

Cameroon



REGION: SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Also included in this region: Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte-d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania

PART I: ENROLMENTS AND INSTITUTIONS

The Cameroonian HE system is predominantly unitary with some features of the South Asian model. Just under 85% of all students were enrolled in comprehensive universities in 2018, with nearly all the rest in hybrids. Enrolments increased by 175% between 2006 and 2018, rising from around 120,000 to just over 320,000. This enrolment growth well outpaced the averages across both the rest of Sub-Saharan Africa and the Global South. The number of hybrid HEIs increased enormously, causing these institutions to decrease in size over time, but the opposite was true of the university sector. Just under 85% of HE enrolments in Cameroon were with public providers in 2018, which was very close to the average across the rest of Sub-Saharan Africa.

TABLE 1 – Types of higher education providers

CATEGORY	INSTITUTIONS	INSTITUTIONS COUNT IN 2018		
		PUB.	PRIV.	TOTAL
Comprehensive Universities	Public universities	8	0	8
University Colleges	Instituts sous tutelle	3	0	3
Hybrids	Private universities	0	245	245

FIGURE 1 – Numbers of institutions by type, 2006-2018

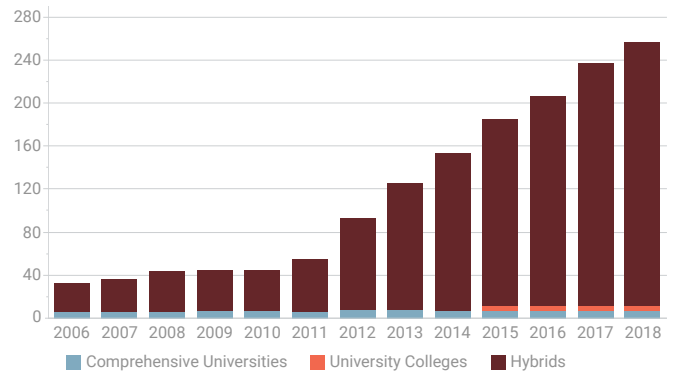


FIGURE 2 – Total enrolments with public and private higher education providers, 2006-2018 (Millions)

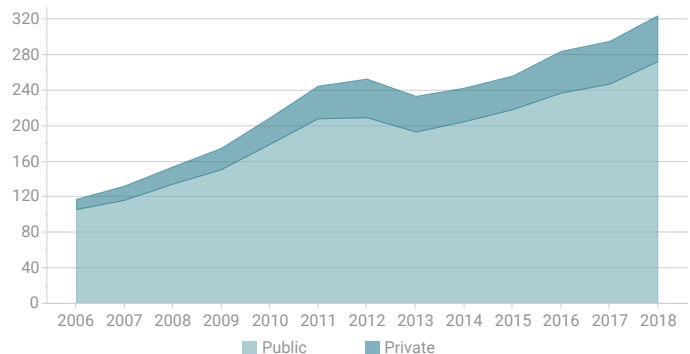


FIGURE 3 – Changes in enrolment, in Cameroon, the rest of Sub-Saharan Africa and the rest of the Global South, 2006-2018

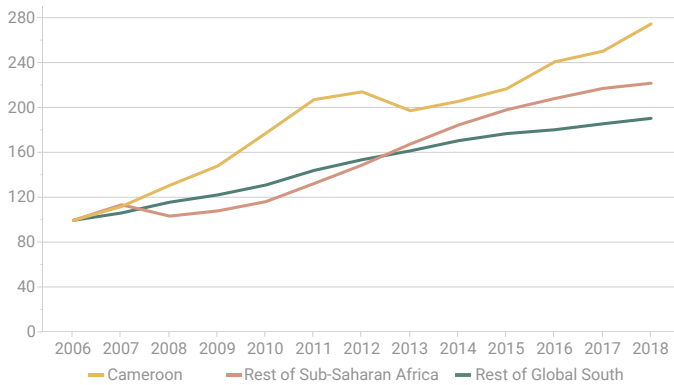


FIGURE 4 – Share of enrolments by institution type in Cameroon and the rest of Sub-Saharan Africa, 2006 and 2018 (2006=100)

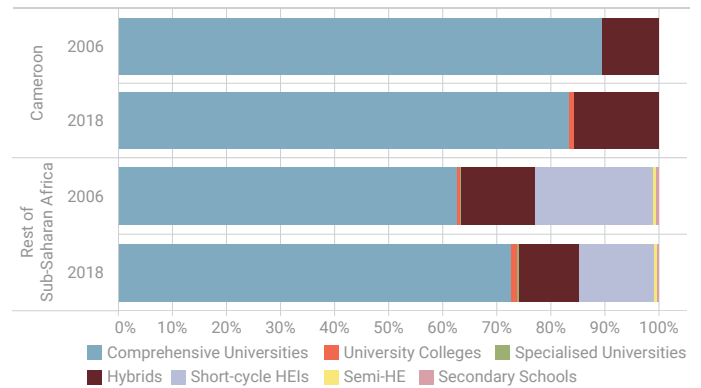


FIGURE 5 – Share of enrolments in public and private institutions, by institution type, in Cameroon and the rest of Sub-Saharan Africa, 2018

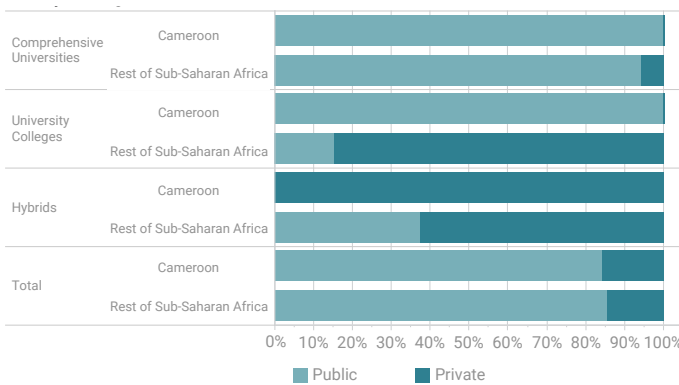
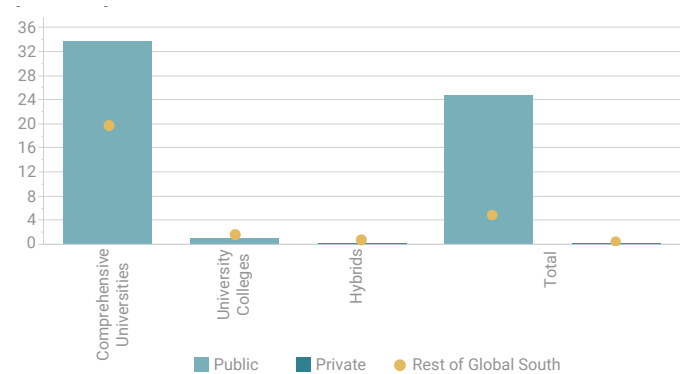


FIGURE 6 – Average institution-size by institution type in Cameroon and the rest of the Global South, 2018 (Thousands)



PART II: HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCING

Between 2006 and 2018, Cameroonian public spending on HE nearly doubled. While this growth was substantial, it was in fact slightly below the averages across the rest of sub-Saharan Africa and the Global South. Government transfers to HEIs increased by a similar proportion, but trailed growth in the number of students enrolled. As a result, per-student transfers fell to about USD 900 per year in 2018, roughly 20% below where they were in real terms in 2006. Public HE expenditures stayed relatively consistent relative to GDP at just below 0.3%, below the average levels across the rest of Sub-Saharan Africa and the Global South.

FIGURE 7 – Change in real total public spending on higher education in Cameroon, the rest of Sub-Saharan Africa and the rest of the Global South, 2006-2018 (2006=100)

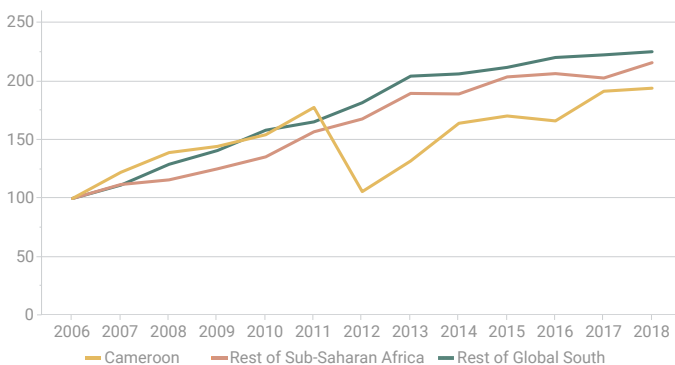


FIGURE 8 – Total public spending on higher education relative to GDP in Cameroon, the rest of Sub-Saharan Africa and the rest of the Global South, 2006-2018

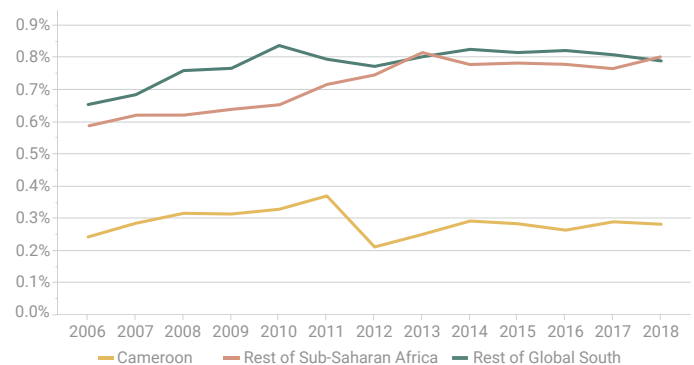


FIGURE 9 – Change in real government transfers to public institutions by institution-type in Cameroon and the rest of the Global South, 2006-2018 (2006=100)

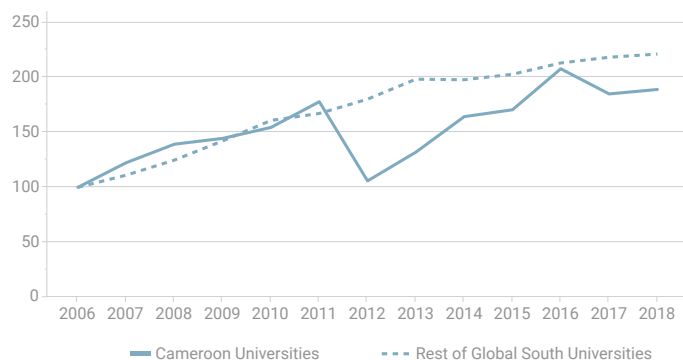


FIGURE 10 – Per-student government transfers to public institutions by institution-type in real PPP, in Cameroon and the rest of the Global South, 2006-2018

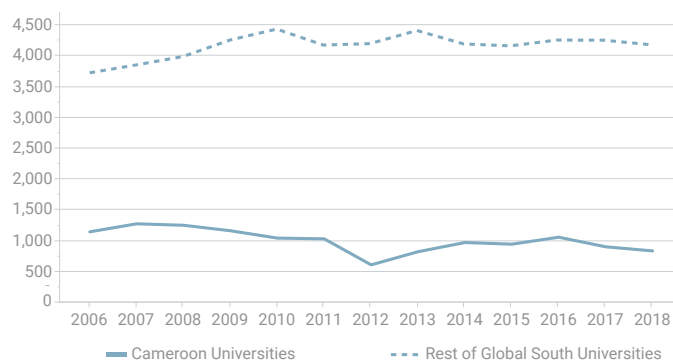
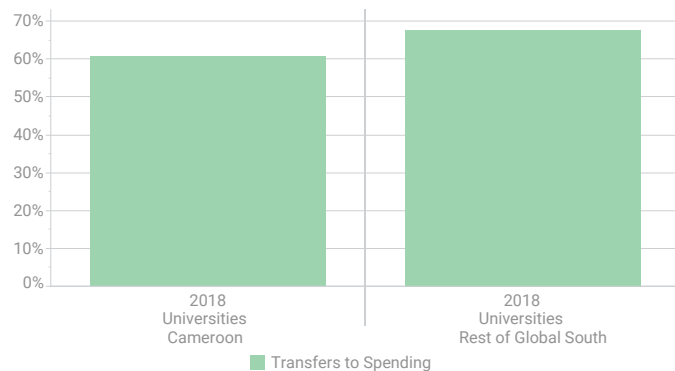


FIGURE 11 – Government transfers relative to total institutional spending of public institutions by institution-type in Cameroon and the rest of the Global South, 2006 and 2018



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PART III: STUDENT FEES

All students in Cameroon pay some kind of tuition fee. However, we were unable to gather sufficient data for further analysis.

PART IV: STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

There is insufficient data to analyze student financial aid in Cameroon.

TABLE 2 – Student financial aid regime, including recipients and amounts disbursed in 2018

CATEGORY	PROGRAMS	BASIS OF ALLOCATION	RECIPIENTS	AMOUNTS DISBURSED (USD)
Grants	Unsure	ND	ND	ND
Residence spaces	Oeuvres universitaires model	ND	ND	ND
Other	Health, meals and transportation support			

***Note:** For more on methodology and data quality please see [Appendices A and B](#).