Inquiry into Geographical Differences in the Rate in which Victorian Students Participate in Higher Education

Online Submission

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What effect does going to university (or not) have on students from different geographic areas in Victoria?

1. High costs. My daughter is attending Latrobe University, Bundoora this year. She is living on campus and we just have the money to pay this year only. Renting off campus isn't much cheaper either with high rent costs. The following years (three more, if she does a fourth year teaching course too) we really don't know how to manage. Unfortunatly, last year we didn't realise that there were scholarships to help. We will be applying for these in August this year and just hope that she gets something.

2. It is a mighty step to take for country students. A whole new life away from the family home. Of course, it can be viewed as a great adventure. But it is also scary. Suddenly these kids have to fend for themselves with regards washing, food and generally caring for themselves. When you consider this as well as managing the all new experience of university study, and living in a whole new area, perhaps learning to use public transport, it can be a difficult time for them. Many chicken out even before enrollment, I believe. City kids can still live at home and go to university in many cases. This really is much cheaper and easier for them.