

CREDIT OPINION

14 September 2022

Update



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RATINGS

University of Tasmania

Domicile	Australia
Long Term Rating	Aa2
Type	LT Issuer Rating - Fgn Curr
Outlook	Stable

Please see the [ratings section](#) at the end of this report for more information. The ratings and outlook shown reflect information as of the publication date.

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University of Tasmania

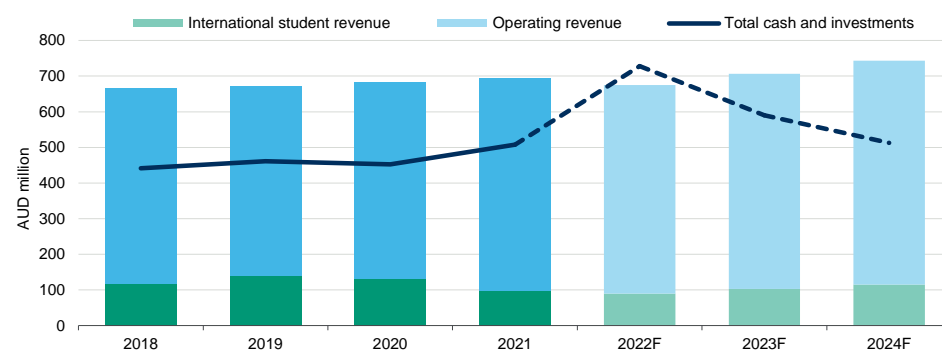
Update to credit analysis

Summary

University of Tasmania's ('UTAS') credit profile reflects its solid standalone credit quality, the supportive institutional framework for Australian universities flowing from the [Government of Australia \('Commonwealth', Aaa stable\)](#) as well as close operational ties with the [state of Tasmania \('the state', Aa2 stable\)](#). The university is partly constrained by its small intrastate catchment that increases reliance on interstate and international students¹, albeit this is partly mitigated by strong financial resources. To minimize future revenue volatility from the international cohort, UTAS intends to moderate international student commencements from peaks reached prior to the pandemic. UTAS' EBIDA margins generally benchmark below similarly rated domestic peers reflecting the university's higher cost base from its multi campus operating model². The rating also incorporates execution risks for UTAS' planned relocation of the Sandy Bay campus that will be predominantly debt-funded.

Exhibit 1

Stable Commonwealth funding helps guard against potential volatility from international student revenue



Source: University of Tasmania, Moody's Investors Service

Credit strengths

- » Strong institutional framework and funding support
- » Distinctive research capabilities and operating ties with the state and Commonwealth

Credit challenges

- » Weak Tasmanian demographics increase reliance on interstate and international students
- » Rising total adjusted debt burden and elevated execution risks as UTAS undertakes a large capital spending program, although risk management processes are well established

Rating outlook

The rating outlook is stable, reflecting the strong institutional framework and high levels of oversight by the state of Tasmania and Commonwealth governments, as well as our expectation that over the next 12-18 months, the university's credit metrics will remain at levels appropriate for its standalone credit profile consistent with its a1 BCA.

Factors that could lead to an upgrade

Material increases in UTAS' holdings of total cash and investments that bolster its liquidity profile, and a sustained improvement in the university's EBIDA margins, which could stem from effective cost controls and robust revenue growth as it ramps up the delivery of its five-year strategic transformation plan, would likely place upward pressure on the ratings.

Factors that could lead to a downgrade

A significant deterioration in financial performance, reflected in: sustained lower EBIDA margins; materially higher levels of total adjusted debt³ beyond our projections, which could arise from delays, cost overruns or risk management practices proving less effective than assumed in delivering the Northern and Southern campus transformation plans; and/or a deterioration in UTAS' internal liquidity levels would likely place downward pressure on the ratings.

We could downgrade the ratings if we believe there is a reduced likelihood of extraordinary financial support from the Commonwealth or if the creditworthiness of the Australian sovereign weakens.

Key indicators

Exhibit 2

University of Tasmania

Year ended 31 December

	2019	2020	2021	2022F	2023F	2024F
Operating Revenue (AUD'000) [1]	672,364	681,572	693,991	674,645	706,384	740,374
EBIDA Margin (%)	6.63	10.55	12.30	5.96	5.76	4.55
Total Cash and Investments (AUD'000)	461,508	452,469	507,402	727,922	589,972	512,648
Total Cash and Investments to Operating Expenses (x)	0.68	0.68	0.76	1.04	0.81	0.67
Total Cash and Investments to Total Adjusted Debt (x)	1.37	1.76	1.90	1.29	1.05	0.93
Annual Debt Service Coverage (x)	7.17	12.41	7.65	2.55	3.36	2.78

NB: DSCR incorporates scheduled principal debt repayments and excludes overdraft/working capital movements, relative to EBIDA. As such, UTAS' 2019 DSCR has been restated to 7.17x (previously published as 0.6x).

[1] Operating revenue is net of scholarship expenses and is adjusted to smooth investment returns. 2022F-24F denotes Moody's forecasts and not the view of the Issuer.

Source: University of Tasmania, Moody's Financial Metrics and Moody's estimates

Detailed credit considerations

University of Tasmania's ratings combine: (1) a baseline credit assessment ('BCA') of a1, and (2) a high likelihood of extraordinary support from the Commonwealth in the event of acute liquidity stress.

The university's ratings are bolstered by its strong standalone credit profile (reflected in the a1 BCA) which is underpinned by strong financial resources and liquidity metrics as well as a moderate (albeit rising) total adjusted debt burden.

Strong institutional framework and funding support

UTAS benefits from a strong institutional framework for higher education in Australia, including secure funding levels and strong oversight. Both the Commonwealth and state governments play important roles in the governance of Australia's public universities, which are established under state legislation and remain statutory authorities of the states.

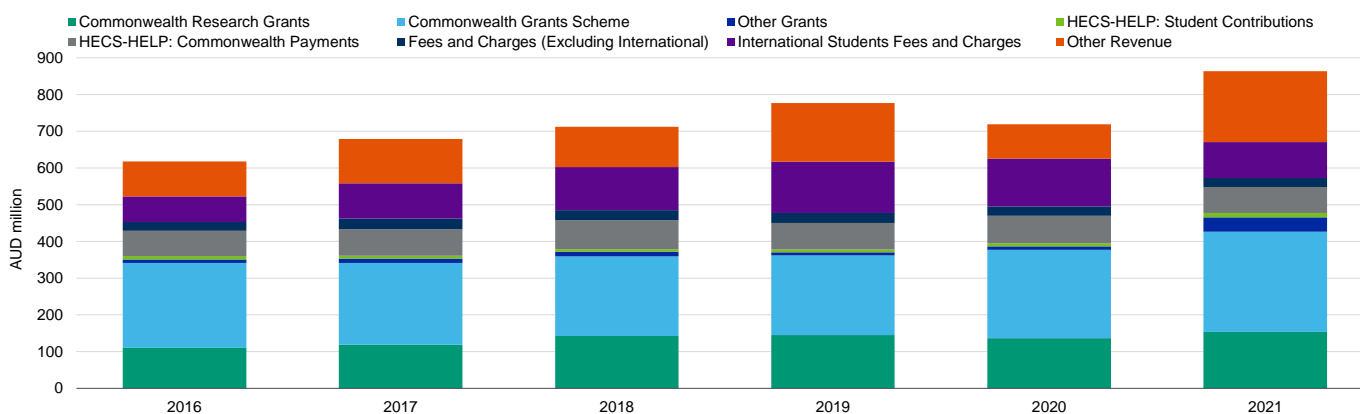
This publication does not announce a credit rating action. For any credit ratings referenced in this publication, please see the issuer/deal page on <https://ratings.moody's.com> for the most updated credit rating action information and rating history.

UTAS has a strong regulatory and funding framework with the Commonwealth and state government (see Exhibit 3). The university requires approval from the Tasmanian Treasurer to raise new debt and the state provides support in the form of operating and research grants.

State oversight of UTAS also includes the Tasmanian Auditor-General conducting the annual statutory audit of the university's financial statements and well as the Tasmanian Minister for Education appointing two of the University Council positions.

Exhibit 3

Commonwealth transfers remain a significant portion of UTAS' total revenue base



Sources: University of Tasmania, Moody's Investors Service

The Commonwealth provides the bulk of university funding in Australia through secure and predictable transfers, as well as research and other grants. Operating grant funding from the Commonwealth is received on a fortnightly basis through the year, ahead of need. The Commonwealth also monitors the financial performance of universities, focusing on operating results, liquidity and capital management. For 2021, around 65% of UTAS revenue was derived from the Commonwealth, State and Local Government financial assistance.

Recognizing the impact of international border restrictions during 2020 and 2021 on the higher education sector, the Commonwealth increased sector-wide funding for new domestic places and short course places in 2021 as part of its Job-ready Package⁴. This augmented the mature institutional framework and aligns to our expectations of a high level of extraordinary support from the Commonwealth that will assist buffering the sector from shocks.

We expect that the Commonwealth will remain a key supporter of the university sector, given the sector's importance to the national and regional economies and government policy goals.

The Commonwealth committed significant funds towards the Northern Transformation Program ('NTP'). The new campuses at West Park (Burnie) and Inveresk (Launceston) were both designated as Priority Projects by Infrastructure Australia, citing the overall economic benefit to Australia and noting their strategic importance to the development of northern Tasmania.

The NTP is a partnership between UTAS, TasTAFE⁵ and three levels of government. The Commonwealth contributed AUD150 million in funding and the Tasmanian state government AUD75 million; the university funded the balance of AUD138 million. To assist with the projects, the City of Launceston and the Burnie City Council both made strategic land allocations and investment in associated public infrastructure. During 2021, the AUD56 million campus building at Burnie was opened, with the AUD306 million Inveresk campus on track for completion by 2024.

Distinctive research capabilities and operating ties with state and Commonwealth

The sole university in the island state of Tasmania, UTAS has a distinctive identity which includes very close research and operating ties with both the Commonwealth and state governments. UTAS is the sole higher education provider on the Tasmanian island, which enables deep and long-term partnerships. All state agricultural and aquaculture management and research is conducted through UTAS.

The largest employer in Tasmania outside of the state government, the university benefits from its role as a key tool to develop and implement state policy⁶, conduct reviews and research on proposals for reform of the law referred by the Attorney General (under the Tasmanian Law Reform Institute Renewal Agreement, 2019) as well as various partnerships including management of fisheries and biohazards. UTAS is the sole source of state trained nurses, doctors and teachers.

The state's unique geographical location as Australia's gateway to Antarctica and the Great Southern Ocean combines with the university's Australian Maritime College (AMC) and Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS) to consolidate a distinctive level of integration with government and government agencies, such as the Australian Antarctic Division (AAD) and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)⁷.

This includes the Antarctic Gateway Partnership⁸ ('the Partnership'), a Commonwealth-funded initiative. The Partnership aims to reinforce recognition of Tasmania as a global leader in Antarctic and Southern Ocean science and as a gateway for Antarctic research, education, innovation and logistics.

Exhibit 4

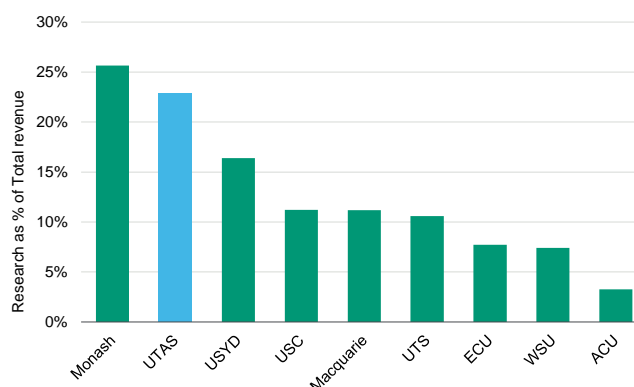
UTAS' core strengths in research (recognised on a national and global scale) are particularly evident in health, marine and maritime.....

	Impact objective	Contribution
Australian Maritime College	Examining feasibility of tidal energy in Australia	Feasibility study for tidal turbines
	Understanding changes in the Antarctic floor and ice by mapping	Operation of Automated Underwater Vehicle for mapping purposes
Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies	Inform climate policy by better understanding how the ocean responds to climate change	Quantifying ecological change and species adaption to climate change
Menzies Institute for Medical Research	Improving knowledge and treatment of Multiple Sclerosis and its preventable risk factors	Online unit offered globally with unit recognised in top 10 globally
Wicking - Dementia Research and Education Centre	Improving the knowledge and treatment of Dementia and its preventable risk factors	MOOCs, ISLAND study, undergraduate and postgraduate education

Sources: University of Tasmania, Moody's Investors Service

Exhibit 5

.....and supports strong research revenues for the university relative to its domestic peers Fiscal year 2021



Includes Australian Federal and state research financial assistance as well as private research contracts and consultancy

Sources: Universities' FY2021 financial statements, Moody's Investors Service

Weak Tasmanian demographics increase reliance on interstate and international students

Tasmania's relatively small domestic catchment has traditionally increased UTAS' reliance on interstate and international student and underscores the importance of revenue diversity for the university.

Consistent with its 2019-2024 Strategic Plan, UTAS' student recruitment strategies have been refined to target the interstate and Tasmanian markets with distinctive offerings whereas the international student strategy centres on market diversification and the university's successful adoption of remote learning (UTAS has the 4th largest online offering in Australia).

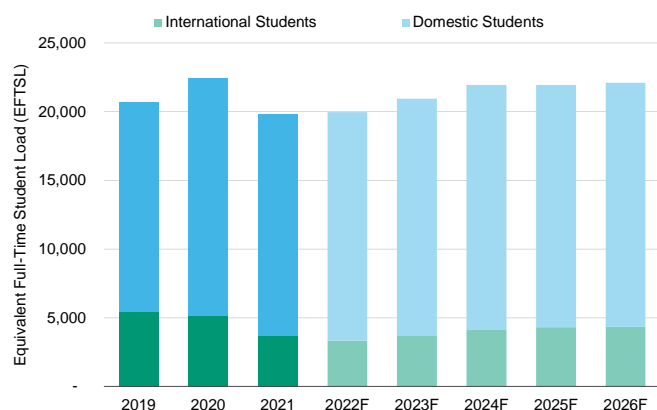
Our central scenario assumes international enrolments will decline further in 2022. Notwithstanding Australia's international borders re-opened in early 2022, the timing was very close to the start of the 2022 education year, limiting the capacity of international students to arrive in time for the start of Semester I. Although we expect international enrollments will progressively recover from Semester II (2022) and into 2023, we do not see international enrolments reverting to pre-pandemic levels over the next five years (see Exhibit 6). In part, this reflects the university's efforts to minimize future revenue volatility from the international cohort by reducing international student commencements to around 1,500 Equivalent Full-Time Student Load (EFTSL) annually from close to 2,000 just prior to the pandemic.

In recent years, UTAS has undertaken a number of initiatives to diversify its international student mix by country of origin and faculty, including through active marketing to target South and Southeast Asia (particularly India, Nepal, Vietnam and Malaysia), as well as targeted use of pricing and scholarship strategies⁹.

We expect domestic undergraduate enrolment across Australia will be soft over the next 12 to 18 months, reflecting the economic countercyclicality of the sector¹⁰. However, the impact on UTAS will be moderated by its focus on growing the interstate recruitment of domestic students and the post-pandemic removal of state border controls.

Exhibit 6

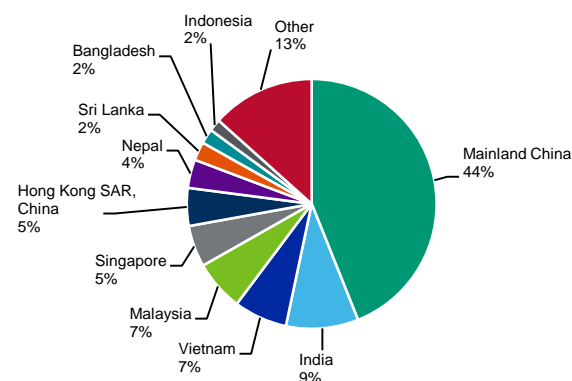
International students enrolments fell to 3,679 EFTSL in 2021 from 5,392 in 2019 as Australia closed international borders



Source: University of Tasmania, Moody's Investors Service

Exhibit 7

UTAS remains exposed to China, even as it has increasingly diversified its international student cohort Breakdown of international students by EFTSL as at 31 December 2021



Source: University of Tasmania, Moody's Investors Service

As a result of these enrollment headwinds, we expect UTAS will maintain a disciplined approach to cost mitigation strategies. Adjusted operating expenditures increasing by a modest 1%¹¹ in fiscal 2021 (which remains slightly below 2019 levels) and the university will continue to benefit from FTE having decreased 122 since 2019, which is delivering annual cost savings of circa AUD17 million.

However, we expect emerging wage pressures (amid a relatively tight labour market) and rising energy prices will drive cost inflation pressures, and will squeeze the university's EBIDA margins over the next 2-3 years. Wages and salaries represent roughly 64% of UTAS' cost structure and as at September 2022, the university is engaged in extended wage negotiations.

Our analysis concludes that the university's EBIDA margin will range between 4% and 6% over the three years to fiscal 2024, levels consistent with an assessment of 'Baa' for 'Operating Performance' in our scorecard under the Higher Education Methodology.

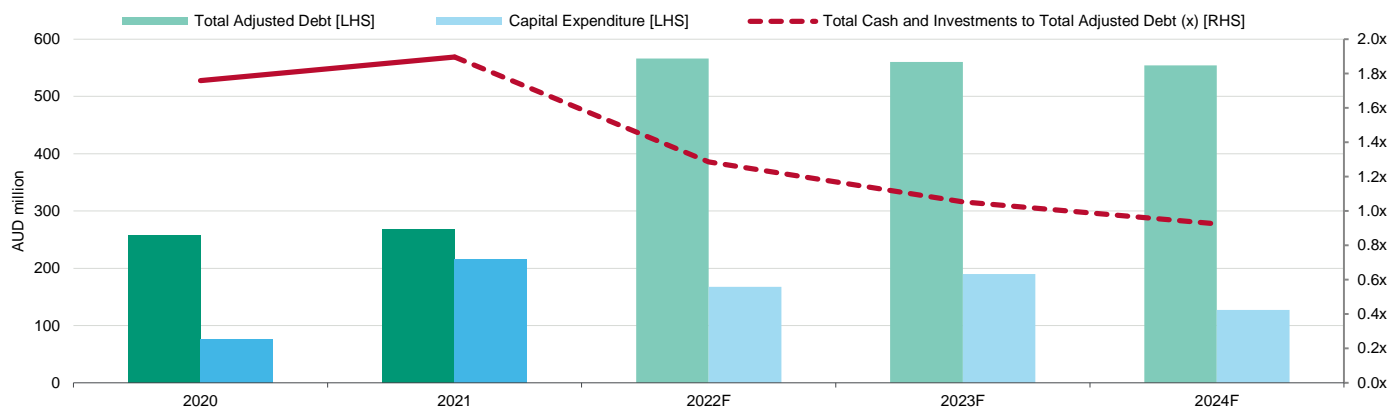
Rising total adjusted debt burden and elevated execution risks as UTAS undertakes large capital spending program, although risk management processes are well established

The AUD550 million Southern Campus Transformation (SCT) program will be staged over ten years and funded via from a blend of investments and reserves, surplus operating cashflows and AUD350 million in a dual tranche green bond¹² issued in March 2022.

Despite the increase in debt (see Exhibit 8) as the university progresses the SCT projects, we expect that over time, the debt service coverage ratio will stabilize between 2.5x and 3.5x EBIDA, levels consistent with our 'Leverage and Coverage' scorecard sub-factor 5.2 outcome of "Aa" under our Higher Education Methodology.

Exhibit 8

Strong government funding support underpinned Northern Campus Program and enables capacity to fund the Southern Campus Transformation



Source: University of Tasmania, Moody's Investors Service

UTAS' total adjusted debt metrics are weakened by reliance on interstate and international students that increase the need for student housing solutions

Student housing represents a challenge to the university as it seeks to attract students from outside of Tasmania. In 2017, UTAS granted a 30-year license to Spark Living to receive net rentals and manage 10 of the University's 14 student accommodation properties (approximately 1,647 beds) in exchange for an upfront payment of AUD130 million. The transaction also included the recently completed construction of a new 422 bed facility in Hobart ('the asset') by Spark Living on Melville Street, who now receive net rentals in exchange for an upfront payment of AUD71 million.

UTAS does not provide any rental guarantee to the licensee, however under the agreement, it continues to manage the allocation of students to accommodation, student services and pastoral care. The licensee is responsible for maintaining the asset and UTAS is able to absorb excess demand through its Midcity and Fountainside hotels, which were acquired and converted by UTAS to meet increasing demand pending completion of the additional student accommodation constructed by Spark Living.

At the conclusion of the arrangement the asset will revert to the University's control, at an agreed condition, at which time the University will assume asset risk and rental revenue. The service concession asset will be revalued under the same policy as revaluations of property, plant and equipment. The transaction is accounted for under AASB 1059 'Service Concession Arrangements – Grantor'.

While the future revenue from student accommodation has effectively been monetized without occupancy guarantee, our analysis recognizes approximately AUD180 million - the AASB 1059 assessed 'Grant of Right to Operate' liability in the balance sheet - in its total adjusted debt calculations as at fiscal 2021 reflecting the strength of the UTAS affiliation with the underlying assets. This amount relates to funds received upfront in relation to the license to Spark Living. As at 31 December 2021, the remaining term of this arrangement was 26 years with the income recognized over the arrangement term.

Additionally, Under Moody's [Higher Education Methodology](#), August 2021, these operating lease liabilities (as calculated under AASB 16) are included as debt in our calculation of total adjusted debt.

UTAS is exposed to extensive governance, procurement and execution risks as it progresses to the completion of the NTP in 2024 and the SCT plans. Notwithstanding the significant grant funding and designation of the NTP as a Priority Project by Infrastructure Australia, UTAS remains exposed to overruns that may arise from project delays, higher delivery costs or changes to scope, specially in an environment of rising cost pressures and supply chain issues.

Similarly, despite UTAS already having acquired the properties to undertake the proposed relocation of Sandy Bay into the Hobart CBD, UTAS is exposed to similar execution risks with the SCT, as well as the risks management challenges of the progressive decant and redevelopment of the Sandy Bay campus over the period to 2030.

The SCT provides the opportunity to create a distinctive and attractive southern campus in the city of Hobart¹³ and facilitate the transition from the existing Sandy Bay campus to the city. Such a phased approach provides the time and flexibility to manage project risk.

UTAS has maintained a solid record of delivering projects on time and on budget¹⁴. Its success in delivering projects in recent years largely reflects clearly established frameworks to manage the various complexities of project monitoring and delivery¹⁵, whilst preserving underlying educational offerings to students. We also take a degree of comfort that since 2011, UTAS has been active in the Tasmanian construction market with an average annual capital spend above AUD70 million.

It is important to note that UTAS has AUD4.3 million net liability for unfunded superannuation liabilities, which is also included in Moody's total adjusted debt calculations¹⁶.

Extraordinary support considerations

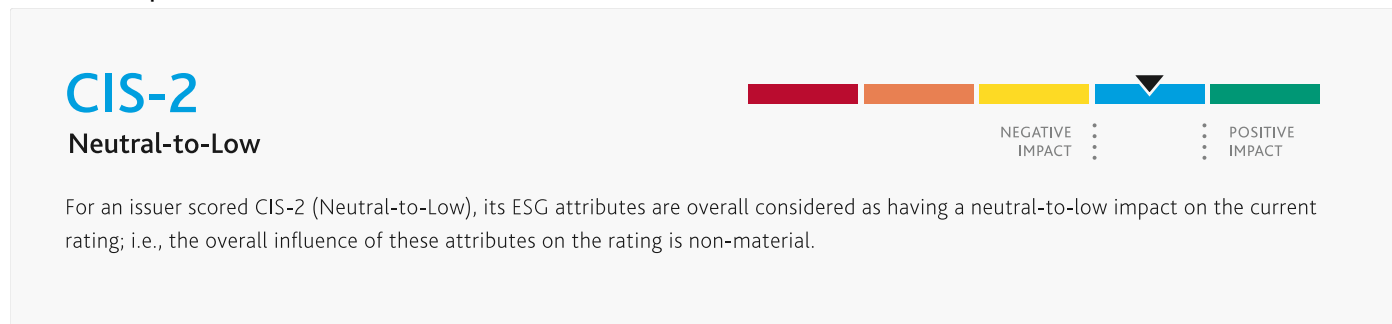
We take into account a high likelihood of extraordinary support from the Government of Australia (Aaa, stable), which reflects our assessment of the risks posed to the Commonwealth's financial reputation if the university were to experience acute liquidity stress. We also factor in a very high default dependence level to reflect the relatively large proportion of revenue derived from Commonwealth grants.

ESG considerations

University of Tasmania's ESG Credit Impact Score is neutral-to-low (CIS-2)

Exhibit 9

ESG Credit Impact Score



Source: Moody's Investors Service

The University of Tasmania's neutral to low ESG Credit Impact Score (**CIS-2**), reflects moderately negative exposure to social risks, mitigated by neutral-to-low exposures to environmental and governance risks.

Exhibit 10

ESG Issuer Profile Scores



Source: Moody's Investors Service

Environmental

University of Tasmania's neutral-to-low (**E-2** issuer profile score) reflects environmental sustainability being one of the six core outcome measures embedded in UTAS' Strategic Plan 2019-2024, which includes actions and research on responsible use of agricultural resources and sustainable management of ecosystems, reducing carbon emissions and preserving oceans, promoting sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, as well as reducing waste and pollution. The state's unique geographical location as Australia's gateway to Antarctica and the Great Southern Ocean combines with the university's Australian Maritime College (AMC) and Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS) to consolidate a distinctive level of integration with government and government agencies, such as the Australian Antarctic Division (AAD) and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO). Consistent with its' focus on researching physical climate risk and environmental sustainability, the University's investment funds have fully divested all fossil fuels and have a clear mandate to invest in climate friendly industries of the future. UTAS' issuance of a green bond further reflects their emphasis on environmental sustainability.

Social

We assess UTAS' exposure to social risks as moderately negative (**S-3** issuer profile score), taking a high degree of comfort from how it identifies and actively manages these risks at the highest levels. Demographic and societal trends present the greatest exposure within the higher education sector and non-profit sectors. The state of Tasmania's relatively small domestic catchment has traditionally increased UTAS' reliance on interstate and international students. Consistent with the Strategic Plan, UTAS has focused student recruitment strategies with distinctive offerings which centres on market diversification and online offerings (UTAS has the 4th largest online offering in Australia). Partly offsetting this, UTAS benefits from its role as a key tool to develop and implement state policy, conducting reviews and research proposals for law reform (on behalf of the Attorney General) as well as various partnerships including management of fisheries and biohazards.

Governance

We assess the university's exposure to governance risks as neutral to low (**G-2** issuer profile score). UTAS' governance is considered strong, reflecting the strong institutional framework for the higher education sector in Australia. The Commonwealth and state governments play important roles in legislating and monitoring governance of the sector. UTAS' standards of governance are considered high and are aligned with the general standards of governance for all Australian public universities. Data transparency is very high, with all material legislation, University statutes and policies published on its website, along with capital plans and accounts. UTAS is exposed to extensive governance, procurement and execution risks as it progresses on its Northern and Southern campus transformation plans. In mitigation of these risks, UTAS has established a good record in delivering projects on time and on budget which are underpinned by robust governance and risk management processes with oversight at the highest levels of the university, including projects being managed by dedicated steering committees chaired by the Vice-Chancellor.

ESG Issuer Profile Scores and Credit Impact Scores for the rated entity/transaction are available on Moody's.com. In order to view the latest scores, please click [here](#) to go to the landing page for the entity/transaction on MDC and view the ESG Scores section.

Profile

Founded in 1890, UTAS is the sole provider of higher education located in the state of Tasmania and was established in its current form under the University of Tasmania Act 1992 following integration with the Tasmanian State Institute of Technology in Launceston which became the Newnham Campus. In 1995, a new campus at Burnie on the North-West Coast was opened, which later became known as the Cradle Coast Campus.

The university is world renowned for its research at the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS) in Hobart, and the Australian Maritime College (AMC) in Launceston. UTAS' key areas of distinction are in marine and freshwater biology (ranked fourth globally) as well as fisheries and oceanography (ranked seventh globally), which are underpinned by Tasmania's geographic proximity to the Great Southern Ocean and the Antarctic. This positions UTAS as a global polar research hub.

UTAS' 2019-2024 Strategic Plan is centred on six key outcomes¹⁷ that are structured to make an impact for and from Tasmania. The Strategic Plan noted more than half the university's students were not 'school leavers' and had to balance study alongside work and other commitments. Concomitantly, UTAS and government recognized the state's decentralised population and the need to deepen

collaboration with schools as well as enhance the university's regional access, improve pathways and tailor offerings (e.g., short-courses and associate degrees).

During the pandemic, it became apparent that the Strategic Plan addressed many of the challenges faced as a result of COVID, with the university well-placed to accelerate the rollout of the strategy, including making UTAS a more differentiated offering that is easier to navigate, supported by a simpler organization.

UTAS Sydney campus includes the Rozelle campus, offering nursing, paramedic and health management education, all in partnership with local hospitals and health service providers. It occupies space, owned by Sydney Local Health District, in part of Callan Park. In 2017, UTAS established the Australian Maritime College (AMC) Sydney study centre at the Australian National Maritime Museum, in Darling Harbour, Sydney.

Output of the Baseline Credit Assessment scorecard

In the case of the UTAS, the scorecard matrix generates an estimated BCA of aa3, which is close to the BCA of a1 assigned by the rating committee. Our forecast scorecard matrix for FY2022 and FY2023 includes the additional AUD350 million debt issued in early 2022 and generates an estimated BCA of a1.

The principal methodologies used in these ratings were Higher Education Methodology published in August 2021 and Government-Related Issuers Methodology published in February 2020. Alternatively, please see the Rating Methodologies page on www.moody's.com for a copy of these methodologies.

The Scorecard-Indicated Outcome, which generate estimated BCAs from a set of qualitative and quantitative credit metrics, are tools used by the rating committee in assessing Higher Education standalone credit quality. The credit metrics captured by these tools provide a good statistical gauge of standalone credit strength, and, in general, higher ratings can be expected among issuers with the highest scorecard-estimated BCAs. Nevertheless, the scorecard-estimated BCAs do not substitute for the rating committee's judgments regarding individual BCAs, nor is the scorecard a matrix for automatically assigning or changing these assessments.

Exhibit 11

University of Tasmania

As of December 2021 and Moody's Forward View

Scorecard Factors and Sub-factors	2021		2022 - 2023 F	
	Value	Score	Value	Score
Factor 1: Scale (15%)				
Adjusted Operating Revenue (USD Million)	521	Aa	506-530	Aa
Factor 2: Market Profile (20%)				
Brand and Strategic Positioning	A	A	A	A
Operating Environment	Aa	Aa	Aa	Aa
Factor 3: Operating Performance (10%)				
EBIDA Margin	12%	A	5.8-6.0%	Baa
Factor 4: Financial Resources and Liquidity (25%)				
Total Cash and Investments (USD Million)	368	Aa	401-495	Aa
Total Cash and Investments to Operating Expenses	0.8	Aa	0.8-1.0	Aa
Factor 5: Leverage and coverage (20%)				
Total Cash and Investments to Total Adjusted Debt	1.9	Aa	1.1-1.3	Aa
Annual Debt Service Coverage	7.7	Aaa	2.5-3.4	Aa
Factor 6: Financial Policy and Strategy (10%)				
Financial Policy and Strategy	A	A	A	A
Scorecard-Indicated Outcome		aa3		a1
Assigned BCA		a1		a1

Data is based on most recent fiscal year available. Debt may include pro forma data for new debt (issued or proposed) after the close of the fiscal year.

For non-US issuers, nominal figures are in US dollars consistent with the Higher Education Methodology.

Source: Moody's Investors Service, University of Tasmania

Moody's related research

- » [Global Macro Outlook 2022-23 \(August 2022 Update\): Global growth slackens as tighter financial conditions permeate the economy](#), August 2022
- » [State of Tasmania \(Australia\) - Update to credit analysis](#), August 2022
- » [Global growth slowdown will squeeze state revenues](#), September 2022
- » [Higher Education Methodology](#), August 2021
- » [Government-Related Issuers Methodology](#), February 2020

Ratings

Exhibit 12

<u>Category</u>	<u>Moody's Rating</u>
UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA	
Outlook	Stable
Baseline Credit Assessment	a1
Issuer Rating	Aa2
Senior Unsecured -Dom Curr	Aa2

Source: Moody's Investors Service

Endnotes

- [1](#) Approximately half of UTAS' students are from Tasmania, a third from interstate and remaining 17% are international students.
- [2](#) The university's multi-campus operating model incorporates campuses Hobart, Launceston and the Cradle Coast, as well as a small presence in Sydney.
- [3](#) Total Adjusted Debt under Moody's Higher Education Methodology August 2021 includes operating lease liability and net unfunded superannuation liabilities within total adjusted debt.
- [4](#) On 19 October 2020, the Australian Parliament passed legislation for the Job-ready Graduates Package of reforms to higher education which includes increased university funding to AUD20 billion by 2024 from AUD18 billion in 2020.
- [5](#) TasTAFE is the largest public provider of vocational education and training in Tasmania. Owned by Tasmania, it is governed by an independent Statutory Board consisting of up to seven members appointed by the Minister for Education and Training.
- [6](#) During the pandemic, 30 Full-time Equivalent (FTE) staff were seconded from UTAS to the state to develop and build Tasmania's COVID processes with the university developing the Premier's Economic and Social Recovery Advisory Council (PESRAC) that was implemented by the state. More broadly, Commonwealth and state support was robust through the coronavirus disruption and included guaranteed domestic undergraduate funding, support in securing international online capacities (into [China](#), A1 stable) as well as additional targeted increases in research funding.
- [7](#) In April 2021, the Centre for Antarctic and Southern Ocean Technology was established with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the UTAS, the AAD and CSIRO. This formalizes the already high levels of cooperation between the AAD, CSIRO and UTAS, and fulfils an important priority in the Australian Antarctic Strategy and 20 Year Action Plan, to advance Australia's interests in Antarctica.
- [8](#) Key objectives of the Partnership include: a) Developing an innovative, next-generation, polar autonomous underwater vehicle to acquire high resolution data under sea ice and ice shelves; b) Providing a near real-time sea ice charting service to vessels operating in the East Antarctic and conducting research to support sea ice forecasting; c) Advancing our understanding of how the oceans melt Antarctic ice shelves, and quantifying present and future Antarctic Ice Sheet mass loss and its contribution to sea-level rise; d) Building our understanding of environmental controls on marine life, ranging from pelagic microbes to benthic communities using various sampling platforms, lab-based microbial culture experiments, habitat and life history assessments of mesopelagic, and regional process studies; and e) Assessing the contribution of the Antarctic Ice Sheet to sea level since the Last Glacial Maximum (~20,000 years ago) via geophysical observations and modelling.
- [9](#) Similar strategies are also initiated to increase female and indigenous participation.
- [10](#) Australia's low unemployment rate (3.4% July 2022) traditionally infers work is easier to find for students and study loads tends to decline.
- [11](#) Fiscal 2020 benefited from one off operating expenditure savings of AUD31 million against budget through various initiatives (including 17% reduction in spending on casual teaching as well as lower travel, professional services, marketing, agent commissions etc.) and lower business as usual capital spending.
- [12](#) The green bond requires the carbon content of the new campus to be at least 20% lower than Sandy Bay; the issuance was split into a AUD280 million, 10-year tranche with a 3.97% coupon and a AUD70 million, 20-year tranche with a 4.45% coupon.
- [13](#) UTAS has acquired the additional properties needed to support the SCT development and the phased approach will also provide the time and flexibility to manage project risks, as required.
- [14](#) UTAS has established extensive governance protocols which include bespoke measures to assist with the risk management and oversight of the NTP and SCT.
- [15](#) Risk of delays and overruns for UTAS's capital plans are managed by a dedicated project team assigned to each build.
- [16](#) Total Adjusted Debt under Moody's Higher Education Methodology includes operating lease liability, net unfunded superannuation liabilities and guaranteed debt obligations within total adjusted debt. Compared to international peers, Australia provides some of the strongest support for unfunded superannuation liabilities where the unfunded liability is fully covered by the Commonwealth (78%) and the rest by the states (22%), consequently removing universities' funding obligations for legacy unfunded superannuation liabilities.
- [17](#) Educational Attainment, Health, Economic Performance, Social Inclusion, Cultural Participation and Environmental Sustainability.

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