

# Subject choices of students 2012

## Subject choices of comprehensive school pupils

### Majority of comprehensive school pupils study English

According to Statistics Finland, English was the most commonly studied foreign language on grades 1 to 6 of comprehensive school in the autumn semester of 2012. Sixty-six per cent of the pupils attending grades 1 to 6 studied English either as a compulsory or optional foreign language. The percentages of pupils studying other foreign languages remained at 5 per cent or below.

#### Language choices of comprehensive school pupils in 2012

		Compulsory language A1	Optional language A2	Compulsory language B1	Elective language B2	Total	Share of pupils in grades 1-6 %	Share of pupils in grades 7-9 %
Grades	Studied language							
Grades 1-6	English	216 981	13 865	-	-	230 846	66.3	-
	Swedish	2 975	12 944	-	-	15 919	4.6	-
	Finnish	14 074	991	-	-	15 065	4.3	-
	French	2 393	4 565	-	-	6 958	2.0	-
	German	3 026	9 927	-	-	12 953	3.7	-
	Russian	964	1 260	-	-	2 224	0.6	-
	Spanish	255	944	-	-	1 199	0.3	-
	Italian	0	0	-	-	0	0.0	-
	Sami	1	184	-	-	185	0.1	-
	Other	252	34	-	-	286	0.1	-
Grades 7-9	English	163 878	12 504	217	49	176 648	-	99.4
	Swedish	1 603	11 246	151 032	2	163 883	-	92.2
	Finnish	9 324	1 062	205	8	10 599	-	6.0
	French	1 139	3 472	188	5 748	10 547	-	5.9
	German	1 516	7 560	424	9 148	18 648	-	10.5
	Russian	532	600	-	2 302	3 434	-	1.9
	Spanish	0	427	-	2 585	3 012	-	1.7
	Italian	0	0	-	67	67	-	0.0
	Sami	1	33	-	13	47	-	0.0
	Latin	0	0	-	474	474	-	0.3
	Other	40	4	-	82	126	-	0.1

Nearly all pupils attending grades 7 to 9 studied both English and Swedish or Finnish either as mother tongue, or as a compulsory, optional or elective foreign language. German was studied by 11 per cent and French by 6 per cent of the pupils attending grades 7 to 9, mainly as an optional or elective foreign language.

A total of 348,432 pupils attended grades 1 to 6. 178,723 of the pupils were boys and 169,709 were girls. A total of 177,764 pupils attended grades 7 to 9. 90,632 of the pupils were boys and 87,132 were girls.

Data on the language choices of students studying comprehensive education elsewhere than at comprehensive schools (1,650) are published in the database table of these statistics.

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**Appendix table 1. Language choices of comprehensive school pupils in 2012, boys**

		Compulsory language A1	Optional language A2	Compulsory language B1	Elective language B2	Boys total	Share of boys in grades 1-6 %	Share of boys in grades 7-9 %
Grades	Studied language							
Grades 1-6	English	111 868	6 667	-	-	118 535	66.3	-
	Swedish	1 379	5 803	-	-	7 182	4.0	-
	Finnish	7 204	521	-	-	7 725	4.3	-
	French	958	1 750	-	-	2 708	1.5	-
	German	1 378	4 623	-	-	6 001	3.4	-
	Russian	416	518	-	-	934	0.5	-
	Spanish	119	393	-	-	512	0.3	-
	Italian	0	0	-	-	0	0.0	-
	Sami	1	75	-	-	76	0.0	-
	Other	120	24	-	-	144	0.1	-
Grades 7-9	English	83 631	6 165	99	26	89 921	-	99.2
	Swedish	733	4 829	77 644	1	83 207	-	91.8
	Finnish	4 827	526	89	5	5 447	-	6.0
	French	438	1 268	69	1 631	3 406	-	3.8
	German	658	3 224	211	3 753	7 846	-	8.7
	Russian	216	216	-	895	1 327	-	1.5
	Spanish	0	190	-	761	951	-	1.0
	Italian	0	0	-	21	21	-	0.0
	Sami	1	15	-	3	19	-	0.0
	Latin	0	0	-	186	186	-	0.2
	Other	17	1	-	36	54	-	0.1

**Appendix table 2. Language choices of comprehensive school pupils in 2012, girls**

		Compulsory language A1	Optional language A2	Compulsory language B1	Elective language B2	Girls total	Share of girls in grades 1-6 %	Share of girls in grades 7-9 %
Grades	Studied language							
Grades 1-6	English	105 113	7 198	-	-	112 311	66.2	-
	Swedish	1 596	7 141	-	-	8 737	5.1	-
	Finnish	6 870	470	-	-	7 340	4.3	-
	French	1 435	2 815	-	-	4 250	2.5	-
	German	1 648	5 304	-	-	6 952	4.1	-
	Russian	548	742	-	-	1 290	0.8	-
	Spanish	136	551	-	-	687	0.4	-
	Italian	0	0	-	-	0	0.0	-
	Sami	0	109	-	-	109	0.1	-
	Other	132	10	-	-	142	0.1	-

		Compulsory language A1	Optional language A2	Compulsory language B1	Elective language B2	Girls total	Share of girls in grades 1-6 %	Share of girls in grades 7-9 %
Grades 7-9	English	80 247	6 339	118	23	86 727	-	99.5
	Swedish	870	6 417	73 388	1	80 676	-	92.6
	Finnish	4 497	536	116	3	5 152	-	5.9
	French	701	2 204	119	4 117	7 141	-	8.2
	German	858	4 336	213	5 395	10 802	-	12.4
	Russian	316	384	-	1 407	2 107	-	2.4
	Spanish	0	237	-	1 824	2 061	-	2.4
	Italian	0	0	-	46	46	-	0.1
	Sami	0	18	-	10	28	-	0.0
	Latin	0	0	-	288	288	-	0.3
	Other	23	3	-	46	72	-	0.1

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