CASSIE The Consortium for the Analysis of Student Success through International Education

Study Abroad at all CASSIE participating institutions

Descriptive statistics for 2010 and 2011 fall first-time freshman cohorts

13.8% of student body in 2010 and 2011 cohorts studied abroad

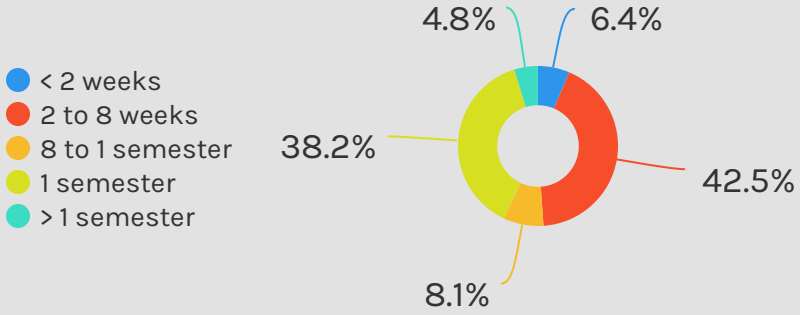
30,649 out of a total of 221,981 students studied abroad

76.2% of programs taught in English

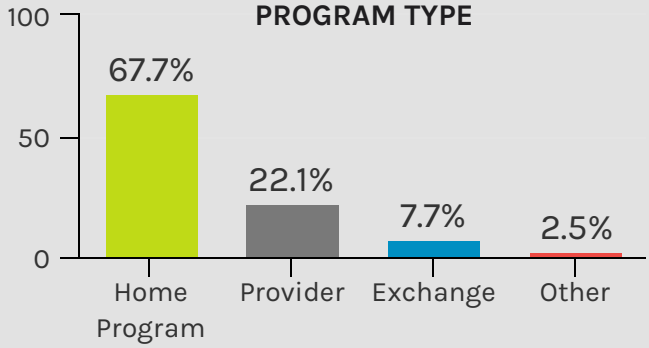
5 TOP VISITED COUNTRIES

UK = 4,257 students; 14.2%
Italy = 3,756 students; 12.6%
Spain = 3,748 students; 12.5%
France = 2,654 students; 8.9%
Australia = 1,330 students; 4.4%

PROGRAM LENGTH



PROGRAM TYPE



STUDY ABROAD

- High School GPA = 3.67
- SAT Score = 1227
- % Received Need-Based Aid = 26.6%
- % Female = 67.1%
- % Underrepresented minority = 14.0%

DID NOT STUDY ABROAD

- High School GPA = 3.45
- SAT Score = 1127
- % Received Need-Based Aid= 39.2%
- % Female = 52.1%
- % Underrepresented minority = 23.2%

Underrepresented minorities are defined here as American Indian/Alaskan Native, Black or African American, Hispanic, and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander.

For more information: www.usg.edu/cassie

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Study Abroad at **all CASSIE participating institutions**
Descriptive statistics for 2010 and 2011 fall first-time freshman cohorts

STUDY ABROAD

- Degree in 6 years = 95.1% *(95.9%)
- Degree in 4 years = 72.3% *(73.0%)
- Semesters to Degree = 11.7
- GPA at Degree = 3.42
- Credit Hours Earned at Degree = 153.0

These descriptive statistics suggest that students who Study Abroad have higher 6- and 4- year graduation rates, and higher GPA at graduation compared to non Study Abroad students.

DID NOT STUDY ABROAD

- Degree in 6 years = 62.7% *(82.4%)
- Degree in 4 years = 38.2% *(51.5%)
- Semesters to Degree = 12.3
- GPA at Degree = 3.23
- Credit Hours Earned at Degree = 147.9

But because these students also differ in academic preparation, demographic, and socioeconomic characteristics, these descriptive statistics do not reveal the impact of **only** Study Abroad, but **also** the influence of other factors that contribute to student success.

** refers to the graduation rate of students who remain enrolled until their 3rd year*
'Semesters to Degree', 'Credit Hours Earned at Degree' and 'GPA at Degree' are all conditional on graduation.

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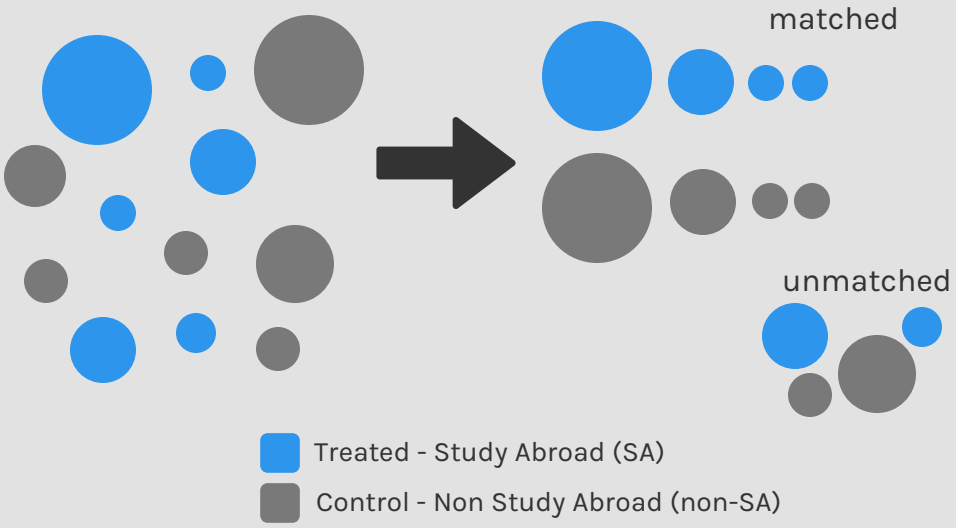
Matching analysis: What does this statistical analysis mean?

What does a Matching Analysis do?

Matching takes the existing sample of data where there are pre-existing differences in students who study abroad and those who don't study abroad (e.g. High School GPA), and creates matches between students with similar characteristics.



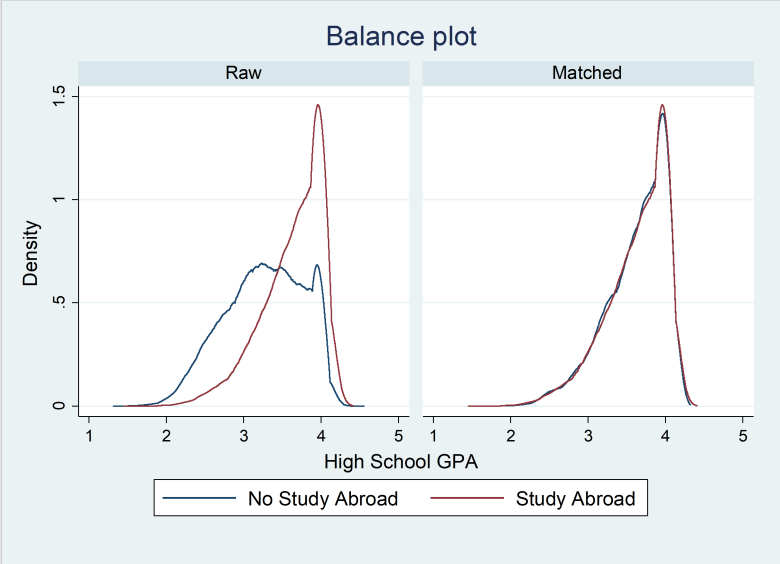
What do we match on (i.e. control variables)?

1. High School GPA,
2. SAT/ACT Score,
3. Need-Based Aid Receipt,
4. Race/Ethnicity,
5. Gender,
6. Age at matriculation,
7. Major,
8. Full time (or part-time)
9. Number of terms enrolled

Matching analysis improves the comparability of treatment and control groups.

Without matching, the outcomes of students who SA are compared against those who don't SA. This ignores other differences that can exist across SA and non-SA students.

With matching, students are first matched to each other on the control variables. Then, the outcomes of only matched SA and non-SA students are calculated.



Example: Unmatched data shows a **notable difference** in HS GPA for SA vs. non-SA students.

Example: Once matches are constructed, the HS GPA for SA and non-SA are much **more similar.**

Balance plot example above shows high school GPA for those who did and did not study abroad in the USG system

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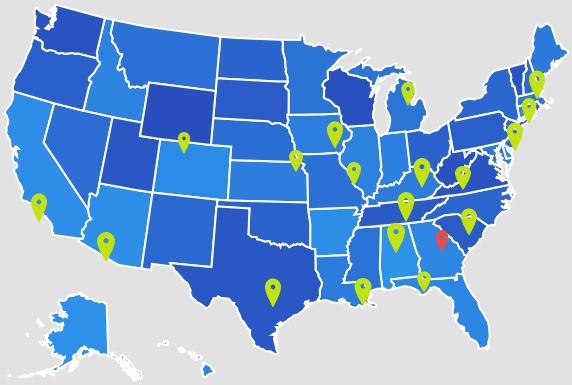
Outcomes: What is the effect of Study Abroad for **all CASSIE participating institutions?**

DEGREE IN 6 YEARS
3.8pp

SA students are 3.8 percentage points more likely to graduate in 6 years compared with non-SA students.

DEGREE IN 4 YEARS
6.2pp

SA students are 6.2 percentage points more likely to graduate in 4 years compared with non-SA students.



SEMESTERS TO DEGREE
-0.16

SA students finish their degree 0.16 semesters, or approximately 2 weeks, faster than non-SA students.

CREDIT HOURS EARNED
2.19

SA students earn 2.19 more credit hours upon graduation compared with non-SA students.

GPA AT DEGREE
0.12

SA students earn a 0.12 higher GPA than non-SA students.

Locations of CASSIE institutions are approximated; red marker represents University System of Georgia.
pp = percentage points; for example, a finding of 10 percentage points means that the probability of graduating in 4 (or 6) years will be 10 points higher for a student who studied abroad, compared with a student who is otherwise equivalent but has not studied abroad.
All estimates are statistically significant at the 5% level or smaller; NSS = Not statistically significant