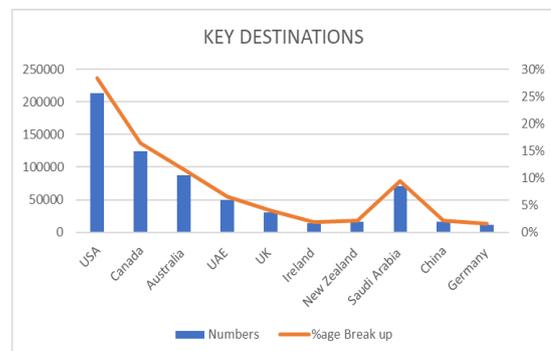


## “Being Resilient”: An emerging trend in Indian students, desire to study abroad?

Things might have changed for many people in or outside India, but the thought of studying abroad or the feeling of International higher education, still, gives goosebumps and has great importance. International University’s degree even today increases the individual value a ton more than just a national degree, and people do realize these facts which make them resilient towards studying abroad concepts.

It is important to know why Indians seek to travel abroad for further education the first reason is to be better qualified than their peers and to urge better and higher-paying jobs. So, the recession that might arise post the coronavirus pandemic could be an additional motivation for them and will push them even harder professionally. Majority of Indian students enrol in a foreign course to relocate outside of the nation. Countries such as Canada and the United States are now welcoming more immigrants into their countries by offering them lucrative job opportunities.

Every year new data is collected, and researchers analyse the pattern and increment in data of students either applying abroad or are willing to do so. According to UNESCO data released, there have been 5 million international students across the world in 2019, and 750,000 of these happened to be from India. However, COVID-19 has forced students across India to rethink their decision to review abroad and even where they are doing so.



**“After 55% dip in 2020, 71k students went abroad this year already (Jan-Feb 2021).”**

**“More Indian Students Keen to Study Abroad in 2021 in Search of Better Healthcare”**

In the past, countries like the USA, UK, Canada, Australia, are preferred by Indian students. However, as COVID-19 continues to affect the planet, students have begun to re-evaluate their choices and are turning their attention to countries like Germany and Ireland. COVID-19 pandemic has not stopped Indian students to pursue their study-abroad dreams, however, the main target has moved towards smaller countries that are less impacted by the virus. Emerging destinations such as Sweden and Israel have seen a rise in the number of applications from India comparative with the traditional favourite destinations including the US, UK, Canada, and Australia that expect a decline within the number of international applications.

New data released in July this year from the UK's centralized higher education application system shows a 30% increase in the number of undergraduate applications from Indian students to study at British universities, despite the ongoing pandemic-related travel constraints. Experts within the field of foreign education say 2021 goes to be a stimulating year as more students are applying, including those that dropped their plans in 2020 thanks to Covid. In 2020, Canada overtook the United States as the most popular study destination for Indian students. Canada had a significant growth from 2015 to 2020, trump era in US and no post study work visa in UK fuelled this growth.

**UK sees increase in Indian student applications despite pandemic constraints.**

**Canada saw a 431 percent growth in international students' enrolment from India in five years.**

In a recent interview, Stephanie Winters, public relations manager, Educational Testing Service, an agency that conducts TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) and GRE (Graduate Record Examination), which are accepted for admission by universities within the US and other countries, also agreed there's a positive trend in terms of student applications. She said the intention to study abroad is clearly visible in the number of students taking the GRE test and TOEFL.

**COVID or not, more than 18 lakh Indian students are predicted to study abroad by the year 2024**

While talking to a leading portal a famous Educational Consultant said, "We have been counselling students since 1981 and have seen that economic recessions do not really impact the international education industry.

I am busier today than ever before doing online counselling sessions with students for both 2020 as well as 2021 and do not detect any negativity among them.

Universities are still accepting applications and apart from the very fact that we are all performing from home, it's business as was common for the whole industry."

Indian students are resilient towards their dream of studying abroad and are struggling for a way to gather spirit and believe, with a touch of true guidance and correct university proposal things might change a bit.

**International student numbers increase despite pandemic**

According to the report Wissenschaft Weltoffen 2021, published by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the German Centre for Higher Education Research and Science Studies, around 325,000 international students attended German universities in the winter semester of 2020-21, up nearly 5,000 students, or 2%, from the previous year (DZHW).