U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

SEVP

STUDENT AND EXCHANGE VISITOR PROGRAM

STUDENT AND EXCHANGE VISITOR INFORMATION SYSTEM

SEVIS BY THE NUMBERS

GENERAL SUMMARY QUARTERLY REVIEW

NOVEMBER 2015

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HIGHLIGHTS

GENERAL DATA

- There are currently 1.2 million F & M students studying in the United States.
- There are currently 201,800 J-1 exchange visitors in the United States.
- There are 8,803 U.S. schools certified by SEVP to enroll international students.
- Seventy-five percent of SEVP-certified schools have 50 or less enrolled F & M students.
- Seventy-four percent of all F & M students are enrolled in bachelor's, master's or doctoral programs.
- There are 466,900 F & M students studying science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields in the United States.
- Thirty-nine percent of all F & M students in the United States are studying in STEM fields.
- Fifty-two percent of all F & M students enrolled in K-12 programs of study are from China; 11 percent are from South Korea.
- Seventy-six percent of all F & M STEM students are enrolled in engineering, computer and information sciences, and support services, or biological and biomedical sciences degree programs.

TRENDS

- Compared to July 2015, the total number of active J-1 exchange visitors in the United States decreased 17.5 percent, from to 244,766 exchange visitors in July 2015 to 201,800 exchange visitors in November 2015.
- Compared to July 2015, the total number of active F & M students studying in the United States increased 13.3 percent, from 1,054,505 students in July 2015 to 1,194,780 in November 2015.
- Compared to July 2015, the total number of active F & M students enrolled in primary and secondary school programs increased 35 percent, from 49,377 students in July 2015 to 66,889 in November 2015.

NEW THIS QUARTER

- You can now view the SEVIS by the Numbers data in an interactive form on Study in the States. Please go to http://studyinthestates.dhs.gov/sevis-by-the-numbers to view this new tool.

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INTRODUCTION

WHAT IS THE STUDENT AND EXCHANGE VISITOR PROGRAM (SEVP)?

The Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP), a program within the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), acts as a bridge for government organizations that have an interest in information on nonimmigrants whose primary reason for coming to the United States is to be students.

On behalf of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), SEVP manages schools, nonimmigrant students in the F & M visa classifications and their dependents.

The U.S. Department of State manages Exchange Visitor Programs, nonimmigrant exchange visitors in the J visa classification and their dependents. Both SEVP and the Department of State use the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) to track and monitor schools; exchange visitor programs; and F, M and J nonimmigrants while they visit the United States and participate in the U.S. education system.

INTRODUCTION

WHAT IS THE STUDENT AND EXCHANGE VISITOR INFORMATION SYSTEM (SEVIS)?

SEVIS is the Web-based system that DHS uses to maintain information on SEVP-certified schools and the F & M students who come to the United States to attend those schools. SEVIS also maintains information on Department of State-designated exchange visitor program sponsors and J-1 visa exchange visitor program participants. It is a critical tool in SEVP's mission to protect national security while supporting the legal entry of the more than one million F, M and J nonimmigrants to the United States for education and cultural exchange.

INTRODUCTION

WHAT IS SEVIS BY THE NUMBERS?

SEVIS by the Numbers is a quarterly report that highlights nonimmigrant student and exchange visitor trends and information using data from SEVIS, which SEVP uses to track and monitor the status and activities of nonimmigrant students and exchange visitors who enter the United States.

The report highlights key SEVIS data in an engaging way to illustrate trends, values and information on nonimmigrant students studying in the United States.

DEFINITIONS

- **Nonimmigrant** – Person entering the United States to visit, study or work (depending on the type of visa) temporarily, but not to stay permanently in the United States.
- **F-1 nonimmigrant student** – Nonimmigrant status conferred on a student pursuing a full program of study in a college, university, seminary, conservatory, academic high school, private elementary school, other academic school or language training program in the United States that is SEVP-certified to enroll F and/or M students.
- **M-1 nonimmigrant student** – Nonimmigrant status conferred on a foreign national pursuing a full program of study at an SEVP-certified vocational school or other recognized non-academic school (other than in language training programs).
- **J-1 exchange visitor** – Foreign national selected by a Department of State-designated program to participate in an exchange visitor program.
- **STEM** – Science, technology, engineering and mathematics programs of study.

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Since July 2015, the total number of SEVIS records for active F & M students, exchange visitors and their dependents increased by 7.03 percent, from 1,451,824 to 1,533,845. When compared to November 2014, the number of active F & M students, exchange visitors and their dependents increased 10.77 percent, from 1,402,795 to 1,533,845.

TOTAL # OF ACTIVE STUDENTS

STUDENTS (F-1 & M-1) AND EXCHANGE VISITORS (J-1)			
	NOVEMBER 2015	JULY 2015	% CHANGE
F-1 & M-1	1,194,780	1,054,505	+13.30%
J-1	201,800	244,766	-17.55%
DEPENDENTS	157,265	152,553	+3.09%
COMPLETED	2,569,790	2,413,757	+6.46%
SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS			
	NOVEMBER 2015	JULY 2015	% CHANGE
CERTIFIED SCHOOLS (F & M)	8,803	8,887	-0.95%
DESIGNATED PROGRAMS (J)	1,452	1,448	+0.28%

* F-1/M-1 – Active students considered in F-1 or M-1 status and enrolled in a full course of study.
* Certified Schools – An academic/vocational institution or language training program that has received certification to enroll nonimmigrant students.
* Completed – The student has finished their program of study and intends on/already has returned to their home country.
* J-1 – Active exchange visitor considered in J-1 status and participating in their program.
* Designated Programs – A J-1 program that is approved to accept exchange visitors.

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STUDENTS

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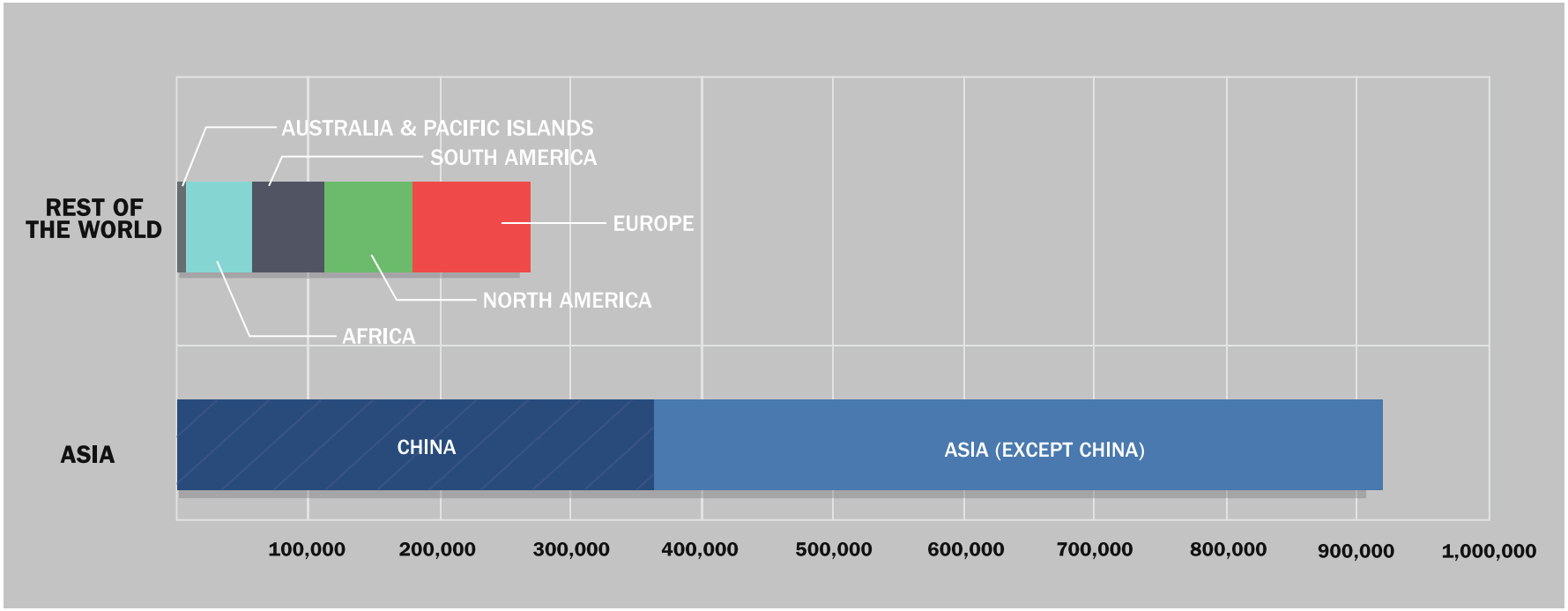
PLACES OF ORIGIN

WHERE DO NONIMMIGRANT STUDENTS IN THE UNITED STATES ORIGINATE FROM?

This chart and the following maps show the areas of origin for F & M students by continent and sub-region.



* Continent information was compiled using the United Nation's composition of macro geographical (continental) regions, geographical sub-regions, and selected economic and other groupings.

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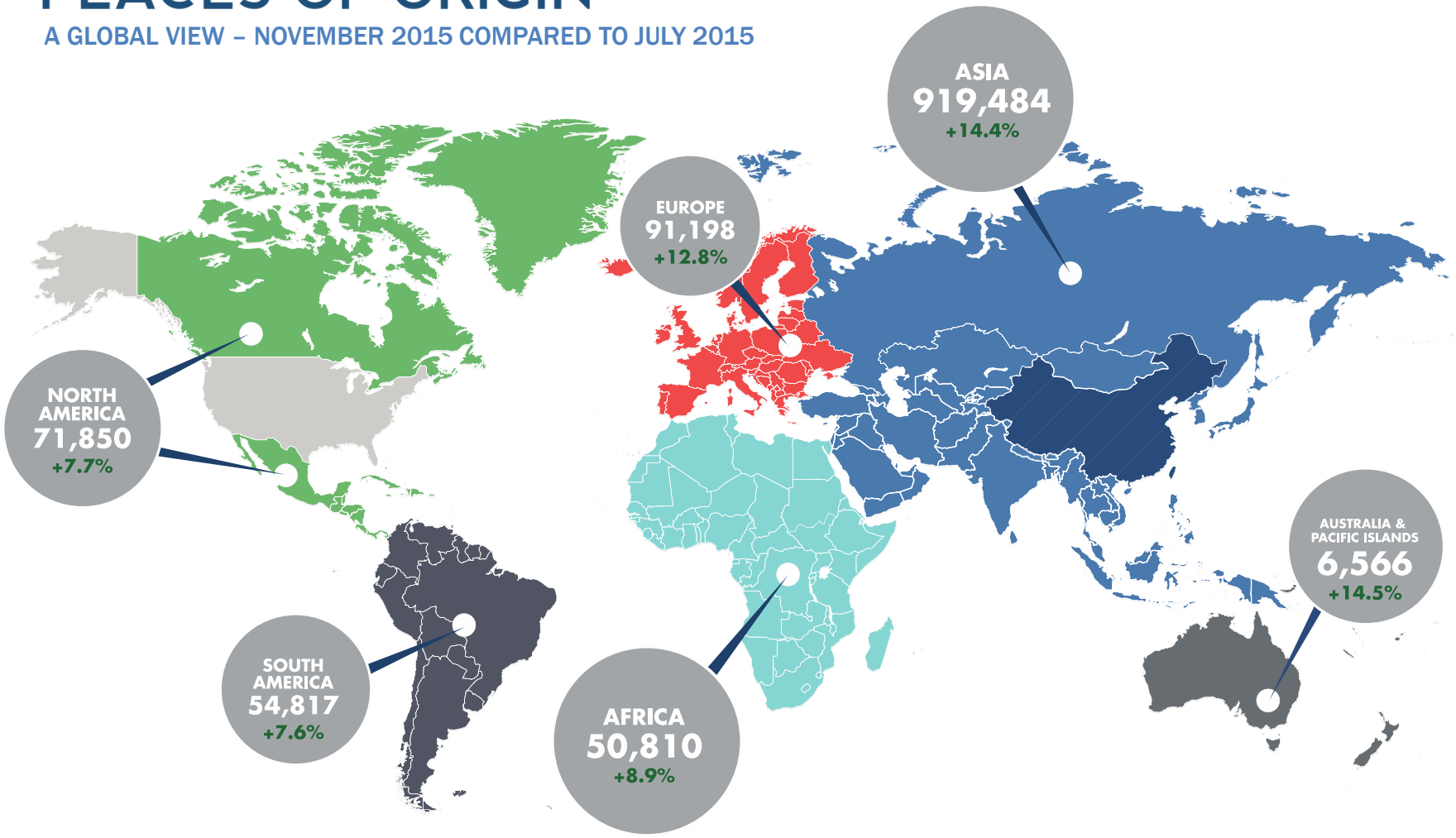
PLACES OF ORIGIN

A GLOBAL VIEW – NOVEMBER 2015 COMPARED TO JULY 2015



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* Percentages compare November 2015 values to July 2015 values. No value indicates a less than 1 percent +/- change.

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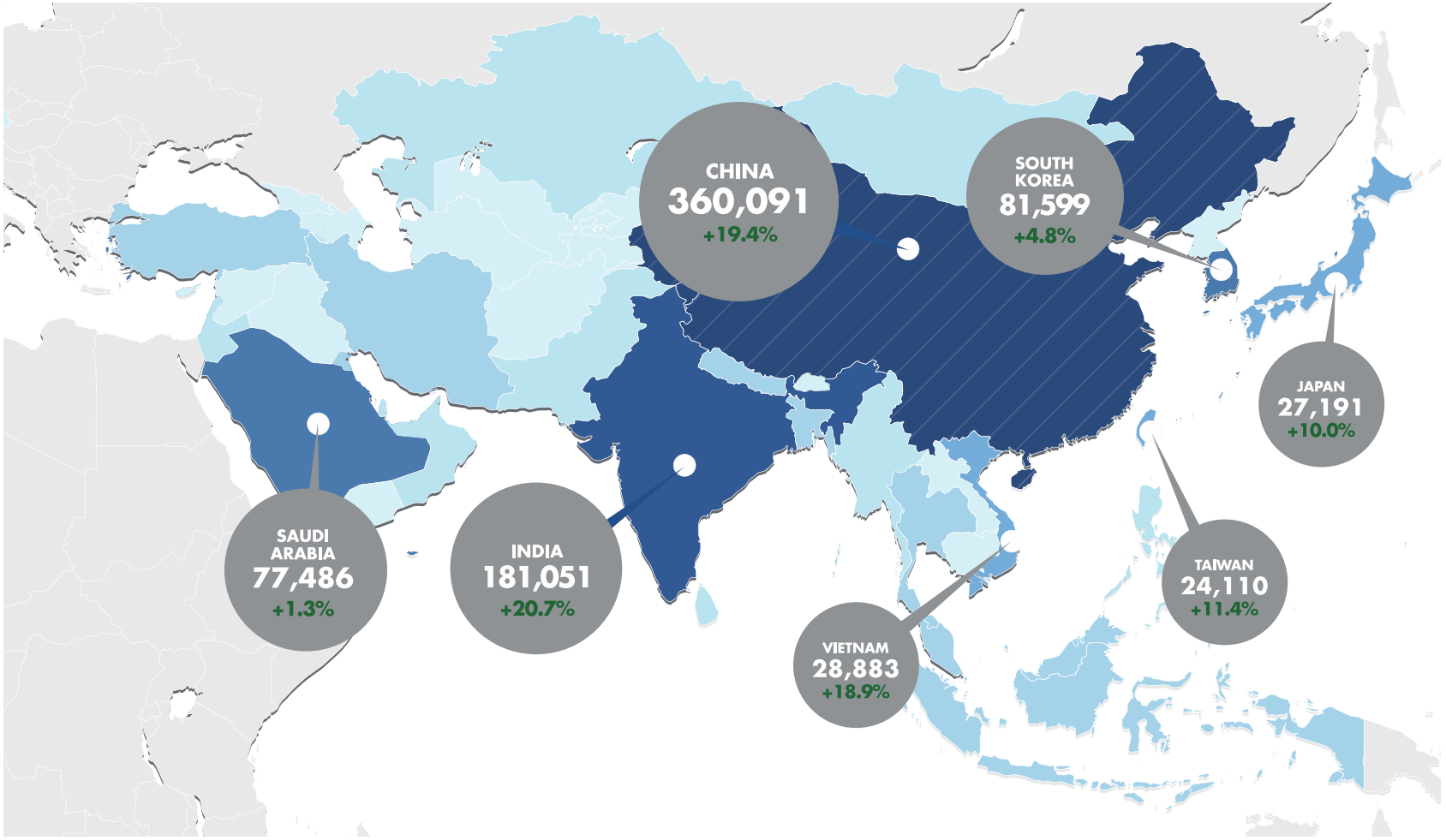
PLACES OF ORIGIN

A CLOSER LOOK AT ASIA – NOVEMBER 2015 COMPARED TO JULY 2015



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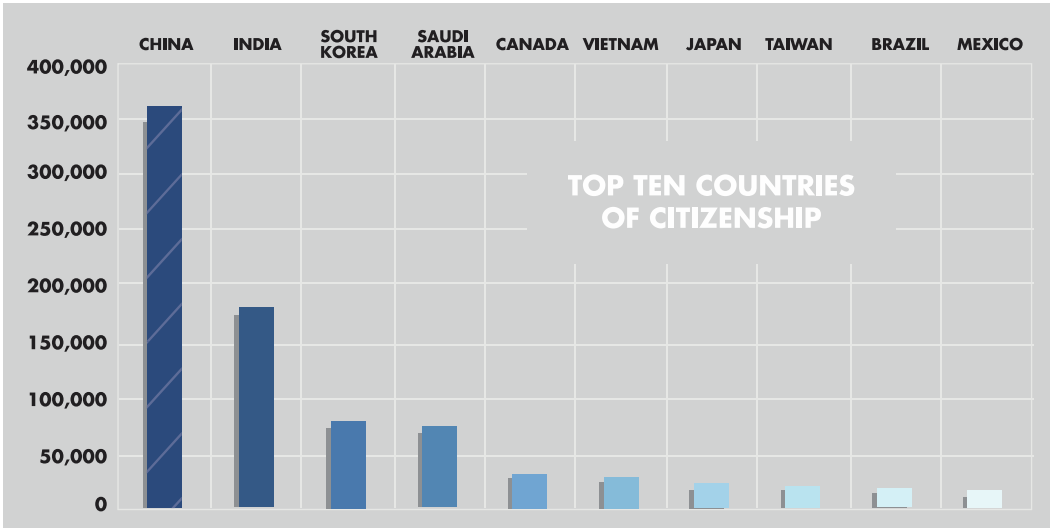
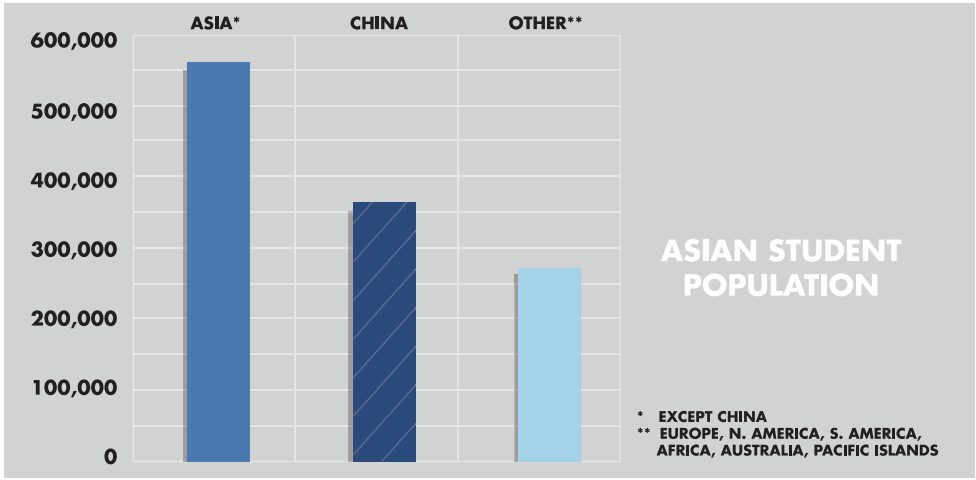
TOP 10 COUNTRIES OF CITIZENSHIP



77%

of all F & M students originate from Asian nations, followed by 8 percent from Europe, 6 percent from North America, 4 percent from South America, 4 percent from Africa, and 1 percent from Australia/Pacific Islands.



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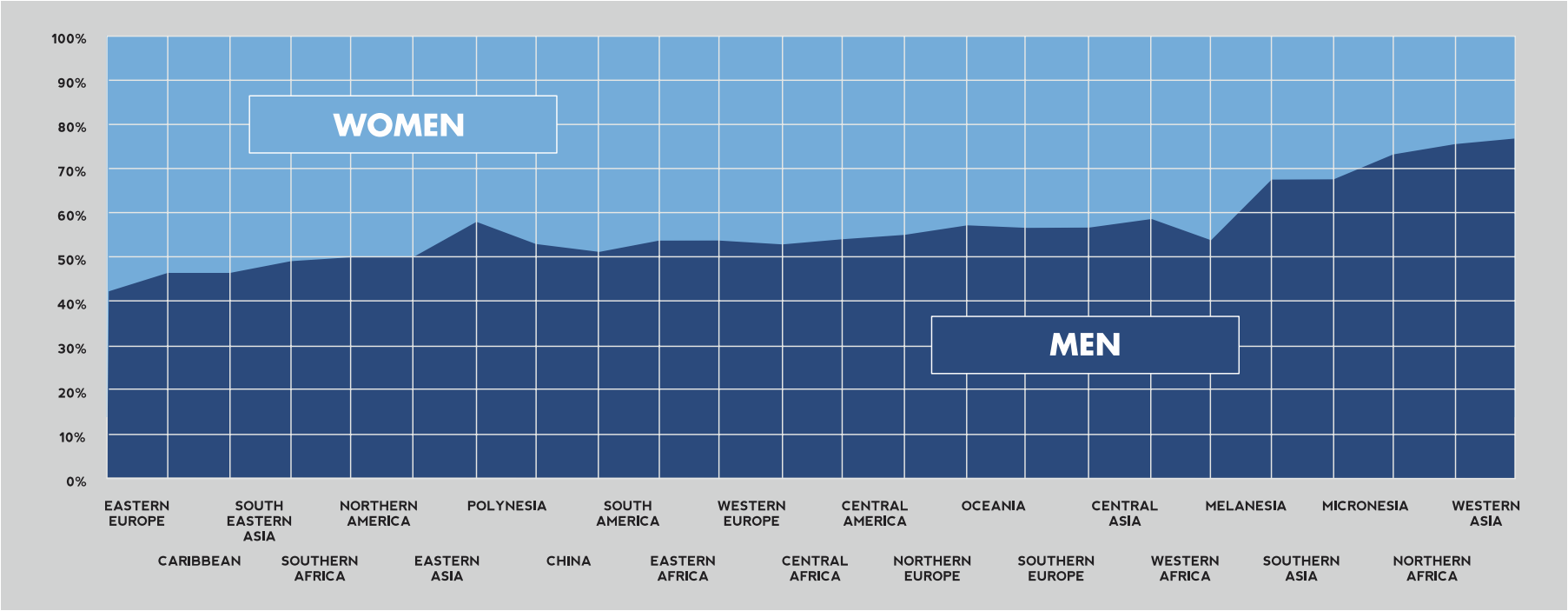
STUDENTS BY GENDER

How many male F & M students come to the United States compared to females?

The below graph shows the United States' proportion of male versus female F & M students from each region of the world.

57%

of all F & M students studying in the United States are male. Eastern Europe sends the most females (56 percent) and Western Asia the most males (77 percent).



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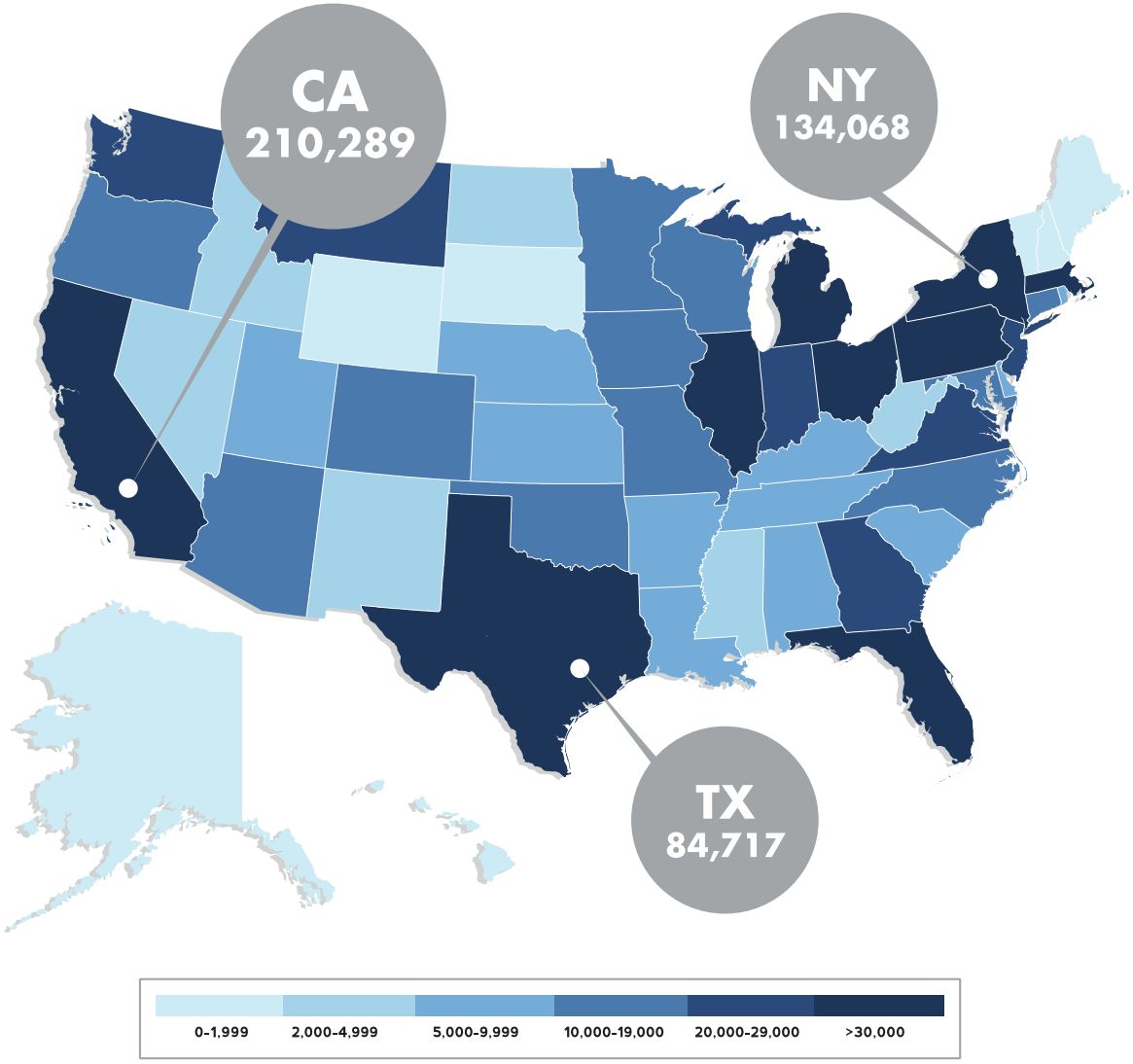
STUDENTS BY STATE

Which states host the highest population of F & M students?

36%

of all F & M students study in CA, NY and TX.

CONTINENT	DESTINATION
ASIA	CA: 18%
EUROPE	CA: 19%
AUSTRALIA & PACIFIC ISLANDS	CA: 17%
AFRICA	TX: 13%
NORTH AMERICA	NY: 14%
SOUTH AMERICA	FL: 19%



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SCHOOLS

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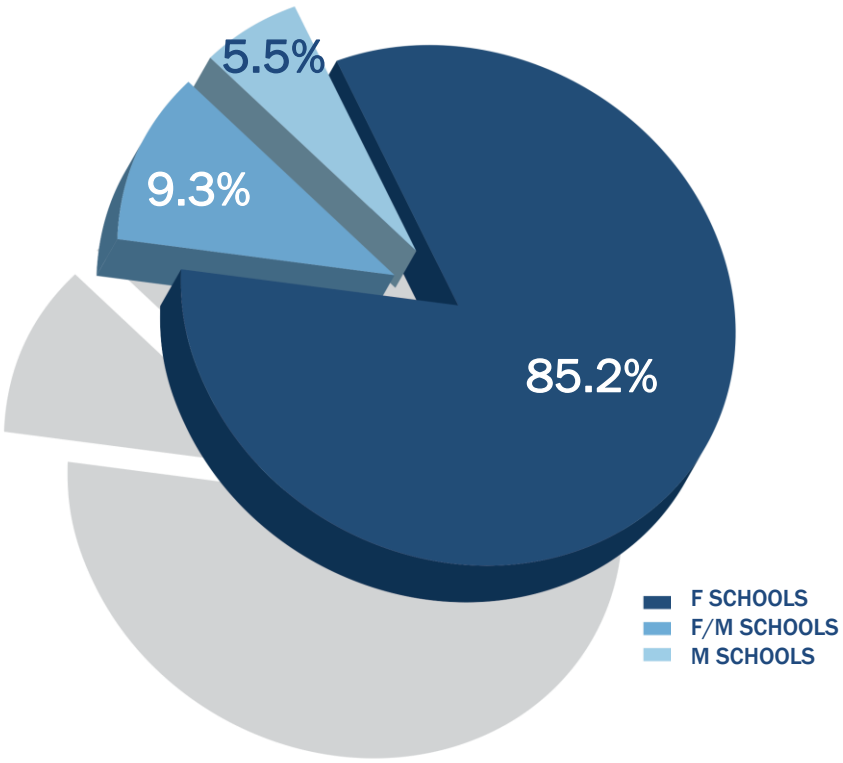
CERTIFIED SCHOOLS

Which SEVP-certified schools have the largest population of F & M students per visa category?

PERCENT OF SCHOOLS BY VISA CATEGORY



TOP FIVE F-1 APPROVED SCHOOLS	
SCHOOL NAME	# OF ACTIVE STUDENTS
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY	13,788
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	13,062
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK	11,139
NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY	11,135
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS	10,953

TOP FIVE F-1 & M-1 APPROVED SCHOOLS	
SCHOOL NAME	# OF ACTIVE STUDENTS
CORNELL UNIVERSITY	5,768
HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM	4,335
THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA	3,666
SANTA MONICA COLLEGE	3,618
NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	2,958

TOP FIVE M-1 APPROVED SCHOOLS	
SCHOOL NAME	# OF ACTIVE STUDENTS
BETHEL SCHOOL OF SUPERNATURAL MINISTRY	891
DEAN INTERNATIONAL, INC.	343
CAE GLOBAL ACADEMY PHOENIX, INC.	319
U.S. AVIATION ACADEMY	304
TRANSPAC AVIATION ACADEMY	302

# OF SCHOOLS BY ACTIVE STUDENT ENROLLMENT	
# OF SCHOOLS	# OF ACTIVE STUDENTS
34	>5,000
226	1,001-5,000
184	501-1,000
984	101-500
757	51-100
2,045	11-50
2,839	1-10
1,734	0

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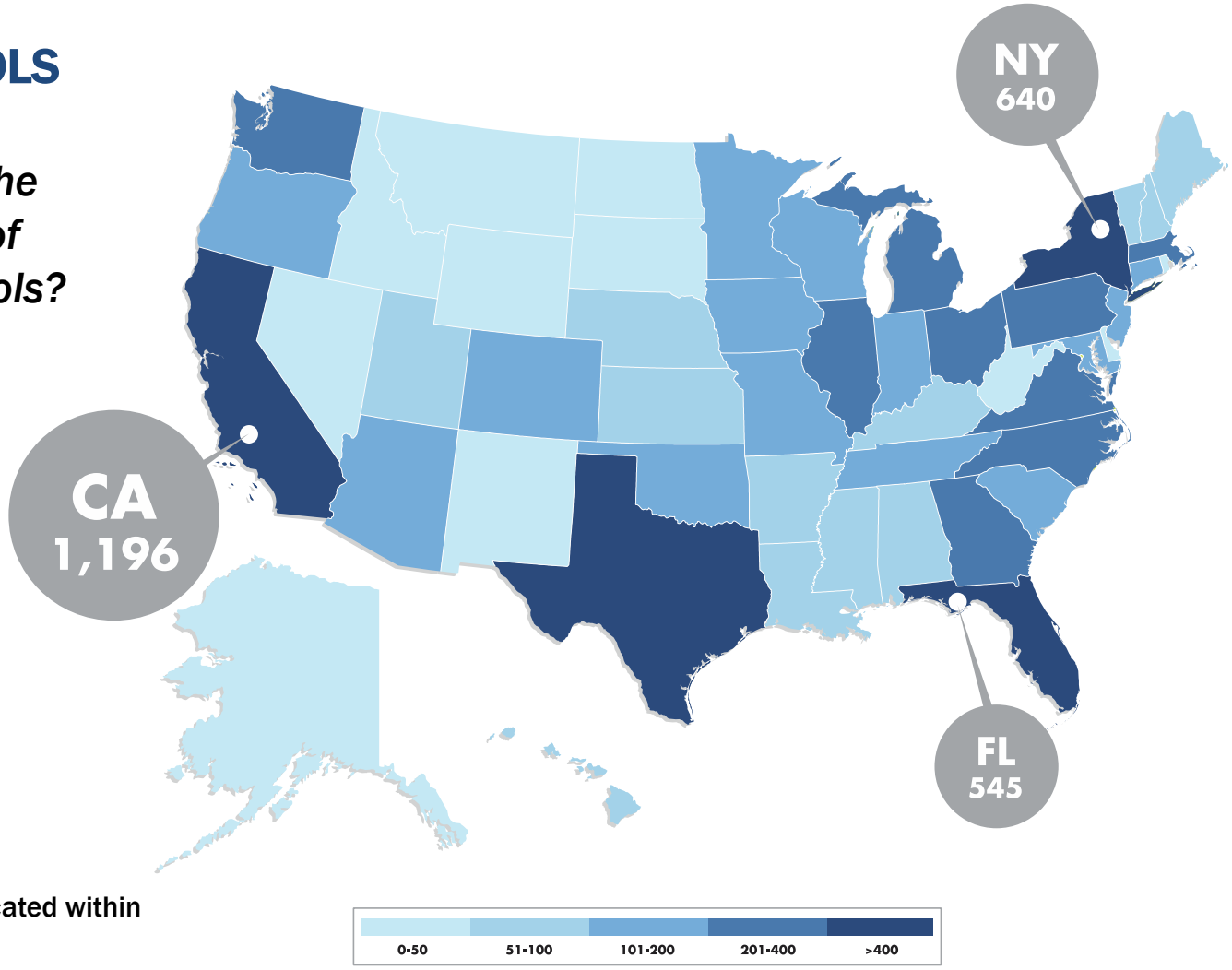
CERTIFIED SCHOOLS BY STATE

Which states have the highest population of SEVP-certified schools?



27%

of all SEVP-certified schools are located within the states of CA, NY and FL.

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LEVEL OF EDUCATION

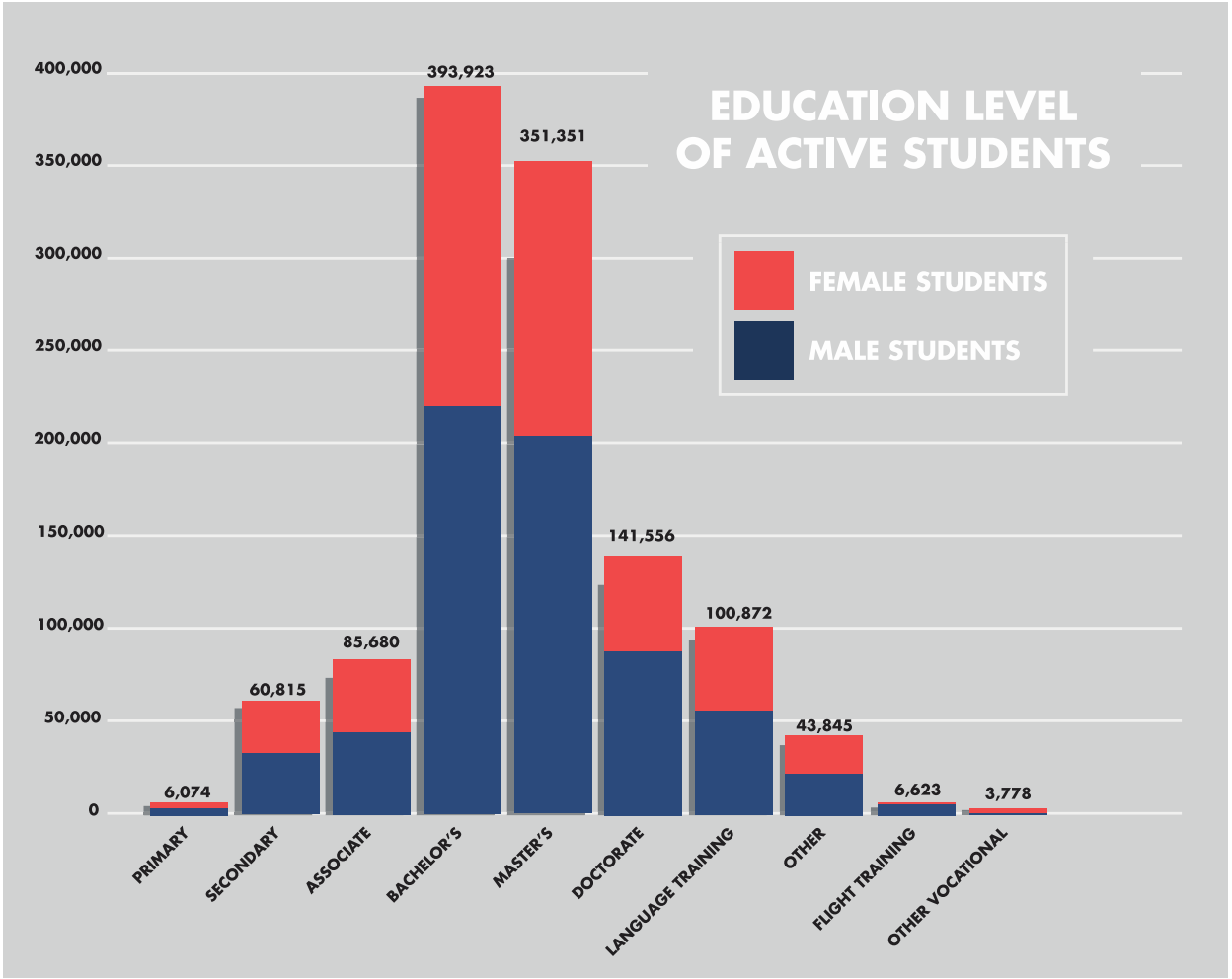
How many F & M students study at each level of education?

74%

of all F & M students are enrolled in bachelor's, master's or doctoral programs.

35%

increase in the number of all F & M students enrolled in primary and secondary school programs since July 2015.



TOP MAJORS

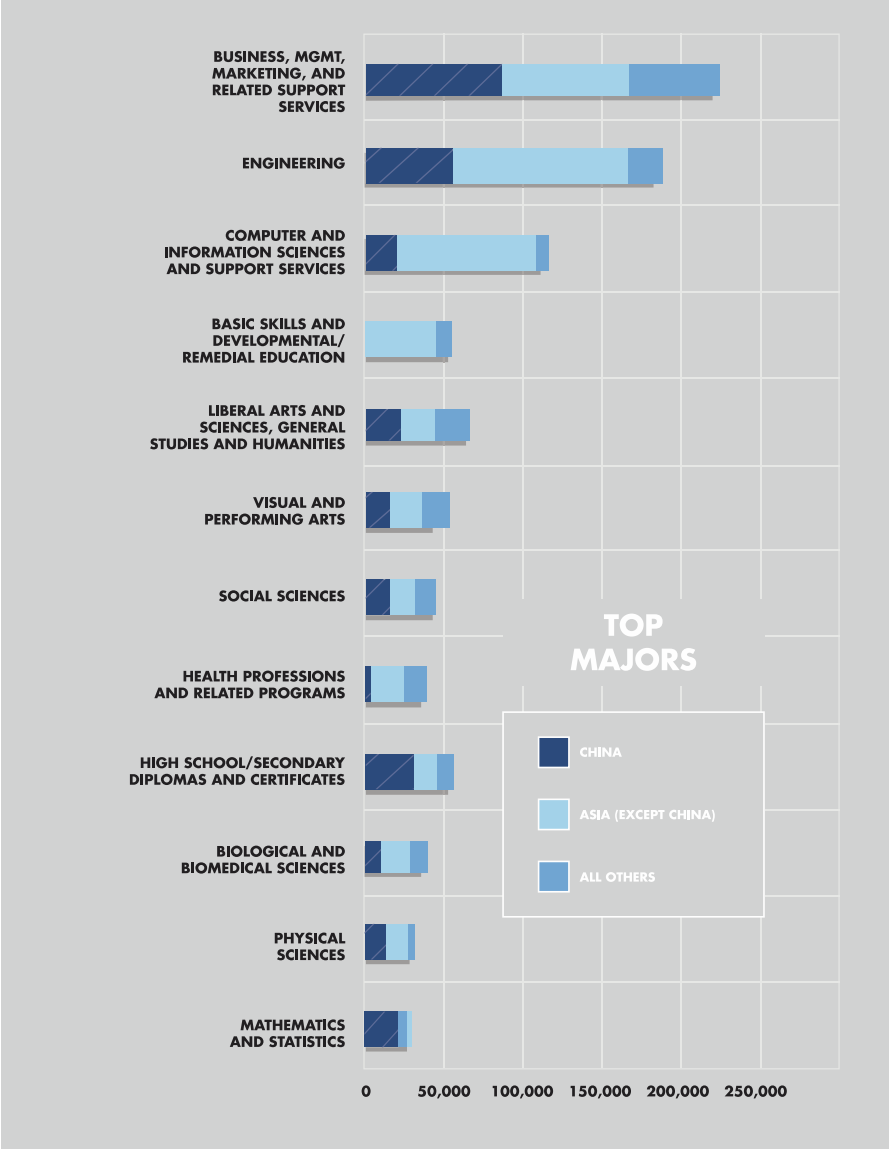
What are the most popular majors among F & M students studying in the United States?

31%

of all F & M students from Europe are enrolled in programs for business, management, marketing, and related support services and liberal arts and sciences, general studies and humanities.

23%

of all F & M students from Africa are enrolled in programs for engineering and health professions and related programs.



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STEM DATA

STEM FIELDS OF STUDY

Science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) are popular programs at American colleges and universities. Graduates from these programs are important to innovation and job creation in the United States.

An F-1 and/or M-1 student can find STEM programs at all educational levels. Many colleges and universities offer programs in these fields at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Community colleges also have a variety of STEM programs in which a student may enroll.

STEM programs are classified according to the Classification of Instructional Programs codes developed by the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics.

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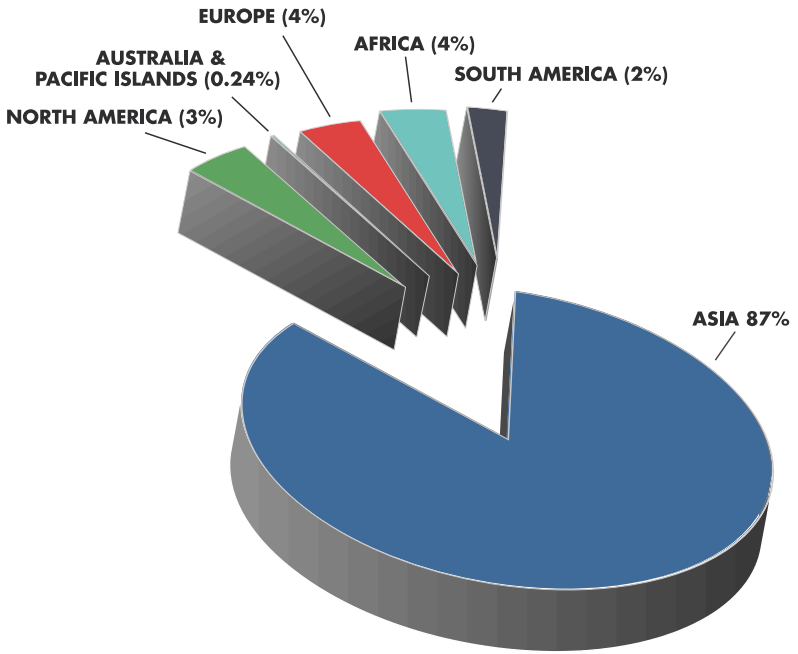
STEM STUDENTS, SCHOOLS AND FIELDS OF STUDY

How many F & M STEM students are in the United States, and where and what do they study?

PERCENT OF F & M STEM STUDENTS IN THE UNITED STATES PER CONTINENT



TOTAL # OF STEM AND ALL F & M STUDENTS

STUDENTS (F-1 & M-1)			
	STEM	ALL F & M	PERCENTAGE IN STEM
F-1 & M-1 STUDENTS	466,900	1,194,780	39.1%

TOP THREE STEM SCHOOLS FOR F-1 AND M-1 STUDENTS	
SCHOOL	# OF STEM STUDENTS
PURDUE UNIVERSITY	7,800
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	7,281
NORTHWESTERN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY	7,258

TOP THREE STEM MAJORS FOR F-1 AND M-1 STUDENTS	
MAJOR	# OF STEM STUDENTS
ENGINEERING	191,223
COMPUTER AND INFORMATION SCIENCES AND SUPPORT SERVICES	121,550
BIOLOGICAL AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES	39,698

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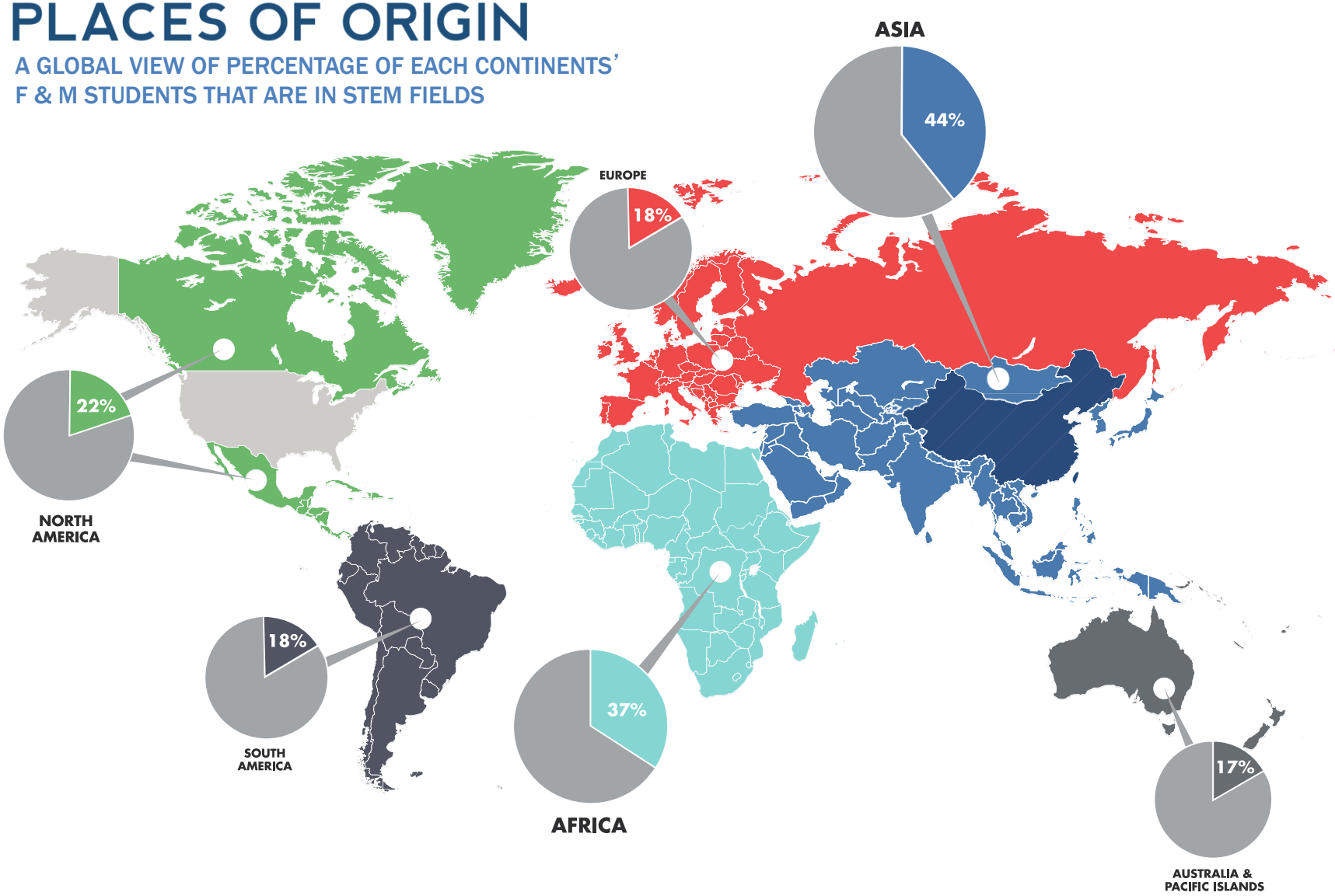
PLACES OF ORIGIN

A GLOBAL VIEW OF PERCENTAGE OF EACH CONTINENTS' F & M STUDENTS THAT ARE IN STEM FIELDS



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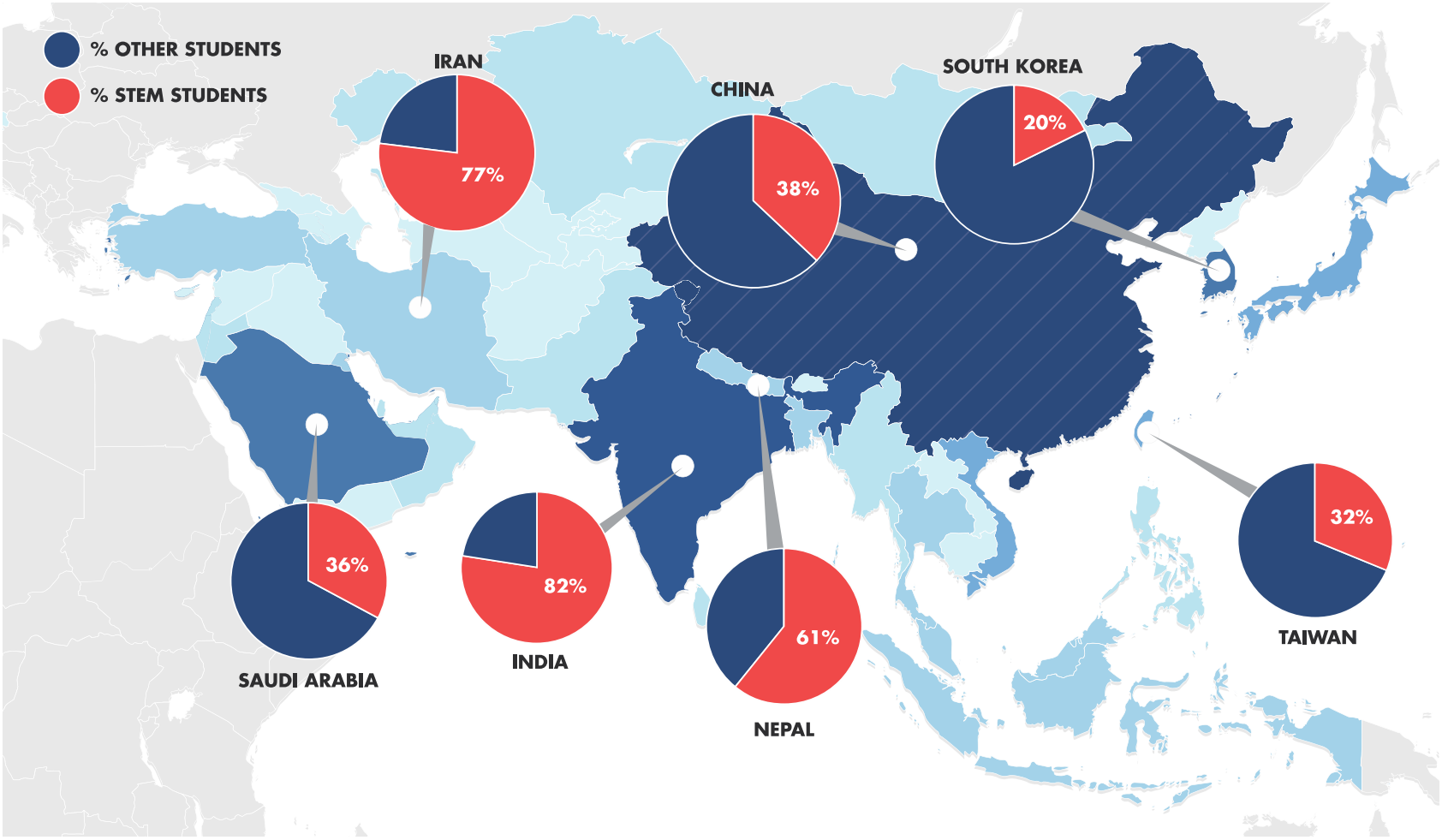
PLACES OF ORIGIN

A CLOSER LOOK AT ASIAN F & M STEM STUDENTS



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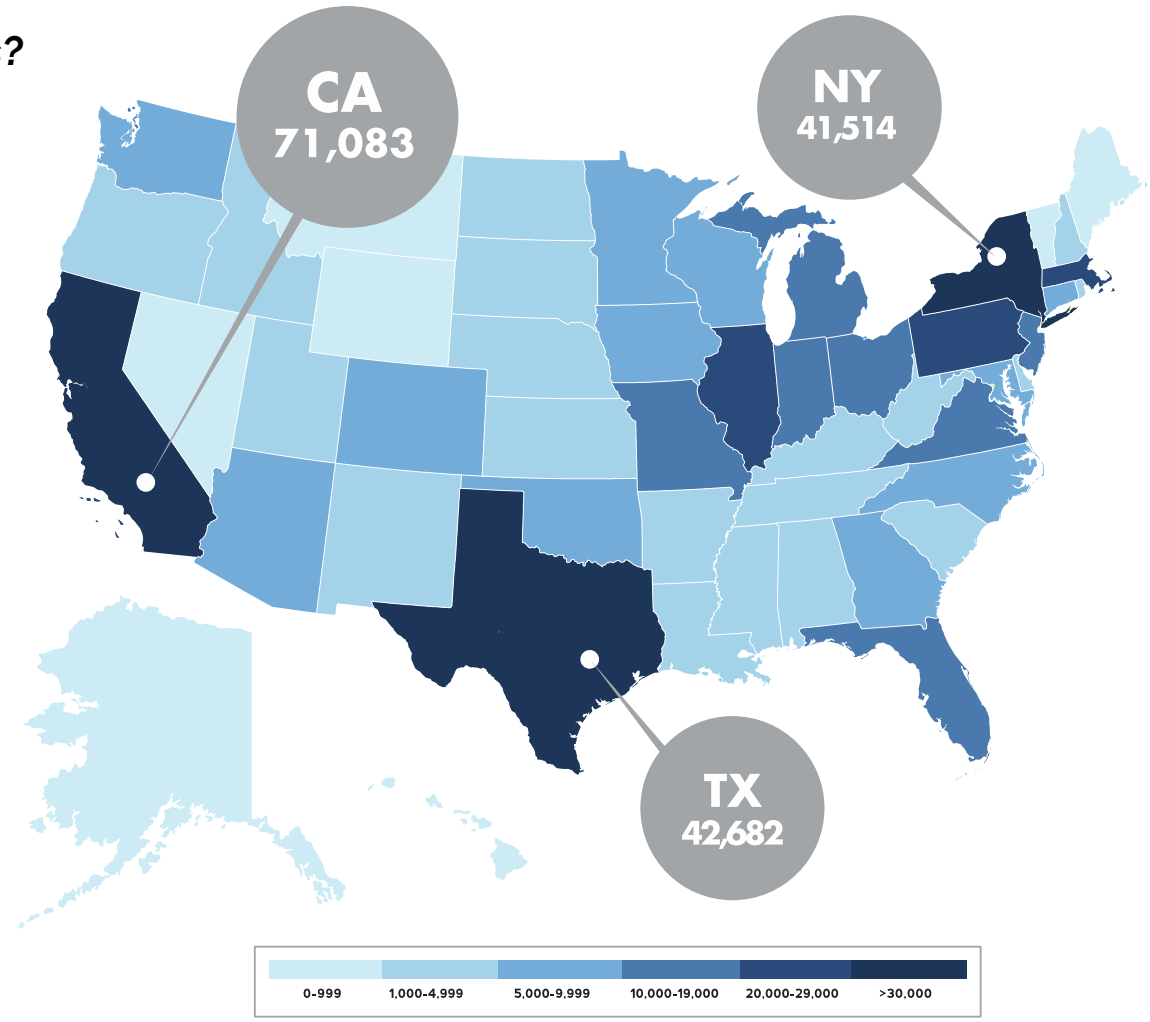
STEM STUDENTS BY STATE

Which states host the greatest population of F & M STEM students?

33%

of all F & M STEM students study in CA, TX and NY.



TOP THREE STATES WITH LARGEST PERCENTAGE OF F & M STEM STUDENTS

STATE	% of STEM STUDENTS
WYOMING	62%
SOUTH DAKOTA	59%
NEW MEXICO	49%

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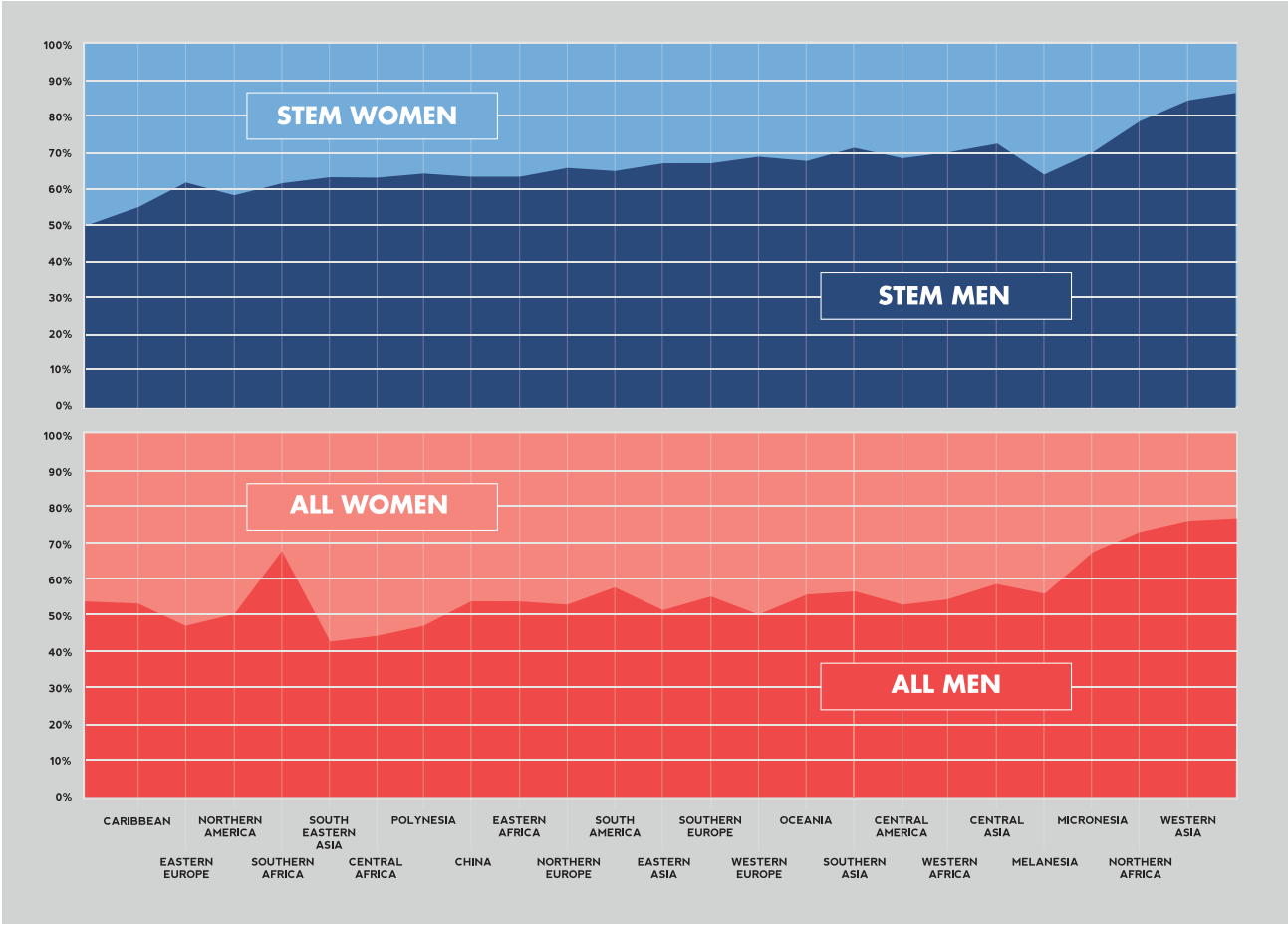
STEM STUDENTS BY GENDER

How many male F & M students are in STEM fields in the United States compared to females?

The following graphs show the proportion of F & M STEM male and female students versus all F & M students from each region of the world.

69%

of all F & M students studying in STEM fields in the United States are male. The greatest percentage of female STEM students (46 percent) are from Melanesia and the greatest percentage of male STEM students (84 percent) are from Western Asia.



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TOP 10 STEM DEGREES

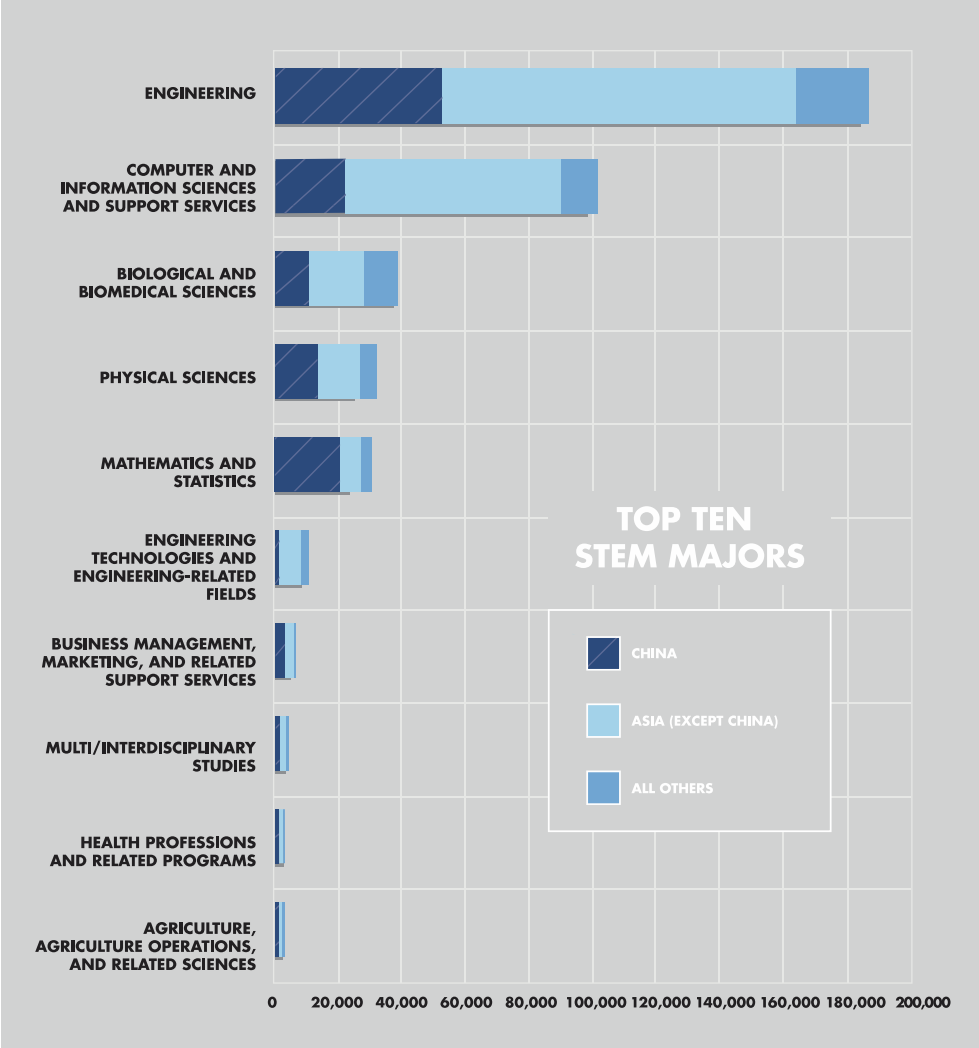
What are the most popular majors among F & M STEM students studying in the United States?

84%

of all F & M STEM students from India study in programs for computer and information sciences and support services, and engineering.

24%

of all F & M STEM students from China study in programs for mathematics and statistics, and physical sciences.



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FOCUS ON SOUTH KOREA

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

South Korea ranks third overall for number of F & M students that come to study in the United States. Only China and India have more. F & M students from South Korea comprise 7 percent of the entire F & M student population and 4 percent of the STEM student population in the United States.

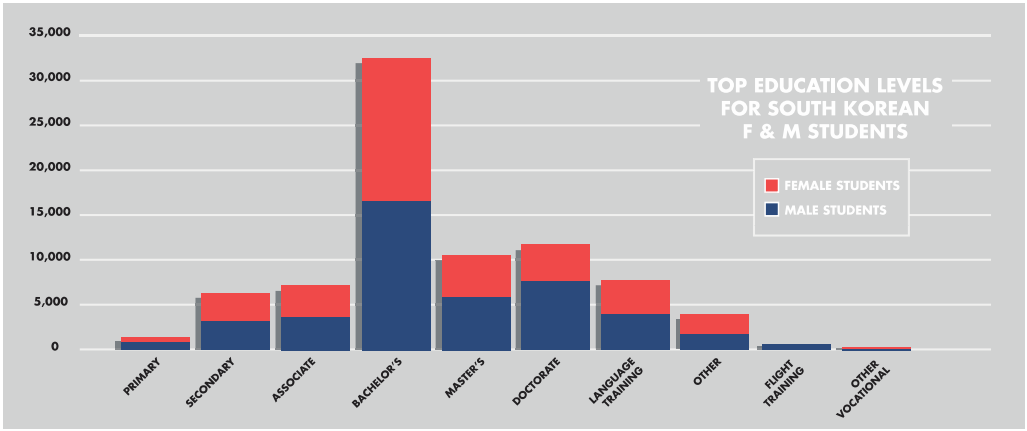
Since November 2014, the number of students studying in the United States from South Korea decreased 7 percent, and the number of South Korean students enrolled in secondary school degree programs decreased 14 percent. Forty percent of F & M students from South Korea are enrolled in bachelor's degree programs. Only 20 percent of F & M students from South Korea study in STEM fields.

TOTAL # OF ACTIVE STUDENTS

TOTAL # OF ACTIVE STUDENTS FROM SOUTH KOREA			
	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
ALL F-1 & M-1	42,664	38,913	81,577
STEM F-1 & M-1	11,163	5,309	16,472

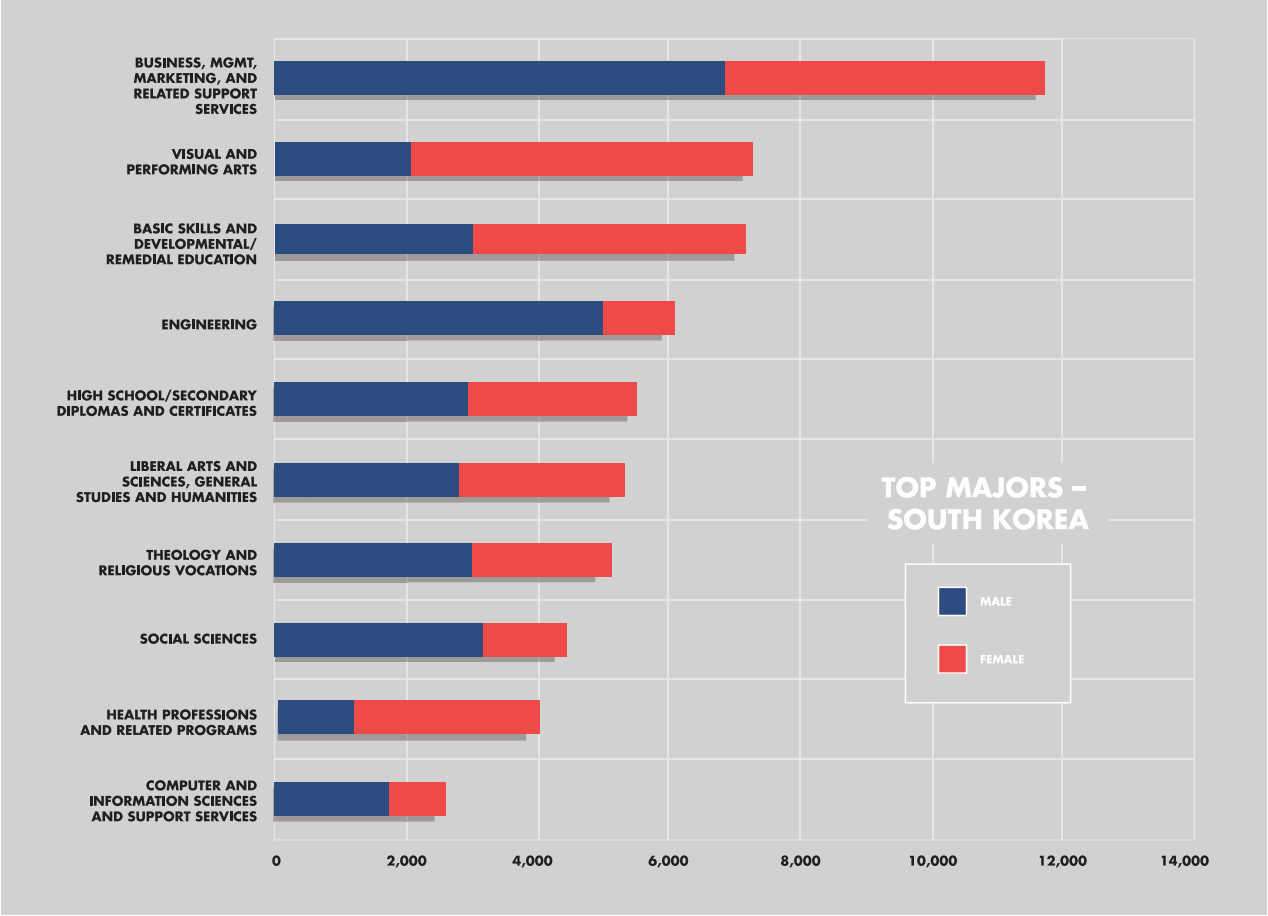
TOP STATES OF STUDY FOR F-1 & M-1 SOUTH KOREAN STUDENTS			
STATE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
CALIFORNIA	9,435	8,719	18,154
NEW YORK	5,522	7,022	12,544
TEXAS	2,546	1965	4,511
MASSACHUSETTS	2,109	2,020	4,129
ILLINOIS	2,157	1,754	3,911

TOP EDUCATION LEVELS FOR SOUTH KOREAN F & M STUDENTS



TOP MAJORS – SOUTH KOREA

What are the most popular majors among F & M students from South Korea who study in the United States?

16%

of all male F & M students from South Korea study business, management, marketing, and related support services programs and 14 percent of all female F & M students study visual and performing arts programs.