

Open Doors[®] International Scholars Findings 2019/20

Presented by:
Mirka Martel
Head of Research, Evaluation & Learning
Institute of International Education

February 11, 2021
opendoorsdata.org



iie Network

IIE's Premier Global Membership Network of over 1,450 Institutions

- Centralized way to connect to IIE and have access to our numerous programs, resources and events.
- Institutional paid membership, runs on academic year calendar. Up to 8 designees can access all membership benefits.
- Benefits include:
 - ✓ Premium access to Open Doors data
 - ✓ Print & online publications
 - ✓ Member communications
 - ✓ Webinars and scholarship opportunities
 - ✓ Exclusive discounts

www.iie.org/IENetwork | Membership@iie.org



Open Doors[®] International Scholars Findings 2019/20

Presented by:
Mirka Martel
Head of Research, Evaluation & Learning
Institute of International Education

February 11, 2021
opendoorsdata.org



Open Doors is produced by the Institute of International Education with the support of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

The graphic features the 'opendoors' logo in a white rounded rectangle centered over a dark teal background. The background is divided into four quadrants by a white cross. The top-left quadrant is dark teal and contains the text 'International Student Census' with a globe icon. The top-right quadrant is dark teal and contains the text 'Study Abroad Survey' with a flag icon. The bottom-left quadrant is red and contains the text 'International Scholar Survey' with an icon of a person at a computer. The bottom-right quadrant is dark teal and contains the text 'Intensive English Program Survey' with an icon of a person and the Chinese character '文'.

International scholars overview



Who is Surveyed?

1,670 accredited
U.S. **higher**
education institutions
that hosted
international
scholars



Who is Counted?

Individuals on
nonimmigrant visas
engaged in temporary
academic activities
and not enrolled as a
student at a higher
education institution



What Timeframe?

Institutions
reported data from
July 1, 2019 –
June 30, 2020

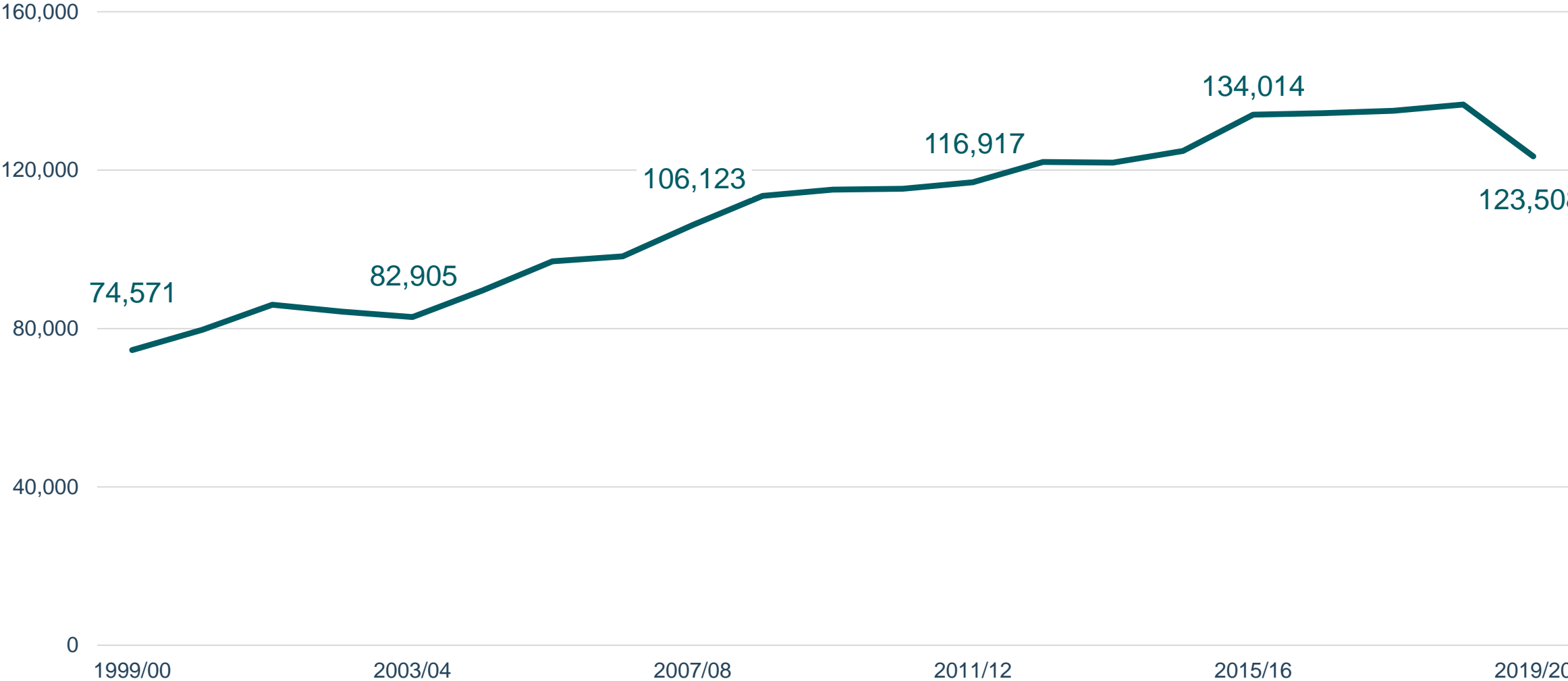


Does reflect
scholars impacted
by COVID-19

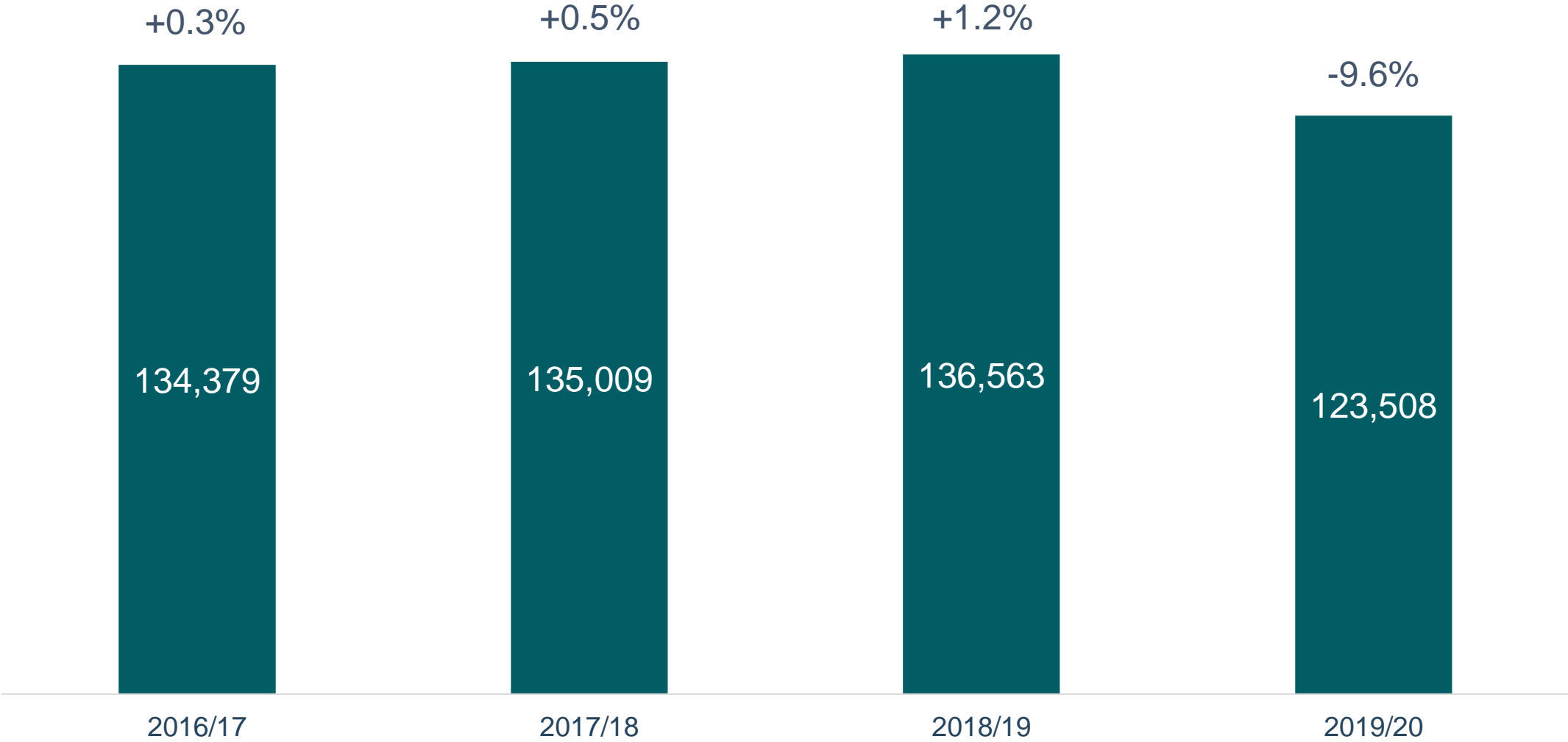


U.S. higher education institutions hosted **123,508** international scholars in 2019/20. The COVID-19 pandemic contributed to a **9.6 percent decrease** from the prior year.

International scholars in the United States



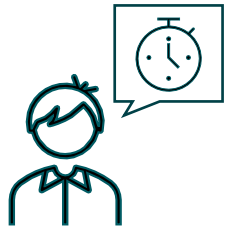
International scholars in the United States



COVID-19 resulted in international scholar cancellations and deferrals

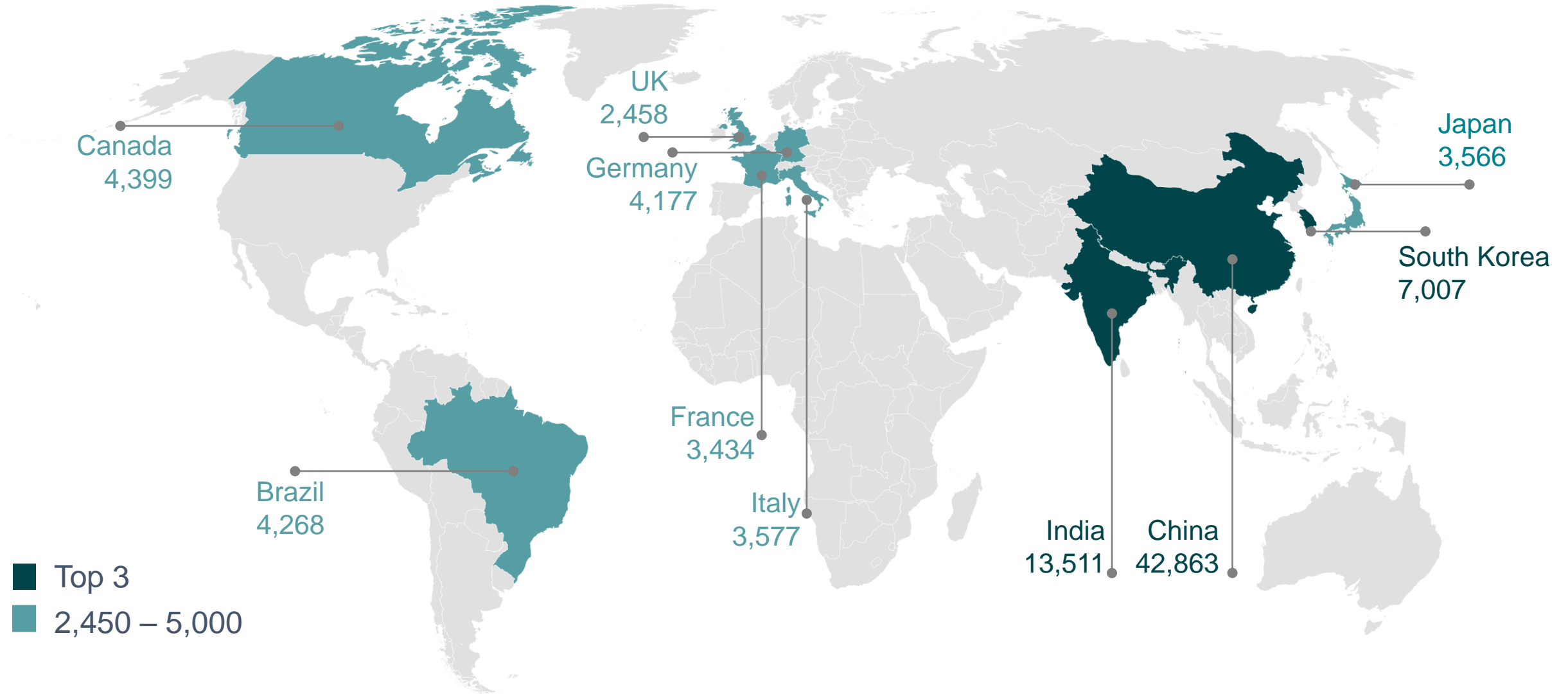


4,592 international scholars had planned to come to the United States but canceled their plans.



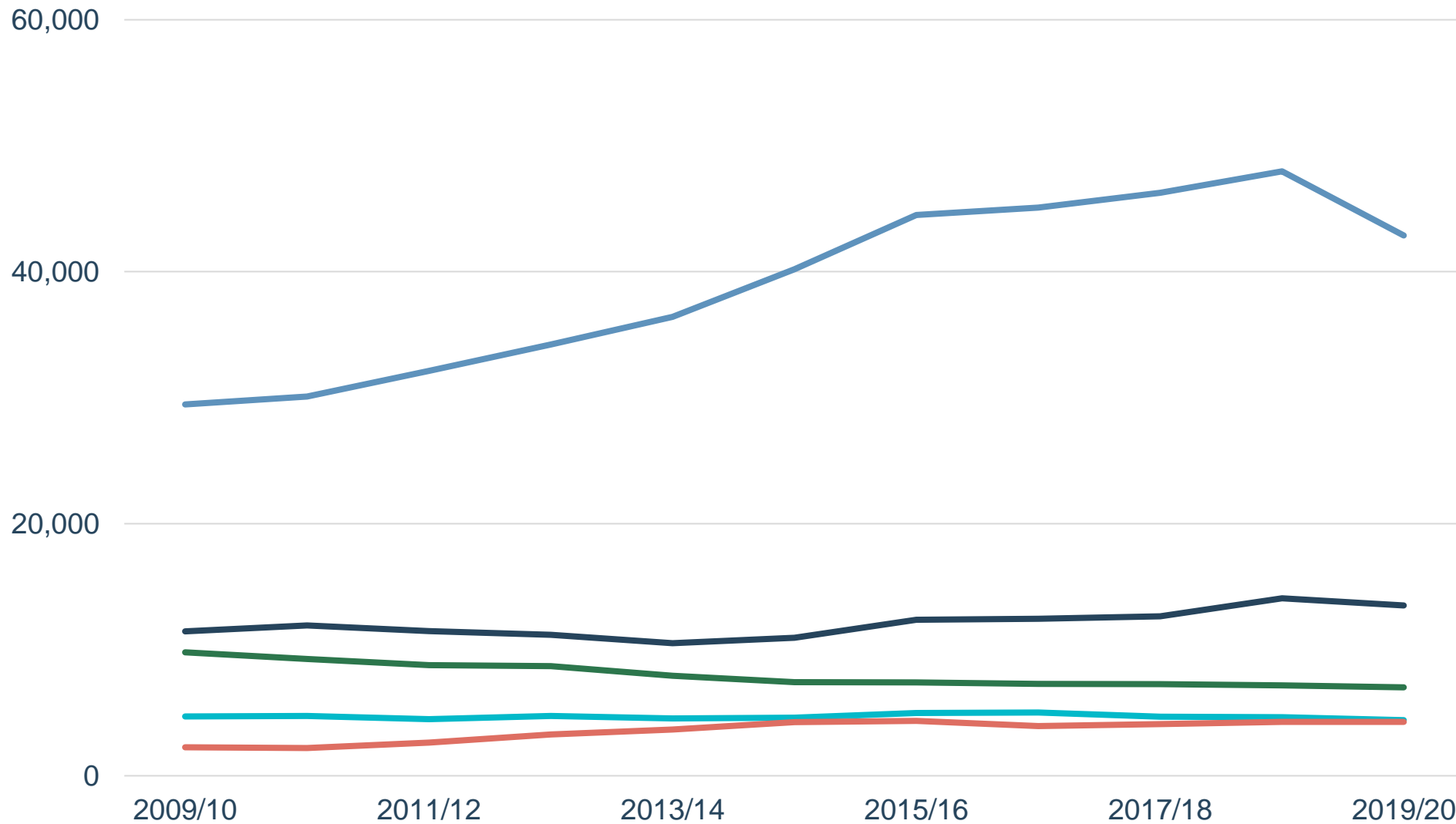
An additional 5,017 international scholars deferred their travel to a future date.

Leading places of origin for international scholars



■ Top 3
■ 2,450 – 5,000

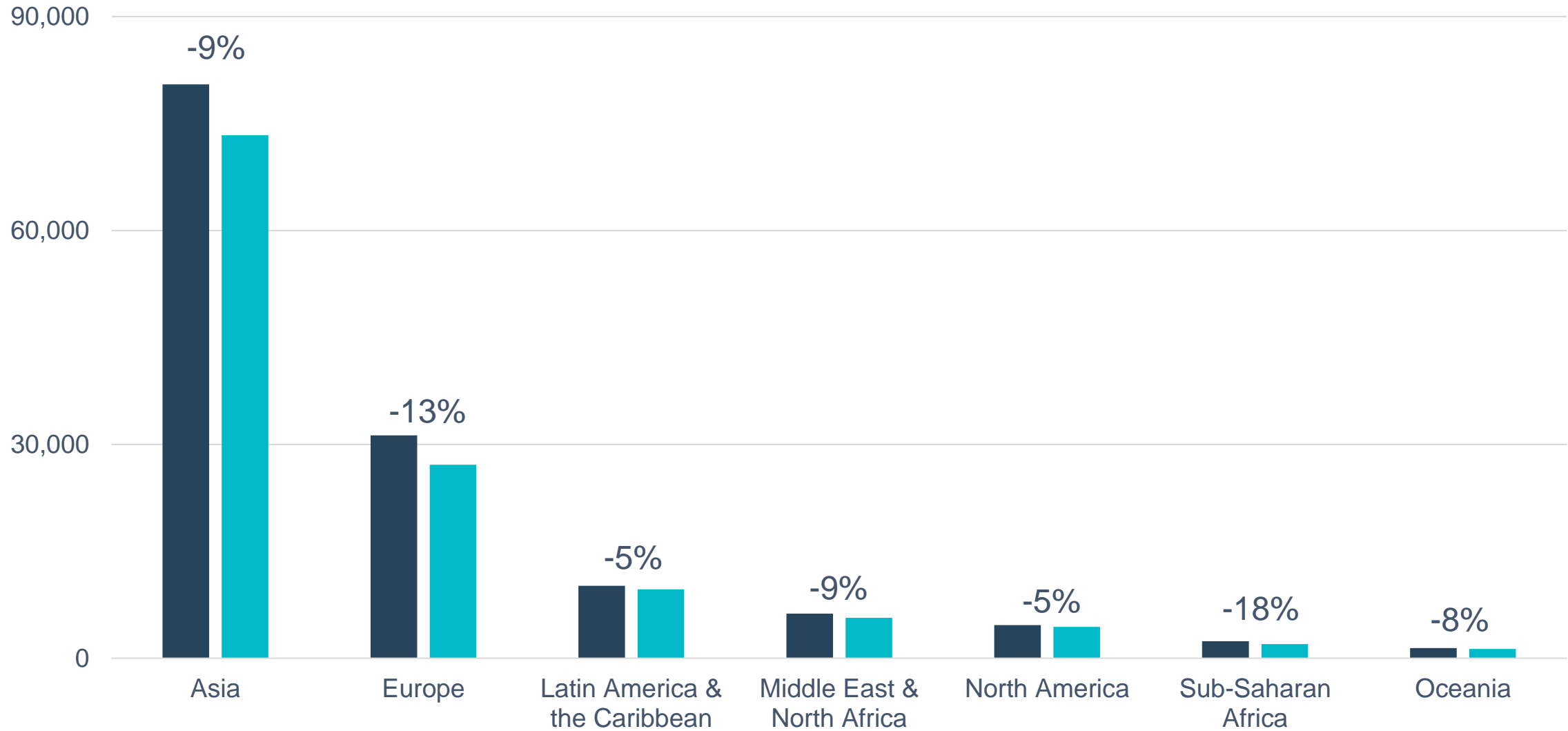
International scholars' leading places of origin trend



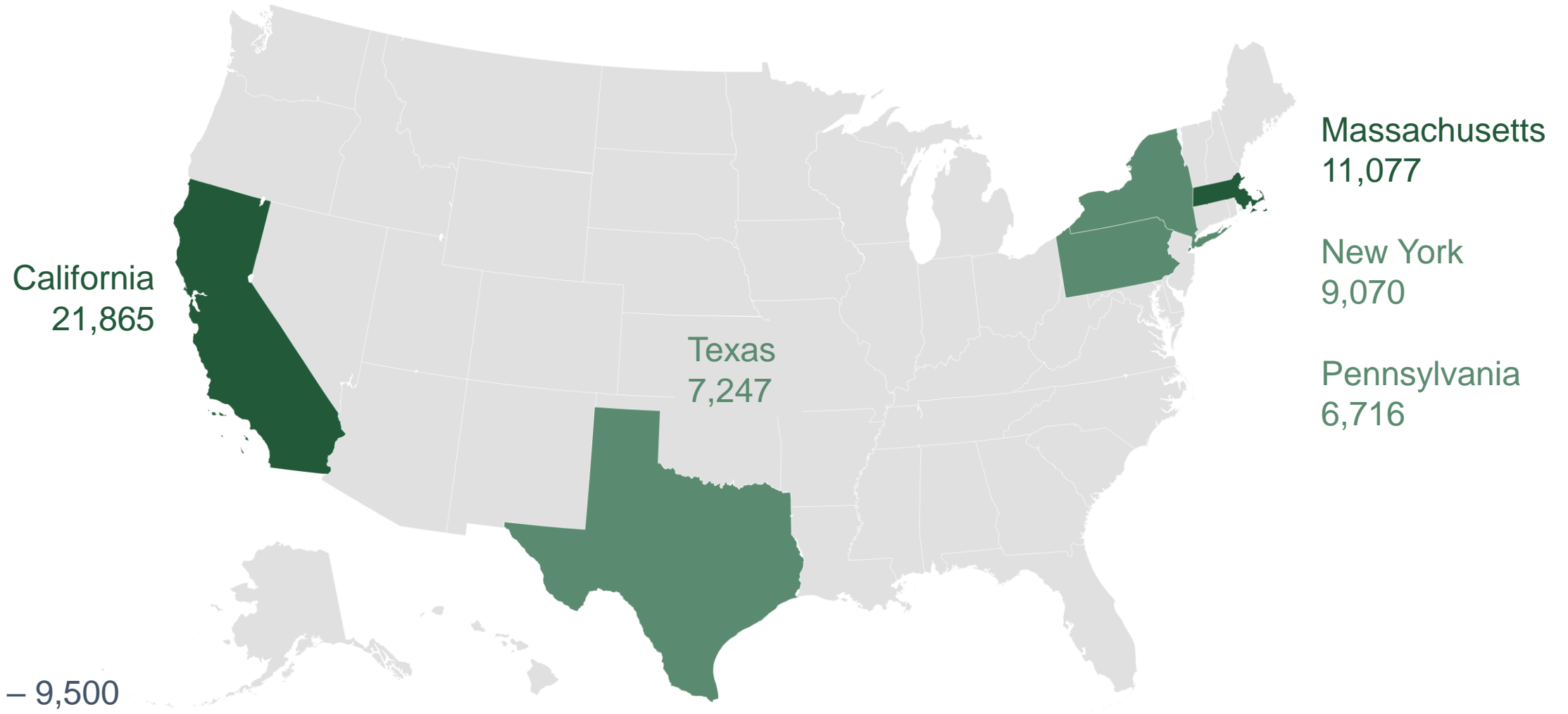
Place of origin	% Change
China	-11%
India	-4%
South Korea	-2%
Canada	-5%
Brazil	-0.2%

Change in international scholars by world region

2018/19
2019/20



International scholars in the United States



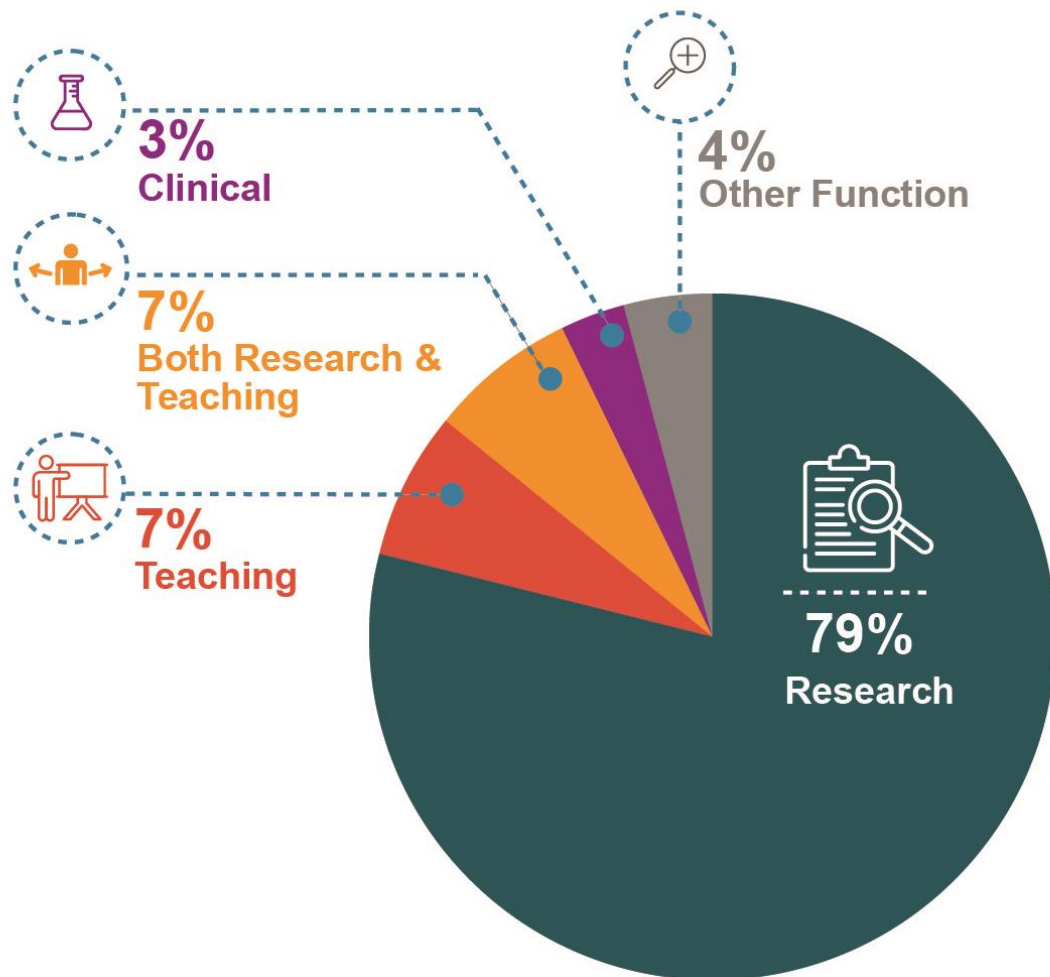
Powered by Bing
© GeoNames, Microsoft, TomTom



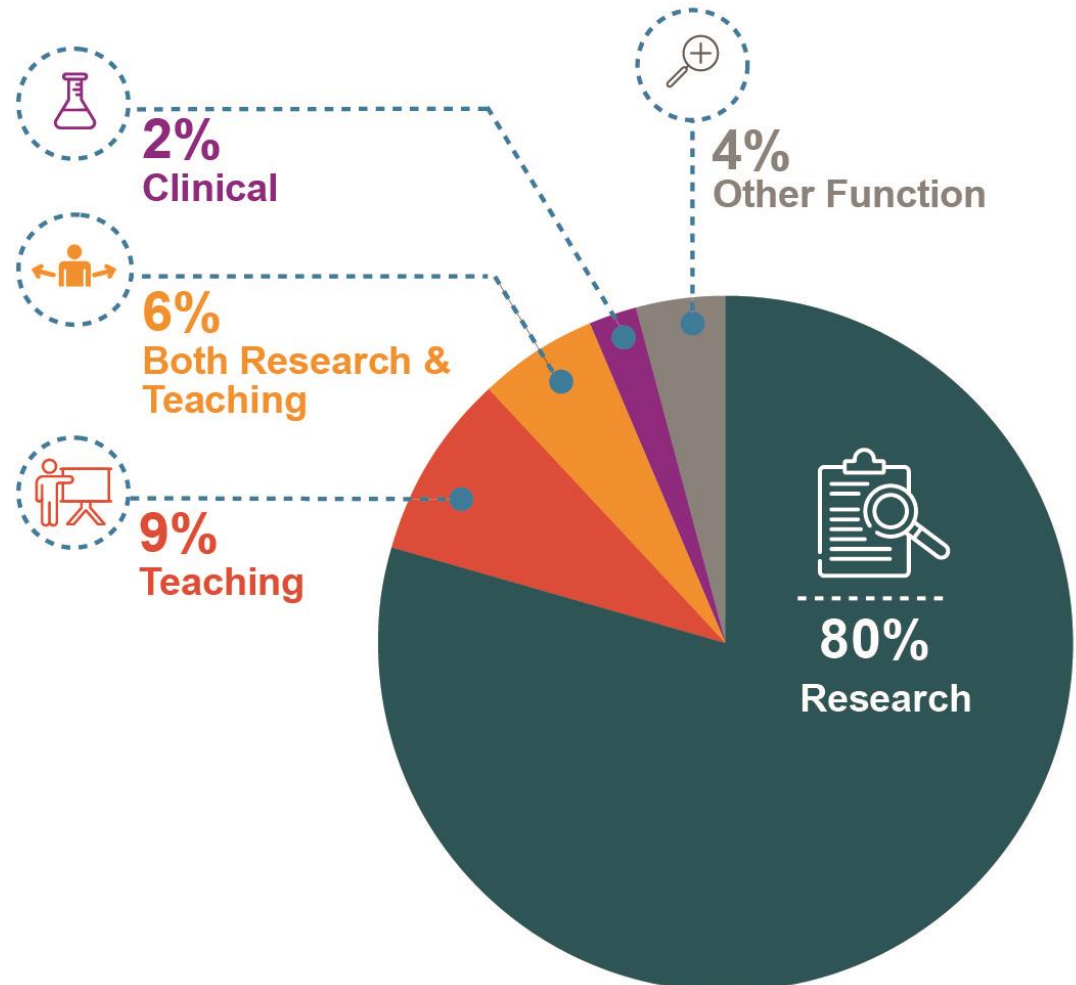
80% of international scholars pursued research

Primary function of international scholars

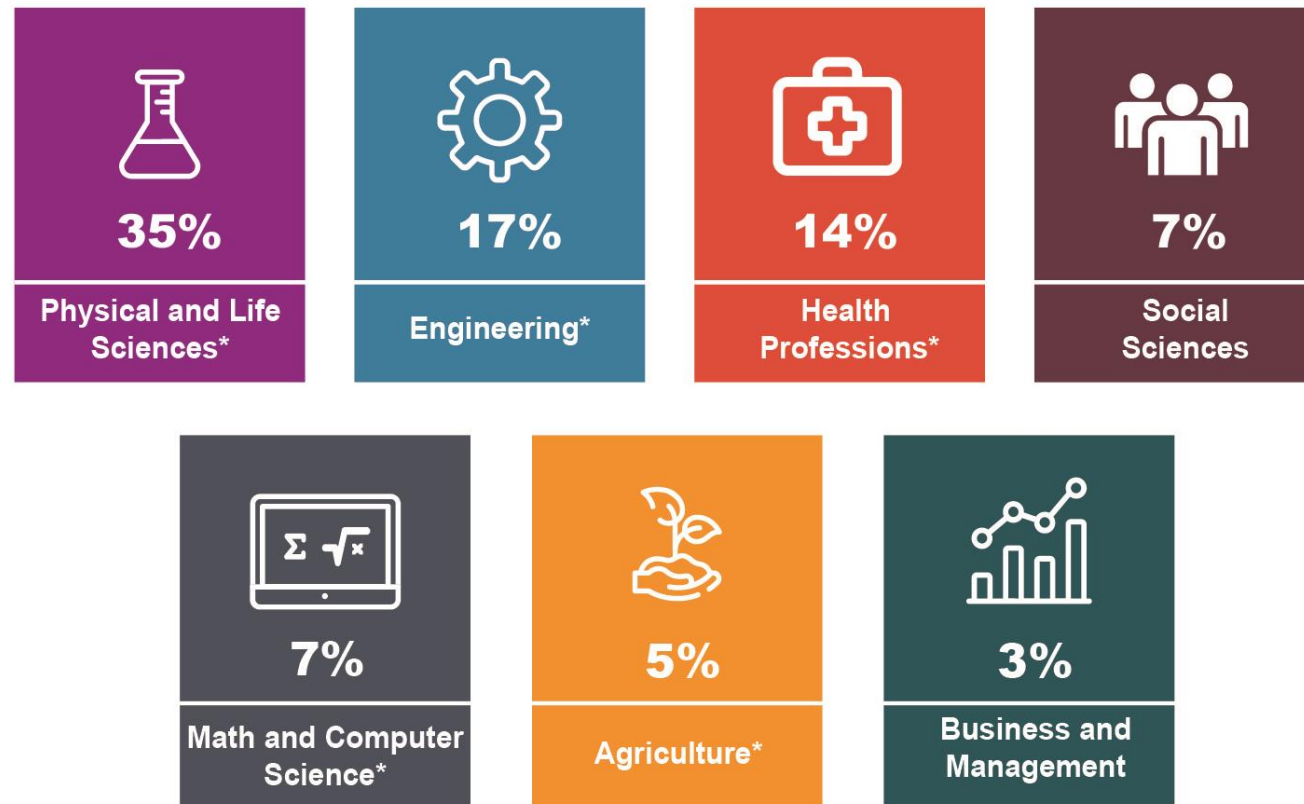
2018/19



2019/20



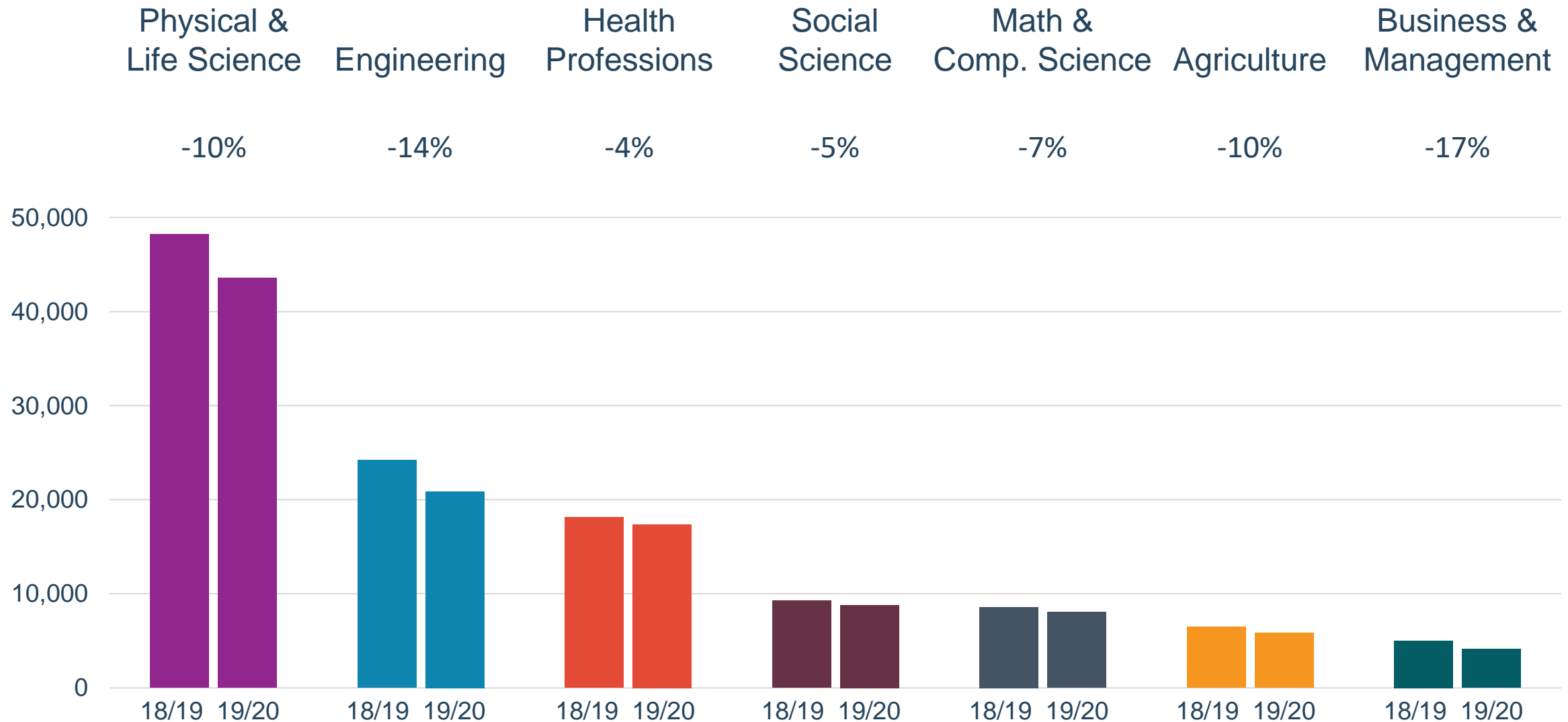
Top fields of specialization of international scholars



76% of international scholars specialized in STEM fields.

*denotes STEM fields of specialization

Top fields of specialization of international scholars





94% of U.S. institutions reported providing various supports to assist international scholars in the U.S. during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Support U.S. institutions provided to international scholars amid COVID-19

Increasing communications on travel restrictions and visa regulations, policies, and procedures

79%

Increasing communications on health, safety, and wellbeing of scholars

78%

Extending the appointments of scholars who could not return home due to travel restrictions

61%

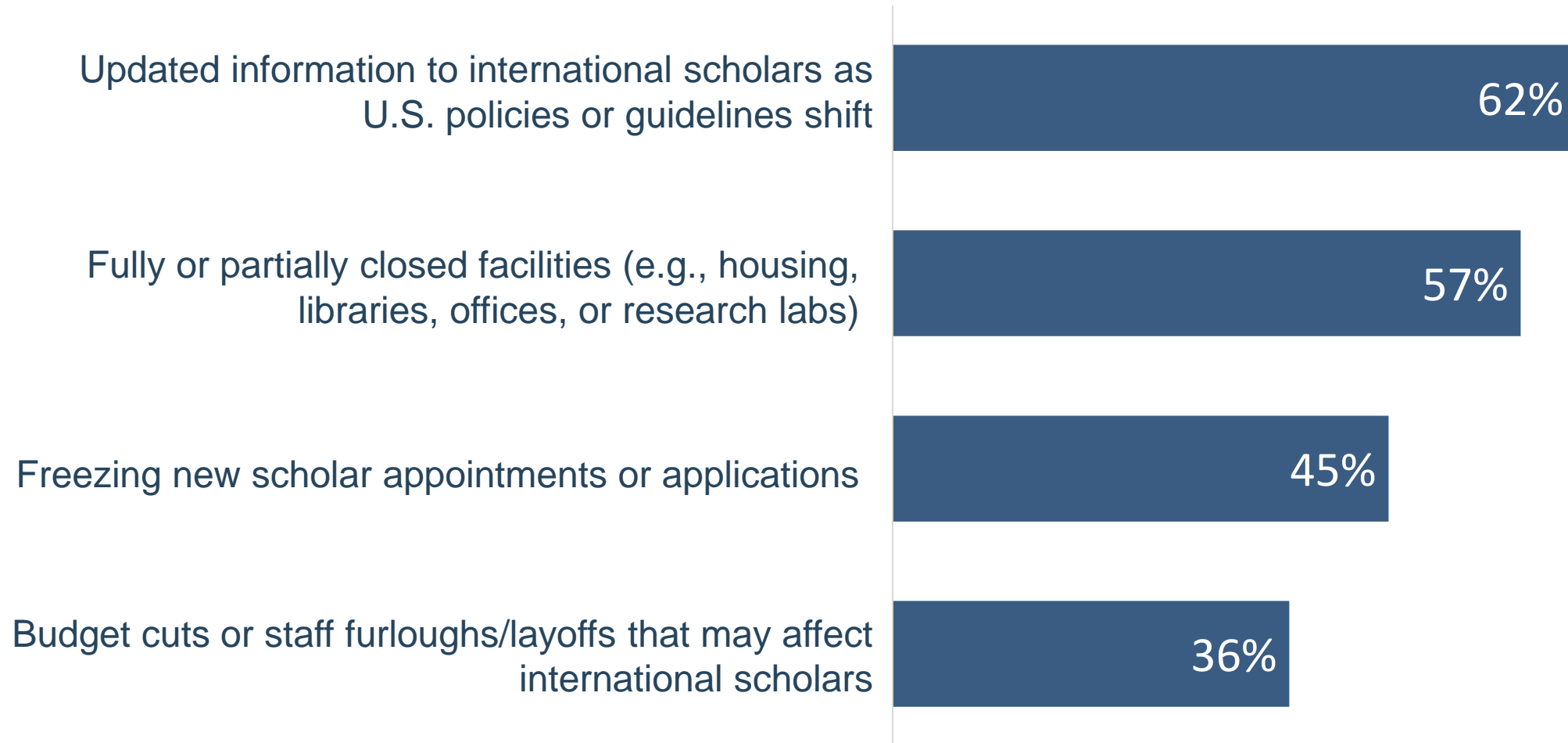
Providing resources on delivering remote instruction for scholars who were teaching

55%



95% of U.S. institutions noted multiple factors that will affect scholars coming to the United States in the future.

Institutional factors that will affect international scholars coming to the United States in the future



Open Doors Website



Explore *Open Doors*
2020 data on our new
website!

opendoorsdata.org

Let's continue the conversation

Follow @ECAatState, @EducationUSA, @IEGlobal, and @IIEResearch on Twitter
Join the conversation by tagging your posts #OpenDoorsReport



Open Doors inquiries:
opendoors@iie.org

Press inquiries:
press@iie.org

Custom data requests:
opendoorsdata.org/services/custom-analyses/