

2015 CGS International Graduate Admissions Survey: Preliminary Applications Methods & Questionnaire

Background

In 2004, the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS) launched an annual empirical examination of international graduate application, admission, and enrollment trends in response to member institutions' interest in changes in the enrollment of students from abroad seeking master's and doctoral degrees from U.S. colleges and universities. The core of this examination was a multi-phase survey of CGS member institutions, the *CGS International Graduate Admissions Survey*, which collected an initial snapshot of applications to U.S. graduate schools from prospective international students (*Phase I*, conducted each Spring), final applications and an initial picture of admissions offers to prospective international students (*Phase II*, conducted each Summer), and final offers of admission and first-time and total international graduate student enrollment (*Phase III*, conducted each Fall). For the purpose of this survey, an international student is defined as a person who was not a citizen, national, or permanent resident of the United States and was in this country on a student visa, or on a temporary basis, and does not have the legal right to remain indefinitely.

Beginning in 2015, *Phase I* and *Phase III* of the survey were redesigned to collect data by degree objective (master's & graduate certificate vs. doctorate), all seven regions of origin, eight countries of origin, and all eleven broad fields of study. *Phase I* and *Phase III* were also renamed to *CGS International Graduate Admissions Survey: Preliminary Applications*, and *CGS International Graduate Admissions Survey: Final Applications, Admissions, and Enrollment* respectively. *Phase II* of the survey was eliminated. Additionally, the sample pool was expanded to include institutions that were not CGS members but were members of the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools (CSGS), the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools (MAGS), the Northeastern Association of Graduate Schools (NAGS), or the Western Association of Graduate Schools (WAGS). These changes were made to make the results more comprehensive, and to make them consistent with the *CGS/GRE Survey of Graduate Enrollment & Degrees*.

Survey Description

The *2015 CGS International Graduate Admissions Survey: Preliminary Applications* population consisted of 793 U.S. colleges and universities, 501 of which were CGS members as of January 2015 and 292 of which were not CGS members but were members of CSGS, MAGS, NAGS, or WAGS. Institutions were asked to report the number of applications for admission to graduate programs from prospective international students for Fall 2014 and for Fall 2015. For most institutions, the *Preliminary Applications* survey was administered early in their application cycles, before final numbers were known. For this reason, the survey results should be considered preliminary, subject to revision in the *2015 CGS*

International Graduate Admissions Survey: Applications, Admissions, and Enrollment when final applications numbers are reported in late 2015.

Data Collection

The *2015 CGS International Graduate Admissions Survey: Preliminary Applications* was e-mailed to the graduate dean (or equivalent) and data coordinators at each of the 793 institutions on February 4, 2015. A total of 377 institutions responded to the survey, for a response rate of 48%. While this response rate is lower than previous years (e.g., the 2014 *Phase I* survey generated a 61% response rate), it is important to note that the addition of institutions from the four regional graduate school associations increased the total sample pool by nearly 60%. Overall, institutions responding to the *Preliminary Applications* survey conferred 81,214, or 70% of the approximately 115,315 graduate degrees awarded to international students in the United States in 2012-13 as derived from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS).

Countries and Regions of Origin

The survey collected data on eight countries of origin, including: Brazil, Canada, China, India, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, and Taiwan. These eight countries were selected because they represent the top countries of origin for international graduate students in the United States, or for other geopolitical reasons. The survey also collected data from all seven regions of the world: Asia, Europe, Latin America & Caribbean, Middle East & North Africa, North America (for the purpose of this study, North America includes only Canada), Oceania, and Sub-Saharan Africa. Specific definitions are listed below:

Asia includes: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China, East Timor, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Macau, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, North Korea, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Vietnam.

China refers to the People's Republic of China (i.e., mainland China) and excludes Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan, etc.

Europe includes: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Gibraltar, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, and Vatican City (Holy See).

Latin America & Caribbean includes: Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Bolivia, Brazil, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Curacao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Falkland Islands, French Guiana, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Martinique, Mexico, Montserrat, Netherlands Antilles, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Sint Maarten, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

Middle East & North Africa includes: Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestinian Territories, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.

Oceania includes: Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, New Caledonia, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Wallis & Futuna.

Sub-Saharan Africa includes: Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Cote d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast), Democratic Republic of Congo (Kinshasa, Republic of Congo), Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Republic of the Congo (Brazzaville), Rwanda, Saint Helena, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

Carnegie Classification

Institutions were coded according to their 2010 Carnegie basic classification. In the analysis of applications by Carnegie classification, the responding institutions classified as RU/VH: Research Universities (very high research activity), RU/H: Research Universities (high research activity), or DRU: Doctoral/Research Universities were grouped as doctoral institutions. The responding institutions classified as Master's/L: Master's Colleges and Universities (larger programs), Master's/M: Master's Colleges and Universities (medium programs), or Master's/S: Master's Colleges and Universities (smaller programs) were grouped as master's institutions. Responding institutions classified as specialized or baccalaureate institutions were excluded from many analyses due the small number of applications reported by these institutions.

Taxonomy

The survey collected data for all 11 broad fields of study, including: arts & humanities, biological & agricultural sciences, business, education, engineering, health sciences, mathematics & computer sciences, physical & earth sciences, public administration & services, social & behavioral sciences, and other fields. These are the same fields of study as used by the *CGS/GRE Survey of Graduate Enrollment & Degrees*. The detailed taxonomy appears on the pages that follow.

SURVEY TAXONOMY

ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Arts – History, Theory, and Criticism

Art History, Criticism, and Conservation
Ethnomusicology
Music History, Literature, and Theory
Musicology
Theatre Literature, History and Criticism
Arts – History, Theory, and Criticism, Other

Arts – Performance and Studio

Arts, Entertainment, and Media Management
Crafts/Craft Design
Dance
Design and Applied Arts
Drama/Theatre Arts
Film/Video and Photographic Arts
Fine and Studio Arts
Music
Arts – Performance and Studio, Other

English Language and Literature

American Literature
English Language and Literature
English Literature
Rhetoric and Composition/Writing Studies
English Language and Literatures, Other

Foreign Languages and Literatures

African Languages and Literatures
American Sign Language
Asiatic Languages and Literatures
Celtic Languages and Literatures
Classics and Classical Languages and Literatures
Germanic Languages and Literatures
Iranian/Persian Languages and Literatures
Modern Greek Language and Literature
Romance Languages and Literatures
Slavic, Baltic, and Albanian Languages and Literatures
Foreign Languages and Literatures, Other

History

American History
European History
History and Philosophy of Science and Technology
History, General
History, Other

Philosophy

Ethics
Logic
Philosophy
Philosophy, Other

Arts and Humanities, Other

Linguistic, Comparative, and Related Language Studies and Services
Humanities/Humanistic Studies
Liberal Arts and Sciences/Liberal Arts
Arts and Humanities, Other

BIOLOGICAL & AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Conservation

Agricultural and Domestic Animal Services
Agricultural and Food Products Processing
Agricultural Business and Management
Agricultural Economics
Agricultural Mechanization
Agricultural Production
Agricultural Public Services
Agriculture, General
Agronomy
Animal Sciences
Applied Horticulture
Fishing and Fisheries Sciences and Management
Food Science and Technology
Forestry
Horticultural Business Services
International Agriculture
Natural Resources and Conservation
Natural Resources Management and Policy
Parks, Recreation, and Leisure Facilities Management
Parks, Recreation, and Leisure Studies
Plant Sciences
Soil Sciences
Wildlife and Wildlands Science and Management
Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Conservation, Other

Biological and Biomedical Sciences

Anatomical Sciences
Animal Biology
Bacteriology
Biochemistry
Bioinformatics
Biology, General
Biomathematics
Biometry
Biophysics
Biotechnology
Botany/Plant Biology
Cell/Cellular Biology
Computational Biology

Developmental Biology
Ecology
Entomology
Epidemiology
Evolution
Genetics
Immunology
Microbiological Sciences
Molecular Biology
Molecular Medicine
Neurosciences
Parasitology
Pathology
Pharmacology
Physiology
Population Biology
Systematics
Toxicology
Zoology
Biological and Biomedical Sciences, Other

BUSINESS

Accounting

Accounting
Auditing
Taxation

Banking and Finance

Banking and Financial Support Services
Credit Management
Financial Planning and Services
International Finance
Investments and Securities
Public Finance

Business Administration and Management

Business Administration and Management
Business Operations
Business/Commerce, General
Construction Management
E-Commerce
Entrepreneurship
Hospitality Administration/Management
Human Resources Development
Human Resources Management
Labor and Industrial Relations
Logistics and Supply Chain Management
Operations Management
Organizational Leadership
Organizational Management
Project Management
Small Business Operations
Sport and Fitness Administration/Management
Telecommunications Management
Business Administration and Management, Other

Business, Other

Business Statistics
Business/Corporate

Communications
Business/Managerial Economics
Insurance
International Business
Management Information Systems
Management Science
Marketing
Marketing Management
Merchandising
Real Estate
Sales
Business Fields, Other

EDUCATION

Education Administration

Educational Administration
Educational Leadership
Educational Supervision

Curriculum and Instruction

Curriculum and Instruction

Early Childhood Education

Early Childhood Education and Teaching
Kindergarten/Preschool Education and Teaching

Elementary Education

Elementary Education and Teaching
Elementary-Level Teaching Fields

Educational Assessment, Evaluation and Research

Educational Assessment, Testing, and Measurement
Educational Evaluation and Research
Educational Psychology
Educational Statistics and Research Methods
Learning Sciences
School Psychology

Higher Education

Higher Education
Higher Education Administration

Secondary Education

Secondary Education and Teaching
Secondary-Level Teaching Fields

Special Education

Education/Teaching of Students w/ Specific Disabilities
Education/Teaching of Students w/ Specific Learning Disabilities
Education/Teaching of the Gifted and Talented
Special Education and Teaching
Other Special Education Fields

Student Counseling and Personnel Services

College Student Counseling and Personnel Services
Counselor Education
School Counseling and Guidance Services
Student Counseling and Personnel Services, Other

Education, Other

Adult and Continuing Education
Bilingual, Multilingual, and Multicultural Education
Education, General

Educational/Instructional Media Design
Health and Physical Education
International and Comparative Education
Junior High/Middle School Education and Teaching
Outdoor Education
Social and Philosophical Foundations of Education
Teaching English as a Second or Foreign Language
Other Education Fields

ENGINEERING

Chemical Engineering

Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
Chemical Engineering

Civil Engineering

Architectural Engineering
Civil Engineering
Construction Engineering
Environmental/Environmental Health Engineering
Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering
Structural Engineering
Surveying Engineering
Transportation and Highway Engineering
Water Resources Engineering

Computer, Electrical, and Electronics Engineering

Computer Engineering
Computer Hardware Engineering
Computer Software Engineering
Electrical Engineering
Electronics Engineering
Laser and Optical Engineering
Telecommunications Engineering

Industrial Engineering

Industrial Engineering
Manufacturing Engineering
Operations Research

Materials Engineering

Ceramic Sciences & Engineering
Materials Engineering
Materials Science
Metallurgical Engineering
Polymer/Plastics Engineering

Mechanical Engineering

Engineering Mechanics
Mechanical Engineering

Engineering, Other

Aeronautical Engineering
Aerospace Engineering
Agricultural Engineering
Biochemical Engineering
Biomedical/Medical Engineering
Electromechanical Engineering
Engineering Chemistry
Engineering Physics
Engineering Science
Forest Engineering
Geological/Geophysical Engineering
Mining and Mineral Engineering
Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering

Nuclear Engineering
Ocean Engineering
Paper Science and Engineering
Petroleum Engineering
Systems Engineering
Textile Sciences and Engineering
Engineering, Other

HEALTH SCIENCES

Health and Medical Sciences

Allied Health
Alternative and Complementary Medicine
Audiology
Bioethics/Medical Ethics
Chiropractic (excluding D.C. and D.C.M.)
Clinical/Medical Laboratory Science/Research
Communication Disorders
Sciences and Services
Dentistry and Oral Sciences (excluding D.D.S. and D.M.D.)
Dietetics and Clinical Nutrition Services
Environmental Health
Exercise Science
Health and Medical Administrative Services
Health Sciences
Health/Medical Preparatory Pgms.
Kinesiology
Medical Sciences (excluding M.D.)
Mental and Social Health Services
Nursing
Nutrition Sciences
Occupational Therapy
Optometry (excluding O.D.)
Osteopathic Medicine (excluding D.O.)
Pharmaceutical Sciences (excluding Pharm.D.)
Physical Therapy
Physician Assistant
Podiatry (excluding D.P.M., D.P. and Pod.D.)
Public Health
Rehabilitation and Therapy
Speech-Language Pathology
Veterinary Biomedical and Clinical Science
Veterinary Medicine (excluding D.V.M.)
Health and Medical Sciences, Other

MATHEMATICS & COMPUTER SCIENCES

Mathematical Sciences

Actuarial Science
Applied Mathematics
Mathematics
Probability
Statistics
Mathematical Sciences, Other

Computer and Information Sciences

Computer and Information Sciences, General

Computer Programming
Computer Science
Computer Software and Media Applications
Computer Systems Analysis
Computer Systems Networking and Telecommunications
Computer/Information Technology Administration and Management
Data Processing
Information Sciences/Studies
Microcomputer Applications
Computer and Information Sciences, Other

PHYSICAL & EARTH SCIENCES

Chemistry

Analytical Chemistry
Chemical Plastics
Chemistry, General
Environmental Chemistry
Forensic Chemistry
Inorganic Chemistry
Medicinal and Pharmaceutical Chemistry
Organic Chemistry
Physical Chemistry
Polymer Chemistry
Theoretical Chemistry
Chemistry, Other

Earth, Atmospheric & Marine Sciences

Aquatic Biology/Limnology
Atmospheric Sciences
Biological Oceanography
Earth Sciences
Geochemistry
Geological Sciences
Geophysics and Seismology
Geosciences
Hydrology
Marine Biology
Marine Sciences
Meteorology
Oceanography
Paleontology
Earth, Atmospheric, and Marine Sciences, Other

Physics & Astronomy

Acoustics
Astronomy
Astrophysics
Atomic/Molecular Physics
Condensed Matter and Materials Physics
Elementary Particle Physics
Nuclear Physics
Optics/Optical Sciences
Physics
Planetary Astronomy and Science
Plasma and High-Temperature Physics
Solid State Physics
Theoretical and Mathematical Physics
Physics and Astronomy, Other

Physical Sciences, Other

Physical Sciences, General

Science Technologies
Physical Sciences, Other

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION & SERVICES

Public Administration

Community Organization and Advocacy
Public Administration

Social Work

Social Work
Youth Services/Administration
Social Work, Other

SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

Anthropology and Archaeology

Anthropology
Archaeology

Economics

Applied Economics
Econometrics
Economics
International Economics

Political Science

International Relations
Political Science and Government
Public Policy Analysis

Psychology

Applied Psychology
Clinical Psychology
Cognitive Psychology
Community Psychology
Comparative Psychology
Counseling Psychology
Developmental and Child Psychology
Experimental Psychology
Forensic Psychology
Industrial and Organizational Psychology
Personality Psychology
Physiological Psychology
Psycholinguistics
Psychology, General
Psychometrics
Psychopharmacology
Quantitative Psychology
Research and Experimental Psychology
Social Psychology
Psychology, Other

Sociology

Demography
Rural Sociology
Sociology

Social Sciences, Other

Adult Development and Aging
Area, Ethnic, Cultural, Gender, and Group Studies
Criminal Justice/Criminology
Geography and Cartography
Gerontology
Social Sciences, General
Urban Studies/Affairs
Social Sciences, Other

OTHER FIELDS

Architecture and Environmental Design

Architectural History and Criticism
Architectural Sciences and Technology
Architecture
City/Urban, Community and Regional Planning
Environmental Design
Interior Architecture
Landscape Architecture
Real Estate Development
Architecture and Environmental Design, Other

Communications and Journalism

Advertising
Communication and Media Studies
Communications Technologies
Journalism
Mass Communication
Public Relations
Publishing
Radio, Television, and Digital Communication
Speech Communication
Communications and Journalism, Other

Family and Consumer Sciences

Apparel and Textiles
Family and Consumer Economics
Family and Consumer Sciences
Family Studies
Foods, Nutrition, and Wellness Studies
Housing and Human Environments
Human Development
Human Sciences
Work and Family Studies
Family and Consumer Sciences, Other

Library and Archival Studies

Archives/Archival Administration
Library and Information Science
Library and Archival Sciences, Other

Religion and Theology

Philosophy and Religious Studies, General
Religion/Religious Studies
Theology and Religious Vocations (excluding M.Div., M.H.L., B.D., and Ordination)
Religion and Theology, Other

Other Fields

Fire Protection
Homeland Security
Interdisciplinary Studies
Legal Research and Professional Studies (excluding L.L.B. and J.D.)
Military Technologies
Multidisciplinary Studies
Other Fields Not Previously Classified

CGS International Graduate Admissions Survey: Preliminary Applications

Institution ID:	Institution Name:
Name of Individual Completing the Survey:	
Phone Number:	E-mail:

	MASTER'S & CERT		DOCTORATE		TOTAL	
	Final Applications Fall 2014	Preliminary Applications Fall 2015	Final Applications Fall 2014	Preliminary Applications Fall 2015	Final Applications Fall 2014	Preliminary Applications Fall 2015
	NON-U.S. CITIZENS ONLY					
U.S. Citizens & Permanent Residents						
Non-U.S. Citizens (Temporary Residents)						
Regions of Origin						
Asia						
Europe						
Latin America & Caribbean						
Middle East & North Africa						
Oceania						
Sub-Saharan Africa						
Countries of Origin						
Brazil						
Canada						
China						
India						
Mexico						
Saudi Arabia						
South Korea						
Taiwan						
Field of Study						
Arts & Humanities						
Biological & Agricultural Sciences						
Business						
Education						
Engineering						
Health Sciences						
Mathematics & Computer Sciences						
Physical & Earth Sciences						
Public Administration & Services						
Social & Behavioral Sciences						
Other Fields						