



Measuring Education Abroad Participation on a National Scale: Strategies and Benefits

Rajika Bhandari, Ph.D.

**Deputy Vice President, Research & Evaluation
IIE Center for Academic Mobility Research**

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International
Student Census

Study Abroad
Survey

opendoors®

International
Scholar Survey

Intensive English
Program Survey

U.S. Study Abroad Survey

Survey

- Annual survey of study abroad for academic credit

Respondents

- Accredited U.S. higher education institutions awarding credit for study abroad

Timeframe

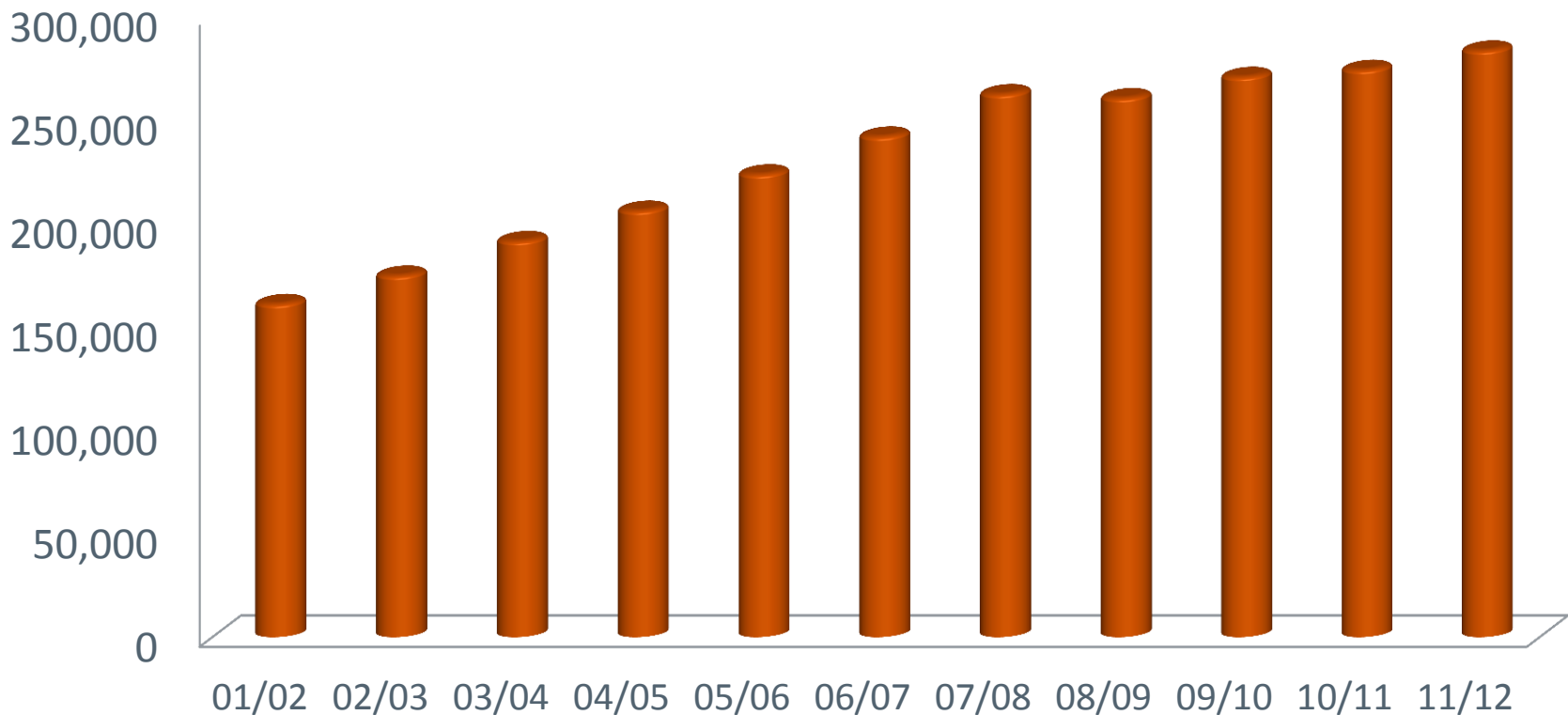
- Study abroad during 2011/12 academic year, including summer 2012

Definition

- U.S. citizens & permanent residents receiving credit from their home institutions for study abroad

U.S. Study Abroad Trends

283,332 U.S. students received academic credit for study abroad in 2011/12, a **3.4%** increase from the prior year.



Non-Credit Education Abroad

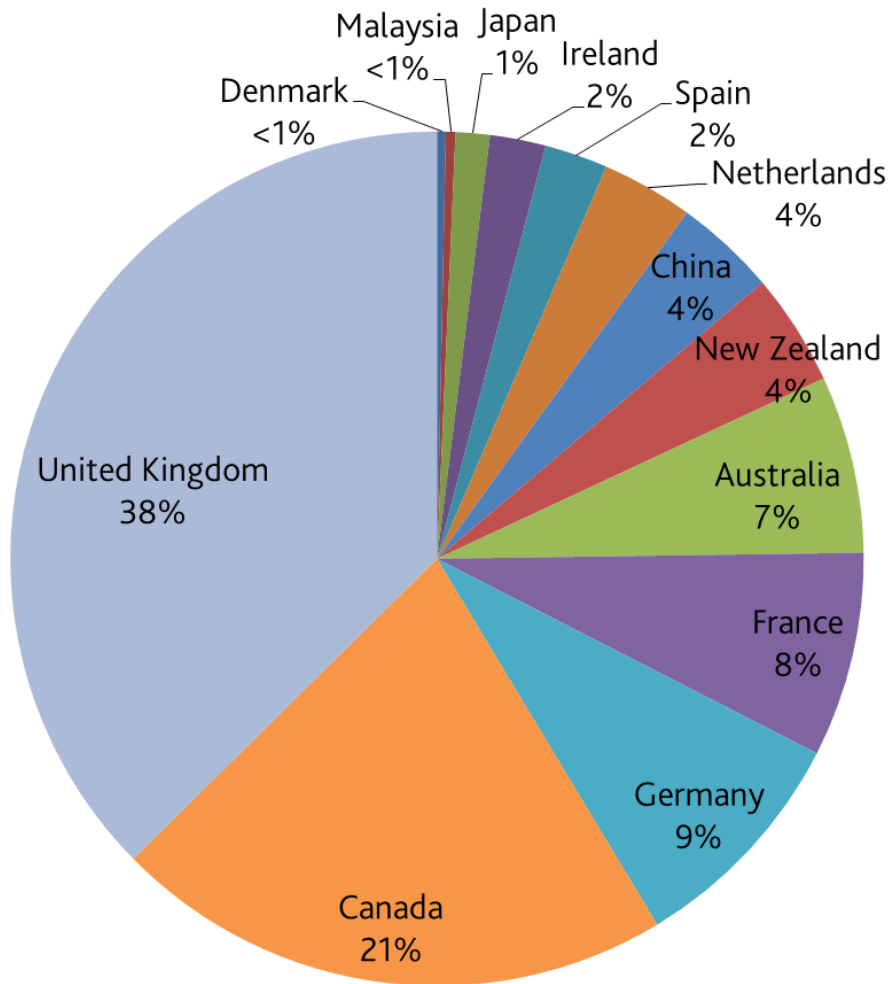
Work, Internships, & Volunteering

- Introduced a survey question in *Open Doors*® last year
- **11,862** students at **213** institutions in 2011/12

Drivers of Non-Credit Education Abroad

- To prepare students for careers at home & abroad
- To offset the costs of an education abroad experience

U.S. Degree Study Abroad

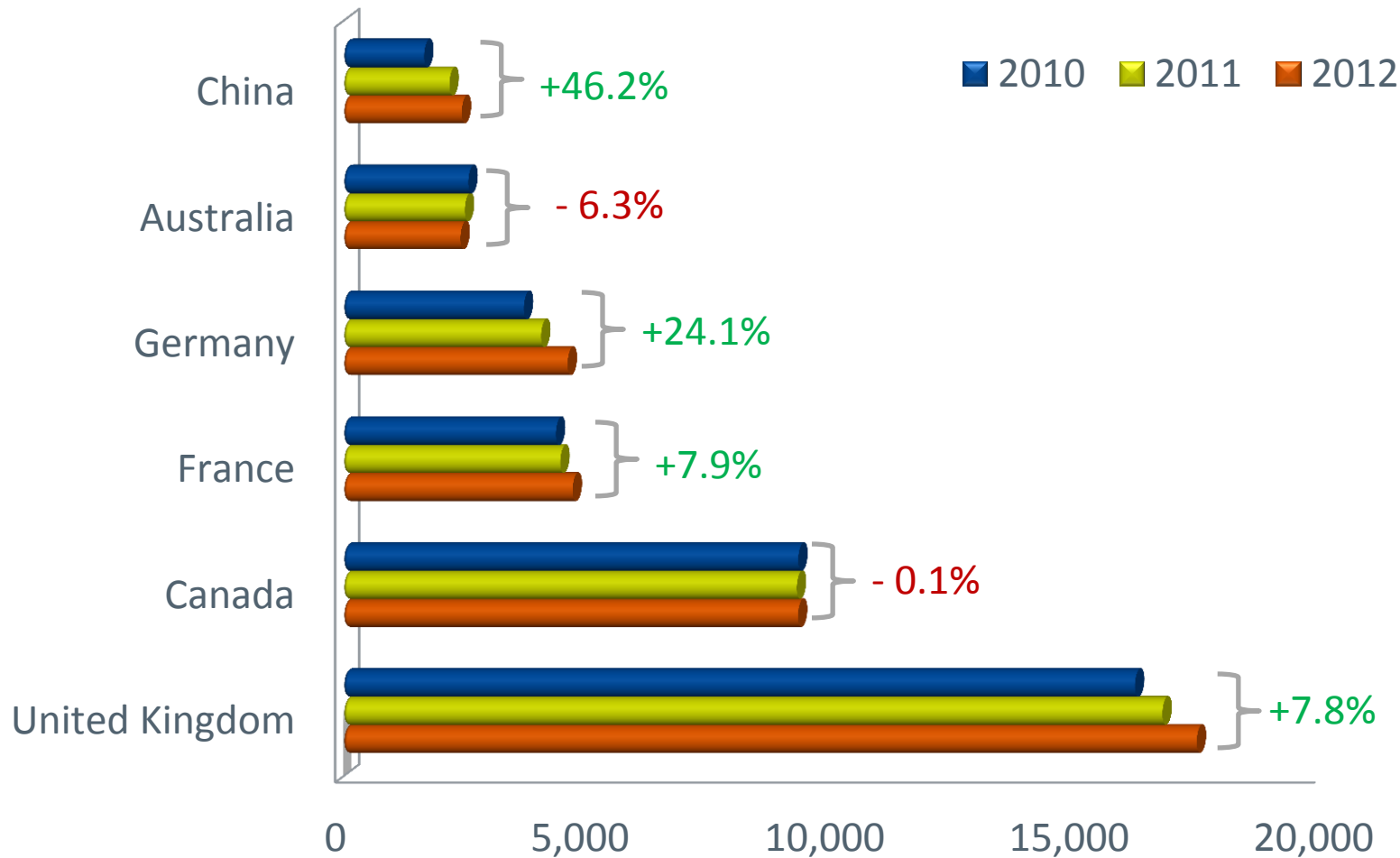


- In 2010, 43,300 U.S. students were obtaining full degrees abroad.
- Over 72 percent were in Anglophone countries (including Canada).
- Non-Anglophone Western Europe hosts 23 percent of U.S. degree students.

What Degrees Do U.S. Students Pursue Abroad?

- **New Zealand has the highest percentage of undergraduate students (82%)**
- **Germany has the highest percentage of master's degree students (75%)**
- **United Kingdom has the most doctoral degree students from the U.S. (23%)**

U.S. Degree Study Abroad in 2012: 46,000



Source: IIE's *Project Atlas*.

Total U.S. Education Abroad



283,332

Study
abroad for
academic
credit

+

46,090

Full
degrees
abroad

+

11,862

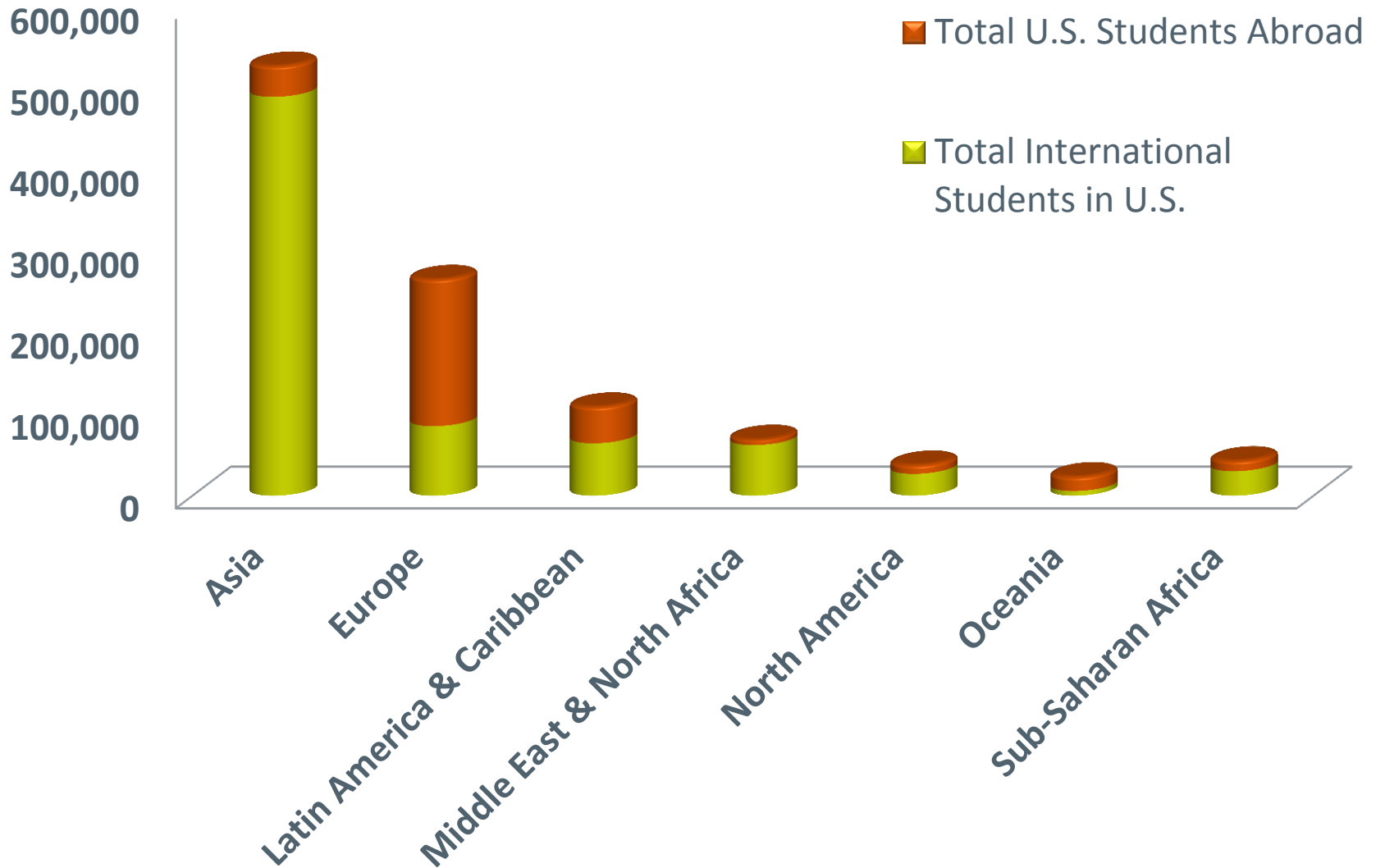
Non-credit
work,
internships &
volunteering

=

341,284

Total U.S.
education
abroad

International Exchange Balance, 2011/12





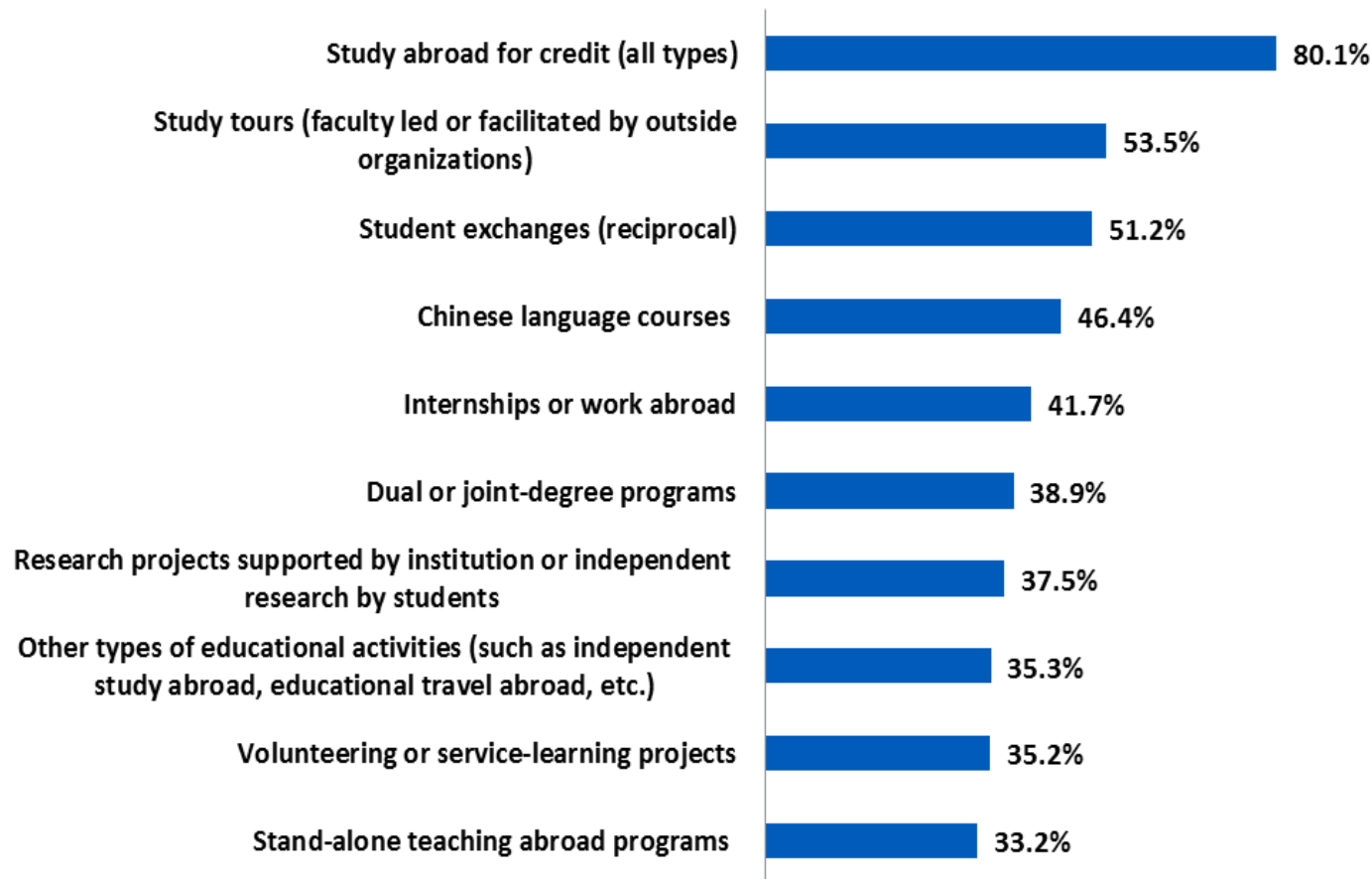
Measuring Education Abroad to China

Total U.S. student participants in education abroad activities in mainland China, Hong Kong and Macau, 2011

Category of study	Students	Percent
Study abroad for credit (all types)	15,647	58.6%
Study tours (faculty-led or facilitated by outside organizations)	4,019	15.1%
U.S. students pursuing full degrees in China	2,184	8.3%
Chinese language courses	1,518	5.7%
Student exchanges (reciprocal)	758	2.8%
Internships or work abroad	670	2.5%
High school students	430	1.6%
Volunteering or service-learning projects	196	0.7%
Individuals not enrolled in formal course of study	258	0.9%
Other: Dual and joint degrees, stand-alone teaching abroad programs, research projects and other types of educational activities	1,006	3.8%
Total	26,686	100.0%



Institution's Ability to Report Data on Education Abroad in China





Challenges in Data Collection

- **Education abroad categories not always mutually exclusive, given institutional differences in student database.**
- **Significant gaps in institutional data collection and reporting across categories of education abroad (i.e. volunteering and service-learning activity)**
- **Education abroad data might be maintained by different types of offices on campus**
- **Low response rate from education provider organizations (limited reporting on some key groups, including high school students).**



Learn More:

The *Open Doors* Project:

www.iie.org/opendoors

Center for Academic Mobility Research:

www.iie.org/mobility

Contact us:

iieresearch@iie.org

[@IIEResearch](https://twitter.com/IIEResearch) 