



# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CROSSROADS IV

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PERCEPTIONS, CHOICES AND  
MOTIVATIONS DURING COVID-19

# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CROSSROADS IV

In our fourth installment of International Student Crossroads, students are resolved in their desire to study on-campus. They continue to demonstrate a willingness to quarantine and get a vaccine in order to achieve that invaluable face-to-face experience. A preference for online-only study remains low globally.

## International student perceptions, choices and motivations during COVID-19

The research examined the attitudes and intentions of over 6,000 prospective students between 16 March and 5 April 2021.

### Expecting to commence studies:

75% of respondents expected to start their studies as planned.

Global total - April 2021 responses



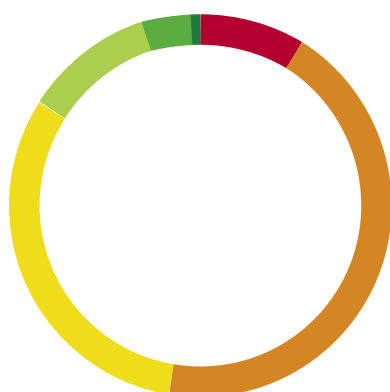
Global total - October 2020 responses



● Yes ● I don't know ● No

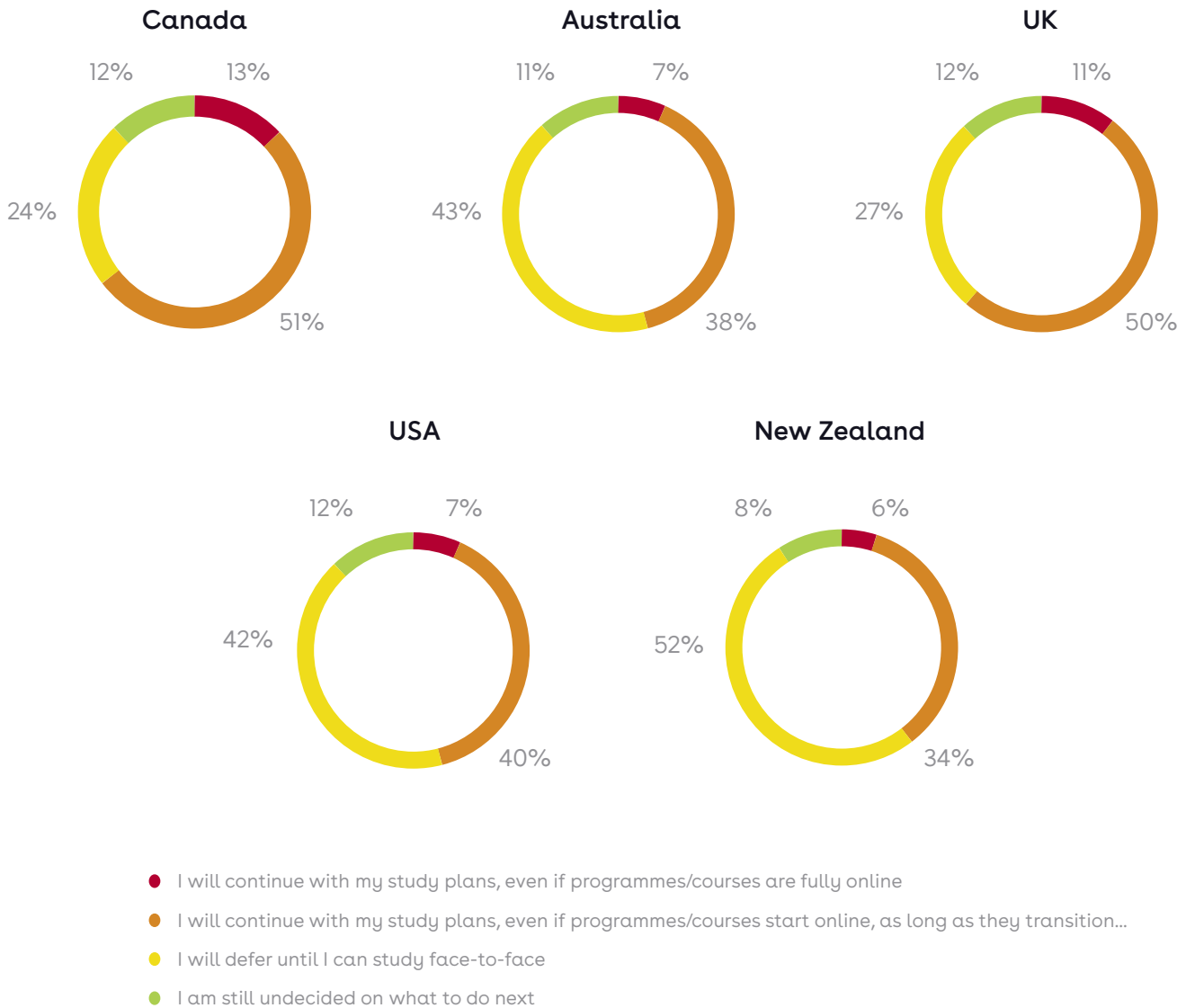
### Short-term attitudes to delivery modes:

In the short-term as we continue to manage the pandemic, how teaching & learning is delivered remains a key consideration, with 43% of students willing to commence online if they can later transfer to face-to-face. A further 31% say they will defer until face-to-face becomes available. Only 10% are willing to study fully online.



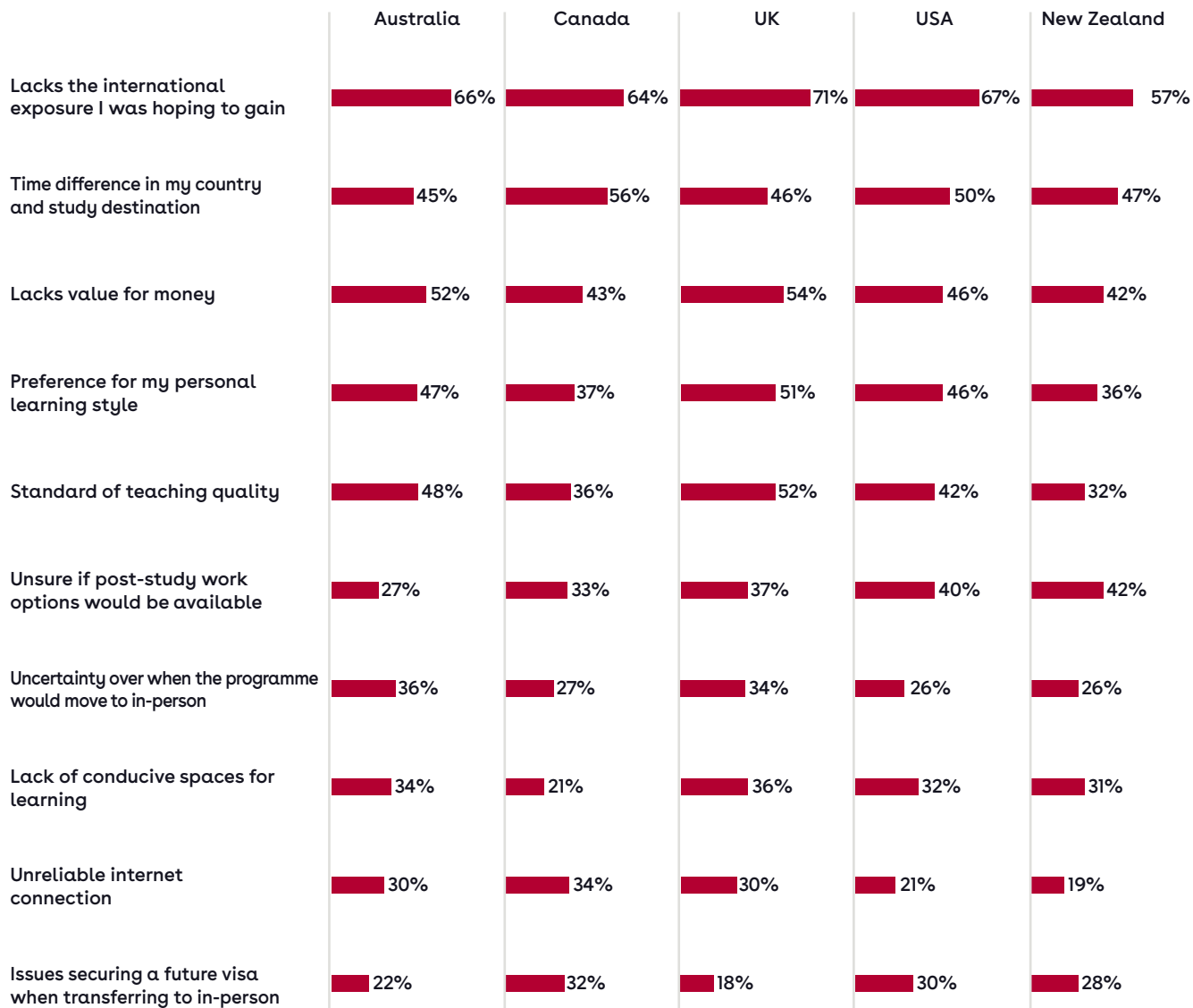
- I will continue with my study plans, even if programmes/courses are fully online
- I will continue with my study plans, even if programmes/courses start online, as long as they transition to face-to-face when the situation allows
- I will defer until I can study face-to-face
- I am undecided on what to do next
- I will withdraw my application if the situation does not improve
- Other

However, attitudes to online study do differ depending on the destination country of choice, with students looking to study in Canada and the UK much more likely to commence online and transition to face-to-face, while those interested in studying in Australia, the US and New Zealand are much more likely to defer until face-to-face becomes available.



## Which of the following reasons is stopping you from enrolling online?

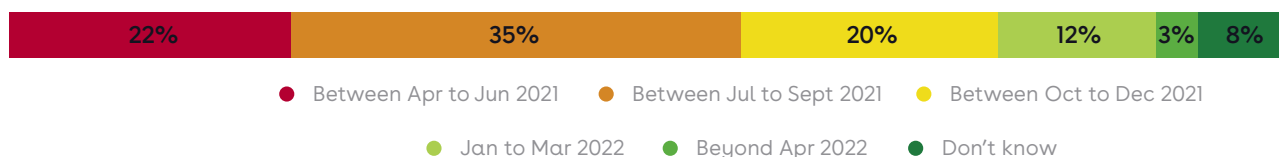
When we asked current applicants who plan on deferring, withdrawing or are uncertain of their plans what was stopping them from enrolling online, we saw a complex picture with multiple factors. However, the lack of international exposure was key across all destination countries.



## When are you expecting to transition to full-time on-campus learning?

Of the current students who commenced their studies online in their home country, 57% expect to transition to full-time on-campus teaching by September 2021.

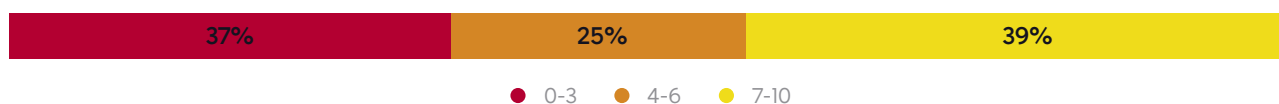
### Overall



## Will students switch destinations to gain face-to-face teaching sooner?

39% of respondents were likely to switch destinations if it means being able to gain face-to-face teaching earlier.

### Overall



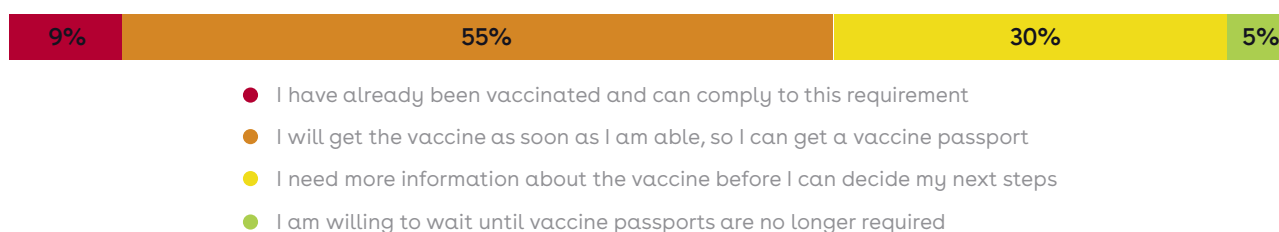
Respondents answered on a scale of 0-10 (0 = Not at all likely, 10 = Extremely likely)

## Attitudes to vaccination:

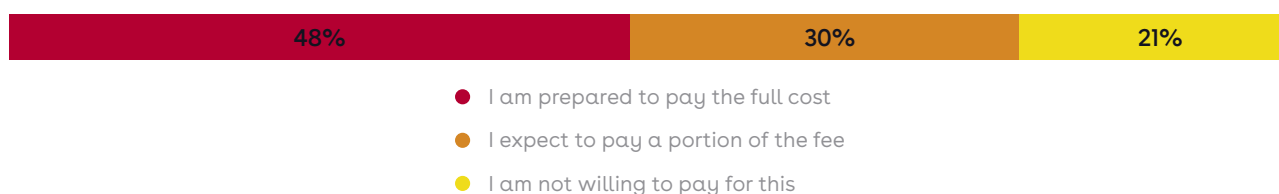
There is some hesitancy around vaccinations, but the majority of students will be vaccinated and are willing to pay.

### Which of these statements is closest to your thoughts or situation about a potential vaccine passport requirement?

#### Grand total

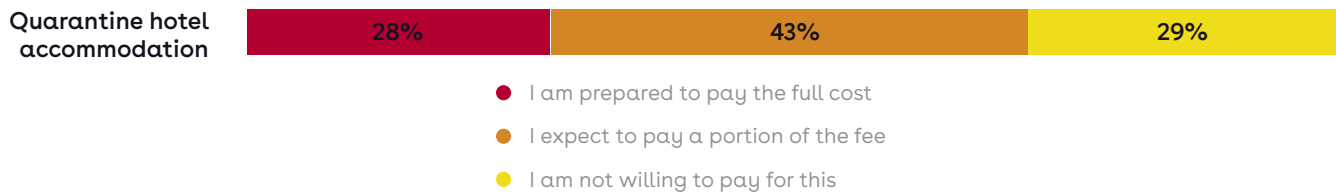


#### COVID-19 Vaccine

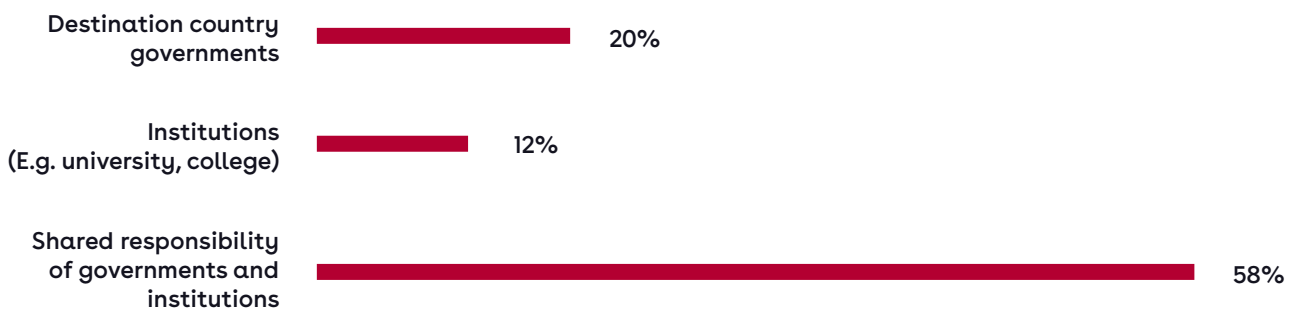


### Attitudes to quarantine:

Previous surveys have shown that students are willing to quarantine, however the majority expect institutions and governments to pay some or all of the costs.



If you are not willing to pay or willing to pay only a portion of the cost for any mentioned health requirements, who do you expect to shoulder all or most of the cost?





# KEY TAKEAWAYS

- 30% of students are searching for more information on vaccines. Universities and governments need to provide clear communication channels.
- A clear road map for on-campus start dates will give students confidence in their study destination
- Students are prepared to quarantine but would like to be supported in covering these costs

Face-to-face teaching remains the focus for students, but there continues to be a great deal of uncertainty for 2021 on a number of key issues:

- What levels of face-to-face teaching will they receive and when?
- When will travel restrictions be lifted or eased so that they can arrive on campus?
- Will they need to quarantine, and will vaccination certificates be needed?
- Will they remain eligible for post-study work if they study online?
- If they defer in September/October, will January starts be made available?

# GET IN TOUCH

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