

STUDY ABROAD

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



Annual Participation Report 2023-24

Introduction

This report details UW–Madison study abroad participation for the academic year 2023–24 (fall '23 through summer '24), as reported in the Institute of International Education's 2025 [Open Doors](#) data report for international educational exchange. Data in this report includes degree-seeking U.S. students (citizens and permanent residents) enrolled at UW–Madison who received academic credit for experiences abroad.

Unlike the [International Academic Programs](#) (IAP) UW–Madison [Study Abroad Data reports](#), Open Doors data does not include participation in domestic study away programs, or participation by international students or non-degree seeking students. The two data sets have become very closely aligned in recent years, as almost all students now participate in programs managed by or in partnership with IAP.

Open Doors Data is the basis for national rankings published by IIE each November. UW–Madison has once again reached a new record, and is above 3,000 students abroad for the first time in our history.

UW–Madison is ranked 6th among all U.S. universities and colleges for total students studying abroad, up from 8th place the previous year, as our engagement post-pandemic has continued to surpass the speed of return to study abroad experienced by most universities. The increase in the UW–Madison undergraduate student population, strengthening connections between study abroad participation and academic progression and career readiness, and greater scholarship availability to decrease financial barriers to study abroad have helped bolster this trend.

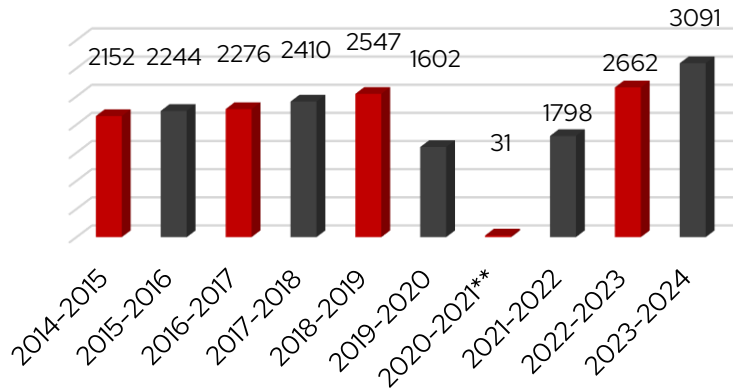
Additionally, UW–Madison is ranked 1st among Big 10 Academic Alliance Institutions for year-long participation, and 3rd among all U.S. Institutions for semester-long participation. Longer-term program participation has been a longstanding hallmark of UW–Madison, as 63% of UW–Madison study abroad students participated on semester and year-long programs, 28 points above the national average.

UW–Madison participation breakdown by country and gender balance is similar to national trends, though participation in non-traditional locations is once again increasing as we move farther away from Pandemic-related travel restrictions. Similarly, fully virtual “study abroad” experiences, which were widely offered during the height of the Pandemic as an alternative to in-person engagement, are now down to zero. However, virtual learning components of on-site programming (either before, during or after the program), have become an effective tool to support in-person learning goals.

I. Table of Contents

Introduction.....	2
I. Participation by UW–Madison Degree Seeking Students Studying Abroad by Academic Year: 10-year Summary	4
II. Participation by UW–Madison Students who Studied through a Study Abroad Administrative Unit.....	5
III. Participation by UW–Madison Students who Studied through a Non-Study Abroad Administrative Unit	6
IV. Participation UW–Madison Students by Administrative Type.....	7
V. Participation by Gender	8
VI. Participation by Academic Level*	9
VII. Participation by Ethnicity	10
VIII. Participation by Duration	11
IX. Participation by Region	12
X. Participation by Country: Alphabetically.....	13
XI. Participation by Country: Popularity	14
XII. Participation by Virtual Experiences.....	15

I. Participation by UW–Madison Degree Seeking Students Studying Abroad by Academic Year: 10-year Summary

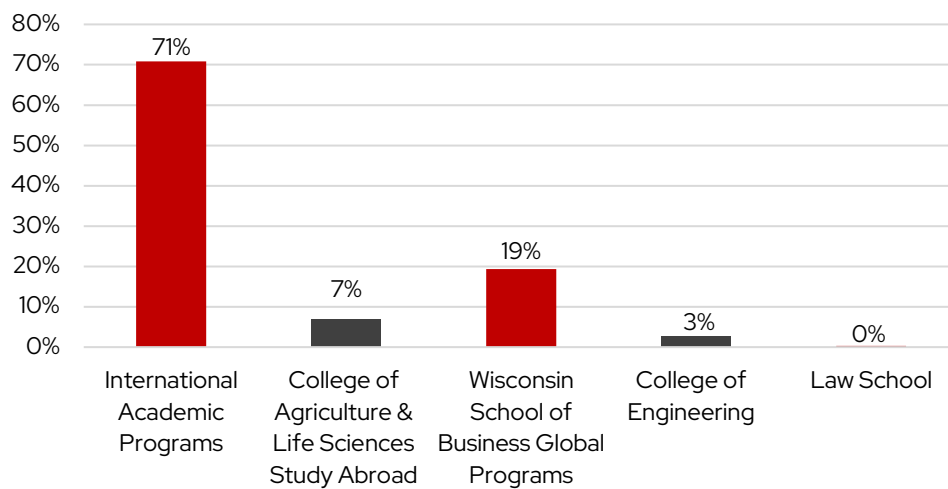


Academic Year	Participants	% Change
2014-2015	2152	-5.45%
2015-2016	2244	4.28%
2016-2017	2276	1.43%
2017-2018	2410	5.89%
2018-2019	2547	5.68%
2019-2020	1602	-37.10%
2020-2021**	31	-98.06%
2021-2022	1798	5700%
2022-2023	2662	48.05%
2023-2024	3091	16.12%

**During this time period, COVID-19 related travel restrictions greatly impacted programs.

II. Participation by UW–Madison Students who Studied through a Study Abroad Administrative Unit

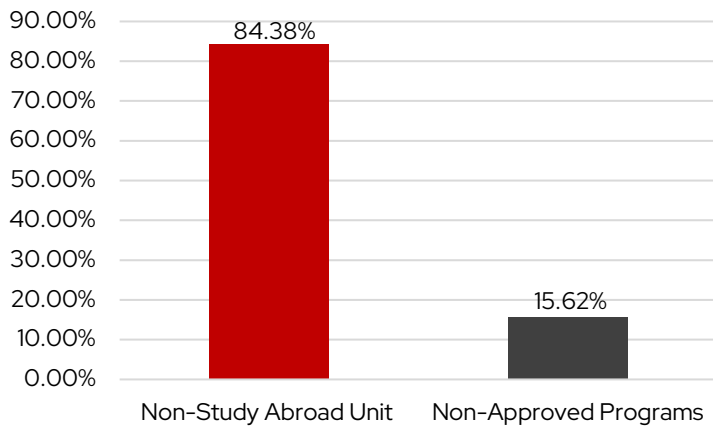
In this report, an “Administrative Unit” is the UW–Madison department, school, college, or other unit organizing the posting for coursework completed while abroad. College of Engineering Programs are managed fully through International Programs, and College of Agriculture & Life Sciences Study Abroad Wisconsin School of Business Undergraduate Global Programs are administered in partnership with International Academic Programs. Students are counted for each experience abroad they completed during this timeframe in their respective administrative unit.



Study Abroad Administrative Unit	Participants	Percentage
International Academic Programs	1997	70.84%
College of Agriculture & Life Sciences Study Abroad	195	6.92%
Wisconsin School of Business Global Programs	546	19.37%
College of Engineering	72	2.55%
Law School	9	0.32%
Totals	2819	100.00%

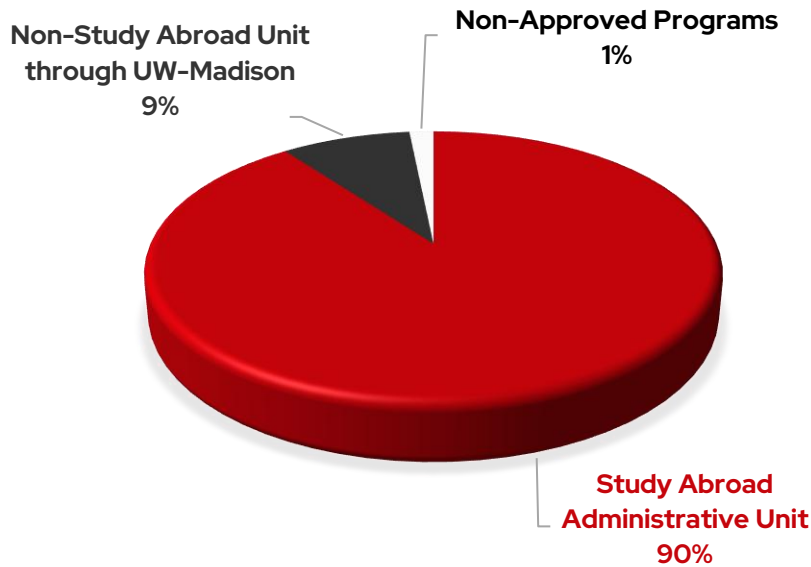
III. Participation by UW–Madison Students who Studied through a Non-Study Abroad Administrative Unit

Students who did not study through an “Administrative Unit” either went on a program that was not sponsored by UW–Madison called a non-approved program (and received transfer credit) or received academic credit through their departments for research, internships, or classes abroad. Students are counted for each experience abroad they completed during this timeframe in their respective administrative unit.



Non-Study Abroad Administrative Unit	Participants	Percentage
Non-Study Abroad Unit	270	84.38%
Non-Approved Programs	50	15.62%
Total	320	100.00%

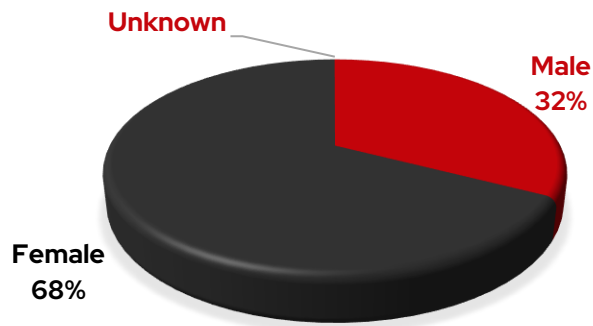
IV. Participation UW–Madison Students by Administrative Type



Administrative Type	Participants	Percentage
Study Abroad Administrative Unit	2819	89.81%
Non-Study Abroad Unit through UW–Madison	270	8.60%
Non-Approved Programs	50	1.59%
Total	3139	100%

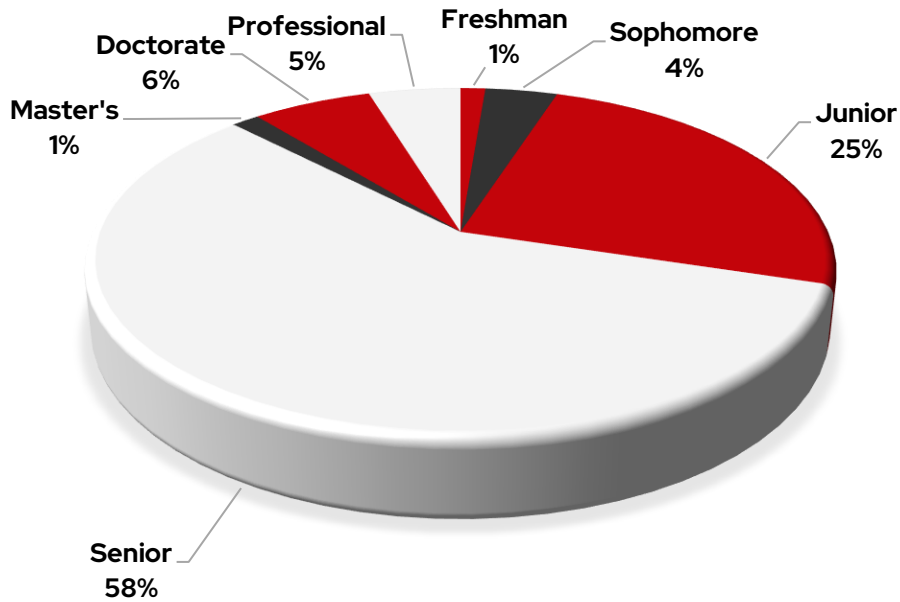
*When a student studies on multiple programs, each experience is counted separately so the total count may be higher for this count compared to the total reported students where an individual is only counted once.

V. Participation by Gender



Gender	Participants	Percentage
Male	1007	32.58%
Female	2083	67.39%
Unknown	1	0.03%
Total	3091	100%

VI. Participation by Academic Level*

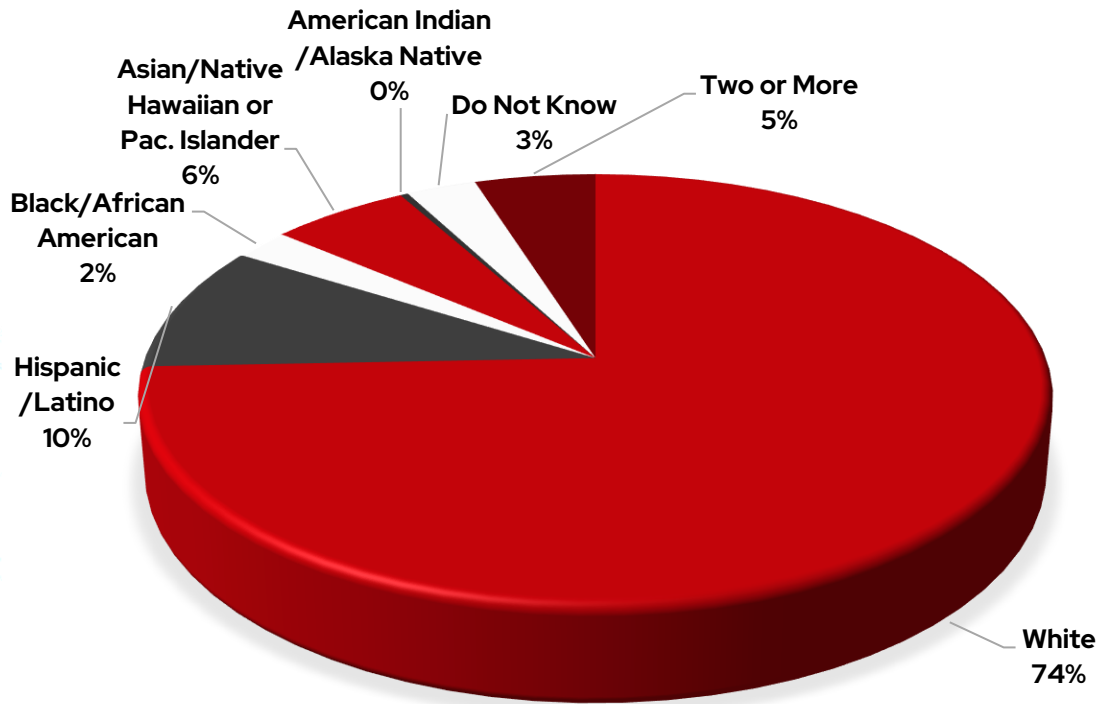


Academic Level	Participants	Percentage
Freshman	22	0.71%
Sophomore	91	2.94%
Junior	989	32.00%
Senior	1680	54.35%
Master's	90	2.91%
Doctorate	128	4.14%
Professional**	91	2.94%
Total	3091	100%

*Academic level is based on academic standing by number of credits earned at time of participation.

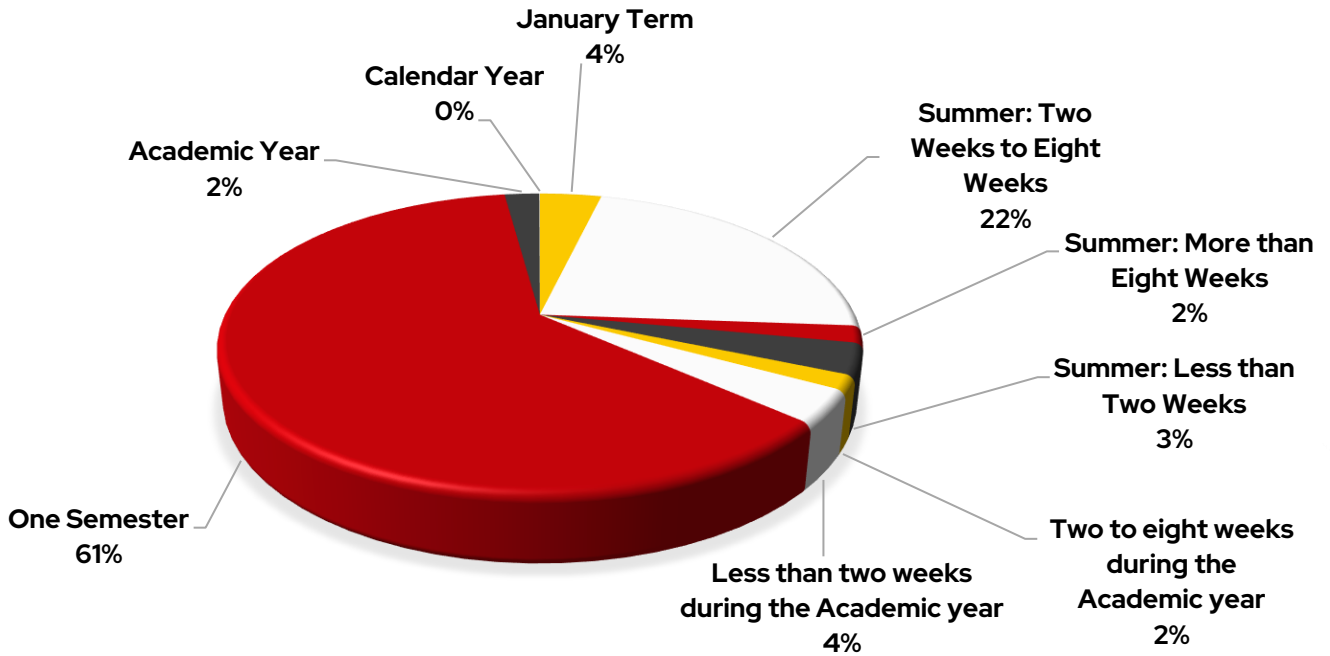
**Professional students consist of students in the Law School, School of Pharmacy, School of Medicine and Public Health, and the School of Veterinary Medicine.

VII. Participation by Ethnicity



Ethnicity	Participants	Percentage
White	2299	74.38%
Hispanic/Latino	292	9.45%
Black/African American	71	2.30%
Asian/Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	177	5.73%
American Indian /Alaska Native	10	0.32%
Two or More	153	4.95%
Unknown/ Do Not Know	89	2.88%
Total	3091	100%

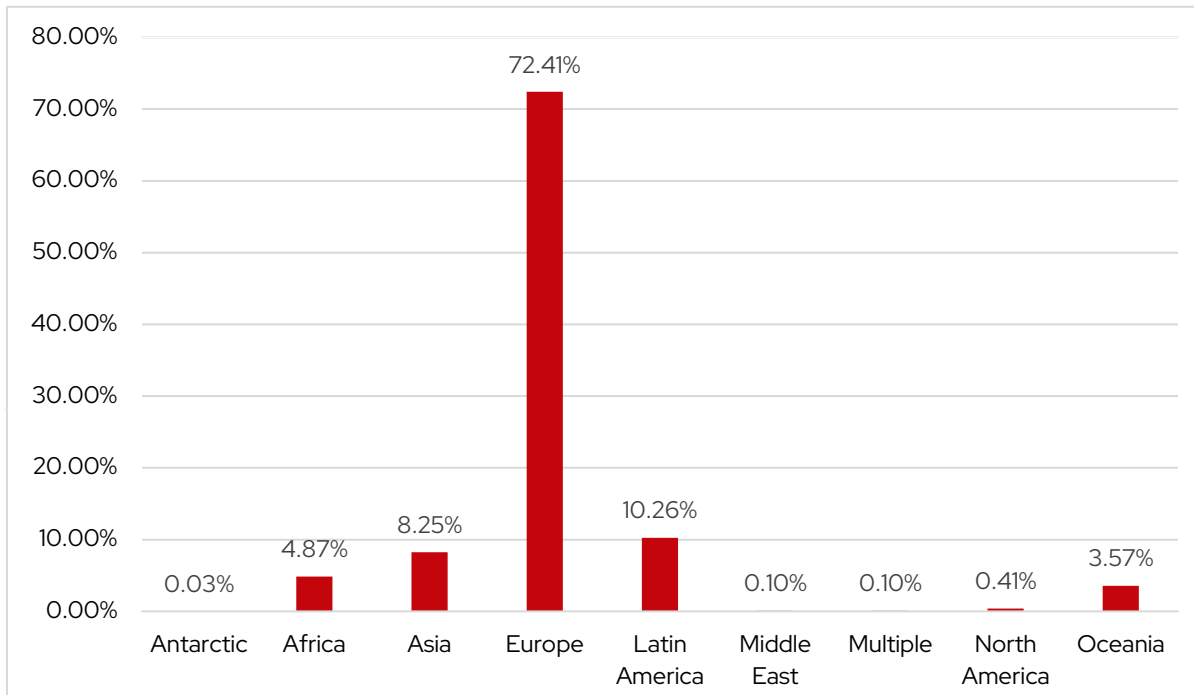
VIII. Participation by Duration



Duration	Participants*	Percentage
Summer: Two to eight weeks	705	22.46%
Summer: More than eight weeks	58	1.85%
Summer: Less than two weeks	105	3.34%
January term	117	3.73%
Two to eight weeks during the academic year	49	1.56%
Less than two weeks during the academic year	112	3.57%
One semester	1926	61.36%
Academic year	66	2.10%
Calendar year	1	0.03%
Total	3139	100%

*When a student studies on multiple programs, each experience and duration is counted separately so the total count may be higher for this count compared to the total reported students where an individual is only counted once, regardless of number of experiences.

IX. Participation by Region



Region	Participants*	Percentage
Antarctic	1	0.03%
Africa	153	4.87%
Asia	259	8.25%
Europe	2273	72.41%
Latin America	322	10.26%
Middle East	3	0.10%
Multiple	3	0.10%
North America	13	.41%
Oceania	112	3.57%
Total	3139	100%

*When a student studies on multiple programs, each experience and location is counted separately so the total count may be higher for this count compared to the total reported students where an individual is only counted once, regardless of number of experiences.

X. Participation by Country: Alphabetically

Country	Count
Antarctica	1
Argentina	29
Armenia	3
Australia	103
Austria	53
Belgium	3
Belize	59
Bhutan	2
Bolivia	2
Botswana	17
Brazil	27
Cambodia	1
Canada	10
Chile	34
China	1
Colombia	1
Costa Rica	70
Cuba	11
Czech Republic	60
Denmark	195
Dominican Republic	10
Ecuador	28
Estonia	1

Country	Count
Finland	7
France	134
Germany	78
Ghana	10
Greece	11
Greenland	1
Guatemala	18
Hungary	1
Iceland	19
India	14
Ireland	123
Israel	2
Italy	506
Japan	69
Jordan	1
Kazakhstan	12
Kenya	13
Latvia	1
Lithuania	1
Luxembourg	3
Malawi	19
Malaysia	1
Mexico	23
Multiple	28
Nepal	15

Country	Count
Netherlands	23
New Zealand	9
Norway	16
Panama	6
Peru	2
Poland	2
Portugal	49
Senegal	19
Sierra Leone	2
Singapore	37
South Africa	19
South Korea	29
Spain	654
Sri Lanka	13
Sweden	39
Switzerland	12
Taiwan	14
Tanzania	24
Thailand	31
Turkey	2
Turks & Caicos	2
Uganda	30
United Kingdom	254
Uruguay	2
Vietnam	15
Grand Total	3139

XI. Participation by Country: Popularity

Country	Count
Spain	654
Italy	506
United Kingdom	254
Denmark	195
France	134
Ireland	123
Australia	103
Germany	78
Costa Rica	70
Japan	69
Czech Republic	60
Belize	59
Austria	53
Portugal	49
Sweden	39
Singapore	37
Chile	34
Thailand	31
Uganda	30
Argentina	29
South Korea	29
Ecuador	28
Multiple	28
Brazil	27

Country	Count
Tanzania	24
Mexico	23
Netherlands	23
Iceland	19
Malawi	19
Senegal	19
South Africa	19
Guatemala	18
Botswana	17
Norway	16
Nepal	15
Vietnam	15
India	14
Taiwan	14
Kenya	13
Sri Lanka	13
Kazakhstan	12
Switzerland	12
Cuba	11
Greece	11
Canada	10
Dominican Republic	10
Ghana	10
New Zealand	9
Finland	7

Country	Count
Panama	6
Armenia	3
Belgium	3
Indonesia	3
Luxembourg	3
Bhutan	2
Bolivia	2
Israel	2
Peru	2
Poland	2
Sierra Leone	2
Turkey	2
Turks and Caicos	2
Uruguay	2
Antarctica	1
Cambodia	1
China	1
Colombia	1
Estonia	1
Greenland	1
Hungary	1
Jordan	1
Latvia	1
Lithuania	1
Malaysia	1
Grand Total	3139

XII. Participation by Virtual Experiences

International Academic Programs first offered virtual study abroad programs in summer 2020.

Academic Year	Virtual Participants
2020-2021	136
2021-2022	44
2022-2023	4
2023-2024	0