

Higher Degrees and Honours Bachelor Degrees in Mathematics and Statistics completed in Australia in 2007

Peter Johnston*

This report presents data relating to students who completed Honours or Higher Degrees in Mathematics during 2007. The data is part of an ongoing project for the Australian Mathematical Society and should be read in conjunction with previous reports [1], [2], [3], [4], [5], [6], [7], [8] covering the period 1993–2006.

Appendix 1 presents data for students completing Honours degrees in 2007, at all universities in Australia. Within each institution, the data are broken down into male and female students and into the three traditional areas of mathematics: pure; applied and statistics. There is also the general category ‘Mathematics’ for institutions which do not differentiate between the conventional areas. Finally, there is an ‘Other’ category for newer areas of mathematics such as financial mathematics. Each category is further broken down into grades of Honours awarded. The table shows that in 2007 there were 174 Honours completions in Australia, with 119 (68%) receiving First Class Honours (compared with 106 out of 154 (69%) in 2006 and 105 out of 152 (69%) in 2005). It is pleasing to see a generally increasing trend in the number of Honours completions over the last 10 years.

Figure 1 presents the total number of students completing Honours degrees in Mathematics over the period 1959–2007. It shows that in 2007 the number of graduates rose above the levels of the period 2001–2003. The figure also shows the numbers of male and female students who completed Honours over the same time period. For last year the number of male students increase to 120 (up from 115), and there was a larger increase in the number of female students (54, up from 39).

Appendix 2 presents the data for Higher Degree completions in 2007. The data are broken down into Coursework Masters, Research Masters and PhD degrees, with the latter two divided into the three typical areas of mathematics. These data are also represented in Figure 2, as part of the overall Higher Degree data for the period 1959–2007. The figure shows that:

- (1) There was a record number of PhD completions. In 2007, there were 78 PhD completions, of which 61 were by male students and 17 by female students, two more than the previous record of 76 in 1995.
- (2) The number of Research Masters completions has decreased after a spike last year.
- (3) The number of Coursework Masters completions has rebounded to levels of 2005.

*School of Science, Griffith University, Nathan, QLD 4111. E-mail: P.Johnston@griffith.edu.au

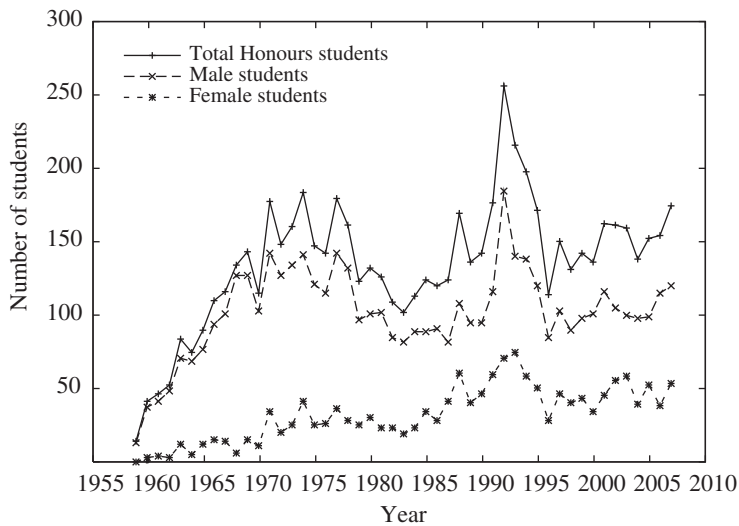


Figure 1. Number of Honours degrees completed in mathematics and statistics, 1959–2007.

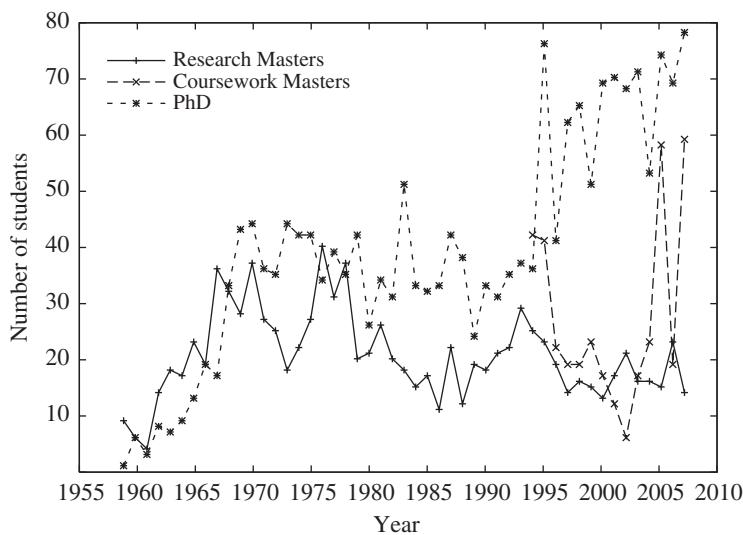


Figure 2. Number of research higher degrees completed in mathematics and statistics, 1959–2007.

For those who are interested in the finer details, the raw data is available from links on the web page <http://www.cit.gu.edu.au/math>. There is an Excel spreadsheet containing the complete data for 2007 as well as spreadsheets containing cumulative data from 1959 for Honours, Research Masters and PhD degrees.

I would like to thank the many people who took the time and effort to collect this data and forward it to me. This year I received 30 out of a possible 38 responses to requests for data, similar to last year’s response rate. Finally, if having read

this report, you would like to contribute missing data for 2007, I can add it to the data on the website.

References

- [1] Petocz, P. (1996). Higher degrees and honours bachelor degrees in mathematics and statistics completed in Australia 1993. *Gaz. Aust. Math. Soc.* **23**, 123–133.
- [2] Higher degrees and honours bachelor degrees in mathematics and statistics completed in Australia in 1994 and 1995. *Gaz. Aust. Math. Soc.* **29**, 62–72.
- [3] Higher degrees and honours bachelor degrees in mathematics and statistics completed in Australia between 1996 and 2001. *Gaz. Aust. Math. Soc.* **30**, 42–44.
- [4] Johnston, P. (2003). Higher degrees and honours bachelor degrees 2002. *Gaz. Aust. Math. Soc.* **30**, 315–320.
- [5] Johnston, P. (2004). Higher degrees and honours bachelor degrees in mathematics and statistics completed in Australia in 2003. *Gaz. Aust. Math. Soc.* **31**, 314–319.
- [6] Johnston, P. (2005). Higher degrees and honours bachelor degrees in mathematics and statistics completed in Australia in 2004. *Gaz. Aust. Math. Soc.* **32**, 320–325.
- [7] Johnston, P. (2006). Higher degrees and honours bachelor degrees in mathematics and statistics completed in Australia in 2005. *Gaz. Aust. Math. Soc.* **33**, 249–254.
- [8] Johnston, P. (2007). Higher degrees and honours bachelor degrees in mathematics and statistics completed in Australia in 2006. *Gaz. Aust. Math. Soc.* **34**, 266–271.

Appendix 1. Number of Honours degrees completed in mathematics and statistics, 2007.

Uni.	Sex	Maths				Pure				Applied				Statistics				Other				Honours Total
		I	IIA	IIB	III	I	IIA	IIB	III	I	IIA	IIB	III	I	IIA	IIB	III	I	IIA	IIB	III	
ACU	M																					0
	F																					0
ADF	M																					0
	F																					0
ANU	M	5																				5
	F	2																				2
BOU	M																					0
	F																					0
CDU	M																					0
	F																					0
CQU																						0
CSU	M																					0
	F																					0
CUT	M																					0
	F																					0
DKU	M								1													1
	F																					0
ECU	M													1								1
	F																					0
FDU	M																					0
	F																					0
GFU	M																					0
	F																					0
JCU																						0
LTU	M	2		1										2								5
	F	2																				2
MDU	M					1																1
	F									1												2
MNU	M				4				1	1							1					7
	F				3	1			1	1				1	1							8
MQU	M	1																				1
	F																					0
QUT	M								4	2				1								7
	F								3	1				3								7
RMT	M						1		3							1						5
	F								2	1						1						4
SCU																						0
SUT	M																					0
	F																					0
UAD	M	1			2	2								2	2							9
	F				2																	2
UBR																						0
UCB	M																					0
	F																					0
UMB	M				5				3	1		1		3	2							15
	F						1							1								2
UNC																						0
UNE	M					1																1
	F					1																1
UNS	M				5				2					3	2							12
	F				1				1	1												3
UQL	M				2				5													7
	F						1							1								2
USA	M								2													2
	F								1													1
USN	M				5	2			5	2	2			3								19
	F				1	1			2			1		3	1							9
USQ	M													1								1
	F																					0
UTM																						0
UTS	M	1												2		1						4
	F		1											1								2
UWA	M				1	1																2
	F				1					1				1								3
UWG	M				1				4	1				2	1			1	2	2		14
	F													1				3				4
UWS	M						1															1
	F																					0
VUT																						0
																						0
Totals		14	1	1	0	33	11	2	1	40	12	3	2	28	17	0	1	4	2	2	0	174

Appendix 2. Number of research higher degrees completed
in mathematics and statistics, 2007

Uni.	Sex	Coursework Masters	Research Masters		Research Masters Total	PhD		PhD Total		
			Pure	Applied Statistics		Pure	Applied Statistics			
ACU	M				0			0		
	F				0			0		
ADF	M				0	1	1	2		
	F				0		1	1		
ANU	M				0	4		4		
	F		1		1			0		
BOU	M				0			0		
	F				0			0		
CDU	M				0			0		
	F				0			0		
CQU					0			0		
					0			0		
CSU	M				0			0		
	F				0			0		
CUT	M	6			0	3	1	4		
	F				0			0		
DKU	M				0			0		
	F				0			0		
ECU	M				0			0		
	F				0			0		
FDU	M				0	1		1		
	F				0			0		
GFU	M				0			0		
	F				0			0		
JCU					0			0		
					0			0		
LTU					0			0		
					0	1		1		
MDU	M				0	1		1		
	F				0	1	1	2		
MNU	M				0	7	1	8		
	F				0	1		1		
MQU	M				0	1		1		
	F				0			0		
QUT	M			1	1	1		1		
	F	1			0	1	1	2		
RMT	M	14			0	4		4		
	F	6			0			0		
SCU					0			0		
					0			0		
SUT	M				0			0		
	F				0			0		
UAD	M		2	3	5	2	1	3		
	F				0			0		
UBR					0			0		
					0			0		
UCB	M				0			0		
	F				0			0		
UMB	M				0	1	3	4		
	F		1	1	2	3		3		
UNC					0			0		
					0			0		
UNE	M				0			0		
	F				0			0		
UNS	M	10	1		1	3	1	4		
	F	2			0			0		
UQL	M	7			0	1	5	7		
	F	3		1	1	2	1	2		
USA	M				0		1	1		
	F				0	3		3		
USN	M			1	1	4	2	7		
	F				0	2	1	2		
USQ	M				0			0		
	F	1			0			0		
UTM					0			0		
					0			0		
UTS	M				0		1	1		
	F				0			0		
UWA	M				0	3	2	6		
	F				0		1	0		
UWG	M	5	1	1	2	1	1	2		
	F	3			0			0		
UWS	M				0			0		
	F				0			0		
VUT					0			0		
					0			0		
Totals		59	4	8	2	14	19	48	11	78