OECD iLibrary Statistics

The OECD iLibrary Statistics interface has been designed to support researchers who require substantial custom-made datasets for further analysis and processing. Undertake the following task in order to familiarise yourself with the OECD iLibrary interface and the datasets available:

Compare the recent growth in numbers of foreign students enrolled in tertiary education (HE) programmes in Australia, the UK and USA.

1.1 Accessing OECD iLibrary

1.1.1 From YorSearch, click on the link to the E-resources Guide.

1.1.2 Select Social Policy and Social Work from the E-resources by Subject dropdown menu.

1.1.3 Click on the link for OECD iLibrary Statistics

1.2 Key Tables

On the OECD Statistics homepage, the list of Key Tables provides a useful shortcut to some of the most commonly-used datasets, listed by broad theme.

1.2.1 Click Education Key Tables from OECD.

1.2.2 The list includes Tertiary education graduation rates for all OECD countries. Click on the title to take a look at the data.

You will notice that this table doesn’t provide any information about students’ nationality, so does not answer our question.
1.3 OECD.Stat

In order to address the research question on the previous page, it will be necessary to select your own choice of data.

1.3.1 Use the breadcrumb trail at the top of the page to return to the Statistics homepage, and choose OECD.Stat from the left-hand panel.

1.3.2 Click on the pink Data icon.

1.3.3 Start from the Data by Theme panel on the left-hand side. Under the heading Education and Training, navigate through the sub-menus to select Foreign/International Students Enrolled.

You will reach a data table with Country on the vertical axis and Year on the horizontal axis. Each year’s data is subdivided into three categories.

1.3.4 We need to customise this table to remove unwanted variables. Firstly, from the Customise drop down menu, select Selection, then Country. Unselect all, then tick Australia, United Kingdom and United States. View Data when you are ready.

1.3.5 Now Customise the Year, and select the last 10 years.

1.3.6 Finally Customise the Foreign or International Category. Select 10: Non-resident students of reporting country, and unselect all other variables.

1.3.7 To visualise this data, click Draw chart, and choose from Bar, Line or Scatter Plot.

Note that you can Export this data to Excel, or choose another format such as .csv, which may be more suitable if you wish to upload your data to SPSS or another statistical analysis package.

Click the i icon for further information about how the data is collected and the variables defined. To cite a dataset obtained from OECD.Stat, you can use the Data extracted… record at the base of the table.