

Market Intelligence Brief

EGYPT

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INTERNATIONAL
EDUCATION
SERVICES

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1. AT A GLANCE



Market background

- Egypt's population reached 100 million people in early 2020. It has the largest population of MENA countries and it is expected to continue to grow for the foreseeable future. In 2017, people under the age of 30 accounted for 61 per cent of the total.
- Egypt has seen strong annual GDP growth in the more than three decades since its transition from a socialist economy to a free market economy in the 1970s. In 2019 annual growth was 5.6 per cent, its fastest growth since the 2008 global financial crisis. The Covid-19 pandemic is expected to dampen this trend, with the IMF projecting just 2 per cent growth in 2020.
- Egypt's economy is driven by services and tourism. The government is looking to boost macroeconomic performance and ensure sustainable, inclusive future growth that will reduce the youth unemployment rate (estimated at 31 per cent in 2019).



Local education trends

- Rapid population growth has put pressure on the education system as demand outpaces supply. In 2018/19 there were over 22 million students in pre-tertiary education, 89 per cent of whom were enrolled in public schools. Enrolment in higher education has risen by 50 per cent since 2010, reaching 3.1 million students in 2019. Private universities account for just 10 per cent of total university enrolments.
- Education is one of ten key pillars in the government's 2016 Strategic Vision to 2030. The initiative strives to create a high-quality education system at all levels within an efficient, sustainable and flexible institutional framework. Egypt is also working with the World Bank on a reform project that aims to reform the current education system to competency-based curriculum that will produce graduates for the labour market of the future, increase capacity and boost technology for digital learning and resources.
- Egypt has a complex TVET system partially modelled on the German dual track structure. Egyptian vocational education has come under fire from critics for not adequately preparing graduates for work and in June 2018, the Ministry of Education and Technical Education signed agreements with private firms to start an 'Egypt Makers Initiative' to improve the quality of vocational education.



International education

- Since the 2011 revolution, the rate of outbound study has increased drastically. According to UNESCO, nearly 35,000 Egyptian students went abroad in 2017, a 216 per cent increase in a decade. The lacking domestic capacity to accommodate the rapidly growing student population plus the poor quality of local degrees has pushed more Egyptians to study overseas.
- Egyptian enrolments in UK HEIs have nearly doubled from 1,615 in 2008/09 to 3,020 in 2018/19. Egypt has shifted from being a majority postgraduate market (82 per cent of enrolments) to a majority undergraduate market (58 per cent of enrolments) in the space of a decade. Engineering and technology was the most popular subject area for new students in 2018/19, followed by business and administrative studies.
- Egypt is the fifth largest TNE market for the UK and the largest in MENA with 19,355 Egyptian students enrolled in UK TNE programmes in 2018/19. The government plans to turn Egypt into a TNE hub, particularly within the New Administrative Capital currently under construction.
- Egypt is a regional hub for study with more than 70,000 inbound international students in 2018, most of whom are from other Arab countries. Egypt is the third most popular destination for students within the MENA region due to low tuition and living costs.

2. INTRODUCTION

Egypt – officially The Arab Republic of Egypt – is home to the largest and fastest growing population in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. In the population of over 100 million, 61 per cent are under the age of 30, making way for a huge boom in demand for education. The economy has recovered from the 2011 revolution that saw the ousting of former president Hosni Mubarak, who ruled the country for three decades.

However, the Egyptian education system is struggling to cope with the increasing number of students and is not adequately preparing students to meet the current labour market needs. Youth unemployment was estimated at 31 per cent in 2019, and there are 700,000 new entrants to the job market each year. To this end, the Egyptian government is working with the World Bank to reform its education system to one that will produce graduates with the skills for developing a modern economy.

Education is also one of the ten key pillars in the government's policy blueprint, the 2016 Strategic Vision to 2030. The initiative strives to create a high-quality education system within an efficient, sustainable and flexible institutional framework. The strategy sets targets for pre tertiary, vocational and higher education and aims to radically improve Egypt's performance on key education indicators.

The Egyptian government is also seeking to attract more international universities to develop branch campuses, particularly in the New Administrative Capital. Egypt is a popular destination for international study, particularly for other Middle Eastern and African countries, and sees more than 70,000 inbound students every year.

Yet Egyptian students are increasingly looking abroad. The strains on the local public education system and the lack of university places have boosted the number of outbound tertiary students. Socio-political unrest, too, has contributed: since the 2011 revolution, the number of Egyptians going abroad for tertiary degrees has increased dramatically to an estimated 35,000 internationally mobile students in 2017. The UK, too, has benefitted from this growing trend and has seen a decade of strong growth in Egyptian enrolments which have nearly doubled from 1,615 in 2008/09 to 3,020 in 2018/19.

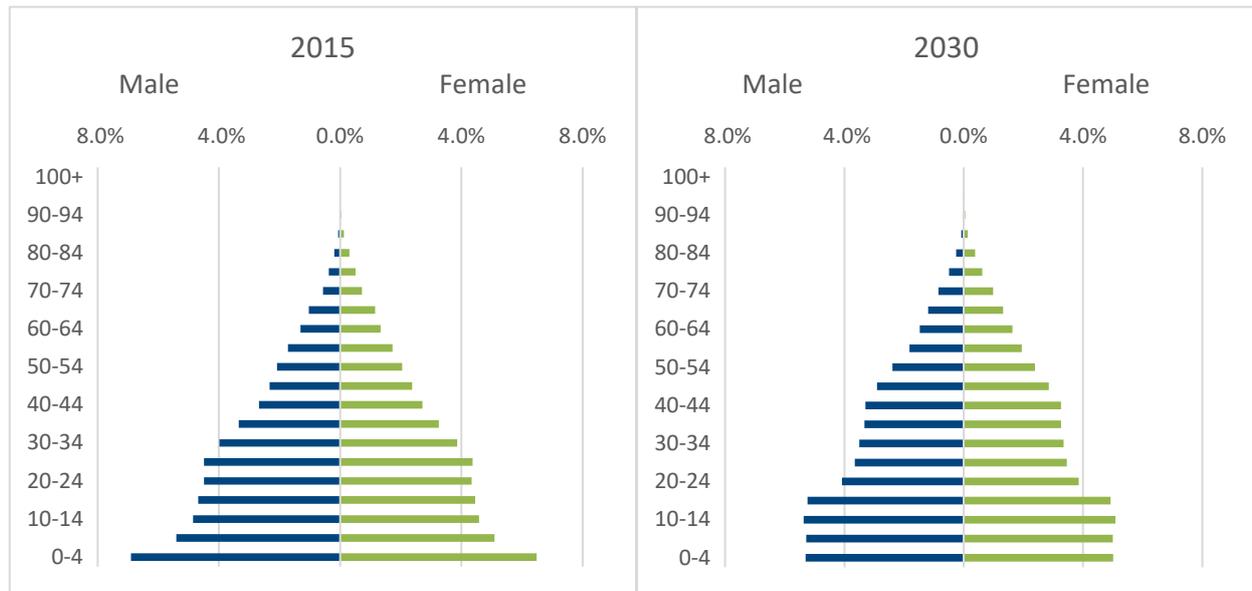
Despite the challenges in the education system, Egypt has a strong and growing economy. Growth in real GDP was 5.6 per cent in 2019, its fastest rate since 2009. While full effects of the Covid-19 pandemic and resulting global recession are still unclear at the time of writing (August 2020), GDP growth estimations for 2020 were revised down from 5.6 per cent to 2 per cent. The economy is primarily driven by services, particularly telecoms and tourism, and macroeconomic reform is being supported by programmes with the World Bank and IMF.

With its growing population, strong middle class, lacking tertiary capacity but ambitious economic development targets, Egypt is likely to continue to grow as a recruitment market and source of international students for years to come.

3. DEMOGRAPHICS

Egypt is home to the largest population of the MENA nations,¹ and it is growing quickly. Population growth slowed in the 1990s and 2000s, it has rebounded since 2011 and according to estimates from the national statistics agency, the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics, Egypt's population surpassed 100 million people in early 2020.² Year-on-year population growth was estimated at 1.8 per cent in 2018/19.³

Figure 1: Egypt's population pyramid, 2015 and 2030



Source: UN WPP

Life expectancy in Egypt was 72 years in 2018, the second lowest life expectancy in North Africa after Sudan. Egyptians are living longer year on year, but the rate at which life expectancy has increased has slowed in the past two decades and has increased only by three years since 2000.⁴

The rapid population growth is posing a problem for the government in a number of ways. First is in urbanisation. In 2018, 42.7 per cent of Egyptians lived in urban regions, a proportion that has remained stable since the mid-1970s.⁵ However, 95 per cent of Egypt's land is uninhabitable desert, so the population is heavily concentrated around the highly fertile land of the Nile River valley.⁶ The growing population will also place increasing pressure on housing and social services, such as healthcare and the education system, all of which are ill-equipped to manage the drastic growth expected over the next decade. Likewise, the Covid-19 pandemic has placed considerable strain on the healthcare system.

¹ The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region includes Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

² [Egypt in Figures: Population 2020](#), Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics, 13 April 2020.

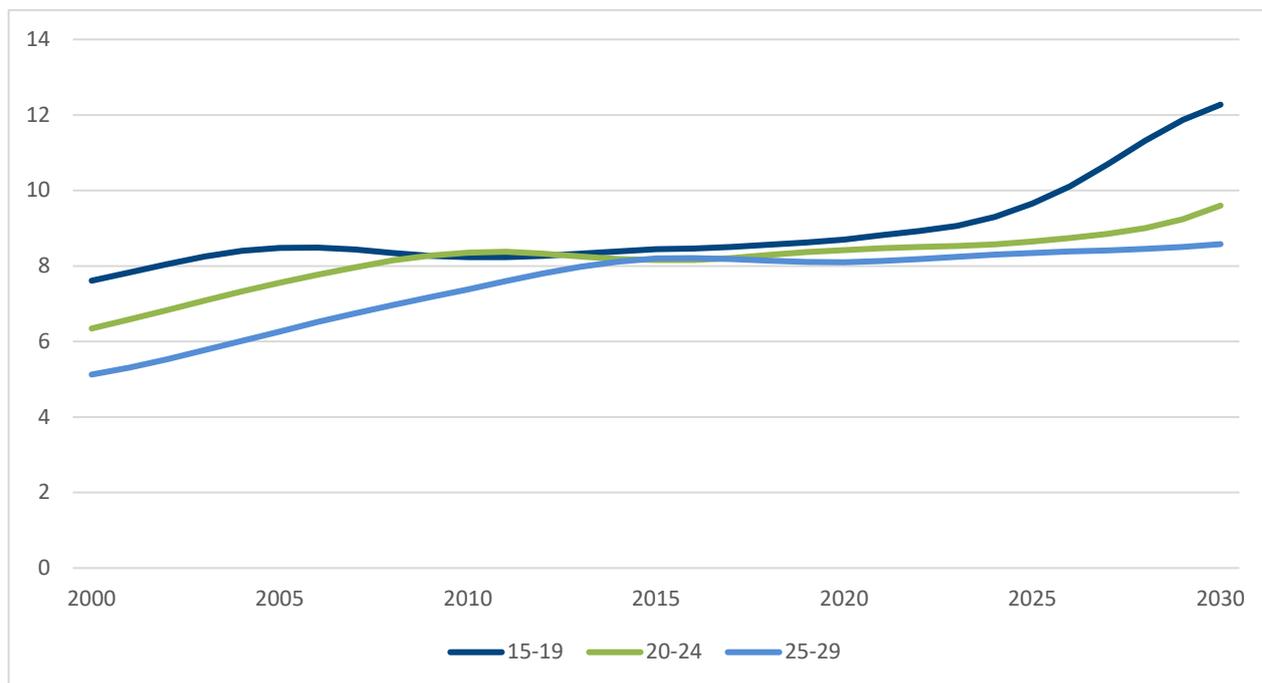
³ [As Egypt's Population Hits 100 Million, Celebration is Muted](#), *The New York Times*, 25 February 2020.

⁴ [Life expectancy at birth](#), World Bank, accessed 3 July 2020.

⁵ [Urban population \(% of total population\)](#), World Bank, accessed 29 June 2020.

⁶ [Egypt as facing a population 'catastrophe'](#), *TheNewArab*, December 2017.

Figure 2: Egypt's student age population (million)



Source: UN Population Division

In 2017, 61 per cent of Egypt's population was under the age of 30 and one-quarter was under the age of 10, indicating strong future growth in the student age population (see Figure 2).⁷ Egypt's fertility rate is high at around 3.3 births per woman, which is 0.5 higher than the MENA average and 0.9 higher than the world average.⁸ The combination of an increasing student-age population and a relatively large middle class that is increasingly willing to spend on education indicates that Egypt will continue to grow as a source of internationally mobile students.⁹

Egypt has a relatively homogenous society in which approximately 98 per cent of the population are of Egyptian ethnicity. Ethnic minorities include the Bedouin, Berber and Nubian people. According to the CIA, 90 per cent of the population are Muslim, most of which are Sunni. The remaining 10 per cent are Christian, with a Coptic orthodox majority.¹⁰

The official language of Egypt is Modern Standard Arabic, but most Egyptians speak in one of several vernacular dialects.¹¹ As is the case for much of MENA, Modern Standard Arabic is mainly used in formal settings and is rarely used as a spoken language other than as a lingua franca between Arab nations.

⁷ CAPMAS: Youths constitute 21% of Egypt's population, *Egypttoday*, August 2018.

⁸ Fertility rate, *World Bank*, accessed 03 July 2020.

⁹ Understanding poverty and inequality in Egypt, *World Bank*, June 2019.

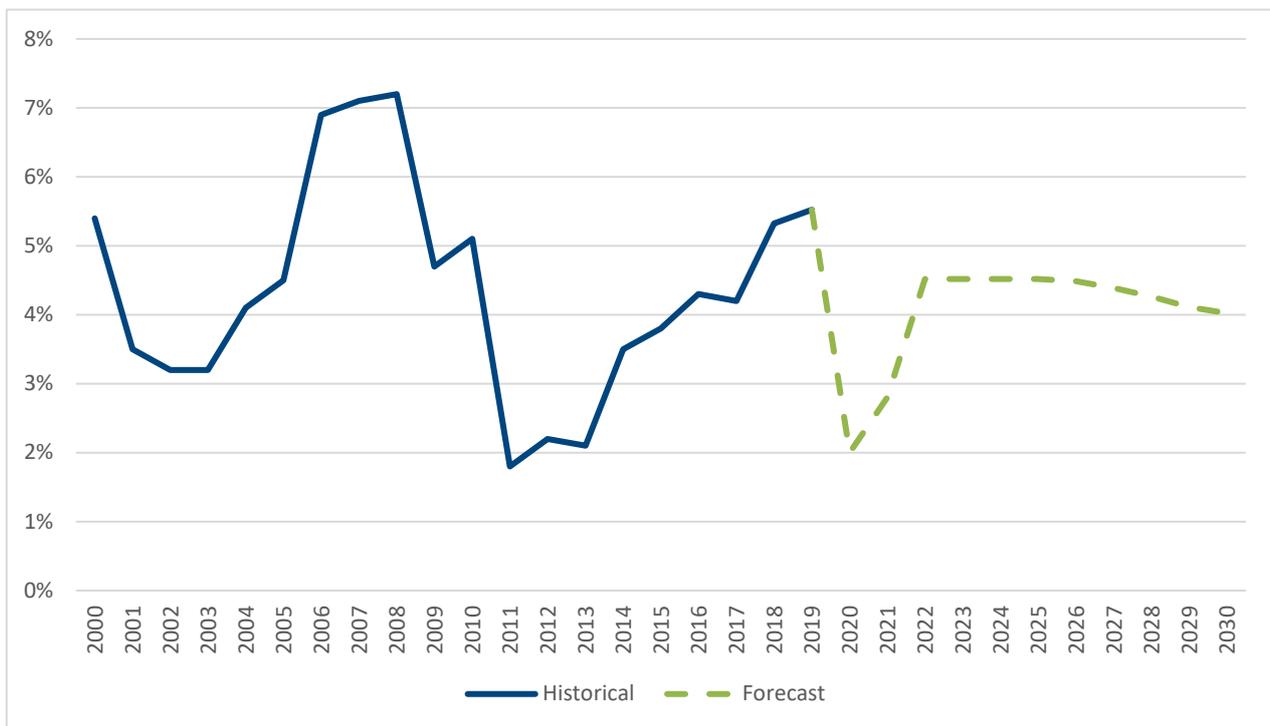
¹⁰ World Factbook – Egypt, *CIA*, June 2020.

¹¹ Egypt – Languages, *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, accessed 30 June 2020.

4. ECONOMICS

In the 1970s, Egypt began a long transition from a socialist economy into a free market economy, an endeavour that has led strong annual GDP growth for more than three decades. Until the 2011 social and political upheaval, Egypt was considered to be a leading Middle Eastern economy. The 2011 revolution resulted in a significant drop in annual growth, but Egypt's economy has since made a steady recovery, reaching its fastest expansion in a decade with 5.6 per cent growth in 2019. The Covid-19 pandemic and resulting global recession will dampen growth to an anticipated 2 per cent in 2020, Egypt is one of the only Middle Eastern countries expected to see positive growth. The IMF predicts a slight recovery in 2021, increasing to 2.8 per cent.¹²

Figure 3: Real GDP growth and forecast



Source: IMF, Euromonitor forecasts

Egypt's economy is primarily driven by services, which contributes 55 per cent of GDP and employs 49 per cent of the population. Tourism and telecoms contribute the largest share of revenue – tourism alone generated US\$12.6 billion in FY2018/19, growing 28 per cent year-on-year. Industry is also a strong sector, contributing 35.1 per cent of GDP, and is composed of producing and manufacturing petroleum products and petrochemicals, automobile and steel, cotton and textiles and construction. Agriculture contributes 11.2 per cent of GDP.¹³ The Egyptian military is heavily involved in the economy. Military agencies deliver infrastructure projects, manufacturing industrial chemicals and producing consumer goods in ways that critics say competes with and deters investment in the private sector.¹⁴

¹² [The Arab Republic of Egypt and the IMF](#), IMF, accessed 21 July 2020.

¹³ [The economic context of Egypt](#), Nordea, June 2020.

¹⁴ [Egypt's Military Undermines its Economic Revival](#), Bloomberg, 19 November 2019.

The World Bank classifies Egypt as a lower-middle-income economy, and GDP per capita was US\$3,020 in 2019, slightly higher than Vietnam and below Morocco.¹⁵ Though Egypt's income inequality was surprisingly low at the time of the 2011 revolution, the proportion of the population living at the national poverty line has rapidly increased over the past two decades. In 2017, 32.5 per cent of Egyptians were under the national poverty line of US\$45 per month, an increase of 4.7 per cent from 2015 and 15.5 per cent higher than in 1999.¹⁶ Economists believe that it was not income inequality that contributed to the social unrest, but rather opportunity inequality: research has shown that rising educational attainment has not translated into improvements in occupation or labour market status.¹⁷

One of the major challenges for the Egyptian economy is unemployment. Though the jobless rate declined from 13.4 per cent in 2014 to 8.6 per cent in 2019, youth unemployment has remained above 20 per cent for more than three decades, reaching an estimated 31 per cent in 2019.¹⁸ This has been a continuing issue due to the growing population – more than 700,000 young Egyptians enter the workforce every year – and skills mismatches between graduates and employment needs.¹⁹ The Covid-19 pandemic has further exacerbated unemployment problems and the unemployment rate has already risen to 10.3 per cent midway through 2020, a trend the IMF expects will continue in 2021.²⁰

In 2014, the Egyptian government laid out a five-year plan to boost macroeconomic performance and ensure sustainable, inclusive future growth. The blueprint recognised poor living standards, shortcomings in human resources and regulatory impediments to investments as key issues to resolve in the medium-term. The five-year plan, ending in fiscal year 2018/19, aimed to reach 6 per cent annual GDP growth, while increasing the pace of job creation, reducing the fiscal deficit, improving the efficiency of government spending, and increasing investment and exports.²¹

Egypt has relied on international development banks for fiscal and macroeconomic support. Both the IMF and World Bank have approved loans to support Egypt in recent years to support private investment and job creation for women and Egypt's youth. Between 2015 and 2017, the World Bank provided a total of US\$3.15 billion in loans.²² In November 2016, Egypt signed a US\$12 billion loan agreement with the IMF to address macroeconomic vulnerabilities and promote growth and job creation.²³ A further IMF loan was approved in May 2020 and provided US\$2.8 billion in emergency support to address the Covid-19 pandemic.²⁴

The World Bank and IMF have praised Egypt's efforts to reform the economy, referring to increased GDP growth and falling unemployment. According to the IMF, Egypt implemented inconsistent macroeconomic policies before the reform program, resulting in large budget deficits and loose monetary policy. A fixed exchange rate had led to poor foreign currency reserves, inflation and unsustainable public debt. The IMF reports that the reform program achieved its main goal to achieve macroeconomic stability, setting the stage for further reforms and improving the business climate.²⁵ However, public debt is still high at an equivalent of 85.8 per cent of GDP in 2019.²⁶

¹⁵ [GDP per capita](#), *World Bank*, accessed 2 July 2020.

¹⁶ [Poverty headcount ratio an national poverty lines](#), *World Bank*, accessed 2 July 2020.

¹⁷ [Inequality of Opportunity in Wages and Consumption in Egypt](#), *The Review of Income and Wealth*, 22 March 2017.

¹⁸ [Unemployment, youth total](#), *World Bank Data*, accessed 22 July 2020.

¹⁹ [As Egypt's Population Hits 100 Million, Celebration is Muted](#), *The New York Times*, 25 February 2020.

²⁰ [IMF DataMapper – Unemployment rate](#), *IMF*, accessed 29 June 2020.

²¹ [Strat_EGY. Egypt's five year macroeconomic framework and strategy](#), *Egypt Ministry of Finance*, March 2015.

²² [World Bank Approves US\\$1.15 Billion Loan To Egypt To Boost Economy, Create Jobs](#), *World Bank*, December 2017.

²³ [Egypt's IMF program: Assessing the political economy challenges](#), *Brookings*, January 2018.

²⁴ [IMF Executive Board Approves US\\$2.772 Billion in Emergency Support to Egypt to Address the Covid-19 Pandemic](#), *IMF*, May 2020.

²⁵ [Egypt's economic reform proves successful: Egypt's PM](#), *Egypt Independent*, January 2020; [Egypt: A Path Forward for Economic Prosperity](#), *IMF*, July 2019.

²⁶ [Egypt Country Report](#), *Euromonitor*, 20 March 2020.

Foreign direct investment into Egypt decreased significantly after the global financial crisis and the socio-political uprisings in 2011. However, the Egyptian government has implemented reforms that make the country more open to foreign investment and the flow of inward FDI has consistently increased since. In 2019, inward FDI passed US\$9 billion and there were 140 greenfield investments, up from US\$8.1 billion in inward FDI and 92 greenfield projects in 2018.²⁷ Most FDI is concentrated in oil and gas, accounting for about two-thirds of total investment, followed by construction, manufacturing, real estate and financial services. The UK is by far the largest investor in Egypt.²⁸ The improvements in the business environment are reflected in the World Bank's 2020 Ease of Doing Business report. Egypt rose six places from the 2019 report to rank 114th out of 190 countries.²⁹ The country also rose one place in the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Index to rank 93rd out of 141 countries in 2019.³⁰

The Central Bank of Egypt fully floated the Egyptian pound (EGP) in 2016, unpegging it from the US dollar in 2016. The move was welcomed by the international banks, resulting in a US\$12 billion loan from the IMF, and renewed the confidence of international and regional investors.³¹ Following the decision, the pound devalued, causing high inflation of about 30 per cent and rising borrowing costs, but also boosted foreign reserves and renewed interest from foreign investors.³²

More recently, the inflation rate has continued to drop, reaching 5.9 per cent in 2019.³³ In 2019, the Egyptian pound performed well against the dollar, reaching its strongest rate in more than two years to trade at EGP16.10=US\$1. According to analysts, the pound had been boosted by higher foreign exchange inflows from investments, improved tourism, remittances from workers abroad and a smaller trade deficit.³⁴ Inflation is expected to rise in 2020 and 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic, which has dampened tourism and remittance flows.

²⁷ [Egypt: Foreign Investment](#), *Santander Trade*, 2020.

²⁸ *Ibid.*

²⁹ [Doing business 2020](#), *World Bank*, accessed 29 June 2020.

³⁰ [The Global Competitiveness Index 2019 Rankings](#), *WEF*, accessed 29 June 2020.

³¹ [The EGP devaluation: a new beginning](#), *PwC*, accessed 21 July 2020.

³² [Egypt fights inflation after its currency devaluation](#), *Financial Times*, 12 December 2017.

³³ [The Arab Republic of Egypt and the IMF](#), *IMF*, accessed 21 July 2020.

³⁴ [Egyptian pound strongest in more than two and a half years](#), *Reuters*, 24 October 2019.

5. POLITICS & POLICYMAKING

The Arab Republic of Egypt gained independence from the UK in 1923 and has functioned as a republic since the 1952 Egyptian revolution after the ruling King Farouk was ousted by a group of military officers.³⁵ In June 1953, Muhammad Naguib became Egypt's first president. Egypt has long been of strategic and political importance because of its control of the Suez Canal, a major global shipping route that connects the Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea.

The Egyptian government consists of a president, a head of government, and a unicameral parliament with 568 seats. A bicameral system ended when the former lower chamber was dissolved in 2012. The president is elected by absolute majority and parliament is elected by direct secret ballot. The president has the authority to appoint up to 5 per cent of the total number of seats after elections. In the 2015 parliamentary elections, 351 of the 568 available seats were taken by independent candidates. The remaining seats were taken by members of 19 different political parties, the majority taken by only three of them.³⁶ In 2019, a constitutional amendment re-instated the 300-member Council of Senators, an advisory body without legislative powers also known as the Shura Council. The council will consist of 200 elected members and 100 presidential appointees. Elections were held on 11 and 12 August 2020.³⁷

In 2011, President Hosni Mubarak was ousted from office after 18 days of public demonstrations. Mubarak had ruled Egypt for three decades and was the first leader toppled in the wave of Arab country uprisings known as the Arab Spring. While Egypt has now returned to relative political stability, 2011 marked the beginning of three years of political turmoil, ending with the election of current president Abdel Fattah al-Sisi in May 2014.

Sisi was elected to a second term in 2018.³⁸ An April 2019 referendum on changes to the Egyptian constitution effectively extended Sisi's rule eight years past his current term to 2030. The changes also increase Sisi's authority whilst reducing the authority of the military, judiciary and legislature.³⁹

Egypt is one of the few Arab nations with positive relations to its neighbour Israel. Although Egypt and Israel have engaged in four wars since Israel's creation, they now cooperate extensively, especially on security matters.⁴⁰

Lack of water sources poses a major threat to Egypt in the coming years. The Nile River Valley supports most of Egypt's population and it is suffering from reduced water flow. At the same time, rising sea levels are resulting in more saltwater in the Nile River Delta, Egypt's main agricultural region. Coupled with fast population growth, this severely threatens fresh food and water supply.⁴¹

Egypt joined the UN security council as non-permanent member in 2015 and is a member of both the Arab League and African Union.⁴² In 2019, Egypt was ranked 106 out of 180 in the Corruption Perceptions Index, ranking the same as Brazil and Mongolia.⁴³

³⁵ [Egypt - Government and Society](#), *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, accessed 1 July 2020; [Remembering the 1952 Egyptian Revolution](#), MEMO, July 2017.

³⁶ [Arab Republic of Egypt – election for Egyptian People's Assembly](#), *ElectionGuide*, accessed 1 July 2020.

³⁷ [Egyptians vote for newly created Senate](#), *Reuters*, 11 August 2020.

³⁸ [Abdel Fattah al-Sisi](#), *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, accessed 1 July 2020.

³⁹ [In Egypt Referendum, Only the Turnout Seems in Doubt](#), *New York Times*, April 2019.

⁴⁰ [A Review of Relations between Israel and Egypt](#), *TeachMideast*, Accessed 7 July 2020.

⁴¹ [The Nile River Delta, once the bread basket of the world, may soon be uninhabitable](#), *Quartz Africa*, March 2017.

⁴² [International organizations](#), *State Information Service Egypt*, accessed 1 July 2020.

⁴³ [Corruption perceptions index 2019](#), *Transparency International*, 2020.

EDUCATION

The Ministry of Education and Technical Education (MOETE) administers the Egyptian pre-tertiary education system and the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research administers tertiary education.⁴⁴ The Egyptian constitution states that education is free and compulsory between the ages of six and 15.⁴⁵

The MoE is receiving support from the World Bank to implement an extensive education reform project, “Education 2.0”, that will restructure K-12 schooling throughout the country and is set to be completed by 2030. This has included introducing a new curriculum, the first phase of which was rolled out for kindergarten and first year primary school children, as well as examination reforms, which have been introduced in secondary schools. The new curriculum was rolled out to second year primary students in 2019 and will be rolled out to consecutive grades each year.⁴⁶

Rapid economic and population growth has placed pressure on the education system as more school places are required and more students progress to higher study. The youth population is set to continue growing into the decade ahead, which will create further demand for expanded education provision and likely lead to growing demand for outbound study.⁴⁷ The Egyptian public education system must address poor infrastructure and high student-to-teacher ratios.⁴⁸

The youth literacy rate had improved considerably since 2005 when the literacy rate was 84.8 per cent but appears to have begun to fall since a recorded peak of 92 per cent in 2013. In 2017, the most recent year recorded by the World Bank, the literacy rate had fallen 4 per cent from the peak to 88.1 per cent.⁴⁹

Pre-tertiary education

Compulsory education lasts for nine years, from the beginning of primary education through the end of lower secondary. Pre-primary education is available for free to children from age four, but it is non-compulsory and attended by only a fraction of children.⁵⁰ Primary school lasts six years, from ages six to 12, and is followed by three-year lower secondary school for students ages 12-15. Students aspiring to study at university continue on to three years of upper secondary school, but students can opt to pursue vocational studies at this level instead.⁵¹ The government also operates religious schools, known as Al Azhar schools, that teach a similar curriculum to secular public schools but emphasise Islamic values and the Qur’an.

In 2018/19, there were about 22.3 million students across all stages of pre-university education, with a roughly evenly split between male and female students, though males outnumber females in private school enrolments. Student numbers fall considerably at each stage of school education. There are only 41 per cent as many students in middle school compared to primary and 14 per cent in high school.⁵² This is in part due to the lacking capacity and poor quality of Egyptian pre-tertiary public schools that

⁴⁴ [Departments affiliated to the Ministry](#), *Ministry of Education Egypt*, accessed 9 July 2020.

⁴⁵ [Education in Egypt](#), *World Education News + Reviews*, February 2019.

⁴⁶ [Reform of Egypt's public educational curriculum begins](#), *Oxford Business Group*, 2019.

⁴⁷ Growing Egyptian demand for education pressures domestic capacity, *ICEF Monitor*, 8 May 2019.

⁴⁸ [How will Egypt reform its education system?](#), *Oxford Business Group*, 2020.

⁴⁹ [Education in Egypt](#), *World Education News + Reviews*, February 2019.

⁵⁰ [الملخص الإحصائي للتعليم ما قبل الجامعي \(Statistical summary of pre-university education\)](#), *Ministry of Education and Technical Education Egypt*, accessed 9 July 2020.

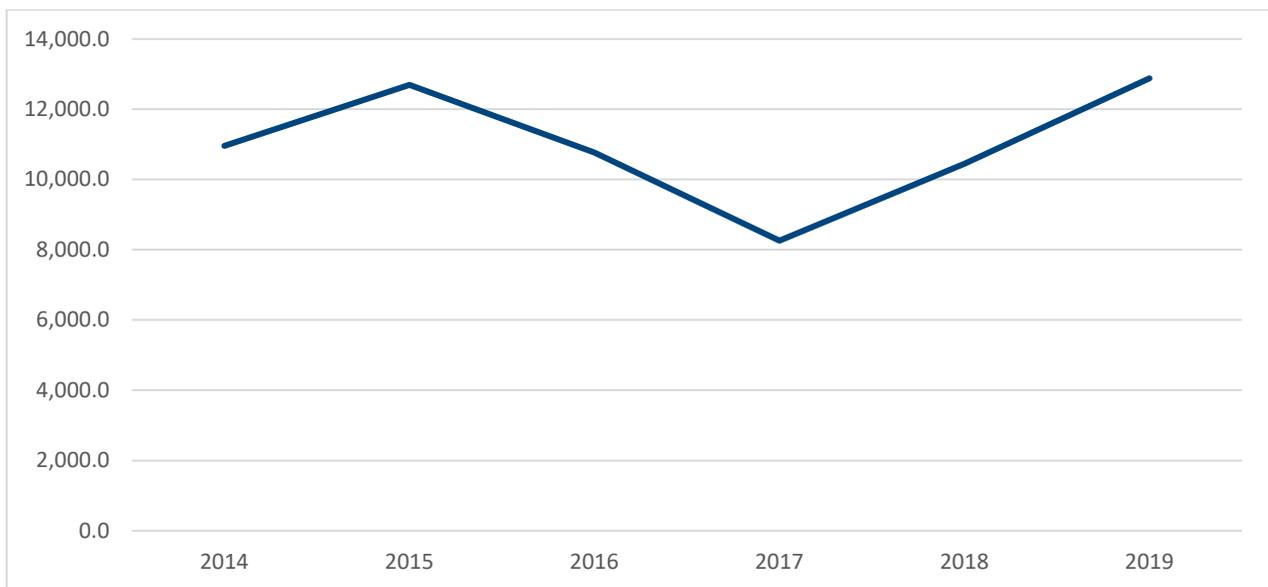
⁵¹ [ISCED structure in Egypt](#), *Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey*, October 2013.

⁵² *Ibid.*

are struggling to accommodate the booming youth population. The vast majority – 89 per cent – of pre-tertiary students are enrolled in public schools.⁵³

According to the World Bank, the three primary challenges that the Egyptian government faces in the education system are the following: limited access to quality kindergarten; poor quality teaching that is too focussed on rote learning; and the high-stakes school leaving examination (Thanaweya Amma high school examination) that reinforces rote learning and education inequality.⁵⁴ Over 659,000 students sat the exam in 2019.⁵⁵ The Egyptian government is looking to revamp its public education system and declared 2019 the year of education. The broad reform programme (see “Key policies related to education”), supported by a US\$500 million loan from the World Bank, will transition the system to a competency-based curriculum and expand capacity.

Figure 4: Consumer expenditure on education (USD)



Source: Euromonitor

Wealthier families are increasingly willing to pay for private tuition to supplement their child’s education and prepare them for the end of high school exam, evidenced by rising consumer spending on education (Figure 4). In 2019, consumers spent US\$12,879 on education, up from US\$10,451 a year earlier and the highest amount in the last five years.

Evidencing the poor teaching quality, Egypt does not perform well on international education assessments. In the 2015 round of the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS), Egypt’s eighth graders ranked sixth from the bottom, above regional neighbours Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Jordan but below Kuwait, Oman, Iran, Qatar, Lebanon, Bahrain, and the UAE.⁵⁶ In science, Egypt’s scores came second to last out of 39 countries, scoring higher than only South Africa.⁵⁷ Additionally, public schools are in dire need of investment in hard infrastructure and more teachers to address dilapidated buildings and improve the student-to-teacher ratio.⁵⁸

⁵³ [الملخص الإحصائي للتعليم ما قبل الجامعي \(Statistical summary of pre-university education\)](#), Ministry of Education and Technical Education Egypt, accessed 9 July 2020; [Egypt in Figures: Education 2020](#), Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics, April 2020.

⁵⁴ [Supporting Egypt Education Reform Project](#), The World Bank, 23 March 2018.

⁵⁵ [Despite coronavirus outbreak, Egypt readies for high school exams](#), Egypt Independent, April 2020.

⁵⁶ [International Results in Mathematics 2015](#), TIMSS 2015, accessed 23 July 2020.

⁵⁷ [International Results in Science \(grade 8\)](#), TIMSS 2015, accessed 23 July 2020.

⁵⁸ [How will Egypt reform its education system?](#), Oxford Business Group, 2020.

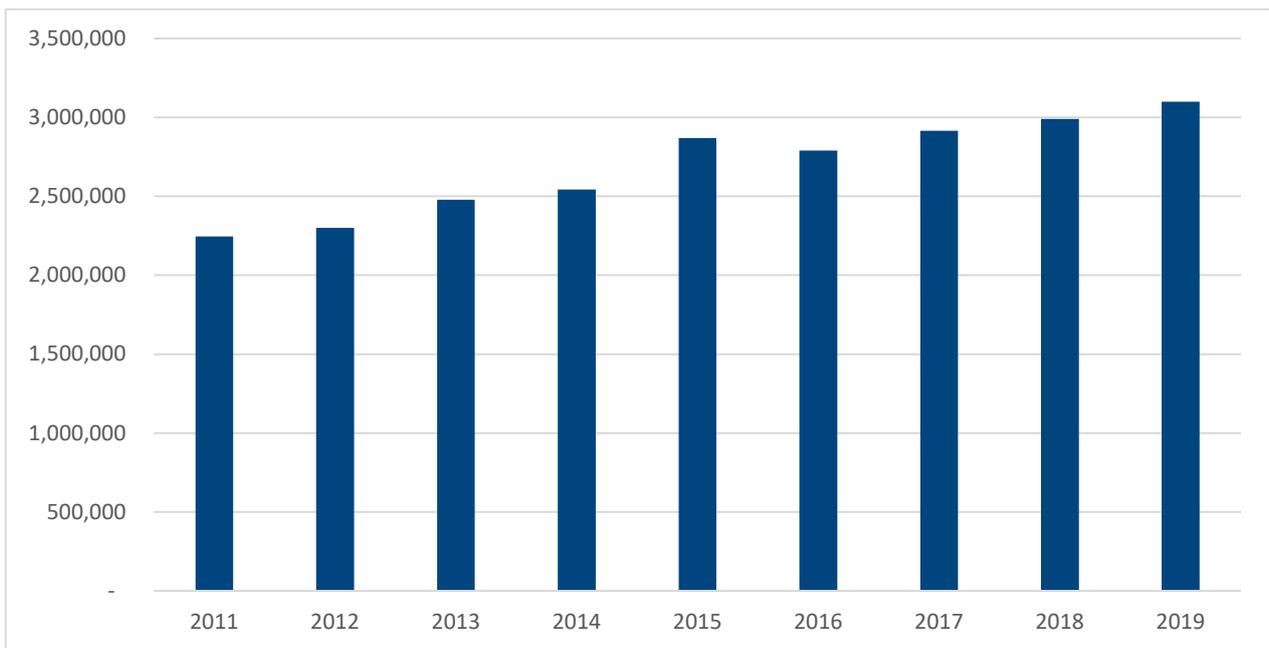
Vocational education is available to students from age 12 and is divided into four categories: industry, agriculture, commerce and hospitality. There are 2,472 vocational colleges and almost half are industrial colleges. The commercial schools account for 35 per cent of vocational colleges (863 schools), leaving only a small number of agricultural (251 schools) and hospitality (123 schools) vocational colleges. Overall, there were more than 2 million students enrolled in public and private vocational institutions in 2019. Vocational education attracts more male students than female and there are 1.4 male students for every female student.⁵⁹ Critics do not believe that vocational education is yet of a high enough standard and 600,000 new graduates of vocational institutions are left unemployed every year.⁶⁰

TVET is receiving new attention under the Egypt Vision 2030 strategy, and the government has partnered with the European Union for the TVET Reform Programme (TVET Egypt). In June 2018, the minister of education and technical education signed an agreement with private firms to start an ‘Egypt Makers’ initiative’ to improve the quality of vocational education. Vocational education has a poor reputation in Egypt, perceived as a last resort for less academically able students.⁶¹

Higher education

Tertiary education is administered by the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MHESR), which promotes higher education at all levels, researches and proposes educational policies and implements plans related to higher education.⁶² Egypt has 28 public universities and 25 private universities.⁶³ Most bachelor’s degrees take four years to complete, but some programmes can take up to six years. A master’s degree takes a further two to three years.⁶⁴

Figure 5: Students enrolled in higher education



Source: UNESCO and CAPMAS

⁵⁹ [الملخص الإحصائي للتعليم ما قبل الجامعي \(Statistical summary of pre-university education\)](#), Ministry of Education and Technical Education Egypt, accessed 9 July 2020.

⁶⁰ [Egyptian Vocational Education Largely Fails the Country’s Youth](#), Al-Fanar Media, September 2017.

⁶¹ [Technical and vocational education in Egypt: the missing link](#), theforum ER Policy Portal, July 2018.

⁶² [About the Ministry](#), Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research Egypt, accessed 9 July 2020.

⁶³ [How will Egypt reform its education system?](#), Oxford Business Group, 2020.

⁶⁴ [ISCED structure in Egypt](#), Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey, October 2013.

Enrolment in higher education has grown rapidly in the last decade from 2 million in 2010 to 3.1 million in 2019, a 50 per cent increase from 2010 and a 4 per cent increase year-on-year. The rate of enrolment in Egypt remains however slightly lower than the average in the Arab region, where 33 per cent of males and 34 per cent of females enrol in tertiary education. In Egypt, 32 per cent of males and 32 per cent of females are enrolled in tertiary education.⁶⁵ Because of the booming population, the number of students looking for university places is outpacing supply – pushing many students to turn to private or international options.⁶⁶

According to the MHEER, approximately half of students enrolled at universities in Egypt are enrolled in social sciences, 25 per cent are enrolled in humanities, 4 per cent are enrolled in natural sciences, 11 per cent were enrolled in medical and health sciences, 6 per cent were enrolled in engineering sciences, and 3 per cent were enrolled in agricultural and veterinary sciences.⁶⁷ In 2018/19, 12 per cent of university graduates were in education; 14.5 per cent were in arts and humanities; 4 per cent were in social sciences, press and media; 32 per cent were in business, management and law; 4 per cent were in natural sciences, mathematics and statistics; 6 per cent were in communication and information technology; 11 per cent were in engineering, manufacturing and construction; and 2 per cent were in agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary.⁶⁸

The higher education system is underfunded and inefficient by most measures. The curricula at Egyptian universities are often outdated and universities produce graduates lacking the skills required by employers. As of 2014, the average graduate needed seven years to find gainful employment.⁶⁹ The lack of innovation in domestic universities is reflected in Egypt's rankings in international academic performance measures. Egypt ranked 92nd out of 129 in the 2019 Global Innovation Index and 54th of 172 in the Nature Index. However, the number of Egyptian universities in the Times Higher Education rankings is increasing. In 2020, 20 Egyptian universities appeared in the THE rankings, one more than the year before. The highest ranked university in Egypt is Aswan University, followed by Mansoura University. Both are ranked within the 401-500 bracket.⁷⁰

According to MHEER, in 2018 the number of Egyptian research papers published in international publications reached 21,961, up from 9,479 in 2010, with an annual growth rate of 16.4 per cent. In 2018, half of all published research papers were the result of international cooperation. Saudi Arabia was the most common country for collaboration, followed by the US, Germany and China. Approximately 44 per cent of publications were in natural sciences, followed by medical sciences (24 per cent) and engineering sciences (21 per cent).⁷¹ Egypt ranked 37th out of 230 countries in the SCIMAGO international science publication classification.⁷²

Key policies related to education

Public expenditure on education was estimated at 8.1 per cent of the total budget in FY2018/19, down from 8.9 per cent in FY2017/18.⁷³ In the FY2020/21 budget, education funding received an EGP23 billion boost to reach a total of EGP424 billion, some of which was specifically earmarked for e-learning

⁶⁵ [Contradiction behind Egypt's embrace of branch campuses](#), *University World News*, September 2018; [Student enrolment in higher education increase by 4% during 2018/19: CAPMAS](#), *Daily News Egypt*, November 2019.

⁶⁶ [Growing Egyptian demand for education pressures domestic capacity](#), *ICEF Monitor*, 8 May 2019.

⁶⁷ [National Strategy for Science, Technology and Innovation 2030](#), *Ministry of Higher Education and Science*, December 2019.

⁶⁸ [Graduate of Higher Education and Degrees Bulletin 2018](#), *Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics*, 2019.

⁶⁹ [Education in Egypt](#), *World Education News + Reviews*, February 2019.

⁷⁰ [World University Rankings 2020](#), *THE World University Rankings*, accessed 10 July 2020.

⁷¹ [National Strategy for Science, Technology and Innovation 2030](#), *Ministry of Higher Education and Science*, December 2019.

⁷² [Scimago Journal & Country Rank](#), *Scimago*, accessed 3 August 2020.

⁷³ [Egypt in Figures: Education 2020](#), *Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics*, April 2020.

initiatives.⁷⁴ However, the total allocation to education amid the Covid-19 pandemic and related budgetary adjustments is unclear as of August 2020.

Education is one of ten key pillars in the 2016 Strategic Vision for 2030. The initiative states three specific objectives to 'develop human potential': improve the quality of the education system in alignment with international systems; expand access to education for all; and improve system competitiveness and learning outcomes across regions and different population groups.⁷⁵ The initiative strives to create a high-quality education system within an efficient, sustainable and flexible institutional framework. At the pre-tertiary level the initiative focusses on developing the professional and technical skills of teachers; comprehensive curriculum reform; eradication of illiteracy; among other priorities. Priorities for higher education include improving links between graduates and employers; establishing higher education institutions in conjunction with the private sector; improving recognition of qualifications; and skills development for teachers. The strategy published indicator targets for 2020 and 2030, and most of the 2020 targets have not yet been met.⁷⁶

Egypt is receiving support from the World Bank and USAID to implement major education reforms. In 2018, the country received a US\$500 million loan from the World Bank for the Education 2.0 project that will shift the pre-tertiary education system to following a competency-based curriculum. Part of this initiative also includes a greater emphasis on online and digitally enabled learning. To this end, the MoE launched an online learning platform to help students study for the Thanaweya Amma high school exams during the coronavirus pandemic.⁷⁷ Students have access to an online library with study materials in Arabic and English, and the MOETE has encouraged the use of another website that allows students to communicate remotely with their teachers.⁷⁸

Egypt's New Administrative Capital, a massive infrastructure project that will relocate the country's capital from Cairo, is set to become home to at least eight international universities, including two smart universities.⁷⁹

The Strategic Plan of Pre-University Education 2014-2030 sets goals to adopt international curricula, reduce the dropout rate of children ages five to 18, better equip learners with knowledge-based community efficiencies and digital capabilities and enhance supply to better support poor communities. The plan has three main pillars: availability, quality and management.

In 2019, the Ministry of Higher Education and Science announced an update to the National Strategy for Science, Technology and Innovation 2030. The strategy aims to support the development of Egypt's R&D sector to achieve international leadership in research and produce knowledge, transfer and localisation of technology that contributes to societal and economic development.⁸⁰

The National Project for Building Schools (NPBS) is an initiative aiming to address the most pressing issues regarding school provision. These were identified as: high classroom density; lack of a school building for some schools; the high birth rate; and some schools running two school sessions a day reducing the quality and efficiency of teaching.⁸¹

⁷⁴ [House Committee recommends EGP 22 bn increase for education in Egypt's FY2020-2021 budget](#), *Enterprise*, 17 June 2020; [Egypt's budget passes House, health and education spending slightly changed](#), *Enterprise*, 21 June 2020.

⁷⁵ [Supporting Egypt Education Reform Project](#), *The World Bank*, 23 March 2018.

⁷⁶ [2030 Egypt Vision](#), *Egypt Ministry of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform*, May 2016.

⁷⁷ [Egypt's Ministry of Education establishes online platform to help students study](#), *Egypt Independent*, April 2020.

⁷⁸ [Distance learning: Egyptian students go online due to coronavirus](#), *Ahram online*, 26 March 2020.

⁷⁹ [Egypt opens 2 new smart universities in the New Administrative Capital](#), *Egypt Independent*, 23 September 2019.

⁸⁰ [National Strategy for Science, Technology and Innovation 2030](#), *Ministry of Higher Education and Science*, December 2019.

⁸¹ [The Initiative](#), *Ministry of Education Egypt*, accessed 9 July 2020.

International student recruitment

Overall inbound trend

Despite political instability, Egypt has become a regional hub for international study within MENA. According to Egyptian Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research Khaled Abdel-Ghaffar, Egypt hosts about 70,000 international students every year, making it one of the top 20 destinations for international students globally.⁸² Inbound student numbers far surpass outbound numbers, resulting in a net inbound flow of at least 20,000 students.⁸³ According to the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics, there were 7,047 expatriate graduates of higher education in 2018, 62 per cent of whom were from Arab countries.⁸⁴

International enrolments fell due to political upheaval between 2011 and 2013 but appear to have now recovered. Egypt is now the third most popular destination for international students within the MENA region, surpassed only by Saudi Arabia and the UAE.⁸⁵ Low tuition and living costs are key factors in Egypt's popularity as a study destination.

Overall outbound trend

According to UNESCO, 34,922 Egyptians studied abroad in 2017, an increase of 11 per cent on the previous year and a notable 216 per cent increase in a decade. Outbound study was already on the rise before the 2011 unrest, but the rate of growth increased noticeably from 2012 onwards.⁸⁶ Political instability and poor provision from local universities have contributed to outbound student flows. If local provision does not expand considerably in response to the rapidly growing youth population, growth in outbound study is likely to increase in the future.⁸⁷

In 2017, the UK was the fourth most popular study destination for Egyptian students, after Saudi Arabia, the US and Germany. There were 2,294 Egyptians studying in the UK that year, compared to 4,862 in Saudi Arabia, 3,762 in the US, and 2,473 in Germany. France and Qatar are also relatively popular destinations, hosting 2,055 and 1,784 students respectively from Egypt in the same year.⁸⁸

Although Egypt has become a hub within MENA, the outbound trend from Egypt to the rest of MENA is limited outside of Saudi Arabia and Qatar. A small number do travel to Jordan, Bahrain and Oman to study, but Egyptian student numbers in the remainder of MENA are negligible.

Scholarships are available to assist internationally mobile Egyptian students to study in the US and Europe, especially in the Netherlands and Germany, but the scholarships mentioned below are for UK study.

The Newton-Mosharafa PhD Scholarship supports Egyptian researchers to study towards a PhD at an affiliated UK higher education institution. The overall goal of the programme is to support the economic development of Egypt and as such prioritizes research deemed key to development. The Chevening Scholarship is a global scholarship programme run by the UK government to provide future leaders with the opportunity to study a master's degree in the UK and Egypt is supported by the scheme.⁸⁹

⁸² [Egypt among 20 most attractive countries for international students: Minister](#), *Egypt Independent*, 8 September 2019.

⁸³ [UNESCO UIS](#), UNESCO, accessed 10 July 2020.

⁸⁴ [Graduate of Higher Education and Degrees Bulletin 2018](#), Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics, October 2019.

⁸⁵ [Education in Egypt](#), *World Education News + Reviews*, February 2019.

⁸⁶ [UNESCO UIS](#), UNESCO, accessed 10 July 2020.

⁸⁷ Ibid.

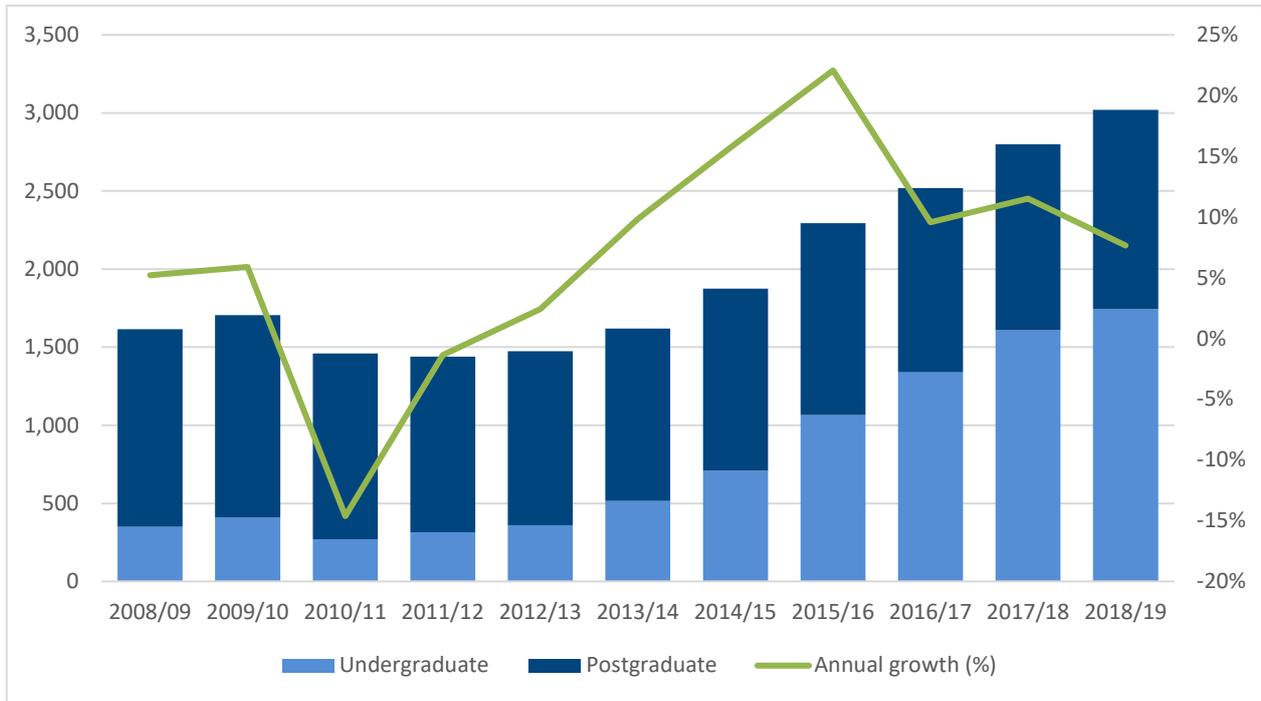
⁸⁸ Ibid.

⁸⁹ [About the PhD Programme](#), *Newton-Mosharafa Fund*, accessed 15 July 2020; [Chevening in Egypt](#), *Chevening*, accessed 15 July 2020.

A number of scholarships with fewer recipients or for specific institutions also exist. The London School of Economics offers for example the Margaret Bennet Scholarship for female African scholars and some UK universities including the University of Cambridge and University of Nottingham have direct scholarship agreements with Egypt’s Ministry of Higher Education.⁹⁰

UK recruitment

Figure 6: Egyptian students in the UK, growth and level of study



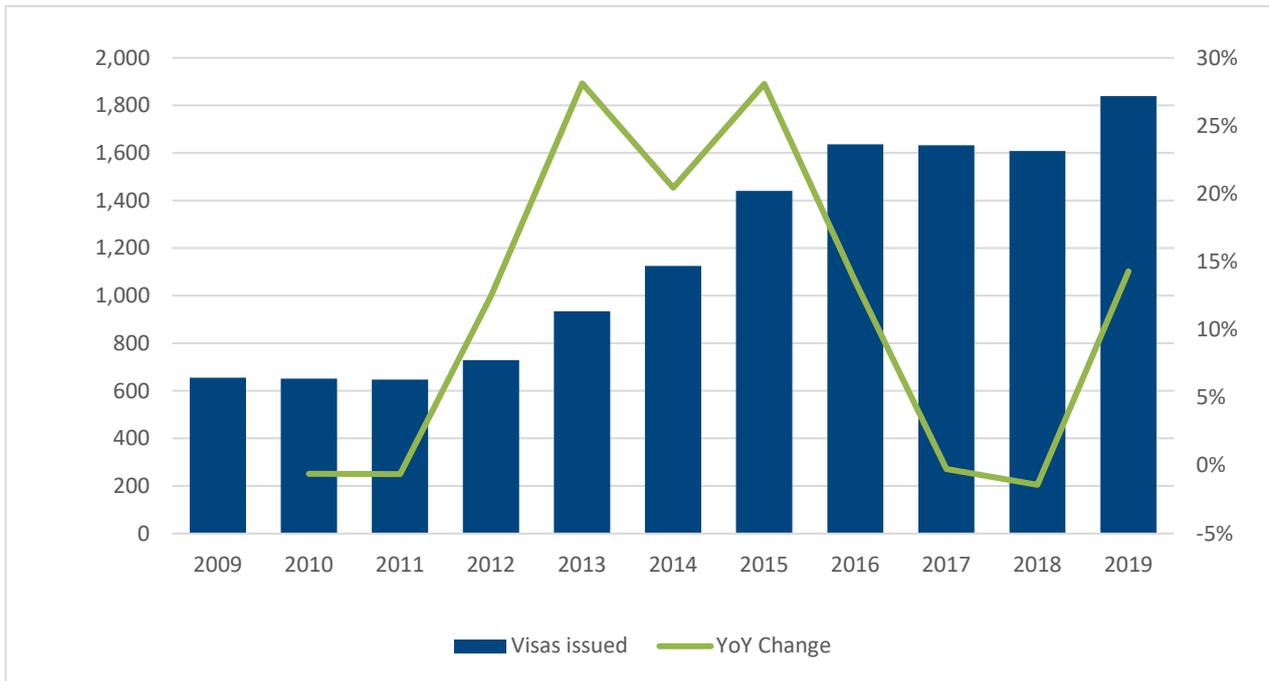
Source: HESA

There has been strong growth in the number of Egyptian students coming to the UK for tertiary study since 2011/12, likely because domestic political turmoil encouraged more students to study internationally. Overall enrolments have nearly doubled from 1,615 in 2008/09 to 3,020 in 2018/19, with seven consecutive years of increase from 2011/12 (see Figure 6).

While the annual growth rate has slowed from a peak of 22 per cent in 2015/16, it still remains strong at 8 per cent in 2018/19. The ending of the post-study work visa scheme in 2012 does not appear to have impacted interest in the UK as a study destination, although it is likely that the re-introduction of the Graduate Immigration Route (GIR) from summer 2021 will boost the UK’s attractiveness for tertiary study.

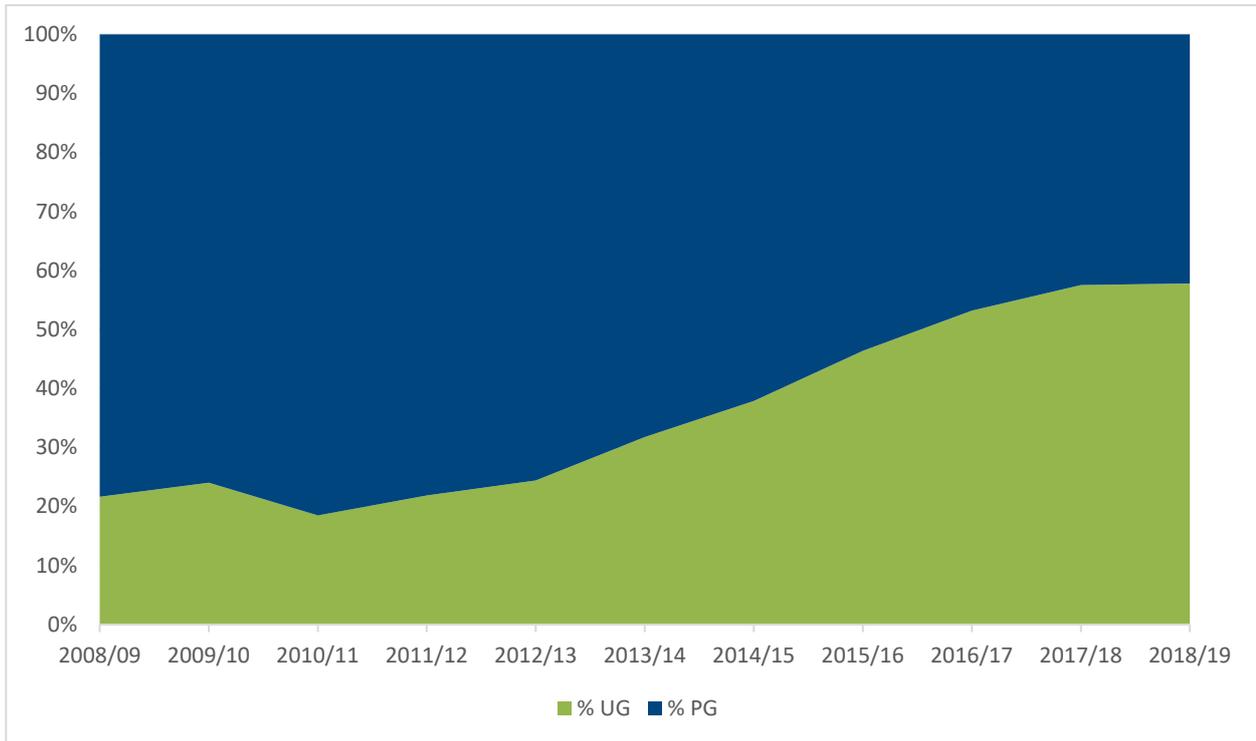
⁹⁰[Margaret Bennet Scholarship](#), LSE, accessed 15 July 2020; [Scholarships and Bursaries](#), University of Lincoln, accessed 15 July 2020; [Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Arab Republic of Egypt](#), Cambridge Trust, accessed 15 July 2020; [Egyptian Government Research Scholarships](#), University of Nottingham, accessed 15 July 2020.

Figure 7: UK Student Visas Issued (Tier 4 and Equivalent)



Source: UK Home Office

According to the UK Home Office, 1,893 Tier 4 UK study visas were issued to Egyptian students in the 2018/19 academic year, an increase of 14 per cent on the previous year and a return to the rapid growth that occurred between 2011 and 2016 (see Figure 7). Overall growth in issued visas has been strong over the past decade, tripling between 2009 and 2019. UK visa issuance plateaued for three years between 2016 and 2018, but growth in the previous five years was rapid at 152 per cent, increasing from 648 in 2011 to 1,636 in 2016.

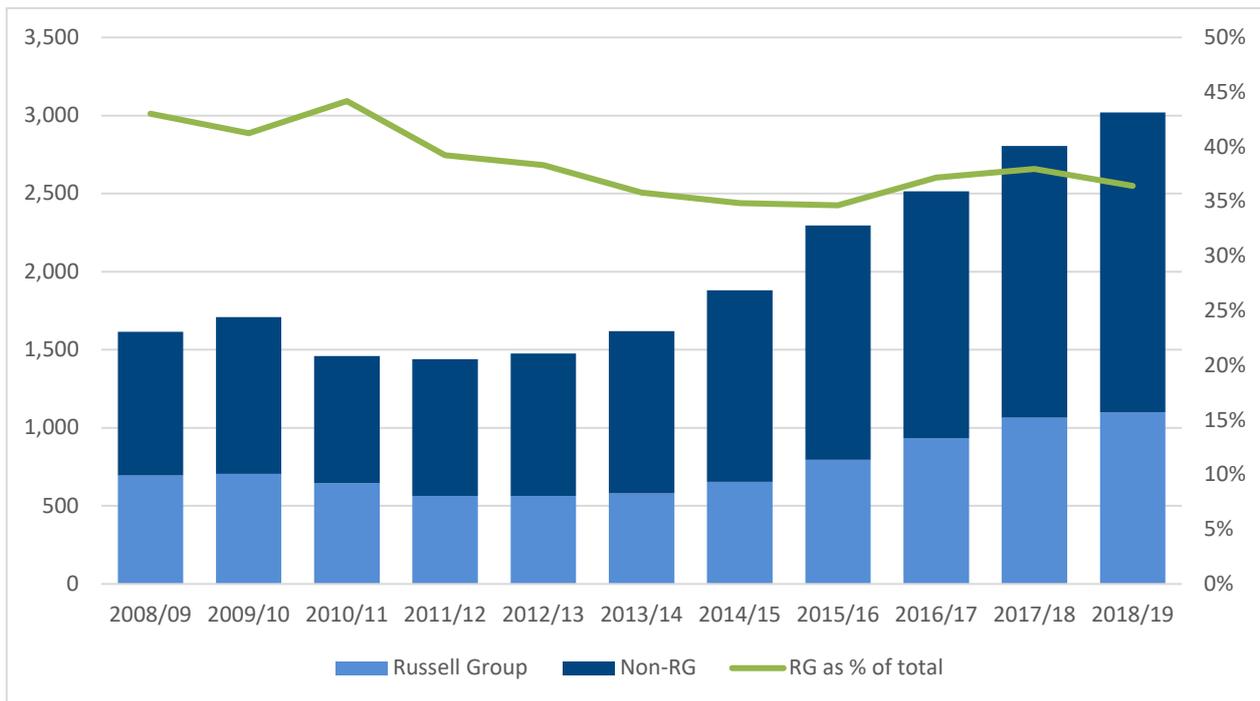
Figure 8: Egyptian enrolments in UK HEIs, PG and UG split

Source: HESA

Since 2010/11, there has been a striking change to the split of undergraduate and postgraduate students. 82 per cent of Egyptians studying in the UK were postgraduate in 2010/11 but now after eight years of continuously rising undergraduate enrolments, undergraduates are now in the majority. In 2018/19, 58 per cent on Egyptian students in the UK were undergraduates.

The number of Egyptian postgraduates has risen by 58 per cent in the last 10 years. The dramatic change in the undergraduate postgraduate split was driven by a rapid increase in undergraduate enrolments starting directly at the time of the Arab Spring and domestic political unrest in 2011. As stability has returned to Egypt, the proportion of undergraduates to postgraduates has evened out.

Figure 9: Egyptian students in Russell Group institutions



Source: HESA

Enrolments in Russell Group institutions accounted for 36 per cent of the total in 2018/19 falling slightly by 2 per cent on the previous year. The proportion of Russell Group enrolments has fallen slightly over the space of a decade from 43 per cent, but they are currently higher than the lowest point in 2015/16. Russell Group enrolments appeared to be on the rise again between 2015/16 and 2017/18.

Subject areas

Figure 10: New UK enrolments according to subject area, YoY change

	Total new UK enrolments in 2018/19	Undergraduate			Postgraduate		
		New UK enrolments in 2018/19	Change from previous year	5-year trend	New UK enrolments in 2018/19	Change from previous year	5-year trend
Engineering & technology	825	600	15.4%		225	12.5%	
Business & administrative studies	705	435	-1.1%		270	3.8%	
Social studies	240	125	-3.8%		115	9.5%	
Computer science	180	115	64.3%		65	8.3%	
Architecture, building & planning	155	85	13.3%		70	-6.7%	
Subjects allied to medicine	150	45	-18.2%		105	16.7%	
Biological sciences	115	50	25.0%		65	30.0%	
Creative arts & design	110	85	6.3%		25	-16.7%	
Medicine & dentistry	95	25	66.7%		70	0.0%	
Law	85	55	0.0%		30	-14.3%	
Education	85	10	100.0%		75	-11.8%	
Physical sciences	75	20	33.3%		55	37.5%	
Mass communications and documentation	70	35	40.0%		35	40.0%	
Languages	50	25	-28.6%		25	0.0%	
Historical and philosophical studies	35	10	0.0%		25	0.0%	
Agriculture & related subjects	15	5	*		10	100.0%	
Mathematical sciences	15	10	0.0%		5	-50.0%	
Combined	5	5	-80.0%		0	0.0%	
Veterinary science	0	0	0.0%		0	0.0%	

Source: HESA

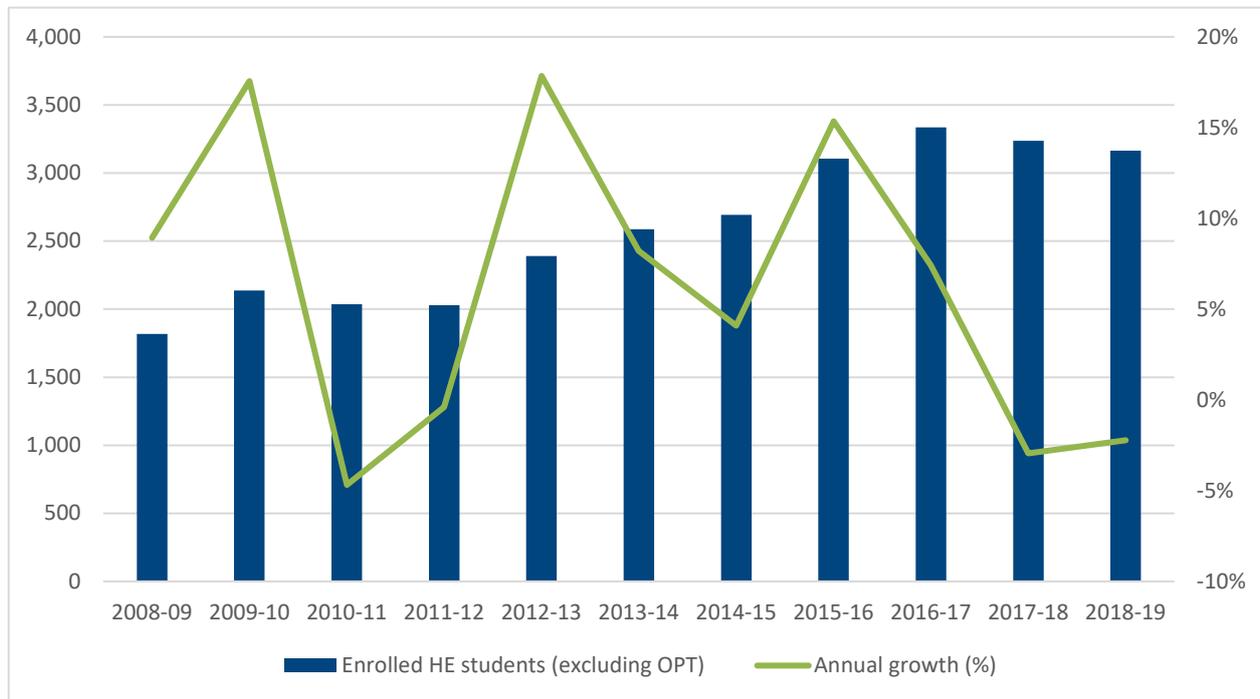
Engineering and technology is overall the most popular subject area among Egyptian students enrolled in UK institutions, closely followed by business and administrative studies. There is strong growth in most subject areas, with a few notable exceptions.

Enrolment in the majority of undergraduate subject areas is increasing. Enrolments in the most popular undergraduate subject area, engineering and technology, grew by 15.4 per cent year-on-year. Among subjects with a relatively large share of total enrolments, computer science had the fastest growth at 64.3 per cent, although medicine and dentistry and education had even faster growth. Enrolment in business and administrative studies and social studies, the second and third most popular undergraduate subject areas respectively, however fell slightly in 2018/19 from the previous year. For both subject areas, this occurred after long term steady growth.

Postgraduate enrolment has seen less consistent and slower growth across all subject areas. The top three postgraduate subject areas have however grown after experiencing slower growth in the previous two years. Annual growth in engineering and technology in particular was strong at 12.5 per cent, whereas business and administrative studies, the most popular postgraduate subject area, was relatively slow at only 3.8 per cent. Postgraduate law enrolments have declined considerably in the past three years, suffering a decline of approximately 14 per cent each year.

Competitor activity

Figure 11: Egypt HE enrolments in the US

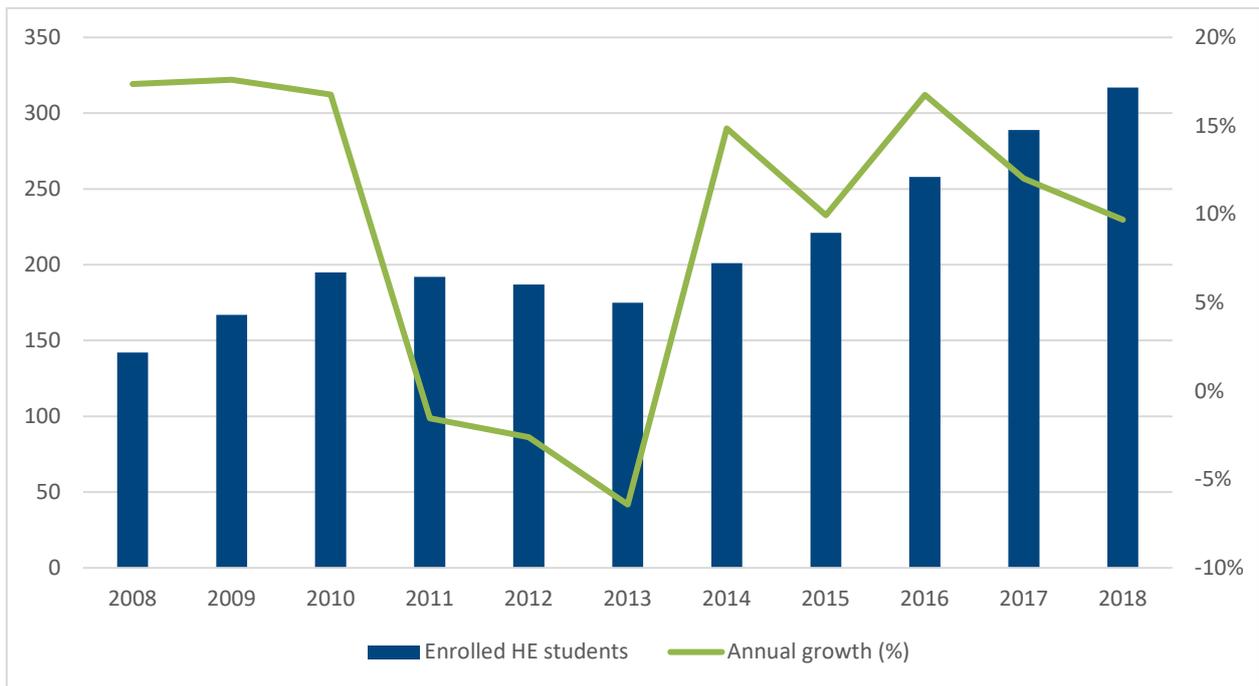


Source: IIE

The US is the second most popular study destination for internationally mobile Egyptian students, surpassed only by Saudi Arabia. In 2018/19 there were 3,165 Egyptian tertiary students in the US (excluding those on Optional Practical Training). Although Egypt was not included in President Trump's 2016 travel ban, enrolments started to fall in 2016 after sustained growth for five years.⁹¹ The ban disproportionately affected Muslim countries and as such likely dissuaded citizens of majority Muslim countries, such as Egypt, from studying in the US.

⁹¹ [Trump expands travel ban to six additional countries](#), Al Jazeera, February 2020.

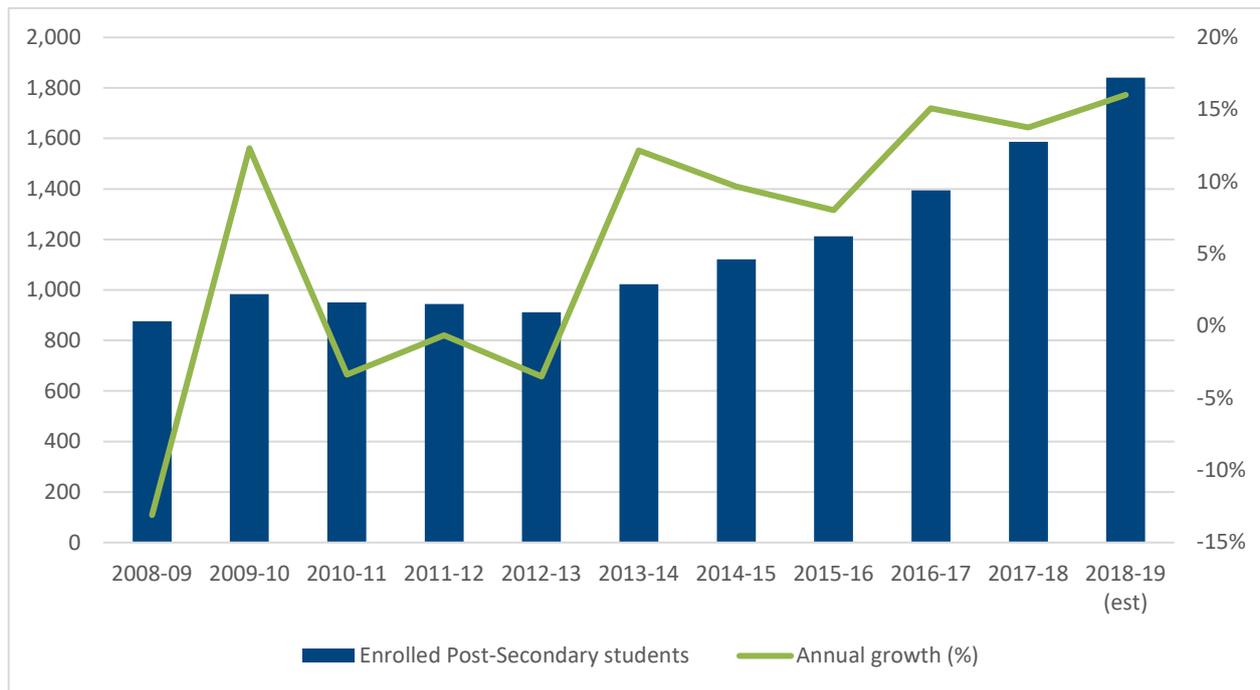
Figure 12: Egypt HE enrolments in Australia



Source: AusTrade

Egypt is still a small market for Australia, but the number of Egyptian students going to Australia for higher education has increased every year since 2013. The total number of Egyptian tertiary students in Australia doubled between 2008 and 2018. In 2018, Australia was the 18th largest host of Egyptian internationally mobile students with 317 students.

Figure 13: Egypt HE enrolments in Canada



Source: StatCan (to 2016-17); British Council estimate based on data from StatCan and Immigration, Refugees & Citizenship Canada (2017-18)

An estimated 1,841 Egyptian students were enrolled in Canadian institutions in 2018/19, making it the eighth-largest host of Egyptian internationally mobile students. The UK and Canada have a difference of approximately 1,200 students, but growth in enrolments at Canadian HEIs is double that of those in the UK, reaching 16 per cent in 2018/19. As in the UK and the US, Egyptian tertiary enrolments in Canada began to increase notably after the 2011 revolution.

Transnational education

Egypt is the fifth largest TNE market for the UK and the largest in MENA with 19,355 Egyptian students enrolled in UK TNE programmes in 2018/19. Enrolments have fallen slightly over the past two years from a peak of 21,695 in 2016/17 but the rate of decline has slowed. The number of students ‘registered at an overseas partner’ (as per HESA’s classification) declined from 7,745 in 2015/16 to 3,535 in 2018/19.⁹² The University of Greenwich is the largest provider of UK TNE in Egypt, with over 8,000 students enrolled in 2018/19.

Egypt hosts several long-established foreign universities, including the British University in Egypt, but branch campuses are a relatively new form of education provision in Egypt. The government is currently trying to turn Egypt into a TNE hub concentrated on the New Administrative Capital.⁹³ In 2017, Egypt’s minister for education Abdul Ghaffar announced that six new branch campuses would be built in the new capital. These will include universities from the US, the UK, Hungary, Canada, Sweden and France. Ghaffar particularly stressed strong relations with the UK in his speech.⁹⁴

Egypt’s minister of higher education gave some insight into the driving factors behind the push for more TNE provision in a statement in 2018. He stated that the presence of foreign (specifically UK) universities would support internationalisation and labour market demands, as well as become catalysts for further partnerships in research and mobility.⁹⁵

In July 2018, new regulation was enacted for the foundation of branch campuses. Branch campuses are now required to teach the same programs as the main campuses of the parent institute and award degrees that are recognised in their home countries. They must also be approved by the government and submit a five-year plan with expected student numbers and costs. Branch campuses are expected to enrol a percentage of local Egyptian students and allocate grants annually to allow Egyptian students to study at the parent institution.⁹⁶

In 2018, the UK and Egyptian ministers for higher education signed an MoU with the intention of removing barriers to set up branch campuses between the two countries.⁹⁷ The agreement has however sparked controversy in UK education institutions and in an open letter published in August 2018, academics protested the British government’s promotion of partnerships between UK and Egyptian higher education institutions, citing human rights abuses and wider repression.⁹⁸ The University of Liverpool pulled out of a TNE deal with Egypt following the protest due to fears of reputational damage.⁹⁹

Despite the letter, new partnerships between the UK and Egypt have continued. The University of Hertfordshire launched a branch campus in August 2019 and Coventry University also announced it would open a campus in Egypt, now set up as part of the Knowledge Hub campus in Cairo.¹⁰⁰

⁹² UK TNE Data, HESA, 2019.

⁹³ [Contradiction behind Egypt’s embrace of branch campuses](#), *University World News*, September 2018.

⁹⁴ [6 international universities to be built in new capital](#), *Egypt Today*, November 2017.

⁹⁵ [Contradiction behind Egypt’s embrace of branch campuses](#), *University World News*, September 2018.

⁹⁶ [Parliament enacts law regulating establishment of foreign universities](#), *Egypt Today*, July 2018.

⁹⁷ [UK and Egypt sign MOU on branch campuses, as global ministers meet](#), *The PIE News*, January 2018.

⁹⁸ [UUK’s cynical Egypt links put profit before human rights](#), *The Guardian*, August 2018.

⁹⁹ [University of Liverpool scraps plans to open Egypt campus](#), *The Guardian*, October 2018.

¹⁰⁰ [UK universities open Egypt branches despite academic repression](#), *Middle East Monitor*, August 2019; [Why The Knowledge Hub Universities?](#), *The Knowledge Hub Universities*, accessed 14 July 2020.