

International student enrolments in United States institutions, 2010-11

Australian universities are widely recognised as having the largest proportion of international students in tertiary enrolments. The OECD's *Education at a Glance 2011* includes a table showing that 21.4% of Australia's tertiary enrolments are international, more than three times the OECD average of 6.4%, and six times the proportion of United States tertiary enrolments (3.5%)¹. While the United States has the most international students of any country, these international students are distributed across a large number of institutions, and the total numbers of international students in individual institutions are relatively small – eight Australian universities have more international students than the leading United States host institution.

Although the United States has a large number of institutions, international students tend to be concentrated in a small number of highly ranked institutions, as the table below shows. This table, compiled using data from the Institute of International Education² and the National Centre for Education Statistics³, shows the relative proportions of international students in the 25 institutions hosting the largest numbers of international students (these 25 institutions hosted 20% of all international enrolments in 2010-11).

Institution	State	Total International Students	Total Enrolment	Proportion of International students	ARWU 2010 ranking
University of Southern California	CA	8,615	36,896	23.3%	46
University of Illinois - Urbana-Champaign	IL	7,991	43,862	18.2%	25
New York University	NY	7,988	43,797	18.2%	29
Purdue University - Main Campus	IN	7,562	41,063	18.4%	61
Columbia University	NY	7,297	25,208	28.9%	8
University of California - Los Angeles	CA	6,249	38,157	16.4%	12
Ohio State University - Main Campus	OH	6,082	56,064	10.8%	63
University of Michigan - Ann Arbor	MI	5,995	41,924	14.3%	22
Michigan State University	MI	5,748	46,985	12.2%	92
Harvard University	MA	5,594	27,594	20.3%	1
Indiana University - Bloomington	IN	5,471	42,464	12.9%	82
Boston University	MA	5,464	32,727	16.7%	76
University of Florida	FL	5,393	49,827	10.8%	72
University of Texas - Austin	TX	5,323	51,195	10.4%	35
Penn State University - University Park	PA	5,207	45,233	11.5%	45
Northeastern University	MA	5,187	29,519	17.6%	301-400
SUNY University at Buffalo	NY	5,185	29,117	17.8%	201-300
University of Minnesota - Twin Cities	MN	5,124	51,721	9.9%	28
Georgia Institute of Technology	GA	4,943	20,720	23.9%	102-150
Arizona State University	AZ	4,934	70,440	7.0%	78
Texas A&M University	TX	4,874	49,129	9.9%	100
University of Pennsylvania	PA	4,752	25,474	18.7%	14
University of Wisconsin - Madison	WI	4,647	42,180	11.0%	19
University of Houston	TX	4,377	38,752	11.3%	201-300
Cornell University	NY	4,357	20,939	20.8%	13

Twenty four of the universities in this list were among the 25 largest hosts of international students in 2009-10. These 24 universities increased their international student enrolments by an average 9% in 2010-11, although the whole US sector grew by 5% in 2010-11.

For comparative purposes, the table also includes the 2011 Academic Rankings of World Universities (ARWU) for each institution⁴. As the table shows, several of the largest hosts of international students have proportions exceeding the average for Australian universities, and all are placed with the top 400 universities in the ARWU rankings with 21 ranked in the top 100).

¹ OECD *Education at a Glance 2011*, table C3.1.

² Institute of International Education. (2011). "Top 25 Institutions Hosting International Students, 2010/11." *Open Doors Report on International Educational Exchange*. Retrieved from <http://www.iie.org/opendoors>

³ Data on enrolments was retrieved from the National Centre for Education Statistics (<http://nces.ed.gov/datatools/>)

⁴ The ARWU rankings are compiled each year by the Shanghai Jiaotong University. ARWU 2011 rankings retrieved from <http://www.shanghairanking.com/ARWU2011.html>