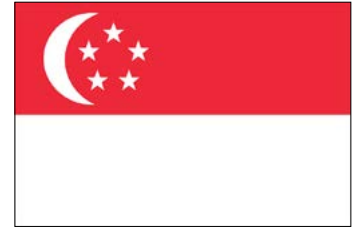


Singapore



REGION: ADVANCED ASIA

Also included in this region: Hong Kong, Israel, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan

PART I: ENROLMENTS AND INSTITUTIONS

Singapore’s HE system is designed along the lines of the North American model. Just over half of students enrolled in comprehensive universities in 2018, and most of the remainder enrolled in short-cycle HEIs. Total enrolments grew by almost 40 percent from 2006 to 2018, much faster than across the rest of Advanced Asia and the Global North. Institutional numbers grew at a similar pace. Over 95 percent of enrolments in Singapore were in public institutions in 2018, which was well above the average for the rest of Advanced Asia.

TABLE 1 – Types of higher education providers

CATEGORY	INSTITUTIONS	INSTITUTIONS COUNT IN 2018		
		PUB.	PRIV.	TOTAL
Comprehensive universities	Universities	6	0	6
Specialised Universities	National Institute of Education (autonomous institute of the Nanyang Technical university)	1	0	1
Hybrids	Arts institutions (2011 onwards)	0	2	2
Short-cycle HEIs	Polytechnics (provide diplomas and continuing education); Arts institutions (until 2011)	5	0	5

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

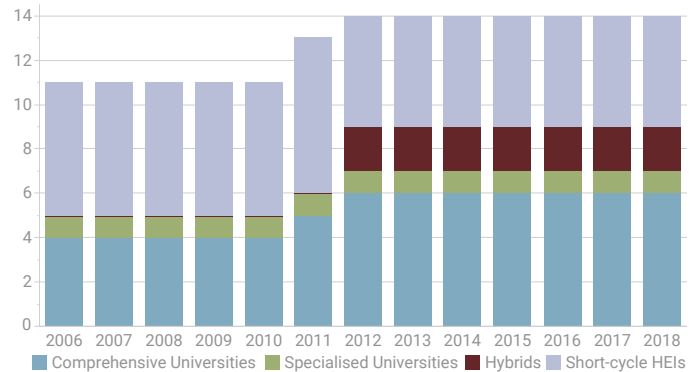


FIGURE 2 – Total enrolments with public and private higher education providers, 2006-2018 (millions)

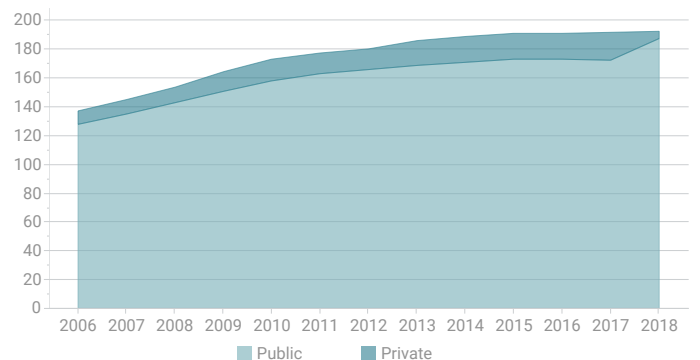


FIGURE 3 – Changes in enrolment, in Ghana, rest of Sub-Saharan Africa and the rest of the Global South, 2006-2018

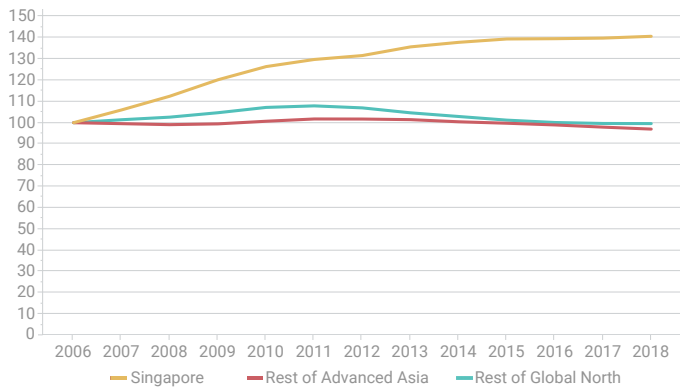


FIGURE 4 – Share of enrolments by institution type in Ghana and the rest of Sub-Saharan Africa, 2006 and 2018

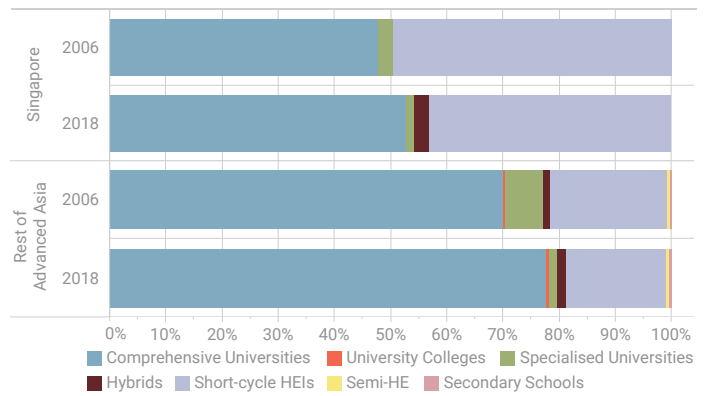


FIGURE 5 – Share of enrolments in public and private institutions, by institution type, in Ghana and the rest of Sub-Saharan Africa, 2018

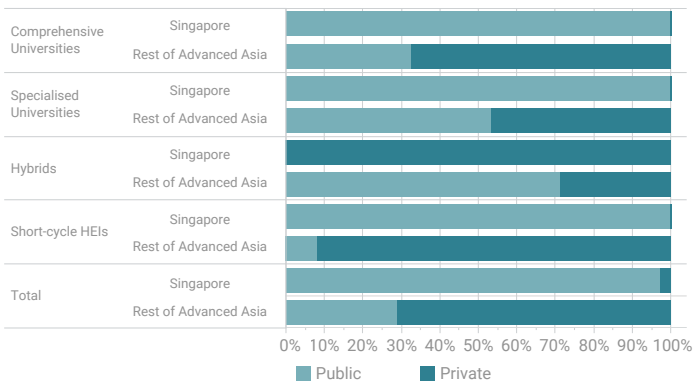
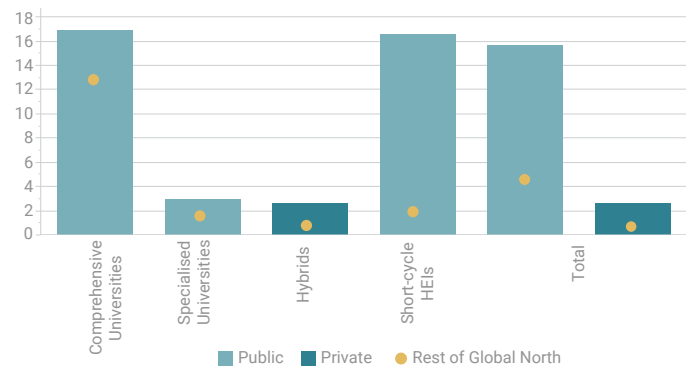


FIGURE 6 – Average institution-size by institution type, Ghana and the rest of the Global South, 2018 [Thousands]



The Hive, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore



PART II: HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCING

Public HE spending in Singapore rose by a little over 50% from 2006 to 2018, well above the average for the rest of Advanced Asia and the Global North. As a percentage of GDP, however, public expenditures actually fell slightly, though they remained above the average for the Global North and at nearly twice the level across the rest of Advanced Asia. Total expenditures by public HEIs grew even more quickly, partly due to substantial increases in compulsory student fees as well as third-party revenues.

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

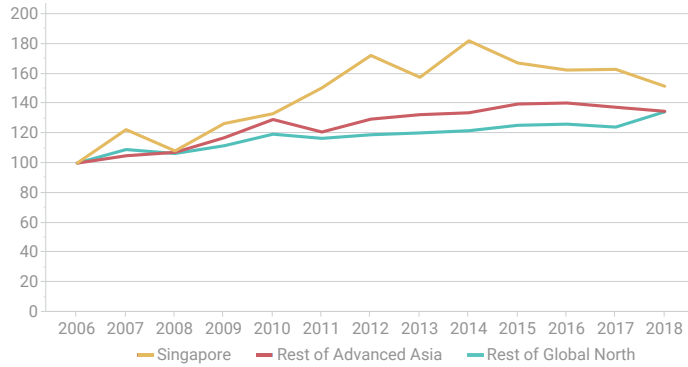


FIGURE 8 – Total public spending on higher education relative to GDP in Ghana, the rest of Sub-Saharan Africa and the rest of the Global South, 2006-2018

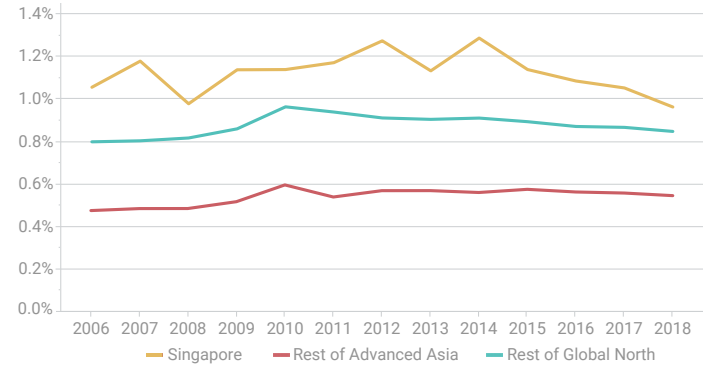


FIGURE 9 – Change in real government transfers to public institutions by institution-type, Ghana and the rest of the Global South, 2011=100

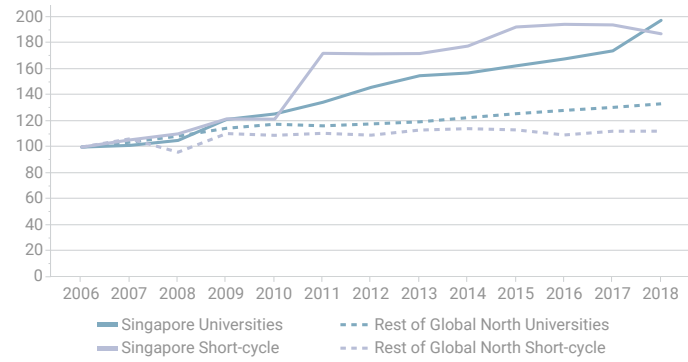


FIGURE 10 – Per-student government transfers to public institutions by institution-type in real PPP, Ghana and the rest of the Global South, 2011-2018

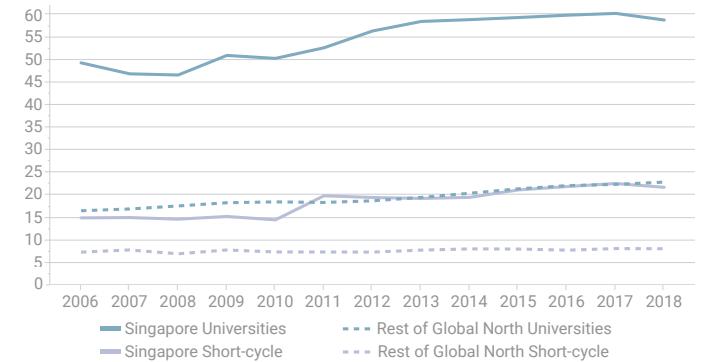


FIGURE 11 – Government transfers relative to total institutional spending of public institutions by institution-type, Ghana and the rest of the Global South, 2006-2018

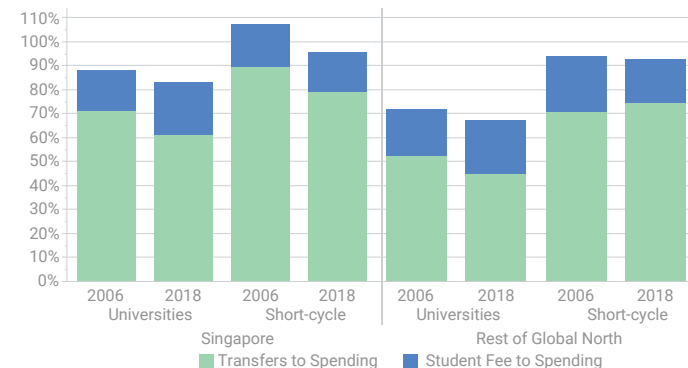


FIGURE 12 – Student fee revenues relative to government transfers to public institutions by institution-type, Ghana and the rest of the Global South, 2006-2018

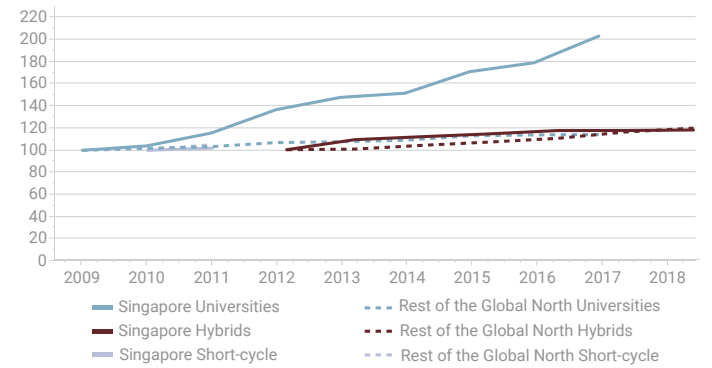


FIGURE 13 – Government transfers relative to total institutional spending of public institutions by institution-type, Ghana and the rest of the Global South, 2006-2018

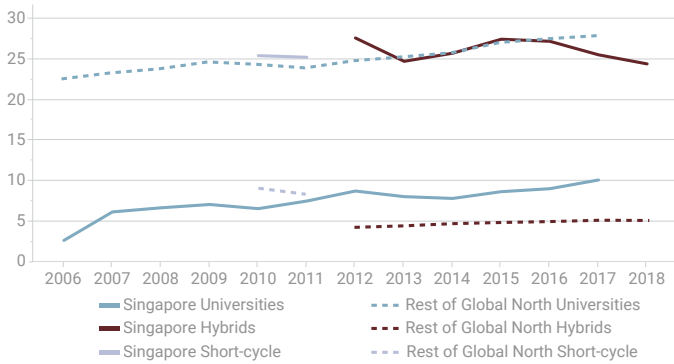
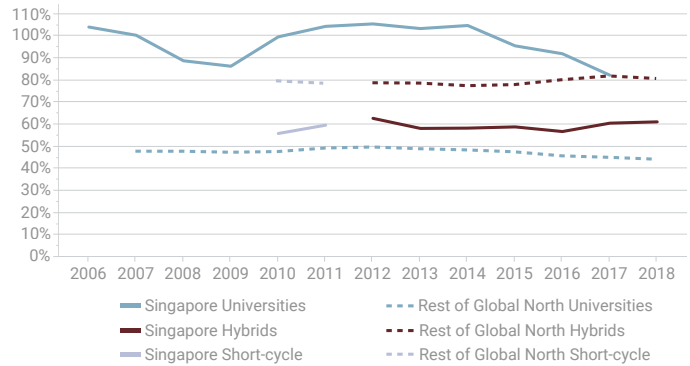


FIGURE 14 – Student fee revenues relative to government transfers to public institutions by institution-type, Ghana and the rest of the Global South, 2006-2018



PART III: STUDENT FEES

All students pay fees in Singapore, with varying rates about which it was not possible to gather measurable data. Fee revenue per student at public universities was over USD 13,000 in 2018, roughly twice the average across the rest of the Global North.

FIGURE 15 – Share of students at public institutions under each type of tuition regime in Ghana, the rest of Sub-Saharan Africa and the rest of the Global South, 2006 and 2018

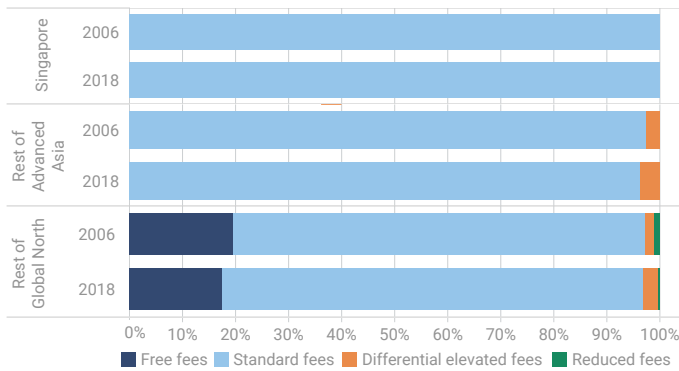


FIGURE 16 – Fee revenues per student paying typical rates at public institutions by institution type in PPP in Ghana and the rest of the Global South 2006-2018

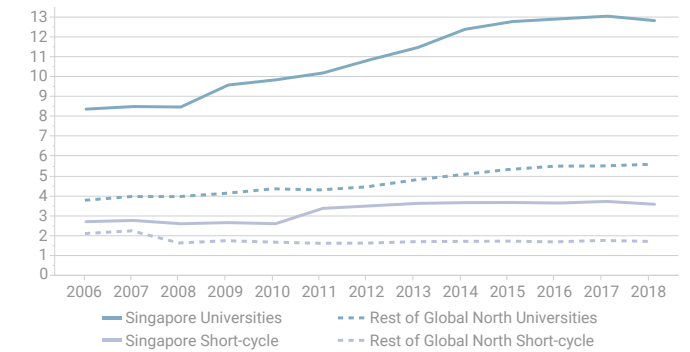
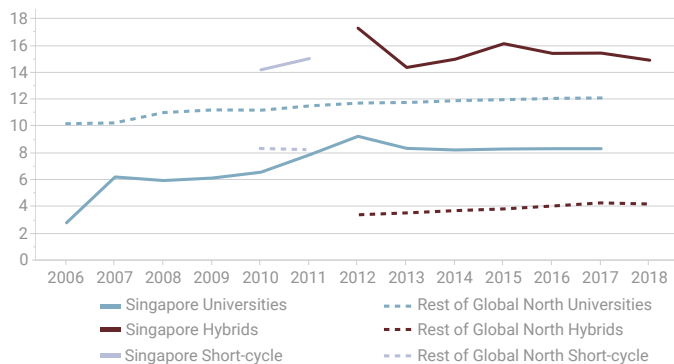


FIGURE 17 – Fee revenues per student paying elevated different fees at public universities, as percentage of full fee-paying costs, 2006-2018



PART IV: STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

Singapore delivers a mix of grants and loans in direct government financial aid to students. Unfortunately, we were not able to gather detailed data on these programs.

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

CATEGORY	PROGRAMS	BASIS OF ALLOCATION	RECIPIENTS	AMOUNTS DISBURSED (USD)
Grants	Ministry of education bursaries; Mendaki tuition fee subsidy	Need-based	ND	ND
Loans	Study loans from the Ministry of Education; Central Provident Fund student loans; various loan programs under Mendaki	Mix of optional enrolment and need-based	ND	ND

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