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Work abroad: Students migration and challenges

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Abstract---This research is focused upon the work, education and life of international students and the challenges faced by them. We generally have seen the craze of settling abroad and a special importance given to NRI students. In this research we aim to understand the challenges faced by them. How they hold up on themselves in the new country alone. This research is done through a questionnaire which consist some open ended and close ended questions related to the physical, mental and emotional struggle faced by the students abroad. Few interviews of the parents of students in India were also done and we observe them keenly how they feel living apart from their children. The result of the research was up to the mark of the reality. Students facing financial crisis, homesickness, cultural barrier. Having accommodation issues. Trouble in learning new laws and adapting the new governing system. Struggling between study and part time jobs with drain them mentally and physically resulting in the loss of studies and knowledge. Mental pressure and depression and medication facilities. All these challenges mentioned above are the outcomes of the research. Leading a life abroad seems to have fun but the unseen struggles, emotions and challenges are left

unsaid. International students work 18 hours daily to make a life which we said is easy or struggle free to make.

Keywords---work abroad, students migration, financial crisis, homesickness, cultural barrier.

Introduction

Migration is the process of moving from one place to another for the sake of work and better opportunities. People move from their home to another city, state, or even country for a job, shelter, or many other reasons. Migration for education is not a new phenomenon and it is becoming very common in our country. As international higher education institutes increased dramatically, due to globalization, more and more students seek higher education in foreign countries. International students consider using their foreign education as a stepping-stone to get permanent residency in another country. In return, international students contribute to the country by working there, paying taxes, and bringing international commerce. Student migration also benefits the foreign country because it receives skilful talents and intellect from sending country and foreign land provides them favorable profession/job opportunities with a higher standard of living.

The migration of the youth is triggered by the need for quality education and also it is forced due to domestic, political, and social unrest in their home country. Globally, about more than 4.6 million Students go abroad and study away from their native countries, of which 53% are From Asia. India sends out 770,000 in 2019 and is set to grow further to roughly 1.8 million by 2024, second to China In 2019; around 703,500 Chinese students migrated to pursue study overseas Studying abroad is one of the most invigorating chapters of a student's life. It is the perfect opportunity to travel, make new friends, learn their language and their culture, and certainly to obtain a world-class higher education. Despite the numerous potential benefits, it also comes with many challenges, although the life of living in a foreign developed country seems to be flashy but international students have to face several difficulties and problems. It is not easy for someone to leave their family, home, and country to settle down in strange new land. Migrating to another country isn't an easy transition that's why there are challenges along the way. Once a student arrives in the host country, he or she will experience a culture shock. International students feel the change and challenge along with it.

The dark side of the international migration of students abroad is the mental health problems faced by these students, as their families took on enormous debt to send their children abroad. They face several challenges like huge amounts charged by foreign educational institutions, adding up the burden are expenses for accommodation and food, among other important items. Other than this, some students are not prepared to handle or understand the huge cultural difference between their home country and host country, and then they have to face many other related problems language barriers, initial acceptance, not

getting a job to your liking, etc. It is the Rule of thumb and it applies to all immigrants, international students in all countries.

Research Gap

Research is based on the topic of work abroad and student migration. It addresses the challenges faced by Indian international students, who were living in a foreign land. Major reasons for challenges are discussed and explained. Research provides the ground reality of students and their situation in host countries. It also shed light on why after facing numerous challenges abroad, students still decide to stay and work across oceans away from their family and friends. And also, why students are not returning to their native country if they are facing such problems.

Objectives

- To know the ground reality of the situation of international students
- To know and understand what led the students to face these challenges.
- To know why students, leave their home country, knowing upcoming challenges.
- To know what challenges and problems, students often face in foreign countries.
- To know why some students, like to migrate in abroad, even after having no family relations and support in the host country.
- To know why students, stay abroad after completion of their studies, if the host country is unable to meet their expectations.

Research Methodology

This study analyses the number of populations moving abroad, and the population who wants to migrate. The life of students working their part time and managing their studies too. How are they keeping up with different circumstances including high cost of living, loneliness and homesickness etc. what are the other challenges they face as new rules, different culture, getting PR and managing part time jobs with studies. As, most of the research required in- depth knowledge and accounting experience, a quality and translation approach were encouraged. We talked to our friends who currently moved to abroad about their lifestyle and challenges and we also had a word t=with the families of those students.

Participants

A total number of 100 people were included in the research. Out of what 70% population is of students working and studying abroad and 30% population belongs to those who are in India only.

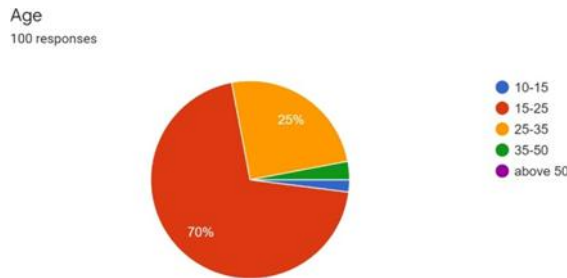
Interview

Informal interviews are conducted in an online mode and recorded in the form of written texts related to the questionnaire. Their identity was not disclosed.

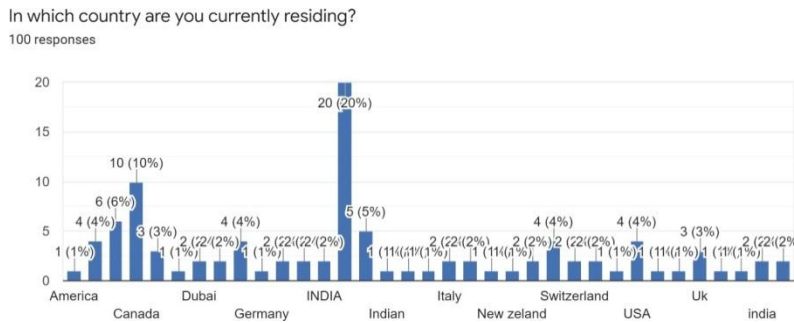
Observation

the students we are talking to were observed during the google meets. Their expression was given importance how they react to the basic personal questions. Survey:14 questions were compiled which include all the aspects an international student may face. The students in India trying to move out and the families of students here in India also find the questionnaire relevant at their side. These surveys were conducted online using google forms. Secondary data: Secondary sources such as previous research, books, magazines, articles, newspapers, essays, and other reports by the national government were reviewed.

Results and Discussion



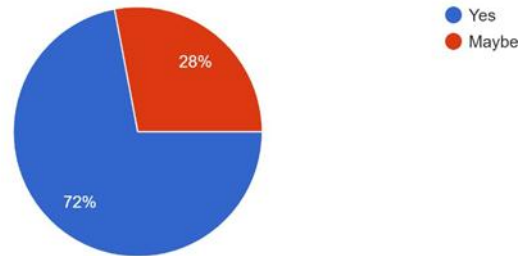
Out of 100 responses we had data of 70% international students and 30% Indians. All the people were of different age groups. As mentioned above, 70% population belongs to the age group of 15-25. They are mostly the students doing part time jobs and managing studies. 25% of population belongs to the age group of 25-35 covering experienced NRI students who have better jobs now. Rest is 3% of age group 35-50 and 2% of age group 10-15, mostly Indians whose family members are in abroad and they know the struggles of both the sides.



Out of 100 responses 70% population is residing in abroad countries and rest 30% in India. The largest number of populations we received is from CANADA with 13%. Then onsecond, we received from AUSTRALIA- 10%. Thirdly we have from UNITED KINGDOM – 9%. On fourth we have two countries GERMANY and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA both with 6% each. Then the fifth position is secured by ITALY with 5%. We have four countries together. On sixth position NEW ZELAND, SINGAPORE, GREECE and UNITED ARAB EMIRATES with 4%

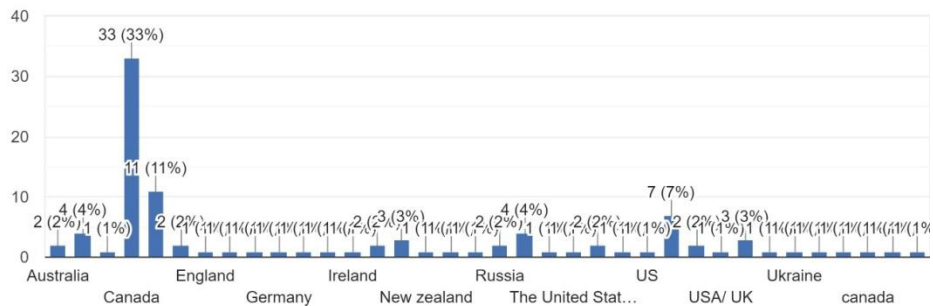
each. Seventh position is also shared by two countries RUSSIA and SWITZERLAND with 2% each. Lastly IRELAND with 1%.

Are you planning or want to plan to migrate abroad?
100 responses



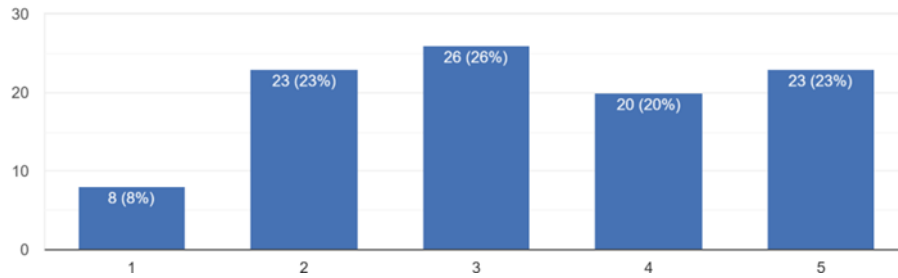
As the question arises whether people want to migrate surely or they still are confused with maybe, 72% marked surely yes. They do want to migrate and rest 28% marked maybe as they are not sure and want to think more about migrating.

which country do you prefer to migrate ?
100 responses



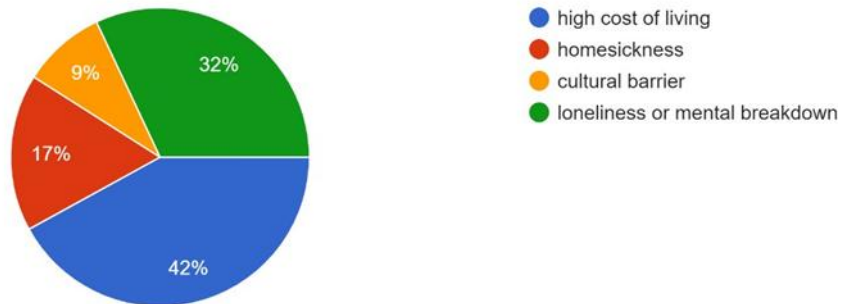
As the question is open ended, to know the choice of international students about the country they want to migrate. This choice tells us a lot about the atmosphere of the chosen country, how Indians are treated there and which country the Indians feel safe at the most. The data calculated shows the most preferable country is CANADA with 45 votes. Canada is a very choice for 45% people. Next the USA is chosen by 12% of the population. On the third choice UNITED KINGDOM stands with 8% of population. Then on fourth AUSTRALIA is chosen by the 7%. Next, with 5% of population SINGAPORE and UNITED ARAB EMIRATES each secured the fifth position. NEW ZELAND comes with 4%. Next, GERMANY, ITALY and RUSSIA took the 2% of the population. At last ENGLAND, EUROPE, FRANCE, GREECE, IRELAND and UKRAINE all secured 1% of the population each.

Do you agree about the racism issue faced by the students abroad?
100 responses



When it comes to racism, every NRI have their own story of racism either with bad or good experience. Here the same question is answered by 70% of international and 30% of Indian students on the scale of 5 which ranges from strongly disagree (1) to strongly agree (5). And the undecided (3) have most votes with 26%, but not to ignore the fact 23% of people marked strongly agree and disagree equally. Then 20% agrees with the question. Only 8% strongly disagreed which indicated that somewhere racism is experienced by many Indian in abroad.

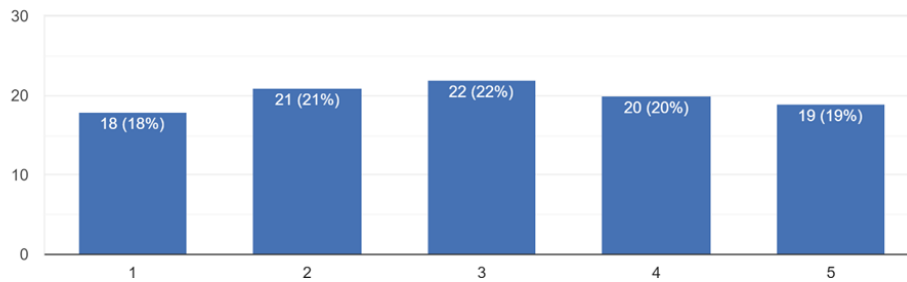
Which barrier according to you act as biggest barrier for students
100 responses



Coming to barriers, when we start a life in any other country, we restart thousands of new things in a new way. We think of a better future with better education and opportunities, better salary and life. But few barriers always play as a hurdle in the soothing life of an international student who settle abroad in a very young age with a great pressure of study and work.

Do you think some students face difficulties in understanding new laws?

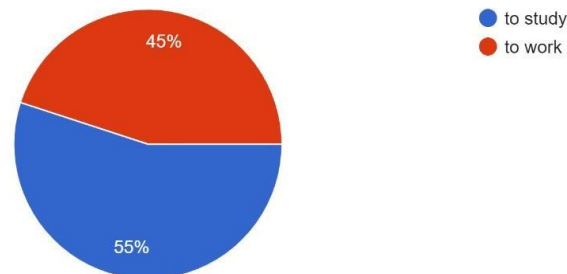
100 responses



Some foreign countries have opposite road laws and other have different governing of their country. In this situation it becomes hard for student sometimes to understand the laws but managed to work according to them. On a scale of five from 1 as strongly disagree to 5 as strongly agree, most of the population chosen 3 as undecided with 22%. Secondly 21% says disagree. Then agree and strongly agree was chosen by 20% and 19% of population respectively. At last, the least number 18% chose strongly disagree.

How would you prefer to migrate abroad

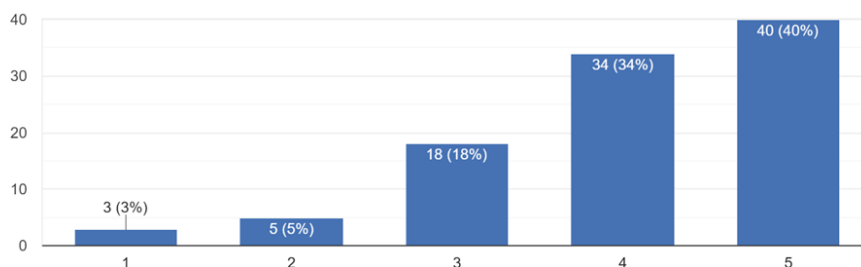
100 responses



As the question arises how students prefer to migrate included many scenarios as how it is easy to settle, easy to earn living, easy to get visa and easy to get loans. We created a closed ended question as they migrate for study or for work. In which 55% population prefer to migrate for study and 45% population prefer to migrate for work.

How much do female students feel safe while living abroad?

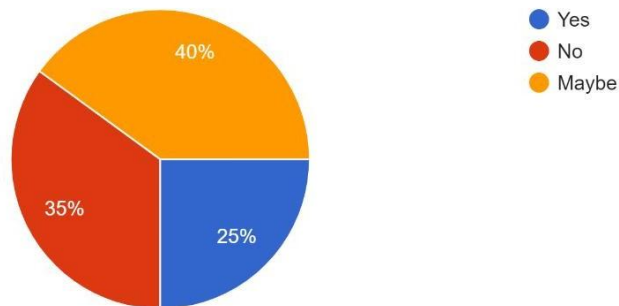
100 responses



Each year we get a international level graph of safe countries for women in which many countries top either form top or bottom. In this aspect we only rely on the outcomes rather than the actual saying of the people living out there. Here in this picture, it is somehow sad too that people feel safe abroad more than our own country. On the graph of strongly disagree. (1) to strongly agree (5) the highest number of populations 40% marked strongly agree as they agree that women feel safe while living abroad. 34% marked agree, 18% goes with undecided. 5% and 3% chose disagree and strongly disagree respectively.

Do you think students don't get the required study environment?

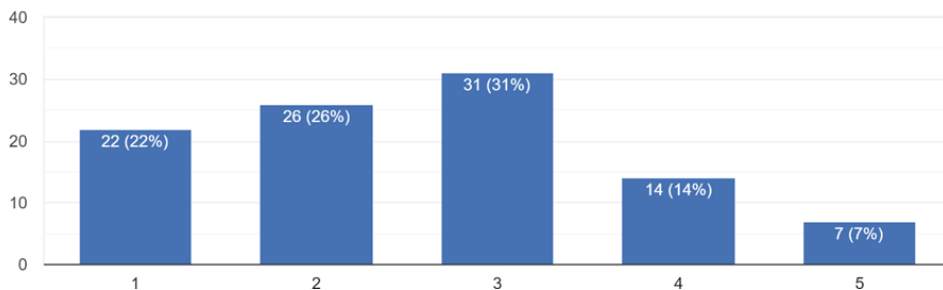
100 responses



Students living abroad manage their studies and part time jobs to earn a living. They work 12 hour shifts to pay their fee and earn a bread. In this schedule they somehow adjust their studies. Getting a proper study environment is hard for them as they have to work a lot which makes them tired and managing a whole life in abroad country is not as easy as it seems. 40% of the population goes with maybe as they somehow manage their lives. 35% goes with no they don't get the study environment and last only 25% says yes, they get study environment.

Do students face issues related to accessibility of medical facilities?

100 responses

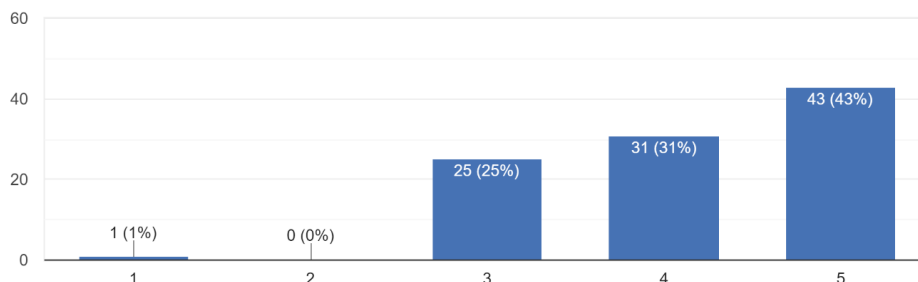


A great accessibility of medical facilities is what makes abroad special. Having medical loans, accessibility and crucial needs is availed to every citizen residing in the country. The same question was asked as if the people think there is not much accessibility or if they face any issue regarding the medical facility and the answer, we got was 31% undecided. This undecided can mean a lot as if they don't get much facility because of not being permanent resident or high cost or if

they got everything in a proper access. Then 26% disagree as they get proper facility and 22% strongly disagree. Not to ignore the point 14% and 7% population marked agree and strongly agree respectively. They think that students do not get proper medical facilities.

Do you think students face financial crisis ?

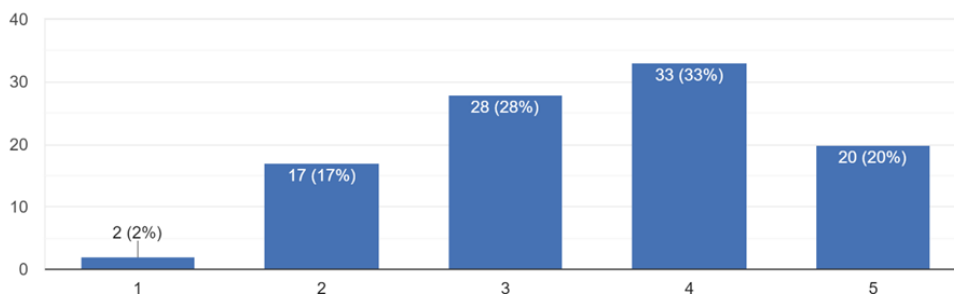
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Financial crisis is the curse of settling abroad. Indian rupee having much less value add a curse to it too. In this situation students manage their life financially as they can't expect much help from India. Same can be seen in the result of the question. 43% strongly agree to the point that students face financial crisis. 31% agree and 25% undecided to the point. Only 1% strongly disagree to the point.

Do you think students face accommodation issue?

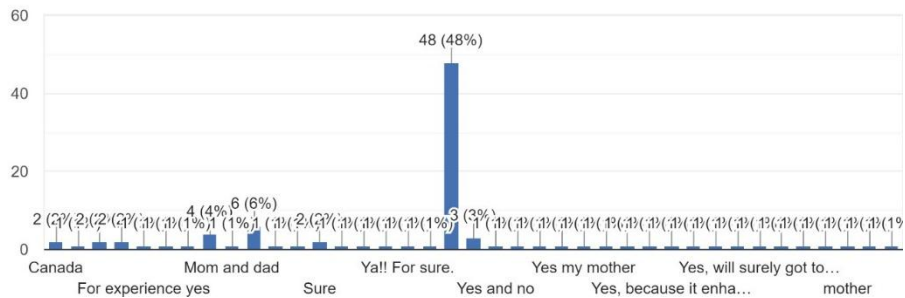
100 responses



Accommodation also plays a vital role in a life of an international student. Not having a proper housing forces the students to live on rent together with 5 or 6 other students too. In the hardship of finance if they are unable to pay the rent, they face negative consequences. Finding a house according to their daily wage is a challenge in itself. 33% people agree with the point that yes students face accommodation issue. 28% says undecided as it depends on the condition of house and the student. 20% strongly agree to the point. 17% disagree to the point and only 2% strongly disagree to the point which says that the largest number of population face accommodation issue.

Would you prefer your loving one to migrate abroad?

100 responses



As the question arises for the international students if they prefer their living ones to move abroad based on their personal experiences and conditions. We get a variety of response and some of them even mentioned whom they want to migrate from their family. 82% goes with a big YES, they want their loved ones to go out. Out of them two students want their whole family to migrate, two of them want their father to migrate and two of them want their mom or siblings. 7% goes with a NO, they don't want their known to migrate. 7% goes with maybe and 4% goes with depends, depend on different aspects and situations.

Conclusion

Studies suggest that students who move abroad to earn a living must have more problems. Students face issues such as food, shelter, homesickness, cultural differences, language barriers, adjustment, living expenses, loneliness, dementia, and health problems facing academics, students find it difficult to adjust to a new environment, with young people, places, and a new city culture. Sometimes no one can listen to them and solve their problems. Students should rely on the limited services they have, and, they have not been able to ask for any help from their parents or family because they already carry the burden of debt with their overseas studies. Due to limited packaging costs, they often skip meals and seek out fast food, which is a low nutritional value. Many students eat junk food while working and that has a direct impact on their physical health. The study concludes that although the above factors play an important role in their health and psychological well-being, students are still learning to adapt to their new environment despite all the difficulties. International students face many other challenges when they arrive abroad, including news, integration, discrimination, financial costs, limited access to the labour market, and other administrative and legal barriers. Most international students rely on additional funding for part-time jobs. Not only do they gain financially by working, but it also gives them a good opportunity to gain professional experience and build networks, and improve their communication language skills. However, the host country is usually limited to a few working hours per week, and obtaining work permits is difficult and time-consuming.

Naturally, this raises concerns about international students being thrown into illegal employment, which is especially problematic with regard to social security and insurance issues. Otherwise, the economic benefits of the host

country are diminished and Students caught working illegally must face legal action as they do not have the proper authority to do so, they are often expelled and must return to their home country. These challenges can impede the benefits of international students in the short and long term. Therefore, before moving to a foreign country, students should prepare their mind and heart for future challenges or face challenges, focusing on potential benefits and opportunities ahead of them. While we may want to encourage students to study internally and participate in the global workforce, on the other hand, we should also develop our own institutions to meet world-class standards. As someone once said, "We should not stop people from moving. We must give them a better life and a higher standard of living at home. Migration is not a problem; it is a process".

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