

INTERNATIONALLY- DOMICILED STUDENTS

JULY 2024

RESEARCH INFO-BYTE SERIES



Methodology


Data Source

The data in this Info-Byte comes from the HEA's Student Record System. This data consists of annual records on the student cohort submitted to the HEA by each individual higher education institution in Ireland who are under the remit of the HEA.

Definition

The definition of internationally-domiciled used here aligns with the definition used for the annual Key Facts & Figures. Note that this excludes Erasmus, and Other Exchange students.

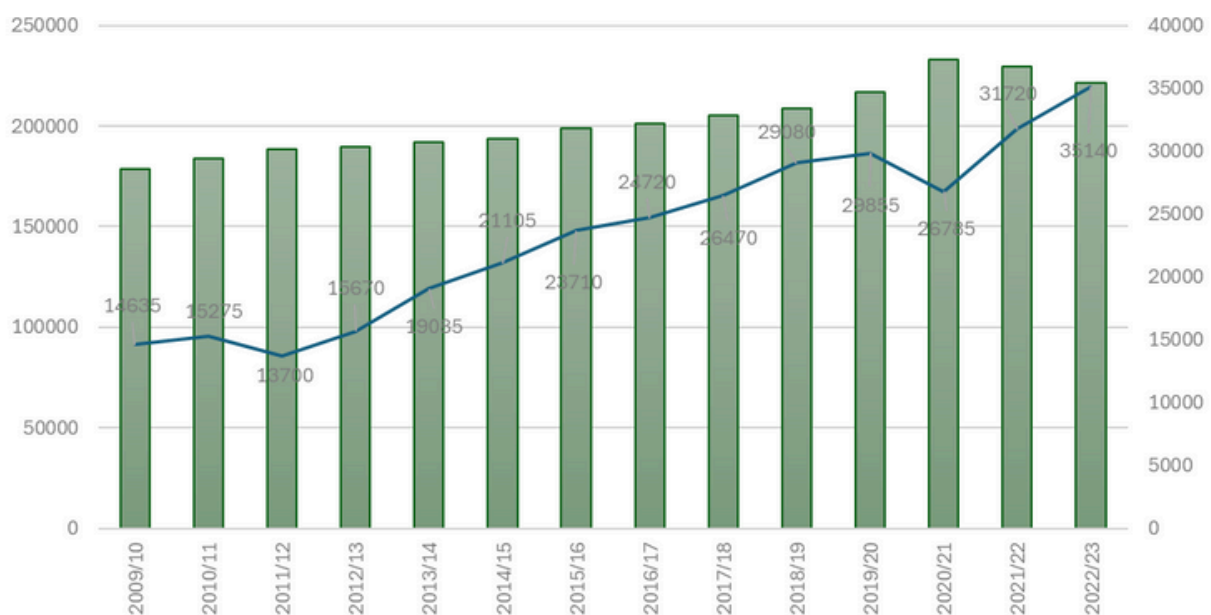
A student's domicile is the country of permanent address prior to entry to their programme of study. If the student is residing in Ireland for 3 of the 5 years previous to registering for their current course, then their domicile is considered to be Ireland. Note that a student's domiciliary should not change during the period of their studies.



Background

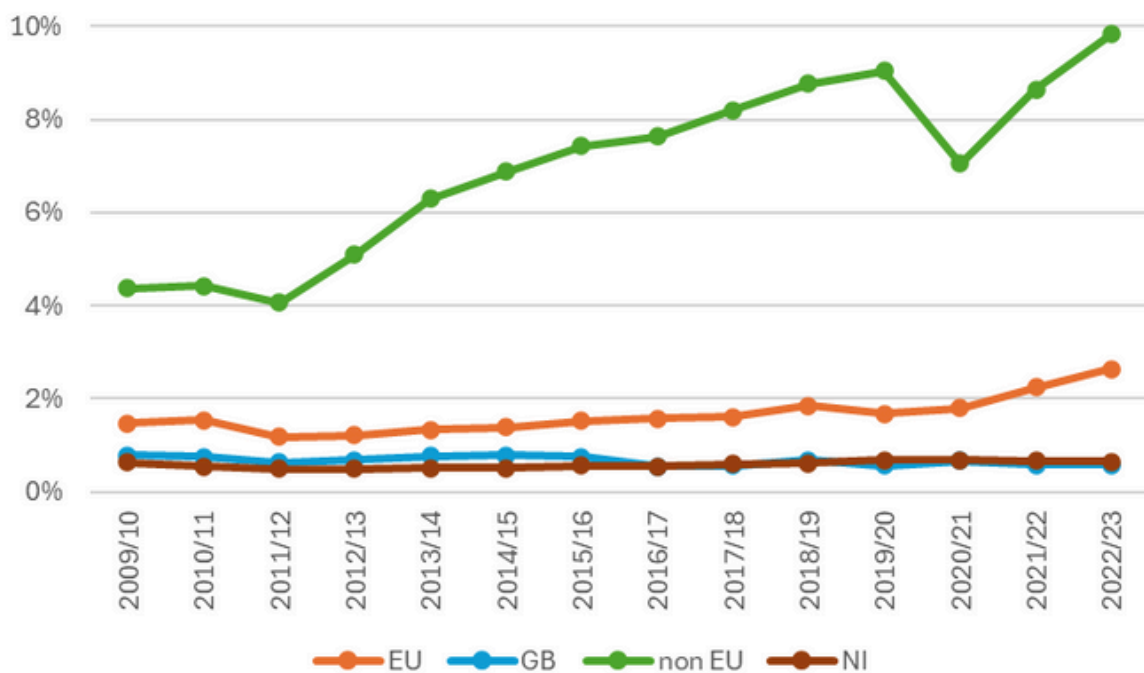
In 2022/2023 there were 256,785 students enrolled in the higher education institutions in Ireland. This is across all modes of study. This is a 33% increase from 2009/2010

The increase in enrolments across this time period is also evident for internationally-domiciled student numbers. In 2022/2023 there were 35,140 internationally-domiciled enrolments in the higher education institutions in Ireland. This has more than doubled since 2009/2010 when the figure was 14,635.

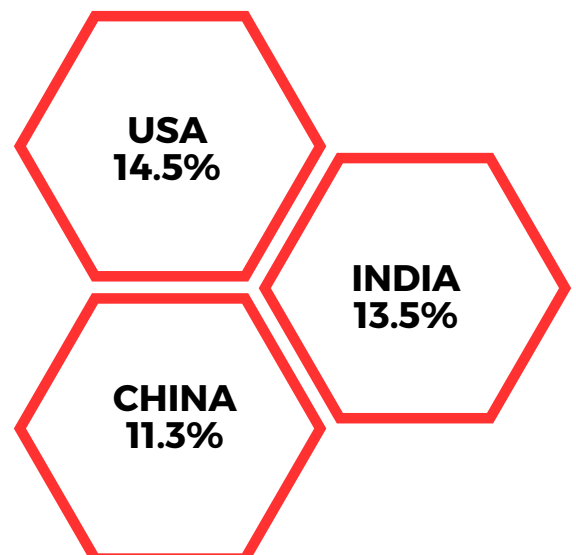


87% of internationally-domiciled students in 2022/23 were full-time and 11% were new entrants to the Irish HE system. Overall internationally-domiciled students make up 14% of the student population.

Non-EU students consistently make up the largest proportion of internationally-domiciled students in Ireland and that proportion has increased over time. In 2009/10, only 4% of students in Ireland were Non-EU. However in 2022/23 this has increased to 10%.



In 2022/2023 in terms of overall numbers most internationally-domiciled students come from



Country Focus

In 2022/23, 55% of internationally-domiciled students studied at undergraduate (UG) level, with 45% studying at postgraduate level (PG).

Top 3 countries for students studying at **UG** level

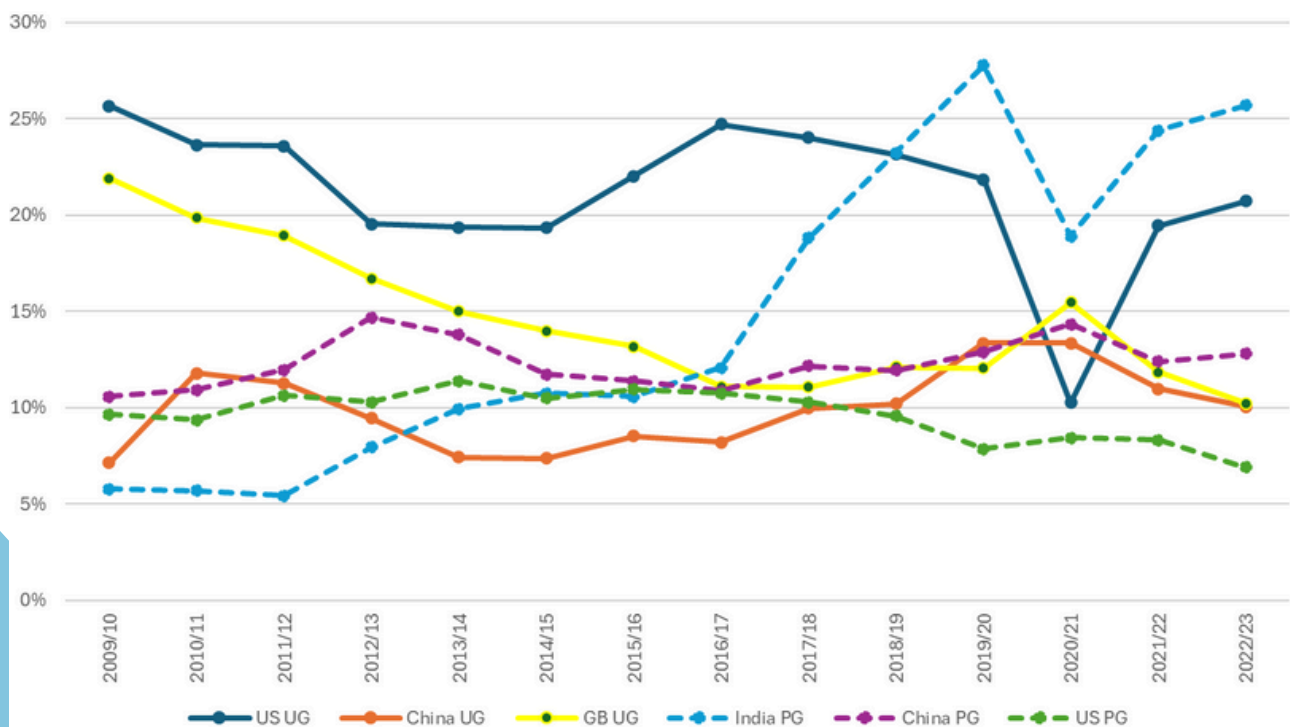
1. USA (21%)
2. China (10%)
3. Great Britain (10%)

The USA has consistently ranked at number 1 for the last 14 years, with the exception of 2020/21, most likely an effect of the Covid pandemic.

Top 3 countries for students studying at **PG** level

1. India (26%)
2. China (13%)
3. USA (7%)

India is top of the ranking for PG study for the last 7 years, replacing China in 2016/17.





Gender

For both Irish and internationally-domiciled students the gender breakdown is similar. For internationally-domiciled students 55% identify as female, and this figure is 54% for Irish-domiciled students.

Top 3 Most Common Programme Types

Internationally- Domiciled Students

40%

UG
HONOURS
DEGREES

28%

PG
MASTERS
TAUGHT

PHD

12%

Irish- Domiciled Students

64%

9%

UG ORD
DEGREES

7%



Most Popular Fields of Study for Internationally-Domiciled Students



Business, Administration & Law (21%) is the most popular discipline for Irish-domiciled students, followed by Health & Welfare (16%).

Engineering, Manufacturing & Construction and Arts & Humanities both come in third place at 13%.

Most Popular Locations of Study for Internationally-Domiciled Students

55% of internationally-domiciled students are studying in Dublin based HEIs, compared to 38% of Irish-domiciled students.

However the South-West is the next most popular region for both cohorts of students: internationally-domiciled students, 13% and Irish-domiciled students, 15%.