
Record Enrollment of Foreign Students in U.S.

Paced by record numbers of Asian students, the United States' foreign-student population grew 1.7 percent in the 1986/87 academic year, to a new high of 349,609, according to figures released by the Institute of International Education.

Students from South and Southeast Asia continue to represent the largest and fastest-growing segment of the foreign student population. The overall increase of 1.7 percent is overshadowed by an increase of 8.8 percent in students from South and Southeast Asia. A total of 170,700 of these students enrolled in U.S. colleges and universities this year, as IIE's *Open Doors* publication of foreign student statistics shows.

The People's Republic of China, for the second straight year, showed the largest

rate of increase, up 43.3 percent to 20,030 students. The largest group (25,660) came from Taiwan. Malaysia was second with 21,640, and China was third. The growth in Asian student enrollment contrasts with declining representation from developing nations in Africa, Latin America, and the Middle East.

Over 75 percent of foreign students received primary funding for their educations from sources outside the United States, the IIE study shows.

Copies of *Open Doors*, a 150-page statistical report with explanatory text, are available from IIE. Send a check or money order for \$29.95 to the Institute of International Education, Publications Service, 809 United Nations Plaza, New York, NY 10017.