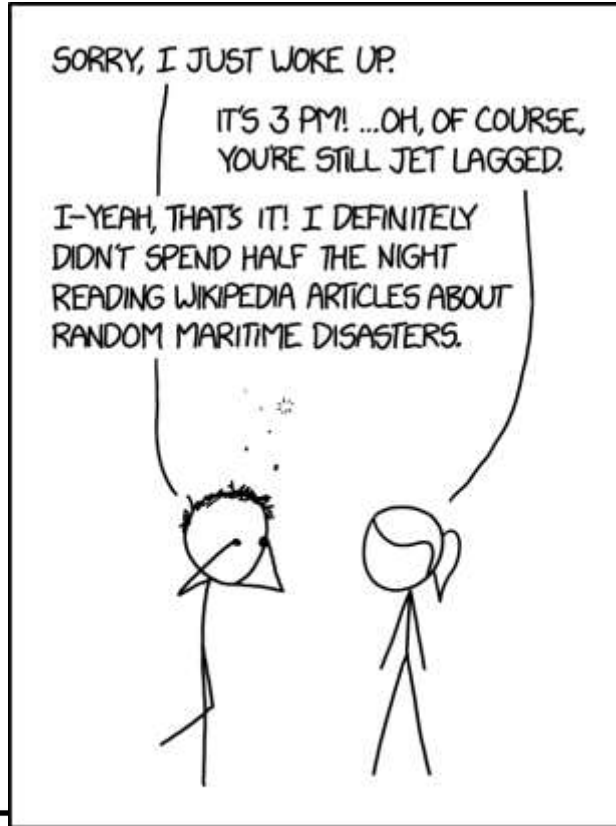INSIDE THE
WORLD UNIVERSITY
RANKINGS 2018

THE WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

Image from XKCD.com by Randall Munroe.

If you're interested in data and webcomics, this is the one for you

THE's history

Branding

World Summit Series

World University Rankings

Data

Editorial Intelligence

Hiring Solutions

1971

2017

Our mission

Times Higher Education's mission is to help create the conditions and culture that universities need to succeed, by providing data and insights from the world's top universities.

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The data for the World University Ranking

Performance data
Universities
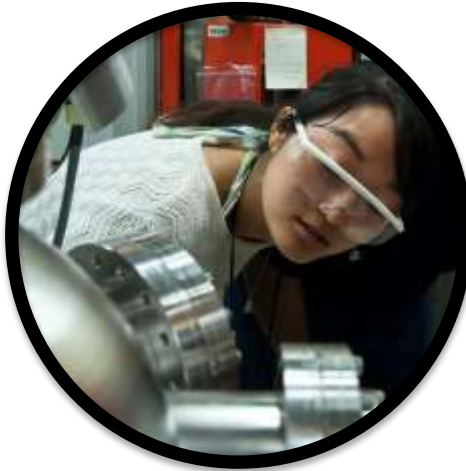
Reputation data
Academics

Bibliometric data
Elsevier

The data for the World University Ranking

1 457
Submitted data

3 513
Universities voted for

A lot of papers…

Inclusion criteria

- **More than 1 000 papers with a lower limit of 150 per year**

- **Teach undergraduates**

- **No single subject more than 80% of staff**

1 102 Universities from 81 countries qualified

Data from Universities

ARTS AND HUMANITIES
- Art, Performing Arts & Design (inc. Creative Arts)
- Languages, Literature & Linguistics
- History, Philosophy & Theology (inc. Classics)
- Architecture
- Archaeology

SOCIAL SCIENCES
- Communication & Media Studies
- Politics & International Studies (inc. Development Studies)
- Sociology (inc. cultural studies, population & anthropology)
- Geography

BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS
- Business & Management
- Accounting & Finance
- Economics & Econometrics

CLINICAL, PRE-CLINICAL AND HEALTH
- Medicine & Dentistry
- Other Health (inc. Nursing & Healthcare Services)

LAW
- Law

EDUCATION
- Education

LIFE SCIENCES
- Agriculture & Forestry (inc. food)
- Biological Sciences (inc. biochemistry)
- Veterinary Science (inc zoology)
- Sports Science

PHYSICAL SCIENCES
- Mathematics & Statistics
- Physics & Astronomy
- Chemistry
- Geology, Environmental, Earth & Marine Sciences

ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY
- General Engineering
- Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering
- Civil Engineering (inc. Construction & Materials Science)
- Chemical Engineering
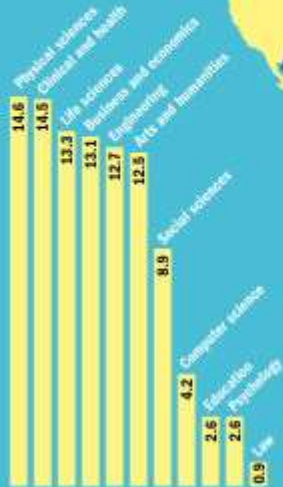
COMPUTER SCIENCE
- Computer Science

PSYCHOLOGY
- Psychology

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Academic Reputation Survey

North America
22%

Western Europe
25%

Eastern Europe
11%

Middle East
3%

Africa
2%

Asia Pacific
33%

Latin America
5%

Physical sciences 14.6
Clinical and health 14.5
Life sciences 13.3
Business and economics 13.1
Engineering 12.7
Arts and humanities 12.5
Social sciences 8.9
Computer science 4.2
Education 2.6
Psychology 2.6
Law 0.9

PROPORTION OF RESPONSES ACROSS
SUBJECT DISCIPLINES (PERCENTAGE)

Percentages may not add up to 100 owing to rounding

THE WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS

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Academic Reputation Survey

2016: 10 323 voters, 143 484 votes

2017: 10 658 voters, 144 863 votes

WUR 2018 Scopus dataset – general statistics

12,431,514 publications	**61,956,500** citations	**~ 8,145,803** authors
51 languages	**8,288** institutions	**250** countries
11,629 citations for most cited paper	**124,258** papers by Harvard	**2,959,609** papers by the US

8,288 institutions	**12** subjects
5 years	**4** metrics

1,989,120

data points

Physical Review D - Particles, Fields, Gravitation and Cosmology
Volume 86, Issue 1, 20 July 2012, Article number 010001

(py:2012; 5150 citations)

Review of particle physics (Article)

Beringer, J.ᵃ, Arguin, J.-F.ᵇᵇ, Barnett, R.M.ᵃ, Copic, K.ᵃ, Dahl, O.ᵃ, Groom, D.E.ᵃ, Lin, C.-J.ᵃ, Lys, J.ᵃ, Murayama, H.ᵃᵃᵃ, Wolf, C.G.ᵃ, Yao, W.-M.ᵃ, Zyla, P.A.ᵃ, Amsler, C.ᵈ, Antonelli, M.ʳ, Asner, D.M.ᵇ, Baer, H.ᵍ, Band, H.R.ᵏ, Basaglia, T.ᵏ, Bauer, C.W.ᵃ, Beatty, J.J.ᵏ, Belousov, V.I.ᵐ, Bergren, E.ⁿⁿ, Bernardi, G.ᵒ, Bertl, W.ᵖ, Bethke, S.ᵖ, Bichsel, H.ᵠ, Biebel, O.ʳ,

View additional authors ⌄

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ᵇDépartement de physique, Université de Montréal, C.P. 6128, succ. centre-ville, Montréal QC H3C 3J7, Canada
ᶜKavli IPMU (WPI), Todai Institutes for Advanced Study, University of Tokyo, Kashiwa, Chiba 277-8583, Japan
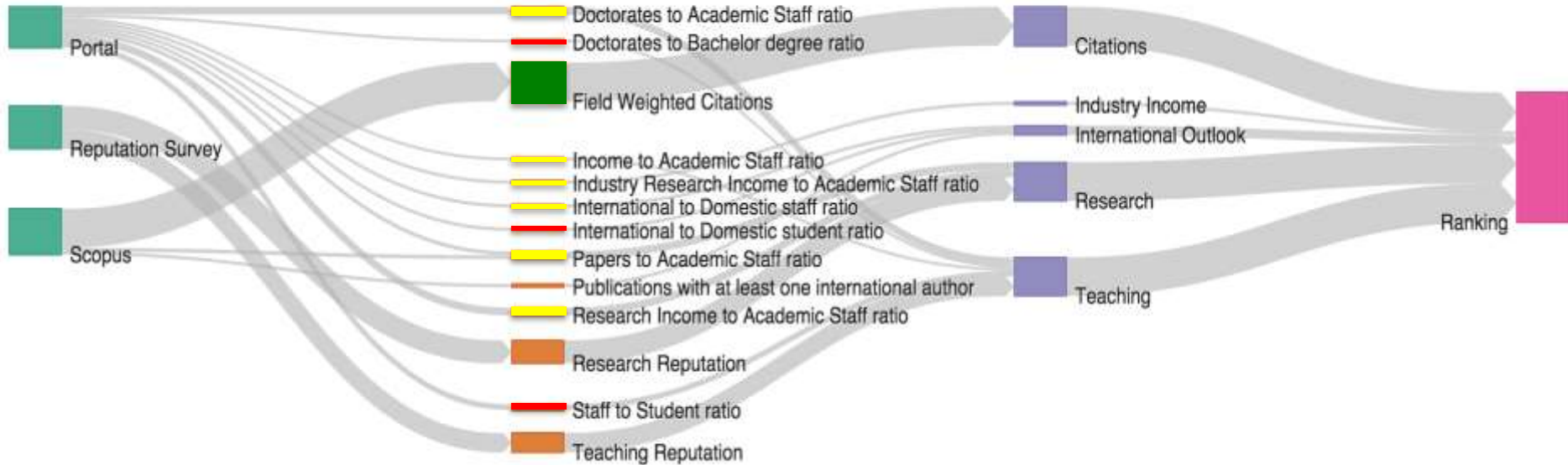ᵈDepartment of Physics, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720, United States
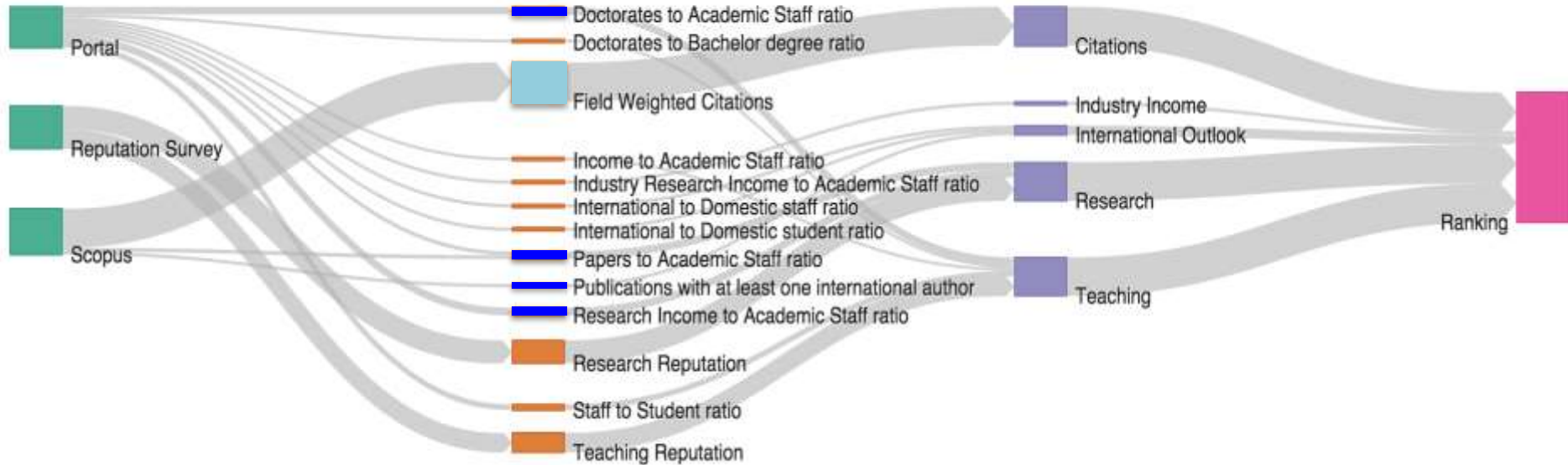
World University Ranking Methodology

METHODOLOGY
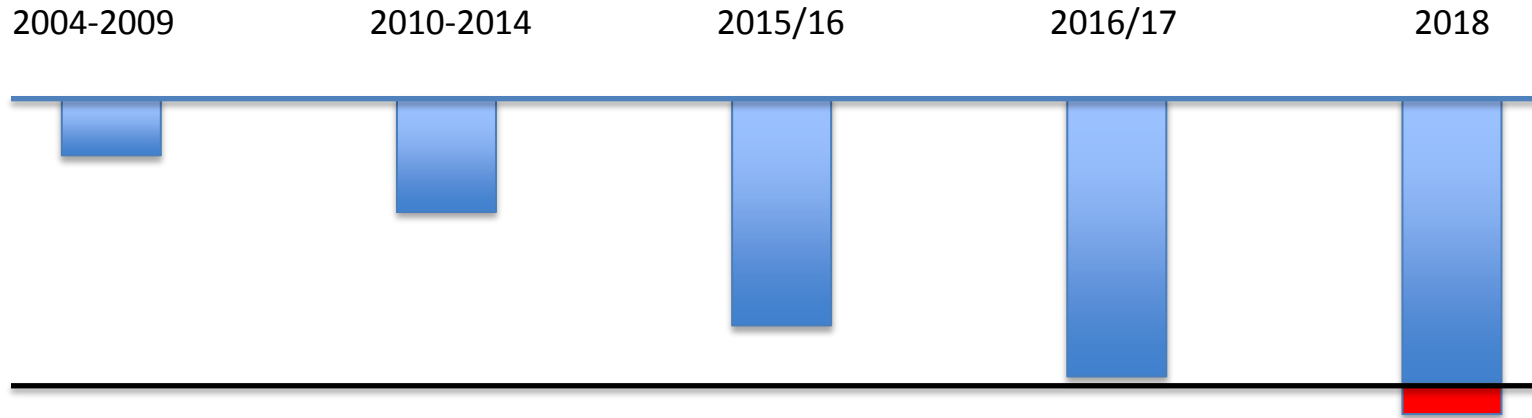
World University Ranking Methodology: size independence

World University Ranking Methodology: equal purchasing power

World University Ranking Methodology: balanced by subject

How many Universities?

2004-2009   2010-2014   2015/16   2016/17   2018

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Changes to the methodology for 2018

- Change in the number of subjects

- Improvement to the Papers to Academic Staff metric

The 2017 results:
Regional highlights

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Asia's number one: NUS in 22nd place

27th. Peking University, China

30th. Tsinghua University, China

Australasia's number one: University of Melbourne in 32nd place

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OVERALL SCORE

90

80

70

60

50

40

30

20
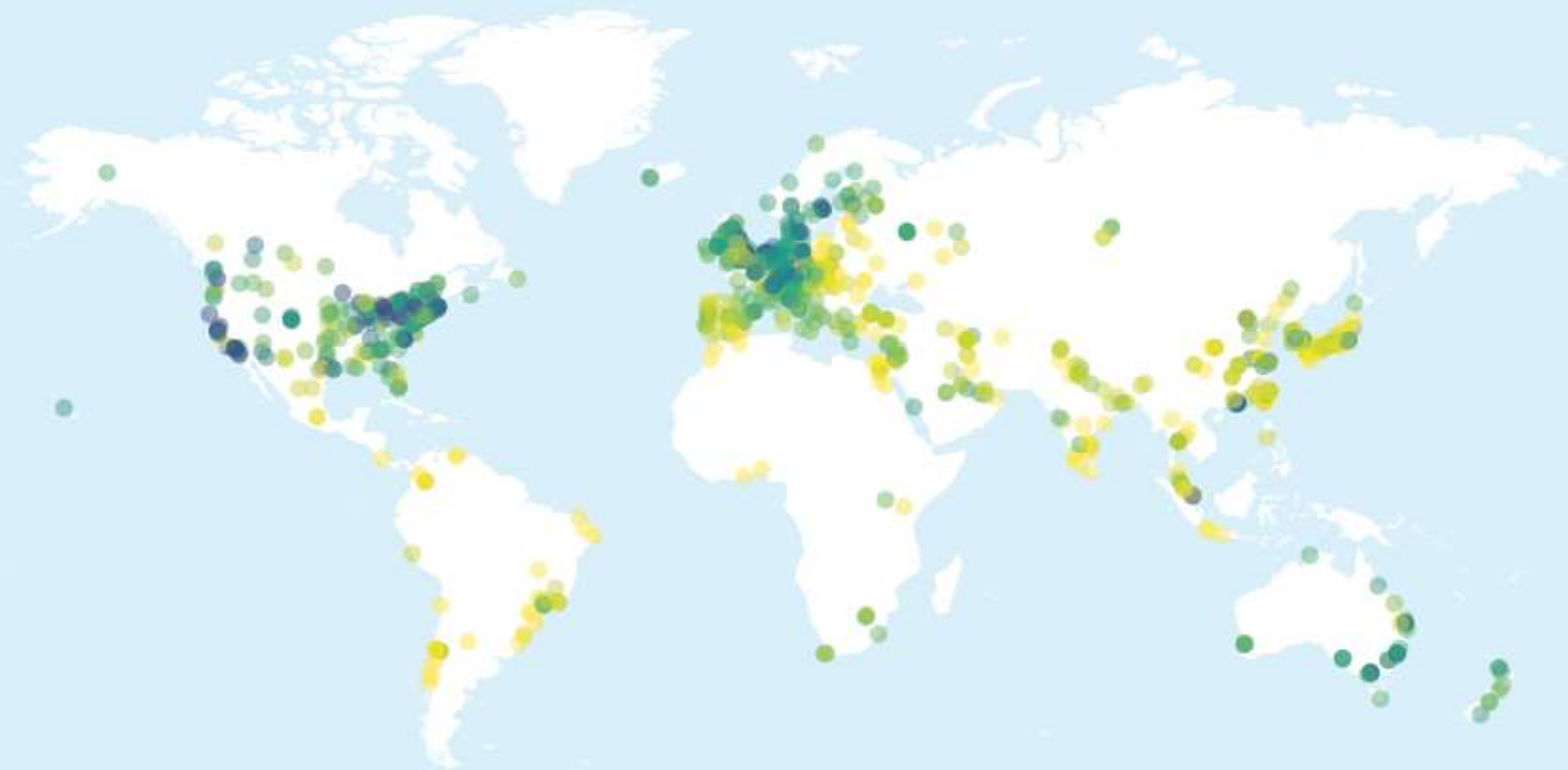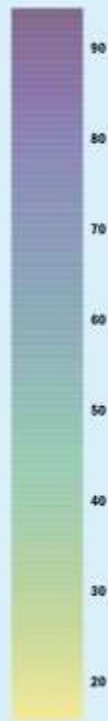
Exploring the rankings

Teaching

Research

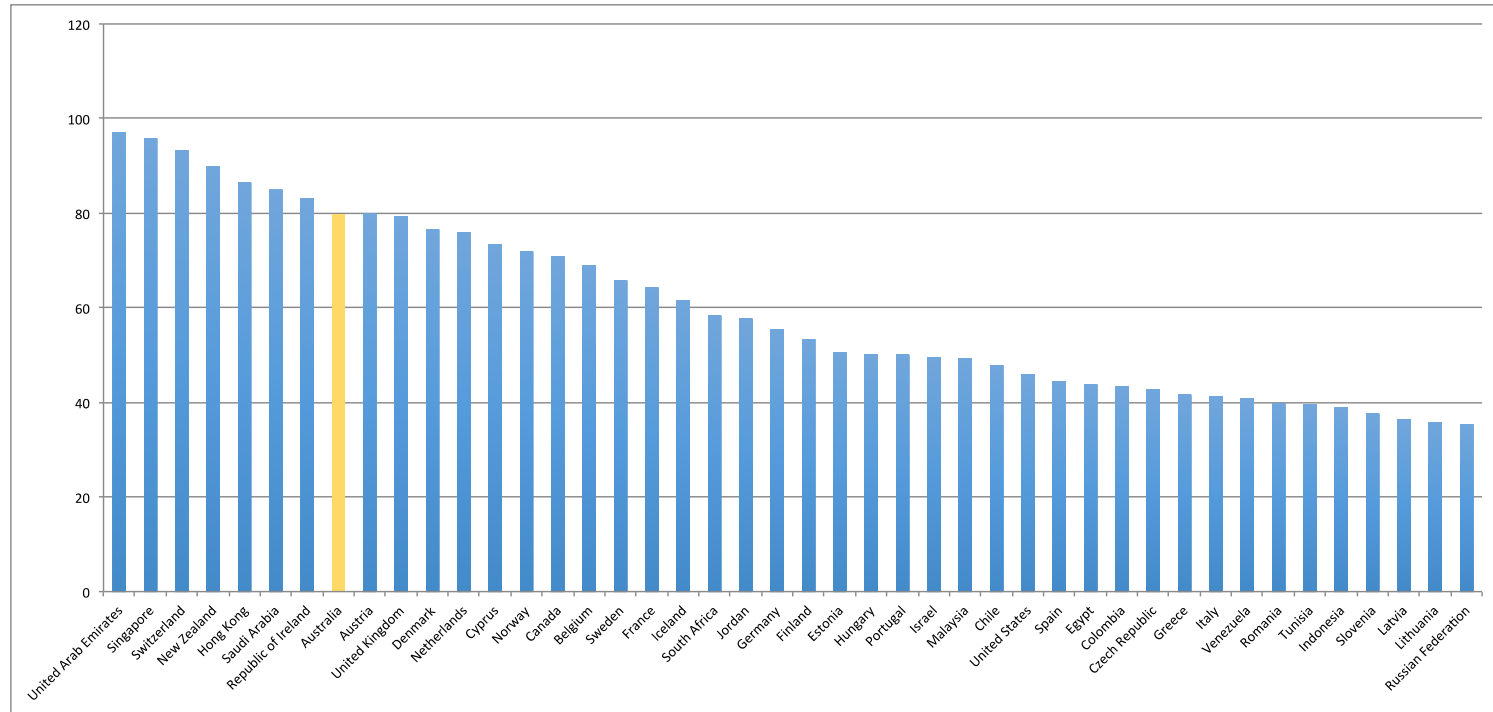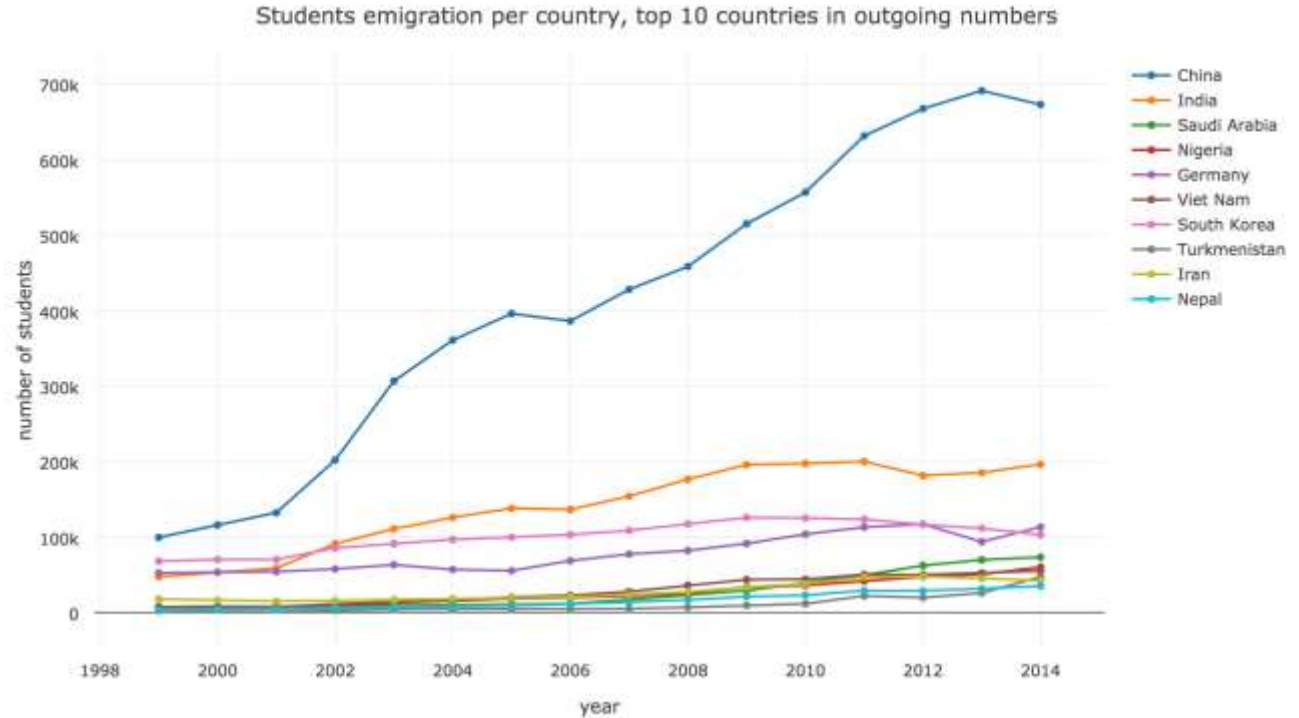duncan.ross@tesglobal.com @duncan3ross

Citations

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Industry Income

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International

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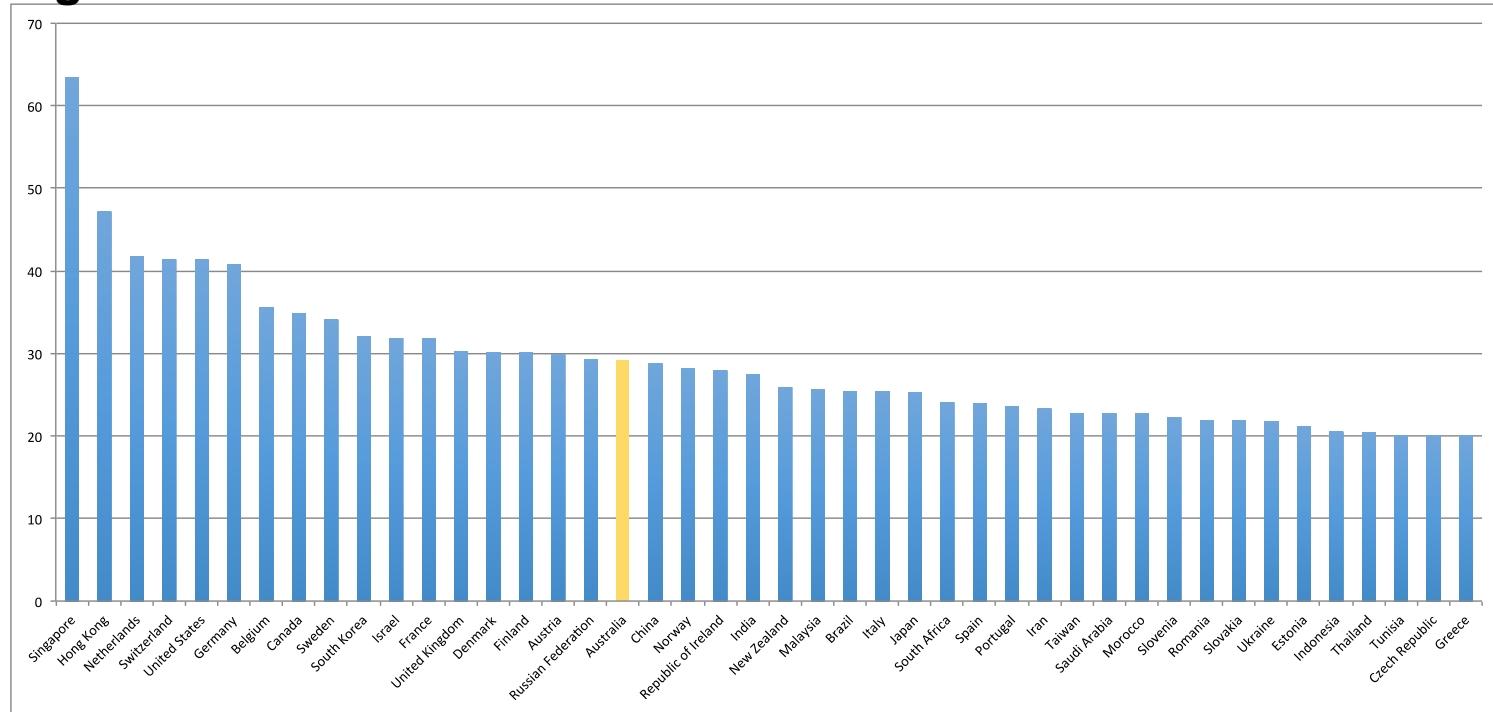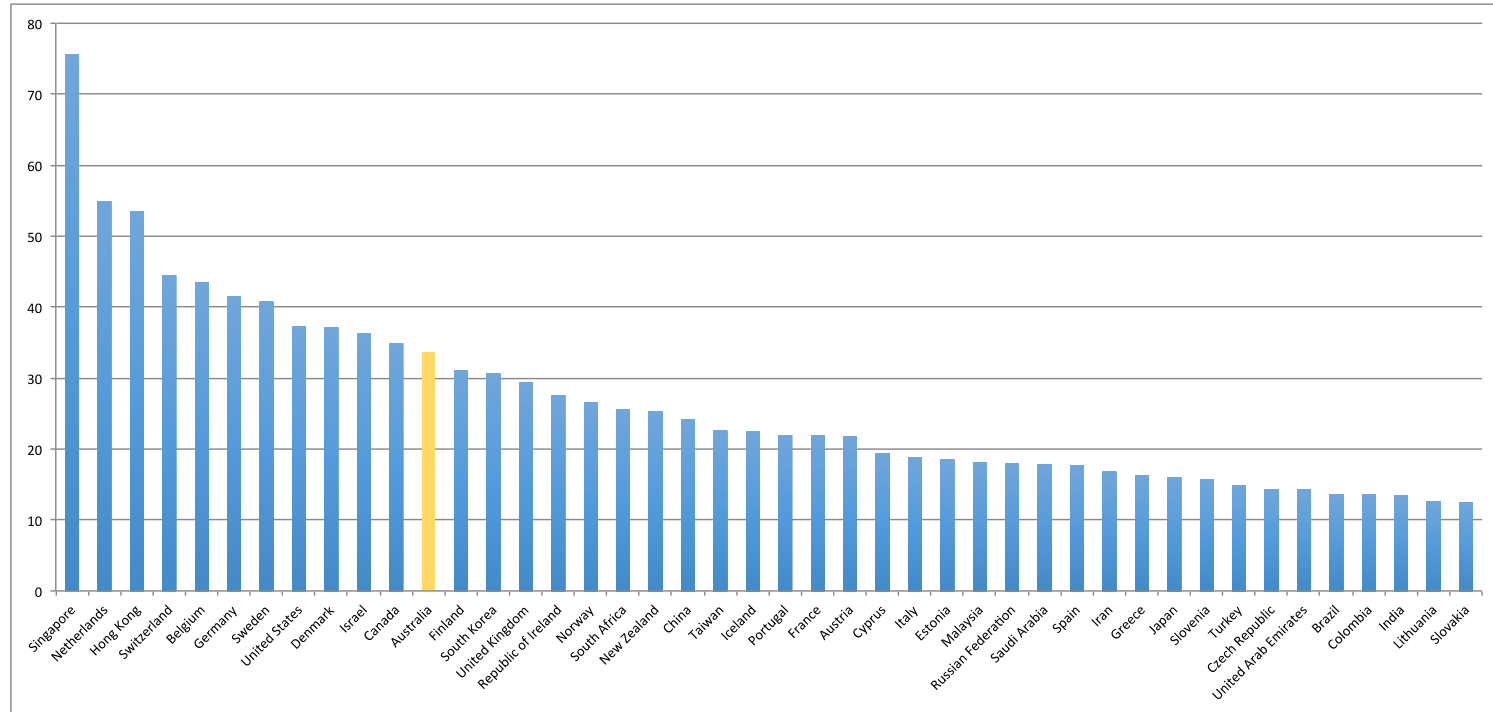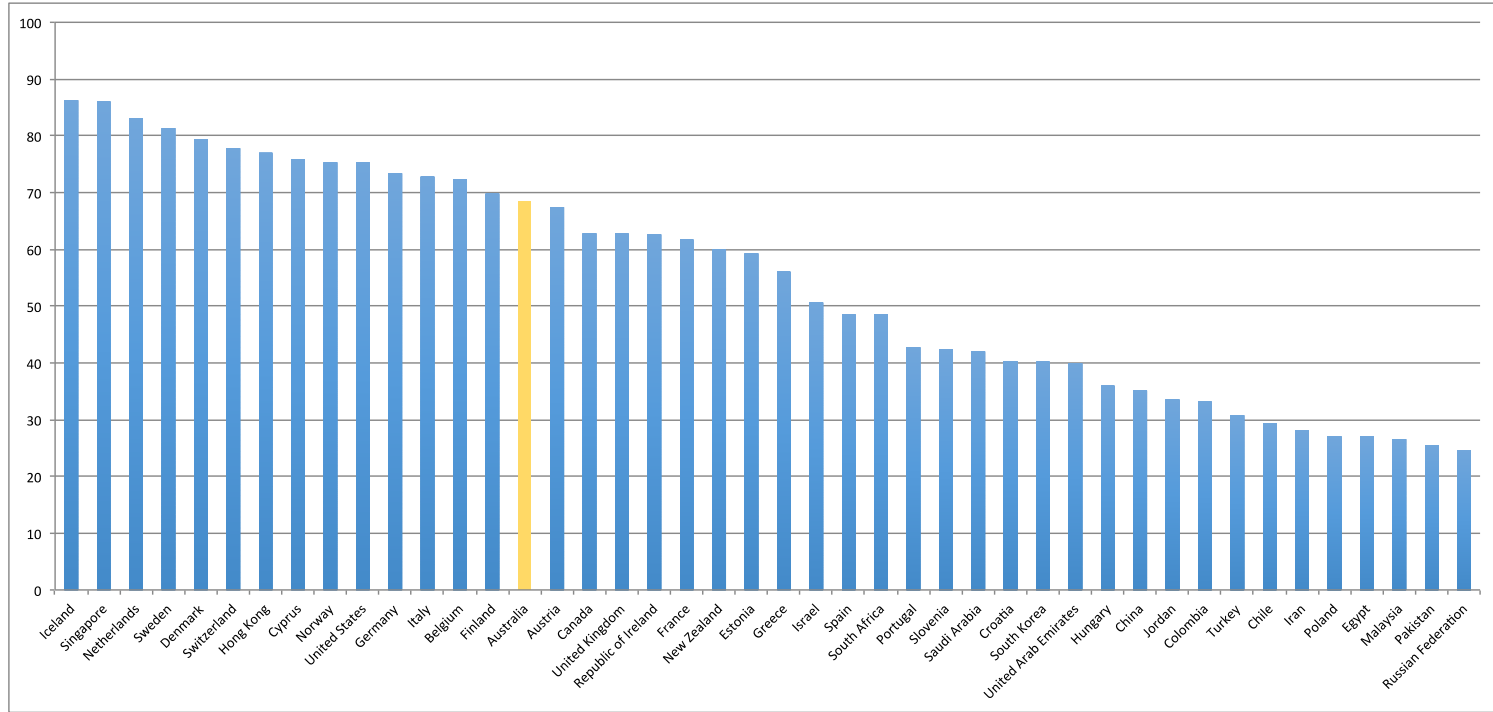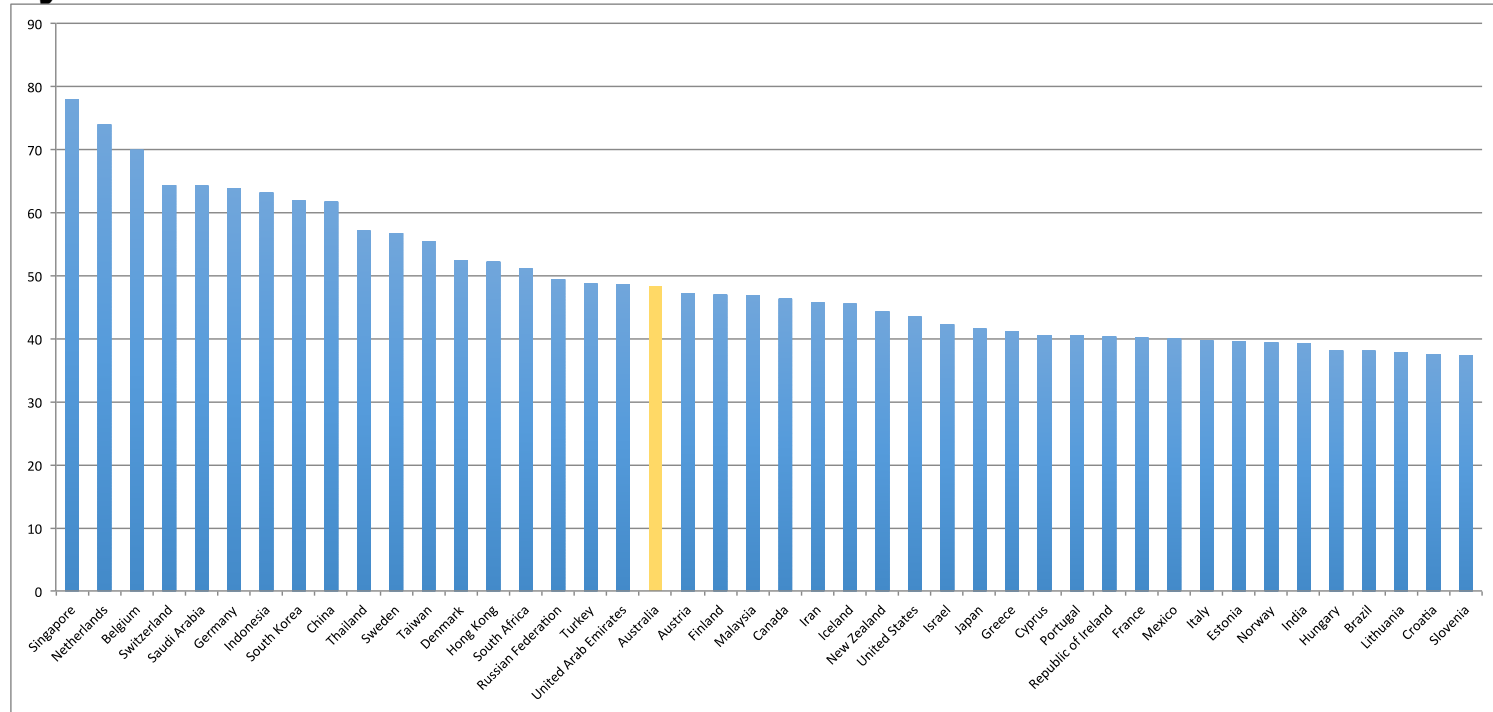
Top countries for student emigration

Students emigration per country, top 10 countries in outgoing numbers

Legend:
- China
- India
- Saudi Arabia
- Nigeria
- Germany
- Viet Nam
- South Korea
- Turkmenistan
- Iran
- Nepal

Top countries for student immigration

Students immigration per country, top 10 countries in incoming numbers

Legend:
- United States
- United Kingdom
- Australia
- Russian Federation
- France
- Japan
- United Arab Emirates
- Egypt
- Italy
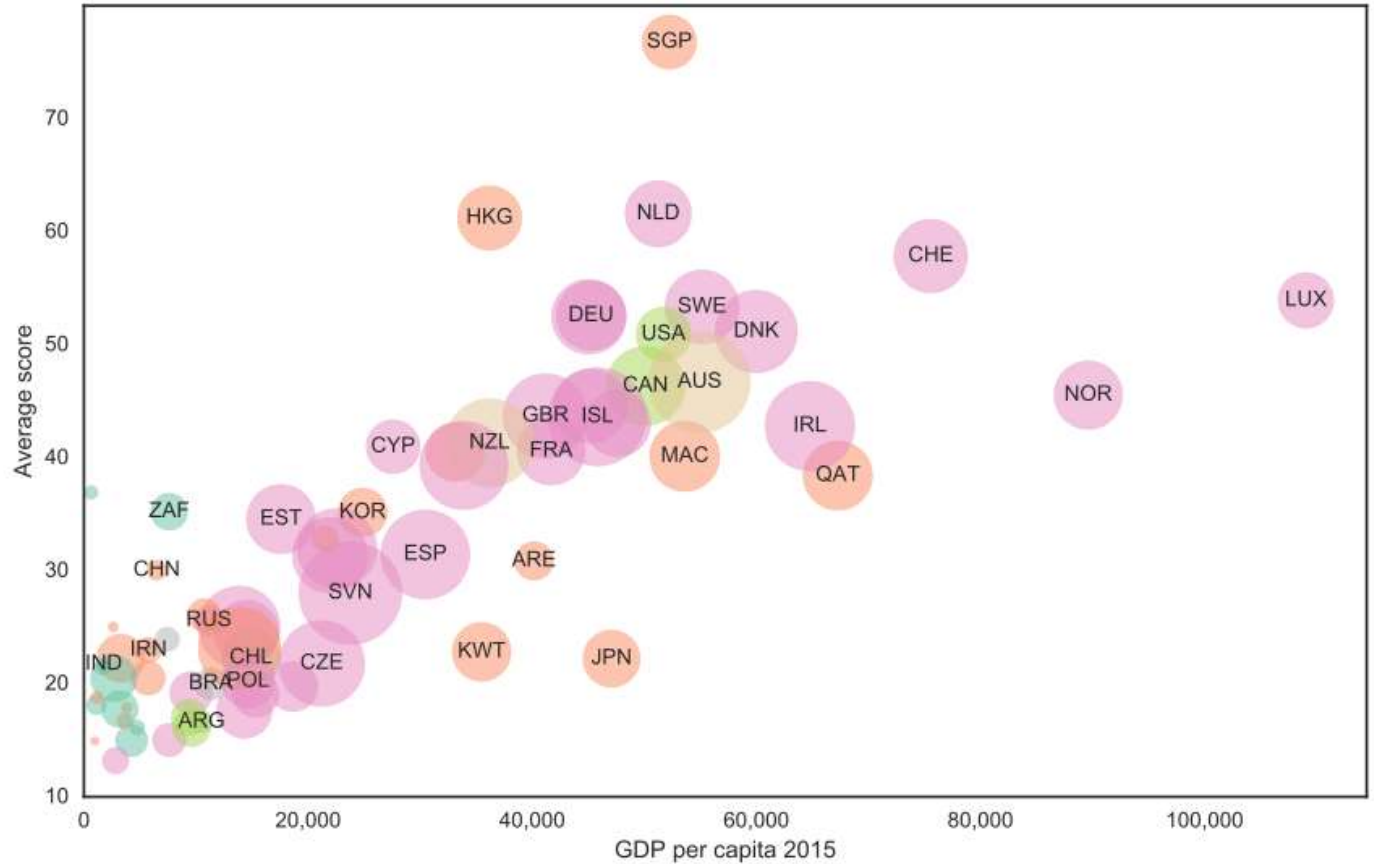- Saudi Arabia

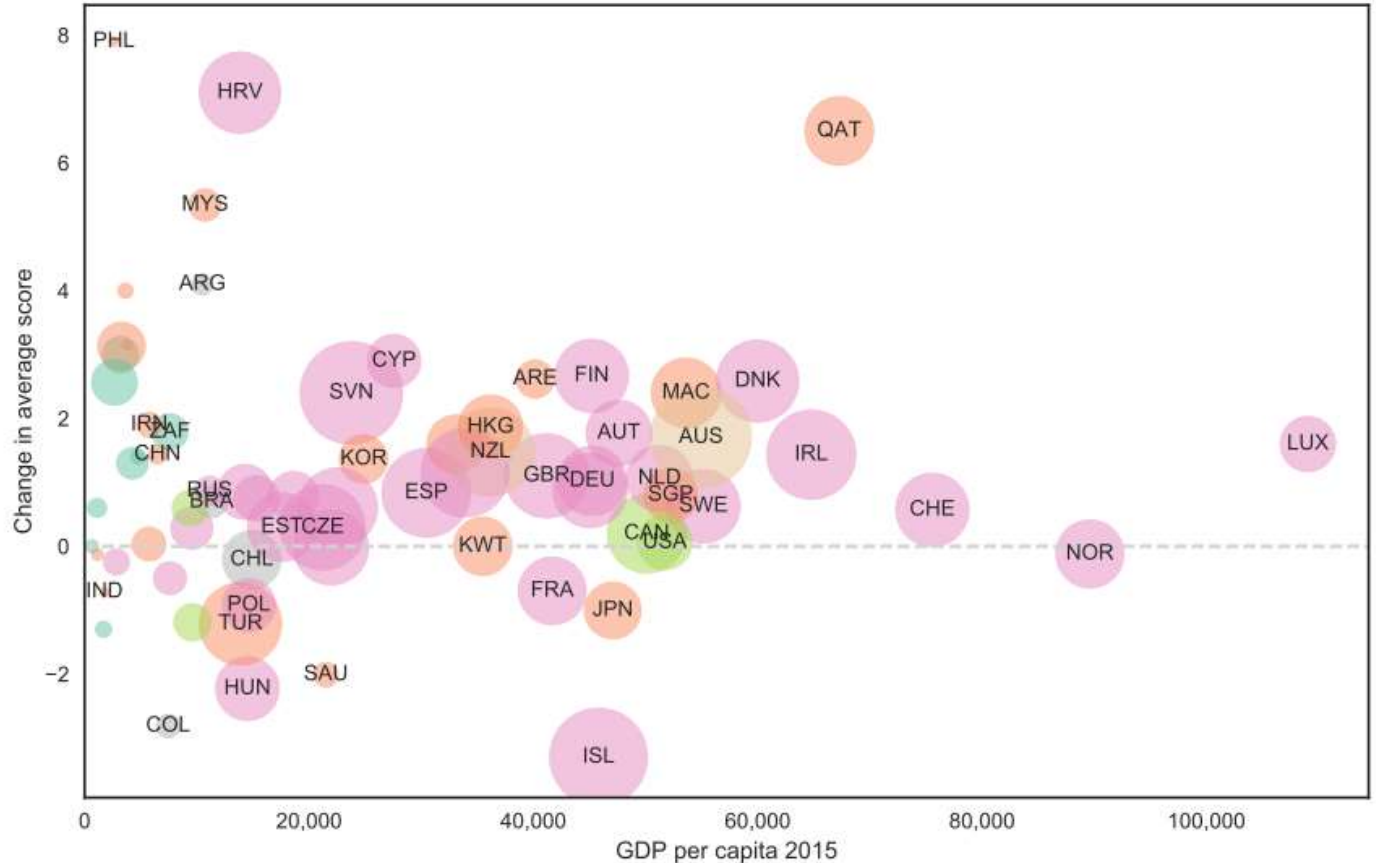duncan.ross@tesglobal.com @duncan3ross
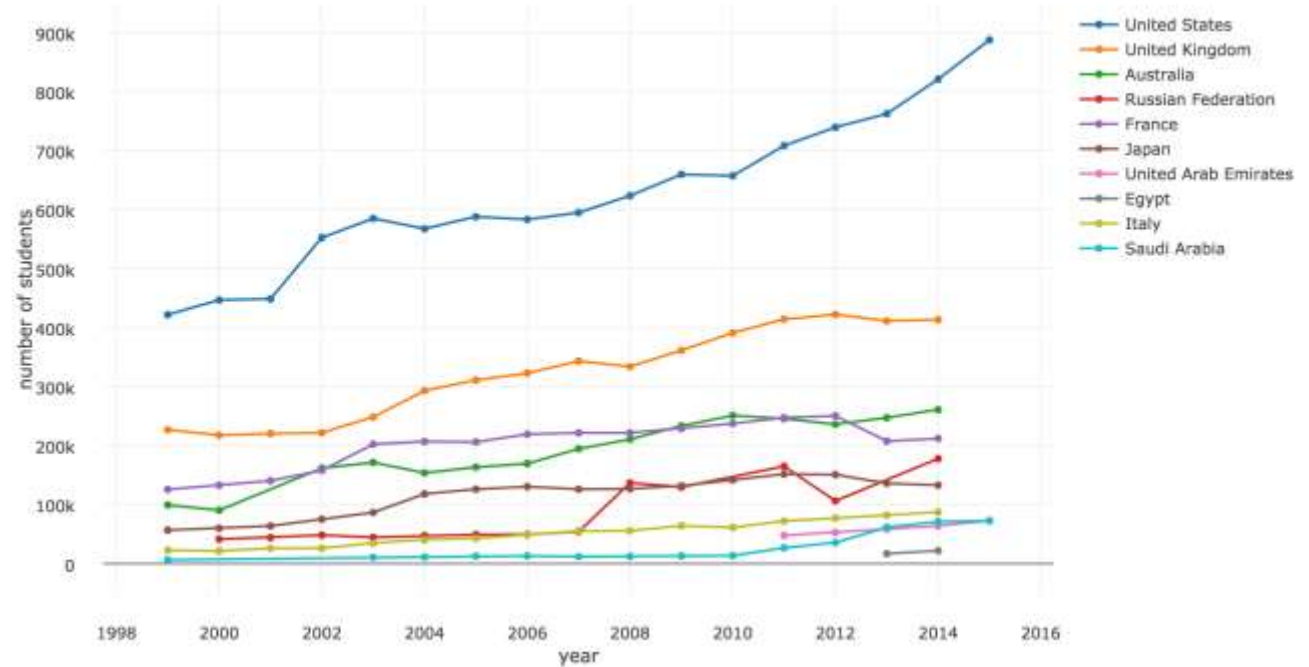
Overall Score
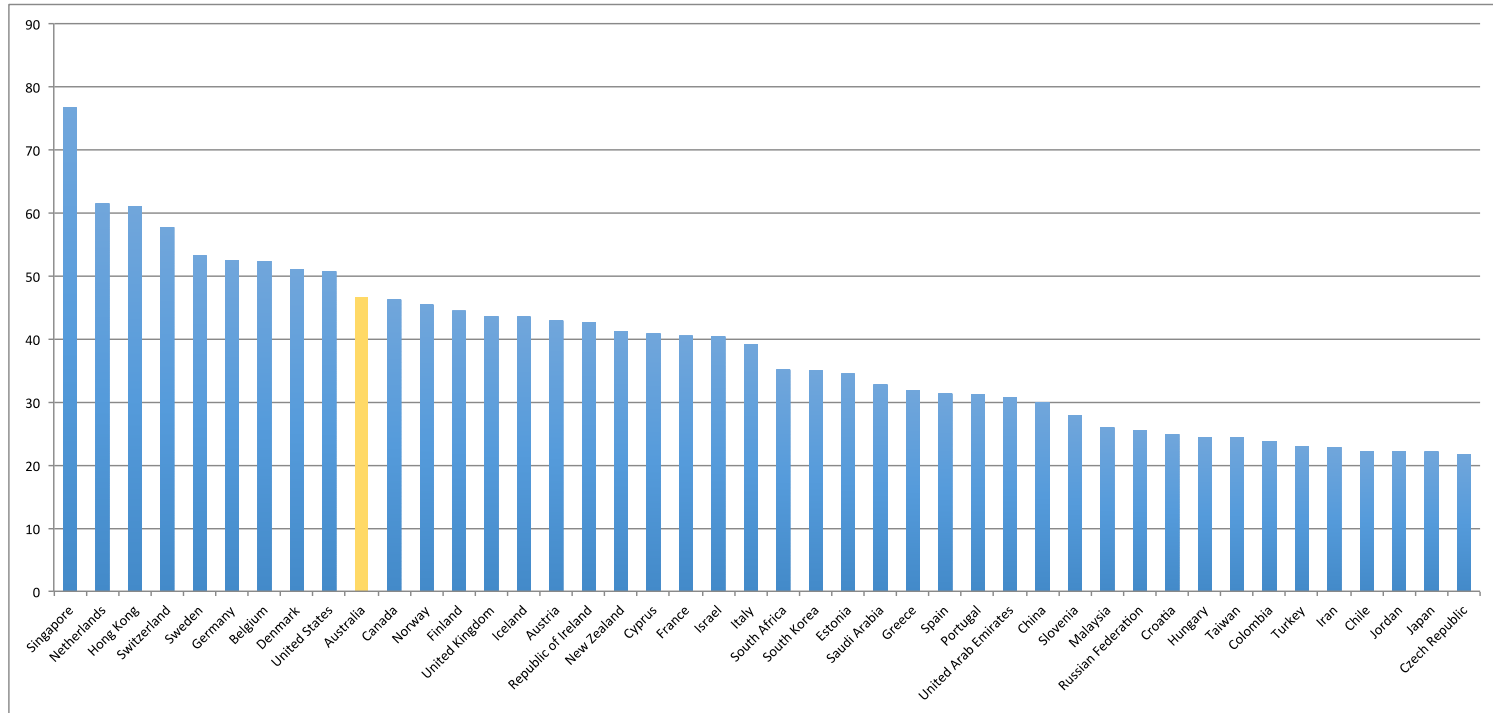
Ranked Universities by country

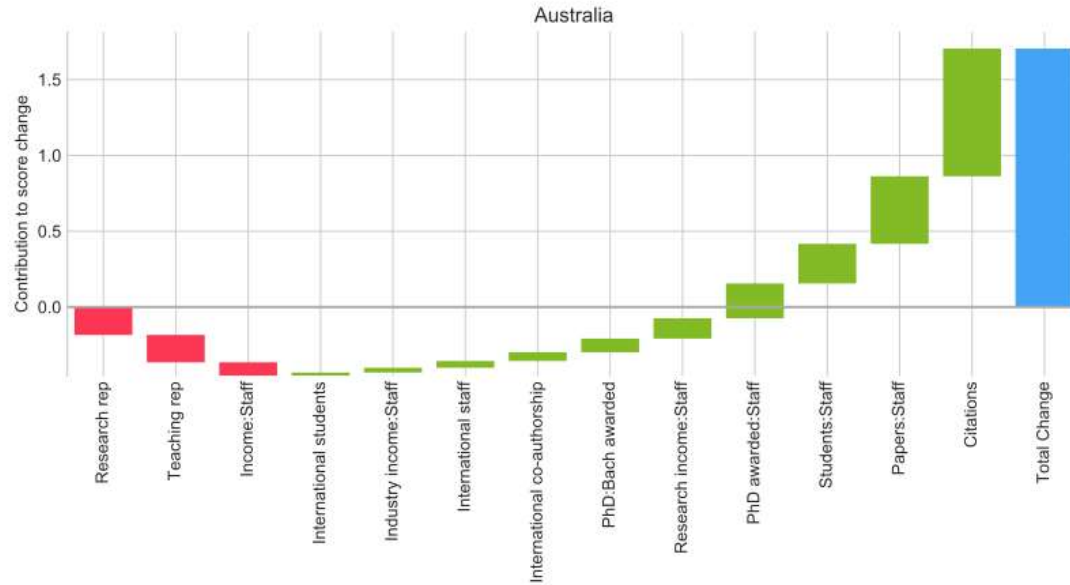Size of bubble indicates number of students proportional to student age population

Ranked Universities by country: change 2017 to 2018

Size of bubble indicates number of students proportional to student age population
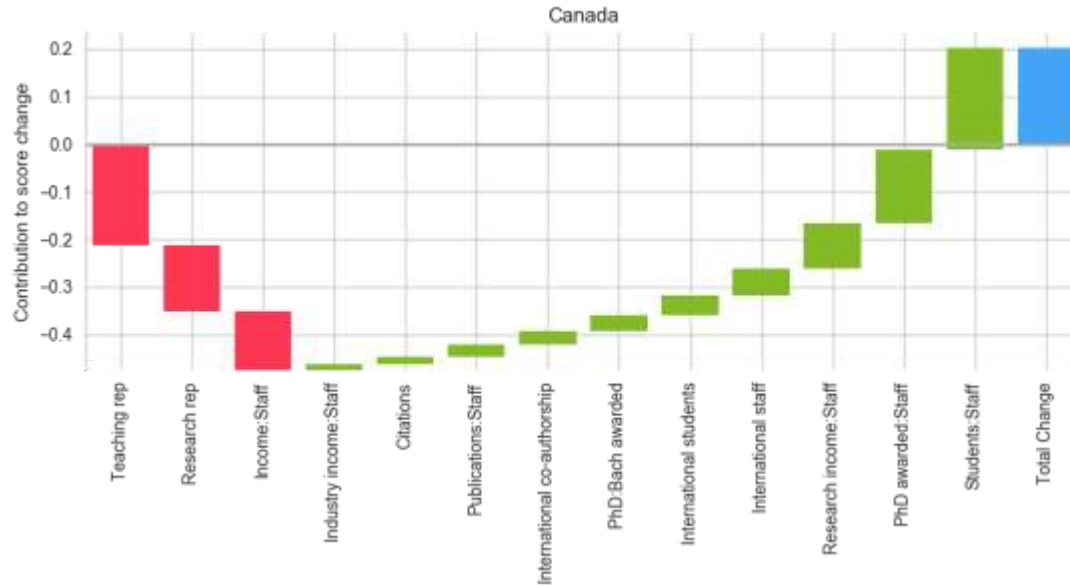
What is happening in different countries: Australia

- Significant improvement in citations

- Papers to staff benefiting from inclusion of more cross disciplinary work
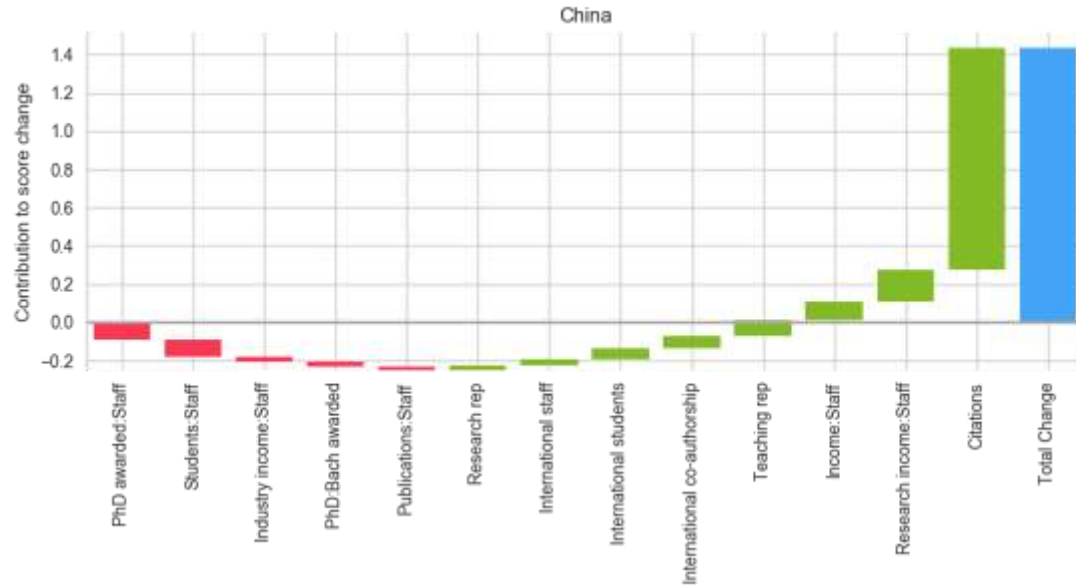
What is happening in different countries: Canada

- Decrease in reputation

- Slight improvements in international measures

- Problems with income

What is happening in different countries: China

- Significant improvement in citations
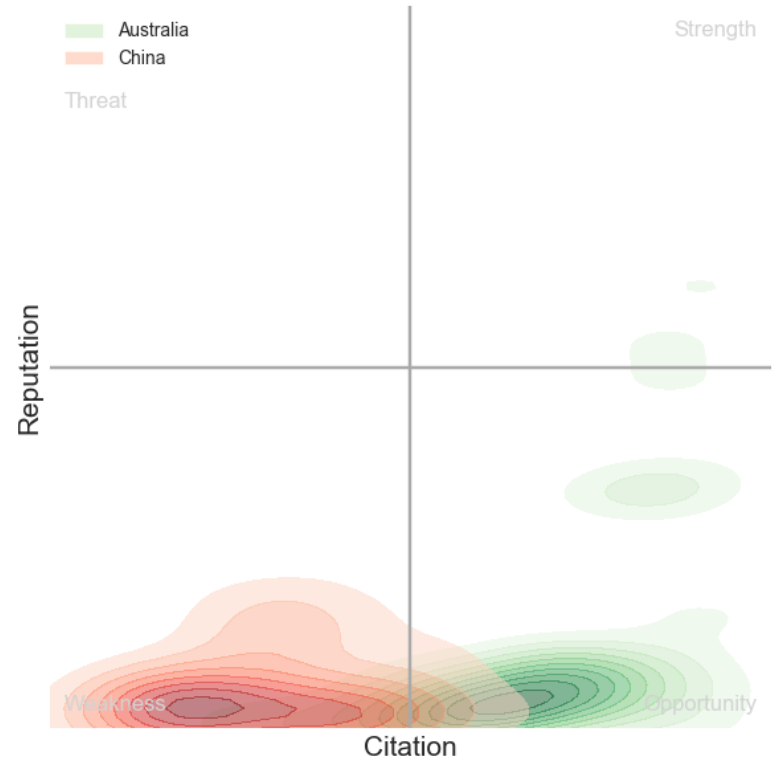
- Income rising

The Asian Challenge

China
- 60 Universities in Top 1000
- 7 Universities in Top 200

Australia
- 35 Universities in Top 1000
- 8 Universities in Top 200
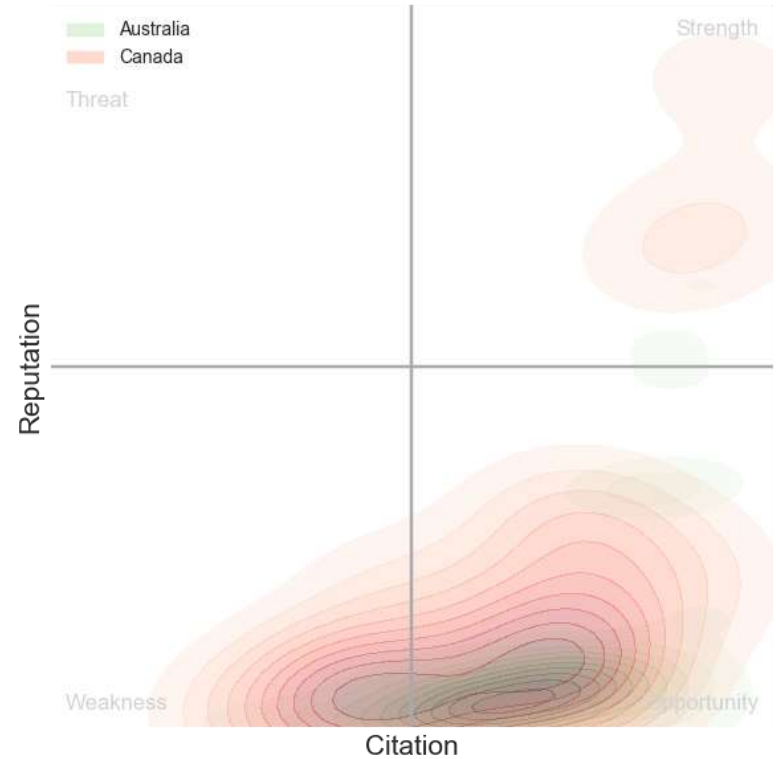

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Australia vs Canada

Canada
- 26 Universities in Top 1000
- 6 Universities in Top 200

Australia
- 35 Universities in Top 1000
- 8 Universities in Top 200

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GLOBAL REACH 2018:
1.2 Billion*

Source: Meltwater