









## **OPEN DOORS FACT SHEET: IRAN**

## INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

## **Educational Exchange Data from Open Doors 2013**

In the 2012/13 academic year, **8,744** students from Iran were studying in the United States (up 25.2% from the previous year). Iran is the fifteenth leading place of origin for students coming to the United States.

Academic Level: The majority of Iranian students study at the graduate level. In 2012/13, their breakdown was as follows

6.3% undergraduate 81.9% graduate students

2.7% other

9.1% OPT (Optional Practical Training)

**Historical trends:** Iran was the top sender of students to the U.S. from 1974/75 to 1982/83. The peak year was 1979/80 when 51,310 students from Iran were studying in the United States. The number of Iranian students in the U.S. declined dramatically throughout the 1980s and 1990s, bottoming out at fewer than 1,700 students in 1999. Since then, the number of students began to rise, with the more than 6,900 Iranian students in the U.S. now exceeding 1991/92 levels, but still significantly below the peak levels that were enrolled in the United States approximately 30 years ago.

Year	# of Students From Iran in the U.S.	% Change from Previous Year
2011/12	6,982	24.1%
2010/11	5,626	18.9%
2009/10	4,731	33.91%
2008/09	3,533	15.46%
2007/08	3,060	9.48%
2006/07	2,795	15.50%
2005/06	2,420	7.51%
2004/05	2,251	-3.02%
2003/04	2,321	2.79%
2002/03	2,258	1.90%
2001/02	2,216	20.17%
2000/01	1,844	-2.18%
1999/00	1,885	13.55%
1998/99	1,660	-10.90%
1997/98	1,863	-12.49%
1996/97	2,129	-18.99%
1995/96	2,628	-9.25%
1994/95	2,896	-20.02%
1993/94	3,621	-11.40%
1992/93	4,087	-17.10%
1991/92	4,930	-21.27%
1990/91	6,262	-15.83%
1989/90	7,440	-16.87%
1988/89	8,950	-14.11%
1987/88	10,420	-14.80%
1986/87	12,230	-13.93%
1985/86	14,210	-14.60%
1984/85	16,640	-18.27%
1983/84	20,360	-23.92%

Source: Open Doors: Report on International Educational Exchange, published annually by IIE with support from the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. For more information, including press releases on foreign students in the U.S. and U.S. study abroad, and FAQs, including definitions of foreign students and foreign scholars, visit www.iie.org/opendoors or contact IIE's Public Affairs office at: +1(212) 984-5360