



Uniting Students with STEM

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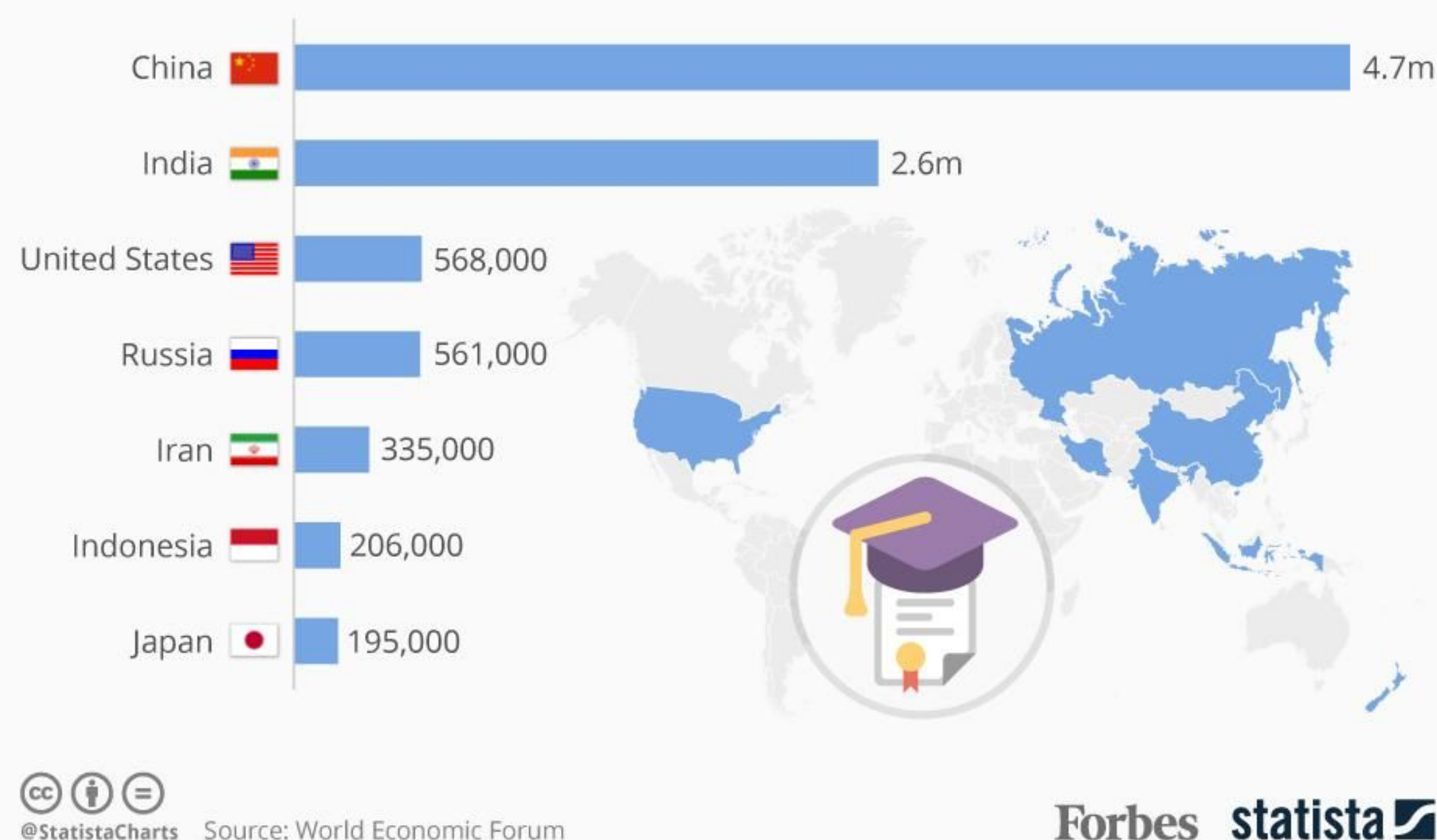


Introduction

There has always been a lot of debate about why countries like China and India produce more people in STEM compared to the United States. CPSS 240 focuses on STEM education in America and how it can be improved.

The Countries With The Most STEM Graduates

Recent graduates in Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (2016)



<https://www.forbes.com/sites/niallmccarthy/2017/02/02/the-countries-with-the-most-stem-graduates-infographic/#7213f8cd268a>

Site Information:

Name of Site – Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School

Address – 4545 Ammendale Rd, Beltsville, MD 20705

Your supervisor – Timothy Reedy

The site mission – To provide a rigorous, equal and safe academic program to every child.

The particular goals of the site you were at – To prepare the students to be college and career ready.

Activities:

In CPSS 240, we were able to connect with students in our community while encouraging STEM education. We did service learning at PG county schools and taught them how to build Lego robots. We had to learn how to build and program the robots ourselves and then make lesson plans to teach our students. Once a week I went to Martin Luther King Junior Middle school and worked with my group of students and taught them about team work and problem solving all while spreading STEM education.

Impact:

I think that this service learning had big impact on myself and the kids that I worked with. This service-learning allowed me to learn more about the struggling communities who unfortunately do not have the same recourses as others to excel in STEM education. It also impacted the students because each week they looked forward to us coming to work with them and they got exposed to a side of STEM that isn't shown at there school.



<https://www.slj.com/?detailStory=build-better-robots-with-lego-mindstorms-education-ev3-slj-review>

Issues Confronting Site:

The issues that MLK had were that the classroom was not big enough, so we did not have a lot of space to build the robots. Another issue is that the classroom was really hot so it sometimes made it hot to focus. Also the check in process was really long but I understand that they did it for security reasons.

Future Work:

I would love to do service-learning with students in the future. I really enjoyed this experience and I learned a lot about the education system in the United States. I hope I will be able to further spread STEM education in some way. Maybe through volunteering again or working with an organization that helps give resources to struggling communities and schools.



Acknowledgments:

I am so grateful to have been a part of the Science and Global Change Scholars program and I will always think about it when I talk about my college experience. I would like to thank Drs. Holtz & Merck for an interesting 2 years and also Dr. Timothy Reedy for an amazing practicum.

