

Wissenschaft weltoffen kompakt

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

wissenschaft-
weltoffen.de



Includes data
download option
for all figures

2022

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS IN GERMANY

Key findings

- The **number of international students at German universities** continued to rise in the winter semester 2020/21, despite the Covid-19 pandemic, to 324,729 (+1.5%). They account for 11% of all students in Germany; at universities this figure is 12.6%, at universities of applied sciences 8.6%.
- 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 (20%) and Western Europe (17%). The **key country of origin** is China, with around 40,100 students or 12% of all international students in Germany. In second and third place, India follows with around 28,500 (9%) and Syria with around 16,900 students (5%).
- The overwhelming majority (96%) of international students are aiming for a degree in Germany in the winter semester 2020/21; only 4% (due to the pandemic) are exchange or other visiting students not intending to complete a degree in Germany (previous year: 8%). **39% want to obtain a bachelor's degree and 42% a master's degree.** As for the **subject groups**, engineering (42%) and law, economics and social sciences (25%) dominate among international students.

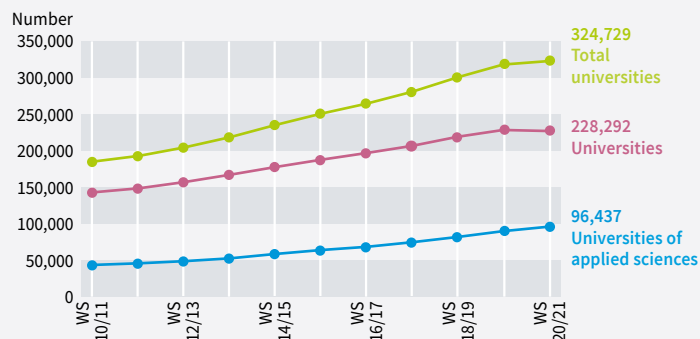
Data sources & definitions of terms

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.

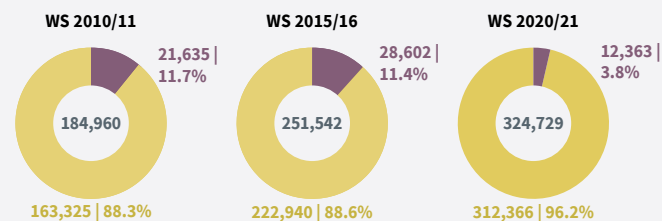
In addition to international students, the official statistics also record students who have a foreign nationality but have acquired their university entrance certificate at a school in Germany or taken an aptitude or gifted students test here ('Bildungsinländer'). Together with the international students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

Mobility development

1 International students in Germany by type of university, since the winter semester 2010/11¹



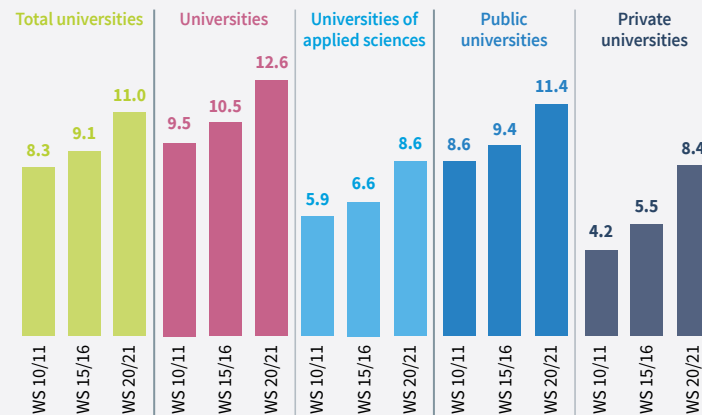
3 Number and proportion of international students by type of mobility, since the winter semester 2010/11



Degree pursued in Germany: X Total Yes No

Number and % of all international students at German universities

2 International students as a proportion of all students by type of university and type of sponsor, since the winter semester 2010/11²



In % of all students; WS=winter semester

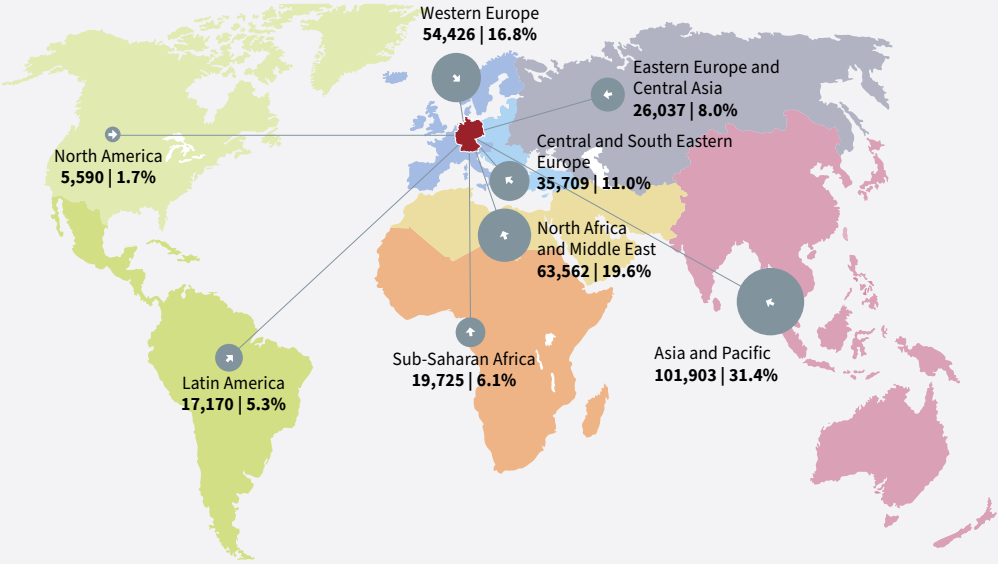
Fig. 1-3

Source: Federal Statistical Office; DZHW calculations

- 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 2020/21¹



Total international students at German universities: 324,729
(including 607 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 the winter semester 2020/21¹

Country of origin	Number	Proportion in %
China	40,122	12.4
India	28,542	8.8
Syria	16,931	5.2
Austria	13,612	4.2
Russia	10,573	3.3
Iran	10,561	3.3
Turkey	10,018	3.1
Italy	8,576	2.6
Cameroon	7,970	2.5
Tunisia	6,729	2.1
Ukraine	6,572	2.0
France	6,532	2.0
Pakistan	6,403	2.0
Morocco	6,195	1.9
Egypt	6,050	1.9
Vietnam	5,808	1.8
Bulgaria	5,752	1.8
South Korea	5,462	1.7
Spain	5,305	1.6
US	4,755	1.5
Total	324,729	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 2020/21^{2,3}

Type of degree	Total universities		Universities		Universities of applied sciences	
	Number	Proportion in %	Number	Proportion in %	Number	Proportion in %
Bachelor's degree	127,241	39.2	66,842	29.3	60,399	62.6
Master's degree	137,261	42.3	105,457	46.2	31,804	33.0
Doctorate	27,613	8.5	27,544	12.1	69	0.1
Other type of degree	20,251	6.2	18,742	8.2	1,509	1.6
Not studying for a degree	12,363	3.8	9,707	4.3	2,656	2.8
Total	324,729	100	228,292	100	96,437	100

Number and % of all international students at German universities

7 International students by subject group and type of university in the winter semester 2020/21^{2,3}

Subject group	Total universities		Universities		Universities of applied sciences	
	Number	In %	Number	In %	Number	In %
Engineering	136,579	42.1	83,813	36.7	52,766	54.7
Law, economics and social sciences	79,415	24.5	47,326	20.7	32,089	33.3
Mathematics and natural sciences	36,630	11.3	33,341	14.6	3,289	3.4
Humanities	29,497	9.1	28,700	12.6	797	0.8
Medicine and health sciences	16,585	5.1	14,651	6.4	1,934	2.0
Art and art history	16,435	5.1	13,110	5.7	3,325	3.4
Agricultural, forestry and food sciences	7,412	2.3	5,441	2.4	1,971	2.0
Other	2,176	0.7	1,910	0.8	266	0.3
Total	324,729	100	228,292	100	96,437	100

Number and % of all international students at German universities

Fig. 4–7
Source: Federal Statistical Office;
DZHW calculations

- 1 The country of origin is based on the respective citizenship.
- 2 Values for universities, including colleges of art, music, education and theology.
- 3 Deviations from 100% are due to rounding.

Federal states

8 International students by federal state in the winter semesters 2015/16 and 2020/21

Federal state	WS 2015/16		WS 2020/21		Development of the number in %	
	Number	In %	Number	In %		
Baden-Wuerttemberg	35,842	10.0	33,073	9.2	-7.7	
Bavaria	32,510	8.7	48,625	12.0	49.6	
Berlin	25,441	14.8	36,056	18.1	41.7	
Brandenburg	6,142	12.4	7,437	14.7	21.1	
Bremen	3,999	11.0	5,252	14.0	31.3	
Hamburg	7,972	8.1	11,244	9.7	41.0	
Hesse	21,681	8.9	27,060	10.1	24.8	
Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania	2,387	6.2	3,603	9.2	50.9	
Lower Saxony	14,735	7.4	20,647	9.9	40.1	
North Rhine-Westphalia	55,114	7.9	73,881	9.5	34.1	
Rhineland-Palatinate	9,076	7.5	12,998	10.5	43.2	
Saarland	3,519	11.4	4,014	12.8	14.1	
Saxony	15,066	13.3	16,556	15.4	9.9	
Saxony-Anhalt	6,088	11.1	7,822	14.2	28.5	
Schleswig-Holstein	3,424	6.0	4,267	6.4	24.6	
Thuringia	5,707	11.4	12,194	12.6	113.7	
Total	251,542	9.1	324,729	11.0	29.1	

Number and % of all students in the federal state
Source: Federal Statistical Office; DZHW calculations

9 Incoming Erasmus students by federal state, 2020^{1,2,3,4}

Federal state	Number	In %
Baden-Wuerttemberg	3,487	9.5
Bavaria	3,155	6.8
Berlin	2,016	5.6
Brandenburg	455	6.2
Bremen	329	6.4
Hamburg	613	5.7
Hesse	1,104	4.2
Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania	127	3.5
Lower Saxony	838	4.1
North Rhine-Westphalia	2,953	4.1
Rhineland-Palatinate	763	6.1
Saarland	250	6.2
Saxony	951	5.6
Saxony-Anhalt	188	2.5
Schleswig-Holstein	259	6.1
Thuringia	318	3.2
Total	17,806	5.6

Number and % of all international students
Sources: DAAD; Federal Statistical Office

First-year students and graduates

 **10** International first-year students and graduates by type of degree, 2010, 2015 and 2020^{5,6}

	2010		2015		2020	
First-year students	Number	Proportion in %	Number	Proportion in %	Number	Proportion in %
Bachelor's degree	17,635	26.6	27,329	27.6	30,720	35.5
Master's degree	13,180	19.8	26,006	26.2	33,378	38.6
Doctorate	3,145	4.7	3,484	3.5	2,743	3.2
Other type of degree	4,509	6.8	3,812	3.8	3,544	4.1
Not studying for a degree	27,944	42.1	38,456	38.8	16,069	18.6
Total	66,413	100	99,087	100	86,454	100
Graduates	Number	Proportion in %	Number	Proportion in %	Number	Proportion in %
Bachelor's degree	5,372	19.0	9,703	26.7	13,554	28.7
Master's degree	7,132	25.3	18,299	50.3	25,889	54.9
Doctorate	3,737	13.2	4,887	13.4	5,065	10.7
Other type of degree	11,967	42.4	3,481	9.6	2,646	5.6
Total	28,208	100	36,370	100	47,154	100

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

Source: Federal Statistical Office; DZHW calculations

- 1 An Erasmus funding period starts on 1 June of the previous year and ends on 31 May of the following year. 2020 = 1.6.2019 to 31.5.2021.
- 2 The shares of all international students refer to the winter semester 2019/20.
- 3 Erasmus mobility figures since June 2020 include visits in hybrid format, i.e. a combination of physical and virtual visits. Purely virtual visits and mobility that did not take place were not counted.
- 4 Due to the pandemic, the Erasmus year 2020 was extended until 31 March 2022. To ensure comparability with previous years, however, only the visits within the otherwise usual period, i.e. 1.6.2019 to 31.5.2021, were counted here for the calculation of the figures for the Erasmus year 2020.
- 5 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. 2020 = first-year students SS 2020 + WS 2020/21. 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. 2020 = graduates WS 2019/20 + SS 2020.
- 6 Deviations from 100% are due to rounding.

GERMAN STUDENTS ABROAD

Key findings

- **In 2019, around 138,000 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 US, 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, falling again in 2016 to 28%.

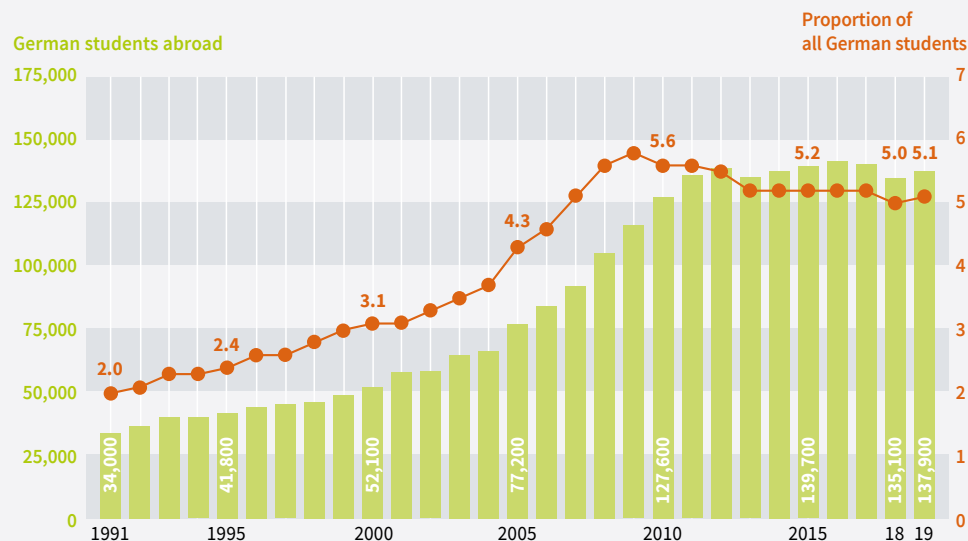
Data sources & definitions of terms

With regard to the international mobility of German students, 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). To collect **data on degree-related international mobility**, the Federal Statistical Office conducts an annual survey with the respective responsible statistical offices in approximately 40 major host countries of German students. 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 reliable 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 Higher Education Research 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

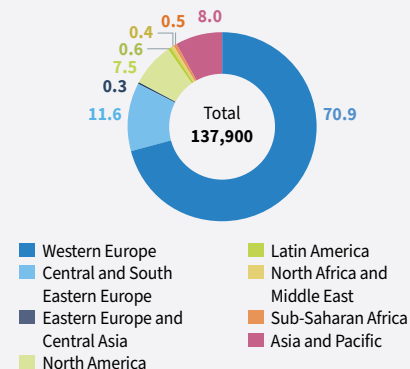
11 German students abroad, since 1991^{1,2}



Source: Federal Statistical Office, 'Deutsche Studierende im Ausland', country-specific reporting periods

- From 2010: including results of the Doctoral Survey, from 2019 including results of the doctoral statistics.
- 2019: 2,549,224 German students at home. German students abroad thus account for 5.1% of all German students at home and abroad.
- 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 2018 or 2019.

12 German students abroad by host region and key host countries, 2019³



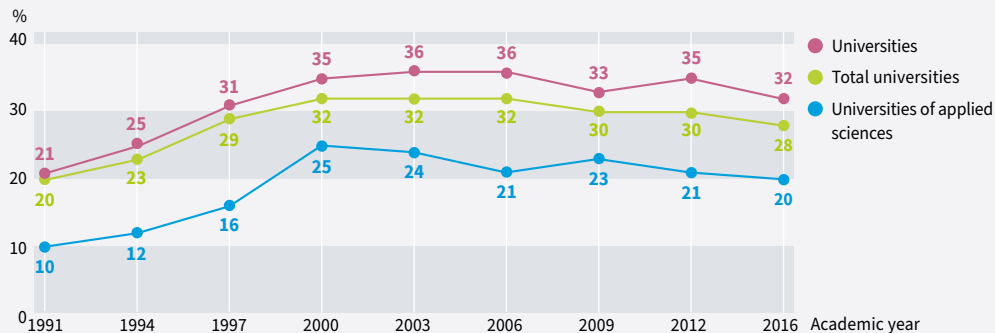
Top 10 host countries	Number	Proportion in %
Austria	30,231	21.9
Netherlands	22,439	16.3
United Kingdom	14,145	10.3
Switzerland	11,536	8.4
US	9,242	6.7
China	8,079	5.9
France	4,715	3.4
Turkey	4,022	2.9
Hungary	3,447	2.5
Denmark	2,980	2.2

Number and % of all German students abroad

Sources: UNESCO, Student Statistics; Federal Statistical Office, 'Deutsche Studierende im Ausland', country-specific reporting periods

Temporary study-related visits abroad

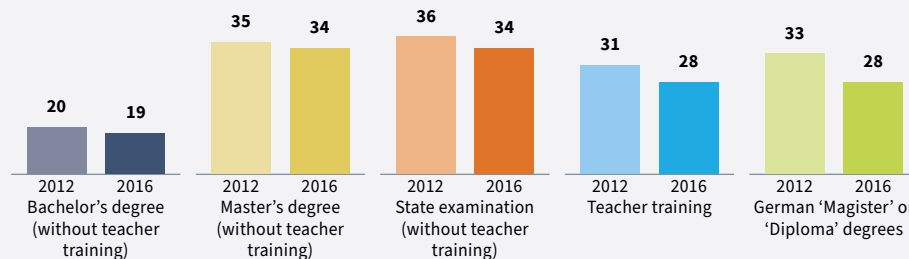
13 German students in later semesters on study-related visits abroad, by type of university, since 1991^{1,2}



In % of all students in later semesters

Sources: 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

Sources: DSW/DZHW 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
US	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

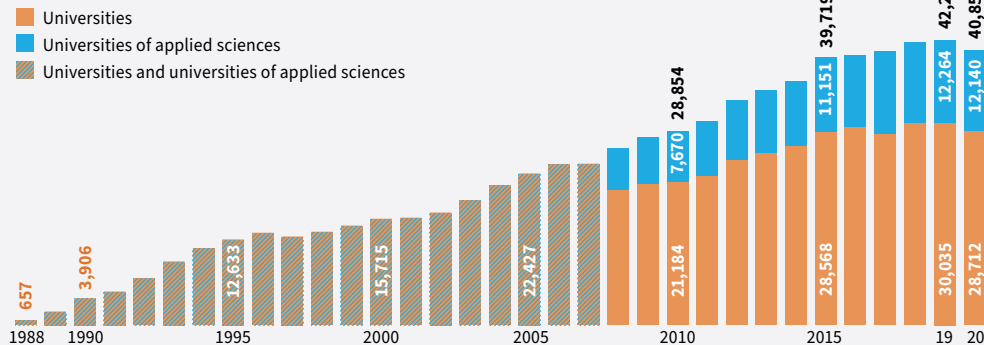
In % of all recorded visits abroad

Source: DSW/DZHW Social Survey 2016

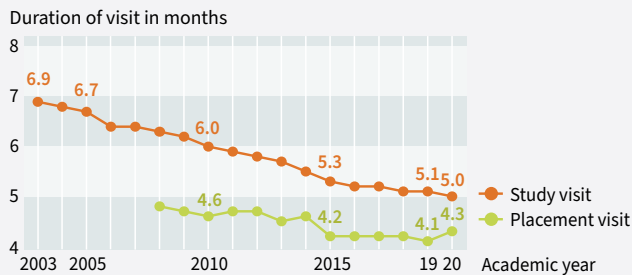
- 1 The mobility rate of students in later semesters or at the end of their studies makes it possible to assess study-related international mobility over the course of an entire study cycle. It is thus more meaningful than mobility rates in relation to all students. Students in later semesters from 1991 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 Bildungsinländer.
- 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, 3, 4}



17 Average duration of visits abroad of German Erasmus participants, by type of visit, since 2003^{2, 3, 4}



18 Erasmus participants from Germany by host country, 2020^{3, 4, 5}

Host country	Number	In %
Spain	6,583	16.1
France	5,352	13.1
United Kingdom	3,706	9.1
Italy	2,764	6.8
Sweden	2,520	6.2
Finland	2,126	5.2
Netherlands	2,026	5.0
Norway	1,948	4.8
Austria	1,879	4.6
Ireland	1,380	3.4
Portugal	1,265	3.1
Turkey	1,185	2.9
Poland	1,096	2.7
Belgium	1,087	2.7
Denmark	1,074	2.6
Total host countries	40,852	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. 2020 = 1.6.2019 to 31.5.2021.
- 3 Erasmus mobility figures since June 2020 include visits in hybrid format, i.e. a combination of physical and virtual visits. Purely virtual visits and mobility that did not take place were not counted.
- 4 Due to the pandemic, the Erasmus year 2020 was extended until 31 March 2022. To ensure comparability with previous years, however, only the visits within the otherwise usual period, i.e. 1.6.2019 to 31.5.2021, were counted here for the calculation of the figures for the Erasmus year 2020.
- 5 An Erasmus funding period starts on 1 June of the previous year and ends on 31 May of the following year. 2020 = 1.6.2019 to 31.5.2021.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MOBILITY

Key findings

- In 2019, around **6.1 million students were enrolled outside their home country**, according to UNESCO. Since 2010, the number of internationally mobile students has increased by around 2.3 million or 60%. Western Europe (28%), Asia and Pacific (23%) and North America (21%) dominate among **host regions**, while Asia and Pacific (43%) dominates among regions of origin.
- The **US is the key host country** for international students. Around 977,000, or 16%, of all international students worldwide were enrolled in the US in 2019. Australia, the United Kingdom (8% each), Germany and Russia (5% each) 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 17%, of all internationally mobile students came from China in 2019. The countries of origin India (8%), Vietnam, Germany and South Korea (2% each) follow at a considerable distance.
- The **largest flows of international student mobility** lead from the key country of origin China to the US, but also to the other host countries Australia, United Kingdom 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 Vietnam, with the reverse ratio of 95% outbound to 5% inbound students.

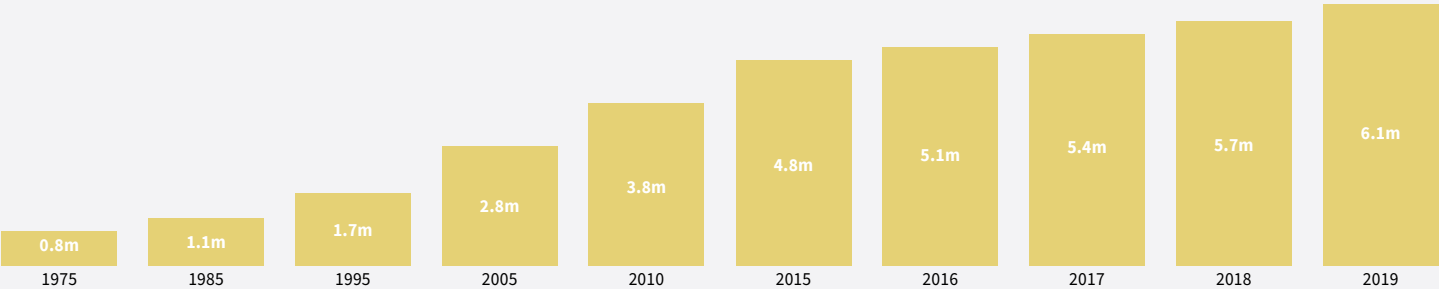
Data sources & definitions of terms

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).

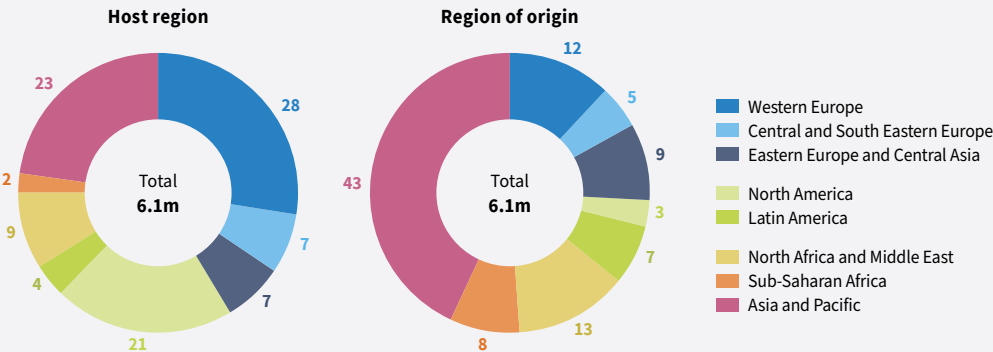
Moreover, the UNESCO statistics are **not based on a complete survey of all mobile students worldwide** but only on their best possible calculation on the basis of the data available in each case. Missing data are estimated. The availability and significance of the data depend heavily on the development of education statistics in the respective countries. Some countries, especially in Latin America as well as in Africa, are not yet able to provide any data on international students at their universities. Even China, 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, 2019¹



In % of all international students worldwide

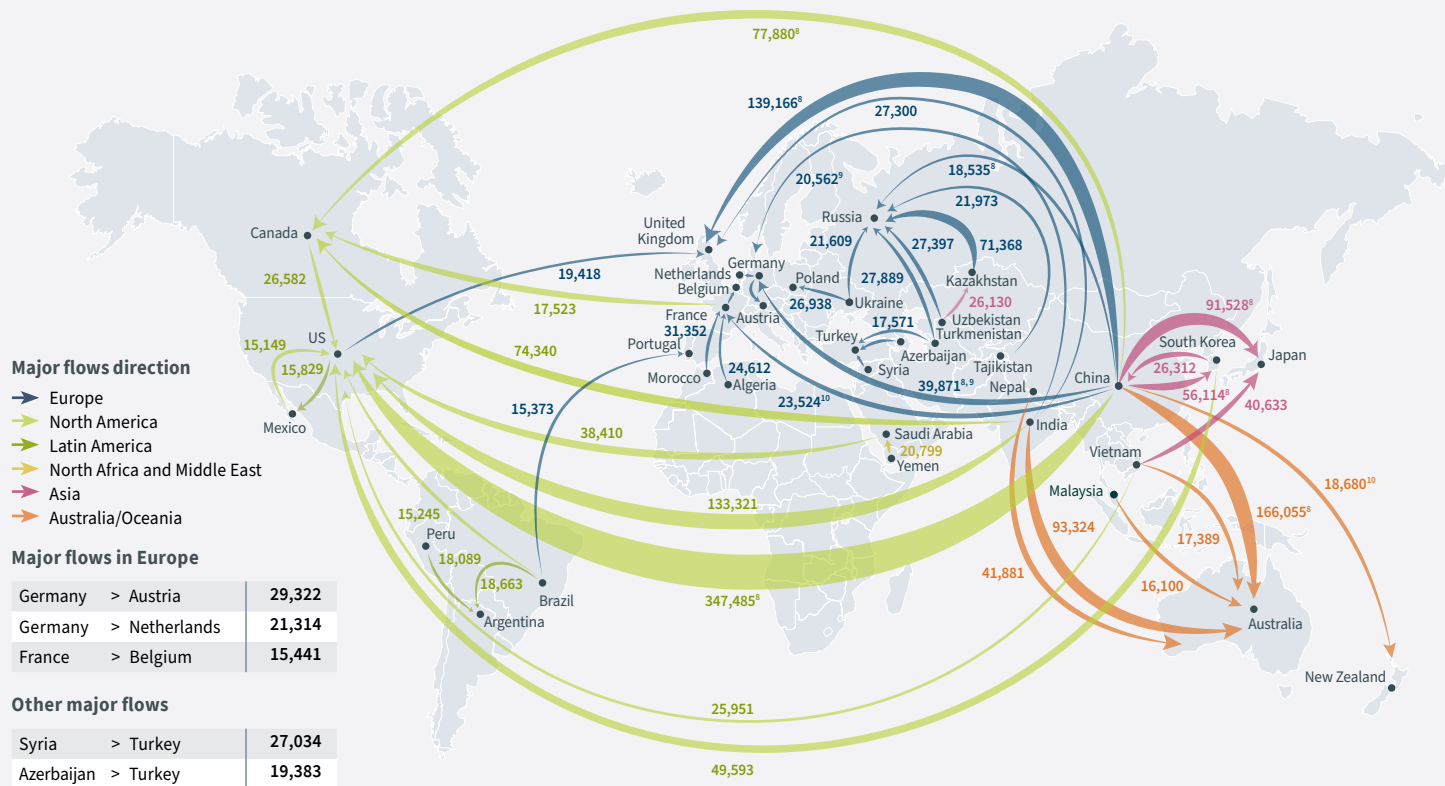
Fig. 19, 20
Source: UNESCO, Student Statistics; country-specific reporting periods

The basis for the collection and processing of data is the *International Standard Classification of Education* (ISCED). 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.

1 Deviations from 100% are due to rounding.

Host countries and countries of origin

21 Major flows of international student mobility, 2019^{1, 6, 7}



Figures in absolute numbers of students

22 Key host countries and countries of origin of international students, 2019¹

Country of origin	Number	Proportion in %	Host country	Number	Proportion in %
China ³	1,047,186	17.3	US	976,853	16.2
India	473,855	7.8	Australia	509,160	8.4
Vietnam	131,934	2.2	United Kingdom	489,019	8.1
Germany ⁴	130,524	2.2	Germany ²	302,157	5.0
South Korea	127,805	2.1	Russia	282,922	4.7
US	113,164	1.9	Canada	279,168	4.6
France	108,722	1.8	France	246,378	4.1
Kazakhstan	95,420	1.6	UTD Arab Emirates	225,339	3.7
Nepal ⁵	93,921	1.5	China ³	208,542	3.5
Brazil ⁵	81,882	1.4	Japan	202,907	3.4
Other countries	3,659,252	60.3	Other countries	2,310,144	38.3

Number and in % of all international students worldwide

23 Mobility balances in major host countries and countries of origin, 2019¹

Internationally mobile students

Country	Number	Outgoing	Incoming	Number
		In %		
Vietnam	131,934	95	5	7,250
India	473,855	91	9	47,424
China ³	1,047,186	83	17	208,542
South Korea	127,805	56	44	98,857
France	108,722	31	69	246,378
Germany ^{2,4}	130,524	30	70	302,157
Brazil ⁵	48,160	15	85	282,922
US	113,164	10	90	976,853
United Kingdom	39,504	7	93	489,019
Australia ⁵	13,268	3	97	509,160

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

Fig. 21-23

Sources: UNESCO, Student Statistics; Federal Statistical Office, Student Statistics, 'Deutsche Studierende im Ausland'; MoE, Statistical report on international students in China for 2018; country-specific reporting periods; DAAD calculations

The basis for the collection and processing of data is the *International Standard Classification of Education* (ISCED). 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 deviates from the national data. Students are defined here as those assigned to ISCED 2011 levels 5 to 8.

- To capture as complete a picture of international student mobility as possible, country of origin data from the Chinese Ministry of Education (MoE) from the year 2018 were used to supplement UNESCO data for international students in China. Data are available on the top 15 countries of origin of international students in China: Bangladesh, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Russia, South Korea, Thailand, the US and Vietnam. These are not yet included in UNESCO statistics. To display data on international student mobility to China that are as comparable as possible with UNESCO data from other countries, the percentages of non-degree related visits by international students were deducted. The reduction in international students visiting China in comparison to *Wissenschaft weltoffen 2020* is therefore of statistical origin.
- Data from the Federal Statistical Office, since these contain all registered international doctoral students, a total of 27,107 persons, while the UNESCO data, with 24,700 international doctoral students in Germany, are based on underestimates from surveys conducted by the Federal Statistical Office.
- Including Hong Kong and Macau. Mobility between Hong Kong and Macau, as well as from Mainland China to Hong Kong and Macau has been excluded. However, as no country-specific data on incoming students are available for China, students from Hong Kong and Macau going to China are still included.
- UNESCO statistics were supplemented by data from the Federal Statistical Office on numbers of German students in China from 2018. These are not included in UNESCO statistics.
- Not including the number of international students in China, as these are not included in either UNESCO statistics or the Chinese Ministry of Education (MoE) statistical report.
- Not including Singapore as a host country since the UNESCO statistics do not include data on the countries of origin of international students.
- For the sake of clarity, only mobility flows with at least 15,000 internationally mobile students are shown.
- Including students from Hong Kong and Macau.
- Data from the Federal Statistical Office, as the UNESCO data on the countries of origin of international students for Germany – in contrast to other host countries – do not include international doctoral students.
- Unclear whether students from Hong Kong and Macau included.

RESEARCHER MOBILITY IN GERMANY

Key findings

- In 2020, **around 55,200 academic and artistic staff with foreign citizenship were employed at German universities**, including around 3,600 international professors. This means that international staff accounted for 13.3% of all academic staff, while the proportion of professors was 7.2%.
- The **key region of origin** of the international academic staff is Western Europe. 35% of the total international academic staff and as many as 67% of the international professors come from Western European countries. Italy, India, China and Austria are the **key countries of origin**. Most international professors come from the two German-speaking countries Austria (20%) and Switzerland (9%).
- In 2019, **around 14,100 employed academics and researchers with foreign citizenship** worked at the four largest **non-university research institutes**. Since 2010, their number has doubled (+107%), so that in 2019 around 28% of all academics and researchers here came from abroad. EU countries account for 42%, 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 2019, this amounted to around 32,800 visits. Western Europe and Asia and Pacific are the key regions of origin, with shares of 23% and 22% respectively. Conversely, a total of around 13,600

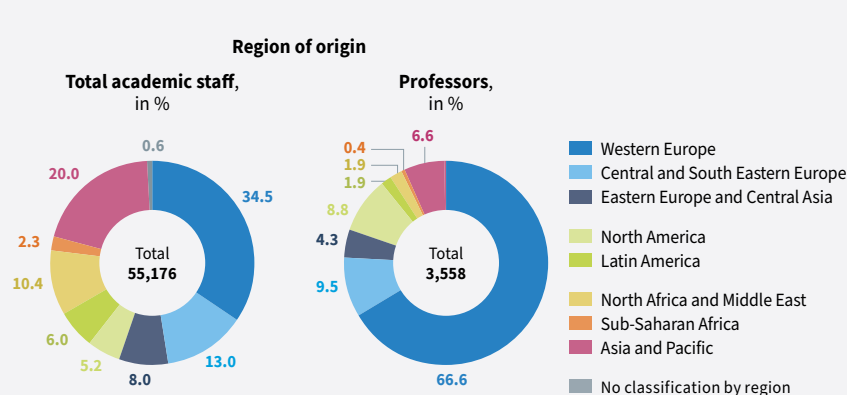
visits by German guest researchers abroad were funded by domestic and foreign organisations in 2019. Western Europe is the key host region (26%), followed by North America (18%) and Asia and Pacific (17%).

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 Higher Education Research 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, 2020^{1, 2, 3, 4}



Country of origin	Total academic staff		Country of origin	Professors	
	Number	In %		Number	In %
Italy	3,985	7.2	Austria	715	20.1
India	3,881	7.0	Switzerland	311	8.7
China	3,706	6.7	Italy	289	8.1
Austria	2,925	5.3	US	266	7.5
US	2,439	4.4	Netherlands	259	7.3
Russia	2,403	4.4	France	168	4.7
Spain	2,262	4.1	United Kingdom	166	4.7
Iran	2,092	3.8	Spain	123	3.5
France	1,992	3.6	Russia	95	2.7
United Kingdom	1,643	3.0	Greece	92	2.6
Turkey	1,549	2.8	China	74	2.1
Greece	1,398	2.5	Poland	69	1.9
Netherlands	1,301	2.4	Belgium	64	1.8
Poland	1,262	2.3	Turkey	53	1.5
Switzerland	1,059	1.9	Canada	46	1.3

25 International and German academic staff at German universities by staff group, 2010, 2015 and 2020^{1, 2, 3}

Staff group	2010		2015		2020	
	Number	In %	Number	In %	Number	In %
Total German academic staff	291,936	90.0	342,182	88.8	359,656	86.7
Thereof: professors	38,978	12.0	43,246	11.2	45,735	11.0
Total international academic staff	32,431	10.0	43,129	11.2	55,176	13.3
Thereof: professors	2,484	0.8	3,098	0.8	3,558	0.9
Thereof: other academic staff	29,947	9.2	40,031	10.4	51,618	12.4

Number and % of the total academic staff

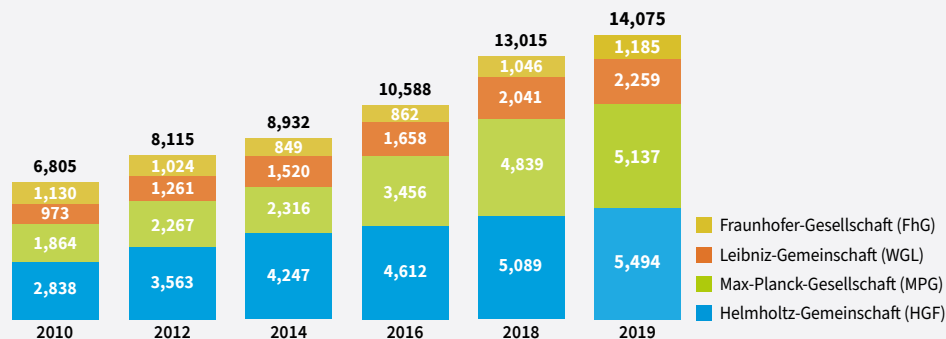
Fig. 24, 25

Source: Federal Statistical Office, university staff statistics

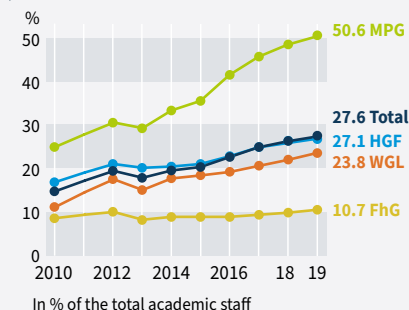
- 1 Total academic staff including artistic staff at colleges of art and music as well as professors.
- 2 International staff = staff with foreign, unclear, unknown or no citizenship (stateless).
- 3 The year corresponds to the calendar year (reference date: 1 December).
- 4 Deviations from 100% are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

International academic staff at non-university research institutes

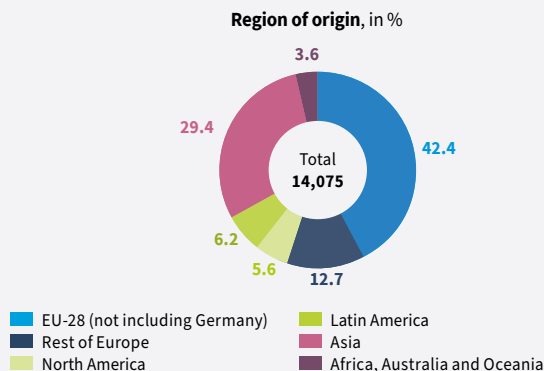
26 International academic staff at the four largest German non-university research institutes, since 2010^{1, 2, 5}



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



27 International academic staff at the four largest German non-university research institutes, by region and key countries of origin, 2019^{1, 2, 3, 4}



Top 10 countries of origin	Number	Proportion in %
China	1,284	9.1
Italy	1,225	8.7
India	1,219	8.7
Russia	762	5.4
France	680	4.8
Spain	646	4.6
US	620	4.4
United Kingdom	476	3.4
Austria	464	3.3
Iran	442	3.1

Fig. 26-28

Source: Federal Statistical Office; DZHW calculations

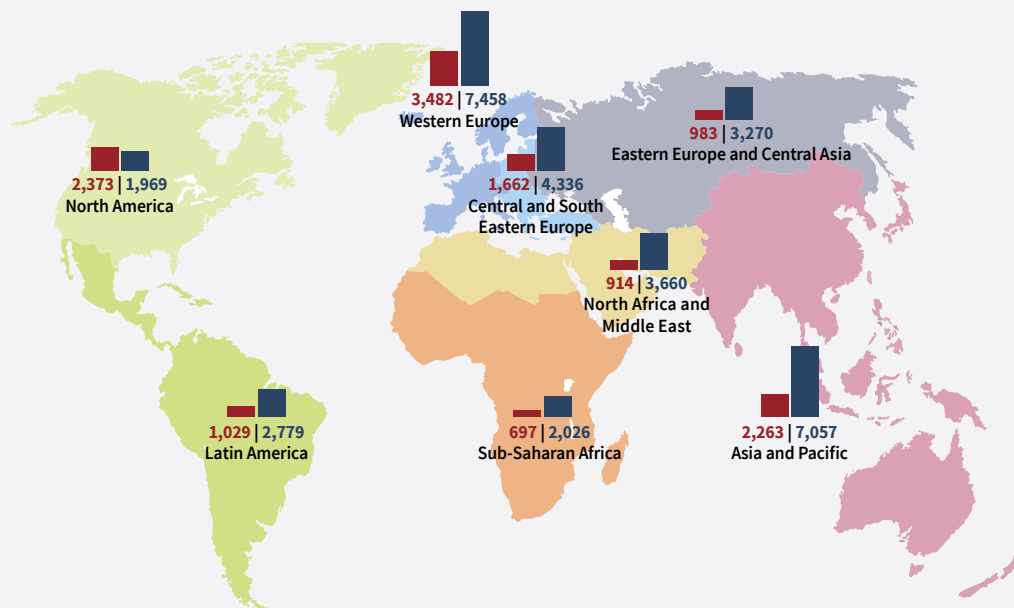
Fig. 29

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

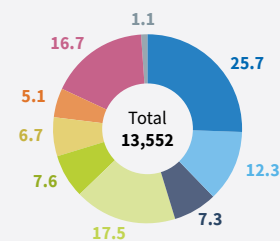
🕒 29 Funded visits of German guest researchers abroad and international guest researchers in Germany, by host region and region of origin, 2019³



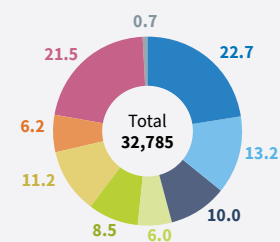
■ German guest researchers abroad funded by German funding organisations
 ■ International guest researchers in Germany funded by German funding organisations

Excluding 149 German and 230 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 America
 ■ Latin America
 ■ North Africa and Middle East
 ■ Sub-Saharan Africa
 ■ Asia and Pacific
 ■ No regional classification

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 2022.

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 Higher Education Research 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 carry out these evaluations, if required. This service is available free of charge for universities and other public institutions.

Please address your enquiries to:
wissenschaft-weltoffen@dzhw.eu

Editor

DAAD
Deutscher Akademischer
Austauschdienst
Kennedyallee 50
D-53175 Bonn
Referat S15 – Forschung und
Studien
www.daad.de

DZHW

Deutsches Zentrum für
Hochschul- und Wissenschafts-
forschung GmbH
Lange Laube 12
D-30159 Hannover
Abteilung Bildungsverläufe
und Beschäftigung
www.dzhw.eu

Publisher

wbv Media
Postfach 10 06 33
D-33506 Bielefeld

Copy editors

Dr. Ulrich Heublein (DZHW)
Dr. Jan Kercher (DAAD)
Naomi Knüttgen (DAAD)
Laura Méndez Prencke (DAAD)

Production

wbv Media, Bielefeld

Layout

zaydesign,
Christiane Zay, Passau

© wbv Media GmbH & Co. KG,
Bielefeld 2022

Edition

1,000 (German)
700 (English)

DOI:

German 10.3278/7004002ukw
English 10.3278/7004002ukew

This publication is available for download at wbv-open-access.de



This publication is published under the following Creative Commons
copyright license: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>

This publication was printed in
sustainable ink on 100% recycled
paper using a carbon-neutral
process (certified with the German
'Blue Angel' environmental label).



SPONSORED BY THE



Federal Ministry
of Education
and Research



Federal Foreign Office

The project on which this
publication is based and the
publication itself were funded by
grants from the Federal Ministry of
Education and Research and
the Federal Foreign Office.