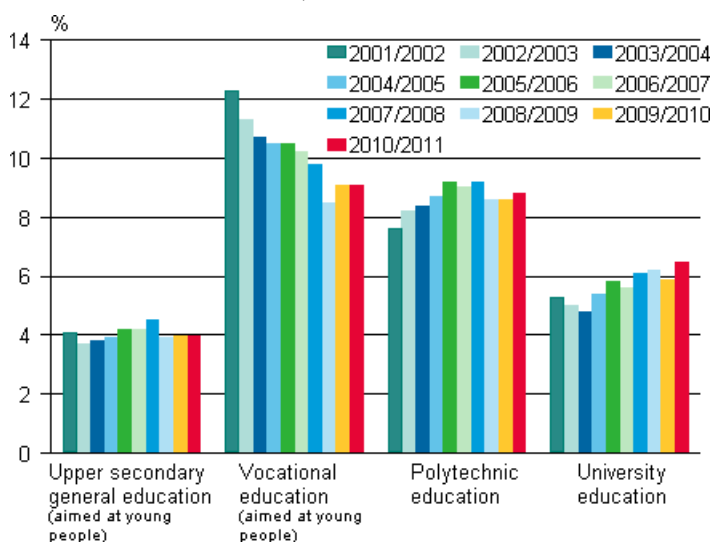


# Discontinuation of education 2011

## Discontinuation of education increased in tertiary level education

In all, 5.7 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 2010/2011 academic year. In upper secondary general education, the discontinuation percentage was 4.0, in vocational education aimed at young people it was 9.1, in polytechnic education, 8.8 and in university education, 6.5 per cent. In upper secondary general education and in vocational education, discontinuation remained unchanged compared to the previous academic year but in polytechnic and university education, discontinuation increased. 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 2001/2002 to 2010/2011, %



If students who have changed their sector of education, e.g. students who have switched from upper secondary general school to vocational education, are not calculated as discontinued students, the percentages of discontinuation are lower. Most often, the sector of education was changed in upper secondary general education and in polytechnic education.

Of students 18 or older that discontinued upper secondary general school education, 46 per cent continued studies leading to a qualification or degree in some other sector of education, and 19 per cent transferred to work. The respective figures in vocational education were 9 and 33 per cent. Of students that discontinued polytechnic education, 25 per cent continued studies in some other sector of education and 54 per cent transferred to work. Of students that discontinued university education, 15 per cent transferred to some other sector of education leading to a qualification or degree, and 60 per cent started working. The employment data are based on the preliminary data of Statistics Finland's employment statistics from the end of 2011.

Men discontinued their studies more often than women in upper secondary general education, polytechnic education and university education. By contrast, women discontinued their studies more often than men in vocational education. Education was discontinued most often in the field of natural sciences, in the field of natural resources and the environment, and in the field of tourism, catering and domestic services. The relative share of discontinuation was lowest in the fields of other education, which includes e.g. police training, and 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 2010/2011 1)

Sex / sector of education		Number of students used in the statistics on discontinuation of education 20.9.2010	Discontinued in own sector of education	Changed sector of education	Discontinued completely education leading to a qualification or degree
			%	%	%
Total		489 729	7,3	1,6	5,7
Men and women	Upper secondary general education (aimed at young people)	100 551	4,0	2,3	1,7
	Vocational education (aimed at young people)	130 488	9,1	0,9	8,1
	Polytechnic education (Bachelor's degrees)	130 762	8,8	2,2	6,6
	University education (Bachelor's and Master's degrees)	127 928	6,5	1,0	5,5
Men	Total	233 168	7,9	1,5	6,4
	Upper secondary general education (aimed at young people)	43 316	4,2	2,3	1,9
	Vocational education (aimed at young people)	69 277	8,6	0,6	8,0
	Polytechnic education (Bachelor's degrees)	60 481	10,3	2,2	8,1
	University education (Bachelor's and Master's degrees)	60 094	7,3	1,1	6,3
Women	Total	256 561	6,7	1,6	5,1
	Upper secondary general education (aimed at young people)	57 235	3,9	2,3	1,6
	Vocational education (aimed at young people)	61 211	9,5	1,3	8,3
	Polytechnic education (Bachelor's degrees)	70 281	7,5	2,1	5,3
	University education (Bachelor's and Master's degrees)	67 834	5,7	0,9	4,8

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. The data do not contain the University of Turku, because we have been unable to calculate the discontinuation of studies due to insufficient student data.

More information related to the progress of studies is available from statistics describing [Progress of studies](#) and [Employment of students](#)

A total of 298 students had discontinued their studies in comprehensive school during the 2011/2012 academic year. The number of those who had completely dropped out from compulsory education in the spring term was 86 and those over the age of compulsory education having left school without a leaving certificate from comprehensive school was 212. More than half of school drop-outs were boys. The number of boys among those who had completely dropped out from compulsory education was 45, and 117 among those having left comprehensive school without a leaving certificate.

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## Appendix tables

**Appendix table 1. Discontinuation of education in upper secondary general, vocational, polytechnic and university education in academic years 2000/2001–2010/2011, %**

Academic year	Sector of education <sup>I</sup>			
	Upper secondary general education (aimed at young people)	Vocational education (aimed at young people)	Polytechnic education (Bachelor's degrees)	Polytechnic education (Bachelor's and Master's degrees)
2000/2001	4,2	13,1	9,5	4,2
2002/2002	4,1	12,3	7,6	5,3
2002/2003	3,7	11,3	8,2	5,0
2003/2004	3,8	10,7	8,4	4,8
2004/2005	3,9	10,5	8,7	5,4
2005/2006	4,2	10,5	9,2	5,8
2006/2007	4,2	10,2	9,0	5,6
2007/2008	4,5	9,8	9,2	6,1
2008/2009	3,9	8,5	8,6	6,2
2009/2011	4,0	9,1	8,6	5,9
2010/2010	4,0	9,1	8,8	6,5

**Appendix table 2. Comprehensive school drop-outs in academic years 1999/2000–2011/2012**

Academic year	Those having dropped out completely from compulsory education <sup>1)</sup>	Those left comprehensive school without a leaving certificate <sup>2)</sup>		Number of 9th graders in spring term
		Total	In comparison with the number of 9th graders at the end of spring term, %	
1999/2000	90	193	0,29	66 821
2000/2001	69	210	0,33	64 512
2001/2002	63	191	0,31	62 095
2002/2003	79	161	0,26	61 419
2003/2004	67	178	0,28	64 456
2004/2005	70	218	0,34	64 350
2005/2006	60	178	0,27	66 473
2006/2007	55	152	0,23	66 230
2007/2008	47	115	0,17	67 388
2008/2009	39	150	0,23	65 687
2009/2010	41	152	0,23	65 560
2010/2011	95	180	0,28	64 125
2011/2012	86	212	0,34	61 778

1) Such persons of compulsory education age who did not take part at all in comprehensive school education during the academic year and starting from the academic year 2010/2011 during the spring term are regarded as having dropped out completely from compulsory education. Data starting from the academic year 2010/2011 are not fully comparable with earlier years. There may be such persons 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.

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