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# ASU Projects 18% Drop in International Student Enrollment

By Ashley Mowreader



Arizona State University ranks fourth among four-year colleges and universities in terms of total international students enrolled.

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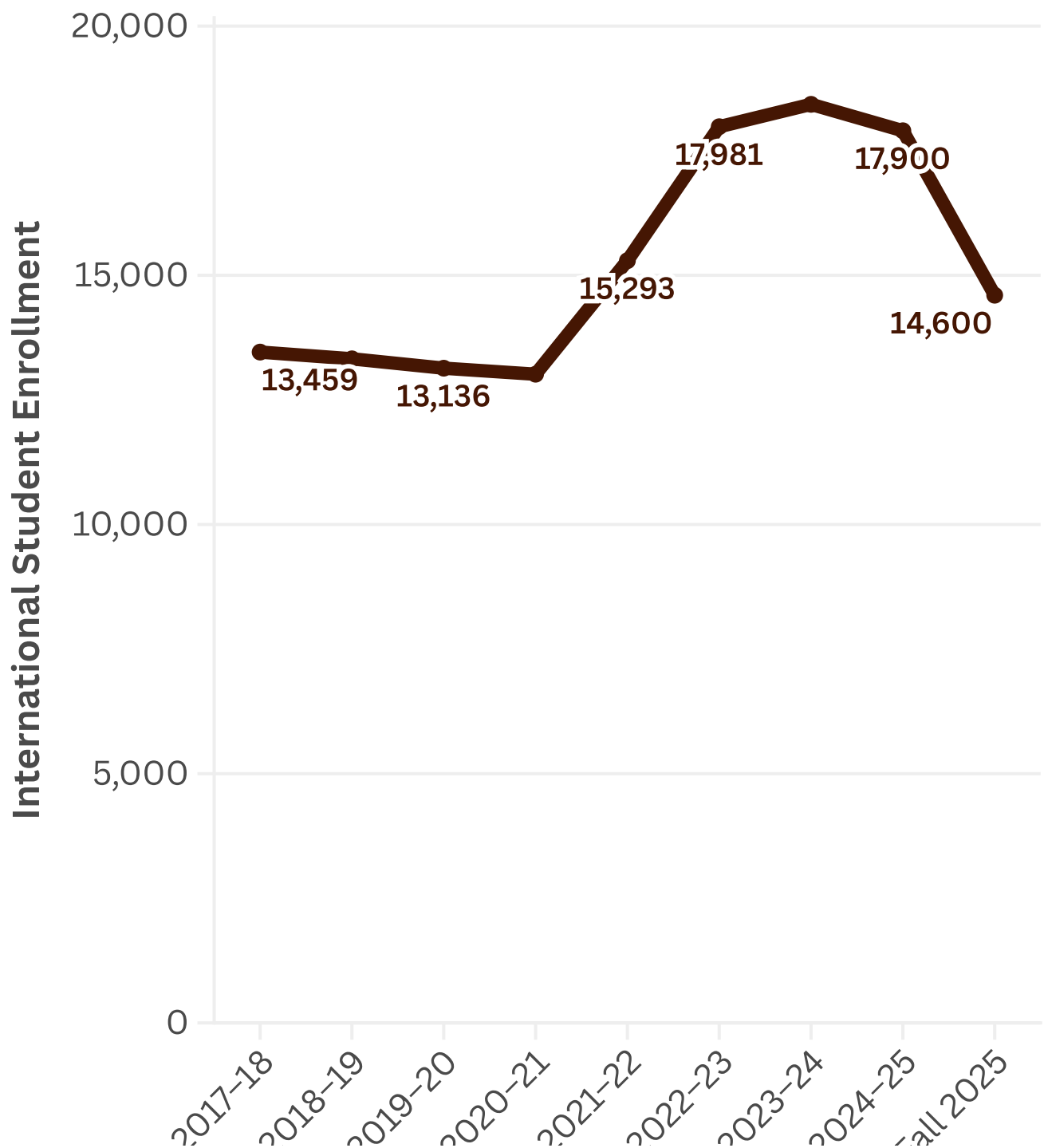
**A**rizona State University typically welcomes over 17,900 international students to its four campuses each year, but this fall, due to a variety of complications, the university

expects only 14,600 international students will attend this fall—an 18 percent drop.

If the projection holds, international students will account for 7.5 percent of ASU's 194,000 students this fall, according to an Aug. 11 news release. In comparison, during the 2023–24 academic year, ASU hosted 18,400 international students, with a total enrollment of 183,000, or more than 10 percent.

# ASU International Student Enrollment Down 18%

Arizona State University says over 1,000 of its incoming international students are waiting on visas, as of early August. The university projects a total fall enrollment of 14,600 international students.



Ashley Mowreader/*Inside Higher Ed*

This graph displays actual and projected international student enrollment. Actual enrollment is provided by Open Doors through 2023–24; 2024–25 data and fall 2025 data is self-reported by ASU in press releases.

\*A Flourish chart

The change is in part due a drop in master's applications from international students, but primarily driven by challenges to visa appointments, according to a university spokesperson.

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ASU's president, Michael Crow, told [Bloomberg](#) that as of early August, 1,000 of the university's incoming international students (just a third of the new cohort of 3,313 students)

were still waiting on their visas. The university is providing several pathways for students unable to make it to campus, including online programs, study abroad, starting later in the semester or enrolling in a partner institution overseas, the spokesperson said.

“We anticipate that our enrollment of international students will continue to grow throughout the year,” said Matt López, deputy vice president of academic enterprise enrollment, said in the university news release. “When students have their visa in hand, we will welcome them with open arms and the classes they need to continue their degree without delay.”

ASU has the largest share of international students in Arizona, providing \$545.1 million in revenue to the state and supporting 5,279 jobs, according to data from NAFSA, the association of international educators.

ASU also ranks fourth among four-year colleges and universities in terms of total international students enrolled, according to 2023–24 OpenDoors data, behind New York University, Northeastern University and Columbia University.

Nationally, international student enrollment is projected to decline by about 15 percent this fall due to federal changes to visa issuance and other actions against international students.

**Written By**

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