



## CAMPUS FRANCE KEY FIGURES 2017

### *Students' international mobility*

*Background, trends, stakes and  
perspectives*

*Place of France in the world*

*Press release - 04/12/2018*

Read the [Campus France Key Figures 2018](#)

In the global competition, France is the **4th most popular country for students in international mobility** (after the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia, and before Germany) and **1st non-English speaking host country**.

**France welcomed 325,000** foreign students in 2016 (including 52.4% women), **an increase by 12.2% over 5 years**.

**Europe** establishes its first rank as host continent for international students, including from Africa, despite other regions in the world deploying often aggressive strategies to attract them.

The ranking of host countries and countries of origin changes, and top countries are now challenged by other highly-dynamic countries such as the Netherlands, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, China and Russia.

Higher education market: new players, new deal.

Higher education is both a market and a strategic stake for influence in which new players are emerging.

**Russia**, with a 50% increase over 5 years, is now a top host country ranked just behind Germany and France. **China**, thanks to its "Chinese Dream" policy, registers a 75% increase over 5 years for incoming mobility, and is now ranked 8th host country. **Saudi Arabia** now has an Islamic scholarship program and went to 30th to 13th (a 170% increase). Two other countries are worth mentioning. **The Netherlands** tripled their number of students welcomed in 5 years thanks to the implementation of over 2,000 trainings in English and went from rank 27 to 11. **Turkey** registered a sharp rise in incoming mobility (+179% over 5 years) thanks to an ambitious attraction policy.

*First non-English speaking country - A new dynamic for France*

Following the decision of the French president, **France** intends to improve its cooperation agreements and **attract more international students and researchers**, and host them in better conditions as well. To this regard, the confirmation of the extension of mobility scholarships is excellent news.

A France open to the world welcomes students from all continents: 45% of foreign students come from Africa, 19% from the European Union, 16% from Asia-Oceania, 9% from America and 4% from the Middle East. The excellence and the reputation of the French higher education system are the two main assets put forward to attract international students.

With countries increasing their investments and deploying **aggressive attraction policies**, including through scholarship programs, but also **leading countries now challenged** (President Trump's **United States**, the **United Kingdom** in the Brexit turmoil, **Australia** facing a sluggish growth of Chinese outward mobility), **France** may be able to take advantage of the changes to establish its popularity on the global mobility market thanks to its strategy and important assets.

The **Key Figures** of international mobility published by Campus France details the data of student mobility by host country and country of origin, by world region, and analyses the trends of this mobility for the years to come.

#### Campus France

- 220 people in France and 500 people worldwide at the service of higher education and research;
- 256 Offices et Branches in 123 countries;
- 352 French higher education institutions member of the Campus France Forum;
- 50 promotional events gathering 650,000 visitors worldwide;
- 30,000 mobility applications managed
- 80 webpages in 32 languages, over 18 million visits;
- 1.5 million people follow Campus France on the social medias (all networks included) and over 170,000 active Alumni on the France Alumni network.

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