



# EDUCATION ABROAD REPORT

## 2021-2022

September 2021 - August 2022



OFFICE OF THE PROVOST  
GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

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# FROM THE PROVOST'S OFFICE

The University of Michigan is committed to ensuring student success through the implementation of high-impact practices. Among these practices, global learning provides students with valuable opportunities to explore cultures, life experiences, and worldviews different from their own. Whether students are participating in study abroad programs, completing an internship, conducting research, volunteering, or participating in a competition or conference, these international experiences significantly contribute to their growth and success.

As students featured in this report attest, their experiences abroad helped them to understand different cultures and value systems, learn about themselves, gain exposure to new perspectives in their field, and make meaningful personal and professional connections. We also know that these experiences will enhance students' ability to become inclusive leaders and contributors to diverse teams, both during their time at U-M and in their subsequent careers.

At U-M, we are proud of our long history of international engagement and our status as a national leader in sending students abroad. While these efforts were challenged during the pandemic, we have been continuously at work to enhance our safety protocols and update our travel policy, opening travel to international destinations as soon as the U-M International Travel Oversight Committee deemed it safe. As a result, in 2021-2022, 2,906 students from the Ann Arbor campus participated in an international experience across 113 different countries, representing approximately 50% of pre-pandemic levels. Applications for 2023 suggest an even stronger rebound is on the horizon. This remarkable recovery is a testament to the dedication and resilience of faculty and staff across campus who make these opportunities for students possible.

We are confident that these experiences will equip students with skills for changing the world in positive ways.

Sincerely,



Laurie McCauley  
Provost and Executive Vice President  
for Academic Affairs



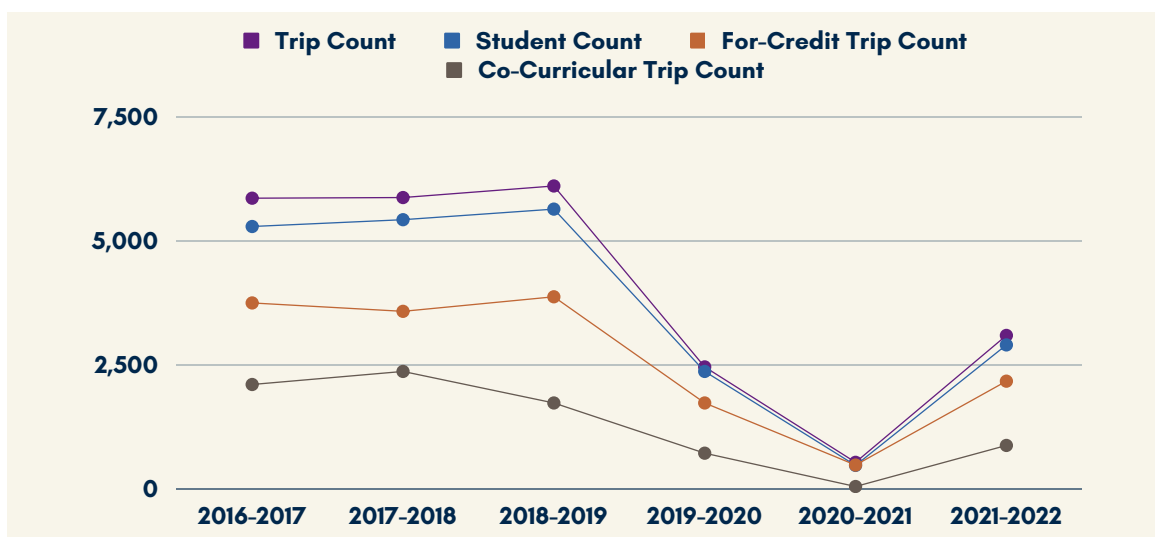
Valeria Bertacco  
Vice Provost of Engaged Learning

# HIGHLIGHTS

The University of Michigan offers an unparalleled range of education abroad experiences for our students. This report summarizes student participation in both for-credit study abroad programs and co-curricular (non-credit) educational experiences outside the United States. A total of 2,906 U-M students from the Ann Arbor campus participated in education abroad during the 2021-2022 academic year. These students participated in **3,097** trips, indicating that some students engaged in multiple international experiences during the same year.

While this travel volume accounts for just more than half of pre-pandemic levels at U-M, when 5,640 students had an education abroad experience in 2018-2019, it represents a remarkable recovery from the height of the pandemic. In 2020-2021, just 480 students were able to participate in educational experiences abroad due to health and safety concerns, budget restrictions imposed by the university, and closures at most countries' borders. These students travelled because their research was considered essential and progress was deemed time-sensitive. Continued student interest and the hard work of many faculty and staff across campus made a robust return to international travel and study in 2022 possible.

## Education Abroad Experiences of U-M Students



ACADEMIC YEAR	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022
<b>Trip Count</b>	5,860	5,873	6,106	2,463	542	<b>3,097</b>
<b>Student Count</b>	5,290	5,427	5,640	2,372	480	2,906
<b>For-Credit Trip Count</b>	3,751	3,582	3,875	1,737	487	2,215
<b>Co-Curricular Trip Count</b>	2,109	2,291	2,231	726	55	882

# STUDENT EXPERIENCES



**Emmanuel Orozco Castellanos**, International Studies Major,  
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts  
**Program:** International Studies and Multilateral Diplomacy  
Program in Geneva, Switzerland

"My time in Switzerland has been one of the most meaningful experiences in my academic career. I gained direct exposure to international affairs in a way that I would have never been able to experience anywhere else. The research paper I produced was eventually published and it helped me land an internship in international human rights working at Perseus Strategies in D.C. over the summer. All in all, studying in Geneva was a truly unique, hands-on learning experience that allowed me to contemplate how vast and impactful the field of human rights is."

"Studying abroad last summer was the absolute best decision I could've made, not only professionally, but also personally. I came back culturally enriched, more well-rounded, and with a much more expansive worldview. I got to travel around Europe, pursue my professional passion, and experience a culture completely different from my own. I would recommend it to anyone who is considering whether to apply."

**Morgan Taylor**, BS of Nursing,  
School of Nursing  
**Program:** DIS Copenhagen, Denmark

"Along with the confidence that comes from living and navigating through a new place on your own, the biggest thing this experience has shown me is that I have the power and resourcefulness to make my own way."

**Reegan Ketzenberger**,  
Materials Science &  
Engineering Major,  
College of Engineering  
**Program:**  
Undergraduate Research  
Program at Lund  
University, Sweden



"This experience allowed me to carry out the pilot phase of independent study in my training as a social worker. Within this experience, I was able to unite my academic training with my personal project, which is advocacy for the well-being of children and families through the Apapacho Foundation. My main task was to do social work to promote child welfare in low- and middle-income countries."

**Andres Cepeda**, Master of Social Work,  
School of Social Work  
**Program:** Global Independent Study Grant of  
the Office of Global Activities (SSW) to study  
with the Apapacho Foundation, Colombia

# STUDENTS ABROAD

## BY PRIMARY SCHOOL/COLLEGE AND UNDERGRADUATE OR GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL

PRIMARY SCHOOL/COLLEGE	UNDER-GRADUATE	GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL	TOTAL
Architecture & Urban Planning	19	41	60
Art & Design	63	6	69
Business	245	117	362
Dentistry	0	19	19
Education	5	12	17
Engineering	353	150	503
Environment and Sustainability	0	48	48
Information	59	18	77
Kinesiology	74	11	85
Law	0	29	29
Literature, Science, and the Arts	933	405	1,338
Medicine	0	56	56
Music, Theatre & Dance	32	22	54
Nursing	32	7	39
Pharmacy	2	7	9
Public Health	19	44	63
Public Policy	30	10	40
Rackham School of Graduate Studies	0	30	30
Social Work	0	8	8
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,866</b>	<b>1,040</b>	<b>2,906</b>

# TRIPS ABROAD BY EXPERIENCE TYPE

Experience type captures the primary educational purpose for travel. For U-M managed programs, experience type is reported by the sponsoring unit, based on the structure and content of the program.

For independent travelers, experience type is self-reported within the student travel registry. Note that all personal/leisure trips are excluded from this report.

\*See Reporting Notes on page 16, number 3.

EXPERIENCE TYPE	CREDIT	CO-CURRICULAR	TOTAL
Study	1,825	103	1,928
Internship	71	71	142
Research	273	191	464
Volunteer	12	72	84
Other U-M Travel	34	445	479
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>2,215</b>	<b>882</b>	<b>3,097</b>



## STUDY

Credit-bearing academic programs, credit-bearing classes, and other course-related travel. Examples include instructor-led programs, bilateral exchanges, direct enrollment in foreign institutions, provider programs, international experience as part of an on-campus course, or client-driven projects as part of a course.



## INTERNSHIPS

Field placements, clinical placements, or other work experience. Paid or unpaid.



## RESEARCH

Research-related laboratory or fieldwork. This category includes dissertation abroad.



## VOLUNTEER

Service learning, volunteer experiences, or community-based projects.

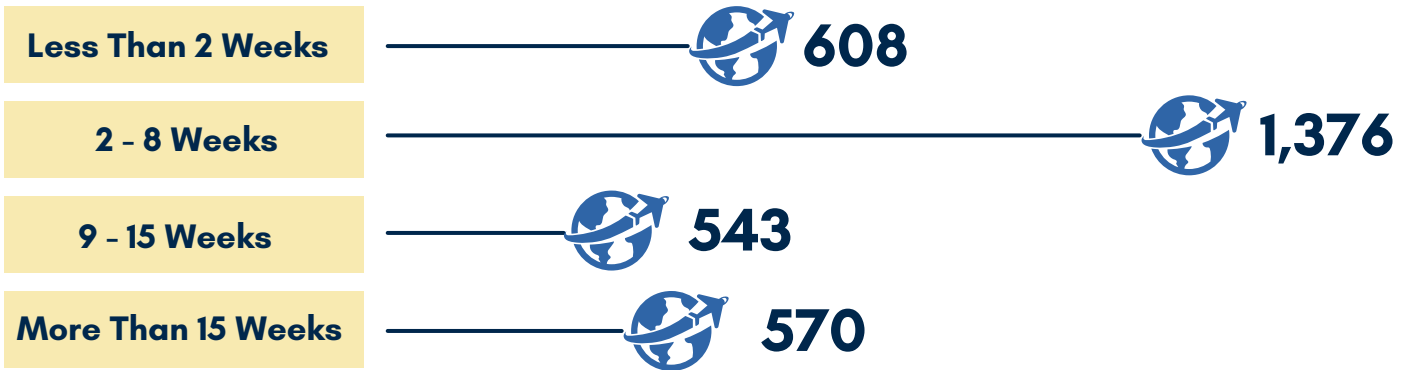


## OTHER U-M TRAVEL

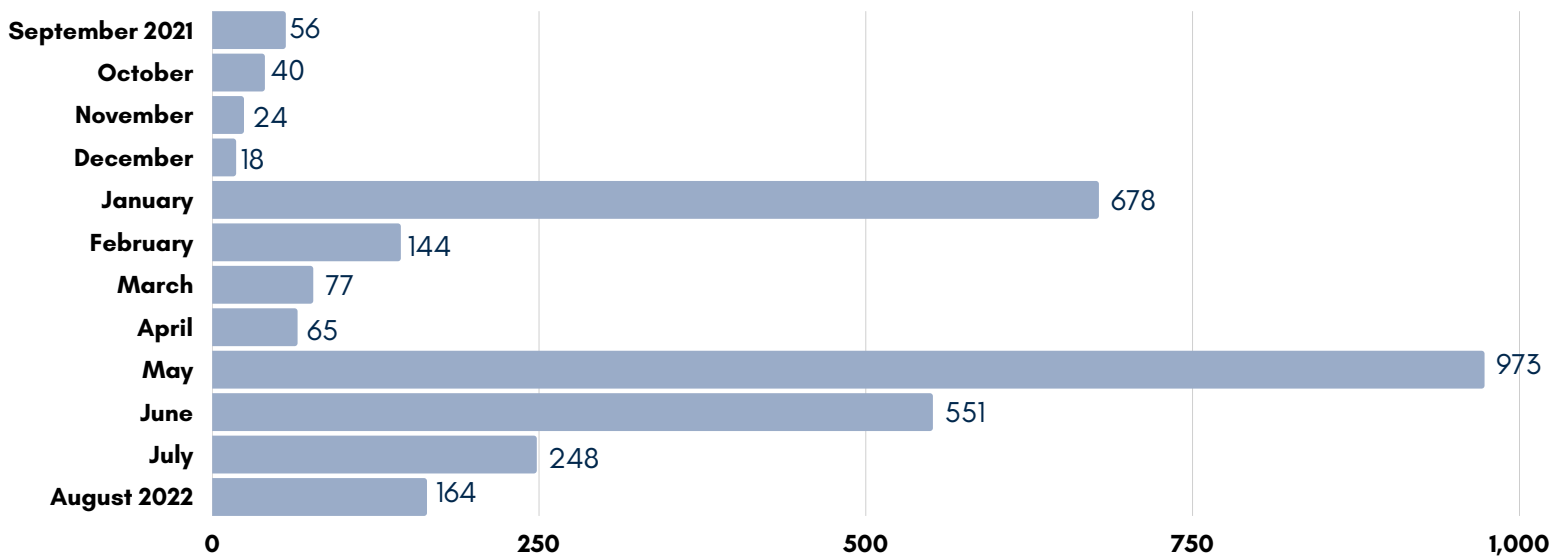
Competitions, performances, conferences, professional development activities, or other educational or extracurricular travel that does not fall into one of the categories listed above.

# NUMBER OF TRIPS BY DURATION

Total trips  
abroad: 3,097



# NUMBER OF TRIPS BY DEPARTURE MONTH



Note: Students who departed for 2021-2022 international experiences prior to September 1st are not included in this chart.



# DESTINATIONS IN 2021-2022



## TOP 10 COUNTRIES

COUNTRY	STUDENT COUNT	TRIP COUNT
Spain	520	524
Italy	326	333
United Kingdom	313	321
France	264	266
Germany	208	213
Denmark	151	152
Canada	138	140
Ireland	87	87
Greece	83	85
Israel	75	75

# 113 COUNTRIES VISITED IN 2021-2022

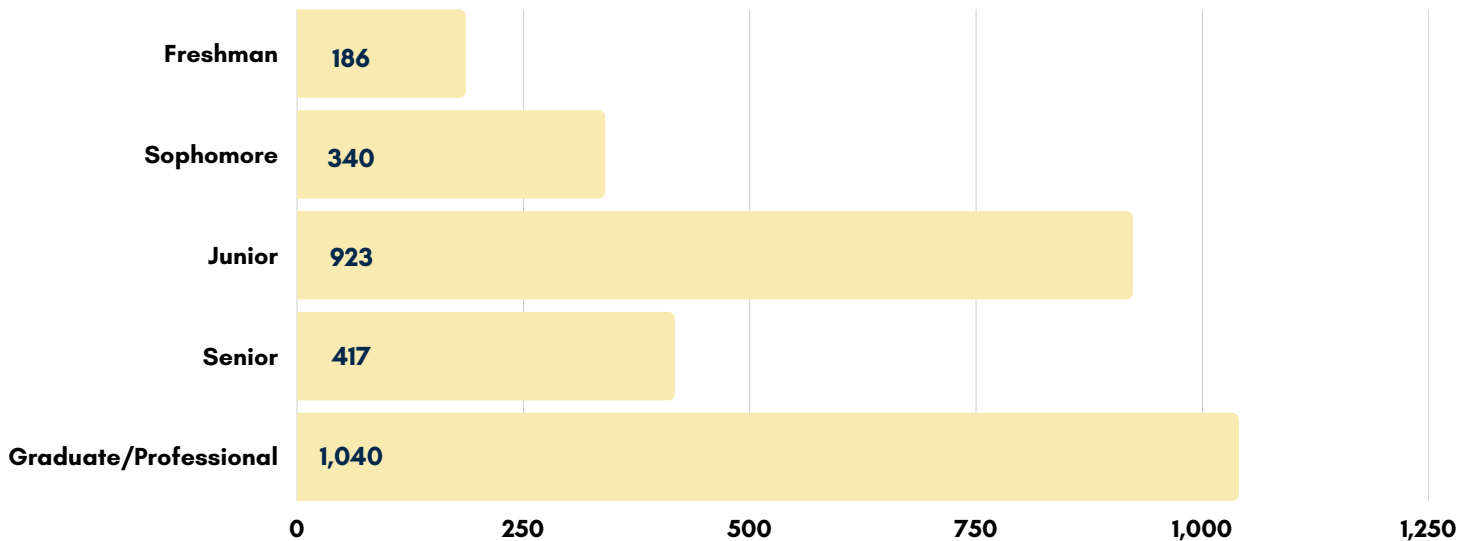
- 
- Albania
  - Argentina
  - Armenia
  - Australia
  - Austria
  - Bahamas
  - Bangladesh
  - Belgium
  - Belize
  - Bosnia and Herzegovina
  - Botswana
  - Brazil
  - Bulgaria
  - Burkina Faso
  - Cambodia
  - Canada
  - Chile
  - China
  - Colombia
  - Costa Rica
  - Croatia
  - Cuba
  - Cyprus
  - Czech Republic
  - Denmark
  - Dominican Republic
  - Ecuador
  - Ethiopia
  - Finland
  - France
  - French Polynesia
  - Georgia
  - Germany
  - Ghana
  - Gibraltar
  - Greece
  - Grenada
  - Guatemala
  - Guyana
  - Honduras
  - Hong Kong
  - Hungary
  - Iceland
  - India
  - Indonesia
  - Iran
  - Ireland
  - Israel
  - Italy
  - Jamaica
  - Japan
  - Jordan
  - Kenya
  - Kosovo
  - Kyrgyzstan
  - La Reunion
  - Latvia
  - Lebanon
  - Liberia
  - Madagascar
  - Malawi
  - Malta
  - Mauritius
  - Mayotte
  - Mexico
  - Monaco
  - Mongolia
  - Montenegro
  - Morocco
  - Namibia
  - Nepal
  - Netherlands
  - New Zealand
  - Nicaragua
  - Nigeria
  - Norway
  - Pakistan
  - Palestinian Territory
  - Panama
  - Peru
  - Philippines
  - Poland
  - Portugal
  - Qatar
  - Republic of South Sudan
  - Republic of the Congo
  - Romania
  - Russia
  - Rwanda
  - Saudi Arabia
  - Serbia
  - Sierra Leone
  - Singapore
  - Slovakia
  - Slovenia
  - South Africa
  - South Korea
  - Spain
  - Sudan
  - Sweden
  - Switzerland
  - Taiwan
  - Tanzania
  - Thailand
  - Tunisia
  - Turkey
  - Turks & Caicos Islands
  - Uganda
  - United Arab Emirates
  - United Kingdom
  - Uzbekistan
  - Venezuela
  - Vietnam

Note: Country names are listed as they are defined in Terra Dotta.

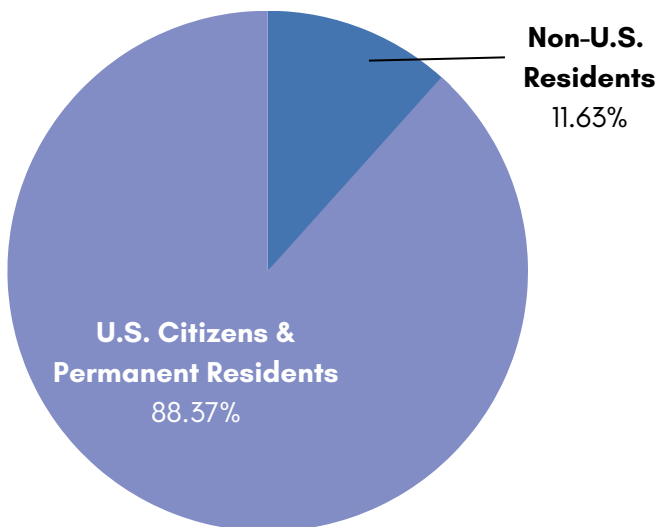
# STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

Total number of  
students who went  
abroad: 2,906

## By Academic Level

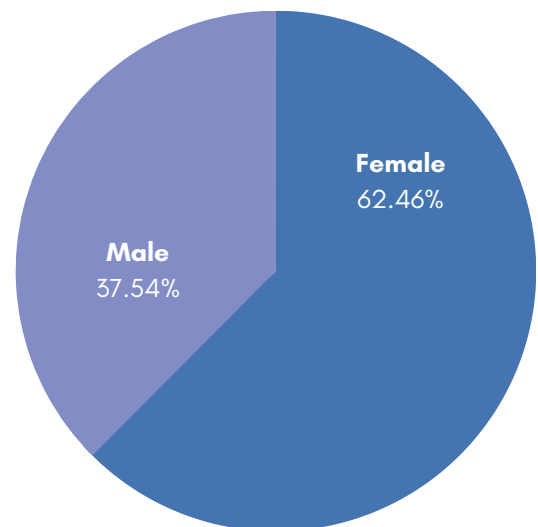


## By Citizenship



Note: Total U-M enrollment for Fall 2021 was 84.34% U.S. Citizens & Permanent Residents and 15.66% Non-U.S. Residents.

## By Sex



Note: Total U-M enrollment for Fall 2021 was 51% female and 49% male. The data are defined in these terms from University reports.

# DEMOGRAPHICS OF STUDY ABROAD PARTICIPANTS IN 2021-2022

14.91%

**OF U.S. STUDENTS\* ABROAD WERE UNDER-REPRESENTED MINORITY STUDENTS**

9.64%

**OF U.S. UNDER-GRADUATE STUDENTS\* ABROAD WERE FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENTS**

18.3%

**OF U.S. UNDER-GRADUATE STUDENTS\* ABROAD RECEIVED A PELL GRANT DURING THEIR U-M CAREER**

RACE/ETHNICITY	% OF U.S. STUDENTS ABROAD
White	65.50%
Asian	11.41%
Hispanic or Latino	9.07%
Race/ethnicity unknown	5.45%
Black or African American	4.21%
Two or more races	4.13%
American Indian or Alaska Native	0.19%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.04%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

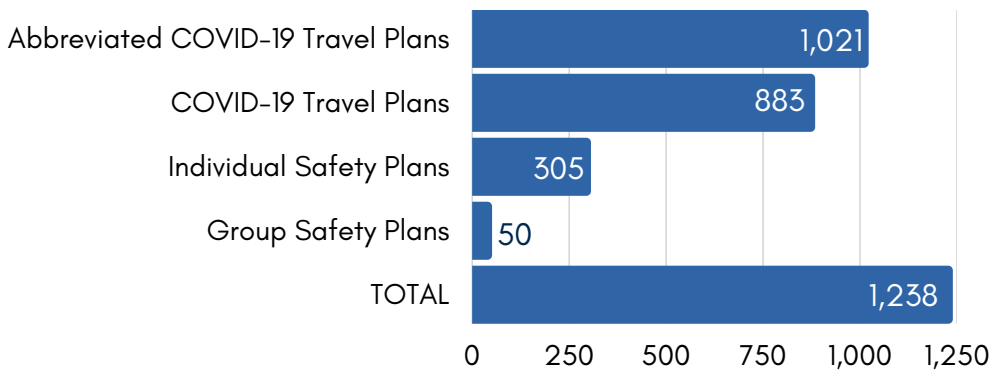
\*Note: U.S. students are defined as U.S. Citizens and Permanent Residents.

Note: The terminology used is derived from the M-Pathways Reporting System.

# SUPPORTING STUDENT WELL-BEING

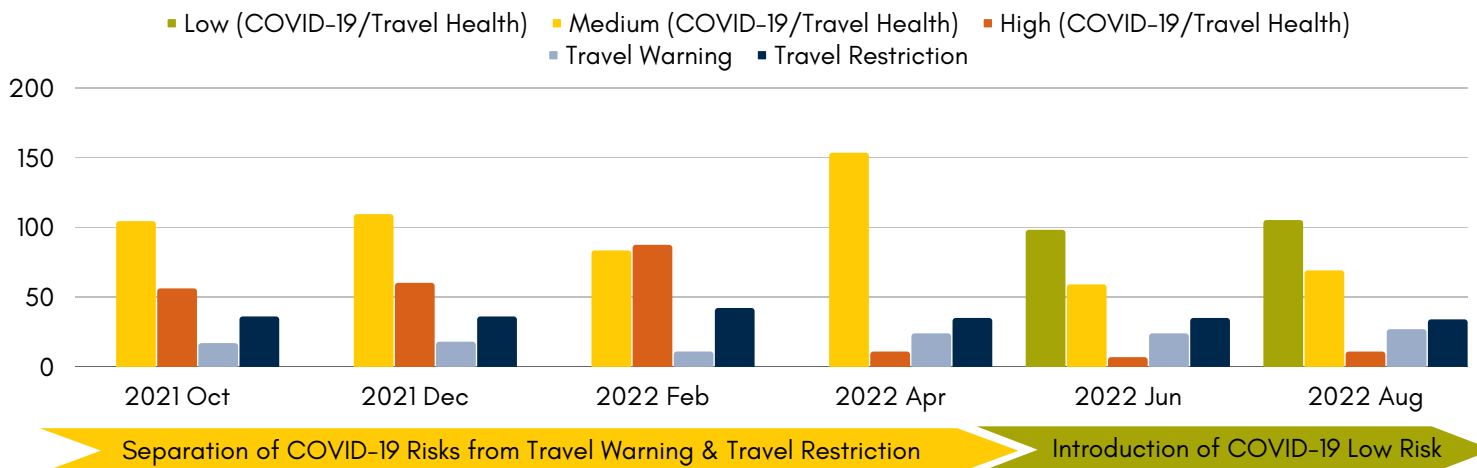
To support student travel abroad in a safe and secure manner, the Global Engagement Team, in consultation with the International Travel Oversight Committee, continuously assesses and identifies higher-risk destinations and uses safety/travel plans as an opportunity for travelers to demonstrate their understanding of risks and provide mitigation strategies.

## NUMBER OF PLANS REVIEWED IN 2021-2022



Processes were adapted to meet the changing global environment and the needs of the travelers, including the introduction of the COVID-19 Low Risk Rating and the abbreviated COVID-19 Travel Plan as an application component for U-M managed programs.

## U-M TRAVEL DESIGNATIONS (COUNTRY RISK RATINGS) BY MONTH



# STUDENT EXPERIENCES

**Maya Mileski**, Biomedical Engineering  
Major, College of Engineering  
**Program:** International Programs in  
Engineering, Prague, Czech Republic

"I made a lot of mistakes along the way as I tried to navigate Europe, but I truly think this was the best way to learn about the world. All of these bumps along the road will give me so many stories to tell in the future."



"My study abroad experience was a time of intense self-discovery! Having to work through new problems and situations without the support of my family allowed me to become more comfortable with navigating challenging situations. Traveling to multiple different countries and meeting new people improved my cultural communication skills and allowed me to learn so much more about the world. Studying abroad is a great way to learn more about yourself, as it allows you time to reflect upon your behavior and how you navigate through a new environment. I continue to discover more about myself long after I have returned to the United States, and I look forward to traveling in the future and discovering even more."

**Isabella Conti**, Bachelor of Business Administration,  
Stephen M. Ross School of Business  
**Program:** WHU Otto Beisheim School of Management, Ross  
semester abroad, Vallendar, Germany



"I have tried to keep my excitement to a minimum on the blogs because it's a rather mundane topic, but I LOVE the metro. Not the transportation aspect, but more the layout and organization of it—fitting for an engineer, huh?"

**Ian Rosenberg**, Naval  
Architecture and Marine  
Engineering, College of  
Engineering  
**Program:** International  
Programs in Engineering,  
Paris, France

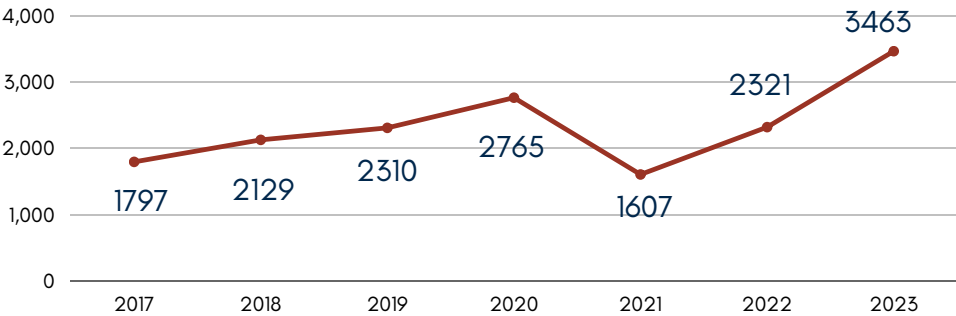
"Not only did I learn about the culture, food, language, and history of Holland, but I also developed a newfound appreciation for my own culture. Learning how to navigate a new city, understanding laws and customs, learning how to use different transportation systems, and navigating COVID forced me to think on my feet and constantly be a problem solver. Making difficult decisions in uncharted territories, I know I can better adapt in times of change and difficulty in the future."

**Talal Amir Ben Ahmed**, Bachelor of Business  
Administration, Stephen M. Ross School of  
Business  
**Program:** Rotterdam School of Management-  
Erasmus University, Rotterdam, Netherlands

# LOOKING AHEAD

Application numbers demonstrate a strong interest in international travel, with 3,463 applications received for the Winter 2023 semester as of December 1, 2022.

Winter term application volume over time



TOP 10 COUNTRIES	NUMBER OF WINTER 2023 APPLICATIONS
United Kingdom	567
Spain	542
Italy	425
Australia	203
France	194
Czech Republic	186
Denmark	136
Netherlands	120
Chile	99
Switzerland	93

Notes:

- Data captures Winter 2023 applications for U-M managed programs submitted in M-Compass before December 1, 2022.
- This data does not represent final travel data. Not all applicants complete their applications, and not all submitted applicants end up going abroad.

# THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION ABROAD



"At the School of Music, Theatre & Dance, interest among students in study abroad has slowly been returning. In the performing arts, many students think about traveling abroad as a short-term opportunity, often taking the form of performing at music festivals or competitions. While graduate students in our various academic fields do regularly travel abroad for research, there remains a tremendous amount of room for different kinds of international engagement across our student population. Because the performing arts of different local and regional contexts offer entry points to the rich histories and worldviews of people, there are natural opportunities to connect study abroad to our curriculum. As we think ahead to the future, integrating international opportunities with our curriculum and offering robust support for travel will have incredible benefits for our students, our school, and to U-M."

**CHRISTI-ANNE CASTRO** Associate Dean for Faculty Development; Co-Chair and Associate Professor of Musicology, School of Music, Theatre & Dance

"As we continue to navigate COVID-era travel, students are ready to study abroad again to further their professional goals. For Ford School students, our overseas courses encourage practical skills-building for future careers in public policy. As an example, through the International Economic Development Program, students learn about a country's pressing policy challenges and organize all aspects of a March break study-trip, including logistical planning and outreach with policy practitioners. Students also learn how to formulate and refine questions for in-country meetings to evaluate policy impact. This is what many students are seeking: meaningful study abroad experiences that broaden their existing worldviews and equip them with the skills needed for successful careers after graduation."



**DAN ELLIS** Assistant Director, International Policy Center at the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy



"As we enter the third winter of the COVID-19 pandemic, interest in international experiences among Public Health students remains strong. We had a high registration and turnout for our workshops on finding and funding internships abroad this term. However, unfortunately, many of the institutions and agencies around the world where students might work during their internships are still struggling with budget and staffing shortages or otherwise trying to recover to their pre-pandemic activity levels. Strong supervision and mentoring may be difficult to find in many places right now. I think the future will bring more remote international internship opportunities. Students will need to learn to be self-sufficient for this model, to ensure that they are productive, moving in the right direction, and having a fulfilling international experience."

**CHINYERE NEALE** Director of Programs, Office of Global Public Health, School of Public Health



# REPORTING NOTES

1. These data represent Fall 2021 through Spring/Summer 2022 education abroad experiences. Data sources include the M-Compass engaged learning system (<https://mcompass.umich.edu/>), U-M travel registry (<https://global.umich.edu/travel-resources/register-your-travel/>), and a survey of non-UM education abroad providers.
2. Academic and demographic data are based on the M-Pathways Third Week Count data set for the beginning of the reporting period (Fall 2021). Data pulled for the next available term in the reporting period for students not enrolled in the Fall 2021 semester. Students in dual degree programs are listed in the school or college associated with their primary academic program.
3. Graduate students engaging in research abroad were included in for-credit travel if they were registered for thesis or dissertation research credits during the academic year of the reporting period.
4. Underrepresented minority students include U.S. citizens and permanent residents who self-identify as Black or African American, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, Hispanic or Latino, American Indian or Alaska Native, or two or more ethnicities where at least one is from this list.
5. First-generation undergraduate students are U.S. citizens and permanent residents who reported parental/guardian educational levels of less than a four-year degree.

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We thank the U-M community for its continued support in international education.

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