

# Employer Surveys & University Performance

How to use employer surveys  
to assess university performance

**One of the key roles of universities is to give (young) people the ability to deal with today's and tomorrow's challenges in their professional lives.**

**New factors of competition, especially employability, are key to making an impact today.**

**Employability has become a major component of the university brand**

**Deliver insights and values from the employers empowers universities and students make the right decisions in drawing an adapted education journey**

- **3 “stakeholders “ of employability : employers, students, university**
- **A changing market, different contexts in different geographies, industries, and economic challenges**
- **A changing market with transformative challenges like digitalization, entrepreneurship, sustainability**

**ADAPTABILITY IS KEY :**

**HE needs to constantly update its understanding of the global and local environment and identify the coming trends and best practice anywhere in this globalized field.**

- **Emerging's experience optimizing recruitment started in 2001**
- **13 years of ongoing surveys and experts feedback consolidate the concept of employability performance analysis**
- **A top 250 as a global standart**
- **A partner since 2010: Trendence**

## A SURVEY

### Employer insights

Employers worldwide share their knowledge on the challenges of future training and their expectations of Higher Education.

Participating corporate managers are carefully screened and selected.

### The voting process

Employers rate the **employability performance** of a list of more than 1000 universities worldwide. 100% qualified managers have up to 10 votes each. Employer opinion and insights collected throughout the survey play a pivotal role in shaping the ranking, complementing a robust 35-criteria framework developed in collaboration with experts and employability leaders.

## + RANKING

### University Selection

Listed in the yearly GEURS ranking of **TOP 250** universities for employability are the institutions with the highest overall number of votes

### Criteria

Once chosen, the performances of the institutions of Higher Education are justified by the voters, who are asked to apply a maximum of 6 criteria out of 35 suggested categories.

## 13 years of data

GEURS is the leading barometer of graduate employability.

Conducted every year since 2010, GEURS compiles 13 year of data on Higher Education and worldwide graduate employment.

## 40 countries

We've scanned 40 countries from all continents regarding market expectations toward graduates and employability performance.

## 100% qualified managers

100% of our survey respondents are top operational managers who work with and/or recruit more than 5 young graduates per year.

## 5 million evaluations

We have collected over 5 million ratings of universities, covering over 6000 institutions worldwide which have being assessed by employers.

## 8 million recruitments

We've collected the feedback from managers who are responsible for no less than 8 million recruitments worldwide.

## 6,000 institutions covered

The GEURS survey has covered 6,000 institutions spanning all continents. Every year GEURS pays attention to new entrants in the TOP 250.

# Methodology



## The KEY EMPLOYABILITY DRIVERS



**The Key Employability Driver are the decisive factors that drive employability.** We've developed a framework comprised of 35 categories covering over one hundred fine-grained indicators which set a global standard, to measure and manage strategic decisions for employability. They can rapidly adapt to a changing environment.

## The EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS MAP



**Every year we track the skills** which are required for a better market fit, staying tuned to current trends, by type of job and by industry. Hard skills, soft skills, smart skills, mad skills... We help leverage these leading-edge insights into practical, actionable steps within educational strategies.



**A list that uncovers employers' expectations on graduate's mindset.** It monitors how transformative challenges like digitalisation, entrepreneurship, technological innovation or sustainability impact employability. It documents best practices in skills development and cooperation strategies. It benchmarks and gives the employers' choice of best performing universities locally, worldwide or by subjects.



# Key Employability Drivers

KED in 2023





# Global Employability University Ranking and Survey 2024

How to use employer surveys  
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# Profile of respondents

## Countries surveyed

Argentina
Australia
Brazil
Canada
China (Mainland & Hong Kong)
France
Germany
India
Indonesia
Japan
Mexico
Netherlands
Singapore
South Africa
South Korea
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
United Kingdom
USA

Source: GEURS by Emerging, 2023.

## Company's main sector of activity

Accounting / Finance
Aerospace and defense
Automotive
Banking and insurance
Construction and civil engineering
Consulting
Education and training
Electro-technics and electronics
Energy and environment
Engineering, design & manufacture
Fast-moving consumer goods
Food and beverage
Hospitality, leisure and tourism
IT Hardware
IT software and engineering
Logistics, transport and supply chain
Luxury goods
Media and communication
Pharmaceutical and chemical
Retail
Telecom and networks

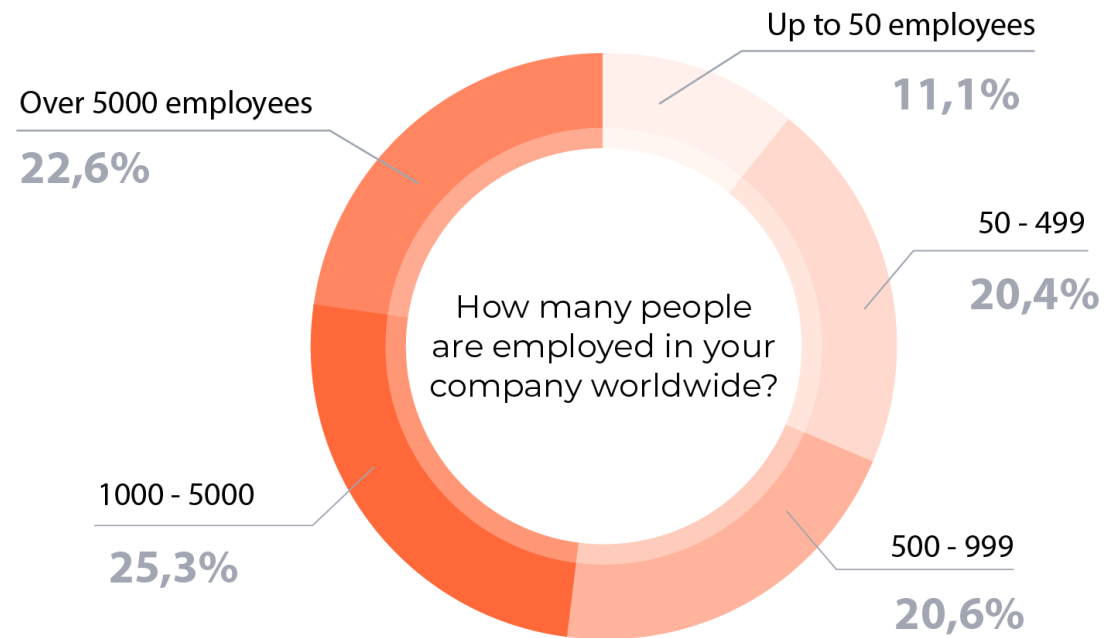
Source: GEURS by Emerging, 2023.

## Company department

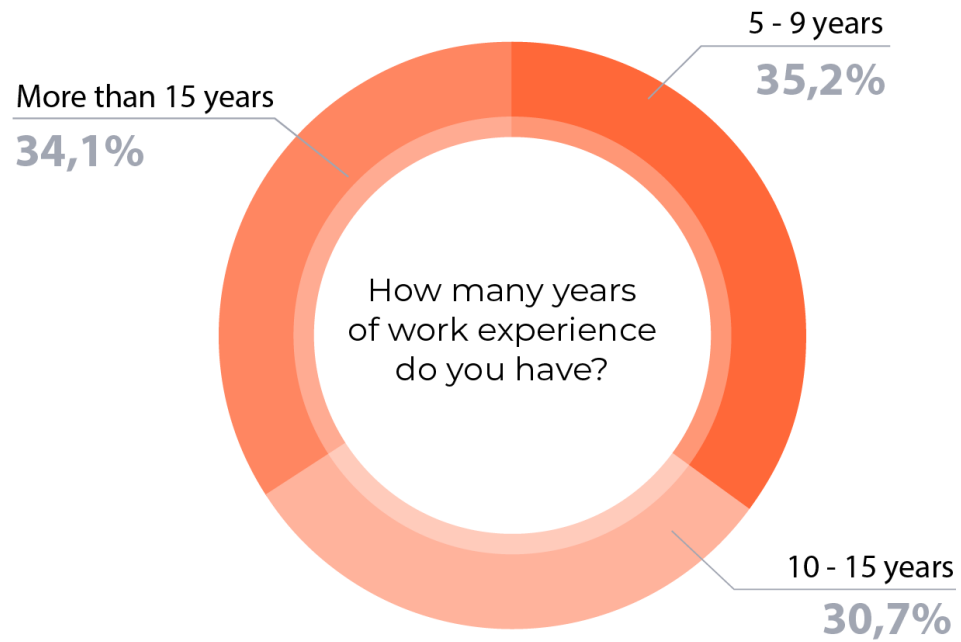
Accounting / Finance
Customer Service
Finance
General Administration and Management
Human Resources, Training and Development
Information Technology
Legal and Compliance
Marketing / Communications
Operations
Procurement
Production
Quality Assurance / Quality Control
Research & Development
Sales and Business Development
Supply Chain Logistics

Source: GEURS by Emerging, 2023.

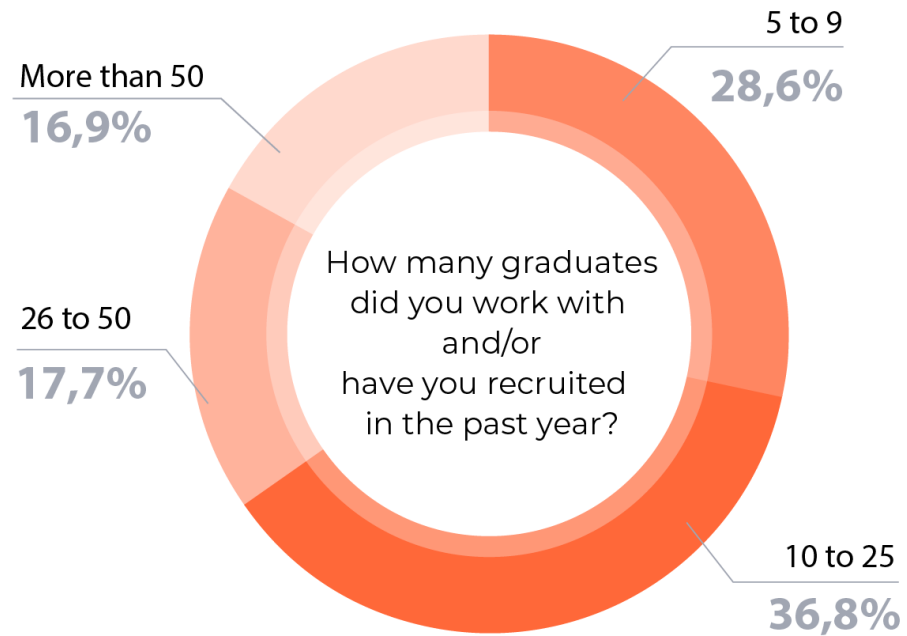
# Profile of respondents

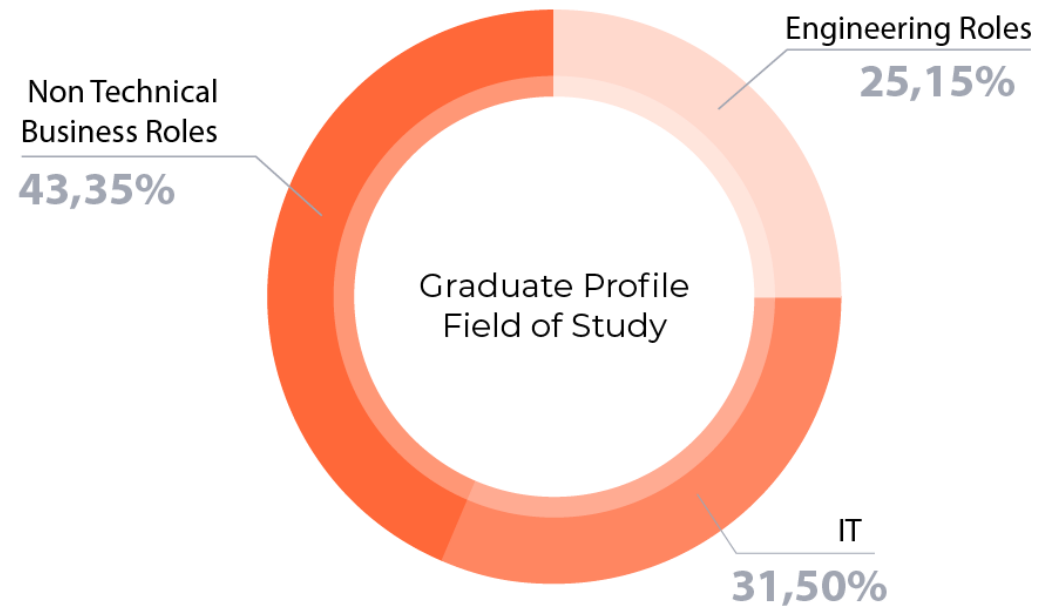


# Profile of respondents

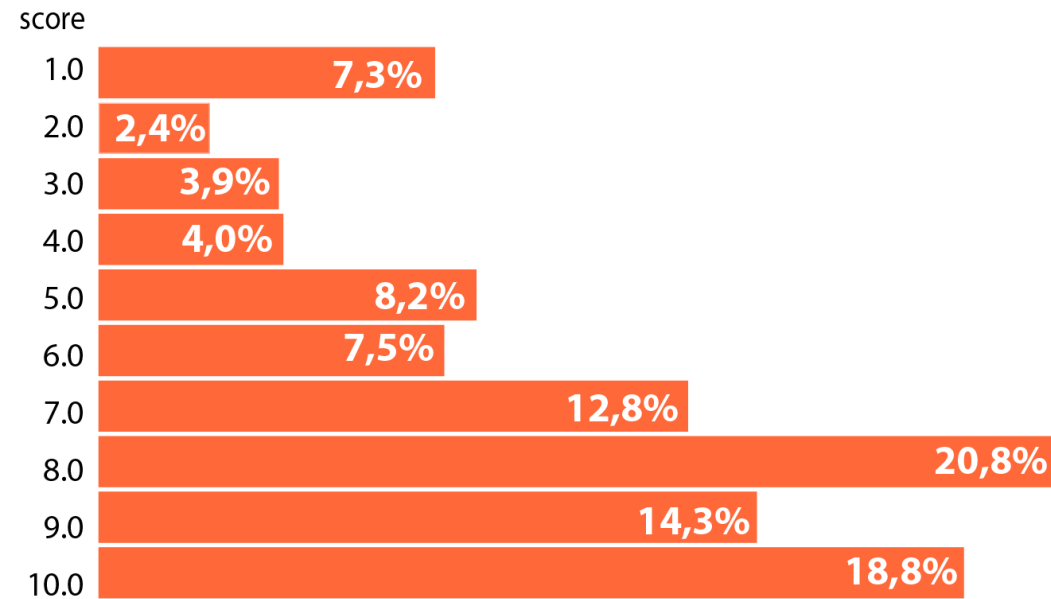


# Profile of respondents





# Profile of respondents



Respondent influence on the recruiting process



Sandrine Dates de la field phase bien avant et partenariat avec Le THE  
Le Top 250 est un modèle et un standart  
Insights – description du top 250 Global

# GLOBAL RESULTS TOP 250

Rank	University	Country	Rank 2022
1	California Institute of Technology	USA	2
2	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	USA	1
3	Stanford University	USA	5
4	University of Cambridge	UK	4
5	Harvard University	USA	3
6	Princeton University	USA	9
7	The University of Tokyo	Japan	7
8	University of Oxford	UK	6
9	National University of Singapore	Singapore	8
10	Yale University	USA	10
11	Imperial College London	UK	16
12	University of Toronto	Canada	11
13	Technical University of Munich	Germany	12
14	Peking University	China	14
15	ETH Zurich	Switzerland	15
16	Columbia University	USA	13
17	New York University	USA	17
18	IE University	Spain	19
19	CentraleSupélec - Paris Saclay University	France	18
20	University of California, Berkeley	USA	21
21	Tsinghua University	China	27
22	HEC Paris	France	23
23	École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne	Switzerland	20
24	London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE)	UK	25
25	Boston University	USA	22
26	Carnegie Mellon University	USA	24
27	Indian Institute of Technology Delhi	India	28
28	Ecole Polytechnique - Institut Polytechnique de Paris	France	33
29	Hong Kong University of Science and Technology	Hong Kong	30
30	Duke University	USA	26

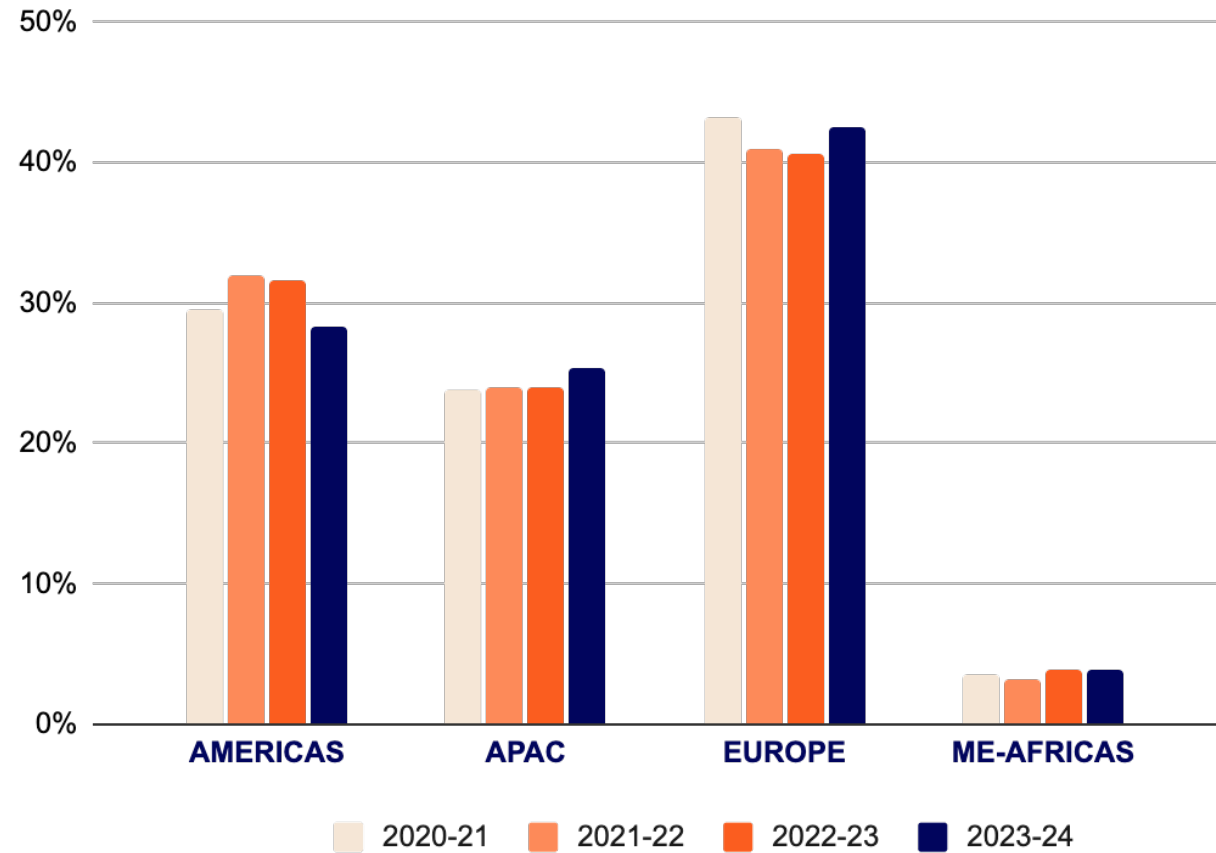
# GLOBAL RESULTS

COUNTRY	NUMBER OF UNIVERSITIES
USA	51
France	19
Germany	19
UK	13
China	13
Canada	11
Australia	9
Japan	9
Switzerland	7
South Korea	7
Netherlands	8
Spain	8
India	9
Sweden	6
Hong Kong	4
Israel	4
Italy	6
Singapore	2
Belgium	3
Denmark	4
Taiwan	3
Mexico	3

COUNTRY	NUMBER OF UNIVERSITIES
Norway	3
Finland	2
Austria	2
Brazil	2
UAE	2
Argentina	2
Saudi Arabia	2
New Zealand	1
Turkey	2
Qatar	1
Lebanon	1
Iceland	1
Chile	1
Ireland	1
South Africa	2
Czech Rep	1
Malaysia	1
Portugal	1
Greece	1
Indonesia	1
Morocco	1
Egypt	1

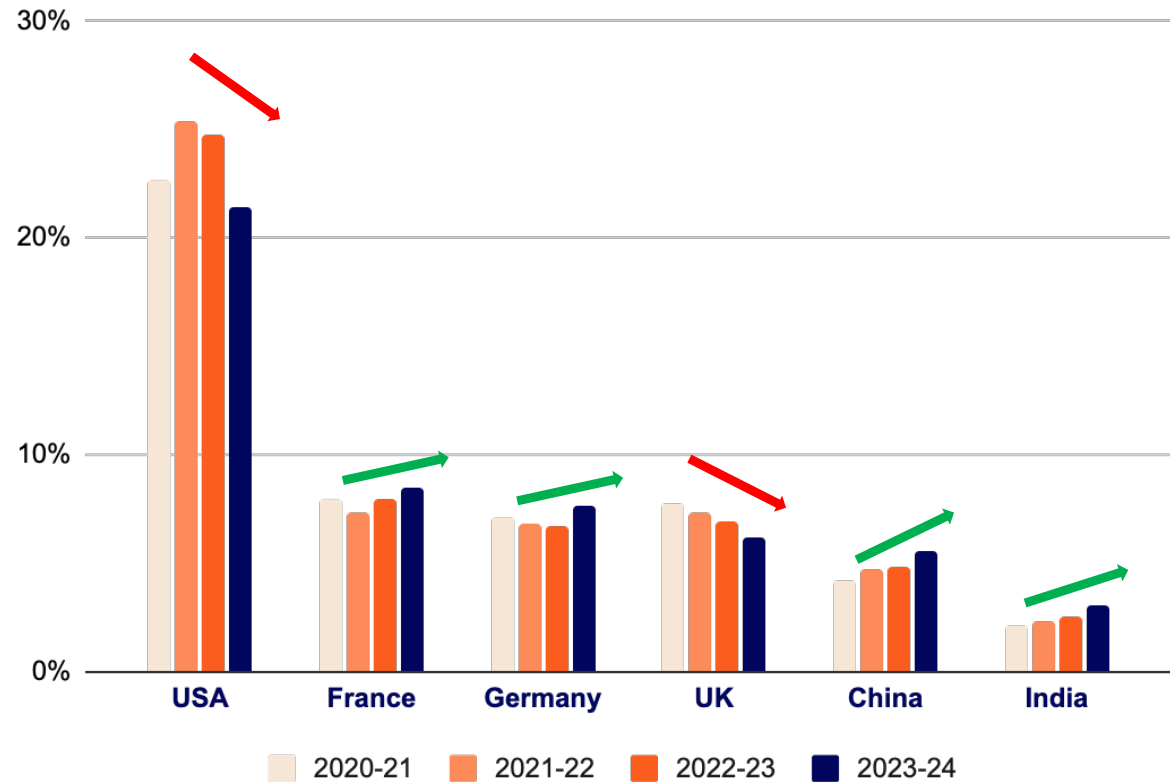
# REGIONAL SHARES

SHARE OF UNIVERSITIES FROM EACH REGION IN THE GEURS RANKING



# COUNTRY SHARES

SHARE OF UNIVERSITIES FROM EACH COUNTRY IN THE GEURS RANKING



# GEURS 2023-24- GERMANY

Rank 2023-24	German University	Prev.
13	Technical University of Munich	12
46	Humboldt University of Berlin	48
53	LMU Munich	54
56	Technical University of Berlin	53
70	Heidelberg University	73
79	Frankfurt School of Finance and Management	82
96	Free University of Berlin	98
101	Karlsruhe Institute of Technology KIT	107
112	University of Hamburg	114
123	Chemnitz University of Technology	127
124	RWTH Aachen University	120
134	Goethe University Frankfurt	140
140	University of Mannheim	141
142	University of Cologne	149
208	University of Bonn	NEW
218	University of Freiburg	NEW
221	Technical University Darmstadt	232
222	Leibniz University Hannover	201
226	Bielefeld University	234

# Germany in top 3 for the 1<sup>st</sup> time

### Greatest Rises 2023-24

**Germany**

China  
France  
India



### Greatest Drops 2023-24

USA  
UK  
Singapore  
Japan

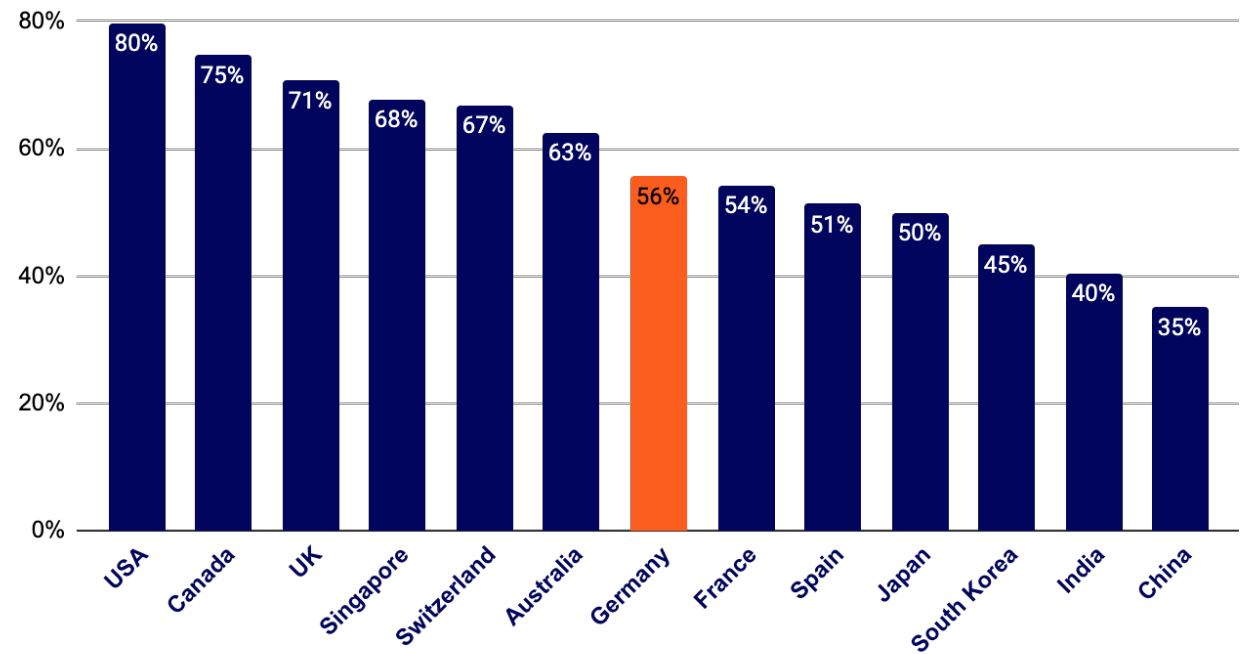


USA  
France  
Germany  
UK  
China  
Canada  
Australia  
Japan  
Switzerland  
South Korea

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
USA	1	1	1	1
France	2	2	2	2
Germany	4	4	4	3
UK	3	3	3	4
China	7	5	5	5
Canada	5	6	6	6
Australia	6	8	8	7
Japan	9	7	7	8
Switzerland	8	9	9	9
South Korea	10	11	11	10

# INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

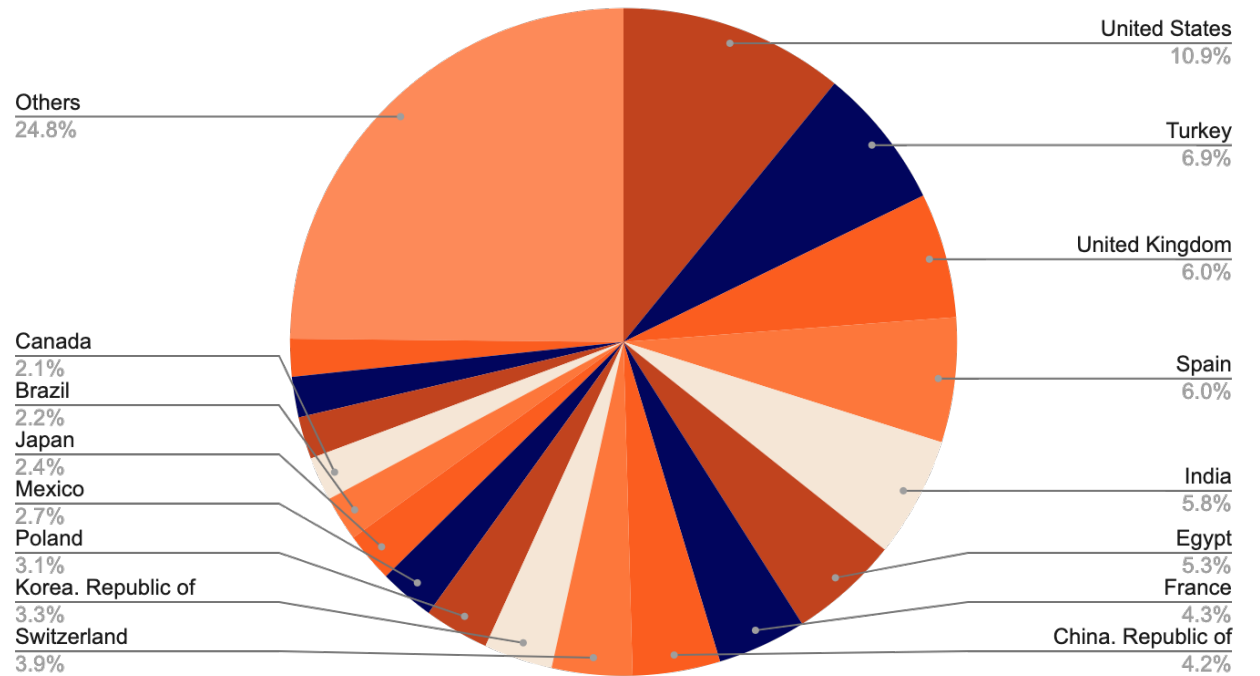
SHARE OF FOREIGN VOTES FOR COUNTRY UNIVERSITIES IN THE GEURS RANKING





# ORIGIN OF VOTES

Origin of foreign votes for German universities



# DRIVERS OF RANKING PERFORMANCE

	USA	France	UK	Germany	China	Switzerland	Belgium	Mexico
<b>Academic performance</b>	<b>1</b>	5	<b>2</b>	5	5	6	4	<b>1</b>
<b>Specialization</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	5	<b>1</b>	4	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Digital performance</b>	<b>3</b>	4	4	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	5	<b>2</b>	5
<b>Internationality</b>	4	6	<b>3</b>	6	6	<b>2</b>	5	<b>3</b>
<b>Focus on work expertise</b>	5	<b>3</b>	6	4	<b>1</b>	4	<b>3</b>	6
<b>Graduate skills</b>	6	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	6	4

# A PROSPECTIVE TOOL

## DRIVERS OF EMPLOYABILITY PERFORMANCE

### GEURS 2024

- 1 Graduate skills\*
- 2 Specialization
- 3 Academic performance
- 4 Focus on work expertise
- 5 Digital performance
- 6 Internationality

GRADUATE SKILLS =  
Soft skills and digital literacy of graduates

### KEY EMPLOYABILITY DRIVERS

GEURS 2024

Universities ranked 1-20

- 1 Graduate skills \*
- 2 Specialization
- 3 Academic performance
- 4 Focus on work expertise
- 5 Digital performance
- 6 Internationality

Universities ranked 21-200

- 1 Graduate skills\*
- 2 Specialization
- 3 Focus on work expertise
- 4 Digital performance
- 5 Academic performance
- 6 Internationality

\* GRADUATE SKILLS = Soft skills and digital skills of graduates

# SKILLS

## The 10 most wanted skills from German recruiters

German rank		Intl. rank		
1	Ability to work in a team	1	-	
2	Logical reasoning	5	+3	More important to German professionals
3	Thoroughness	10	+7	
4	Self-confidence	6	+2	
5	Resisting pressure	16	+11	
6	Resolving conflicts	14	+8	
7	Time management	3	-4	
8	Inspiring trust	4	-4	
9	Cooperative spirit	2	-7	
10	Structured problem solving	7	-3	



**KIM**

**Sector:** Accounting x Finance

**Department:** General Mgt

**Région:** Asia Pacific

### Opinions:

"Universities should introduce digital literacy courses in all curriculums."

"Rapid AI technology progress has created new skill requirements for graduates entering the workplace."

### Recruited profile:

Junior,  
"non technical" roles

### TOP Graduate skills:

1. Ability to work in a team
2. Cooperative spirit
3. Time management
4. Self-awareness and self-management
5. Resolving conflicts

### TOP University selection criteria:

1. Compulsory internships
2. Develop transferable tech skills
3. Work-based learning in the curriculum
4. Quality of teaching staff
5. Support system for career decision making

### Recommendation

Kim needs to find smart, not highly specialized graduates with some professional experience, that can **learn quickly and in an autonomous way from peers**.

She needs universities to prioritize work expertise, **offer internships as a top priority**, and foster interdisciplinary graduate skills related to industry needs.

She has made good experience with internal trainings for upskilling and sees **technology transfer and lifelong learning** as preferred collaboration formats,

# MATT



MATT

**Sector:** SMBs

**Department:** IT / Product

**Region:** European Union

## Opinions:

"Business & management graduates of specialised business schools are better prepared for the workplace than those from universities."

"Universities must find the right balance between broad education and targeted career preparation."

## Recruited profile:

Graduate and Undergraduate roles with specialized knowledge

## TOP Graduate skills:

1. Ability to work in a team
2. Inspiring trust
3. Logical reasoning
4. Cooperative spirit
5. Resolving conflicts

## TOP University selection criteria:

1. Up-to-date technical equipment
2. Knowledge transfer
3. Quality of teaching staff
4. Curricula updates based on industry trends
5. Student admission criteria

## Recommendation

Matt needs **specialized** graduates with a good mix of practical and theoretical knowledge. He looks for **logical minds** that are able to work with others and inspire trust. Beside academical excellence, he also expects from universities to focus on **knowledge transfer** and have a dynamic, "job role related approach" in the development of their curricula. He supports this process by collaborating with universities in **Research and Technology Transfer**.

- **Understand global and local employability challenges to anticipate upcoming market requirements - analyze and benchmark your position on the global higher education market**
- **Learn from the best : analyse your strenghts and weakneses, understand what drives your performance in your sector, local market or on a global scale**
- **Drive change and evaluate the effectiveness of your actions in relation to the objectives - Define your own employability KPI's and follow-up on the effectiveness of your actions.**