

International Student and Scholar Statistics 2024-2025

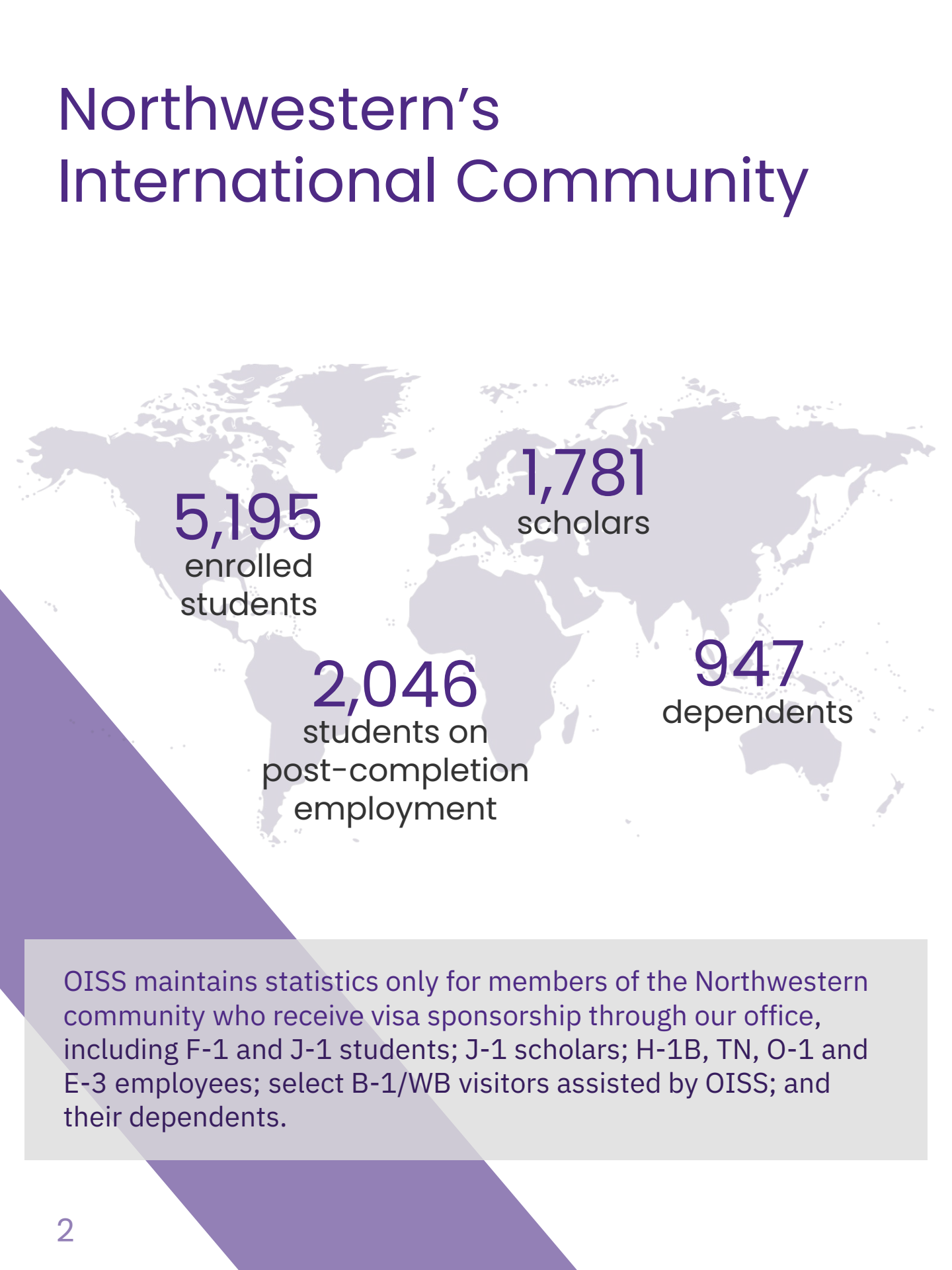
Northwestern

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENT
AND SCHOLAR SERVICES

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Northwestern's International Community



5,195
enrolled
students

1,781
scholars

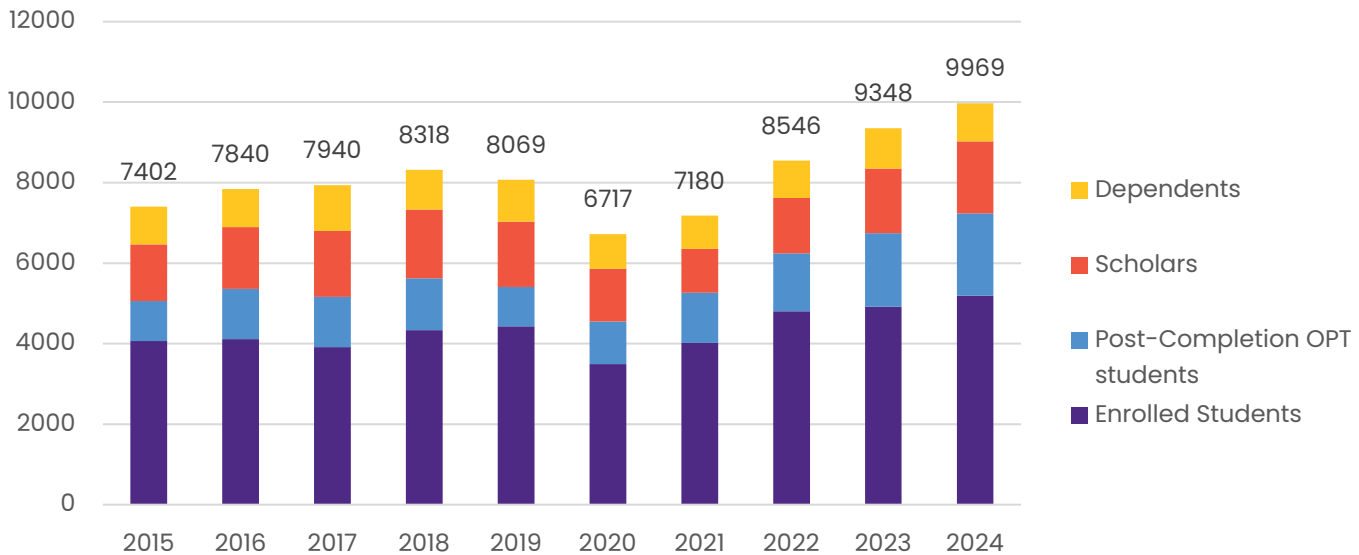
2,046
students on
post-completion
employment

947
dependents

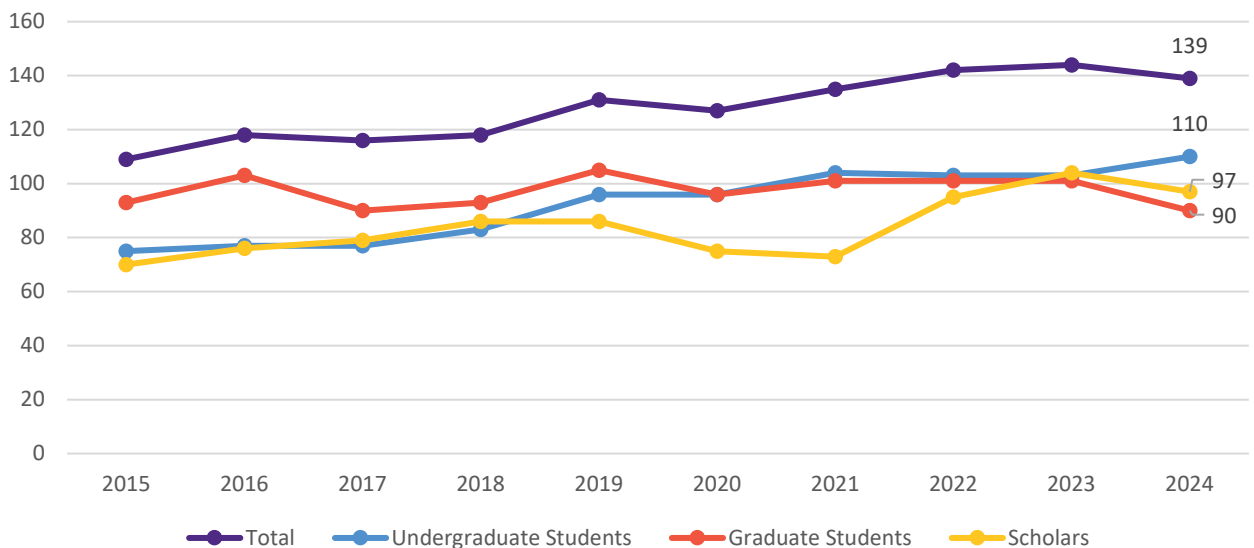
OISS maintains statistics only for members of the Northwestern community who receive visa sponsorship through our office, including F-1 and J-1 students; J-1 scholars; H-1B, TN, O-1 and E-3 employees; select B-1/WB visitors assisted by OISS; and their dependents.

Northwestern's International Community

Northwestern's International Community by Category

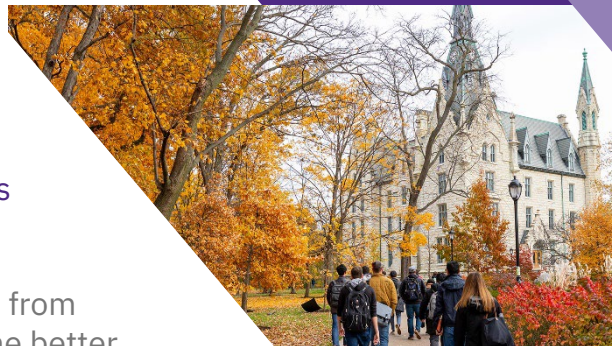


Number of countries of origin represented by Northwestern students and scholars

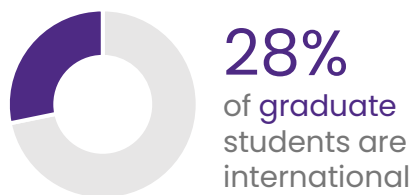
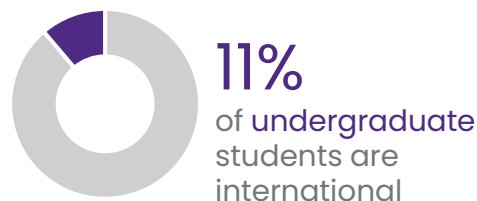
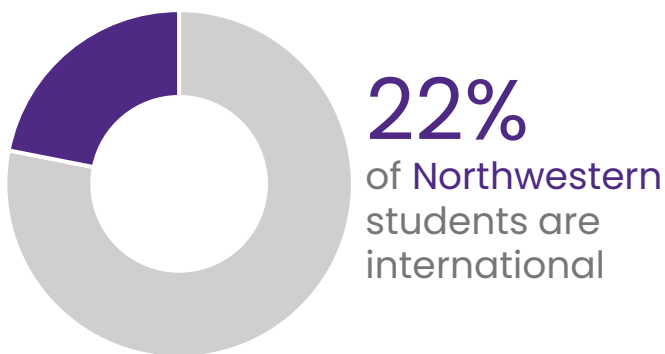


Enrolled Students

Enrolled students make up the largest part of Northwestern's international community. Representing 125 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.

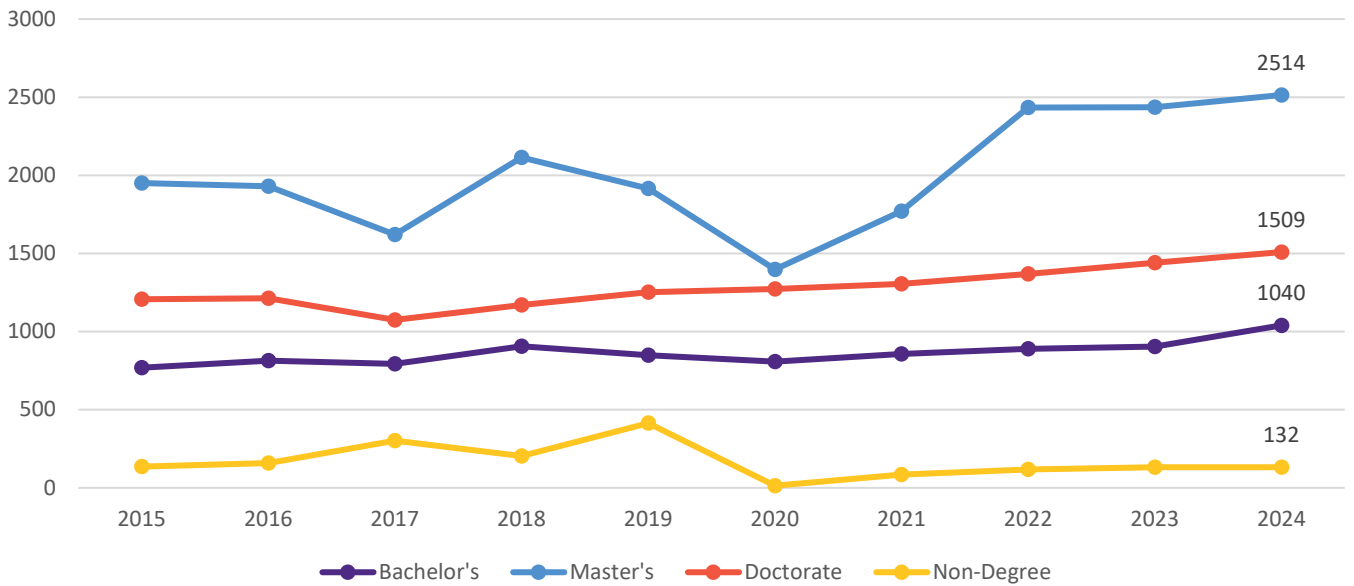


International students may enter the United States on either an **F-1** or **J-1 non-immigrant student visa** to pursue studies in degree-seeking or short-term academic programs. Students are required to enroll in a full course of study during each academic term.

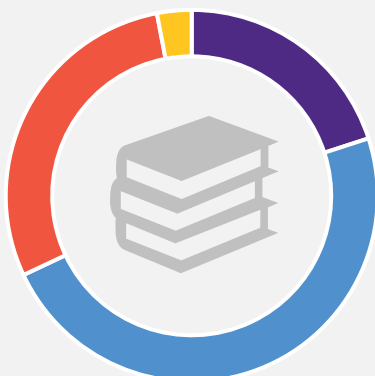


Enrolled Students

Enrollment Trends by Degree Level

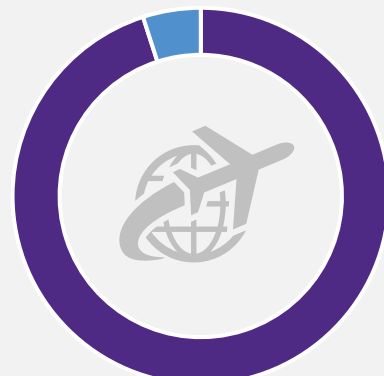


Enrolled Students by Degree Level



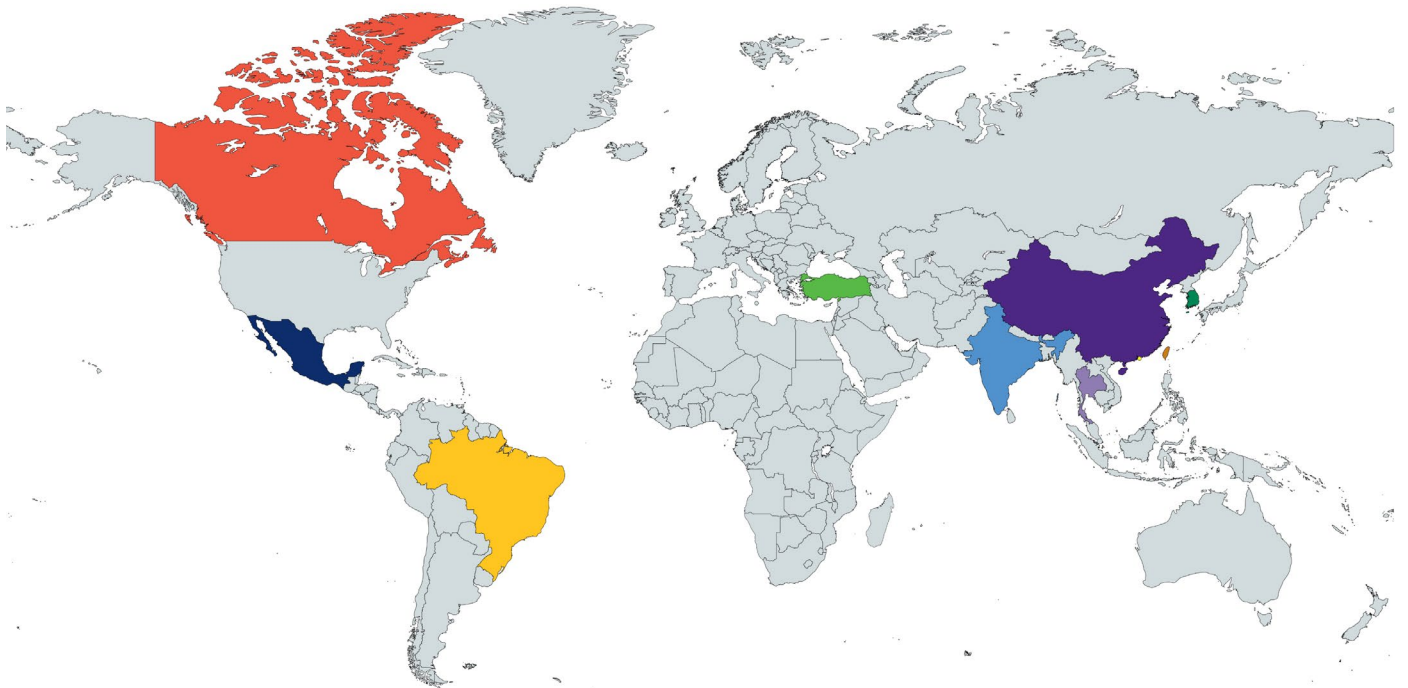
- 20% Bachelor's
- 48% Master's
- 29% Doctorate
- 3% Non-Degree

Enrolled Students by Visa Type



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

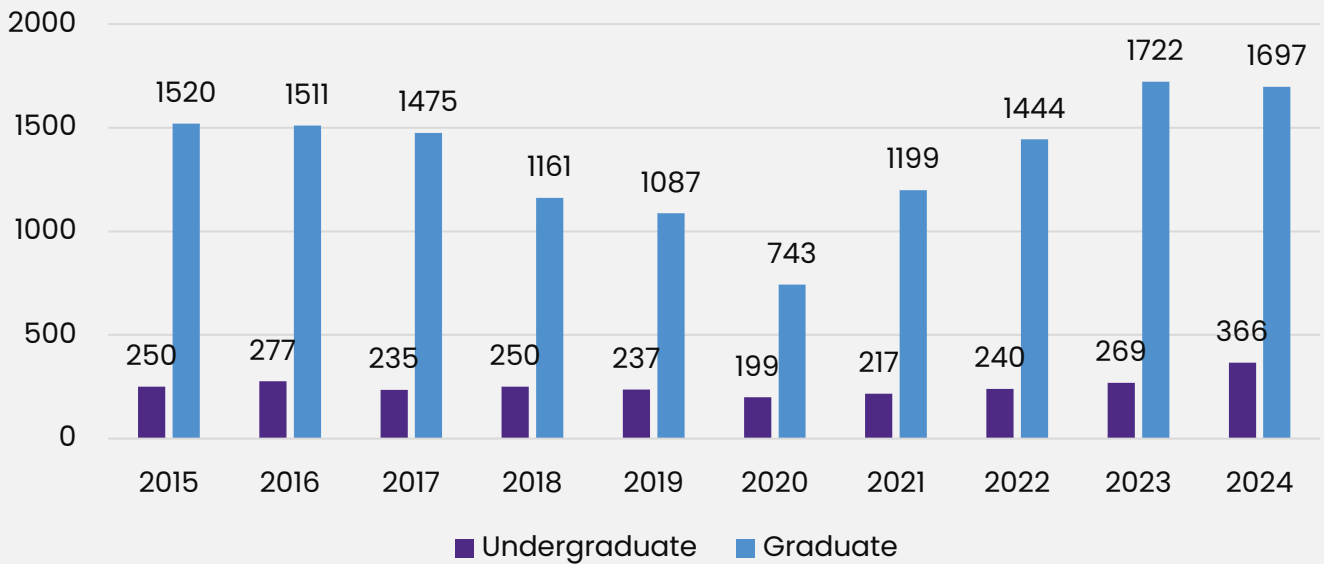
Top 10 Countries of Origin for Students



#1 China	2122	#6 Taiwan	151
#2 India	683	#7 Mexico	98
#3 Canada	252	#8 Türkiye	83
#4 South Korea	221	#9 Hong Kong	74
#5 Brazil	160	#10 Thailand	63

Fall 2024 New Enrollment

New Student Enrollment Trends



Top Countries for New Students

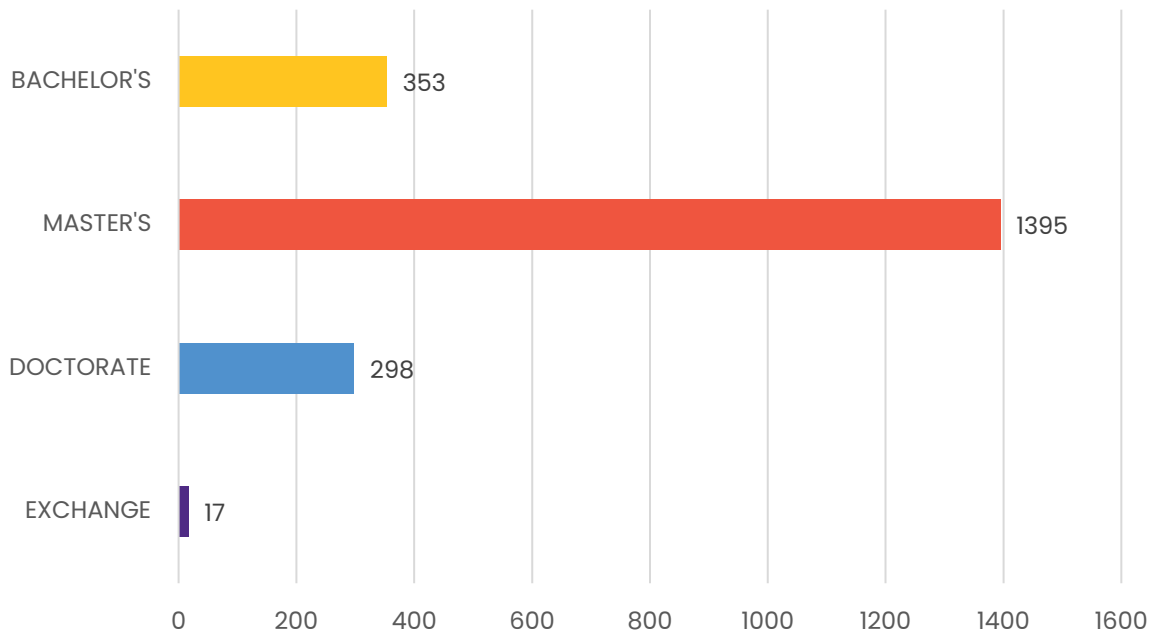
Undergraduate Students



Graduate Students

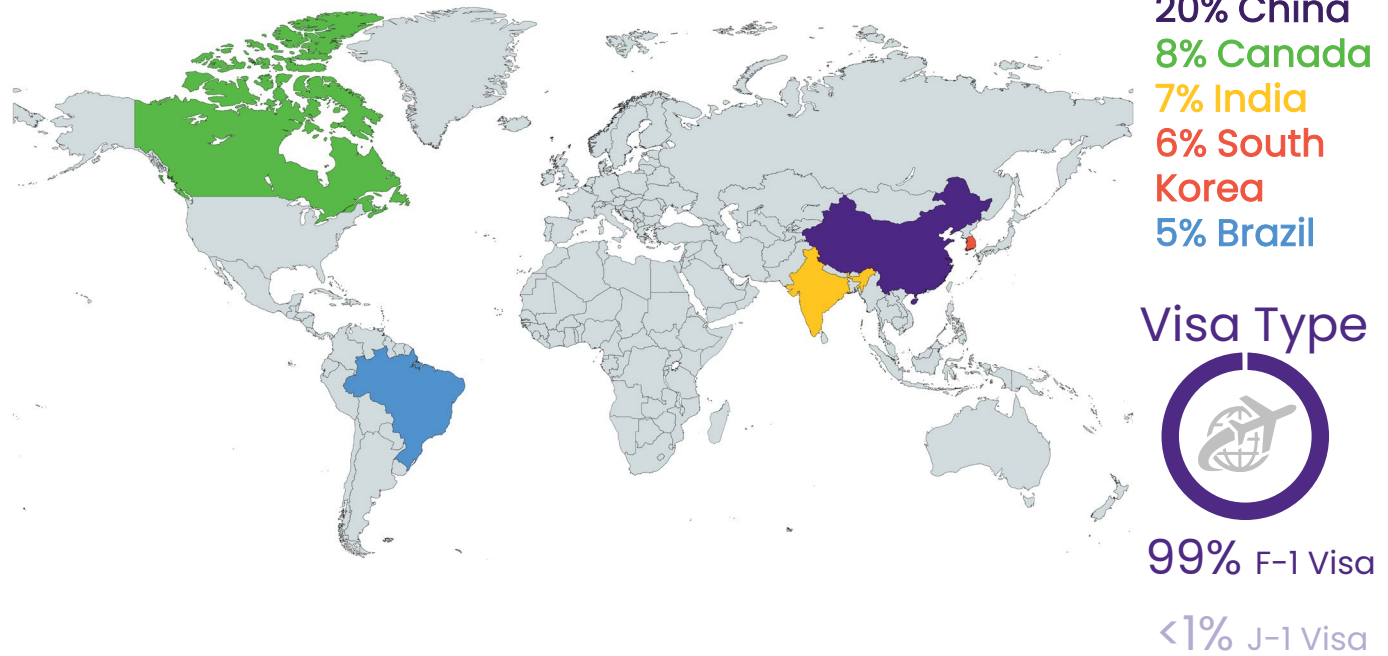


Fall 2024 New Enrollment by Level

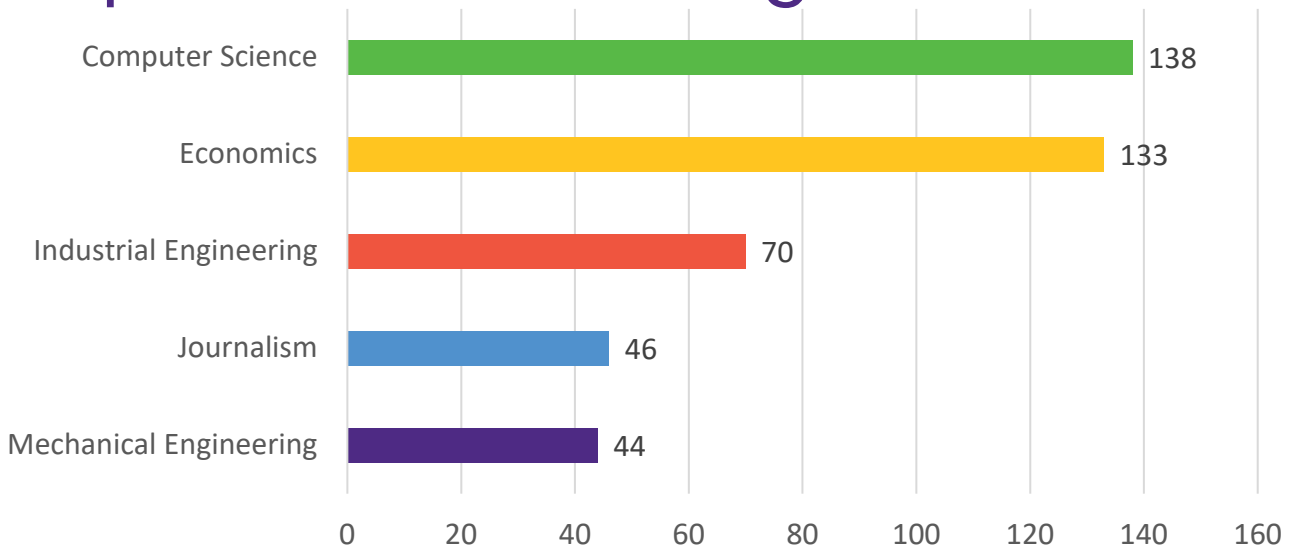


Bachelor's Students

Top 5 Countries of Origin

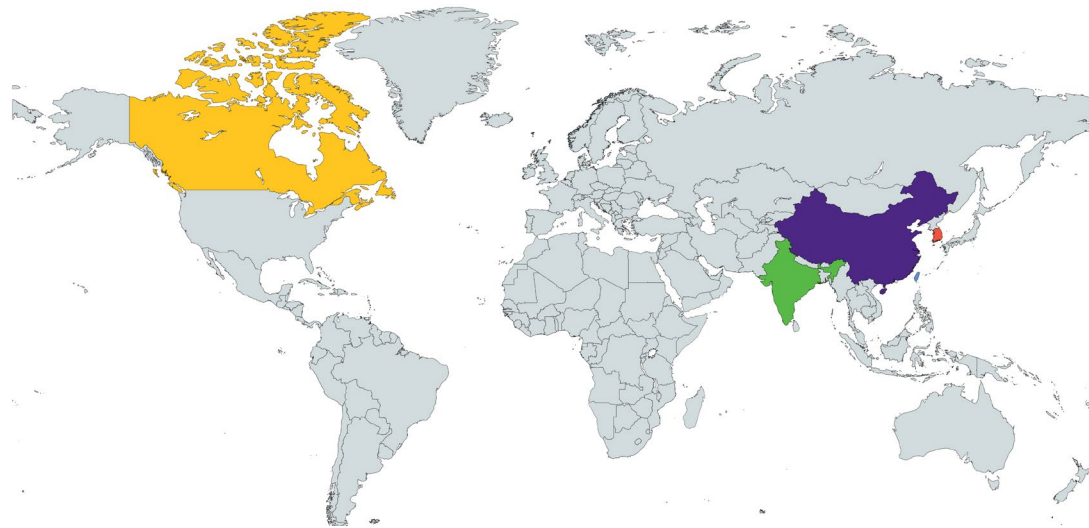


Top 5 Academic Programs



Master's Students

Top 5 Countries of Origin



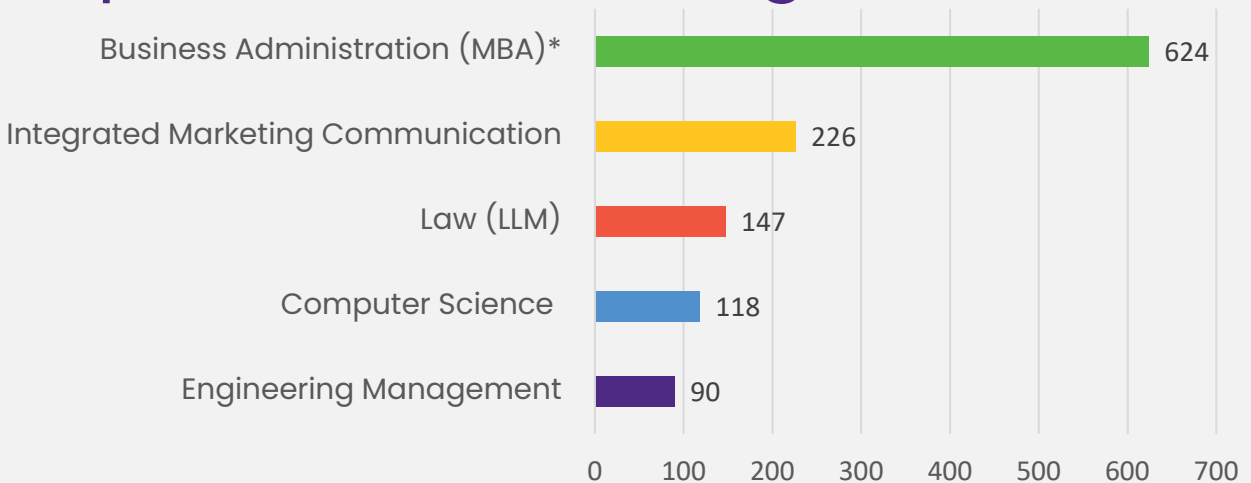
49% China
18% India
5% Canada
3% South Korea
3% Taiwan

Visa Type



99% F-1 Visa
1% J-1 Visa

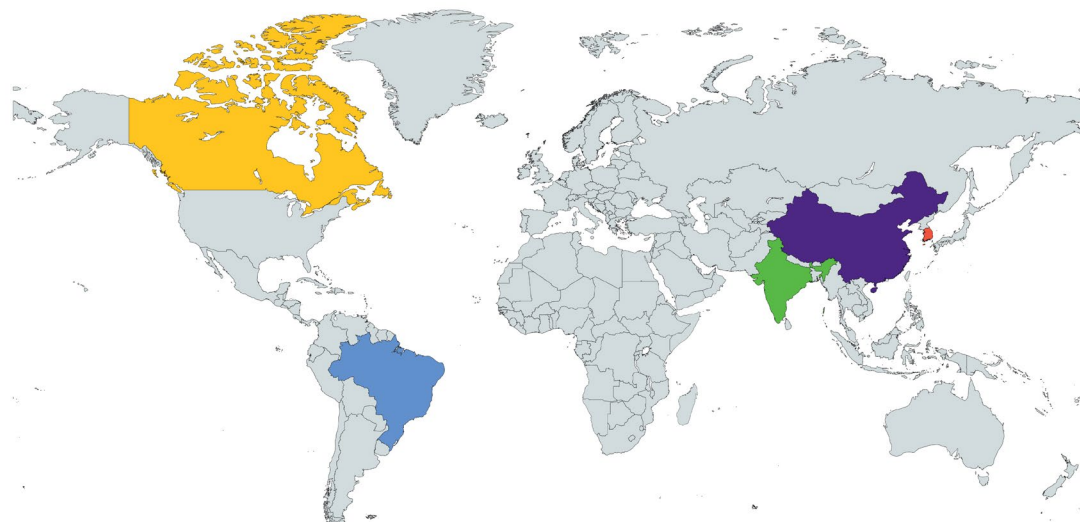
Top 5 Academic Programs



*Including 1-Year, 2-Year, and Executive MBA students

Doctoral Students

Top 5 Countries



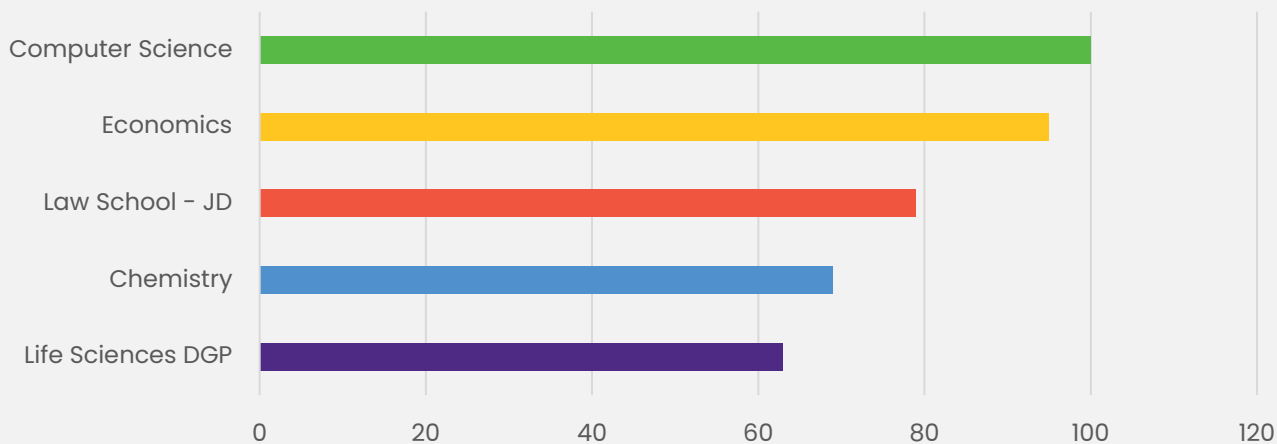
49% China
18% India
5% Canada
3% South Korea
3% Brazil

Visa Type



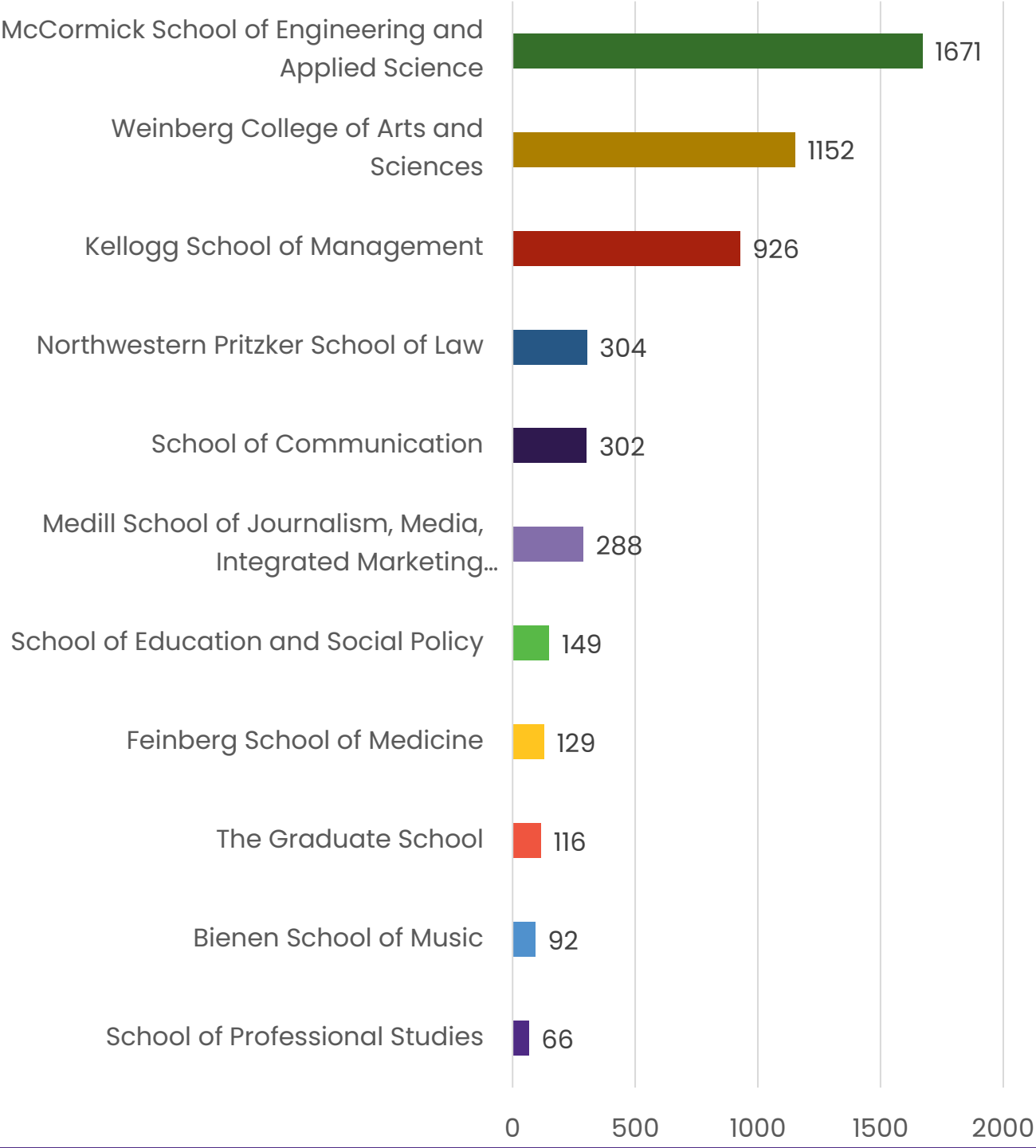
99% F-1 Visa
1% J-1 Visa

Top 5 Academic Programs



*Including 1-Year, 2-Year, and Executive MBA students

Totals by Home School



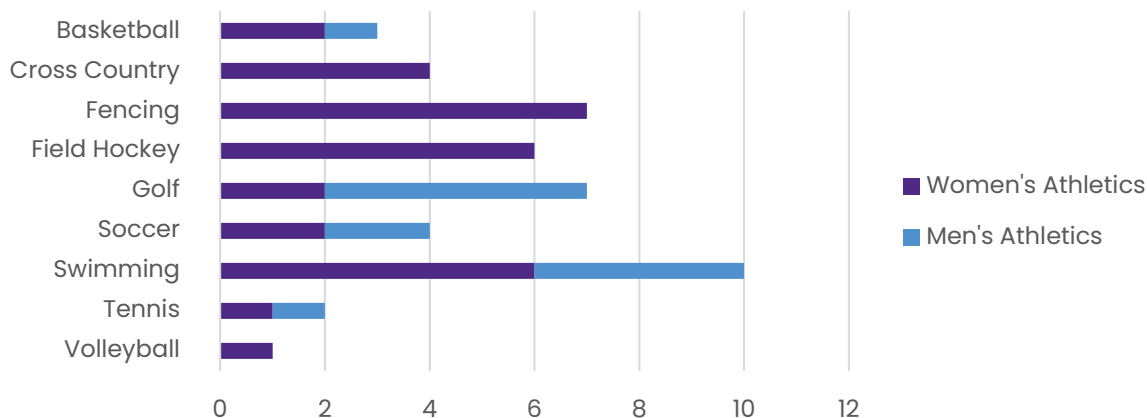
Student-Athletes

Northwestern has NCAA Division I programs in 11 women's sports and eight men's sports, which attract talented student-athletes from around the world. Northwestern has 44 international student-athletes, representing 21 countries and competing in 13 programs.

Go 'Cats!



Athletic Programs



Top Countries



Student Country Listing

Northwestern welcomed its most international student body, with 134 countries represented.

Country	Bachelor's	Master's	Doctorate	Non-Degree	Total
AFGHANISTAN			1		1
ARGENTINA	5	7	11	5	28
ARMENIA	5	3	1		9
AUSTRALIA	14	4	5	2	25
AUSTRIA	2	3	2		7
AZERBAIJAN		3			3
BAHAMAS		2	1		3
BANGLADESH	3	6	10		19
BELARUS	3				3
BELGIUM		3	2		5
BOLIVIA		3			3
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	3				3
BOTSWANA	2		1		3
BRAZIL	49	64	46	1	160
BULGARIA	2		1		3
BURKINA FASO	1				1
BURMA	2				2
BURUNDI	5				5
CAMBODIA	5		1		6
CAMEROON	4				4
CANADA	87	114	49	2	252
CHAD			1		1
CHILE	5	21	16	1	43
CHINA	206	1226	672	18	2122
COLOMBIA	6	34	19	2	61
CONGO (KINSHASA)	1				1
COSTA RICA	2	2	1		5

Country	Bachelor's	Master's	Doctorate	Non-Degree	Total
COTE D'IVOIRE			1		1
CROATIA	1				1
CYPRUS	1				1
DENMARK		1	1		2
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	2	4			6
ECUADOR	2	4	3		9
EGYPT	4	1	3		8
EL SALVADOR	2	2			4
ESWATINI	1				1
ETHIOPIA	4		6		10
FINLAND			1		1
FRANCE	5	10	12	12	39
GAZA STRIP	3				3
GERMANY	5	23	9	10	47
GHANA	4	5	8		17
GREECE	10	2	12		24
GUATEMALA	2	4	1		7
GUYANA			1		1
HAITI	1	1			2
HONDURAS	2	3	3		8
HONG KONG	32	25	15	2	74
HUNGARY	3	4	1		8
ICELAND		1			1
INDIA	77	459	129	18	683
INDONESIA	20	8	11		39
IRAN		7	27	1	35
IRAQ	1				1
IRELAND	4	2	2		8
ISRAEL	3	11	13	6	33
ITALY	4	3	21	8	36
JAMAICA	1				1
JAPAN	18	17	16	4	55
JORDAN	1				1

Country	Bachelor's	Master's	Doctorate	Non-Degree	Total
KAZAKHSTAN	7	3	4		14
KENYA	22		2		24
KUWAIT		2			2
LATVIA	1		1		2
LEBANON	2	5	5		12
LITHUANIA		1		1	2
LUXEMBOURG			1		1
MACAU		2			2
MACEDONIA	2		1		3
MALAWI	2				2
MALAYSIA	6	3	4		13
MALTA	2				2
MAURITIUS	1		1		2
MEXICO	10	56	29	3	98
MOLDOVA	1				1
MONTENEGRO	1				1
MOROCCO	3		2		5
NAMIBIA	1	1			2
NEPAL	2	1	2	2	7
NETHERLANDS	3	2	3		8
NEW ZEALAND	6	2	3	1	12
NICARAGUA		1			1
NIGER	1				1
NIGERIA	3	15	21	1	40
NORWAY	3				3
OMAN	1				1
PAKISTAN	4	16	8		28
PANAMA	1	1			2
PARAGUAY	3	1	1		5
PERU	7	31	9	4	51
PHILIPPINES	7	7	5		19
POLAND	4	3	4	1	12
PORTUGAL	2	2	4	1	9

Country	Bachelor's	Master's	Doctorate	Non-Degree	Total
QATAR	1		1		2
ROMANIA	1	1	1		3
RUSSIA	7	2	16	1	26
RWANDA	13		1		14
SAUDI ARABIA	8	24	3		35
SENEGAL			1		1
SERBIA			4		4
SIERRA LEONE	2				2
SINGAPORE	15	11	16	4	46
SLOVAKIA	1				1
SLOVENIA		1			1
SOMALIA	3				3
SOUTH AFRICA		1	2	3	6
SOUTH KOREA	69	71	79	2	221
SOUTH SUDAN	2				2
SPAIN	8	7	4		19
SRI LANKA	3		1		4
STATELESS	1				1
SWEDEN	1		2	1	4
SWITZERLAND	2	2	2	3	9
SYRIA	4				4
TAIWAN	30	79	40	2	151
TAJIKISTAN	2				2
TANZANIA	1	2			3
THAILAND	16	32	9	6	63
TOGO	1				1
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO	1	1	1		3
TUNISIA	2		1		3
TÜRKIYE	37	7	38	1	83
TURKMENISTAN			1		1

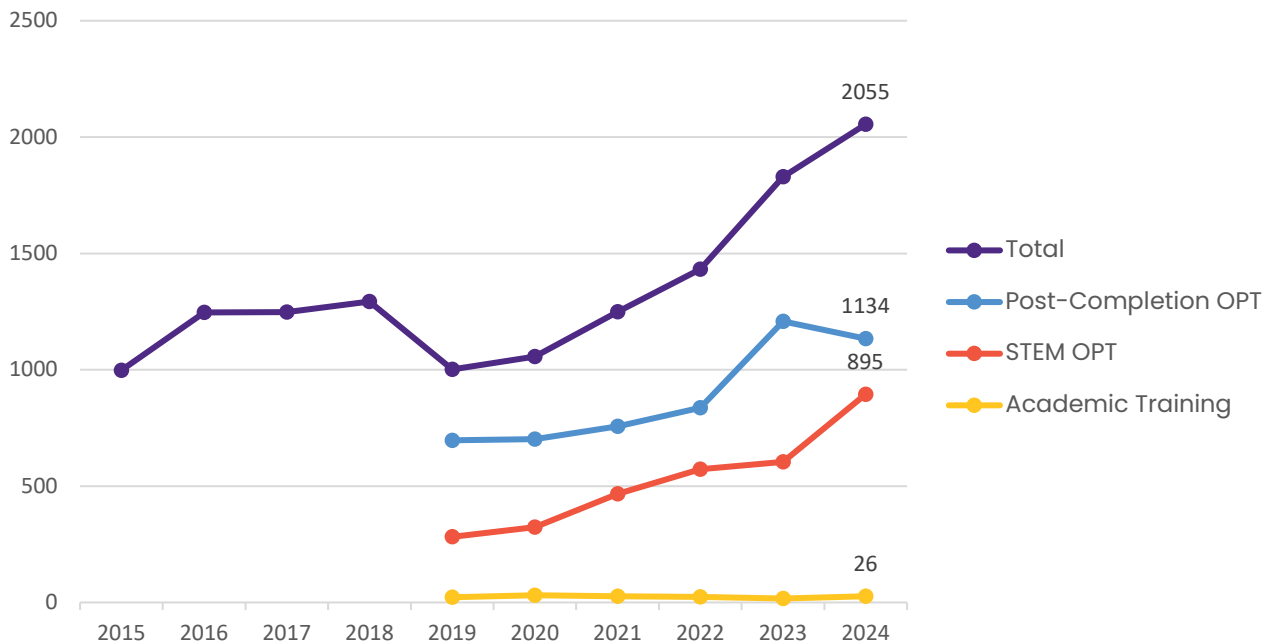
Country	Bachelor's	Master's	Doctorate	Non-Degree	Total
UGANDA	1	1	4		6
UKRAINE	11	1	1		13
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	2				2
UNITED KINGDOM	27	11	14	3	55
URUGUAY	3	2	2		7
UZBEKISTAN	1				1
VENEZUELA	2		2		4
VIETNAM	16	10	16		42
WEST BANK	2				2
ZAMBIA	3				3
ZIMBABWE	8	1	1		10
Total Countries	112	77	87	33	134

Post-Completion Employment

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 Northwestern alumni currently working on OPT in **39** states throughout the United States.

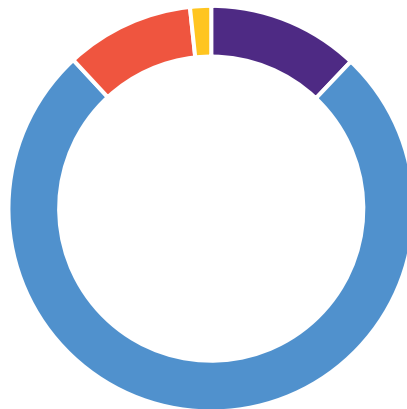
J-1 international students are eligible for employment authorization, known as Academic Training, which can be used during and/or after their studies. The duration of their Academic Training can be up to 36 months, depending on their degree level and the duration of their studies. There are **26** Northwestern alumni currently working on post-completion Academic Training in **12** 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 post-completion employment. These services are provided for up to 36 months after graduation from Northwestern.



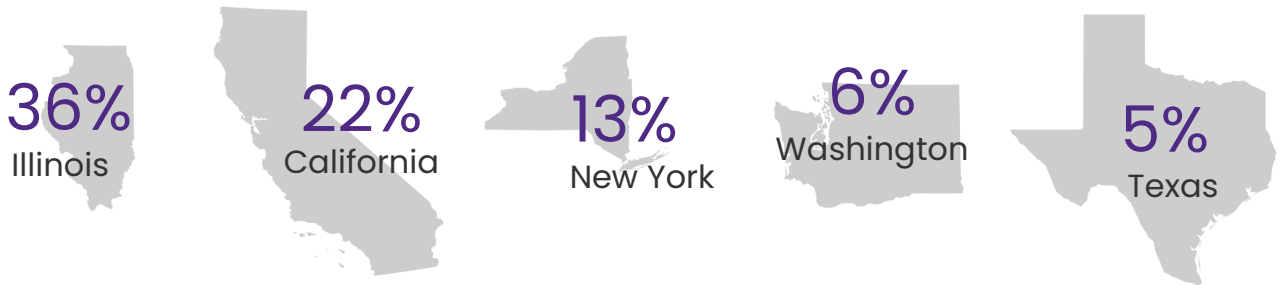
Post-Completion OPT

Degree Level Completed

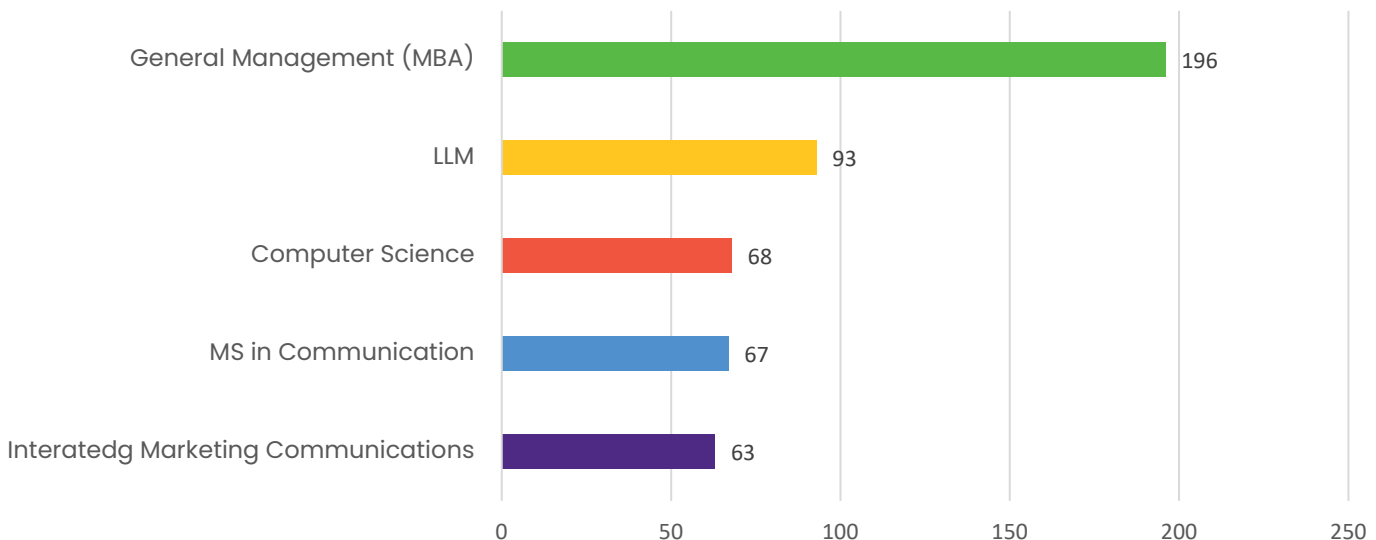


- Bachelor's 12%
- Master's 76%
- Doctorate 10%
- Other 2%

Top States where alumni work on Post-Completion OPT

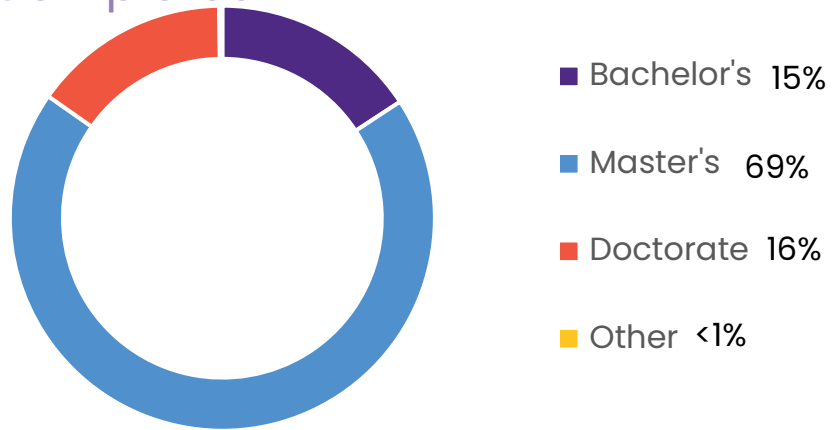


Top 5 Degree Programs Completed by Students on Post-Completion OPT

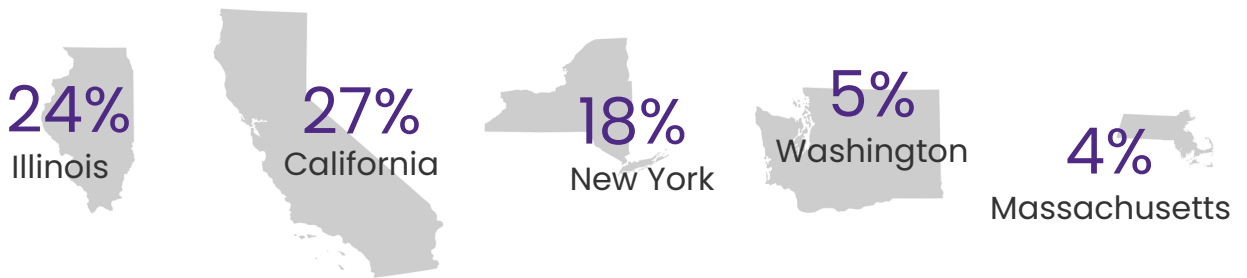


STEM OPT

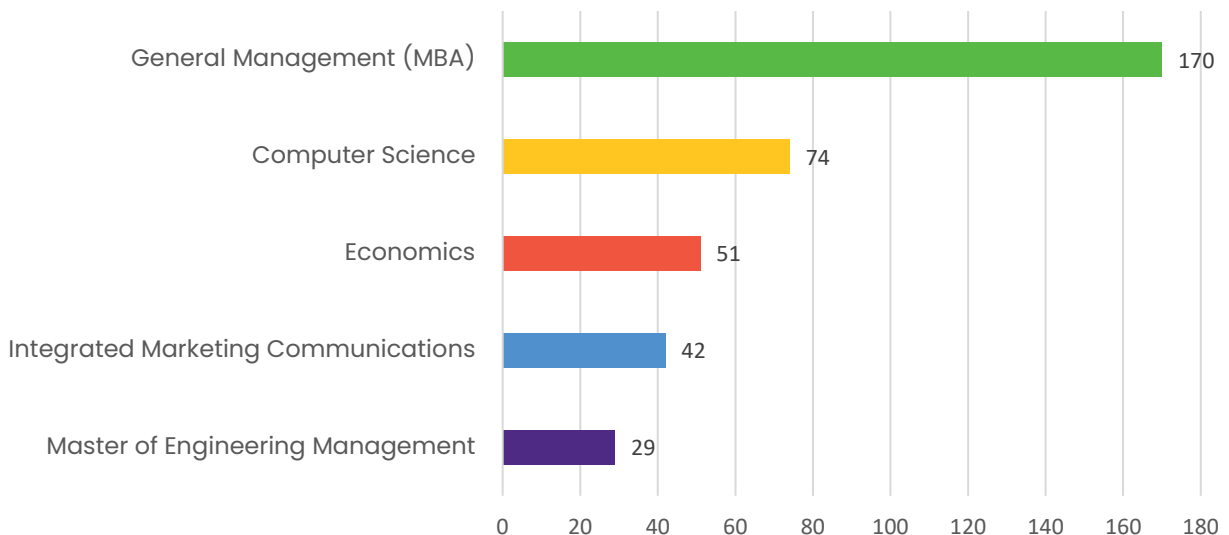
Degree Level Completed



Top States where alumni work on STEM OPT

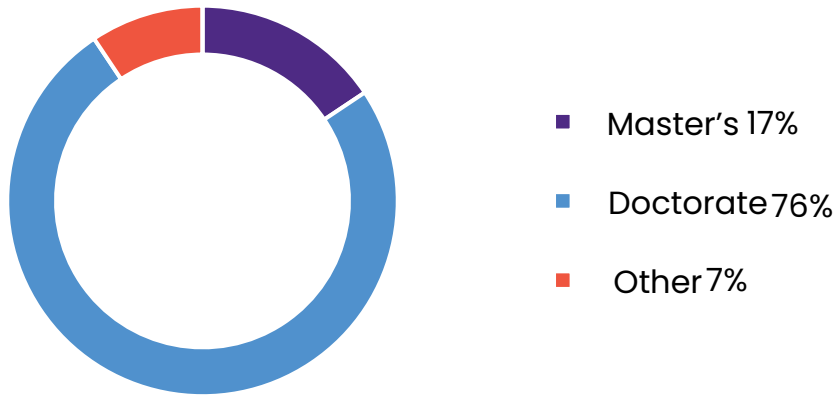


Top 5 Degree Programs Completed by Students on STEM OPT



Post-Completion Academic Training

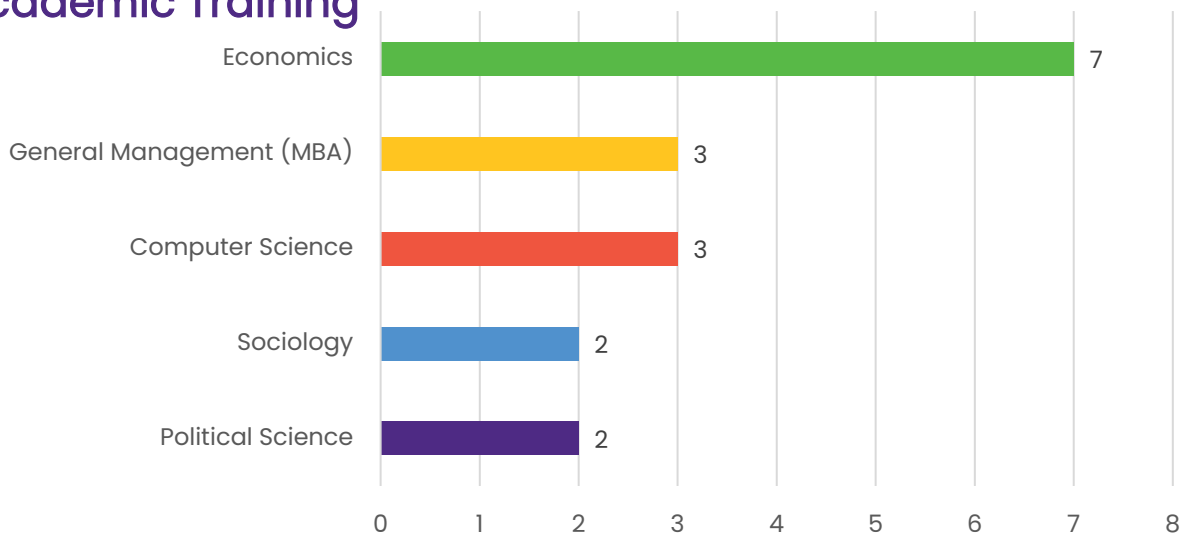
Degree Level Completed



Top States where alumni work on Academic Training



Top 5 Degree Programs Completed by Students on Academic Training



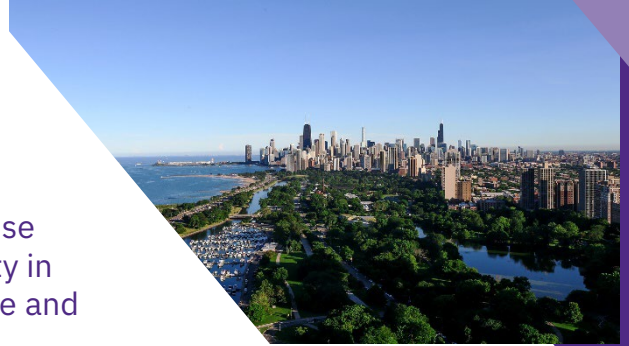
Top 10 Employers of International Alumni

Northwestern international alumni currently are employed by over 800 U.S. employers.

Employer	OPT	STEM OPT	Academic Training	Total
Northwestern University	34	30	5	69
McKinsey & Company	7	33	2	42
Amazon	10	25		35
Google	8	12		20
The Boston Consulting Group	2	17	1	20
Meta	4	14		18
Bain & Company	6	11		17
Apple	4	11		15
University of California	5	7	1	13
Microsoft	6	6		12

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 97 countries to contribute to the University in 20 different disciplines across 30 administrative and academic units campus-wide.



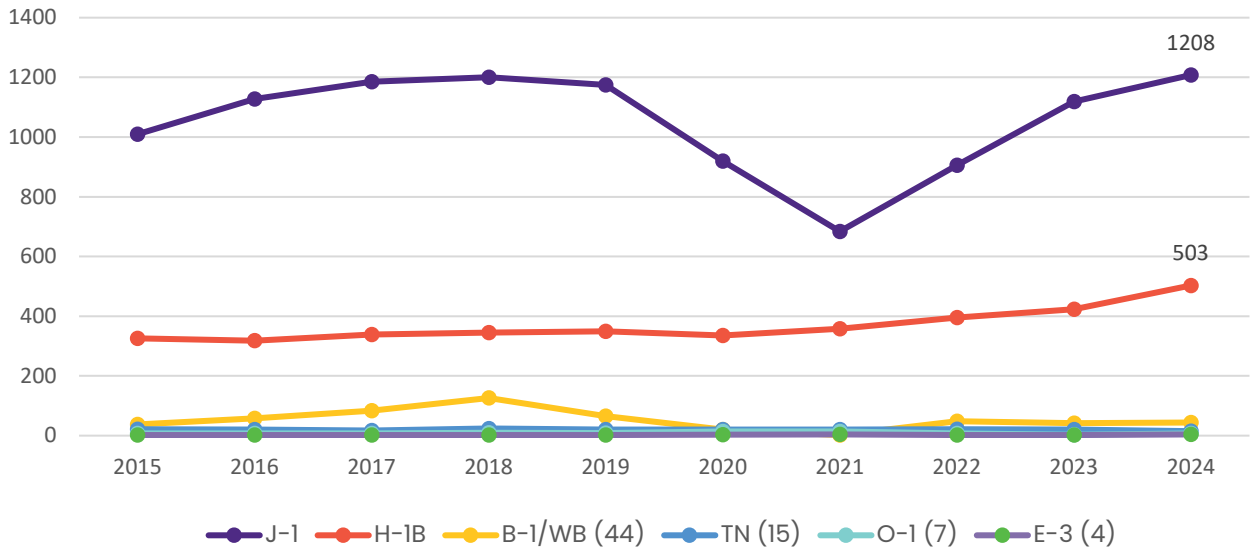
The majority (91%) of the scholar population is on campus to conduct research. These researchers are often appointed as visiting scholars, postdoctoral fellows, or research faculty/staff. Northwestern also hosts scholars to teach undergraduate and graduate students as lecturers, college fellows and teaching faculty. In addition, Northwestern has student interns who engage in 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. They 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. Those reported have been assisted by OISS.

Scholars

Northwestern Scholars by Visa Type

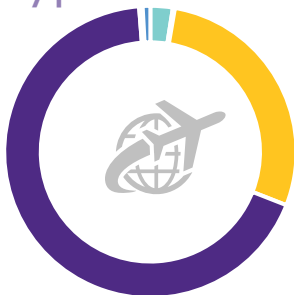


Primary Activity

- 91% Research
- 4% Teach
- 2% Short-Term Visit
- 2% Administration
- 1% Research and Teach



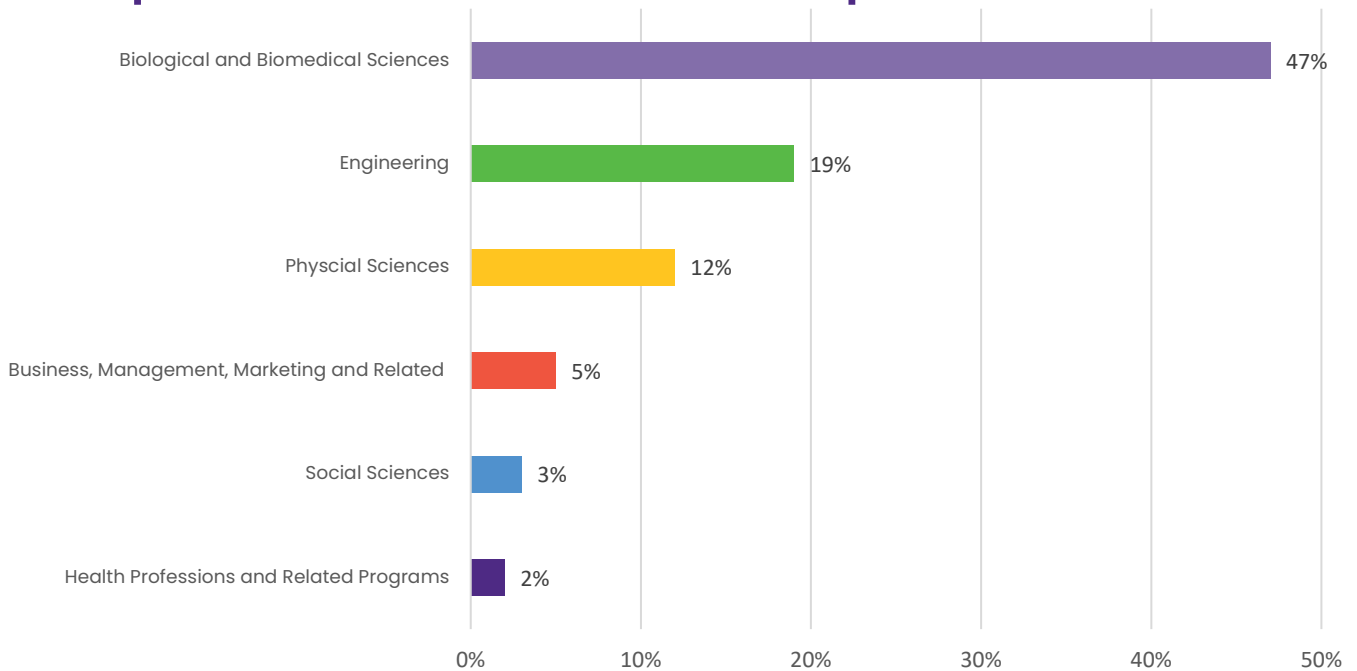
Visa Type



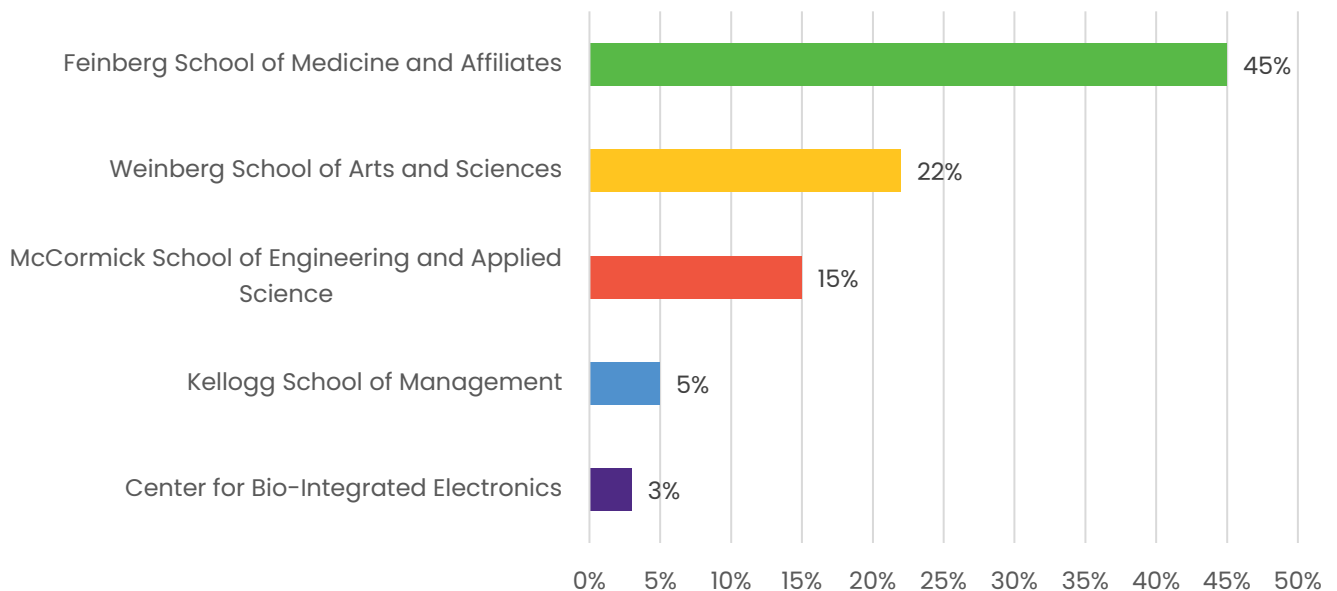
- 68% J-1 Visa
- 28% H-1B Visa
- 2% B1/ WB Visa
- 1% TN Visa
- <1% O-1 Visa
- <1% E-3 Visa

Scholars

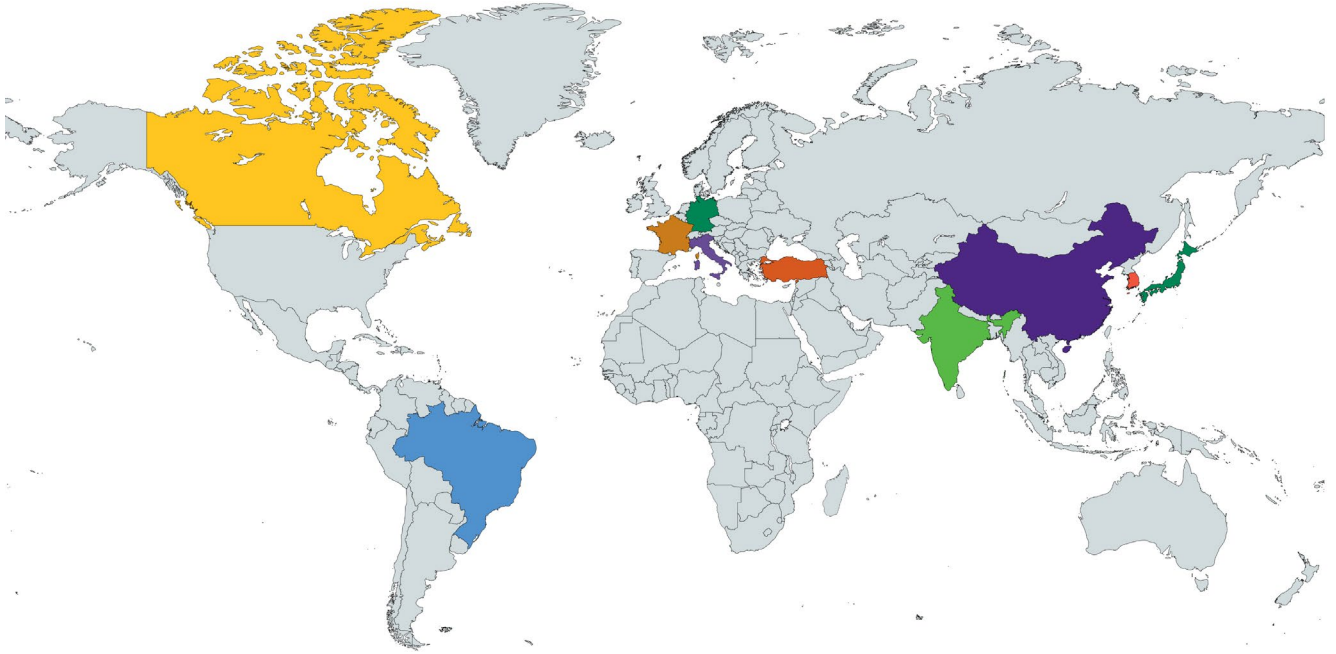
Top 5 Academic Disciplines



Top 5 Northwestern Hosting Units



Top 10 Countries of Origin of Scholars



#1	China	442	#6	Canada	49
#2	India	255	#7	Japan	44
#3	South Korea	158	#8	France	44
#4	Italy	79	#9	Türkiye	43
#5	Germany	61	#10	Brazil	40

Scholar Country Listing 2024

Northwestern welcomed its most diverse group of international scholars, with 104 countries represented.

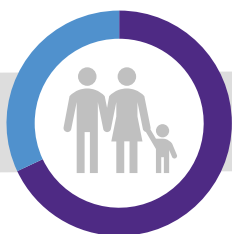
Country	Total	Country	Total
AFGHANISTAN	1	ECUADOR	2
ALBANIA	1	EGYPT	16
ARGENTINA	13	ESTONIA	1
ARMENIA	1	ETHIOPIA	4
AUSTRALIA	12	FINLAND	1
AUSTRIA	8	FRANCE	44
BAHAMAS	1	GEORGIA	1
BANGLADESH	7	GERMANY	61
BELARUS	1	GHANA	4
BELGIUM	5	GREECE	12
BENIN	2	GUINEA	3
BHUTAN	1	HONDURAS	1
BOLIVIA	1	HONG KONG	5
BRAZIL	40	HUNGARY	4
BULGARIA	3	INDIA	255
BURKINA FASO	2	INDONESIA	4
CAMEROON	2	IRAN	54
CANADA	49	IRAQ	2
CHILE	10	IRELAND	8
CHINA	442	ISRAEL	22
COLOMBIA	15	ITALY	79
CUBA	2	JAMAICA	2
CZECHIA	2	JAPAN	44
DENMARK	4	JORDAN	4

Country	Total	Country	Total
KAZAKHSTAN	3	SERBIA	3
KENYA	6	SINGAPORE	2
LEBANON	10	SLOVAKIA	2
MALAYSIA	7	SLOVENIA	2
MALI	7	SOUTH AFRICA	3
MALTA	1	SOUTH KOREA	158
MEXICO	28	SPAIN	33
MONGOLIA	3	SRI LANKA	1
MOROCCO	2	SWEDEN	2
MOZAMBIQUE	1	SWITZERLAND	7
NEPAL	13	SYRIA	1
NETHERLANDS	12	TAIWAN	24
NEW ZEALAND	2	TANZANIA	11
NIGERIA	18	THAILAND	4
NORWAY	2	TOGO	1
PAKISTAN	18	TUNISIA	1
PANAMA	1	TÜRKIYE	43
PERU	2	UGANDA	6
PHILIPPINES	3	UKRAINE	6
POLAND	9	UNITED KINGDOM	25
PORTUGAL	6	URUGUAY	2
QATAR	1	UZBEKISTAN	2
ROMANIA	4	VENEZUELA	4
RUSSIA	14	VIETNAM	5
SAUDI ARABIA	2		

Dependents

Students and scholars (primary visa holders) 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 947 dependent spouses and children.

Dependent Status



69% Spouses
31% Children

Activity of primary visa holder



58% Scholar
42% Student

Visa Type



58% J-2 Visa
32% F-2 Visa
10% H-4 Visa

Top 5 Countries



Methodology

Statistics on Northwestern's international students and scholars were compiled using a combination of internal OISS records and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS). 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 students 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 2024 as well as students who were enrolled in a program in the 2024-2025 academic year. The comparison of enrolled international students to the overall Northwestern population is limited to Fall 2024 enrollments to ensure consistency.

Post-Completion Employment is defined as international students 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 2024-2025 academic year who were on active periods of Academic Training; and F-1 students who completed their degree program prior to the 2024-2025 academic year, and whose Optional Practical Training (OPT) authorization status was either requested, pending, or approved during Fall 2024. 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 scholars 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 July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. 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.



Northwestern

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENT
AND SCHOLAR SERVICES