

Expatriate Typology 2018: The Most Common Types of Expats



Introduction & Methodology

Expat Typology 2018: The 7 Most Common Expat Types

On a global scale, there are about 50 to 60 million people whom we identify as expats. While their reasons for moving abroad and their lifestyles are very different, they still share some similarities. Based on the data from our new *Expat Insider 2018* survey, we have identified the 7 most common expat types: 86 percent of all expats fall into one of these groups!

While the Go-Getter and the Foreign Assignee move abroad for work-related reasons and dedicate lots of time to their job, Optimizers often simply search for a better life abroad. They value a good work-life balance and find it easy to settle in. Settling down and making local friends

also seems to be quite easy for the Explorer and the Romantic. The former moves abroad looking for an adventure, while the latter wants to be close to their significant other. While the Traveling Spouse also moves abroad to be with their partner, they often struggle to feel at home abroad. Additionally, they often face poor career prospects, and many are looking forward to returning home. Lastly, Students are highly-educated and move abroad for school or university. They're likely to speak the local language very well.

Short Methodology

For the Expat Typology 2018, InterNations identified the 7 most common expat types across the world as well as among British, French, Germans,

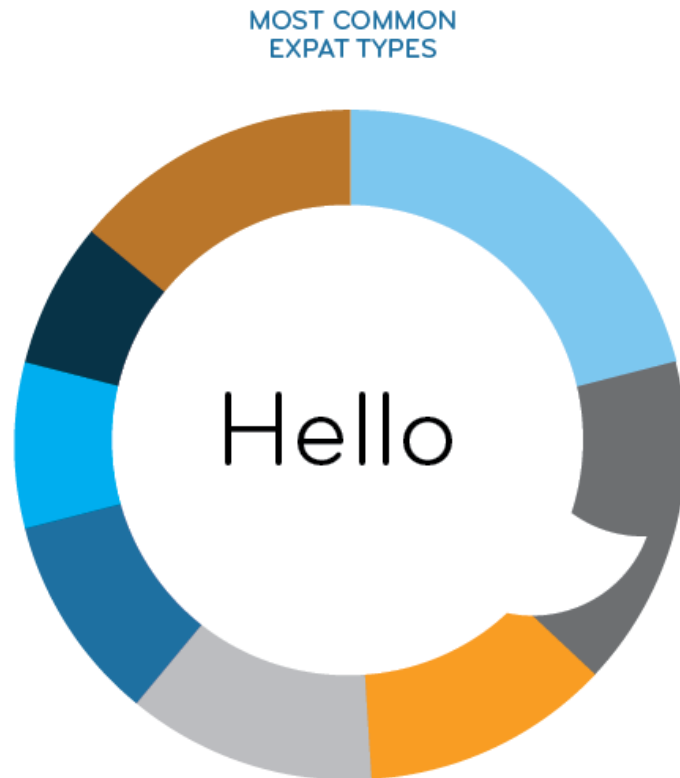
Italians, and US Americans abroad. The typology is based on the expats' primary motivation for moving abroad. More than 18,000 survey respondents representing 178 nationalities and living in 187 countries or territories revealed their reasons by choosing one out of 19 possible answer options, including one open-text field.

The data was obtained from the *Expat Insider 2018* survey. The complete results will be published in detail in September 2018. For a nationality to be featured in the Expat Typology, a sample size of at least 31 survey participants per type and nationality was necessary. However, for most of the featured nationalities, the sample size per type exceeded 100 participants.

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The 7 Most Common Expat Types



21%
The Go-
Getter

12%
The Romantic

10%
The Foreign Assignee

7%
The Student

16%
The Optimizer

12%
The Explorer

8%
The Traveling Spouse

14%
Other

TOP COUNTRIES OF RESIDENCE



TOP INDUSTRIES

14% Education

12% IT

8% Manufacturing & engineering

LIFE ABROAD

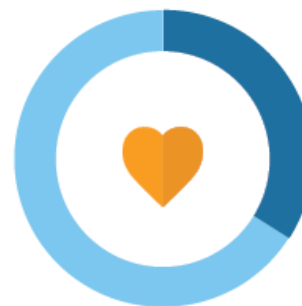
27% speak the local language very well

19% mostly friends with locals

38% likely to stay abroad forever

EXPAT PROFILE

Relationship status



34% relationship
66% single

Gender split



49% male
51% female

Average age



44.2
years

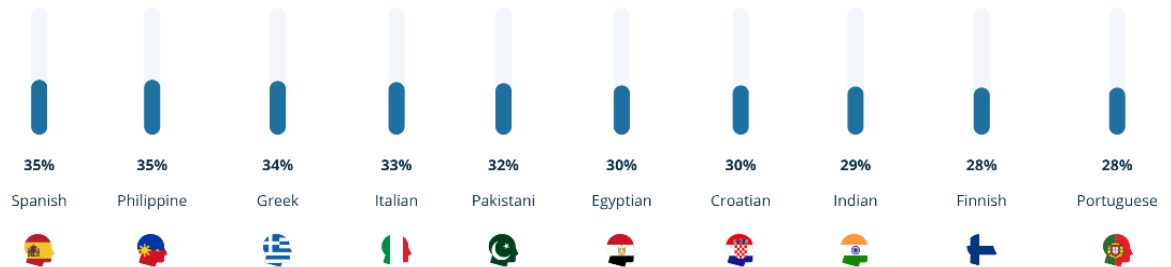
1. THE GO-GETTER (21%)

Go-Getters are highly educated expats who move abroad for job-related reasons. While they are happy with their career prospects, their personal life often suffers a bit.

With more than every fifth expat (21%) categorized as a Go-Getter, they make up the largest share of the world's most common expat types. Go-Getters move abroad to boost their career: close to three in five (58%) cite finding a job abroad on their own as the most important reason for moving to another country, followed by 31 percent who were recruited by a local company and ten percent who planned to start their own business abroad.

Maybe it's their strong career focus that motivated them to invest in their education: ten percent of Go-Getters hold a PhD, compared to seven percent globally — only Students have a higher share of expats with a PhD (11%). Another 45 percent graduated with a master's degree, and 33 percent have a bachelor's degree. When it comes to their career field, the *Expatriate Insider 2018* survey shows that Go-Getters mainly work in education (16%), IT (12%), and manufacturing & engineering (9%).

Top 10 Nationalities Most Likely to Be Go-Getters



"Working life in Germany is very satisfying, especially for engineers like myself, as there is an abundance of jobs and opportunities available," says an expat from Singapore, who moved abroad after finding a job on his own.

Spending 44.7 hours per week at work, Go-Getters are slightly busier than the global average (44 h). Despite that, 64 percent are satisfied with their working hours, a result just slightly above the worldwide average (62%). Additionally, 59 percent are happy with their career prospects, compared to 55 percent globally. *"The job I have is very exciting in terms of the future, and the salary is very good,"* reports a British Go-Getter living in Vietnam. In fact, close to three in five Go-Getters (59%) believe their salary abroad is higher than what they'd make

in a similar job back home (vs. 53% worldwide).

Putting work first might have an impact on their personal life: close to one-quarter of Go-Getters (24%) are currently not living in the same country as their partner. This isn't only the highest share among all expat types, but also twice the global average (12%). Therefore, it's no surprise that close to one in ten (9%) are unhappy with their relationship, which is also the highest share among the various expat types. Maybe this is one of the reasons why, although 71 percent of Go-Getters report being happy with their life abroad, this is still five percentage points below the global average (76%).

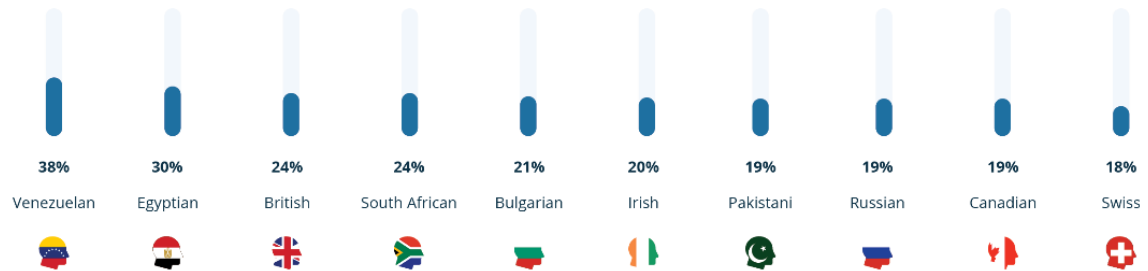
It's not only their relationship that sometimes seems to be tough, but making new friends abroad can also be hard. Close to three in ten Go-Getters (28%) find it hard to make new friends, compared to 25 percent globally, and making *local* friends seems to be even harder (41% negative responses vs. 36% globally). In fact, 42 percent of Go-Getters are mainly friends with other expats, eight percentage points more than the global average (34%). Moreover, 25 percent don't feel at home abroad yet, and another 18 percent believe that they never will (vs. 22% and 18% globally).

2. THE OPTIMIZER (16%)

Optimizers see many potential benefits in their move abroad, and usually they aren't disappointed. They value a good work-life balance and don't have trouble settling in abroad.

Optimizers move abroad in order to improve their personal life: three in ten (60%) cite the search for a better quality of life (e.g. climate or personal health) as their most important reason, followed by 28 percent naming financial reasons (e.g. lower cost of living, tax issues). The smallest share of Optimizers moves for political, religious, or safety reasons

Top 10 Nationalities Most Likely to Be Optimizers



(12%). Out of all expat types, Optimizers see the most potential benefits in moving abroad. Before relocating, many of them expected an improvement of their general living standards (78%), personal safety (65%), the climate and weather (62%), the cost of living (58%), healthcare standards (53%), and the political situation (36%). And it seems like their plans have worked out! Most Optimizers are satisfied with the weather (74%) and the quality of environment (79%) in their new country of residence. Both of these percentages are far above the respective global average (61% and 69%). *"I love the fresh air and sunshine. The country is so green and picturesque,"* says a British expat living New Zealand. Additionally, close to nine in ten Optimizers (88%) feel safe abroad (vs. 82% globally), and 74 percent are satisfied with their financial situation (vs. 67% globally). *"I can survive financially without giving up the nice things*

in life," reports a Dutch expat living in Italy. Maybe their hopes and dreams coming true is the reason why the Optimizer is the expat type most satisfied with life abroad (83% positive ratings vs. 75% worldwide).

When it comes to their working life, it seems like the Optimizers care about a good work-life balance. The *Expats Insider 2018* survey shows that 81 percent work full time, which is slightly below the global average (84%), and the latter also applies to their average working hours (43.4 h vs. 44 h globally). Therefore, it is hardly surprising that Optimizers are especially satisfied with their work-life balance out of all expat types (68% positive ratings vs. 61% globally). Despite somewhat lower working hours, close to three in five (58%) believe that their current income is higher than what they'd get in a similar job back home, five percentage points more than the

global average (53%). *"Life is easy here. I do not work much and make enough money to travel, save for the future, and afford all my expenses,"* reports a US American expat living in China.

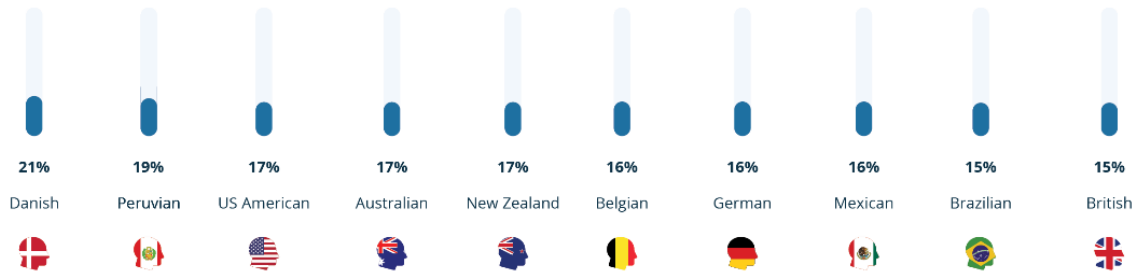
Lastly, the Optimizers don't seem to struggle much with settling in abroad: more than seven in ten (72%) feel at home in the local culture, which is again the highest share among all expat types and twelve percentage points more than the global average (60%). Maybe this is due to the fact that the Optimizers find the local residents generally friendly (77% vs. 69% worldwide) and think it's easy to make local friends (56% vs. 45% globally).

3. THE ROMANTIC (12%)

Romantics move abroad to be with their partner and do their best to fit in (e.g. by learning the local language). While they find it easy to make local friends, their job situation is often unfavorable.

Romantics have one reason for moving abroad: love. *"I am happy to be with my partner,"* states a Dutch expat in the USA, while a Ukrainian living in Germany even goes as far as saying: *"My only reason for living here is my desire to be close to my partner."* However, in some cases their

Top 10 Nationalities Most Likely to Be Romantics



romantic relationship did not necessarily last: twelve percent of those who moved abroad for love are currently single. Those Romantics who are (still or again) in a relationship couldn't be any happier, though: close to nine in ten (88%) are satisfied with their relationship, and for 57 percent things could not get any better. While most Romantics (88%) are in a relationship with someone from their new country of residence, where they met their significant other varies a lot: nearly two in five (38%) met their partner in their current country of residence, followed by 35 percent who met them in their home country, and another 27 percent met in a third country.

The Romantics appear to really make an effort to adapt to their partner's home country: despite close to half of them (47%) finding it hard to learn the local

language, 35 percent still speak it very well. This is the second-largest share among all expat types, outranked just slightly by the Students (36%). *"For me, the best part of moving abroad was to accept the challenge of getting integrated into the German community by learning the language and the traditions,"* says an expat from India, while a Filipino living in India states: *"I have learned the language, culture, and how to get along with the people."* In fact, 38 percent describe their social circle as mainly consisting of local residents, which isn't only twice the global share (19%), but also the largest one among all expat types.

With twelve percent of Romantics currently looking for work, their career doesn't look as rosy as their private life. In fact, this result is four percentage points higher than the global average (8%) and the second-highest share out

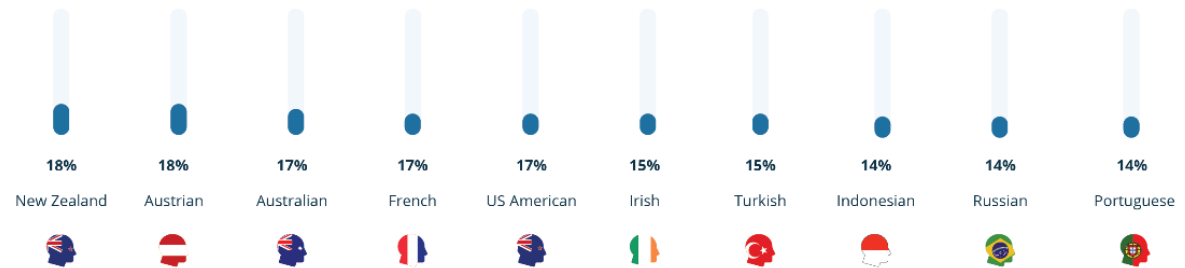
of all expat types — only the Traveling Spouse is unemployed more frequently (17%). Among those Romantics who do work, 34 percent are unsatisfied with their career prospects, compared to 25 percent globally. A Brazilian expat living in Austria reports that he had to “*step down in order to get a job*”. In fact, only six percent of Romantics work in a management position, compared to a worldwide average of 14 percent. Out of these six percent, fewer than one in four (23%) have made it to top management, twelve percentage points less than the global average (35%). Moreover, 41 percent of Romantics believe that their income is lower than what they’d make in a similar job back home (vs. 27% globally), and 19 percent even think that it’s a lot lower (vs. 11% worldwide).

4. THE EXPLORER (12%)

Explorers move abroad for a personal challenge and seem to master it very well. While they find it easy to make friends and appreciate the options for socializing abroad, they’re not always happy with their career prospects.

Close to half the Explorers move abroad because they’re looking for an adventure (47%), followed by 28 percent who wanted to live in a particular city or

Top 10 Nationalities Most Likely to be Explorers



country and one-quarter (25%) who simply enjoys living abroad. “*I enjoy living abroad, exploring the local culture, and the travel opportunities it brings,*” a US American expat living in China explains, while a Dutch expat in Poland appreciates the “*experience of living abroad*” in general.

Explorers seem to find it easy to settle down in their new country of residence, with almost three-quarters (73%) feeling at home there. This is nine percentage points more than the global average (64%), and a share beaten just slightly by the Optimizers (74%). Maybe this is due to the fact that the majority of Explorers (68%) finds it easy to make new friends abroad, which isn’t only far above the global average (57%), but also the highest share among all seven expat types. “*Meeting people and having friends is very important for me,*” a Canadian expat living in Germany says.

Generally, Explorers perceive the local residents’ attitude towards them positively, and 75 percent are satisfied with this factor (vs. 66% globally). In addition to that, they have the highest share of respondents satisfied with their own socializing and leisure activities

abroad (76%), compared to 66 percent worldwide. “*I just love Vienna. It’s a beautiful city, relaxed, and with more than enough to do and see,*” says a British expat who moved abroad looking for an adventure.

Aside from making friends, it seems like a good work-life balance is important to the Explorer. Explorers with a full-time job (82%) spend about 1.6 hours less at work than the global average (42.4 h per week vs. 44.0 h). In fact, nearly seven in

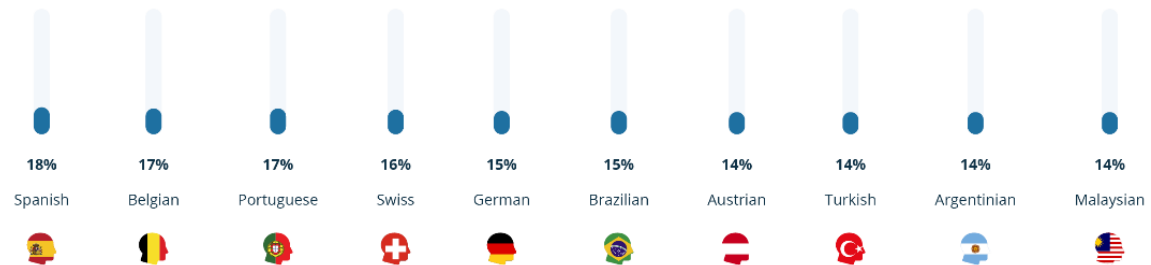
ten (68%) are happy with their work-life balance, compared to 61 percent globally. Together with the Optimizer, the Explorers have the highest share respondents satisfied with their work-life balance abroad. However, their satisfaction with career prospects (59%) and job security (64%) is not that far from the global average (55% and 59%, respectively). Lastly, many Explorers also express only average satisfaction with their job in general (67% vs. 65% globally).

But as the social aspects of living abroad play a more important role for the Explorers, more than four in five (82%) are still happy with their life abroad. This is just one percentage point below the Optimizer (83%) — who is the happiest of all expat types — and seven percentage points above the global average (75%).

5. THE FOREIGN ASSIGNEE (10%)

Being sent abroad by their employers, most Foreign Assignees are extremely satisfied with their job and career. However, they struggle to feel at home abroad, and most of them already have plans to return home.

Top 10 Nationalities Most Likely to Be Foreign Assignees



All Foreign Assignees are sent abroad by their employer, and their stay abroad is clearly focused on their job: nearly every Foreign Assignee (96%) works full time, compared to only 84 percent worldwide. Moreover, with an average of 46.1 working hours per week (vs. 44.0 h globally), they also spend by far the most time at work — even the Go-Getters, who have the second-longest week, work 1.4 hours less.

However, the hard work seems to pay off: more than two in five Foreign Assignees (42%) work in management positions, the highest share among all seven expat types. Moreover, another two in five managers (41%) even have a job in top management. With the Foreign Assignees' high level of seniority, it might not be a surprise that 26 percent have an annual gross household income of more than 150,000 USD, more than twice the global average (12%).

Their generous household income might also be related to the fields they frequently work in: manufacturing & engineering (14%), finance (13%), and IT (11%).

Out of all expat types, Foreign Assignees are the most satisfied with many work-related factors: more than three in five (61%) are satisfied with their career prospects, compared to 55 percent globally. *"My job is a challenge, but I have many opportunities to grow as a professional,"* states an expat from Peru living in Honduras, while a Swiss expat in Nigeria generally appreciates his *"challenging and interesting job"*.

In addition to that, almost seven in ten (69%) are happy with their job security, ten percentage points more than the global average (59%). Maybe it's the opportunity to grow in a secure working environment that leads to 73 percent of

Foreign Assignees being generally satisfied with their job. This is eight percentage points more than the global average (65%) and the highest share among all expat types.

Despite their great career options, 58 percent of Foreign Assignees think it likely that they'll return home at some point (vs. 43% globally), again the highest share out of all seven expat types. In fact, 23 percent of Foreign Assignees don't feel at home abroad yet, and another 17 percent don't think they ever will. *"It is part of my job,"* a Portuguese expat living in Mozambique explains. *"I adapt in order to fulfill my work requirements."*

Maybe their struggles with settling in are partly due to the fact that 29 percent of Foreign Assignees find it hard to make friends abroad (vs. 25% worldwide). Moreover, Foreign Assignees seem to stick together: more than two in five (43%) state that their friends are mainly other expats, nine percentage points more than the global average (34%), and only 13 percent are mainly friends with local residents (vs. 19%). With close to half the Foreign Assignees (49%) admitting that they speak the local language just a little bit or even not at

all, it might be the language barrier that plays a major role here.

6. THE TRAVELING SPOUSE (8%)

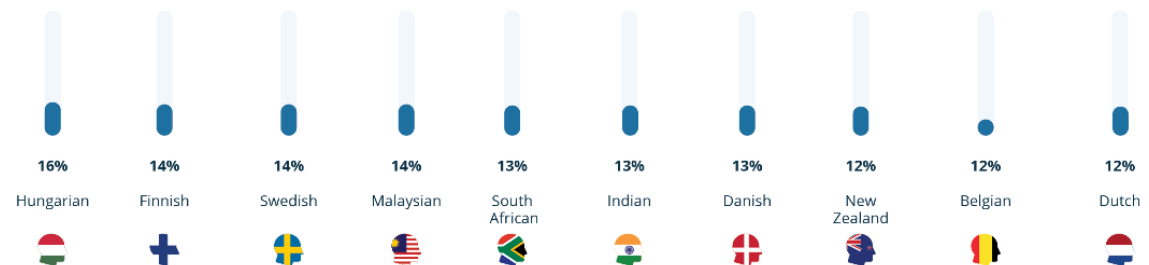
Moving abroad for their partner's job, Traveling Spouses often face an unsatisfying life abroad. They struggle with low career prospects, find it hard to make friends, and many want to return home at some point.

Traveling Spouses move abroad for their partner's job and career, mainly because their partner was sent abroad by their employer (39%) or found a job on their own (31%). While most other expat types have a fairly balanced gender ratio, close to nine in ten Traveling Spouses (86%) are female. *"We only live here because of my husband's work,"* a Dutch expat from Kosovo reports. Due to them moving for their partner's sake, Traveling Spouses

are more likely than other expat types to take care of their home and/or children rather than work (27% vs. 5% worldwide) or to be currently looking for work (17% vs. 8% globally). Employees (13%) only make up the third-largest share when it comes to Traveling Spouses' employment status, while it's the most-cited employment status worldwide (25%). *"I am worried about my future career because my husband is the one who has a job,"* a Spanish expat living in the Netherlands explains. And it seems like she isn't the only one as 41 percent are unsatisfied with their career prospects, compared to 25 percent globally.

Those who do have a job mainly work in education (17% vs. 14% globally), advertising, marketing & communication (10% vs. 6% globally), and IT (8% vs. 12% globally). But it doesn't always seem to be very rewarding as only 44 percent of Traveling Spouses believe that they

Top 10 Nationalities Most Likely to Be Traveling Spouses



make more abroad than they would in a similar job back home, nine percentage points less than the global average (53%). However, it seems like their partners do well in their respective jobs: 22 percent of Traveling Spouses still have a gross yearly household income of more than 150,000 USD at their disposal (vs. 12% globally).

In addition to frequently unsatisfying careers, Traveling Spouses also struggle with settling in abroad on a personal level. One-third (33%) doesn't feel at home in the local culture, nine percentage points more than the global average (24%). Moreover, 20 percent believe that they will never feel at home abroad, which is the highest share among the seven expat types.

Almost one in three (32%) find it hard to make new friends abroad, and an even higher share has difficulty making local friends in particular (48%). Both results are clearly above the global average (25% and 36%, respectively). Among other factors, this might be due to the language barrier as more than three in ten Traveling Spouses (31%) only speak the local language a little bit and 20 percent don't speak it at all (vs. 13% worldwide). With Traveling Spouses often facing social isolation, it's not very

surprising that 53 percent are likely to return home at some point — 41 percent even consider this very likely.

7. THE STUDENT (7%)

Students move abroad for their education and are very eager to learn the local language. While they're highly educated and satisfied with their career prospects, their financial situation doesn't seem too bright.

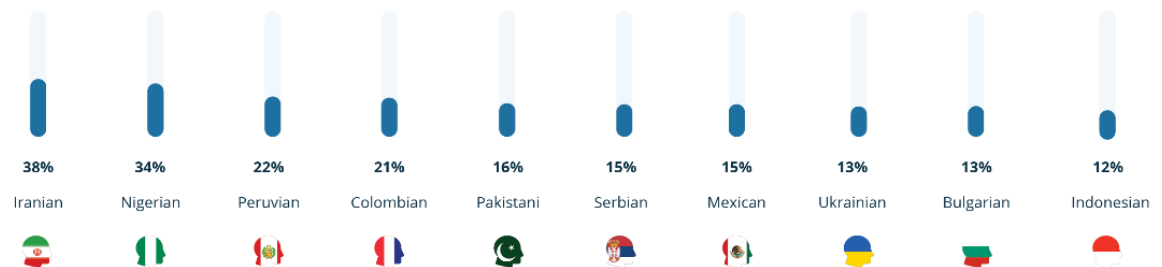
The majority of Students move abroad to go to school or university (90%), while ten percent want to improve their language skills in general. When it comes to language proficiency, it seems like Students are generally successful: close to three in five (58%) speak the local language at least fairly well, twelve percentage points more than the global average (46%). More than one-third (36%) even speak it very well, which is

the highest share among all expat types. *"I like the opportunity to learn a new language,"* says a British expat living in France.

Despite being able to communicate easily, Students still struggle to make local friends abroad. More than two in five (41%) find this hard, compared to 36 percent globally. *"It's not very easy to make new German friends here,"* a Chinese expat says. In fact, 35 percent of Students state that their social circle mostly consists of other expats (about the same as 34% globally), while only 13 percent are mainly friends with locals (vs. 19% globally). Maybe this contributes to the fact that just 54 percent of Students feel at home in the local culture, compared to 60 percent worldwide.

Less than half the Students (46%) are in a committed relationship, which is far

Top 10 Nationalities Most Likely to Be Students



below the global average (66%) and the lowest share among all expat types — however, with an average of 32.4 years, they're also by far the youngest expat type (vs. 44.2 global average). When it comes to those who are in a relationship, though, they're far more likely than other expat types to have met their significant other in their current country of residence (58% vs. 35% globally). And the romance seems to work: 86 percent report being happy

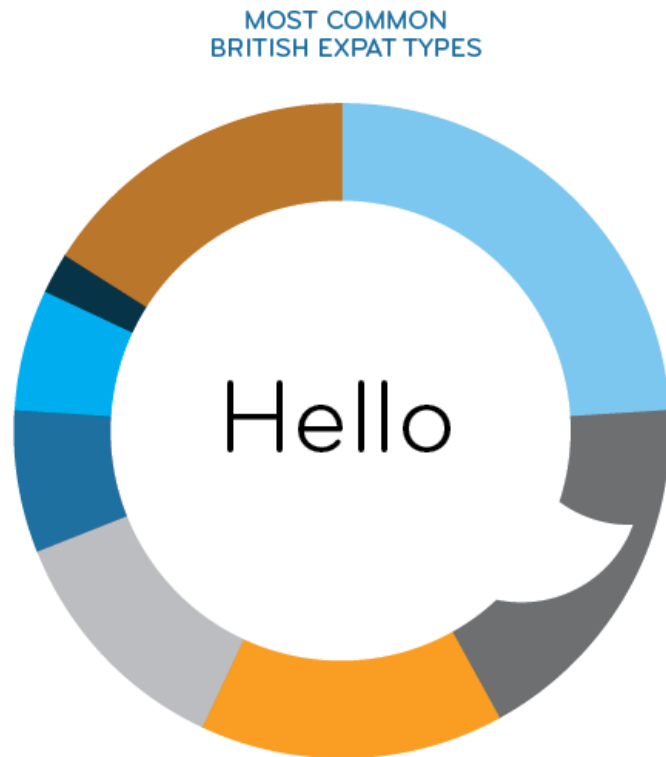
with their relationship, just above the global average (85%).

In addition to being highly educated — eleven percent of Students hold a PhD, which is the highest share among the various expat types — they're also very likely to work in education themselves (14%). Other common fields of occupation include IT (13%) and manufacturing & engineering (9%). With 58 percent positive ratings, Students are quite satisfied with their career

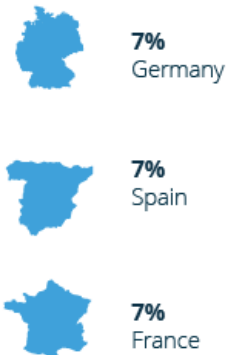
prospects, compared to 55 percent globally. *"London is good for young people starting their careers and eager to network and learn,"* explains a Slovakian Student.

However, only 56 percent of Students are satisfied with their financial situation, which is far below the global average (67%). Therefore, it might not be a surprise that three in ten (30%) think their disposable household income isn't enough to cover all their living expenses (vs. 22% globally).

The 7 Most Common British Expat Types



TOP COUNTRIES OF RESIDENCE



TOP INDUSTRIES

25% Education

7% Finance

7% IT

LIFE ABROAD

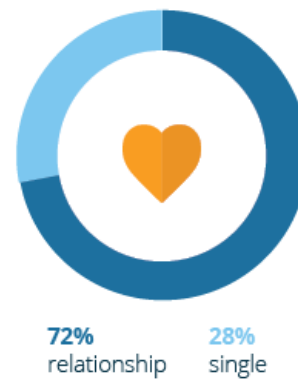
17% speak the local language very well

24% mostly friends with locals

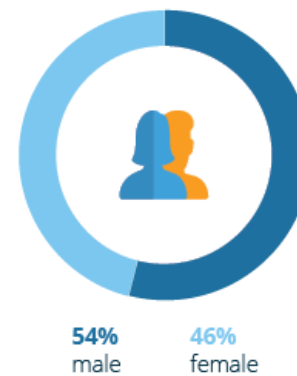
51% likely to stay abroad forever

EXPAT PROFILE

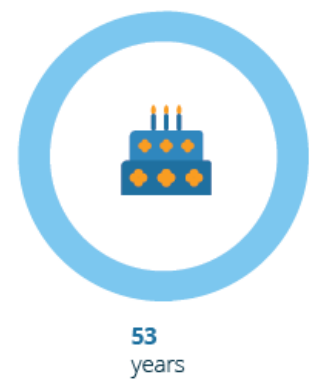
Relationship status



Gender split



Average age



1. THE BRITISH OPTIMIZER (24%)

Reasons for moving abroad

77%	better quality of life
21%	financial reasons
2%	political, religious, or safety reasons

Out of all expat types, British Optimizers saw the most potential benefits in moving abroad, especially when it comes to the weather: over four in five British Optimizers (84%) considered the weather to be a potential benefit prior to moving, and with 90 percent being satisfied with this factor abroad, it seems they were not disappointed (vs. 74% Optimizers globally). *"I love the fresh air and sunshine. The country is so green and picturesque,"* says a British expat living New Zealand. Additionally, close to nine in ten British Optimizers (89%) feel safe abroad, and 77 percent are satisfied with their financial situation. A British Optimizer in Bulgaria appreciates *"being able to afford the general cost of living without struggling financially"*.

When it comes to their working life, 75 percent of British Optimizers work full-time, which is six percentage points less than the average of Optimizers globally

(81%). They also work shorter hours in full- and part-time jobs (38.7 h vs. 39.4 h Optimizers globally), which might be the reason why a higher share of British Optimizers (73%) is satisfied with their work-life balance than Optimizers globally (68%). *"I have the time and the money to enjoy myself a lot more,"* reports a British Optimizer living in Peru. Despite being happy with their financial situation, only 44 percent of working British Optimizers believe that they make more than they would in a similar job back home, compared to 58 percent globally.

Lastly, British Optimizers do not seem to struggle much with settling in abroad: close to four in five (79%) feel at home in the local culture, compared to 72 percent of Optimizers who feel the same globally. This may be due to the fact that British Optimizers find it particularly easy to get used to the local culture (77%) and to make local friends (65%), which is both higher than the global average of Optimizers (71% and 56%, respectively).

Life abroad

9%	speak the local language very well
19%	mostly friends with locals
60%	likely to stay abroad forever

2. THE BRITISH GO-GETTER (18%)

Reasons for moving abroad

63%	found a job abroad on their own
28%	recruited by a local company
9%	start a business abroad

While on a global scale, Go-Getters are highly educated, British Go-Getters seem to have focused somewhat less on their education: just six percent of British Go-Getters hold a PhD, compared to ten percent of Go-Getters globally. Additionally, 35 percent graduated with a master's degree (vs. 45% globally), and 34 percent have a bachelor's degree (vs. 33% globally). British Go-Getters mainly work in education, including language education, (28%), IT (7%), manufacturing & engineering (7%), and finance (7%) in their new country of residence.

Overall, British Go-Getters tend to be slightly more satisfied with their job in general (74% vs. 69% worldwide) and their work-life balance (64% vs. 61% worldwide) than the global average of Go-Getters. *“The job I have is very exciting in terms of the future, and the salary is very good,”* reports a British Go-Getter living in Vietnam. In fact, 70 percent of British Go-Getters are happy with their financial situation, which is just above the global average of Go-Getters (68%). This is despite the fact that only 52 percent of British Go-Getters believe their income abroad is higher than what they would make in a similar job back home (vs. 59% Go-Getters globally).

Spending 46.4 hours per week at full-time jobs, British Go-Getters are slightly busier than the average Go-Getter (44.7 h). Yet, it seems like the long working hours do not stand in their way when settling down abroad: close to two-thirds of British Go-Getters (65%) state to feel at home in the local culture (vs. 54% Go-getters globally). A British Go-Getter in China is happy with the *“opportunities to integrate into the culture,”* while another in Germany feels *“very welcome by the local residents”*. In fact, close to half the British Go-Getters (46%) find it easy to make local friends

abroad, compared to a global average of 39 percent.

Life abroad

- 19%** speak the local language very well
- 16%** mostly friends with locals
- 39%** likely to stay abroad forever

3. THE BRITISH ROMANTIC (15%)

Reason for moving abroad

- 100%** for love / to live in their partner’s home country

Although the British Romantic initially moved abroad for love, their romantic relationship did not necessarily last: eleven percent of them are currently single. For those Romantics who are (still or again) in a relationship, though, things are going well: close to nine in ten (89%) are satisfied with their relationship, and for 63 percent things could not get any better. *“Being with my amazing girlfriend and exploring Romania’s wonderful scenery feels like a dream come true,”* a British Romantic shares.

British Romantics do not seem to have any trouble settling in, as 71 percent state to feel at home, compared to 63 percent of Romantics globally. Despite not speaking the local language as well as the global average of Romantics — 43 percent speak it fairly or even very well versus 57 percent globally — they still find making friends slightly easier (55% vs. 52% globally). Maybe that is the reason why 63 percent have no issues with adapting to the local culture, compared to 59 percent of Romantics around the world. A British Romantic in France likes how she can *“mix with the locals and immerse herself in the local culture”*. In fact, the British Romantic is by far most likely to be mainly friends with local residents (42%) out of all British expat types.

With just two percent of British Romantics currently looking for work, they are far less likely to be unemployed than the global average of Romantics (12%). However, one third of them (33%) is still unsatisfied with their career prospects. *“The career prospects and salaries are much worse than in the UK,”* reports a British Romantic living in Cyprus. In fact, close to half the working British Romantics (49%) believe that they make less abroad than they would in a

similar job back home, compared to 41 percent of Romantics globally.

Life abroad

- 26%** speak the local language very well
- 42%** mostly friends with locals
- 54%** likely to stay abroad forever

4. THE BRITISH EXPLORER (12%)

Reasons for moving abroad

- 38%** looking for an adventure
- 33%** want to live in this particular city/country
- 29%** simply enjoy living abroad

British Explorers seem to find it easy to settle down in their new country of residence: almost four in five respondents (77%) feel at home there (vs. 73% Explorers globally). Maybe this is due to the fact that the majority of Explorers (68%) finds it easy to make new friends abroad. A British Explorer in Myanmar, for example, appreciates “*the friendliness and general hospitality of the local population*”.

Additionally, British Explorers are satisfied with the leisure activities available abroad: more than four in five (82%) rate this factor positively, which is nearly the same as the global average of Explorers (83%). “*I just love Vienna. It is a beautiful city, relaxed, and with more than enough to do and see,*” says a British expat who moved abroad looking for an adventure. That might be one of the reasons why 84 percent of British Explorers are generally satisfied with their life abroad — out of all British expat types, only the British Optimizer is slightly more satisfied (85%).

Aside from making friends and enjoying leisure activities, a good work-life balance seems important to the British Explorer. Those with a full-time job spend just about 41.7 h per week at work (vs. 42.4 h Explorers globally). Over two-thirds (68%) are happy with their work-life balance, which equals the global average of Explorers. However, their satisfaction with career prospects (53%) and job security (62%) is slightly below the share of Explorers being happy with these factors worldwide (59% and 64%, respectively).

Life abroad

- 20%** speak the local language very well
- 26%** mostly friends with locals
- 52%** likely to stay abroad forever

5. THE BRITISH TRAVELING SPOUSE (7%)

Reason for moving abroad

- 100%** for their partner’s job or education

While most other expat types have a fairly balanced gender ratio, close to nine in ten British Traveling Spouses (87%) are female. Due to them moving for their partner’s sake, British Traveling Spouses are more likely than other expat types to take care of their home and/or children rather than work (24% vs. 5% British expats globally). Interestingly, the share of British Traveling Spouses looking for work (8%) is substantially lower than the global average of Traveling Spouses (17%). Nonetheless, 37 percent of British Spouses are unsatisfied with their career prospects, which is just slightly below the global average of Traveling Spouses

(41%). *"It is difficult for highly qualified expat wives to find work and contribute to the local economy,"* a British Traveling Spouse in Bahrain points out. Close to four in five British Traveling Spouses who do work (37%) believe that they earn less abroad than they would in a similar position back home, compared to 30 percent of Traveling Spouses globally — close to one quarter (24%) even think that their income is a lot lower, compared to just 14 percent of Traveling Spouses worldwide.

Aside from frequently unsatisfying careers, British Traveling Spouses struggle somewhat less with settling in abroad than the global average of Traveling Spouses: just 18 percent do not feel at home abroad yet, compared to 26 percent of Traveling Spouses around the world. However, another 19 percent of Traveling Spouses do not think that they ever will feel at home, which is close to the global average (20%) and the highest share among the seven British expat types.

Additionally, British Traveling Spouses find it easier to make local friends than the global average of Travel Spouses: while 37 percent of British Traveling Spouses have difficulties, on a global level close to half the Traveling Spouses

(48%) are struggling with it. This might be largely due to the fact that 21 percent of British Traveling Spouses live in a country where the local language is the same as their mother tongue, while on a global scale only 11 percent of Traveling Spouses can say the same.

Life abroad

13%	speak the local language very well
15%	mostly friends with locals
36%	likely to stay abroad forever

6. THE BRITISH FOREIGN ASSIGNEE (6%)

Reason for moving abroad

100%	sent abroad by their employer
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Nearly every British Foreign Assignee (96%) works full time and, with an average of 47.5 working hours per week, they spend by far the most time at work out of all British expat types — and 1.4 hours more than the global average of Foreign Assignees in full-time positions (46.1 h). However, it seems to pay off, as 40 percent have an annual gross

household income of more than 150,000 USD, compared to 26 percent of Foreign Assignees globally. A British Foreign Assignee living in Singapore says: *"This is an easy place for expats as salaries are high and taxes are low."* Their generous household income might also be related to the fields they frequently work in: finance (16%), manufacturing & engineering (10%), commerce & trade, as well as energy & utilities (both 8%).

About six out of ten British Foreign Assignees (58%) are satisfied with their career prospects, which is slightly below the global average of Foreign Assignees (61%). The same applies to their job security, with three in five British Foreign Assignees (60%) are happy with, compared to 69 percent globally. Therefore, it is no surprise that also the share of British Foreign Assignees being satisfied with their job overall (71%) is just below the global average of Foreign Assignees (73%).

Despite their somewhat lower career satisfaction, just 44 percent of British Foreign Assignees think it is likely that they will return home at some point, compared to 58 percent of Foreign Assignees globally. However, there is still a notable share of British Foreign Assignees who do not feel at home

abroad yet (13% vs. 23% globally), and another 17 percent believe that they never will. They might struggle with settling in because 22 percent of British Foreign Assignees find it hard to make friends abroad (vs. 29% Foreign Assignees globally). *"There are not many people my age to socialize with,"* says a British Foreign Assignee living in Malaysia, *"therefore I only have a small group of friends."* Additionally, an even higher share (40%) finds it hard to make local friends, which is just about the same as the global average of Foreign Assignees (41%).

Life abroad

- 46%** speak the local language very well
- 29%** mostly friends with locals
- 51%** likely to stay abroad forever

7. THE BRITISH STUDENT (2%)

Reasons for moving abroad

- 46%** go to school or university
- 54%** improve their language skills

British Students do not seem troubled with making local friends abroad: just 29 percent find this hard, compared to 41 percent of Students globally. One of the reasons for this might be that they are able to communicate easily: the share of Students speaking the local language very well is with 46 percent by far the highest among all British expat types. A British Student living in France specifically appreciates *"the opportunity to learn a new language"*. Maybe this contributes to the fact that 61 percent of British Students feel at home in the local culture, compared to 54 percent of Students worldwide.

In addition to making friends easily, close to three in five British Students (59%) are in a committed relationship. This is notably higher than the global average of Students (46%) — however, with an average age of 43.2 years, they are also much older than the global average of Students (32.4 years), which

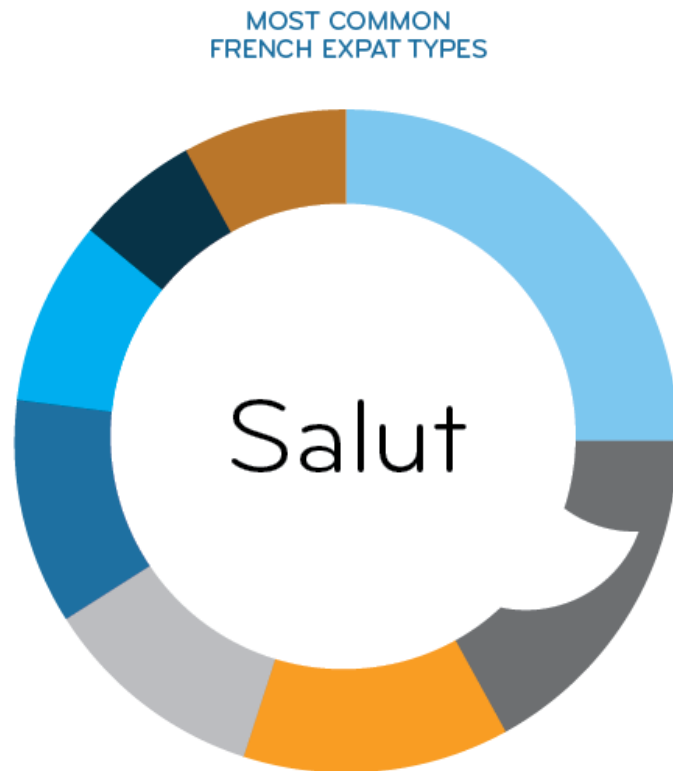
might be the reason for the higher relationship rate.

While on a global scale, eleven percent of Students hold a PhD, this is just the case for two percent of British Students. However, this does not seem to stop them when starting their career: 56 percent of British Students are satisfied with their career prospects, such as a British Student who particularly points out job opportunities as a positive factor about life in China. Additionally, British Students seem to be better off financially than the global average: while worldwide, only 56 percent are satisfied with their financial situation, 63 percent of British Students are happy with that factor.

Life abroad

- 10%** speak the local language very well
- 14%** mostly friends with locals
- 37%** likely to stay abroad forever

The 7 Most Common French Expat Types



25%
The Go-
Getter

13%
The Foreign
Assignee

11%
The
Romantic

6%
The
Student

17%
The
Explorer

11%
The
Optimizer

9%
The Traveling
Spouse

8%
Other

TOP COUNTRIES OF RESIDENCE

10%
USA

9%
Switzerland

9%
Germany

TOP INDUSTRIES

11% IT

9% Manufacturing & engineering

8% Finance

LIFE ABROAD

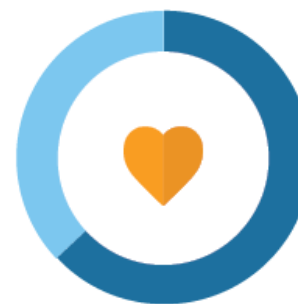
38% speak the local language very well

16% mostly friends with locals

38% likely to stay abroad forever

EXPAT PROFILE

Relationship status



63% relationship
37% single

Gender split



46% male
54% female

Average age



42.3
years

1. THE FRENCH GO-GETTER (25%)

Reasons for moving abroad

- 56%** found a job abroad on their own
- 35%** recruited by a local company
- 9%** start a business abroad

French Go-Getters are highly educated expats who move abroad to boost their career: twelve percent hold a PhD, compared to ten percent of Go-Getters globally. In addition to that, 70 percent of French Go-Getters finished a master's degree or similar (vs. 45% Go-Getters globally). In their new country of residence, they mainly work in IT (14%), manufacturing & engineering (12%), finance (7%), and advertising, marketing & communications (7%).

Spending an average of 44.3 hours per week at work, French Go-Getters are slightly less busy than the global average (44.7h). Close to three-quarters of the French Go-Getters (72%) are satisfied with their working hours, eight percentage points more than the average among all Go-Getters worldwide (64%). In addition to that, they are more satisfied with their career prospects (68%) than Go-Getters globally (59%). A

French Go-Getter living in Ireland is happy that *"there are many job opportunities for multilingual people"*. And it seems like their careers are successful as more than three in five (63%) believe that they make more abroad than they would in a similar job back home, which is again slightly more than the global average of Go-Getters (59%). A French Go-Getter living in the USA is satisfied with the *"career opportunities and salary in their industry"*.

While thriving in their new work environment, the French Go-Getters seem to find their personal life abroad slightly more difficult: 17 percent are currently not living in the same country as their partner — together with the Foreign Assignee, this is the highest share among all French expat types. Moreover, 46 percent find it hard to make local friends, compared to 41 percent of all Go-Getters worldwide. *"There are no real opportunities to make friends with local people,"* says a French Go-Getter living in the UK. Maybe this is one of the reasons why 24 percent of French Go-Getters believe that they will never feel at home abroad, compared to a global average of 18 percent.

Life abroad

- 34%** speak the local language very well
- 18%** mostly friends with locals
- 31%** likely to stay abroad forever

2. THE FRENCH EXPLORER (17%)

Reasons for moving abroad

- 54%** looking for an adventure
- 25%** want to live in this particular city/country
- 21%** simply enjoy living abroad

French Explorers seem to find it easy to settle down in their new country of residence, with close to three-quarters (73%) feeling at home there, the same as the global average among all Explorers. Maybe it helps that 71 percent of French Explorers find it easy to make new friends abroad — the highest share among all French expat types. *"The people I met in Newcastle are among the best things about having moved here,"* says a French Explorer living in Australia.

In addition to that, 80 percent of French Explorers are happy with the available leisure activities abroad (vs. 83% globally). *“The local festivals and summer events are something I like very much,”* a French Explorer living in Germany says, adding: *“I wish they could take place more often.”* Perhaps enjoying their leisure time also makes it easier for the French Explorers to get used to the local culture: more than four in five (82%) find this easy, compared to 70 percent of Explorers worldwide.

When it comes to their professional life, French Explorers with a full-time job spend about 42.5 hours per week at work (vs. 42.4h globally). Consequently, close to seven in ten French Explorers (68%) are happy with their work-life balance, the same as the global average among Explorers. However, 55 percent of French Explorers believe that their income abroad is higher than what they would make in a similar job back home, nine percentage points more than the average worldwide (46%).

Life abroad

- 42%** speak the local language very well
- 16%** mostly friends with locals
- 43%** likely to stay abroad forever

3. THE FRENCH FOREIGN ASSIGNEE (13%)

Reason for moving abroad

- 100%** sent abroad by their employer

Nearly every French Foreign Assignee (95%) works full time, but with an average of 45.3 working hours per week they spend less time at work than the average Foreign Assignee worldwide (46.1h). However, this slight difference does not seem to influence their finances, since 25 percent have an annual household income of at least 150,000 USD, about the same as the share among all Foreign Assignees globally (26%). In fact, 63 percent of the Foreign Assignees from France believe that they earn more abroad than they would in a similar job back home, which is — along with the Go-Getter — the highest share among all French expat types.

Just 56 percent of all French Foreign Assignees are happy with their career prospects, and 53 percent are satisfied with their job security; both results are below the global average for all Foreign Assignees (61% and 69%, respectively).

“It is difficult for women to work and have a family,” a French Foreign Assignee living in Switzerland remarks. Despite the slightly shorter working hours, only 53 percent of French Foreign Assignees are happy with their work-life balance, compared to 58 percent of all Foreign Assignees around the globe. A French Foreign Assignee living in Colombia thinks that *“the workload is too heavy and does not allow for a social life”*.

Maybe it is due to their mixed feelings about their situation at work that close to three in five French Foreign Assignees (58%) are likely to return home at some point, by far the highest share among all French expat types. In fact, 18 percent do not feel at home abroad yet, and another 28 percent do not think that they ever will (vs. 17% globally). Maybe their struggles with settling in are partly due to difficulties in finding friends: over one in three (36%) find it hard to make new friends abroad, seven percentage points more than the global average among Foreign Assignees (29%). *“It is hard to make lasting friendships in Singapore,”* a French Foreign Assignee says.

Life abroad

- 28%** speak the local language very well
- 9%** mostly friends with locals
- 29%** likely to stay abroad forever

4. THE FRENCH ROMANTIC (11%)

Reason for moving abroad

- 100%** for love / to live in their partner's home country

Although the French Romantics moved abroad for love, their romantic relationship did not necessarily last: 19 percent of them are currently single, seven percentage points more than the global share of single Romantics (12%). Those Romantics who are (still or again) in a relationship could not be any happier, though: nine in ten (90%) are satisfied with their relationship, and for 41 percent things could not get any better. *"The best thing about living in the USA is that I am with my husband,"* a French Romantic explains.

French Romantics really make an effort to adapt to their partner's home country: close to four in five (78%) speak

the local language fairly or even very well — this is the highest share among all French expat types and far above the global average among the Romantics (57%). Additionally, half of the French Romantics (50%) find it easy to make local friends in their new country of residence (vs. 44% globally). For instance, one of them points out *"the friendly people and the outdoor activities thanks to the year-round nice weather"* as positive aspects of expat life in Australia. In fact, the large majority of French Romantics (85%) is happy with the available leisure activities abroad — only French Optimizers (91%) are even more satisfied with this factor.

With just three percent of French Romantics currently looking for work, their career looks rosier than that of Romantics in general (12% looking for work). The highest share of French Romantics are employees (28% vs. 20% globally), followed by 15 percent of entrepreneurs or small business owners (vs. 8% worldwide). *"The opportunities for entrepreneurs are great,"* a French Romantic living in Spain thinks, while one in the USA reports that their *"career opportunities are wide and abundant"*. In fact, 58 percent of all French Romantics are happy with their career prospects (vs. 46% of all Romantics worldwide) and

48 percent believe that they make more abroad than they would in a similar job back home (vs. 37% globally).

Life abroad

- 65%** speak the local language very well
- 25%** mostly friends with locals
- 43%** likely to stay abroad forever

5. THE FRENCH OPTIMIZER (11%)

Reasons for moving abroad

- 72%** better quality of life
- 27%** financial reasons
- 1%** political, religious, or safety reasons

Out of all French expat types, Optimizers see the most potential benefits in moving abroad, and it seems like they were right: an above-average share of French Optimizers is satisfied with the weather (88% vs. 74% of all Optimizers) and with the available leisure activities abroad (91% vs. 80% globally). *"I lived in many countries for years, but Barcelona is definitely one of the best cities you can find for a great quality of life,"* a French Optimizer now based in Spain says.

Additionally, 81 percent are satisfied with their financial situation, compared to 74 percent of Optimizers worldwide. *"The money is more than enough to enjoy the buzzing country,"* a French Optimizer living in Turkey reports.

When it comes to their working life, 96 percent of French Optimizers work full time, far above the global average for all Optimizers (81%). However, they spend a little less time at work than Optimizers globally (42.6 h vs. 43.4 h). Despite the high share of French Optimizers with full-time jobs, more than one-third (35%) believe that their current income is lower than what they would make in a similar job back home, compared to just 25 percent globally.

Lastly, French Optimizers do not seem to struggle much with settling in abroad: more than seven in ten (73%) feel at home in the local culture, the second-highest share among all French expat types, only beaten by the Explorer (78%). Maybe this is partly due to the fact that a majority of French Optimizers find it easy to make new friends abroad (69%), such as a French Optimizer living in Spain who appreciates *"the very kind and friendly people"* in his new home.

Life abroad

25%	speak the local language very well
13%	mostly friends with locals
55%	likely to stay abroad forever

6. THE FRENCH TRAVELING SPOUSE (9%)

Reasons for moving abroad

100%	for their partner's job or education
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While most other French expat types have a fairly balanced gender ratio, close to nine in ten French Traveling Spouses (88%) are female. Due to moving for their partner's sake, Traveling Spouses are more likely than other French expat types to take care of their home and/or children (16%) or to be currently looking for work (12%) — however, both shares are still far lower than the global average among Traveling Spouses in general (27% and 17%, respectively). In fact, close to half of French Traveling Spouses (49%) are happy with their career prospects, compared to just 39 percent of Traveling Spouses worldwide. *"I like*

the challenges and the opportunities that I am given in my field of work," a French Traveling Spouse living in Nigeria says. However, just 41 percent of French Traveling Spouses are satisfied with their job security, compared to more than half of all Traveling Spouses around the world (51%).

Aside from their frequently mixed feelings about their professional life, French Traveling Spouses struggle with settling in abroad: more than one in three (36%) find it hard to make new friends abroad, and an even higher share (57%) has difficulty making local friends in particular. *"It is very difficult to make local friends,"* says a French Travelling Spouse living in Spain, while another living in Romania feels that *"the local people's attitude is generally aggressive and rude"*. Maybe those difficulties help to explain why 40 percent do not feel at home in the local culture, compared to the global average of 33 percent. Moreover, about one in three French Traveling Spouses (33%) believe that they will never feel at home abroad, far above the global average (20%) and the highest share among French expat types.

Life abroad

- 33%** speak the local language very well
- 12%** mostly friends with locals
- 35%** likely to stay abroad forever

7. THE FRENCH STUDENT (6%)

Reasons for moving abroad

- 74%** go to school or university
- 26%** improve their language skills

French Students do not seem to have any issues getting used to the local culture in their new country of residence: just 13 percent find this hard, compared to 21 percent among all

Students worldwide. It probably helps that close to seven in ten French Students (69%) speak the local language fairly or even very well, compared to just 58 percent globally. *"The people are very friendly, and there is lots of entertainment"*, says a French Student living in the USA. Moreover, an impressive 74 percent of French Students feel at home in their new country of residence, compared to only 59 percent of Students worldwide. While Students in general are the expat type most likely to hold a PhD (11%), this is not the case for French Students in particular. One in ten (10%) hold a PhD, a smaller share than among the French Go-Getters (12%) and Optimizers (14%). However, this does not seem to stop them when starting their careers: more than three in five French Students (62%)

are happy with their career prospects, compared to 58 percent of Students worldwide. *"Foreigners have a good chance to find a job,"* according to a French Student living in Germany. Moreover, 71 percent of French Students are satisfied with their financial situation, which is far above the global average for all Students (56%).

Life abroad

- 46%** speak the local language very well
- 10%** mostly friends with locals
- 35%** likely to stay abroad forever

The 7 Most Common German Expat Types

MOST COMMON
GERMAN EXPAT TYPES



19%
The Go-
Getter

15%
The Foreign
Assignee

11%
The
Optimizer

6%
The
Student

16%
The
Romantic

13%
The
Explorer

8%
The Traveling
Spouse

12%
Other

TOP COUNTRIES
OF RESIDENCE

20%
USA

9%
Switzerland

7%
UK

TOP
INDUSTRIES

13% Manufacturing &
engineering

9% IT

8% Healthcare

LIFE
ABROAD

51% speak the local
language very well

23% mostly friends with
locals

41% likely to stay abroad
forever

EXPAT PROFILE

Relationship
status



69%
relationship

31%
single

Gender
split



49%
male

51%
female

Average
age



47.9
years

1. THE GERMAN GO-GETTER (19%)

Reasons for moving abroad

65%	found a job abroad on their own
26%	recruited by a local company
9%	start a business abroad

German Go-Getters are highly educated expats who move abroad to boost their career: over one in four (27%) hold a PhD, 17 percentage points more than the global average among all Go-Getters (10%). In their new country of residence, they mainly work in education (13%), manufacturing & engineering (12%), and IT (11%). A German Go-Getter living in the USA appreciates that *“it is very easy to open a business there”*, while another one living in China likes her work because it allows her *“to make a lot of decisions on her own.”*

Spending 46.1 hours per week at work, German Go-Getters are even busier than the average Go-Getter worldwide (44.7 h). With them working such long hours, it is no surprise that 23 percent are unsatisfied with their working hours (vs. 19% globally). In addition to that, the hard work does not always seem to pay off: just 54 percent of German Go-

Getters believe that their income abroad is higher than what they would make in a similar job back home job (vs. 59% globally). Lastly, they are less satisfied with their career prospects than Go-Getters in general (52% vs. 59% globally).

Putting work first might have an impact on their personal life: close to one in five German Go-Getters (19%) are currently not living in the same country as their partner — this share is only higher among German Foreign Assignees (21%). Moreover, close to half the German Go-Getters (47%) find it hard to make local friends abroad, compared to 41 percent of Go-Getters globally. A German living in France struggles with the *“closed social circles, which are impossible to get into”*. Maybe this is one of the reasons why 24 percent of German Go-Getters believe that they will never feel at home in their current country of residence, compared to 18 percent worldwide.

Life abroad

41%	speak the local language very well
15%	mostly friends with locals
34%	likely to stay abroad forever

2. THE GERMAN ROMANTIC (16%)

Reason for moving abroad

100%	for love / to live in their partner's home country
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Although the German Romantics moved abroad for love, their romantic relationship did not necessarily last: ten percent of them are currently single. Those Romantics who are (still or again) in a relationship could not be any happier, though: close to nine in ten (85%) are satisfied with their relationship, and for half of them (50%) things could not get any better. *“My husband is my only reason for moving to the US,”* a German Romantic explains.

German Romantics really make an effort to adapt to their partner's home country: close to nine in ten (88%) speak the local language fairly or even very well, compared to 57 percent globally. Additionally, half the German Romantics (50%) find it easy to make local friends in their new country of residence (vs. 44% globally). *“The people are warm-hearted, very friendly, and helpful towards both each other and foreigners,”* says a German living in the Philippines. In fact, the Romantic is the German expat type

most likely to be mainly friends with local residents (41%).

Among the German Romantics, the largest share describes their employment status as employee (27%), followed by 20 percent teachers and ten percent self-employed professional. However, with 35 percent of German Romantics being unhappy with their career prospects, their career does not look as rosy as their private life. *“The options to continue on a chosen career path are limited,”* a German Romantic living in the UK reports. Moreover, 55 percent of German Romantics believe that their income is lower than what they would make in a similar job back home, 14 percentage points more than among all Romantics around the globe (41%).

Life abroad

72%	speak the local language very well
41%	mostly friends with locals
49%	likely to stay abroad forever

3. THE GERMAN FOREIGN ASSIGNEE (15%)

Reason for moving abroad

100%	sent abroad by their employer
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Nearly every Foreign Assignee from Germany (95%) works full time, and with an average of 47.5 working hours per week they spend by far the most time at work — compared to 46.1 hours for the average Foreign Assignee worldwide. However, the hard work seems to pay off: 30 percent have an annual gross household income of at least 150,000 USD, four percentage points more than the global average (26%). A German living in China appreciates the *“salary and the feeling that he contributes with his work”*. Their generous household income might also be related to the fields German Foreign Assignees frequently work in: manufacturing & engineering (24%), finance (13%), and commerce & trade (9%).

Close to three in five Foreign Assignees (57%) are satisfied with their career prospects, just four percentage points less than the global share among all Foreign Assignees (61%). However, more

than three in five (62%) are happy with their job security, the highest share among all German expat types. All in all, 67 percent of German Foreign Assignees are happy with their job in general — slightly less than the global average (73%).

Despite a generally satisfying job situation abroad, 56 percent of German Foreign Assignees think it likely that they will return home at some point — only the German Traveling Spouse considers this even more likely (60%). In fact, 18 percent of German Foreign Assignees do not feel at home abroad yet, and close to one-quarter (24%) think they never will (vs. 17% globally). Maybe their struggles with settling in are partly due to 29 percent finding it hard to make new friends abroad. *“Getting to know people is difficult as a foreigner,”* says a German living in the USA.

Life abroad

37%	speak the local language very well
16%	mostly friends with locals
23%	likely to stay abroad forever

4. THE GERMAN EXPLORER (13%)

Reasons for moving abroad

- 48%** looking for an adventure
- 35%** want to live in this particular city/country
- 17%** simply enjoy living abroad

German Explorers seem to find it easy to settle down in their new country of residence, with three-quarters (75%) feeling at home there. Maybe their ease of settling in is due to the fact that the majority (67%) finds it easy to make new friends abroad — together with the Optimizers, this is the highest share among all German expat types. *“People are very friendly and easy-going, and everything seems to be simpler than at home”,* a German Explorer living in Australia reports.

In addition to that, German Explorers are very happy with the available leisure activities abroad (82%); only German Students (86%) are more satisfied with this factor. *“France is a very interesting country, which offers so many different things from culture to nature to lots of local festivities,”* according to a German Explorer who moved abroad because

she wanted to live in this particular place.

While the Explorer in general seems to appreciate a good work-life balance and only spends around 42.4 hours per week at work, this is not the case for the German Explorers. With them working an average 45.7 hours per week, it might not be a surprise that just 59 percent are happy with their work-life balance, compared to 68 percent globally. Additionally, a lower share of German Explorers (54%) is satisfied with their job security than among Explorers in general (64%). On the other hand, German Explorers are just slightly more satisfied with their career prospects (61% vs. 59% positive ratings).

Life abroad

- 56%** speak the local language very well
- 35%** mostly friends with locals
- 17%** likely to stay abroad forever

5. THE GERMAN OPTIMIZER (11%)

Reasons for moving abroad

- 69%** better quality of life
- 28%** financial reasons
- 3%** political, religious, or safety reasons

Out of all German expat types, Optimizers see the most potential benefits in moving abroad, and it seems like they were right: an above-average share of German Optimizers are satisfied with the weather (83% vs. 74% globally), and 80 percent are happy with the available leisure activities abroad. A German Optimizer living in Australia appreciates *“the great weather and the fabulous landscape”*. Additionally, more than four in five German Optimizers (83%) rate their personal safety positively, and 75 percent are satisfied with their financial situation. *“I got out of constant financial trouble I had due to the high costs of living in Germany”,* a German now living in Bulgaria reports.

When it comes to their professional life, 85 percent of German Optimizers work full time, slightly more than the global average among all Optimizers (81%). Additionally, they spend 3.3 hours per

week more at work than the average Optimizer (46.7 h vs. 43.4 h). However, the hard work does not always seem to pay off: just half of the German Optimizers (50%) believe that their current income is higher than what they would get in a similar job back home, while 58 percent of all Optimizers worldwide say the same.

Lastly, German Optimizers do not seem to struggle much with settling in abroad: more than seven in ten (71%) feel at home in the local culture, the second-highest share among all German expat types, beaten only slightly by the Explorer (73%). Maybe it helps that German Optimizers find it is easier to make local friends (63%) than the average Optimizer worldwide (56%). A German Optimizer living in India is very happy with *“the friendliness of the people all over the country”*.

Life abroad

36%	speak the local language very well
24%	mostly friends with locals
3%	likely to stay abroad forever

6. THE GERMAN TRAVELING SPOUSE (8%)

Reason for moving abroad

100%	for their partner’s job or education
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While most other German expat types have a fairly balanced gender ratio, close to nine in ten German Traveling Spouses (88%) are female. Due to moving for their partner’s sake, Traveling Spouses are more likely than other German expat types to stay at home and take care of their home and/or their children (22%) or to be currently looking for work (8%). *“It is not easy to find work,”* a German Traveling Spouse living in Morocco reports, while one in Indonesia is unhappy with the *“missing career opportunities for partners”*. However, compared to Traveling Spouses in general, the share of employees among German Traveling Spouses is eleven percentage points higher (24% vs. 13%). Moreover, just 29 percent of German Traveling Spouses are unsatisfied with their career prospects, compared to 41 percent globally.

However, German Traveling Spouses struggle with settling in abroad on a personal level: more than one in three (34%) find it hard to make new friends in general, and an even higher share has trouble making local friends in particular (45%). Maybe this is one of the reasons why 36 percent do not feel at home in the local culture, slightly more than the global average for all Traveling Spouses (33%). Moreover, 22 percent of Traveling Spouses from Germany believe they will never feel at home abroad, which is also slightly above the global average (20%). However, while out of all expat types worldwide, the Traveling Spouse is the most likely to believe this, the share among German Students (23%) and Foreign Assignees (24%) is even higher than the share among German Traveling Spouses.

Life abroad

45%	speak the local language very well
8%	mostly friends with locals
25%	likely to stay abroad forever

7. THE GERMAN STUDENT (6%)

Reasons for moving abroad

- 89%** go to school or university
- 11%** improve their language skills

German Students do not seem to have a problem with making local friends abroad: just one-third (33%) rates this factor negatively, compared to 41 percent globally. Maybe this is due to the fact that the share of German Students speaking the local language fairly or even very well (75%) is 17 percentage points larger than the global share among all Students (58%). *"I feel welcome as a foreigner and can easily get in touch with locals as well as other expats"*, says a German Student living in the Netherlands. Perhaps these aspects also contribute to the fact that 60

percent of German Students feel at home in the local culture, compared to 54 percent worldwide.

While the Student is the expat type is most likely to be single on a global scale (54%), this only applies to 40 percent of German Students. In fact, German Go-Getters (42%) and German Explorers (40%) are just as likely not to be in a relationship. Among those expats who are in a relationship, though, German Students (65%) are more likely to have met their significant other in their current country of residence than Students in general (58%).

In addition to being highly educated — 21 percent of German Students hold a PhD, the second-highest share among all German expat types, only beaten by the Go-Getters (27%), and ten percentage points more than among all Students

worldwide (11%) — they are also likely to work in education themselves (12%). Other common fields of occupation include healthcare (12%), IT (10%), and coaching & consulting (10%). With 57 percent positive ratings, close to the global average of 58 percent, German Students are quite satisfied with their career prospects. A German Student living in Denmark especially appreciates *"the possibility to make decisions on her own due to the low hierarchies"*. Also, 63 percent of German Students are satisfied with their financial situation, more than the global average (56%).

Life abroad

- 63%** speak the local language very well
- 25%** mostly friends with locals
- 33%** likely to stay abroad forever

The 7 Most Common Italian Expat Types

MOST COMMON ITALIAN EXPAT TYPES



33%
The Go-
Getter

12%
The
Optimizer

8%
The
Romantic

6%
The
Student

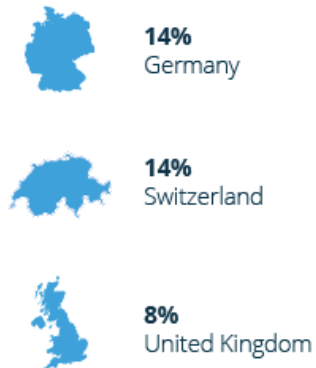
14%
The Foreign
Assignee

11%
The
Explorer

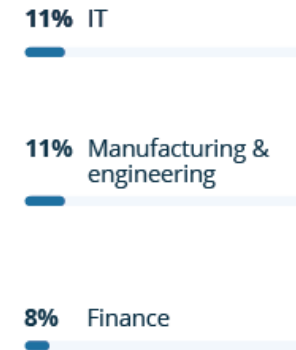
7%
The Traveling
Spouse

10%
Other

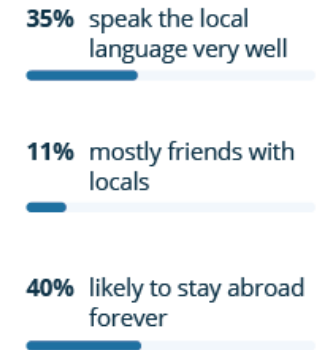
TOP COUNTRIES OF RESIDENCE



TOP INDUSTRIES



LIFE ABROAD



EXPAT PROFILE



1. THE ITALIAN GO-GETTER (33%)

Reasons for moving abroad

- 46%** recruited by a local company
- 45%** found a job abroad on their own
- 8%** start a business abroad: 8%

Italian Go-Getters are highly educated expats who move abroad to boost their career: 19 percent hold a PhD, compared to just ten percent of Go-Getters globally. Additionally, 46 percent of Italian Go-Getters graduated with a master's degree and 19 percent have a bachelor's degree. Before moving to their new country of residence, three-quarters of Italian Go-Getters (75%) considered the economy and labor market of their future host country to be a potential benefit, which is 19 percentage points more than Go-Getters globally (56%).

With an average full-time work week of 42.9 hours, Italian Go-Getters spend 1.8 hours less at the office than the global average of Go-Getters (44.7 h). Therefore, it comes as no surprise that close to seven in ten Italian Go-Getters (68%) are satisfied with their working hours (vs. 64% Go-Getters globally).

Additionally, two-thirds of Italian Go-Getters (67%) are satisfied with their career prospects, compared to 59 percent of Go-Getters globally. *"My career opportunities are much greater,"* says an Italian Go-Getter living in the US, *"I make more money than I would for the same job in Italy."* In fact, 76 percent of Italian Go-Getters believe that they make more abroad than they would in a similar job back home — and 41 percent even consider it a lot more.

Putting work first might negatively impact their personal life, though: more than one-quarter of Italian Go-Getters in a relationship (27%) is currently not living in the same country as their partner, which is slightly above the global average of Go-Getters (24%). However, while globally Go-Getters are the most likely to live separated from their partner, among Italians abroad, Foreign Assignees are even more likely to be in an international long-distance relationship (35%). Moreover, more than half of Italian Go-Getters (55%) find it hard to make local friends abroad, compared to 41 percent of Go-Getters globally. *"It is difficult to find friends and meet new people,"* an Italian Go-Getter living in Germany shares. Maybe this is the reason why 31 percent do not feel at

home abroad yet, and another 22 percent even believe that they never will (vs. 25% and 18% of Go-Getters globally).

Life abroad

- 32%** speak the local language very well
- 10%** mostly friends with locals
- 8%** likely to stay abroad forever

2. THE ITALIAN FOREIGN ASSIGNEE (14%)

Reason for moving abroad

- 100%** sent abroad by their employer

Nearly every Italian Foreign Assignee (95%) works full time and, with an average of 46.3 hours per week, they are slightly busier than Foreign Assignees globally (46.1 h). However, they do not seem to mind, as close to three-quarters (73%) are satisfied with their working hours, which is ten percentage points more than the global average of Foreign Assignees (63%). One Italian Foreign Assignee reports that *"the opportunities*

in the job and the ease of living in the USA are great". In fact, 65 percent of Italian Foreign Assignees are happy with their career prospects, which is just above the global average (61%).

Close to four in five Italian Foreign Assignees (78%) believe that their income abroad is higher than what they would make in a similar job back home, compared to just 61 percent globally. More than one third of Italian Foreign Assignees (35%) even think that it is a lot higher. Therefore, it comes as no surprise that 85 percent of Italian Foreign Assignees are satisfied with their financial situation (vs. 76% of all Foreign Assignees).

Maybe it is thanks to their financial security that just 49 percent of Italian Foreign Assignees say it is likely that they will return home at some point, while 58 percent of Foreign Assignees worldwide plan to do so. However, this is still the second-highest share among all Italian expat types, just slightly beaten by the Italian Student (50%). *"I miss the beautiful Italian culture,"* says an Italian Foreign Assignee living in the US. In fact, 29 percent of Italian Foreign Assignees do not yet feel at home abroad, and another 15 percent do not

think they ever will. Maybe their struggles with settling in are partly because 37 percent of Italian Foreign Assignees find it hard to make friends abroad (vs. 29% Foreign Assignees worldwide). *"I hoped to create a richer network of people, but it is hard to find new friends while working,"* says an Italian expat living in France.

Life abroad

36%	speak the local language very well
6%	mostly friends with locals
29%	likely to stay abroad forever

3. THE ITALIAN OPTIMIZER (12%)

Reasons for moving abroad

65%	better quality of life
33%	financial reasons
2%	political, religious, or safety reasons

Out of all Italian expat types, Optimizers saw the most potential benefits in moving abroad and it seems like they were right: an above-average share of Italian Optimizers is satisfied with the quality of environment (82% vs. 79% Optimizers globally) and the state of the

economy (71% vs. 67% Optimizers globally) in their country of residence. Additionally, 74 percent are also satisfied with their financial situation. *"Life is cheap and the climate suits me,"* an Italian Optimizer summarizes life in Morocco.

When it comes to their working life, 87 percent of Italian Optimizers work full time, which is six percentage points more than the global average (81%). Despite working slightly longer hours (43.6 h/week full-time) than Optimizers globally (43.4. h/week), the share of Italian Optimizers who are satisfied with their working hours is three percentage points higher than Optimizers worldwide (69% vs. 66%). Additionally, 65 percent of Italian Optimizers are happy with their career prospects (vs. 60% Optimizers globally), and 63 percent believe that their current income is higher than what they would get in a similar job back home (vs. 58% Optimizers globally). An Italian Optimizer points out the *"good salary, social welfare, and job opportunities"* as positive factors of life in the UK.

Lastly, Italian Optimizers do not seem to struggle much with settling in abroad, as six in ten (60%) feel at home in the local culture. While this is the second-highest

share among all Italian expat types — only the Italian Explorer feels more at home (73%) — it is still twelve percentage points less than the global average of Optimizers (72%), though. Maybe this is due to the fact that not even close to half the Italian Optimizers (46%) find it easy to make local friends, compared to 56 percent of Optimizers worldwide.

Life abroad

- 24%** speak the local language very well
- 15%** mostly friends with locals
- 57%** likely to stay abroad forever

4. THE ITALIAN EXPLORER (11%)

Reasons for moving abroad

- 51%** looking for an adventure
- 38%** want to live in this particular city/country
- 11%** simply enjoy living abroad

Italian Explorers seem to find it easy to settle down in their new country of residence, with almost three-quarters (73%) feeling at home in the local culture (vs. 71% Explorers globally). Maybe this

is due to the fact that 76 percent of Italian Explorers finds it easy to make new friends abroad: this is not only eight percentage points more than the global average of Explorers (68%), but also the highest share among all Italian expat types.

Generally, the majority of Italian Explorers (83%) is satisfied with their life abroad and seems to make the most out of it: more than nine in ten (91%) are happy with the available leisure activities, which is the highest share among all Italian expat types and higher than the global average of Explorers (83%). *“People are extremely friendly and there are a lot of things to do,”* says an Italian Explorer living in Brazil.

Aside from making friends, it seems like a good work-life balance is important to the Italian Explorer. Italian Explorers with a full-time job spend just about 40.8 hours per week at work, which is less than the global average of Explorers (42.4 h). Therefore, it is not surprising that more than seven in ten (72%) are happy with their working hours and another 79 percent with their work-life balance. Additionally, the share of Italian Explorers being satisfied with their career prospects is a lot higher than Explorers globally (73% vs. 59%).

Life abroad

- 45%** speak the local language very well
- 12%** mostly friends with locals
- 39%** likely to stay abroad forever

5. THE ITALIAN ROMANTIC (8%)

Reasons for moving abroad

- 100%** for love / to live in their partner's home country

Although the Italian Romantic moved abroad for love, their romantic relationship did not necessarily last: 14 percent of them are currently single, which is slightly more than the global average of Romantics (12%). For those Romantics who are (still or again) in a relationship, things are going well, though: close to nine in ten (88%) are satisfied with their relationship, and for 58 percent things could not get any better.

The Italian Romantics appear to really make an effort to adapt to their partner's home country: two thirds (66%) state to speak the local language fairly or even very well, which is nine

percentage points more than the global average of Romantics (57%). An Italian Romantic living in Switzerland even enjoys *“having the opportunity to speak different foreign languages at a time”*. Yet, Italian Romantics struggle to make local friends: while globally only 39 percent of Romantics find this hard, close to half the Italian Romantic (46%) have difficulties.

Not a single Italian Romantic is currently looking for work, compare to twelve percent of Romantics globally. In fact, 56 percent of Italian Romantics are happy with their career prospects, compared to just 46 percent of Romantics globally. Additionally, close to half the Italian Romantics (47%) believe that their income is higher than what they would make in a similar job back home, which is ten percentage points more than the global average of Romantics (37%).

Life abroad

- 39%** speak the local language very well
- 30%** mostly friends with locals
- 41%** likely to stay abroad forever

6. THE ITALIAN TRAVELING SPOUSE (7%)

Reason for moving abroad

- 100%** for their partner’s job or education

A staggering 91 percent of Italian Traveling Spouses are female. Due to them moving for their partner’s sake, Italian Traveling Spouses are more likely than other expat types to take care of their home and/or children rather than work (20%). Employees still make up the largest share (26%) when it comes to Italian Traveling Spouse’s employment status, though, while globally, Traveling Spouses are most likely to stay at home (27%). Maybe that is the reason why 47 percent of Italian Traveling Spouses are satisfied with their career prospects, compared to just 39 percent of Traveling Spouses globally. An Italian Traveling Spouse points out the *“stability of the job and the career opportunities”* as positive factors of life in the UK.

Together with the Italian Romantic, the Italian Traveling Spouse is the most unsatisfied with life abroad in general out of all Italian expat types: one-fifth (20%) rate this factor negatively,

compared to 17 percent of Traveling Spouses globally. Maybe this is due to them struggling to settle down abroad: two in five Italian Traveling Spouses (40%) do not feel at home in the local culture, compared to just one third of Traveling Spouses globally (33%). Moreover, 32 percent of Italian Traveling Spouses believe that they will never feel at home, which is by far the highest share out of all Italian expat types. *“I feel like a foreigner all the time,”* an Italian Traveling Spouse living in the UK shares. In fact, almost two in five (38%) find it hard to make new friends abroad, and an even higher share has difficulty making *local* friends in particular (56%). Both results are above the global average of Traveling Spouses (32% and 48%, respectively).

Life abroad

- 32%** speak the local language very well
- 8%** mostly friends with locals
- 38%** likely to stay abroad forever

7. THE ITALIAN STUDENT (6%)

Reasons for moving abroad

- 80%** go to school or university
- 20%** improve their language skills

Despite being able to communicate easily — the share of Students speaking the local language of their host country very well is the highest among all Italian expat types — they struggle to make local friends abroad. Almost half of them (49%) find this hard, compared to 41 percent of Students globally. *“It is difficult to meet people because the social life options are poor,”* an Italian Student living in Switzerland says. Interestingly, the share of Italian Students feeling at

home in the local culture is nevertheless the same as Students globally (54%).

Just 41 percent of Italian Students are currently single, which is far below the global average of Students not being in a committed relationship (54%). While globally, Students are the type most likely to be single, this is not the case for the Italian expat types: an even higher share of Italian Explorers and Go-Getters (46% both) have not found their significant other yet. Italian Students are highly educated — 22 percent of Students already hold a PhD, the highest share among the various Italian expat types — which seems to be helpful for their career. Close to three quarters (73%) rate their career prospects positively, compared to

58 percent of Students globally. *“You can achieve a lot when working hard,”* says an Italian Student living in the US. And working hard seems to pay off as well: close to four in five Italian Students (78%) are satisfied with their financial situation, compared to 56 percent of Students globally.

Life abroad

- 54%** speak the local language very well
- 7%** mostly friends with locals
- 28%** likely to stay abroad forever

The 7 Most Common US American Expat Types

MOST COMMON
US AMERICAN EXPAT TYPES



17%
The Romantic

16%
The Optimizer

8%
The Foreign Assignee

3%
The Student

17%
The Explorer

13%
The Go-Getter

8%
The Traveling Spouse

18%
Other

TOP COUNTRIES
OF RESIDENCE

10%
Germany

5%
Mexico

4%
France

TOP
INDUSTRIES

29% Education

8% IT

6% Advertising, marketing & communication

LIFE
ABROAD

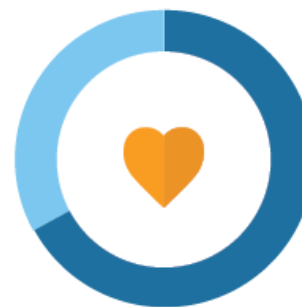
22% speak the local language very well

28% mostly friends with locals

39% likely to stay abroad forever

EXPAT PROFILE

Relationship
status



67% relationship
33% single

Gender
split



48% male
52% female

Average
age



51.5
years

1. THE US AMERICAN ROMANTIC (17%)

Reason for moving abroad

100% for love / to live in their partner's home country

Despite making up only the third-largest share of the expat types worldwide (12%), the Romantic is the most common expat type among US Americans. Although US American Romantics initially moved abroad for love, their romantic relationship did not necessarily last: ten percent of them are currently single. Those Romantics who are (still or again) in a relationship could not be any happier, though: close to nine in ten (88%) are satisfied with their relationship, and for 58 percent things could not get any better. *"I am happy to be with the person I love,"* says a US American Romantic living in Spain.

US American Romantics really make an effort to adapt to their partner's home country: close to half of them (48%) speak the local language fairly or even very well —the respective share is only larger among US American Students (66%). Additionally, the Romantic is the expat type most likely to be mainly friends with local residents (49%), eleven

percentage points more than the global average among all Romantics (38%).

With just one percent of US American Romantics currently looking for work, their career options seem to be a lot better than those for Romantics around the world (8%). However, when asked about the satisfaction with their career prospects, 37 percent of US American Romantics are unhappy with this factor, slightly more than the worldwide average (34%). A US American Romantic in Spain, for example, is unhappy due to the *"very limited options in terms of earning potential and career opportunities"*. In fact, 54 percent of US American Romantics believe that their income abroad is lower than what they would make in a similar job back home (vs. 41% globally).

Life abroad

26% speak the local language very well
49% mostly friends with locals
41% likely to stay abroad forever

2. THE US AMERICAN EXPLORER (17%)

Reasons for moving abroad

39% looking for an adventure
33% want to live in this particular city/country
28% simply enjoy living abroad

US American Explorers seem to find it easy to settle down in their new country of residence, with almost four in five (79%) feeling at home there, compared to 73 percent of all Explorers worldwide. Maybe it helps that the majority of US American Explorers (71%) also finds it easy to make new friends abroad (vs. 68% globally). This is the second-highest share among all US American expat types, only beaten by the US American Optimizer (79%). A US American Explorer really appreciates *"the friendly people and the great social life"* in Ireland, for example.

In addition to that, 87 percent of US American Explorers are satisfied with the available leisure activities abroad; again, only US American Optimizers are just slightly happier with this factor (88%). *"There is always something to do,"* says a US American Explorer living in the

Netherlands, while another one thinks that *“Mexico City offers almost everything”*.

Apart from making friends, a good work-life balance seems important to the US American Explorers. If they have a full-time job, they spend just about 41.9 hours per week at work, which is shorter than the average work week of Explorers worldwide (42.4 h). It is therefore hardly a surprise that more than seven in ten (73%) are happy with their work-life balance, five percentage points more than the global average (68%). While US American Explorers rate their career prospects just slightly less positively than the average (56% vs. 59% globally), the share of those worrying about their job security (13%) is smaller than the global share among all Explorers (18%).

Life abroad

39%	speak the local language very well
33%	mostly friends with locals
28%	likely to stay abroad forever

3. THE US AMERICAN OPTIMIZER (16%)

Reasons for moving abroad

56%	better quality of life
35%	financial reasons
8%	political, religious, or safety reasons

Out of all US American expat types, Optimizers see the most potential benefits in moving abroad, and it seems like they were right: they are very satisfied with the weather (84%) and the quality of the environment (77%) in their new country of residence. A US American Optimizers especially appreciates the *“beauty of the country and the weather”* in Costa Rica. Additionally, more than nine in ten US American Optimizers (91%) feel safe abroad (vs. 88% globally), and 82 percent are satisfied with their financial situation (vs. 74% globally).

When it comes to their professional life, only 63 percent of US American Optimizers work full time, which is far below the global average for all Optimizers (81%). With an average work week of just 40.8 hours, they are also less busy than Optimizers around the world (43.4 h). *“Life is easy here. I do not*

work much and make enough money to travel, save for the future, and afford all my expenses,” a US American expat living in China reports. Despite their satisfying financial situation, more than half the US American Optimizers (53%) believe that their current income is lower than what they would get in a similar job back home, more than twice the share among all Optimizers worldwide (25%).

Lastly, US American Optimizers do not seem to struggle much with settling in abroad: more than four in five (82%) feel at home in the local culture — the highest share among all US American expat types and ten percentage points more than the global average (72%). Maybe this is partly due to the fact that 69 percent of US American Optimizers also find it easy to make local friends (vs. 56% globally).

Life abroad

22%	speak the local language very well
22%	mostly friends with locals
55%	likely to stay abroad forever

4. THE US AMERICAN GO-GETTER (13%)

Reasons for moving abroad

- 61%** found a job abroad on their own
- 26%** recruited by a local company
- 12%** start a business abroad

US American Go-Getters are highly educated expats who move abroad to boost their career: 16 percent of them hold a PhD, six percentage points more than the global average among all Go-Getters (10%), and another 44 percent graduated with a master's degree. In their new country of residence, they are very likely to work in education (43%), close to three times the share among Go-Getters around the world (16%). *"My job as a scientific university professor is fantastic"*, says a US American Go-Getter living in China. Other fields of occupation include IT (8%) and the arts (5%).

With an average work week of 43.4 hours, the US American Go-Getter is not quite as busy as the average Go-Getter worldwide (44.7 h). Therefore, it is not particularly surprising that 68 percent are satisfied with their working hours, compared to 64 percent globally.

Moreover, three in five US American Go-Getters (60%) are happy with their career prospects, about the same as the global average (59%). *"If you are a skilled worker, stable, and responsible, you can do well"*, says a US American Go-Getter living in New Zealand. However, just 43 percent of US American Go-Getters believe their salary abroad is higher than what they would make in a similar job back home, compared to 59 percent worldwide.

Putting work first might have an impact on their personal life: 15 percent of US American Go-Getters are currently not living in the same country as their partner — only US American Foreign Assignees have a larger share of expats separated from their significant other (19%). Moreover, more than two in five Go-Getters (41%) find it hard to make local friends abroad, exactly the same share as the global average. *"It is difficult to make friends here,"* says US American Go-Getter living in Japan. Maybe this is one of the reasons why 18 percent do not feel at home abroad yet, and another 17 percent believe that they never will.

Life abroad

- 17%** speak the local language very well
- 17%** mostly friends with locals
- 29%** likely to stay abroad forever

5. THE US AMERICAN FOREIGN ASSIGNEE (8%)

Reasons for moving abroad

- 100%** sent abroad by their employer

Nearly every US American Foreign Assignee (94%) works full time, and with an average of 46.2 working hours per week they spend by far more time at work than any other US American expat type. However, the hard work seems to pay off: 32 percent have an annual gross household income of at least 150,000 USD, six percentage points more than the global average among all Foreign Assignees (26%). Their generous household income might also be related to the fields they frequently work in: manufacturing & engineering (12%), IT (11%), and finance (9%).

Close to three in five US American Foreign Assignees (58%) are satisfied with their career prospects, which is just below the global average (61%). On the other hand, 71 percent are happy with their job security, which is slightly above the global average (69%) — together with the results for the Explorer (71%), this is also the highest share among all US American expat types. *“The options for personal growth and the business potential are unlimited,”* says a US American expat living in Cambodia. In general, 74 percent of US American Foreign Assignees are satisfied with their job (vs. 73% globally).

Despite their relatively high job satisfaction, 57 percent of US American Foreign Assignees consider it very likely that they will return home at some point, the highest share among all US American expat types. In fact, 22 percent of US American Foreign Assignees do not feel at home abroad yet, and another twelve percent do not think they ever will. Maybe their struggles with settling in are partly due to them finding it hard to make friends abroad: close to three in ten US American Foreign Assignees (29%) find it hard to make friends abroad, exactly the same share as the global average. *“The Swiss are very closed,”* a US American Foreign Assignee

thinks, while another one says they *“do not feel part of the community”* in Germany.

Life abroad

- 15%** speak the local language very well
- 17%** mostly friends with locals
- 19%** likely to stay abroad forever

6. THE US AMERICAN TRAVELING SPOUSE (8%)

Reasons for moving abroad

- 100%** for their partner’s job or education

While most other US American expat types have a fairly balanced gender ratio, close to nine in ten US American Traveling Spouses (86%) are female. Due to moving for their partner’s sake, US American Traveling Spouses are often likely to take care of their home and/or children, rather than work (25%) or to be currently looking for work (16%). In fact, only six percent of US American Traveling Spouses are employees a far smaller share than the global average for Traveling Spouses (13%). *“In Japan it*

is really hard for me to get a job other than teaching English or working labor jobs”, says a US American Traveling Spouse. Therefore, it is hardly a surprise that half the US American Traveling Spouses (50%) are unsatisfied with their career prospects, compared to 41 percent worldwide.

Apart from frequently unsatisfying careers, US American Traveling Spouses also struggle with settling in abroad on a personal level. More than one-third (36%) do not feel at home in the local culture, compared to 33 percent globally. Moreover, 18 percent believe that they will never feel at home abroad, the highest share among the seven US American expat types. One-third (33%) finds it hard to make new friends abroad, and an even higher percentage (52%) has difficulty making local friends in particular. Both shares are the highest among all US American expat types. A US American living in Ireland explains: *“It took us a very long time to make friends. Everyone is friendly, but that does not mean that they hang out with someone they do not know well.”*

Life abroad

- 9%** speak the local language very well
- 19%** mostly friends with locals
- 25%** likely to stay abroad forever

7. THE US AMERICAN STUDENT (3%)

Reasons for moving abroad

- 82%** go to school or university
- 12%** improve their language skills

Among the US American expat types, Students have the highest share of those speaking the local language very well (43%), and it seems to help them with making local friends abroad. Just 36 percent of US American Students find this hard, compared to 41 percent of Students worldwide. Maybe these factors also contribute to the fact that 70 percent of US American Students feel at

home in the local culture, compared to 54 percent of all Students worldwide. *"I feel very much at home here,"* says a US American Student living in Czechia.

Just about two in five US American Students (41%) are in a committed relationship, which is by far the lowest share among all US American expat types — with an average age of 43.2 years, they are also by far the youngest. Globally speaking, however, the average Student is even more than ten years younger (32.4 years). Those US American Students who are in a relationship are far more likely to have met their significant other in their current country of residence than the global average (74% vs. 58% worldwide).

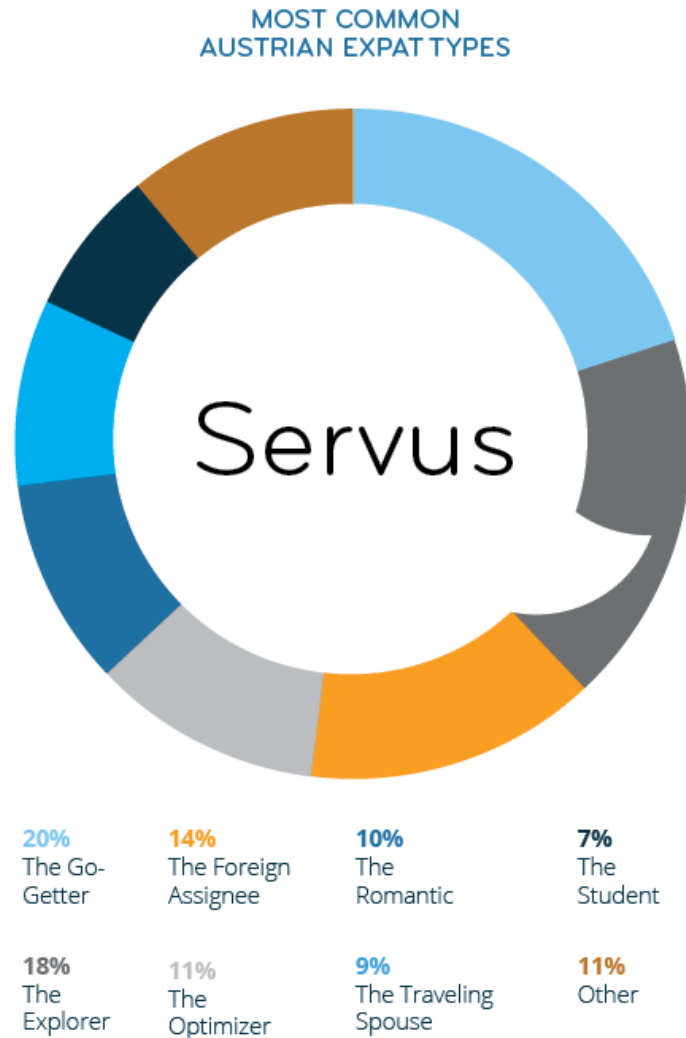
In addition to being highly educated — 14 percent of Students hold a PhD, the second-highest share among all US American expat types, only beaten by the Go-Getter (16%) — they are also very likely to work in education themselves

(27%). Other common fields of occupation include IT (10%) and manufacturing & engineering (10%). With 56 percent positive ratings, US American Students are quite satisfied with their career prospects, compared to a similar share of 58 percent among all Students across the world. A US American living in Bolivia likes *"the work potential as an educated foreigner"*. Additionally, 65 percent of US American Students are satisfied with their financial situation, nine percentage points more than the global average (56%).

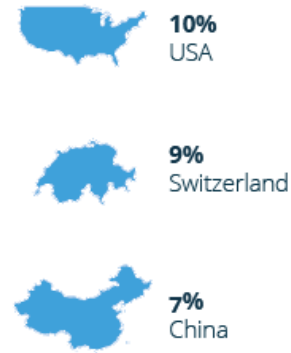
Life abroad

- 43%** speak the local language very well
- 22%** mostly friends with locals
- 35%** likely to stay abroad forever

The 7 Most Common Austrian Expat Types



TOP COUNTRIES OF RESIDENCE



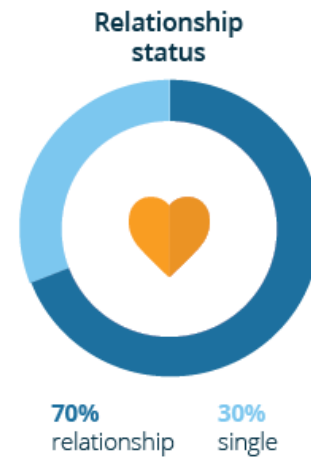
TOP INDUSTRIES



LIFE ABROAD



EXPAT PROFILE



Go-Getters, who are the most common expat type among Austrians abroad as well as globally, and Foreign Assignees both move abroad for work-related reasons and dedicate a lot of time to their job.

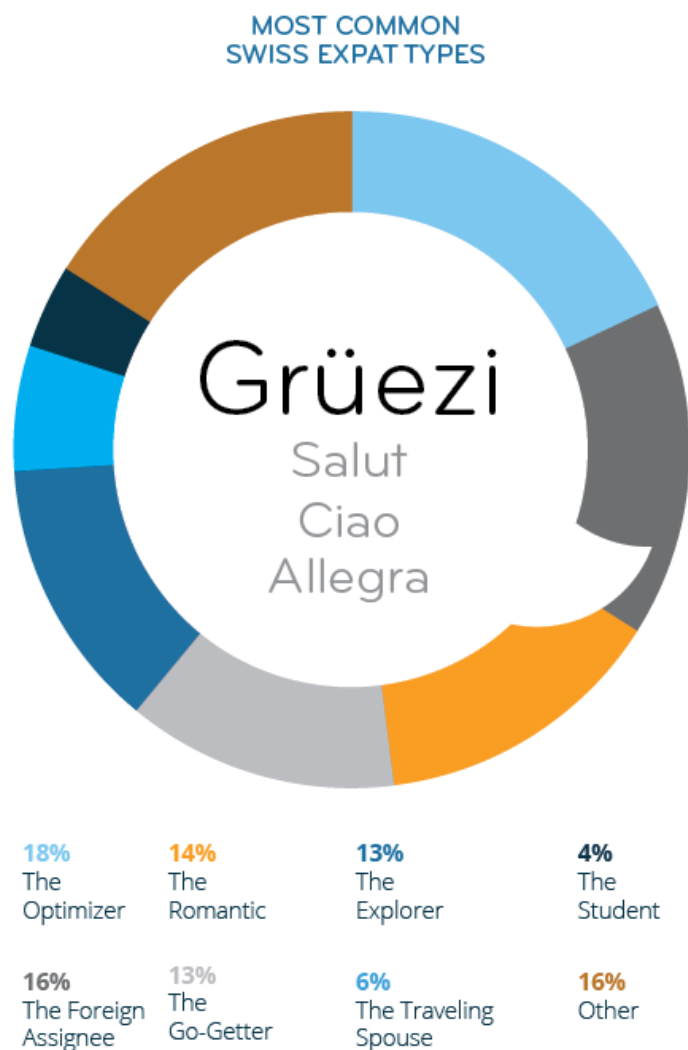
Optimizers, on the other hand, often simply search for a better life abroad — they are more common on a global scale (16%) than among Austrians (11%). They find it easy to settle in, which is also the

case for the Explorer, while Romantics are very likely to be mainly friends with local residents. The former relocates abroad looking for an adventure or challenge, while the latter makes the move for love. Out of all Austrian expats, an above-average 18 percent are categorized as Explorers, while globally only 12 percent fall into this category.

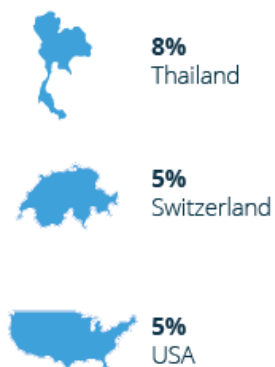
The Traveling Spouse also moves abroad to be with their partner, however, they

often struggle to feel at home abroad and face poor career prospects. Lastly, Students are highly educated and move abroad for school or university. They are also the most likely to speak the local language very well. These two types make up the smallest share among both, the most common Austrian expat types and the world's most common expat types.

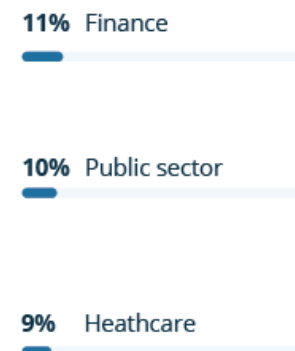
The 7 Most Common Swiss Expat Types



TOP COUNTRIES OF RESIDENCE



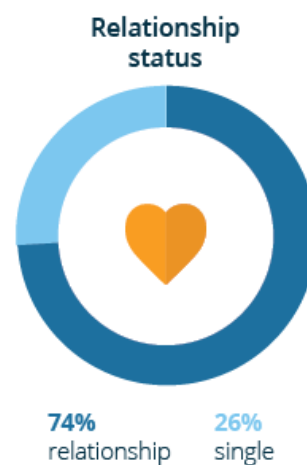
TOP INDUSTRIES



LIFE ABROAD



EXPAT PROFILE



With close to one in five Swiss expats (18%) being categorized as Optimizers who move abroad for a better quality of life, this type makes up the largest share out of all Swiss expats. On a global scale, however, Go-Getters are the most common expat type (21%), compared to just 13 percent of the Swiss. They move abroad for work-related reasons and dedicate a lot of their time to their jobs.

On the other hand, Swiss expats are more likely to be Foreign Assignees sent abroad by their employer than the global average (16% vs. 10%). Despite

their great career options, this type of expats often plans to return home at some point and finds it hard to make new friends.

This is not the case for Explorers, who find it easy to settle in abroad, and Romantics, who are very likely to be mainly friends with local residents. The former relocates abroad looking for an adventure or challenge, while the latter makes the move for love. Out of all Swiss expats, 13 percent are categorized as Explorers (vs. 12% globally) and 14 percent as Romantics (vs. 12% globally).

Traveling Spouses also move abroad to be with their partner, however, they often struggle to feel at home abroad and face poor career prospects. Lastly, Students are highly educated and move abroad for school or university. They are also the most likely to speak the local language very well. These two types make up the smallest share among both, the most common Swiss expat types and the world's most common expat types.

About InterNations & Press Inquiries

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