



International Student & Scholar Statistics 2021-2022

Northwestern

**OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENT
AND SCHOLAR SERVICES**

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A Message from the Office of International Student & Scholar Services

As part of Northwestern's Buffett Institute for Global Affairs, the Office of International Student & Scholar Services (OISS) provides professional support and advising services to international students and scholars at Northwestern University regarding their immigration and academic status in the United States. The OISS is committed to providing quality advising services and supportive programming to students, scholars, and their dependents. **Northwestern welcomed 1,767 new international students in Fall 2021, including 1,459 newly admitted students and 308 continuing students who began their programs remotely last year. The university sponsors nearly 7,200 visitors from over 130 countries.**

Nearly 1 million international students are studying at US colleges and universities. International students contribute to culturally diverse campuses, providing authentic opportunities for all students to learn from each other's perspectives and to become better prepared for careers in the global economy. Additionally, international students contributed \$28 billion to the US economy and supported over 306,000 jobs nationally during the 2020-2021 academic year. Closer to home, international students and their dependents contributed \$1.3 billion to the economy in Illinois. **Northwestern international students and their dependents contributed nearly \$180 million to the local economy and supported over 2,550 jobs***. This reinforces the notion that international students not only bring a diverse perspective to the academic discussion, but also contribute significantly to the national, state, and local economies.

Our goal is to help the international students, scholars, and Northwestern faculty and staff navigate the many complexities associated with student and employment-based visa classifications within the Northwestern community. We are committed to providing accurate information and the highest quality of service, taking into account institutional policies and ever-changing federal regulations.

*According to a NAFSA (Association of International Educators) economic analysis for the 2020-21 academic year



Northwestern's International Community



4,020
enrolled
students

1,082
scholars

1,249
students on
post-completion
employment

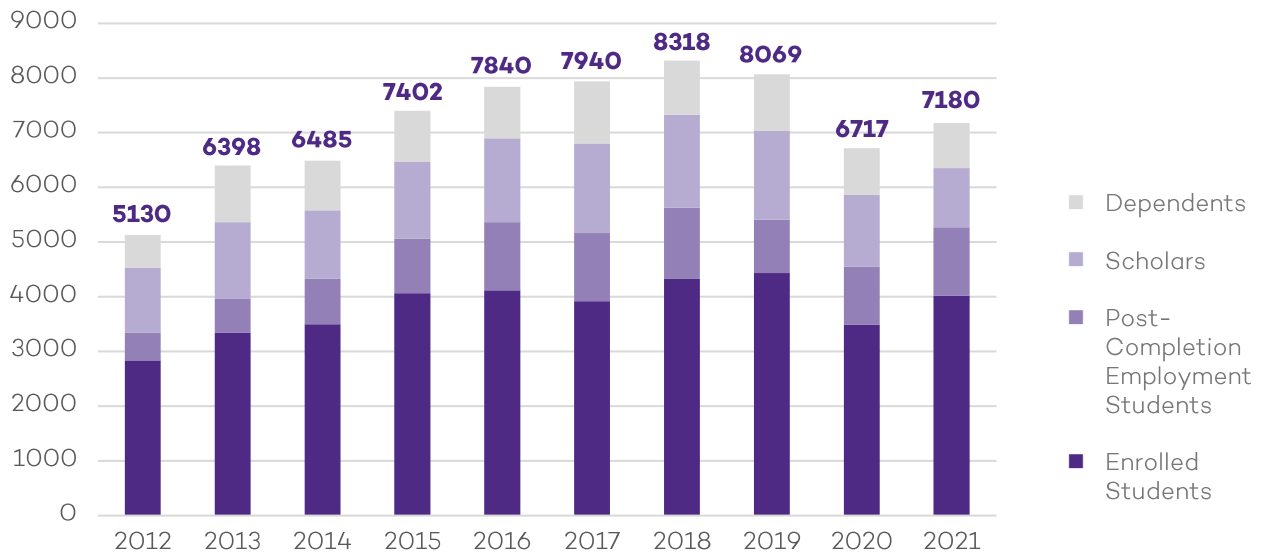
829
dependents

The OISS maintains statistics only for the members of the Northwestern community who receive visa sponsorship through our office, including F-1 and J-1 students; J-1 scholars; H-1B, TN, O-1 and E-3 employees; B-1 visitors; and any of their dependents.

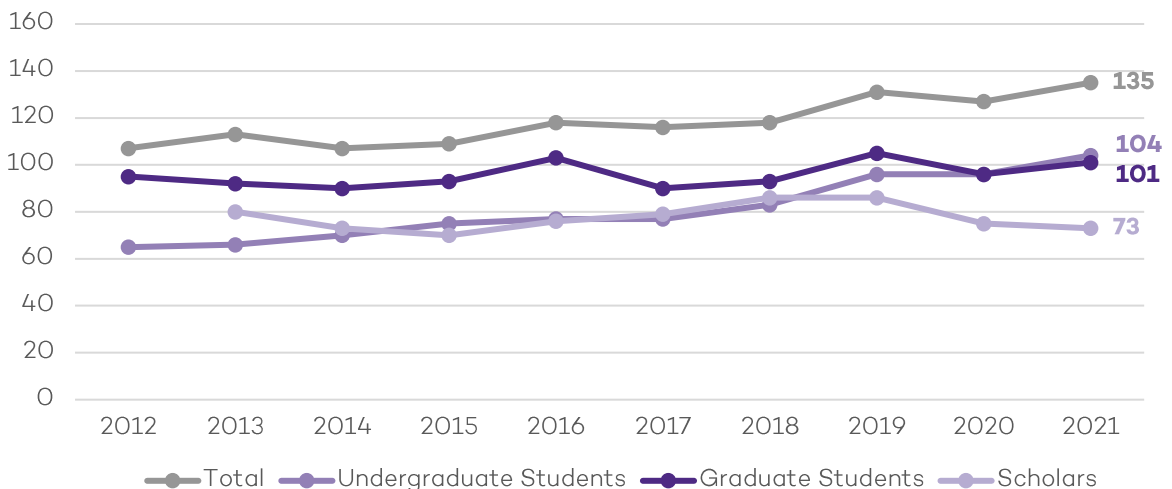
Many members of Northwestern's international community receive sponsorship through other entities, including students on F-2, J-2, L-1, L-2, H-1B or H-4 visas; J-1 students with third party sponsorship; undocumented students; employees with an Employment Authorization Document (EAD) including F-1 OPT students, J-2 dependents and asylees; and students or employees holding Legal Permanent Resident (LPR) status. These members of our community are not included in this report.

Northwestern's International Community

Northwestern's international community - including students, scholars and their families - is currently made up of **7,180 individuals** from **135 countries**.



The diversity of our community has increased **26%** over the past decade. This can primarily be attributed to a **60% increase in the diversity of our undergraduate students**, who now represent a record **104 countries**. This year, Northwestern is hosting students from **Angola, Chad, Malta, Sierra Leone** and **Somalia** for the first time.



Enrolled Students

Enrolled students make up the largest part of Northwestern's international community.

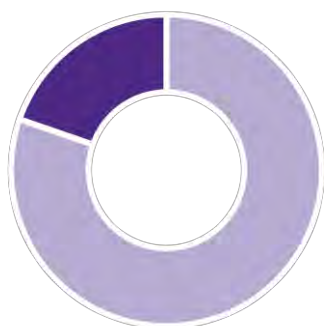
Representing 124 countries from around the world and enrolling across all of the university's schools and colleges,

enrolled international students enrich the academic experience by providing opportunities for all students to learn from each other's unique perspectives and to become better prepared for careers in the global economy. In addition, they make significant contributions to the local economy.

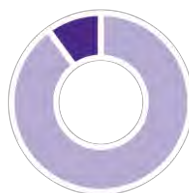


International students may enter the United States on either an **F-1 or J-1 non-immigrant student visa** to pursue studies in degree-seeking or short-term academic programs. Students are required to enroll in a full course of study during each academic term. They are eligible to work on campus, and after meeting certain academic requirements, are permitted to work off-campus with proper authorization.

International students are an integral part of Northwestern's student body, accounting for **21%** of all full-time students.



21%
of **Northwestern's**
full-time students
are international

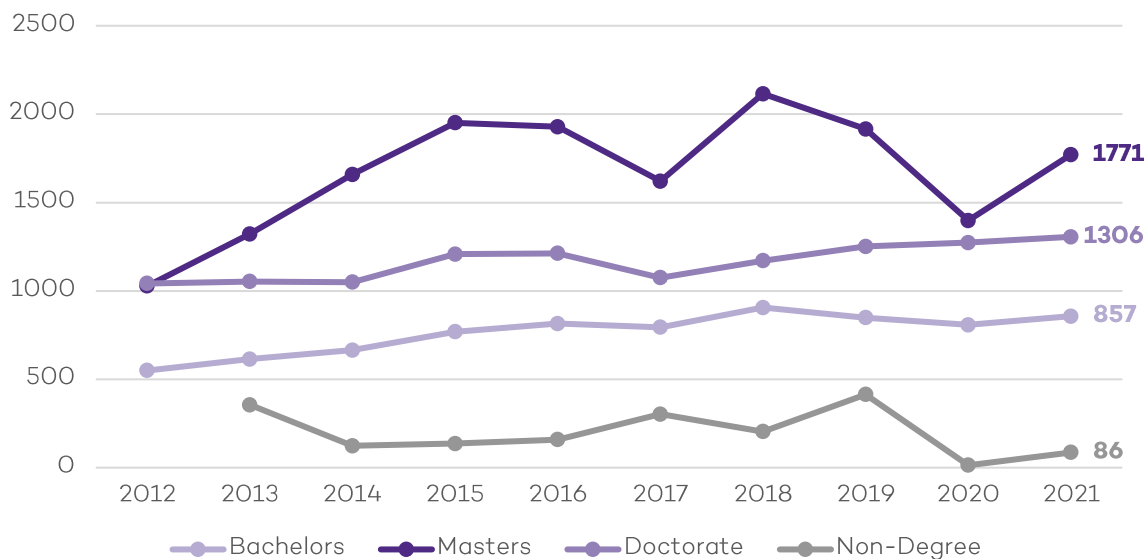


10%
of full-time
undergraduate
students are
international



30%
of full-time
graduate
students are
international

Enrolled Students



Degree Level



44% Master's
32% Doctorate
21% Bachelor's
2% Non-degree

Visa Type



95% F-1 Visa
5% J-1 Visa

Primary Funding Source



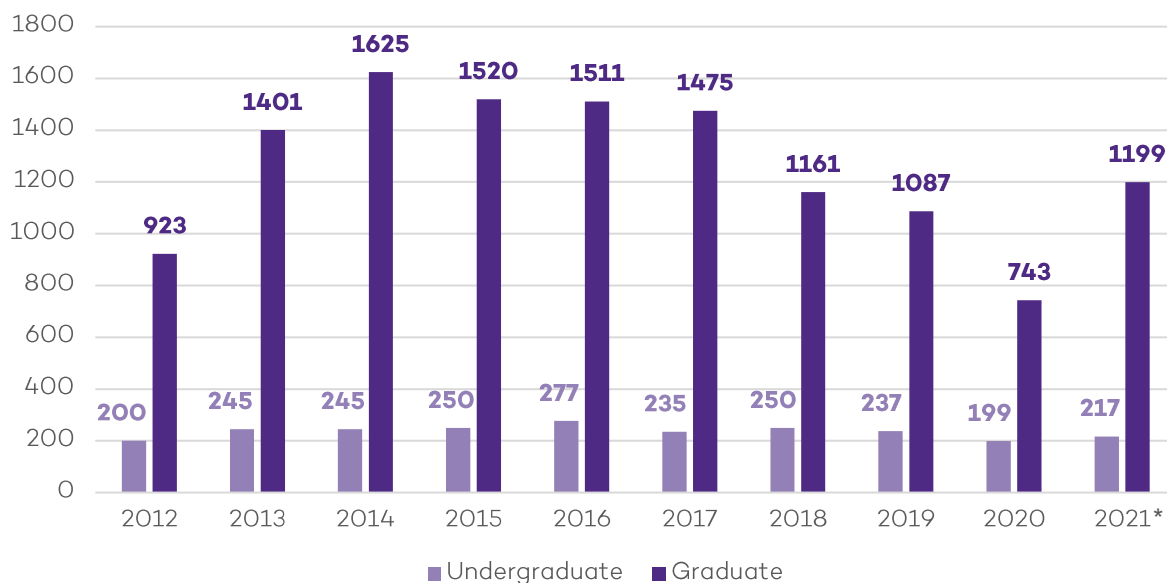
59% Personal/Family
37% Northwestern
2% Private Sponsor
1% Home Gov't/University

Gender



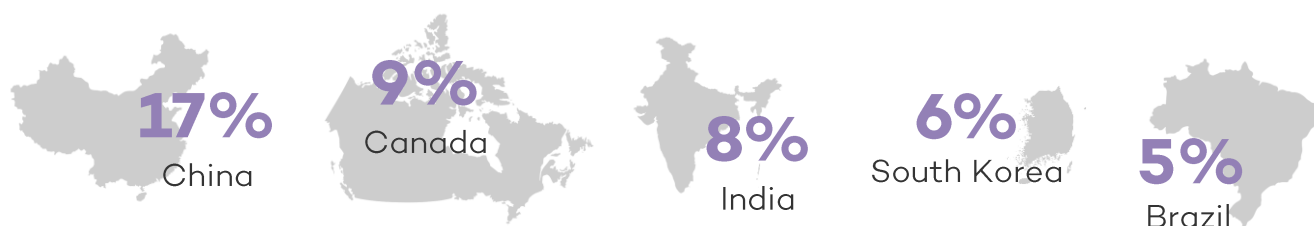
53% Male
47% Female

Fall 2021 New Enrollment

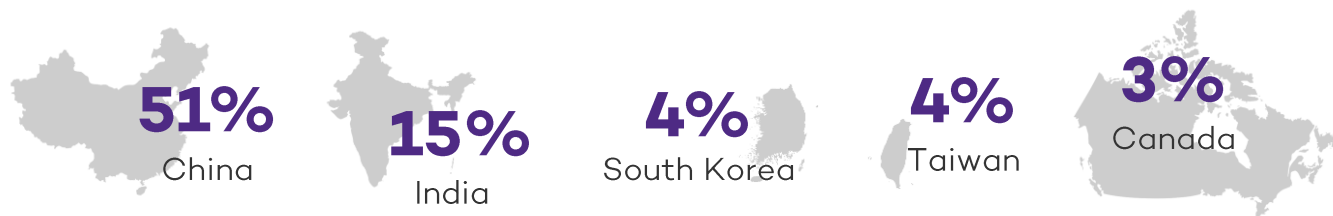


Top Countries for New Students

Undergraduate Students



Graduate Students



*An additional 308 students who had begun their academic programs remotely during the 2020–2021 academic year arrived on campus for the first time in Fall 2021. This included 122 undergraduate students and 186 graduate students.

Bachelor's Students

Gender



51% Female

49% Male

Visa Type



100% F-1 Visa

<1% J-1 Visa

Funding Source



73% Personal/Family

24% Northwestern

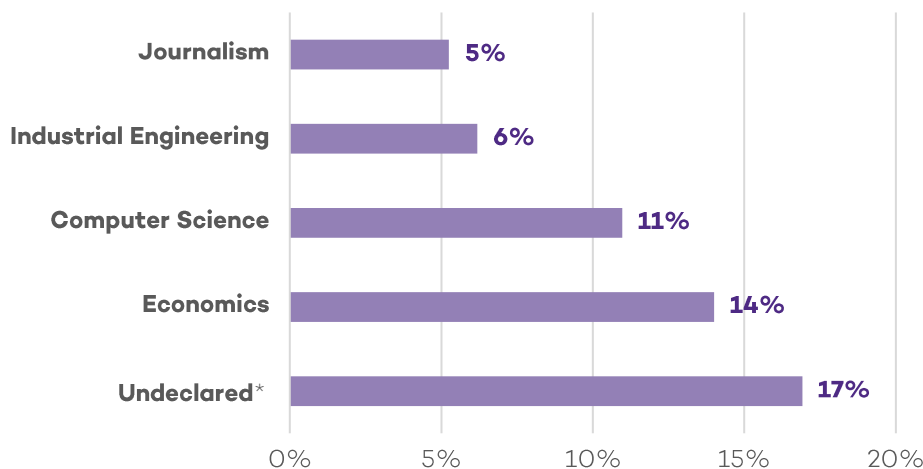
2% Home Gov't/University

1% Private Sponsor

Top 5 Countries



Top 5 Academic Programs



*All students in the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, Northwestern's largest undergraduate college, are listed as undeclared. Students go through a process to determine and declare their major within their first 2 years.

Master's Students

Gender



52% Male

48% Female

Visa Type



99% F-1 Visa

1% J-1 Visa

Funding Source



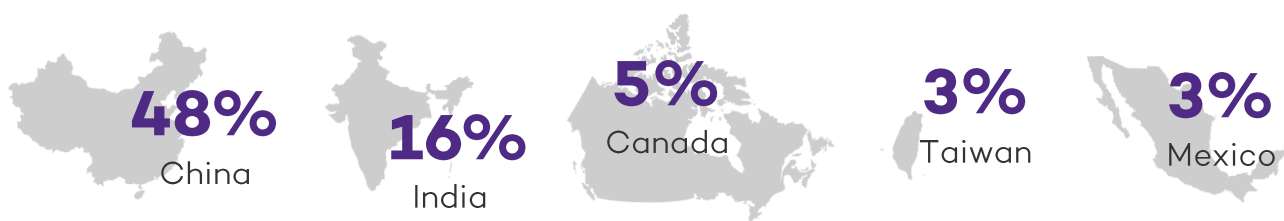
90% Personal/Family

5% Private Sponsor

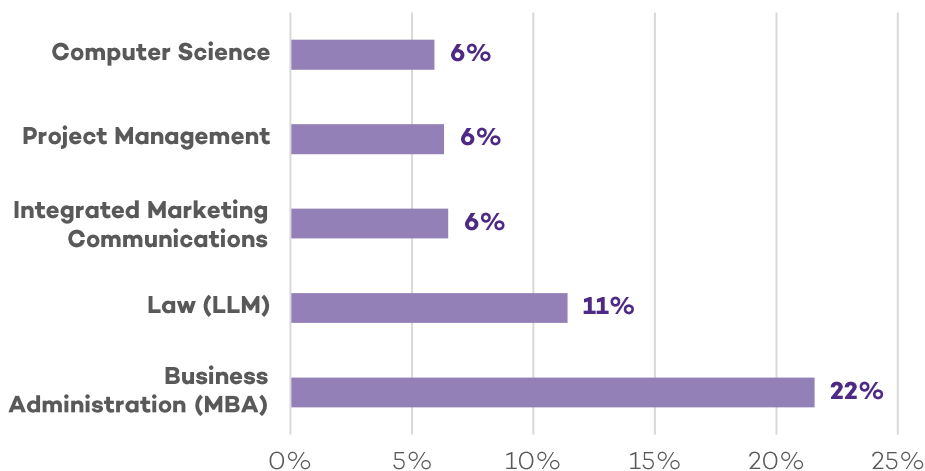
4% Northwestern

1% Home Gov't/University

Top 5 Countries



Top 5 Academic Programs



Doctoral Students

Gender



57% Male

43% Female

Visa Type



93% F-1 Visa

7% J-1 Visa

Funding Source



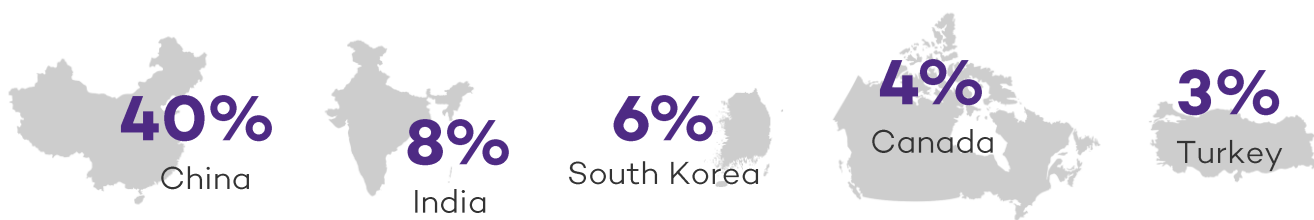
92% Northwestern

6% Personal/Family

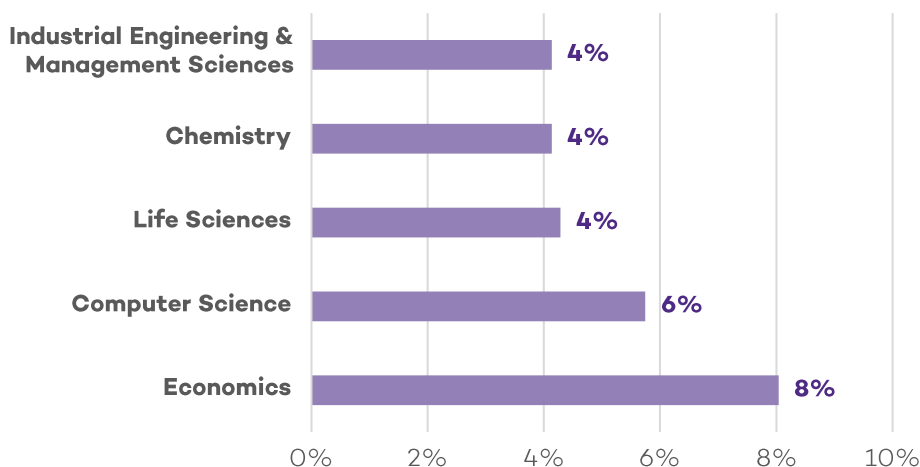
2% Home Gov't/University

<1% Private Sponsor

Top 5 Countries

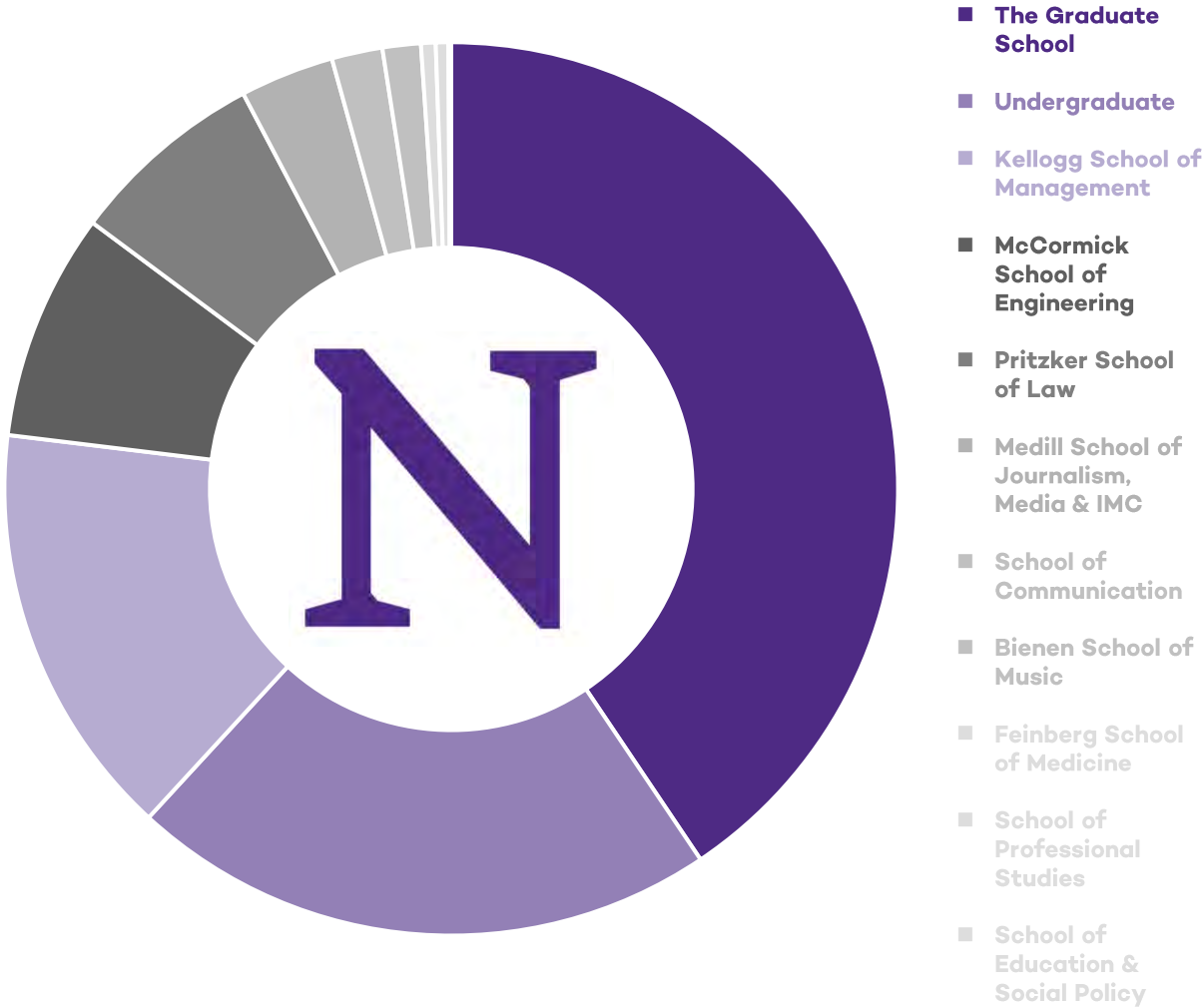


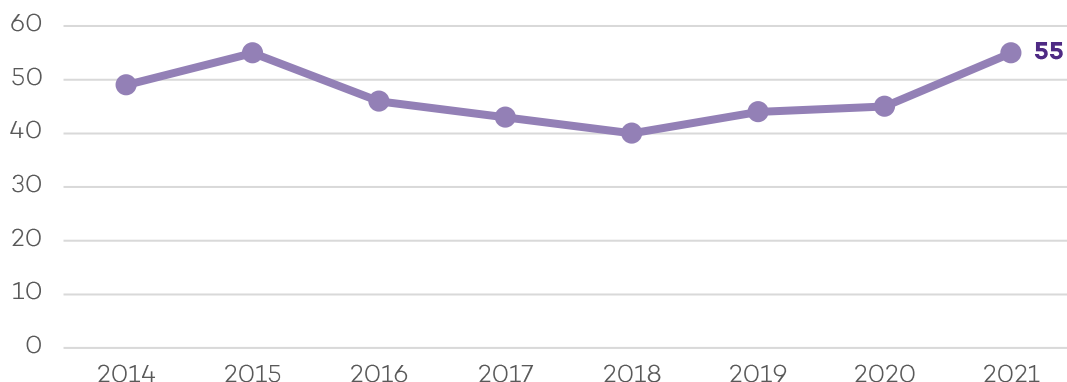
Top 5 Academic Programs



Enrollment by College

Northwestern’s international students are engaged academically across the university’s many schools and colleges. Enrollment data is based on college of admission.





Top Countries

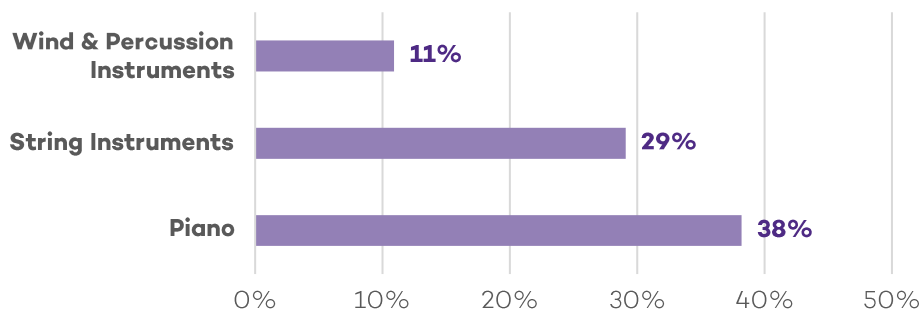


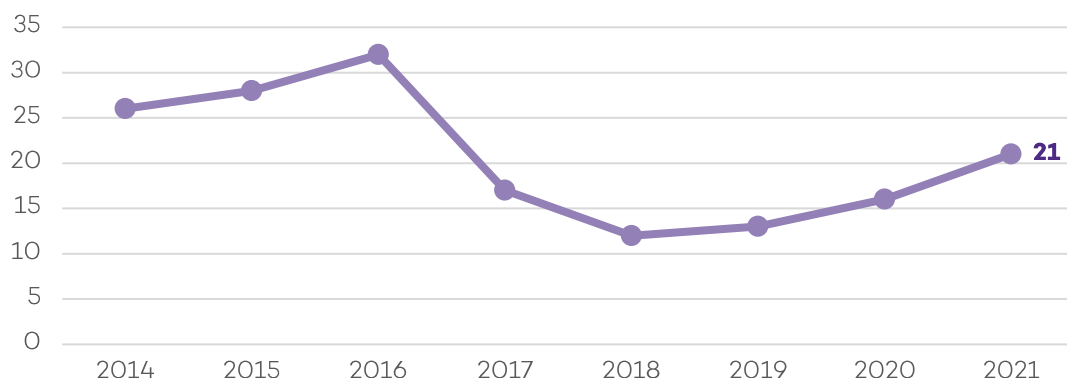
Degree Level



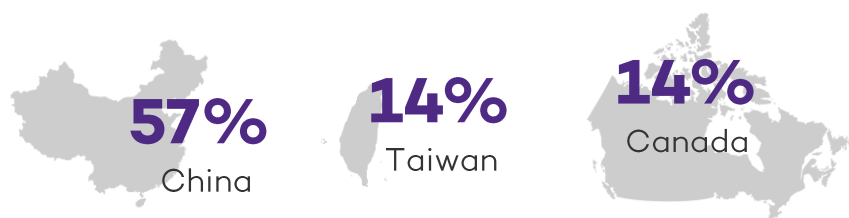
51% Master's
49% Doctorate

Top Academic Programs





Top Countries



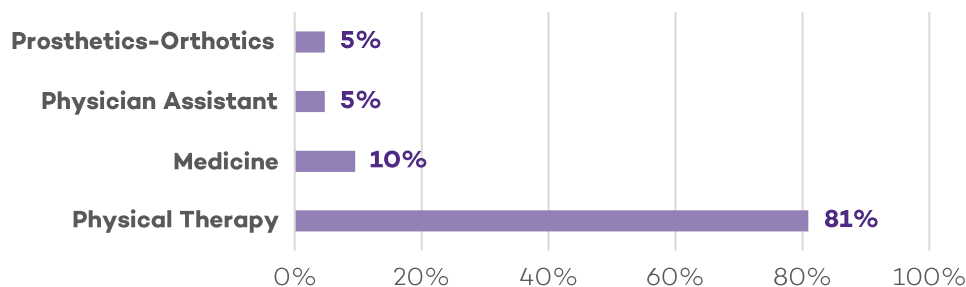
Degree Level

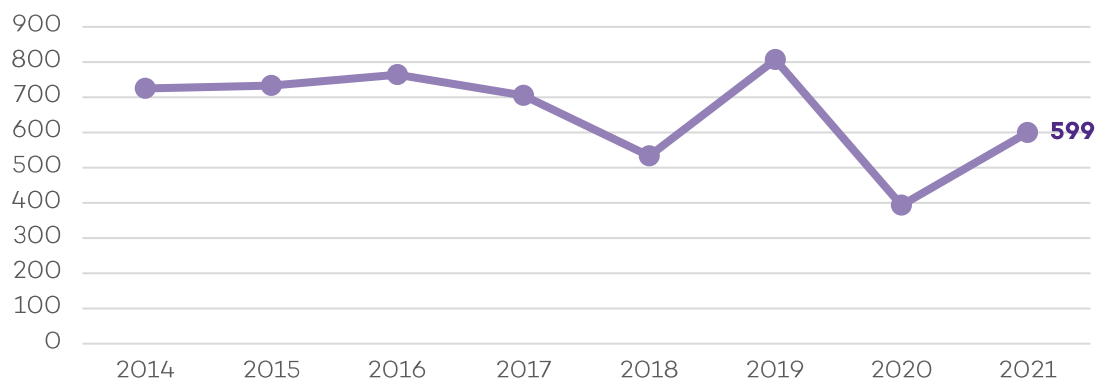


90% Doctorate

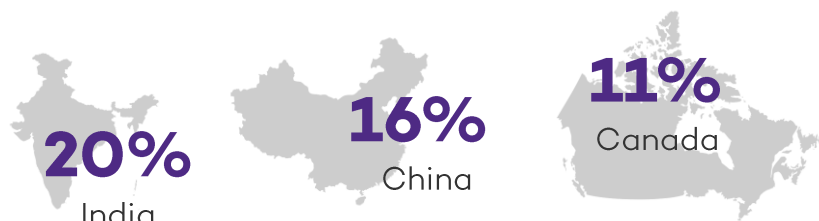
10% Master's

Top Academic Programs

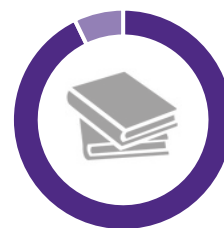




Top Countries

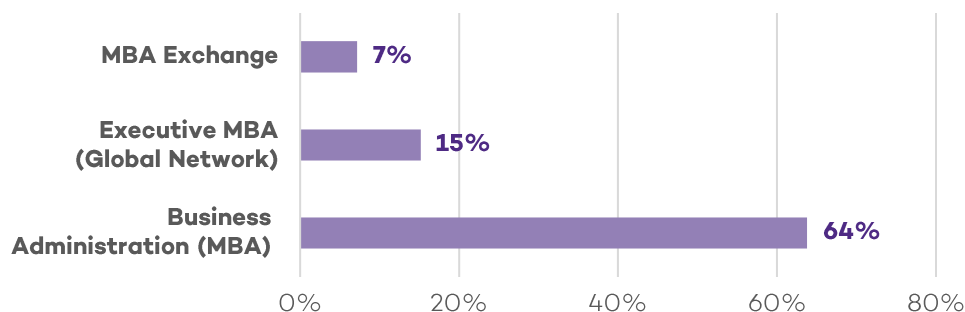


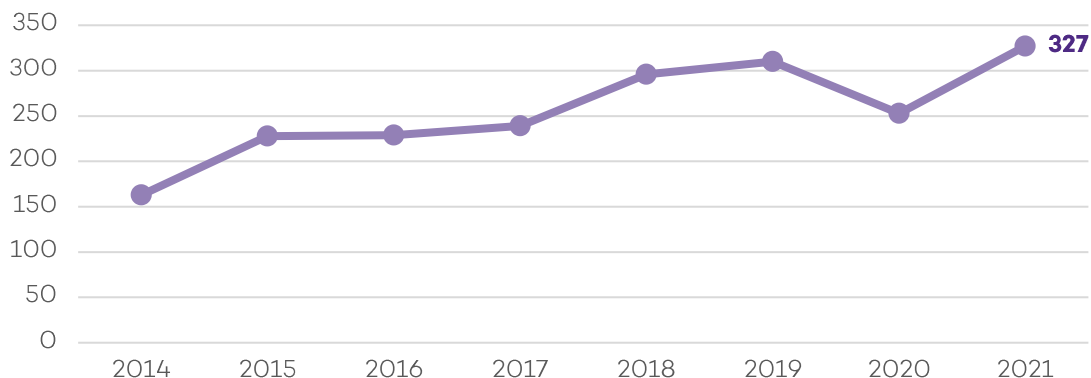
Degree Level



93% Master's
7% Non-Degree

Top Academic Programs





Top Countries

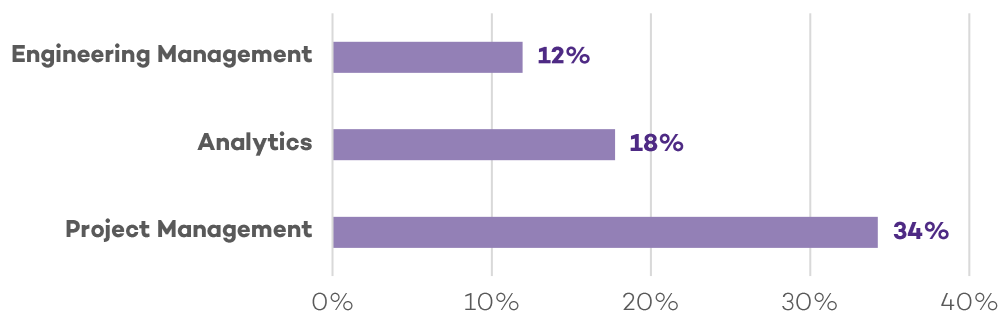


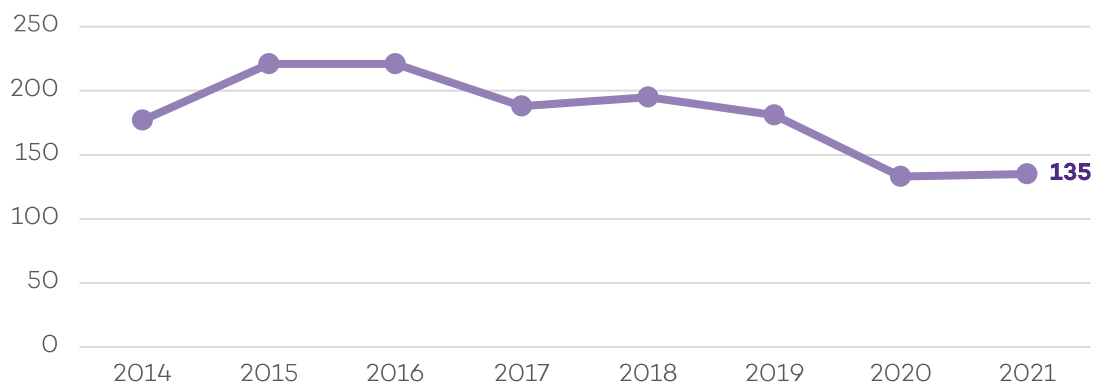
Degree Level



100% Master's

Top Academic Programs





Top Countries

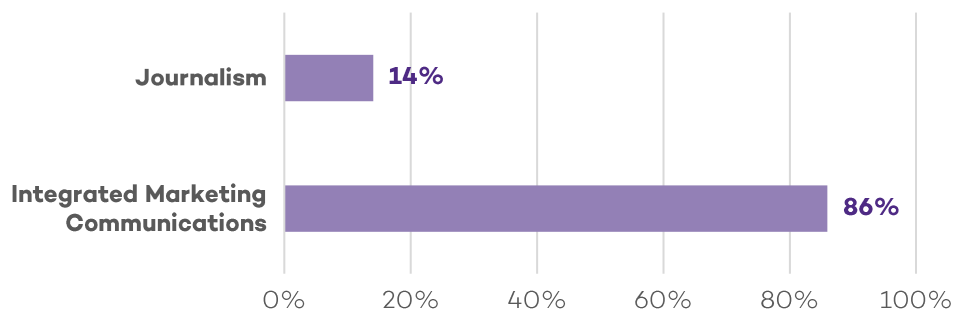


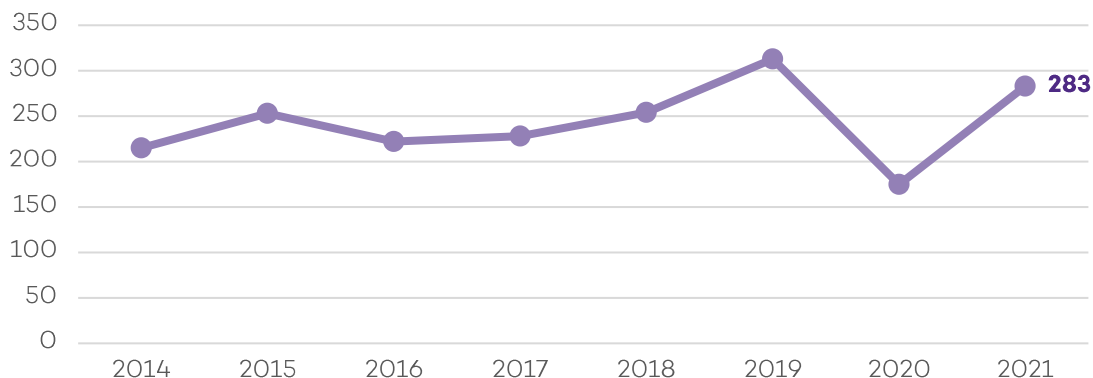
Degree Level



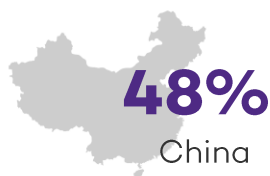
99% Master's
1% Non-degree

Top Academic Programs





Top Countries

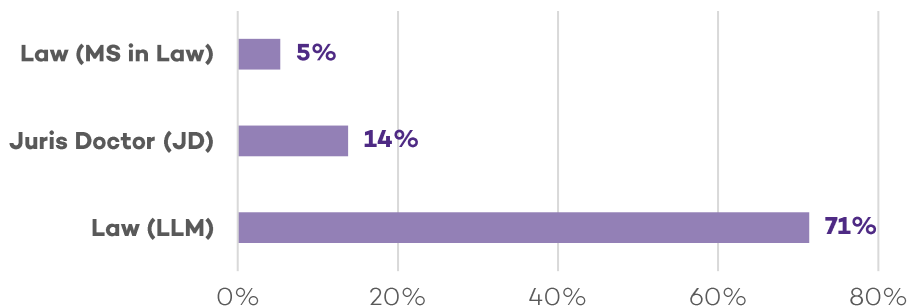


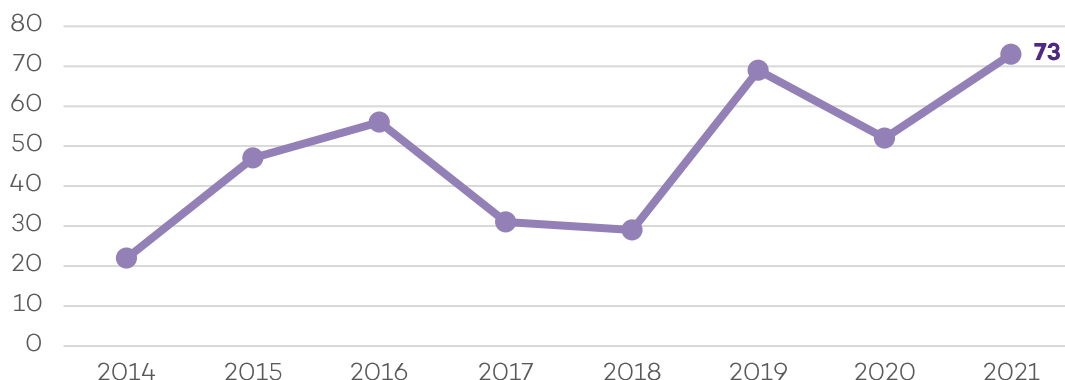
Degree Level



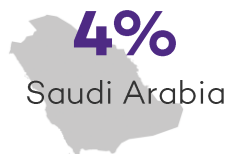
83% Master's
16% Doctorate
1% Non-degree

Top Academic Programs





Top Countries

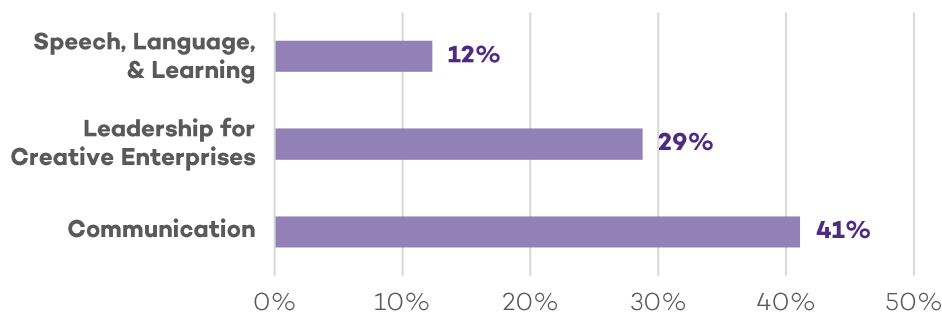


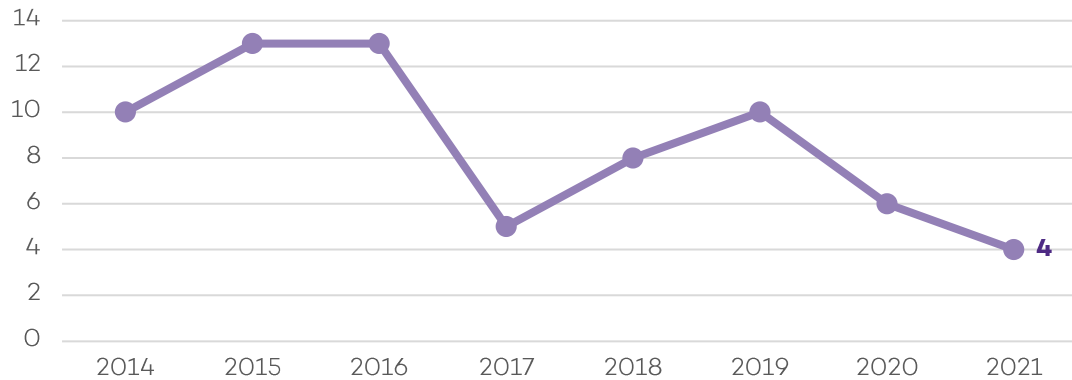
Degree Level



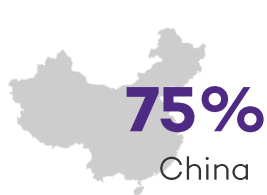
90% Master's
10% Doctorate

Top Academic Programs





Top Countries

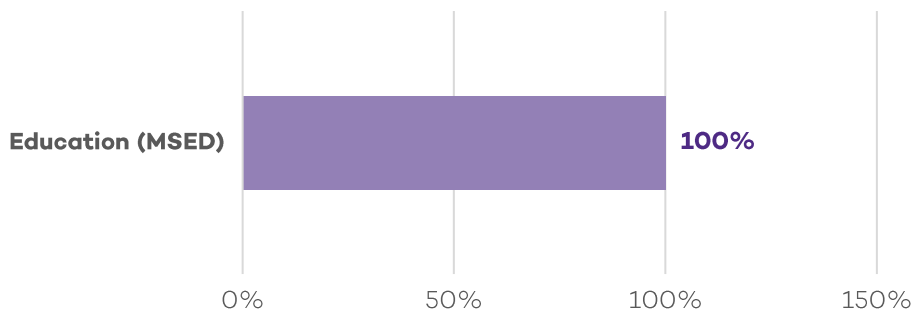


Degree Level



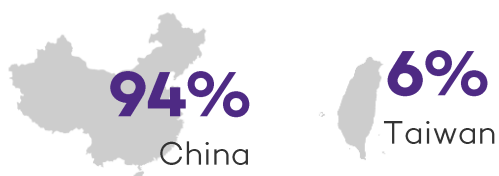
100% Master's

Top Academic Programs

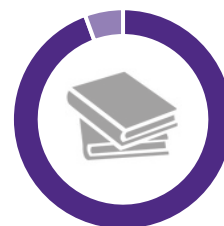




Top Countries

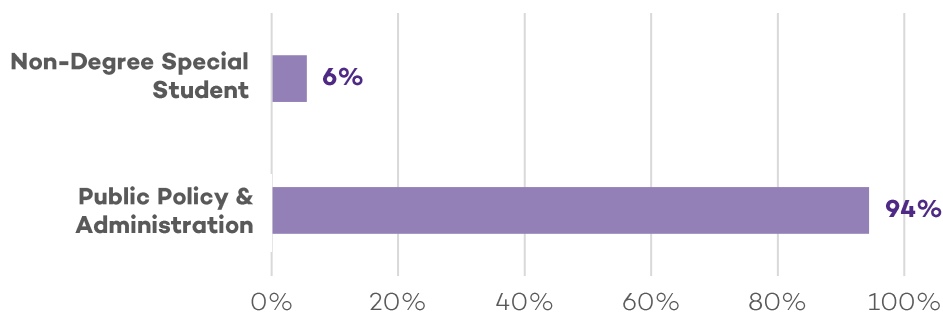


Degree Level

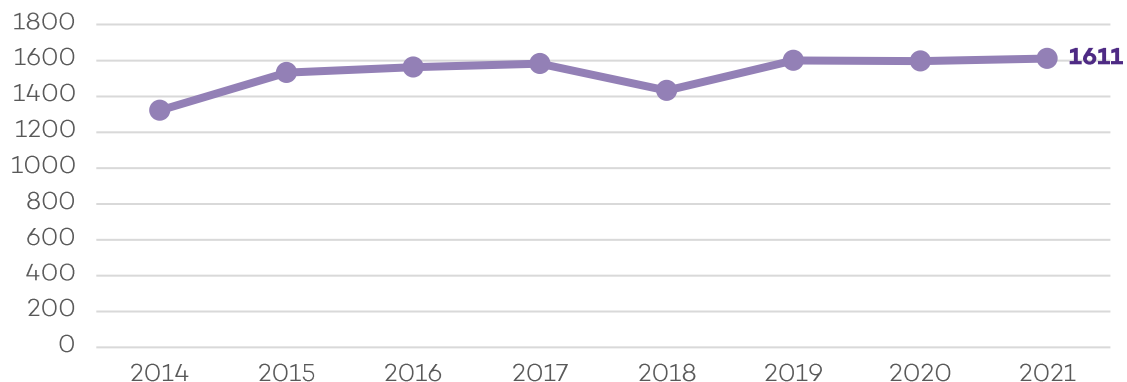


94% Master's
6% Non-degree

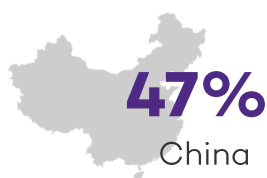
Top Academic Programs



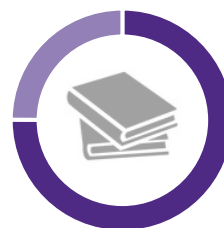
Northwestern | THE GRADUATE SCHOOL



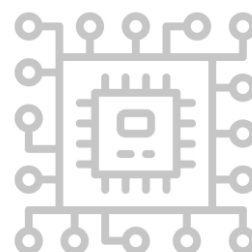
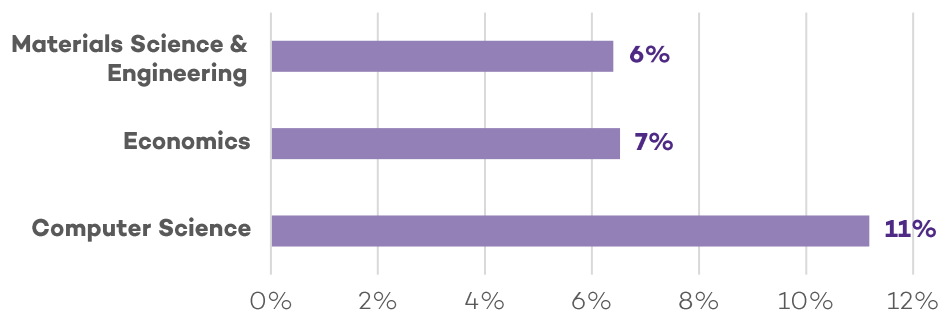
Top Countries



Degree Level



Top Academic Programs



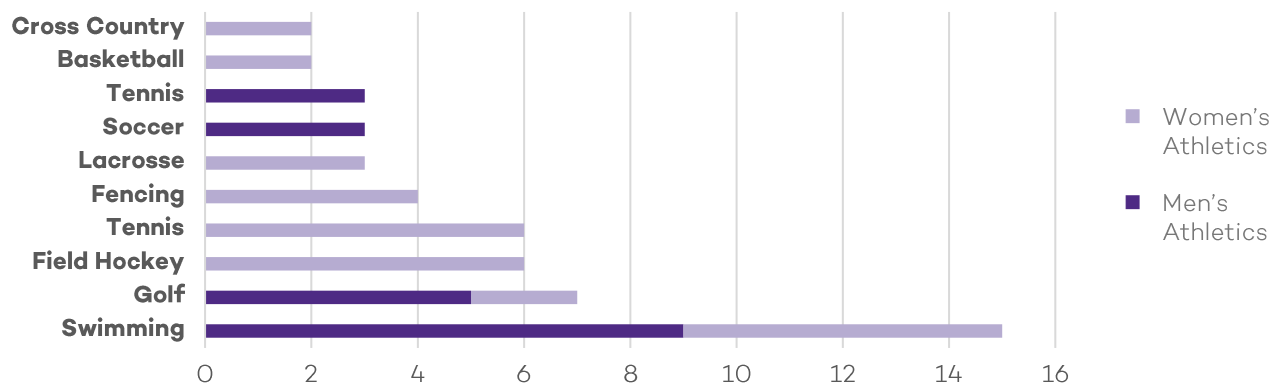
Student Athletes

As Chicago's Big Ten team, Northwestern Athletics has NCAA Division I programs in 11 women's sports and 8 men's sports, which attract talented student athletes from around the world. **Northwestern currently has 51 international student athletes, representing 26 countries and competing in 12 programs. Go 'Cats!**

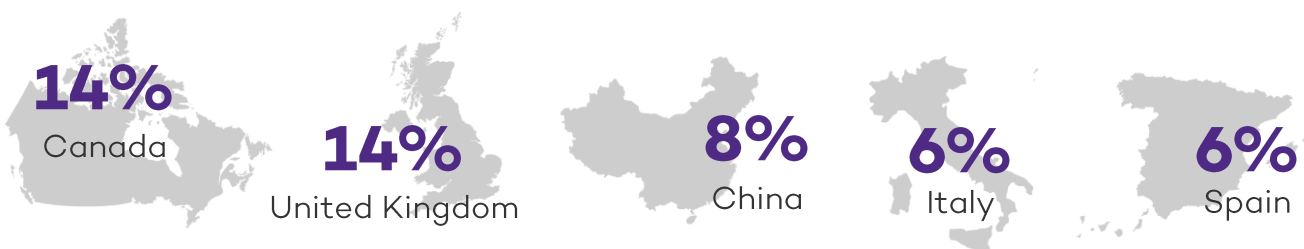


Federico Burdisso '23 of Italy earned two bronze medals in swimming in 2021 at the Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo

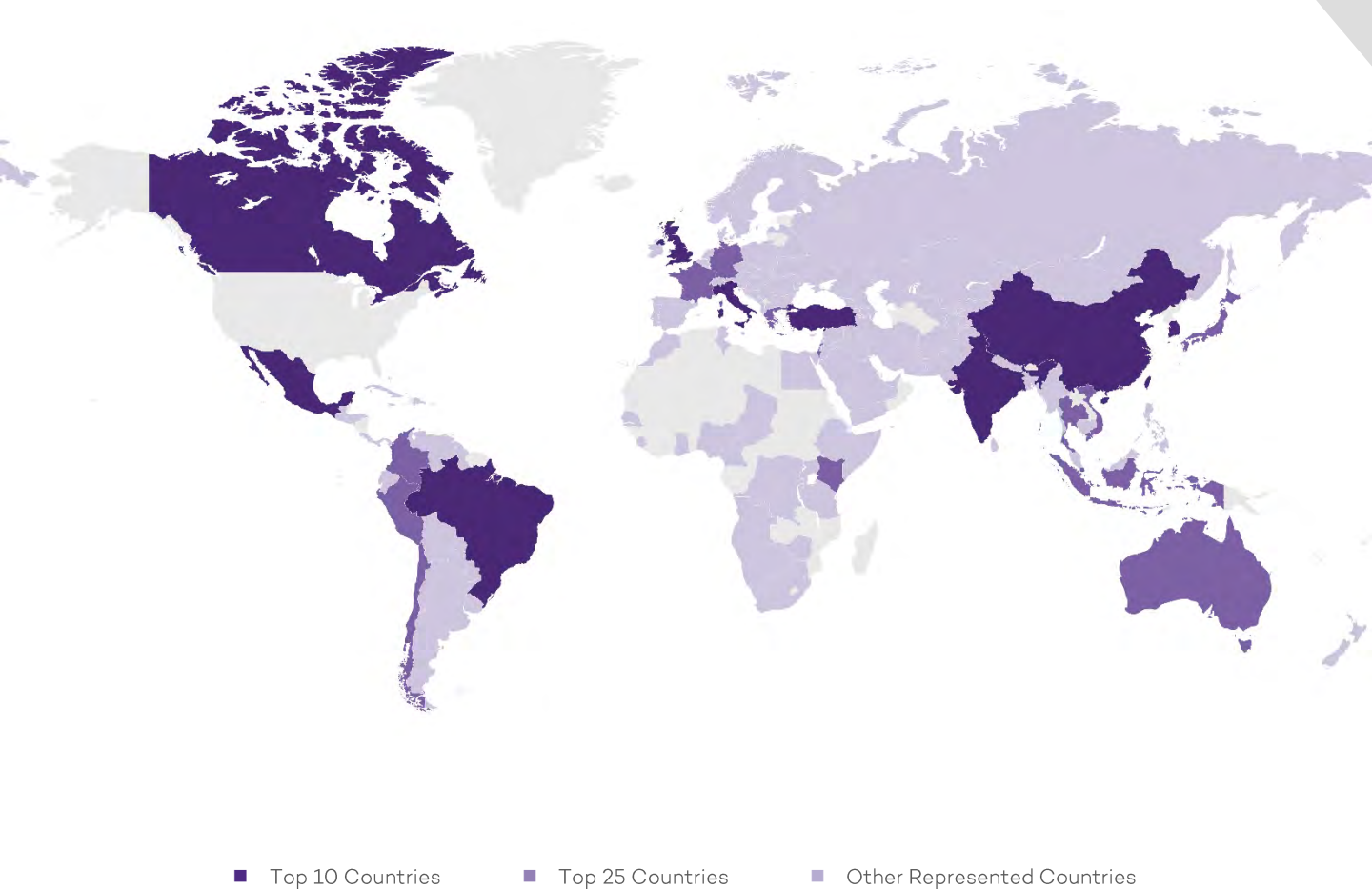
Athletic Programs



Top 5 Countries



Top 10 Countries



#1	China	1,594
#2	India	459
#3	Canada	207
#4	South Korea	170
#5	Brazil	108

#6	Taiwan	105
#7	Mexico	87
#8	Turkey	85
#9	United Kingdom	55
#10	Italy	53

Student Country Listing

This year, Northwestern welcomed its most diverse international student body, with students from a record **124 countries**.

Country	Bachelor's	Master's	Doctorate	Non-Degree	Total
AFGHANISTAN			1		1
ALBANIA	1				1
ANGOLA		1			1
ARGENTINA	2	8	9	2	21
ARMENIA	1				1
AUSTRALIA	9	10	7	1	27
AUSTRIA	2	2	1		5
AZERBAIJAN		2			2
BAHAMAS	1		1		2
BANGLADESH	1	4	12		17
BELARUS	1	2	1		4
BELGIUM	3	6	2		11
BOLIVIA			1		1
BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA	3		1		4
BOTSWANA	2				2
BRAZIL	37	47	24		108
BULGARIA			1		1
BURMA	1		2		3
BURUNDI	4				4
CAMBODIA	4		2		6
CAMEROON	2	1			3
CANADA	64	88	51	4	207
CHAD			1		1
CHILE	6	27	11	2	46
CHINA	201	851	526	16	1594
COLOMBIA	5	25	16	1	47

Country	Bachelor's	Master's	Doctorate	Non-Degree	Total
CONGO-KINSHASA	1				1
COSTA RICA	1	2	1		4
CROATIA		2			2
CUBA			1		1
CYPRUS			1		1
CZECH REPUBLIC	1				1
DENMARK			2		2
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	1	1			2
ECUADOR	2	1	4		7
EGYPT	3		4		7
EL SALVADOR	2	1			3
ETHIOPIA	2		2		4
FINLAND	1				1
FRANCE	3	12	15	10	40
GEORGIA		2			2
GERMANY	5	12	14	6	37
GHANA	6	2	3		11
GREECE	13	2	10	1	26
GUATEMALA	2	1	2		5
GUYANA			1		1
HONDURAS	2		2		4
HONG KONG	17	15	10	3	45
HUNGARY	2	1	2		5
INDIA	66	278	110	5	459
INDONESIA	15	9	22		46
IRAN		5	18		23
IRAQ	1				1
IRELAND	2	4	3		9
ISRAEL	1	15	13	3	32
ITALY	9	5	36	3	53
JAMAICA		1	2		3
JAPAN	12	18	14	2	46
JORDAN	2			1	3

Country	Bachelor's	Master's	Doctorate	Non-Degree	Total
KAZAKHSTAN	2	3	4		9
KENYA	23		3	1	27
KUWAIT			1		1
KYRGYZSTAN	1				1
LATVIA	1				1
LEBANON	1	4	5		10
MACEDONIA	3		2		5
MALAYSIA	5	4	2	1	12
MALTA	2				2
MAURITIUS	1				1
MEXICO	6	51	28	2	87
MOLDOVA	1				1
MONGOLIA	1				1
MONTENEGRO	2				2
MOROCCO		1	1	1	3
NAMIBIA	1		1	1	3
NEPAL	1	2	2		5
NETHERLANDS	2	2	6		10
NEW ZEALAND	3	1	2		6
NIGERIA	7	9	8		24
NORWAY	4		1		5
PAKISTAN	7	5	9	2	23
PANAMA	3	1			4
PARAGUAY	2	3			5
PERU	7	20	11		38
PHILIPPINES	5	8	3		16
POLAND	3	1	4	1	9
PORTUGAL	3		5	1	9
ROMANIA		2	1		3
RUSSIA	4	1	18	1	24
RWANDA	6	1			7
SAUDI ARABIA	6	10	7		23
SENEGAL	1		1		2

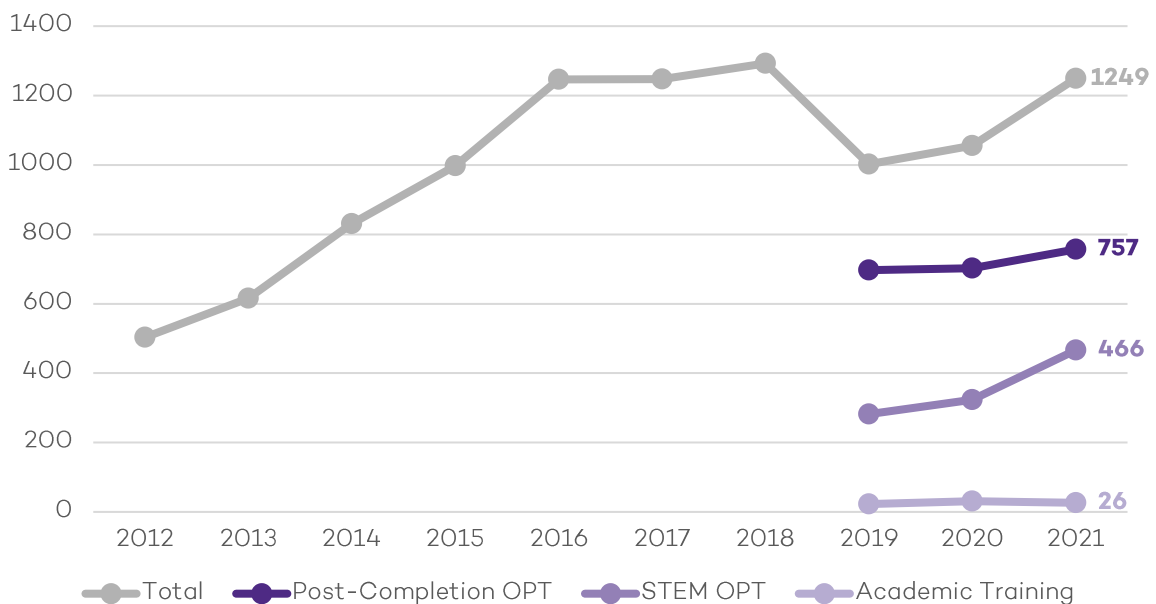
Country	Bachelor's	Master's	Doctorate	Non-Degree	Total
SERBIA	1		4	1	6
SIERRA LEONE	1				1
SINGAPORE	14	9	13	3	39
SLOVAKIA	1				1
SLOVENIA	1	1			2
SOMALIA	1				1
SOUTH AFRICA	2	3	2	1	8
SOUTH KOREA	48	47	75		170
SPAIN	9	10	4		23
SRI LANKA	2				2
SWAZILAND	2				2
SWEDEN	5	1	2		8
SWITZERLAND		2	3	4	9
SYRIA	1		1	1	3
TAIWAN	17	56	31	1	105
TAJIKISTAN	2				2
TANZANIA	1				1
THAILAND	14	15	6	1	36
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	2		2		4
TUNISIA	2		2		4
TURKEY	35	12	37	1	85
UGANDA	2		1		3
UKRAINE	7	1	3		11
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	1	1			2
UNITED KINGDOM	26	12	16	1	55
URUGUAY	1		1		2
UZBEKISTAN			1		1
VENEZUELA	2		4		6
VIETNAM	14	5	9	1	29
WEST BANK	1	2			3
YEMEN		1	1		2
ZIMBABWE	6	1	1		8
Total Countries	104	71	88	34	124

Post-Completion Employment Students

Upon completion of their degrees, F-1 international students are eligible for 12 months of employment authorization, known as post-completion Optional Practical Training (OPT). Students who have studied in fields of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) are eligible for an additional 24-month STEM OPT extension. **There are 1,223 Northwestern alumni currently working on OPT in 36 states throughout the United States.**

J-1 international students are eligible for employment authorization, known as Academic Training, which can be used during and/or after their studies. The duration of their Academic Training can be up to 36 months, depending on their degree level and the duration of their studies. **There are 26 Northwestern alumni currently working on Academic Training in 3 states throughout the United States.**

In addition to continuing to provide immigration advisement to this population, OISS is responsible for regular employment reporting and verification during each student's period of post-completion employment. These services are provided for up to 36 months after graduation from Northwestern.



Post-Completion OPT Students

Degree Level



65% Master's
19% Doctorate
16% Bachelor's

Gender

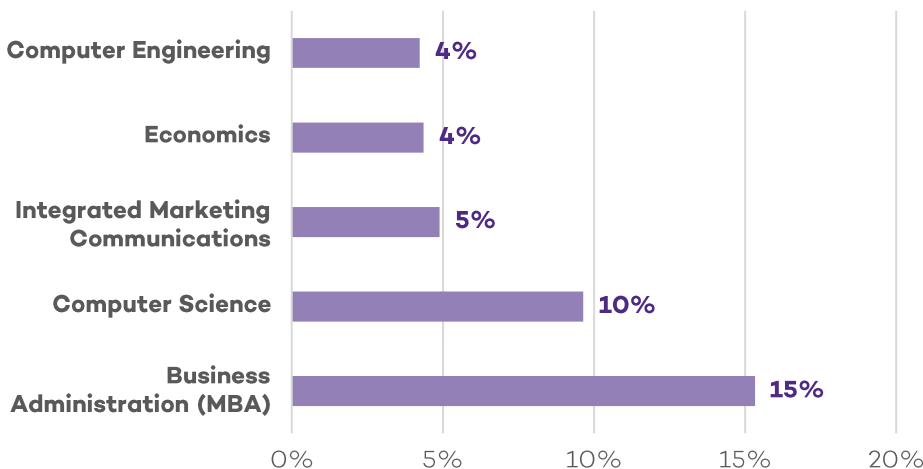


50% Female
50% Male

Top States where alumni work on Post-Completion OPT



Top 5 Academic Programs



STEM OPT Students

Degree Level



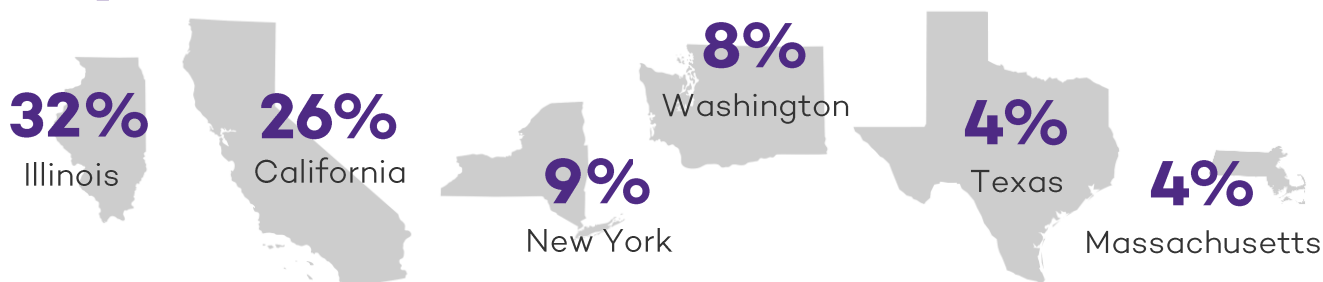
55% Master's
24% Doctorate
21% Bachelor's

Gender

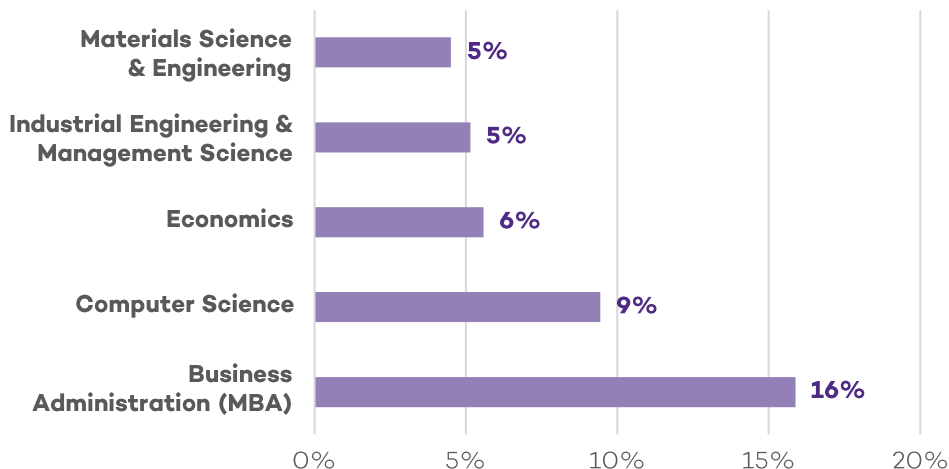


58% Male
42% Female

Top States where alumni work on STEM OPT

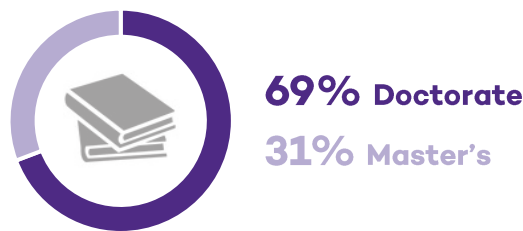


Top 5 Academic Programs

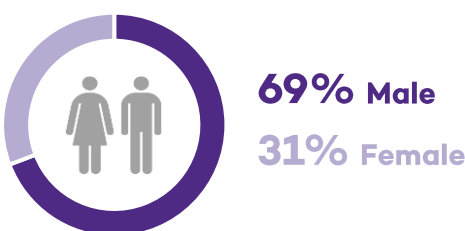


Academic Training Students

Degree Level



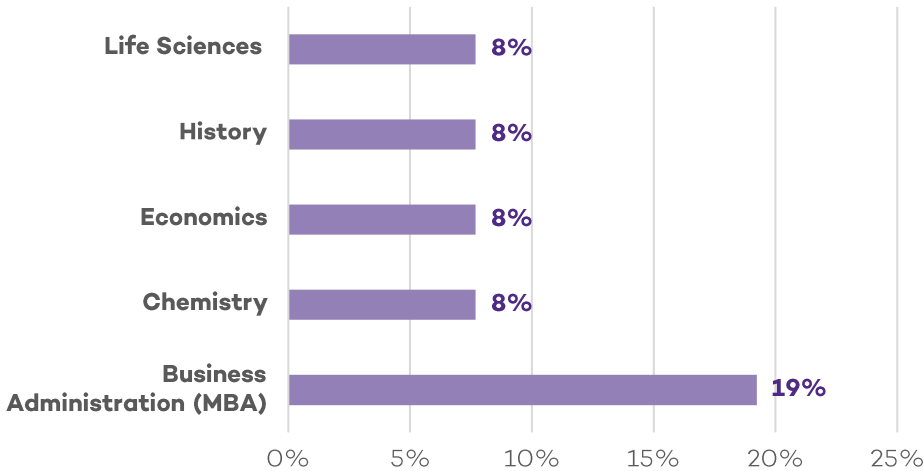
Gender



Top States where alumni work on Academic Training

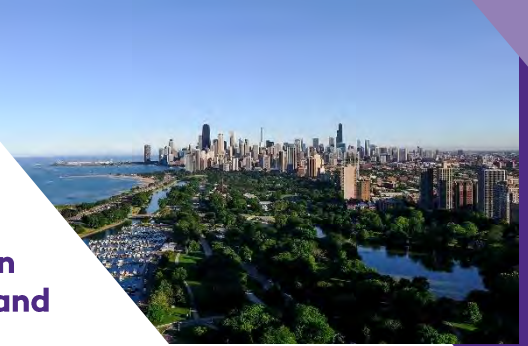


Top 5 Academic Programs



Scholars

Northwestern University is proud to host hundreds of international scholars each year. Our scholars are a diverse group of employees and visitors who conduct a wide range of activities on campus. **They bring unique expertise from 73 countries to contribute to the university in 20 different disciplines across 35 administrative and academic units campus-wide.**

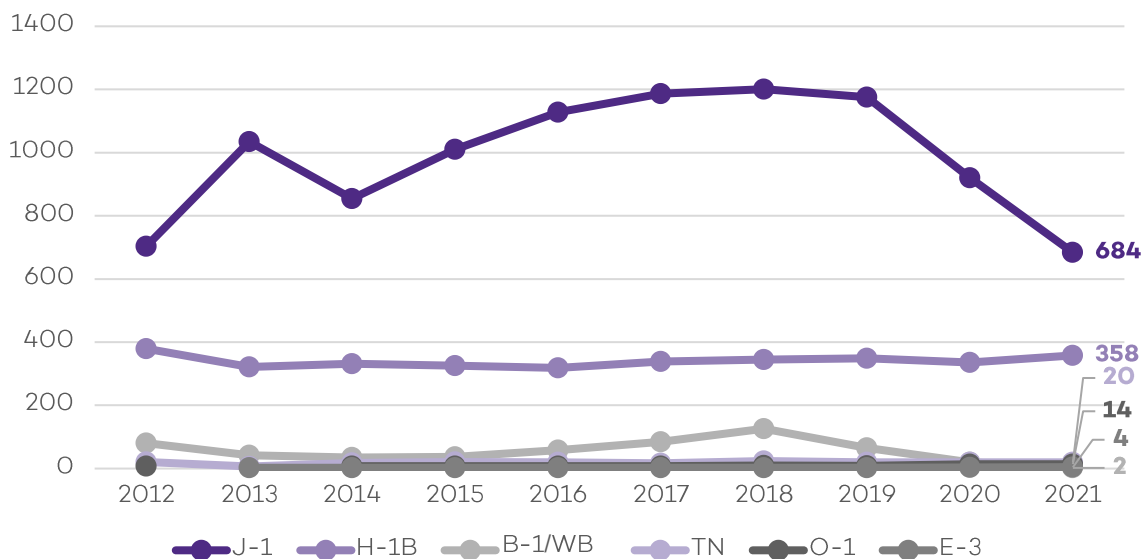


The majority (90%) of the scholar population is on campus to conduct research. These researchers are often appointed as visiting scholars, postdoctoral fellows, or research faculty/staff. We also host scholars to teach undergraduate and graduate students as lecturers, college fellows, and teaching faculty. In addition, we have student interns who conduct internships across campus. Finally, a small group of our scholars are professional staff members who perform specialized services in areas such as Information Technology, Library Sciences, and Psychology.

Scholars can come to campus in a variety of immigration statuses. Northwestern University sponsors the following:

- **J-1 Exchange Visitors** in the Research Scholar, Professor, Short-Term Scholar, and Student Intern category. J-1 scholars come to campus for research, teaching, and collaboration.
- **H-1B employees** are professionals hired to work in specialty skill areas.
- **E-3 employees** are Australian nationals hired to work in specialty skill areas.
- **TN scholars** are Canadian and Mexican nationals employed on campus.
- **O-1 scholars** are employees who have attained national or international acclaim for extraordinary achievements.
- **B-1/WB (visa waiver) visitors** are temporary visitors who come to Northwestern for one-time lectures, observation, or meetings.

Scholars



Primary Activity



90% Research
7% Teaching
2% Administration
<1% Short-Term Visit

Gender



61% Male
39% Female

Visa Type

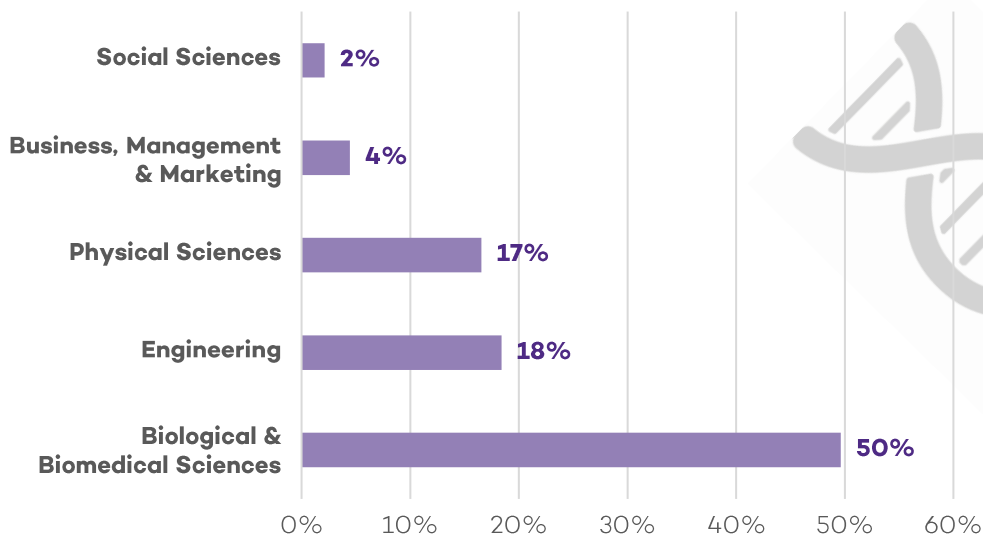


63% J-1 Visa
33% H-1B Visa
2% TN Visa

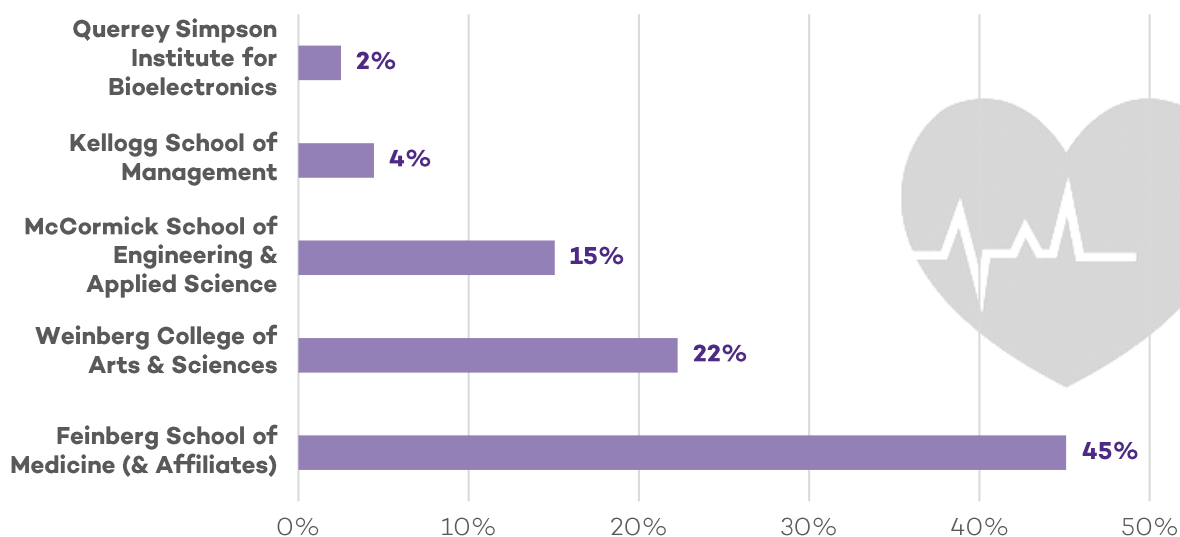
1% O-1 Visa
<1% E-3 Visa
<1% B-1 Visa or Visa Waiver

Scholars

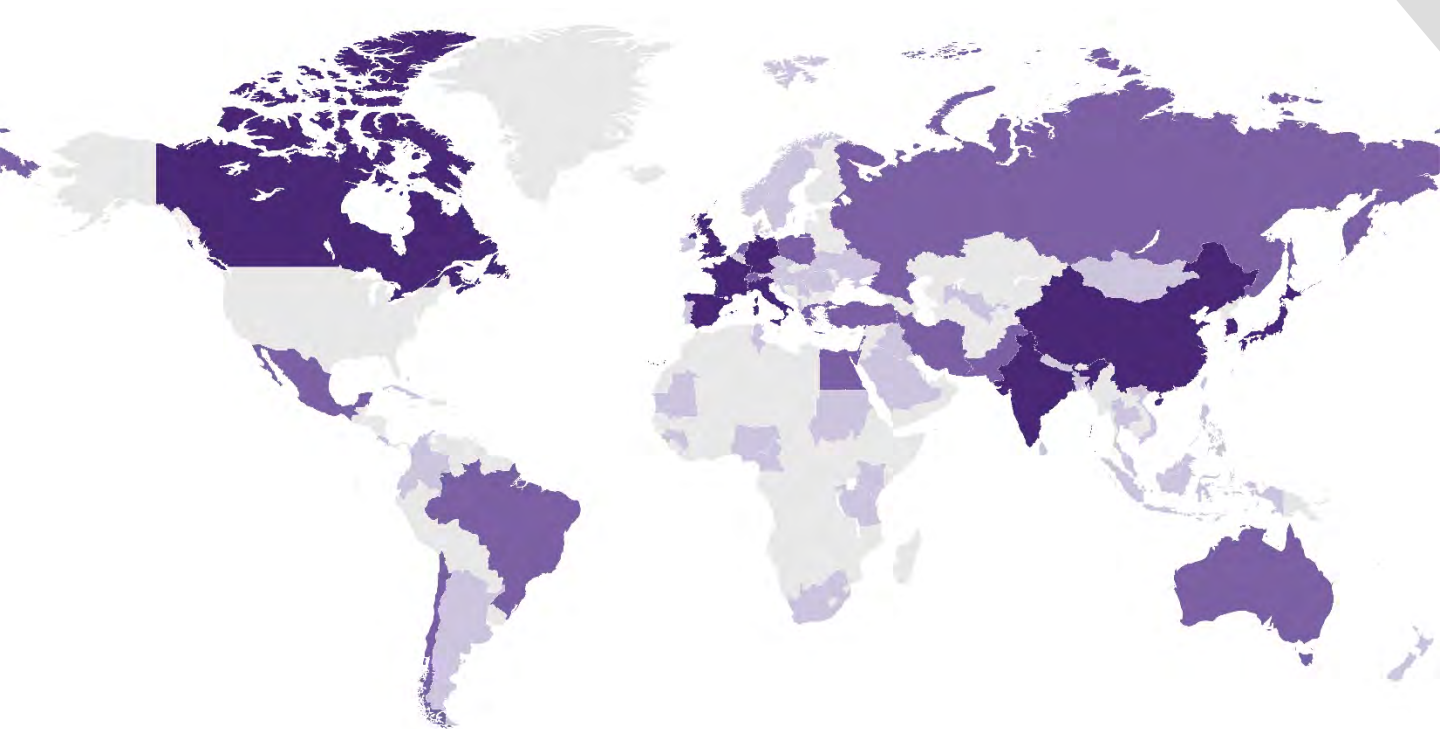
Top 5 Academic Disciplines



Top 5 Northwestern Departments



Top 10 Countries



■ Top 10 Countries

■ Top 25 Countries

■ Other Represented Countries

#1	China	314	#6	Germany	37
#2	India	139	#7	France	35
#3	South Korea	84	#8	Japan	35
#4	Italy	44	#9	Spain	28
#5	Canada	43	#10	United Kingdom	28

Scholar Country Listing

Northwestern continues to welcome a diverse group of international scholars, with **73 countries** represented.

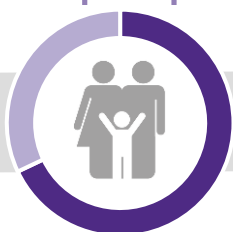
Country	Total	Country	Total
ALBANIA	2	HUNGARY	3
ARGENTINA	4	INDIA	139
AUSTRALIA	9	INDONESIA	1
AUSTRIA	2	IRAN	14
BAHAMAS	1	IRAQ	1
BANGLADESH	2	IRELAND	1
BELGIUM	1	ISRAEL	21
BRAZIL	21	ITALY	44
CAMEROON	2	JAPAN	35
CANADA	43	KENYA	1
CHILE	6	LEBANON	7
CHINA	314	MALAYSIA	1
COLOMBIA	5	MAURITANIA	1
COSTA RICA	1	MEXICO	18
CROATIA	3	MONGOLIA	1
CUBA	1	NEPAL	3
CZECH REPUBLIC	1	NETHERLANDS	12
DENMARK	1	NEW ZEALAND	1
ECUADOR	2	NIGERIA	5
EGYPT	12	NORWAY	2
FRANCE	35	PAKISTAN	13
GERMANY	37	PHILIPPINES	3
GREECE	8	POLAND	13
GUINEA	1	PORTUGAL	4
HONG KONG	3	ROMANIA	4

Country	Total	Country	Total
RUSSIA	14	SWEDEN	3
RWANDA	1	SWITZERLAND	7
SAINT LUCIA	2	TAIWAN	5
SAUDI ARABIA	1	TANZANIA	4
SERBIA	1	THAILAND	2
SINGAPORE	2	TUNISIA	2
SLOVENIA	3	TURKEY	17
SOUTH AFRICA	3	UKRAINE	2
SOUTH KOREA	84	UNITED KINGDOM	28
SPAIN	28	UZBEKISTAN	1
SRI LANKA	1	VIETNAM	5
SUDAN	1		

Dependents

Students and scholars (principals) may bring their spouse and children (under the age of 21) to the United States as dependents to live with them for the duration of their stay. **Northwestern currently sponsors 829 dependent spouses and children**, whom the OISS supports by connecting them to local community resources and hosting programs for families.

Relationship to principal



68% Spouses

32% Children

Activity of principal



52% Scholar

48% Student

Visa Type



59% J-2 Visa

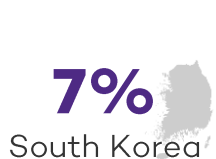
34% F-2 Visa

5% H-4 Visa

0.5% TD Visa

0.5% O-3 Visa

Top 5 Countries



Methodology

Statistics on Northwestern's international students and scholars were compiled using a combination of internal OISS records and the US Department of Homeland Security's Student & Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS). In order to achieve comprehensive, accurate and consistent measures of our community, members were identified and counted using the methodologies outlined below:

Enrolled Students are defined as international visitors enrolled in coursework who require immigration sponsorship through Northwestern. This includes both degree-seeking and non-degree-seeking students on F-1 and J-1 visas. These numbers include students who engaged in short-term programs in Summer 2021 as well as students who were enrolled in a program in the 2021-22 academic year.

Post-Completion Employment Students are defined as international visitors who have completed degree programs and hold employment authorization that requires immigration sponsorship from Northwestern. This includes J-1 students who completed their degree program prior to the 2021-22 academic year who were on active periods of Academic Training; and F-1 students who completed their degree program prior to the 2021-22 academic year, and whose Optional Practical Training (OPT) authorization status was either requested, pending, or approved during Fall 2021. Students on approved post-completion OPT who also had a requested or pending status for STEM OPT were counted as post-completion OPT students.

Scholars are defined as international visitors who are not enrolled in coursework and require immigration sponsorship through Northwestern. This includes faculty, staff, postdoctoral fellows, research associates, visiting scholars, and other short-term visitors. These numbers include scholars who were active in a program from October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021. If a scholar changed immigration status during the year, only the most recent status was counted.

Dependents are defined as the spouses and children (under the age of 21) of the enrolled students, post-completion employment students, and scholars defined above.

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