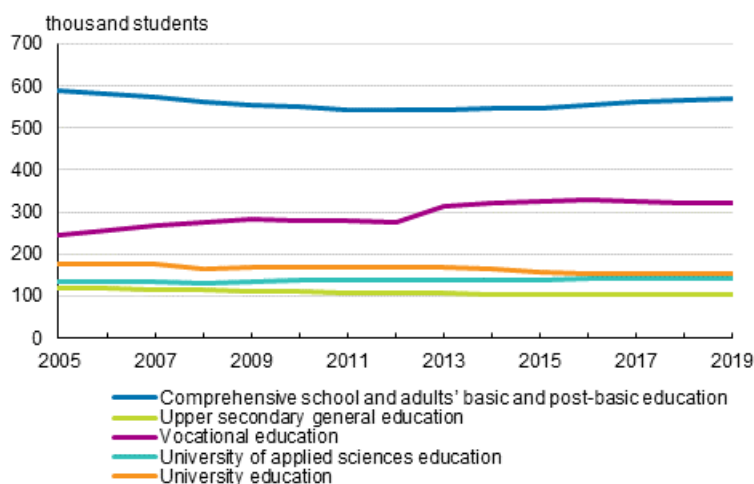


Students and qualifications of educational institutions 2019

Students in education leading to a qualification or degree number 1.29 million

The total number of students in education leading to a qualification or degree was 1.29 million in 2019. The number is 0.3 per cent higher than in 2018. The number of students grew in comprehensive school education, upper secondary general school education, university of applied sciences education and university education. The number of students in vocational education fell. These data derive from education statistics compiled by Statistics Finland.

Students in education leading to a qualification or degree 2005–2019 1)



1) The data describe the situation on 20 September, except for data on vocational education, which are from the calendar year starting from 2013 and those on preparatory education for a skills examination and apprenticeship training from 2004 onwards.

In 2019, the number of new students totalled 290,300, which is 1.8 per cent higher than in the previous year. The number of new students declined only in comprehensive school education, in all other sectors of education the number grew: in upper secondary general school education by six per cent, in vocational education by one per cent, in universities of applied sciences education by two per cent and in university education by three per cent.

In 2019, the number of attainers of qualifications or degrees was 220,800, which is 2.7 per cent lower than in the previous year. There were fewer completers of qualifications or degrees in upper secondary general school and vocational education than in the year before, more in comprehensive school education and in university of applied sciences and university education than in the year before.

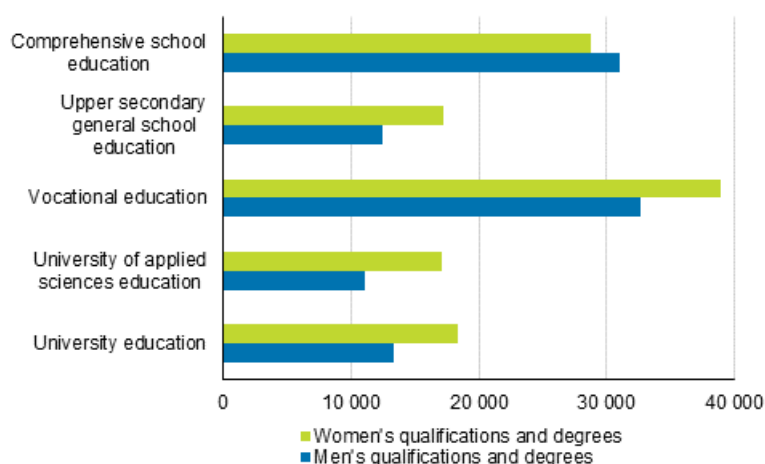
Women the majority in post-comprehensive school education

A total of 54 per cent of new students and 54 per cent of attainers of qualifications or degrees were women. Fifty-one per cent of all students were women. Women were the majority in both new students, students and attainers of qualifications or degrees in all post-comprehensive level educational sectors.

Altogether, 71,600 students completed a vocational qualification in 2019. Fifty-four per cent of them were women. Women made up 52 per cent of attainers of initial vocational qualifications, 61 per cent of attainers of vocational qualifications and 58 per cent of attainers of specialist vocational qualifications.

In 2019, altogether 58 per cent of the completers of both the matriculation examination and a university degree were women.

Qualifications and degrees completed by women and men in 2019



Foreign and foreign-language speaking students

In 2019, altogether 50,100 foreign students attended post-comprehensive education leading to a qualification or degree. This corresponds to seven per cent of all students. Foreign students refer to persons whose nationality is other than Finnish. The number of foreign students was highest in vocational education, nine per cent, and lowest in upper secondary general school education, two per cent. Seven per cent of students in university of applied sciences education and university education were foreign students.

In 2019, altogether 78,200 foreign-language speaking students attended post-comprehensive education leading to a qualification or degree. This corresponds to 11 per cent of all students. Foreign-language speaking student refers to a person whose mother tongue is not Finnish, Swedish or Sami. In upper secondary general education seven per cent were foreign-language speaking students, in vocational education 13 per cent and in both university of applied sciences education and university education 10 per cent.

The **statistics on students and qualifications of educational institutions** apply harmonised concepts and classifications to draw an overall picture of education leading to a qualification or degree. The statistics contain data on all sectors of education. Data on the subject matter are also published in the [database tables](#) of these statistics, and on the web pages of the statistics on [pre-primary and comprehensive school education](#), [upper secondary general education](#), [vocational education](#), [university of applied sciences](#)

[education, university education](#), and [adult education of educational institutions](#). In addition to these, the statistics on the [educational structure of population](#) contain information on attainers of qualifications by gender, age group and area, for example.

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Appendix tables

Appendix table 1. Students in education leading to a qualification or degree by sector of education in 2018 and 2019¹⁾

Sector of education	2018	2019	Change 2018–2019, %
Total	1 286 703	1 290 513	0,3
Basic comprehensive school education, compulsory education school (incl. pre-primary education)	560 503	564 100	0,6
Basic education of adults	5 013	5 183	3,4
Upper secondary general education	103 440	105 248	1,7
Vocational education	322 296	320 058	-0,7
University of applied sciences education	142 022	142 157	0,1
University education	153 429	153 767	0,2

1) The data for vocational education relate to a calendar year. The data for other educational sectors describe the situation on 20 September. Starting from 2019, the data on upper secondary general education and vocational education are mainly based on the Finnish National Agency for Education's Koski database.

Appendix table 2. Students and completed qualifications and degrees in education leading to a qualification or degree by sector of education in 2019

Sector of education	New students ¹⁾	New students, women	Students	Students, women	Completed qualifications and degrees	Completed qualifications and degrees, women
		%		%		%
Total	290 320	54	1 290 513	51	220 755	54
Basic comprehensive school education, compulsory education school ²⁾	61 067	49	564 100	49	58 370	49
Basic education of adults	.	.	5 183	43	1 395	31
Upper secondary general education	37 531	59	105 248	58	29 605	58
Vocational education	124 607	52	320 058	51	71 579	54
University of applied sciences education	40 094	57	142 157	53	28 099	61
University education	27 021	58	153 767	54	31 707	58

1) Excluding new students in basic education of adults.

2) Including pre-primary education in comprehensive schools.

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Source: Education, Statistics Finland