

# Progress of studies 2014

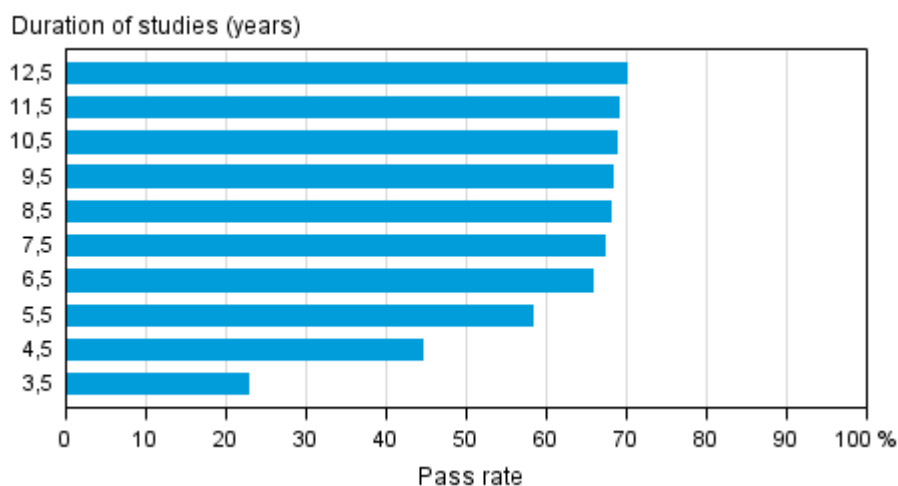
## Education was completed faster in all sectors of education

According to Statistics Finland's Education Statistics for the year 2014, 81 per cent of upper secondary general school students and 66 per cent of students attending vocational education aimed at young people completed a qualification in at most three-and a-half years. Forty-five per cent of students attending polytechnic education aimed at young people completed education in four-and-a-half years. A higher or lower university degree in university education was completed by 53 per cent of students in five-and-a-half years.

### Pass rates by sector of education in 2014 and 2013

Sector of education	Duration of studies (years)	Pass rate 2014 (%)	Pass rate 2013 (%)	Difference between pass rates in 2014–2013
Upper secondary general education aimed at young people	3,5	80,6	79,6	1,0
Vocational education aimed at young people	3,5	66,3	65,1	1,2
Polytechnic education (youth education)	4,5	44,5	44,3	0,2
University education (lower and higher university degrees)	5,5	52,5	51,0	1,5

### Pass rates for polytechnic education in different reference periods by the end of 2014



The share of passers of the polytechnic degree in those having started polytechnic education aimed at young people, that is, the pass rate of education, grows the longer time has passed from the start of education. Forty-five per cent of students completed their education in four-and-a-half years or faster. Education was completed in at most seven-and-a-half years by 67 per cent and in twelve-and-a-half years by 70 per cent of polytechnic students.

**Pass rates of polytechnic education for young people in 2014 and 2013 by sex for those having studied for 4.5 to 5.5 years**

Sector of education	Duration of studies (years)	Gender	Pass rate 2014 (%)	Pass rate 2013 (%)	3 Difference between pass rates in 2014–2013
Polytechnic education (youth education)	4,5	Men	29,5	29,4	0,1
		Women	57,7	57,1	0,6
	5,5	Men	46,5	46,6	-0,1
		Women	68,5	68,4	0,1

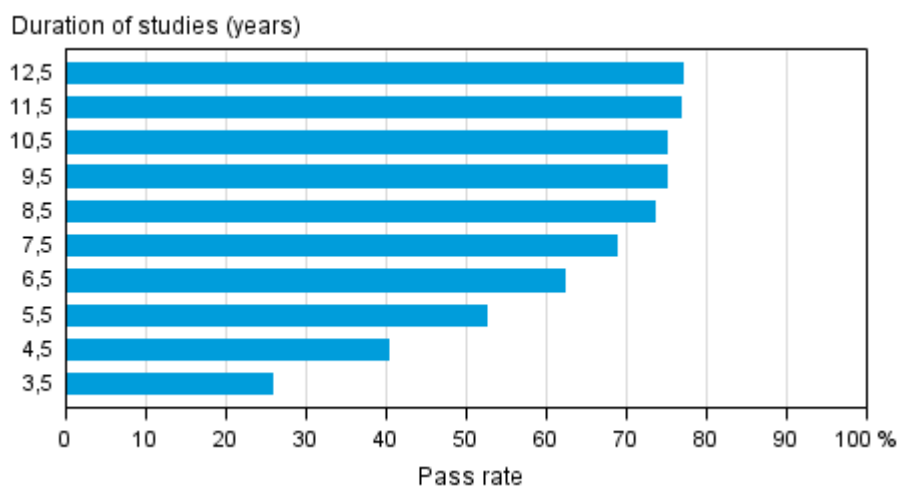
Female students in polytechnic education completed their polytechnic degrees more often than men did. Thirty per cent of men and 58 per cent of women passed their polytechnic degree in at most four-and-a-half years, and the difference between the pass rates was 28 percentage points. Fifty-eight per cent of men and 75 per cent of women completed education in seven-and-a-half years, that is, the difference between the pass rates was 17 percentage points.

Compared to the situation in 2013, polytechnic degrees were completed in 2014 more often in four-and-a-half years. The share of those completing their qualification in four-and-a-half years grew for men by 0.1 percentage points and for women by 0.6 percentage points.

**One-half of new students in university education completed their degrees in at most five-and-a-half years**

Fifty—three per cent of university students completed a higher or lower university degree in at most five-and-a-half years. The older the cohort of new students is examined, the higher the pass rate became: 69 per cent of students completed a higher or lower university degree in at most seven-and-a-half years and as many as 78 per cent of those having studied for 12.5 years had passed a higher or lower university degree.

**Pass rates for university education in different reference periods by the end of 2014 (lower and higher university degrees)**



As in polytechnic education, there were large differences between sexes in completing university education. 41 per cent of male students and 59 per cent of female students had completed a higher or lower university degree in five-and-a-half years. The difference between men's and women's pass rates was 20 percentage points.

A higher or lower university degree had been completed in at most seven-and-a-half years by 59 per cent of male students and by 76 per cent of female students, and the difference between the pass rates was thus 17 percentage points. Sixty-eight per cent of male students had completed a higher or lower degree in 12.5 years. For women, the corresponding proportion was 84 per cent, while the difference between the pass rates of sexes was 16 per cent.

**Pass rates of university education for young people in 2014 and 2013 by sex for those having studied for 5.5 to 6.5 years (lower and higher university degrees)**

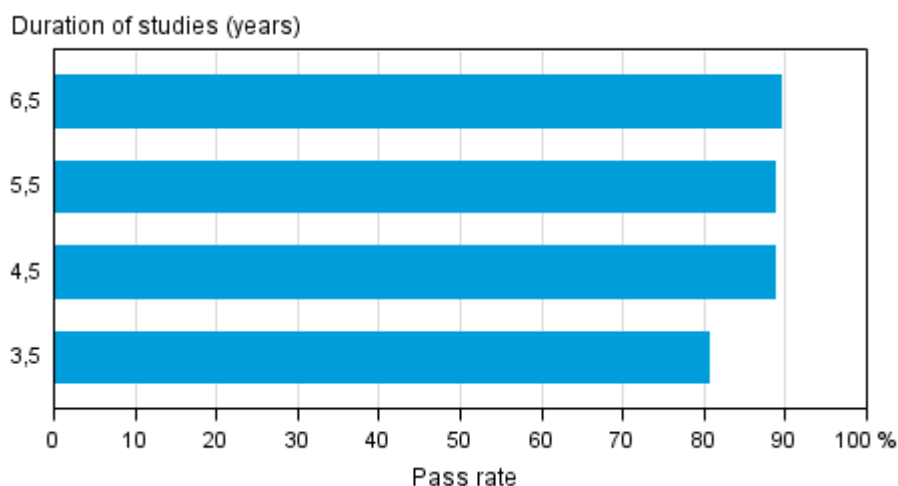
Sector of education	Duration of studies (years)	Gender	Pass rate 2014 (%)	Pass rate 2013 (%)	Difference between pass rates in 2014–2013
University education (lower and higher university degrees)	5,5	Men	41,4	40,2	1,2
		Women	61,3	59,3	2,0
	6,5	Men	52,6	49,4	3,2
		Women	69,8	69,0	0,8

Compared to the situation in 2013, university degrees were completed in 2014 more often in five-and-a-half years or in six-and-a-half years. The share of those completing their qualification in four-and-a-half years grew for men by 1.2 percentage points and for women by 2.0 percentage points.

**Women completed upper secondary general school more often than men in four years**

According to the data for 2014, upper secondary general education was completed typically in 3.5 to 4.5 years: Eighty-one per cent of new students in upper secondary general schools completed the upper secondary general school syllabus in at most three-and-a-half years. The share of those who completed the upper secondary general school syllabus did not increase much after four and a half years when the share was 89 per cent.

**Pass rates for upper secondary general education aimed at young people in different reference periods by the end of 2014**



Men studying in upper secondary general school passed their qualifications slower than women studying there did. Eighty per cent of men completed their upper secondary general school qualification in three-and-a-half years, while for women, the corresponding figure was 81 per cent.

**Pass rates of upper secondary general education aimed at young people in 2014 and 2013 by gender for those having studied for 3.5 to 4.5 years**

Sector of education	Duration of studies (years)	Gender	Pass rate 2014 (%)	Pass rate 2013 (%)	Difference between pass rates in 2014–2013
Upper secondary general education aimed at young people	3,5	Men	79,9	78,7	1,2
		Women	81,1	80,2	1,1
	4,5	Men	87,5	86,8	0,7
		Women	89,6	88,9	0,7

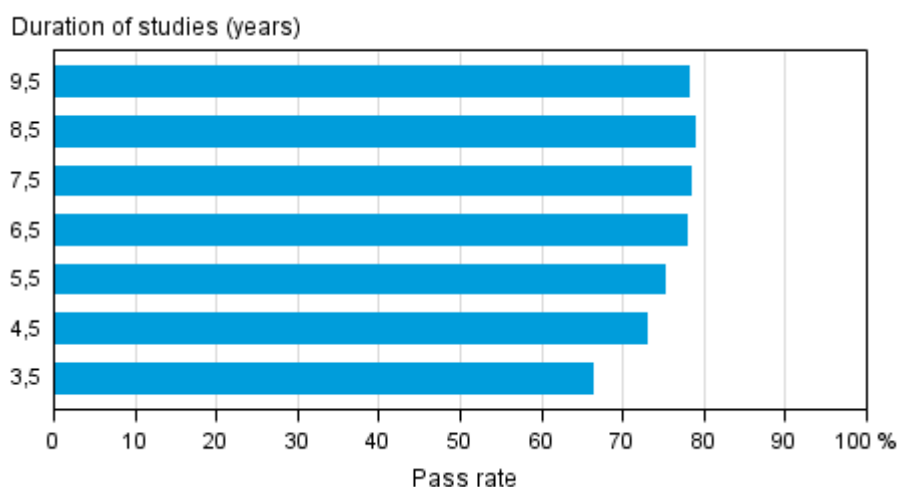
Compared to the situation in 2013, upper secondary general qualifications were completed in 2014 more often in three-and-a-half years or in four-and-a-half years. The share of those completing their qualification in three-and-a-half years grew for men by 1.2 percentage points and for women by 1.1 percentage points.

**Men completed vocational qualifications more often than women in three-and-a-half or four-and-a-half years**

The duration of qualifications completed in vocational education for young people varies more than that of upper secondary general qualifications. Sixty-six per cent of vocational education students passed their vocational qualifications in three-and-a-half years or faster. Seventy-three per cent of students completed their education in at most four-and-a-half years.

The pass rate for vocational education grew yearly slightly even for those having studied the longest time: 75 per cent of those having started studies five-and-a-half years earlier and 78 per cent of those having started nine-and-a-half year earlier had completed their qualifications by the end of 2014.

**Pass rates for vocational education aimed at young people in different reference periods by the end of 2014**



The completion time for vocational education varied between men and women. Sixty-seven per cent of male students passed a vocational qualification in three-and-a-half years and 73 per cent in four-and-a-half

years. Of female students, 66 per cent completed a vocational qualification in three-and-a-half years and 73 per cent in four-and-a-half years, which is slightly less than the corresponding figures for men.

Seventy-five per cent of vocational education students had completed education in five-and-a-half years, and there were not differences between men's and women's pass rates.

When the duration of studies was over six-and-a-half years, women completed the qualifications they had started more often than men did. For example, 79 per cent of women completed vocational education in at most seven-and-a-half years, while the corresponding figure for men was 78 per cent. The difference is slightly bigger for the cohort having started studies nine-and-a-half years ago: 80 per cent of women having started studying nine-and-a-half years earlier completed vocational education by the end of 2014, while the respective figure for men was 77 per cent.

**Pass rates of vocational education aimed at young people in 2014 and 2013 by sex for those having studied for 3.5 to 4.5 years**

Sector of education	Duration of studies (years)	Gender	Pass rate 2014 (%)	Pass rate 2013 (%)	Difference between pass rates in 2014–2013
Vocational education aimed at young people	3,5	Men	66,7	65,3	1,4
		Women	66,0	64,8	1,2
	4,5	Men	73,1	72,4	0,7
		Women	73,0	71,5	1,5

The database tables of these statistics contain information on the differences between the pass rates for different fields of sectors of education (see [Tables in databases](#)). The database tables also include information on those students who did not attain their qualification in the target time.

In these statistics, the number of completers of education relative to starters of education has increased particularly for tertiary level education. Other statistics also indicate that studying was more interesting than in the year before, as both discontinuation of education and employment of students decreased ([Discontinuation of education](#), [Employment of students](#)).

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## Appendix tables

**Appendix table 1. Progress of new upper secondary school students (aimed at young people) studies by end 2014**

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	33 497	88,8	15 883	13 724	86,4	21 826	19 773	90,6
2001	36 957	32 835	88,8	15 580	13 527	86,8	21 377	19 308	90,3
2002	35 695	31 729	88,9	15 307	13 396	87,5	20 388	18 333	89,9
2003	36 714	32 558	88,7	15 764	13 715	87,0	20 950	18 843	89,9
2004	36 020	32 011	88,9	15 497	13 504	87,1	20 523	18 507	90,2
2005	35 065	31 198	89,0	15 243	13 365	87,7	19 822	17 833	90,0
2006	35 007	31 096	88,8	14 872	13 044	87,7	20 135	18 052	89,7
2007	34 510	30 634	88,8	14 436	12 692	87,9	20 074	17 942	89,4
2008	34 793	31 094	89,4	14 770	13 141	89,0	20 023	17 953	89,7
2009	34 064	30 236	88,8	14 509	12 720	87,7	19 555	17 516	89,6
2010	33 705	29 891	88,7	14 472	12 657	87,5	19 233	17 234	89,6
2011	32 897	26 525	80,6	14 194	11 348	79,9	18 703	15 177	81,1

**Appendix table 2. Progress of new students studies in vocational education (aimed at young people) by end 2014**

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	39 952	79,0	25 941	19 660	75,8	24 611	20 292	82,5
2001	48 330	38 338	79,3	24 938	19 118	76,7	23 392	19 220	82,2
2002	46 815	36 857	78,7	24 216	18 469	76,3	22 599	18 388	81,4
2003	46 000	35 874	78,0	24 084	18 181	75,5	21 916	17 693	80,7
2004	48 482	37 919	78,2	25 174	19 181	76,2	23 308	18 738	80,4
2005	48 041	37 563	78,2	24 792	18 995	76,6	23 249	18 568	79,9
2006	48 705	38 445	78,9	25 399	19 800	78,0	23 306	18 645	80,0
2007	48 247	37 824	78,4	24 925	19 417	77,9	23 322	18 407	78,9
2008	48 336	37 613	77,8	24 965	19 490	78,1	23 371	18 123	77,5
2009	50 671	38 046	75,1	26 131	19 652	75,2	24 540	18 394	75,0
2010	50 533	36 899	73,0	26 047	19 034	73,1	24 486	17 865	73,0
2011	50 499	33 504	66,3	25 772	17 194	66,7	24 727	16 310	66,0

**Appendix table 3. Progress of new polytechnic students studies (youth education) by end 2014**

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	6 139	73,4	4 139	2 738	66,2	4 222	3 401	80,6

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	
			%			%			%
1999	25 888	19 127	73,9	11 555	7 478	64,7	14 333	11 649	81,3
2000	26 091	19 220	73,7	11 595	7 548	65,1	14 496	11 672	80,5
2001	26 223	19 301	73,6	11 546	7 402	64,1	14 677	11 899	81,1
2002	28 526	19 934	69,9	13 412	8 099	60,4	15 114	11 835	78,3
2003	28 776	19 825	68,9	13 347	7 936	59,5	15 429	11 889	77,1
2004	29 332	20 143	68,7	13 190	7 772	58,9	16 142	12 371	76,6
2005	29 053	19 846	68,3	13 141	7 729	58,8	15 912	12 117	76,2
2006	28 531	19 416	68,1	13 045	7 656	58,7	15 486	11 760	75,9
2007	28 329	19 020	67,1	13 037	7 549	57,9	15 292	11 471	75,0
2008	28 302	18 585	65,7	12 711	7 128	56,1	15 591	11 457	73,5
2009	28 400	16 577	58,4	13 127	6 109	46,5	15 273	10 468	68,5
2010	29 030	12 916	44,5	13 558	3 996	29,5	15 472	8 920	57,7
2011	28 646	6 549	22,9	13 447	1 531	11,4	15 199	5 018	33,0

**Appendix table 4. Progress of new university students studies (lower and higher university degrees) by end 2014**

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	13 669	82,4	7 526	5 703	75,8	9 056	7 966	88,0
1999	19 054	15 252	80,0	8 501	6 134	72,2	10 553	9 118	86,4
2000	19 783	15 580	78,8	8 590	5 989	69,7	11 193	9 591	85,7
2001	21 018	16 430	78,2	9 201	6 403	69,6	11 817	10 027	84,9
2002	21 245	16 377	77,1	9 456	6 450	68,2	11 789	9 927	84,2
2003	20 763	15 935	76,7	9 092	6 203	68,2	11 671	9 732	83,4
2004	20 827	15 610	75,0	8 977	5 976	66,6	11 850	9 634	81,3
2005	20 744	15 561	75,0	8 979	5 966	66,4	11 765	9 595	81,6
2006	19 988	14 678	73,4	8 687	5 707	65,7	11 301	8 971	79,4
2007	19 461	13 371	68,7	8 274	4 867	58,8	11 187	8 504	76,0
2008	19 396	12 086	62,3	8 483	4 465	52,6	10 913	7 621	69,8
2009	19 940	10 467	52,5	8 820	3 651	41,4	11 120	6 816	61,3
2010	19 766	7 934	40,1	8 780	2 654	30,2	10 986	5 280	48,1
2011	19 827	5 097	25,7	8 786	1 622	18,5	11 041	3 475	31,5



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[www.stat.fi](http://www.stat.fi)  
Source: Education Statistics, Statistics Finland