# OPEN DOORS FACT SHEET: VIETNAM

**INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION**
**Educational Exchange Data from *Open Doors 2010***

In the 2009/10 academic year, **13,112** students from Vietnam were studying in the United States (up 2.3% from the previous year). Vietnam has become the ninth leading place of origin for students coming to the United States, moving into the top ten from thirteenth place in 2007/08.

**Academic Level:** The majority of Vietnamese students study at the undergraduate level. In 2009/10, their breakdown was as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| 67.6% | undergraduate |
| 18.7% | graduate students |
| 9.7% | other |
| 3.9% | OPT (Optional Practical Training) |

**Historical trends:** The number of students from Vietnam fluctuated moderately throughout the 1980s and 1990s with a steady trend of growth beginning in the late 1990s. The number of Vietnamese students has risen significantly since 1998/99, with double-digit growth in many years. In 2008/09, students from Vietnam increased by 46.2% following an increase of 45.3% the previous year. Vietnam has been a top 20 place of origin since 2006/07 and is now a top 10 place of origin.

| Year | # of Students from Vietnam | % Change from the Previous Year | # of US Study Abroad Students Going to Vietnam |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2009/10 | 13,112 | 2.3% | n/a |
| 2008/09 | 12,823 | 46.2% | 672 (up 3.1%) |
| 2007/08 | 8,769 | 45.3% | 652 |
| 2006/07 | 6,036 | 31.3% | 550 |
| 2005/06 | 4,597 | 25.3% | 390 |
| 2004/05 | 3,670 | 16.0% | 346 |
| 2003/04 | 3,165 | 16.3% | 283 |
| 2002/03 | 2,722 | 7.5% | 286 |
| 2001/02 | 2,531 | 25.2% | 218 |
| 2000/01 | 2,022 | -10.8% | 188 |
| 1999/00 | 2,266 | 42.8% | 142 |
| 1998/99 | 1,587 | - | 95 |

Note: Study abroad figures from *Open Doors* reflect credit given by U.S. campuses during the survey year to their students who studied abroad in the academic year just completed, including the summer term. Study abroad in 2009/10 will be reported in *Open Doors 2011*, once credit is awarded by the home campus.

Source: *Open Doors: Report on International Educational Exchange*, published annually by IIE with support from the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. For more information, including press releases on foreign students in the U.S. and U.S. study abroad, and FAQs, including definitions of foreign students and foreign scholars, visit www.iie.org/opendoors or contact Leena Soman, IIE Public Affairs Manager, at: +1 (212) 984-5360 or lsoman@iie.org.