

International Student-Related Stats and Facts

International Student Facts

- Over one million international students and scholars study in the US each year. (That's the population of Rhode Island!)¹
- Future world leaders study in the US—including Kofi Annan (former UN Secretary General), Ellen Johnson Sirleaf (Nobel Peace Prize winner and Liberian president), Mohamed Morsi (former Egyptian president), and Sayyib Qutb ("father of Islamic fundamentalism"). Their influence could be for good or for bad.
- ~70% of international students will never enter an American home.
- Nearly 40% of international students do not have close American friends.²
- Nearly all international students are from the 10/40 window³ or belong to an unreached people group⁴
- Top 3 sending countries are China, India, and South Korea. Other top contenders include Saudi Arabia, Taiwan, Japan, Vietnam, Turkey, Nepal, Iran, and Kuwait.⁵

Global Stats

- More than 4 out of 7 people in the world are unreached⁶
- 2/3 of the world are made up of predominantly non-Christian people groups, but only 1 of 4 Christian workers/ missionaries work in a pioneering ministry amongst non-Christian people groups⁷
- 85% of all Muslims, Hindus, and Buddhists do not have a personal relationship with a Christian.⁸
- A Japanese is 30x more likely to become a Christian outside of Japan than in Japan⁹

InterVarsity Stats

- At least HALF of the international students in InterVarsity are NOT in designated ISM chapters. (That's ~2,500).
- For every ISM chapter, there are 24+ "non-ISM" chapters (45 ISM chapters out of 1000+ InterVarsity chapters)
- Outside of ISM-specific chapters, approximately HALF of all InterVarsity chapters do not have core international student involvement.

¹ <https://www.iie.org/Research-and-Insights/Open-Doors/Data>

² <https://www.newswise.com/articles/many-international-students-have-few-close-american-friends-survey-says>

³ 10/40 Window: The general area between latitudes 10° & 40° and the Atlantic & Pacific Oceans where more than 2/3 of the world's under-evangelized population live. Of the ~ 1.6 billion who have never had a chance to hear the Gospel, over 95% reside in the 10/40 window (Perspectives, p. 543).

⁴ Unreached People Groups: A people group is an ethno-linguistic group with a common self-identity shared by its members. For strategic purposes it is the largest group within which the Gospel can spread without encountering barriers of understanding or acceptance. A people group is considered unreached when there is no indigenous community of believing Christians able to engage the group with church planting and less than 2% of the population is Christian. (<http://www.peoplegroups.org>)

⁵ <https://www.iie.org/Research-and-Insights/Open-Doors/Data>

⁶ <https://www.peoplegroups.org/>

⁷ Perspectives on the World Christian Movement, 3rd ed., p. 522

⁸ <http://worldviewconversation.blogspot.com/2011/06/cold-welcome-for-international-students.html>

⁹ JCFN unpublished/unofficial study results