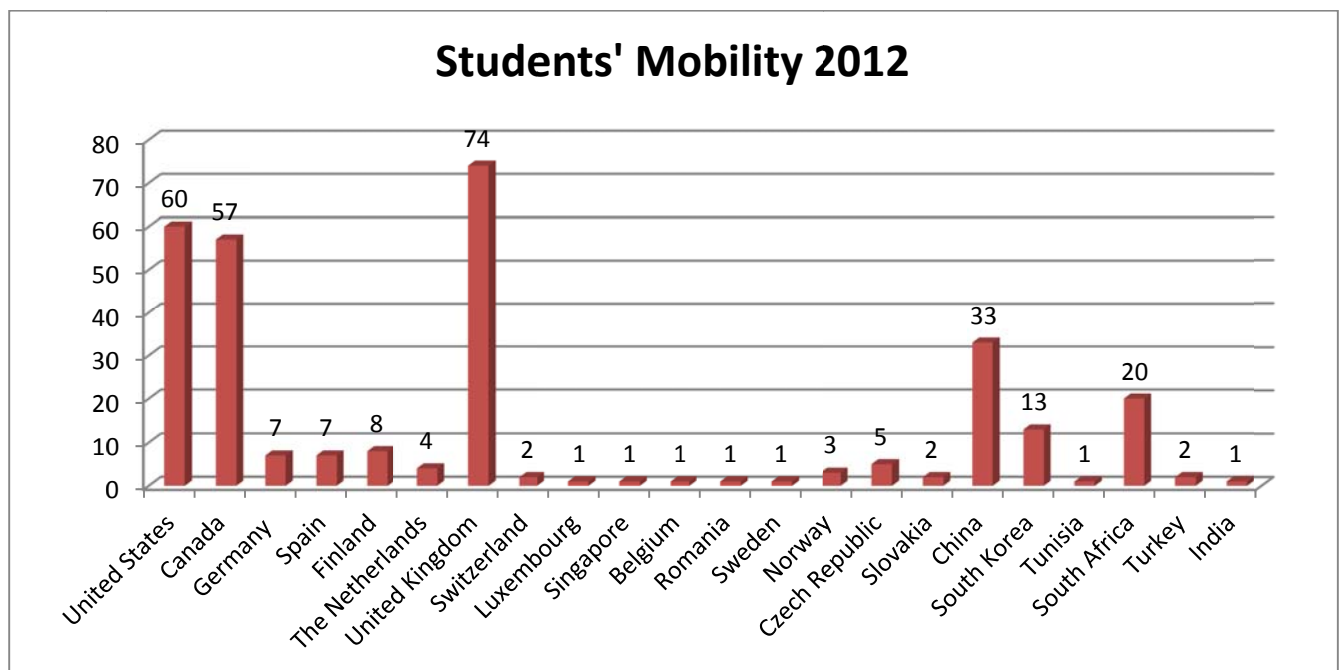


EPITA 2012 Students' International Mobility Report

Each year, EPITA sends a great part of its **students abroad**. As we have been pursuing a policy of **internationalization** for several years, the number of students studying abroad for a semester keeps growing.

This year, a total of 304 EPITA's students went abroad for an academic experience or to follow an internship. We are also developing the number of **dual degree programs** to offer our graduates with possibility of getting a Master in parallel of their Engineering Degree.

As it appears below, the destinations are diversified with more than **twenty different countries**. We notice that English speaking countries are particularly favored (ex: the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom).



Total of students abroad in 2012: 304

Academic semester:

> 192 undergraduates

> 35 graduates

---> 10 Dual Degree program

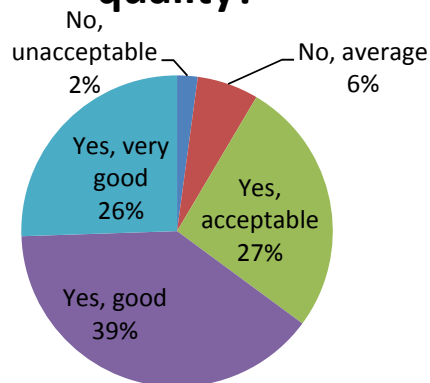
Internship:

> 77 students

--> 12 undergraduates

--> 55 graduates

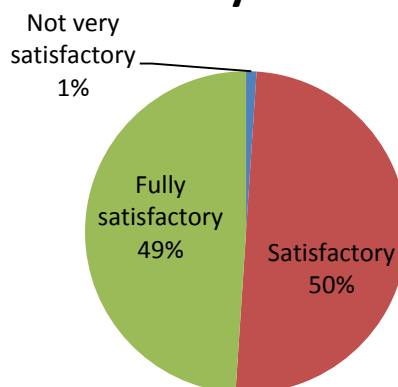
Is on-campus housing of good quality?



Our students generally live on campus and they are in the majority satisfied about the living conditions. About 80% of them share accommodation with other students, and half of them share it with local and international students. It permits a **stronger immersion in the country** and in a multicultural context.

The **cultural shock is necessary** and is part of the experience. Nevertheless it is softened thanks to the work of the international office in the universities that receive the students, and the support of the local teachers. Indeed, **almost all Epiteans are satisfied with the welcome they received** in the host institution and they easily overcome the difficulties that they face.

The welcome you received at university has been



Testimonies:

Canada:

I will keep very good memories of this past semester in Quebec at the University of Quebec at Chicoutimi. The locals are very open and welcoming. The university took good care of us when we arrived, even with a meeting organized specifically for Epiteans! I am staying in a dorm room. The apartments are well, and I was lucky enough to have **good roommates**. I found the curriculum rather simple. The pace of work is not very strong, which gives us the time to work our materials while having a lot of free time. The area is nice to be discovered, and the University occasionally organizes trips (walking, snowshoeing, skiing, etc.). In conclusion, I would urge the next year Spe (1st year of EPITA's 5-year Engineering degree program) students to go there!

China :

The experience I live here is quite unexpected, surprising and enjoyable. Indeed, at the beginning this country gave me the impression of having no good sides, as it required time to adapt to the climate and because I got sick. However, I passed it, and I got used gradually to the climate and lifestyle [...]. People are pleasantly interesting and above all interested in us. Everyone speaks to us, questions, wants to get acquainted. Here is a different mentality, and it's different from all other countries where I went. **They are FRIENDLY!** Vibrant, joyful, loving, helpful, there would be so many words to define them. All this means that every day is a new day, we are not in a daily routine even after having lived half of our stay here. Each day is made new friends, new knowledge, and new visitors. The urge to move on and learn about this country is even stronger than the population leads us to do so by their mentality. In a word: Unforgettable. I think it will describe the journey that I experienced.

South Korea :

Upon landing, we all felt very welcome. I had the opportunity to meet other international students at the airport. Once in college, I could sit in my room, and there has been a briefing and orientation the next day. We had to complete all necessary paperwork for registration but we had all the information we needed to live here peacefully. For any questions or concerns, you can go to the International Office. We started classes the following week. The courses are very good, very interesting and all in English. **The food, my room, classes, Seoul: everything is to my liking and I'm very happy!** The Koreans, meanwhile, are very warm, very hospitable, and quite surprising! Korean culture is even stranger than I had hoped. My desire of culture shock is fulfilled, and I discover every day. In short, life in Seoul is a rewarding and unique experience...

Ireland:

I was a little nervous to leave for four months overseas first because of the language, I was afraid to be lost but all in all **the Irish are very friendly**, I have no problem speak or understand. The

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accommodations are nice. An organization within the university offers us plenty of activities (sports, outings etc..) which is really interesting. Teachers do not use "complicated" words to do their course so I can easily understand. I am very pleased to have this opportunity as part of my studies.

USA:

My first impression upon entering the territory was good with a very smiling and friendly customs. Then the welcome we had received at university was great (we were all students of MET together for three days), sharing meals and discovering the university. **Boston is a young student city**, as if it was designed for us so as we lacked nothing, between the dining halls, libraries, student living areas (including BU Central, <http://bucentral.wordpress.com/>), the disproportionate sports center.. Everything is organized for us, students. Then the classes started and having a preference for the local teaching methods, I adapted very quickly. We follow the course of the evening with American of all ages who are seeking new skills, the young graduate who works and the senior who is retired. This is probably where we get this strange feeling on the level, the teacher must adapt to each person, often with different paths (and thus knowledge). Concerning the exploration of the country, I have visited much of Boston during the winter, I went a week in New York for spring break, and I still have many things to see outside of Boston. A very good experience!

South Africa:

I was told that South Africa was a beautiful destination and I confirm this fact! As soon as we arrived we were very well supported by our local officials (transportation from the airport to the university, presenting places and habits of students, etc ...). The accommodation is good, you feel at home very quickly. The landscape is also very beautiful: see the mountains every morning is not given to everyone! For courses, it's a bit hard (language change) but if you work properly it is not an issue. Outings the weekend are very good (discos, bars) and this can lead to great encounters. It's very secure [...] Life is not expensive at all, whether for shopping or for outings. In short, for now I am totally satisfied with my stay. It is sad to think that we have already enjoyed half of the semester...

England:

This trip allows us to integrate into a system of study other than the French system. We follow the same curriculum as in France, but working methods are very different in England. We have much less face-to-face courses, and many "free" time dedicated to increasing knowledge and extracurricular activities. The central position of the city in England is ideal to immerse ourselves in the English culture and visit the surrounding cities. Stafford is a fairly small town; however it is more convenient to organize our week course in this "atmosphere". **I am especially touched by the friendliness of the people in general, so my host family, teachers and bystanders.**

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