

63% increase in Indian students choosing to study in the UK

This remarkable 63% increase year on year is almost four times as fast as the global rate.

In the last decade, more than 270,000 Indian students – 70% of whom were postgraduates – have benefitted from the UK's world leading education. The UK is home to three of the world's top 10 universities. Over 1,400 walk-ins were recorded during the recent Study UK Fair in New Delhi, which gave students an opportunity to interact with representatives from over 50 UK universities.

The latest visa statistics also show that the UK remains a popular destination for Indian holiday makers. More than 512,000 Indian nationals received visit visas – a 9% increase compared to the previous year.

Overall, it is estimated that more than 1 in 5 of all UK visas go to Indian nationals and 90% of Indian applications are successful, above the global average. Indian nationals also accounted for nearly 51% of all Tier 2 visas granted globally – with over 56,000 Indians receiving skilled work visas in the reporting period.

Sir Dominic Asquith, High Commissioner to India, said:

I'm delighted to see that once again the statistics show that more Indians are choosing to study at the UK's world-class educational institutions. This is now the third consecutive year in which the numbers have increased. It is important to us, because these young leaders of tomorrow will reinforce the living bridge that connects India and the UK.

Barbara Wickham, Director India, British Council, said:

We are delighted to see, year on year, more Indian students choosing and trusting the UK education system. UK education institutions equally benefit from the diversity of talent and culture that Indian students bring to campuses. The positive growth in student visa statistics, along with the great collaboration between the Indian and UK higher education sectors, ensures that education continues to be key in the relationship between our two countries.

- All figures in the Q3 2019 report relate to the year October 2018 to September 2019. The full statistical release can be found online on the Gov.uk website here: [student visas](#) , [visit visas](#) , [skilled work visas](#) .
- Migration statistics are updated quarterly to provide insight into UK

visa trends. Upcoming releases will cover a 12-month period in the following format:

- Q4 2019: January 2019 – December 2019 (released February 2020)
- Q1 2020: April 2019 – March 2020 (released May 2020)
- Q2 2020: July 2019 – June 2020 (released August 2020)
- According to the Times Higher Education rankings for 2020, three of the world's top 10 universities are in the UK (Oxford, Cambridge, Imperial College). We also have 11 in the top 100 (UCL, LSE, Edinburgh, Manchester, Glasgow) and 28 in the top 200 (Birmingham, Sheffield, Exeter, Nottingham, Leeds).

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