



## Executive Summary

### Background

[The Student and Exchange Visitor Program \(SEVP\)](#) is part of Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) within U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). SEVP manages the [Student and Exchange Visitor Information System \(SEVIS\)](#), the web-based system that DHS uses to maintain and manage information on foreign students and exchange visitors who enter the United States temporarily and solely for the purpose of pursuing a full course of study or participating in a U.S. Department of State-designated program.

SEVP acts as a bridge for organizations and individuals with an interest in information about foreign students in the following categories:

- F-1 STUDENTS – Foreign students whose primary purpose is to complete an academic course of study at a SEVP-certified school or program.
- M-1 STUDENTS – Foreign students whose primary purpose is to complete a vocational course of study at a SEVP-certified school or program.
- J-1 EXCHANGE VISITORS – Foreign students selected to participate in a U.S. Department of State-designated exchange visitor program.

SEVP certifies U.S. schools to enroll F-1 and M-1 foreign students and ensures their compliance with administrative regulations. The U.S. Department of State manages the J-1 Visa Exchange Visitor Program, under which there are a variety of exchange visitor categories. Both SEVP and the Department of State use SEVIS to maintain critical information that allows DHS to protect national security, while supporting the legal entry of foreign students and exchange visitors.



## SEVIS by the Numbers

SEVIS by the Numbers is an annual report that highlights key SEVIS data. The data illustrates trends, values, and information specifically on F and M foreign students studying in the United States and J exchange visitors participating in U.S. Department of State-designated exchange visitor programs. The report includes the following sections:

- FOREIGN STUDENTS– Data on F-1 and M-1 foreign students who come to the United States to study.
- SCHOOLS – Data on SEVP-certified schools that enroll foreign students in the United States.
- STATES AND TERRITORIES – Data about foreign student demographics within individual U.S. states and territories.
- EXCHANGE VISITORS – Data on J-1 exchange visitors who come to the United States to participate in an exchange visitor program designated by the U.S. Department of State.

The report also examines data related to F-1 and M-1 student employment in the United States.

This SEVIS by the Numbers report uses SEVIS data from calendar year 2024 and compares it to data from calendar year 2023. This report can also be compared to calendar year data in the [SEVP Data Library on ICE.gov](#) as well as the [2023 SEVIS by the Numbers report](#).

PLEASE NOTE: A foreign student or exchange visitor is deemed to have an “active” SEVIS record once they enter the United States and engage in their program of study or exchange visitor program. A student may have more than one active SEVIS record in a given calendar year. Accordingly, this report refers to “student records” rather than “students” throughout.

## Trends

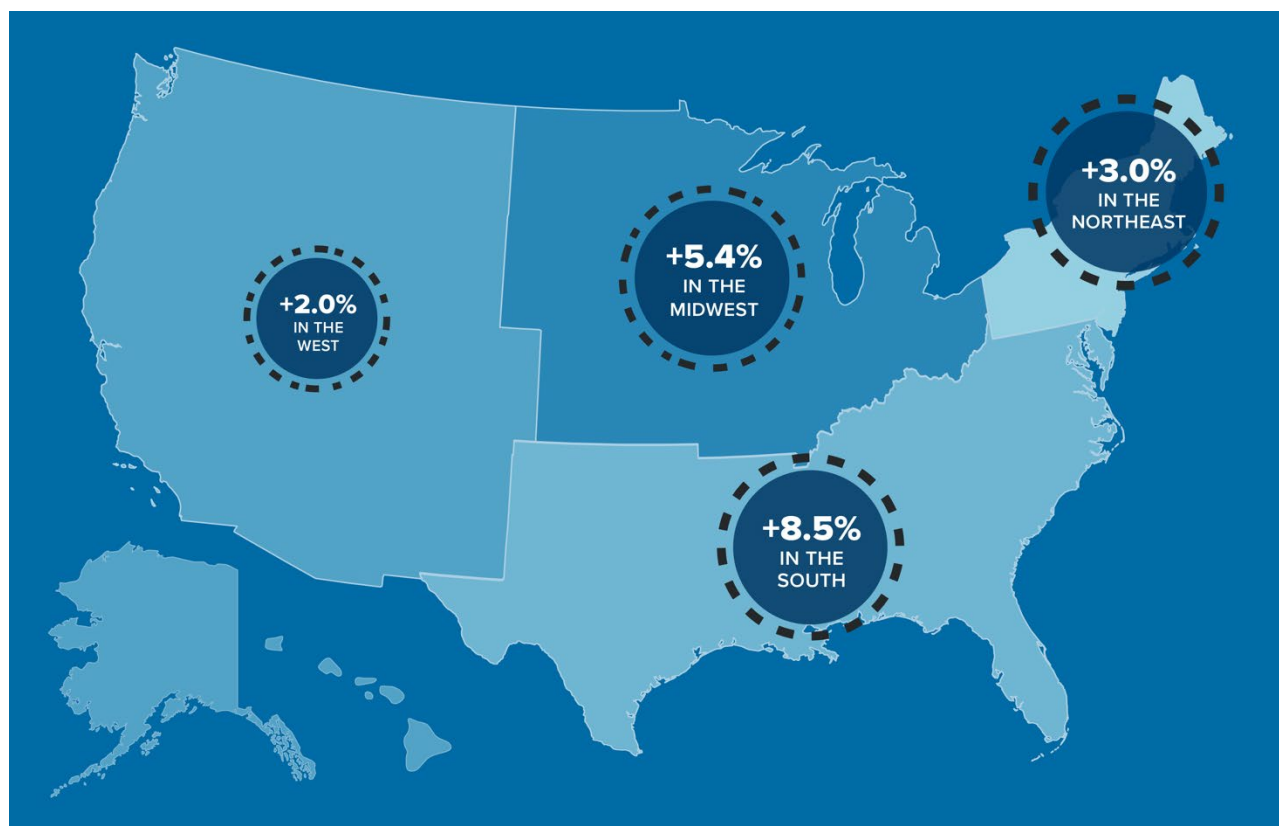
Foreign student enrollment in the United States increased in 2024. The total number of SEVIS records for active F-1 and M-1 students was 1,582,808 in calendar year 2024, an increase of 5.3 percent from calendar year 2023.

- All four regions in the United States (West, Midwest, Northeast, South) saw an increase in foreign student records from 2023 to 2024, with increases ranging from 3.0 to 8.5 percent.
- While the total number of foreign student records increased from 2023 to 2024 (+5.3%), the rate at which it increased was slower than the rate of increase from 2022 to 2023 (+10.4%).
- The number of foreign students from India and China made Asia the most popular continent of origin. Foreign student records from India increased 11.8 percent compared to 2023 (+44,715), while foreign student records from China decreased 0.25 percent compared to 2023 (-824).
- 2024 saw a decrease in the number of SEVP-certified schools eligible to enroll foreign students with 7,234 SEVP-certified schools in 2024 compared to 7,683



schools in 2023.<sup>1</sup>

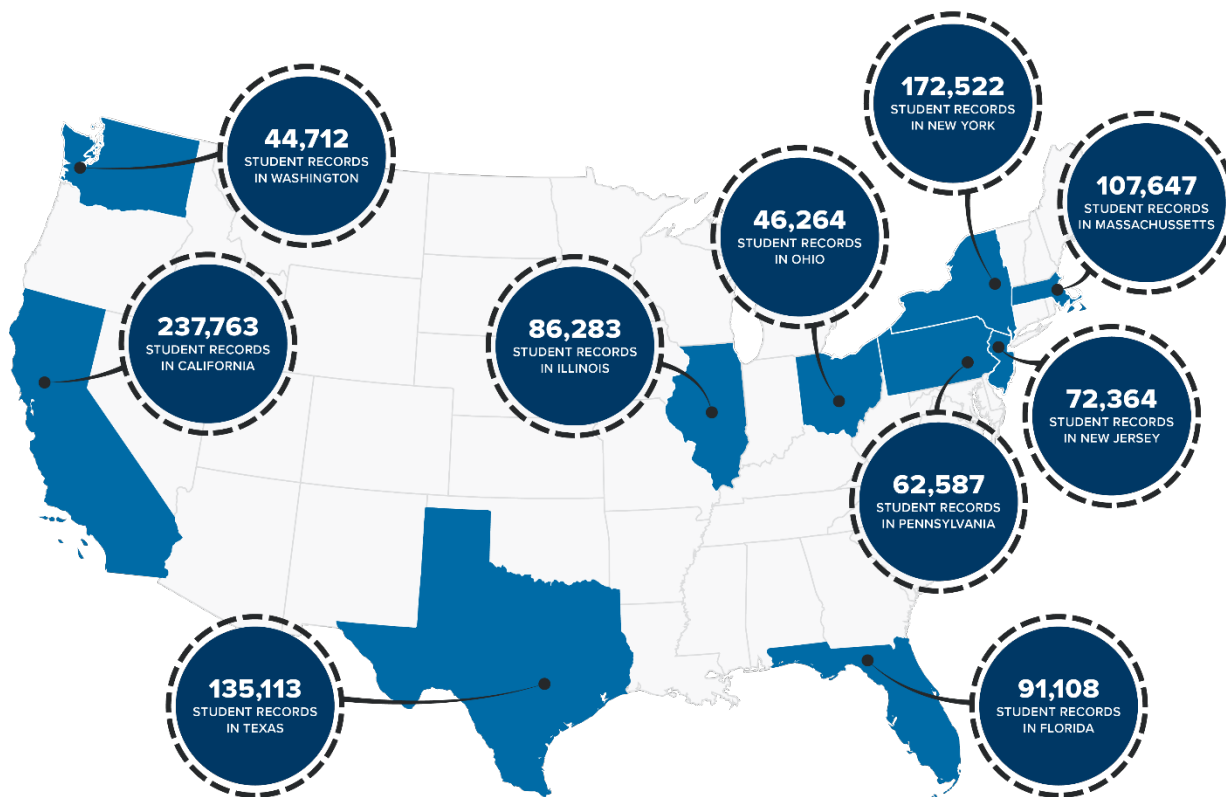
- The number of foreign students enrolled in kindergarten through grade 12 (K-12) schools decreased 0.4 percent from 2023 to 2024 (-202).
- No K-12 school hosted more than 600 F-1 and M-1 students in 2024, similar to 2023.
- There were 194,554 pre- and post-completion optional practical training (OPT) students with both an employment authorization document (EAD) and who reported working for an employer in 2024, compared to 160,627 in 2023. This marks a 21.1 percent increase from 2023 and the fourth year of consecutive growth.
- Most foreign students participating in the post-completion science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) OPT extension were from India (48.0%) or China (20.4%), with 165,524 foreign students participating in STEM OPT in 2024.
- As in 2023, California hosted the largest percentage (14.6%) of foreign student records (237,763) of any U.S. state.



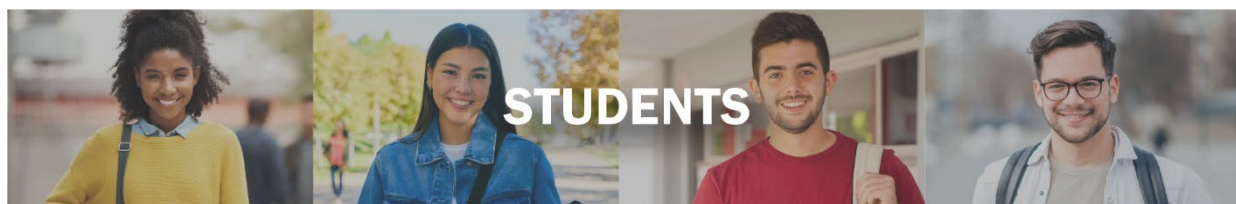
The figure above illustrates the percent changes of foreign student SEVIS records by U.S. region from calendar year 2023 to calendar year 2024. Regions are based on those used by the U.S. Census.

PLEASE NOTE: Continent information within this report was compiled using the United Nations' composition of macrogeographical (continental) regions, geographical subregions, and selected economic and other groupings.

<sup>1</sup> The number of SEVP-certified schools can be impacted by schools whose certification has been withdrawn by SEVP or by schools who chose to merge petitions during the calendar year.



The figure above illustrates the top 10 states for foreign students in calendar year 2024, including the total number of foreign student SEVIS records for these states.



## Overview

The total number of F-1 and M-1 foreign student SEVIS records increased by 79,159 (+5.3%) from calendar year 2023 to calendar year 2024. In calendar year 2024, foreign students in the United States hailed from 229 countries and pursued 1,461 different primary majors.<sup>2</sup> Foreign students engaged in studies across a variety of education levels, from primary schools to flight training schools to higher education.

## Foreign Students in Higher Education

Most foreign students come to the United States to take part in the higher education system. In 2024, roughly 91 percent of all foreign students were enrolled in an SEVP-certified associate, bachelor's, master's, or doctoral program. Specifically, foreign students in the United States pursued 1,434,748 degrees in higher education, which is an increase from calendar year 2023 (+81,904). It is important to note that one student might partake in more than one level of education in a given calendar year, so they may be counted in multiple educational levels.

### Associate Degrees

There were 87,459 F-1 students who sought an associate degree in calendar year 2024, which accounted for nearly 6 percent of higher education degrees pursued by the foreign student population. This represents an 9.8 percent increase from calendar year 2023, in which 79,648 F-1 students sought an associate degree and accounted for 6 percent of degrees sought by the foreign student population.

### Bachelor's and Master's Degrees

There were 1,132,465 F-1 students who sought either a bachelor's (464,843) or master's (667,622) degree in calendar year 2024, which accounted for 79 percent of higher education degrees sought by the foreign student population. These two levels of education were the most popular among foreign students in the United States. The percentage of foreign students pursuing bachelor's degrees increased by 1.5 percent (+6,937) and the percentage of foreign students pursuing master's degrees increased by 9.7 percent (+58,765) from calendar year 2023 to calendar year 2024.

### Doctoral Degrees

There were 214,824 F-1 students who sought a doctoral degree in calendar year 2024, which accounted for 15 percent of higher education degrees sought by the foreign student population.

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<sup>2</sup> A primary major is the foremost major listed on a foreign student's SEVIS record and corresponds to most of their coursework while studying in the United States.



Although the number of doctoral foreign students increased 4.1 percent (+8,391), the 15 percent figure is a slight decrease from 15.3 percent in 2023.

### Foreign Students by Degree Type

Below are the percentage breakdowns by degree type of the total number of foreign student SEVIS records enrolled in the U.S. higher education system in calendar year 2024.

6.1% (87,459) Associate

32.4% (464,843) Bachelor's

46.5% (667,622) Master's

15% (214,824) Doctoral

### Primary Majors

Foreign students can pursue more than one major during their program of study in the United States. A primary major is the foremost major listed on a foreign student's SEVIS record and corresponds to most of their coursework while studying in the United States.

The chart below lists the top 20 most popular higher education majors for foreign students in calendar year 2024.

Primary Major	2024 Active Student Count
Computer Science	118,137
Second Language Learning*	95,747
Business Administration and Management, General	88,257
Computer and Information Sciences, General	82,434
Management Science	40,403
Electrical and Electronics Engineering	36,939
Information Technology	31,215
Management Sciences and Quantitative Methods, Other	30,301
Mechanical Engineering	29,698
Econometrics and Quantitative Economies	29,146
Liberal Arts and Sciences/Liberal Studies	27,837
Information Science/Studies	27,059
General Studies	26,943
Regular/General High School/Secondary Diploma Program	23,663
Biology/Biological Sciences, General	20,951
Business Analytics	20,645
Computer Engineering, General	18,148
Civil Engineering, General	17,883
Chemistry, General	16,454
Engineering, General	15,878

\*"Second Language Learning" indicates a major in a language other than English, such as (but not limited to) Spanish language and/or literature, Japanese language and/or literature, etc.



Fifty percent (797,738) of all F-1 and M-1 students studied at least one of the top 20 majors listed above. Visit the [SEVP Data Library](#) for additional data on foreign students and schools.

### **Foreign Students at K-12 Schools**

There were 54,356 foreign student SEVIS records for K-12 education during calendar year 2024, a small decrease from 2023 (54,558). The highest percentage of all foreign K-12 students (26.7 percent) came from China in 2024, followed by Vietnam, Republic of Korea (South Korea), Mexico and Canada.

Below are the top five countries of citizenship with the largest number of K-12 foreign student records in the United States in calendar year 2024:

26.7% (14,515): China

7.8% (4,252): Vietnam

7% (3,811): Republic of Korea (South Korea)

6.3% (3,440): Mexico

5.3% (2,899): Canada

### **Foreign Students from Around the World**

F-1 and M-1 students come from every continent in the world other than Antarctica and from more than 229 countries and territories. Asia had the largest number of active foreign student SEVIS records (1,134,953), accounting for 71.7 percent of the foreign student population.

The figure below illustrates the percent change in foreign student SEVIS records from each continent from calendar year 2023 to calendar year 2024.



The chart below lists the top 30 countries of citizenship with the largest number of foreign student SEVIS records in the United States in calendar year 2024.

Country of Citizenship	Active Student Count
India	422,335
China	329,541
Republic of Korea (South Korea)	61,277
Canada	46,536
Brazil	44,721
Vietnam	36,176
Nepal	32,788
Taiwan	28,935
Nigeria	27,948
Bangladesh	27,204
Japan	26,435
Mexico	23,964
Colombia	23,786
Saudi Arabia	19,963



United Kingdom	16,611
Pakistan	16,478
Turkey	16,194
Germany	15,513
Spain	15,116
Ghana	14,937
France	14,673
Iran	14,113
Italy	11,134
Peru	9,351
Thailand	9,126
Indonesia	8,907
Philippines	8,244
Hong Kong	8,230
Russia	7,944
Kenya	7,418

## Africa

The overall number of active F-1 and M-1 student SEVIS records coming from Africa increased by 9,274 student records from calendar year 2023 (89,925) to calendar year 2024 (99,199). Most foreign students came from Nigeria (27,948) in 2024, while Kenya (7,418) was the most common East African country of origin. Libya saw the largest decrease (-113) in foreign student SEVIS records across the continent, while Ghana saw the largest increase (+3,765).

The chart below lists the African countries with at least 50 foreign students in the United States that saw the greatest fluctuation in enrollments from calendar year 2023 to calendar year 2024.

Country	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Calendar Year 2024 Total Population
Algeria	+40.0%	+327	1,144
Ghana	+33.7%	+3,765	14,937
Zimbabwe	+32.4%	+862	3,526

## Asia

Over 47.5 percent (751,876) of all active SEVIS records represent F-1 and M-1 students from either India (422,335) or China (329,541) in calendar year 2024, half a percentage point higher than calendar year 2023. The overall number of active F-1 and M-1 student SEVIS records coming from Asia increased by 64,078 from calendar year 2023 to calendar year 2024, with foreign student SEVIS record trends varying across different countries.

The number of foreign student SEVIS records from India and China made Asia the most common continent of origin (71.7%). India saw an increase of 44,715 students, while 824 fewer students came from China. Other Asian countries of origin with fewer foreign students in 2024 compared to 2023



include Saudi Arabia (-2,626), Republic of Korea (South Korea) (-2,037), Japan (-1,973), and Kuwait (-422).

The chart below lists the Asian countries with at least 50 foreign students in the United States that saw the greatest fluctuation in enrollments from calendar year 2023 to calendar year 2024.

Country	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Calendar Year 2024 Total Population
Maldives	+73%	+73	173
Kyrgyzstan	+48.6%	+920	2,812
Turkmenistan	+43.9%	+363	1,189

### Australia and Pacific Islands

The overall number of active F-1 and M-1 student SEVIS records from Australia and Pacific Island nations increased by 453 from calendar year 2023 to calendar year 2024. In calendar year 2024, there were 9,776 active foreign student SEVIS records from this region, which is a 4.9 percent increase from calendar year 2023 (9,323). The vast majority of enrollments (94.6 percent) from this continent hail from the region's largest countries: Australia (6,861) and New Zealand (2,384).

The chart below lists the Australian and Pacific Island countries with at least 50 foreign students in the United States that saw the greatest fluctuation in enrollments in the reporting period calendar year 2023 to calendar year 2024.

Country	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Calendar Year 2024 Total Population
Papua New Guinea	+53.7%	+102	292
New Zealand	+5.9%	+133	2,384
Australia	+3.6%	+238	6,861

### Europe

The overall number of active F-1 and M-1 student SEVIS records coming from Europe decreased by 1,696 from calendar year 2023 (130,852) to calendar year 2024 (129,156). Foreign student enrollment from the United Kingdom (+760), Hungary (+141), Slovakia (+84), Greece (+75), and Portugal (+70) all increased in calendar year 2024.

The chart below lists the European countries with at least 50 foreign students in the United States that saw the greatest fluctuation in enrollments in the reporting period calendar year 2023 to calendar year 2024.

Country	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Calendar Year 2024 Total Population
Estonia	+15.0%	+38	292
Denmark	-13.7%	-258	1,622



Slovakia	+13.4%	+84	712
Norway	-12.8%	-412	2,812
Luxembourg	+12.3%	+19	173

## North America

The overall number of active F-1 and M-1 student SEVIS records coming from North America increased by 2,646 from calendar year 2023 to calendar year 2024, resulting in 46,991 foreign students studying in the United States in 2024. The increase in the number of foreign student SEVIS records from Canada (+2,663) exclusively accounted for this increase.

The chart below lists the North American countries with at least 50 foreign students in the United States that saw the greatest fluctuation in enrollments in the reporting period calendar year 2023 to calendar year 2024.

Country	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Calendar Year 2024 Total Population
Canada	+6.1%	+2,663	46,536
Bermuda	-3.0%	-14	454

## Central and South America

The number of active F-1 and M-1 student SEVIS records coming from Central and South America increased by 4,394 from calendar year 2023 (158,267) to calendar year 2024 (162,661). Foreign student enrollment was highest from Brazil (44,721), Mexico (23,964), and Colombia (23,786) in calendar year 2024.

The chart below lists the Central and South American countries with at least 50 foreign students in the United States that saw the greatest fluctuation in enrollments in the reporting period calendar year 2023 to calendar year 2024.

Country	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Calendar Year 2024 Total Population
Cuba	-24.7%	-40	122
Grenada	+20.5%	+317	317
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	+20.5%	+33	194

Visit the [SEVP Data Library](#) for a full list of 2024 All Countries of Citizenship by Total Number of Active Foreign Students.



## Sex of Foreign Students <sup>3</sup>

As with last year, 44.5 percent (703,744) of F-1 and M-1 foreign students in calendar year 2024 were female, while 55.5 percent (878,121) were male. Of K-12 student enrollments in 2024 (54,942), 42.7 percent were female (23,475) and 57.2 percent were male (31,453). In addition, 43.8 percent (496,357) of bachelor's and master's foreign students were female, and 56.1 percent (635,416) were male. Just over half (50.1 percent) of foreign students seeking associate degrees were female (43,859) and 49.8 percent (43,558) were male. In 2024, 41.5 percent (89,204) of foreign students seeking doctoral degrees were female and 58.4 percent (125,447) were male. Of the top 10 countries of citizenship in calendar year 2024, the average female enrollment was 44.0 percent (46,499) and the average male enrollment was 56.0 percent (59,182).

Below are the percentage of female and male foreign students for the top 10 countries of citizenship in calendar year 2024.

Country of Citizenship	Female	Male	2024 Total Active Foreign Student Count
India	38%	62%	422,335
China	48%	52%	329,541
Republic of Korea (South Korea)	48%	52%	61,277
Canada	49%	51%	46,536
Brazil	57%	43%	44,721
Vietnam	54%	46%	36,176
Nepal	42%	58%	32,788
Taiwan	48%	52%	28,935
Nigeria	45%	55%	27,948
Bangladesh	34%	66%	27,204

## Optional Practical Training and Curricular Practical Training

Foreign students can participate in various types of practical training related to their field of study while they are in the United States.

- Pre-completion OPT takes place prior to a foreign student's program end date and can last up to 12 months.
- Post-completion OPT takes place after a foreign student's program end date and can also last up to 12 months.
- STEM OPT is a 24-month extension of OPT for foreign students with STEM degrees in qualifying fields of study included on DHS's STEM designated

<sup>3</sup> A foreign student's sex in SEVIS is the sex listed on the student's passport from their country of citizenship or other equivalent document (such as government-issued travel documents or birth certificates). Consistent with Executive Order 14168, "Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government," this report only accounts for foreign students with either "male" or "female" listed on their SEVIS record. As a result, percentages may not total 100 percent.



degree program list.

- Curricular practical training (CPT) takes place prior to a foreign student's program end date and is integral to the school's established curriculum.

Note: To participate in any form of OPT, a foreign student must receive an Employment Authorization Document from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

In 2024, a total of 194,554 foreign students obtained work authorization through OPT, while a separate population of 95,384 foreign students obtained work authorization through STEM OPT, and 130,586 foreign students obtained work authorization through CPT. Compared to 2023, this was an increase of 21 percent for OPT, an increase of 54 percent for STEM OPT, and a decrease of 0.4 percent for CPT.

In 2024, the total number of unique foreign student SEVIS records with work authorization through a form of practical training was 381,140. This number removes duplicate counts for foreign students who may have had more than one issued work authorization in 2024. Foreign students may participate in more than one type of training program in the course of a year and thus may be counted multiple times. The number of foreign students approved for each type of practical training without removing duplicates was 194,554 through OPT, 95,384 through STEM OPT, and 130,586 through CPT.

The total number of foreign students working at any point during a calendar year may exceed the number of employment authorizations issued each year because STEM OPT extensions are two-year authorizations and OPT authorizations are granted on a rolling basis throughout the year. Reporting the number of authorizations issued allows for precise reporting on how many individuals pursued work authorization under the program in a given year. More information on total annual employment authorizations is available on the [SEVP Data Library](#).

Please visit the SEVP Data Library for annual data on [OPT](#), [STEM OPT](#) and [CPT](#).

Below are the top 25 employers for foreign students participating in pre- and post-completion OPT in calendar year 2024. This does not include foreign students participating in STEM OPT.<sup>4</sup>

Employer Name	2024 Active Foreign Student Count
Amazon	5,379
University of California	2,112
Arizona State University	1,895
University of Texas	1,305
Bright Mind Enrichment and Schooling	1,234
Tesla	1,170
Goldman Sachs	1,148
Apple	1,135

<sup>4</sup> Foreign students may be counted more than once if they change employers in the course of the calendar year.



Google	1,110
Meta	1,081
Microsoft	1,066
ByteDance	1,045
Deloitte	1,033
Walmart	951
Intel	946
State University of New York	906
Ernst & Young	889
Johns Hopkins	827
Harvard	799
Community Dreams Foundation	795
University of Michigan	767
University of Southern California	717
University of Illinois	714
McKinsey & Company	680
JP Morgan Chase	675

Below are the top 25 employers for foreign students participating in STEM OPT in calendar year 2024.<sup>5</sup>

Employer Name	2024 Active Foreign Student Count
Amazon	6,679
Google	1,778
Microsoft	1,496
Meta	1,302
University of California	1,302
Walmart	1,140
Intel	1,023
Apple	973
Goldman Sachs	962
Tesla	901
JP Morgan Chase	887
Ernst & Young	854
Deloitte	833
McKinsey & Company	810
ByteDance	642
Tata Consultancy Services	639
Stanford University	541

<sup>5</sup> Foreign students may be counted more than once if they change employers in the course of the calendar year.



University of Texas	536
Citigroup	517
Bloomberg	456
Qualcomm	455
Oracle	445
Boston Consultancy Group	412
NVIDIA	410
Cummins	410

Please visit the [SEVP Data Library](#) for the [2024 Top 200 Employers for OPT and STEM OPT Foreign Students](#).

Below are the top 25 employers for foreign students participating in CPT in calendar year 2024.<sup>6</sup>

Employer Name	2024 Active Foreign Student Count
Amazon	3,205
Tesla	1,118
Lindsey Wilson College	1,028
Google	880
Microsoft	819
NVIDIA	743
Meta	657
Deloitte	614
Apple	600
Intel	512
JP Morgan Chase	400
Goldman Sachs	386
Walmart	344
ByteDance	337
Adobe Inc	332
Advanced Micro Devices	319
Cummins	308
Ernst & Young	299
World Bank	292
CVS	276
Qualcomm	270
University of Texas	267
Morgan Stanley	267
Tata Consultancy Services	266

<sup>6</sup> Foreign students may be counted more than once if they change employers in the course of the calendar year.



Boston Consulting Group	181
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Please visit the [SEVP Data Library](#) for the [2024 Top 200 Employers for CPT Foreign Students](#).



## Overview

F-1 and M-1 students must attend schools that are SEVP-certified. U.S. schools can petition for SEVP certification to enroll F-1 students, M-1 students, or both F-1 and M-1 students. In calendar year 2024, there were 7,234 SEVP-certified schools in the United States, 183 fewer schools than in calendar year 2023.<sup>7</sup> In 2024, 86.0 percent (6,218) of SEVP-certified schools were certified to enroll only F-1 students; 6.7 percent (486) were certified to enroll only M-1 students; and 7.3 percent (530) were certified to enroll both F-1 and M-1 students.

Visit the [SEVP Data Library](#) for additional data on foreign students and schools.

## Enrollment at SEVP-certified Schools

There were 7,234 total SEVP-certified schools in calendar year 2024. Of this total, there were 1,082 schools that did not actually enroll any foreign students in 2024.

There were eight schools that enrolled more than 15,000 foreign students (both F-1 and M-1 foreign students combined) in 2024; New York University, Northeastern University, Columbia University in the City of New York, University of Southern California, Arizona State University, University of Illinois, Boston University, and Purdue University.

Below is the breakdown of the number of SEVP-certified schools with at least one foreign student by active foreign student enrollment. There are an additional 1,082 schools that are certified to accept foreign students but did not enroll any foreign students in 2024.

2024 Active Foreign Student Enrollment	Count of SEVP-Certified Schools in 2024
1 to 50 Foreign Students	3,871
51 to 100 Foreign Students	686
101 to 1,000 Foreign Students	1,272
1,001 to 5,000 Foreign Students	253
5,001 to 10,000 Foreign Students	48
10,001 to 15,000 Foreign Students	14
> 15,000 Foreign Students	8
<b>Total Number of SEVP-Certified Schools that Enrolled at Least One Foreign Student in 2024</b>	<b>6,152</b>

<sup>7</sup> The number of SEVP-certified schools can be impacted by schools whose certification has been withdrawn by SEVP or by schools who chose to merge petitions for F-1 and M-1 student categories during the calendar year.



## F-1 Schools

F-1 schools are SEVP-certified schools that enroll foreign students with F-1 visas. F-1 students are enrolled in an academic program, often with a core academic curriculum. F-1 students are eligible to change their major or program of study, and they can transfer during their program or begin a new program after completing one.

The top 20 SEVP-certified schools by F-1 student enrollment, below, hosted 19 percent (303,948) of all F-1 student SEVIS record numbers in 2024.

School Name	2024 Active F-1 Student Count
New York University	25,617
Northeastern University	24,968
Columbia University in the City of New York	24,042
University of Southern California	20,562
Arizona State University	20,114
University of Illinois	17,792
Boston University	15,701
University of North Texas	14,213
Purdue University	13,568
University of Michigan	13,292
University of California San Diego	12,614
University of Pennsylvania	12,242
University of Washington	11,876
University of California at Berkeley	11,809
Carnegie Mellon University	11,216
University of California, Los Angeles	11,116
University of Wisconsin-Madison	10,997
Cornell University	10,895
University of Texas at Dallas	10,773
The Pennsylvania State University	10,541

## M-1 Schools

M-1 schools are SEVP-certified schools that enroll foreign students with M-1 visas. M-1 students are enrolled in a vocational program, typically without a core academic curriculum, and can only remain in the United States for up to one year unless they apply for an extension of stay. M-1 students cannot change their major or program of study, and they can only transfer in the first six months after arrival in the United States.

There were 431 schools certified by SEVP to enroll only M-1 students in 2024. Of those, 91 schools only enrolled one foreign student during the reporting period.

Below are the top 20 SEVP-certified schools that enrolled the greatest number of M-1 students in



calendar year 2024. Visit the [SEVP Data Library](#) to view the full list of [2024 All M-1 Schools by Number of Active SEVIS Records](#).

School Name	2024 Active M-1 Student Count
Bethel School of Supernatural Ministry (Bethel Church Campus)	733
CAE Oxford Aviation Academy Phoenix Inc.	725
Bird Acquisition LLC d/b/a Transpac Aviation Academy, AeroG	579
Treasure Coast Flight Training	546
Paris Air, Inc.	381
Airborne Systems, Inc.	364
L3harris Aerosim Academy, Inc. d/b/a L3harris	328
Delta Aeronautics, Inc. d/b/a Delta- Qualiflight Aviation	251
Aircraft Development Flight Airways Corp. d/b/a ADF Airways	249
Skyborne Airline Academy Inc.	247
American Flight Training LLC d/b/a Wayman Aviation Academy	233
International Aero Academy, Ltd	221
Skymates Inc.	206
Airbus Americas Customer Services Inc.	203
Pilot Training Center	192
Bethel School of Supernatural Ministry (Bethel Church – Civic Center)	191
Charis Bible College	189
American Aviation Flight Academy LLC	183
Ari Ben Aviator, Inc. d/b/a Aviator College	181
CAE Simuflite Inc.	161

### F-1 and M-1 Schools

Eleven percent of SEVP-certified schools enrolled both F-1 and M-1 students. These schools tend to have smaller student populations than their F-1-only counterparts.

Below are the top 20 SEVP-certified school campuses with the greatest number of combined F-1 and M-1 students in calendar year 2024.

School Name	Campus Name	2024 Active Foreign Student Count
Cornell University	Cornell University	10,895 <sup>8</sup>
Houston Community College System	System Administration Office	3,866
Dallas College	Dallas College	3,752
Santa Monica College	Santa Monica College	2,914
Lamar University	Lamar University	2,568

<sup>8</sup> Although Cornell University is certified to enroll both F-1 and M-1 students, no active M-1 students are enrolled at the university's campus, Cornell University. Cornell University's active M-1 students (2) are enrolled at another campus not listed on the chart.



UCLA-Extension	UCLA-Extension	2,322
Minnesota State University, Mankato	Minnesota State University, Mankato	2,045
Arkansas State University	Arkansas State University-Jonesboro	1,954
The University of Iowa	The University of Iowa	1,902
Florida Institute of Technology	Florida Institute of Technology	1,854
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University	Daytona Beach Campus	1,537
Green River College	Green River College	1,469
Bellevue College	Bellevue College	1,365
Seattle Colleges	Seattle Central College	1,156
University of North Dakota	University of North Dakota	965
Cornell University	Cornell Tech	954
Diablo Valley College	Diablo Valley College	872
Irvine Valley College	Irvine Valley College	831
Florida National University	Hialeah	808
Lynn University	Lynn University Boca Raton	775

## K-12 Schools

K-12 schools are SEVP-certified schools that enroll foreign students with F-1 visas in the grade years from kindergarten through grade 12. Foreign students can attend private elementary schools, private middle schools, private high schools (grades 9-12) or public high schools (grades 9-12). SEVP regulations place no limit on the length of time an F-1 student may attend a private SEVP-certified school; however, F-1 students can only attend public schools in grades 9-12 and can only do so for up to one year.

Below are the top 20 SEVP-certified K-12 schools that had the largest number of F-1 students in calendar year 2024. Visit the [SEVP Data Library](#) to view the full list of SEVP-certified K-12 public and private schools by number of active SEVIS student records.

School Name	2024 Active Foreign Student Count
EF International Academy	576
Layton Christian Academy	536
CATS Academy Boston	529
IMG Academy	500
Archdiocese of Los Angeles	422
Montverde Academy	391
Fairmont Private Schools	379
North Broward Preparatory School	374
Roman Catholic Diocese of Rockville Centre	351
The Village School	321
Hoosac School	296



Windermere Preparatory School	293
Fryeburg Academy	284
Springfield Commonwealth Academy	282
Life Preparatory Academy	272
Keio Academy of New York	262
Thornton Academy	261
Gateway Legacy Christian Academy	234
Cushing Academy	229
Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School	229

### Location of SEVP-certified Schools

Although there are SEVP-certified higher education and vocational schools throughout the United States and its territories, 54.3 percent (3,341) of these schools are located in ten U.S. states. California is home to 13.3 percent (821) of all SEVP-certified schools with active foreign students.

Below are the ten U.S. states that had the greatest number of SEVP-certified schools and programs with active foreign students. For a comprehensive list of all the SEVP-certified schools in the United States, please visit the [School Search tool](#) on the Study in the States website.

State	SEVP-Certified School Count
California	821
New York	480
Florida	433
Texas	377
Pennsylvania	264
Massachusetts	240
Illinois	201
Georgia	190
North Carolina	172
Michigan	163

Please visit the [SEVP Data Library](#) for additional data on SEVP-certified schools.

### States and Territories Overview

F-1 and M-1 students study across the United States and its territories.<sup>9</sup> As in calendar year 2023, California, New York, Texas, Massachusetts, and Florida hosted the largest number of foreign student SEVIS records and together welcomed 46.0 percent (744,153) of all foreign students.

<sup>9</sup> In state data, foreign students may be counted more than once if they attend a new school in a different state in the same calendar year.



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## Foreign Students Across the United States

Of the four regions within the United States, the South had the greatest number of foreign student SEVIS records in calendar year 2024, followed closely by the Northeast, then the West, and the Midwest. All four regions saw a net increase in their respective F-1 and M-1 student populations from calendar year 2023 to calendar year 2024.

As in 2023, the South saw the greatest percentage increase with 8.5 percent more foreign student SEVIS records (+36,965) than in calendar year 2023. The Midwest had 5.9 percent more foreign student SEVIS records (+17,610) than in calendar year 2023, followed by an increase of 3.0 percent (+13,428) in the Northeast. The West had 1.8 percent (+6,682) more foreign student SEVIS records than in calendar year 2023. U.S. territories had .04 percent less foreign student SEVIS records (-6), the only region to see a decrease in calendar year 2024 compared to calendar year 2023.

Below are the percentage of foreign students studying in each U.S. region in calendar year 2024.

28.3% (461,192) in the Northeast

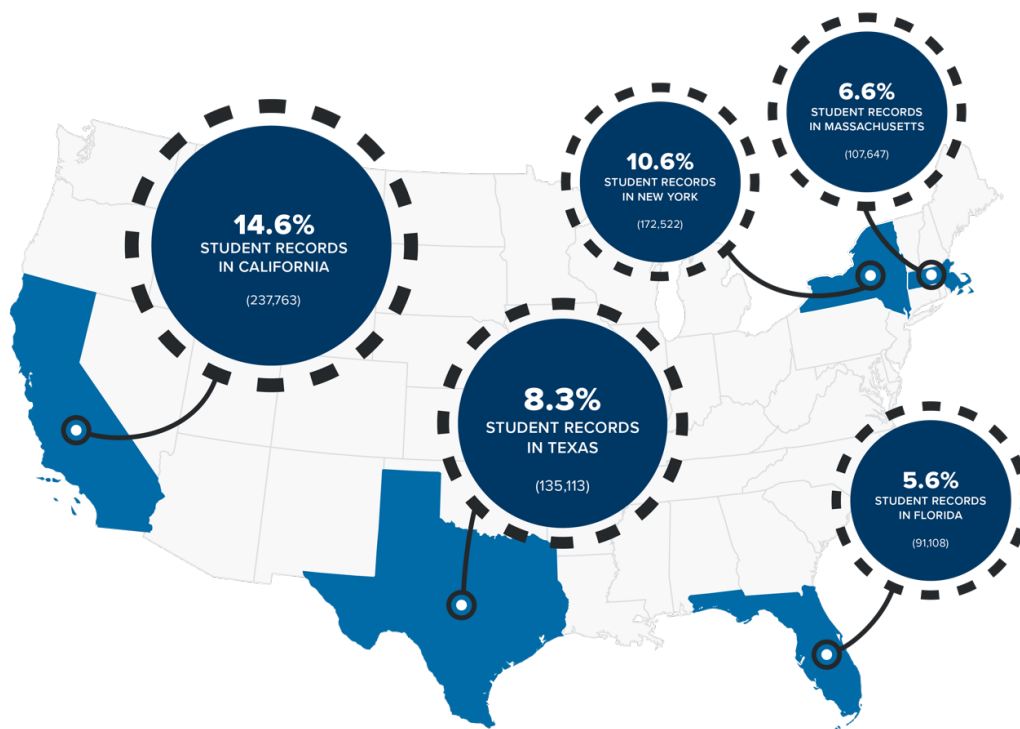
28.9% (471,293) in the South

23.3% (379,970) in the West

19.3% (314,076) in the Midwest

0.1% (1,489) U.S. territories

Below are the U.S. states that hosted the largest number of F-1 and M-1 student SEVIS records in calendar year 2024, with the related percentages of all foreign student records.



### Foreign Students in the Northeast

Nine Northeastern states hosted 461,192 F-1 and M-1 student SEVIS records in 2024. New York had 172,522 foreign student SEVIS records in 2024, the largest number of foreign student SEVIS records in the region (37.4%) and an increase of 2,619, a percent change of +1.54. New Jersey experienced the largest increase in foreign student enrollment (+6,331) and largest percentage change in the region (+9.6%). Vermont was the only state in this region to observe a decline in foreign student SEVIS records (-59).

Below are the three Northeastern states that saw the greatest percentage change in enrollments in the reporting period calendar year 2023 to calendar year 2024.

State	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Calendar Year 2024 Total Population
New Jersey	+9.6%	+6,331	72,364
Maine	+8.8%	+351	4,336
Rhode Island	+6.8%	+410	6,445

### Foreign Students in the South

Sixteen Southern U.S. states and the District of Columbia hosted 471,293 foreign student SEVIS records in calendar year 2024. The state in the region with the largest increase in foreign student SEVIS records in 2024 was Texas, which hosted 135,113 foreign student records in 2024 (+13,710). As in 2023, West Virginia was the only state in the region to observe a decline in



foreign student SEVIS records (-76). West Virginia hosted 3,259 foreign student SEVIS records.

Below are the three Southern states that saw the greatest percentage change in enrollments in the reporting period calendar year 2023 to calendar year 2024.

State	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Calendar Year 2024 Total Population
Arkansas	+16.4%	+1,090	7,744
Louisiana	+14.1%	+1,154	9,349
Texas	+11.3%	+13,710	135,113

### Foreign Students in the Midwest

The Midwest saw a 5.9 percent increase in the number of foreign student SEVIS records from calendar year 2023 to calendar year 2024. Illinois hosted 86,283 foreign student SEVIS records in 2024, the largest amount in the region. Illinois also saw the greatest increase in foreign student SEVIS records (+6,704). No state in the region observed a decline in foreign student SEVIS records.

Below are the three Midwestern states that saw the greatest percentage change in enrollments in the reporting period calendar year 2023 to calendar year 2024.

State	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Calendar Year 2024 Total Population
South Dakota	+22.2%	+559	3,076
Missouri	+10.2%	+3,024	32,612
Illinois	+8.4%	+6,704	86,283

### Foreign Students in the West

The West saw the smallest percent increase in the number of foreign student SEVIS records in calendar year 2024. California remained the most popular state for foreign students, hosting 237,763 foreign student SEVIS records in calendar year 2024, an increase of 169 foreign student records from calendar year 2023. While Hawaii saw the largest proportional increase in 2022, the state saw a decline in 2023 (-6.2%) and again in 2024 (-10.5%). Oregon (-1.4%) and Montana (-4.6%) also saw declines in 2024.

Below are the three Western states that saw the greatest percentage change in enrollments in the reporting period calendar year 2023 to calendar year 2024.

State	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Calendar Year 2024 Total Population
Wyoming	+14.7%	+152	1,187
Arizona	+10.4%	+2,972	31,618
Nevada	+9.7%	+361	4,067



## Foreign Students Studying in U.S. Territories

Five United States territories hosted 1,489 foreign student SEVIS records during calendar year 2023, and 62.8 percent of those records were from foreign students in Puerto Rico. The Federated States of Micronesia is the only U.S. territory or state to report hosting 0 foreign student SEVIS records in 2024. The Northern Mariana Islands (-28), Guam (-10), the Virgin Islands (-3), and the Federated States of Micronesia (-1) experienced declines in F-1 and M-1 participation from calendar year 2023 to calendar year 2024. Only Puerto Rico (+34) and American Samoa (+2) experienced increases in foreign student SEVIS records.

Below are the three U.S. territories that saw the greatest percentage change in enrollments in the reporting period calendar year 2023 to calendar year 2024.

Territory	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Calendar Year 2024 Total Population
American Samoa	+100%	+2	4
Federated State of Micronesia	-100%	-1	0
Northern Mariana Islands	-8.3%	-28	308

Please visit the [SEVP Data Library](#) for additional data on foreign students and schools.



## Overview

J-1 exchange visitors must be sponsored by an exchange visitor program designated by the U.S. Department of State.

The number of J-1 exchange visitors increased by 0.7 percent from 298,858 exchange visitors in 2023 to 300,940 in 2024.

Below are the top 25 U.S. Department of State-designated program sponsors of new exchange visitors in 2024. Visit the [SEVP Data Library](#) to view the full list of [2024 Top 500 Program Sponsors of New Exchange Visitors](#).

Sponsor Name	New Exchange Visitors for 2024
Council on International Educational Exchange, Inc.	28,849
Intrax	14,944
US Department of State	14,431
InterExchange, Inc.	13,961
American Institute for Foreign Study	12,394
Cultural Homestay International	12,046
Cultural Care, Inc. d/b/a Cultural Care Au Pair	9,962
International Exchange of North America, Inc.	9,875
Alliance Abroad Group, L.P.	8,603
Camp Counselors USA	7,947
Greenheart Exchange	7,631
ASSE International, Inc	4,563
Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates	4,289
American Pool Enterprises, Inc.	4,110
GeoVisions	3,535
Global Educational Concepts, Inc.	3,283
AuPairCare Inc.	3,097
Cultural Vistas, Inc.	2,936
Spirit Cultural Exchange	2,651
Walt Disney Parks and Resorts, U.S., Inc.	2,497
Foundation for Worldwide International Student Exchange	2,483
Odyssey International Exchange	2,460
Cultural Exchange Network, Inc.	2,420
International Student Exchange	2,332
Harvard University	2,218