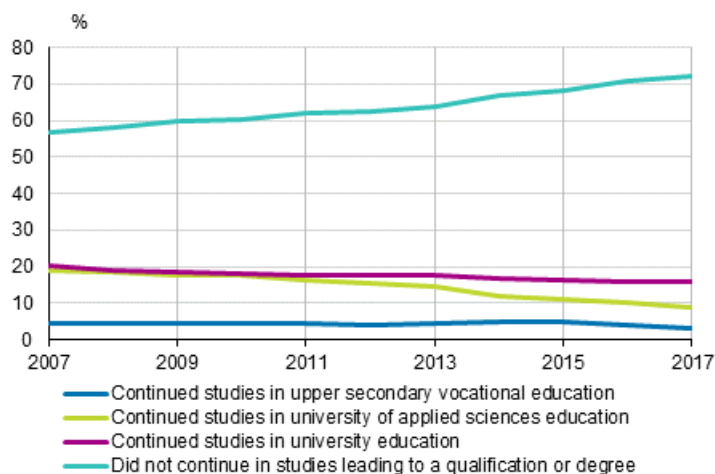


Entrance to education 2017

Only 28 per cent of new passers of the matriculation examination continued studies in the same year

According to Statistics Finland's education statistics, 72 per cent of new passers of the matriculation examination in 2017 did not continue studies leading to a qualification or degree in the year of the matriculation examination. In ten years, the share of those left outside further studies among new passers of the matriculation examination has grown by 15 percentage points. Seventy-five 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.

Immediate transition to further studies of new passers of the examination in 2007 to 2017, %



Nearly 16 per cent of new passers of the matriculation examination in 2017 immediately continued in university education, nine per cent in university of applied sciences education and three per cent in vocational education. Seventy-five per cent of new female passers of the matriculation examination and 68 per cent of male ones remained outside education. Male passers of the matriculation examination continued more often than women in university and university of applied sciences education, 31 per cent of men and 21 per cent of women started tertiary level studies. Two per cent of men and four per cent of women started vocational education in the year of passing the matriculation examination.

Three out of four new passers of the matriculation examination applied to further education in the year of the matriculation examination. Seventy-three per cent of new passers of the matriculation examination in 2017 applied to tertiary education, 75 per cent of women and 72 per cent of men. Forty-two per cent of passers of the matriculation examination applied only to university education and 17 per cent applied only to university of applied sciences education and 14 per cent applied simultaneously to both university of applied sciences and university education. In all, 1.5 per cent of new passers of the matriculation examination applied 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 2014

Number of gap years	Completers of the matriculation examination, total in 2014	Studying, %	In Vocational education	%	In Highschool	%	Did not continue studies leading to a qualification or degree ¹⁾	%
1	32 060	58,2	3 222	10,0	15 456	48,2	13 382	41,7
2	32 060	71,3	3 104	9,7	19 739	61,5	9 217	28,7
3	32 060	73,9	2 093	6,5	21 610	67,4	8 357	26,1

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

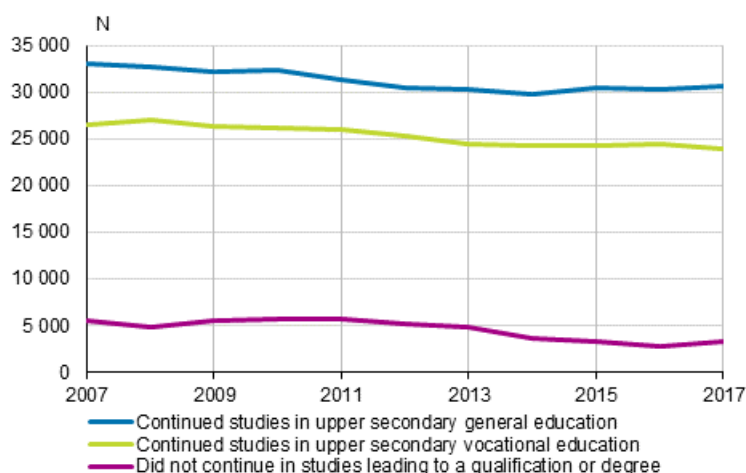
When examining as an example the transition of new passers of the matriculation examination (32,060) in 2014 in further studies by the end of 2015, a place for further studies had been found after one gap year by 58 per cent, nearly one half had started studies in tertiary education and nearly every tenth studied in upper secondary vocational education. Every fifth was working full-time in the year following the matriculation examination. Eight per cent were unemployed and 12 per cent were in some other activity, for example, abroad or in compulsory military or non-military service.

After two gap years most had started further studies. Of the 2014 passers of the matriculation examination, over 71 per cent were studying, 62 per cent in tertiary education and 10 per cent in upper secondary vocational education in 2016. The share of those starting studies after three gap years had grown by 74 per cent.

Fifty-three per cent of completers of the 9th grade of comprehensive school continued studies in upper secondary general school

There were around 57,800 completers of the 9th grade of comprehensive school in 2017. Nearly all completers of the 9th grade of comprehensive school applied immediately to further studies, 0.4 per cent did not do so. Sixty-four per cent of girls applied primarily to upper secondary general school. Of boys, 55 per cent applied primarily to upper secondary vocational education.

Direct continuation to further studies for completers of comprehensive school 2007–2017



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 upper secondary vocational education. The share of those continuing in vocational education decreased from the previous year. A total of 1,050 completers of comprehensive school continued in guidance and preparatory education and 500 in additional education of the comprehensive school (10th grade). In all, 1,800 young people stayed outside all the above-mentioned types of education.

Additional education of the comprehensive school (10th grade) and preparatory education ease entrance to education later

When examining those having completed basic education in 2016, who were outside upper secondary general education, vocational education, guidance and preparatory education and additional education of basic education (1,426), either upper secondary general school or vocational education had been started by 61 per cent of them in 2017. Of those having been in the 10th grade, 92 per cent had started in education leading to a qualification after one year, 48 per cent in upper secondary general education and 44 per cent in vocational education. Sixty per cent of those in guidance and preparatory education continued next year in education leading to a qualification, most in vocational education.

Transition to further studies in 2017 of completers of the 9th of comprehensive school in 2016

9th of comprehensive school in 2016	Total	Studied in upper secondary general education in 2017	%	Studied in vocational education in 2017	%	Did not continue studies leading to a qualification or degree	%
Total	57 615	29 922	51,9	25 530	44,3	2162	3,8
<i>Of which those having been in the 10th grade</i>	435	208	47,8	193	44,4	34	7,8
<i>Of which those having been in guidance and preparatory education</i>	931	24	2,6	533	57,3	374	40,2
<i>Of which left completely outside education</i>	1426	289	20,2	587	41,2	550	38,6

When examining the transition to education of completers of the 9th grade of comprehensive school in 2016 in the years 2016 and 2017, the share of those who did not continue in any education leading to a qualification had decreased in the year by just one percentage point. In all, [4.8 per cent](#) were left outside education leading to a qualification in 2016 and the figure was still 3.8 per cent in 2017. Even though the

10th grade and guidance and preparatory education are for some the way to further studies, some of those having started upper secondary level education in the year of completing comprehensive school had already discontinued the education they started in the year of completing comprehensive school.

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

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Appendix table 1. Direct transition to further studies of completers of the 9th grade of comprehensive school 2000 - 2017

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	
	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

Appendix table 2. Immediate transition for further studies by new passers of the matriculation examination 2005 - 2017

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	34 337	100,0	1 490	4,3	6 262	18,2	6 702	19,5	19 883	57,9
2006	33 091	100,0	1 398	4,2	5 766	17,4	6 774	20,5	19 153	57,9
2007	33 420	100,0	1 412	4,2	6 366	19,0	6 725	20,1	18 917	56,6
2008	32 936	100,0	1 396	4,2	6 087	18,5	6 287	19,1	19 166	58,2
2009	33 011	100,0	1 476	4,5	5 842	17,7	6 025	18,3	19 668	59,6
2010	32 681	100,0	1 365	4,2	5 676	17,4	5 923	18,1	19 717	60,3
2011	32 801	100,0	1 374	4,2	5 300	16,2	5 850	17,8	20 277	61,8
2012	31 996	100,0	1 324	4,1	5 005	15,6	5 680	17,8	19 987	62,5
2013	32 119	100,0	1 409	4,4	4 595	14,3	5 647	17,6	20 468	63,7
2014	32 060	100,0	1 585	4,9	3 778	11,8	5 302	16,5	21 395	66,7
2015	31 077	100,0	1 474	4,7	3 347	10,8	5 090	16,4	21 166	68,1
2016	30 980	100,0	1 191	3,8	3 078	9,9	4 807	15,5	21 904	70,7
2017	30 615	100,0	990	3,2	2 800	9,1	4 810	15,7	22 015	71,9

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Source: Education. Statistics Finland