

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA®

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT & SCHOLAR REPORT

FALL 2019



Capstone International Center
International Student & Scholar Services

International Student & Scholar Report 2019

***The University of Alabama
Capstone International Center
International Student & Scholar Services***

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Education Abroad
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UA Human Resources
UA Office of Institutional Research & Assessment**

**Prepared by:
Charter Morris, Director of International Student & Scholar Services**

I. **Overview of International Student & Scholar Services**

International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS) serves many roles, but its primary role is as the immigration advising office for all international students and scholars at The University of Alabama.

ISSS is staffed by 7 full-time staff members, including a Director, Associate Director, 2 International Student and Scholar Advisors, a SEVIS Coordinator who maintains records and SEVIS reporting duties, a Sponsored Student and Services Assistant, and an Immigration Assistant who manages the front office.

In our role as international student visa sponsor, ISSS coordinates with Undergraduate Admissions' international admission unit and with Graduate International Admissions to process F-1 I-20s and J-1 DS-2019s (the two student visa-types used by UA) for all incoming international students and provide each admitted student with advice and guidance on how to process a student visa and make preparations to enter the U.S.

Once international students arrive to UA, International Student & Scholar Services' role switches to that of a compliance office, gathering copies of documents and contact information from each student, providing an extensive orientation with a primary focus on immigration regulatory issues and acculturation, and finally, monitoring all student course registration and on-campus employment to ensure students' compliance with student visa regulations as well as UA's compliance with our reporting duties to the Department of Homeland Security's US Citizenship and Immigration Services.

II. **International Enrollment Highlights for Fall 2019**

As of Fall 2019, **International Student & Scholar Services served 1452 active, enrolled international students.**

In addition to the 1452 active, enrolled international students served by ISSS, there are an additional 164 recent graduates who remain on The University of Alabama's visa sponsorship while working on Optional Practical Training (OPT). Counting these two populations together, the total number of international students served by International Student & Scholar Services is **1616**. The 1452 active, enrolled students match the reported figures from the census data provided by the Office of Institutional Research & Assessment.

The 1452 active, enrolled international students come from 78 countries and regions of the world and **represent 3.81% of the 38,103 students enrolled at The University of Alabama for fall 2019¹.**

PLEASE NOTE: For reporting purposes, "international" is understood as a non-U.S. citizen, holding any visa status other than Legal Permanent Residency, Resident Alien, Asylee, or Refugee. Additionally, the student figures presented in this report will differ slightly from the official numbers of international students reported by the Office of Institutional Research & Assessment. OIRA's count includes 5 additional students outside of the U.S. who are enrolled in Distance Learning.

At a total of 1616 (including OPT holders), UA hosted 221 more international students in Fall 2019 compared to Fall 2018. This is a 15.8% total increase year-to-year.

¹ <http://ua.edu/quickfacts/demographics.html> & <http://oira.ua.edu/factbook/contents/Student-Enrollment/>

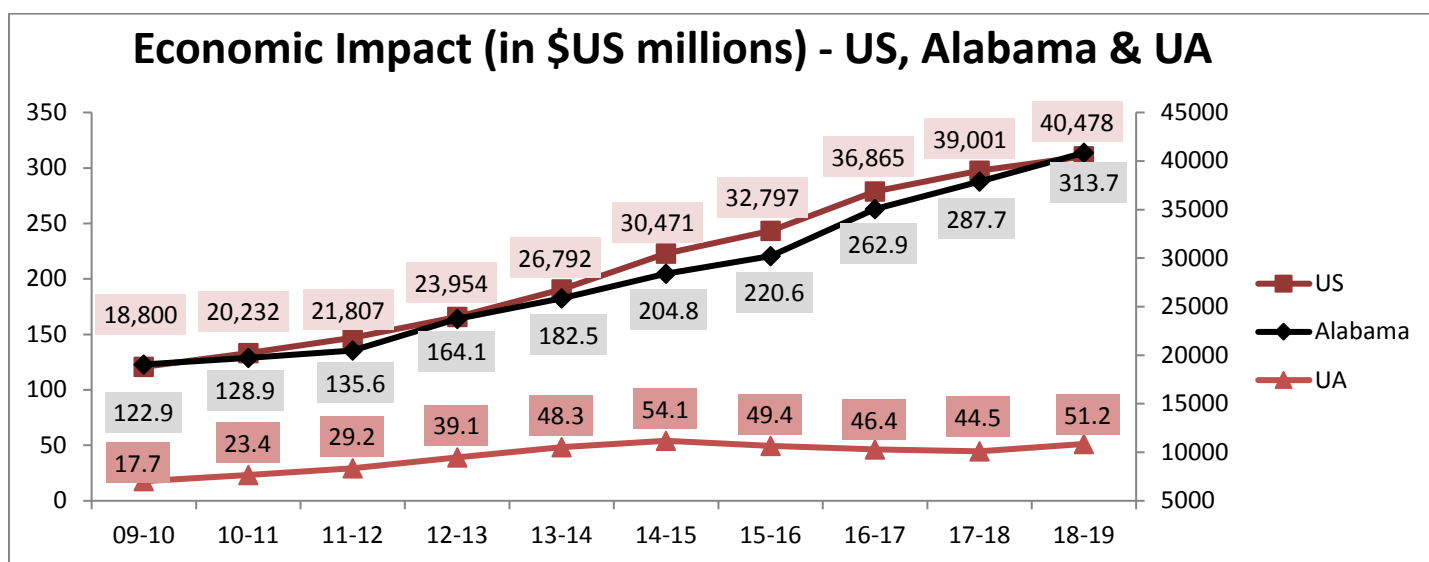
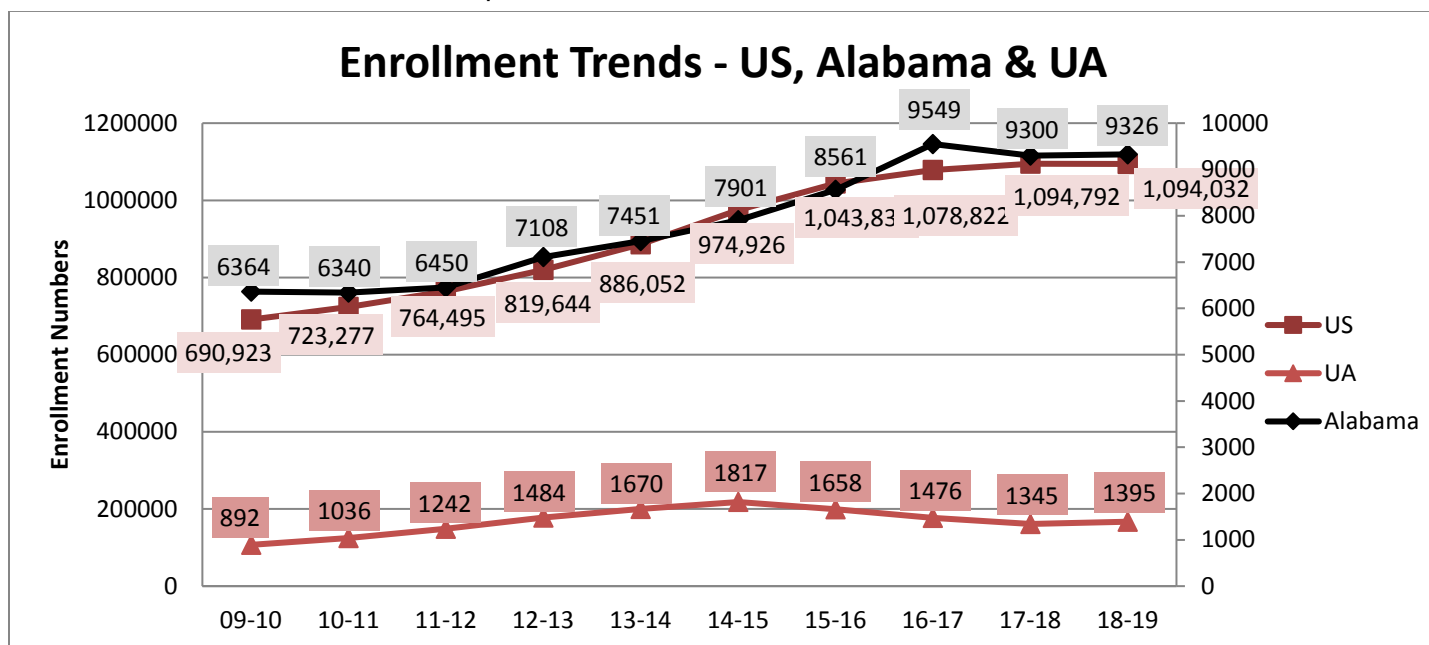
III. Nation and State - Enrollment and Financial Impact of International Students

In 2018/19, the **United States hosted 1,094,032 international students**; in the same year, **Alabama institutions of higher education enrolled 9326 international students**.²

The economic impact of the **1,094,032 international students** enrolled in 2018/19 was nearly **\$40.5 billion in contribution to the U.S. economy**, factoring in living expenses for students and their dependents, as well as tuition, books, fees and other education-related expenses.

In Alabama, the **9326 international students** enrolled in 2018/19 **contributed \$313.7 million to the state economy** through paid tuition, living expenses, books, fees, and related expenses.

Locally, the **1395 international students** at The University of Alabama in 2018/19 **contributed \$51.2 million to the local economy** through paid tuition, living expenses, books, fees, and other related expenses.³



2 IIE's Open Doors Report - <http://www.iie.org/Research-and-Publications/Open-Doors>

3 NAFSA's International Student Economic Value Tool: www.nafsa.org/economicvalue

IV. UA International Student Statistics

A. Breakdown of Fall Semester 2019 Student Numbers by Degree Level and Year (Includes Recent Graduates on OPT):

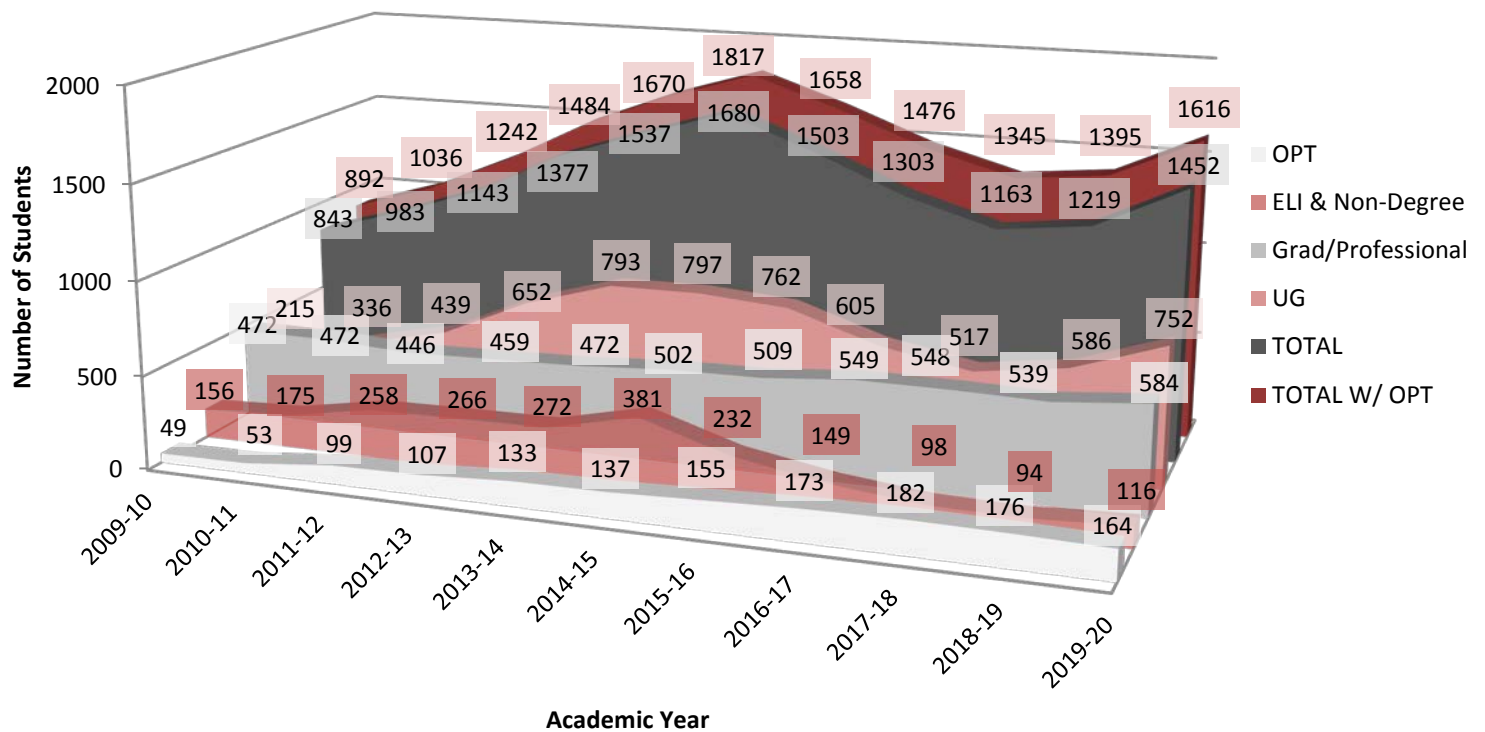
DEGREE & LEVEL	Total
Undergraduate Students	752
<i>Freshman</i>	244
<i>Sophomore</i>	130
<i>Junior</i>	135
<i>Senior</i>	243
Graduate Students	584
<i>Master's</i>	121
<i>Doctoral</i>	461
<i>Professional</i>	2
English Language Institute	71
<i>ELI Only</i>	66
<i>Conditional Admits</i>	5
Non-Degree & Education Abroad Exchanges	45
<i>Non-Degree/Visiting Students</i>	14
<i>Study Abroad</i>	31
SUBTOTAL OF ACTIVE, ENROLLED STUDENTS	1452
OPT – Graduates on Optional Practical Training	164
TOTAL	1616

B. UA International Student Numbers 2009 - 2019

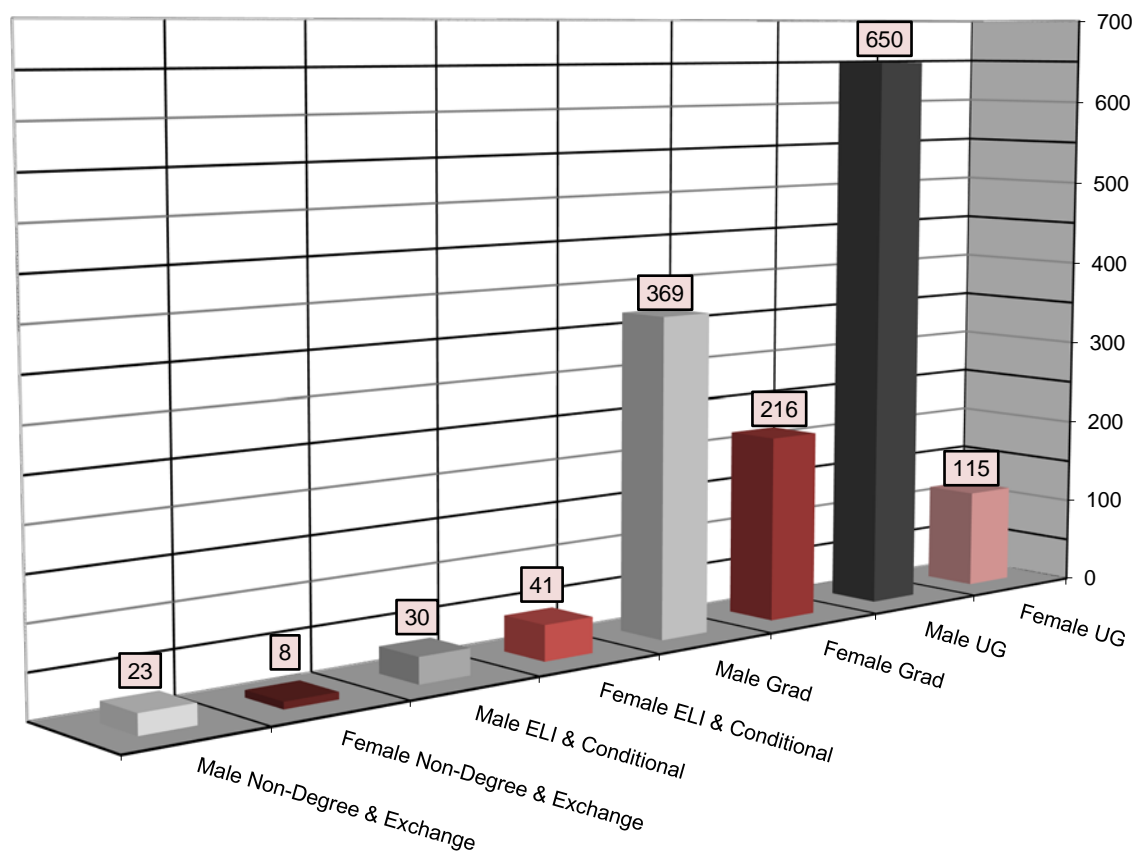
YEAR	UG	GRAD	ELI & NON-DEGREE	SUBTOTAL: ACTIVE STUDENTS	OPT	TOTAL W/ OPT	% TOTAL CHANGE
2009-10	215	472	156	843	49	892	+ 15.4%
2010-11	336	472	175	983	53	1036	+ 16.1%
2011-12*	439	446	258	1143	99	1242	+ 19.9%
2012-13	652	459	266	1377	107	1484	+ 19.5%
2013-14	793	472	272	1537	133	1670	+ 12.5%
2014-15	797	502	381	1680	137	1817	+ 8.8%
2015-16	762	509	232	1503	155	1658	- 8.8%
2016-17	605	549	149	1303	173	1476	- 10.9%
2017-18	517	548	98	1163	182	1345	- 8.9%
2018-19	586	539	94	1219	176	1395	+ 3.7%
2019-20	752	584	116	1452	164	1616	+ 15.8%

*Prior to 2011/2012, conditionally admitted students were included with the undergraduate and graduate students rather than included with the ELI numbers.

C. 2009-2019 Comparison of UA International Student Numbers



V. International Student Numbers by Gender



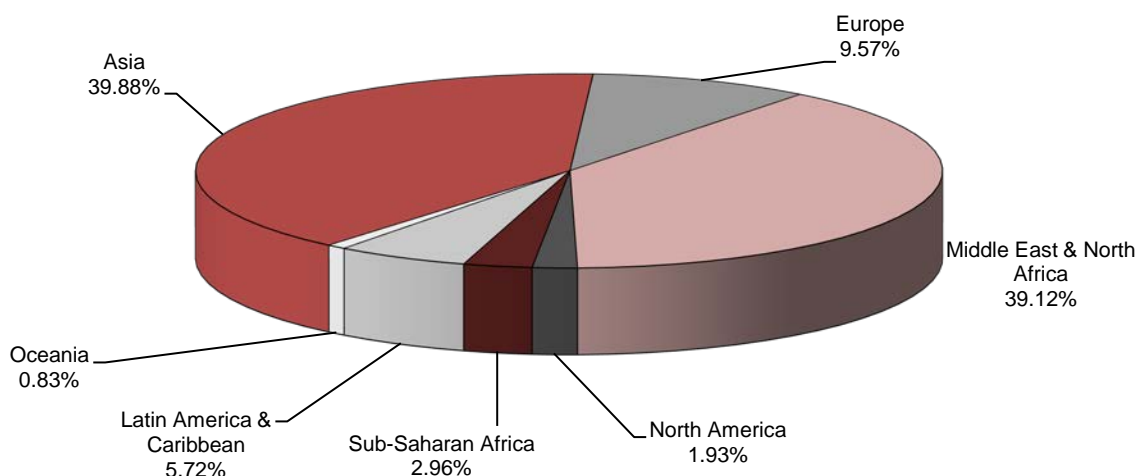
VI. Region & Places of Origin – For All Students Except Graduates on OPT

The 1452 actively enrolled international students at The University of Alabama for 2019/20 originated from **78 countries**. Table A. subdivides the world into seven major regions. The total number of students from each region has been recorded. Chart B. graphically depicts student percentages from the major regions.

A. International Students by Region

REGION	Total
Asia	579
Middle East & North Africa	568
Europe	139
Latin America & Caribbean	83
Sub-Saharan Africa	43
North America (Canada)	28
Oceania	12
TOTAL	1452

B. Percentage of Students by Regions of the World



C. Top Ten Places of Origin: This table lists the ten countries/territories that send the highest number of students to The University of Alabama.

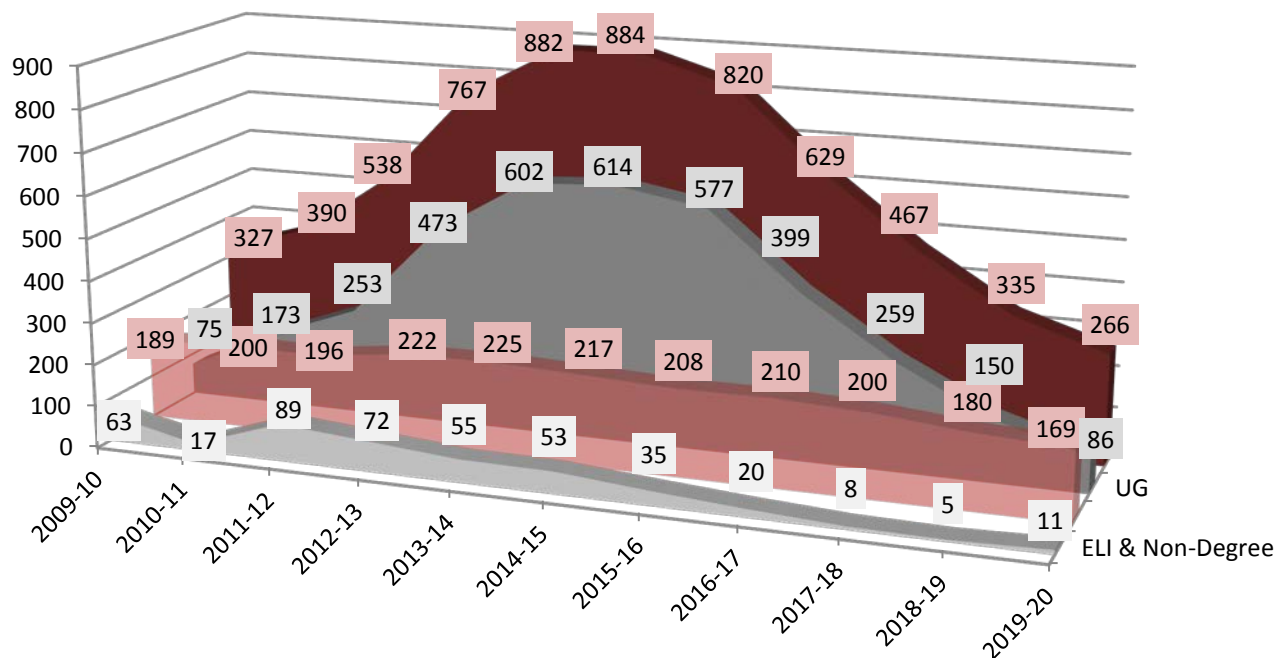
COUNTRY/TERRITORY	UNDERGRAD	GRAD	ELI & CONDITIONAL	NON-DEGREE & EDUCATION ABROAD	TOTAL
1. Kuwait	424	1	2		427
2. China, PR	86	169	4	7	266
3. Saudi Arabia	49	17	14	1	81
4. India	19	60			79
5. Korea, South	17	33	10	1	61
6. Bangladesh	3	50			53
7. Turkey	3	25	13		41
8. Nepal	3	34			37
9. Germany	10	11	2	13	36
10. Iran		31			31

D. International Student Places of Origin – For All Active Students (Not OPT)

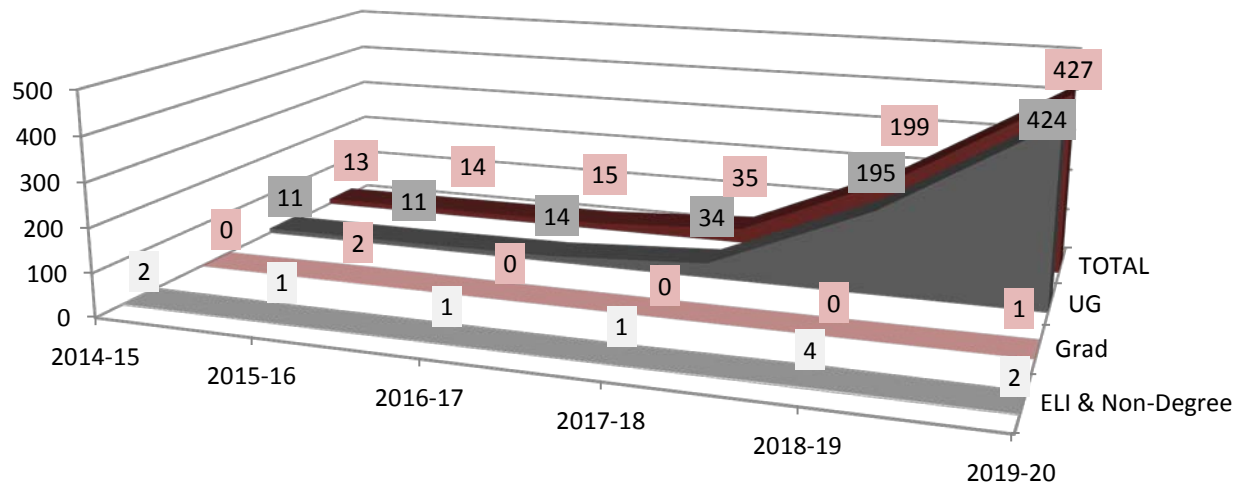
COUNTRY/TERRITORY	UNDERGRAD	GRAD & PROFESSIONAL	ELI & CONDITIONAL	NON-DEGREE & EDUCATION ABROAD	TOTAL
Afghanistan		1			1
Argentina		1			1
Australia	2	2		2	6
Austria	2			1	3
Azerbaijan	1				1
Bahamas	1	1			2
Bangladesh	3	50			53
Belize		2			2
Botswana		2			2
Brazil	4	6			10
Cameroon		1			1
Canada	20	8			28
Cayman Islands	1				1
Chile		2			2
China, P.R.	86	169	4	7	266
Colombia		16	5		21
Cyprus	1				1
Denmark				2	2
Ecuador		7			7
Egypt	2	1			3
El Salvador	1				1
Finland	1				1
France	1			2	3
Germany	10	11	2	13	36
Ghana	1	4			5
Greece		1			1
Guatemala	1	1			2
Honduras	2				2
Hong Kong	1	1			2
Hungary	4				4
India	19	60			79
Indonesia	2	4			6
Iran		31			31
Italy	3	3		2	8
Jamaica	1	3			4
Japan	2	1	16	3	22
Jordan		2			2
Kenya	4	4			8
Korea, South	17	33	10	1	61
Kuwait	424	1	2		427
Malaysia	1	3			4
Mexico	13	3	1		17
Nepal	3	34			37
Netherlands	1	2			3
New Zealand	6				6
Nigeria	5	17			22
Norway	1				1
Oman	11		1		12
Pakistan	1	1		1	3
Panama	1	2			3
Paraguay		1			1
Peru			1		1
Philippines		4			4
Poland	1				1
Romania				1	1
Russia	2	5			7

COUNTRY/TERRITORY	UNDERGRAD	GRAD	ELI & CONDITIONAL	NON-DEGREE & EDUCATION ABROAD	TOTAL
Saudi Arabia	49	17	14	1	81
Serbia		2			2
South Africa	1				1
Spain	4	2			6
Sri Lanka	1	2			3
Sudan	1				1
Sweden		1			1
Switzerland	1				1
Syria	1				1
Taiwan	1	7			8
Thailand	2	5			7
Trinidad & Tobago	2				2
Turkey	3	25	13		41
Uganda		2			2
United Arab Emirates (UAE)	1				1
United Kingdom (UK)	7	5		3	15
Uzbekistan		1			1
Venezuela		2	2		4
Vietnam	12	10			22
West Bank		1			1
Yemen	3			6	9
Zambia		1			1
TOTAL	752	584	71	45	1452

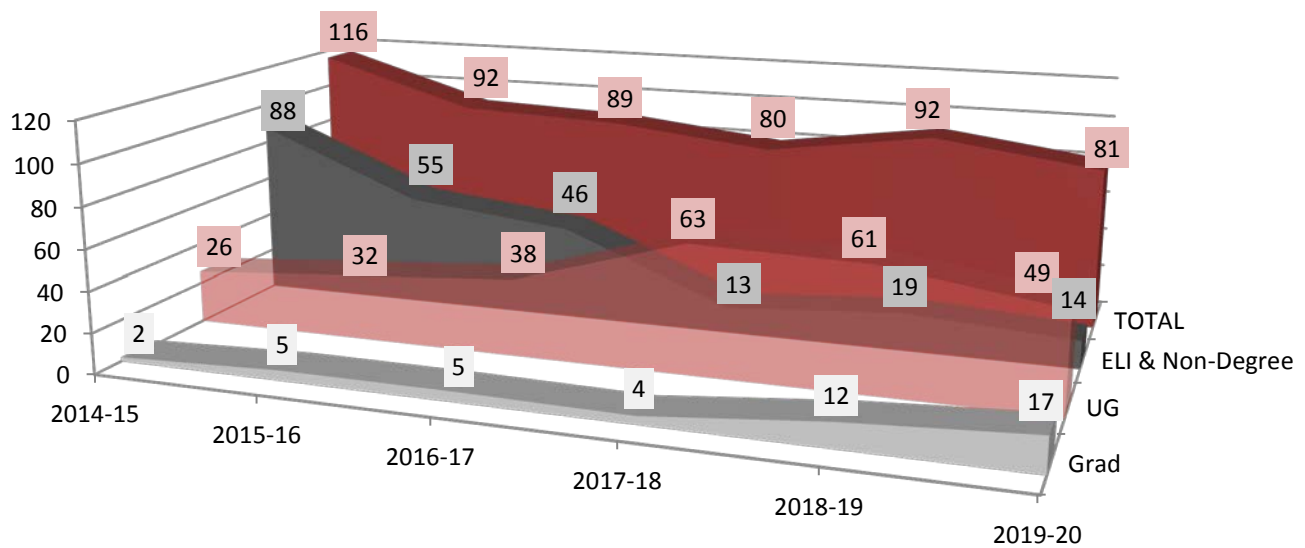
E. Chinese Student Enrollment: 2009–19



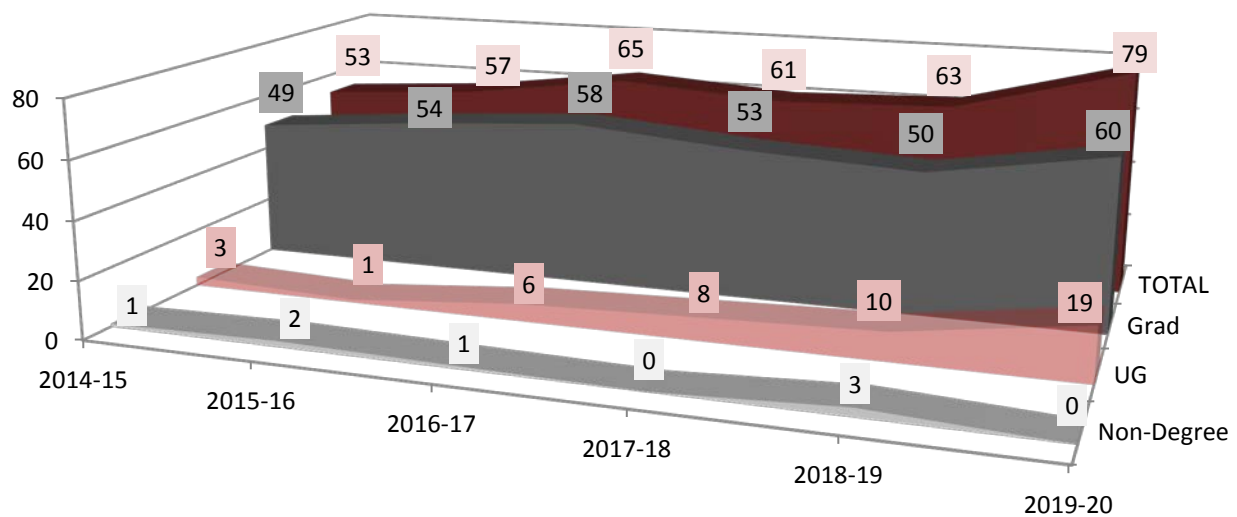
F. Kuwaiti Enrollment: 2014–19



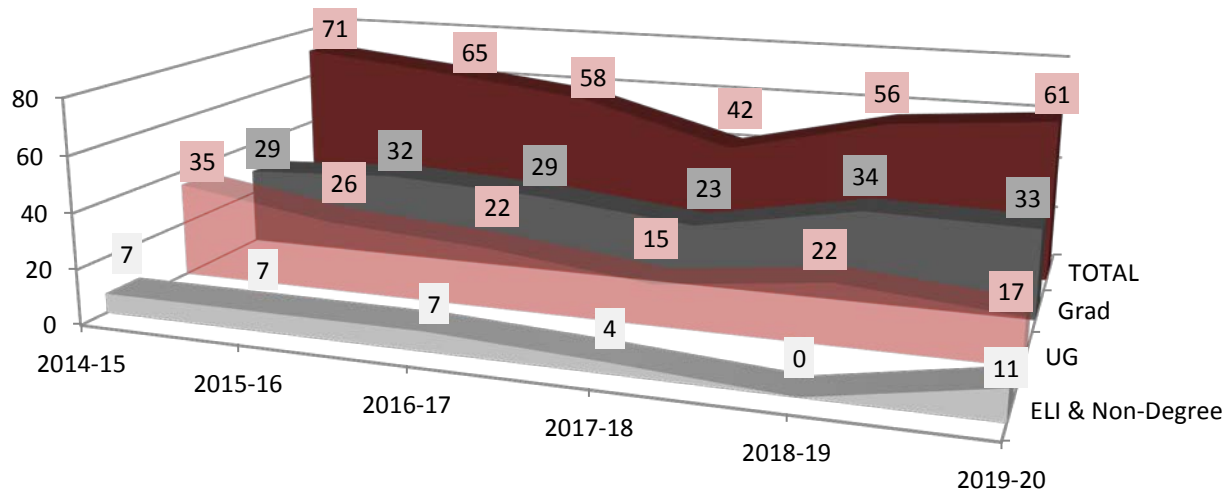
G. Saudi Arabian Enrollment: 2014–19



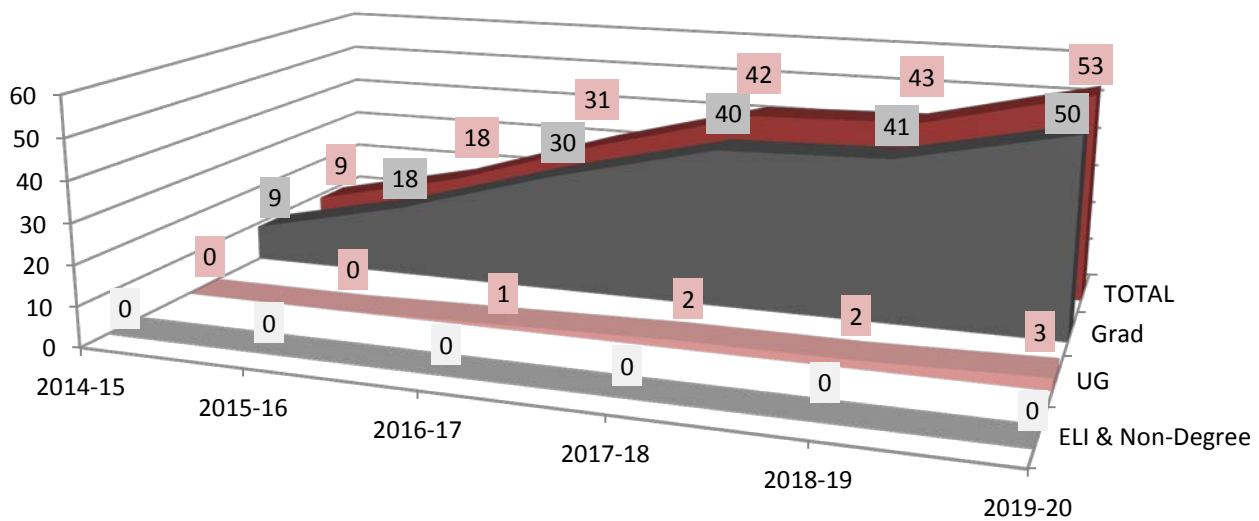
H. Indian Enrollment: 2014–19



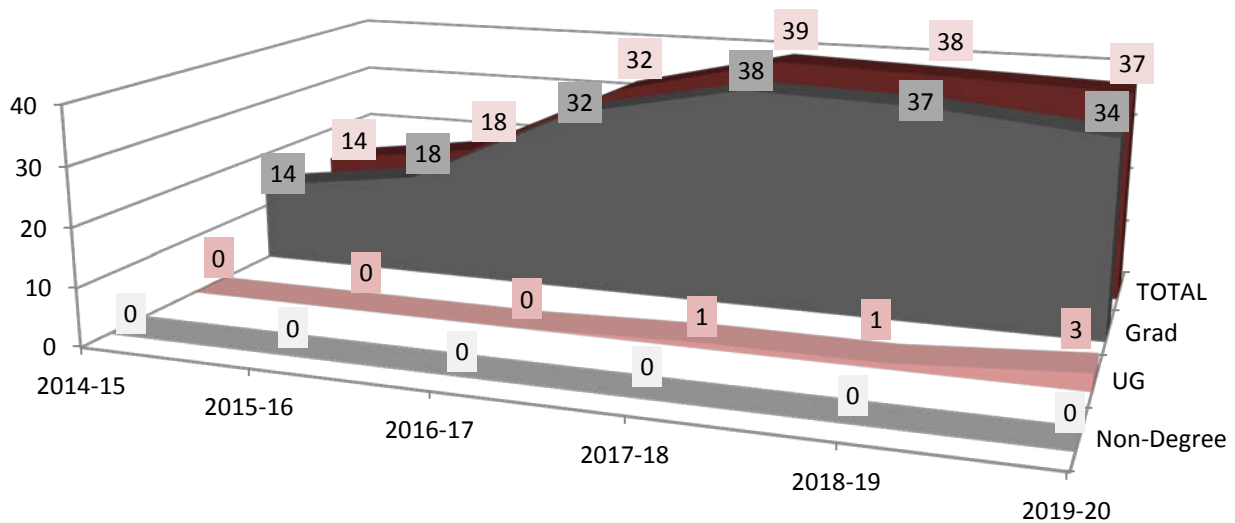
I. South Korean Enrollment: 2014–19



J. Bangladeshi Enrollment: 2014–19



K. Nepalese Enrollment: 2014–19



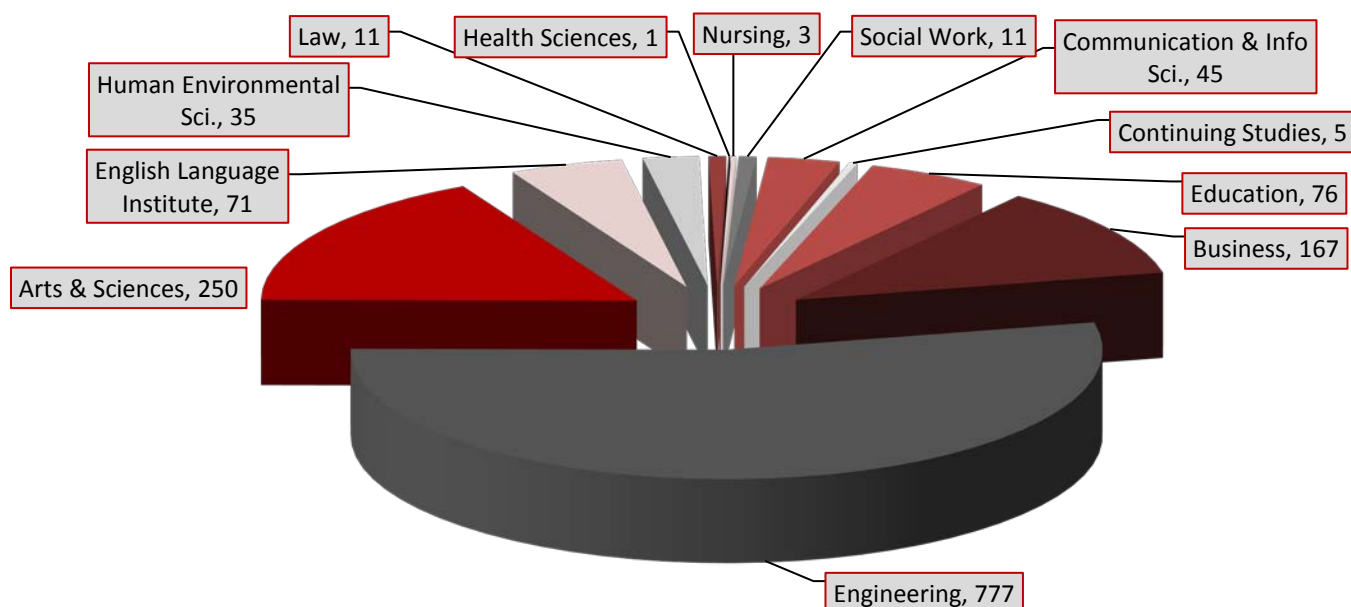
VII. International Student Numbers by Major

(NOTE: ELI & Conditional Students are broken down by intended degree. Those students who are only studying English as a Second Language are listed under ELI for their major)

Department	Undergrad	Grad	ELI & Conditional	Non-Degree & Education Abroad	Total
Accounting	25	1			26
Advertising & Public Relations	3	5			8
Aerospace Engineering & Mechanics	11	21			32
Anthropology		2			2
Apparel and Textiles	1				1
Applied Mathematics		7			7
Applied Statistics		12			12
Architectural Engineering	2				2
Art	1	4			5
Arts & Sciences, General/Undeclared	4	1		14	19
Biology/Marine Biology/Microbiology	6	19			25
Business, General	13				13
Chemical Engineering	158	21			179
Chemistry	6	32	1		39
Civil & Construction Engineering	96	38			134
Communication & Information Sciences		21			21
Communication Studies/ New Media	6	2			8
Communicative Disorders	1				1
Computer Engineering	4				4
Computer Science	25	31	1		57
Consumer Sciences	3	1			4
Continuing Education				5	5
Counseling Education		1			1
Criminal Justice	1	2			3
Economics	4	13	1		18
Education (Elem., Secondary, Special)	4	21			25
Education, General				5	5
Ed Leadership/ Ed Admin/ Higher Ed		6			6
Education Psychology / Ed Research		12			12
Electrical Engineering	132	47			179
ELI – English Language Institute			66		66
Engineering, General				18	18
English Literature		1			1
Environmental Engineering	4	3	1		8
Finance	25	14			39
Food and Nutrition	7				7
Geography		7			7
Geology		16			16
German		4			4
Health Education & Promotion		3			3
History	1	2			3
Hospitality Management	1				1
Human Development & Family Studies	1				1
Human Environmental Science, General	4	1			5
Human Nutrition		5			5
Human Performance/Exercise Science	11	3			14
Instructional Leadership		6			6
Instructional Technology		1			1
Interdisciplinary Studies	1	1			2
Interior Design	1				1
International Studies	2				2

Department	Undergrad	Grad	ELI & Conditional	Non-Degree & Education Abroad	Total
Journalism & Creative Media	7	1			8
Kinesiology	3				3
Law (JD, JSD, and LLM)		11			11
Library & Information Studies		1			1
Management	17	8			25
Management Information Systems	4				4
Marketing	13	6	1		20
Materials Science		13			13
Mathematics	4	12			16
MBA		3			3
Mechanical Engineering	111	33			144
Metallurgical & Materials Engineering		9			9
Music		8			8
Music Education	1				1
Non-Degree				2	2
Nursing	3				3
Operations Management	5	7			12
Physics	4	43			47
Political Science		6			6
Population Health Sciences		1			1
Psychology	8	7			15
Public Administration		1			1
Public Health	5				5
Quantitative Research		1			1
Restaurant & Hospitality Management	2				2
Romance Languages (French & Spanish)		6			6
Social & Cultural Studies		1			1
Social Work		9		2	11
Teaching English as a Second Language		6			6
Theater Arts	1	1			2
Women's Studies		2			2
TOTAL	752	584	71	45	1452

VIII. International Student Numbers by School/College



IX. UA International Faculty, Staff, & Scholars Report

International scholar and faculty numbers at The University of Alabama for the 2018/19 year (the period between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019) totaled **305** non-immigrants, representing **41 countries and territories**.

The 305 total represents a **slight increase of 2%** from the 299 scholars hosted by UA the previous year.

PLEASE NOTE: For reporting purposes, the faculty, staff, and scholar figures presented in this report will differ greatly from the official numbers of faculty and staff reported by The University of Alabama's Office of Institutional Research & Assessment. International Student & Scholar Services capture the data contained within this report from internal files, which include a large number of unpaid, visiting researchers who are not counted in official employment numbers.

International Scholars, Faculty and Staff Excluded from Reported Data: Permanent Residents and Guest Lecturers

This figure of 305 international scholars and faculty present does not include the faculty and staff who hold Permanent Residency Status (Green Card-holders); nor does the total include the numerous international guest lecturers and contractors who visited and performed services for The University of Alabama between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019.

The reason that Permanent Residents (Green Card Holders) are not included in International Student & Scholar Services' international faculty and staff statistics in this report is because it is not within the purview of International Student & Scholar Services to track or advise Permanent Residents who work for The University of Alabama. New employees who hold Permanent Residency status do not report to International Student & Scholar Services. Permanent Residents do not normally require the office's services nor do they have to have their visa-status maintained by International Student & Scholar Services.

International guest lecturers and contractors who came for brief visits to perform a service for UA are not counted because they are not employees of the University. Like any other guest lecturer or contractor, their visit is brief and is for a specific purpose.

X. What the Visa Categories Mean

J-1 Research Scholar/Professor

The J-1 Exchange Visitor category is for persons who are coming to the U.S. for a temporary stay in a variety of different areas. As it concerns faculty and staff, The University of Alabama authorizes J-1 documents only for professors, research scholars, short-term scholars, specialists, and student interns.

The J-1 program is a temporary program. J-1 researcher scholars/professors are limited to just 5 years for their research or teaching; specialists and student interns are limited to 1 year, and short-term scholars are limited to 6 months of research or other activity in their field. The J-1 Visa is considered a non-immigrant visa, meaning that J-Visa holders should have no intent to immigrate to the United States or become Permanent Residents. J-1 Professors and Scholars cannot be candidates for tenure or hold tenure-track positions.

The overall objective of the J-1 Exchange Visitor classification as written in the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act (Fulbright-Hayes Act) of 1961 is "to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries by means of educational and cultural exchanges."

O-1 Extraordinary Ability

The O-1 Visa is a rarely used visa category. It is a sponsored visa-type. The O-1 is used in cases where the faculty member or researcher is someone of extraordinary renown and for whom the H-1B is not an option.

H-1B

The H-1B category is another employment visa category which is sponsored by The University of Alabama. It is for persons who are coming to the U.S. to be temporary workers in a specialty occupation. To be considered eligible for H-1B, the position must require at least a Bachelor's degree.

Employment approval is granted through the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and is job-specific as well as employer- and department-specific. The H-1B has a maximum total stay of six years. Workers in this category can fill permanent positions, including tenure-track positions, but they must leave the country at the end of their authorized period of stay unless they have filed for a change to Permanent Residency or another valid visa category. H-1B is often the category used while in the process of applying for Permanent Residency.

Other Visa Categories:

F-1 OPT, F-1 CPT, J-1 Academic Training, J-2 with EAD, B-1/B-2 or WB/WT

There are several employees whose visas are not sponsored by The University of Alabama. Those with Employment Authorization Cards are the most common non-sponsored employee. F-1 international students who are on Optional Practical Training (OPT) and J-2 Spouses with Employment Authorization hold Employment Authorization Cards issued by US Citizenship and Immigration Services. Additionally, there are two other authorizations for students which do not require Employment Authorization Cards – F-1 students with Curricular Practical Training (CPT) authorization and J-1 students with Academic Training (AT) authorization. CPT and AT are authorized by the students' international advising offices.

Another common, non-sponsored visa types is the B-1/B-2 Visitor Visa or WB/WT Visa Waiver Visitor. B-1/B-2 Visas and WB/WT status are visitor visa statuses for business trips and tourism. While those with a visitor visa status cannot be employees, it is possible for someone on a visitor visa to conduct research with the University with strictly external-support (e.g. a professor on sabbatical or researcher on personal funds).

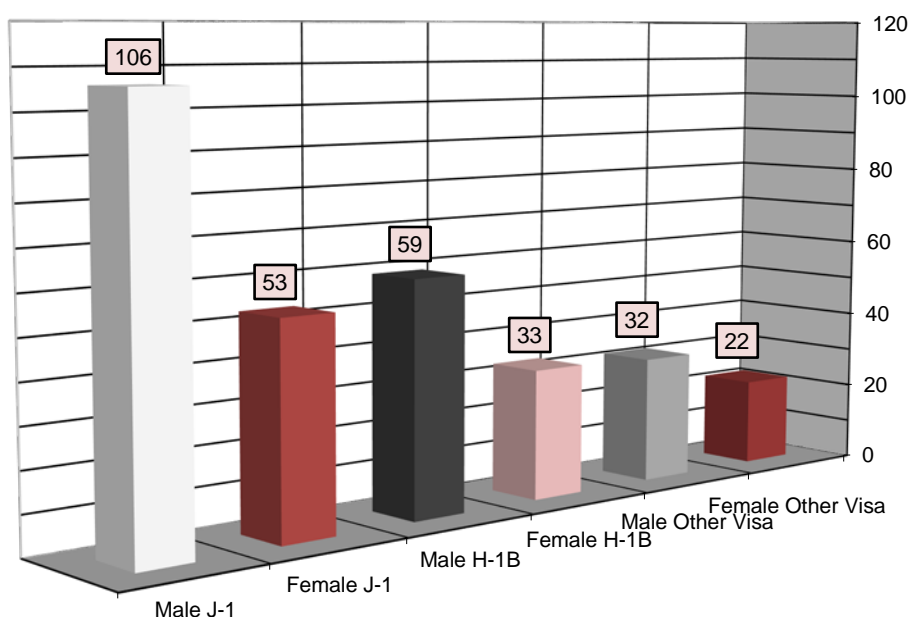
XI. International Faculty and Scholar Statistics*

VISA-STATUS	Total
J-1 Scholars	149
J-1 Physicians (sponsored by ECFMG)	10
H-1B Workers	92
O-1	1
F-1 CPT/OPT	32
B-1/B-2 – WB/WT	14
Other	7
TOTAL	305

* Information covers July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

YEAR	J-1	H-1B	OTHER	TOTALS	% TOTAL CHANGE
2011-12	79	77	16	172	-
2012-13	149	67	16	232	+ 34.8%
2013-14	126	73	27	226	- 2.6%
2014-15	160	77	89	326	+ 44.2%
2015-16	165	73	98	336	+ 3.1%
2016-17	186	78	44	308	- 8.3%
2017-18	177	86	36	299	- 2.9%
2018-19	159	92	54	305	+ 2.0%

XII. International Faculty and Scholar Numbers by Gender



Total International Male: 197
Total International Female: 108

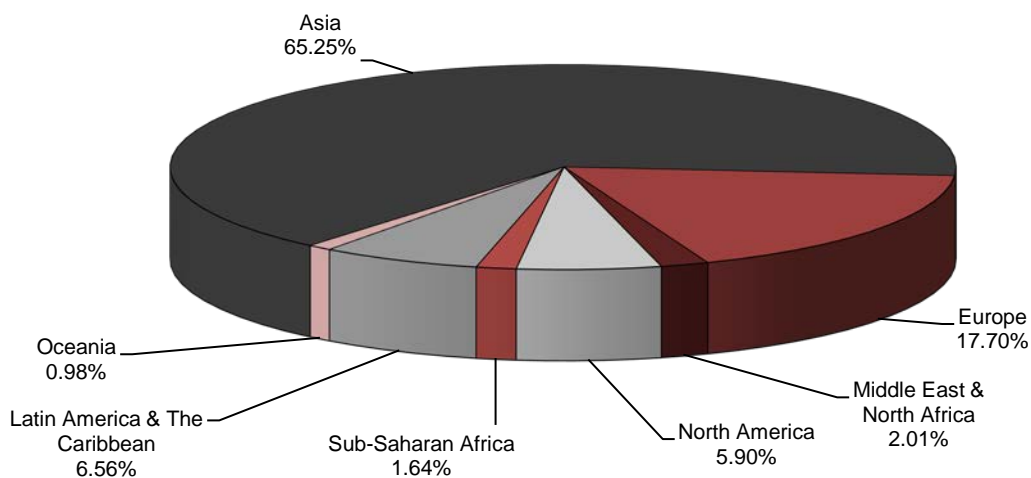
XIII. Region & Places of Origin

International Scholars and Faculty at The University of Alabama for 2018/19 originated from **41 countries and territories**. The first table subdivides the world into seven major regions. The total number of scholars and faculty from each region has been recorded. And the chart in B graphically depicts faculty and staff percentages from the major regions.

A. International Scholars and Faculty by Region

REGION	Total
Asia	199
Europe	54
Latin America & the Caribbean	20
North America (Canada)	18
Middle East & North Africa	6
Sub-Saharan Africa	5
Oceania	3
TOTAL	305

B. Percentage of Scholars and Faculty by Regions of the World



C. Top Ten Places of Origin: The following table lists the ten countries/territories that have the highest number of scholars and faculty at The University of Alabama.

1. China, PR	112
2. India	40
3. South Korea	21
4. Canada	18
5. Germany	14
6. Brazil	12
7/8. Japan*	10
7/8. Turkey*	10
9. Spain	7
10. Vietnam	6

*Tie

D. International Scholar and Faculty Places of Origin

Country	J-1	H-1B	Other Visa	Total
Argentina		1		1
Australia			1	1
Bangladesh			3	3
Brazil	4	3	5	12
Bulgaria		1		1
Canada	10	8		18
China, P.R.	69	27	16	112
Colombia	1		2	3
Ecuador	1			1
Egypt	1			1
France	2	1	1	4
Germany	10	2	2	14
Greece		1		1
India	17	13	10	40
Iran		1	1	2
Ireland			1	1
Israel		2		2
Italy	2			2
Japan	7	1	2	10
Jordan	1			1
Korea, South	8	12	1	21
Kyrgyzstan		1		1
Lithuania		1		1
Mexico			2	2
Nepal		2	1	3
Netherlands	1			1
New Zealand	2			2
Nigeria		2		2
Poland	1	2		3
Russia		1	1	2
South Africa	1			1
Spain	6		1	7
Sri Lanka	1			1
Sweden	2		1	3
Taiwan	1	1		2
Turkey	6	2	2	10
Uganda	1			1
United Kingdom	1	3		4
Venezuela		1		1
Vietnam	3	2	1	6
Zambia		1		1
TOTAL	159	92	54	305

XIV. International Scholars and Faculty by Department

Department	J-1	H-1B	Other Visa	Total
Adapted Athletics		1		1
Aerospace Engineering & Mechanics	2	1	2	5
Alabama Center for Insurance Information & Research		1		1
Alabama Life Research Institute		1	1	2
Alabama Transportation Institute	2		3	5
Anthropology	1			1
Art & Art History	1	1	1	3
Athletics	1	1		2
Biological Sciences	6	6	6	18
Building Maintenance			1	1
Capstone International Center	1			1
CCHS – School of Medicine	10	5	1	16
Center for Advanced Public Safety (CAPS)		5	1	6
Center for Prevention of Youth Behavior Problems	2			2
Chemical & Biological Engineering	4	2		6
Chemistry & Biochemistry	9	2	1	12
Civil, Construction, & Environmental Engineering	19	5	2	26
Communicative Disorders		2		2
Computer Science	4	2	1	7
Consumer Science/ CHES		2	1	3
Curriculum and Instruction	1	2	1	4
Economics, Finance & Legal Studies	2	3	3	8
Education		1		1
Ed Studies in Psych, Research Methods & Counseling	1	2		3
Electrical & Computer Engineering	19	2	3	24
English Language Institute			1	1
English Literature and TESL	5	1		6
eTech			1	1
Gender & Race Studies	1			1
Geography	2	1	1	4
Geological Sciences	11	2	2	15
History	1	1		2
Human Development and Family Studies	1			1
Human Nutrition & Hospitality Management	1	2	2	5
Information Systems, Statistics & Management Science		6	1	7
Information Technology		1		1
Institute for Business Analytics			1	1
Instructional Technology and Academic Services		1		1
Journalism & Creative Media	3			3
Kinesiology		1		1
Law, School		1	2	3
Mathematics	1	7		8
Mechanical Engineering	12	2	4	18
Metallurgical & Materials Engineering	4	2	2	8
MINT Center (Materials for Information Technology)	16		1	17
Modern Languages & Classics	2		1	3
Nursing		1		1
Office of Institutional Research & Assessment (OIRA)		2		2
Physics & Astronomy	6	5	1	12
Political Science	1	4		5
Religious Studies		1		1
Remote Sensing	1		2	3

Department	J-1	H-1B	Other Visa	Total
Research Institutes			1	1
RISE School			1	1
Social Work	4			4
Special Education & Multiple Abilities	2	1		3
Student Affairs Assessment and Planning		1		1
Title IX		1		1
University Libraries		1	1	2
Women & Gender Resource Center			1	1
TOTAL	159	92	54	305

XV. Length of Program

International Scholars' time at The University of Alabama varies widely from short visits of a few weeks to longer terms of employment of several years. The chart below breaks down the 305 International Scholars and Faculty at UA in 2018/19 by the length of their stay.

In 2018/19, 32 scholars' sponsorship by UA was for less than 3 months. 28 scholars' sponsorship lasted between 3 months and less than 6 months. 25 scholars' sponsorship at UA was for a period of between 6 months and less than 1 year. And the vast majority of 220 scholars were sponsored for 1 year or longer.

