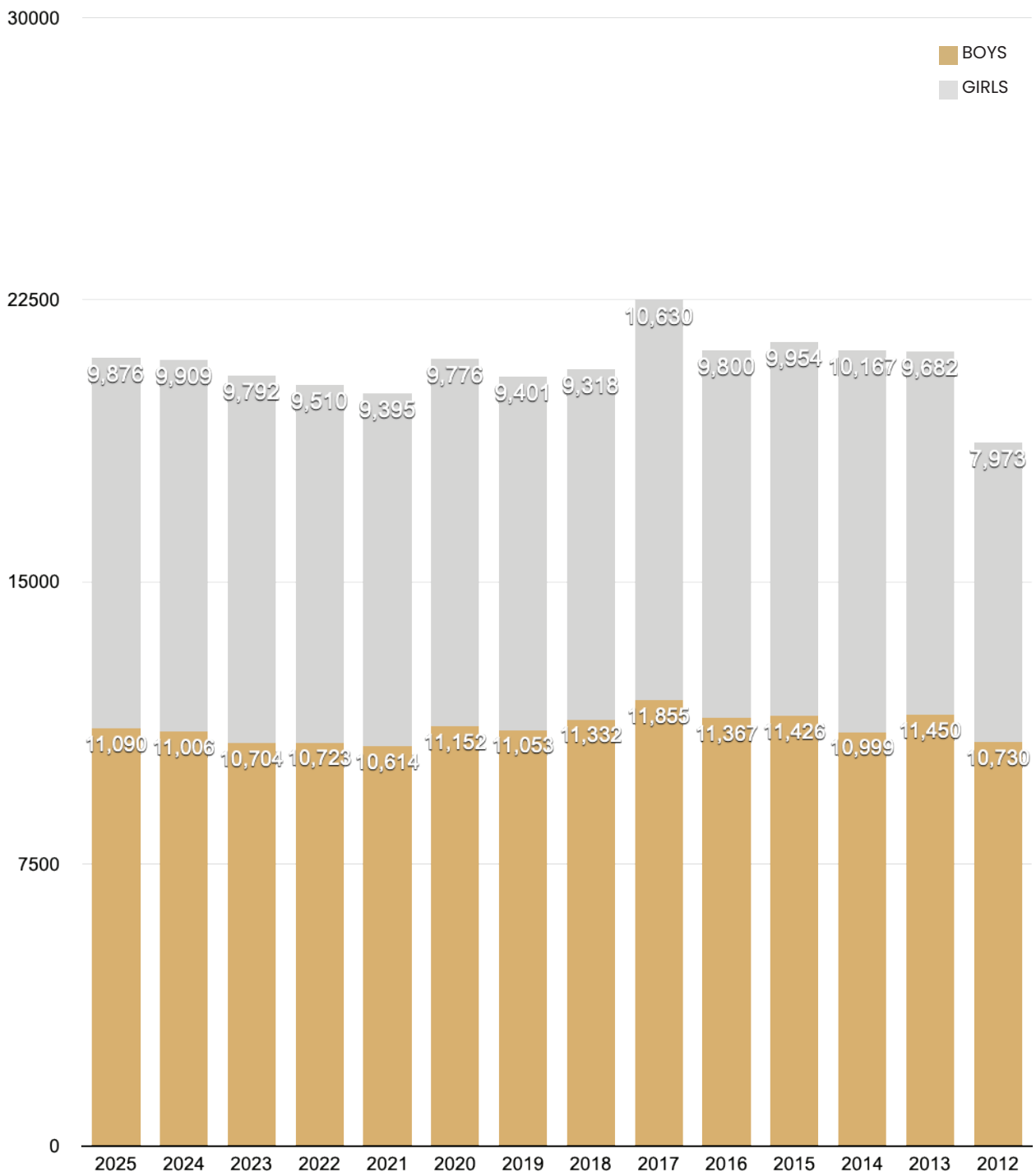
INDIGENOUS, OVERSEAS AND RURAL BOARDERS OVER THE YEARS



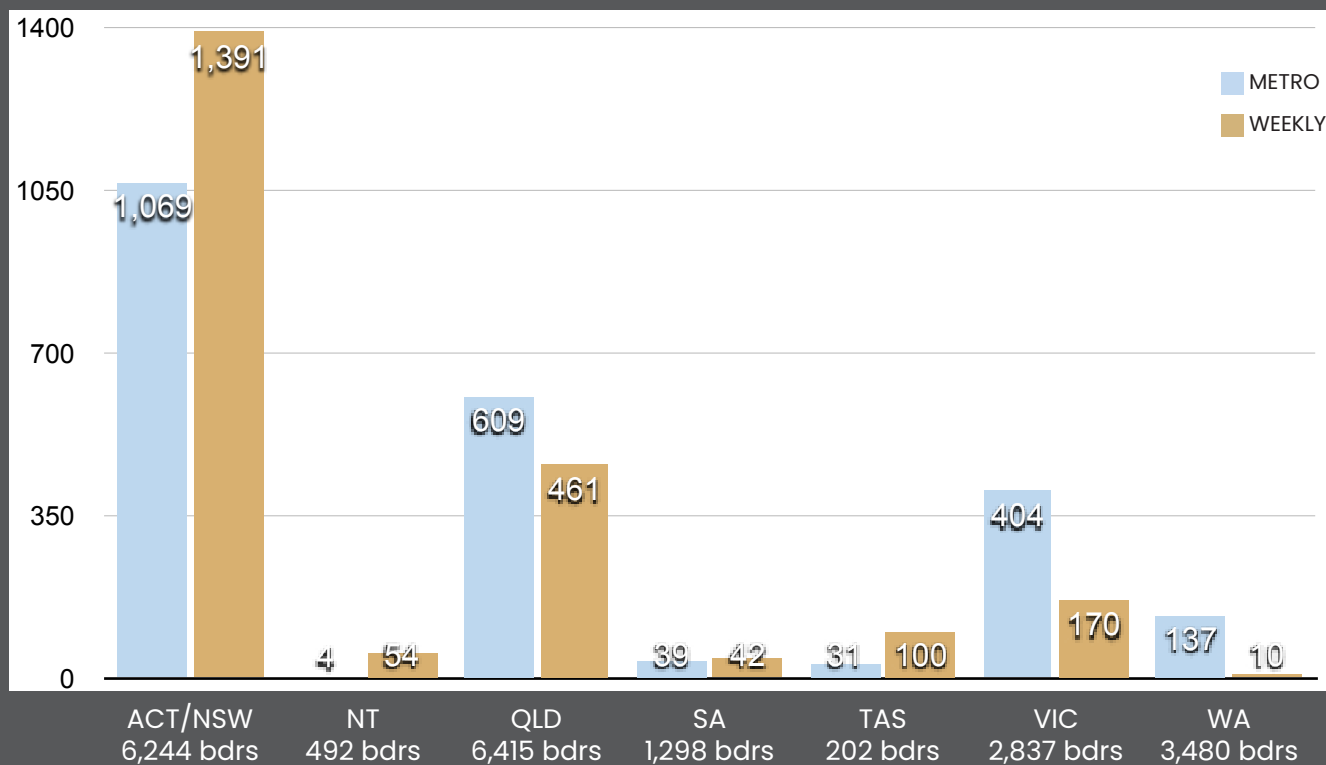
SECTION 5:

The number of boarders by Gender and Metro and Weekly Boarders by State

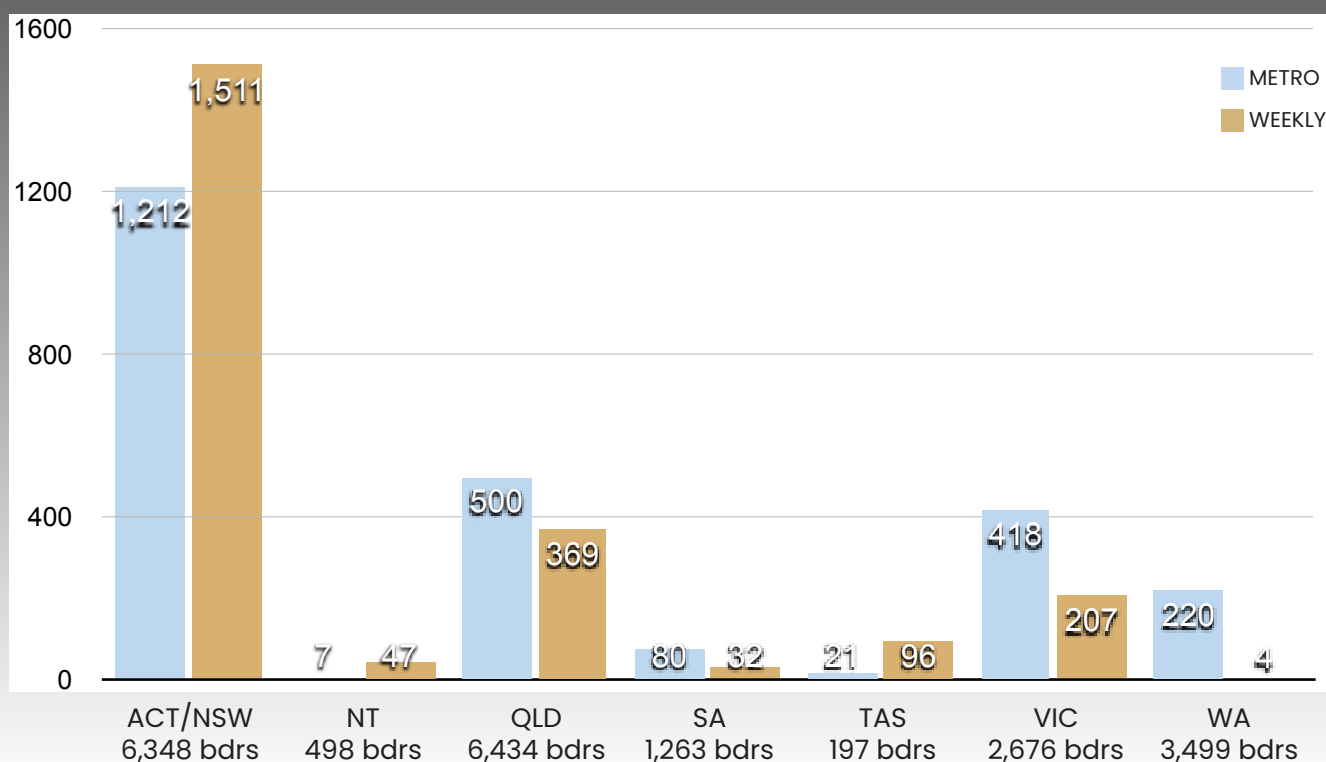
BOY AND GIRL BOARDERS OVER THE YEARS



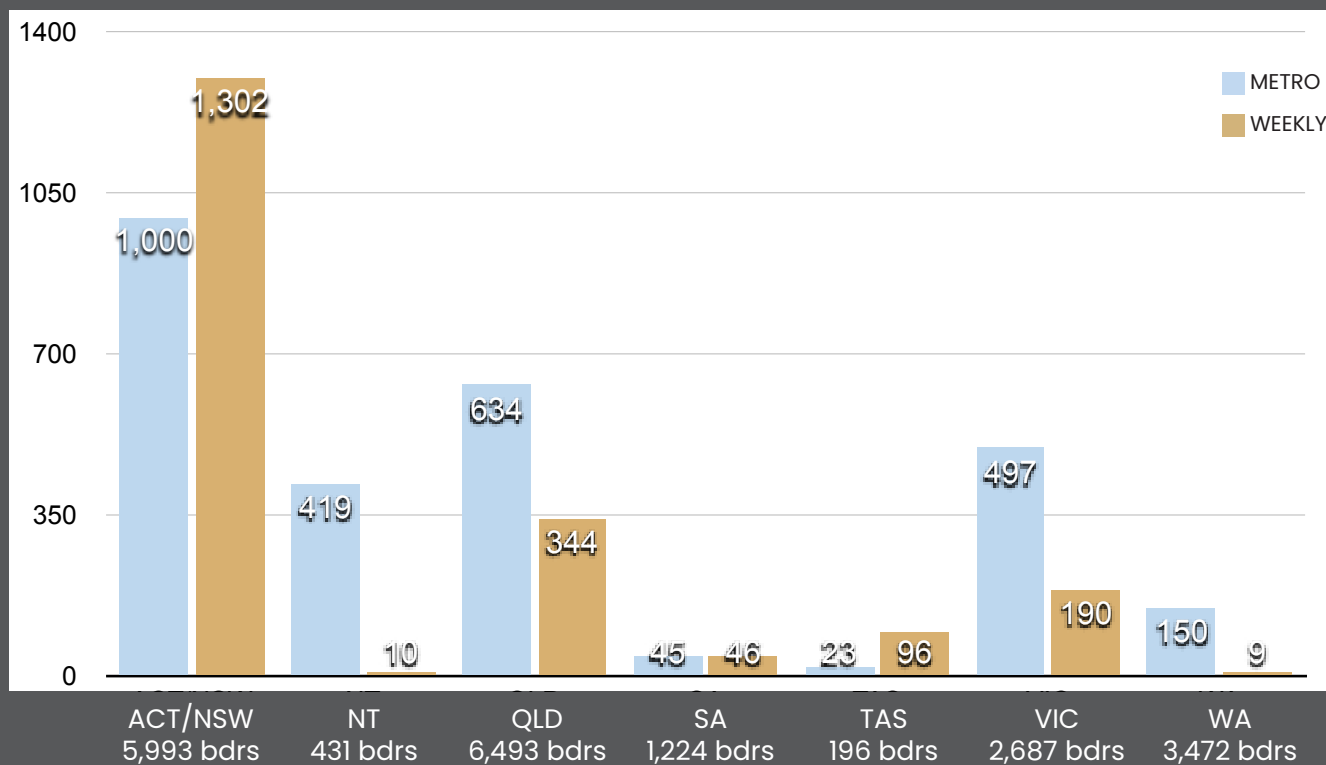
METRO AND WEEKLY BOARDERS BY STATE 2025



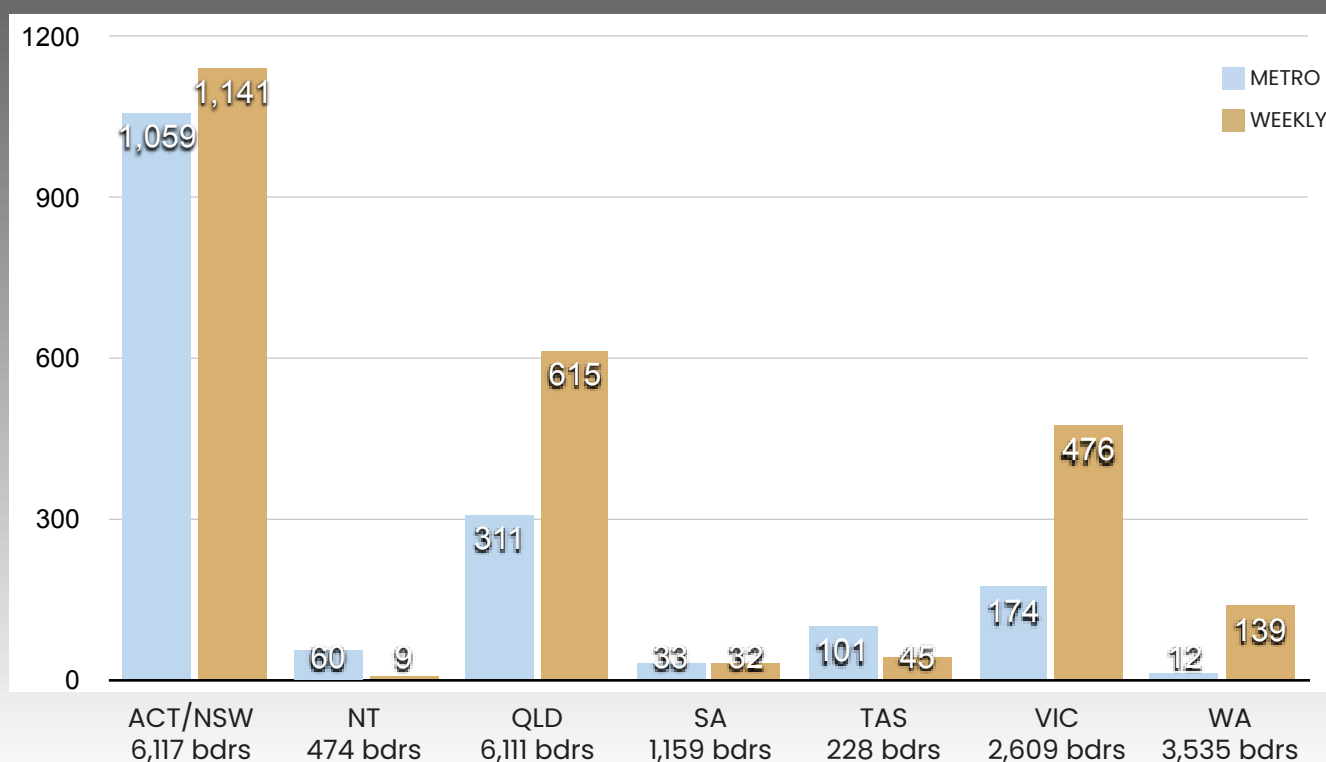
METRO AND WEEKLY BOARDERS BY STATE 2024



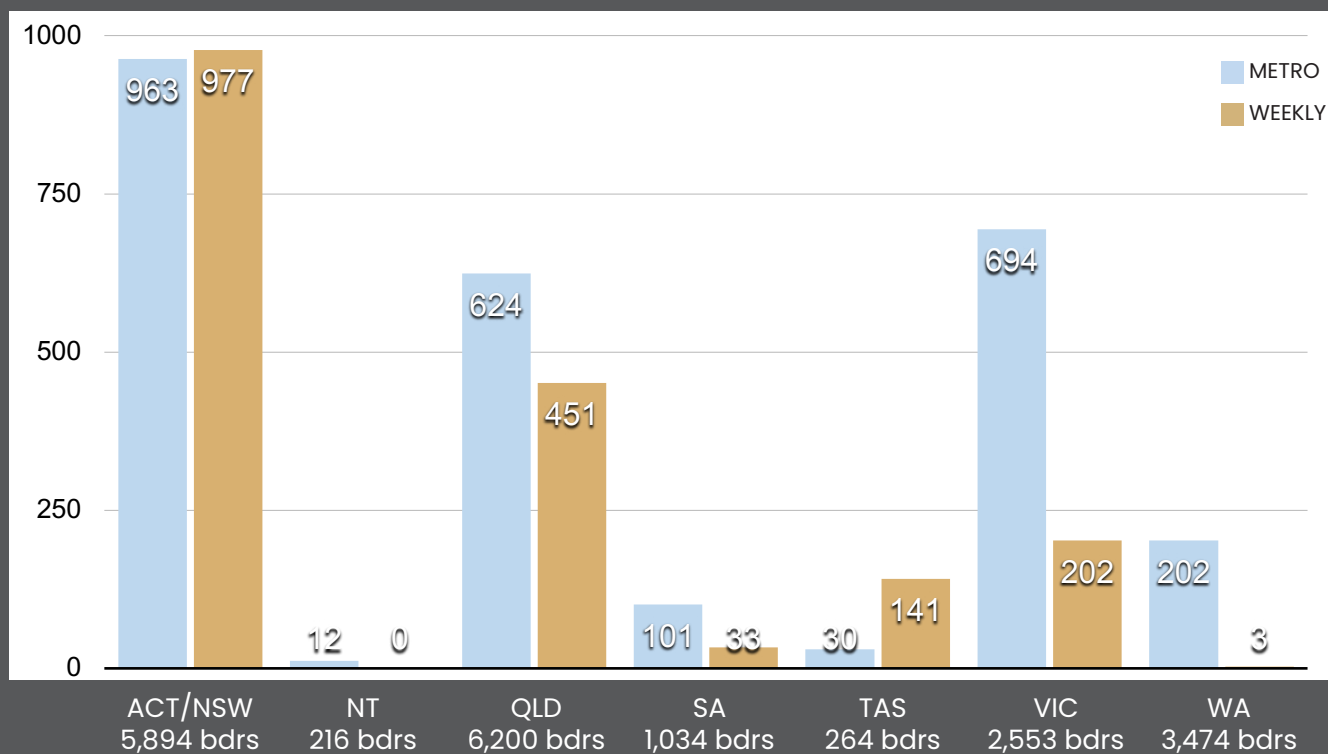
METRO AND WEEKLY BOARDERS BY STATE 2023



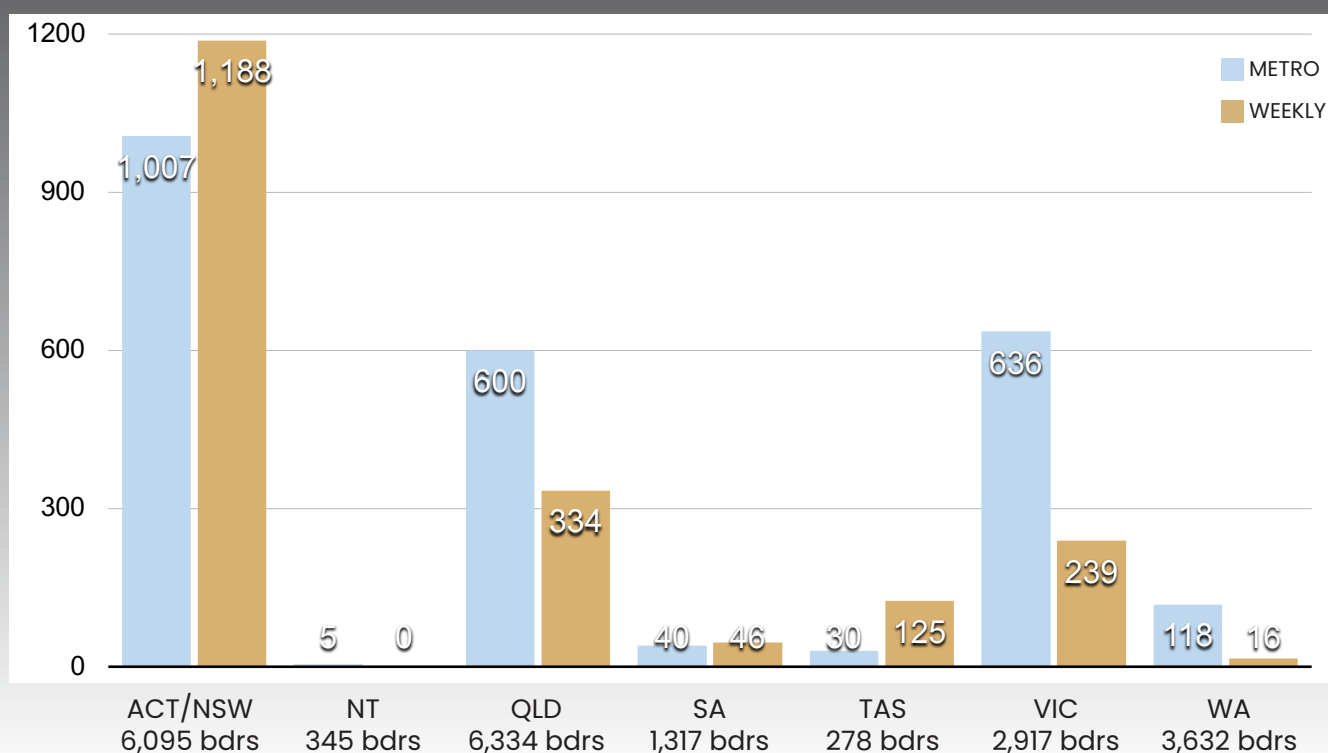
METRO AND WEEKLY BOARDERS BY STATE 2022



METRO AND WEEKLY BOARDERS BY STATE 2021



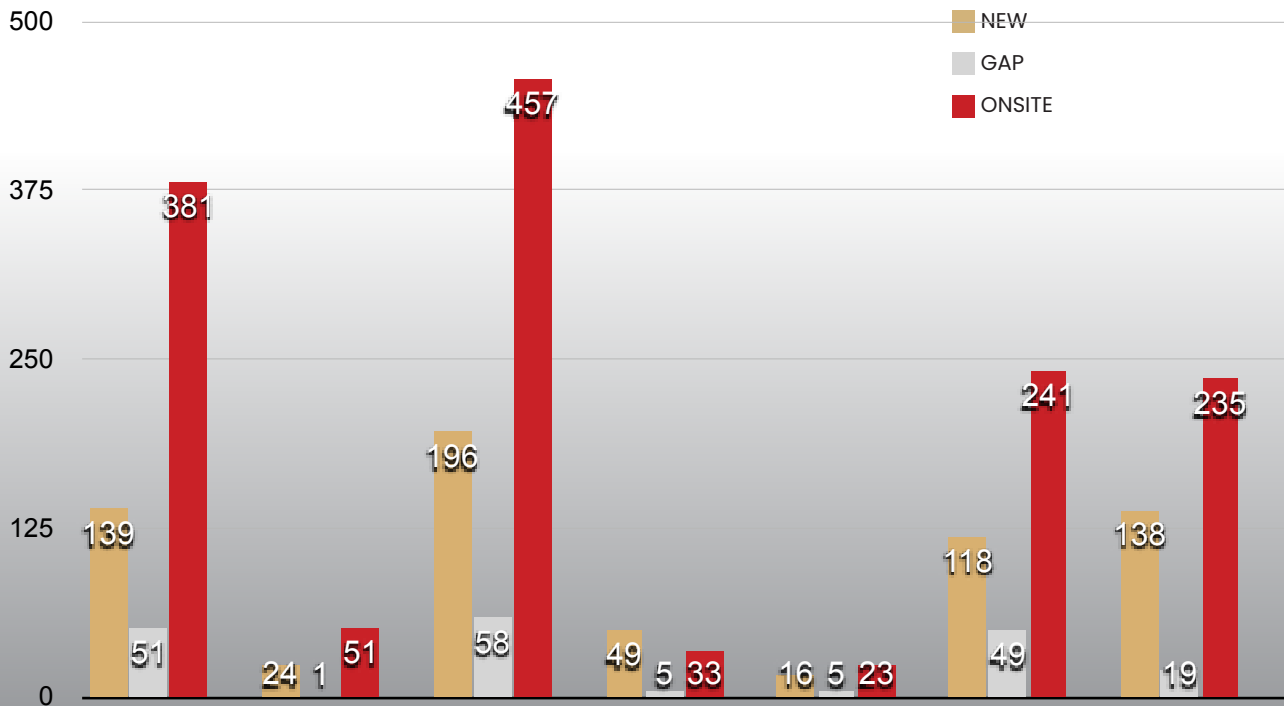
METRO AND WEEKLY BOARDERS BY STATE 2020



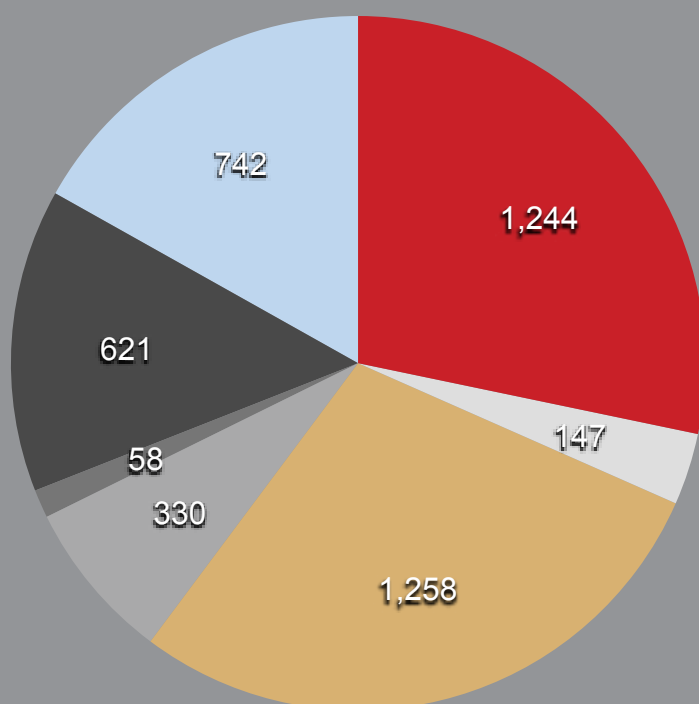
SECTION 6:

The number of staff working in Boarding Schools

BOARDING STAFF 2025



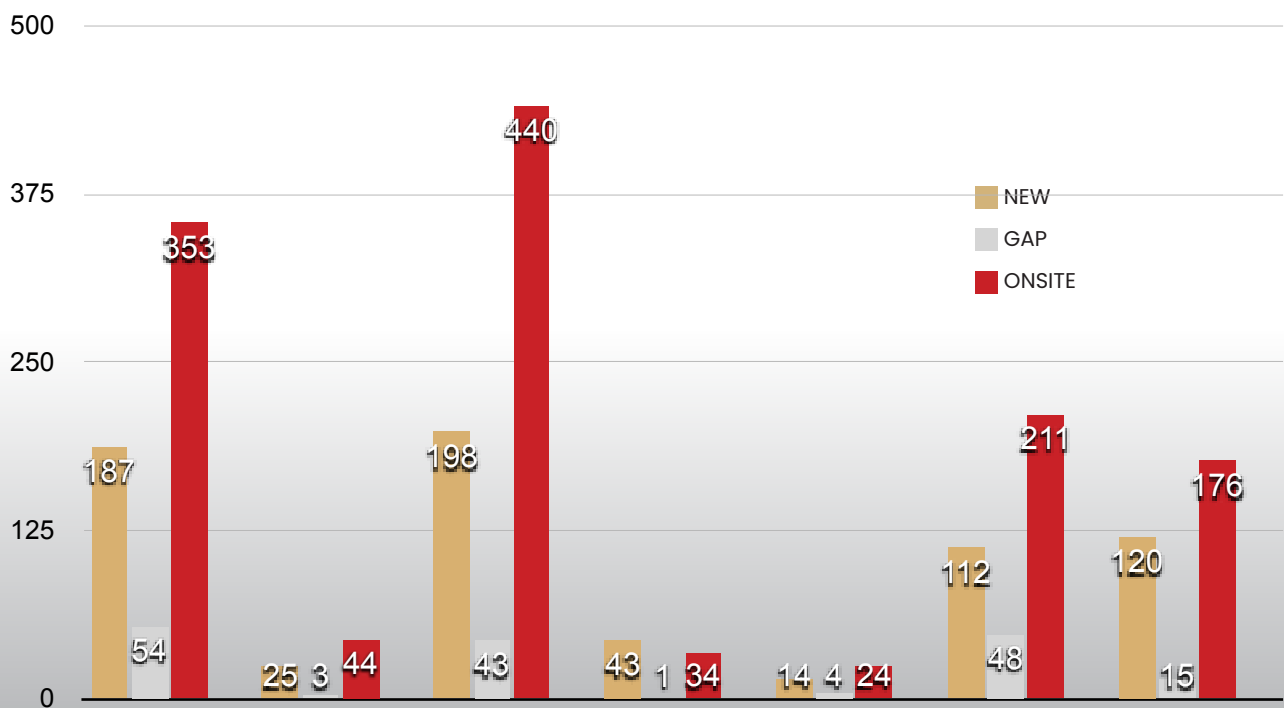
TOTALS FOR AUSTRALIA



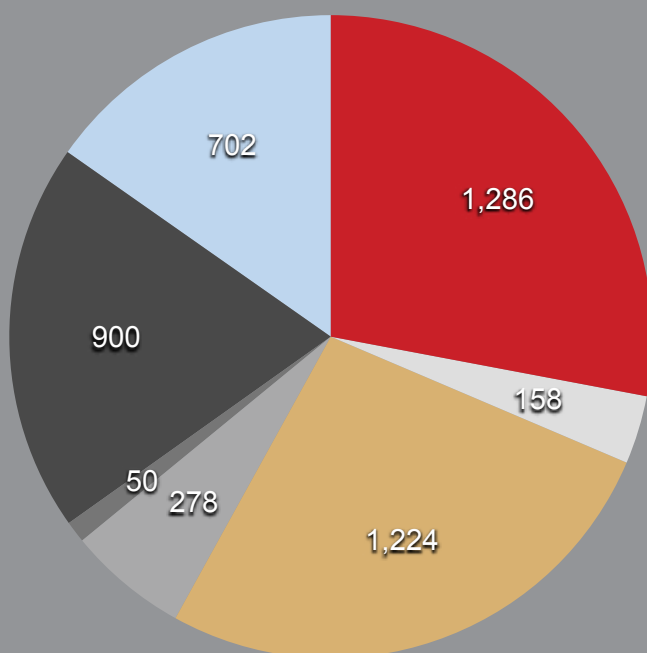
**TOTAL
4400**



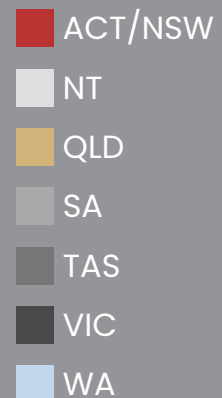
BOARDING STAFF 2024



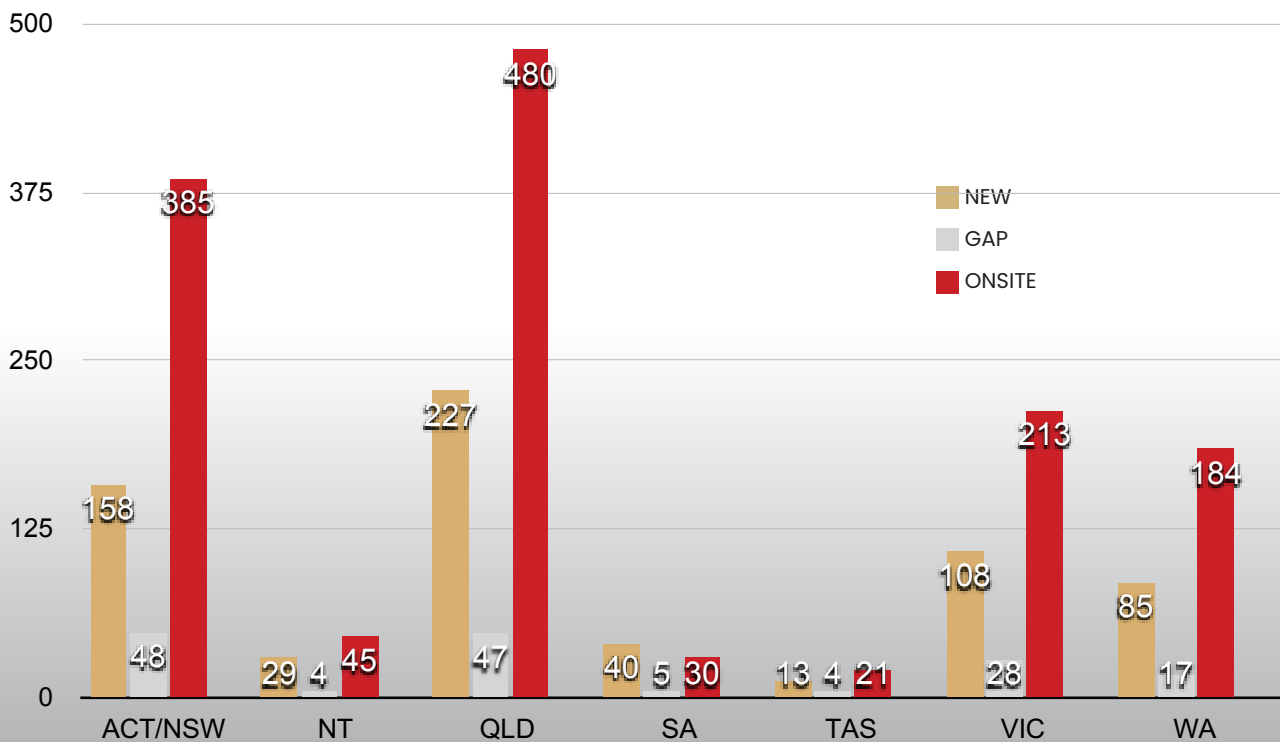
TOTALS FOR AUSTRALIA



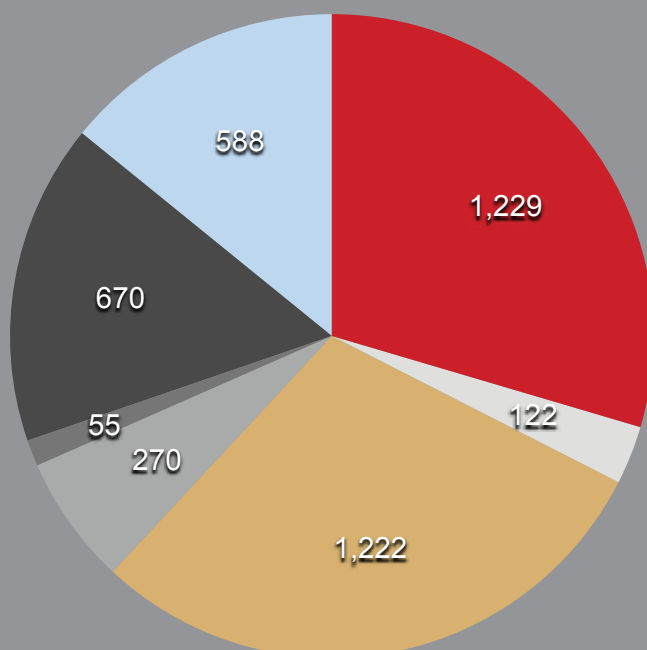
TOTAL
4598



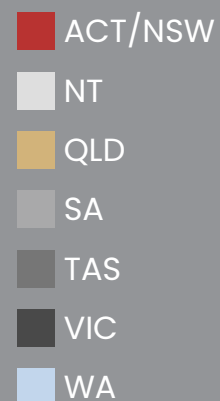
BOARDING STAFF 2023



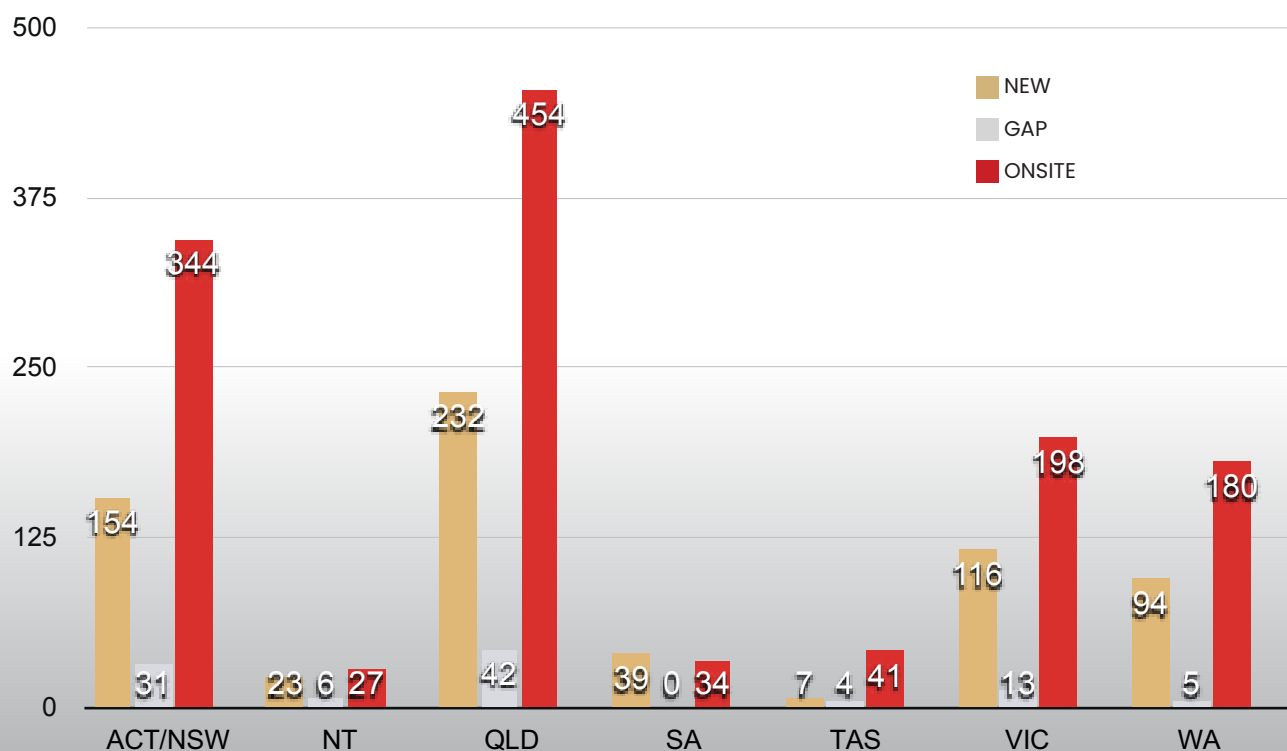
TOTALS FOR AUSTRALIA



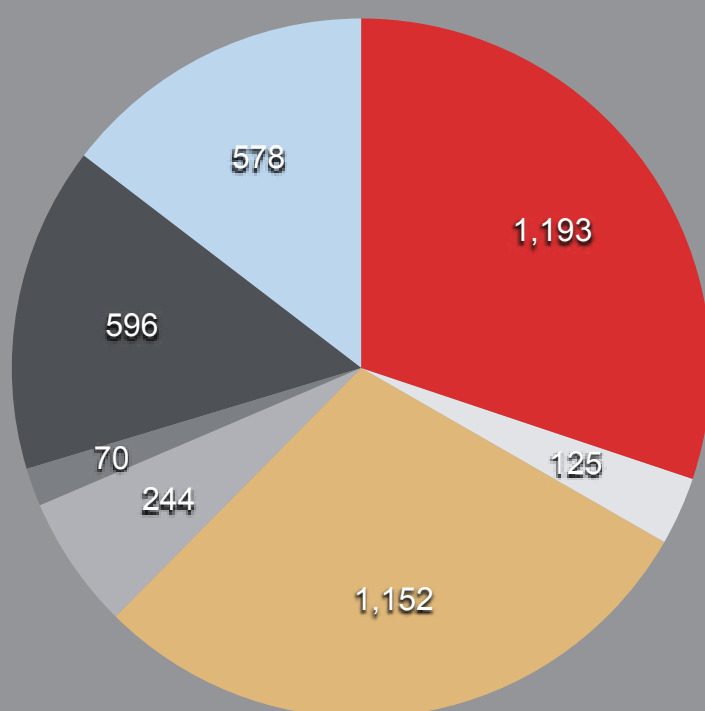
TOTAL
4156



BOARDING STAFF 2022



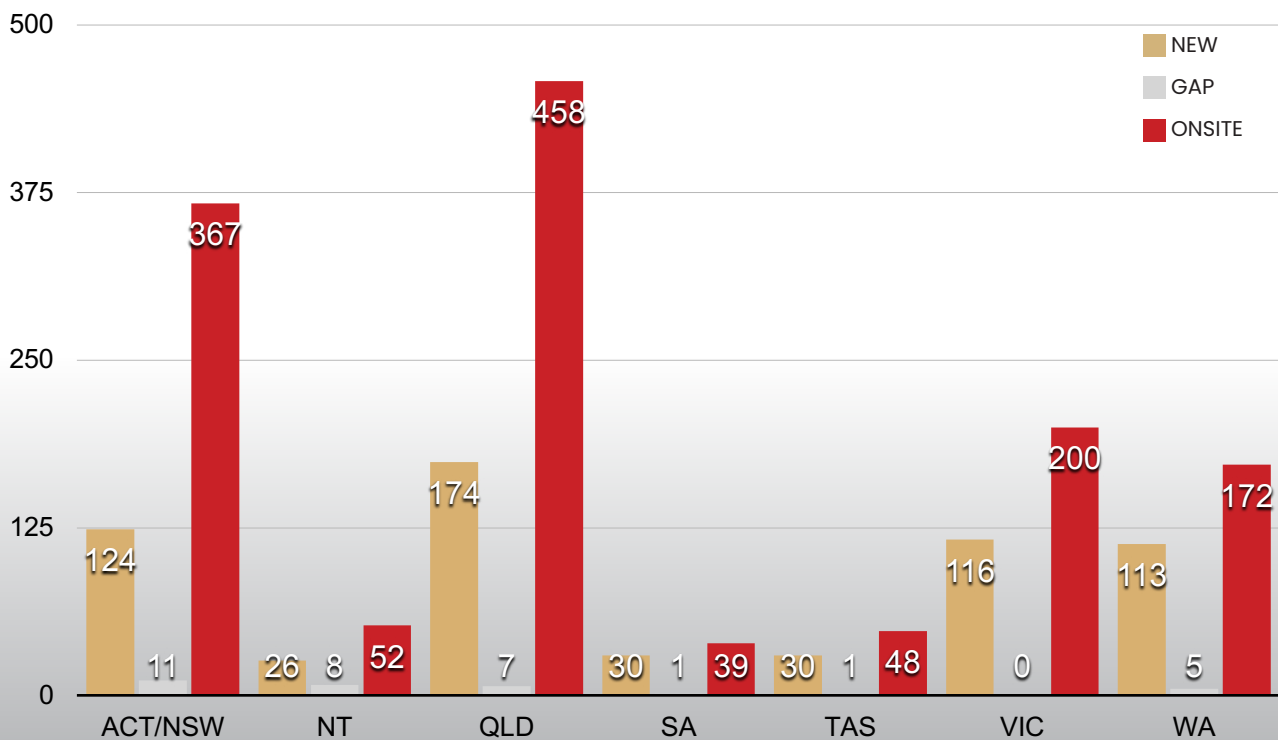
TOTALS FOR AUSTRALIA



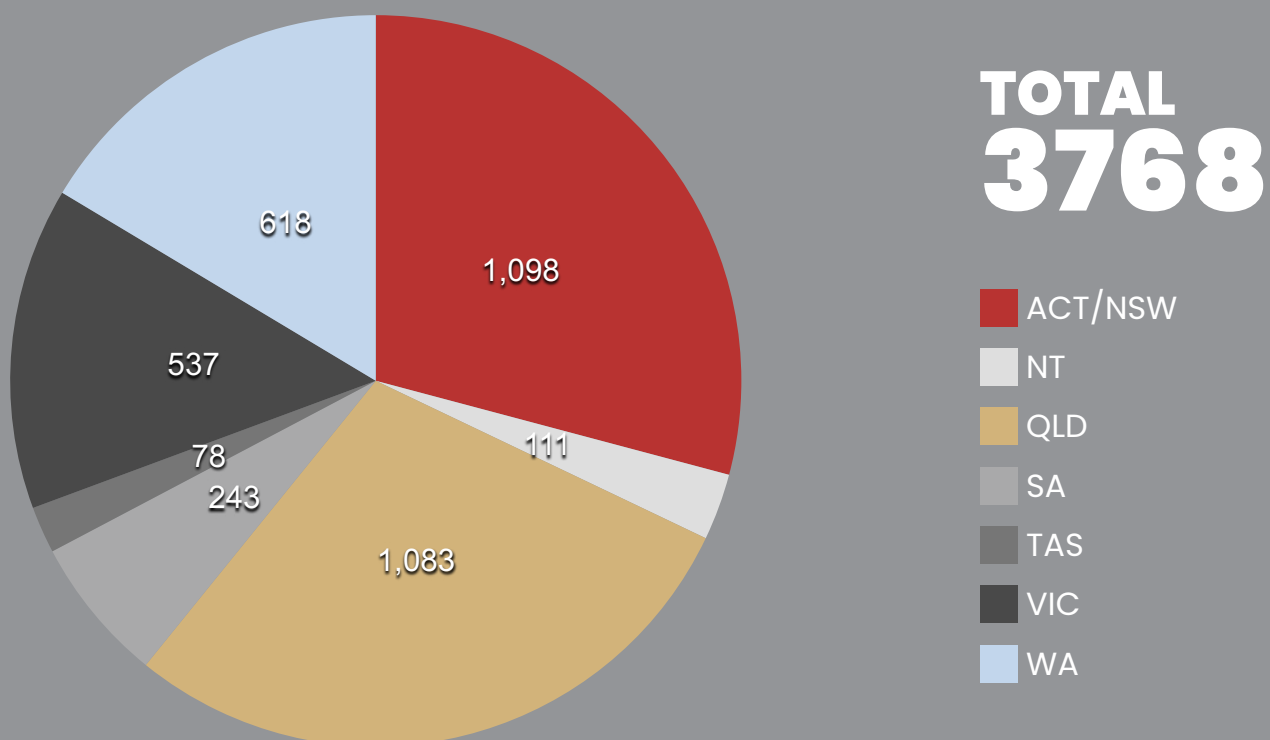
**TOTAL
3931**



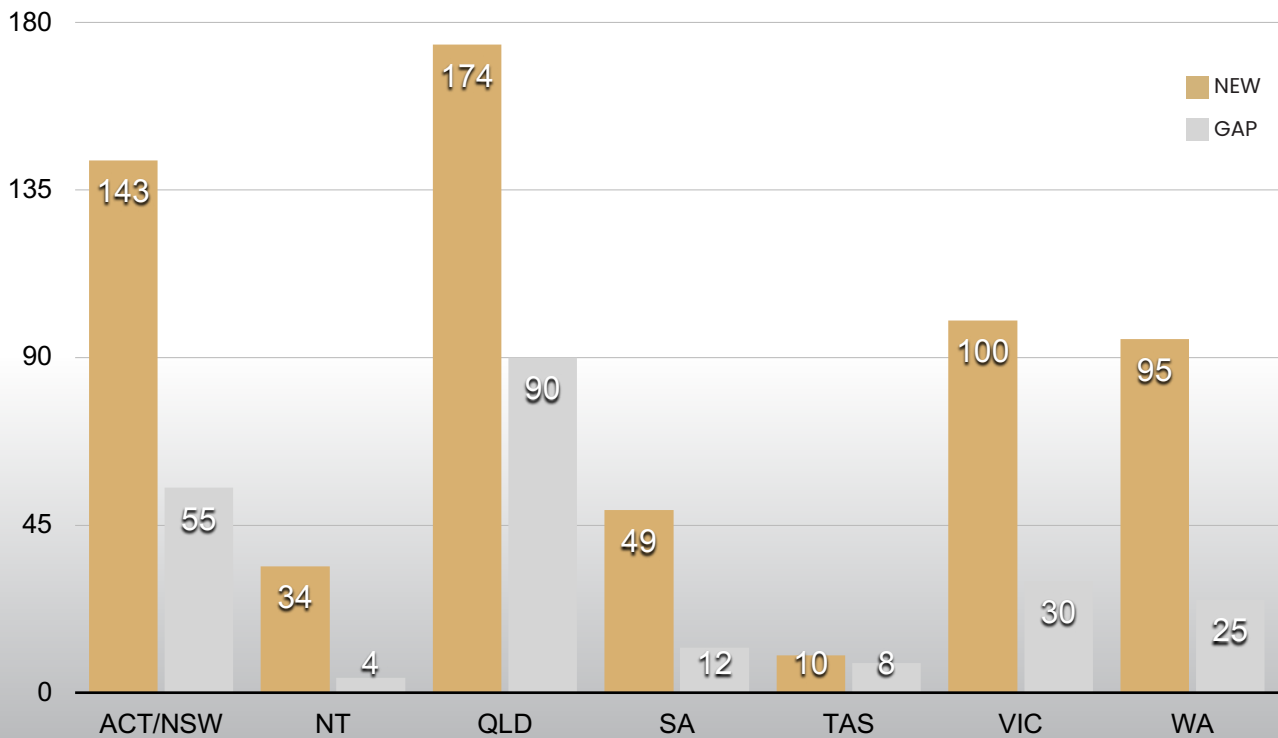
BOARDING STAFF 2021



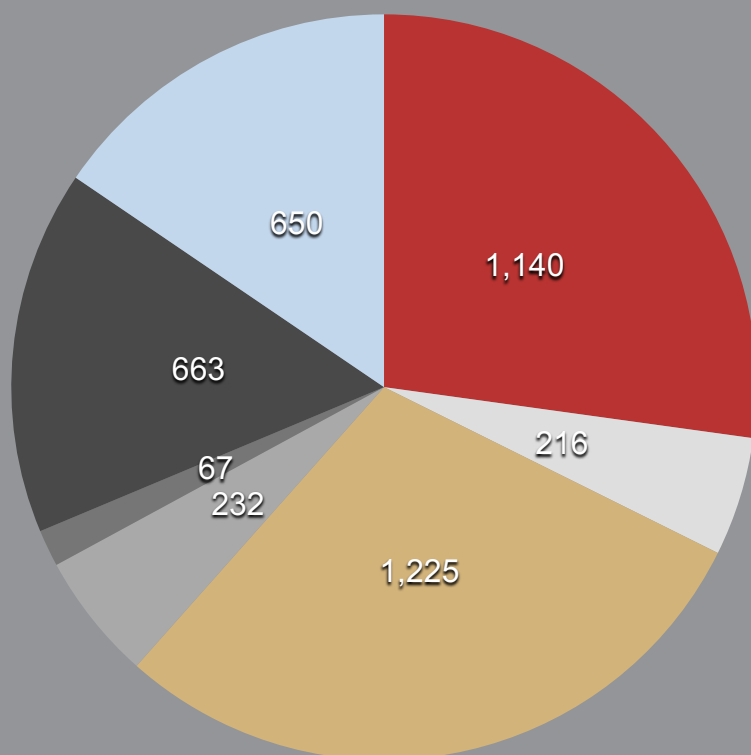
TOTALS FOR AUSTRALIA



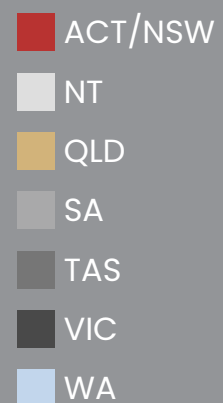
BOARDING STAFF 2020



TOTALS FOR AUSTRALIA



TOTAL
4193



Notes

Handwriting practice area with 30 horizontal dotted lines.



AUSTRALIAN
BOARDING
SCHOOLS
ASSOCIATION

Making Boarders' Lives Better

Australian Boarding Schools Association

P + 61 7 3205 4940 E absa@boarding.org.au

Office: Unit 6, 26 Navigator Place, HENDRA, QLD, 4011

Postal: PO Box 148, NORTHGATE, QLD, 4013

www.boarding.org.au

