

Outward Mobility Network Covid-19 Poll – September 2020

Universities UK International (UUKi) conducted a poll of the Outward Student Mobility Network from the 8th to the 21st September 2020 on the impact of Covid-19 on outbound mobility this coming academic year, including plans for this the start of the academic year and semester 2. The poll updates on some of the findings of [UUKi's April and June surveys](#).

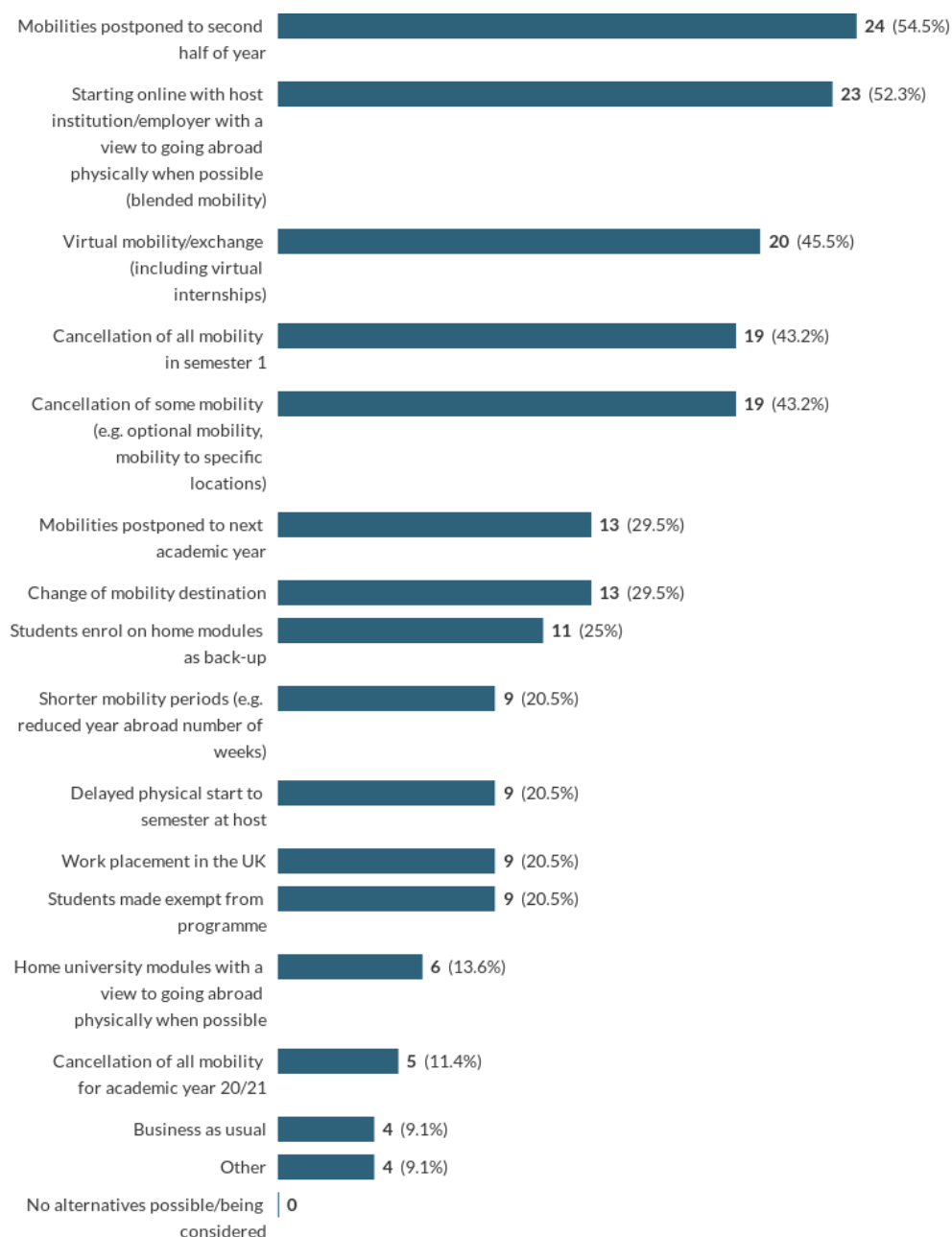
Forty-four institutions responded to the poll out of forty-seven respondents. Three institutions submitted duplicate responses, and these duplicates were not included in the analysis.

Key findings

1. Contingency options this academic year

- The contingency options being considered or implemented or offered for students going abroad at the beginning of this academic year (2020-2021) remained largely consistent with UUKi's June OSM Network poll (results [here](#)).
- The four most popular options remained:
 - postpone mobilities to the second half of the year (55%)
 - start online with the host institution/employer with a view to going abroad physically when possible (52%)
 - virtual mobility/exchange - including virtual internships (46%)
 - cancellation of all mobility in semester 1 (43%)
- Multiple responses were possible for this question. Forty-one institutions selected two or more options; thirty institutions selected four or more options; and 5 institutions selected eight or nine options.

Bar chart: options being considered/offered for students going abroad at the beginning of the coming academic year. Multiple responses were possible.

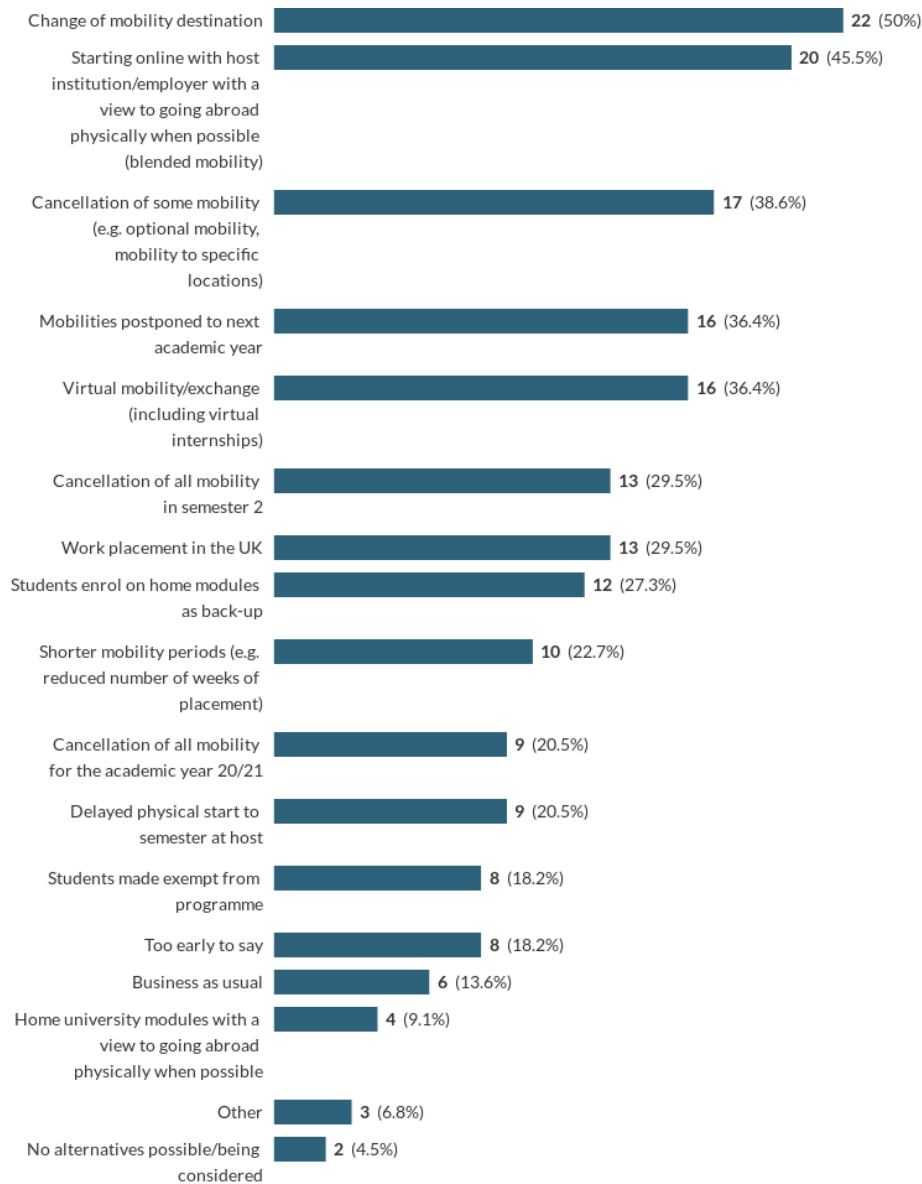


2. Contingency plans for semester 2

- Fourteen institutions (32%) have already taken a decision on semester 2. Twenty-four institutions (55%) were planning to take the decision in October or November.
- The most popular contingency option being considered or offered in semester 2, unlike semester 1, is change of mobility destination (22 institutions).
- The next most popular were:
 - o starting online with the host, with a view to going abroad physically when possible (20 institutions)

- cancellation of some mobility (17 institutions)
- postponing mobility to next academic year (16 institutions)
- implementing virtual mobility/exchange – including virtual internships (16 institutions).

Bar chart: options being considered/offered for students going abroad at the beginning of Semester 2. Multiple responses were possible.



3. Contingency plans for Summer 2021

- Twenty-five institutions (58%) reported not having taken a decision yet on summer 2021 outbound mobility programmes. Fourteen institutions (33%) are currently planning to go ahead with programmes.

Bar chart: planning to go ahead with Summer 2021 outbound mobility programmes. Multiple responses were possible.

