

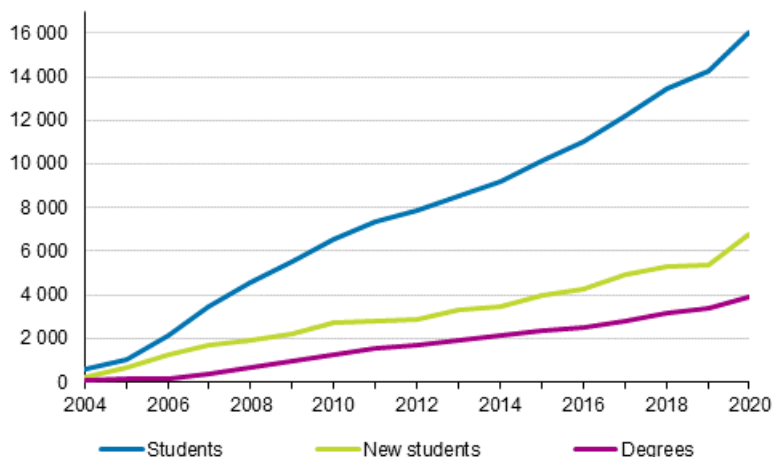
Students and qualifications 2020

University of applied sciences education

Number of new students grew in universities of applied sciences education

According to Statistics Finland’s education statistics, a total of 132,800 students attended education leading to a university of applied sciences degree in 2020. The number of students was four per cent higher than in the previous year. The number of students attending education leading to a higher university of applied sciences degree was 16,000, altogether 12 per cent more than in the previous year. The number of new students in education leading to a university of applied sciences degree grew by 14 per cent from the previous year and that in education leading to a higher university of applied sciences degree by 25 per cent.

Students and degrees in education leading to a higher university of applied sciences degree in 2004 to 2020



In 2020, the number of completed university of applied sciences degrees was just under 25,000, which is on level with the previous year. A total of 3,900 higher university of applied sciences degrees were completed in 2020. The number of attained higher university of applied sciences degrees grew by 15 per cent from the previous year.

Women attended education leading to a university of applied sciences degree more often than men in 2020. Fifty-two per cent of the students attending education leading to a university of applied sciences

degree and 66 per cent of the students attending education leading to a higher university of applied sciences degree were women. Fifty-four per cent of new university of applied sciences students were women, as were 67 per cent of those studying for a higher university of applied sciences degree.

Among those having completed a university of applied sciences degree in 2020, six out of ten were women. The corresponding share for higher university of applied sciences degrees was seven out of ten.

In 2020, the number of students in education leading to a university of applied sciences degree was highest in the field of health and welfare. Close on one third, or 29 per cent, studied in this field. Nearly one fourth (24%) studied in the field of technology and good one fifth in the field of business, administration and law.

Of those who studied in the field of health and welfare in education leading to a university of applied sciences degree, 83 per cent were women in 2020. As in previous years, men studied more in the fields of technology. In these fields, men's share of students was 81 per cent.

In 2020, altogether 34 per cent of those studying for a higher university of applied sciences degree studied health and welfare fields. Good one fourth (27%) studied in the field of business, administration and law and close on one fifth (17%) in the field of technology.

The number of students in education leading to a degree was highest at Helsinki Metropolia University of Applied Sciences, around 16,600 students. There were also over 10,000 students at Turku University of Applied Sciences, Tampere University of Applied Sciences and Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences. The smallest universities of applied sciences by the number of students were Åland University of Applied Sciences (around 500 students) and the Police University College (good 1,100 students).

The highest number of university of applied sciences degrees was attained in 2020 at Helsinki Metropolia University of Applied Sciences, almost 2,700. Over 1,700 degrees were attained at Turku University of Applied Sciences, Tampere University of Applied Sciences and Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences. The clearly highest number, almost 500, of higher university of applied sciences degrees were attained at Helsinki Metropolia University of Applied Sciences. Over 300 higher university of applied sciences degrees were completed at Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences, Turku University of Applied Sciences and Laurea University of Applied Sciences.

More detailed time series data on university of applied sciences students and degrees according to education, sex and university of applied sciences, for example, are available in the database tables. More detailed data on foreign students can be found in the [database tables](#) of the statistics on students and qualifications.

Contents

Tables

Appendix tables

Appendix table 1. Students in universities of applied sciences and completed university of applied sciences degrees 1995 to 2020.....	4
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Appendix tables

Appendix table 1. Students in universities of applied sciences and completed university of applied sciences degrees 1995 to 2020

Year	Temporary universities of applied sciences	Permanent universities of applied sciences	New students		Total number of students		Completed qualifications and degrees	
			Total	Of whom women	Total	Of whom women	Total	Of whom women
1995	22	-	10 540	5 380	31 557	15 890	1 638	1 120
1996	19	9	18 153	9 795	42 722	21 912	4 580	2 539
1997	15	16	27 493	14 969	62 258	33 094	5 956	3 385
1998	13	21	31 887	18 210	82 211	44 841	6 971	4 178
1999	8	25	33 149	18 786	100 783	55 488	9 890	6 361
2000	1	30	33 562	19 159	114 020	62 700	14 178	9 159
2001	1	30	33 001	18 801	118 013	65 123	18 045	11 631
2002	1	30	34 691	18 913	126 767	67 838	20 462	13 074
2003	-	31	36 701	20 221	129 875	69 245	20 588	13 008
2004	-	31	36 483	20 542	131 919	70 890	20 821	13 000
2005	-	31	36 911	20 859	132 783	71 910	21 397	13 429
2006	-	31	36 276	20 221	132 560	71 951	21 006	13 361
2007	-	30	36 632	20 348	133 284	72 607	20 969	13 323
2008	-	28	36 999	20 954	132 501	72 560	21 812	13 854
2009	-	28	38 197	20 937	135 033	73 217	21 039	13 450
2010	-	27	39 454	21 729	138 852	74 986	21 899	13 774
2011	-	27	38 839	21 199	139 857	74 936	22 898	14 505
2012	-	27	38 300	21 643	139 876	75 271	23 914	14 973
2013	-	27	37 511	20 976	138 880	74 715	24 833	15 262
2014	-	26	38 574	21 376	138 719	74 499	25 002	15 530
2015	-	26	38 671	21 448	139 727	74 695	26 175	16 244
2016	-	26	38 598	21 005	140 792	74 641	25 713	16 040
2017	-	25	38 047	20 879	141 254	74 457	26 304	16 502
2018	-	25	39 133	22 014	142 022	74 872	27 965	17 257
2019	-	25	40 094	22 876	142 157	75 785	28 099	17 055
2020	-	24	46 461	25 879	148 795	79 769	28 735	17 378

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