Universities UK

international unit

International Higher Education in Facts and Figures

JUNE 2016

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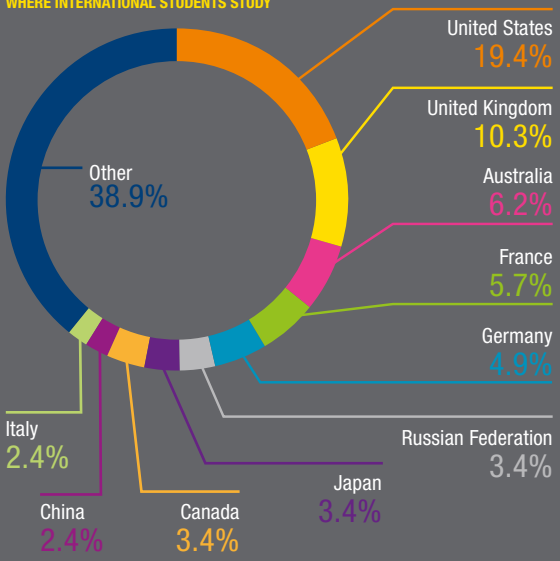
1

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT TRENDS

SHARES OF THE WORLD'S INTERNATIONALLY MOBILE STUDENTS, 2013

The UK is the second most popular destination in the world for international students.

WHERE INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS STUDY



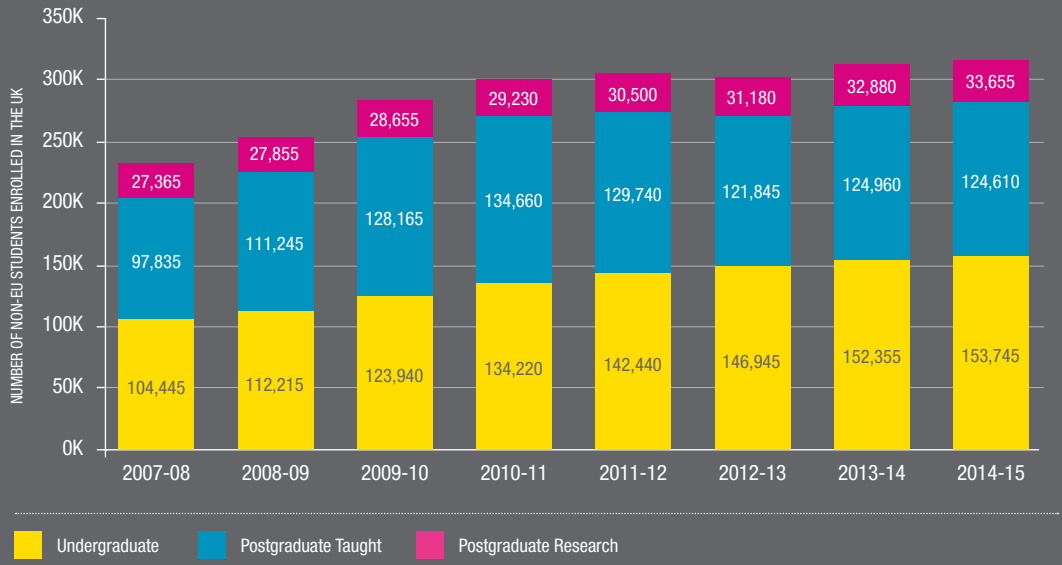
NUMBER OF STUDENTS HOSTED

COUNTRY	2003	2013	CHANGE
United States	586,316	784,427	33.8%
United Kingdom	255,233	416,693	63.3%
Australia	188,160	249,868	32.8%
France	221,567	239,344	8.0%
Germany	240,619	196,619	-18.3%
Russian Federation	68,602	138,496	101.9%
Japan	86,505	135,803	57.0%
Canada	59,067	135,187	128.9%
China	36,386	96,409	165.0%
Italy	36,137	82,450	128.2%

Sources: Left: OECD (2015) Education at a Glance, Right: UNESCO (2016). For China, data from 2006 is used rather than 2003. For Canada, data from 2012 is used instead of 2013.

TRENDS IN NON-EU STUDENT ENROLMENT

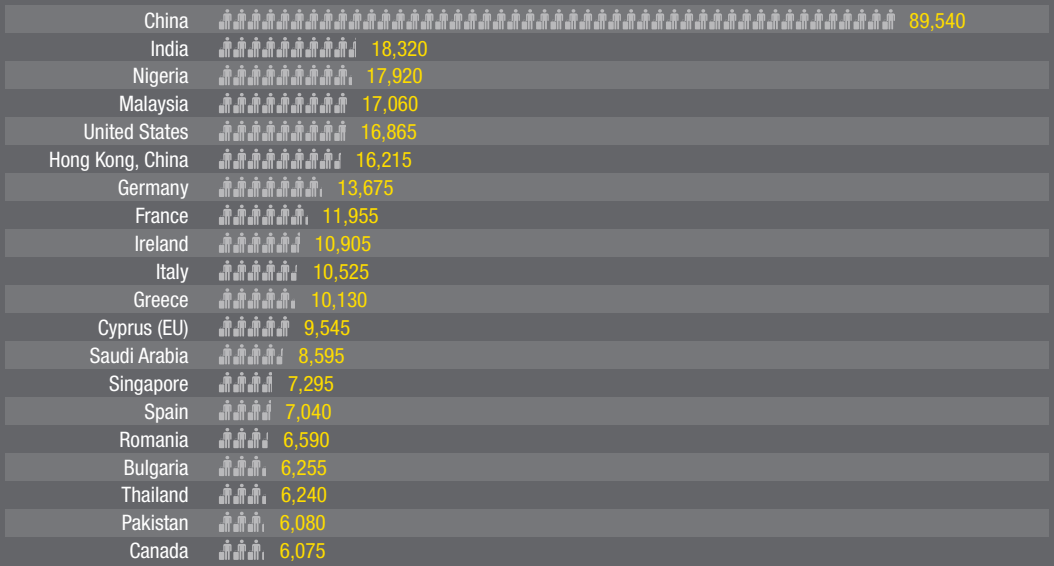
The number of non-EU students in the UK has increased by more than a third since 2007, but in recent years growth has stagnated.



Source: HESA Student Record (2007-08 to 2014-15)

TOP 20 COUNTRIES OF STUDENT ORIGIN, 2014-15

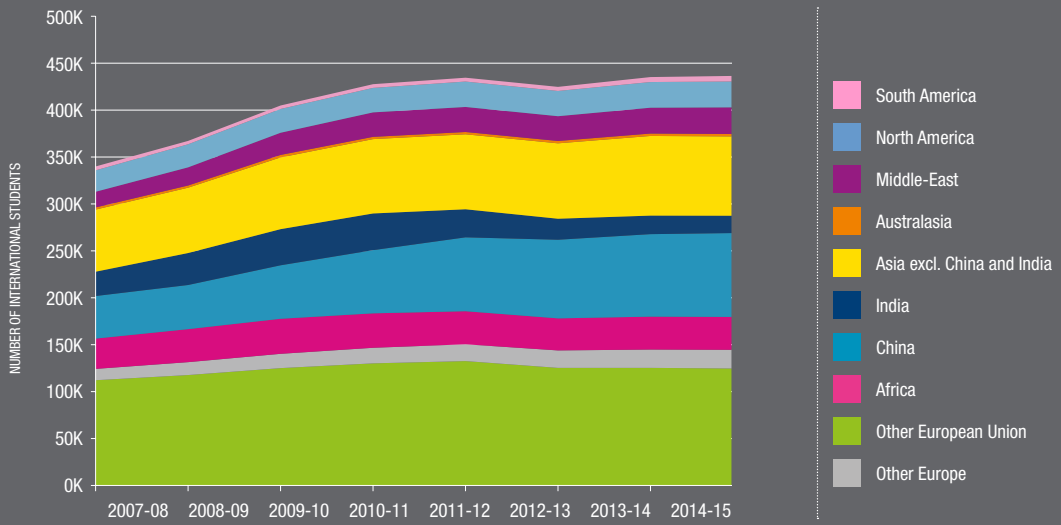
More than 1 in 5 non-UK students and 1 in 3 non-EU students studying in the UK were from China in 2014-15.



Source: HESA Student Record (2014-15)

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ENROLMENTS IN THE UK BY PLACE OF ORIGIN

The number of students from China has increased significantly since 2007-08, while the number of students from India has more than halved over the last 4 years.



Source: HESA Student Record (2007-08 to 2014-15)

2

WHAT INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS WANT

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SATISFACTION AND STUDY COSTS

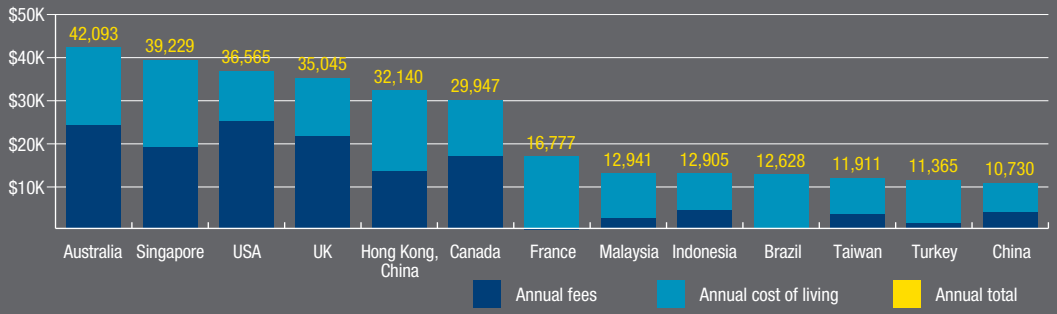
The UK is the most recommended destination by international students among its competitors, and studying in the UK costs the least among the top 3 English speaking destinations.

INTERNATIONAL UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SATISFACTION IN THE UK AND ITS COMPETITORS

RANKING	OVERALL	ARRIVAL	LEARNING	LIVING	SUPPORT	RECOMMENDATION
1	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK	UK
2	USA	Australia	USA	Australia	USA	USA
3	Canada	USA	Canada	New Zealand	New Zealand*	Canada
4	Australia	Canada	Australia	USA	Australia*	Australia
5	New Zealand	New Zealand	New Zealand	Canada	Canada*	New Zealand

* Australia, Canada and New Zealand came joint third in Support

THE ANNUAL COST FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS COMPARED



Sources: Top: International Student Barometer, I-graduate (2015) Bottom: HSBC (2014)

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT OUTCOMES

UK graduates have among the lowest unemployment rates in the OECD.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES BY LEVEL OF QUALIFICATION

COUNTRY	BACHELOR'S OR EQUIVALENT	MASTER'S OR EQUIVALENT
UK	2.7%	2.1%
Australia	2.7%	3.9%
USA	3.9%	2.6%
Netherlands	4.0%	3.6%
Belgium	4.0%	4.3%
France	6.0%	5.3%
OECD average	**5.6%**	**4.5%**

COMPLETION RATES

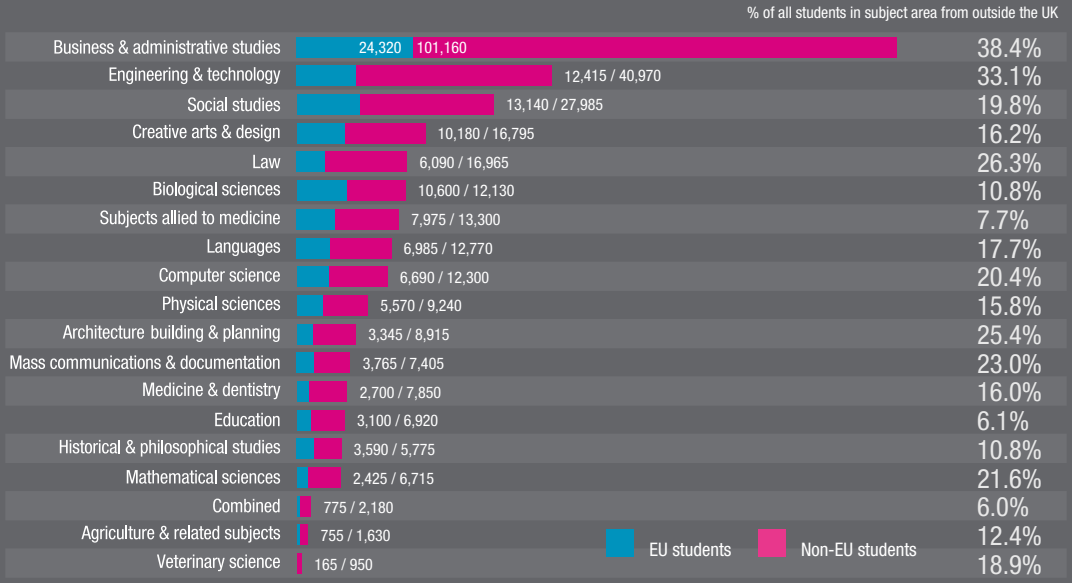
95% of undergraduate, non-EU students studying in the UK are expected to complete their degree in four years or less.

64% of international undergraduate students in the USA graduate within six years.

Sources: Left: OECD (2015). Right: HESA Student Record (2014-15), US National Center for Education Statistics (2014)

EU & INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS BY CHOSEN SUBJECT AREA, 2014-15

The UK has a highly diverse student body: 1 in 5 of all students in the UK are from overseas and they study across a range of subject areas.

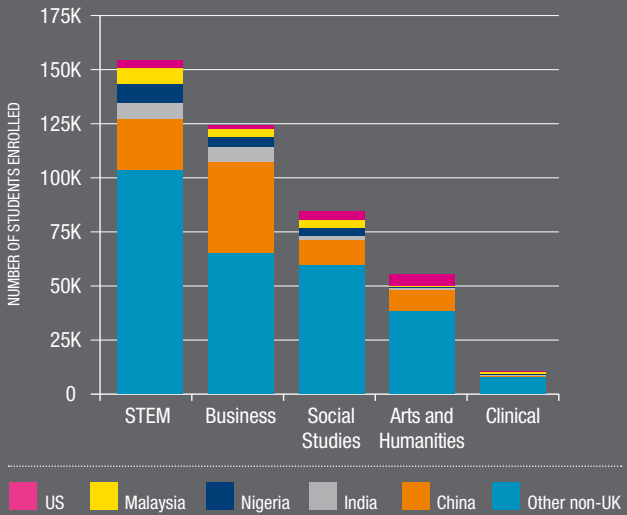


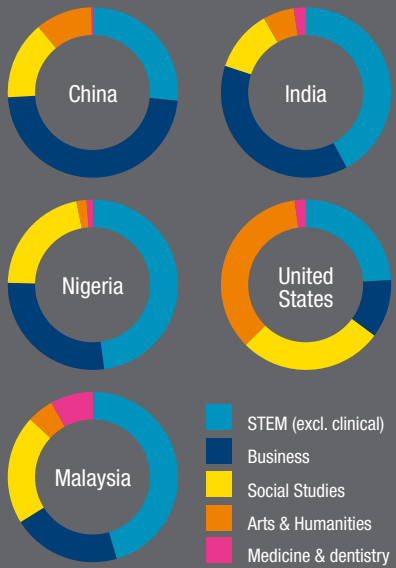
Source: HESA Student Record (2014-15)

NON-UK STUDENTS BY SUBJECT CHOICE & DOMICILE

STEM subjects are particularly popular amongst Malaysian and Nigerian students, Business subjects for Chinese students, and Arts, Humanities and Languages for students from the USA.

SUBJECT AREA AND STUDENT DOMICILE





Source: HESA Student Record (2014-15)

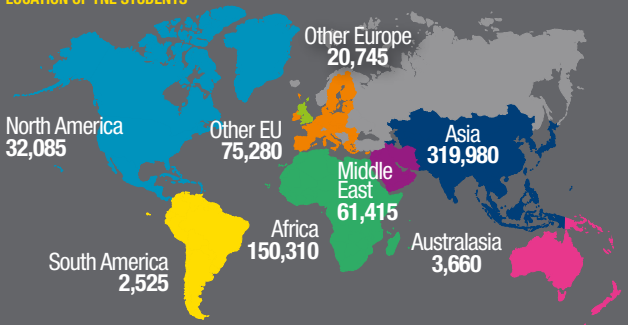
3

TNE & OUTWARD MOBILITY

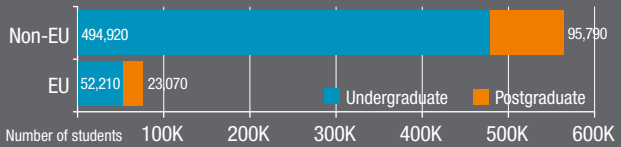
LOCATION OF TRANSNATIONAL EDUCATION STUDENTS, 2014-15

Around 664,000 students study for UK HE qualifications outside the UK.

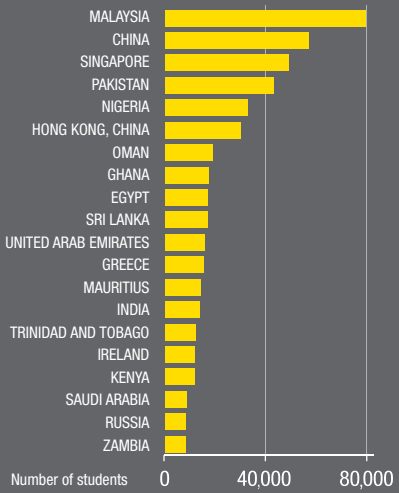
LOCATION OF TNE STUDENTS



Total number of TNE students in 2014-15 = **663,915**



TOP 20 COUNTRIES OF ACTIVITY

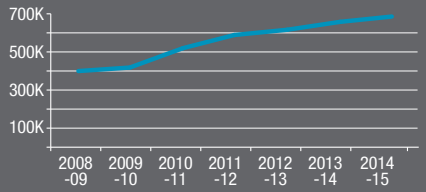


Source: HESA Aggregate Offshore Record (2014-15) * Students registered at Oxford Brookes University accounted for over 40% of the total population of the Aggregate Offshore Record in 2014-15. The majority of these students were registered with an overseas partner on Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) programmes.

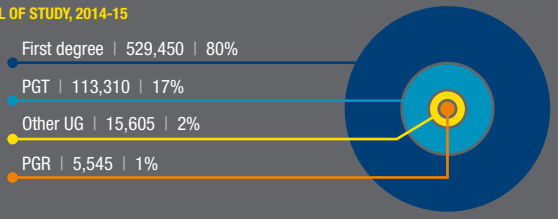
TRANSNATIONAL EDUCATION STUDENTS BY TYPE AND LEVEL OF PROVISION

The number of TNE students has risen by over 70% since 2008-09 and the vast majority are studying for a first degree.

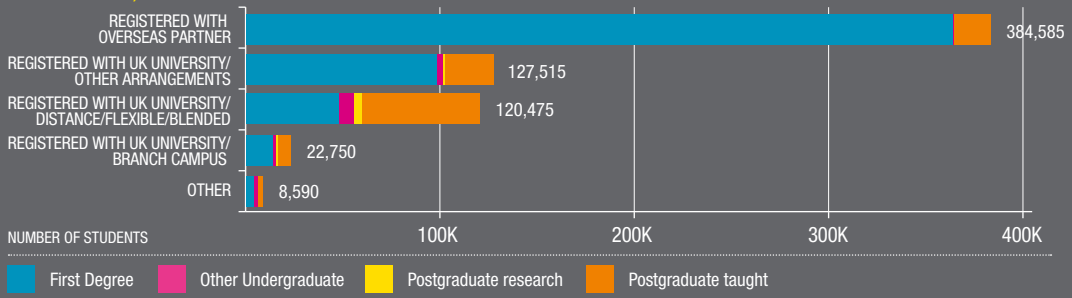
TRENDS IN UK TRANSNATIONAL EDUCATION STUDENT NUMBERS



LEVEL OF STUDY, 2014-15



TYPE OF PROVISION, 2014-15

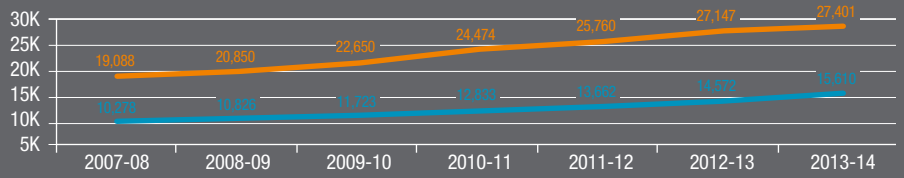


Source: HESA Aggregate Offshore Record (2014-15)

ERASMUS MOBILITY TO AND FROM THE UK

The number of UK students going abroad through the Erasmus programme has increased by more than 50% since 2007-08.

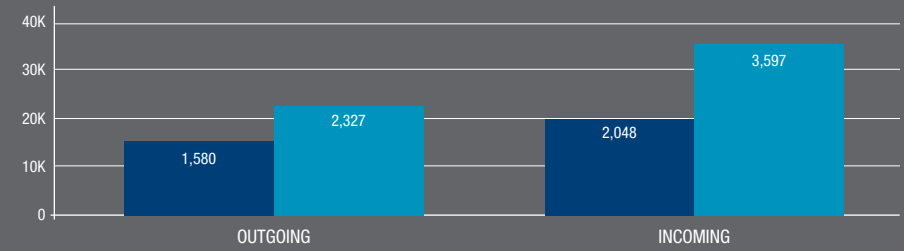
STUDENT MOBILITY TO AND FROM THE UK VIA ERASMUS



Incoming to the UK

Outgoing from the UK

STAFF MOBILITY TO AND FROM THE UK VIA ERASMUS



2007/08

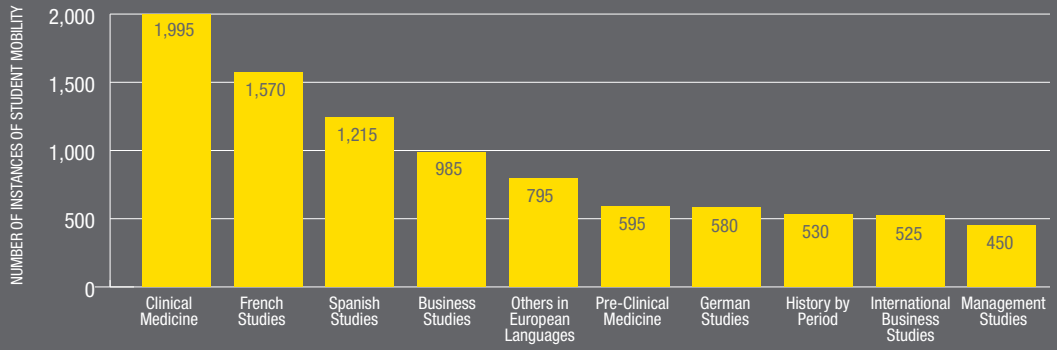
2013/14

Source: European Commission Fact Sheet (2015)

UK STUDENTS WITH A PERIOD ABROAD, 2014-15

Over half of the 22,000 students spending a period of time abroad during their studies went to other EU countries.

TOP 10 SUBJECTS WITH OUTWARDLY MOBILE STUDENTS



TOP 5 DESTINATIONS

FRANCE 3,565

USA 3,060

SPAIN 2,920

GERMANY 1,715

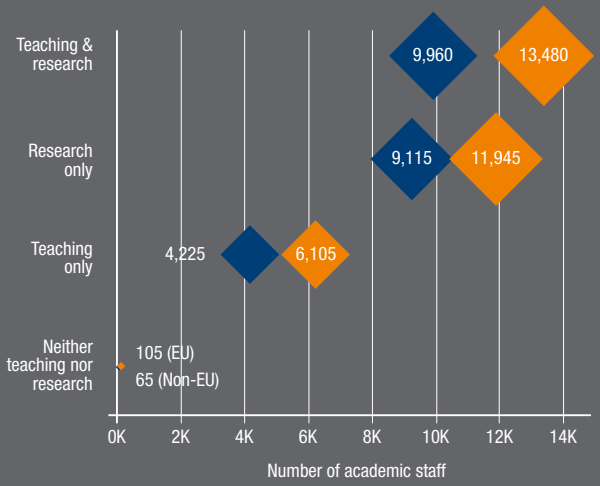
AUSTRALIA 1,390

Source: HESA Student Record (2014-15). Figures exclude periods of mobility of less than two weeks.

NUMBERS OF NON-UK ACADEMIC STAFF

Over a quarter of the UK's academic staff are from overseas; this proportion has increased consistently, from 19% to 28% in the last decade.

ACADEMIC STAFF NUMBERS BY FUNCTION



EU Non-EU

Unknown domiciles have been excluded.

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT FUNCTION	% WITH NON-UK NATIONALITY
Teaching and research	25%
Research	45%
Teaching	21%
Neither teaching nor research	11%
Grand Total	28%

2014-15 ACADEMIC STAFF - NATIONALITIES

UK EU Non-EU

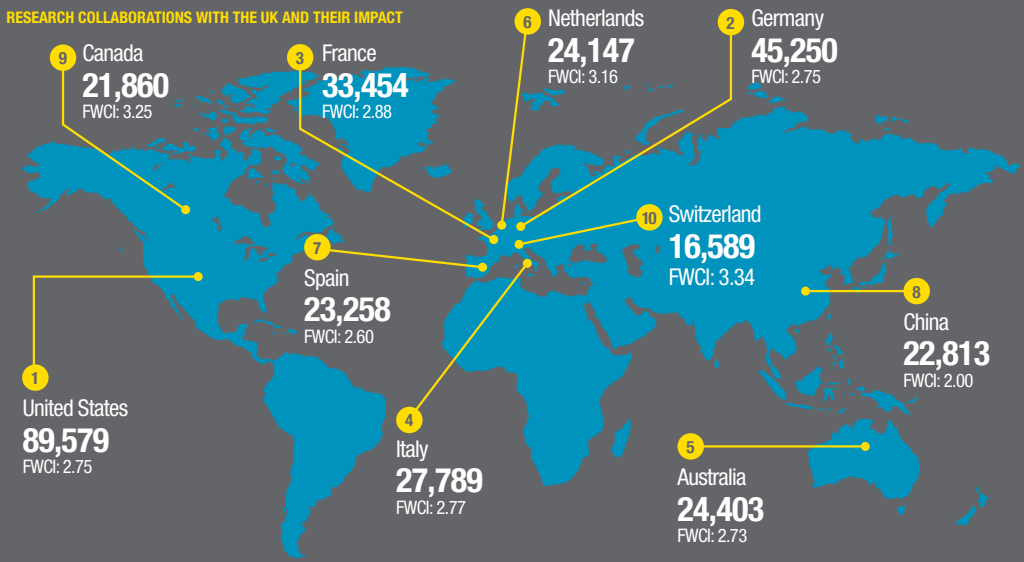
Source: HESA Staff Record (2014-15)

4

THE IMPACT OF INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH & COLLABORATION

THE UK'S TOP 10 COLLABORATION PARTNERS, BY NUMBER OF CO-AUTHORED PAPERS

The UK's top collaborative partner country is the USA and 13 out of the UK's top 20 collaboration partners are EU member states.

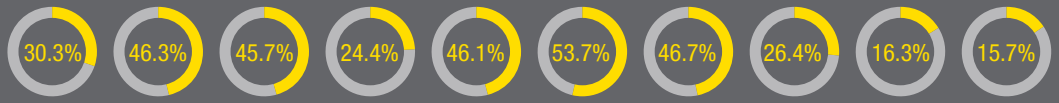


Sources: Elsevier and BIS (2013), International Comparative Performance of the UK Research Base – 2008 to 2012. *FWCI refers to "field weighted citation impact" which reflects the number of citations received by an entity's publications compared to the average number in the world, accounting for differences in subject area, publication year, and document type.

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS

The UK is a world leader in internationally collaborative research. This is a great advantage to our research base: UK international co-authorship is associated with 61% greater field-weighted citation impact compared to UK institutional co-authorship.

% OF ALL PUBLICATIONS THAT WERE INTERNATIONALLY CO-AUTHORED, 2012



GROWTH RATE IN THE PROPORTION OF PUBLICATIONS THAT ARE INTERNATIONALLY CO-AUTHORED, FROM 2003 TO 2012

USA	UK	Australia	Japan	Germany	Netherlands	Canada	South Korea	India	China
32.9%	29.5%	25.7%	24.2%	20.9%	20.5%	20.4%	2.6%	-7.4%	-16.0%

46% of UK research publications involved an international collaboration in 2012, and since 2003 the rate has grown faster than its key competitors except the USA, where only 30% of publications are internationally co-authored.

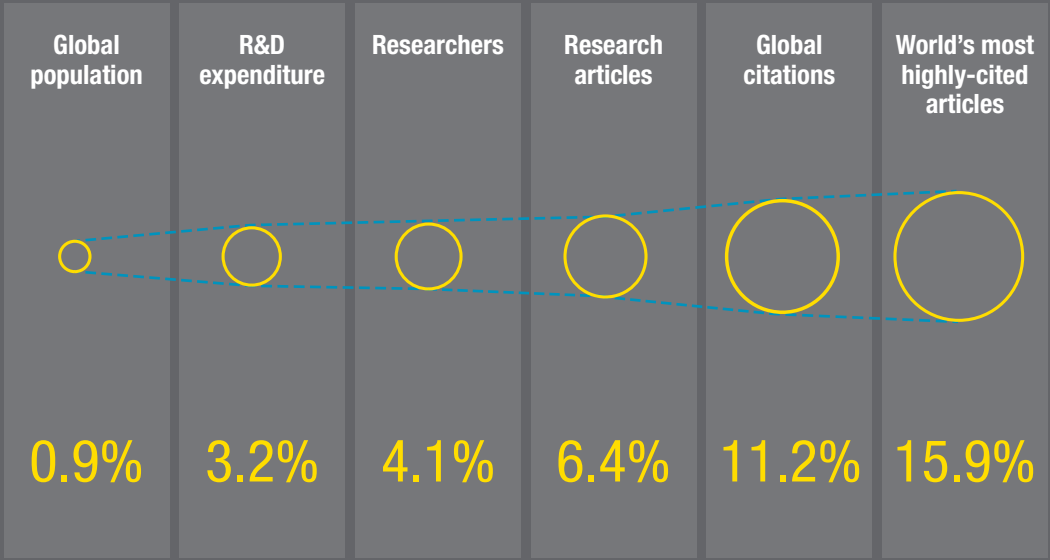
World, 2012
% co-authored: 18%
Growth rate
2003 - 2012: 8%

While growth rates are negative in some countries, this is likely due to a rapid expansion of total research publications in these countries, rather than a decline in the number of internationally co-authored publications.

Source: OECD (2015)

QUALITY & IMPACT OF UK RESEARCH INTERNATIONALLY

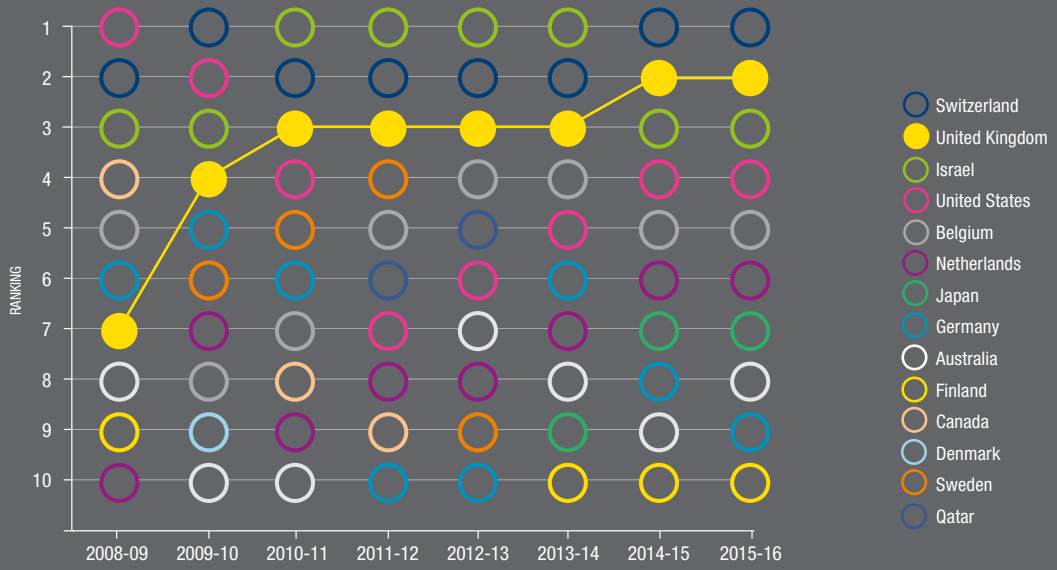
The UK has more articles per pound and per researcher than our major competitors.



Sources: Elsevier and BIS (2013), International Comparative Performance of the UK Research Base – 2013

QUALITY OF INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS OVER TIME

The UK's scientific research institutions are now ranked second in the world for quality.



Source: World Economic Forum (2015)

5

THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF INTERNATIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION

TOP 10 COUNTRIES ON THE GLOBAL INNOVATION INDEX (GII)

The UK is second in the world on the GII, which measures innovation capabilities.

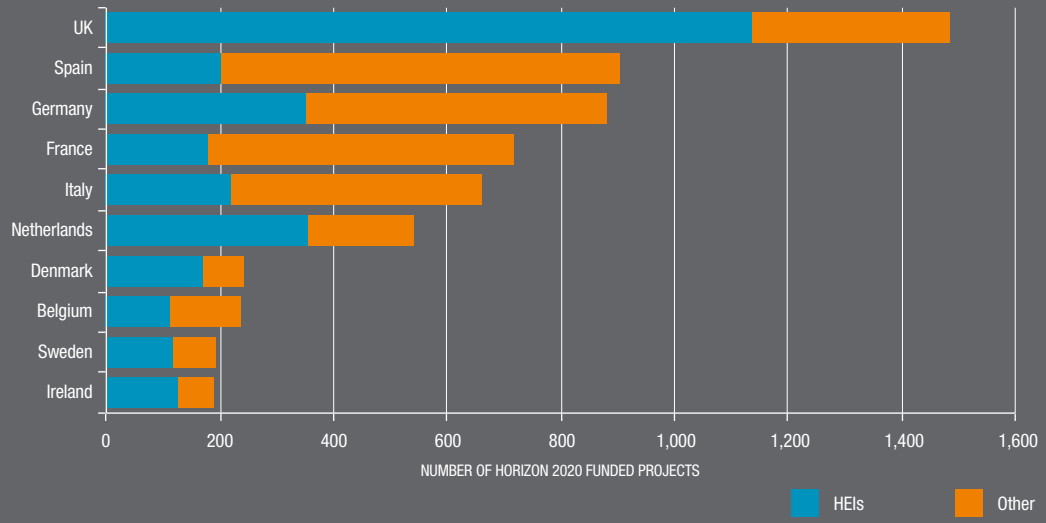
RANKING	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
1	Switzerland	Switzerland	Switzerland	Switzerland	Switzerland
2	Sweden	Sweden	Sweden	United Kingdom	United Kingdom
3	Singapore	Singapore	United Kingdom	Sweden	Sweden
4	Hong Kong, China	Finland	Netherlands	Finland	Netherlands
5	Finland	United Kingdom	United States	Netherlands	United States
6	Denmark	Netherlands	Finland	United States	Finland
7	United States	Denmark	Hong Kong, China	Singapore	Singapore
8	Canada	Hong Kong, China	Singapore	Denmark	Ireland
9	Netherlands	Ireland	Denmark	Luxembourg	Luxembourg
10	United Kingdom	United States	Ireland	Hong Kong, China	Denmark

Source: The Global Innovation Index (2015), by Cornell University, INSEAD Business School & the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO)

PROJECTS FUNDED UNDER HORIZON 2020 (AS OF APRIL 2016)

The UK coordinates more projects under Horizon 2020 than any other country, and over three-quarters of these projects are led by universities.

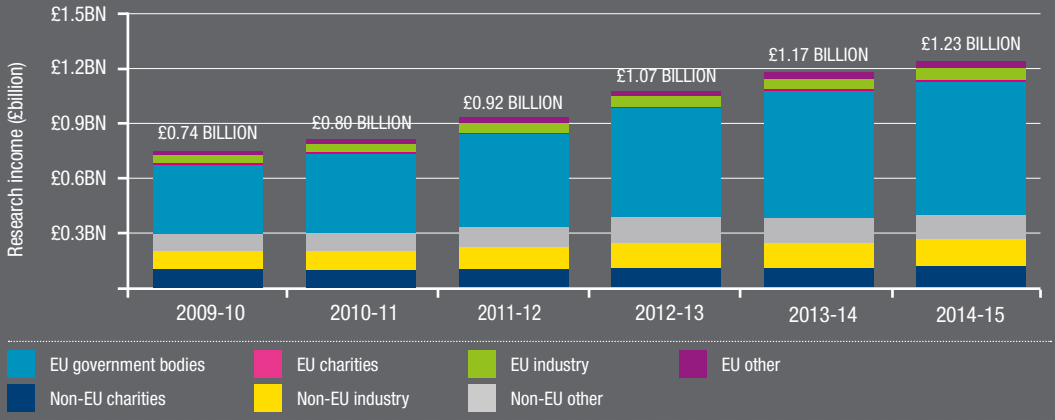
PROJECTS COORDINATED UNDER HORIZON 2020



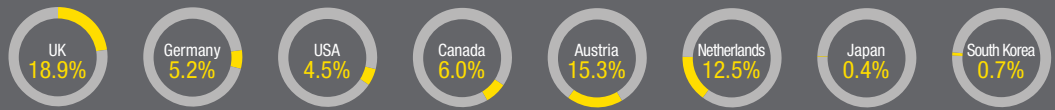
Source: European Commission Cordis (on April, 2016)

RESEARCH INCOME FROM INTERNATIONAL SOURCES

In just the last five years the amount of research funding from abroad has increased by over 65%.



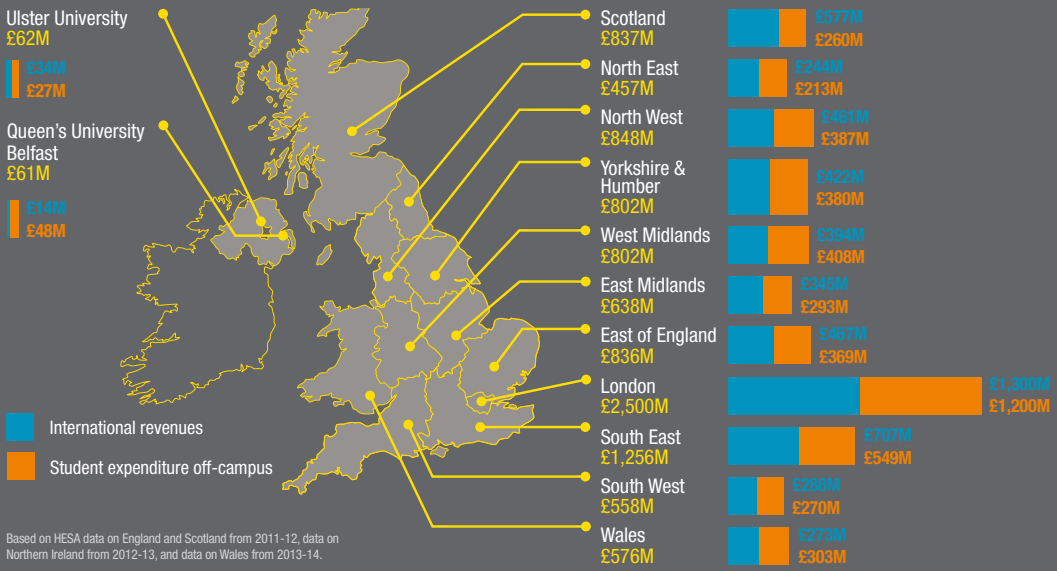
% GERD* FUNDED FROM ABROAD, 2014



Sources: Top: HESA Finance Record (2009-10 to 2014-15. Below: OECD (2015). *Gross domestic expenditure on research and development (GERD) refers to the total intramural expenditure on R&D performed on the national territory by all sectors in a given period of time (usually one year). As a result, it includes UK R&D financed by overseas investors but excludes overseas R&D financed by UK investors.

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF NON-UK STUDENTS

Non-UK students generate an estimated £11 billion for the economy. EU students alone contributed £3.7bn for the UK economy and supported over 34,000 jobs in all corners of the country.



Based on HESA data on England and Scotland from 2011-12, data on Northern Ireland from 2012-13, and data on Wales from 2013-14.

Sources: Universities UK (2014) The impact of universities on the UK economy; Universities Scotland (2013) Grow, export, attract, support; Universities Wales (2015) The economic impact of higher education in Wales. Universities UK (2015) The economic impact of Queen's University Belfast and Ulster University on the Northern Ireland economy

THE UK HE INTERNATIONAL UNIT

The UK Higher Education International Unit (IU) represents the UK higher education sector internationally. The Unit works to help universities meet their international aims by actively promoting UK universities abroad, providing trusted information for and about them, and creating new opportunities through its ability to act at sector level.

The IU draws on UK university expertise to influence policy in the UK and overseas, and delivers high quality services and programmes to overseas governments and UK universities. The IU produces reports and analysis on key issues, runs international scholarship programmes, a postgraduate support service, promotes work and study abroad and supports UK universities' transnational education activities.

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