OPEN DOORS FACT SHEET: CHINA

INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION
Educational Exchange Data from *Open Doors 2013*

In the 2012/13 academic year, **235, 597** students from China were studying in the United States (up 21% from the previous year). China remains the leading place of origin for students coming to the United States.

Academic Level: While the majority of Chinese students study at the graduate level, the U.S. continues to experience an upsurge in the number of undergraduate students coming from China. In 2012/13, their breakdown was as follows:

39.8%	undergraduate
43.9%	graduate students
6.1%	other
10.2%	OPT (Optional Practical Training)

Historical trends: China sent no students to the U.S. from the 1950s until 1974/75. In the 1980s, numbers of Chinese students grew dramatically, and in 1988/89, China displaced Taiwan as the leading sender remaining the leading place of origin until it was displaced by Japan in 1994/95. In 1998/99, China became the leading sender again for three years, through 2000/01. In 2001/02, India became the top sender of students to the U.S. and retained that position for eight years, through 2008/09. In 2009/10, China again became the top sending country, and retains that place for the fourth year in a row in 2012/13.

Year	# of Students From China	% Change from Previous Year	# of U.S. Study Abroad Students Going to China
2012/13	235,597	21.4%	n/a
2011/12	194,029	23.1%	14,887(up 2.0%)
2010/11	157,558	23.5%	14,596
2009/10	127,628	29.9%	13,910
2008/09	98,235	21.1%	13,674
2007/08	81,127	19.8%	13,188
2006/07	67,723	8.2%	11,064
2005/06	62,582	0.1%	8,830
2004/05	62,523	1.2%	6,391
2003/04	61,765	-4.6%	4,737
2002/03	64,757	2.4%	2,493
2001/02	63,211	5.5%	3,911
2000/01	59,939	10.0%	2,942
1999/00	54,466	6.8%	2,949
1998/99	51,001	8.6%	2,278
1997/98	46,958	10.5%	2,116
1996/97	42,503	7.3%	1,627
1995/96	39,613	-	1,396

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 2012/13 will be reported in *Open Doors 2014*, once credit is awarded by the home campus. The sharp decline in study abroad during 2002/03 reflects the closing of most programs in China in response to the SARS epidemic. Once programs reopened, the numbers of American students rebounded.

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 IIE's Public Affairs office at: +1(212) 984-5360.