



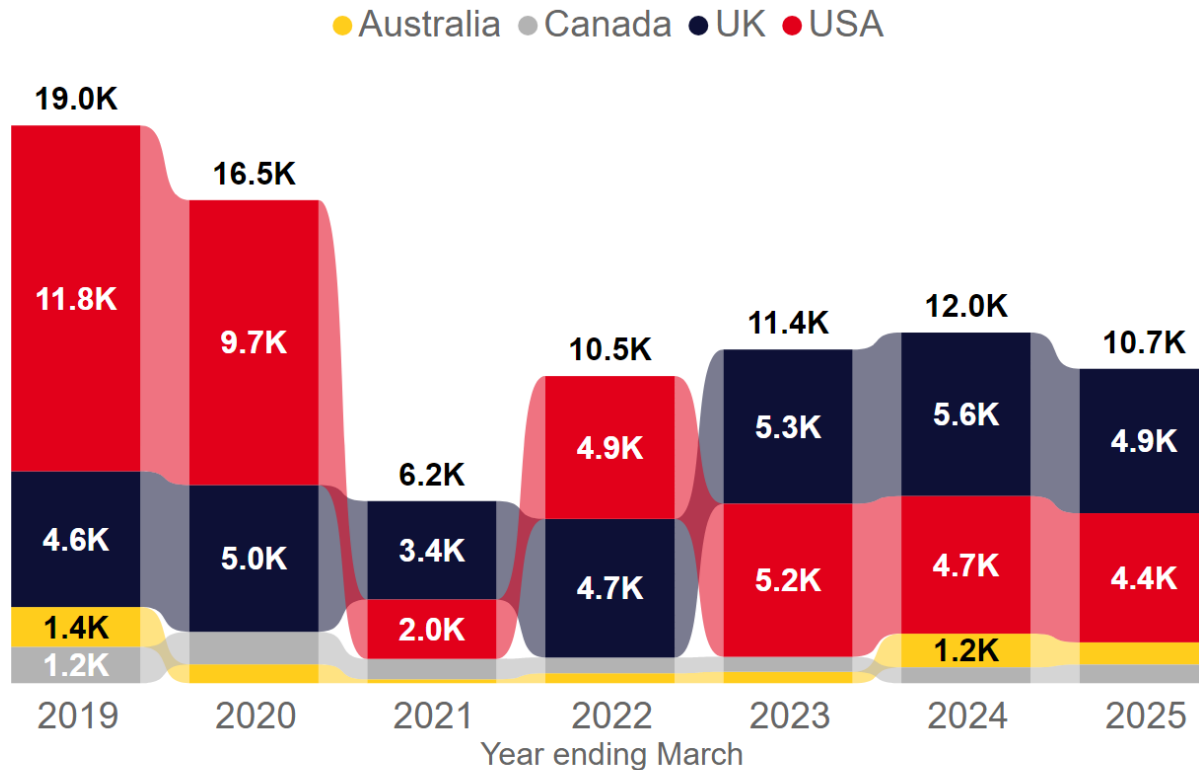
Market Snapshot data for

Saudi Arabia



Big-4 destinations - students from Saudi Arabia

Study visas* issued by Big-4 Destination (year ending March)



Growth of study visas (year ending March)

Destination	Issued Visas	Growth YoY %
Australia	0.8K	-34%
Canada	0.6K	18%
UK	4.9K	-12%
USA	4.4K	-6%

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

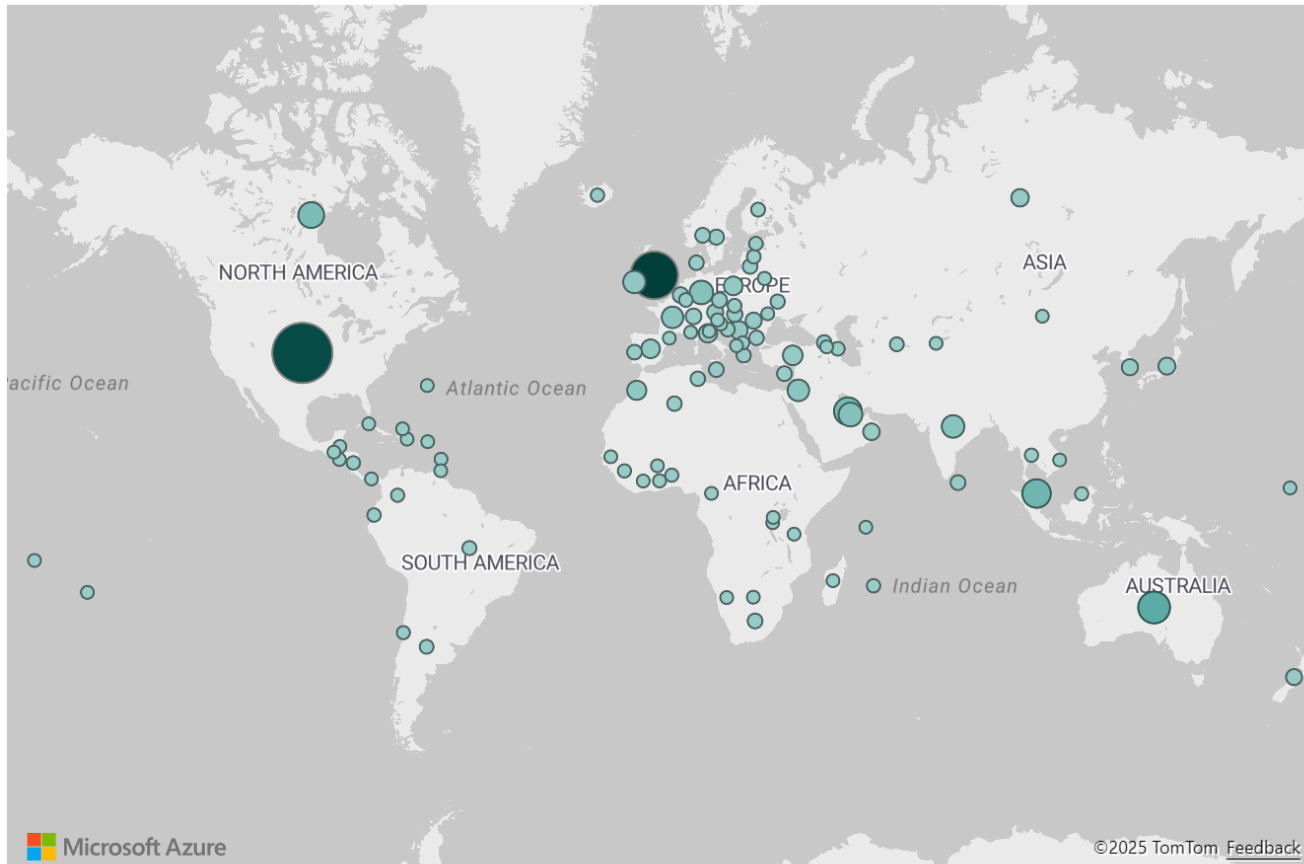
- **Australia** - Visas for HE provision. For individuals outside AU only.
- **Canada** - Study permits (issued across tertiary system, large volumes are vocational).
- **UK** - Sponsored HE student volumes (excluding dependents).
- **USA** - F1 study visas (can be used for any form of education).

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

Study destinations - students from Saudi Arabia

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

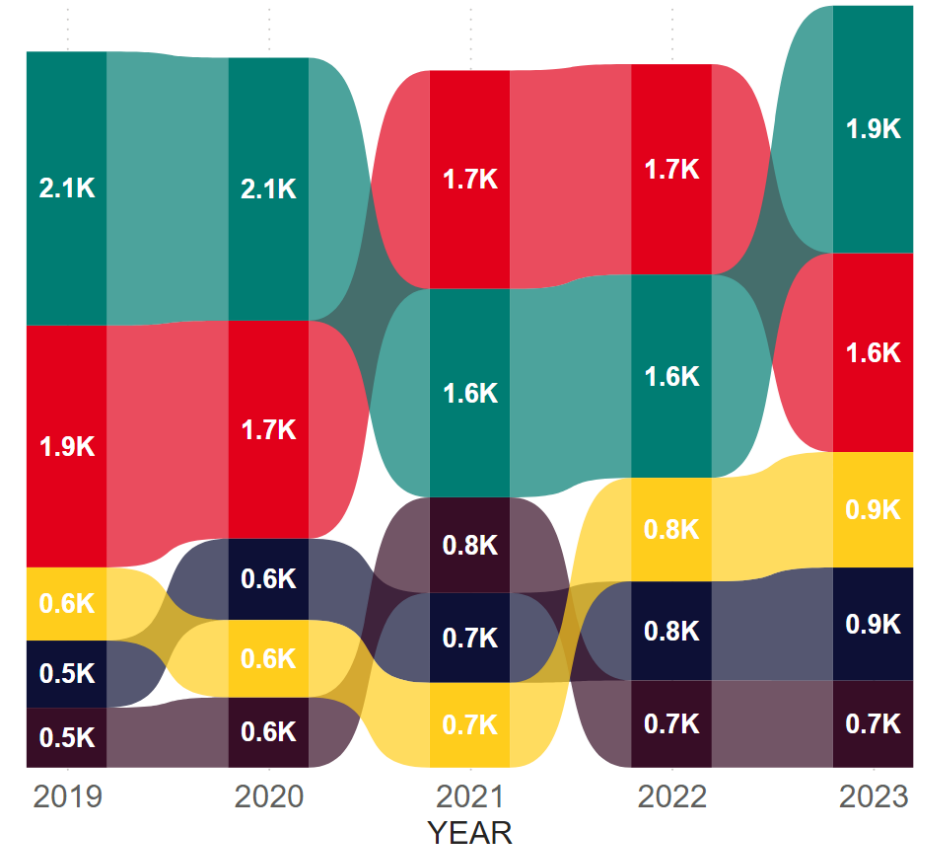
Note: Average used as data is missing for some years



Source: UNESCO data

Trends for top 5 destinations* outside of Big-4

● Bahrain ● Germany ● India ● Malaysia ● Qatar

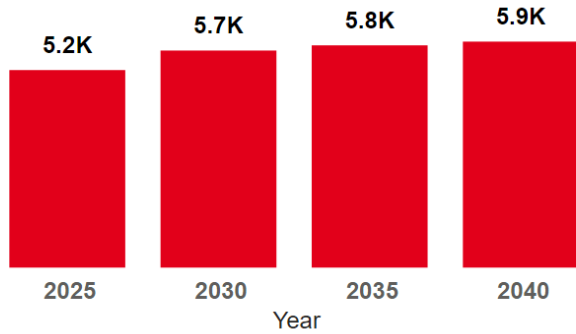


*Top 5 based on average number of inbound students in 2022 & 2023

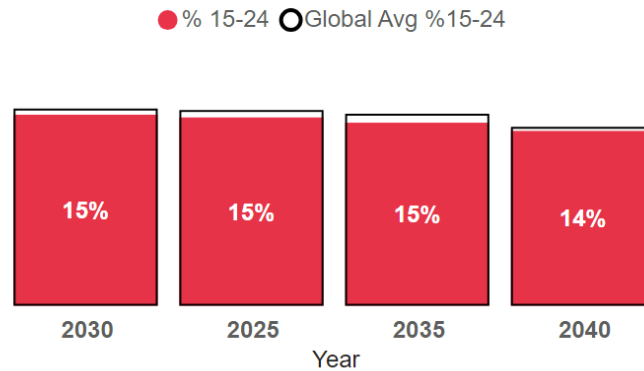
Growth indicator trends - Saudi Arabia

Youth Population & Birth Rate

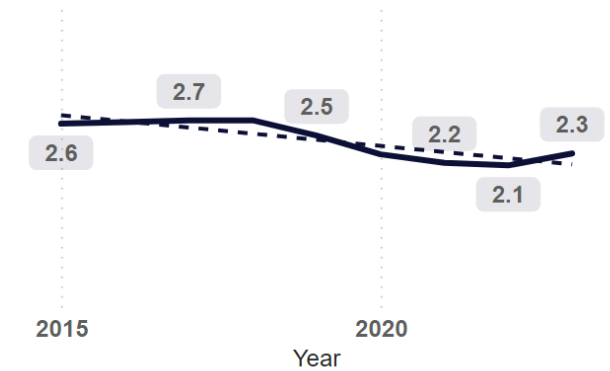
Projected population aged 15-24 by Year (thousands)



Projected proportion of population aged 15-24

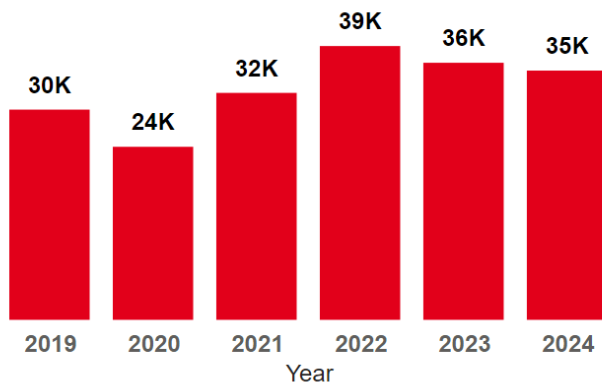


Fertility Rate (births per women)

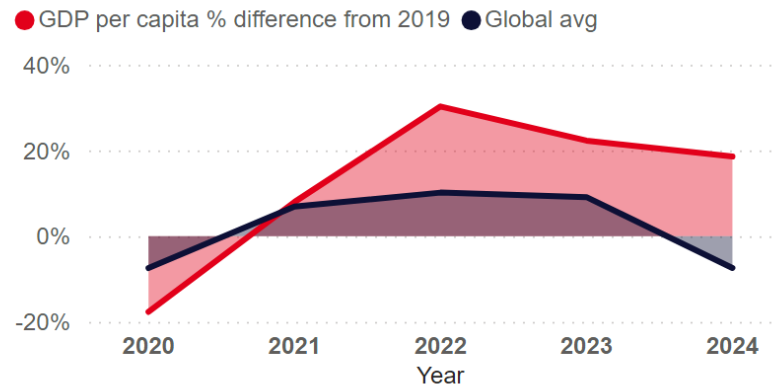


GDP & Political Stability

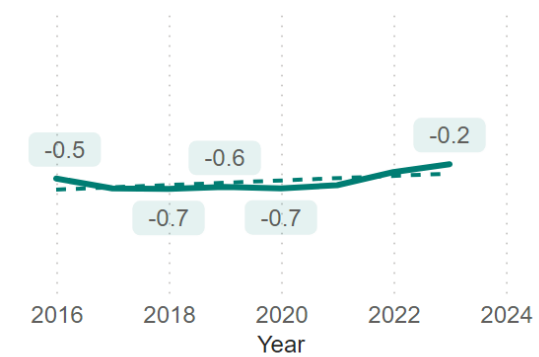
GDP per capita (current US\$)



Change in GDP per capita from 2019



Political Stability and Absence of Violence/Terrorism*

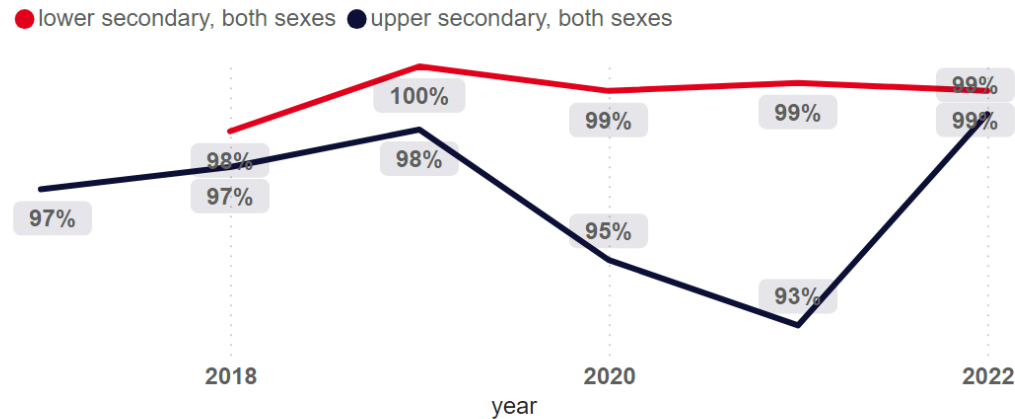


* Measures perceptions of the likelihood of political instability and/or politically-motivated violence, including terrorism. Estimate gives the country's score on the aggregate indicator, in units of a standard normal distribution, i.e. ranging from approximately -2.5 to 2.5.

Other growth indicators - Saudi Arabia

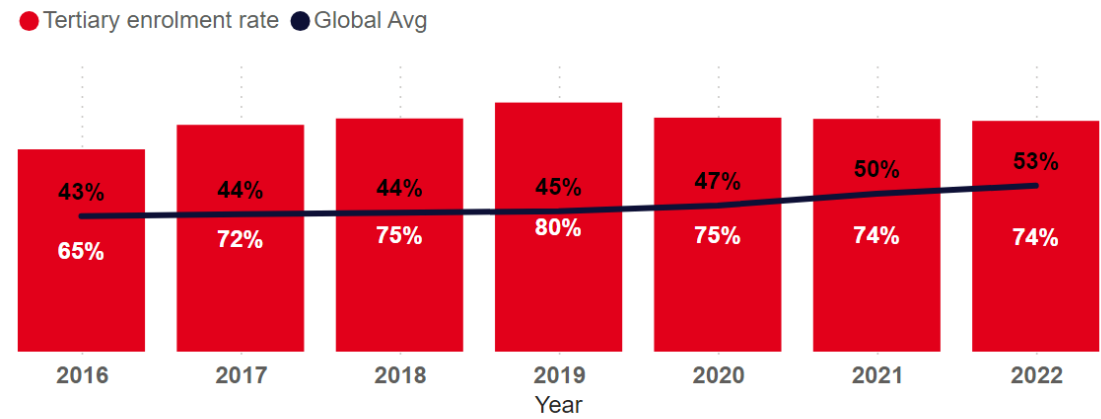
Education enrolment rates

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

5.8

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

79

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 2026 rankings

22

Change in number ranked since 2021

8

Universities ranked in the top 100

0

Universities ranked in top 200

3

Source: QS Global Rankings

Popular subjects - students from Saudi Arabia

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

Undergraduate - top 3 subject areas

UK Approx % new enrolments

Engineering and technology	25%
Business and management	23%
Computing	13%

AU Approx % new enrolments

Management and Commerce	30%
Engineering and Related Technologies	29%
Information Technology	17%
Natural and Physical Sciences	17%

US Approx % Students

Engineering	32%
Business and Management	17%
Health Professions	12%

Master's - top 3 subject areas

UK Approx % new enrolments

Business and management	24%
Subjects allied to medicine	12%
Engineering and technology	10%

AU Approx % new enrolments

Management and Commerce	26%
Information Technology	18%
Engineering and Related Technologies	15%

US Approx % Students

Business and Management	20%
Engineering	16%
Legal Studies and Law Enforcement	15%

UK Source: HESA student record 23/24 @JISC 14/04/25

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 Saudi Arabia

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	33%	28%	31%
101-500	38%	36%	37%
500+ & unranked	29%	36%	32%
Total	100%	100%	100%

by Level



AU - % new student enrolments by if Go8

Go8	Master's	Undergraduate	Total
Group of Eight	66%	70%	67%
Rest of Australia	34%	30%	33%
Total	100%	100%	100%

by Level



US - % new student enrolments by US News Ranking

US News Ranking	Master's	Undergraduate	Total
100 or less	50%	37%	42%
101-200	17%	24%	21%
200+	33%	40%	37%
Total	100%	100%	100%

by Level



UK Source: HESA student record 23/24 @JISC 14/04/25

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 Saudi Arabia

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

UK: YoY change in issued visas

Year ending March 2025

Study Level	Visas Issued	YoY change	% YoY change
1. Pre-sessional English	125	-57	-31%
2. Below Bachelors	1,362	-283	-17%
3. Bachelors	1,555	68	5%
4. Masters	1,193	-208	-15%

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	230	-121	-34%
2. Diploma	17	-16	-48%
3. Undergraduate	73	-53	-42%
4. Master's	225	-140	-38%

US: YoY Change in International Students

Academic Year 2023/24

Study level	International students	YoY change	% YoY change
1. Non-Degree	1,040	207	25%
2. Undergraduate	6,575	-932	-12%
3. Graduate	5,808	-338	-5%
4. OPT	1,405	-98	-7%

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