

Spotlight on top Cambridge source countries

Cambridge students from Argentina taking Cambridge AS & A Level qualifications

10
SCHOOLS
RESPONDED



Top destination countries

- 1 Argentina 
- 2 USA 
- 3 Spain 

Top 5 subjects



- 1 Business & Management
- 2 Communications & media studies
- 3 Engineering
- 4 Biological Sciences
- 5 Creative arts & design

Top 5 universities*



- 1 Universidad Católica Argentina (UCA)
- 2 Universidad Torcuato di Tella (UTDT)
- 3 { Universidad de Buenos Aires
Universidad de San Andrés (UDESA)
Universidad Argentina de la Empresa (UADE)

Comments and trends

Economic situation makes study abroad difficult.

There is less of a tradition of going abroad immediately after school – more likely is to take part in exchange programmes at university.

Some students pursue opportunities such as sports scholarship or leverage dual nationality status.

Cambridge students from China taking Cambridge Advanced qualifications

59
SCHOOLS
RESPONDED



Top destination countries

- 1 UK 
- 2 USA 
- 3 Australia 

Top 5 subjects



- 1 Engineering
- 2 Economics
- 3 Business & Management
- 4 Mathematics
- 5 Biological Sciences

Top 5 universities*



- 1 UCL (University College London)
- 2 The University of Manchester
- 3 University of Toronto
- 4 Imperial College London
- 5 University of Melbourne

Comments and trends

Students often decide based on university ranking when receiving multiple offers from different countries (e.g. US and UK).

There is a diversification of destinations, with more students considering HKSAR China, Singapore, East Asia and Malaysia.

Some families opt for universities closer to home due to economic considerations.

An increase in interest in computing and AI and less interest in business.

Cambridge students from Pakistan taking Cambridge Advanced qualifications

58
SCHOOLS
RESPONDED



Top destination countries

- 1 Pakistan 
- 2 USA 
- 3 UK 

Top 5 subjects



- 1 Computer Science / ICT
- 2 Engineering
- 3 Accounting & Finance
- 4 Mathematics
- 5 Economics

Top 5 universities*

- 1 Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS)
- 2 Fast National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences
- 3 National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST)
- 4 Institute of Business Administration
- 5 Aga Khan University

Comments and trends

Economic instability in Pakistan is pushing more students to explore international education, but at the same time making it more expensive and unaffordable.

Traditional destinations like the UK, USA, and Canada remain popular; however, there is a growing interest in countries such as Turkey, Malaysia, Germany, and the Netherlands due to lower tuition fees and flexible admission requirements.

Students are increasingly opting for interdisciplinary courses such as Data Science, Artificial Intelligence, Environmental Studies, and International Relations.

Cambridge students from Saudi Arabia taking Cambridge Advanced qualifications

9
SCHOOLS
RESPONDED



Top destination countries

1 Pakistan 

2 USA 

3 Egypt 

Top 5 subjects



1 Medicine

2 Computer Science / ICT

3 Engineering

4 Dentistry

5 Pharmacy

“More UK unis opening branches in the region being considered.”

“Students are more realistic about what they can achieve and have plan for different outcomes of their A levels. They have a wider range when it comes to their university choices which has enabled them to move on after Sixth Form.”

“Because our school has diversity in the type of our students and they choose to go back to their homelands or study abroad to work at their homelands.”

Only one respondent from Saudi Arabia answered the question on universities so there is not enough data to produce a top 5 list.



Comments and trends

USA is declining in popularity while Canada becomes more popular.

There is a noticeable increase in students pursuing computer science and engineering programs.

The availability of better undergraduate options within Saudi Arabia has contributed to a decline in students opting for international education.

Cambridge students from Indonesia taking Cambridge Advanced qualifications

45
SCHOOLS
RESPONDED



Top destination countries

- 1 Indonesia 
- 2 Australia 
- 3 China 

Top 5 subjects

- 1 Business & Management
- 2 Engineering
- 3 Accounting & Finance
- 4 Economics
- 5 Accounting



Top 5 universities*

- 1 Binus University
- 2 Monash University
- 3 University of New South Wales
- 4 Presetiya Mulya University
- 5 The University of Nottingham Ningbo



Comments and trends

China is becoming popular because of affordability and active promotion by education agents.

More students choose to study in Indonesia because of improvements in standards, affordability, and parental preference for them to stay nearby.

Students increasingly choose majors related to technology and modern advancements.

Cambridge students from Malaysia taking Cambridge Advanced qualifications

12
SCHOOLS
RESPONDED

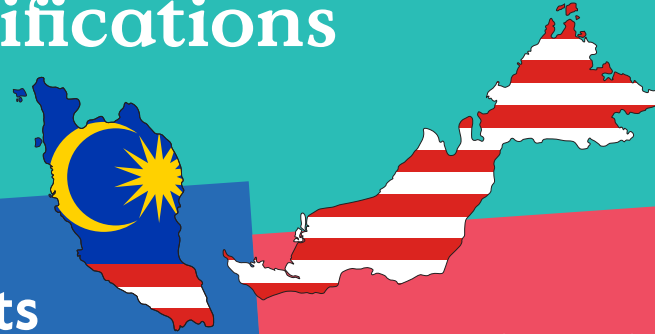


Top destination countries

1 Malaysia 

2 UK 

3 USA 



Top 5 subjects

1 Engineering

2 Computer Science/IT

3 Business & Management

4 Economics

5 Medicine



Top universities

These are all equal – with 9 students attending each

Imperial College London

King's College London

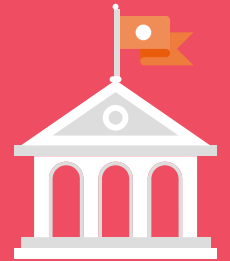
The University of Manchester

The University of Warwick

UCL

University of Bristol

University of Edinburgh



Comments and trends

Some respondents note an increase in interest in studying abroad, whilst others things that economic difficulties make this more unaffordable and lead students to study closer to home.

Availability of sponsorship can be a differentiator when choosing a destination or university.

There is increased interest in computer science and data science.

Cambridge students from Thailand taking Cambridge Advanced qualifications

7

SCHOOLS
RESPONDED



Top destination countries

1 Thailand 

2 UK 

3 USA 



Top 5 subjects (all equal)

Medicine

Engineering

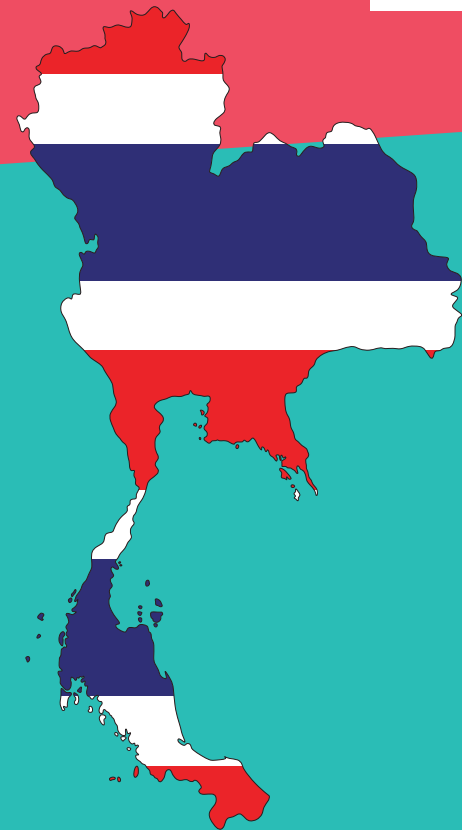
Computer
Science / ICT

Business &
Management

Economics

Universities

Only two respondents from Thailand answered the question on universities so there is not enough data to produce a top 5 list.



Comments and trends

Thai universities are increasingly competitive but still don't have as good a reputation as international universities.

There is an increase in students pursuing business degrees.

Observations

Key comments from each survey



Indonesia

‘As much as many students who went abroad, there are also parents who preferred their children to stay. Indonesia is quite a domestic country. Many parents will hope for their children to enroll in locals or Indonesian University to prevent distance and maintain proximity among the family.’

‘This year, many students are more interested in pursuing careers in engineering, with many preferring to stay in Indonesia for their studies.’



Malaysia

‘There has been an increase in the percentage of students from the 2024 cohort pursuing higher education outside of Malaysia compared to 2023. This trend is partly attributed to a growing number of parents opting to send their children to Germany through the Educare pathway, as it offers affordable living costs and free tuition at public universities.’

‘Compared to year 2022 most of student started switch to data sciences & computer sciences.’

Thailand

‘More students are taking non-medical/math degrees, though those are still very popular with our students.’

‘Students want to complete university quicker, they are lowering their standards to get into easier universities within Thailand that accept lesser qualifications.’

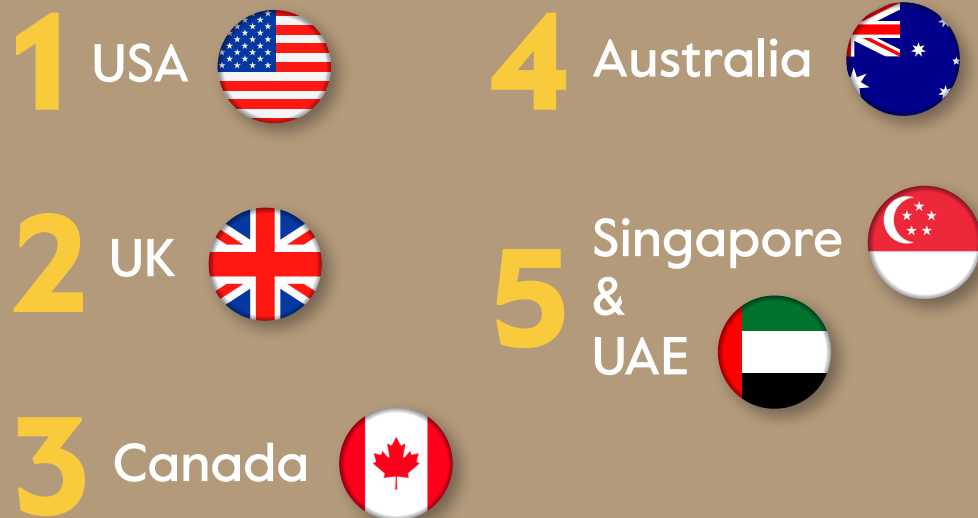
‘Russian students are reluctant to return to Russia and are staying here in Thailand. They have been having difficulty getting into some countries for university so staying in Thailand is an easier option.’

Destinations



Top international destinations for Indian students compared to destinations for students worldwide

Top 5 international destinations for Indian students



Top 5 destination countries for students worldwide



Comments and trends

Increase in students due to improved domestic standards, affordability and flexibility.

Germany, Austria and The Netherlands becoming more popular with Indian students due to affordability and immigration policies.

Increase in humanities subjects take up including sociology and psychology.

Subjects



Top 10 most popular subjects taken at university by Indian students compared to popular subjects worldwide

Top 10 most popular subjects taken by Indian students

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Business & Management | 6 Biological Sciences |
| 2 Engineering | 7 Mathematics |
| 3 Computer Science / ICT | 8 Psychology |
| 4 Economics | 9 Creative Arts & Design |
| 5 Accounting & Finance | 10 Law |

Top 10 subjects studied globally

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Engineering | 6 Medicine |
| 2 Business & Management | 7 Biological Sciences |
| 3 Computer Science / ICT | 8 Mathematics |
| 4 Accounting & Finance | 9 Psychology |
| 5 Economics | 10 Chemical Sciences |

Preferred Indian institutions

Top institutions in India applied to by Indian students

Flame University

NMIMS University

Ashoka University

Christ University

O P Jindal
Global University

Vellore Institute of Technology

Manipal Academy of Higher Education

SRM Institute of Science and Technology

Amity University

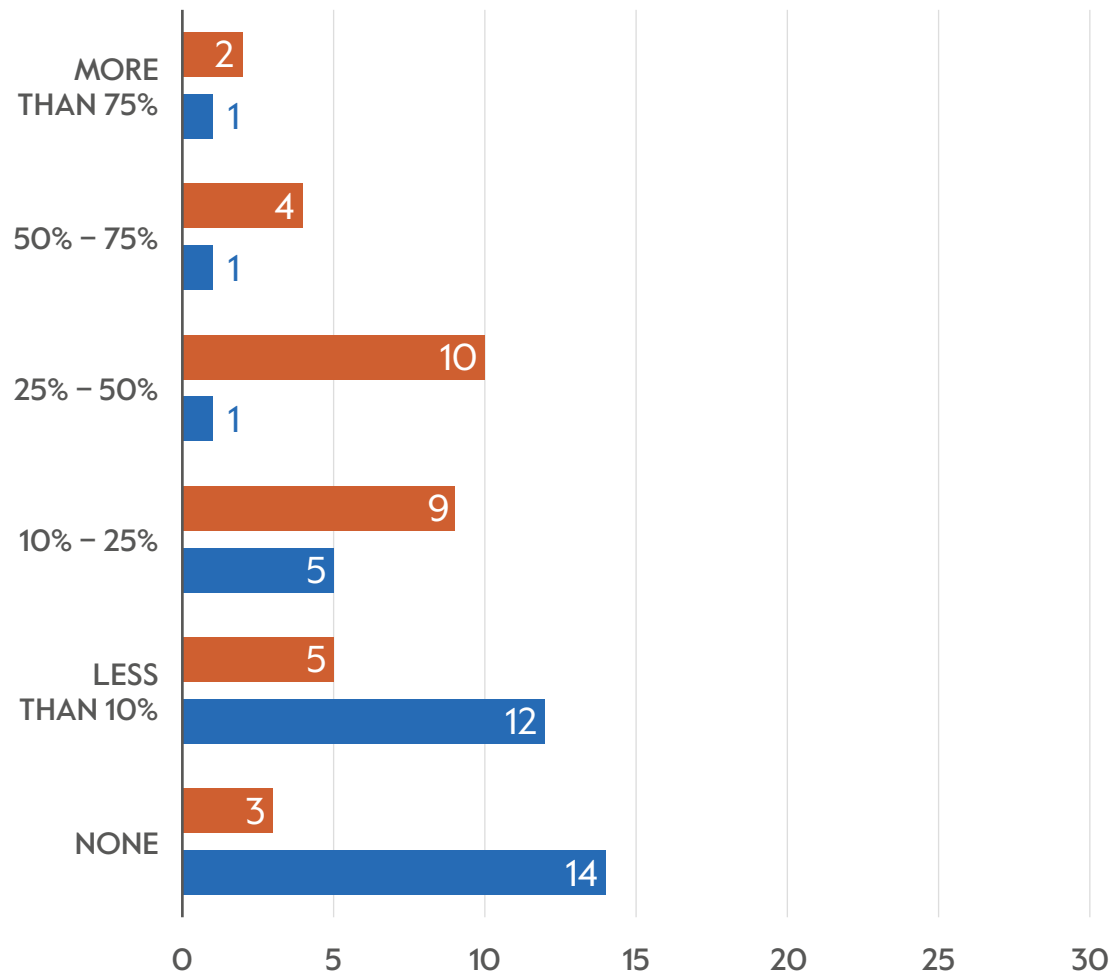
University of Mumbai

DY Patil University



STEM & Medicine in India

The chart shows the number of schools who indicated the percentage of their students who went to study STEM or Medicine subjects in India.



Schools were more likely to have students going on to study STEM than medicine.

Approximate percentage of Cambridge students that went on to study STEM or Medicine in India.

■ STEM
■ MEDICINE

Students pursuing HE in India

Domestic students applying to Indian universities compared with worldwide domestic applications.

