

# International students in Turkey: A Survey-Based Exploration of Motivations, Expectations, and Satisfaction

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## Start of Block: Introduction

1.1 Welcome to our survey on the motivations behind international students' tendency to study abroad. Your participation in this survey is greatly appreciated and will help us better understand the factors that drive international students to choose to study abroad. Your responses will be kept confidential and will only be used for research purposes. Thank you for taking the time to share your insights.

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1.2 1.1 I am/was an international student at a Turkish university.

☐ Yes (1)

☐ No (2)

*Skip To: End of Survey If 1.1 I am/was an international student at a Turkish university. = No*

## End of Block: Introduction

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## Start of Block: General Information

### 2.1 2. General Information

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2.2 2.1 What is your country of citizenship?

▼ Afghanistan (1) ... Zimbabwe (1357)

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2.3 **2.2** Do you have dual citizenship?

☐ Yes (1)

☐ No (2)

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*Display This Question:*

*If 2.2 Do you have dual citizenship? = Yes*



2.4 **2.3** If yes, What is your secondary citizenship?

▼ Afghanistan (1) ... Zimbabwe (1357)

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2.5 **2.4** How old are you?

▼ 16 (1) ... 40 or above (47)

2.6 **2.5** How do you identify yourself?

- ☐ Male (1)
- ☐ Female (2)
- ☐ Non-binary (3)
- ☐ Other (6)

2.7 **2.6** What is your current marital status?

- ☐ Married (1)
- ☐ Living with a partner (2)
- ☐ Widowed (3)
- ☐ Divorced/Separated (4)
- ☐ Never been married (5)

2.8 **2.7** What is your level of education?

- ☐ Undergraduate (1)
- ☐ Graduate (2)
- ☐ PHD (3)
- ☐ Diploma, technical qualification (4)
- ☐ If other please specify (5)
- 

2.9 **2.8** Please name your college/university

▼ Abant Izzet Baysal University (1) ... Zonguldak Bulent Ecevit University (131)

2.10 **2.9** When did you begin your program?

Semester (1)

Year (14)

▼ Fall (1) ... Spring ~ 2022 (48)

2.11 **2.10** What is your major?

▼ Accounting (1) ... Visual And Performing Arts (172)

2.12 **2.11** Do you work a part-time job during your study in Turkey?

- ☐ Yes (1)
- ☐ No (2)
-

*Display This Question:*

*If 2.11 Do you work a part-time job during your study in Turkey? = Yes*

2.13 **2.12** If yes, how many hours do you work per week?

- ☐ Less than 8 hours (1)
- ☐ 8 to 20 hours (2)
- ☐ More than 20 hours (3)

**End of Block: General Information**

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**Start of Block: School Experience**

### 3.1 **3. School Experience**

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3.2 **3.1** What type of school did you attend?

- ☐ A public school (1)
  - ☐ A fee paying school (2)
  - ☐ An international school (3)
  - ☐ A grammar school (4)
  - ☐ If other please specify (5)
- 

3.3 **3.2** Aside from your native language, did you learn other languages at school?

- ☐ Yes (1)
  - ☐ No (2)
-

*Display This Question:*

*If 3.2 Aside from your native language, did you learn other languages at school? = Yes*

**3.4 3.3** If yes, please specify which language(s) and the level of command.

	Fluent (1)	Advanced (2)	Intermediate (5)	Basic (6)	Novice (7)
First language (1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Second language (2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Third language (3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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3.5 **3.4** Did the staff of your school provide information about opportunities to study abroad?

- ☐ Yes, information and guidance about how to apply (1)
- ☐ Yes, but no help with applying (2)
- ☐ No information was given (3)
- ☐ No, and they discouraged me from studying abroad (4)

End of Block: School Experience

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Start of Block: Exchange

#### 4.1 **4. Exchange Programs**

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4.2 **4.1** Did you come to Turkey as an exchange student?

- ☐ Yes (1)
  - ☐ No (2)
- 

*Display This Question:*

*If 4.1 Did you come to Turkey as an exchange student? = Yes*

4.3 **4.2** Through which exchange program did you come to Turkey?

- ☐ Erasmus program (1)
  - ☐ Overseas Exchange Program (4)
  - ☐ Mevlana Exchange Program (5)
  - ☐ Short-Term Doctoral Mobility (6)
  - ☐ If other please specify (7)
-

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*Display This Question:*

*If 4.1 Did you come to Turkey as an exchange student? = Yes*

**4.4 4.3** How many semesters did you stay at the host institution?

▼ 1 (1) ... 4 (6)

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*Display This Question:*

*If 4.1 Did you come to Turkey as an exchange student? = Yes*

**4.5 4.4** Would you encourage others to apply for exchange program in turkey?

☐ Yes (1)

☐ No (2)

**End of Block: Exchange**

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**Start of Block: Studying Abroad Decision**

**5.1 5. Studying Abroad Decision**

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*Display This Question:*

*If 4.1 Did you come to Turkey as an exchange student? = No*

**5.2 5.1** Would you have studied in your country if the university you preferred accepted you?

☐ Yes (1)

☐ No (2)

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*Display This Question:*

*If 4.1 Did you come to Turkey as an exchange student? = No*



5.3 **5.2** Did the limited number of study programs in your major at home impact your decision to study abroad?

☐ Yes (1)

☐ No (2)

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*Display This Question:*

*If 4.1 Did you come to Turkey as an exchange student? = No*

5.4 **5.3** Was Turkey your first choice to study abroad?

☐ Yes (1)

☐ No (2)

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*Display This Question:*

*If 5.3 Was Turkey your first choice to study abroad? = No*

*And 4.1 Did you come to Turkey as an exchange student? = No*

5.5 **5.4** If you did not choose Turkey as your first study abroad destination, which country did you originally choose?

- ☐ United Kingdom (1)
  - ☐ United States (2)
  - ☐ Canada (3)
  - ☐ Australia (4)
  - ☐ France (5)
  - ☐ Germany (6)
  - ☐ Spain (7)
  - ☐ Italy (8)
  - ☐ China (9)
  - ☐ Japan (10)
  - ☐ South Korea (11)
  - ☐ Sweden (12)
  - ☐ Denmark (13)
  - ☐ Netherlands (14)
  - ☐ Ireland (15)
  - ☐ New Zealand (16)
  - ☐ India (17)
  - ☐ Singapore (18)
  - ☐ Argentina (19)
  - ☐ If other please specify (20)
-

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*Display This Question:*

*If 5.3 Was Turkey your first choice to study abroad? = No*

*And 4.1 Did you come to Turkey as an exchange student? = No*

**5.6 5.5** What were the reasons you did not study in your first choice country?

	Yes (1)	No (2)
Financial reasons (1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Difficulty obtaining a visa (2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Family permission (3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Did not get accepted to desired university. (4)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
If others please specify (5)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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*Display This Question:*

*If 4.1 Did you come to Turkey as an exchange student? = No*

**5.7 5.6** Did your current university (in Turkey) grant you a scholarship?

☐ Yes (1)

☐ No (2)

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*Display This Question:*

*If 5.6 Did your current university (in Turkey) grant you a scholarship? = Yes*

5.8 **5.7** If yes, was this important in your decision of where to study?

☐ Yes (1)

☐ No (2)

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5.9 **5.8** What were your main reasons to study in Turkey?

	Very important (1)	Moderately important (2)	Not important (3)
I saw it as an opportunity to explore other cultures (1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I wanted to internationalize myself (2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I found Turkey economically affordable (3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My family was keen of Turkey's Islamic culture (4)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
If others please specify (5)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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5.10 **5.9** What factors concerned you (before moving) to study in Turkey?

	Very important (1)	Moderately important (3)	Not important (4)
Difficulty with the language (1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Wary to live in another country (2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Concerned to leave family (3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Concerned to get visa (4)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Not enough financial means to study abroad (5)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
If others (please specify) (6)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5.11 **5.10** Would you like to live abroad after your studies?

- ☐ Yes (1)
- ☐ Maybe (2)
- ☐ No (3)

*Display This Question:*

*If 5.10 Would you like to live abroad after your studies? = Yes*

5.12 **5.11** If yes, where would you like to live(a), and what career path would you want to pursue(b)?

☐ a) Country (1) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ b) Career (2) \_\_\_\_\_

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*Display This Question:*

*If 4.1 Did you come to Turkey as an exchange student? = No*

5.13 **5.12** Do you intend to return to your country after graduation?

☐ I intend to return (1)

☐ I do not intend to return (2)

☐ I would return after a period of work (3)

☐ Undecided (4)

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5.14 **5.13** Have you traveled to Turkey before starting university?

☐ Yes (1)

☐ No (2)

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*Display This Question:*

*If 5.13 Have you traveled to Turkey before starting university? = Yes*

5.15 **5.14** If yes, how many times did you travel to Turkey?

\_\_\_\_\_

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**End of Block: Studying Abroad Decision**

**Start of Block: Personal Reasons**

## 6.1 6. Personal Reasons

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*Display This Question:*

*If 4.1 Did you come to Turkey as an exchange student? = No*

6.2 6.1 Did you need financial aid to study abroad?

☐ Yes (1)

☐ No (2)

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6.3 6.2 Which funding options are available to you? (Tick any that apply):

☐

Family (1)

☐

Government grant (2)

☐

Private loans (3)

☐

Scholarship (4)

☐

Personal savings (6)

☐

Other (Please Specify) (5)

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6.4 6.3 Do you consider your study abroad as an adventure in a new country?

☐ Yes (1)

☐ No (2)

End of Block: Personal Reasons

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Start of Block: Recommendations

## 7.1 7. Recommendations

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7.2 7.1 Did any of your family members advise you to study abroad?

☐ Yes (1)

☐ No (2)

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*Display This Question:*

*If 7.1 Did any of your family members advise you to study abroad? = Yes*

7.3 7.2 If yes, from which family member did you receive such advice? (Tick any that apply)

☐

Father (1)

☐

Mother (2)

☐

Brother (3)

☐

Sister (4)

☐

Cousin(s) (5)

☐

Aunt/Uncle (6)

☐

Spouse (7)

☐

Grandparent(s) (8)

☐

If other please specify (9)

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7.4 **7.3** Did any of your friends advise you to study abroad?

☐ Yes (1)

☐ No (2)

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*Display This Question:*

*If 7.3 Did any of your friends advise you to study abroad? = Yes*

7.5 **7.4** If yes, how close were you to the friend who gave you the advice?

- ☐ Not at all close (1)
  - ☐ Somewhat close (2)
  - ☐ Neutral (3)
  - ☐ Very close (4)
  - ☐ Extremely close (5)
- 

7.6 **7.5** Did anyone besides your friends and family recommend that you study abroad?

- ☐ Yes (1)
  - ☐ No (2)
- 

*Display This Question:*

*If 7.5 Did anyone besides your friends and family recommend that you study abroad? = Yes*

7.7 **7.6** If yes, who was it from? (Tick any that apply)

- ☐ Teacher (1)
  - ☐ Advisor (2)
  - ☐ Partner (3)
  - ☐ If other please specify (4)
- 

End of Block: Recommendations

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Start of Block: Experience Abroad

## 8.1 8. Experience Abroad

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8.2 8.1 How many times did you return to your country during your last academic year?

- ☐ Never (1)
  - ☐ Once (2)
  - ☐ Twice (3)
  - ☐ More than two times (4)
- 

8.3 8.2 Aside from family members, do you keep in contact with friends?

- ☐ Yes (1)
  - ☐ No (2)
- 

*Display This Question:*

*If 8.2 Aside from family members, do you keep in contact with friends? = Yes*

8.4 8.3 If yes, how many friends have you contacted last week?

- ☐ None (4)
  - ☐ 1-5 (5)
  - ☐ 6-10 (6)
  - ☐ 11-15 (7)
  - ☐ 16 or more (8)
-

8.5 **8.4** Regarding your social life, which statement is correct?

	Always (37)	Most of the time (38)	About half the time (39)	Sometimes (40)	Never (41)
I mostly socialize with Turkish people (1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I mainly socialize with people from home country (2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I generally socialize with other foreign students (Not including Turkish or home country) (3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**8.6 8.5** How would you scale the following problems while studying in Turkey?

	Always problematic (1)	Sometimes problematic (2)	Not problematic (3)	Not applicable (6)
Turkish language (1)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Financial barriers (2)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Getting internships/jobs (3)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Quality of teaching (4)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Being far from parents (5)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Health services (6)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
If others please specify (7)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**8.7 8.6** Are you satisfied with your overall experience in Turkey?

- ☐ Extremely satisfied (1)
- ☐ Somewhat satisfied (2)
- ☐ Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied (3)
- ☐ Somewhat dissatisfied (4)
- ☐ Extremely dissatisfied (5)

End of Block: Experience Abroad

Start of Block: Closing

9.1 We would like to conduct follow-up interviews with a small number of students who have studied abroad. If you are interested in participating, please provide your e-mail address information below:

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End of Block: Closing

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