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Wissenschaft weltoffen kompakt

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English edition

Facts and Figures on the International Nature of Studies and Research in Germany and Worldwide

DZHW German Centre for
Higher Education Research and Science Studies ■

DAAD Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS IN GERMANY

Key findings

- The **number of international students at German universities** continued to rise in the winter semester 2019/20, to 319,902 (+6%). They account for 11.1% of all students in Germany; at universities this figure is 12.7%, at universities of applied sciences 8.4%.
- Asia and Pacific represents the **key region of origin** for international students with a share of 31%, followed by students from North Africa and Middle East (19%) and Western Europe (18%). The **key country of origin** is China, with around 41,400 students or 13% of all international students in Germany. In second and third place, India follows with around 24,900 (8%) and Syria with around 15,900 students (5%).
- The overwhelming majority (92%) of international students are aiming for a degree in Germany; only 8% are exchange or other visiting students not intending to complete a degree in Germany. **38% want to obtain a bachelor's degree and 39% a master's degree.** As for the **subject groups**, engineering (41%) and law, economics and social sciences (25%) dominate among international students.

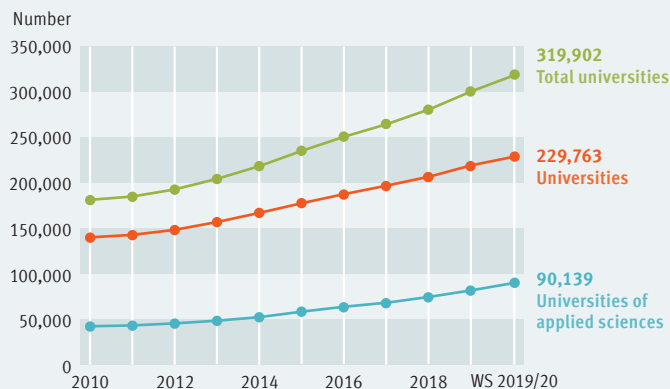
Data sources & definitions of terms

The following data refer to international or internationally mobile students. They are characterised by the fact that they have foreign citizenship and have acquired their university entrance certificate abroad or supplemented their school qualification acquired abroad by successfully completing a German preparatory course for higher education admission. They are recorded by the universities in accordance with legal requirements, checked by the State Statistical Offices and passed on to the Federal Statistical Office. In the regular student and graduation statistics of the Federal Statistical Office, these students are referred to as “Bildungsausländer”; *Wissenschaft weltoffen*, however, uses the internationally common designation.

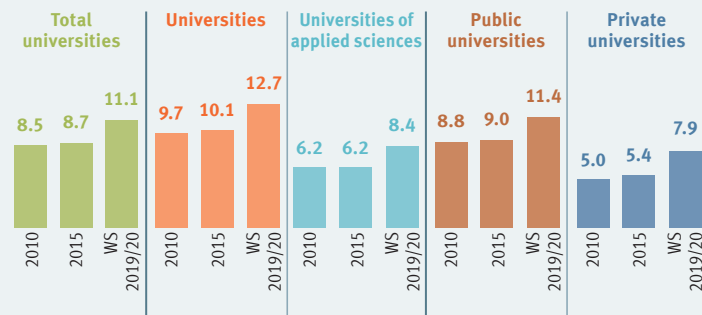
In addition to international students, the official statistics also record students who have a foreign nationality but have acquired their university entrance certificate at a school in Germany or taken an aptitude or gifted students test here (“Bildungsinländer”). Together with the international students considered here, they form the group of foreign students.

Mobility development

1 International students in Germany by type of university since 2010¹



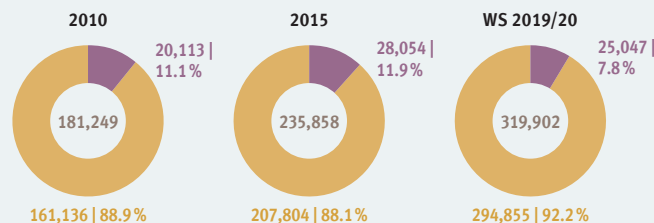
2 International students as a proportion of all students by type of university and type of sponsor since 2010²



Academic year/semester

Number and % of all students; WS = Winter semester

3 Number and proportion of international students by type of mobility since 2010



Degree pursued in Germany: X Total Yes No

Number and % of all international students at German universities

Fig. 1–3

Source: Federal Statistical Office; DZHW calculations

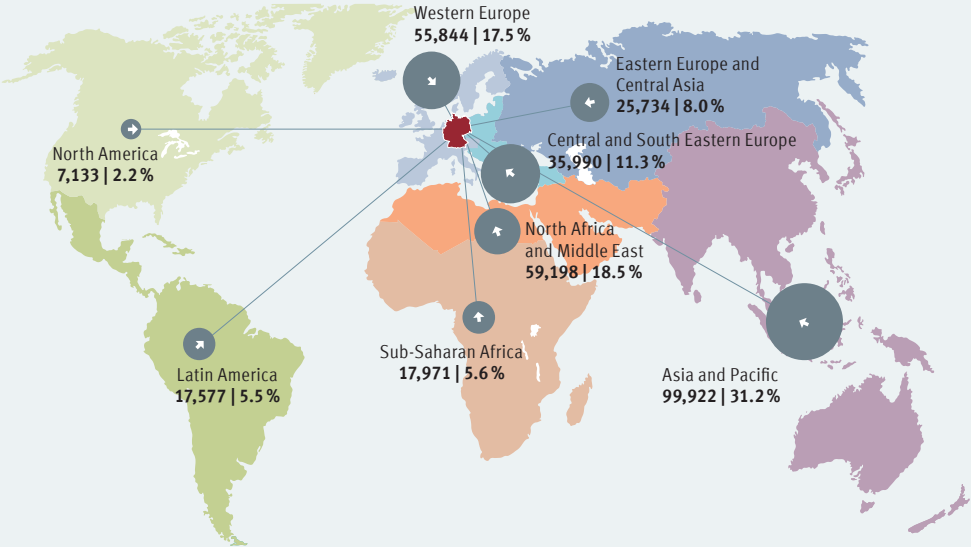
The information on international students for the academic year 2019 is taken from the official statistics for the winter semester 2018/19. The information on previous academic years also refers to the corresponding winter semesters, as it could be assumed up to now that there were no significant changes in the number of international students between the winter and summer semesters. This does not apply to the winter semester 2019/20. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting changes in study conditions, the number of international students only refers to this winter semester and not to the entire academic year 2020.

1 Values for universities, including colleges of art, music, education and theology.

2 Values for universities, including colleges of art, music, education and theology; values for private universities, including church-run universities.

Regions and countries of origin

🕒 4 International students by region of origin in the winter semester 2019/20¹



Total international students at German universities: 319,902
(including 533 students who cannot be allocated to a country of origin)

Number and % of all international students at German universities

🕒 5 International students by key countries of origin in WS 2019/20¹

Country of origin	Number	Proportion in %
China	41,353	12.9
India	24,868	7.8
Syria	15,948	5.0
Austria	12,020	3.8
Russia	10,507	3.3
Turkey	9,473	3.0
Italy	9,419	2.9
Iran	9,353	2.9
Cameroon	7,662	2.4
France	6,881	2.2
Ukraine	6,777	2.1
Tunisia	6,461	2.0
South Korea	6,461	2.0
Spain	6,240	2.0
USA	6,112	1.9
Bulgaria	6,027	1.9
Pakistan	5,968	1.9
Morocco	5,842	1.8
Vietnam	5,689	1.8
Egypt	5,469	1.7
Total	319,902	100

Number and % of all international students at German universities

Types of degree and subject groups

6 International students by type of degree and university in the winter semester 2019/20²

Type of degree	Total universities		Universities		Universities of applied sciences	
	Number	Proportion in %	Number	Proportion in %	Number	Proportion in %
Bachelor's degree	121,325	37.9	65,486	28.5	55,839	61.9
Master's degree	125,091	39.1	97,112	42.3	27,979	31.0
Doctorate	27,869	8.7	27,817	12.1	52	0.1
Other type of degree	20,658	6.5	19,036	8.3	1,622	1.8
Not studying for a degree	24,959	7.8	20,312	8.8	4,647	5.2
Total	319,902	100	229,763	100	90,139	100

Number and % of all international students at German universities

7 International students by subject group and type of university in the winter semester 2019/20²

Subject group	Total universities		Universities		Universities of applied sciences	
	Number	Proportion in %	Number	Proportion in %	Number	Proportion in %
Engineering	129,944	40.6	80,887	35.2	49,057	54.4
Law, economics and social sciences	78,352	24.5	48,473	21.1	29,879	33.1
Humanities	33,482	10.5	32,471	14.1	1,011	1.1
Mathematics and natural sciences	35,136	11.0	32,183	14.0	2,953	3.3
Medicine and health sciences	16,390	5.1	14,677	6.4	1,713	1.9
Art and art history	16,244	5.1	13,001	5.7	3,243	3.6
Agricultural, forestry and food sciences	7,007	2.2	5,246	2.3	1,761	2.0
Other	3,347	1.0	2,825	1.2	522	0.6
Total	319,902	100	229,763	100	90,139	100

Number and % of all international students at German universities

Fig. 4–7

Source: Federal Statistical Office; DZHW calculations

The information on international students for the academic year 2019 is taken from the official statistics for the winter semester 2018/19. The information on previous academic years also refers to the corresponding winter semesters, as it could be assumed up to now that there were no significant changes in the number of international students between the winter and summer semesters. This does not apply to the winter semester 2019/20. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting changes in study conditions, the number of international students only refers to this winter semester and not to the entire academic year 2020.

- 1 The country of origin is based on the respective citizenship.
- 2 Values for universities, including colleges of art, music, education and theology.

Federal states

8 International students by federal state in the winter semesters 2014/15 and 2019/20

Federal state	WS 2014/15		WS 2019/20		Development of the number in %	
	Number	in %	Number	in %		
Baden-Wuerttemberg	33,754	9.5	36,580	10.2	8.4	<div><div></div></div>
Bavaria	29,708	8.1	46,059	11.7	55.0	<div><div></div></div>
Berlin	23,859	13.9	35,864	18.3	50.3	<div><div></div></div>
Brandenburg	5,899	11.9	7,391	14.9	25.3	<div><div></div></div>
Bremen	3,861	10.8	5,156	13.7	33.5	<div><div></div></div>
Hamburg	7,665	8.0	10,707	9.7	39.7	<div><div></div></div>
Hesse	20,618	8.7	26,471	10.0	28.4	<div><div></div></div>
Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania	2,160	5.5	3,594	9.4	66.4	<div><div></div></div>
Lower Saxony	13,675	7.2	20,594	9.8	50.6	<div><div></div></div>
North Rhine-Westphalia	54,357	7.5	72,287	9.3	33.0	<div><div></div></div>
Rhineland-Palatinate	8,571	7.0	12,542	10.2	46.3	<div><div></div></div>
Saarland	3,435	11.6	4,016	12.8	16.9	<div><div></div></div>
Saxony	14,038	12.5	16,963	15.8	20.8	<div><div></div></div>
Saxony-Anhalt	5,696	10.4	7,565	13.9	32.8	<div><div></div></div>
Schleswig-Holstein	3,288	5.8	4,266	6.6	29.7	<div><div></div></div>
Thuringia	5,274	10.4	9,847	13.2	86.7	<div><div></div></div>
Total	235,858	8.7	319,902	11.1	35.6	<div><div></div></div>

Number and % of all students in the federal state

Source: Federal Statistical Office; DZHW calculations

9 Incoming Erasmus students by federal state 2019^{1, 2}

Federal state	Number	in %
Baden-Wuerttemberg	3,863	10.6
Bavaria	3,865	8.4
Berlin	2,461	6.9
Brandenburg	516	7.0
Bremen	403	7.8
Hamburg	718	6.7
Hesse	1,334	5.0
Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania	142	4.0
Lower Saxony	1,043	5.1
North Rhine-Westphalia	3,701	5.1
Rhineland-Palatinate	946	7.5
Saarland	260	6.5
Saxony	1,136	6.7
Saxony-Anhalt	257	3.4
Schleswig-Holstein	310	7.3
Thuringia	427	4.3
Total	21,382	6.7

Number and % of all international students

Source: DAAD; Federal Statistical Office

First-year students and graduates

🕒 10 International first-year students and graduates by type of degree 2009, 2014 and 2019³

	2009		2014		2019	
First-year students	Number	Proportion in %	Number	Proportion in %	Number	Proportion in %
Bachelor's degree	16,324	26.8	25,516	27.5	32,622	29.4
Master's degree	10,448	17.2	23,467	25.3	35,252	31.8
Doctorate	2,757	4.5	3,454	3.7	3,473	3.1
Other type of degree	5,871	9.6	4,014	4.3	4,056	3.7
Not studying for a degree	25,510	41.9	36,465	39.2	35,571	32.1
Total	60,910	100	92,916	100	110,974	100
Graduates	Number	Proportion in %	Number	Proportion in %	Number	Proportion in %
Bachelor's degree	3,779	13.9	9,423	27.7	13,461	27.7
Master's degree	6,260	23.1	15,424	45.3	27,114	55.8
Doctorate	3,558	13.1	4,497	13.2	5,315	10.9
Other type of degree	13,498	49.8	4,668	13.7	2,688	5.5
Total	27,095	100	34,012	100	48,578	100

Number and % of all international first-year students and graduates at German universities

Source: Federal Statistical Office; DZHW calculations

The information on international students for the academic year 2019 is taken from the official statistics for the winter semester 2018/19. The information on previous academic years also refers to the corresponding winter semesters, as it could be assumed up to now that there were no significant changes in the number of international students between the winter and summer semesters. This does not apply to the winter semester 2019/20. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting changes in study conditions, the number of international students only refers to this winter semester and not to the entire academic year 2020.

- 1 An Erasmus funding period starts on 1 June of the previous year and ends on 31 May of the following year (2019 = 1.6.2018 to 31.5.2020).
- 2 The percentages of all international students refer to the winter semester 2019/20.
- 3 First-year students are all students in their first university semester. A cohort comprises the first-year students of a summer semester and the following winter semester (2019 = first-year students SS 2019 + WS 2019/20). Graduates are all students who have successfully obtained their degree. A graduation year comprises the graduates of a winter semester and the following summer semester (2019 = graduates WS 2018/19 + SS 2019).

GERMAN STUDENTS ABROAD

Key findings

- **In 2018, around 135,000 Germans studied abroad**, and the majority of these students (approx. 90%) were also pursuing a degree abroad. The **key host countries** are Austria, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and Switzerland. In terms of temporary study-related visits abroad, the United Kingdom is in first place, followed by the USA, France and Spain.
- When looking at the **development of degree-related mobility**, it becomes clear that in the period between 2002 and 2010, i.e. during the introduction of the new, tiered study system, above-average growth rates of 10% and more were achieved in one year. Since the introduction of the new degree types, however, the absolute number of German students abroad has not increased further. Their share of all German students has even fallen slightly recently, also due to the strong increase in the number of students in Germany up to 2015.
- The **development of temporary study-related visits abroad** shows a somewhat different trend. Between 1991 and 2000, the proportion of students on temporary visits abroad rose sharply (from 20% to 32%) and stabilised at this level until 2006. In 2009 and 2012, the figure was somewhat lower, at 30% in each case, and fell again in 2016 to 28%.

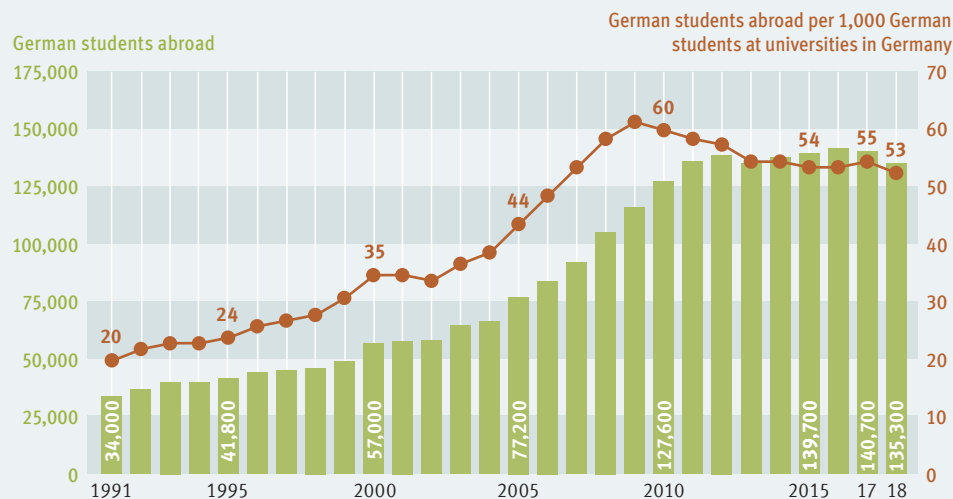
Data sources & definitions of terms

With regard to the international mobility of German students or graduates, a distinction is made between temporary visits abroad during a study programme leading to a degree in Germany (temporary study-related visits abroad) and visits abroad with the aim of obtaining a degree abroad (degree-related international mobility). In order to collect **data on degree-related international mobility**, the Federal Statistical Office conducts an annual survey in approximately 40 major host countries of German students with the respective responsible statistical offices. The majority of these students (about 90%) are pursuing a degree abroad. The data presented here are therefore interpreted as data on degree-related student mobility.

The total number of **temporary study-related visits abroad** by German students can currently only be estimated with the help of student or graduate surveys, as no official statistics are available on this to date. The data from the social surveys conducted jointly by the German National Association for Student Affairs (DSW) and the German Centre for Research on Higher Education and Science Studies (DZHW) are currently the most reliable source of data. Official data are only available for the sub-area of Erasmus visits, which comprise about one third of all temporary study-related visits abroad by German students.

Degree-related mobility

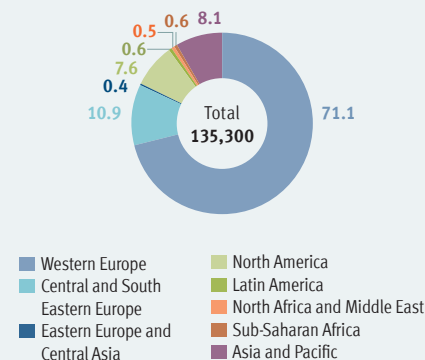
11 German students abroad since 1991^{1,2}



Source: Federal Statistical Office, German students abroad, country-specific reporting periods

- 1 2010 and later: including results of the Destatis survey on doctoral students.
- 2 2018: 2,571,932 German students at home. For every 1,000 students in Germany, there are 53 students abroad, or German students abroad account for 5.0 per cent of all German students at home and abroad.
- 3 In addition to the host countries covered by the Federal Statistical Office, this includes those countries in which, according to UNESCO student statistics, more than ten German students were enrolled in 2017 or 2018.

12 German students abroad by host region and key host countries 2018³



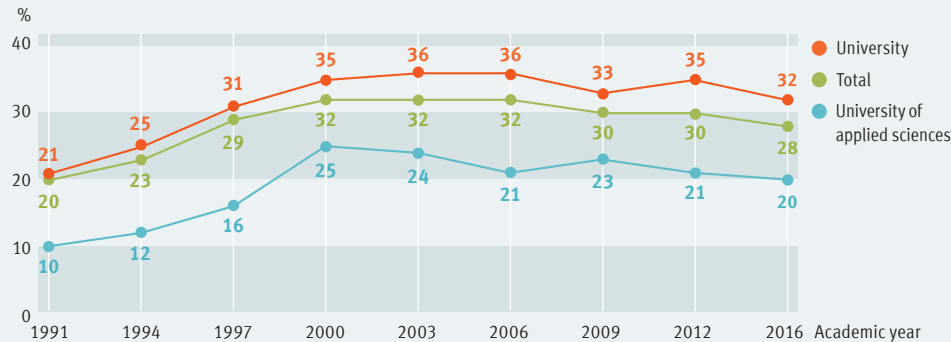
Top 10 Host countries	Number	Proportion in %
Austria	29,053	21.5
Netherlands	21,314	15.8
United Kingdom	15,300	11.3
Switzerland	11,459	8.5
USA	9,191	6.8
China	8,079	6.0
France	4,231	3.1
Turkey	3,850	2.8
Hungary	3,428	2.5
Denmark	3,018	2.2

Number and % of all German students abroad

Source: Federal Statistical Office, country-specific reporting periods

Temporary study-related visits abroad

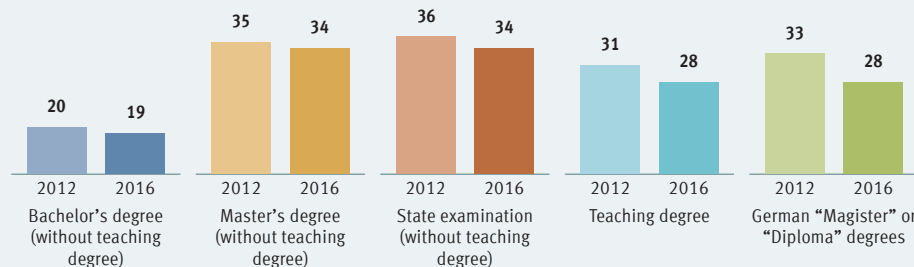
13 German students in later semesters on study-related visits abroad by type of university since 1991^{1, 2}



in % of all students in later semesters

Source: DSW/DZHW Social Surveys 1991–2016

14 Proportion of German students in later semesters on study-related visits abroad by type of degree 2012 and 2016^{1, 2}



in % of all students in later semesters

Source: DSW Social Surveys 2012, 2016

15 German students with study-related visits abroad by key host countries 2016^{2, 3}

Host country	in %	Host country	in %
United Kingdom	10	Australia	2
USA	9	Ireland	2
France	8	Canada	2
Spain	8	Austria	2
Italy	3	Finland	2
China	3	Poland	2
Sweden	3	Russia	2
Turkey	2	Belgium	2
Switzerland	2	Denmark	2
Netherlands	2	Norway	2

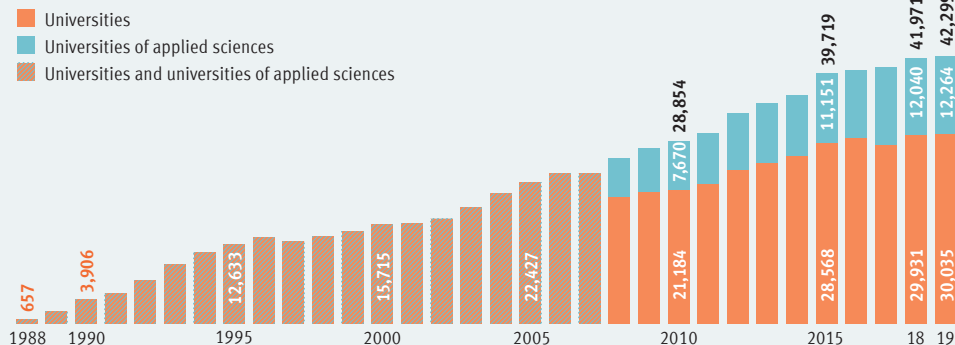
in % of all recorded visits abroad

Source: DSW/DZHW Social Survey 2016

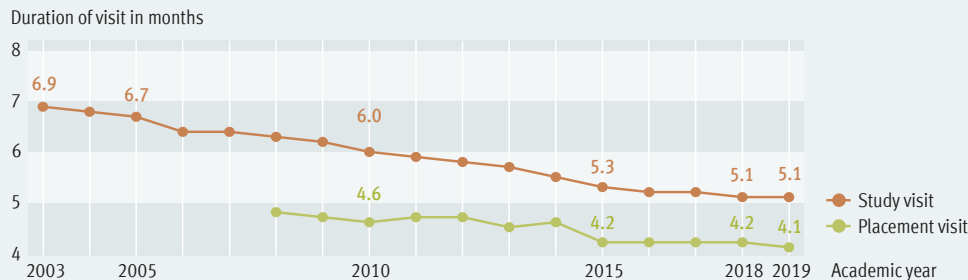
- 1 The mobility rate of students in later semesters or at the end of their studies makes it possible to assess study-related international mobility over the course of an entire study cycle. It is thus more meaningful than mobility rates in relation to all students. Students in later semesters from 1991 to 1994 are: students from the 8th university semester (university) or 6th university semester (university of applied sciences) (1991: West Germany only); from 1997: students from the 9th to 14th university semester (university) or 7th to 11th university semester (university of applied sciences).
- 2 German students including Bildungsinlaender.
- 3 Only countries in which at least 2% of the recorded visits took place.

Erasmus visits

16 Erasmus participants from Germany by type of university since 1988^{1,2}



17 Average duration of visits abroad of German Erasmus participants by type of visit since 2003³



18 Erasmus participants from Germany by key host countries 2019³

Host country	Number	Proportion in %
Spain	6,859	16.2
France	5,490	13.0
United Kingdom	4,866	11.5
Italy	2,942	7.0
Sweden	2,505	5.9
Finland	2,060	4.9
Netherlands	2,015	4.8
Norway	1,869	4.4
Austria	1,762	4.2
Ireland	1,494	3.5
Portugal	1,307	3.1
Turkey	1,201	2.8
Poland	1,123	2.7
Belgium	1,000	2.4
Denmark	994	2.3
Total host countries	42,299	100

Number of visits and share of all visits in %.

Fig. 16–18

Source: DAAD, Erasmus statistics

- 1 A breakdown of visits by type of university is only possible from the 2008 Erasmus year onwards.
- 2 Erasmus statistics until 2014: an Erasmus year starts in the winter semester and ends in the summer semester of the following year. 2014 = WS 2013/14 + SS 2014. New Erasmus+ statistics since 2015: an Erasmus funding period starts on 1 June of the previous year and ends on 31 May of the following year (2019 = 1.6.2018 to 31.5.2020).
- 3 An Erasmus funding period starts on 1 June of the previous year and ends on 31 May of the following year (2019 = 1.6.2018 to 31.5.2020).

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MOBILITY

Key findings

- In 2018, around **5.6 million students were enrolled outside their home country**, according to UNESCO. Since 2010, the number of internationally mobile students has increased by around 1.9 million or 51%. Western Europe (30%), Asia and Pacific (23%) and North America (22%) dominate among **host regions**, while Asia and Pacific (42%) dominates among regions of origin.
- The **USA is the key host country** for international students. Around 987,000, or 18%, of all international students worldwide were enrolled in the USA in 2018. The United Kingdom (8%), Australia (8%), Germany (6%) and Russia (5%) follow at a considerable distance as host countries.
- The **key country of origin of internationally mobile students is China**. In total, around 1 million, or 19%, of all internationally mobile students came from China in 2018. The countries of origin India (7%), Germany (2%), Vietnam (2%) and South Korea (2%) follow at a considerable distance.
- The **largest flows of international student mobility** lead from the key country of origin China to the USA, but also to the other host countries United Kingdom, Australia and Japan. The respective mobility flows result in different **mobility balances** in the various countries. The spectrum ranges from countries such as Australia, with a ratio of only 3% outbound to 97% inbound students, among internationally mobile students, to countries such as India, with the reverse ratio of 89% outbound to 11% inbound students.

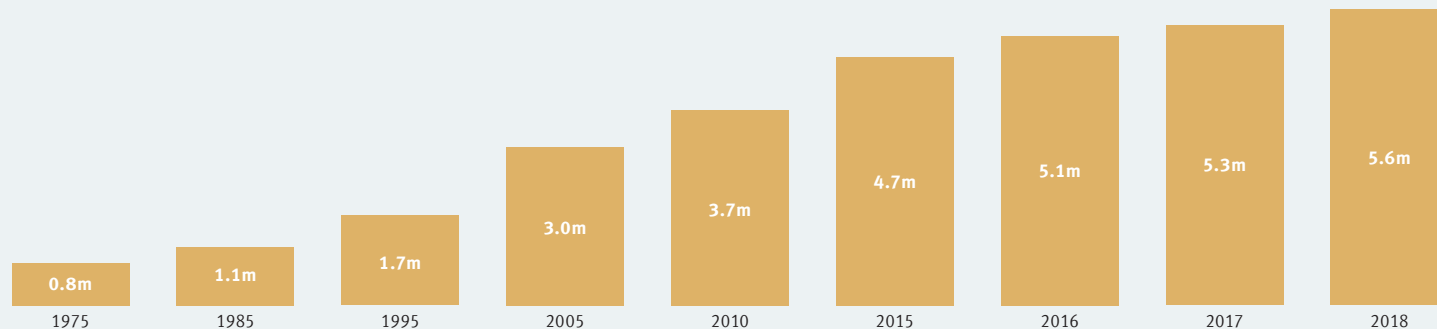
Data sources & definitions of terms

For the presentation of international student mobility, *Wissenschaft weltoffen* uses the **UNESCO statistics on international students**. It should be noted that these figures often differ from the corresponding data in the national statistics as, in some cases, different groups of people are defined as students. As far as possible, UNESCO records internationally mobile students in all countries, i.e. students who did not have their place of residence in the country concerned before taking up their studies and/or who acquired their previous education abroad (referred to as non-resident students). For some countries, e.g. Italy, Russia, South Korea or Turkey, such data are not available. Their values still refer to the total group of all foreign students who do not have the citizenship of the host country (non-citizen students).

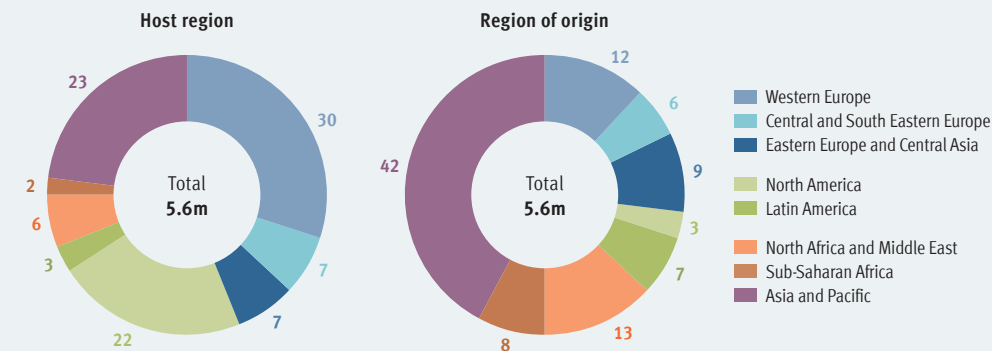
Moreover, the UNESCO statistics are **not based on a complete survey of all mobile students worldwide** but only on their best possible calculation on the basis of the data available in each case. Missing data are estimated. The availability and significance of the data depend heavily on the development of education statistics in the respective countries. Some countries, especially in South and Central America as well as in Africa, are not yet able to provide any data on international students at their universities. Even China, which is now a major host country, does not yet provide UNESCO with data on the origin of international students in China. This inevitably leads to an underestimation of the importance of certain host countries and regions of origin.

Mobility development and regions of origin

19 International students worldwide since 1975



20 International students by host region and region of origin 2018



in % of all international students worldwide

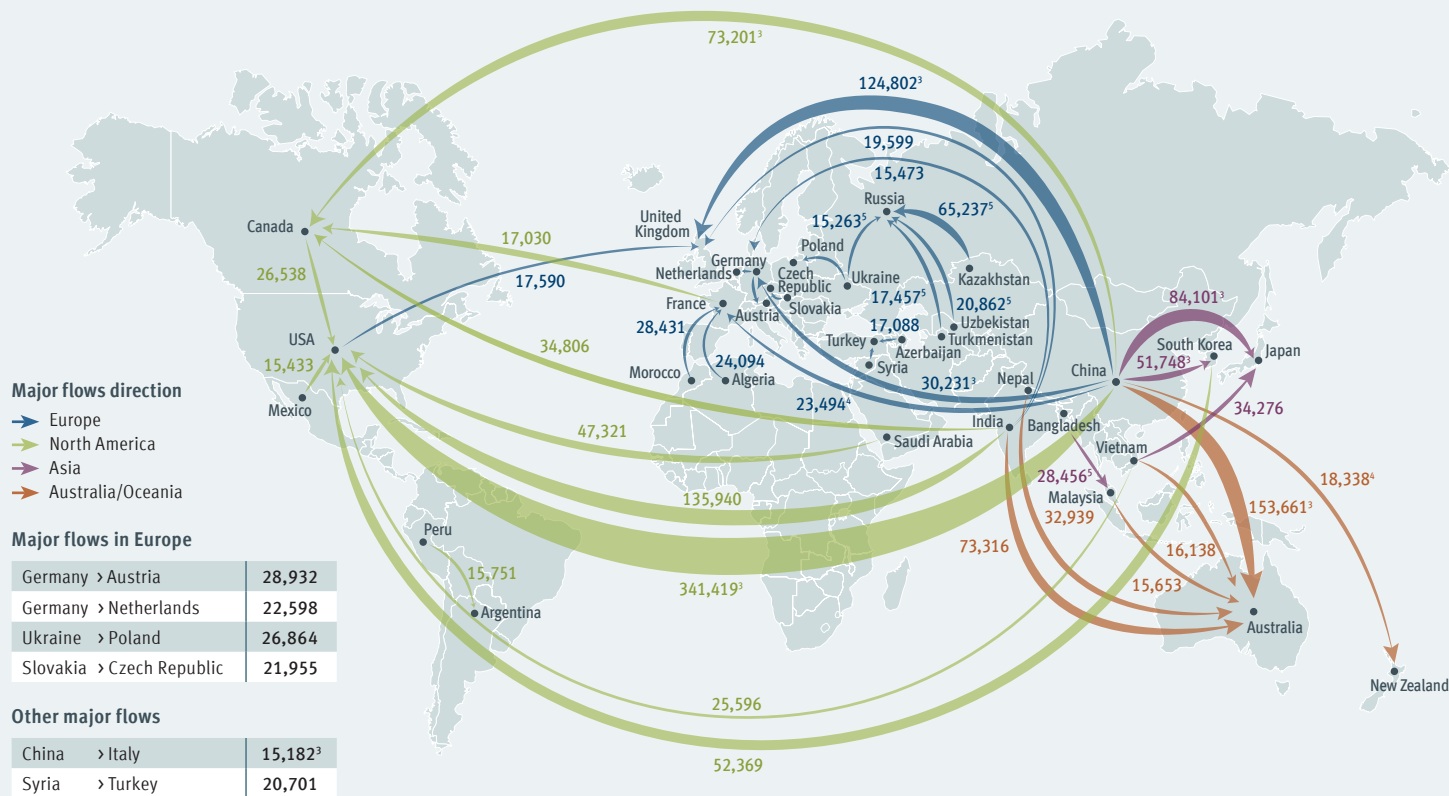
Fig. 19, 20

Source: UNESCO; country-specific reporting periods

The basis for the collection and processing of data is the “International Standard Classification of Education”. With the help of this classification, the international comparability of national data is established. It differs in part from the national statistics so that the UNESCO data sometimes deviate from the national data. Students are defined here as those assigned to ISCED 2011 levels 5 to 8.

Host countries and countries of origin

21 Major flows of international student mobility 2018^{1,2}



Figures in absolute numbers of students

22 Key host countries and countries of origin of international students 2018

Country of origin	Number	Proportion in %	Host country	Number	Proportion in %
China ⁶	1,031,986	18.5	USA	987,314	17.7
India	375,055	6.7	United Kingdom	452,079	8.1
Germany	122,538	2.2	Australia	444,514	8.0
Vietnam	108,527	1.9	Germany	311,738	5.6
South Korea	101,774	1.8	Russia	262,416	4.7
France	99,488	1.8	China ⁶	231,128	4.1
USA	84,349	1.5	France	229,623	4.1
Kazakhstan	83,503	1.5	Canada	224,548	4.0
Nepal	81,917	1.5	Japan	182,748	3.3
Saudi Arabia	77,406	1.4	Turkey	125,138	2.2
Other countries	3,404,859	61.1	Other countries	2,120,156	38.1

Number and % of all international students worldwide

23 Mobility balances in major host countries and countries of origin 2018

	Internationally mobile students				
	Outgoing		Incoming		
Country	Number	in %		Number	
India	375,055	89	<div><div></div></div>	11	46,077
Kazakhstan	83,503	85	<div><div></div></div>	15	14,332
China ⁶	1,031,986	82	<div><div></div></div>	18	231,128
South Korea	101,774	55	<div><div></div></div>	45	84,749
Saudi Arabia	77,406	51	<div><div></div></div>	49	73,977
France	99,488	30	<div><div></div></div>	70	229,623
Germany	122,538	28	<div><div></div></div>	72	311,738
USA	84,349	8	<div><div></div></div>	92	987,314
United Kingdom	38,986	8	<div><div></div></div>	92	452,079
Australia	13,319	3	<div><div></div></div>	97	444,514

Number and % of all incoming and outgoing students of the respective country

Fig. 21–23

Source: UNESCO student statistics; country-specific reporting periods; DAAD calculations

The basis for the collection and processing of data is the “International Standard Classification of Education”. This classification helps establish the international comparability of national data. It differs in part from the national statistics, so that the UNESCO data sometimes deviate from the national data. Students are defined here as those assigned to ISCED 2011 levels 5 to 8.

- 1 China and Singapore could not be taken into account as host countries as no data on the countries of origin of international students were available here.
- 2 Only host countries with at least 15,000 students arriving from a country of origin.
- 3 Including students from Hong Kong and Macau.
- 4 Unclear whether students from Hong Kong and Macau are included or not.
- 5 Data from 2017, as data for 2018 were not yet available.
- 6 Including Hong Kong and Macau. Mobility between Hong Kong and Macau was excluded. However, as no country-specific data on incoming students are available for China, students going from Hong Kong and Macau to China are still included.

RESEARCHER MOBILITY IN GERMANY

Key findings

- In 2019, **around 51,800 academic and artistic staff with foreign citizenship were employed at German universities**, including around 3,500 international professors. This means that international staff accounted for 12.7% of all academic staff, while the proportion of professors was 7.7%.
- The **key region of origin** of the international academic staff is Western Europe. 35% of the total international academic staff and as many as 66% of the international professors come from Western European countries. Italy, India, China and Austria are the **key countries of origin**. Most of the international professors come from the two German-speaking countries Austria (20%) and Switzerland (9%).
- In 2018, **around 13,000 employed academics and researchers with foreign citizenship** worked at the four largest **non-university research institutes**. Since 2010, their number has almost doubled (+91%), so that in 2018 around 27% of all academics and researchers here came from abroad. EU countries account for 44%, other European countries for 13% of all foreign academics and researchers.
- In addition to employed international academic staff, **international guest researchers** whose visit is funded by domestic and foreign organisations also research and teach in Germany. In 2018, this amounted to around 32,700 visits. Western Europe and Asia and Pacific are the key regions of

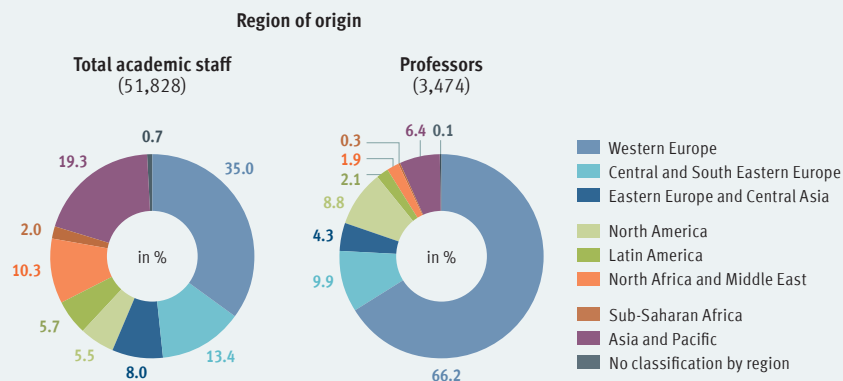
origin, with shares of 22% and 21% respectively. Conversely, a total of around 14,700 visits by German guest researchers abroad were funded by domestic and foreign organisations in 2018. Western Europe is the key host region (27%), followed by North America and Asia and Pacific (19% each).

Data sources & definitions of terms

Researcher mobility in Germany includes foreign academics and researchers in Germany on the one hand and German academics and researchers abroad on the other. With regard to the former, a distinction is made between foreign staff at universities and non-university research institutes, which is recorded by the Federal Statistical Office, and funded visits by foreign guest researchers. The latter data are collected from the respective funding organisations by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the German Centre for Research on Higher Education and Science Studies (DZHW) within the framework of *Wissenschaft weltoffen*. This also includes the funded visits of German academics and researchers abroad. In the DAAD and DZHW survey, only visits funded by the organisations surveyed are recorded. Visits funded by other German and foreign institutions are not included. The data presented here therefore represent a significant part, but not all, of the funded visits of German and foreign academics and researchers.

International academic staff at German universities

24 Total international academic staff and international professors at German universities by region of origin and key countries of origin 2019^{1, 2, 3, 4}



Country of origin	Total academic staff		Country of origin	Professors	
	Number	in %		Number	in %
Italy	3,711	7.2	Austria	692	19.9
India	3,402	6.6	Switzerland	319	9.2
China	3,371	6.5	Italy	275	7.9
Austria	2,859	5.5	USA	265	7.6
USA	2,405	4.6	Netherlands	257	7.4
Russia	2,262	4.4	France	162	4.7
Spain	2,104	4.1	United Kingdom	160	4.6
Iran	1,993	3.8	Spain	109	3.1
France	1,906	3.7	Russia	94	2.7
United Kingdom	1,619	3.1	Greece	86	2.5
Turkey	1,383	2.7	Poland	76	2.2
Greece	1,366	2.6	China	66	1.9
Poland	1,271	2.5	Belgium	59	1.7
Netherlands	1,246	2.4	Turkey	47	1.4
Switzerland	1,013	2.0	Hungary	44	1.3

25 International and German academic staff at German universities by staff group 2009, 2014 and 2019^{1, 2, 3, 4}

Staff group	2009		2014		2019	
	Number	in %	Number	in %	Number	in %
Total German academic staff	271,381	90.1	340,259	89.2	354,831	87.3
German professors	37,868	12.6	42,445	11.1	45,073	11.1
Total international academic staff	29,661	9.9	41,010	10.8	51,828	12.7
thereof: professors	2,297	0.8	3,004	0.8	3,474	0.9
thereof: other academic staff	27,364	9.1	38,006	10.0	48,354	11.9

Number and % of the total academic staff

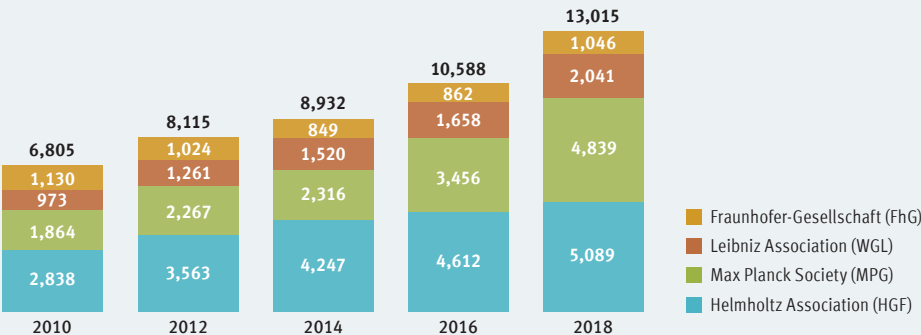
Fig. 24, 25

Source: Federal Statistical Office, university staff statistics

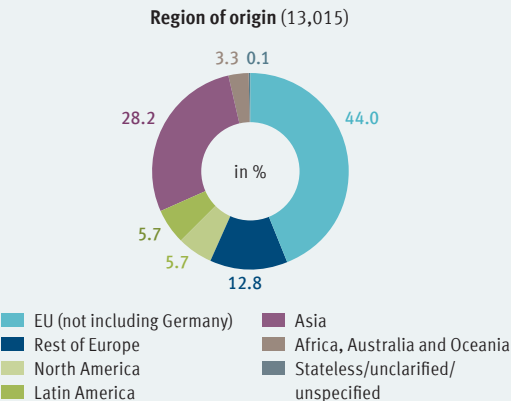
- 1 Total academic staff including artistic staff at colleges of art and music as well as professors.
- 2 International staff = staff with foreign, unclear, unknown or no citizenship (stateless).
- 3 The year corresponds to the calendar year (reference date: 1 December).
- 4 Deviations from 100% are due to rounding.

International academic staff at non-university research institutes

🕒 26 International academic staff at the four largest German non-university institutes since 2010^{1, 2, 3, 5}



🕒 27 International academic staff at the four largest German non-university institutes by region of origin 2018^{1, 2, 3, 4}



Top 10 countries of origin	Number	Proportion in %
China	1,171	9.0
Italy	1,166	9.0
India	1,053	8.1
Russia	708	5.4
France	640	4.9
Spain	617	4.7
USA	592	4.5
United Kingdom	489	3.8
Austria	432	3.3
Iran	362	2.8

🕒 28 Proportion of international academic staff at the four largest German non-university research institutes since 2010^{1, 2, 3, 5}

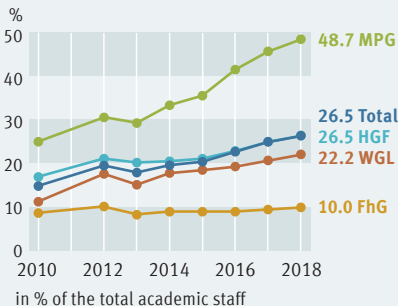


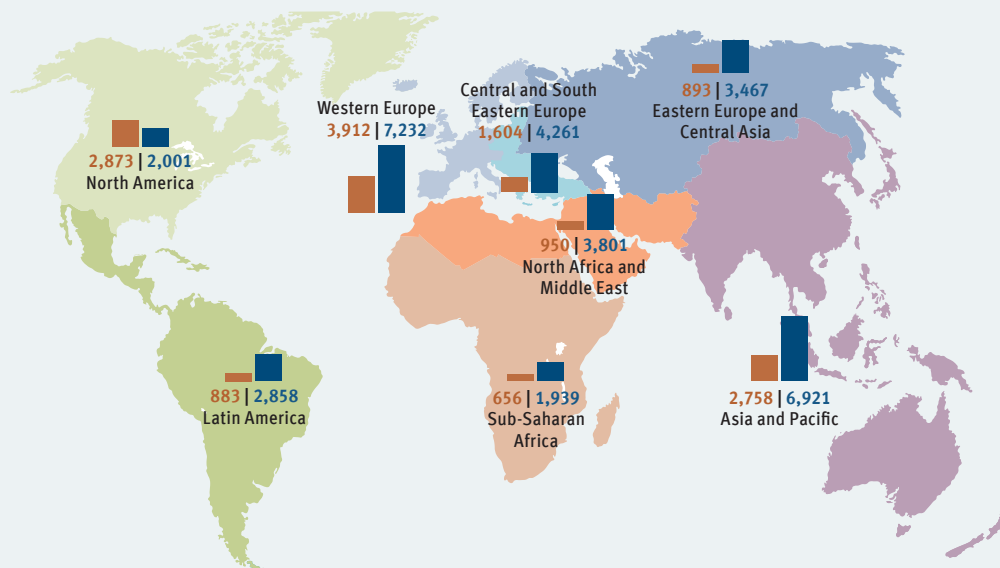
Fig. 26–28
Source: Federal Statistical Office; DZHW calculations

Fig. 29
Source: Responses from funding organisations; DZHW calculations

- 1 International staff = staff with foreign, unclear, unknown or no citizenship (stateless).
- 2 The year corresponds to the calendar year (reference date: 1 June).
- 3 Deviations from 100% are due to rounding.
- 4 According to the regional classification of the Federal Statistical Office.
- 5 The comparability of time series data before 2014 is limited due to a change in data collection since 2014.
- 6 The year corresponds to the calendar year (different reference dates).

Funded guest researchers

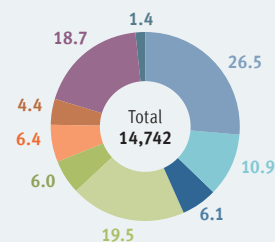
🕒 29 Funded visits of German guest researchers abroad and international guest researchers in Germany by host region and region of origin 2018^{3,6}



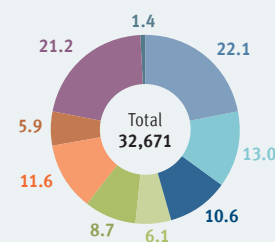
■ German guest researchers abroad funded by German funding organisations
 ■ International guest researchers in Germany funded by German funding organisations

Excluding 213 German and 191 international academics and researchers for whom no information on the host country or country of origin was available.

German guest researchers abroad
in %



International guest researchers in Germany
in %



■ Western Europe
 ■ Central and South Eastern Europe
 ■ Eastern Europe and Central Asia
 ■ North Africa and Middle East
 ■ Sub-Saharan Africa
 ■ Asia and Pacific
 ■ No classification by region
 ■ North America
 ■ Latin America

Wissenschaft weltoffen



The main edition of *Wissenschaft weltoffen* contains comprehensive data and facts on the internationalisation of study and research in Germany. At www.wissenschaft-weltoffen.de you can download it as a PDF free of charge. The next issue is expected to be published in September 2021.

We also present additional data and information on the *Wissenschaft weltoffen* website. There you will find comprehensive charts, information on other evaluation options and a detailed glossary.

The German Centre for Research on Higher Education and Science Studies (DZHW) has set up a service point to provide advice to support evaluations of data from the *Wissenschaft weltoffen* data pool for individual projects and to carry out these evaluations, if required. This service is available free of charge for universities and other public institutions.

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