

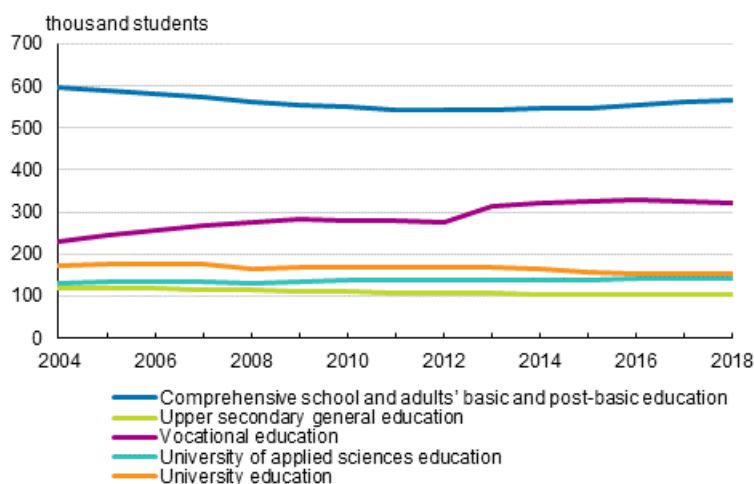
# Students and qualifications of educational institutions 2018

## 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 2018. The number has remained unchanged compared to the previous year. The number of students grew in comprehensive school education, university of applied sciences education and university education. The number of students in upper secondary school education and vocational education decreased. These data derive from education statistics compiled by Statistics Finland.

### Students in education leading to a qualification or degree 2004–2018

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 2018, the number of new students totalled 285,300, which is 0.8 per cent lower than in the previous year. The number of pupils entering comprehensive school was two per cent lower and the number of students entering vocational education was three per cent lower than in the previous year. In the other educational sectors, the number of those starting education increased: in upper secondary school education by one per cent, in university of applied sciences education by three per cent and in university education by five per cent.

In 2018, the number of attainers of qualifications or degrees was 226,900, which is 1.6 per cent higher than in the previous year. There were fewer attainers of qualifications or degrees in comprehensive school and university education than in the previous year, whereas in upper secondary school education and vocational and university of applied sciences education the number was higher than in the previous year.

## Women the majority in post-comprehensive education

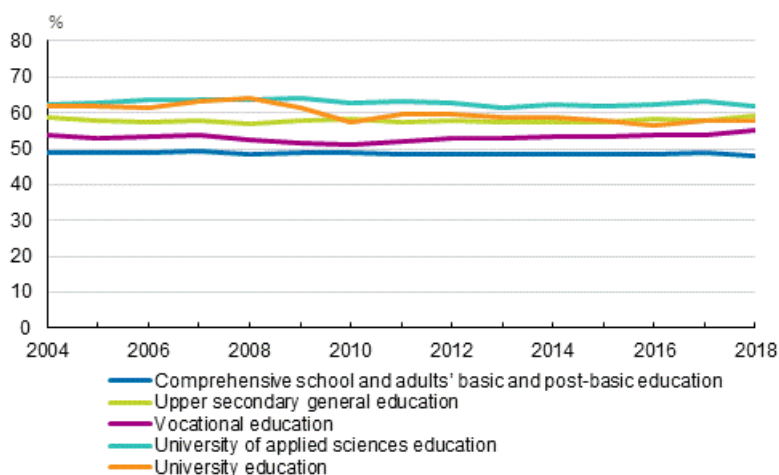
A total of 53 per cent of new students and 55 per cent of attainers of qualifications or degrees were women. Fifty-one per cent of all students were women.

Women were the majority in both new students, students and attainers of qualifications in all post-comprehensive level educational sectors. The share of women among attainers of qualifications remained unchanged or grew slightly in all educational sectors, except university of applied sciences education, compared to the year before. The share of women among attainers of qualifications was highest in university of applied sciences degrees, 62 per cent, and in higher university of applied sciences degrees, 69 per cent. The share of men among attainers of qualifications grew in basic education, university of applied sciences degrees and higher university of applied sciences degrees.

Altogether, 79,600 students completed a vocational qualification in 2018. Fifty-five per cent of them were women. Women made up 52 per cent of attainers of initial vocational qualifications, 62 per cent of attainers of vocational qualifications and 58 per cent of attainers of specialist vocational qualifications. Of all women who attained qualifications, 23 per cent were apprenticeship students.

Women made up 59 per cent of completers of the matriculation examination and 58 per cent of completers of a university degree in 2018.

### Women's shares of completers of qualifications in 2004 to 2018, %



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 the 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 2017 and 2018**

Sector of education	2017	2018	Change 2017–2018, %
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 286 123</b>	<b>1 286 703</b>	<b>0,0</b>
Basic comprehensive school education, compulsory education school (incl. pre-primary education)	556 742	560 503	0,7
Basic education of adults	4 160	5 013	20,5
Upper secondary general education	103 753	103 440	-0,3
Vocational education <sup>1)</sup>	326 952	322 296	-1,4
University of applied sciences education	141 254	142 022	0,5
University education	153 262	153 429	0,1

1) Data on vocational education are from the entire calendar year. Data for other sectors of education are for the situation on 20 September.

**Appendix table 2. Students and completed qualifications and degrees in education leading to a qualification or degree by sector of education in 2018**

Sector of education	New students <sup>1)</sup>	New students, women	Students	Students, women	Completed qualifications and degrees	Completed qualifications and degrees, women
		%		%		%
<b>Total</b>	<b>285 264</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>1 286 703</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>226 897</b>	<b>55</b>
Basic comprehensive school education, compulsory education school <sup>2)</sup>	61 296	49	560 503	49	56 701	48
Basic education of adults	.	.	5 013	34	997	34
Upper secondary general education	35 482	59	103 440	58	30 873	59
Vocational education	123 106	52	322 296	51	79 588	55
University of applied sciences education	39 133	56	142 022	53	27 965	62
University education	26 247	57	153 429	54	30 773	58

1) Excluding new students in basic education of adults.

2) Including pre-primary education in comprehensive schools.

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