

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Additional Estimates 2013-2014**

**Outcome 3 - Higher Education, Research & International**

**Department of Education Question No. ED0475\_14**

**Senator Carr asked on 26 February 2014 , Hansard page 135**

**Question**

*International Education*

**Senator KIM CARR:** Are we seeing the same sorts of increases with our main competitors—for instance, the United Kingdom? Has there been a similar rate of increase? Do you have that information?

**Ms Baly:** I have some information on other countries. In relation to the United States, there was a 5.7 per cent increase from 2010-11 to 2011-12. In the case of the United Kingdom, the latest data actually shows a decline of one per cent. I do not know that I have data on our other competitor countries in that sort of form, but I can take that on notice and see what we can get for you.

**Senator KIM CARR:** Thank you.

**Ms Baly:** I do not know if we can get it for you, but we will see if we can.

**Senator KIM CARR:** If you can, just give me your view as to what the international comparisons look like. It has been put to me that, in the trends in international student mobility, non-Anglo countries—for instance, Germany—are starting to do better attracting international students. Would you agree with that assessment?

**Ms Baly:** I do not have information on Germany.

**Mr Griew:** We can add that to the analysis on notice.

**Answer**

The latest available data to enable comparisons between Australia and its major competitor countries, including Germany and other non-English speaking countries, is published by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The latest period reported is 2011. A table of this collated data is attached.

Between 2012 and 2013, international student enrolments in Australia increased by 2.6%. There is no comparable data available across Australia's major competitor countries to enable comparison within this more recent period.

The latest publication on international students in Germany (Wissenschaft Weltoffen 2013) reported 265,292 foreign students enrolled at German higher education institutions in 2012, an increase of approximately 5% on 2011. This is a smaller figure than UNESCO's reported tertiary student figures, which are supplemented by vocational students at diploma and advanced diploma levels.

**Distribution of foreign students in tertiary education, by major destination countries, 2010 and 2011**

	2010	2011	Change	Market share 2010 (%)	Market share 2011 (%)
United States	684,807	709,565	3.6%	16.6	16.5
United Kingdom	534,555	559,948	4.8%	13.0	13.0
Germany	263,972	272,696	3.3%	6.4	6.3
France	259,935	268,212	3.2%	6.3	6.2
Australia	271,225	262,597	-3.2%	6.6	6.1
Canada	195,544	203,823	4.2%	4.7	4.7
Russian Federation	160,955	171,499	6.6%	3.9	4.0
Japan	141,599	151,461	7.0%	3.4	3.5
Spain	98,611	107,405	8.9%	2.4	2.5
South Africa	62,954	82,553	31.1%	1.5	1.9
China	74,144	79,521	7.3%	1.8	1.9
Italy	69,905	73,461	5.1%	1.7	1.7
New Zealand	70,883	72,796	2.7%	1.7	1.7
All other nationalities	1,229,913	1,282,870	4.3%	29.9	29.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,119,002</b>	<b>4,298,407</b>	<b>4.4%</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>