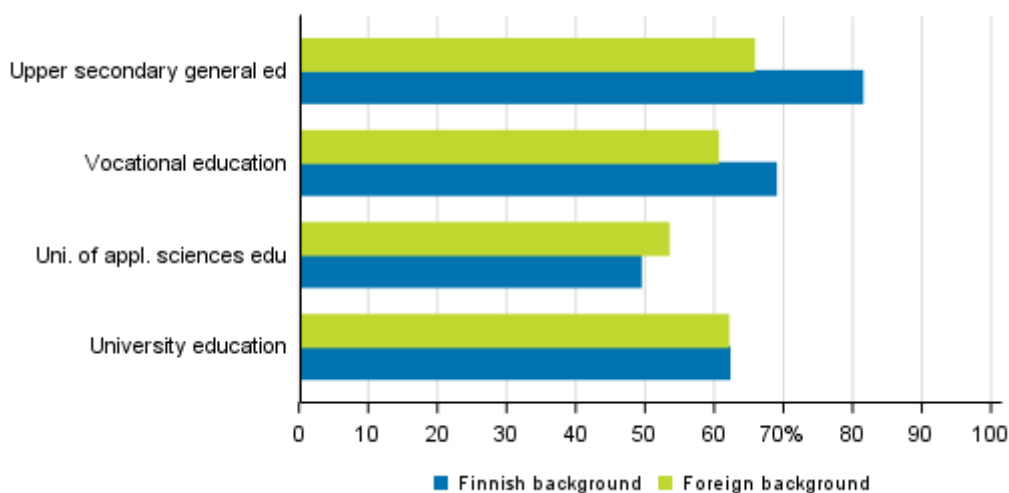


Progress of studies 2016

Foreign background especially affected completion of upper secondary level education

According to Statistics Finland's Education Statistics, students of Finnish background pass upper secondary general education and vocational education more quickly than those of foreign background. Eighty-one per cent of students of Finnish background completed upper secondary general education in 3.5 years, while the pass rate for students of foreign background was 66 per cent. Vocational education was completed in 3.5 years by 69 per cent of students of Finnish background and by 60 per cent of students of foreign background.

Pass rates by sector of education and origin in 2016



The pass rate tells how many per cent of those that started education have completed a qualification within the examined study time. The examined time is 3.5 years for upper secondary general and vocational education, 4.5 years for university of applied sciences education and 5.5 years for university education. Statistics Finland's origin classification has been used to determine origin.

Students of Finnish background pass upper secondary general education clearly faster than students of foreign background

Progress of new upper secondary school students (aimed at young people) studies by end 2016

Year of starting	New upper secondary school students, total	Pass rate	New male students, Finnish background	Pass rate	New female students, Finnish background	Pass rate	New male students, Foreign background	Pass rate	New female students, Foreign background	Pass rate
		%		%		%		%		%
2011	32 897	89,9	13 676	89,4	18 057	91,2	518	71,8	646	81,3
2012	32 183	89,4	13 251	88,7	17 762	91,1	507	68,2	663	75,7
2013	31 884	80,6	12 810	80,7	17 768	81,7	581	60,4	725	69,8

According to the data for 2016, upper secondary general education is rarely completed in over 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 3.5 and 89 per cent in at most 4.5 years. Men studying in upper secondary general school passed their qualifications slightly more slowly than women studying there did.

Among new male students of Finnish background in upper secondary general school, 81 per cent completed their studies in at most 3.5 years, while the corresponding figure for women was 82 per cent. The difference between sexes in passing education was larger for students of foreign background than among students of Finnish background: 60 per cent of male students completed their studies in at most 3.5 years, and 70 per cent of female students. The pass rate for upper secondary general education in 4.5 years improved for students of both Finnish and foreign background: 68 per cent of men of foreign background and 76 per cent of women of foreign background. Eighty-nine per cent of men and 91 per cent of women of Finnish background had completed their studies in 4.5 years.

Women of Finnish background completed upper secondary general education in 3.5 years more often than women of foreign background, the difference between the pass rates was 12 percentage points. In 4.5 years, the difference between the pass rates increased to 15 percentage points. The difference narrowed when 5.5 years had passed from starting the studies, when 91 per cent of women of Finnish background and 81 per cent of women of foreign background had completed their studies. Men of Finnish background completed their studies in 3.5 years more often than men of foreign background, the difference between the pass rates was 20 per cent. The difference between pass rates narrowed after 5.5 years of studies to 18 percentage points.

Low pass rate in vocational education for men of foreign background

Progress of new students studies in vocational education (aimed at young people) by end 2016

Year of starting	New students in vocational education, total	Pass rate	New male students, Finnish background	Pass rate	New female students, Finnish background	Pass rate	New male students, Foreign background	Pass rate	New female students, Foreign background	Pass rate
		%		%		%		%		%
2011	50 499	77,1	24 592	77,0	23 621	77,7	1 180	68,4	1 106	76,3
2012	49 759	74,6	24 549	74,5	22 640	75,5	1 324	63,6	1 246	72,0
2013	48 679	68,3	23 866	68,5	22 103	69,1	1 464	55,5	1 246	66,1

Sixty-eight per cent of students attending vocational education aimed at young people completed a qualification in at most 3.5 years and 75 per cent in at most 4.5 years. Women completed a qualification

slightly faster than men. The difference between the pass rates of women and men of Finnish background was, however, small, under one percentage point.

Men and women of Finnish background passed vocational education nearly as often measured by how long had passed since the beginning of the studies. The difference between sexes in pass rates among students of foreign background were higher. Fifty-six per cent of men and 66 per cent of women of foreign background had completed a qualification in at most 3.5 years. In all, 64 per cent of men of foreign background completed a qualification in 4.5 years and 72 per cent of women, which means that the difference between the pass rates was eight percentage points.

Men of Finnish background completed a vocational qualification more often than men of foreign background in 3.5 years, the difference between the pass rates was 13 percentage points. Among those who pass the education in 4.5 years, the difference in the pass rates decreased to 11 percentage points and further to nine percentage points when 5.5 years had passed since the start of the studies. For women, the differences in pass rates were not as big as for men. Of women of foreign background, 66 per cent completed a qualification in 3.5 years while the corresponding share for women of Finnish background was 69 per cent. The difference between pass rates decreased to one percentage point after 5.5 years from starting studying.

Persons of foreign background have a better pass rate in university of applied sciences education than persons of Finnish background

Progress of new university of applied sciences students studies by end 2016, youth education

Year of starting	New university of applied sciences students, total	Pass rate	New male students, Finnish background	Pass rate	New female students, Finnish background	Pass rate	New male students, Foreign background	Pass rate	New female students, Foreign background	Pass rate
		%		%		%		%		%
2009	28 400	67,7	12 197	58,5	14 556	74,9	930	65,8	717	78,5
2010	29 030	65,2	12 578	55,1	14 612	73,5	980	61,6	860	77,6
2011	28 646	60,6	12 288	48,0	14 178	70,9	1 159	57,9	1 021	72,1
2012	28 093	49,6	11 462	32,8	14 260	62,5	1 257	44,6	1 114	63,1
2013	26 894	27,2	11 378	12,9	13 404	38,8	1 063	25,0	1 049	36,6

Fifty per cent of those who started studying for a university of applied sciences degree completed their studies in 4.5 years. Sixty-eight per cent of students completed their studies in at most 7.5 years. In all, 53 per cent of students of foreign background and 49 per cent of those of Finnish background completed a qualification in 4.5 years. The difference between the groups in the pass rates remained the same after 7.5 years had passed since the start of studies.

The difference between sexes in pass rates was large both for students of foreign and Finnish background. Among women of Finnish background, 63 per cent completed a qualification in 4.5 years while the corresponding figure for men was 33 per cent. The difference between the sexes started to narrow when 6.5 years had passed since starting studies, when the difference was 18 percentage points. Among women of foreign background, 63 per cent completed a qualification in 4.5 years, while the corresponding figure for men was 45 per cent. In total, 62 per cent of men and 78 per cent of women of foreign background completed a qualification in 6.5 years.

Men of foreign background completed a qualification more often than men of Finnish background in 4.5 years, the difference between the pass rates was 12 percentage points. Among those who pass the education in 5.5 years, the difference in the pass rate decreased to 10 percentage points and further to seven percentage points after 6.5 years from the start of the studies. For women, the differences in pass rates were not as

big as for men. Among women of Finnish and foreign background, 63 per cent completed a qualification in 4.5 years. The difference narrowed to four percentage points when 6.5 years had passed from starting the studies, when 78 per cent of women of foreign background and 74 per cent of women of Finnish background had completed a qualification.

One-half of students with foreign background attained a university degree in 3.5 years

Progress of new university students studies by end 2016, lower or higher university degrees

Year of starting	New university students, total	Pass rate	New male students, Finnish background	Pass rate	New female students, Finnish background	Pass rate	New male students, Foreign background	Pass rate	New female students, Foreign background	Pass rate
		%		%		%		%		%
2009	19 940	70,7	7 977	63,0	10 501	77,4	843	59,9	619	70,3
2010	19 766	66,0	7 909	58,8	10 324	72,4	871	57,4	662	64,4
2011	19 827	62,1	7 812	54,1	10 225	68,2	974	58,6	816	65,8
2012	22 815	51,8	8 847	41,4	12 015	59,0	1 097	50,4	856	59,8
2013	23 162	32,0	9 142	21,4	12 090	36,9	1 047	49,4	883	53,5

The pass rate of university education grows, the longer time has passed from the start of education. The older the cohort of new students is examined, the higher the pass rate became. Sixty-two per cent of students completed a lower or higher university degree in 5.5 years and among those having studied for 7.5 years, 71 per cent had passed a university degree. Women of Finnish background attain a degree clearly faster than men. Of women, 68 per cent completed their degrees in 5.5 years, while 54 per cent of men attained a degree. Seventy-seven per cent of women and 63 per cent of men of Finnish background had completed a degree after 7.5 years of studying.

Students of foreign background attained a degree clearly faster than students of Finnish background. The degree was attained in 5.5 years by 66 per cent of women and 59 per cent of men. A majority of students of foreign background started directly in master's studies.

The database tables of these statistics contain information on the differences between the pass rates for sectors of education, different fields of education and different origin group (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 before as discontinuation of education decreased. Employment among students increased slightly compared to the year before. ([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 2016

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	33 506	88,9	15 883	13 728	86,4	21 826	19 778	90,6
2001	36 957	32 848	88,9	15 580	13 534	86,9	21 377	19 314	90,3
2002	35 695	31 739	88,9	15 307	13 401	87,5	20 388	18 338	89,9
2003	36 714	32 585	88,8	15 764	13 725	87,1	20 950	18 860	90,0
2004	36 020	32 046	89,0	15 497	13 521	87,2	20 523	18 525	90,3
2005	35 065	31 241	89,1	15 243	13 384	87,8	19 822	17 857	90,1
2006	35 007	31 160	89,0	14 872	13 082	88,0	20 135	18 078	89,8
2007	34 510	30 704	89,0	14 436	12 709	88,0	20 074	17 995	89,6
2008	34 793	31 180	89,6	14 770	13 180	89,2	20 023	18 000	89,9
2009	34 064	30 430	89,3	14 509	12 814	88,3	19 555	17 616	90,1
2010	33 705	30 199	89,6	14 472	12 810	88,5	19 233	17 389	90,4
2011	32 897	29 590	89,9	14 194	12 600	88,8	18 703	16 990	90,8
2012	32 183	28 778	89,4	13 758	12 096	87,9	18 425	16 682	90,5
2013	31 884	25 708	80,6	13 391	10 692	79,8	18 493	15 016	81,2

Appendix table 2. Progress of new students studies in vocational education (aimed at young people) by end 2016

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	40 524	80,2	25 941	19 923	76,8	24 611	20 601	83,7
2001	48 330	38 965	80,6	24 938	19 388	77,7	23 392	19 577	83,7
2002	46 815	37 563	80,2	24 216	18 781	77,6	22 599	18 782	83,1
2003	46 000	36 679	79,7	24 084	18 544	77,0	21 916	18 135	82,7
2004	48 482	38 864	80,2	25 174	19 595	77,8	23 308	19 269	82,7
2005	48 041	38 599	80,3	24 792	19 454	78,5	23 249	19 145	82,3
2006	48 705	39 673	81,5	25 399	20 326	80,0	23 306	19 347	83,0
2007	48 247	39 221	81,3	24 925	20 031	80,4	23 322	19 190	82,3
2008	48 336	39 254	81,2	24 965	20 193	80,9	23 371	19 061	81,6
2009	50 671	40 175	79,3	26 131	20 610	78,9	24 540	19 565	79,7
2010	50 533	39 778	78,7	26 047	20 386	78,3	24 486	19 392	79,2
2011	50 499	38 953	77,1	25 772	19 751	76,6	24 727	19 202	77,7
2012	49 759	37 127	74,6	25 873	19 135	74,0	23 886	17 992	75,3
2013	48 679	33 254	68,3	25 330	17 157	67,7	23 349	16 097	68,9

Appendix table 3. Progress of new university of applied sciences students studies by end 2016, youth education

Year of starting	New university of applied sciences students, total	Attainers of university of applied sciences degrees		New male students	Male attainers of university of applied sciences degrees		New female students	Female attainers of university of applied sciences degrees	
			%			%			%
1995	8 361	6 162	73,7	4 139	2 748	66,4	4 222	3 414	80,9
1999	25 888	19 239	74,3	11 555	7 539	65,2	14 333	11 700	81,6
2000	26 091	19 370	74,2	11 595	7 626	65,8	14 496	11 744	81,0
2001	26 223	19 466	74,2	11 546	7 495	64,9	14 677	11 971	81,6
2002	28 526	20 199	70,8	13 412	8 245	61,5	15 114	11 954	79,1
2003	28 776	20 136	70,0	13 347	8 098	60,7	15 429	12 038	78,0
2004	29 332	20 490	69,9	13 190	7 943	60,2	16 142	12 547	77,7
2005	29 053	20 286	69,8	13 141	7 971	60,7	15 912	12 315	77,4
2006	28 531	19 940	69,9	13 045	7 955	61,0	15 486	11 985	77,4
2007	28 329	19 807	69,9	13 037	7 998	61,3	15 292	11 809	77,2
2008	28 302	19 797	69,9	12 711	7 834	61,6	15 591	11 963	76,7
2009	28 400	19 215	67,7	13 127	7 753	59,1	15 273	11 462	75,0
2010	29 030	18 929	65,2	13 558	7 529	55,5	15 472	11 400	73,7
2011	28 646	17 367	60,6	13 447	6 574	48,9	15 199	10 793	71,0
2012	28 093	13 930	49,6	12 719	4 318	33,9	15 374	9 612	62,5
2013	26 894	7 322	27,2	12 441	1 733	13,9	14 453	5 589	38,7

Appendix table 4. Progress of new university students studies by end 2016, 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	13 727	82,8	7 526	5 727	76,1	9 056	8 000	88,3
1999	19 054	15 422	80,9	8 501	6 220	73,2	10 553	9 202	87,2
2000	19 783	15 771	79,7	8 590	6 083	70,8	11 193	9 688	86,6
2001	21 018	16 725	79,6	9 201	6 558	71,3	11 817	10 167	86,0
2002	21 245	16 703	78,6	9 456	6 631	70,1	11 789	10 072	85,4
2003	20 763	16 351	78,8	9 092	6 433	70,8	11 671	9 918	85,0
2004	20 827	16 119	77,4	8 977	6 247	69,6	11 850	9 872	83,3
2005	20 744	16 178	78,0	8 979	6 305	70,2	11 765	9 873	83,9
2006	19 988	15 625	78,2	8 687	6 241	71,8	11 301	9 384	83,0
2007	19 461	14 876	76,4	8 274	5 702	68,9	11 187	9 174	82,0
2008	19 396	14 420	74,3	8 483	5 710	67,3	10 913	8 710	79,8
2009	19 940	14 094	70,7	8 820	5 529	62,7	11 120	8 565	77,0
2010	19 766	13 050	66,0	8 780	5 154	58,7	10 986	7 896	71,9
2011	19 827	12 305	62,1	8 786	4 799	54,6	11 041	7 506	68,0
2012	22 815	11 815	51,8	9 944	4 214	42,4	12 871	7 601	59,1
2013	23 162	7 402	32,0	10 189	2 474	24,3	12 973	4 928	38,0

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www.stat.fi
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