

GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND THE INTERNATIONALISATION OF UNIVERSITIES: INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MOBILITY IN KOREA

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I. Introduction & Research Framework

Internationalisation of Education (Knight, 2005)

Integration of
Research

Use of English
for Academic
Communication

Growing Int'l Labour
Market for Scholars



It Is a Process of Weaving Academic Programs, Institutions and Their Quality into the Global Context

Internationalisation of Higher Education

CH 2 & 4

**Infrastructure of
International Education**

CH 4

**Internationalisation
Programmes**

CH 3

Human Resources





II. Change of Korean Government's University Policies

Korea's Government University Policies

1960s – mid 1970s

Strong regulation
education system
for economic take
-up

Late 1970s - 1980s

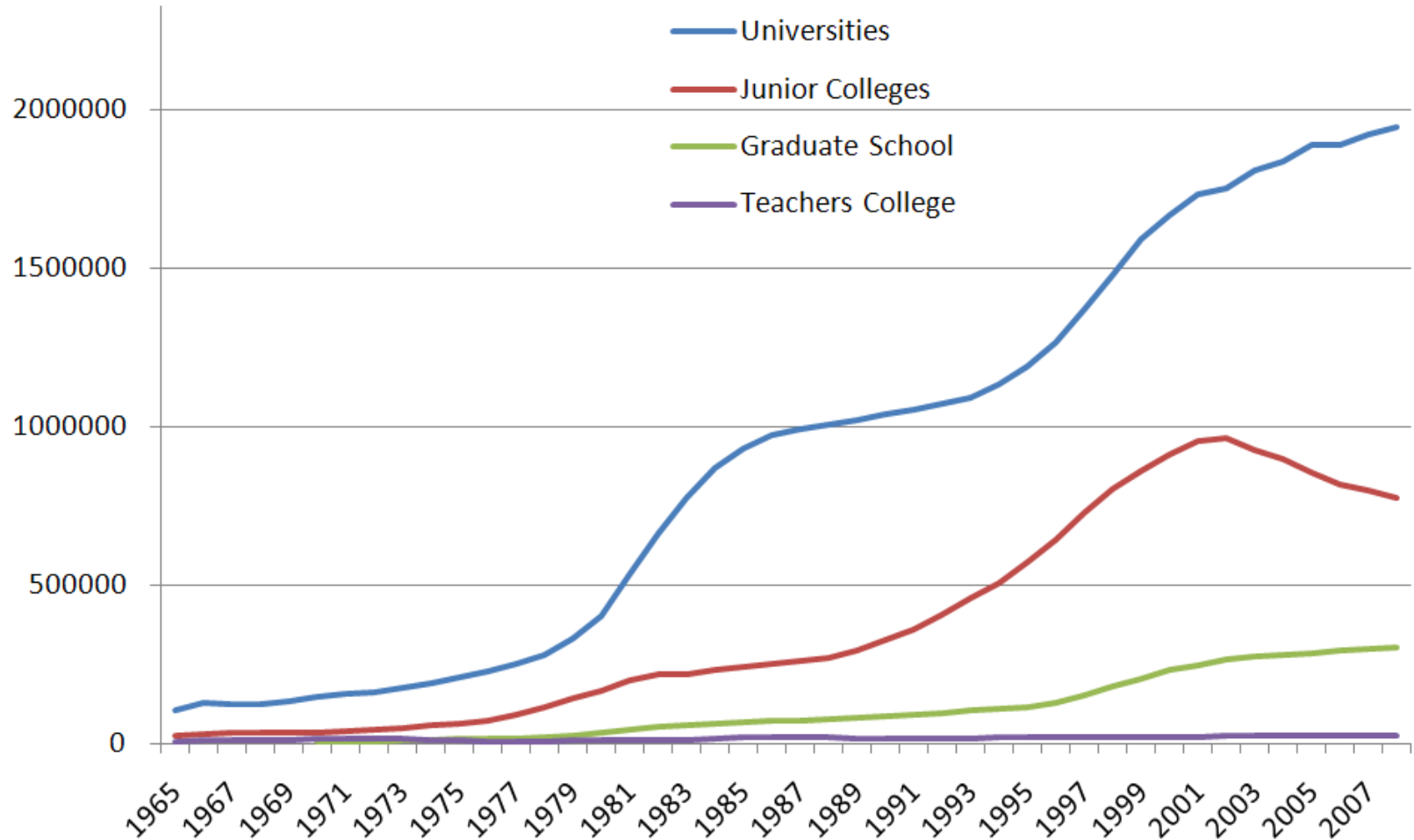
Massive expansion
of the higher educ
ation system

1990s – Present

Liberalisation
and
Globalisation

Expansion of Korean HE System

No. of students enrolled



Source: Data collected from the website of Korean National Center for Education Statistics and Information

Korea's Government University Policies

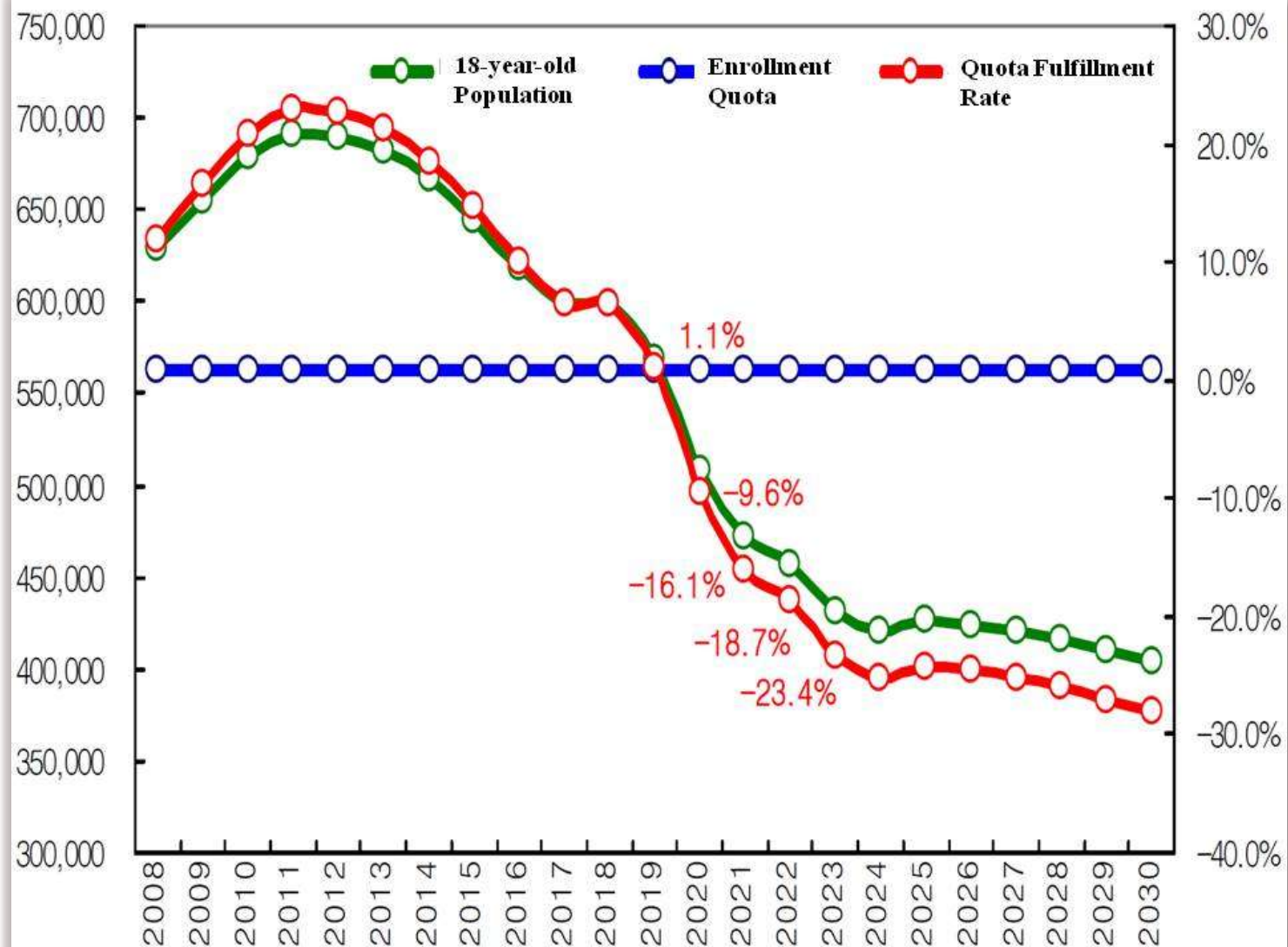
Government policies and the responses of universities in three main periods

	Strong Regulation (1960 - mid-1970s)	Massive Expansion (late 1970s - 1980s)	Liberalisation & Globalisation (1990s - present)
Major policy orientation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strong regulation over numbers - Medium-skilled labour - Focus on vocational education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Policy to meet the needs of the masses - Establishment of research infrastructure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deregulation and diversity are strengthened - Encouragement of high quality research and education through internationalisation (e.g. BK 21 & WCU)
Responses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Limited access to universities - Focus on teaching - Research as an individual activity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expansion of higher education system - Open universities and junior colleges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishment of int'l exchange programme - Invigoration of research and recruitment of int'l scholars

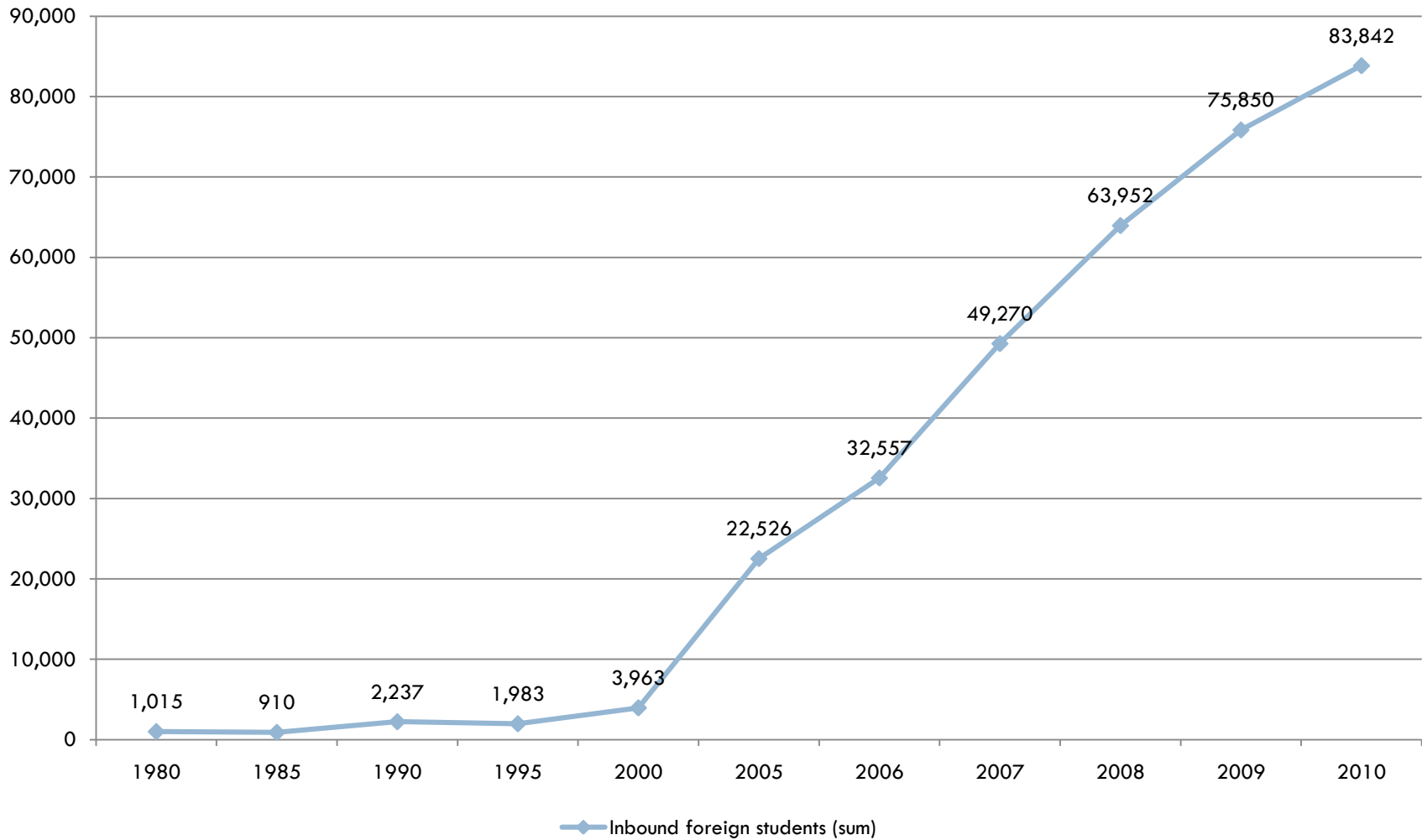


III. Student Mobility in South Korea

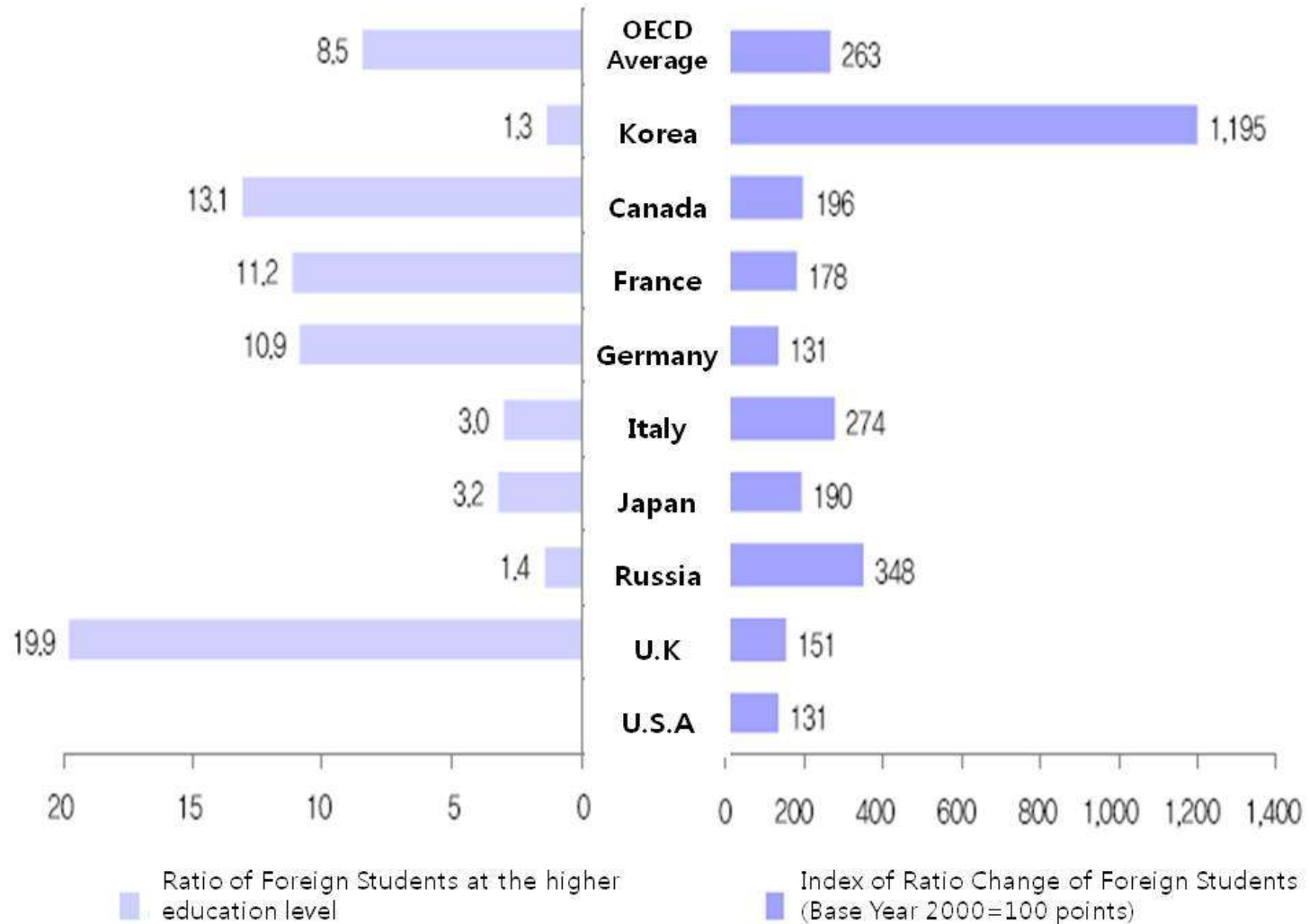
Decrease in Freshman-Age Population caused by Falling Birth Rate



Number of Inbound International Students In Korea



The ratio & ratio change of foreign students in 2008



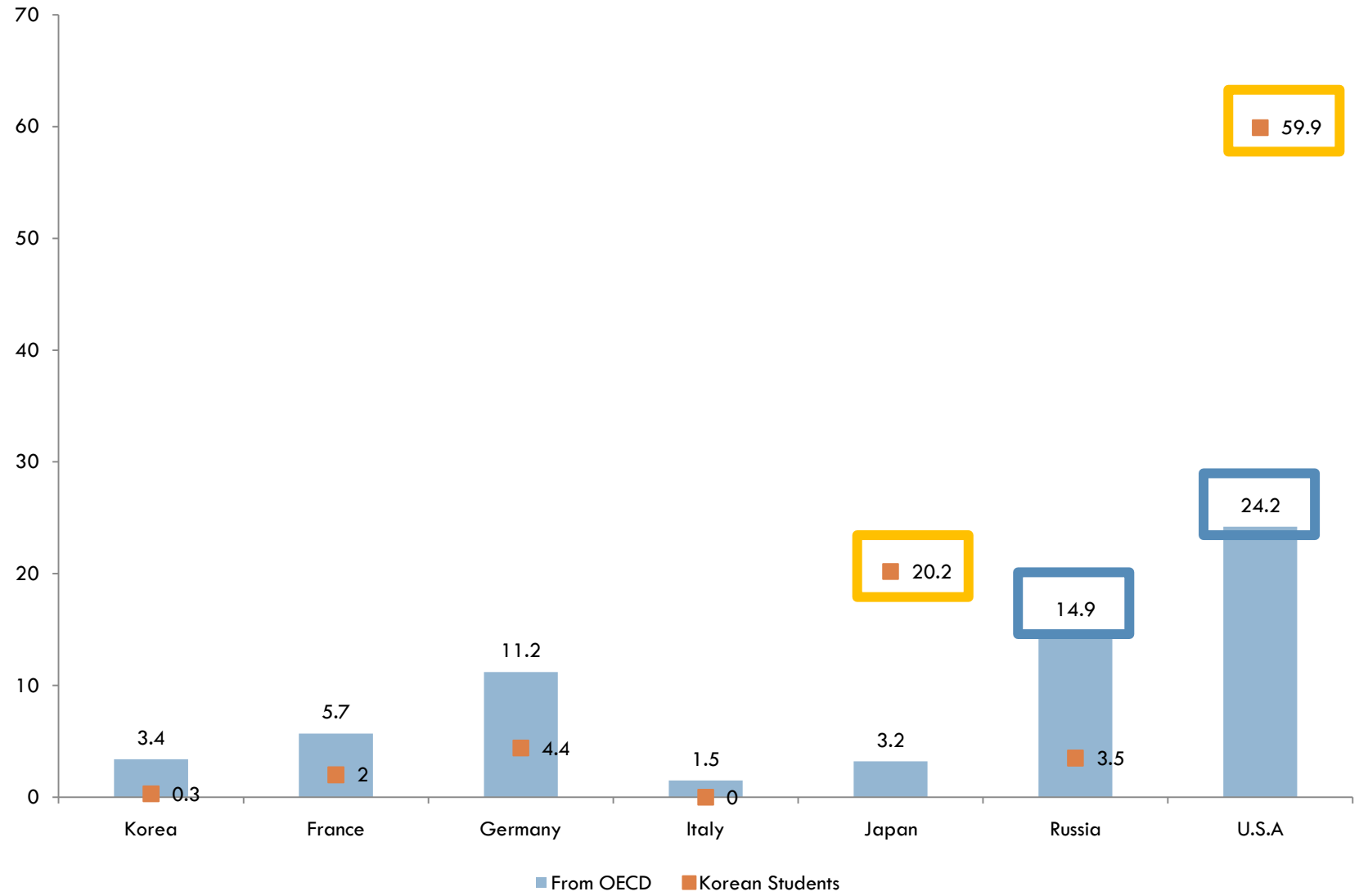
Source: *Sourcebook of Statistics Analysis in Education in 2010*. Korean Educational Development Institute

Comparison with Asian & European Countries

	Korea	Hong Kong	Singapore	Japan	China	Taiwan
Number of inbound foreign students in higher education per thousand	0.66	0.91	-	<u>0.99</u>	0.03	0.67
Number of outbound students in higher education per thousand	2.17	1.73	<u>3.97</u>	0.43	0.32	1.52

	Korea	Denmark	Finland	Sweden	Switzerland	Iceland
Number of inbound foreign students in higher education per thousand	0.66	2.33	1.9	2.41	<u>5.07</u>	-
Number of outbound students in higher education per thousand	2.17	0.92	1.13	1.49	1.39	<u>8.05</u>


Ratio of International Students in Higher Education per Country





IV. Implemented Policies and Efforts of Korean Universities

Korea's Higher Education Policy for Internationalisation of Higher Education

- Brain Korea 21 Project (BK 21 Project)
 - active between 1999 and 2005.
 - emphasised the achievement of getting more recognition for Korean research in the world
 - ▣ in particular, through the channel of publication in international academic journals such as the Science Citation Index (SCI).
-  According to the Ministry of Education, BK21 contributed to an increase in SCI-level publications by Korean academics

Korea's Higher Education Policy for Internationalisation of Higher Education

- The World Class University Project (WCU Project)
- Launched by Lee Myung Bak administration in 2008
- Its goal was to weaken Korea's 'brain drain' and to attract more well-known scholars to Korea.
- This project encouraged new academic programmes in growth-generating fields such as nanotechnology collaboration with foreign academics.

Efforts of Korean Universities

- Establishing partnerships with international higher education institutions
- Offering courses in English.
- The development of an internationalised curriculum
- The establishment of ‘international’ graduate schools

Efforts of Korean Universities: Korea University Case



A firm information infrastructure

- The creation of e-library and wireless networks on campus



Expansion of English courses

- 31% of all the lectures were done in English in 2006



Plan for the establishment of Global KU Campus

⇒ KU has the most multicultural student population with over 6,000 international students (2007).

Assessment of Korea's internationalisation of Higher Education – infra, programmes & human resources

- Installation of institutions in charge of international education and international exchange
 - ▣ There were 44 universities (80%) out of 55, and most of them plan to install permanently charging offices in 2000
- Cross registration system with overseas universities
 - ▣ 92.5% of universities already implemented that system or will introduce the cross registration system in 2000
- International mobility of students in Korea has vitalised recently. On the other hand, the number of foreign academics working in Korean universities has increased during the last decade, the absolute number is still insignificant (2.9%).




V. Discussion and Summary

Discussion and Summary

- The preference for overseas education and decreasing birth rate will speed up the internationalisation of Korean universities in the future
- The internationalisation of higher education diversifies academic programmes and institutional types. These effects will encourage efficiency, productivity and quality within the higher education system.
- However, some criticism raised in terms of education and research
 - Over-emphasis of English use (e.g. Korean literature) may undermine the quality of class
 - Preference for international publication could be harmful to domestic scholarly communication and to internal knowledge circulation
 - Strong dependence on the institutions of USA and Japan needed to be ameliorated in terms of diversity of HE system

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