



Public and Private Higher Education 2021

The Council on Higher Education (CHE) is an independent statutory body established by the Higher Education Act, No. 101 of 1997 (as amended). The CHE is the Quality Council for Higher Education, advises the Minister responsible for Higher Education, Science and Innovation on higher education matters and is responsible for quality assurance and promotion through the Higher Education Quality Committee (HEQC).

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# **Foreword**

The Council on Higher Education (CHE) published the first VitalStats in 2012. Since then, ten other VitalStats have been published and this latest issue is the eleventh of the series. The first ten issues focused on public higher education. They presented audited datasets on public higher education in a user-friendly format. The datasets were principally from the Higher Education Management Information System (HEMIS) at the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), with population data from Statistics South Africa (Stats SA).

Similar to the eleven issues before it, VitalStats 2021 presents data for public higher education. The period covered is from 2016 to 2021. It also presents datasets on private higher education which have been sourced from the Higher Education Quality Committee Information System (HEQCIS). This makes VitalStats 2021 a richer resource on data for the broader higher education sector in South Africa. It is important to note, however, that at this stage the data on private higher education is not available on all variables that the publication focuses on.

While the structure and format of the previous issues have been largely retained in VitalStats 2021, they have been enhanced significantly to make the publication more user-friendly. As in previous issues, each section is colour-coded, showing the size and shape of the sector using graphs and data tables. The first section presents data and graphs on student enrolment and completion; and the second section presents data and graphs on levels of qualifications. The third and fourth sections present data and graphs on headcount numbers of students by field of study, and headcount numbers of students by institutional type, respectively. Section five presents data on staffing, disaggregated into various categories. Section six presents cohort analysis of students that entered 360-credit diplomas, 3-year and 4-year degrees and postgraduate studies in 2016, tracking their throughput for the particular qualification types. Owing to the different regulation time for distance and part-time mode of delivery, the cohort analysis graphs for the University of South Africa (UNISA) are presented separately, albeit in the same section.

Readers may note that the usual section on financial data has not been included in VitalStats 2021. This is because this section has been expanded to be presented in the VitalStats 2021 Supplement publication.

Staff members in the Research, Monitoring and Advice Directorate and the external experts who worked on processing and analysing the relevant datasets, as well as plotting the graphs presented in this publication, are acknowledged with sincere appreciation. The CHE also expresses gratitude the HEMIS team at the DHET for providing the relevant datasets for public higher education; and to Stats SA for population data.

The CHE welcomes any feedback on this publication, which can be sent to research@che.ac.za. The publication can also be downloaded from the CHE's website (www.che.ac.za).

Dr Whitfield J. Green Chief Executive Officer March 2023

# **Definitions**

### Classification of Educational Subject Matter or CESM categories:

A set of classifications aiming to provide a single coherent system for categorising subject matter irrespective of the level of instruction or type of institution. For a list of first order CESM categories, see Appendix 2.

### Cohort:

The first-time entry students in a given year who have enrolled for a particular higher education programme.

### Comprehensive Universities (Comp):

This refers to institutions that offer the full spectrum of programmes, including vocational, professional, and general formative programmes at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

### Contact mode of delivery:

This refers to courses involving personal interaction with institutional teachers or institutional supervisors, through lectures, tutorials, seminars, practicals, supervision, or other forms of required work, which occurs at the institution's premises or at a site of delivery of the institution.

### Course success rate:

The success rate refers to the total number of courses passed by students in a given academic year relative to course enrolments. It is calculated by dividing the total number of FTE degree credits (courses completed) by FTE enrolments. These calculations, for a programme or for an institution as a whole, produce weighted average success rates.

### Distance mode of delivery:

This refers to courses where the interaction with institutional teachers or institutional supervisors is undertaken remotely through the use of correspondence, telematics, or the internet.

### Fields of study:

Enrolments are divided into four broad fields or areas of study, calculated by aggregating enrolments by CESM category as below. For a description of each CESM category, see Appendix 2:

- Science, Engineering and Technology (SET): CESM 01, 02, 06, 08, 09, 10, 13, 14, 15 & 16
- Business & Commerce (B&C): CESM 04
- Humanities (Hum): CESM 03, 05, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19 & 20
- Education (Ed): CESM 07

ii VitalStats 2021

### Full-time equivalent (FTE) student enrolment:

FTE student enrolments are calculated (a) by assigning to each course a fraction representing the weighting it has in the curriculum of a qualification, and (b) by multiplying the headcount enrolment of that course by this fraction. FTE staff numbers are calculated in a similar way.

### **Headcount:**

The total number of students enrolled at each institution whether as full-time, part-time, or occasional students.

### Occasional student:

This refers to a student who satisfies the statutory requirements for entry into a formally approved qualification offered by the institution and who is effectively registered for an approved course, but who is not registered for an approved qualification. It includes persons enrolled for non-degree purposes.

### Participation rate or Gross Enrolment Ratios (GER):

This refers to a total headcount enrolment over the national population of 20-24 years old, calculated as a percentage. The term used by the Department of Higher Education and Training is *participation rate*. The National Plan for Higher Education (Department of Education: 2001) explains that: "The participation rate is calculated using the UNESCO standard, as the percentage of 20 – 24-year-olds of the general population enrolled in higher education".

### Percentage accumulative (for Cohort Study):

This indicates (in the relevant graphs) the total number of students of a particular first-time entering cohort who have graduated or dropped out up to that point. It includes all the students of that cohort who have graduated or dropped out in previous years.

### Percentage non-accumulative (for Cohort Study):

This indicates (in the relevant graphs) the total number of students of a particular first-time entering cohort who have graduated or dropped out in that particular year. It does not include the students of that cohort who have graduated or dropped out in previous years.

### Permanent employee:

A person is classified as a permanent staff member if he/she contributes to an approved retirement fund of the institution.

### Personnel category:

A personnel category indicates the type of duties to be undertaken in a position which a staff member occupies in the institution, and the qualifications and experience normally required by the incumbent of that position. The duties, qualifications and experience referred to relate to those of the position. The personnel categories are:

*Instruction/research professional (Academic):* A position in which (a) at least 50% of time is spent on instruction and/or research activities, and (b) the position requires a higher education qualification equivalent to at least 4 years of higher education study.

VitalStats 2021 iii

**Executive/administrative/managerial professional (Senior Management):** A position in which (a) the primary function is the management of the institution or one of its major divisions or sections, and (b) the position requires an educational attainment equivalent to at least 4 years of higher education study.

**Non-professional administration (Administrative):** A position in which (a) the primary function is clerical, secretarial or administrative duties, and (b) an educational attainment equivalent to 4 years of higher education study is not required.

Service staff: A group of staff for whom the primary function comprises unskilled activities.

### Postgraduate qualifications:

Postgraduate qualifications include Postgraduate Diplomas and Honours, Masters and Doctoral degrees.

### Qualification:

A qualification refers to a certificate, diploma or degree which an institution awards to a student on the successful completion of an accredited programme of study of 120 credits or more.

### **Qualification types:**

This refers to the different types of certificates, diplomas and degrees offered by higher education institutions that conform to the specifications for nine such types on the Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework (HEQSF). An explanation of the types of qualifications and requirements for the awarding of the qualification can be found in the HEQSF.

### Staff member:

A staff member is a person who is either compensated by the institution by pay or other means for services rendered, or who, while not being paid or compensated by the institution, performs services which relate to the institution's normal activities and those activities which would otherwise have been performed by staff receiving compensation from the institution.

### Student: staff ratio:

This refers to the average number of students per academic staff member and gives an indication of the average teaching load carried by each academic staff member. It is calculated by dividing the number of FTE academic staff by the number of FTE students.

### Temporary employees:

All staff members who do not contribute to an approved retirement fund of the institution are classified as having temporary employment status.

### Throughput rate:

A throughput rate calculates the number of first-time entry undergraduate students of a specific cohort of a specific year who have graduated either within the minimum time, or up to 2 years beyond the minimum time,

iv VitalStats 2021

to the number of students in the baseline enrolments of that cohort. Throughput rates are reflected in the section on cohort studies.

### **Traditional Universities (Trad):**

This refers to institutions that offer a broad range of general formative and professional programmes at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels.

### Undergraduate:

A student engaged in an undergraduate qualification at a university, namely a first or entry qualification, including certain certificate programmes, diplomas and bachelor's degrees.

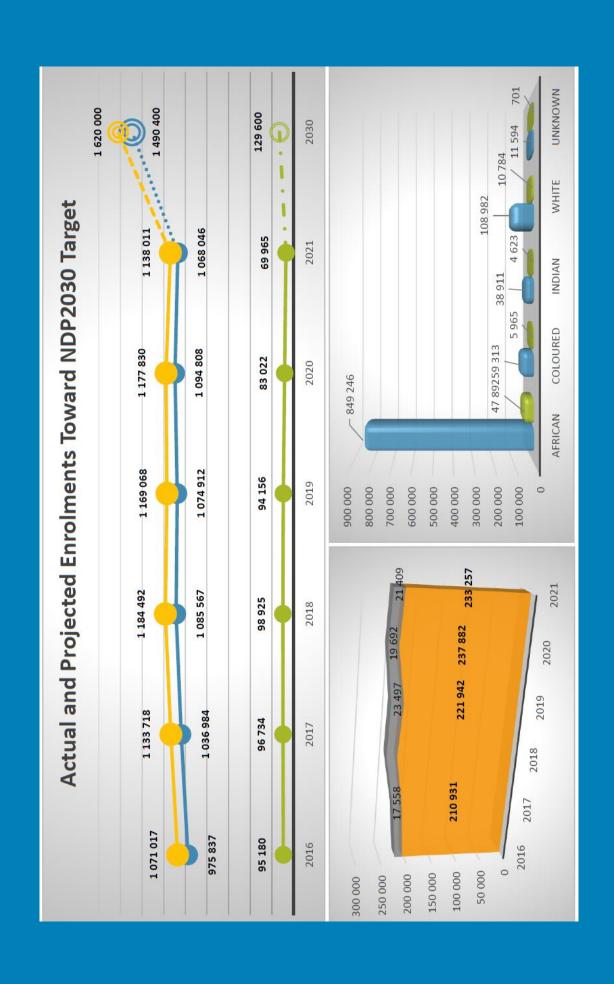
### Universities of Technology (UoT):

This refers to institutions (previously called Technikons) that offer a range of programmes that are vocationally and/ or professionally orientated, primarily at the undergraduate level.

### **Table of Contents:**

Student Enrolment and Completion Data	 	 	1
Student Data by Qualification Type	 	 	25
Student Data by Field of Study	 	 	39
Student Data by Institutional Type	 	 	49
Staff Complement	 	 	61
Senior Management Staff	 	 	72
Academic Staff	 	 	75
Administrative Staff	 	 	83
Service Staff	 	 	86
Student:staff ratios	 	 	89
Cohort Analysis	 	 	91
360-credit diplomas by broad field	 	 	99
3-year degrees by broad field	 	 	103
4-year degrees by broad field	 	 	106
UNISA	 	 	113
Postgraduates	 	 	114
Coursework Masters	 	 	117
Appendix 1: Institutions	 	 	119
Appendix 2: CESM	 	 	120
Appendix 3: Cohort Methodology	 	 	121
Appendix 4: Table of Figures	 	 	122





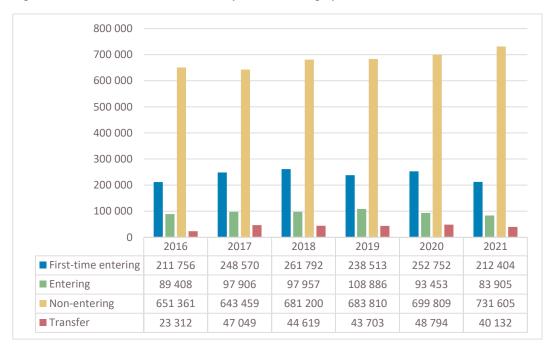


Figure 1: Public universities enrolments by entrance category

Figure 2: Public universities enrolment entrance categories by race



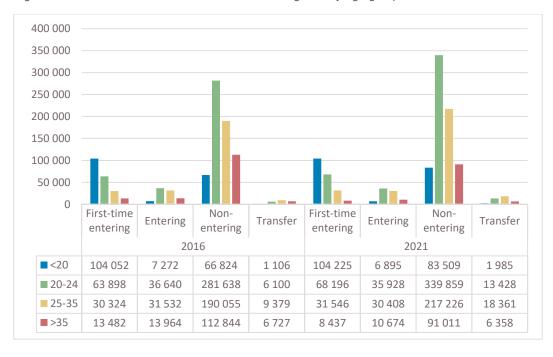
<sup>\*</sup> The categories for race and gender are as applied in HEMIS. The Unknown category is not displayed, but not omitted. Rounded off percentages may not always add up to 100%.

The most recent HEMIS data in this section were extracted by DHET in December 2022. The most recent HEQCIS data is used for the private higher education graphs.

Transfer Non-entering 2021 Entering First-time entering Transfer Non-entering 2016 Entering First-time entering 0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100% 2016 2021 First-time Non-First-time Non-Entering Entering Transfer Transfer entering entering entering entering ■Women 119 823 50 896 383 704 12 696 128 351 52 415 450 381 24 280 Men 91 927 38 511 267 647 10 612 83 988 31 473 281 123 15 844

Figure 3: Public universities enrolment entrance categories by gender

Figure 4: Public universities enrolment entrance categories by age group



<sup>\*</sup> The categories for race and gender is as applied in HEMIS. The Unknown category is not displayed, but not omitted.

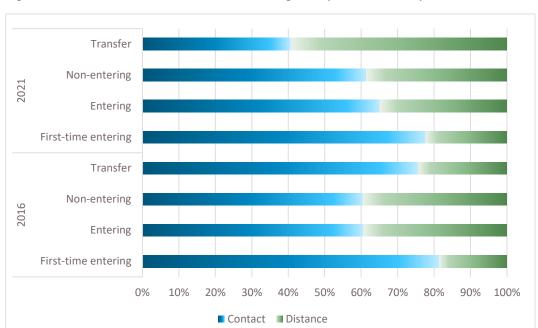


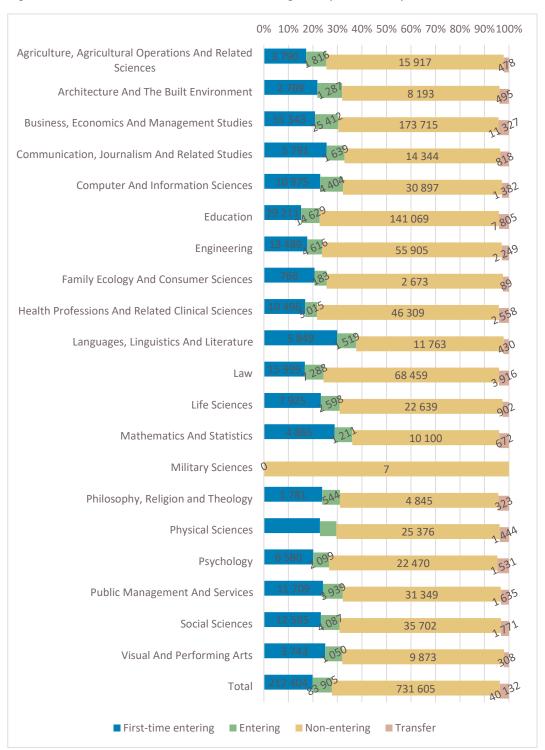
Figure 5: Public universities enrolment entrance categories by mode of delivery





VitalStats 2021 5

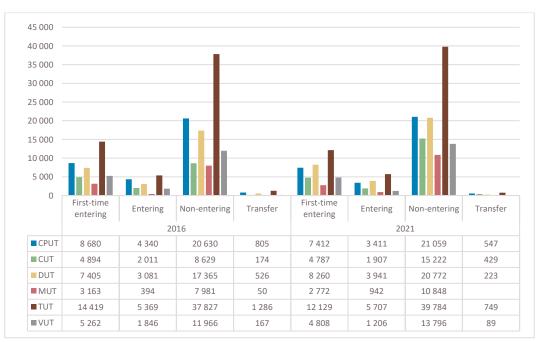
Figure 7: Public universities enrolment entrance categories by field of study



300 000 250 000 200 000 150 000 100 000 50 000 0 First-time First-time Entering Transfer Entering Transfer entering entering entering entering 2016 ■ UoTs 43 823 17 041 104 398 3 008 40 168 17 114 121 481 2 037 ■ Comprehensives 40 707 11 057 92 259 2 434 37 942 11 713 96 466 2 946 Universities 243 757 93 179 27 427 226 435 14 745 90 423 27 381 13 598 228 269 ■ UNISA 34 047 33 883 3 125 43 871 27 697 269 901 21 551

Figure 8: Public universities enrolment entrance categories by institutional type





VitalStats 2021 7

Total Transfer 2021 Non-entering Entering First-time entering Total Transfer 2016 Non-entering Entering First-time entering 0 20 000 40 000 50 000 60 000 10 000 30 000 2016 2021 First-time Non-First-time Non-Entering Transfer Total Entering Transfer Total entering entering entering entering **■** SMU 1 429 154 3 808 11 5 402 1 454 258 4 757 56 6 525 ■ UniZulu 4 925 1 604 11 133 17 662 4 113 1 076 11 163 16 352 ■ WSU 8 332 2 130 18 119 28 581 7 594 3 638 19 367 381 30 980 UniVen 4 199 773 10 264 1 15 237 3 308 660 10 824 14 14 806

Figure 10: Comprehensive universities enrolment entrance categories

8 VitalStats 2021

27 780

51 795

7 122

14 351

2 861

3 220

19 127

31 228

625

1 870

29 735

50 669

■ NMU

UJ

7 610

14 212

2 827

3 569

16 877

32 058

466

1 956

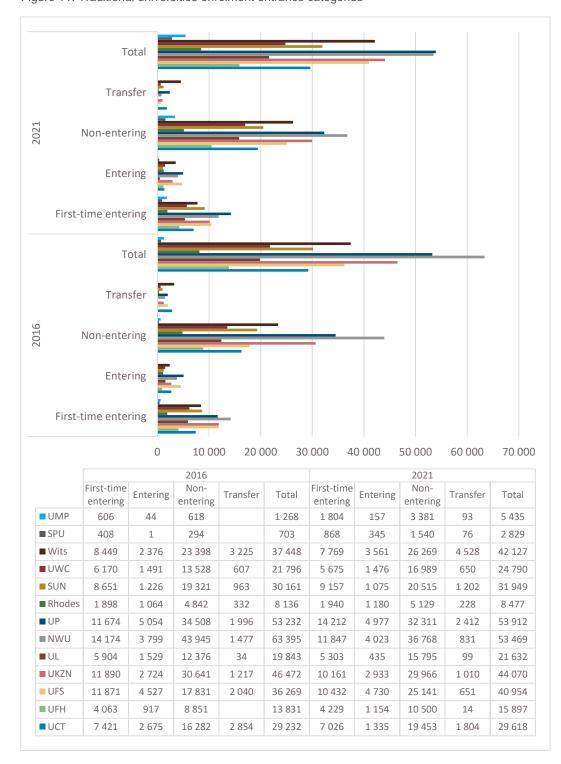


Figure 11: Traditional universities enrolment entrance categories

Figure 12: Headcount enrolments at public universities by race

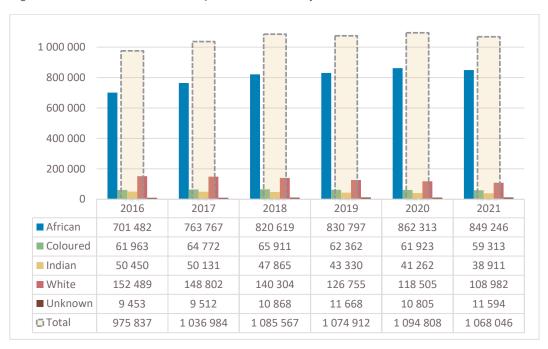
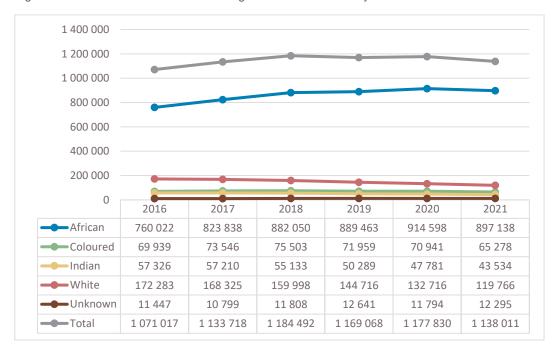


Figure 13: Headcount enrolments in the higher education sector by race



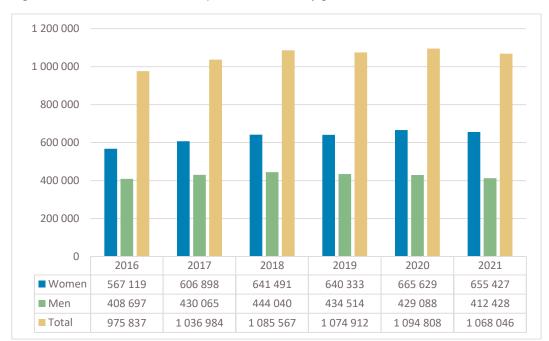


Figure 14: Headcount enrolments at public universities by gender

Figure 15: Headcount enrolments in the higher education sector by gender

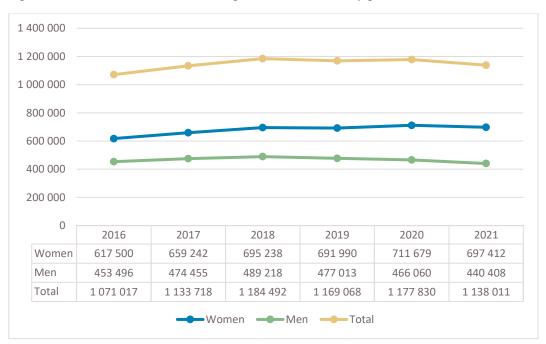


Figure 16: Headcount graduates at public universities by race

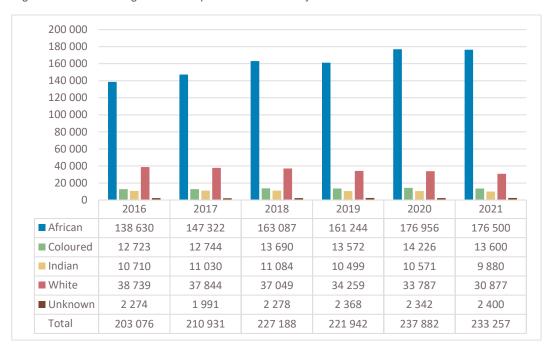
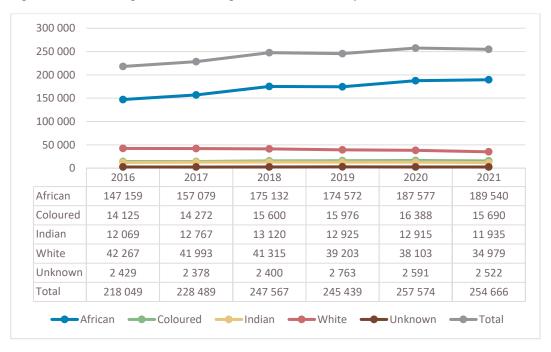


Figure 17: Headcount graduates in the higher education sector by race



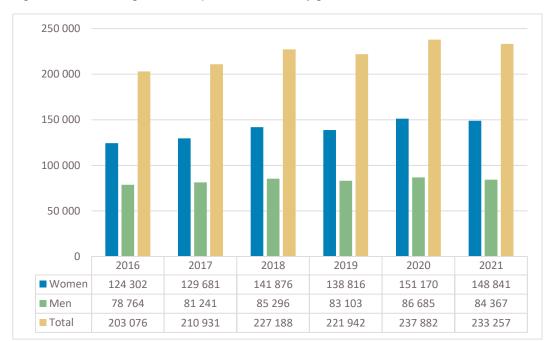
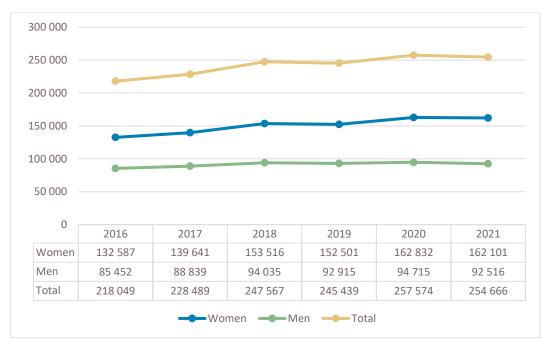


Figure 18: Headcount graduates at public universities by gender





Indian

African

■ Coloured

53 611

60 716

1 344

4 783

679 800 43 376

53 378

62 186

696 320 44 228

100% 90% 80% 70% 60% 50% 40% 30% 20% 10% 0% H.Ed Pop H.Ed Pop H.Ed Pop H.Ed Pop H.Ed Pop H.Ed\* Pop\*\* 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 ■White 166 172 161 739 152 489 148 802 140 304 108 982

Figure 20: Public HE demographics compared to population demographics.

Figure 21: Higher education demographics compared to population demographics

1 362

4 833

50 450

61 963

701 482

1 386

4 897

45 110 763 767

50 131

64 772

1 409

4 966

45 656

47 865

65 911

820 619 47 443

1 503

5 177

38 911

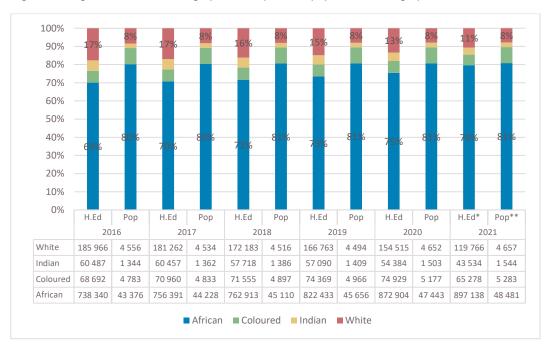
59 313

849 246

1 544

5 283

48 481



2021

412 428 29 307

434 514 28 673

640 333 30 102 655 427 30 658

430 065 28 180

606 898 | 28 901 | 606 898 | 29 546



430 065 27 621

Figure 22: Public HE gender compared to population gender



408 697 27 390

■Men

410 523 26 878

■Women 574 677 28 079 567 119 28 529

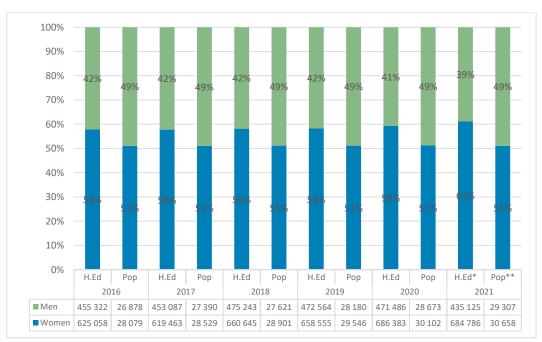


Figure 24: Higher education participation rates (GER) by race

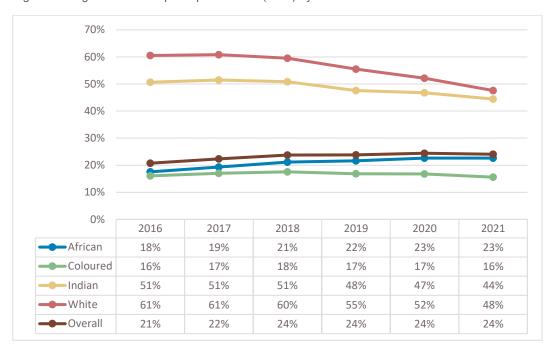
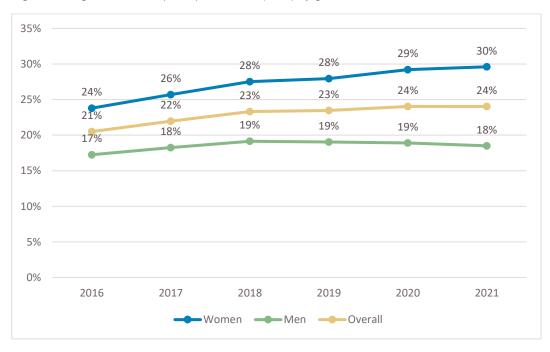


Figure 25: Higher education participation rates (GER) by gender



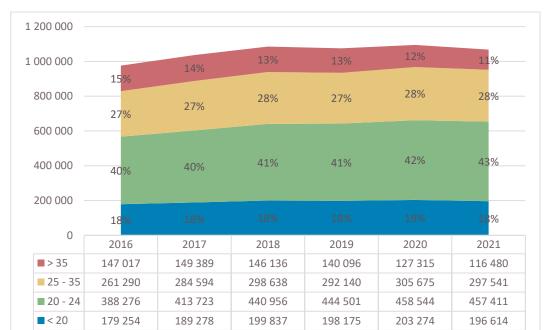


Figure 26: Public HE headcount enrolments by age group

Figure 27: Higher education headcount enrolments by age group

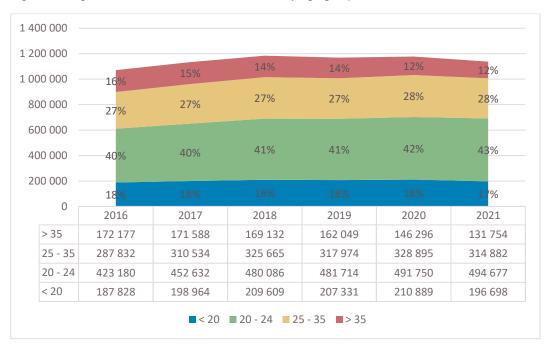


Figure 28: Public HE headcount graduates by age group

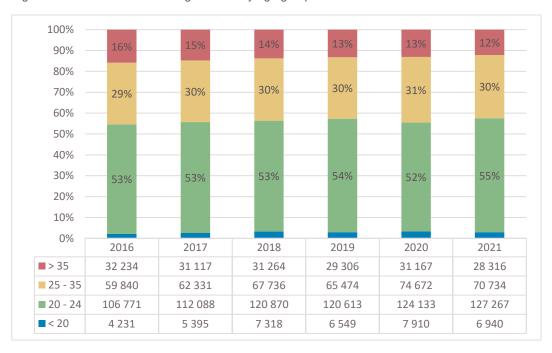
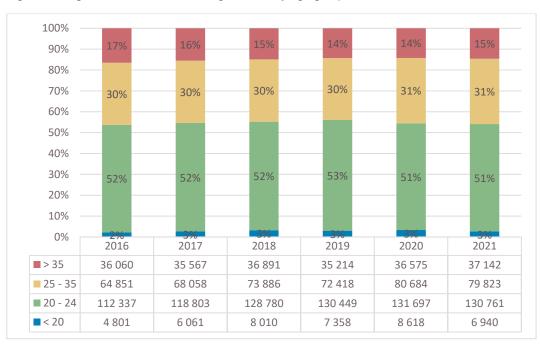


Figure 29: Higher education headcount graduates by age group



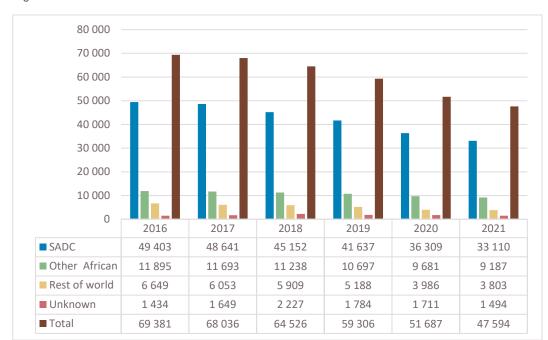


Figure 30: Public universities enrolments of all non-South African students

Figure 31: Higher education enrolments of all non-South African students

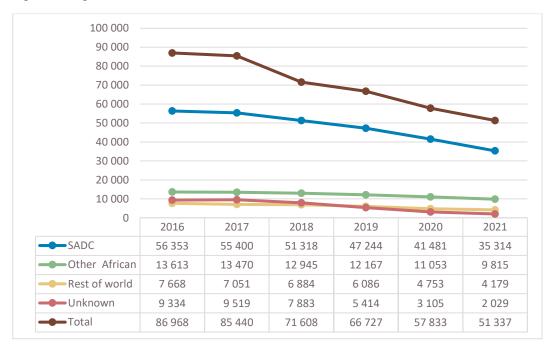


Figure 32: Public universities graduates of all non-South African students

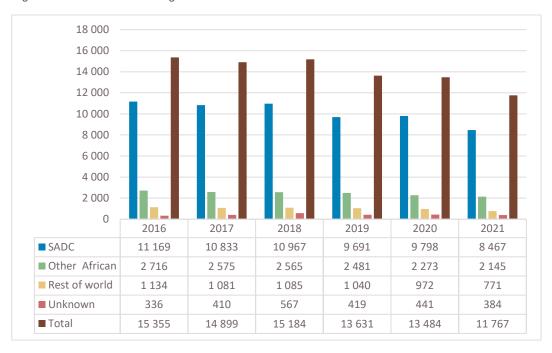
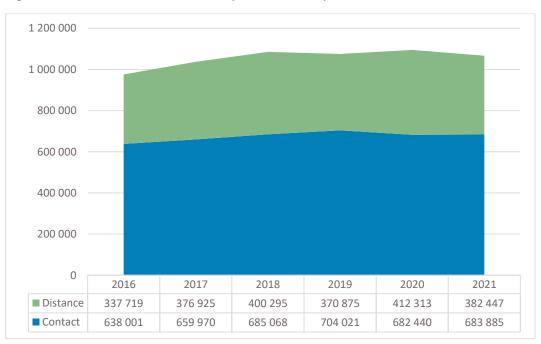


Figure 33: Public universities enrolments by mode of delivery



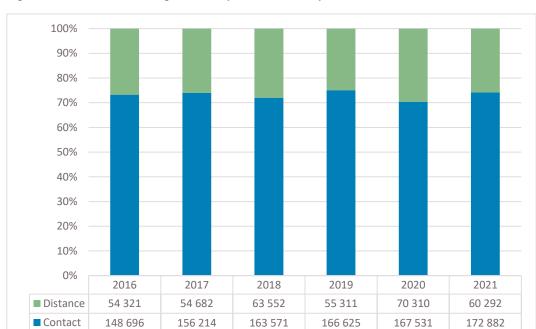
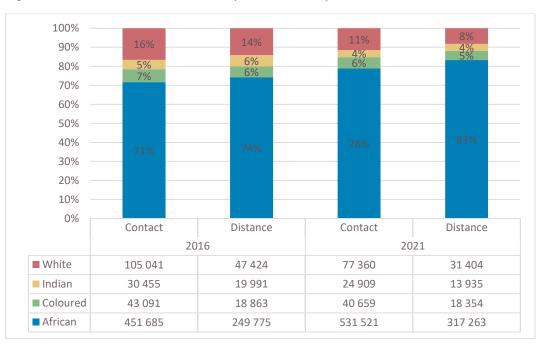


Figure 34: Public universities graduates by mode of delivery

Figure 35: Public Universities enrolments by mode of delivery and race



VitalStats 2021 21

Figure 36: Public Universities enrolments by mode of delivery and gender

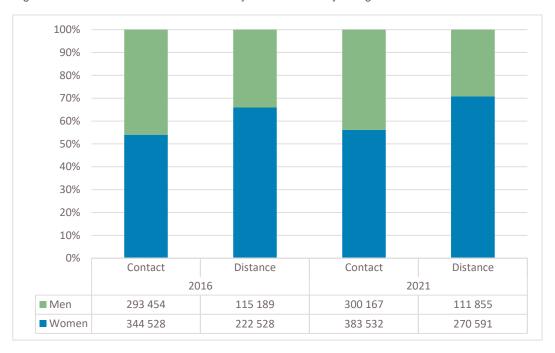


Figure 37: Public Universities enrolments by mode of delivery and age grouped

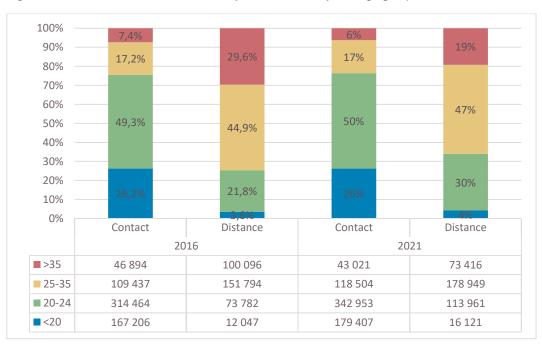
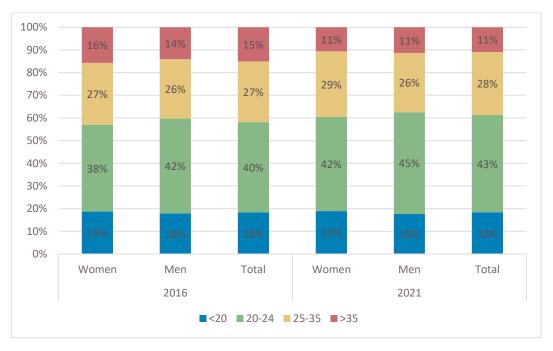




Figure 38: Public Universities enrolments by age grouped and race





VitalStats 2021 23

# STUDENT QUALIFICATION TYPES



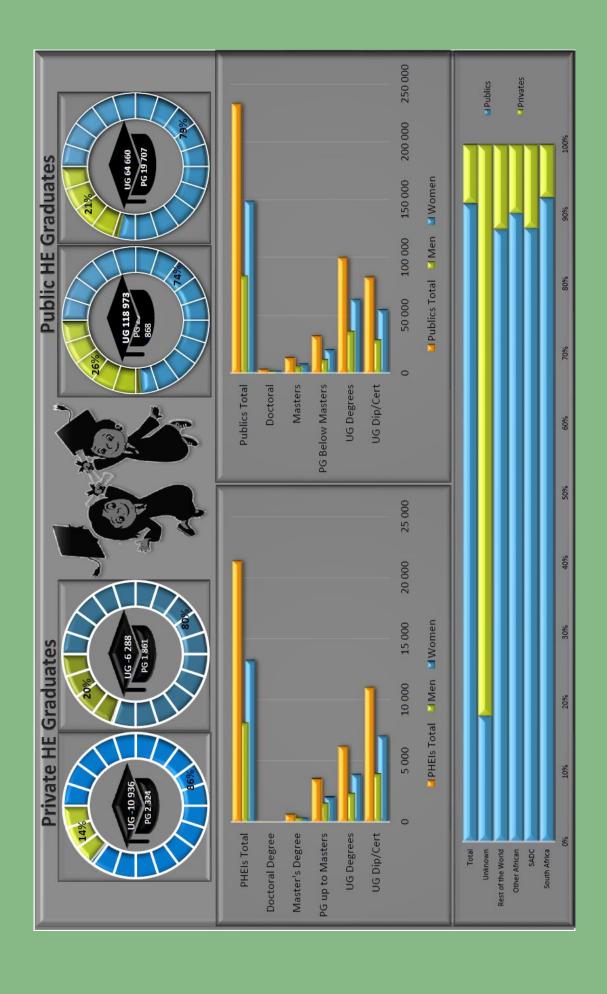
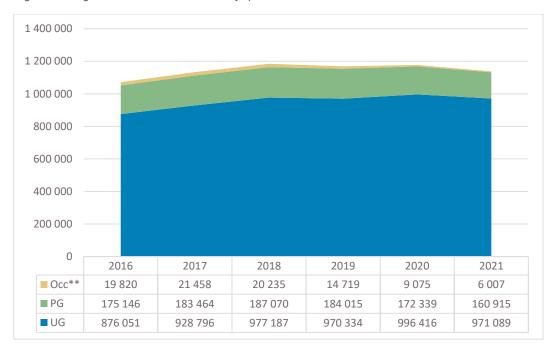




Figure 40: Public universities enrolments by qualification level\*

Figure 41: Higher education enrolments by qualification level



<sup>\*</sup> The Unknown category is not always displayed, but not omitted. Rounded off percentages may not always add up to 100%. \* The most recent HEMIS & HEQCIS data in this section were extracted by DHET in December 2022. \*\* Occasional students.

Figure 42: Public universities graduates by qualification level.



Figure 43: Headcount graduates by qualification level

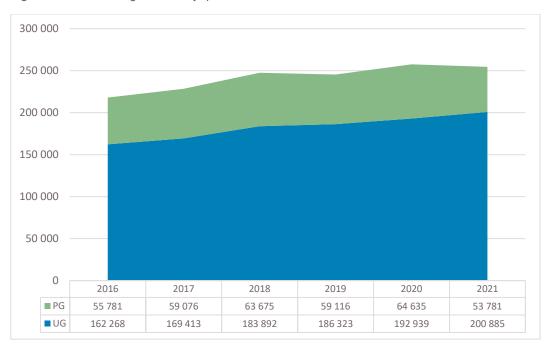
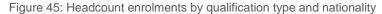
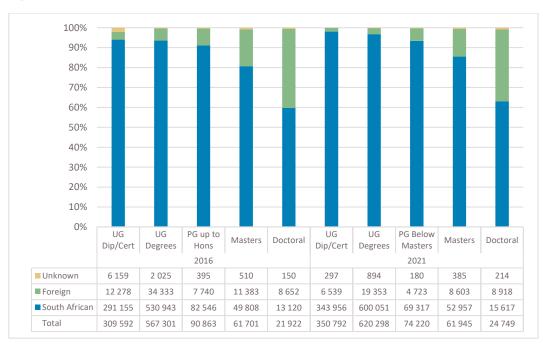




Figure 44: Public universities enrolments by qualification type and nationality





100% 90% 80% 70% 60% 50% 40% 30% 20% 10% 0% UG PG up to PG Below Doctoral Masters Doctoral Masters Dip/Cert Degrees Hons Dip/Cert Degrees Masters 2016 2021 ■ Unknown 82 652 166 290 149 27 655 155 384 214 Rest of the World 225 1 639 397 1 069 1 059 92 1 116 214 638 899 Other African 1 533 1 682 574 2 015 2 832 916 2 791 3 617 888 3 9 1 6 ■ SADC 8 115 24 388 5 625 6 679 3 814 4 525 14 888 3 599 5 793 4 089

Figure 46: Public universities International enrolments by qualification type

Figure 47: Headcount International enrolments by qualification type and nationality

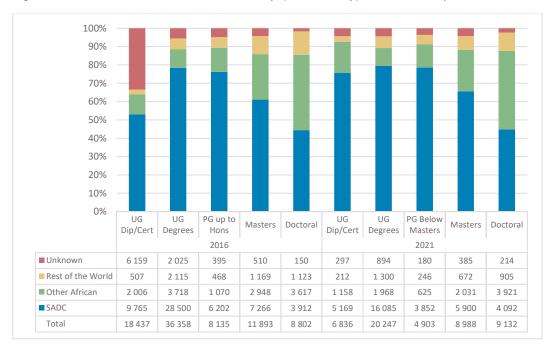




Figure 48: Public universities International graduates by qualification type

Figure 49: Headcount International graduates by qualification type and nationality



Figure 50: Public universities undergraduate enrolments by qualification type grouping

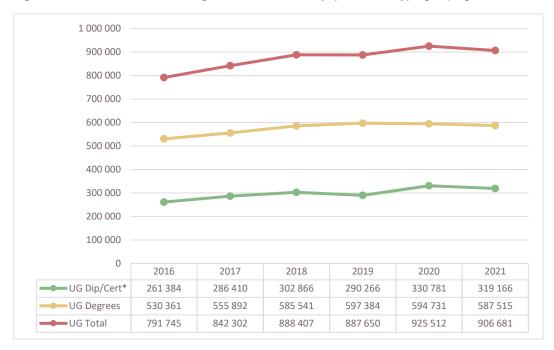


Figure 51: Public universities undergraduate graduates by qualification type grouping

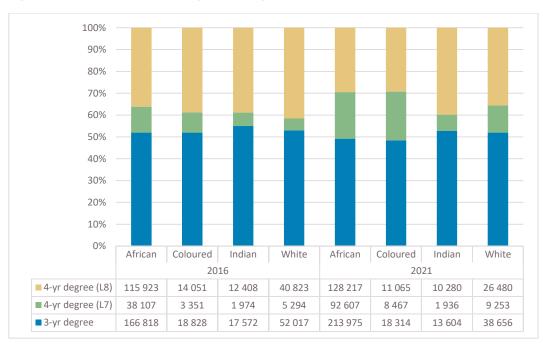


<sup>\*</sup> The most recent HEMIS and HECIS data in this section were extracted by DHET in December 2021.



Figure 52: Public universities enrolments by degree type grouping\*





<sup>\*</sup>BTechs included, but not shown.

Figure 54: Public universities undergraduate degree enrolments by gender



Figure 55: Public universities undergraduate degree qualifications awarded by race.





Figure 56: Public universities undergraduate degree qualifications awarded by gender





Figure 58: Public universities postgraduate enrolments by gender

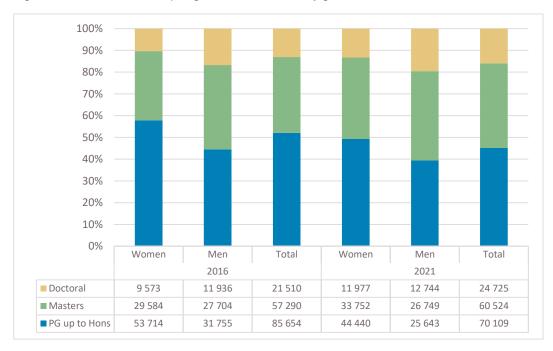


Figure 59: Public universities postgraduate qualifications awarded by race

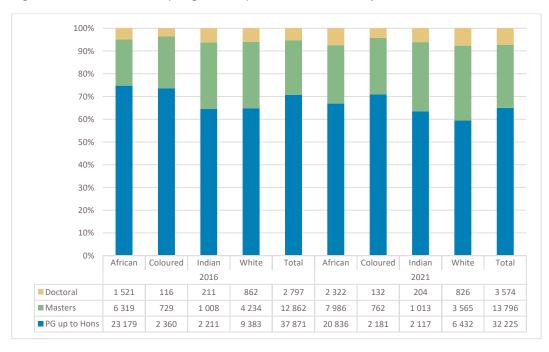
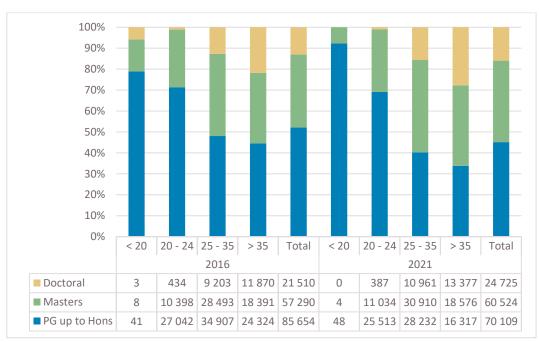




Figure 60: Public universities postgraduate qualifications awarded by gender





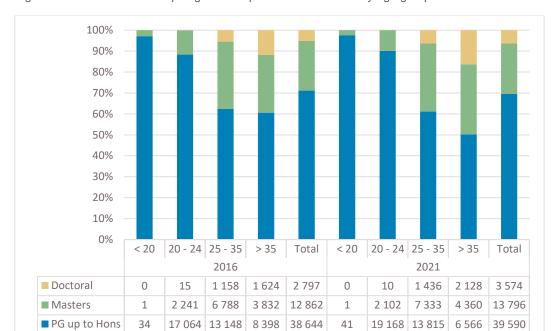
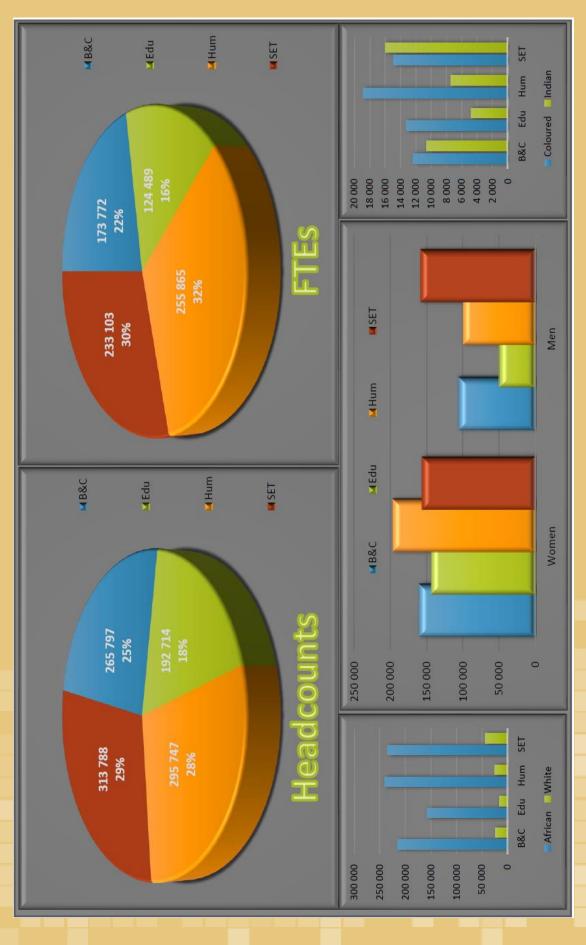
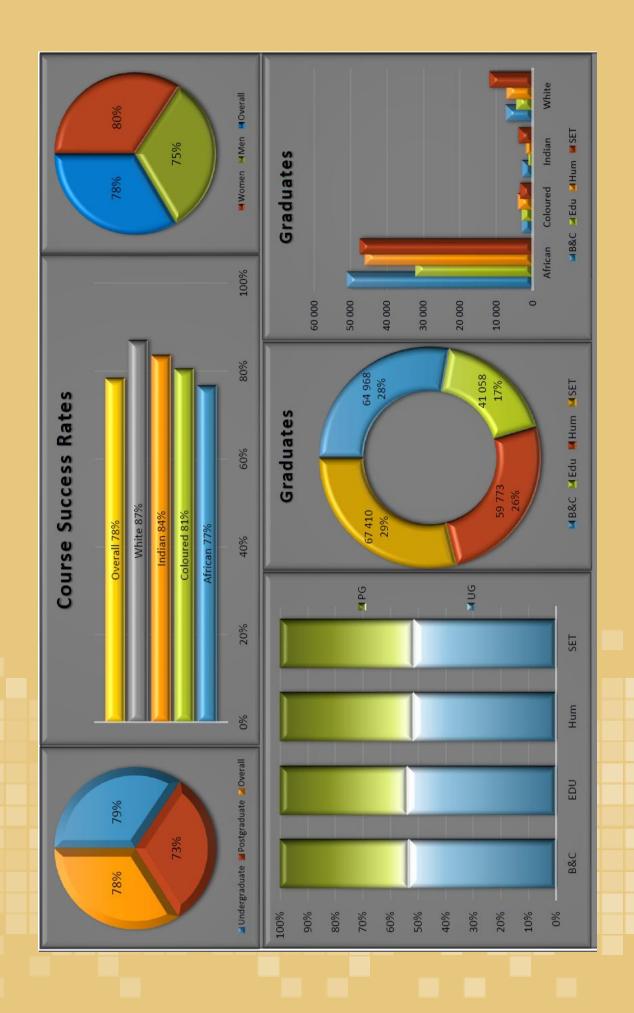


Figure 62: Public universities postgraduate qualification awarded by age group



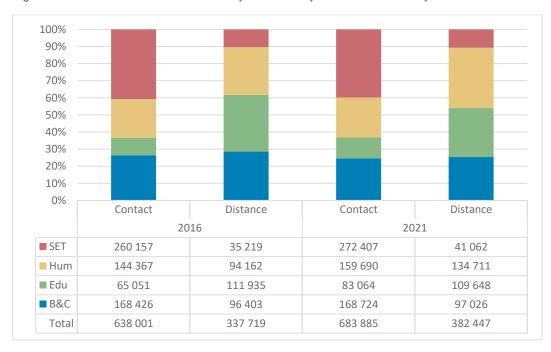


There are no Private HE data in this section.

Figure 63: Public universities enrolments by field of study\*



Figure 64: Public universities enrolments by field of study and mode of delivery



<sup>\*</sup> The Unknown category is not displayed, but not omitted. Rounded off percentages may not always add up to 100%.

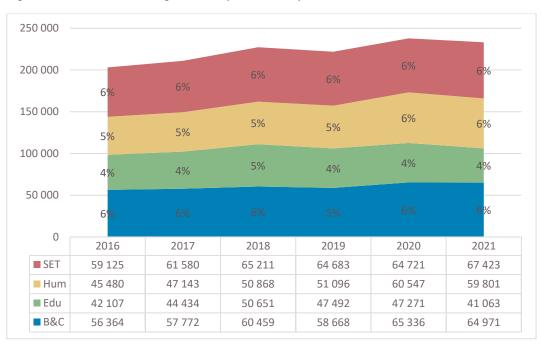
The most recent HEMIS data in this section were extracted by DHET in December 2022.

\*\* B&C: Business and Commerce; SET: Science, Engineering and Technology.

100% 90% 80% 70% 60% 50% 40% 30% 20% 10% 0% African Coloured Indian White African Coloured Indian White 2016 2021 201 630 17 982 55 542 235 213 14 903 16 008 43 497 ■ SET 16 873 Hum 172 074 18 673 9 164 35 514 240 985 18 848 7 464 24 696 ■ Edu 135 464 10 891 6 678 23 487 157 406 13 224 4 823 16 552 ■B&C 192 313 15 527 37 947 215 642 10 616 16 626 12 338 24 237 152 489 701 482 61 963 50 450 849 246 59 313 38 911 108 982 Total

Figure 65: Public universities enrolments by field of study and race

Figure 66: Public universities graduates by field of study.



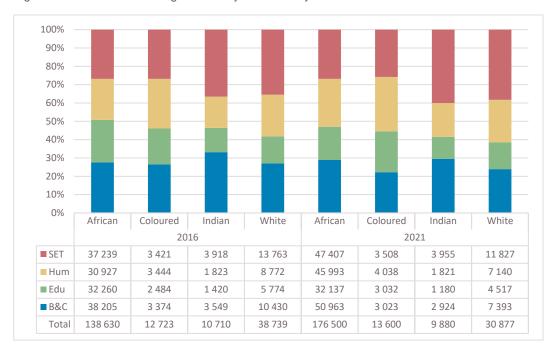


Figure 67: Public universities graduates by field of study and race.

Figure 68: Public universities enrolments by field of study and gender

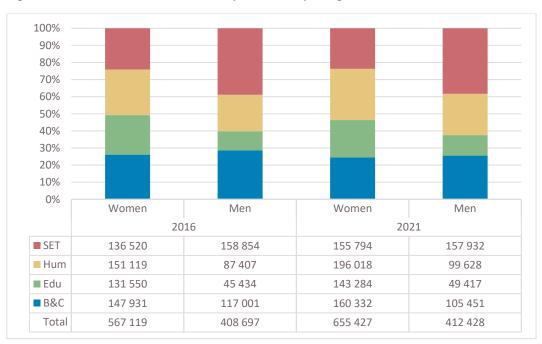


Figure 69: Public universities graduates by field of study and gender



Figure 70: Public universities FTE enrolled by field of study



<sup>\*</sup> The CESM categories are listed in Appendix 2.

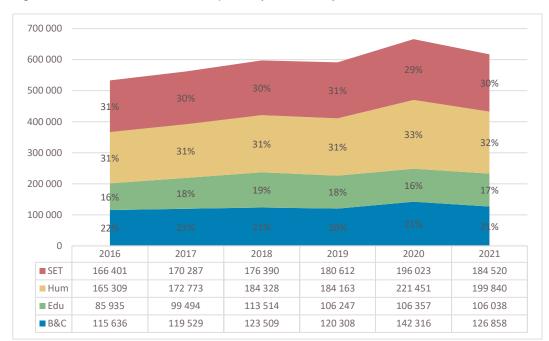
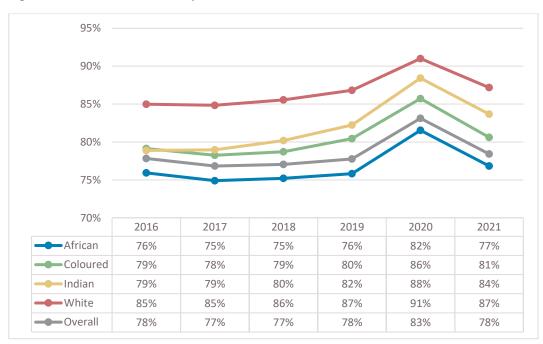


Figure 71: Public universities FTE completed by field of study.

Figure 72: Course success rates by race



 $<sup>^{\</sup>ast}$  The CESM categories are listed in Appendix 2.

Figure 73: Course success rates by gender

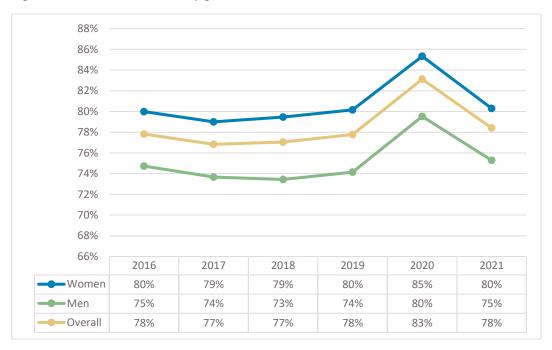


Figure 74: Undergraduate and postgraduate course success rate

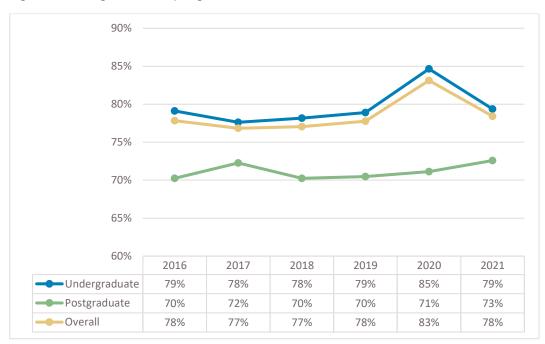




Figure 75: Undergraduate and postgraduate course success rate by race

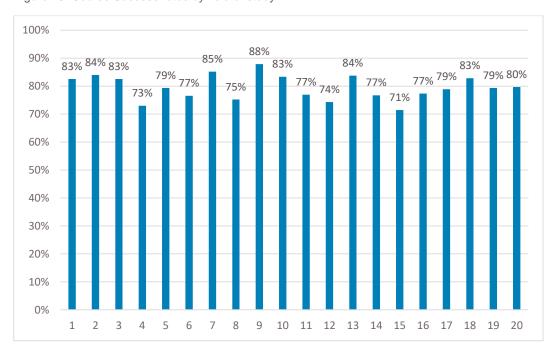




Figure 77: Undergraduate and postgraduate course success rate by CESM

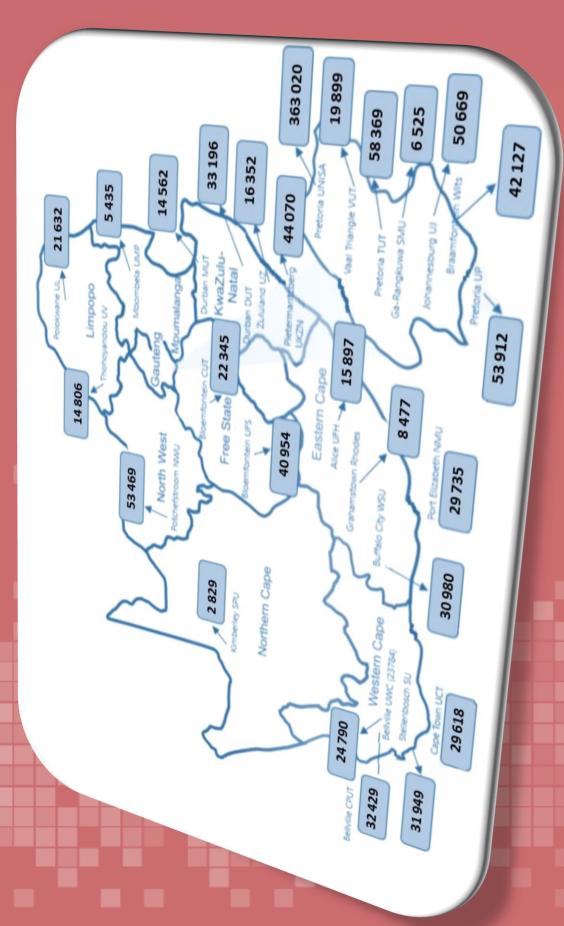


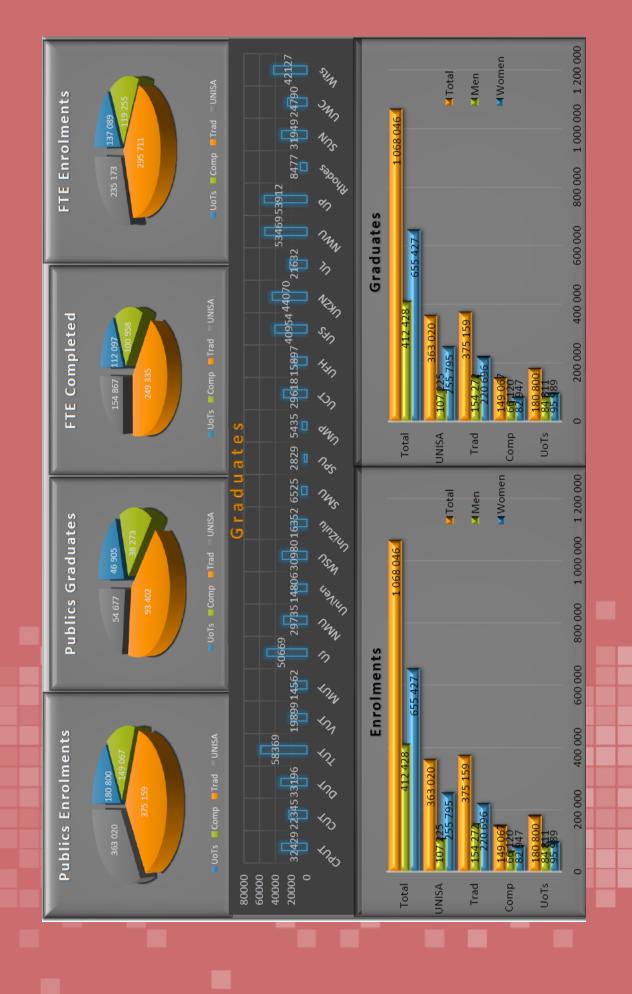
Figure 78: Course Success rates by field of study



 $<sup>^{\</sup>ast}$  The CESM categories are listed in Appendix 2.

## STUDENT DATA BY INSTITUTIONAL TYPE





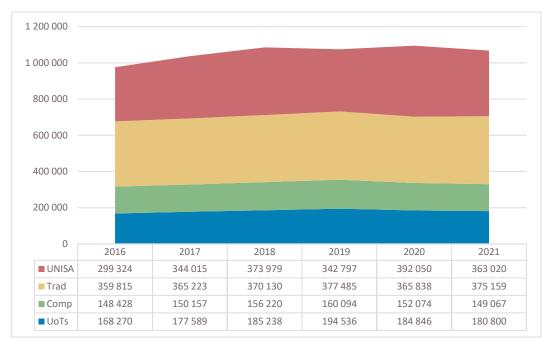
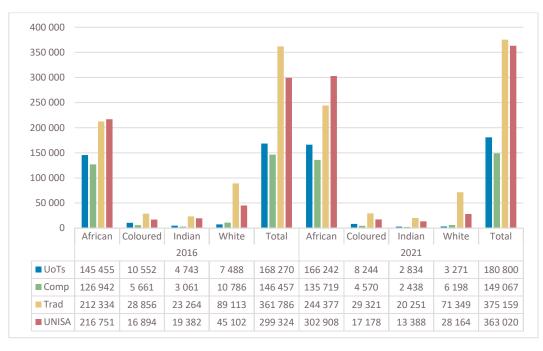


Figure 79: Public universities enrolments by institutional type





<sup>\*</sup> The Unknown category is not displayed, but not omitted. Rounded off percentages may not always add up to 100%. The most recent HEMIS data in this section were extracted by DHET in December 2021. UMP and SPU are included under Traditional Universities and UMP under Comprehensive Universities

Figure 81: Public universities enrolments by institutional type by gender

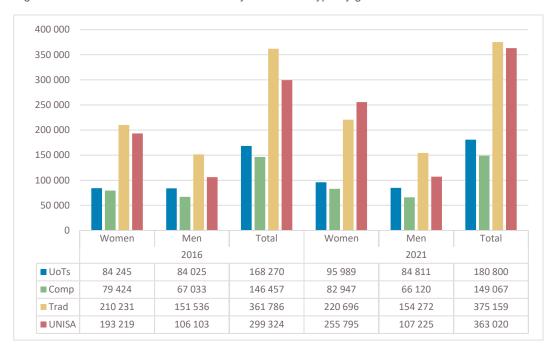


Figure 82: Public universities FTE Enrolled by institutional type by gender.

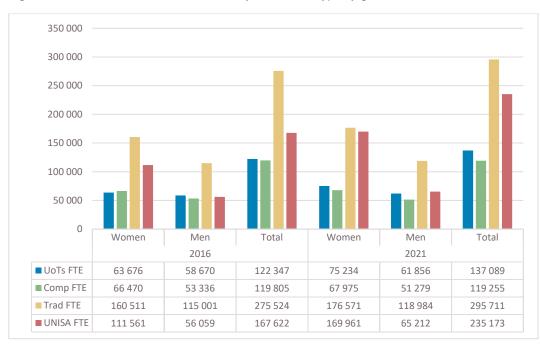


Figure 83: Public universities enrolments by institutional type and qualification level

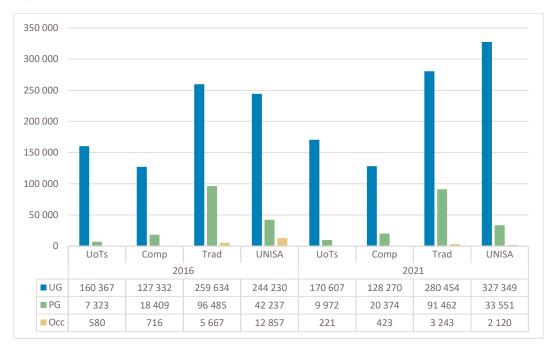


Figure 84: Public universities enrolments by institutional type and undergraduate qualifications

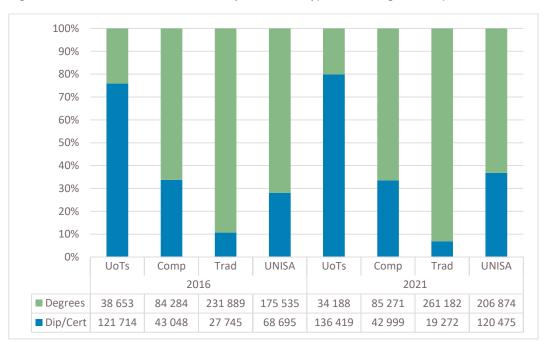
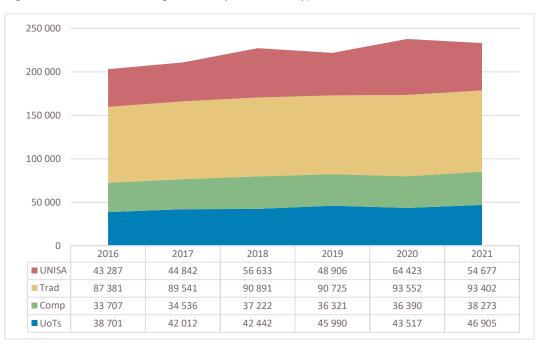


Figure 85: Public universities enrolments by institutional type and postgraduate qualifications



Figure 86: Public universities graduates by institutional type



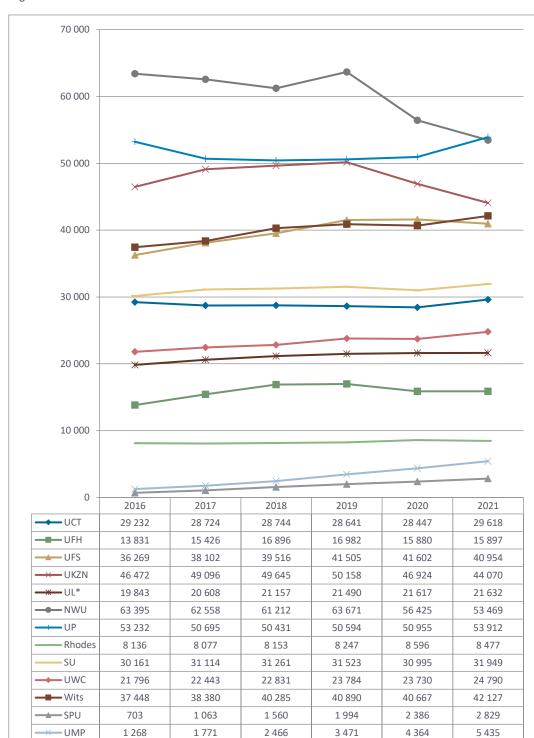


Figure 87: Public universities enrolments at traditional Universities

Figure 88: Public universities enrolments at Universities of Technology

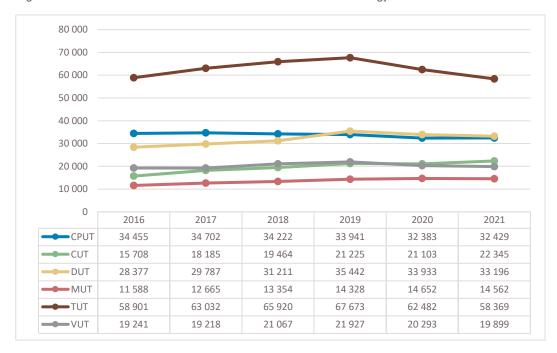
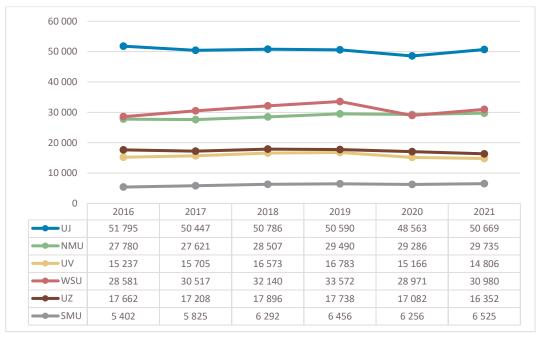


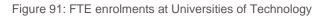
Figure 89: Public universities enrolments at Comprehensive Universities



<sup>\*</sup> SMU started enrolling students from 2015.

450 000 400 000 350 000 300 000 250 000 200 000 150 000 100 000 50 000 0 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 UNISA HC 299 324 344 015 373 979 342 797 392 050 363 020 UNISA FTE 167 622 200 546 227 492 199 485 253 457 235 173

Figure 90: Public universities headcount vs FTE enrolments at UNISA



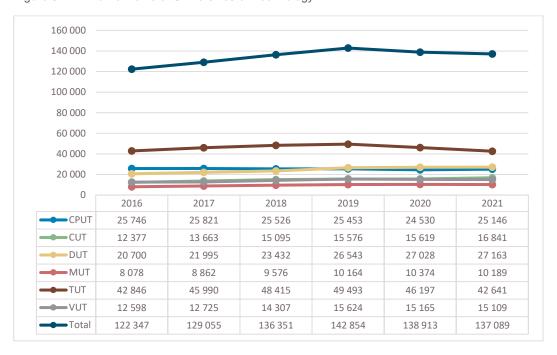


Figure 92: FTE enrolments at traditional Universities

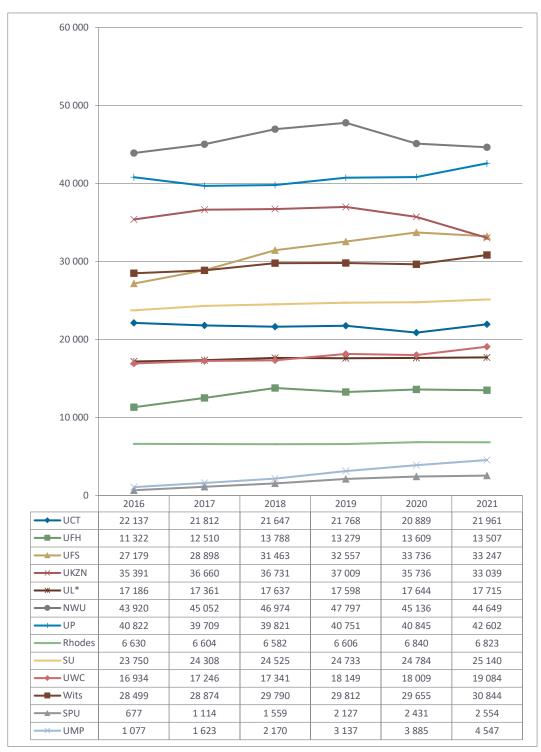
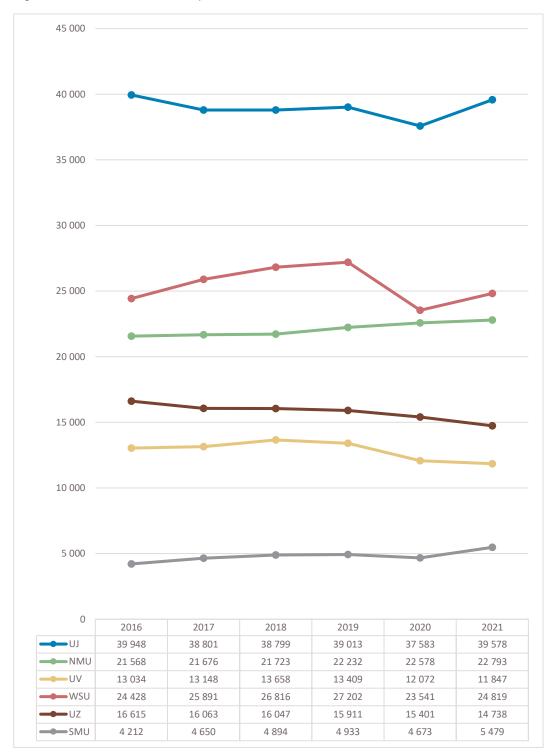


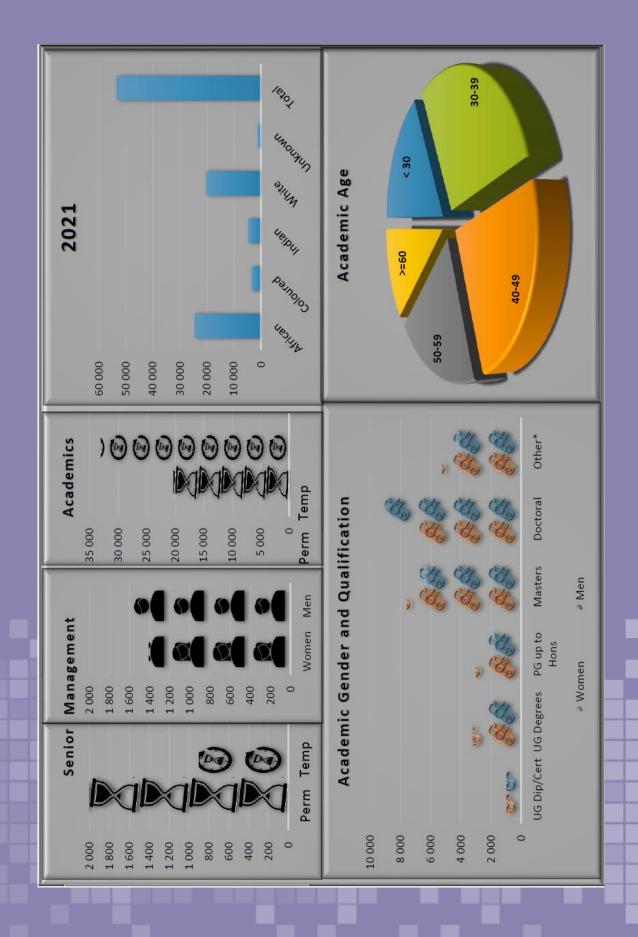
Figure 93: FTE enrolments at Comprehensive Universities



## STUDENT DATA BY INSTITUTIONAL TYPE

## STAFF COMPLEMENT





## **Overall Staffing\***

Figure 94: Headcount permanent vs. temporary staff members

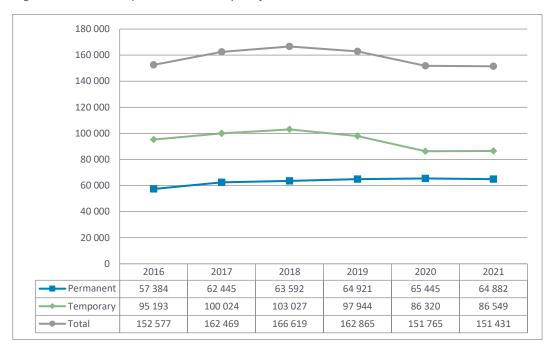


Figure 95: Proportion of permanent vs. temporary staff members

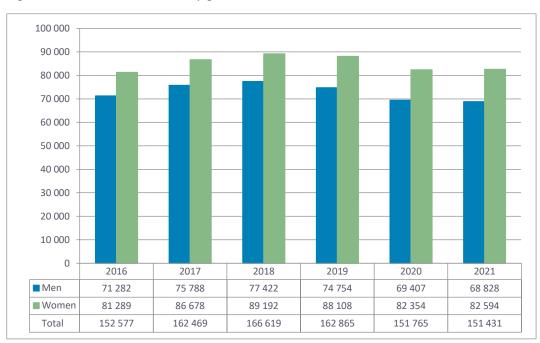


<sup>\*</sup> The Unknown category is not displayed, but not omitted. Rounded off percentages may not always add up to 100%. The most recent HEMIS data in this section were extracted by DHET in December 2020.

Figure 96: Headcount overall staff members by race



Figure 97: Headcount overall staff by gender



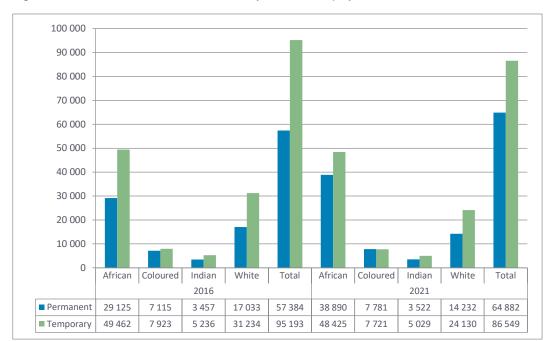


Figure 98: Headcount overall staff members by race and employment status



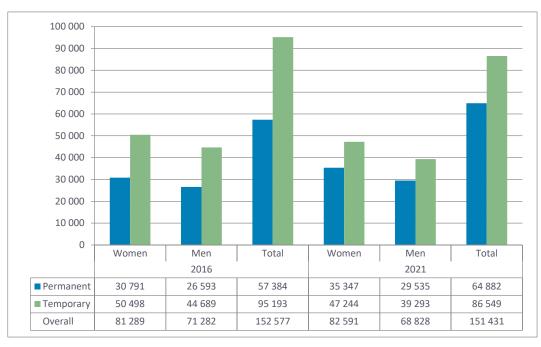


Figure 100: Headcount staff in selected personnel categories by race

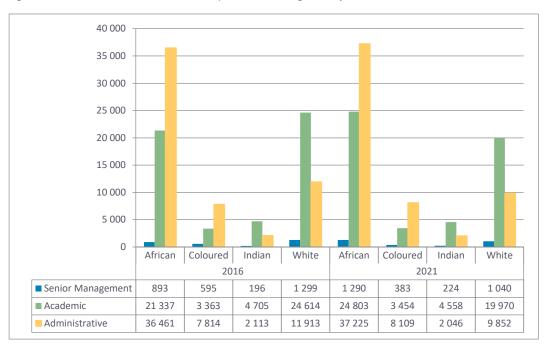


Figure 101: Headcount Staff at Universities of Technology



14 381

14 879

15 001

6 000 5 000 4 000 3 000 2 000 1 000 0 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 ■ CPUT 3 049 3 743 3 719 3 652 3 539 3 555 ■ CUT 1 419 1 548 1 146 1 251 1 264 1 373 DUT 1 605 1 715 1 918 1 699 1 772 1814 ■ TUT 4 945 5 433 5 104 5 596 5 085 5 309 ■ VUT 1 926 2 102 2 017 2 034 1 888 1 860 **■** MUT 950 699 695 684 683 689

14 501

Figure 102: FTE Staff at Universities of Technology

Figure 103: Headcount vs FTE staff at UNISA

14 822

13 894

Total

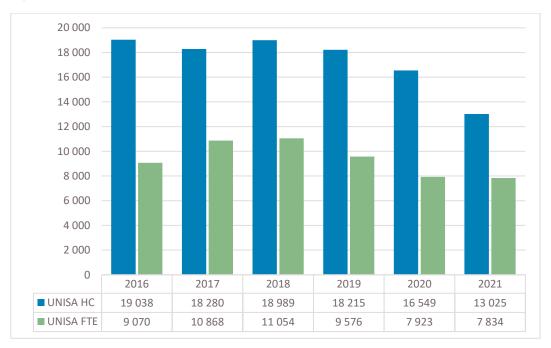


Figure 104: Headcount staff at traditional Universities

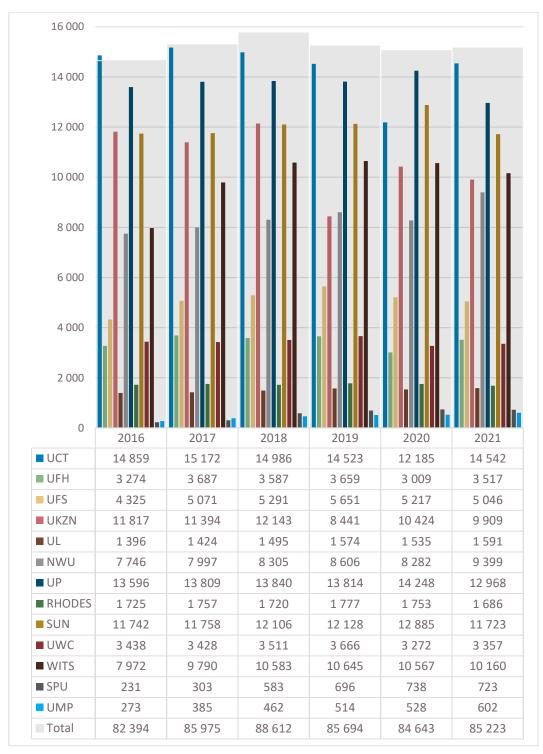


Figure 105: FTE staff at traditional Universities

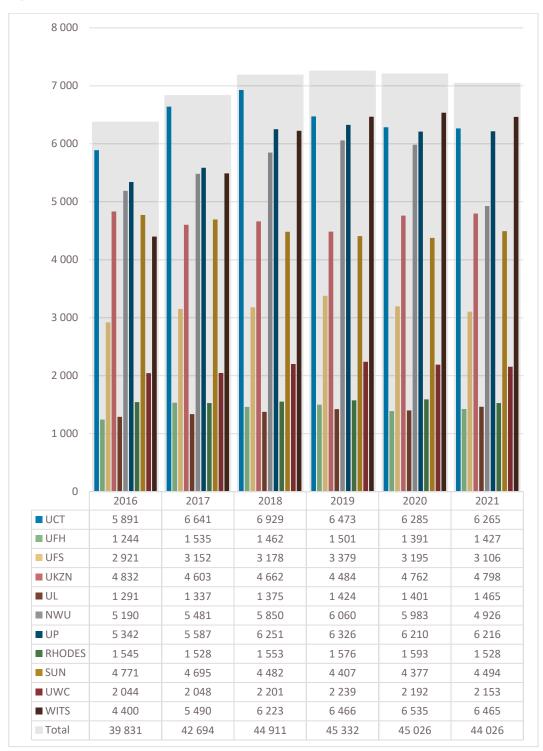


Figure 106: Headcount staff at Comprehensive Universities

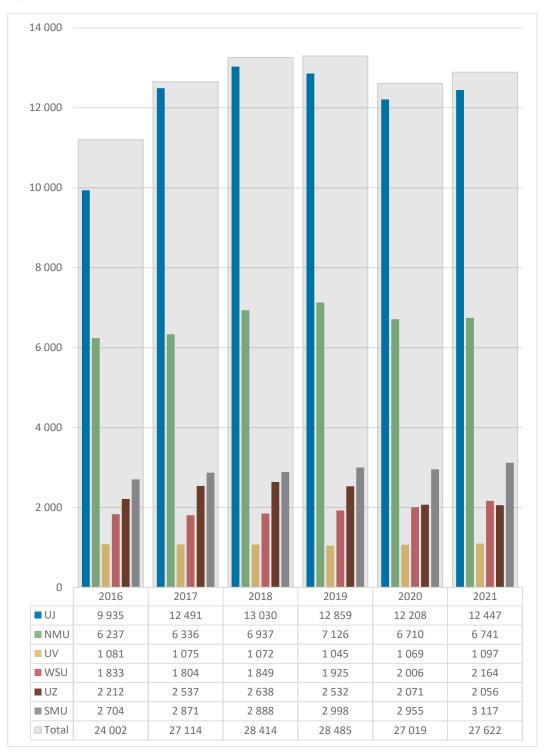
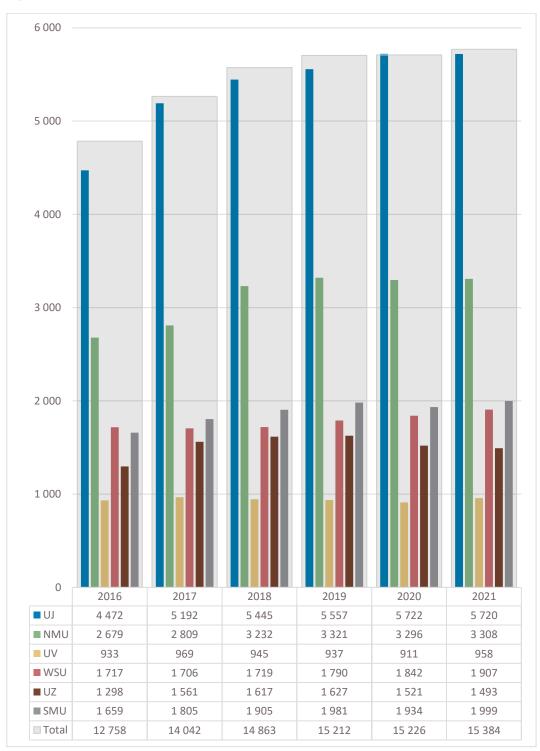


Figure 107: FTE staff at Comprehensive Universities



# Senior management staff

Figure 108: Headcount senior management staff by employment status

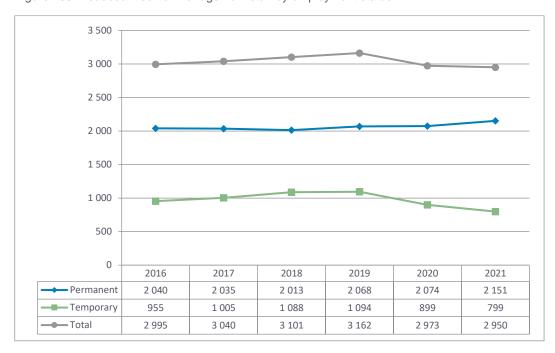
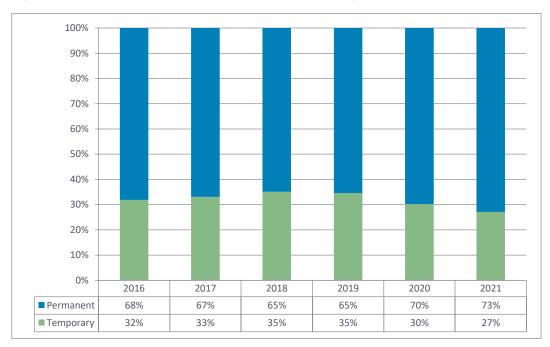


Figure 109: Proportion of permanent vs. temporary senior management staff



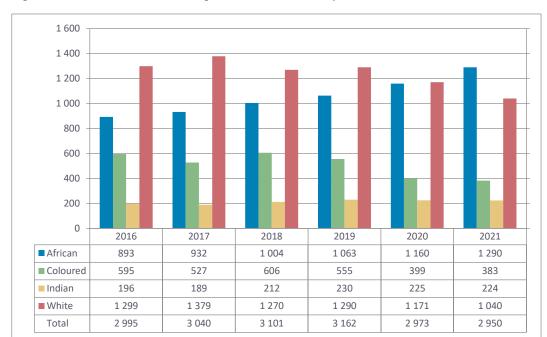


Figure 110: Headcount senior management staff members by race



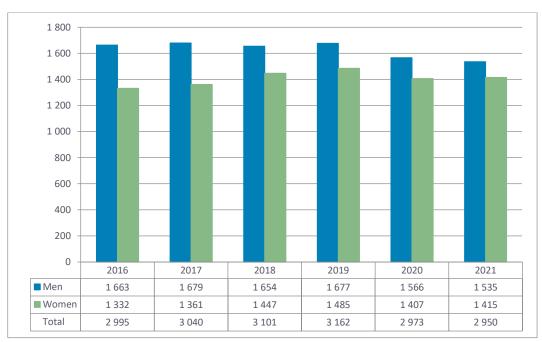


Figure 112: Headcount senior management staff members by race and employment status

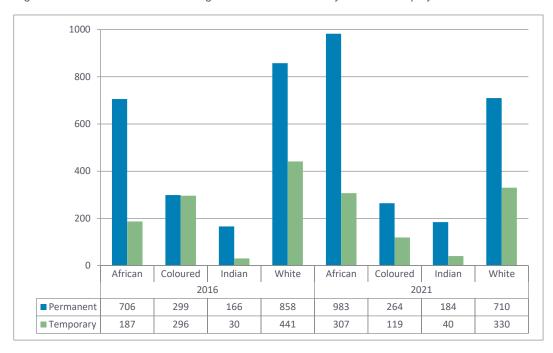
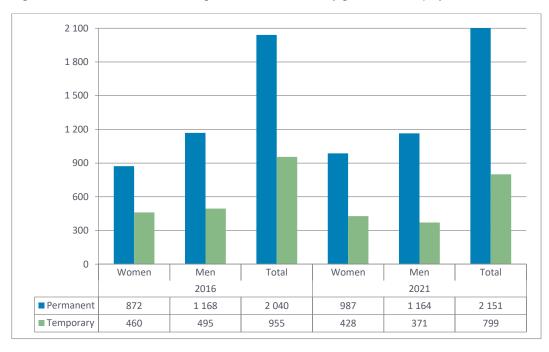


Figure 113: Headcount senior management staff members by gender and employment status



## **Academic staff**

Figure 114: Headcount academic staff members by employment status

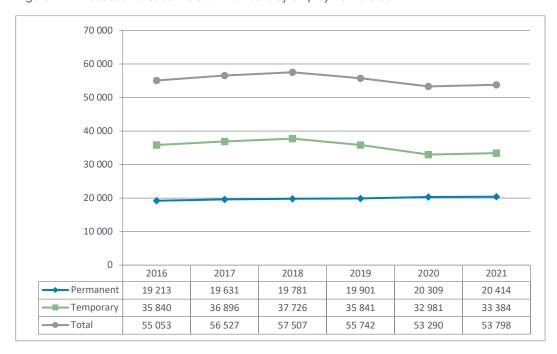


Figure 115: Proportion of permanent vs. temporary academic staff members

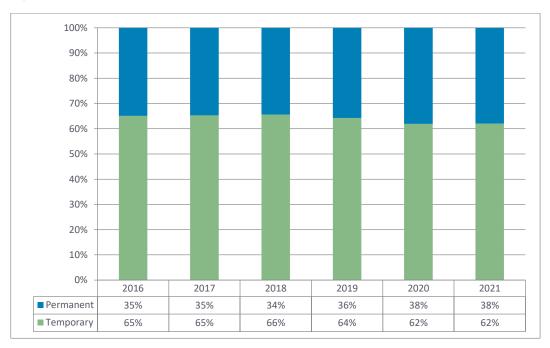


Figure 116: Headcount academic staff members by race

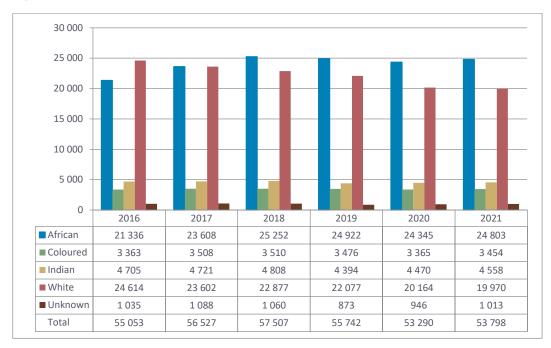


Figure 117: Headcount academic staff members by gender

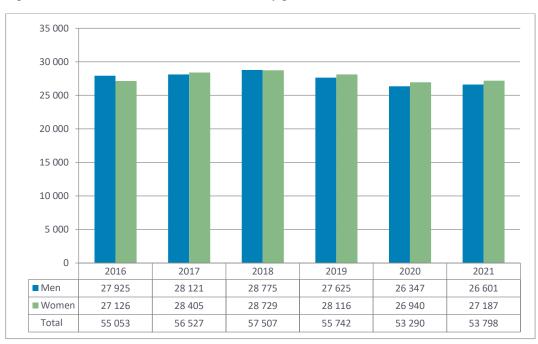


Figure 118: Headcount academic staff members by race and employment status

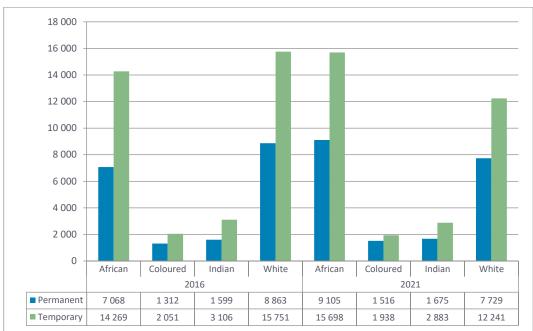


Figure 119: Headcount academic staff members by gender and employment status



Figure 120: Headcount academic staff by race and qualification level

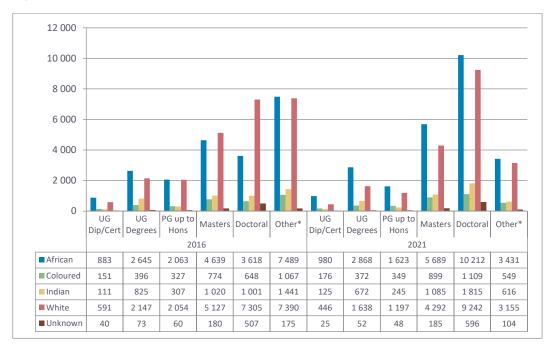
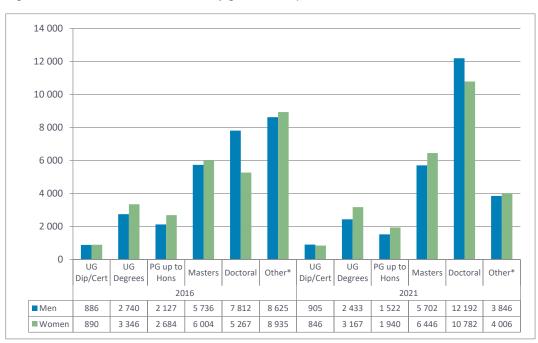


Figure 121: Headcount academic staff by gender and qualification level



5 000 4 500 4 000 3 500 3 000 2 500 2 000 1 500 1 000 500 0 UG UG PG up to UG UG PG up to Masters Doctoral Other\* Masters Doctoral Other\* Dip/Cert Degrees Dip/Cert Degrees Hons Hons 2016 2021 3 305 African 2 886 2 409 4 325 126 738 775 134 138 664 572 101 ■ Coloured 38 100 504 27 Indian 23 166 125 597 672 16 18 110 78 574 886 9 ■ White 111 407 682 2 768 4 755 140 58 232 298 2 017 5 048 76 ■Unknown 73 287 322

Figure 122: Headcount permanent academic staff by race and qualification level

Figure 123: Headcount permanent academic staff by gender and qualification level

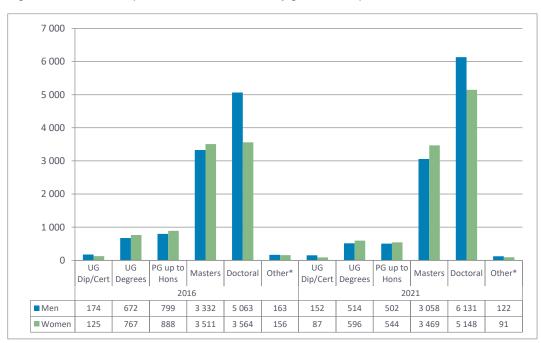


Figure 124: Headcount academic staff rank.

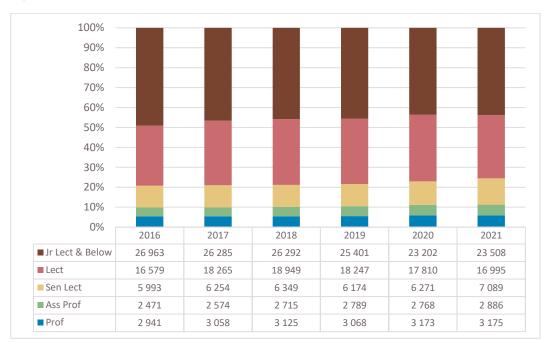


Figure 125: Headcount permanent academic staff rank.



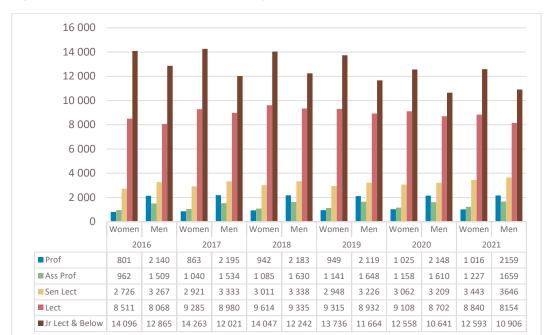


Figure 126: Headcount academic staff rank by gender

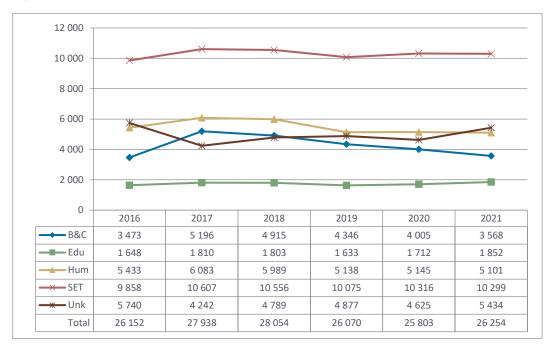
Figure 127: Headcount academic staff members by age grouping



Figure 128: Headcount permanent academic staff members by age grouping



Figure 129: FTE academic staff members by field of study



## **Administrative staff**

Figure 130: Headcount administrative staff members by employment status

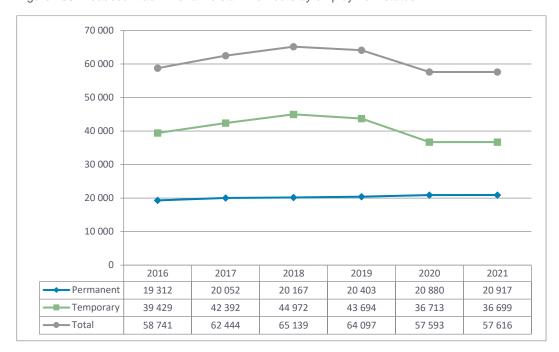


Figure 131: Proportion of permanent vs. temporary administrative staff members

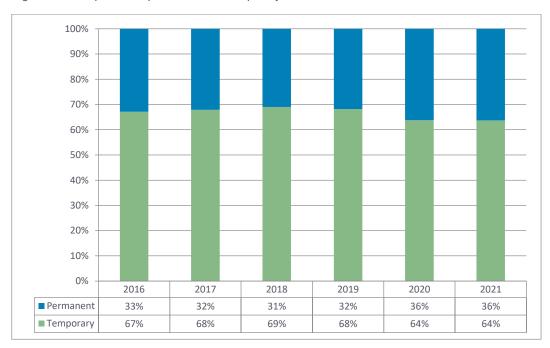


Figure 132: Headcount administrative staff members by race

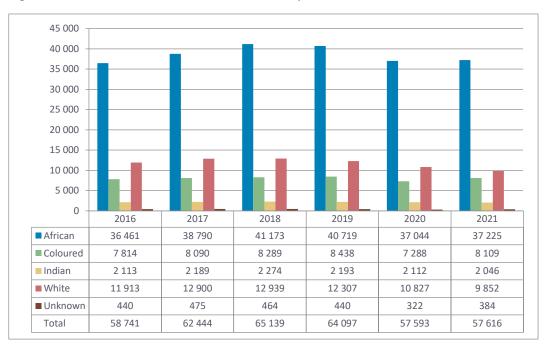
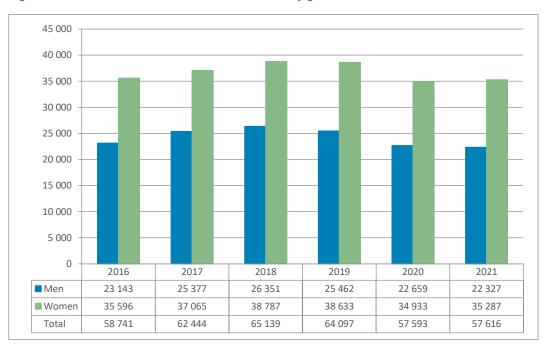


Figure 133: Headcount administrative staff members by gender



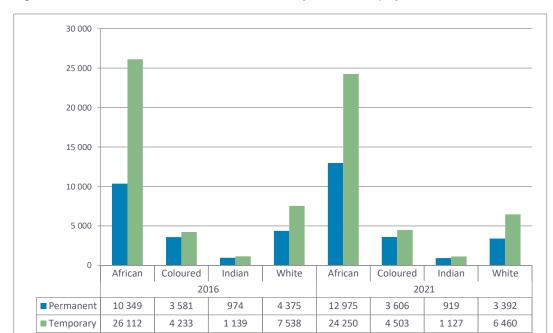


Figure 134: Headcount administrative staff members by race and employment status



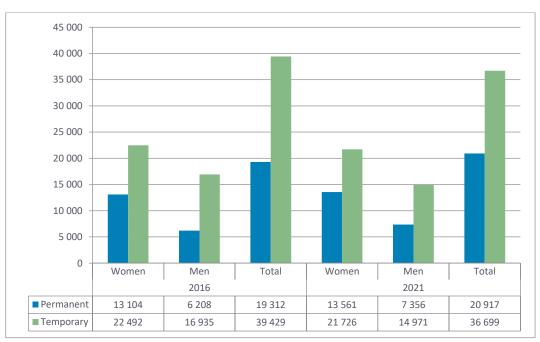
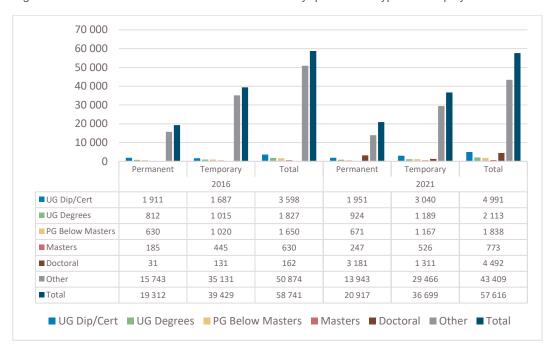
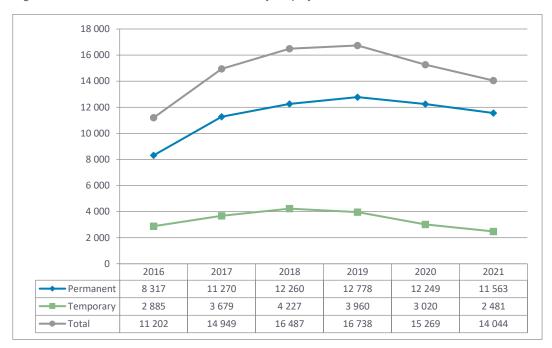


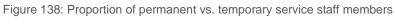
Figure 136: Headcount administrative staff members by qualification type and employment status



#### Service staff

Figure 137: Headcount service staff members by employment status





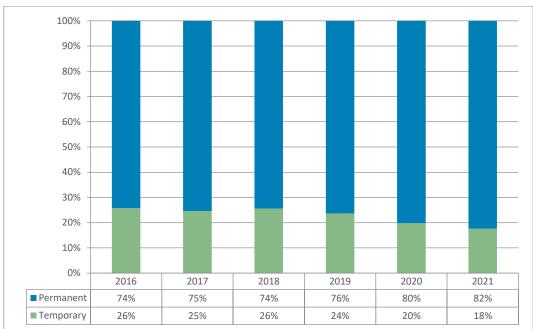


Figure 139: Headcount service staff members by race

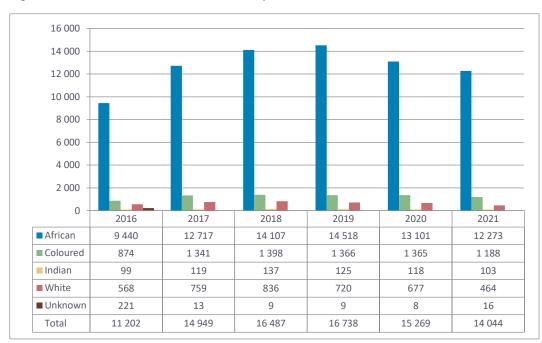


Figure 140: Headcount service staff members by gender

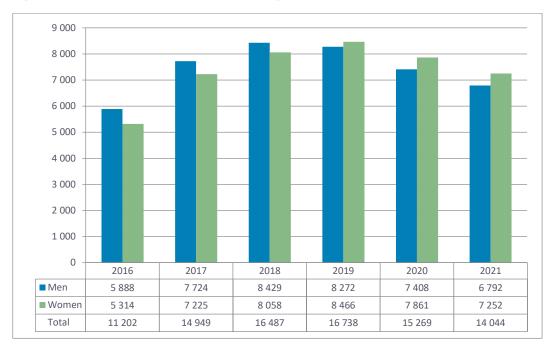
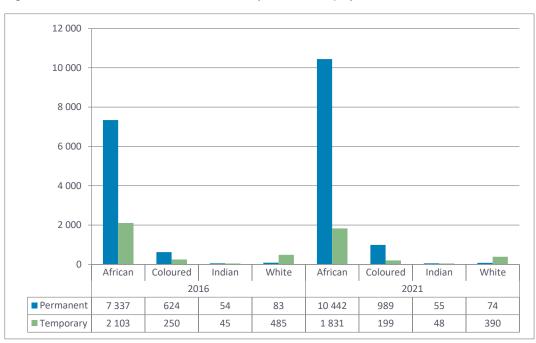


Figure 141: Headcount service staff members by race and employment status



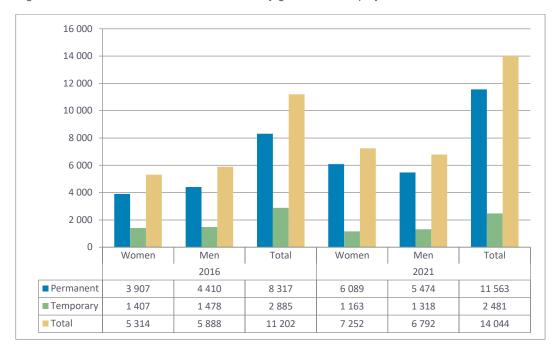


Figure 142: Headcount service staff members by gender and employment status

## Student: staff ratios

Figure 143: FTE Student: Staff ratio

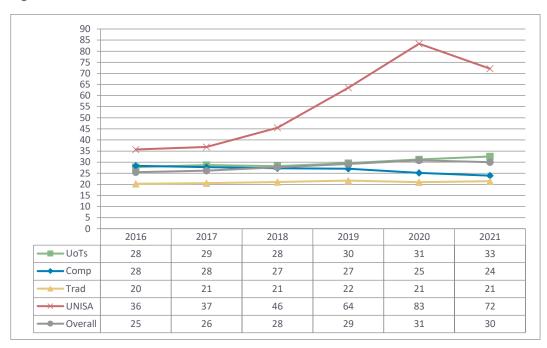


Figure 144: Headcount Student: Staff ratio for permanent and temporary academic staff together and permanent academic staff only

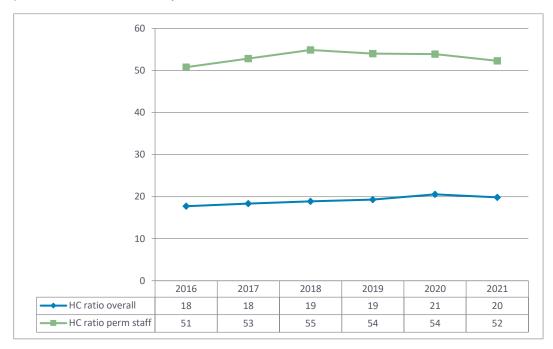
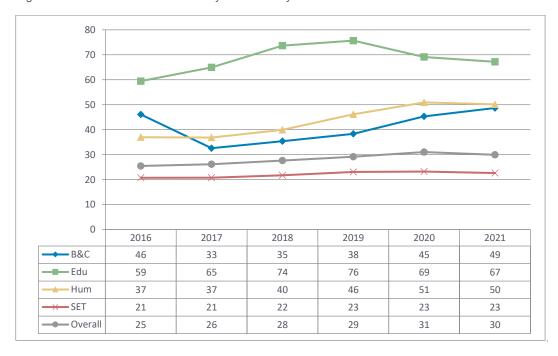
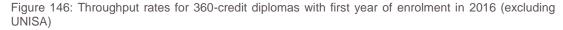


Figure 145: FTE Student: Staff ratio by field of study







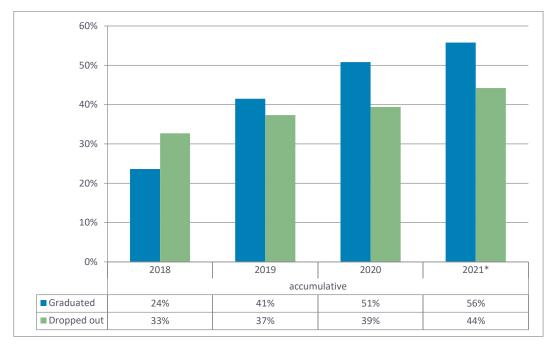
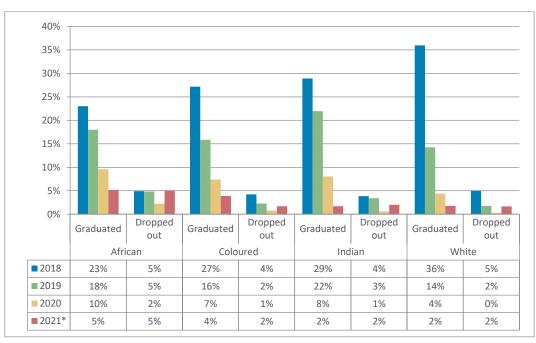


Figure 147: Throughput rates by race for 360-credit diplomas with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA) - non-accumulative.

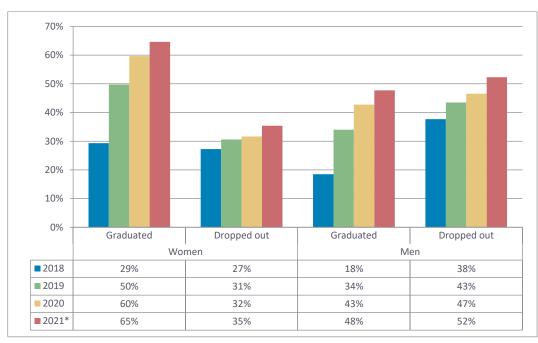


<sup>\*</sup> There may be potential graduates remaining in the system after 2021.

Figure 148: Throughput rates by race for 360-credit diplomas with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA) – accumulative.



Figure 149: Throughput rates by gender for 360-credit diplomas with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA) – accumulative



<sup>\*</sup> There may be potential graduates remaining in the system after 2021.

Figure 150: Throughput rates for 3-year degrees with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)

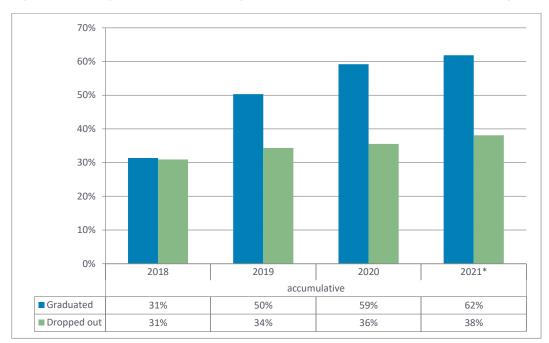
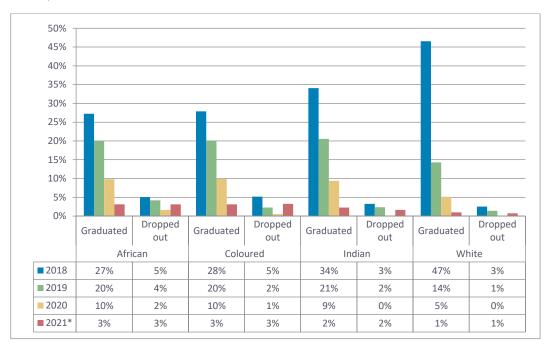


Figure 151: Throughput rates by race for 3-year degrees with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA) - non-accumulative



#### **COHORT STUDY**

Figure 152: Throughput rates by race for 3-year degrees with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA) – accumulative

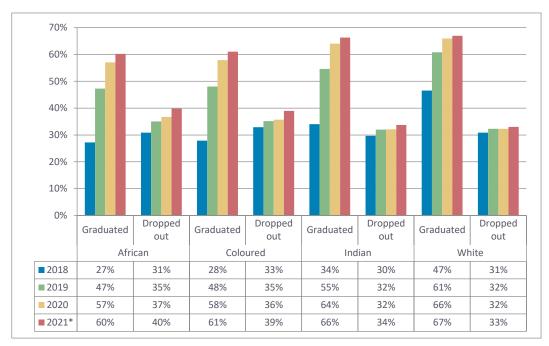
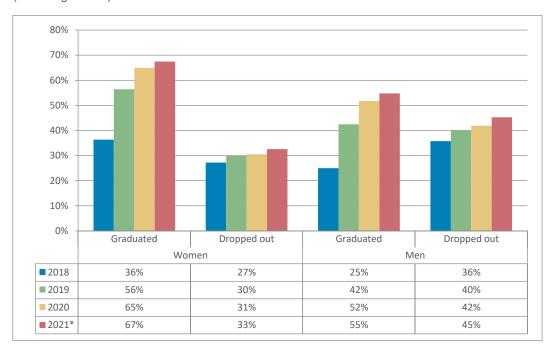


Figure 153: Throughput rates by gender for 3-year degrees with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA) – accumulative



<sup>\*</sup> There may be potential graduates remaining in the system after 2021.

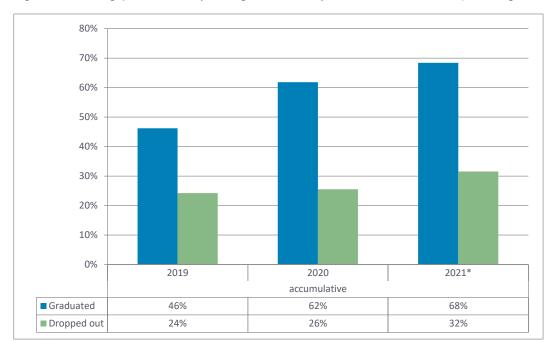
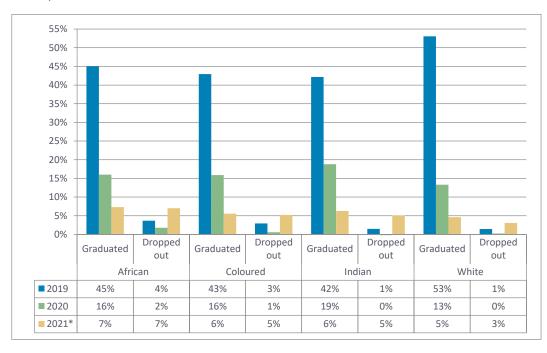


Figure 154: Throughput rates for 4-year degrees with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)

Figure 155: Throughput rates by race for 4-year degrees with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA) - non-accumulative



<sup>\*</sup> There may be potential graduates remaining in the system after 2021.

Figure 156: Throughput rates by race for 4-year degrees with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA) – accumulative

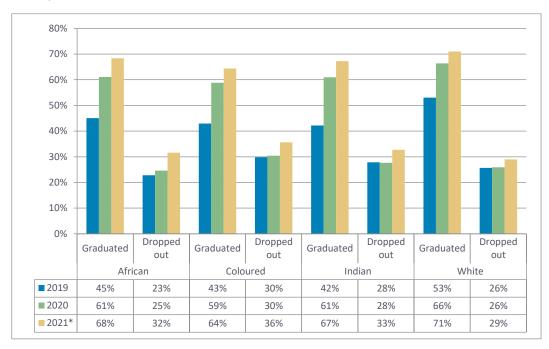
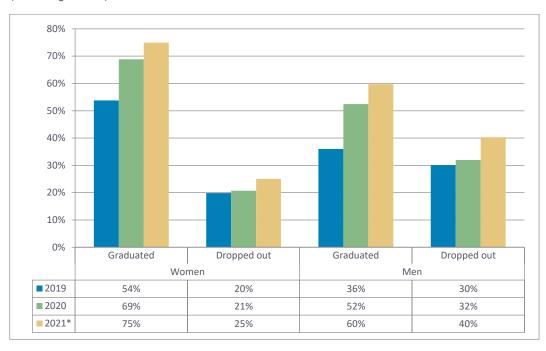


Figure 157: Throughput rates by gender for 4-year degrees with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA) – accumulative



## 360-credit diplomas by broad field

Figure 158: Percentage of the 2016 cohort doing 360-credit diplomas that graduated in 6 years or by 2021\*\*

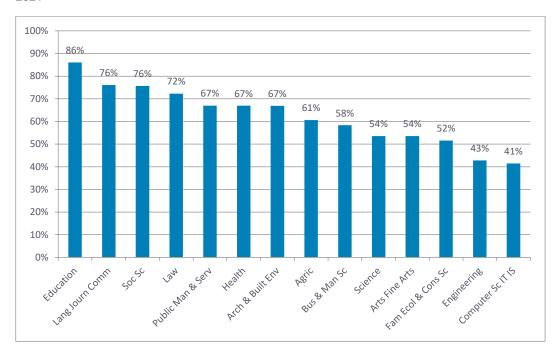
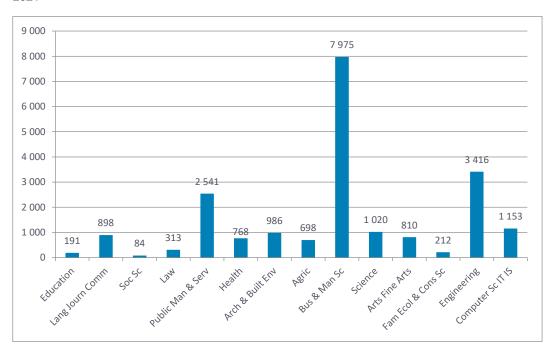


Figure 159: Headcount of the 2016 cohort doing 360-credit diplomas that graduated in 6 years or by 2021



<sup>\*</sup> There may be potential graduates remaining in the system after 2021.

<sup>\*\*</sup> A detailed list of the specific knowledge areas included for each broad field can be found in Appendix 3.

Only the fields with the highest numbers are shown in the graphs for 360-credit diplomas below.

VitalStats 2021

Figure 160: Throughput rates for 360-credit diplomas (Business & Management Sciences) with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)

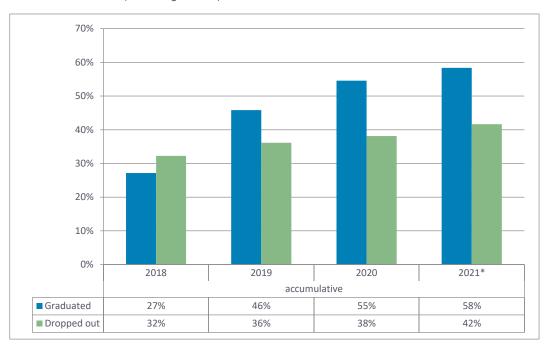
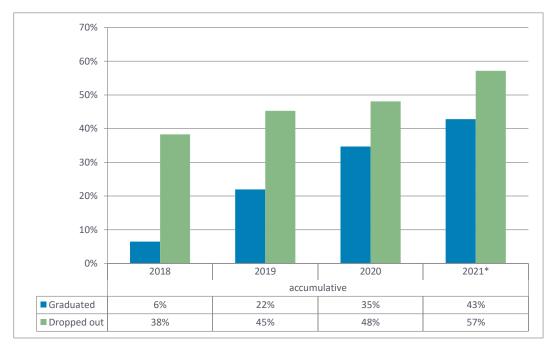


Figure 161: Throughput rates for 360-credit diplomas (Engineering) with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)



 $<sup>^{\</sup>star}$  There may be potential graduates remaining in the system after 2021.

Figure 162: Throughput rates for 360-credit diplomas (Public Management & Services) with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)

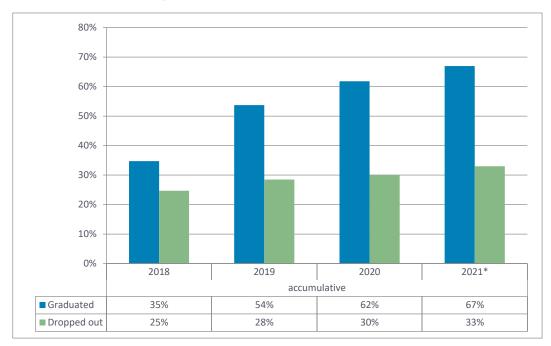


Figure 163: Throughput rates for 360-credit diplomas (Computer Science, Information Technology & Information Systems) with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)

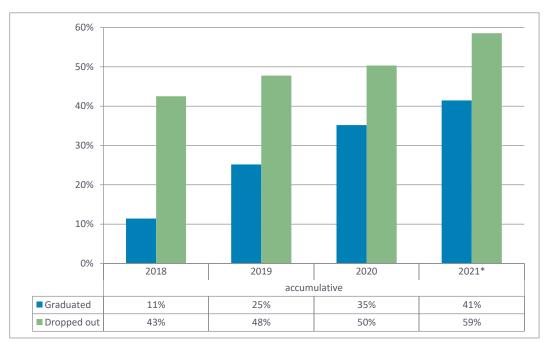


Figure 164: Throughput rates for 360-credit diplomas (Science) with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)

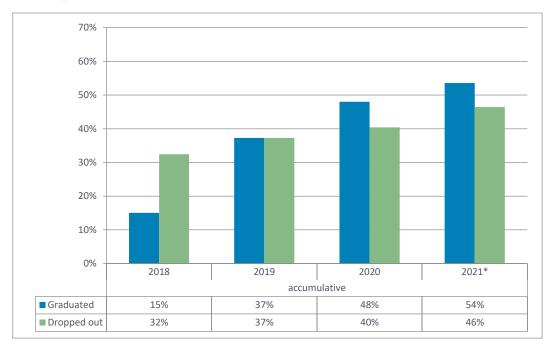
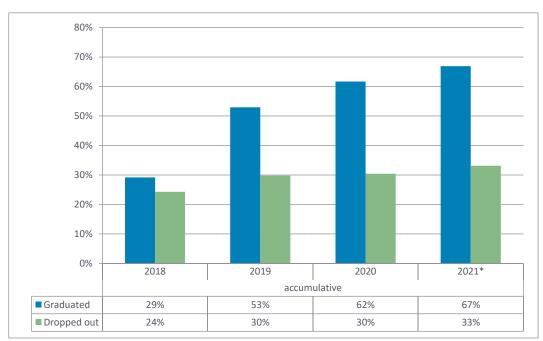


Figure 165: Throughput rates for 360-credit diplomas (Architecture and Build Env) with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)



## 3-year degrees by broad field\*\*

Figure 166: Percentage of the 2016 cohort doing a 3-year degree that graduated in 6 years or by 2021.

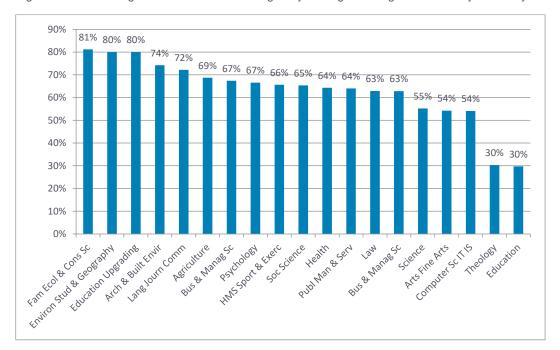
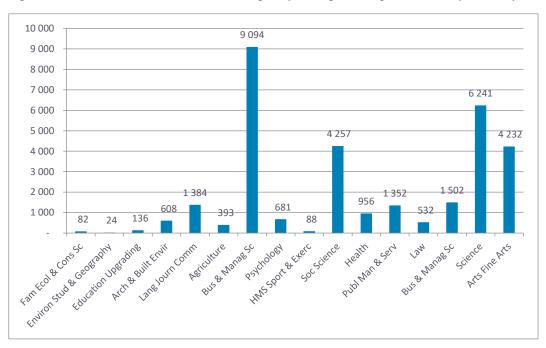


Figure 167: Headcount of the 2016 cohort doing a 3-year degree that graduated in 6 years or by 2021



<sup>\*</sup> There may be potential graduates remaining in the system after 2021.

<sup>\*\*</sup> A detailed list of the specific knowledge areas included for each broad field can be found in Appendix 3. Only the fields with the highest numbers are shown in the graphs for 3-year degrees below.

Figure 168: Throughput rates for 3-year degrees (Business & Management Sciences) with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)

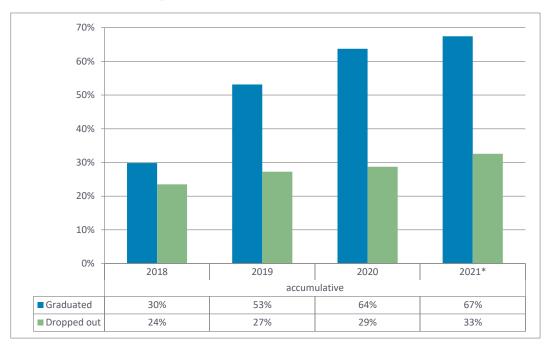


Figure 169: Throughput rates for 3-year degrees (Science) with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)

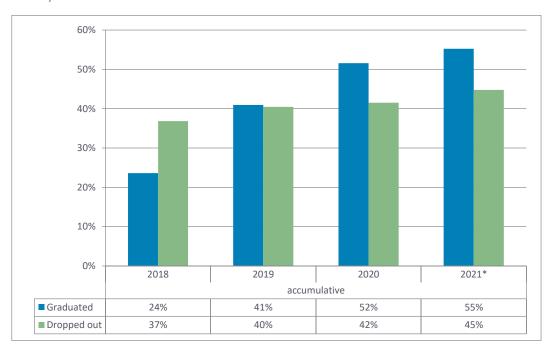


Figure 170: Throughput rates for 3-year degrees (Social Science) with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)

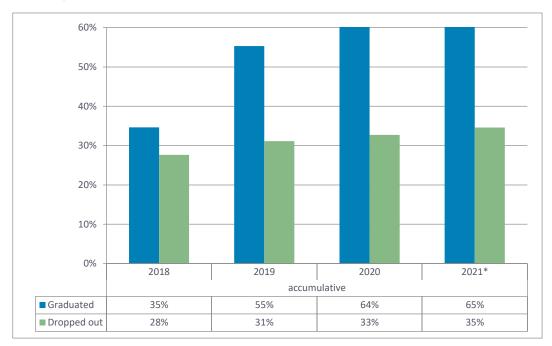


Figure 171: Throughput rates for 3-year degrees (Arts and Fine Arts) with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)

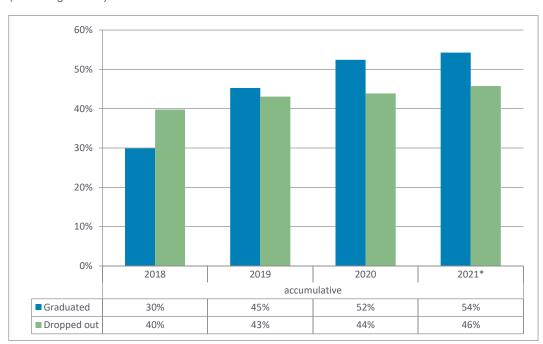
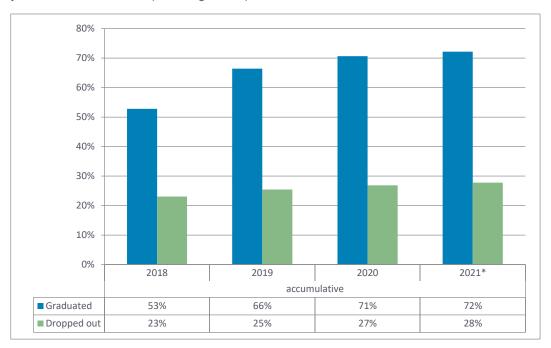
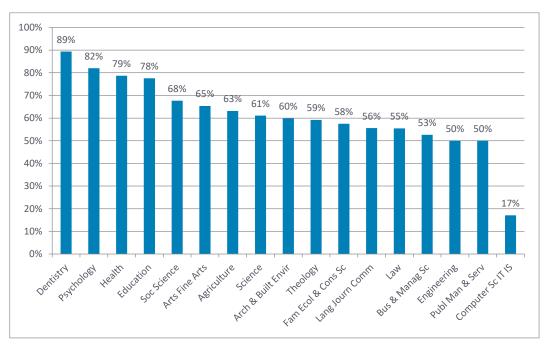


Figure 172: Throughput rates for 3-year degrees (Language, Journalism & Communication) with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)



## 4-year degrees by broad field\*

Figure 173: Percentage of the 2016 cohort doing 4-year degrees that graduated in 6 years or by 2021.



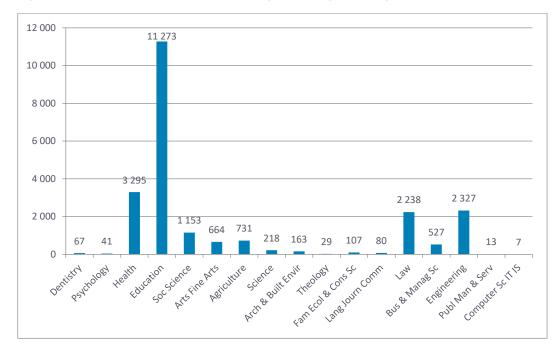
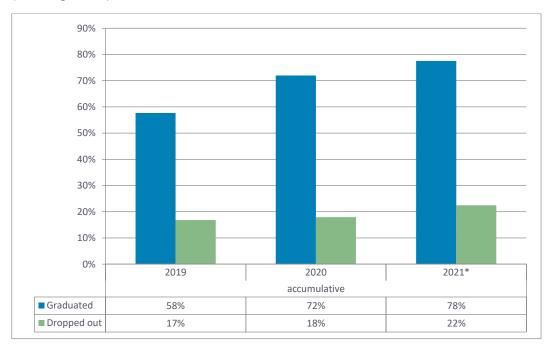


Figure 174: Headcount of the 2016 cohort doing 4-year degrees that graduated in 6 years or by 2021

Figure 175: Throughput rates for 4-year degrees (Education) with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)



<sup>\*</sup> A detailed list of the specific knowledge areas included for each broad field can be found in Appendix 3. Only the fields with the highest numbers are shown in the graphs for 4-year degrees.

Figure 176: Throughput rates for 4-year degrees (Health) with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)

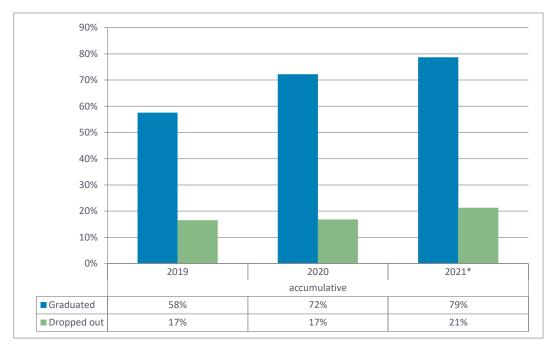


Figure 177: Throughput rates for 4-year degrees (Engineering) with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)

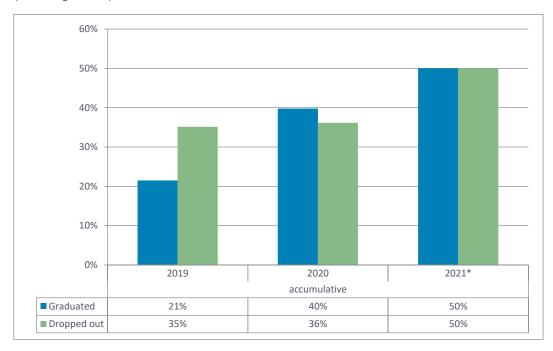


Figure 178: Throughput rates for 4-year degrees (Law) with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)

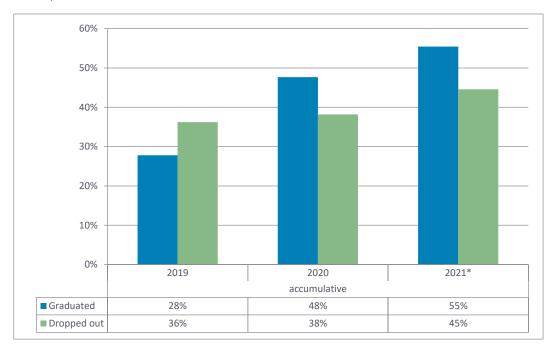


Figure 179: Throughput rates for 4-year degrees (Social Science) with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)

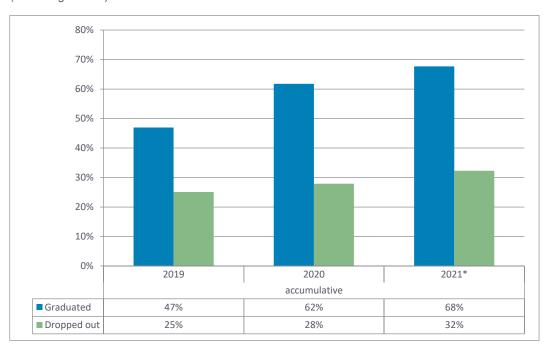


Figure 180: Throughput rates for 4-year degrees (Agriculture) with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)

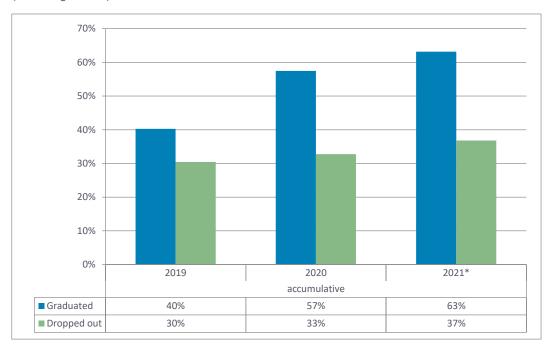


Figure 181: Throughput within regulation time up to n+2 years for 360-credit diplomas, 3-year degrees, 4-year degrees and weighted national rate with first enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)

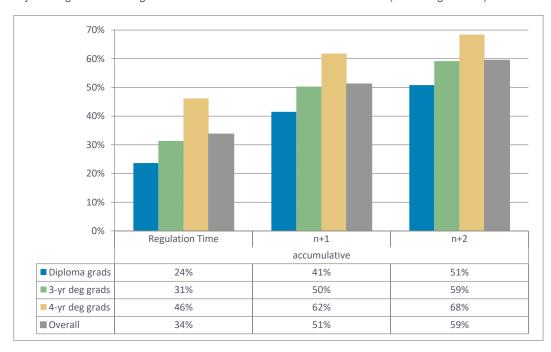


Figure 182: Accumulative throughput comparison of 2014, 2015 and 2016 cohorts finishing within regulation time up to n+2 years for 3-year diplomas, 3-year degrees, 4-year degrees and weighted national rate (excluding UNISA)



Figure 183: Throughput comparison of 2014, 2015 and 2016 cohorts from regulation time up to n+3 years for 360-credit diplomas (excluding UNISA)

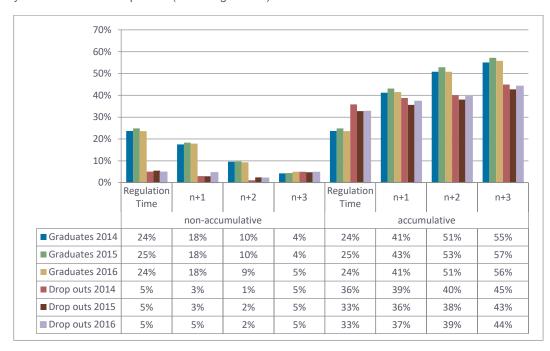


Figure 184: Throughput comparison of 2014, 2015 and 2016 cohorts from regulation time up to n+3 years for 3-year degrees (excluding UNISA)

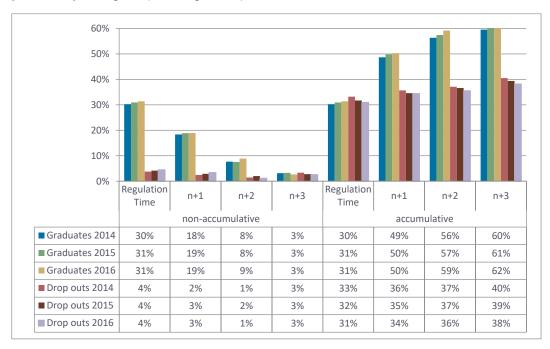
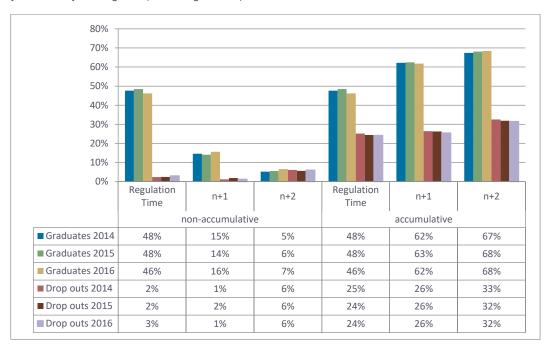


Figure 185: Throughput comparison of 2014, 2015 and 2016 cohorts from regulation time up to n+2 years for 4-year degrees (excluding UNISA)



## **UNISA\*\***

Figure 186: Throughput rates at UNISA for 360-credit diplomas with first year of enrolment in 2014

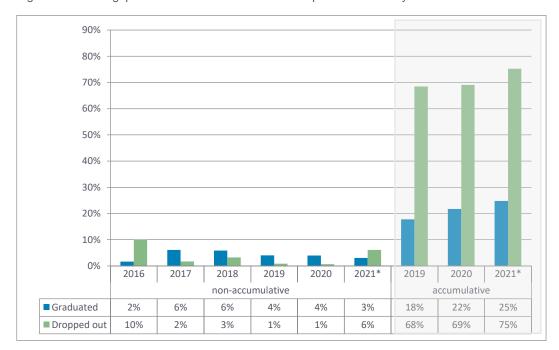
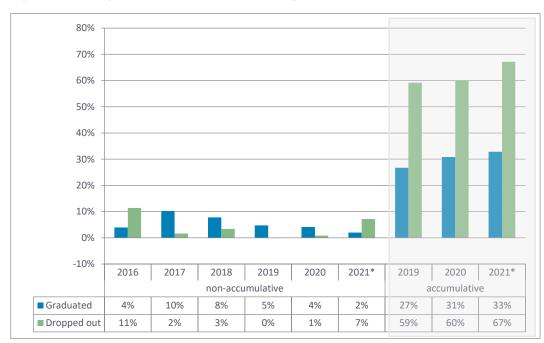


Figure 187: Throughput rates at UNISA for 3-year degrees with first year of enrolment in 2014



<sup>\*</sup> There may be potential graduates remaining in the system after 2021.

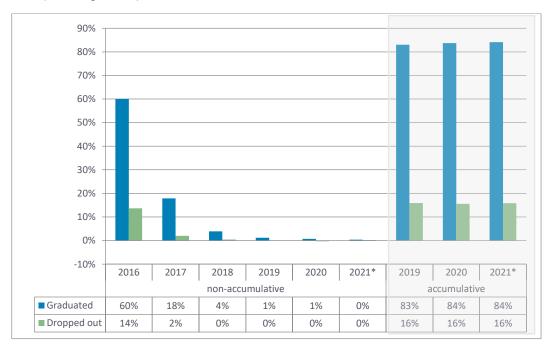
\*\* The different mode of study (distance and often part-time) at the University of South Africa (UNISA), impacts on the time it takes a student to graduate. These completion rates cannot be compared to those for the sector as a whole.

Figure 188: Throughput rates at UNISA for 4-year degrees with first year of enrolment in 2014



## **Postgraduates**

Figure 189: Throughput rates for postgraduate diplomas or certificates with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)



<sup>\*</sup> There may be potential graduates remaining in the system after 2021. The negative percentages (e.g. -0.3) show those students that returned after stopping out.



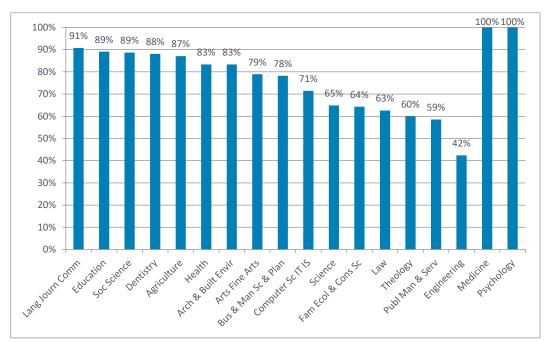


Figure 191: Headcount of the 2016 cohort doing postgraduate diplomas or certificates that graduated in 3 years or by 2018 (excluding UNISA)

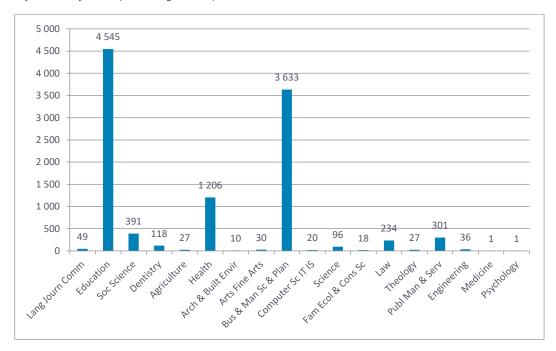


Figure 192: Percentage of the 2016 cohort doing Honours that graduated in 3 years or by 2018

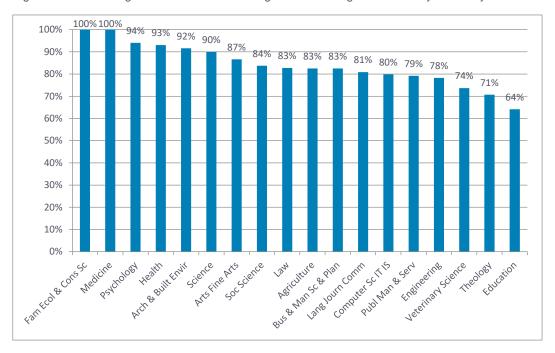
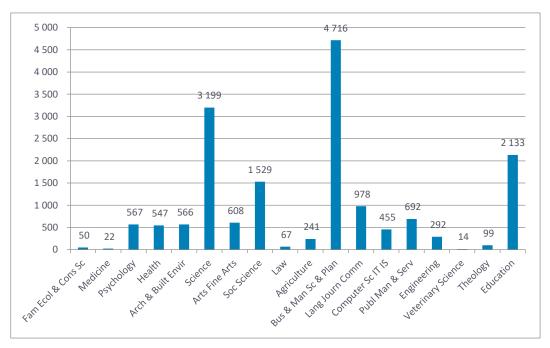


Figure 193: Headcount of the 2016 cohort doing Honours that graduated in 3 years or by 2018



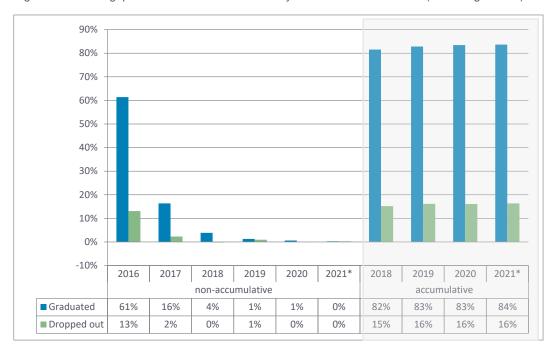
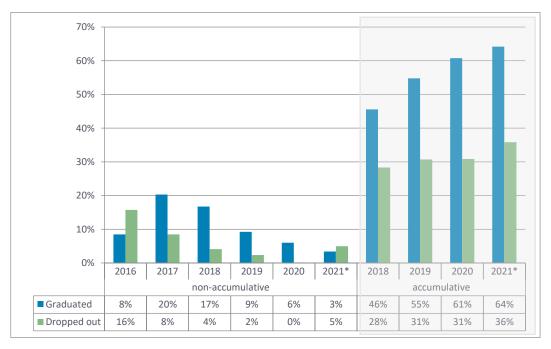


Figure 194: Throughput rates for Honours with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)

Figure 195: Throughput rates for coursework Masters with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)



<sup>\*</sup> There may be potential graduates remaining in the system after 2020.

Figure 196: Percentage of the 2016 cohort doing coursework Masters that graduated in 4 years or by 2019

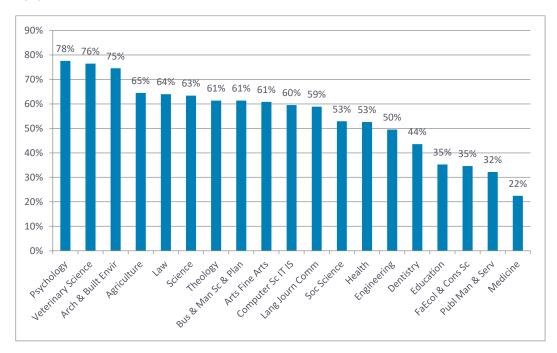
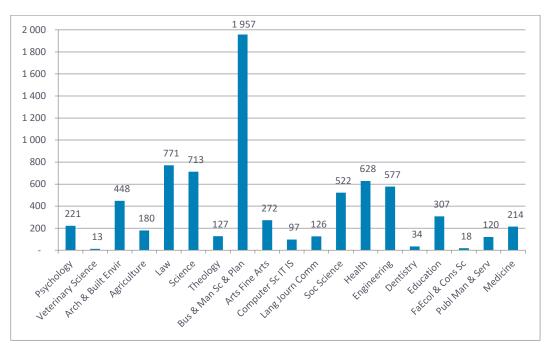


Figure 197: Headcount of the 2016 cohort doing coursework Masters that graduated in 4 years or by 2019



## **Appendix 1:**

## Public institutions by institutional type

### Traditional Universities

North-West University (NWU)

Rhodes University (RU)

University of Cape Town (UCT)

University of Fort Hare (UFH)

University of the Free State (UFS)

University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN)

University of Limpopo (UL)

University of Pretoria (UP)

University of Stellenbosch (SU)

University of the Western Cape (UWC)

University of the Witwatersrand (Wits)

Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University (SMU)

University of Mpumalanga (UMP)

## Comprehensive Universities

Nelson Mandela University (NMU)

Sol Plaatjie University (SPU)

University of Johannesburg (UJ)

University of South Africa (UNISA)

University of Venda (UV)

University of Zululand (UZ)

Walter Sisulu University (WSU)

## Universities of Technology

Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT)

Central University of Technology (CUT)

Durban University of Technology (DUT)

Mangosuthu University of Technology (MUT)

Tshwane University of Technology (TUT)

Vaal University of Technology (VUT)

## **Appendix 2:**

# Classification of Educational Subject Matter (CESM) categories

CESM 01:	Agriculture, Agricultural Operations and Related Sciences
CESM 02:	Architecture and the Built Environment
CESM 03:	Visual and Performing Arts
CESM 04:	Business, Economics and Management Studies
CESM 05:	Communication, Journalism and Related Studies
CESM 06:	Computer and Information Sciences
CESM 07:	Education
CESM 08:	Engineering
CESM 09:	Health Professions and Related Clinical Sciences
CESM 10:	Family Ecology and Consumer Sciences
CESM 11:	Languages, Linguistics and Literature
CESM 12:	Law
CESM 13:	Life Sciences
CESM 14:	Physical Sciences
CESM 15:	Mathematics and Statistics
CESM 16:	Military Sciences
CESM 17:	Philosophy, Religion and Theology
CESM 18:	Psychology
CESM 19:	Public Management and Services
CESM 20:	Social Sciences

## **Appendix 3:**

Cohort methodology and list of specific knowledge areas included in the broad fields used in the cohort study.

## Methodological note for cohort analysis

Based on CESM categories and qualifiers, qualifications were recoded into uniform qualification names for the purpose of uniformity and to reduce the number of groups to be analysed. These groupings are shown in this Appendix.

Student cohorts were then defined and identified as follows:

- At undergraduate level (for first qualifications), a cohort comprised the first-time entering students in a particular year, in the relevant qualification group who were selected as the new entrants.
- For honours and postgraduate diplomas and certificates the cohort comprised new entrants made up of students from all three categories; namely, first-time entering, transfer and entering.
- For masters and doctoral students all students who had not been enrolled in the previous year were deemed to be new entrants.

Any student in a cohort who graduated before the minimum expected duration of a qualification was deleted from the cohort on the assumption that the entrance category of the student was incorrect, or that the student had carried credits into the qualification being analysed.

Two types of analyses were performed:

- 1. Where cohort analyses were performed by uniform qualification name, any student who discontinued his/her studies in a particular uniform qualification during the period analysed was counted as a drop-out for that particular uniform qualification classification.
- 2. An analysis was also done ignoring the uniform qualification classification, and any student who qualified in the same qualification type, which is a degree or diploma of any sort, was counted as a successful graduate. This analysis showed slightly higher completion rates. Students who discontinued their studies in the qualification type being analysed and who moved to a different qualification type e.g. from a degree to a diploma, were seen as a dropout for the degree, but a completion for the diploma.

In both analyses, students who discontinued their studies during the period of analysis and then returned (stop-outs) were discounted against the number of dropouts in the year that they returned. This accounts for the negative dropout numbers shown in some graphs. They were counted as successful if they graduated during the period analysed.

UNISA's cohort analyses are complicated by the fact that large numbers of students interrupt their studies for a number of years.

- \* Please note that all extended programmes were **included** in these groupings as they are too complex to exclude
- \*\* These cohort analyses address a particular research question: Of those students entering in a particular qualification, what is the throughput within that particular qualification.

It does not consider students who entered in a particular qualification, dropped out of that qualification to enter under a different qualification. Such students are considered dropouts.

VitalStats 2021 121

# Appendix 4:

# **Table of Figures**

rigure 1: Public universities enforments by entrance category	3
Figure 2: Public universities enrolment entrance categories by race	3
Figure 3: Public universities enrolment entrance categories by gender	
Figure 4: Public universities enrolment entrance categories by age group	4
Figure 5: Public universities enrolment entrance categories by mode of delivery	5
Figure 6: Public universities enrolment entrance categories by CESM	5
Figure 7: Public universities enrolment entrance categories by field of study	6
Figure 8: Public universities enrolment entrance categories by institutional type	7
Figure 9: Universities of Technology enrolment entrance categories	7
Figure 10: Comprehensive universities enrolment entrance categories	8
Figure 11: Traditional universities enrolment entrance categories	9
Figure 12: Headcount enrolments at public universities by race	10
Figure 13: Headcount enrolments in the higher education sector by race	10
Figure 14: Headcount enrolments at public universities by gender	11
Figure 15: Headcount enrolments in the higher education sector by gender	11
Figure 16: Headcount graduates at public universities by race	12
Figure 17: Headcount graduates in the higher education sector by race	12
Figure 18: Headcount graduates at public universities by gender	13
Figure 19: Headcount graduates in the higher education sector by gender	13
Figure 20: Public HE demographics compared to population demographics	
Figure 21: Higher education demographics compared to population demographic	
Figure 22: Public HE gender compared to population gender	
Figure 23: Higher education gender compared to population gender	
Figure 24: Higher education participation rates (GER) by race	
Figure 25: Higher education participation rates (GER) by gender	
Figure 26: Public HE headcount enrolments by age group	
Figure 27: Higher education headcount enrolments by age group	
Figure 28: Public HE headcount graduates by age group	
Figure 29: Higher education headcount graduates by age group	
Figure 30: Public universities enrolments of all non-South African students	
Figure 31: Higher education enrolments of all non-South African students	
Figure 32: Public universities graduates of all non-South African students	
Figure 33: Public universities enrolments by mode of delivery	
Figure 34: Public universities graduates by mode of delivery	
Figure 35: Public Universities enrolments by mode of delivery and race	
Figure 36: Public Universities enrolments by mode of delivery and gender	
Figure 37: Public Universities enrolments by mode of delivery and age grouped	
Figure 38: Public Universities enrolments by age grouped and race	23

Figure 39: Public Universities enrolments by age grouped and gender	23
Figure 40: Public universities enrolments by qualification level*	27
Figure 41: Higher education enrolments by qualification level	27
Figure 42: Public universities graduates by qualification level	28
Figure 43: Headcount graduates by qualification level	28
Figure 44: Public universities enrolments by qualification type and nationality	29
Figure 45: Headcount enrolments by qualification type and nationality	29
Figure 46: Public universities International enrolments by qualification type	30
Figure 47: Headcount International enrolments by qualification type and national	ity
	30
Figure 48: Public universities International graduates by qualification type	31
Figure 49: Headcount International graduates by qualification type and nationality	y 31
Figure 50: Public universities undergraduate enrolments by qualification type	
grouping	32
Figure 51: Public universities undergraduate graduates by qualification type	
grouping	
Figure 52: Public universities enrolments by degree type grouping*	
Figure 53: Public universities undergraduate degree enrolments by race	
Figure 54: Public universities undergraduate degree enrolments by gender	34
Figure 55: Public universities undergraduate degree qualifications awarded by ra	
	34
Figure 56: Public universities undergraduate degree qualifications awarded by	
gender	
Figure 57: Public universities postgraduate enrolments by race	
Figure 58: Public universities postgraduate enrolments by gender	
Figure 59: Public universities postgraduate qualifications awarded by race	
Figure 60: Public universities postgraduate qualifications awarded by gender	
Figure 61: Public universities postgraduate enrolments by age group	
Figure 62: Public universities postgraduate qualification awarded by age group	
Figure 63: Public universities enrolments by field of study*	
Figure 64: Public universities enrolments by field of study and mode of delivery	
Figure 65: Public universities enrolments by field of study and race	
Figure 66: Public universities graduates by field of study	
Figure 67: Public universities graduates by field of study and race	
Figure 68: Public universities enrolments by field of study and gender	
Figure 69: Public universities graduates by field of study and gender	
Figure 70: Public universities FTE enrolled by field of study	44
Figure 71: Public universities FTE completed by field of study	
Figure 72: Course success rates by race	
Figure 73: Course success rates by gender	
Figure 74: Undergraduate and postgraduate course success rate	
Figure 75: Undergraduate and postgraduate course success rate by race	
Figure 76: Undergraduate and postgraduate course success rate by gender	47

VitalStats 2021 123

Figure 77: Undergraduate and postgraduate course success rate by CESM	48
Figure 78: Course Success rates by field of study	48
Figure 79: Public universities enrolments by institutional type	51
Figure 80: Public universities enrolments by institutional type and race	51
Figure 81: Public universities enrolments by institutional type by gender	52
Figure 82: Public universities FTE Enrolled by institutional type by gender	52
Figure 83: Public universities enrolments by institutional type and qualification le	
Figure 04. Dublic veri consiste a conclusional businessis and to decree duct	
Figure 84: Public universities enrolments by institutional type and undergraduat qualifications	
Figure 85: Public universities enrolments by institutional type and postgraduate	
qualifications	
Figure 86: Public universities graduates by institutional type	
Figure 87: Public universities enrolments at traditional Universities	
Figure 88: Public universities enrolments at Universities of Technology	
Figure 89: Public universities enrolments at Comprehensive Universities	
Figure 90: Public universities headcount vs FTE enrolments at UNISA	
Figure 91: FTE enrolments at Universities of Technology	
Figure 92: FTE enrolments at traditional Universities	
Figure 93: FTE enrolments at Comprehensive Universities	
Figure 94: Headcount permanent vs. temporary staff members	
Figure 95: Proportion of permanent vs. temporary staff members	
Figure 96: Headcount overall staff members by race	
Figure 97: Headcount overall staff by gender	
Figure 98: Headcount overall staff members by race and employment status	
Figure 99: Headcount overall staff members by gender and employment status	
Figure 100: Headcount staff in selected personnel categories by race	
Figure 101: Headcount Staff at Universities of Technology	
Figure 102: FTE Staff at Universities of Technology	
Figure 103: Headcount vs FTE staff at UNISA	67
Figure 104: Headcount staff at traditional Universities	68
Figure 105: FTE staff at traditional Universities	69
Figure 106: Headcount staff at Comprehensive Universities	70
Figure 107: FTE staff at Comprehensive Universities	71
Figure 108: Headcount senior management staff by employment status	72
Figure 109: Proportion of permanent vs. temporary senior management staff	72
Figure 110: Headcount senior management staff members by race	73
Figure 111: Headcount senior management staff members by gender	73
Figure 112: Headcount senior management staff members by race and	
employment status	
Figure 113: Headcount senior management staff members by gender and employment	t
status	
Figure 114: Headcount academic staff members by employment status	75

Figure 115: Proportion of permanent vs. temporary academic staff members	. /5
Figure 116: Headcount academic staff members by race	. 76
Figure 117: Headcount academic staff members by gender	. 76
Figure 118: Headcount academic staff members by race and employment status	. 77
Figure 119: Headcount academic staff members by gender and employment state	us
Figure 120: Headcount academic staff by race and qualification level	. 78
Figure 121: Headcount academic staff by gender and qualification level	. 78
Figure 122: Headcount permanent academic staff by race and qualification level	
Figure 123: Headcount permanent academic staff by gender and qualification lev	
Figure 124: Headcount academic staff rank.	
Figure 125: Headcount permanent academic staff rank	. 80
Figure 126: Headcount academic staff rank by gender	
Figure 127: Headcount academic staff members by age grouping	
Figure 128: Headcount permanent academic staff members by age grouping	
Figure 129: FTE academic staff members by field of study	
Figure 130: Headcount administrative staff members by employment status	
Figure 131: Proportion of permanent vs. temporary administrative staff members	
Figure 132: Headcount administrative staff members by race	
Figure 133: Headcount administrative staff members by gender	
Figure 134: Headcount administrative staff members by race and employment	
status	. 85
Figure 135: Headcount administrative staff members by gender and employment status	. 85
Figure 136: Headcount administrative staff members by qualification type and	
employment status	. 86
Figure 137: Headcount service staff members by employment status	
Figure 138: Proportion of permanent vs. temporary service staff members	
Figure 139: Headcount service staff members by race	
Figure 140: Headcount service staff members by gender	
Figure 141: Headcount service staff members by race and employment status	
Figure 142: Headcount service staff members by gender and employment status	
Figure 143: FTE Student: Staff ratio	
Figure 144: Headcount Student: Staff ratio for permanent and temporary academ	
staff together and permanent academic staff only	
Figure 145: FTE Student: Staff ratio by field of study	
Figure 146: Throughput rates for 360-credit diplomas with first year of enrolment	
2016 (excluding UNISA)	
Figure 147: Throughput rates by race for 360-credit diplomas with first year of	
enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA) - non-accumulative	. 93
Figure 148: Throughput rates by race for 360-credit diplomas with first year of	
enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA) – accumulative	. 94

VitalStats 2021 125

Figure 149: Throughput rates by gender for 360-credit diplomas with first year of
enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA) – accumulative94
Figure 150: Throughput rates for 3-year degrees with first year of enrolment in 2016
(excluding UNISA)95
Figure 151: Throughput rates by race for 3-year degrees with first year of enrolment
in 2016 (excluding UNISA) - non-accumulative95
Figure 152: Throughput rates by race for 3-year degrees with first year of enrolment
in 2016 (excluding UNISA) – accumulative96
Figure 153: Throughput rates by gender for 3-year degrees with first year of enrolment in
2016 (excluding UNISA) – accumulative96
Figure 154: Throughput rates for 4-year degrees with first year of enrolment in 2016
(excluding UNISA)97
Figure 155: Throughput rates by race for 4-year degrees with first year of enrolment
in 2016 (excluding UNISA) - non-accumulative
Figure 156: Throughput rates by race for 4-year degrees with first year of enrolment
in 2016 (excluding UNISA) – accumulative
Figure 157: Throughput rates by gender for 4-year degrees with first year of enrolment in
2016 (excluding UNISA) – accumulative
Figure 158: Percentage of the 2016 cohort doing 360-credit diplomas that
graduated in 6 years or by 2021**
Figure 159: Headcount of the 2016 cohort doing 360-credit diplomas that graduated
in 6 years or by 2021
Figure 160: Throughput rates for 360-credit diplomas (Business & Management
Sciences) with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)
Figure 161: Throughput rates for 360-credit diplomas (Engineering) with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)
Figure 162: Throughput rates for 360-credit diplomas (Public Management &
Services) with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)101
Figure 163: Throughput rates for 360-credit diplomas (Computer Science,
Information Technology & Information Systems) with first year of enrolment in 2016
(excluding UNISA)101
Figure 164: Throughput rates for 360-credit diplomas (Science) with first year of
enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)102
Figure 165: Throughput rates for 360-credit diplomas (Architecture and Build Env)
with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)102
Figure 166: Percentage of the 2016 cohort doing a 3-year degree that graduated in
6 years or by 2021 103
Figure 167: Headcount of the 2016 cohort doing a 3-year degree that graduated in
6 years or by 2021103
Figure 168: Throughput rates for 3-year degrees (Business & Management
Sciences) with first year of enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)104
Figure 169: Throughput rates for 3-year degrees (Science) with first year of
enrolment in 2016 (excluding UNISA)104

Figure 191: Headcount of the 2016 cohort doing postgraduate diplomas or	
certificates that graduated in 3 years or by 2018 (excluding UNISA)	. 115
Figure 192: Percentage of the 2016 cohort doing Honours that graduated in 3 years	ears
or by 2018	. 116
Figure 193: Headcount of the 2016 cohort doing Honours that graduated in 3 ye	ars
or by 2018	. 116
Figure 194: Throughput rates for Honours with first year of enrolment in 2016	
(excluding UNISA)	. 117
Figure 195: Throughput rates for coursework Masters with first year of enrolmer	nt in
2016 (excluding UNISA)	. 117
Figure 196: Percentage of the 2016 cohort doing coursework Masters that	
graduated in 4 years or by 2019	. 118
Figure 197: Headcount of the 2016 cohort doing coursework Masters that	
graduated in 4 years or by 2019	. 118

