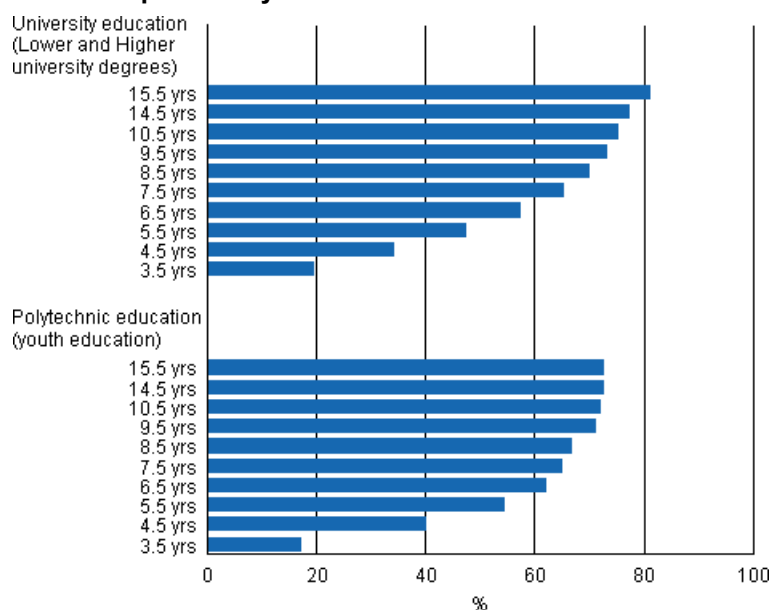


Progress of studies 2010

Women graduated from universities faster than men

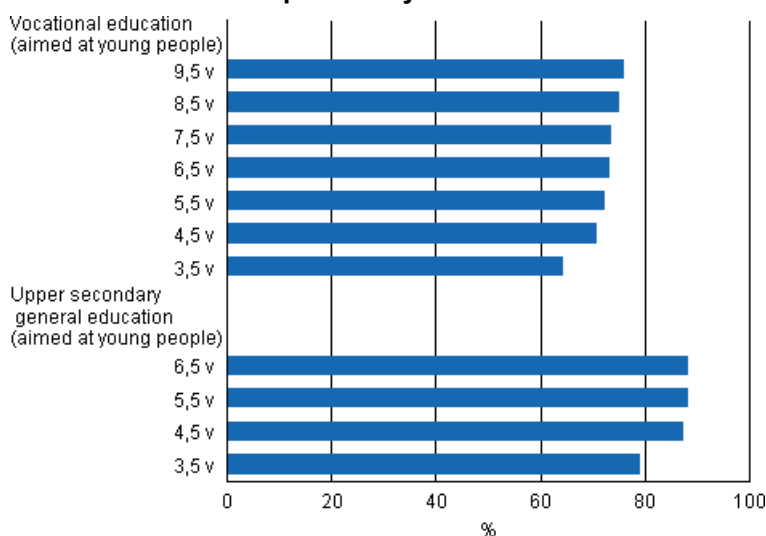
According to Statistics Finland, a university degree was completed by 47 per cent of students in about five-and-a-half years, by 58 per cent of women and 34 per cent of men. Polytechnic education was passed in four-and-a-half years by 40 per cent of students, by 54 per cent of women and 24 per cent of men. The pass rate for upper secondary general education was on level with the previous year. In other sectors of education the pass rate improved from the year before.

Pass rates for university and polytechnic education in different reference periods by the end of 2010



These statistics examine the situation at the end of 2010 of students having started vocational education or upper secondary general education aimed at young people in 2007, polytechnic education for young people in 2006 and university education in 2005.

Pass rates for vocational and upper secondary general education in different reference periods by the end of 2010



The pass rate for a university degree in five-and-a-half years was 47 per cent. Included are both those completing a lower and higher university degree. As a rule, all students complete a lower university degree before a higher university degree. A higher university degree was completed by 19 per cent and a lower university degree by 28 per cent. In polytechnic education aimed at young people, 40 per cent attained a degree in four-and-a-half years, close on one percentage point more than one year previously. Initial vocational education was passed by 64 per cent and matriculation examination by 79 per cent of those having started to study for it three-and-a-half years earlier. The pass rate for vocational education improved by close on one percentage point, and the pass rate for passers of the matriculation examination was the same as one year before.

Among women the pass rate is higher than men's level in all sectors of education except for vocational education. Women's pass rate was one percentage point higher than men's in upper secondary general education and one percentage point lower in vocational education. The differences in pass rates between men and women were considerably bigger in tertiary level education. Fifty-four per cent of women and 24 per cent of men attained a polytechnic degree. A lower or higher university degree was completed by 58 per cent of women and 34 per cent of men. The differences between the pass rates even out somewhat over a longer time period. For example, 87 per cent of women and 75 per cent of men attained a lower or higher university degree within 15 years.

In all sectors of education there are big field-specific differences in the pass rates (see Tables in databases). Tertiary level degrees were completed at universities in relative terms the most by students in the fields of humanities and education and the least by students in the field of natural sciences. In polytechnic education the highest pass rate of 64 per cent was achieved in the field of health, welfare and sports. At 22 per cent, the pass rate was the lowest in the field of technology and transport. In vocational education nearly all had attained a qualification in the fields of safety and security (other education: firefighter, police). The next highest pass rates were in the field of welfare, health and sports and in the fields of humanities and education, in which a vocational qualification had been attained in the respective field by 68 per cent of students. The pass rate was the lowest in the field of natural sciences, at 48 per cent.

The tables in databases for these statistics include information on those students who did not attain their qualification in the target time. Information related to studying is also available from the statistics describing [Discontinuation of education](#) and [Employment of students](#).

Contents

Tables

Appendix tables

Appendix table 1. Progress of new upper secondary school students (aimed at young people) studies by end 2010.4

Appendix table 2. Progress of new students studies in vocational education (aimed at young people) by end 2010..4

Appendix table 3. Progress of new polytechnic students studies by end 2010, youth education.....4

Appendix table 4. Progress of new university students studies by end 2010, lower or higher university degrees.....5

Appendix tables

Appendix table 1. Progress of new upper secondary school students (aimed at young people) studies by end 2010

Year of starting	New upper secondary school students, total	Completers of matriculation examination		New male students	Male completers of matriculation examination		New female students	Female completers of matriculation examination	
			%			%			%
2002	35 695	31 650	88,7	15 307	13 363	87,3	20 388	18 287	89,7
2003	36 714	32 456	88,4	15 764	13 665	86,7	20 950	18 791	89,7
2004	36 020	31 857	88,4	15 497	13 414	86,6	20 523	18 443	89,9
2005	35 065	30 939	88,2	15 243	13 231	86,8	19 822	17 708	89,3
2006	35 007	30 631	87,5	14 872	12 827	86,2	20 135	17 804	88,4
2007	34 510	27 344	79,2	14 436	11 348	78,6	20 074	15 996	79,7

Appendix table 2. Progress of new students studies in vocational education (aimed at young people) by end 2010

Year of starting	New students in vocational education, total	Attainers of vocational qualifications		New male students	Male attainers of vocational qualifications		New female students	Female attainers of vocational qualifications	
			%			%			%
2000	50 552	38 563	76,3	25 941	19 043	73,4	24 611	19 520	79,3
2001	48 330	36 760	76,1	24 938	18 395	73,8	23 392	18 365	78,5
2002	46 815	35 147	75,1	24 216	17 665	72,9	22 599	17 482	77,4
2003	46 000	33 839	73,6	24 084	17 223	71,5	21 916	16 616	75,8
2004	48 482	35 564	73,4	25 174	18 092	71,9	23 308	17 472	75,0
2005	48 041	34 720	72,3	24 792	17 708	71,4	23 249	17 012	73,2
2006	48 705	34 591	71,0	25 399	18 019	70,9	23 306	16 572	71,1
2007	48 247	31 009	64,3	24 925	16 116	64,7	23 322	14 893	63,9

Appendix table 3. Progress of new polytechnic students studies by end 2010, youth education

Year of starting	New polytechnic students, total	Attainers of polytechnic degrees		New male students	Male attainers of polytechnic degrees		New female students	Female attainers of polytechnic degrees	
			%			%			%
1995	8 361	6 072	72,6	4 139	2 704	65,3	4 222	3 368	79,8
1999	25 888	18 789	72,6	11 555	7 284	63,0	14 333	11 505	80,3
2000	26 091	18 803	72,1	11 595	7 342	63,3	14 496	11 461	79,1
2001	26 223	18 719	71,4	11 546	7 092	61,4	14 677	11 627	79,2
2002	28 526	19 104	67,0	13 412	7 630	56,9	15 114	11 474	75,9
2003	28 776	18 719	65,1	13 347	7 299	54,7	15 429	11 420	74,0
2004	29 332	18 243	62,2	13 190	6 656	50,5	16 142	11 587	71,8
2005	29 053	15 837	54,5	13 141	5 286	40,2	15 912	10 551	66,3
2006	28 531	11 485	40,3	13 045	3 104	23,8	15 486	8 381	54,1
2007	28 329	4 877	17,2	13 037	973	7,5	15 292	3 904	25,5

Appendix table 4. Progress of new university students studies by end 2010, lower or higher university degrees

Year of starting	New university students, total	Attainers of lower or higher university degrees		New male students	Male attainers of lower or higher university degrees		New female students	Female attainers of lower or higher university degrees	
			%			%			%
1995	16 582	13 503	81,4	7 526	5 623	74,7	9 056	7 880	87,0
1999	19 054	14 769	77,5	8 501	5 868	69,0	10 553	8 901	84,3
2000	19 783	14 914	75,4	8 590	5 636	65,6	11 193	9 278	82,9
2001	21 018	15 429	73,4	9 201	5 856	63,6	11 817	9 573	81,0
2002	21 245	14 869	70,0	9 456	5 631	59,5	11 789	9 238	78,4
2003	20 763	13 592	65,5	9 092	4 942	54,4	11 671	8 650	74,1
2004	20 827	11 986	57,6	8 977	4 114	45,8	11 850	7 872	66,4
2005	20 744	9 835	47,4	8 979	3 052	34,0	11 765	6 783	57,7
2006	19 988	6 883	34,4	8 687	2 047	23,6	11 301	4 836	42,8
2007	19 461	3 813	19,6	8 274	986	11,9	11 187	2 827	25,3

Inquiries

Anna Loukkola 09 1734 3678
Director in charge:
Jari Tarkoma
www.stat.fi
Source: Education Statistics 2012, Statistics Finland