

# Global Visa Difficulty Index for International Students (2026)

Comparative analysis of entry barriers across major destination countries

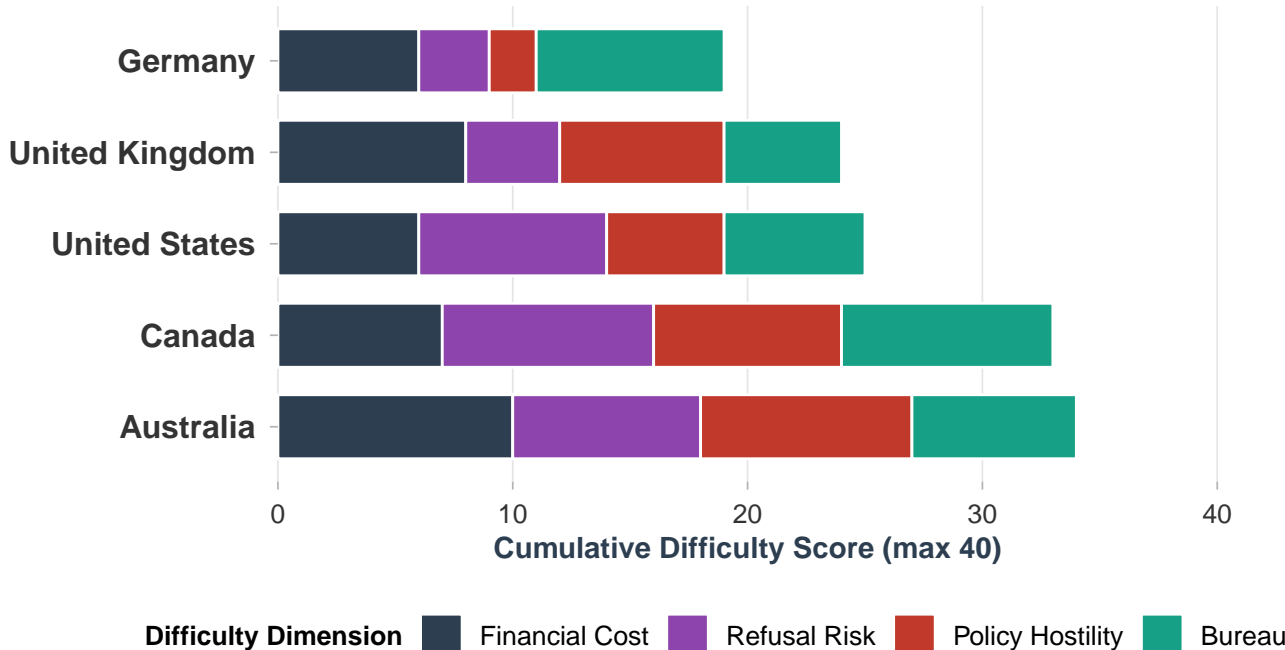
## International Student Visa Difficulty Index (2026)

Barrier to entry scores by country and dimension (1 = easy, 10 = very difficult)



## Visa Difficulty Breakdown by Component

Contribution of each barrier dimension to overall difficulty



Sources: Home Affairs Australia, IRCC Canada, UKVI, US State Department, German Federal Foreign Office, Japanese Immigration Bureau (January 2026).  
Financial Cost includes visa fees and mandatory financial proof requirements. Refusal Risk based on published rejection rates.  
Policy Hostility reflects caps, dependent restrictions, and interview requirements. Bureaucracy measures paperwork complexity and processing times.

Each dimension scored 1–10. Higher scores indicate greater difficulty.  
Sources: Official government immigration sources, January 2026.

Left: Individual dimension scores (1–10). Right: Cumulative barrier profile.

Dimensions: Financial Cost (visa fees + funds), Refusal Risk (rejection rates), Policy Hostility (caps, dependent bans), Bureaucracy (paperwork complexity).

Sources: Home Affairs Australia, IRCC Canada, UKVI, US State Dept, German Federal Foreign Office (January 2026).