Study Abroad and Vaccine Coverage

Rachel Banks, MPIA
Senior Director, Public Policy & Legislative Strategy
NAFSA: Association of International Educators

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U.S. Overseas Travel Rebounding

• In 2023, 41 million traveled overseas (up 31.5% over 2022)
  Source: U.S. Department of Commerce National Travel and Tourism Office; excludes Canada and Mexico

• In academic year (AY) 2021-22, nearly 189,000 U.S. college students studied abroad for credit
  Source: Open Doors 2023 Report, Institute of International Education and U.S. Department of State
  ▪ Recovering from COVID-19 pandemic; 54% of peak total (347,000 in AY 2018-19)
In 2021/22, the total number of U.S. students who studied abroad for academic credit increased to 188,753 students, a nearly 13-fold increase of 1,197%.
LEADING DESTINATIONS OF U.S. STUDY ABROAD STUDENTS, 2021/22

Europe hosted 73% of all U.S. students who studied abroad.

Source: The Open Doors Report on International Educational Exchange is a comprehensive information resource on international students and scholars at higher education institutions in the United States and U.S. students studying abroad. It is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. Government and is published by IIE. For more information, visit www.opendoorsdata.org.
Top Destinations Outside Europe (AY 2021-22)

- Costa Rica (#7)
- South Korea (#10)
- Mexico (#11)
- Israel (#12)
- Ecuador (#14)

- South Africa (#18)
- Peru (#20)
- United Arab Emirates (#22)
- Argentina (#23)
- Belize (#25)

Pre-pandemic: Australia, China, Japan, New Zealand, India
Study Abroad: Health and Safety

• U.S. colleges and universities play an important role in ensuring the health and safety of students traveling abroad
• Want more U.S. students to study abroad prior to graduation and in more destinations outside of Europe (a NAFSA advocacy priority)
• Added vaccine cost burden can discourage students from choosing study abroad or certain destinations
Example: Ghana

- Pre-pandemic (AY 2018-19): 2,000+ U.S. students
  - Africa: #2 destination behind South Africa
  - Yellow Fever vaccine required for entry (among others); on ACIP list of recommended vaccines
  - Cost: ~$200
- Covering vaccine costs will help increase access to and equity in study abroad