

Jobs for arts, social sciences and humanities graduates on the rise

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Humanities, arts and social sciences graduate employment outcomes skyrocketed in 2022 according to the annual QILT Graduate Outcome Survey.

The largest increases in employment were recorded in humanities, culture and social sciences, up from 57.9 per cent in 2021 to 72.9 per cent in 2022, an increase of 15.0 percentage points. This increase was noticeably better than the national average increase of just under 10 percent.

Overall satisfaction among undergraduates rose to 82.6 per cent for humanities, culture and social sciences compared with national average of 77.9.

Satisfaction among post-graduates sat well above the national average of 80.0 at cent at 86.8.

While these are very positive outcomes for humanities, arts and social sciences graduates, the Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (DASSH) is concerned about reported figures on gender pay gaps for graduates.

In 2022 male graduates in the humanities, culture and social sciences earned on average \$2,500 more per year than their female counterparts.

Men were paid an annual salary of \$68,200 while women were paid \$65,800. This outcome echoed wage outcomes for men and women in many fields.

The report's authors said: "At the undergraduate level, females earn less overall than their male counterparts within most study areas."

The wage disparity between men and women immediately on graduation puts women at a serious disadvantage before their professional working lives have even begun.

DASSH hopes these disturbing statistics will be taken into account by the Federal Government as it continues to consult on and formulate its Employment White Paper.

Professor Nick Bisley
DASSH President