

**International
higher
education
in facts and
figures**

Summer 2010



international unit



UK Higher Education International Unit

International higher education in facts and figures covers the majority of the UK higher education sector.* The data are derived from a variety of sources; please see the notes to each table.

*It excludes higher education at foreign and private higher education institutions operating in the UK and some higher education provided at further education colleges because comparable data are not available.

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Universities UK

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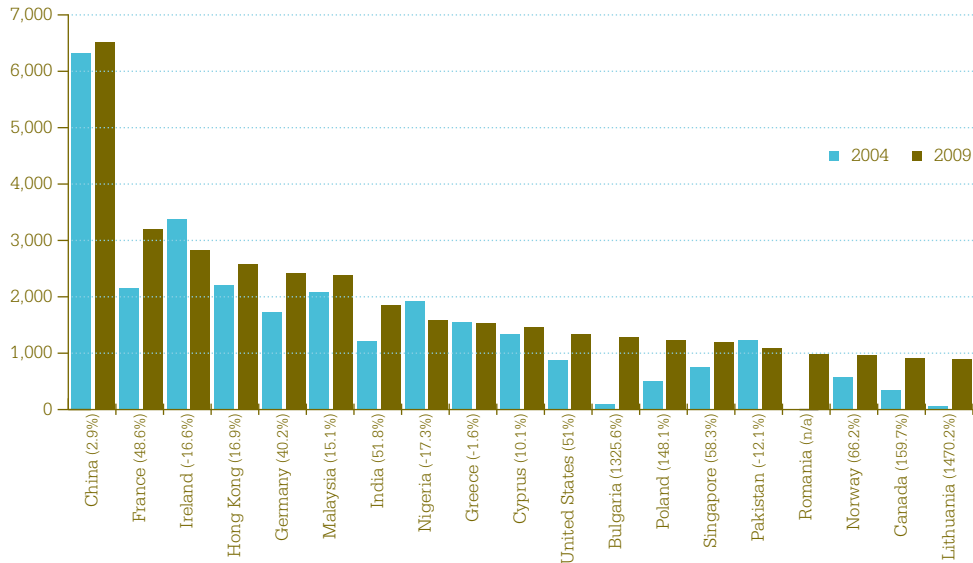
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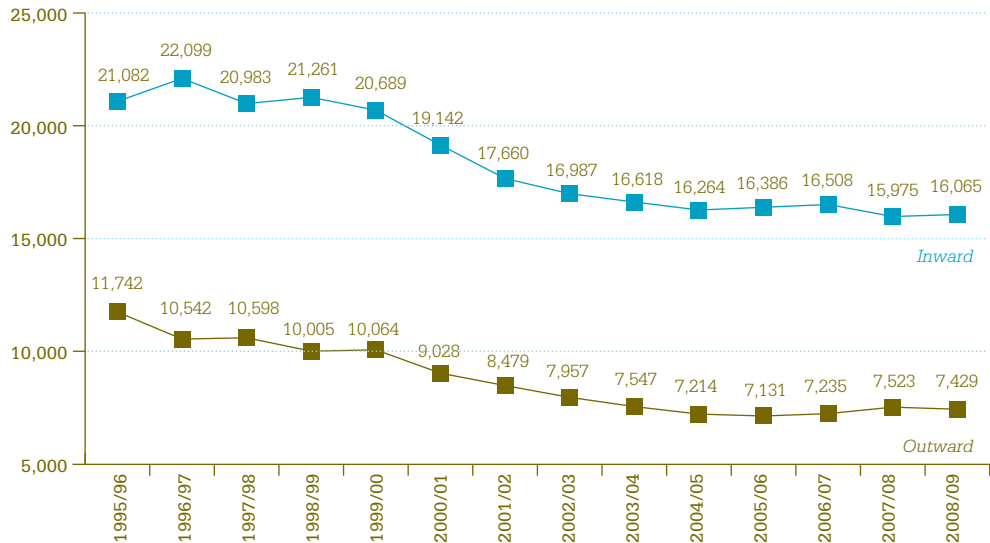
Accepted non-UK domiciled students to full-time undergraduate courses at UK higher education institutions, 2004 and 2009

Percentage change in brackets



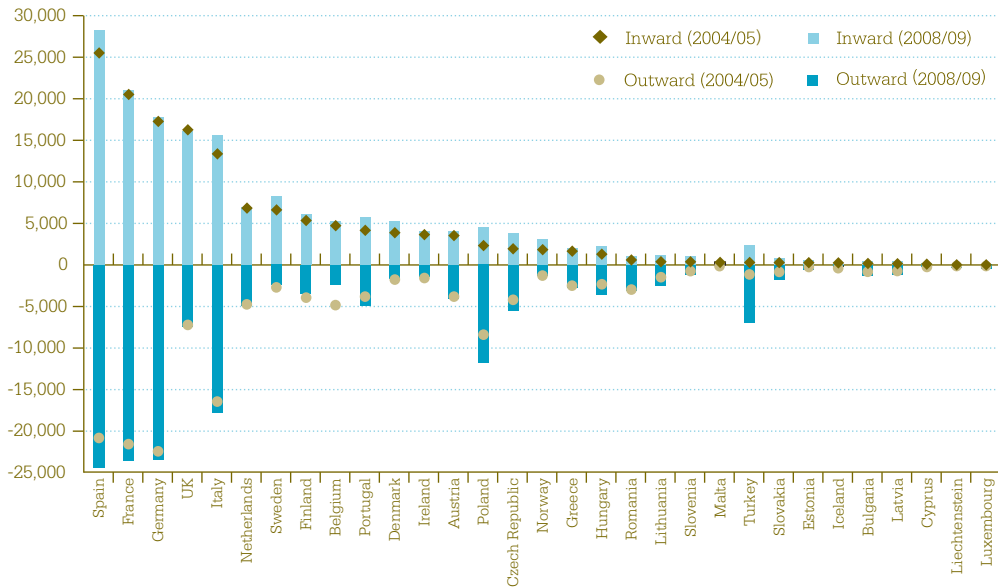
Source: Universities and College Admissions Service (UCAS) (http://www.ucas.com/about_us/stat_services/index.html).

Erasmus outward and inward student flows to the UK, 1995/96 to 2008/09



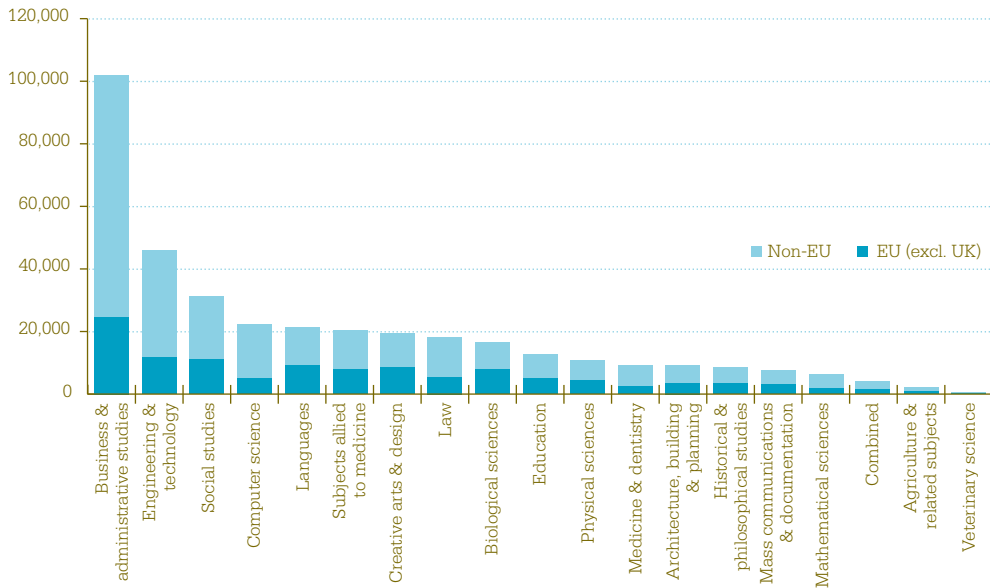
Source: European Commission, Erasmus Statistics (http://ec.europa.eu/education/erasmus/doc920_en.htm).

Erasmus student exchange flows, by participating country, 2008/09



Source: European Commission, Erasmus Statistics, (http://ec.europa.eu/education/erasmus/doc920_en.htm).

EU (excluding UK) and non-EU students at UK higher education institutions, by subject area, 2008/09



Source: Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) 2010, *Students in higher education institutions 2010*, table 2e.

Top 20 countries of origin for non-UK students at UK higher education institutions, by level of study, 2008/09

Region	First degree		Other undergraduate		Higher degree (research)	
	2008/09	Change since 2004/05 %	2008/09	Change since 2004/05 %	2008/09	Change since 2004/05 %
Total (all non-UK countries)	153,360	24.1	32,225	10.9	40,270	-11.4
China	19,940	-4.2	3,820	3.7	3,580	-19.4
India	4,860	56.5	1,520	88.8	1,490	-11.6
Ireland	6,750	-12.8	2,030	-6.5	1,055	-12.1
Nigeria	4,190	41.1	810	31.7	750	29.3
United States	3,410	20.9	2,710	-12.9	2,615	-14.5
Germany	6,325	13.6	1,850	22.1	2,260	6.1
France	6,475	18.7	2,295	25.8	975	-23.2
Malaysia	8,455	17.0	320	3.2	1,925	-2.5
Greece	4,735	-25.1	480	-23.8	1,870	-42.3
Cyprus (European Union)	7,155	110.4	375	56.3	610	47.0
Pakistan	2,985	46.0	375	4.2	1,160	95.0
Hong Kong	7,025	-4.3	625	37.4	480	-43.2
Poland	5,750	518.3	1,165	164.8	645	180.4
Italy	2,080	21.3	515	5.1	1,580	1.0
Spain	2,300	-6.3	1,415	24.7	550	-37.1
Canada	1,855	102.7	240	2.1	1,000	-14.2
Taiwan	680	-19.0	325	-9.7	835	-28.6
Saudi Arabia	1,625	155.9	785	265.1	1,015	30.1
Thailand	790	12.1	230	-4.2	865	-8.9
South Korea	1,865	22.3	415	15.3	580	-29.3

Source: HESA 2010, table 6a.

Higher degree (taught)		Other postgraduate		Total		
2008/09	Change since 2004/05 %	2008/09	Change since 2004/05 %	2008/09	Change since 2004/05 %	Proportion of all non-UK countries %
131,865	23.3	11,250	-16.3	368,970	15.9	100.0
19,005	-16.9	685	-20.3	47,035	-10.7	12.7
25,530	149.8	665	-23.6	34,065	104.2	9.2
3,585	7.0	1,940	2.9	15,360	-6.0	4.2
8,190	131.7	440	-1.1	14,380	76.6	3.9
5,230	6.5	375	-21.9	14,345	-0.3	3.9
3,285	18.0	410	-26.1	14,130	12.5	3.8
2,990	15.0	350	-34.6	13,090	12.0	3.5
1,690	2.4	310	0.0	12,695	10.6	3.4
4,665	-47.5	285	-53.3	12,035	-38.9	3.3
2,125	39.8	105	10.5	10,370	82.7	2.8
4,825	46.7	260	2.0	9,610	46.8	2.6
1,270	-28.2	195	-47.3	9,600	-10.9	2.6
1,460	194.9	120	33.3	9,145	318.5	2.5
1,610	32.5	250	-25.4	6,035	13.5	1.6
1,145	-5.4	275	-15.4	5,690	-5.2	1.5
1,980	29.0	280	-16.4	5,350	27.7	1.4
3,280	-0.9	110	-46.3	5,235	-11.0	1.4
1,635	131.9	145	38.1	5,205	113.3	1.4
2,660	41.5	130	-23.5	4,675	18.7	1.3
1,340	27.0	80	-11.1	4,275	11.2	1.2

Outbound and inbound mobility rate of international students for selected countries, 2007

Outbound mobility ratio is the number of students from a given country studying abroad divided by the total higher education enrolment in that country.

Inbound mobility rate is the number of students from abroad studying in a given country, as a percentage of the total higher education enrolment in that country.

Country	Outbound mobility ratio	Inbound mobility rate	Country	Outbound mobility ratio	Inbound mobility rate
Cyprus	103.03	25.15%	France	2.48	11.32%
Brunei	45.63	3.35%	Romania	2.46	1.01%
Hong Kong (China), SAR	20.74	3.97%	Denmark	2.17	5.47%
Iceland	15.68	4.95%	Czech Republic	2.03	6.74%
Slovakia	11.11	0.87%	Slovenia	1.98	1.03%
Ireland	10.17	8.80%	Finland	1.93	3.26%
Bulgaria	9.56	3.52%	Netherlands	1.77	4.65%
Malaysia	5.71	3.80%	Italy	1.73	2.82%
Norway	5.52	7.26%	New Zealand	1.70	13.62%
Greece	5.42	3.51%	Hungary	1.67	3.50%
Switzerland	4.92	17.98%	China	1.66	neg.
Estonia	4.72	1.40%	Poland	1.53	0.61%
Austria	4.00	16.70%	Turkey	1.51	0.78%
Lithuania	3.38	0.95%	Japan	1.35	3.12%
Sweden	3.32	5.35%	Spain	1.34	1.82%
Republic of Korea	3.29	1.00%	United Kingdom	1.02	14.88%
Portugal	3.04	4.89%	Australia	0.93	19.52%
Latvia	2.98	1.11%	United States	neg.	3.36%
Belgium	2.69	6.40%	Russian Federation	neg.	0.64%

Note: neg. figure is negligible or nil

Source: UNESCO statistics, Data centre (http://www.uis.unesco.org/ev.php?ID=2867_201&ID2=DO_TOPIC).

Trends in international student market shares, 2000 and 2007

Percentage of all international mobile higher education students enrolled in OECD countries

OECD country	2000	2007	Percentage point change	OECD country	2000	2007	Percentage point change
United States	25.0%	19.7%	-5.27	Korea	0.2%	1.1%	0.88
United Kingdom	11.7%	11.6%	-0.09	Czech Republic	0.3%	0.8%	0.52
Germany	9.8%	8.6%	-1.28	Greece	0.5%	0.7%	0.25
France	7.2%	8.2%	0.95	Denmark	0.7%	0.7%	0.01
Australia	5.6%	7.0%	1.44	Turkey	0.9%	0.6%	-0.29
Canada	5.0%	4.4%	-0.59	Portugal	0.6%	0.6%	0.04
Japan	3.5%	4.2%	0.66	Ireland	0.4%	0.6%	0.16
New Zealand	0.4%	2.1%	1.72	Norway	0.5%	0.5%	0.06
Spain	1.3%	2.0%	0.64	Hungary	0.5%	0.5%	-0.02
Italy	1.3%	1.9%	0.58	Poland	0.3%	0.4%	0.11
Austria	1.6%	1.4%	-0.16	Finland	0.3%	0.3%	0.04
Sweden	1.3%	1.4%	0.07	Slovak Republic	0.1%	0.1%	-0.02
Belgium	2.0%	1.4%	-0.67	Mexico	0.1%	0.1%	-0.07
Switzerland	1.4%	1.4%	-0.01	Luxembourg	0.0%	0.0%	0.00
Netherlands	0.7%	1.3%	0.51	Iceland	0.0%	0.0%	0.00

Source: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), *Education at a glance 2009*, table C2.7.

Transnational education provided by UK higher education institutions, 2008/09

	Number of students	Proportion of all TNE students
Total	388,135	
Type of provision		
Overseas campus of reporting HEI	9,885	2.5%
Other arrangement including collaborative provision	68,595	17.7%
Distance, flexible or distributed learning	112,385	29.0%
Overseas partner organisation	197,205	50.8%
Other arrangement	65	0.0%
Level of study		
Postgraduate research	1,895	0.5%
Postgraduate taught	72,290	18.6%
First degree	301,700	77.7%
Other undergraduate	12,085	3.1%
Further education	170	0.0%
Location of provision		
European Union	66,815	17.2%
Non-European Union	321,325	82.8%

Source: HESA 2010, *Students studying wholly overseas*.

Patterns of student mobility by world regions and change over time, 1999 to 2007

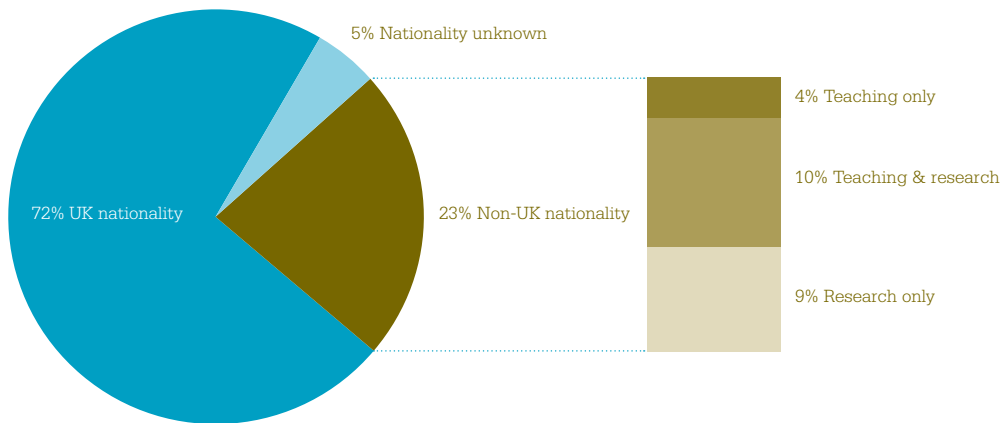
Percentage of mobile students by region of destination and origin in 2007 and the change in percentage points relative to 1999

Region of origin	Destination region																		
	Arab States		Central and Eastern Europe		Central Asia		East Asia and the Pacific		Latin America and the Caribbean		North America		Western Europe		South and West Asia		Sub-Saharan Africa		Total
Arab States	15.9	+3.7	5.6	-2.8	0.4	-0.1	4.7	+3.5	0.0	0.0	15.4	-1.3	56.9	-3.1	1.0	+0.1	0.0	0.0	100.0
Central and Eastern Europe	0.2	-0.1	27.7	+2.9	3.1	+0.7	1.2	+0.1	0.0	0.0	12.3	-2.9	55.4	-0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
Central Asia	0.3	+0.1	44.2	-16.2	34.7	+6.2	3.2	+2.4	0.0	0.0	4.9	+1.3	12.5	+6.4	0.1	-0.2	0.0	0.0	100.0
East Asia and the Pacific	0.2	-0.3	1.3	-0.4	0.4	+0.3	41.8	+6.0	0.2	+0.1	33.0	-10.0	22.9	+4.4	0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.0	100.0
Latin America & the Caribbean	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.5	+0.9	22.9	+12.2	43.2	-11.7	30.9	-1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
North America	0.4	+0.1	2.3	+0.5	0.1	0.0	15.4	+6.4	1.7	-0.9	39.1	-0.6	40.5	-5.6	0.5	+0.1	0.0	0.0	100.0
Western Europe	0.6	+0.4	3.9	-0.6	0.0	0.0	3.7	+1.0	0.2	+0.1	14.4	+0.1	77.2	-1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
South and West Asia	0.8	-0.4	3.2	-2.3	1.8	-0.1	21.1	+11.5	0.0	0.0	45.7	-5.2	26.1	-2.0	1.3	-1.4	0.0	-0.1	100.0
Sub-Saharan Africa	3.0	-0.5	0.9	-0.2	0.0	0.0	4.3	+2.4	9.0	-0.7	17.4	-2.0	49.8	-2.3	0.8	-1.2	22.9	+4.5	100.0
WORLD	2.9	-0.4	7.1	-0.1	1.9	+0.5	18.4	+5.0	1.9	+0.7	23.7	-3.2	41.2	-2.3	0.4	-0.1	2.6	0.0	100.0

Source: UNESCO, *Global education digest 2009*, table 2.

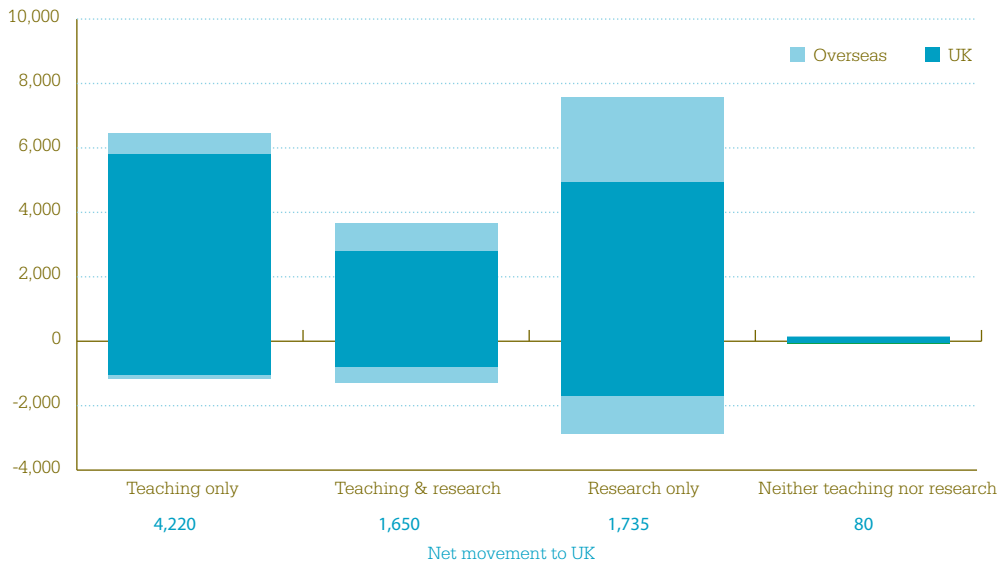
Academic staff by nationality and academic employment function, 2008/09

Total academic staff at UK higher education institutions = 179,040



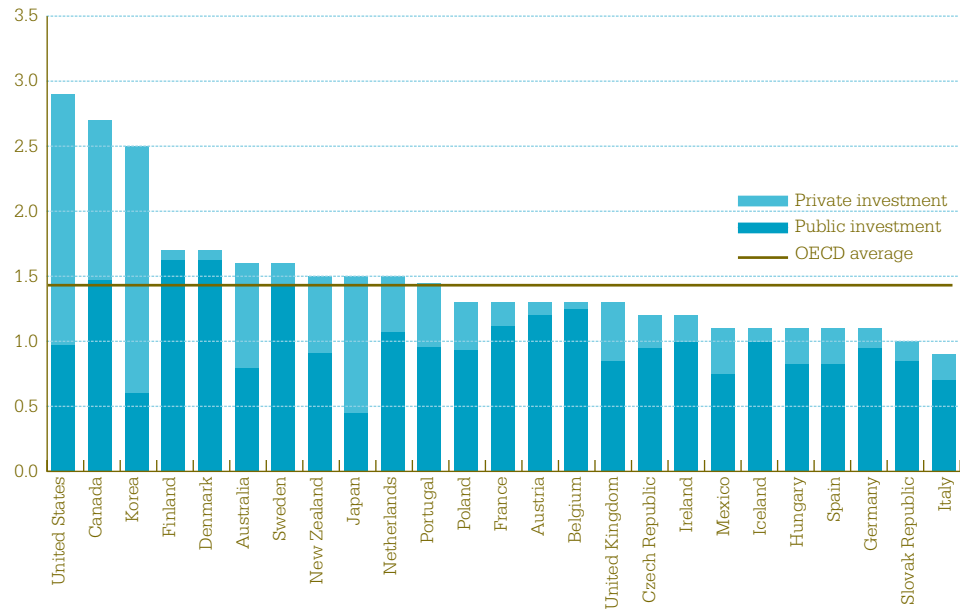
Source: HESA 2010, *Resources of higher education institutions 2008/09*, table 16.

Inflow and outflows of academic staff with known country of destination or origin at UK higher education institutions, by function and destination, 2008/09



Source: HESA 2010

Investment in higher education as a proportion of GDP, by country 2006



Source: OECD 2009, *Education at a glance 2009*, table B2.1.

Relative proportions of public and private expenditure on higher education, 2006

	Public sources %	Private sources %		Public sources %	Private sources %
Norway	97.0	3.0	Netherlands	73.4	26.6
Denmark	96.4	3.6	Italy	73.0	27.0
Finland	95.5	4.5	OECD average	72.6	27.4
Belgium	90.6	9.4	Poland	70.4	29.6
Iceland	90.2	9.8	Mexico	67.9	32.1
Sweden	89.1	10.9	Portugal	66.7	33.3
Ireland	85.1	14.9	United Kingdom	64.8	35.2
Germany	85.0	15.0	New Zealand	63.0	37.0
Austria	84.5	15.5	Canada	53.4	46.6
France	83.7	16.3	Australia	47.6	52.4
Slovak Republic	82.1	17.9	United States	34.0	66.0
Czech Republic	82.1	17.9	Japan	32.2	67.8
Spain	78.2	21.8	Korea	23.1	76.9
Hungary	77.9	22.1			

Source: OECD 2009, *Education at a glance 2009*, table B3.2b.

International collaborative research output by country and partner country, 2001-2005

Number of articles as an output of collaboration between two countries.

	Total	UK	United States	Canada	France	Germany	Japan	Australia	China	India	Rest of the World
United States	334,662	12.9%	–	11.6%	8.1%	13.1%	9.3%	4.8%	6.1%	2.1%	31.9%
Germany	146,615	13.8%	30.0%	4.4%	11.3%	–	5.1%	3.0%	3.7%	2.1%	26.6%
UK	144,457	–	30.0%	6.4%	10.7%	14.0%	4.6%	6.6%	3.8%	1.6%	22.3%
France	107,729	14.4%	25.2%	6.0%	–	15.4%	4.3%	2.6%	2.6%	1.4%	28.2%
Japan	77,197	8.6%	40.3%	5.1%	6.0%	9.7%	–	3.8%	11.2%	2.9%	12.3%
Canada	75,659	12.2%	51.4%	–	8.5%	8.5%	5.2%	4.9%	4.9%	1.3%	3.1%
China	54,529	10.1%	37.7%	6.8%	5.1%	9.9%	15.8%	6.7%	–	2.1%	5.9%
Australia	46,502	20.6%	34.4%	7.9%	5.9%	9.4%	6.4%	–	7.9%	1.7%	5.8%

Source: Universities UK 2008, *International research collaboration: opportunities for the UK higher education sector*.

UK higher education – a global leader

- The UK sells more brainpower per capita than anywhere else in the world. In 2008, this amounted to £118 billion in knowledge services – worth 6.3% of GDP (The Work Foundation 2010).
- The UK has 1% of the world's population but undertakes 5% of the world's scientific research and produces 14% of the world's most highly cited papers (Universities UK 2010).
- Higher education institutions are worth £59 billion to the UK economy annually and are a major export earner. Through their international activities they are one of the UK's fastest growing sources of export earnings, and last year bought in £5.3bn (Universities UK 2009).
- There were 248,000 international students (excluding EU) enrolled at UK higher education institutions in 2008/09. There were also 121,000 EU students the same year (HESA 2010).
- Students from India make up 14% of all international students (excluding EU) in higher education in the UK. They are the fastest-growing group: the 34,000 in 2008/09 represented a 31.5% increase over the previous year (HESA 2010).

International higher education trends

- More than 2.8 million students were enrolled in higher education institutions outside their countries of citizenship in 2007. This represented 123,400 more students than in 2006, an increase of 4.6%. Eleven countries hosted 71% of the world's mobile students, led by the United States with 21.3% (UNESCO 2009).
- In 2007 almost half (42%) of postgraduate research students in the UK were from abroad. The UK had 15% of the global share of these students, more than its share of international students generally (UK HE International Unit 2008).

Transnational education

- In 2008/09, there were 388,000 students studying for a UK qualification outside of the UK. Of this number, 83% were non-EU students (HESA 2010).
- In 2009, there were 162 higher education branch campuses operating globally, an increase of 43% from 2006. More than half were American, 11% were Australian, and 10% were from the UK. The number of countries hosting international branch campuses also grew in those three years, from 36 to 51. There were 11 Indian campuses operating, all but one in the UAE. The UAE remains the most popular host country (Observatory on Borderless Higher Education 2009).

About the UK Higher Education International Unit

The UK Higher Education International Unit is a central observatory and intelligence unit on higher education internationalisation and related policy developments for UK universities. It was created in 2007 to respond to the growing demand of UK universities for timely information on, and analysis of, all aspects of HE internationalisation.



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