

Facts & figures – European higher education in the world

1. International mobility

How many students study abroad and where do they go?¹

- More than 4.1 million tertiary-level students were enrolled outside their country of citizenship in 2010.
- Australia, Austria, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Switzerland and the United Kingdom have the highest percentages of international students among their tertiary students.
- Asians account for 52% of all students studying abroad worldwide. In absolute terms, the largest numbers of international students are from China, India and Korea.
- Some 77% of students worldwide who study abroad do so in OECD countries. This proportion has remained stable during the past decade.

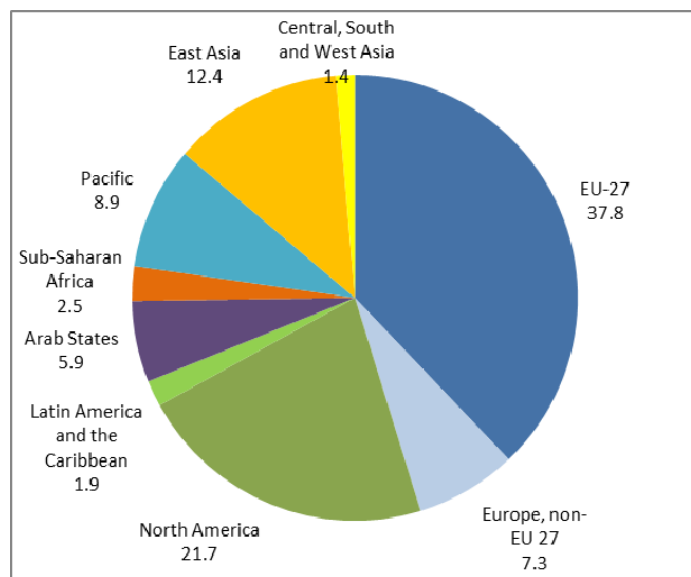
Europe remains an attractive destination for mobile learners with a share of around 45%² of the internationally mobile student population, a population expected to grow to 7 million by the end of the decade.

Increasingly, traditional source countries are also becoming destination countries: China is not only the most important source country but also hosts 7% of the world's internationally mobile student population.

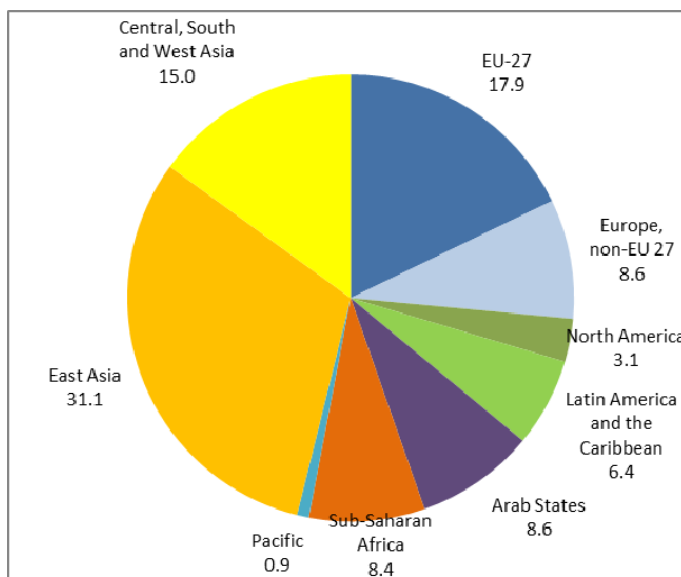
International student mobility

By region of origin, %, 2010 data³

Inbound mobility



Outbound mobility

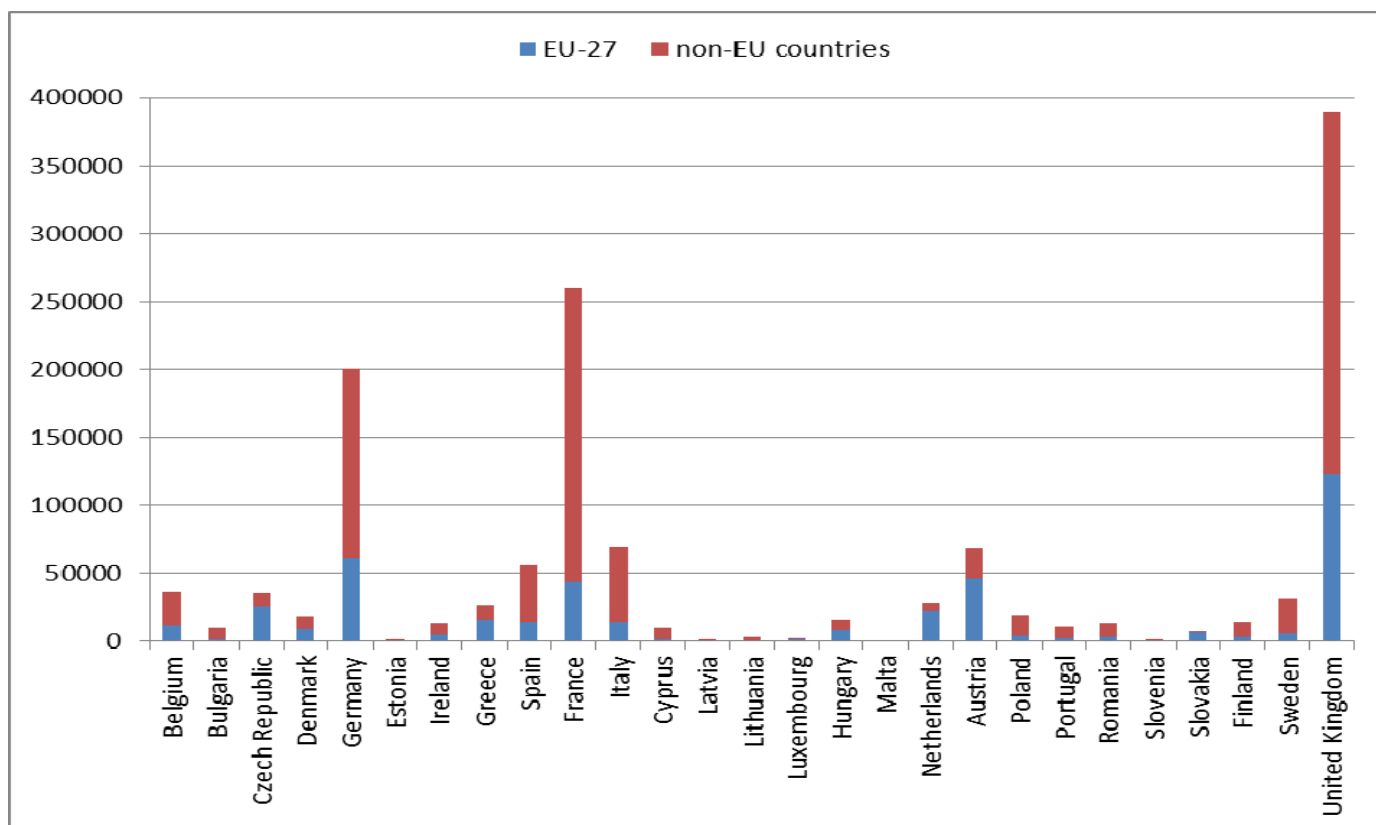


¹ Education at a Glance 2012: Highlights. http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/eag_highlights-2012-9-en

² UNESCO Institute for Statistics
<http://www.uis.unesco.org/Education/GED%20Documents%20C/GED-2012-Complete-Web3.pdf>

³ The data for all graphs are provided by UNESCO's Institute for Statistics. The data source is UNESCO's worldwide annual collection of education data. This is a common data collection with OECD and Eurostat for their respective Member States.

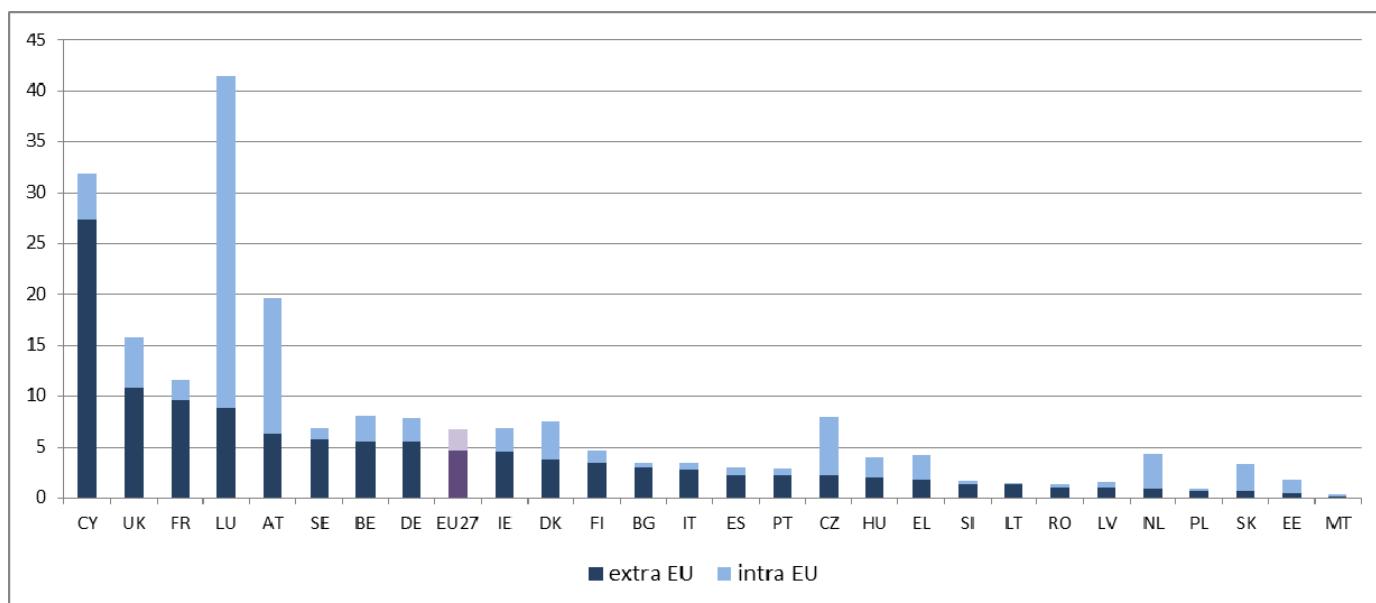
Numbers of international tertiary students in EU-27 countries



When looking at the overall volume of incoming mobility to the EU, almost two-thirds of non-European students choose just three Member States –United Kingdom, France, and Germany⁴.

International tertiary students in EU-27 countries, % of student population

As a percentage of the total population, Cyprus, Luxembourg and Austria have the most international student populations.



⁴ The European Higher Education Area in 2012: Bologna Process Implementation Report, p. 154.