



Market Snapshot data for

South Korea



Big-4 destinations - students from South Korea

Study visas issued by destination

Australia: issued in 12 months to Mar-26
1.97K
Previous yr: 1.60K (+0.4K +23.3%)

Australia: issued in 3 months to Mar-26
0.46K
Previous yr: 0.46K (-0.0K -1.3%)

Canada: issued in 12 months to Mar-26
8.65K
Previous yr: 8.90K (-0.3K -2.8%)

Canada: issued in 3 months to Mar-26
1.92K
Previous yr: 2.55K (-0.6K -24.8%)

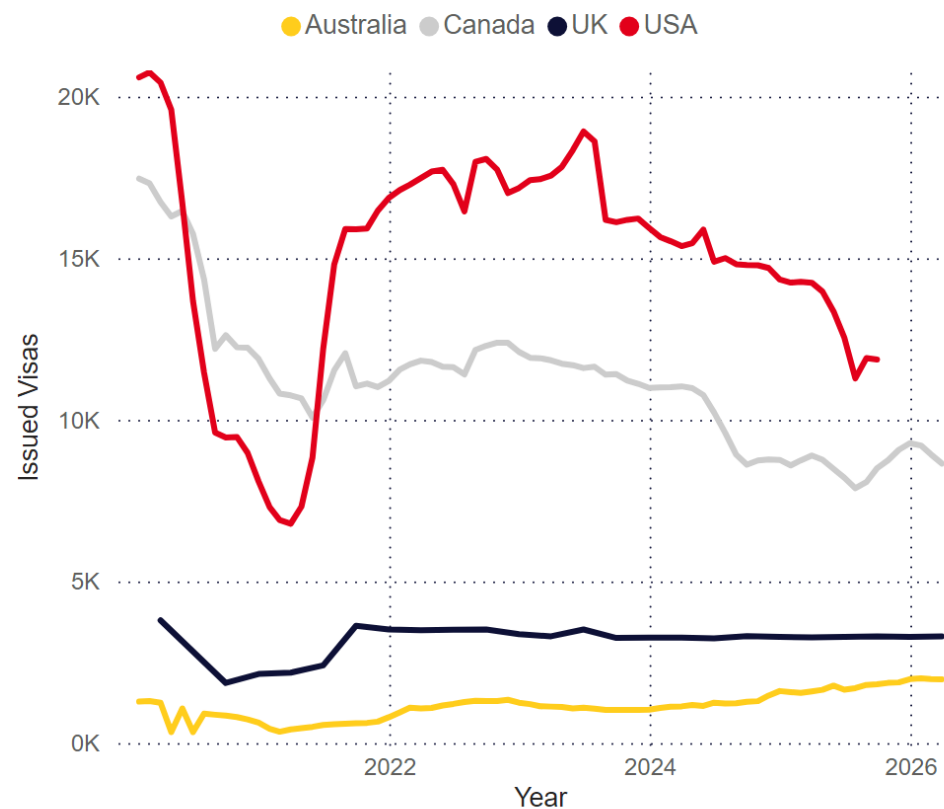
UK: issued in 12 months to Mar-26
3.30K
Previous yr: 3.27K (+0.0K +1%)

UK: issued in 3 months to Mar-26
0.07K
Previous yr: 0.05K (+0.0K +27.8%)

USA: issued in 12 months to Sep-25
11.86K
Previous yr: 14.79K (-2.9K -19.8%)

USA: issued in 3 months to Sep-25
4.20K
Previous yr: 4.88K (-0.7K -14.1%)

Total visas issued in a rolling 12 month period by destination



Source: Government visa data from big 4 destinations. *Study Visas included:

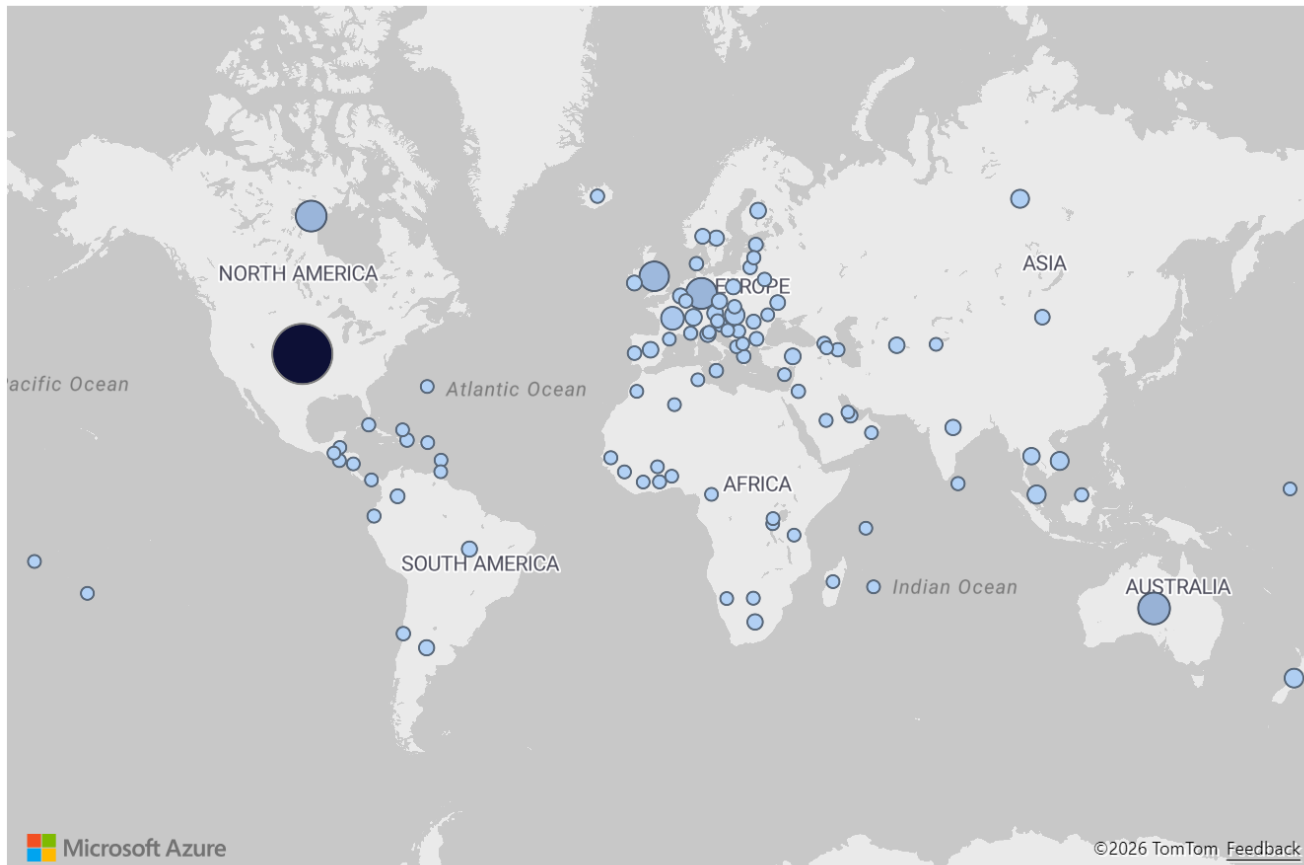
- **Australia** - Visas for HE provision. For individuals outside AU only.
- **Canada** - Study permits (issued across tertiary system, large volumes are vocational).
- **UK** - Sponsored HE student volumes (excluding dependents).
- **USA** - F1 study visas (can be used for any form of education).

Further data on issued student visas for the Big-4 destinations is available in the [Student Mobility Dashboard](#)

Study destinations - students from South Korea

Average students 2022 & 2023 by destination (includes big 4)

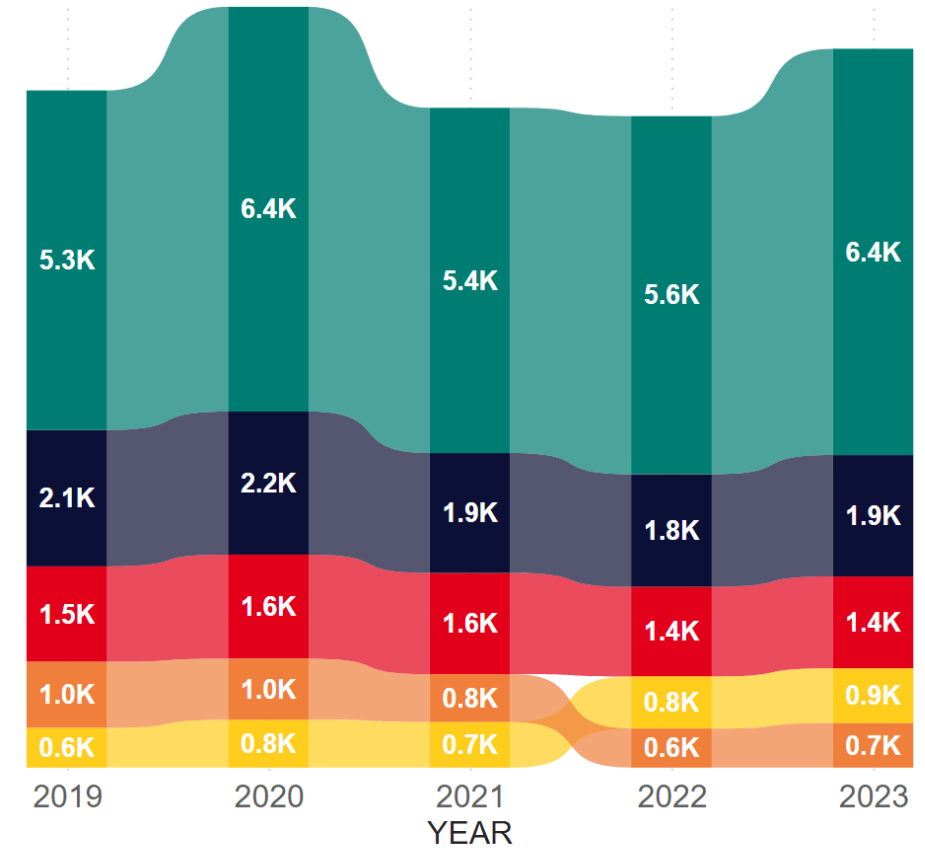
Note: Average used as data is missing for some years



Source: UNESCO data

Trends for top 5 destinations* outside of Big-4

● China, Hong K... ● France ● Germany ● Hungary ● New Zealand

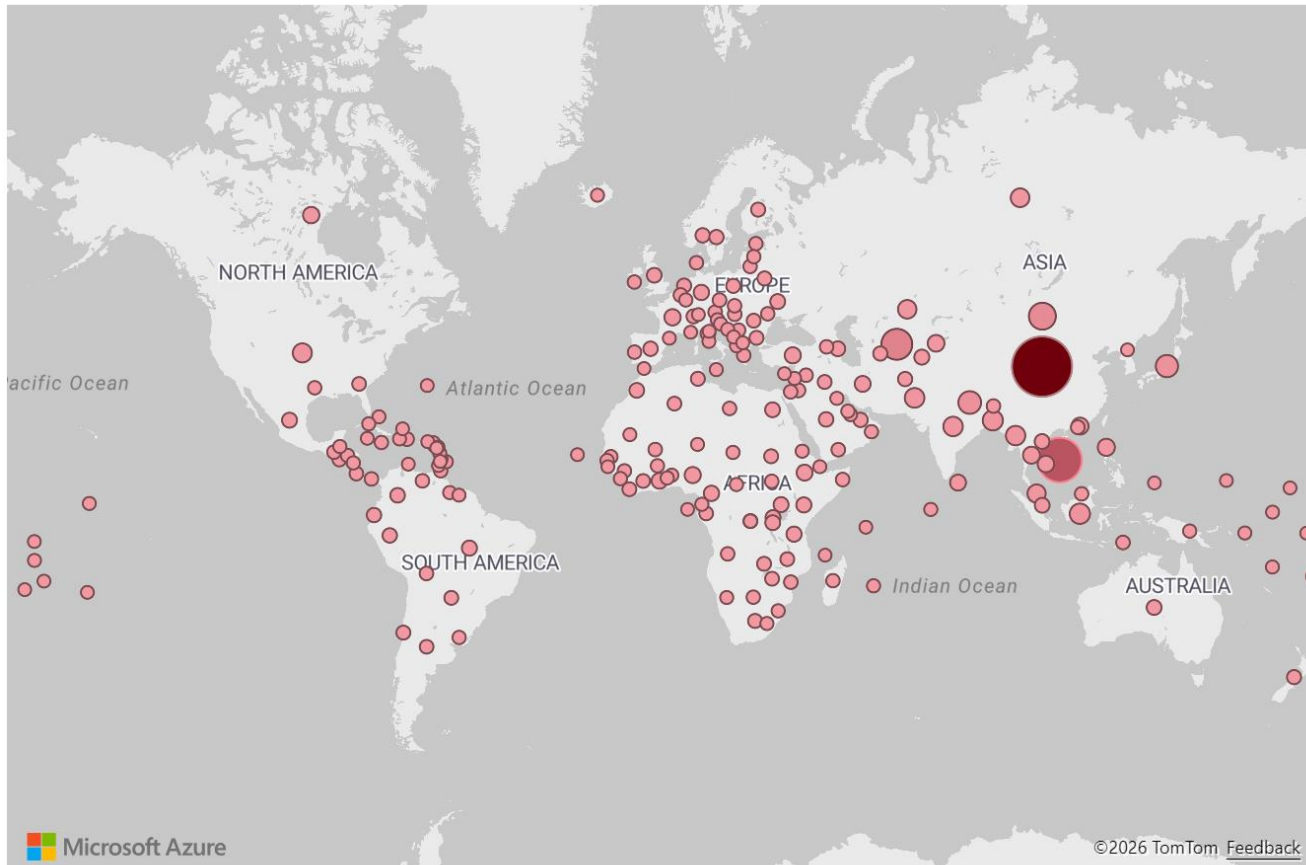


*Top 5 based on average number of inbound students in 2022 & 2023

Inbound students to South Korea

Source Markets 2022 & 2023

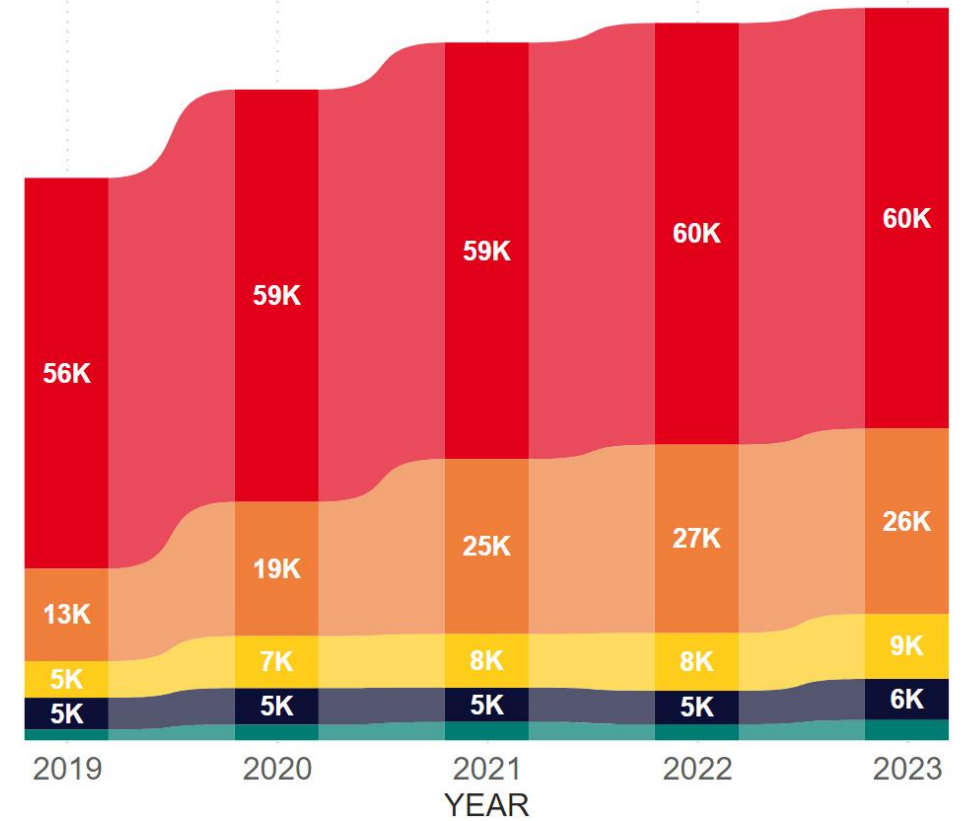
Note: Average used as data is missing for some years



Source: UNESCO data

Trends for top 5 source markets

● China ● Mongolia ● Nepal ● Uzbekistan ● Viet Nam

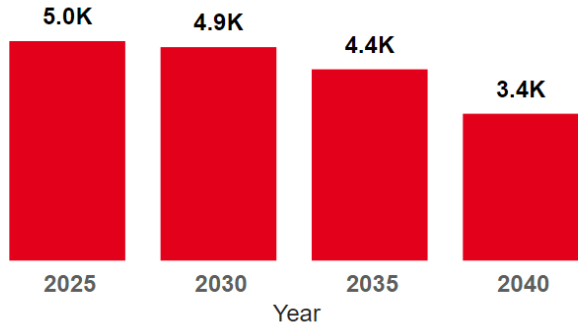


**Top 5 based on average number of inbound students in 2022 & 2023*

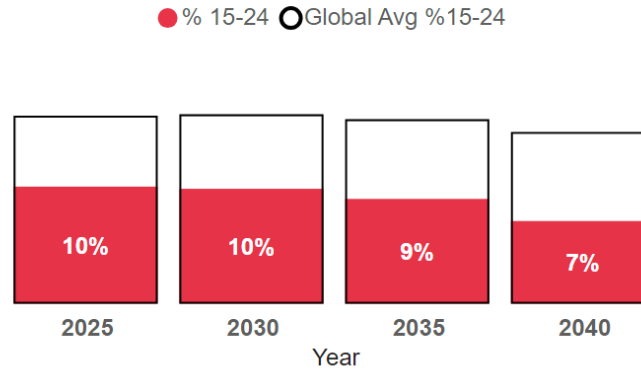
Growth indicator trends - South Korea

Youth Population & Birth Rate

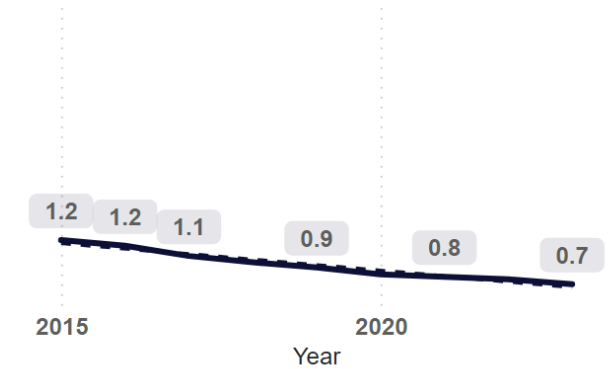
Projected population aged 15-24 by Year (thousands)



Projected proportion of population aged 15-24

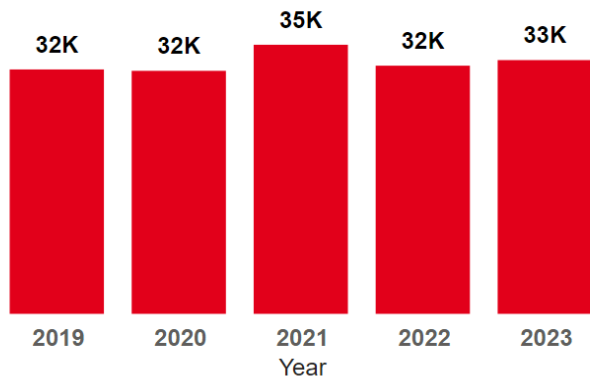


Fertility Rate (births per women)

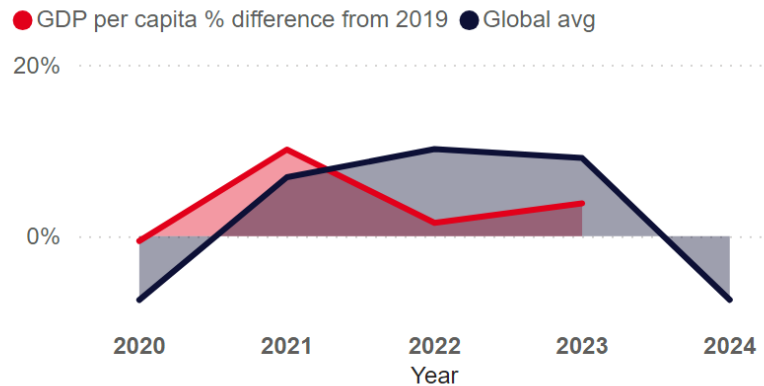


GDP & Political Stability

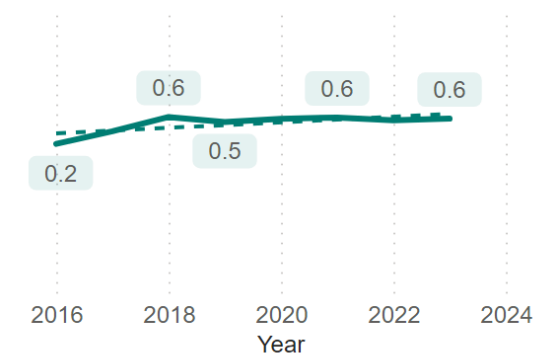
GDP per capita (current US\$)



Change in GDP per capita from 2019



Political Stability and Absence of Violence/Terrorism*

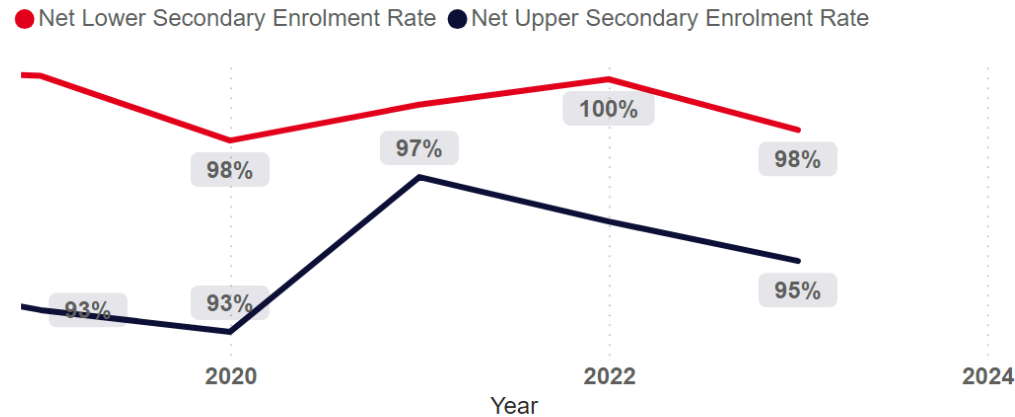


* Measures perceptions of the likelihood of political instability and/or politically-motivated violence, including terrorism. Estimate gives the country's score on the aggregate indicator, in units of a standard normal distribution, i.e. ranging from approximately -2.5 to 2.5.

Other growth indicators - South Korea

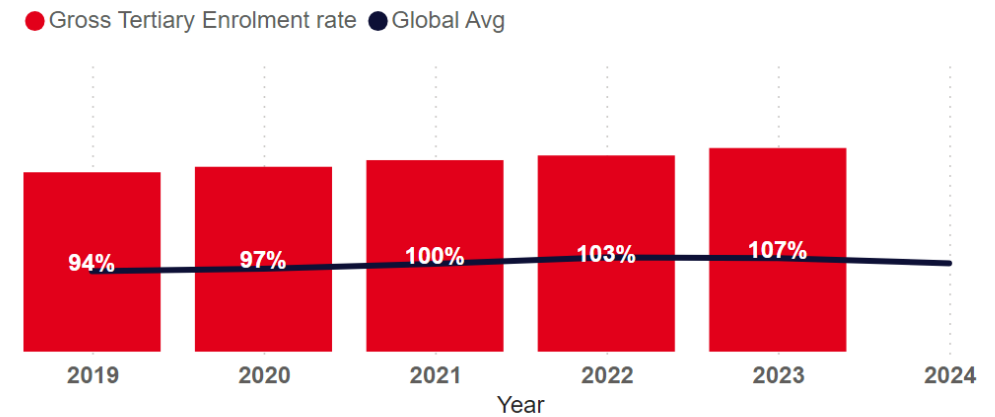
Education enrolment rates

Secondary enrolment rates



Source: UNESCO

Tertiary enrolment rate



English

English is a primary, de jure or de facto language?

No

Avg Overall Academic IELTS Score

6.3

Source: IELTS

IELTS is an English proficiency assessment in a scale of 1-9. Universities often set a requirement of 6-7. Overall score is an average of score for Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking.

Avg Total TOEFL Score

Unknown

Source: TOEFL

TOEFL test measures English proficiency. Score out of 30 for Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing, giving a max score of 120. A score of 80-100 is often considered good for mid tier universities.

QS Ranked universities

Number of universities in 2027 rankings

43

Change in number ranked since 2023

0

Universities ranked in the top 100

4

Universities ranked in top 200

7

Source: QS Global Rankings

Popular subjects - students from South Korea

Note: there will be differences in the way destinations code subject areas

Undergraduate - top 3 subject areas

UK	Approx % new enrolments
Design, and creative and performing arts	23%
Subjects allied to medicine	17%
Business and management	15%

AU	Approx % new enrolments
Health	30%
Management and Commerce	21%
Information Technology	13%

US	Approx % Students
Engineering	17%
Math and Computer Science	17%
Fine and Applied Arts	14%

Master's - top 3 subject areas

UK	Approx % new enrolments
Business and management	24%
Design, and creative and performing arts	18%
Social sciences	16%

AU	Approx % new enrolments
Health	24%
Information Technology	23%
Society and Culture	17%

US	Approx % Students
Business and Management	23%
Fine and Applied Arts	13%
Math and Computer Science	13%

UK Source: HESA student record 24/25 @JISC 02/02/26

AU Source: Austrade commencements 2024

US Source: US department homeland security 2024 estimate

Further data on UK subjects is in the [UK Subjects dashboard](#)

Further data on AU subjects is in the [AU Summary dashboard](#)

Further data on US subjects is in the [US Market Sizing Tool dashboard](#)

Where they study - students from **South Korea**

Approximate split of new students by ranking and study level

UK - % new student enrolments by QS Rank

QS Ranking	Master's	Undergraduate	Total
100 or less	43%	30%	36%
101-500	26%	22%	24%
500+ & unranked	31%	49%	41%
Total	100%	100%	100%

by Level



AU - % new student enrolments by if Go8

Go8	Master's	Undergraduate	Total
Group of Eight	43%	39%	40%
Rest of Australia	57%	61%	60%
Total	100%	100%	100%

by Level



US - % new student enrolments by US News Ranking

US News Ranking	Master's	Undergraduate	Total
100 or less	71%	60%	62%
101-200	11%	15%	14%
200+	18%	26%	24%
Total	100%	100%	100%

by Level



UK Source: HESA student record 24/25 @JISC 02/02/26

AU Source: Austrade commencements 2025 (to May)

US Source: US department homeland security 2024 estimate

Further details are in the [UK Institution Performance Dashboard](#)

Further details are in the [AU Summary dashboard](#)

Further details are in the [US enrolment trends dashboard](#)

Latest trends by study level - students from **South Korea**

YoY change by study level (*Note US data only available to Academic Year 2023/24)

UK: YoY change in issued visas

Year ending September 2025

Study Level	Visas Issued	YoY change	% YoY change
1. Pre-sessional English	43	-3	-7%
2. Below Bachelors	423	-101	-19%
3. Bachelors	1,281	28	2%
4. Masters	1,438	111	8%

further UK visa data by level of study is in the [Student Mobility Dashboard](#)

AU: YoY Change in New Student Enrolments

Year Ending May 2025

Study Level	New Student Enrolments	YoY change	% YoY change
1. Foundation	98	27	38%
2. Diploma	232	51	28%
3. Undergraduate	534	55	11%
4. Master's	423	111	36%

US: YoY Change in International Students

Academic Year 2023/24

Study level	International students	YoY change	% YoY change
1. Non-Degree	2,685	95	4%
2. Undergraduate	17,760	-1,546	-8%
3. Graduate	14,930	-375	-2%
4. OPT	7,774	1,128	17%

UK Source: Government Visa Data - Sponsored HE student volumes (excluding dependents) to March 2025

AU Source: Austrade data to May 2025

US Source: Open Doors data to academic year 2023/24