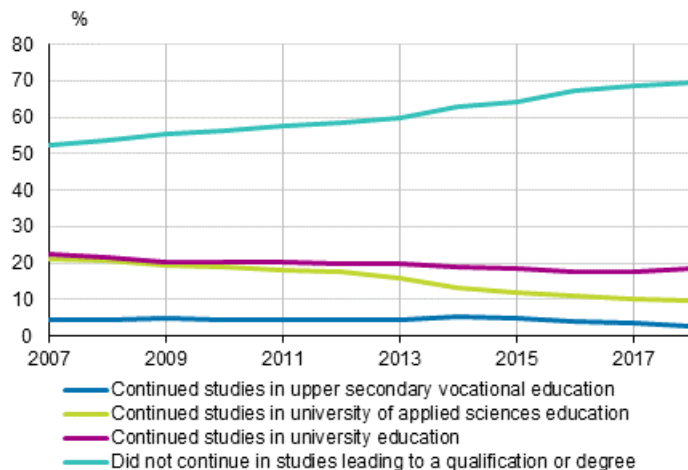


Entrance to education 2018

Share of passers of the matriculation examination left outside further studies grew further

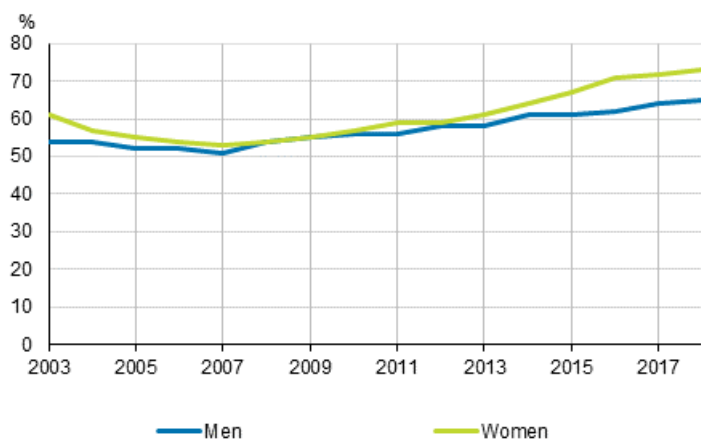
According to Statistics Finland's education statistics, 70 per cent of those who completed the matriculation examination in the spring semester in 2018 did not continue studies leading to a qualification or degree in the year of the matriculation examination. Ten per cent of them continued in university of applied sciences education and 18 per cent in university education. The share of those left outside further studies among new passers of the matriculation examination has grown for over 10 years. Eighty-two per cent of passers of the matriculation examination applied for further studies. Of completers of comprehensive school, 53 per cent immediately continued in upper secondary general education after comprehensive school and 41 per cent in vocational education.

Direct transition to further studies of passers of the matriculation examination in the spring semester 2007–2018, %



The share of those who received a place for further education at a university grew slightly from the previous year. Because the share of those continuing to vocational and university of applied sciences education continued to decrease, the number of new passers of the matriculation examination left outside further education grew by 0.7 percentage points from the previous year. Ten years previously, 20 per cent immediately continued their studies in university of applied sciences education, when only close on ten per cent of passers of the matriculation examination did so in 2018.

Passers of the matriculation examination, who did not continue studies leading to a qualification or degree by gender 2003–2018, %



In recent years, the share of new female passers of the matriculation examination remaining outside further education has increased more sharply than that of male passers. In 2018, altogether 27 per cent of women who passed matriculation examination in the spring semester and 35 per cent of male passers immediately continued their studies, while ten years earlier, the share for both sexes was slightly over 46 per cent. Male passers of the matriculation examination continued more often than women in university and university of applied sciences education, 34 per cent of men and 24 per cent of women started tertiary level studies.

Four out of five of those who passed the matriculation examination in the spring semester applied to further education in the year of the matriculation examination. Eighty-one per cent of new passers of the matriculation examination in 2018 applied to tertiary education, 82 per cent of women and 80 per cent of men. Forty-eight per cent of passers of the matriculation examination applied only to university education and 17 per cent only to university of applied sciences education. Sixteen per cent of new passers of the matriculation examination applied simultaneously to both university of applied sciences and university education and 1.2 per cent to upper secondary vocational education.

Many passers of the matriculation examination have a gap year or years before further studies

Immediate continuation of studies among new passers of the matriculation examination has become more difficult than in the year before already for over 10 years. Many new passers of the matriculation examination have to have a gap year or years before finding a place for further studies, even though most apply to further studies right after passing the matriculation examination.

Entrance to education by passers of the matriculation examination in 2015¹⁾

Number of gap years	Completers of the matriculation examination, total in 2015	Studying, %	In Vocational education	%	In Highschool	%	Did not continue studies leading to a qualification or degree	%
1	31 058	56,2	2 730	8,8	14 713	47,4	13 615	43,8
2	31 058	69,0	2 501	8,1	18 931	61,0	9 626	31,0
3	31 058	72,3	1 487	6,6	20 969	67,5	8 602	27,7

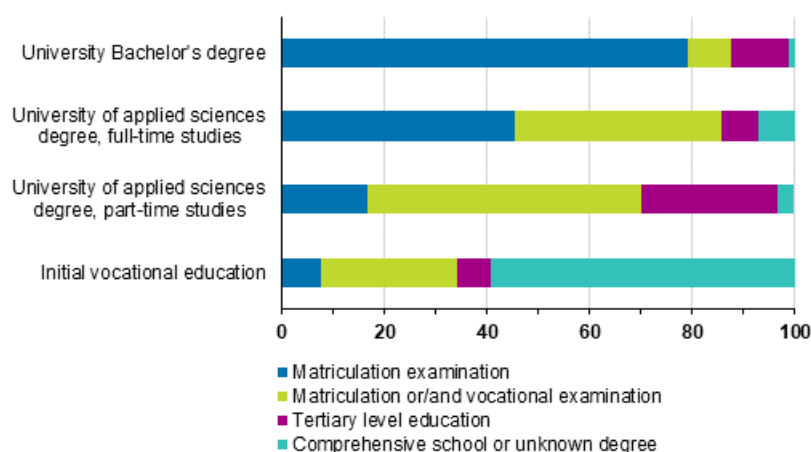
1) Only education leading to a qualification or degree in Finland included. The examination includes one student place by the highest level of education.

When examining the transition of new passers of the matriculation examination (31,058) in 2015 to further studies by the end of 2016, a place for further studies had been found after one gap year by 56 per cent, 47 per cent had started studies in tertiary education and nine per cent in upper secondary vocational education. After two gap years most had started further studies. In 2017, sixty-nine per cent studied, 61 per cent in tertiary education and eight per cent in upper secondary vocational education. The share of those starting studies after three gap years had grown to 72 per cent. The passers of the matriculation examination in 2015 were less successful in being admitted to further education than the passers of the matriculation examination in the previous year, see [last year's statistics](#).

Every tenth of those having started lower tertiary degree studies had completed a tertiary degree earlier

The majority of those having started lower tertiary degree studies had an upper secondary level qualification as their basic education, 79 per cent the matriculation examination, two per cent an upper secondary vocational qualification and six per cent had both. Every tenth had previously completed a tertiary degree (also includes post-secondary qualification and vocational tertiary level qualification).

New students by education and prior degree or qualification in 2018, %



Of those who started daytime programmes in university of applied sciences education, 45 per cent were passers of the matriculation examination, 27 per cent had completed a vocational qualification and 13 per cent both the matriculation examination and vocational qualification. Seven per cent of those having started studies had already completed a tertiary degree. Vocational basic education was more common among those having started education arranged as multi-form studies at universities of applied sciences. Seventeen per cent had passed the matriculation examination, 34 per cent had completed a vocational qualification and 19 per cent had completed both. Every fourth had a previously completed tertiary degree as their basic education.

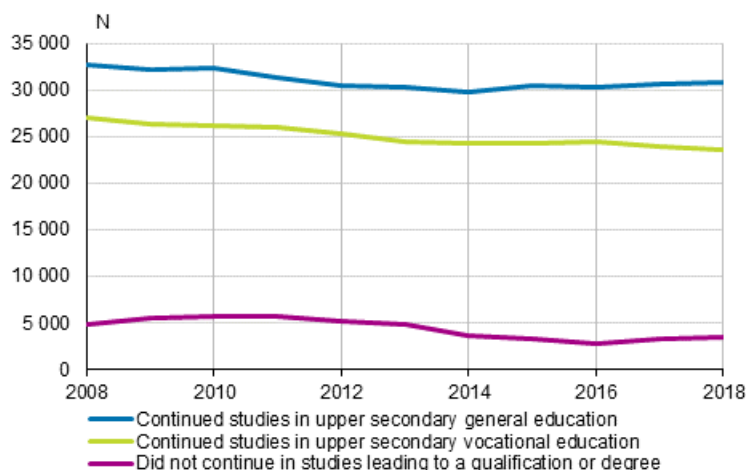
Close on 60 per cent of students in initial vocational education came straight from comprehensive school. Twenty-three per cent had completed vocational qualifications previously. Four per cent had passed the matriculation examination and completed a vocational qualification and eight per cent had passed the matriculation examination.

More detailed information about the basic education of new students by level of education, field of education and gender can be found in the [database tables](#).

Of completers of the 9th grade of comprehensive school, 53 per cent continued in upper secondary general education and 41 per cent in vocational education

There were 58,000 completers of the 9th grade of comprehensive school in 2018. Nearly all completers of the 9th grade of comprehensive school applied immediately to further studies, one per cent did not do so. Sixty-five per cent of girls applied primarily to upper secondary general school. Of boys, 54 per cent applied primarily to upper secondary vocational education.

Direct continuation to further studies for completers of comprehensive school 2008–2018



Ninety-four per cent of completers of comprehensive school continued in education leading to a qualification. Fifty-three per cent of completers continued in upper secondary general school and 41 per cent in vocational education. The share of those continuing in vocational education decreased from the previous year. A total of 1,200 completers of comprehensive school continued in guidance and preparatory education and 500 in additional education of the comprehensive school (10th grade). Altogether 1,800 of those having completed comprehensive school remained outside all above-mentioned educations and 1,455 of them were aged under 18.

More detailed information on the application and transition to further studies of completers of comprehensive school and passers of the matriculation examination can be found in the [database tables](#).

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Appendix tables

Appendix table 1. Direct transition to further studies of completers of the 9th grade of comprehensive school 2000 - 2018

Year of graduation	Completers of 9th grade of comprehensive school		Continued studies in upper secondary general education		Continued studies in upper secondary vocational education		Continued studies immediately in additional education (10th grade)		Continued studies immediately in guidance education		Did not continue studies leading to a qualification or degree or in guidance education	
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%
2000	66 278	100,0	35 603	53,7	24 054	36,3	-	-	-	-	6 621	10,0
2001	63 986	100,0	34 729	54,3	23 070	36,1	-	-	-	-	6 187	9,7
2002	61 477	100,0	33 688	54,8	22 581	36,7	-	-	-	-	5 208	8,5
2003	60 834	100,0	33 512	55,1	22 483	37,0	-	-	-	-	4 839	8,0
2004	63 523	100,0	34 380	54,1	24 374	38,4	-	-	-	-	4 769	7,5
2005	63 297	100,0	33 706	53,3	24 925	39,4	-	-	-	-	4 666	7,4
2006	65 838	100,0	33 666	51,1	26 374	40,1	-	-	-	-	5 798	8,8
2007	65 235	100,0	33 152	50,8	26 548	40,7	-	-	-	-	5 535	8,5
2008	64 740	100,0	32 743	50,6	27 100	41,9	-	-	-	-	4 897	7,6
2009	64 137	100,0	32 200	50,2	26 427	41,2	-	-	-	-	5 510	8,6
2010	64 215	100,0	32 352	50,4	26 153	40,7	-	-	-	-	5 710	8,9
2011	63 194	100,0	31 368	49,6	26 064	41,2	-	-	-	-	5 762	9,1
2012	61 059	100,0	30 539	50,0	25 360	41,5	-	-	-	-	5 160	8,5
2013	59 581	100,0	30 267	50,8	24 516	41,1	-	-	-	-	4 798	8,1
2014	57 853	100,0	29 857	51,6	24 357	42,1	688	1,2	414	0,7	2 537	4,4
2015	58 224	100,0	30 558	52,5	24 332	41,8	626	1,1	1 118	1,9	1 590	2,7
2016	57 615	100,0	30 364	52,7	24 459	42,5	435	0,8	931	1,6	1 426	2,5
2017	57 753	100,0	30 583	53,0	23 872	41,3	480	0,8	1 054	1,8	1 764	3,1
2018	58 027	100,0	30 840	53,1	23 651	40,8	542	0,9	1 177	2,0	1 817	3,1 ¹⁾

1) In total, 0.6 percentage points of completers of comprehensive school who remained outside all education in 2018 were aged over 17.

Appendix table 2. Immediate transition for further studies by new passers of the matriculation examination 2005 - 2018¹⁾

Year of graduation	Completers of the matriculation examination		Continued studies in upper secondary vocational education		Continued studies in university of applied sciences education		Continued studies in university education		Did not continue studies leading to a qualification or degree	
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%
2005	30 543	100,0	1 381	4,5	6 104	20,0	6 691	21,9	16 367	53,6
2006	29 294	100,0	1 296	4,4	5 631	19,2	6 737	23,0	15 630	53,4
2007	29 935	100,0	1 305	4,4	6 245	20,9	6 717	22,4	15 668	52,3
2008	29 262	100,0	1 290	4,4	5 986	20,5	6 273	21,4	15 713	53,7
2009	29 467	100,0	1 380	4,7	5 745	19,5	6 016	20,4	16 326	55,4
2010	29 115	100,0	1 284	4,4	5 574	19,1	5 909	20,3	16 348	56,1
2011	29 115	100,0	1 283	4,4	5 223	17,9	5 838	20,1	16 771	57,6
2012	28 317	100,0	1 231	4,3	4 924	17,4	5 655	20,0	16 507	58,3
2013	28 473	100,0	1 313	4,6	4 516	15,9	5 631	19,8	17 013	59,8
2014	28 179	100,0	1 448	5,1	3 713	13,2	5 278	18,7	17 740	63,0
2015	27 325	100,0	1 376	5,0	3 281	12,0	5 068	18,5	17 600	64,4
2016	27 070	100,0	1 114	4,1	3 015	11,1	4 760	17,6	18 181	67,2
2017	27 151	100,0	926	3,4	2 746	10,1	4 797	17,7	18 682	68,8
2018	27 270	100,0	696	2,6	2 630	9,6	4 997	18,3	18 947	69,5

1) The table includes the completers of the matriculation examination in the spring semester (1 January to 31 July) of the statistical reference year.

Inquiries

Anna Loukkola 029 551 3678
Director in charge:
Jari Tarkoma

koulutustilastot@stat.fi
www.stat.fi
Source: Education. Statistics Finland