

# Active International Students Quick Facts

March 2021 Update

Updated data source: September 2020 SEVIS data



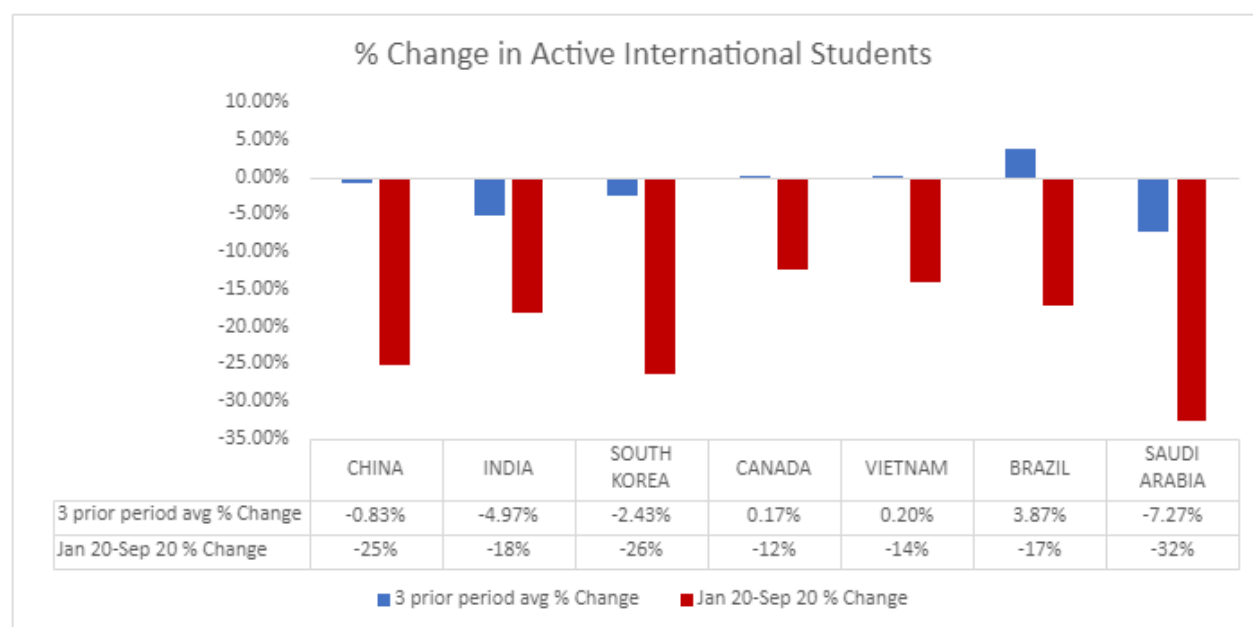
## Background:

NAFSA, APLU and INTO previously released, [Factors Influencing U.S. International Student Enrollment Growth](#), a groundbreaking report highlighting the findings of a longitudinal analysis of data derived from 11 publicly available sources. In December 2020, the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) published [raw snapshot data](#) reflecting active Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) records in September 2020, which provide new insights into the impact of the global pandemic on international students.

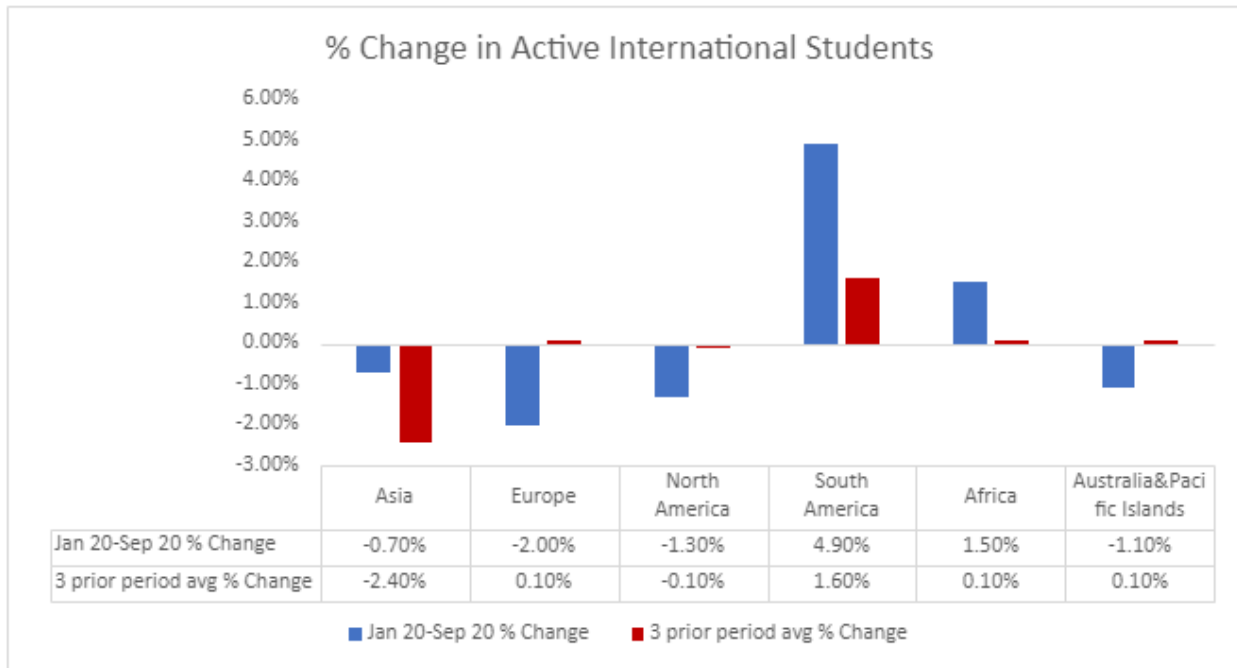
SEVP data show there were a total of 905,277 active international student records in September 2020. Data covering August 2018 to January 2020 demonstrate an average decline of 1.7 percent. Between January 2020 and September 2020, the decline surged to 21 percent. The difference between the three-year average and the 2020 figure represents an excess decline of 19.3 percent over and above what would have been expected, all things being equal.

## Change in Active International Students by Top Sending Country

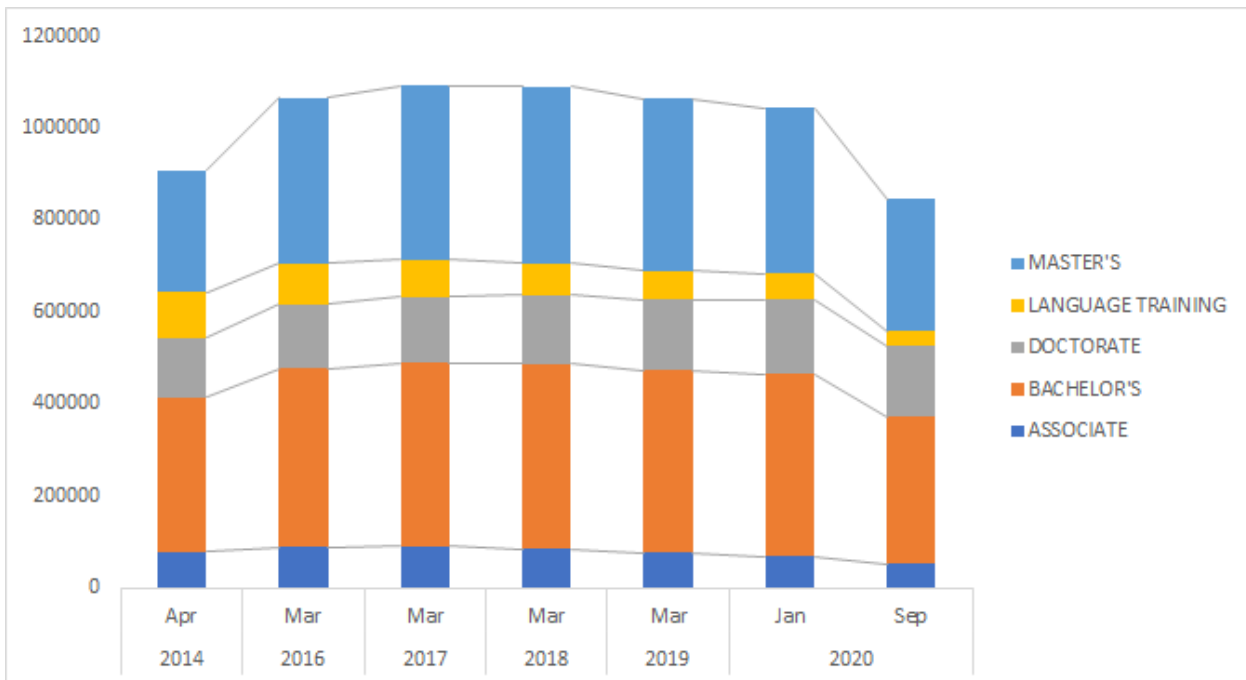
Top Places of Origin	Active International Students	% of Total Active Records	Jan-Sep 2020 % Change
CHINA	276,126	31%	-25%
INDIA	159,338	18%	-18%
SOUTH KOREA	43,792	5%	-26%
CANADA	26,029	3%	-12%
VIETNAM	25,824	3%	-14%
BRAZIL	24,863	3%	-17%
SAUDI ARABIA	23,323	3%	-32%



**Change in Active International Students by Continent**

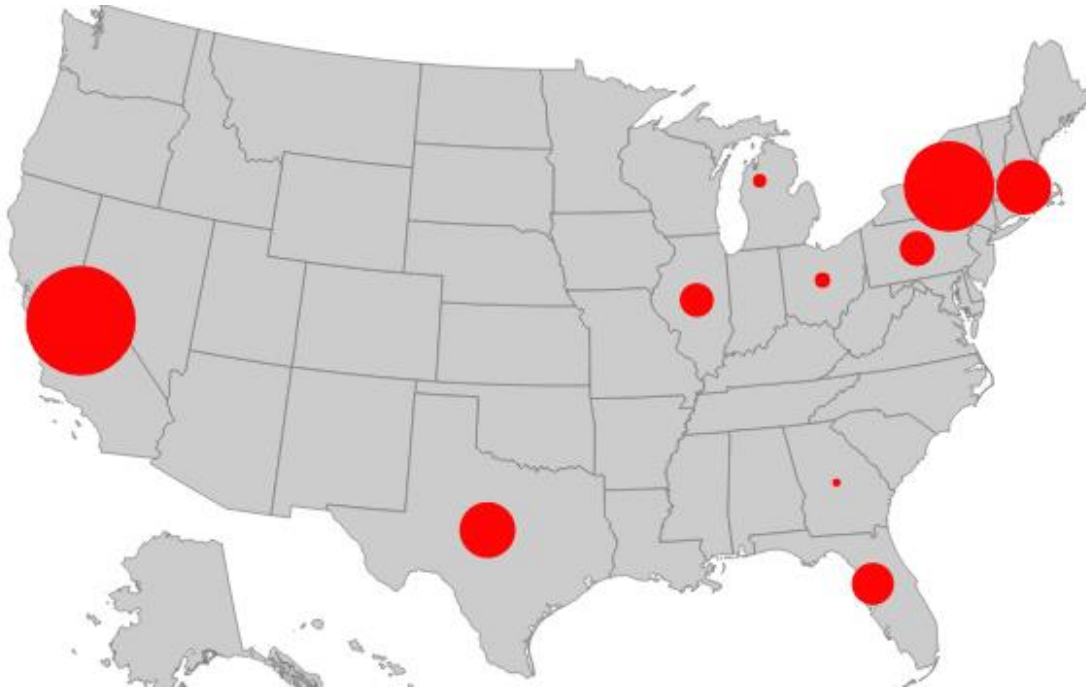


**Change in Active International Students by Level of Study**



% Change	BACHELOR'S	MASTER'S	DOCTORATE	ASSOCIATE	LANGUAGE
<b>3 prior reporting period average</b>	0.43%	-3.9%	0.4%	-3.9%	-3.4%
<b>Jan 2020 - Sep 2020</b>	-19.9%	-20.2%	-4.0%	-22.0%	-43.0%

**Change in Active International Students by Top Host U.S. State**



State	Active Students	% Change Jan 20-Sep 20
California	136,841	-25.8%
New York	107,228	-22.1%
Texas	63,000	-16.9%
Massachusetts	62,101	-19.1%
Florida	48,636	-19.7%
Pennsylvania	42,131	-21.4%
Illinois	41,253	-19.4%
Ohio	26,137	-21.9%
Michigan	24,730	-21.3%