

**INTO**»

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# MARKET NEWS BULLETIN

23 July – 5 August

Compiled by Nastja Pusic

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## Summary Section

**UK**

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### Overseas students 'turned off UK universities by Brexit' (29 July)

By Chris Havergal: THE: 29 July 2016

41 per cent of prospective students less likely to come here post-referendum, survey suggests.

Concerns about xenophobia and tighter immigration controls post-Brexit are set to trigger a slump in UK universities' international student recruitment, a poll has suggested.

A survey of 1,014 overseas students conducted by the student recruitment and retention solutions company Hobsons found that 34 per cent of the 875 who were not already registered at a UK university said that they were less likely to do so in future because of the vote to leave the European Union.

A further 7 per cent of respondents, drawn from the EU and further afield, said that they would definitely not come to the UK in light of the referendum result.

Among students who said they would not or were less likely to study in the UK, 59 per cent attributed this to a feeling that the UK was now a less welcoming place for international students, while 56 per cent felt that it would be harder to get a visa. Poorer post-study work options were also a major concern.

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### UK: Tier 4 pilot scheme to streamline application process, extend stay (2 August)

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### Theresa May 'to further scrutinise student visas' in immigration crackdown (24 July)

By Peter Yeung: Independent: 24 July 2016

Prime Minister reportedly sees tougher regulation on universities as way of reducing net migration.

Theresa May is set to scrutinise the number of student visas being granted to UK university applicants in a fresh attempt to reduce immigration.

The Prime Minister is reportedly preparing her new government to crack down on higher education institutions, claiming they have become an easy route into Britain for economic migrants.

Government sources have said the [Home Office](#) and Department for Education will examine the student visa regime to see where criteria can be tightened, according to *The Telegraph*.

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## USA and Canada

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### Indonesian Student Enrollment at US Universities Records High in Last Ten Years (August)

By: Kalpesh Kapadia: Jakarta Globe: August 2016

There are more Indonesian students attending colleges and universities in the US now than at any time in the last ten years, according the International Institute of Education (IIE), a non-profit organization that tries to improve access to international education for students worldwide.

The organization reported around 8,200 students from Indonesia enrolled at universities in the US between the Sept. 2014 and May 2015 — the highest number in a decade and represents a ten percent increase in Indonesian student enrollment since 2005.

Indonesia was also named one of the top emerging markets for U.S. college international recruitment in a study by World Education Services (WES), a non-profit that focuses on helping international students on their path to higher education in the U.S. and Canada. Indonesia was ranked the third most promising market after Brazil and Vietnam.

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### Change of the standardised testing guard for US HE (24 July)

By Sara Custer: The Pie News: 24 July 2016

The SAT and ACT, standardised tests that were once crucial in the college admission process, are increasingly being substituted by other standardised tests or eliminated completely, especially for international applicants.

An increasing number of institutions are making themselves “test flexible” – requiring some official test but not limiting it to the standard guard of the ACT or SAT. Some have even declared themselves “test optional” – not requiring any standardised test score other than those that prove the student’s English language level.

At the International ACAC conference in New Jersey this month, professionals on both the high school and university sides of the admission relationship spoke about the changing role of standardised tests in a student’s college application.

New York University, which is the top recruiter of international students in the US, has been text flexible since 2010. Bobbe Fernando, assistant dean and director of international admissions, said the decision to broaden the types of tests considered on university applications was driven by a desire to recognise the academic achievements of international students who didn't have access to or preparation for traditional US-based tests.

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## Canadian universities told to offer 'incentives' to woo UK scholars (15 July)

By Ellie Bothwell: THE: 15 July 2016

Thinktank advises universities to take advantage of UK's 'instability' after EU referendum.

A Canadian thinktank has advised the country's higher education sector to "offer research incentives" for top UK academics in order to take advantage of the result of the [European Union referendum](#).

The Conference Board of Canada says that the country's universities should "make a coordinated effort" to present themselves as a "compelling option" for leading UK scholars "as they seek alternatives to the instability facing them at home after the Brexit decision".

"The lack of stability in Europe juxtaposes Canada's sunnier landscape. Canada provides a welcoming contrast marked by academic excellence, continued liberalism and a warm openness to diversity," it claims.

The statements are made in an [article](#) titled "After Brexit: next moves for Canada's universities and colleges", co-authored by Mark Robbins, research associate at the thinktank's Industry and Business Strategy Research team.

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## US: media fuels concerns over agency fraud (3 August)

By Natalie Marsh: The Pie News: 3 August 2016

Around 70% of US education institutions expressed concern about fraudulent practice among education agencies, according to a recent report, with over half of the report's survey respondents saying they find out about bad practice through the media.

*The pace of adoption of international student recruitment agencies by US institutions*, produced by Bridge Education Group and StudentMarketing, found that 54% of respondents are aware of a negative experience when working with agencies through press coverage, with 39% saying they are aware from another US HE institution.

"The more exposure the media brings to charlatan agents, their victims and the schools who engage the charlatans, the better," said one anonymous respondent in the report.

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### New screening arrangements for international students in Australia (25 July)

By MFAFADMIN: Australia Forum.com: 25 July 2016

Under screening arrangements connected with the new simplified student visa in Australia all prospective international students must prove to be genuine.

A pre-visa screening assessment is usually conducted by the International Admissions department of the university in Australia and education providers are required to ensure that all applications are from students who meet genuine temporary entrant requirements.

Under the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP)'s Simplified Student Visa Framework (SSVF), overseas students must have the financial capacity to support their study in Australia.

The university requires each international applicant to submit a detailed personal statement of study purpose with their application and they must provide documentary evidence of financial capacity.

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### USB: International students are helping power Australian economic growth (25 July)

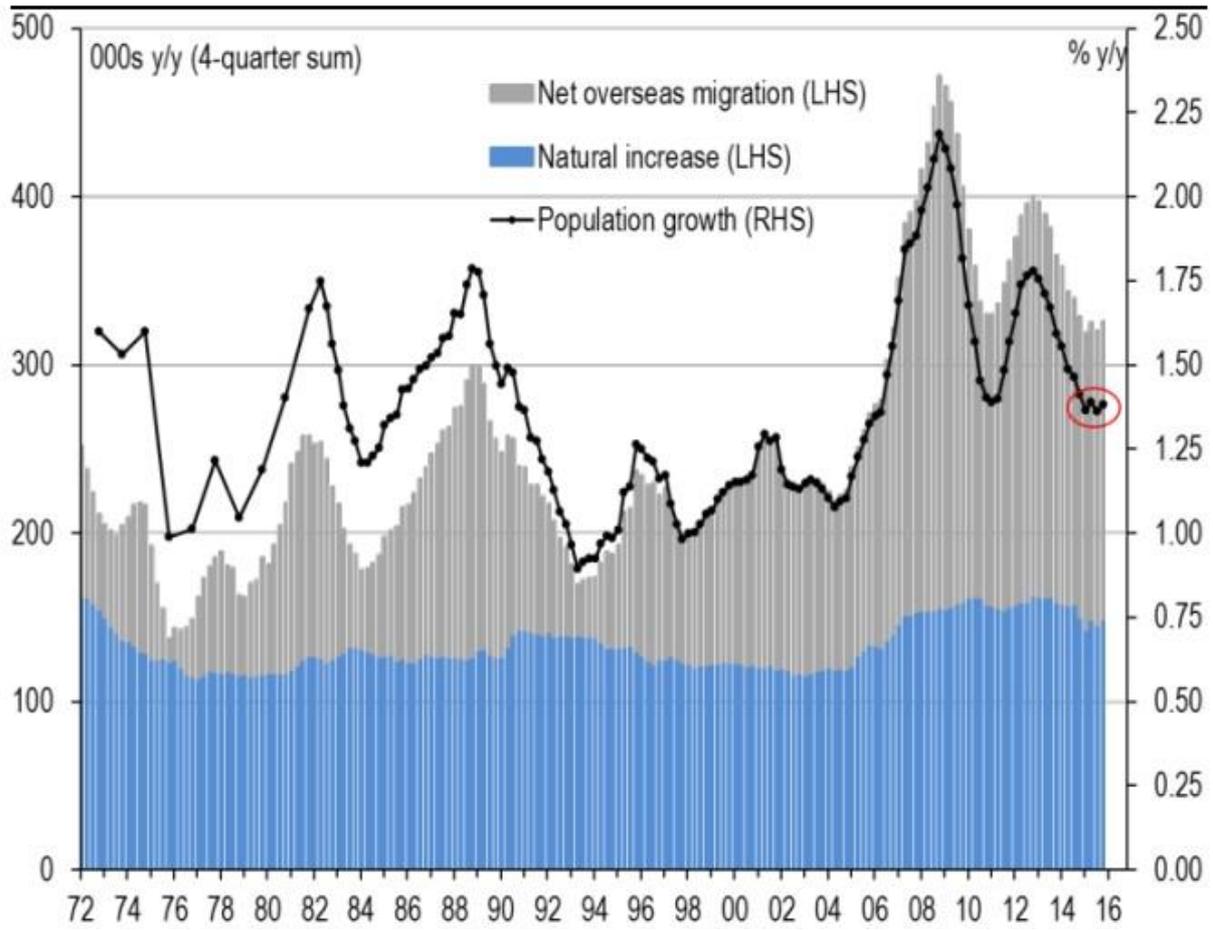
By David Scutt: Business Insider Australia: 25 July 2016

Australia's economy — already growing at an above-trend rate of 3.1% in the 12 months to March 2016 — could be about to get an additional boost from an oft-overlooked source: population growth.

That's the view of UBS Australian economics team of Scott Haslem, George Tharenou and Jim Xu, who believe a recent stabilisation in population growth at around 1.4% per annum "is positive news for Australia's growth outlook".

To provide some background, UBS has compiled a nifty chart (below) that looks at the composition of Australian population growth over the past four decades, looking specifically at the impact of net overseas migration and natural population increase.

**Figure 2: Population growth has steadied at 1.4% y/y – no longer a drag on GDP growth**



Source: ABS, UBS

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## Over 33,000 Chinese student visas granted (26 July)

By John Gerritsen: RNZ: 26 July 2016

The number of study visas granted to Chinese students has exceeded 30,000 a year for the first time in a decade.

Immigration New Zealand figures showed it approved 33,425 visa applications from Chinese students in the 12 months to the end of June.

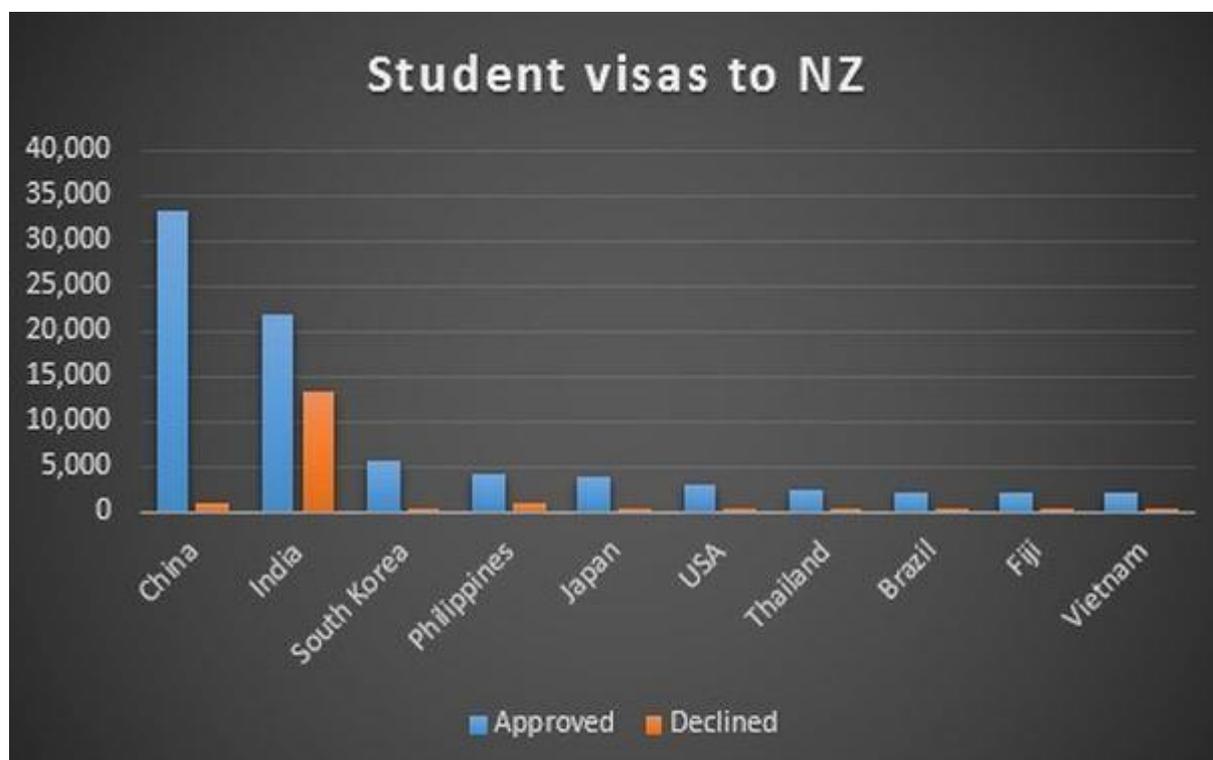
That figure was up from 29,880 in the preceding 12-month period and a significant increase from a low of 21,777 in 2009/10.

Annual study visa approvals for China had not been so high since 2006/07, when 34,448 were approved.

The next highest number of approvals in the 12 months to the end of June 2016 was for India, with 21,891, though that country also had 13,257 applications turned down.

No other country had more than 1000 declined applications.

Education New Zealand spokesperson John Goulter said the improvement in Chinese numbers was the result of long-term work by Education New Zealand and education providers.



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## Rise in international students a win-win for tertiary institutions and NZ students (26 July)

By Chris Whelan: Newstalk ZB: 18 July 2016

The New Zealand tertiary education sector is becoming more and more dependent on international students.

International enrolments at Kiwi universities shot up 13 percent in 2015 from the previous year,

Universities New Zealand's Executive Director Chris Whelan told Andrew Dickens New Zealand is a small country, and international students bolster a sector that has some financial challenges to overcome.

"Very small surpluses, one or two percent a year, but relying on international students for about 11 percent of their funding, so without them, actually our tertiary system [first] would fail, but [second] they're actually subsidising the education of domestic students now."

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## Asia

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### China rises as the international market of choice for Australian students (5 August)

By Eryk Bagshaw: The Border Mail: 5 August 2016

There are more Australians studying in China than ever before, as the tide of the one-way student exchange turns back towards the booming Asian business market.

A decade ago China was not even in the top 10 destinations for Australians studying abroad; Now student numbers have surged 37 per cent in the past year, or 83 per cent since 2011, with up to 5000 Australians studying in Chinese universities, according to China's Ministry of Education.

While the number pales in comparison to the estimated 90,000 Chinese students studying in Australia, new opportunities and an increasingly open business culture have made China an attractive proposition for Australian post-graduate students.

The country has gone through a university building boom, rapidly building more than 1400 universities in a decade for its 49 million university students.

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### India moves to open up international collaboration for universities (26 July)

By ICEF Monitor staff: ICEF Monitor: 26 July 2016

- *The Indian government has introduced new regulations to streamline the process of establishing links between Indian and foreign universities*
- *Under the new rules, eligible Indian universities will be able to initiate new partnerships with foreign institutions*
- *Such collaborations are limited to Indian institutions with the highest level of accreditation and subject to approval by the Indian University Grants Commission*
- *The regulations provide for study abroad terms of two semesters for undergraduates and one semester for postgraduates, with course credit for academic work abroad counting towards degrees conferred by the students' home institutions in India*

India's University Grants Commission (UGC) announced [new regulations](#) on 22 June 2016, since formally published on 13 July 2016, that aim to open up additional links between Indian and foreign universities with the goal to "offer students additional choices, improve curriculum and the delivery of knowledge and educational content."

Under the new regulations, Indian universities will now be permitted to apply to the UGC to establish partnerships with foreign institutions. This is a departure from previous guidelines, issued in 2012, under which only foreign universities could initiate such agreements – an opportunity that has not been taken up by a single foreign institution in the years since.

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## Watch: Chinese Students in America Try to Find Meaning, and Fit in (4 August)

By Tea Leaf: Foreign policy: 4 August 2016

More than 300,000 Chinese students currently [study](#) at U.S. universities – almost one in every three international students. The surge in Chinese international students Stateside represents the increasing prosperity, mobility, and individual choice that China's burgeoning middle class enjoys. But for some Chinese students, the freedom to guide their education in the U.S. liberal arts education system is tempered by a sense of displacement, as they are suspended between two different countries, and two disparate identities.

In this short film, "In-Between," alumna Amie Song profiles three Chinese undergraduates at Smith College, a women's college in Massachusetts, and the tension they feel as students who are proudly Chinese, yet shaped by an American education. "I'm not a tourist anymore," says one. "But sometimes I feel like I'm just a *guoke* — a passenger in the United States." Another relates that when she is back in China, it's hard for her to convince her friends who never left that her American experience is now "part of me, part of who I am."

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## Internationalisation of Chinese education entering a new phase (1 August)

By ICEF Monitor staff: ICEF Monitor: 1 August 2016

- *China's higher education system continues to expand at an incredible pace*
- *This has already had profound effects within China but also across Asia and around the world*
- *Also of note is the rapid expansion of links between Chinese universities and institutions and other partners abroad*

- *These international links will now receive a further boost via a massive foreign investment and development scheme launched by the Chinese government*

China's higher education system continues to expand at a breakneck pace. Enrolment levels and participation rates are all trending sharply upward, and the system continues to grow at the equivalent of roughly [one new university per week](#).

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## Vietnam removes agency certification requirements (5 August)

By ICEF Monitor staff: ICEF Monitor: 5 August 2016

- The Vietnamese government has removed certification requirements for education agents
- The move aims to reduce government bureaucracy in the Vietnamese industry and open up greater consumer choice
- However, the change to a more open marketplace for education agents will likely also place a greater burden on both students and foreign institutions in terms of identifying credible and qualified agents

*The following is a guest post from Dr Mark A. Ashwill, founder and managing director of [Capstone Vietnam](#), a human resource development company with offices in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. From 2005–2009, he served as country director of the Institute of International Education in Vietnam, a country that is increasingly seen as one of the most promising emerging markets for international student recruitment.*

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## International

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## Germany: international students up 7%, Chinese students top 30,000 (2 August)

By Natalie Marsh: The Pie News: 1 August 2016

International students at higher education institutions in Germany grew once again last year, increasing by 7% on top of 2014's gains.

The number of international students in the country now totals 321,569, making up 12% of the country's student body, according to the latest annual Wissenschaft weltoffen, by DAAD and DZHW.

The number of Chinese international students has topped 30,000 for the first time, with India overtaking Russia as the second highest source country.

Looking just at the total number of Bildungsauslaender (foreign students who went to high school outside of Germany) there were 177,949 at universities in 2015, an increase of 10,815 from the year before.

Much of this growth was seen at the postgraduate level, with the number of foreign master's students increasing by 8,042, or 15%, from 2014, reaching 61,448 in 2015.

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