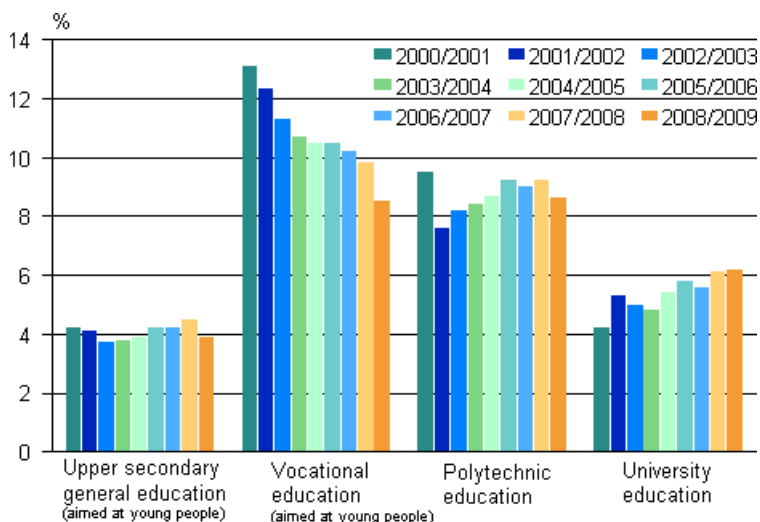


Discontinuation of education 2009

Discontinuation of education decreased

In all, 5.4 per cent of students attending education leading to a qualification or degree discontinued their studies and did not resume them in any education leading to a qualification or degree during the 2008/2009 academic year. In upper secondary general education aimed at young people the discontinuation percentage was 3.9, in vocational education aimed at young people it was 8.5, in polytechnic education 8.6 and in university education 6.2 per cent. Compared with the previous academic year, discontinuation decreased in all sectors of education except for university education where it remained almost unchanged. Discontinuation decreased most in vocational education. These data derive from Statistics Finland's Education Statistics.

Discontinuation of education in upper secondary general, vocational, polytechnic and university education in academic years from 2000/2001 to 2008/2009



Taking into consideration the students who have changed their sector of education, e.g. the students who have switched from upper secondary general school to vocational education, lowers the percentages of discontinuation. Most often the sector of education was changed in upper secondary general education and in polytechnic education.

Male students discontinued studies more frequently than female students. Education was discontinued more than average in the field of natural sciences and in the field of natural resources and the environment and less than average in the field of social services, health and sports.

Discontinuation of education leading to a qualification or degree by sex and sector of education in academic year 2008/2009 1)

Sex / sector of education		Number of students used in the statistics on discontinuation of education 20.9.2008	Discontinued in own sector of education	Changed sector of education	Discontinued completely education leading to a qualification or degree
			%	%	%
Total		493 780	6,9	1,5	5,4
	Upper secondary general education (aimed at young people)	103 182	3,9	2,1	1,8
	Vocational education (aimed at young people)	124 080	8,5	0,9	7,6
	Polytechnic education (Bachelor's degrees)	126 907	8,6	2,1	6,5
	University education (Bachelor's and Master's degrees)	139 611	6,2	0,9	5,3
Men	Total	233 143	7,5	1,4	6,1
	Upper secondary general education (aimed at young people)	44 105	4,1	2,0	2,1
	Vocational education (aimed at young people)	66 141	8,1	0,6	7,5
	Polytechnic education (Bachelor's degrees)	57 598	10,0	2,1	7,9
	University education (Bachelor's and Master's degrees)	65 299	7,0	1,0	6,0
Women	Total	260 637	6,4	1,6	4,8
	Upper secondary general education (aimed at young people)	59 077	3,7	2,1	1,6
	Vocational education (aimed at young people)	57 939	9,0	1,2	7,8
	Polytechnic education (Bachelor's degrees)	69 309	7,5	2,1	5,3
	University education (Bachelor's and Master's degrees)	74 312	5,5	0,9	4,6

1) The number of students used calculating discontinuation of education differs from the total number of students because some of the students had to be excluded from the data.

Other statistics also indicate that studying was more interesting than in the year before. The pass rate improved and employment during studies decreased. More information is available from statistics describing [Progress of studies](#) and [Employment of students](#).

A total of 193 pupils had discontinued studies in comprehensive school during the 2009/2010 academic year, four more than in the previous academic year. The number of those who had completely dropped

out from compulsory education was 41 and those over the age of compulsory education having left school without a leaving certificate from comprehensive school was 152.

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Appendix tables

Appendix table 1. Discontinuation of education in upper secondary general, vocational, polytechnic and university education in academic years 2007/2008 and 2008/2009, %

Sector of education	Academic year 2007/2008	Academic year 2008/2009
Upper secondary general education (aimed at young people)	4,5	3,9
Vocational education (aimed at young people)	9,8	8,5
Polytechnic education (Bachelor's degrees)	9,2	8,6
University education (Bachelor's and Master's degrees)	6,1	6,2

Appendix table 2. Comprehensive school drop-outs in academic years 1999/2000–2009/2010

Academic year	Those having dropped out completely from compulsory education during the academic year ¹⁾	Those past the age of compulsory education, left school without a leaving certificate ²⁾				Number of 9th graders in spring term
		Receivers of a school leaving report	Left without a school leaving report	Total	In comparison with the number of 9th graders at the end of spring term	
1999/2000	90	69	124	193	0,29	66 821
2000/2001	69	79	131	210	0,33	64 512
2001/2002	63	82	109	191	0,31	62 095
2002/2003	79	63	98	161	0,26	61 419
2003/2004	67	94	84	178	0,28	64 456
2004/2005	70	94	124	218	0,34	64 350
2005/2006	60	86	92	178	0,27	66 473
2006/2007	55	79	73	152	0,23	66 230
2007/2008	47	56	59	115	0,17	67 388
2008/2009	39	69	81	150	0,23	65 687
2009/2010	41	71	81	152	0,23	65 560

1) Such persons of compulsory education age who did not take part at all in comprehensive school education during the academic year are regarded as having dropped out completely from compulsory education. There are those in each grade of school.

2) Those having left comprehensive school without a leaving certificate are those past the age of compulsory education who did not complete the whole comprehensive school syllabus during their compulsory education. Part of them received a school leaving report and part did not.

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