Pilbara Benchmark Explorer

Data-Driven Decision Making

In an era of increasing accountability and resource constraints, academic and financial leaders need more than broad-stroke data—they need precise, actionable benchmarks tailored to their discipline-specific contexts.

Strategic Benefit for Academic Leaders

Pilbara's benchmarking solution delivers just that. Our platform empowers institutions to evaluate **both financial and non-financial performance** metrics across all Fields of Education at the 2-digit and 4-digit level. This level of granularity enables targeted performance analysis and resource alignment that typical university-wide aggregates simply can't match.

With a range of detailed metrics including Academic FTE per EFTSL (Teaching only), Academic Salary per EFTSL, Delivery Hours per EFTSL, Placements per EFTSL etc. this provides a number of key benefits including:

·**Resource Justification:** Build stronger cases for investment or restructuring by pointing to discipline-specific benchmarks.

· **Strategic Planning**: Align academic offerings with institutional priorities—e.g., sustainability, equity, or growth.

· **Performance Management**: Inform fair and consistent workload models based on evidence, not assumptions.

· **Cross-Institutional Dialogue**: Benchmark against peers to highlight achievements or negotiate more favourable positions.

Free Preview

If you would like to gain access to a public preview of the benchmarks, please scan the following QR code and register for an access code.

The public preview only provides 2-digit FOE, a reduced number of metrics and 2021-2023 data.

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Why Pilbara Insights?

Trusted by leading universities for **over 25 years**, Pilbara Insights provides unparalleled access to educational data, allowing institutions to make informed decisions and drive academic success through powerful analytics and benchmarking tools.
Pilbara Benchmark Explorer allows institutions to gain access to detailed benchmarks not previously available.
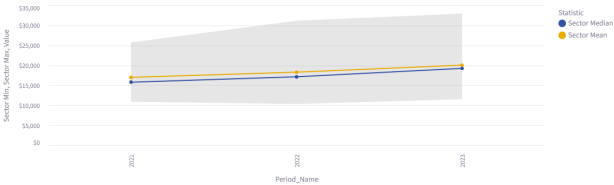
This is a powerful tool to see how your institution compares to others at a Field of Education 2 and 4-digit level plus a wide range of detailed metrics for 2021-2024. The detailed benchmarks are only available to institutions with a **Pilbara Insights cost model**, but a sample of benchmarks are provided publicly.

💬 Ask a Benchmarking Question

Pilbara Intelligence powers this page
It analyses anonymised, aggregated sector benchmarking data to generate executive insights in natural language.

- Supports charts and tables when available
- Respects access controls and monthly usage limits
- Questions are logged to improve model quality and safety

Tip: Be specific and include filters (e.g., degree level, FOE, year range). Avoid requesting raw or identifiable data.
Need help? benchmarks@pilbaragroup.com

☐ Show past results

Ask anything about sector benchmarks:

What are the top 5 FOEs by cost per EFTSL per year and by degree level?

Get AI Insight	🗨 New conversation

Here are the top 5 Fields of Education (FOEs) by cost per EFTSL for 2023:
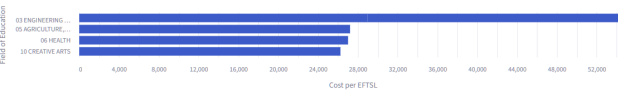
Top 5 FOEs by Cost per EFTSL:

1. **Engineering and Related Technologies (Sub Bachelor)** - $28,993 per EFTSL
2. **Agriculture, Environmental and Related Studies (PG Course Work)** - $27,214 per EFTSL
3. **Health (PG Course Work)** - $27,011 per EFTSL
4. **Creative Arts (Sub Bachelor)** - $26,247 per EFTSL
5. **Engineering and Related Technologies (PG Course Work)** - $25,776 per EFTSL

Key Insights:

- Engineering programs dominate the highest costs, appearing twice in the top 5
- Sub Bachelor programs in Engineering have the highest cost per EFTSL at nearly $29,000
- Postgraduate coursework programs in specialized fields (Agriculture/Environmental Studies and Health) also rank among the most expensive
- The cost range spans from approximately $25,800 to $29,000 per EFTSL across these top-cost programs

Agent chart

Top 5 FOEs by Cost per EFTSL

Powered by Snowflake Cortex AI

These benchmarks are built on Snowflake and enhanced by the Snowflake Cortex AI engine, enabling natural language queries and intelligent insights. This means decision-makers can explore data conversationally and uncover trends, comparisons, and opportunities with ease.

Pilbara Benchmark Explorer

Benchmark Insights Platform

📈 Trend Explorer

FOE: 10 CREATIVE ARTS | Degree Level: Bachelor | Metric: Cost per EFTSL

Pilbara Benchmark Explorer

Benchmark Insights Platform

📊 Sector Benchmark Overview

FOE: 01 NATURAL AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES | Degree Level: Bachelor | Period: 2021

Metric	Sector Median	Sector Mean	Sector Min	Sector Max
Overall Cost				
Cost per EFTSL	$15,686	$16,441	$13,346	$21,438
Non Salary per EFTSL	$6,310	$6,193	$4,547	$7,831
Workforce / Efficiency				
Academic FTE per EFTSL	0.0260	0.0274	0.0173	0.0425
Percentage Breakdowns				
Academic Salary %	28%	29%	23%	34%
Professional Salary %	32%	33%	26%	42%
Non Salary %	37%	38%	31%	47%

Powered by
❄ snowflake

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Version: v1.1.9 - Cortex Agent

86m+ Rows of Data

Where does the data come from?

All data in this dashboard is provided directly and voluntarily by participating universities, through their own Pilbara Insights models. The results of the model are checked and verified with university management before being added to the benchmark pool of data to ensure accuracy.

pilbara INSIGHTS

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