

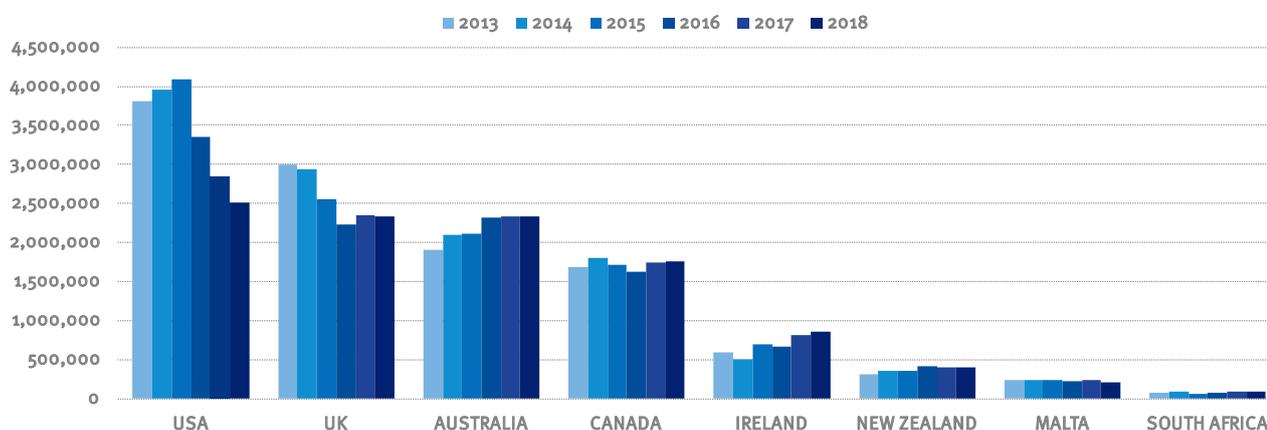
THE UK IN THE GLOBAL CONTEXT

Approximately 1.38 million students travelled abroad to learn English in one of the eight major ELT destinations (the UK, the USA, Australia, Canada, Ireland, Malta, New Zealand and South Africa) in 2018. English language learners spent a corresponding 10.5 million student weeks in these destinations in 2018. The figures mark a 0.5% decrease in terms of student numbers and a decrease of 3.2% in terms of student weeks compared to 2017. However, country-to-country comparisons show destinations are growing at each other's expense.

The USA continues to face declines in both student numbers and student weeks, while the UK, Australia and Canada managed to grow year-on-year (in terms of student numbers).

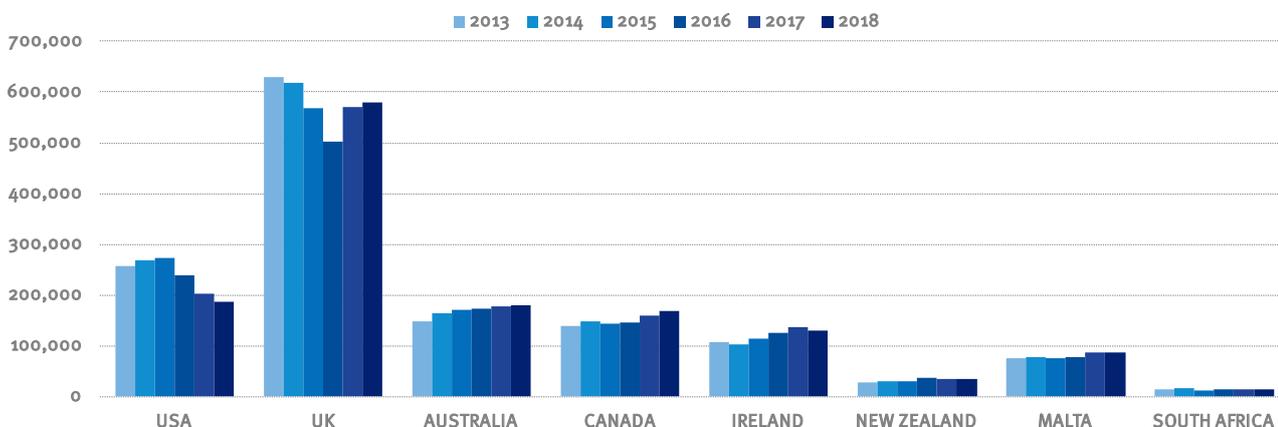
On the other hand, gradual declines in the average length of stay in these destinations also contributed to the fall in the number of overall student weeks. Ireland and South Africa, however, despite decreases in student numbers, posted growth in student weeks.

Chart 1: Overview of ELT destinations (student weeks)



Source: BONARD, 2019; Figures represent extrapolations based on multiple sources. They cover all centres in the destinations and represent the best possible calculation, rather than a headcount.

Chart 2: Overview of ELT destinations (student numbers)



Source: BONARD, 2019; Figures represent extrapolations based on multiple sources. They cover all centres in the destinations and represent the best possible calculation, rather than a headcount.