

■ Table 2.5.33 1 / 7

Foreign students in Germany, by types of higher education institution and countries of origin

Country	Number							
	Total institutions							
	Winter semester							
	1980/1981	1990/1991	2000/2001	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011
Europe	29,404	53,151	117,372	140,292	131,603	133,894	137,094	141,553
EU countries³	7,967	23,311	43,418	64,225	74,155	74,207	74,583	76,052
Belgium	476	680	923	957	920	969	1,000	1,109
Bulgaria	121	183	5,015	12,170	10,504	9,544	8,696	7,997
Denmark	209	372	649	485	468	449	445	505
Estonia	-	-	436	724	677	624	608	616
Finland	800	781	998	853	713	776	818	871
France	2,504	3,716	6,246	5,982	5,476	5,988	6,206	6,394
Greece	5,204	6,465	7,516	5,643	5,218	5,182	5,307	5,473
Ireland	101	286	536	413	353	386	369	409
Italy	1,142	3,267	6,771	6,614	6,512	6,863	7,469	8,154
Croatia	-	-	4,614	4,186	3,975	4,004	4,109	4,102
Latvia	-	-	600	886	823	751	790	831
Lithuania	-	-	959	1,667	1,510	1,390	1,274	1,199
Luxembourg	678	1,107	1,605	2,373	2,484	2,641	2,803	2,953
Malta	4	7	53	27	21	26	30	32
Netherlands	1,434	2,113	1,770	1,447	1,429	1,465	1,449	1,561
Austria	2,437	5,101	6,127	6,153	6,018	7,014	7,770	8,775
Poland	414	2,136	9,328	14,493	13,028	12,252	11,325	10,306
Portugal	239	663	1,527	1,341	1,315	1,400	1,446	1,618
Romania	182	313	2,232	4,156	3,636	3,475	3,483	3,457
Sweden	393	517	881	700	600	593	656	665
Slovakia	-	-	992	1,569	1,365	1,238	1,206	1,146
Slovenia	-	-	510	524	556	491	478	471
Spain	819	2,520	5,588	4,799	4,538	4,715	4,993	5,491
Czech Republic	624	580	1,640	2,132	1,965	1,817	1,751	1,667
Hungary	296	513	2,779	2,434	2,167	2,160	2,106	2,020
Cyprus	318	474	180	221	208	217	231	245
Non-EU countries³	21,437	29,840	73,954	76,067	57,448	59,687	62,511	65,501
Bosnia Herzegovina	-	-	1,889	2,603	2,573	2,681	2,803	2,859
Iceland	115	248	160	108	87	91	98	116
Montenegro	-	-	-	-	227	170	159	190
North Macedonia	-	-	523	835	775	719	720	742
Norway	640	846	906	589	485	492	431	411
Russian Federation ⁴	52	395	6,987	12,197	11,847	12,378	12,652	13,132
Switzerland	1,088	1,360	1,763	1,994	1,990	2,170	2,302	2,487
Turkey	6,542	12,962	23,640	22,090	21,404	22,335	24,170	26,089
Ukraine	-	-	3,688	8,839	8,408	8,557	8,818	8,830
United Kingdom	1,423	2,122	2,281	1,788	1,651	1,781	1,874	2,087
Other countries in Europe	1,149	3,424	5,060	6,300	5,677	6,090	6,249	6,543

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Foreign students in Germany, by types of higher education institution and countries of origin

Country	Number							
	Total institutions							
	Winter semester							
	1980/1981	1990/1991	2000/2001	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011
Africa	3,884	6,441	18,852	22,689	21,580	21,736	21,684	21,542
Egypt	795	942	1,191	920	1,087	1,203	1,359	1,423
Ethiopia	164	470	588	418	401	430	442	470
Algeria	601	271	346	222	193	188	186	196
Ghana	258	330	374	375	322	333	370	426
Cameroon	114	598	4,141	5,503	5,458	5,536	5,550	5,575
Morocco	151	925	6,204	7,931	6,918	6,649	6,281	5,866
Nigeria	424	245	667	513	548	555	577	607
Tunisia	212	695	1,237	2,593	2,681	2,860	2,859	2,729
Other countries in Africa	1,165	1,965	4,104	4,214	3,972	3,982	4,060	4,250
America	6,572	8,455	9,356	12,397	12,372	13,366	14,625	15,270
Argentina	212	321	419	456	438	413	434	433
Bolivia	160	240	190	223	198	206	200	225
Brazil	490	896	1,432	2,018	2,118	2,246	2,467	2,561
Chile	516	515	459	607	611	665	703	760
Canada	330	392	430	584	554	615	615	656
Colombia	246	407	544	1,261	1,356	1,479	1,608	1,715
Mexico	189	259	502	1,394	1,380	1,584	1,607	1,749
Peru	275	518	797	974	953	1,019	1,000	1,044
Venezuela	215	118	274	351	350	387	411	425
United States	3,531	4,207	3,467	3,337	3,247	3,513	3,825	4,242
Other countries in America	408	582	842	1,192	1,167	1,239	1,755	1,460
Asia	16,738	30,051	39,683	69,422	66,691	67,640	69,072	72,326
Afghanistan	548	612	628	762	745	896	987	1,042
China	317	4,230	9,109	27,117	25,479	24,746	24,414	24,443
India	655	609	1,412	3,780	3,527	3,516	4,070	5,038
Indonesia	3,185	2,125	2,128	2,537	2,431	2,400	2,544	2,574
Iraq	233	375	367	556	564	599	678	784
Iran	5,331	10,485	6,359	4,092	3,871	4,182	4,388	4,739
Israel	461	1,047	876	1,304	1,391	1,453	1,572	1,599
Japan	1,256	1,219	2,182	2,339	2,183	2,106	2,099	2,061
Jordan	711	1,029	1,029	795	701	756	839	855
Lebanon	284	327	487	1,240	1,261	1,333	1,288	1,271
Pakistan	267	186	653	1,298	1,318	1,469	1,610	1,844
South Korea	1,066	4,228	4,853	5,076	5,003	5,209	5,219	5,280
Syria	508	498	922	1,790	1,885	2,067	2,244	2,329
Taiwan	475	942	1,265	1,323	1,232	1,222	1,272	1,364
Thailand	290	227	487	948	939	993	941	949
Vietnam	621	1,147	1,410	3,315	3,566	3,671	3,870	4,189
Other countries in Asia	530	765	5,516	11,150	10,595	11,022	11,037	11,965
Australia/Oceania	135	164	313	419	417	426	526	543
Australia	110	134	255	341	344	352	419	427
New Zealand	25	23	45	69	63	65	92	98
Other countries in Oceania	-	7	13	9	10	9	15	18
Total countries ⁵	57,713	99,760	187,027	246,369	233,606	239,143	244,775	252,032

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Foreign students in Germany, by types of higher education institution and countries of origin

Country	Number							
	Total institutions							
	Winter semester							
	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019
Europe	148,623	156,745	164,660	172,244	178,290	182,734	183,635	184,332
EU countries³	79,088	83,460	91,912	96,367	99,478	101,153	101,324	101,594
Belgium	1,204	1,374	1,410	1,491	1,602	1,659	1,719	1,728
Bulgaria	7,486	7,226	7,223	7,231	7,325	7,311	6,911	6,692
Denmark	550	616	635	679	647	662	655	639
Estonia	635	604	562	564	538	505	492	455
Finland	909	914	961	983	1,013	1,072	966	934
France	6,539	7,000	7,342	8,373	8,453	8,539	8,408	8,278
Greece	5,931	6,533	7,072	7,386	7,540	7,725	7,734	7,662
Ireland	475	466	512	559	604	673	709	713
Italy	8,930	9,934	10,916	12,206	13,256	14,038	14,485	14,922
Croatia	4,197	4,345	4,626	4,677	4,753	4,746	4,686	4,653
Latvia	824	917	922	890	889	872	827	795
Lithuania	1,177	1,182	1,177	1,186	1,178	1,131	1,081	1,084
Luxembourg	3,197	3,364	3,627	3,838	4,124	4,390	4,670	4,852
Malta	24	23	33	36	37	39	31	40
Netherlands	1,723	1,905	2,111	2,405	2,680	2,840	2,892	2,889
Austria	9,695	10,509	11,235	11,832	12,180	12,652	13,194	13,618
Poland	9,852	9,532	9,142	9,104	8,947	8,260	7,773	7,501
Portugal	1,695	1,852	2,118	2,272	2,443	2,588	2,689	2,785
Romania	3,452	3,544	3,461	3,442	3,468	3,401	3,374	3,426
Sweden	704	736	801	880	926	867	793	771
Slovakia	1,109	1,155	1,172	1,239	1,200	1,088	1,037	949
Slovenia	490	485	577	615	647	639	653	637
Spain	6,165	6,841	7,058	6,959	7,208	7,516	7,469	7,647
Czech Republic	1,769	1,781	1,791	1,859	1,787	1,676	1,630	1,610
Hungary	2,068	2,147	2,323	2,366	2,468	2,436	2,524	2,522
Cyprus	271	320	427	540	639	746	826	827
Non-EU countries³	69,535	73,285	72,748	75,877	78,812	81,581	82,311	82,738
Bosnia Herzegovina	3,035	3,123	3,164	3,265	3,278	3,351	3,331	3,243
Iceland	119	116	136	137	128	127	126	137
Montenegro	215	252	313	339	386	422	424	433
North Macedonia	757	816	914	992	1,071	1,166	1,174	1,230
Norway	415	428	437	452	495	497	512	551
Russian Federation ⁴	13,630	14,199	14,525	14,964	14,909	14,939	14,322	13,968
Switzerland	2,745	2,882	3,028	3,125	3,345	3,463	3,601	3,717
Turkey	28,501	30,645	33,004	34,736	36,530	38,309	39,338	39,634
Ukraine	8,929	9,044	9,212	9,379	9,613	9,638	9,388	9,171
United Kingdom	2,214	2,500	2,678	2,755	2,926	3,082	3,096	2,965
Other countries in Europe	6,992	7,435	8,015	8,488	9,057	9,669	10,095	10,654

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Foreign students in Germany, by types of higher education institution and countries of origin

Country	Number							
	Total institutions							
	Winter semester							
	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019
Africa	21,469	22,143	23,290	25,141	27,312	29,999	32,496	35,463
Egypt	1,473	1,778	2,057	2,384	2,788	3,328	3,923	4,822
Ethiopia	490	526	516	488	498	511	561	558
Algeria	219	230	246	265	295	292	319	351
Ghana	511	582	653	756	875	987	1,247	1,456
Cameroon	5,783	6,016	6,408	6,893	7,336	7,676	7,535	7,406
Morocco	5,461	5,169	5,165	5,314	5,447	5,674	5,894	6,133
Nigeria	645	758	942	1,188	1,454	1,667	1,970	2,747
Tunisia	2,552	2,576	2,732	3,101	3,677	4,648	5,595	6,185
Other countries in Africa	4,335	4,508	4,571	4,752	4,942	5,216	5,452	5,805
America	16,553	17,886	19,538	21,712	23,342	23,627	25,004	25,984
Argentina	409	416	470	483	551	590	663	720
Bolivia	245	285	301	289	309	304	321	358
Brazil	2,727	3,310	3,884	4,708	4,811	3,501	3,954	4,203
Chile	814	875	888	933	941	1,043	1,072	1,097
Canada	757	805	904	1,039	1,100	1,196	1,220	1,229
Colombia	1,871	2,065	2,346	2,599	2,898	3,100	3,280	3,498
Mexico	2,059	2,245	2,425	2,714	2,886	3,050	3,147	3,287
Peru	1,055	1,068	1,112	1,105	1,174	1,230	1,309	1,378
Venezuela	439	463	505	555	595	642	686	711
United States	4,598	4,654	4,855	5,316	5,837	6,521	6,851	6,829
Other countries in America	1,579	1,700	1,848	1,971	2,240	2,450	2,501	2,674
Asia	77,233	84,097	92,548	100,926	109,811	120,506	131,447	147,026
Afghanistan	1,151	1,118	1,135	1,215	1,256	1,377	1,361	1,503
China	25,521	27,364	30,511	32,460	34,643	37,603	39,541	42,676
India	5,998	7,532	9,619	11,860	13,740	15,529	17,570	20,810
Indonesia	2,646	3,046	3,399	3,811	4,384	4,905	5,194	5,436
Iraq	837	915	973	1,105	1,114	1,177	1,143	1,204
Iran	5,361	6,117	6,607	7,033	7,513	8,213	8,525	9,523
Israel	1,643	1,689	1,711	1,689	1,679	1,723	1,731	1,711
Japan	2,138	2,213	2,317	2,255	2,281	2,322	2,285	2,299
Jordan	933	999	1,080	1,139	1,263	1,447	1,767	1,765
Lebanon	1,221	1,176	1,163	1,176	1,202	1,266	1,249	1,307
Pakistan	2,141	2,523	3,143	3,655	4,167	4,749	5,258	6,093
South Korea	5,222	5,287	5,518	5,792	6,087	6,527	6,835	7,066
Syria	2,459	2,575	2,646	2,889	3,803	5,469	9,035	13,652
Taiwan	1,409	1,509	919	1,488	1,755	2,013	2,390	2,782
Thailand	978	932	930	937	974	1,057	1,155	1,154
Vietnam	4,671	5,155	5,597	5,794	6,356	6,581	7,060	7,510
Other countries in Asia	12,904	13,947	15,280	16,628	17,594	18,548	19,348	20,535
Australia/Oceania	645	666	715	814	908	1,020	965	990
Australia	516	525	578	666	755	849	793	820
New Zealand	101	117	118	125	132	155	153	149
Other countries in Oceania	28	24	19	23	21	16	19	21
Total countries ⁵	265,292	282,201	301,350	321,569	340,305	358,895	374,583	394,665

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Foreign students in Germany, by types of higher education institution and countries of origin

Country	Number							
	Total institutions						University ¹	University of applied sciences ²
	Winter semester							
	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025		
Europe	183,293	179,598	186,221	186,855	186,742	188,099	123,040	65,059
EU countries ³	101,056	96,459	102,898	102,456	102,192	102,991	66,363	36,628
Belgium	1,771	1,756	1,944	1,826	1,804	1,860	1,177	683
Bulgaria	6,568	6,384	6,260	6,054	5,879	5,741	4,173	1,568
Denmark	646	660	689	651	624	566	430	136
Estonia	445	401	397	395	420	431	307	124
Finland	829	683	751	780	801	728	469	259
France	8,104	7,798	8,350	8,325	8,090	7,928	5,931	1,997
Greece	7,430	7,211	7,054	6,886	6,509	6,281	4,546	1,735
Ireland	741	600	898	865	829	885	669	216
Italy	14,975	14,067	15,154	15,232	14,869	14,733	10,605	4,128
Croatia	4,620	4,624	4,630	4,503	4,402	4,342	2,117	2,225
Latvia	753	724	784	790	808	846	503	343
Lithuania	1,065	1,074	1,072	1,048	1,062	1,083	717	366
Luxembourg	5,022	5,212	5,367	5,275	5,376	5,522	3,465	2,057
Malta	38	37	44	43	43	44	29	15
Netherlands	2,852	2,611	2,861	2,767	2,739	2,755	1,860	895
Austria	14,190	15,774	16,809	16,903	17,474	17,782	7,987	9,795
Poland	7,211	7,010	7,274	7,297	7,498	7,634	4,929	2,705
Portugal	2,793	2,720	2,936	2,934	2,852	2,867	1,863	1,004
Romania	3,545	3,635	4,057	4,217	4,533	4,927	3,171	1,756
Sweden	706	591	754	751	727	769	564	205
Slovakia	899	885	948	924	976	1,009	714	295
Slovenia	626	528	573	569	585	581	404	177
Spain	7,573	6,699	8,297	8,367	8,154	8,391	5,887	2,504
Czech Republic	1,495	1,424	1,470	1,503	1,578	1,646	1,199	447
Hungary	2,643	2,618	2,851	2,908	2,986	3,139	2,188	951
Cyprus	804	733	674	643	574	501	459	42
Non-EU countries ³	82,237	83,139	83,323	84,399	84,550	85,108	56,677	28,431
Bosnia Herzegovina	3,180	3,130	3,043	2,948	2,839	2,771	1,374	1,397
Iceland	133	131	130	139	119	99	56	43
Montenegro	440	419	441	426	402	392	231	161
North Macedonia	1,214	1,178	1,182	1,171	1,110	1,067	631	436
Norway	540	458	584	571	506	483	363	120
Russian Federation ⁴	14,073	14,301	14,549	14,282	14,401	14,503	10,381	4,122
Switzerland	3,763	3,879	4,015	4,110	3,993	4,071	2,077	1,994
Turkey	38,902	37,030	36,575	35,495	35,559	35,737	23,972	11,765
Ukraine	8,933	8,687	8,450	11,200	11,961	12,716	9,256	3,460
United Kingdom	2,712	2,492	2,573	2,412	2,190	2,074	1,657	417
Other countries in Europe	11,059	11,434	11,781	11,645	11,470	11,195	6,679	4,516

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Foreign students in Germany, by types of higher education institution and countries of origin

Country	Number							
	Total institutions						University ¹	University of applied sciences ²
	Winter semester							
	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025		
Africa	38,955	42,085	44,847	45,623	46,612	49,328	24,911	24,417
Egypt	5,639	6,263	7,480	8,083	8,395	9,097	6,263	2,834
Ethiopia	565	510	530	563	674	717	449	268
Algeria	411	472	572	628	686	759	417	342
Ghana	1,567	1,814	2,157	2,371	2,771	3,208	1,798	1,410
Cameroon	7,844	8,159	7,887	7,537	6,982	7,023	2,301	4,722
Morocco	6,393	6,712	7,037	7,478	7,788	8,261	3,148	5,113
Nigeria	3,766	4,606	4,468	4,281	4,002	3,735	2,019	1,716
Tunisia	6,599	6,848	6,806	6,761	6,952	7,428	4,013	3,415
Other countries in Africa	6,171	6,701	7,910	7,921	8,362	9,100	4,503	4,597
America	26,548	24,700	27,100	28,127	27,550	27,249	19,698	7,551
Argentina	699	600	684	786	735	701	462	239
Bolivia	382	411	435	456	433	409	275	134
Brazil	4,382	4,064	4,274	4,361	4,255	4,047	3,005	1,042
Chile	1,152	1,180	1,284	1,298	1,252	1,313	1,050	263
Canada	1,195	1,018	1,117	1,197	1,157	1,152	933	219
Colombia	3,709	3,848	3,900	3,887	3,732	3,714	2,719	995
Mexico	3,284	2,997	3,393	3,729	3,806	3,834	2,449	1,385
Peru	1,436	1,504	1,668	1,773	1,802	1,858	1,327	531
Venezuela	661	653	653	661	645	620	377	243
United States	6,821	5,486	6,462	6,456	6,152	6,095	4,932	1,163
Other countries in America	2,827	2,939	3,230	3,523	3,581	3,506	2,169	1,337
Asia	160,829	168,353	180,579	195,386	206,207	225,030	148,323	76,707
Afghanistan	1,693	1,943	2,258	2,822	3,364	3,804	1,866	1,938
China	44,490	43,525	43,629	42,541	42,190	42,695	38,319	4,376
India	25,149	28,905	34,134	42,997	49,483	59,419	33,218	26,201
Indonesia	5,471	5,725	5,903	5,836	5,730	5,591	3,186	2,405
Iraq	1,370	1,537	1,780	2,141	2,372	2,646	1,341	1,305
Iran	10,368	11,573	12,667	14,372	16,307	18,514	12,946	5,568
Israel	1,656	1,547	1,598	1,583	1,674	1,917	1,501	416
Japan	2,358	1,722	1,923	2,276	2,323	2,473	2,151	322
Jordan	1,851	1,887	2,310	2,478	2,424	2,415	1,167	1,248
Lebanon	1,373	1,558	1,733	1,919	2,009	2,025	1,249	776
Pakistan	6,316	6,784	7,513	8,642	10,332	13,140	8,636	4,504
South Korea	7,444	6,466	6,684	7,597	7,721	7,815	6,787	1,028
Syria	17,181	19,366	20,759	21,393	20,710	19,809	10,084	9,725
Taiwan	3,155	2,862	2,790	2,868	2,932	2,980	2,447	533
Thailand	1,137	1,100	1,131	1,174	1,139	1,107	658	449
Vietnam	7,602	7,566	7,582	7,368	7,069	7,272	3,978	3,294
Other countries in Asia	22,215	24,287	26,185	27,379	28,428	31,408	18,789	12,619
Australia/Oceania	991	711	741	820	870	949	701	248
Australia	827	571	580	647	710	766	564	202
New Zealand	144	121	139	149	144	164	130	34
Other countries in Oceania	20	19	22	24	16	19	7	12
Total countries ⁵	411,601	416,437	440,564	458,210	469,485	492,087	317,380	174,707

Foreign students in Germany, by types of higher education institution and countries of origin

- 1 Including colleges of education, colleges of theology, colleges of art and music and comprehensive universities.
- 2 Including college of public administration.
- 3 The categories EU countries and Non-EU countries reflect the status of EU membership of the European countries in the respective reference semester (e.g. as of winter semester 2020/2021 EU countries does not include United Kingdom).
- 4 Until 1991, Soviet Union.
- 5 Including the categories "Stateless persons" and "Not stated".

Last update: August 20, 2025

Source: Federal Statistical Office (Statistischer Bericht Studierendenstatistik, Fachserie 11 Reihe 4.1)

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<https://www.govdata.de/dl-de/by-2-0>