

# The Effect of Immigration on the Education Quality in France

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## Abstract

The impact of migration on the quality of college education in France is a significant contemporary concern. France's history as an immigration destination, particularly from less developed countries, has shaped political discourse for decades. Children of immigrants in France often exhibit lower academic performance compared to native-born peers. This paper examines the effects of immigration on educational outcomes for these children and the influence of French immigration laws on academic programs for international students. The literature review highlights challenges faced by immigrant students, such as language barriers and inadequate support for special educational needs. Additionally, the study investigates the role of parental human capital on the educational attainment of second-generation immigrants. Methodologically, a quantitative analysis evaluates the economic contribution of international students to the French economy. Results from a survey reveal significant financial contributions from international students, with concerns raised about potential impacts of changes in immigration policy on student recruitment and scientific output. Recommendations include initiatives to support immigrant families, enhance cultural integration, and assess the economic importance of foreign students. Understanding the challenges and opportunities faced by immigrant students allows for a comprehensive evaluation of the overall impact of immigration on the quality of education in France.

*Keywords: Education, Quality, France*

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## 1. Introduction

The effect of migration on the quality of college education in France is a question of great relevance in these modern days. France has a long history of being an immigration country, with the presence of newcomers, particularly from less developed countries, playing a key role

in its political debate for decades. It is real that the children of immigrants perform worse in school, on average than the children of native-born parents (Ichou, 2018). France being a highly favored stop for foreign students the issue of immigration and how it shapes the educational context is of great importance. The research questions to be addressed are: Fortunately enough, he did not need to take them with him.

1. How does immigration affect the educational fate of the children of immigrants from France?
2. What are the effects of French immigration law on the level of academic programs for international students?

## **2. Literature Review and Methodology**

A lot of study is being done on the educational paths of children of refugees in France. The academic performance of children of immigrants is, on average, inferior to that of children born to native-born parents (Michalak, 2015). You can see these lower levels of achievement in how much students learn in elementary and middle school, as well as how they are guided when they get to high school: they are pushed toward the least prestigious paths of the baccalauréat (high school diploma) or other types of qualifications (Ichou, 2018).

However, diversity—the big differences in achievement between people from different parts of the world—is what defines the educational paths of children of immigrants, not academic failure. Several studies show the problems experienced by the children of immigrants in France, for instance, the inappropriateness of provisions for students with disabilities or special educational needs.

Children from immigrant households almost always lack skills in the heritage language when they start schooling, which can in turn affect their education. Nevertheless, what we should go beyond is the accounts of the failure that students have had with their academic lives and focus on their different educational journeys. It is vital to appreciate the challenges and benefits that immigrant's student's face to see the overall impact of immigration on the education sector (Welply, 2020).

Besides, the effect of parental human capital background on the educational attainment of second-generation immigrants is investigated, showing the significance of family environment on students' academic achievement.

For an evaluation of the impact of immigration on the quality of higher education in France, a quantitative estimation will be made. The Impact of Immigration on the Quality of College education in France is very relevant due to the high number of international students in the country. Between 2000 and 2014 42-50 percent of international students still hold a valid residence permit five years later. This range remains constant over time (Boubtane, 2022).

Most were still students, bearing in mind that since 2006 a growing share has obtained work permits (particularly for highly skilled migrants), pointing to greater absorption of immigrant students into the labor market.

One of the key equations that will be utilized in this study is the calculation of the percentage of international students' contribution to the French economy, which is given by:

- In case you did not get the application exposed to the Application Center in step 3, you need to go back to step 3 to redo the step.
- **Contribution percentage = Contribution of international student / Total French economy s ×100**

This analysis aims to unravel the economic importance of international students and their impact on French higher education.

### 3. Findings

According to a survey conducted by Campus France and Kantar Public Institute, which involved approximately 10,000 students from abroad studying in France over the past three years, international students spend a significant amount of money while they are in the country.

In particular, they contribute nearly €5 billion to the French economy. Rent accounts for 48% of an international student's monthly €867 budget, while food and clothing account for 21% (Erudera News, 2022). The study also mentions that the cost of tuition is €2,822.

According to the results, the majority of overseas students in France (77%) rely on financial assistance from their family and siblings. Other sources of income for students include personal savings (48%) and government subsidies (46%) as well as paid activities like student employment (34%). Roughly one in eighteen students (or 18%) who took part in the poll reported receiving financial help for their education from either their home country's or France's government.

The bulk of the 48% of students who indicated they worked while studying emphasized the importance of these occupations in covering their expenditures throughout their time in the nation (Erudera News, 2022). Moreover, the French immigration law has undergone changes that directly touch upon international students, where university leaders have expressed concerns that the incoming number of students may be reduced, and French scientific output affected.

The implication of this for the role of immigration policies in the quality of university education in France is one of the arguments that the findings in this paper defend. The table includes the following information.

<b>Funding Sources</b>	<b>Percentage of Respondents</b>
Family and Siblings	77%
Personal Savings	48%
CAF Subsidies	46%
Paid Activities such as Student Jobs	34%
Scholarships	18%

**Table: France Results, source: own.**

#### **4. Recommendations**

Cultivate programs that cooperate and take care of the families of immigrant students, taking into account the role of the home environment in students' schooling achievement. It could refer to measures such as engaging parents in their children's education, offering language assistance, and explaining the French education system (Michalak, 2015).

Initiatives that promote the integration of international students must be developed in the French higher education system.

This may include support for cultural adaptation, access to academic success resources, and initiatives improving the lives of international students in France. Carry out an exhaustive assessment of the economic importance of foreign students and their impact on the higher education sector in France (Erudera News, 2022).

This should comprise an assessment of their contribution to the French economy, the finances they get, and the possible effects of the immigration policies on educational quality. Put measures that cater to the diverse educational backgrounds and needs of children of immigrants.

Vrba (2022) also implies that the unemployment rate in countries is connected not only to market structure and such as but also to the education and its quality. Therefore it is necessary to increase and maintain quality in Higher Education not only in France but also general in any country in the World.

## 5. Conclusion

The effect of immigration on the quality of higher education in France is a very rousing issue. The main spenders of the international students in France are about €5 billion to the French economy. And the majority of them are students.

The majority of international students are financially supported by their families and siblings, on the part of other resources, funding for students includes personal savings, CAF subsidies, and paid activities such as student jobs.

French immigration law has undergone modifications that directly affect international students, to the dismay of higher education leaders who worry about possible consequences on student recruitment and French science.

Understanding the difficulties and the opportunities that international students and the children of immigrants face enables the evaluation of the overall effect on the educational quality of France.

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