



University of Brighton

The Student Finance Survey 2009-10

Appendix 2: International Students

October 2010

Laura Banks and Stephanie Fleischer

Social Science Policy Research Centre (SSPARC)

School of Applied Social Science (SASS)

CONTENTS

1	Sample Characteristics	2
2	Financial help for students	2
3	Employment	3
4	Expenditure	7
5	Debt and current financial situation	11
6	Student Experience	14

1 Sample Characteristics

In 2010, 67 of the students surveyed were EU or International students, 17.8% of all the respondents. EU/International students studied Service Management (25), Engineering (19), Business (8), Architecture (6), Geography (3), Social Science (3), History of Design (2) and PE (1).

43.9% (25) were male and 56.1% (32) female. The sample included 26.7% (26) of 18-20 year olds, 61.7% (37) aged 21-25 years and 11.7% (7) 26 years of age or older. The majority of EU/International students were White (66.7% (40)), 11.7% (7) were Asian, 5% (3) Black, 3.3% (2) Chinese, 6.7% (4) of mixed race, 5%, (3) Other, and one respondent did not state ethnic origin.

2 Financial help for students

The majority of EU/international students (80.6% (54)) compared to 62.4% of full-time UK students received financial gifts from their parents, 76.2% (48) (53% for UK students) monthly help towards accommodation costs and 40.4% (23) (29% for UK students) received financial gifts. Twelve international students received financial gifts of more than £2000 pounds (57.1%).

Table 1.1 Parents' monthly contributions to students' accommodation costs (percentages)

	International students 2010	UK full-time students 2010
Less than £100	2.2	12.5
£100-£199	8.9	20.8
£200-£249	2.2	16.7
£250-£299	4.4	4.2
£300-£349	2.2	12.5
£350 or more	80.0	33.3
TOTAL	100	100
n	45	96

Nine students lent money (16.4%, 19% for UK students) from their parents or family members and 40.7% (24) (57% for UK students) spent savings since the beginning of their course ranged between £300 and £6,000, one student spent £10,000 and another £100,000 of savings.

3 Employment

Thirty-one percent (21) of EU/international students had a regular part-time job compared to 46.3% of full-time UK students. Of the 47 students who did not engage in part-time employment 23 (48.9%) stated that they wanted to concentrate on their studies, 11 (23.4%) could not find a job and another 11 (23.4%) that they do not need a job.

47.6% (10) worked between 9-16 hours a week in term-time employment, 23.8% (5) 17-24 hours and 28.6% (6) 25 or more hours. 10% (2) earned between £30-59, 20% (4) between £60-89 and 70% (14) £90 or more (see tables below). The main term-time jobs were catering and shop work.

Table 2.1 Number of hours worked by students in term-time employment (percentages)

	International students 2010	UK full-time students 2010
Up to 8	0.0	27.0
9-16	47.6	44.7
17-24	23.8	19.9
25 or more	28.6	8.5
TOTAL	100	100
n	21	173

Table 2.2 Students' weekly earnings from term-time employment (percentages)

	International students 2010	UK full-time students 2010
Less than £30	0.0	4.4
£30-£59	10.0	19.9
£60-£89	20.0	30.9
£90 or more	70.0	44.9
TOTAL	100	100
n	20	136

Table 2.3 All term-time employment (percentages)

	International students 2010	UK full-time students 2010
Regular term-time job only	31.3	46.2
Ad hoc employment only	13.4	17.6
Regular job and ad hoc employment	0	1.3
All term-time employment	44.7	65.1
n	67	313

The majority, 66.2% (43), indicated that they worked during at least one vacation:

Table 2.4 Vacation employment (percentages)

	International students 2010	UK full-time students 2010
Year 1, Christmas	35.7	52.5
Year 1, Easter	27.3	51.6
Summer	57.1	72.9
Year 2, Christmas	35.2	52.9
n	43	314

Table 2.5 Reasons for working in the vacation (percentages)

	International Students 2010	UK full time students 2010
Need money for basic living costs	62.8	84.4
Extra money so I can afford clothes, music, phone	51.1	56.6
Extra money to go out socialising	51.1	55.8
Avoid getting into debt	28.9	53.0
To pay for books and other item required for the course	42.2	46.6
Extra money for a holiday	55.6	43.8
Looks good on my CV	46.7	40.2
To gain work experience	55.6	33.9
To pay off current debt	4.4	31.5
So I can save	29.6	29.1
Reducing the money I owe when I graduate	17.8	24.7
To pay for tuition fees	4.4	14.7
I have a family to support	6.7	7.2
Other	8.9	3.2
n	67	251

Table 2.6 Future career plans (percentages)

	International Students 2010	UK full time students 2010
Own business	8.5	1.7
Employment	45.8	64.7
Postgraduate education	22.0	6.9
Gap Year	8.5	9.9
Undecided	11.9	16.2
Other	3.4	0.7
TOTAL	100	100
n	59	303

68.3% of EU/International students (40% of UK full-time students) reported that their parents went to university.

4 Expenditure

79.7% privately rented, 4.7% owned their home, 6.2% lived with their parents, 3.1 were in halls of residents and 6.2% stated other.

Table 3.1 Weekly accommodation costs (percentages)

	International Students 2010	UK full time students 2010
Nothing	1.7	12.5
Less than £50	3.4	3.0
£50-59	3.4	1.6
£60-69	10.2	2.3
£70-79	10.2	21.1
£80 -89	20.3	32.9
£90-99	20.3	15.8
£100-109	16.9	7.6
£110 or more	13.6	3.3
TOTAL	100	100
n	59	304

Table 3.2 Estimated weekly expenditure on electricity, gas and water (percentages)

	Electricity		Gas		Water	
	International Students 2010	UK full time students 2010	International Students 2010	UK full time students 2010	International Students 2010	UK full time students 2010
Nothing	8.8	16.7	24.6	20.4	30.9	26.5
Less than £10	45.6	42.4	40.4	37.7	43.6	37.6
£10-14	12.3	24.3	14.0	25.0	10.9	21.5
£15 or more	33.3	16.7	21.1	16.9	14.5	14.3
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100
n	57	288	57	284	55	279

Table 3.3 Estimated weekly expenditure on food (percentages)

	International Students 2010	UK full time students 2010
Nothing	0.0	2.7
Less than £15	27.1	19.0
£15-£24	10.2	39.5
£25-£29	27.1	12.9
£30-£39	35.6	14.3
£40 or more	0.0	11.6
TOTAL	100	100
n	59	294

Table 3.4 Expenditure on course books during the academic year (percentages)

	International Students 2010	UK full time students 2010
Nothing	32.8	20.8
Less than £20	13.1	13.5
£20-£49	16.4	18.5
£50-£99	19.7	20.8
£100 or more	18.1	26.4
TOTAL	100	100
n	61	303

Table 3.5 Estimated expenditure on computer equipment, compulsory course cost (e.g. trips) and additional costs during the academic year (percentages)

	Computer equipment		Compulsory course costs		Additional costs	
	International Students 2010	UK full time students 2010	International Students 2010	UK full time students 2010	International Students 2010	UK full time students 2010
Nothing	30.6	26.4	36.2	40.1	31.2	44.1
Less than £20	14.5	18.2	24.1	10.5	18.8	19.6
£20-£49	11.3	16.9	5.2	8.5	18.8	11.8
£50-£99	11.3	13.9	6.9	6.5	12.5	5.9
£100-£499	12.9	14.2	15.5	23.8	12.5	15.7
£500 or more	19.4	10.5	12.1	10.5	6.2	2.9
TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100
n	62	296	58	296	32	102

Table 3.6 Estimated weekly expenditure on travel to university (percentages)

	International Students 2010	UK full time students 2010
Nothing	32.8	33.0
Less than £10	25.9	21.4
£10-£19	25.9	22.8
£20 or more	15.5	22.8
TOTAL	100	100
n	58	294

Table 3.7 Mode of transport most often used to travel to the university

	International Students 2010	UK full time students 2010
Car	15.9	41.4
Train	6.3	7.4
Bus	31.7	9.1
Walk	42.9	37.9
Cycle	1.6	2.9
Other	1.6	1.3
TOTAL	100	100
n	63	309

Table 3.8 Estimated weekly expenditure on social activities (percentages)

	International Students 2010	UK full time students 2010
Nothing	5.2	2.4
Less than £10	20.7	10.2
£10-£19	31.0	35.5
£20-49	34.4	49.1
£50 or more	8.6	2.7
TOTAL	100	100
n	58	293

Table 3.9 Car and computer ownership (percentages)

	International Students 2010	UK full time students 2010
% with regular use of a car	19.7	58.0
% with regular use of a computer	80.3	99.0
% with access to broadband at home	100.0	97.0
n	61	305

5 Debt and current financial situation

10% (5) (16.7% of full-time UK students) have had an outstanding balance on a credit or store card.

27.1% have had an overdraft, 18.6% have had other debts, 3.3% have had existing debts before starting the course (n=59).

Table 4.1 Current financial situation (percentages)

	International Students 2010	UK full time students 2010
In credit	62.1	56.9
Up to £1000 in debt	27.5	16.8
£1001-£2000 in debt	1.7	14.2
£2000 or more in dept	8.6	12.0
TOTAL	100	100
n	58	274

Table 4.2 How worried are students about debt now (percentages)

	International Students 2010	UK full time students 2010
Very worried	16.0	16.8
Fairly worried	38.0	43.9
Not at all worried	46.0	39.3
TOTAL	100	100
n	50	285

Table 4.3 How worried are students about debt on graduation (percentages)

	International Students 2010	UK full time students 2010
Very worried	20.0	27.6
Fairly worried	40.0	47.0
Not at all worried	40.0	25.4
TOTAL	100	100
n	50	314

6 Student Experience

Table 5.1 The university experience has provided value for money (percentages)

	International Students 2010	UK full time students 2010
Strongly agree	23.3	3.9
Agree	35.0	24.3
Neutral	31.7	28.5
Disagree	5.0	25.6
Strongly disagree	5.0	17.7
TOTAL	100	100
n	60	305