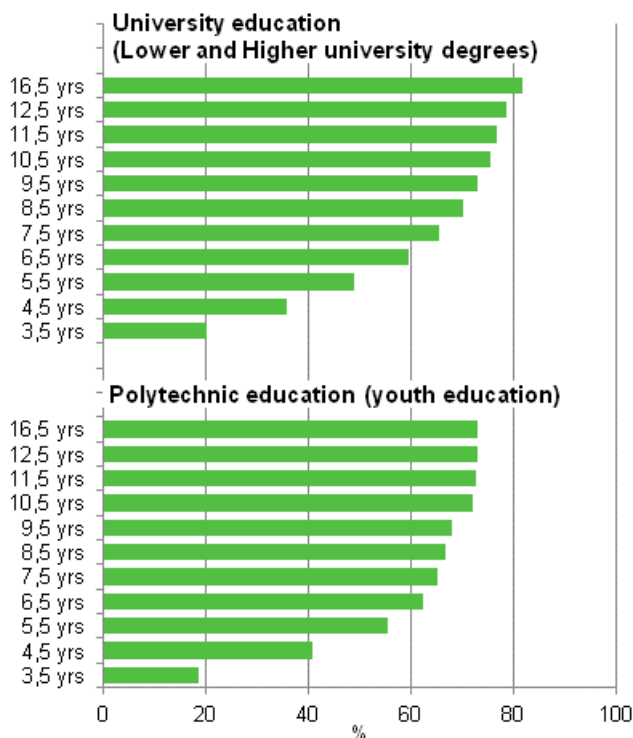


Progress of studies 2011

Faster completion of qualifications and degrees

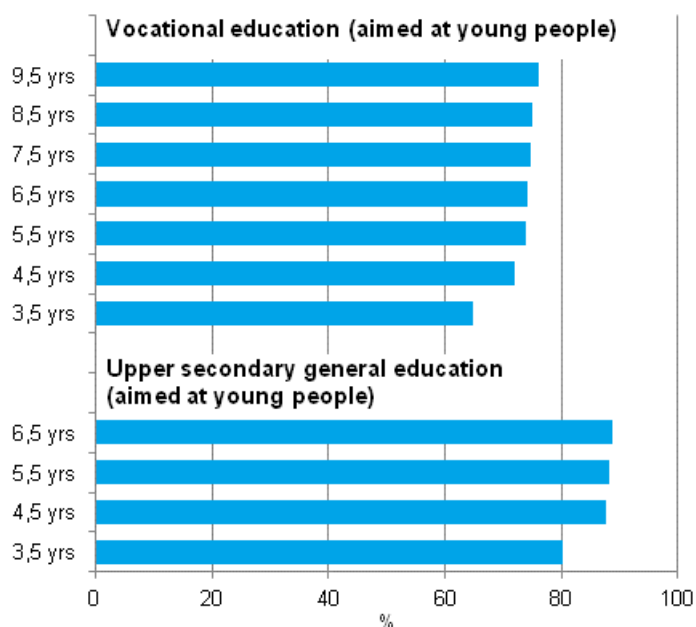
According to Statistics Finland, university education was completed by 49 per cent of students in about five-and-a-half years, a higher university degree by 21 per cent and a lower university degree by 28 per cent. The pass rate for university education improved by two percentage points. In other sectors of education, the pass rate improved by one percentage point. The pass rate for a polytechnic degree in four-and-a-half years was 41 per cent. Initial vocational education was passed in three-and-a-half years by 65 per cent, and matriculation examination by 80 per cent.

Pass rates for university and polytechnic education in different reference periods by the end of 2011



These statistics examine the situation at the end of 2011 of students having started vocational education or upper secondary general education aimed at young people in 2008, polytechnic education for young people in 2007, and university education in 2006.

Pass rates for vocational and upper secondary general education in different reference periods by the end of 2011



Women's pass rate in all sectors of education apart from general and vocational upper secondary education is still higher than that of men, even though men's pass rate has improved in all sectors of education. Men's pass rate in university education improved by over three percentage points and in upper secondary general education by nearly two percentage points. The pass rates of vocational education and polytechnic education improved by one percentage point. In upper secondary general education, men and women graduated nearly at the same rate. In initial vocational education, men's pass rates were two percentage points higher than that of women. The differences in pass rates between men and women were considerably bigger in tertiary level education. Thirty-seven per cent of men and 58 per cent of women attained a higher or lower university degree. A polytechnic degree was attained by 25 per cent of men and by 54 per cent of women.

At least three out of four complete the university degree they have started to study for. By the end of 2011, nearly 82 per cent of those who had started their university education 16 years earlier completed their degree and among those who had started polytechnic education in the same year, 73 per cent completed their polytechnic degree. In a 10 year examination period, initial vocational education was completed by 77 per cent and matriculation examination by nearly 89 per cent of those who had started the education in question.

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 field of culture and the least by students in the field of natural sciences. In polytechnic education the highest pass rate of 63 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: fire fighter, police). The next highest pass rates were in the field of welfare, health and sports, 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 47 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 2011..5

Appendix table 2. Progress of new students studies in vocational education (aimed at young people) by end 2011..5

Appendix table 3. Progress of new polytechnic students studies by end 2011, youth education.....6

Appendix table 4. Progress of new university students studies by end 2011, lower or higher university degrees.....6

Appendix tables

Appendix table 1. Progress of new upper secondary school students (aimed at young people) studies by end 2011

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	
			%			%			%
2000	37 709	33 457	88,7	15 883	13 707	86,3	21 826	19 750	90,5
2001	36 957	32 789	88,7	15 580	13 504	86,7	21 377	19 285	90,2
2002	35 695	31 673	88,7	15 307	13 374	87,4	20 388	18 299	89,8
2003	36 714	32 492	88,5	15 764	13 686	86,8	20 950	18 806	89,8
2004	36 020	31 912	88,6	15 497	13 448	86,8	20 523	18 464	90,0
2005	35 065	31 057	88,6	15 243	13 292	87,2	19 822	17 765	89,6
2006	35 007	30 882	88,2	14 872	12 936	87,0	20 135	17 946	89,1
2007	34 510	30 205	87,5	14 436	12 486	86,5	20 074	17 719	88,3
2008	34 793	27 949	80,3	14 770	11 888	80,5	20 023	16 061	80,2

Appendix table 2. Progress of new students studies in vocational education (aimed at young people) by end 2011

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	38 931	77,0	25 941	19 226	74,1	24 611	19 705	80,1
2001	48 330	37 212	77,0	24 938	18 603	74,6	23 392	18 609	79,6
2002	46 815	35 637	76,1	24 216	17 889	73,9	22 599	17 748	78,5
2003	46 000	34 436	74,9	24 084	17 522	72,8	21 916	16 914	77,2
2004	48 482	36 246	74,8	25 174	18 404	73,1	23 308	17 842	76,5
2005	48 041	35 609	74,1	24 792	18 122	73,1	23 249	17 487	75,2
2006	48 705	35 965	73,8	25 399	18 661	73,5	23 306	17 304	74,2
2007	48 247	34 701	71,9	24 925	17 980	72,1	23 322	16 721	71,7
2008	48 336	31 352	64,9	24 965	16 466	66,0	23 371	14 886	63,7

Appendix table 3. Progress of new polytechnic students studies by end 2011, 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	6 095	72,9	4 139	2 722	65,8	4 222	3 373	79,9
1999	25 888	18 892	73,0	11 555	7 340	63,5	14 333	11 552	80,6
2000	26 091	18 934	72,6	11 595	7 407	63,9	14 496	11 527	79,5
2001	26 223	18 894	72,1	11 546	7 192	62,3	14 677	11 702	79,7
2002	28 526	19 359	67,9	13 412	7 764	57,9	15 114	11 595	76,7
2003	28 776	19 129	66,5	13 347	7 538	56,5	15 429	11 591	75,1
2004	29 332	19 137	65,2	13 190	7 205	54,6	16 142	11 932	73,9
2005	29 053	18 049	62,1	13 141	6 653	50,6	15 912	11 396	71,6
2006	28 531	15 790	55,3	13 045	5 392	41,3	15 486	10 398	67,1
2007	28 329	11 507	40,6	13 037	3 237	24,8	15 292	8 270	54,1
2008	28 302	5 221	18,4	12 711	1 086	8,5	15 591	4 135	26,5

Appendix table 4. Progress of new university students studies by end 2011, 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	13 554	81,7	7 526	5 650	75,1	9 056	7 904	87,3
1999	19 054	14 941	78,4	8 501	5 959	70,1	10 553	8 982	85,1
2000	19 783	15 149	76,6	8 590	5 743	66,9	11 193	9 406	84,0
2001	21 018	15 830	75,3	9 201	6 078	66,1	11 817	9 752	82,5
2002	21 245	15 467	72,8	9 456	5 953	63,0	11 789	9 514	80,7
2003	20 763	14 568	70,2	9 092	5 473	60,2	11 671	9 095	77,9
2004	20 827	13 610	65,3	8 977	4 927	54,9	11 850	8 683	73,3
2005	20 744	12 293	59,3	8 979	4 234	47,2	11 765	8 059	68,5
2006	19 988	9 772	48,9	8 687	3 240	37,3	11 301	6 532	57,8
2007	19 461	6 923	35,6	8 274	1 953	23,6	11 187	4 970	44,4
2008	19 396	3 913	20,2	8 483	1 109	13,1	10 913	2 804	25,7

Inquiries

Anna Loukkola 09 1734 3678
Director in charge:
Riitta Harala
www.stat.fi
Source: Education Statistics, Statistics Finland