



INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AND EMPLOYABILITY





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Introduction

Higher education institutions (HEIs) and international educators have laid greater emphasis on the fact that studying abroad offers students the opportunity to acquire and develop a diverse range of employability skills and competences.

With an idea to help Indian students to fulfil their aspirations to study in a global University, OneStep Global hosts an annual seminar - The Global Education Conclave - wherein we discuss various aspects of international education along with industry experts from across the world. The central theme for 2022 was career opportunities and employability. This event was more like an employability guide for international students. With over 30 panelists from 4 different countries and more than 1000 attendees, the sessions aspired and helped the students to make more job-relevant decisions about their education.

The purpose of this study is linking learning abroad programs to employability. In this guide, we explore the benefits of studying abroad associated with enhancing graduate employability adding perspectives from four countries in focus - Australia, Ireland, United Kingdom and United States of America.



Key Takeaways

Few common key takeaways from GEC 2022 to keep a note on -

- Networking is the most vital part for studying abroad, not only for a professional reason but also to grow on a personal front. Having a good LinkedIn profile is a must
- Learning about the culture of the country and learning from the culture are both valuable in a student's journey
- Careers and employability center at the university is the good starting point are the key contact point to start with the job journey
- Having a university degree is no longer sufficient for graduates to secure employment in today's labor markets. Employability skills, such as communication, problem-solving, and teamwork, are required to increase their employment opportunities.



AUSTRALIA

300K



250,000

UNITED KINGDOM



IRELAND

29000



UNITED STATES

2.8 million

Insights in Numbers

IT jobs to grow in **Australia** by **300K** in next five years as quoted by Australian Computer Society (ACS)

The **United Kingdom** government to have **250,000** jobs in green manufacturing by 2030

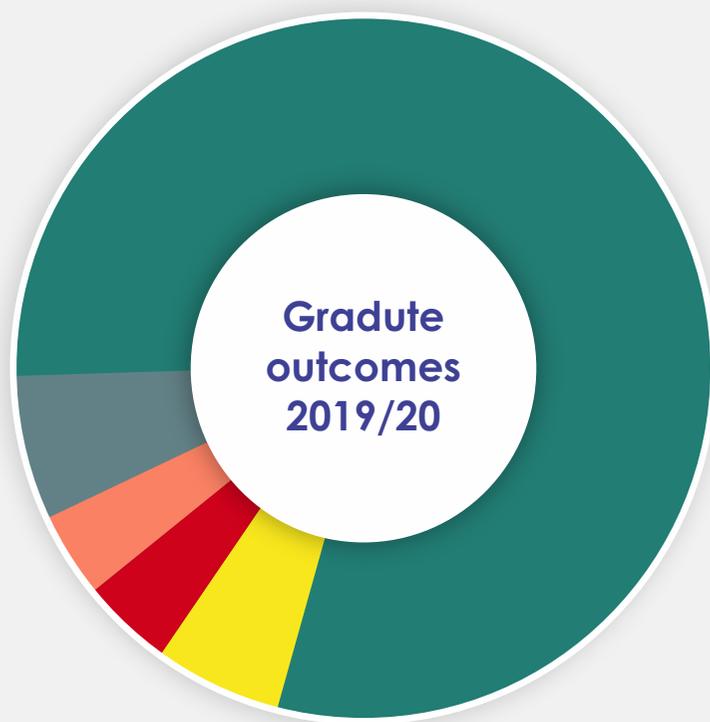
Ireland continues to attract a huge amount of foreign direct investment (FDI), more than **29000** jobs created in 2021 mostly in ICT and Financial services

Healthcare is also one of the biggest sectors in the **United States**, **2.8 million** jobs were added between 2006-2016

Graduate employability means that higher education alumni have developed the capacity to obtain and/or create work.

Below is a detailed report on key insights from each country -

Australia – Re-Emergence of Down Under



- Full-Time Job (79%)
- Further Study (6%)
- Self-employed (4%)
- Unemployed and I.. (4%)
- Other (7%)

79% of students made it into a full-time job within three years of graduating. A further 6% were involved in further study, and 4% classed themselves as self-employed. That means that roughly nine out of ten international graduates from Australian universities were either in work or study three years after their degree had finished

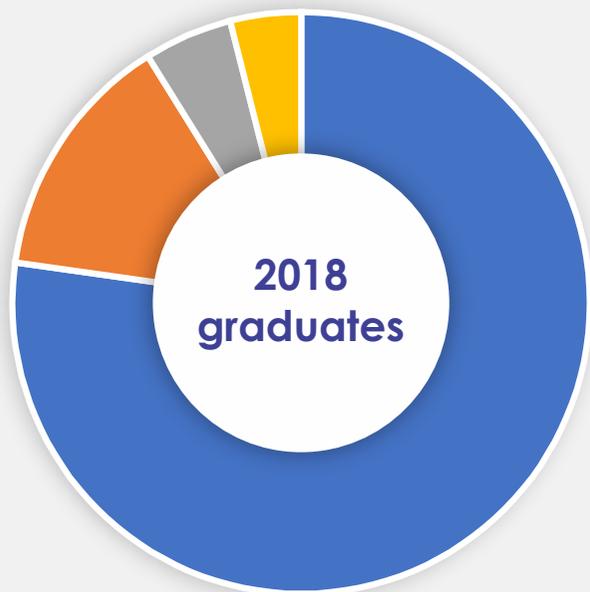


**Just 1 in 10
international
graduates are
unemployed after
studying in Australia**

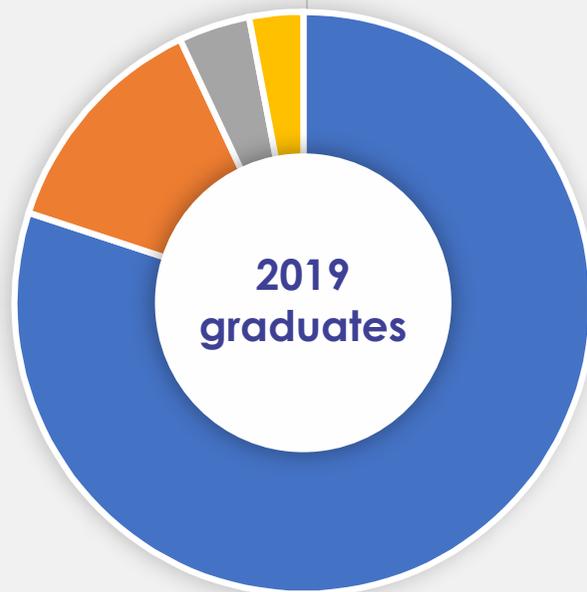
- With 2 years of complete lockdown and border closures Australia is now bouncing back and so is the Australian economy thus making a huge demand in the job sector for skilled and unskilled graduates or a skilled-unskilled worker, providing a lot of opportunities
- Businesses are looking forward to international students as they play a vital role in their workforce, especially in the sectors like hospitality and healthcare
- Making the students career ready, Australian universities provide students with inbuilt certifications during their course and the government in Australia launched an employability hub for international students to learn and explore the opportunities available for them
- 88% employers in Australia believe communication and interpersonal skill more relevant than work experience

Ireland – Tech and More

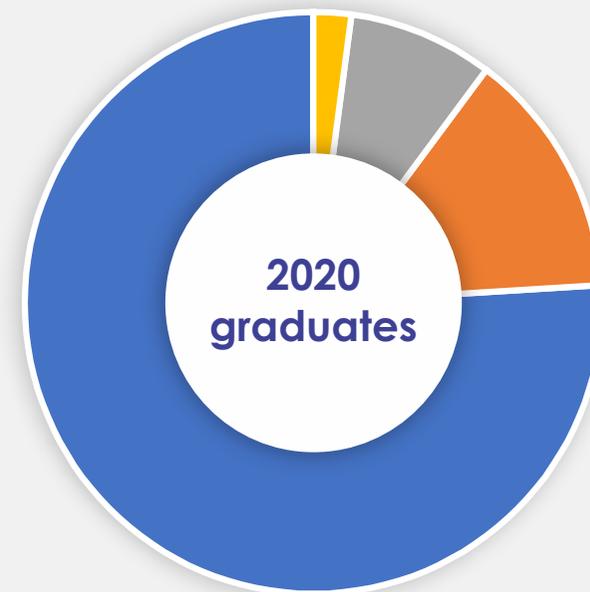
Graduate employability



- 78% of graduate in employment
- 14% engaged in further studies
- 5% were unemployed
- 4% were engaged in 'other' activities



- 80% were working or due to start a job
- 13% were engaged in further study
- 4% were unemployed
- 3% were engaged in 'other' activities



- 75.9 % of graduate in employment
- 13.8 % engaged in further studies
- 8.1 % graduates are unemployed
- 2.1% engaged in other activities



**There were 380,000
non-Irish persons employed
in Ireland in Q2 2020
(16.5% of total employment)**

- With sustainability as a major focus in a lot of corporate strategies, green economy is one of the upcoming and growing sectors
- Most important skill set that has been looked for in the people is being innovative, and having a problem solving and hardworking attitude. Interpersonal skills, emotional intelligence and communication skills are critical
- Focusing on studies is very important in Ireland, also it is important to know when to apply for a job but most importantly when not to apply for a job or when not to approach to employers is very significant too
- Marrying technology with the environment is something Irish institutes are good in. Irish universities also have excellent research links and connections with other universities around the world. This kind of cross collaboration with many courses and curriculum gives an opportunity to build a truly international network during studies

United Kingdom – Employment Opportunities in the UK



- 56% Full-time employment
- 11% Employment and further study
- 11% Part-time further study
- 8% Part-time further study
- 5% Other including travel, caring for someone or retired
- 5% Unemployed
- Unknown pattern of employment
- Voluntary or unpaid work
- Unemployed and due to start work
- Part-time further study

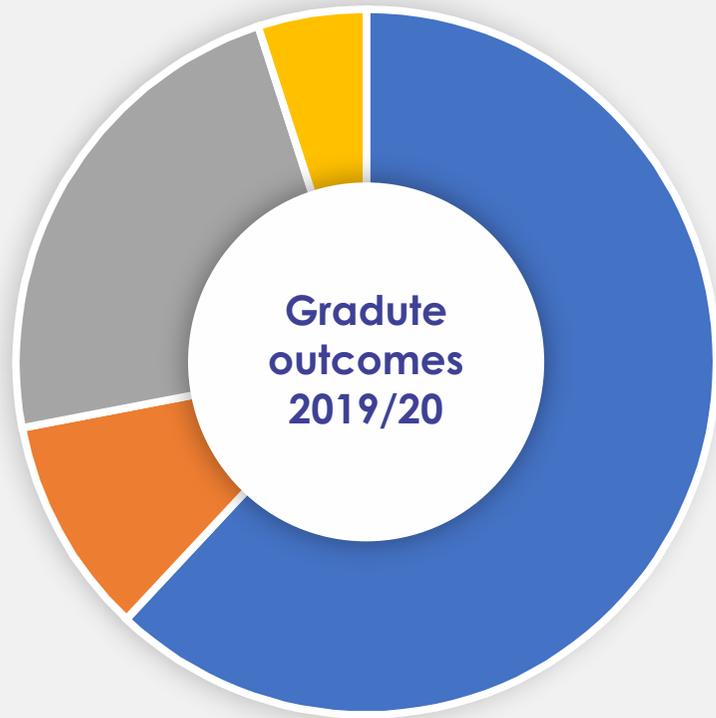
Using 2019 graduates the data shows a typical outcome for a year's cohort of students: the majority 82% are in some form of education or employment, a further 5% go into caring for loved ones and/or travel, while the remaining 13% are unemployed, or unknown.



Employers in UK are set to increase their recruitment by 20% for graduate vacancies.

- The labor market in the UK right now is at a very strong position, there's huge demand for business management, data science, data analytics, FinTech roles and investment banking roles
- Green manufacturing, construction and digital marketing are the upcoming sectors with higher job opportunities in coming years
- With the growing demand and funding in sports, sports management courses are coming up as well
- Transferable skills are a big part of the UK jobs sector, approximately 80% of employers across the whole of the UK, offer that flexibility and openness to take on students with different degree backgrounds. They're looking for students who can reflect on their transferability
- The graduate route has facilitated opportunities for international students to find jobs in the UK and to be able to stay and work in the UK. The benefit of this visa is that students do not need sponsorship to stay back post their course completion

United States of America – Keeping the American Dream Alive



- 62% Employed full-time
- 10% Employed part-time or seasonally
- 23% Not employed
- 5% Other

The statistics for 2019/20 graduates demonstrates a typical outcome for a year's group of students: the majority (62%) are employed full-time, a further 10% are employed part-time or seasonally, 23% are unemployed, and the remaining 5% are unemployed.



An estimated 2.5 million job vacancies in STEM (a designation that allows students to work in the United States for three years after graduation), health, and business management industries in 2030

- The number of highly skilled job vacancies has tripled in the past decade. International students grabbed approximately 460,000 jobs during 2019-2020
- In 2020, the total number of international students enrolled in US colleges was 1,095,299, making up 5.5% of the total US student body
- USA is known for its Silicon Valley thus making IT the key sector followed by automotive, financial services and data sciences. Robotics, aerospace, machinery, telecommunication, and Clean Technology are the growing sectors
- Opportunities are endless in the United States. There are numerous schools to choose from, as well as numerous fields of study and specialty degrees



Conclusion

Studying abroad is a unique and transformational learning experience. Students who have studied abroad are better able to work with people from other countries, understand the complexity of global issues, and have greater intercultural learning.

Employability is a journey and universities or the first employment after graduation are just the beginning of that journey. It is up to individual graduates to enhance their knowledge and skills, expand their networks, understand challenges and opportunities for them in the market and come up with their own decisions and actions to lead their journey.

Multiple surveys have shown that the skills gained while studying abroad are the same skills that employers value and that employers recognize the importance of cross-cultural understanding in an increasingly global economic environment. Choosing the right university and degree is one of the most crucial moments in every student's life, because the entire future depends on what the student decides to do during this period.



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OneStep Global is a market entry firm specialised in the higher education sector. We help Universities, academic service providers and government organisations to grow their footprint across Asia. Our solutions range from market entry advice to strategy design, logistics support to in country representation. Our deep market knowledge comes from years of experience, strong relationships with key stakeholders, student behaviour analysis and the connect with the on-ground realities.

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