



Executive Summary

Background

[The Student and Exchange Visitor Program \(SEVP\)](#) is part of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). [SEVP manages the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System \(SEVIS\)](#), the web-based system DHS uses to maintain and manage information on the nonimmigrants whose primary purpose for coming to the United States is to study.

A nonimmigrant is any foreign national who temporarily visits the United States to fulfill a specific purpose (e.g., tourism, business, study). SEVP acts as a bridge for organizations and individuals with an interest in information about nonimmigrants in the following categories:

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

SEVP certifies U.S. schools to enroll nonimmigrant students and ensures their compliance with administrative regulations. The Department of State manages the J-1 exchange visitor program. 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 nonimmigrant 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 on nonimmigrant students studying in the United States. The report includes the following sections:

- **STUDENTS** – Data on nonimmigrant students who come to the United States to study.
- **SCHOOLS** – Data on SEVP-certified schools that enroll nonimmigrant students in the United States.
- **STATES AND TERRITORIES** – Data about nonimmigrant student demographics within individual U.S. states and territories.

This SEVIS by the Numbers report uses SEVIS data from calendar year 2018 and compares that to data from calendar year 2017. Previous iterations of this report used point-in-time data, which provided a snapshot of students studying in the United States on a specific day, rather than calendar year data. As such, this version of the report cannot be compared to previous years' reports, as the reporting period is different. This report can be compared to calendar year data in the [SEVP Data Library on ICE.gov](#). SEVP recently revamped the methodology it uses to generate data on nonimmigrant students. As a result, SEVP has updated 2017 data within the SEVP Data Library so it mirrors 2018 data.

PLEASE NOTE: A nonimmigrant student or exchange visitor is deemed active once they enter the United States and engage in their program of study or exchange visitor program.

Trends

This SEVIS by the Numbers report uses SEVIS data from calendar year 2018 and compares data from calendar year 2017 to calendar year 2018.

The total number of SEVIS records for active F-1 and M-1 students was 1,551,373 in calendar year 2018. This was a decrease of 1.7 percent from calendar year 2017.

- A total of four SEVP-certified schools enrolled more than 15,000 nonimmigrant students.
- In calendar year 2018, 8,936 SEVP-certified schools were eligible to enroll nonimmigrant students, a decrease of 166 schools from 2017 (9,102 schools).



- Asia remains the number one continent of origin for nonimmigrant students with 1,165,483 student records, despite a 1.9 percent (-22,598) decrease in nonimmigrant student population from Asia.
- In calendar year 2018, only the continents of South America (3.2 percent) and Australia and the Pacific Islands (1 percent) saw growth in the number of students studying in the United States. The number of South American students increased by 2,703 students, from 85,639 in 2017 to 88,342 in 2018. The number of Australian and Pacific Island students increased by 102 students, from 9,906 in 2017 to 10,008 in 2018.
- China (478,732), India (251,290) and the Republic of Korea (South Korea) (88,867) sent the largest number of students in both calendar year 2017 and 2018. Of these countries, only the number of students from India increased from 2017 to 2018 (+4,157). The number of students from China (-147) and Republic of Korea (South Korea) decreased (-6,403) over the same period.
- There were 145,564 pre- and post-completion optional practical training (OPT) students with both an employment authorization document (EAD) and who reported working for an employer in calendar year 2018, compared to 152,681 in calendar year 2017—a nearly five percent decrease.
- There were 69,650 science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) OPT students with both an EAD and who reported working for an employer in calendar year 2018, compared to 64,481 in calendar year 2017—more than an 8 percent increase.
- There were 151,525 curricular practical training (CPT) students who reported working for an employer in calendar year 2018, compared to 132,380 in calendar year 2017, more than a 14 percent increase.
- In 2018, California hosted 302,073 nonimmigrant students, the largest percentage of nonimmigrant students (19.5 percent) of any U.S. state.

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



Overview

During the calendar year 2017 to calendar year 2018 reporting period, the total number of F-1 and M-1 nonimmigrant student records decreased by 26,120 (-1.7 percent). In calendar year 2018, nonimmigrant students in the United States hailed from 232 countries and pursued 1,347 different primary majors¹. Nonimmigrant students engaged in studies across a variety of education levels, from primary schools to flight training schools to higher education.

Nonimmigrant Students in Higher Education

Most F-1 and M-1 students come to the United States to take part in the higher education system. In 2018, roughly 85 percent of all F-1 and M-1 students were enrolled in SEVP-certified associate, bachelor's, master's or doctoral programs. Specifically, nonimmigrant students in the United States pursued 1,316,067 degrees in higher education, which is on par with data from calendar year 2017 (1,313,434). 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 116,734 F-1 students who sought an associate degree in calendar year 2018, which accounted for 7.5 percent of degrees pursued by the nonimmigrant student population. In calendar year 2017, a total of 125,872 F-1 students sought an associate degree, which accounted for eight percent of degrees sought by the nonimmigrant student population. The number of students enrolled in associate degree programs decreased 7.8 percent (-9,138) year over year.

Bachelor's and Master's Degrees

There were 1,020,780 F-1 students who sought either a bachelor's (522,155) or master's (498,625) degree in calendar year 2018, which accounted for 66 percent of degrees sought by the nonimmigrant student population. These two levels of education were the most popular among nonimmigrant students coming to the United States. Overall, the percentage

¹ A primary major is the foremost major listed on a nonimmigrant student's SEVIS record and corresponds to most of their coursework in the United States.



of bachelor's and master's degrees grew, with the former increasing by .29 percent (+1,491) and the latter growing by .5 percent (+2,440) year over year.

Doctoral Degrees

There were 178,553 F-1 students who sought a doctoral degree in calendar year 2018, which accounted for 11.5 percent of degrees sought by the nonimmigrant student population. In calendar year 2017, 170,713 F-1 students sought a doctoral degree, which accounted for 10.8 percent of degrees sought by the nonimmigrant student population. The number of students enrolled in doctoral programs increased 4.4 percent (+7,840) year over year.

- 8.9% (116,734) Associate
- 39.7% (522,155) Bachelor's
- 37.9% (498,625) Master's
- 13.5% (178,553) Doctoral

Above are the percentage breakdowns by degree type of the total number of nonimmigrant students enrolled in the U.S. higher education system in calendar year 2018.

Primary Majors

Nonimmigrant students can pursue more than one major during their program of study in the United States. This section focuses on students' primary majors, which are the foremost majors listed on their SEVIS record and correspond to most of their coursework in the United States.

The top 20 most popular higher education majors for nonimmigrant students in calendar year 2018 were:

Primary Major	2018 Active Student Count
Second Language Learning*	153,843
Business Administration and Management, General	113,426
Computer Science	79,537
Electrical and Electronics Engineering	58,089
Computer and Information Sciences, General	46,588
Mechanical Engineering	40,799
High School/Secondary Diploma Programs, Other	31,588
General Studies	31,413



Liberal Arts and Sciences/Liberal Studies	30,359
Regular/General High School/Secondary Diploma Program	29,318
Economics, General	27,635
Accounting	25,309
Finance, General	24,708
Civil Engineering, General	21,552
Mathematics, General	20,903
Information Technology	19,484
Biology/Biological Sciences, General	18,689
Business/Commerce, General	18,140
Computer Engineering, General	17,165
Airline/Commercial/Professional Pilot and Flight Crew	16,449

**Language learning indicates a major in a language other than English, such as (but not limited to) Spanish language and/or literature, Russian language and/or literature, etc.*

Fifty-three percent (824,994) of students studied one of these top 20 majors.

In calendar year 2017, 169,279 nonimmigrant students majored in second language learning programs. That number decreased 10.3 percent (-15,436) in calendar year 2018. This was the most popular area of study for all students in 2017 and 2018, accounting for 9.9 percent (153,843) of all nonimmigrant student records in 2018.

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

Nonimmigrant Students at K-12 Schools

There were 84,840 nonimmigrant student records for kindergarten through 12th grade (K-12) education during calendar year 2018. Approximately eight percent of K-12 students in 2018 pursued primary school education, while approximately 92 percent of K-12 students pursued secondary school education (grades 9-12). China sent nearly 50 percent of all K-12 students in 2018, followed by South Korea, Vietnam, Mexico and Brazil.

- 49.7% (42,122): China
- 8.6% (7,241): South Korea
- 7.1% (6,038): Vietnam
- 3.3% (2,756): Mexico



2.7% (2,285): Brazil

Above are the top five countries of citizenship with the largest number of nonimmigrant K12 students in the United States in calendar year 2018.

Optional Practical Training and Curricular Practical Training

Nonimmigrant 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 student's program end date and can last up to 12 months.
- Post-completion OPT takes place after a student's program end date and can also last up to 12 months.
- STEM OPT is a 24-month extension of OPT for qualifying students with STEM degrees.
- CPT takes place prior to a student's program end date and is integral to the school's established curriculum.

Note: To participate in any form of OPT, a nonimmigrant student must receive an employment authorization document (EAD) from U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

In calendar year 2018, there were 145,564 pre- and post-completion OPT students with both an EAD and who reported working for an employer, 69,650 STEM OPT students with both an EAD and who reported working for an employer, and 151,525 CPT students who reported working for an employer.

The total number of nonimmigrant students working at any point during a calendar year may exceed the number of 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 students participating in pre- and post-completion OPT in calendar year 2018. This does not include students participating in STEM OPT.



Employer Name	2018 Active Student Count
Integra Technologies LLC	1,302
Amazon	851
AZTech Technologies LLC	705
Tellon Trading, Inc	455
Global IT Experts, Inc	442
Intel Corporation	368
XCG Design Corporation	355
Veridic Solutions	332
Google	308
Robert Half	260
Facebook	259
Arizona State University	258
Sinocontech	252
Cloud Big Data	251
Microsoft Corporation	243
Elbum LLC	236
Randstad	231
CG Max Design Corp	224
University of Florida	224
Cloud Hybrid Technologies LLC	221
Deloitte	216
Acuty LLC	203
Arecy LLC	175
University at Buffalo	171
Apple, Inc	166

Please visit the SEVP Data Library for the [2018 Top 200 Employers for Pre- and PostCompletion OPT students](#).

Below are the top 25 employers for students participating in STEM OPT in calendar year 2018.



Employer Name	2018 Active Student Count
Amazon	2,395
Intel Corporation	1,111
Google	996
Integra Technologies LLC	936
Microsoft Corporation	690
Deloitte	579
IBM	563
Facebook	528
Apple, Inc	433
XCG Design Corporation	362
Qualcomm Technologies, Inc	351
CG Max Design Corp	326
Cisco System, Inc	322
Cerner Corporation	313
Capgemini America	312
Marlabs, Inc	311
Veridic Solutions	307
Ernst & Young	298
JP Morgan Chase	295
Modis E&T LLC	281
Populus Group	275
eBay or PayPal	274
PricewaterhouseCoopers	273
Cognizant	258
Oracle	256

Please visit the SEVP Data Library for the [2018 Top 200 Employers for STEM OPT students](#).

Below are the top 25 employers for students participating in CPT in calendar year 2018.



Employer Name	2018 Active Student Count
Google	1,051
Facebook	877
Amazon	691
Microsoft Corporation	580
Intel Corporation	535
Deloitte	531
Tesla, Inc	454
PRO Unlimited	446
Cummins	356
Goldman Sachs	351
Apple, Inc	343
IBM	315
NVIDIA Corporation	313
PricewaterhouseCoopers	293
JP Morgan Chase	280
World Bank	246
eBay or PayPal	242
Ernst & Young	230
Qualcomm Technologies, Inc	229
Adobe Systems Incorporated	222
Randstad	222
Samsung Research America	208
Dell, Inc	197
Morgan Stanley	185
Bank of America	180

Please visit the SEVP Data Library for the [2018 Top 200 Employers for CPT Students](#).

Nonimmigrant Students from Around the World

Other than Antarctica, F-1 and M-1 students come from every continent in the world, and from more than 232 countries and territories. Asia had the largest number of active



nonimmigrant student records (1,165,483), accounting for 75 percent of the nonimmigrant student population. Only South America and Australia and the Pacific Islands saw growth in the number of students coming to the United States during the reporting year. The figure below illustrates the overall population and growth or decline rate of each continent from calendar year 2017 to calendar year 2018.

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



Above are the growth or decline rates for each continent over the reporting period of calendar year 2017 to calendar year 2018.

The top 10 countries of citizenship with the largest number of nonimmigrant students in the United States in calendar year 2018 were:



Country of Citizenship	2018 Active Student Count
CHINA	478,732
INDIA	251,290
REPUBLIC OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA)	88,867
SAUDI ARABIA	61,205
JAPAN	39,396
CANADA	38,998
BRAZIL	37,845
VIETNAM	37,242
TAIWAN	32,226
MEXICO	20,703

Africa

While the overall number of active F-1 and M-1 student records coming from Africa decreased by 110 student records from calendar year 2017 (67,841) to calendar year 2018 (67,731), student record trends varied across different countries. Some Western African countries like Burkina Faso (-166) and Senegal (-54) sent fewer students, while Ghana (+495) sent more students in 2018. There were similar variations with Northern African countries, with Libya (-321) sending fewer students and South Sudan (+30) sending more students. South Sudan (+30) saw the steepest proportional increases across the continent.

Country	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Calendar Year 2018 Total Population
South Sudan	+34.5%	+30	117
Madagascar	+23.4%	+47	248
Ghana	+12.1%	+495	4,570
Mauritania	-18.1%	-25	113
Libya	-18.3%	-321	1,437
Cape Verde	-26.1%	-35	99

Above are the African countries that sent at least 50 nonimmigrant students to the United States and saw the greatest fluctuation in enrollments in the reporting period calendar year 2017 to calendar year 2018.



Asia

Forty-seven percent (730,022) of all active SEVIS records hailed from either China (478,732) or India (251,290) in calendar year 2018, an increase from 46 percent in calendar year 2017 (726,012). While the overall number of active F-1 and M-1 student records coming from Asia decreased by 22,598 from calendar year 2017 to calendar year 2018, student record trends varied across different countries.

China sent slightly fewer students in 2018 in comparison to 2017 (-147), while India sent more students (+4,157). The number of students from China and India made Asia the most popular continent of origin. In fact, 75 percent of all nonimmigrant students in the United States call Asia home. Some Asian countries like Saudi Arabia (-10,879), South Korea (-6,403) and Japan (-2,138) sent fewer students, while India (+4,157), Bangladesh (+477) and Pakistan (+457) sent more students in 2018.

Country	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Calendar Year 2018 Total Population
Laos	+21.8%	+42	235
Cambodia	+18.5%	+167	1,072
Armenia	+13.2%	+48	412
Saudi Arabia	-15.1%	-10,879	61,205
Syria	-24.8%	-218	662
Yemen	-39.0%	-456	713

Above are the Asian countries that sent at least 50 nonimmigrant students to the United States and saw the greatest fluctuation in enrollments in the reporting period calendar year 2017 to calendar year 2018.

Australia and Pacific Islands

The overall number of active F-1 and M-1 student records from Australia and the Pacific Island nations increased by 102 from calendar year 2017 to calendar year 2018. In calendar year 2018, there were 10,008 active student records from this region, which is a one percent increase from calendar year 2017 (9,906). Ninety-six percent of enrollments from this continent hail from the region's largest countries: Australia (7,257) and New Zealand (2,324).



Country	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Calendar Year 2018 Total Population
New Zealand	+2.6%	+59	2,324
Fiji	+2.2%	+2	91
Australia	+7%	+53	7,257
Papua New Guinea	-8.3%	-17	187

Above are the Australian and Pacific Island countries that sent at least 50 nonimmigrant students to the United States in calendar year 2018.

Europe

Europe is the second most popular continent of origin—and, like North America, Asia and Africa, it saw a decrease in the number of students studying in the United States in calendar year 2018. While the overall number of active F-1 and M-1 student records coming from Europe decreased by 3,474 from calendar year 2017 (132,865) to calendar year 2018 (129,407), student record trends varied across different countries. Student enrollment from Germany (-600), Sweden (-536) and the United Kingdom (-461) declined, while Spain (+141), Greece (+83) and Albania (+116) increased.

Country	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Calendar Year 2018 Total Population
Malta	+42.5%	+17	57
Albania	+8.9%	+116	1,414
Kosovo	+8.4%	+20	258
Latvia	-9.1%	-40	401
Bulgaria	-13.9%	-183	1,137
Moldova	-16.6%	-67	337

Above are the European countries that sent at least 50 nonimmigrant students to the United States and saw the greatest fluctuation in enrollments in the reporting period calendar year 2017 to calendar year 2018.

North America

North America saw the largest proportional decline in the number of student records in calendar year 2018. The overall number of active F-1 and M-1 student records coming from North America decreased by 2,736 from calendar year 2017 to calendar year 2018,



resulting in 90,249 students studying in the United States in 2018. Student record trends varied across different countries. The decline in the number of Mexican (-2,836) and Canadian (-506) student records accounted for the overall continental trend. However, the number of student records from Panama (+164), Jamaica (+112) and Dominica (+98) increased.

Country	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Calendar Year 2018 Total Population
Cuba	+32.6%	+30	122
Dominica	+19.0%	+30	614
Haiti	+7.1%	+91	1,376
British Virgin Islands	-9.4%	-14	135
Mexico	-12.0%	-2,836	20,703
Turks and Caicos Island	-17.3%	-14	67

Above are the North American countries that sent at least 50 nonimmigrant students to the United States and saw the greatest fluctuation in enrollments in the reporting period calendar year 2017 to calendar year 2018.

South America

In contrast to its northern counterpart, the number of students coming into the United States from South America increased by 2,706 from calendar year 2017 (85,632) to calendar year 2018 (88,338). Growth from Brazil (+3,927), Peru (+211), Colombia (+154) and Chile (+142) helped to counterbalance the decrease in enrollment from Venezuela (1,977).

Country	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Calendar Year 2018 Total Population
Brazil	+11.6%	+3,927	37,845
Guyana	+10.1%	+45	490
Peru	+4.3%	+211	5,097
Uruguay	-2.7%	-13	475
Venezuela	-12.9%	-1,977	13,309



Above are the South American countries that sent at least 50 nonimmigrant students to the United States and saw the greatest fluctuation in enrollments in the reporting period calendar year 2017 to calendar year 2018.

Visit the SEVP Data Library for a full list of [2018 All Countries of Citizenship by Total Number of Active Students](#).

Nonimmigrant Student Gender Trends

Forty-four percent (678,841) of F-1 and M-1 nonimmigrant students in calendar year 2018 were female, while 56 percent (872,125) were male. Of K-12 student enrollments, 42.9 percent were female (36,395) in 2018. Forty-three percent (441,478) of bachelor’s and master’s nonimmigrant students were female, 48 percent (55,909) of nonimmigrant students seeking associate degrees were female and 39 percent (69,455) of nonimmigrant students seeking doctoral degrees were female in 2018. Of the top 10 countries of citizenship in calendar year 2018, the average female enrollment was 45.6 percent (495,880).

Below are the top 10 countries of citizenship in calendar year 2018 with the percentage of female and male students.

Country of Citizenship	Female	Male	2018 Total Active Student Count
China	47.9%	52.0%	478,732
India	33.5%	66.5%	251,290
Republic of Korea (South Korea)	46.5%	53.5%	88,867
Saudi Arabia	24.6%	75.4%	61,205
Japan	54.7%	45.3%	39,396
Canada	48.9%	51.1%	38,998
Brazil	51.3%	48.7%	37,845
Vietnam	54.3%	45.7%	37,242
Taiwan	49.5%	50.5%	32,226
Mexico	45.2%	54.8%	20,703



Overview

F-1 and M-1 students must attend schools that are SEVP-certified. U.S. schools can obtain SEVP certification to enroll F-1 students, M-1 students, or both F-1 and M-1 students. In calendar year 2018, there were 8,936 SEVP-certified schools in the United States, 166 fewer schools than in calendar year 2017.² In 2018, 85 percent (7,595) of SEVP-certified schools could enroll only F-1 students; eight percent (675) could enroll only M-1 students; and seven percent (666) could enroll both F-1 and M-1 students.

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

Enrollment at SEVP-certified Schools

There were 8,936 SEVP-certified schools in 2018. Of the 7,512 schools that enrolled students in 2018, 65 percent hosted one to 50 nonimmigrant students. Nineteen percent of schools that enrolled nonimmigrant students hosted 101 to 1,000 nonimmigrant students, 11 percent of schools that enrolled nonimmigrant students hosted 51 to 100 students and four percent of schools hosted 1,001 to 5,000 students. Less than one percent of schools that enrolled nonimmigrant students in 2018 hosted 5,001 or more nonimmigrant students.

There were four schools that enrolled more than 15,000 nonimmigrant students in 2018; Columbia University in the City of New York, New York University, University of Southern California and Northeastern University.

2018 Active Student Enrollment	Count of Approved Schools in 2018
1 to 50 Students	4,913

² This SEVIS by the Numbers report uses SEVIS data from calendar year 2018 and compares that to data from calendar year 2017. Previous iterations of this report used point-in-time data, which provided a snapshot of students studying in the United States on a specific day, rather than calendar year data. As such, this version of the report cannot be compared to previous years' reports, as the reporting period is different. This report can be compared to calendar year data in the [SEVP Data Library on ICE.gov](#).



51 to 100 Students	826
101 to 1,000 Students	1,445
1,001 to 5,000 Students	269
5,001 to 10,000 Students	42
10,001 to 15,000 Students	13
> 15,000 Students	4
Total Number of SEVP-Certified Schools that Enrolled at Least One Nonimmigrant Student in 2018	7,512

Caption: Above is the breakdown of the number of schools with at least one active student by active student enrollment. There are an additional 1,424 schools that have been certified to accept nonimmigrant students but did not enroll any nonimmigrant students in 2018.

F-1 Schools

F-1 schools are SEVP-certified schools that enroll nonimmigrant students with F-1 visas. F1 students are in an academic program, often with a core academic curriculum, and can remain in the United States for the duration of their program of study. F-1 students can change their major or program of study, and they can transfer anytime during their program or begin a new program after completing one.

The top 20 most popular F-1 programs hosted 17.7 percent (253,031) of the entire nonimmigrant student population.

School Name	2018 Active Student Count
Columbia University in the City of New York	18,573
New York University	18,481
University of Southern California	18,345
Northeastern University	18,123
University of Illinois	14,802
Arizona State University	14,198
Boston University	13,082
University of California at Berkeley	12,821
University of California, Los Angeles	12,233
Purdue University	12,220
University of California San Diego	12,120
University of Michigan	10,643



The Pennsylvania State University	10,572
The University of Texas at Dallas	10,521
University of Washington	10,505
University of California, Irvine	9,644
The Ohio State University	9,196
Carnegie Mellon University	9,138
University of Pennsylvania	9,039
Harvard University	8,775

Above are the top 20 SEVP-certified schools with the greatest number of F-1 students in calendar year 2018. Visit the SEVP Data Library to view the full list of the [2018 Top 500 F-1 Schools by Number of Active SEVIS Records](#).

M-1 Schools

M-1 schools are SEVP-certified schools that enroll nonimmigrant students with M-1 visas. M-1 students are 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. M-1 students cannot change their major or program of study, and they can only transfer in the first six months after arrival.

There were 675 schools certified to enroll only M-1 students in 2018. Only one of these schools hosted more than 1,000 nonimmigrant students. Of the 432 schools that hosted at least one M-1 student, the average enrollment was 44 students. Ninety-eight M-1 schools only enrolled one nonimmigrant student during the reporting period.

School Name	2018 Active Student Count
Bethel School of Supernatural Ministry	1,832
Westwind School of Aeronautics, Phoenix, LLC	794
CAE Oxford Aviation Academy Phoenix Inc	757
TransPac Aviation Academy	736
Pilot Training Center	693
Dean International, Inc.	530
U.S. Aviation Group LLC d/b/a U.S. Aviation Academy	517
Falcon Aviation Academy	428



Broadway Dance Center	368
Epic Flight Academy, Inc.	332
US Aviation Group LLC d/b/a US Aviation Academy-North Texas	325
Aircraft Development Flight Airways Corp d/b/a ADF Airways	322
Miami Ad School	288
Paris Air, Inc.	282
Airborne Systems, Inc.	276
International House of Prayer University	269
Treasure Coast Flight Training	258
Delta Aeronautics, Inc. d/b/a Delta-Qualiflight Aviation	256
American Flight Training, LLC.	256
Florida Flyers European US Flight School, Inc.	250

Above are the top 20 SEVP-certified schools that had the greatest number of M-1 students in calendar year 2018. An SEVP-certified school may have more than one campus; in this instance, active student count is a tally of students across all school campus sites. Visit the SEVP Data Library to view the full list of [2018 All M-1 Schools by Number of Active SEVIS Records](#).

F-1 and M-1 Schools

Seven percent (666) of SEVP-certified schools can enroll both F-1 and M-1 students. These schools tend to have smaller student populations than their F-1-only counterparts.

School Name	2018 Active Student Count
Cornell University	8,959
Houston Community College System	6,186
Santa Monica College	4,720
UCLA-Extension	4,169
The University of Iowa	3,728
Florida Institute of Technology	2,610
New York Institute of Technology	2,282
Green River College	2,179



Seattle Central College	2,069
Minnesota State University, Mankato	1,923
Diablo Valley College	1,835
Bellevue College	1,684
Computer Systems Institute	1,672
Santa Barbara City College District	1,657
Lamar University	1,623
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University	1,596
New York Institute of Technology	1,363
North Lake College	1,244
TCS international	1,229
Northern Virginia Community College	1,193

Above are the top 20 SEVP-certified schools with the greatest number of both F-1 and M-1 students in calendar year 2018.

K-12 Schools

K-12 schools are SEVP-certified schools that enroll nonimmigrant students with F-1 visas in the grade years from kindergarten through grade 12. Students can attend private elementary schools, private middle schools, private high school (grades 9-12) or public high school (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, students can only attend public K-12 schools for up to one year.

School Name	2018 Active Student Count
Archdiocese of Los Angeles	1,420
EF International Academy	985
Roman Catholic Diocese of Rockville Centre	829
Fairmont Private Schools	694
CATS Academy Boston	628
Montverde Academy	569
Archdiocese of Philadelphia	533
IMG Academy	528



Archdiocese of Chicago	501
North Broward Preparatory School	445
Southlands Christian Schools	390
Keio Academy of New York	377
Broadfording Christian Academy	375
American Learning Systems, Inc.	370
The Village School	364
Archdiocese of New York	305
Roman Catholic Schools of Archdiocese of Newark	294
Anaheim Discovery Christian Schools	291
Diocese of Providence Catholic Schools	285
Thornton Academy	281

Above are the top 20 SEVP-certified K-12 schools that had the greatest number of F-1 students in calendar year 2018. Visit the SEVP Data Library to view the full list of [2018 Top 200 Kindergarten through Grade 12 \(K-12\) Public and Private Schools by Number of Active SEVIS Records](#).

Location of SEVP-certified Schools

Although there are SEVP-certified higher education and vocational schools throughout the United States and its territories, 46.6 percent (4,164) of these schools are in 10 U.S. states. California alone is home to 11.8 percent (1,054) of all SEVP-certified schools. Michigan (+10), Indiana (+4), New Mexico (+4) and West Virginia (+3) are the only states that saw an increase in the number of certified schools from calendar year 2017. In calendar year 2018, Michigan had 214, Indiana had 115, New Mexico had 41 and West Virginia had 35 SEVP-certified schools.

State	SEVP-Certified School Count
California	1,054
New York	567
Florida	512
Texas	463
Massachusetts	321
Pennsylvania	319



Illinois	257
Georgia	230
Virginia	227
Michigan	214

Above are the 10 U.S. states that had the greatest number of SEVP-certified schools and programs. For a comprehensive list of all the SEVP-certified schools in the United States, please visit the [School Search tool](#) on Study in the States.

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

States and Territories

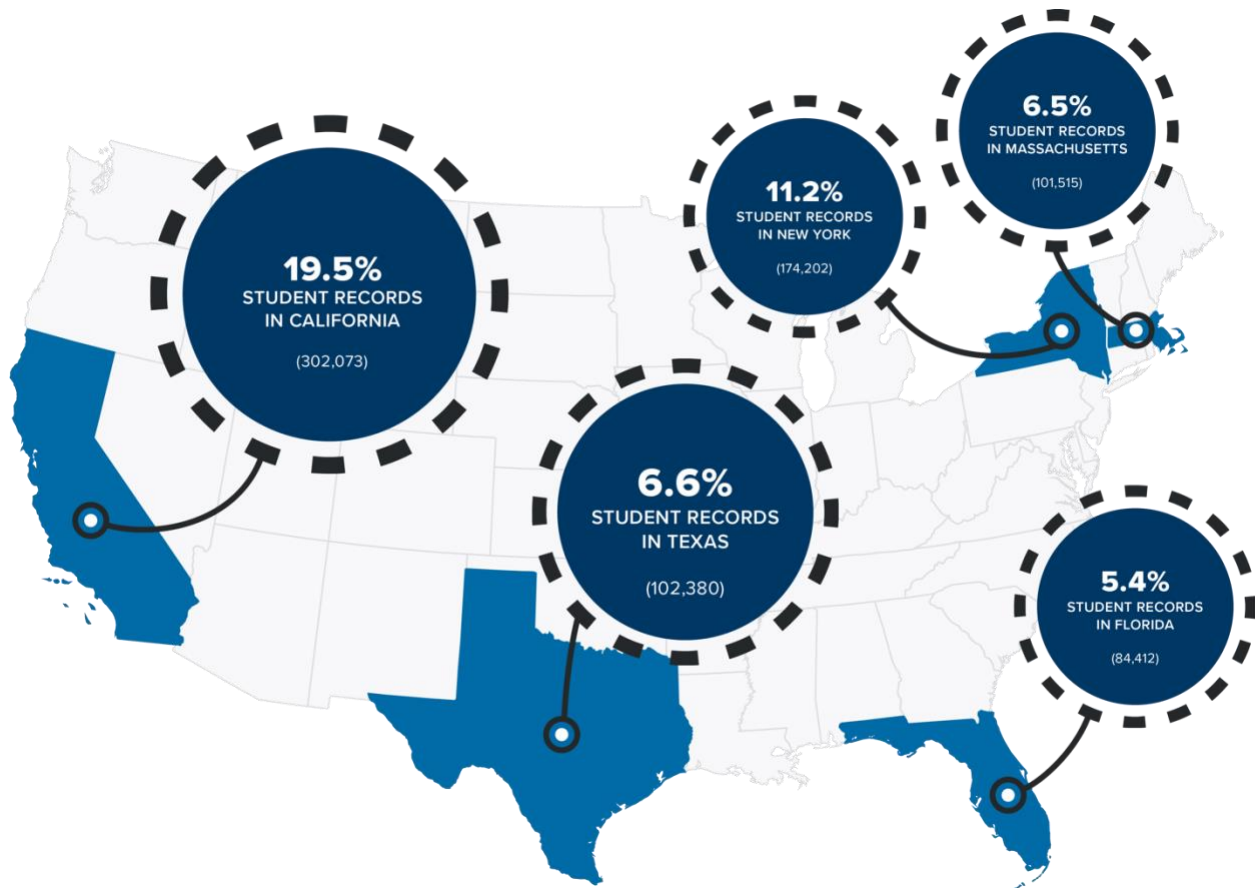
Overview

F-1 and M-1 students study across the United States and its territories. California, New York, Texas, Massachusetts and Florida hosted the largest number of student records and together welcomed 49.2 percent (763,582) of all nonimmigrant students.

Nonimmigrant Students Across the United States

Of the four major regions within the continental United States, the West had the greatest number of students in calendar year 2018, followed closely by the Northeast, the South and the Midwest. The Northeast was the only region to experience F-1 and M-1 student population growth (+2,313) from calendar year 2017 to calendar year 2018.

Although the Midwest and the South saw declines of 1.9 percent (-3,447) and 1.7 percent (7,026) respectively, the West saw the steepest drop and welcomed more than five percent fewer students (-23,748) than in calendar year 2017. The non-continental U.S. territories also had about 17 percent fewer student records (-307) in calendar year 2018 than in calendar year 2017. For more information about the distribution of nonimmigrant students throughout the country, please refer to Figure 13.



PLEASE NOTE: Groupings based on the U.S. Census regions.

Above are the U.S. states that hosted the largest number of F-1 and M-1 students in calendar year 2018.

FIGURE:

- 29.3% (455,115) in the West
- 18.7% (290,708) in the Midwest
- 28.2% (436,794) in the Northeast
- 26.8% (415,344) in the South
- 0.12% non-continental U.S. territories

Above is the percentage of students studying in each U.S. region in calendar year 2018.



Nonimmigrant Students in the Northeast

In calendar year 2018, nine Northeastern states hosted 436,794 F-1 and M-1 student records. New Jersey had 56,194 nonimmigrant student records in 2018 and experienced the largest decrease in student enrollment (-3,086); this dip was also the largest percentage decrease in the region (-5.5%). By contrast, Massachusetts had 100,515 nonimmigrant student records in 2018, which was the greatest increase in records (+2,842) and second fastest growth (+2.8%). New York was home to the largest number of nonimmigrant student records in the region (174,202).

Below are the three Northeastern states that saw the greatest percentage change in enrollments in the reporting period calendar year 2017 to calendar year 2018.

State	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Calendar Year 2018 Total Population
New Jersey	-5.5%	-3,086	56,194
Maine	-4.1%	-150	3,673
Vermont	-2.9%	-93	3,185

Nonimmigrant Students in the South

Sixteen Southern U.S. states and District of Columbia hosted 415,344 nonimmigrant student records in calendar year 2018. Twelve of the Southern states experienced a decline in student records in 2018, while four and the District of Columbia experienced increases. The state in the region with the greatest growth was North Carolina, which hosted 27,844 student records in 2018 (+1,258). In contrast, Texas (-3,651), Virginia (-2,055) and Oklahoma (-810) contributed to the decline. In 2018, Texas hosted 102,380 student records, Virginia hosted 41,637 student records and Oklahoma hosted 12,044 student records.

Below are the three Southern states that saw the greatest percentage change in enrollments in the reporting period calendar year 2017 to calendar year 2018.

State	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Calendar Year 2018 Total Population
Kentucky	-8.8%	-747	8,483
West Virginia	-7.4%	-379	5,122
Oklahoma	-6.7%	-810	12,044



Nonimmigrant Students in the Midwest

The Midwest saw a 1.2 percent decrease in the number of nonimmigrant student records, with 10 of its 12 states experiencing a decline between calendar years 2017 and 2018. Kansas hosted 12,646 student records in 2018 and saw the greatest percentage loss (-4.3 percent). Michigan hosted 42,008 student records in 2018 and saw the greatest overall student record decrease (-1,184).

Below are the three Midwestern states that saw the greatest percentage change in enrollments in the reporting period calendar year 2017 to calendar year 2018.

State	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Calendar Year 2018 Total Population
Kansas	-4.3%	-543	12,646
Michigan	-2.8%	-1,184	42,008
North Dakota	-2.8%	-85	3,308

Nonimmigrant Students in the West

The West saw the largest (-23,748) decline in the number of nonimmigrant student records in calendar year 2018. All but two western states, Arizona and Utah, saw a decrease in nonimmigrant student enrollment in 2018. Utah, which hosted 13,917 student records in 2018, saw an increase of +199 students compared to calendar year 2017. Arizona, which hosted 28,107 student records in 2018, saw an increase of +52 students compared to calendar year 2017.

The overall regional decline was due in part to the dip in nonimmigrant student records in the region’s most popular state, California. California hosted 302,073 student records in calendar year 2018, which was a decline of -16,462 from calendar year 2017. Washington, which hosted 50,255 student records, also saw a large decrease (-4,004). Montana saw the biggest proportional decline by hosting 11.8 percent (-221) fewer student records in calendar year 2018 than in calendar year 2017. In calendar year 2018, Montana hosted 1,867 nonimmigrant student records.

Below are the three Western states that saw the greatest percentage change in enrollments in the reporting period calendar year 2017 to calendar year 2018.

State	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Calendar Year 2018 Total Population
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Montana	-11.8%	-221	1,867
Oregon	-8.6%	-1,649	19,222
Washington	-8.0%	-4,004	50,255

Nonimmigrant Students Studying in Non-continental U.S. Territories

The non-continental United States only hosted 1,829 nonimmigrant student records during calendar year 2018, and 54 percent of those nonimmigrant student records were students in Puerto Rico. Every territory in the region experienced a decline in F-1 and M-1 participation from calendar year 2017 to calendar year 2018, but American Samoa (-40%) and Puerto Rico (-21.0%) experienced the highest percentage declines. In calendar year 2018, American Samoa hosted five student records, and Puerto Rico hosted 983.

Below are the two non-continental regions that saw the greatest percentage change in enrollments in the reporting period calendar year 2017 to calendar year 2018.

State	Percent Change	Absolute Change	Calendar Year 2018 Total Population
American Samoa	-40.0%	-2	5
Puerto Rico	-21.0%	-206	983

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