



ISSUE 1 | MAY 2020

## HOW HAS THE CORNAVIRUS AFFECTED THE (STUDY) PLANS OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS?

**Fintiba GmbH**  
Baseler Straße 35-37  
60329 Frankfurt am Main

**Contact**  
+49 69 204 3426 20  
info@fintiba.com

**Online**  
www.fintiba.com  
@fintiba

---

# KEY FACTS

- The study plans of almost every student who participated in the survey were affected by the corona situation.
- Most international students still want to study in Germany. Almost three quarters (74%) say that it is very or even extremely likely that they will come to Germany.
- Many participants expressed the concern that they are uncertain about the admission of international students to the universities for the coming winter semester.
- A great part of the students lack support and information about visa procedures and information on measures of universities.

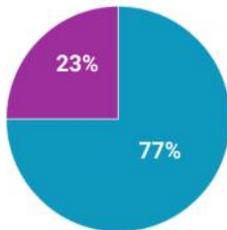
---

# APPROACH

In the period from the 22nd April to the 12th May we asked international students how they are affected by the coronavirus. A total of 350 students from 66 different countries helped to provide insights into the current situation.

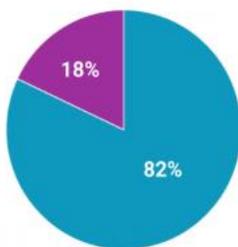
# RESULTS

## Are you currently in Germany?



- Not yet in Germany, but want to study there
- Already in Germany, studying or planning to study

## Has the coronavirus affected your plans to study in Germany?



- Yes, my plans are affected
- No, my plans are not affected

## In what way has the coronavirus affected your plans?

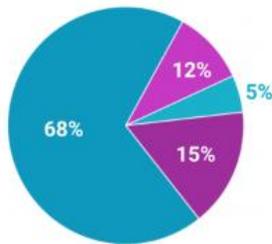


The purpose of the survey was to find out if and how the current corona situation influences the study plans of international students. It was of interest to find out to what extent the students still plan to study in Germany in order to draw conclusions for the future international educational landscape of Germany.

Due to the international travel ban issued on March 17, many international students who wanted to begin their studies in the summer semester 2020 (semester start: April 1) were no longer able to travel to Germany.

The survey revealed that more than three-quarters of the students who would like to study in Germany are currently still abroad. Only 23% were able to enter Germany earlier and are already studying or plan to start their studies soon. According to the survey results, 82% of the study candidates are affected by the coronavirus pandemic. The travel ban was the most frequently mentioned reason for this. Other causes were also that many students have difficulties receiving their visa (30%), as the German embassies are currently not operating. Others face hurdles by delayed entrance examinations (11%).

### How have your plans changed in response to the coronavirus?



- Do not plan to cancel their plans
- Plan to cancel their study plans
- Intend to postpone their studies
- Other

### How likely is it for you to still come to Germany?



- Very/Extremely likely
- Somewhat/slightly likely
- Not at all likely

Most of the students had to either cancel or currently postpone their trip to Germany due to the international travel ban (46%). Nevertheless, students are still optimistic and confident about their future, with 68% having plans to come to Germany as soon as possible. Almost three quarters (74%) perceive it to be very or even extremely likely that they will still come to Germany. Only 5% of the prospective students are planning to cancel their studies in Germany or only to cancel their trip in order to study online now. About 15% of the students had to postpone their studies abroad with the intention to resume their study plans at a later date.

### How satisfied are you with the support from your university?



Most students are satisfied with the information provided by the universities. However, some still feel a lack of support and information.

# SUMMARY

## Current Need For Support

Furthermore, in the study students have been asked to provide information on which topics they need more support in the current situation. Corresponding to the main barriers currently experienced, most students require more information and updates on current visa regulations, university procedures and travel restrictions. They would like to be updated on recent changes and about their next possibility to come to Germany.

## Summary

The current uncertainty students have about studying in Germany is mainly fuelled by the temporary travel restrictions introduced by the government. Many students are uncertain about the acceptance of international students in Germany after the corona situation. However, we found that while students feel a high degree of uncertainty, the majority are not rushing to cancel their plans.

The results from the survey indicate that the students are waiting to see how the future events unfold as they still have plans to travel to Germany once the COVID-19 crisis is over. However, most of the students do not intend to be deterred from their study plans and aim to come to Germany as soon as it is possible again. The few students who no longer wanted to come to Germany indicated their reasons that they would continue their studies in their home country was that they lack financial means, or that they were uncertain how the corona pandemic situation would develop.

It can therefore be summarized that despite the current corona pandemic, the interest in studying in Germany is still very high and Germany continues to be a popular study destination for students. Universities, authorities and other institutions involved in the process can therefore breathe a sigh of relief and can already get ready for the increased number of international students that will soon come.

# ABOUT FINTIBA

Fintiba is located in the heart of Frankfurt am Main in Germany. Founded in 2016, we are offering innovative tailor-made online solutions for international students and other groups who want to work or study in Germany. The developed solutions are built together with premium partners to always fulfil the needs of international students. Everything is integrated and settled online in the innovative Fintiba App.

We support students from over 170 different countries with a team composed of people from 17 different nationalities all around the globe. With everything we do we strive to become the first point of contact and trusted partner for everyone who wants to study in Germany.

