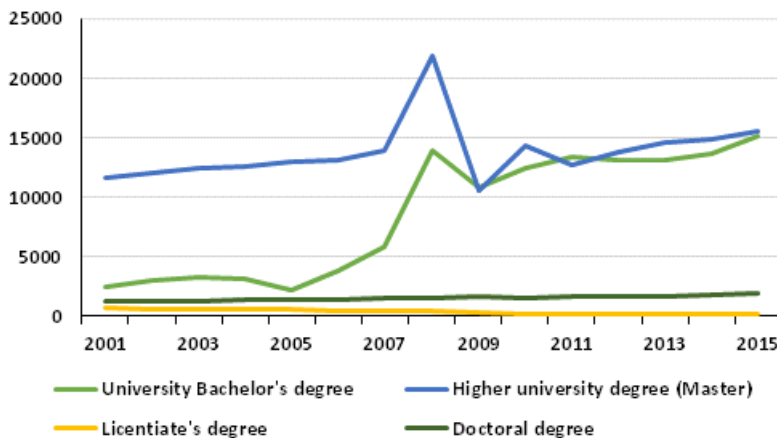


# University education 2015

## Numbers of university degrees grew from the previous year

According to Statistics Finland's Education Statistics, the numbers of university degrees grew in 2015 from the year before in nearly all levels of education. The number of lower university degrees grew most, by 11 per cent. The number of higher university degrees went up by four per cent and that of doctorate degrees by nearly one per cent. The total number of degrees completed was 32,700.

### Completed university degrees 2001–2015



## University degrees

In all, 15,200 lower university degrees, 15,500 higher university degrees, 100 licentiate degrees and 1,900 doctorate degrees were completed. Fifty-eight per cent of those having completed a degree were women. Over six per cent of the degrees were attained by foreign students, the figure being 10 per cent for higher university degrees and 21 per cent for doctorate degrees.

In 2015, most degrees were completed in the field of administration and commerce and in the field of humanities and education, around 28 per cent in both. The third most degrees were completed in the field of technology and transport, 18 per cent. Doctorate degrees were completed most in the fields of natural resources, technology and transport, and health and social services, over 400 in all.

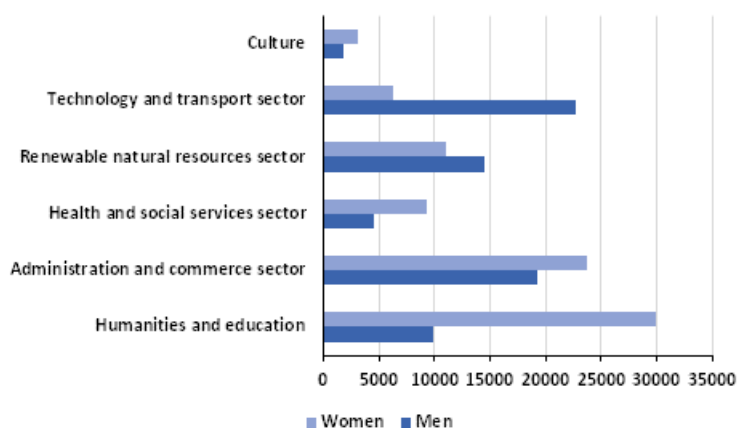
Examined by university, the highest number of degrees were completed at the University of Helsinki, 6,100. The second most degrees were completed at Aalto University, 3,900 and the third most at the University of Turku, 3,600.

In 2014, professional specialisation in medicine leading to a degree included specialist training of doctors, dentists and veterinarians. Starting from 2015, specialist training of doctors and dentists is not considered education leading to a degree according to Decree 56/2015. Therefore, the numbers of completed degrees, new students and students in professional specialisation in medicine (20, 15 and 157) were in 2015 clearly lower than in 2014, when the corresponding figures were 580, 668 and 4,365.

## University students

The numbers of new students studying for lower and higher university degrees went down slightly, but the number of new doctoral programme students grew. In 2015, a total of 17,300 students started studying for a lower university degree and 6,800 for a higher university degree. In all, 1,700 students started studying for a doctorate degree.

### University students by fields of education (Educational Administration’s classification 1995) and gender in 2015



In all, 85,600 students were studying for a lower university degree and 52,100 for a higher university degree. There were 19,500 post-graduate students, 1,300 were studying for a licentiate degree and nearly 18,300 for a doctorate degree.

In 2015, the highest numbers of students were studying in the field of administration and commerce, 27 per cent. There were nearly as many students in the field of humanities and education, 25 per cent. The third most students were studying in the field of technology and transport, 19 per cent. The proportion of women of all students attending education leading to a degree was 53 per cent but the variation was large when viewed by field of education. In the field of humanities and education, the proportion of women was 75 per cent and in the field of health and social services it was 67 per cent, but in the field of technology and transport the proportion was only 22 per cent.

The number of students was highest at the University of Helsinki, 32,500. The second most students were found at Aalto University, 18,100, and the third most at the University of Turku, 16,100. More detailed time series data on university students and degrees by education and university are available [in the tables in databases](#).

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## Appendix tables

**Appendix table 1. Students in universities and completed university degrees by level of education, fields of education (Educational Administration's classification 1995) and gender in 2015**

Level of education		New students, total	New students, women	Students, total	Students, women	Completed degrees, total	Completed degrees, women
			%		%		%
<b>Fields of education, total</b>		<b>25 919</b>	<b>54,6</b>	<b>157 436</b>	<b>53,1</b>	<b>32 718</b>	<b>58,0</b>
	Renewable natural resources sector	4 364	43,7	25 551	43,3	4 264	50,0
	Technology and transport sector	4 190	23,1	29 090	21,8	5 824	24,5
	Administration and commerce sector	7 373	56,5	43 078	55,2	9 336	58,9
	Health and social services sector	2 482	65,1	13 912	66,9	2 692	71,5
	Culture	815	62,8	5 008	62,6	1 157	64,0
	Humanities and education	6 446	77,1	39 877	75,1	9 105	79,4
	Other	249	3,2	920	3,7	340	2,9
<b>University Bachelor's degree</b>	<b>Fields of education, total</b>	<b>17 323</b>	<b>55,3</b>	<b>85 631</b>	<b>50,9</b>	<b>15 179</b>	<b>57,7</b>
	Renewable natural resources sector	3 251	44,4	16 166	41,1	1 969	49,7
	Technology and transport sector	2 574	22,2	15 487	18,3	2 618	22,5
	Administration and commerce sector	4 900	53,8	24 332	51,6	4 569	56,4
	Health and social services sector	962	78,0	3 312	76,2	803	82,6
	Culture	400	63,8	2 024	62,7	403	61,0
	Humanities and education	5 074	77,3	23 826	74,4	4 677	79,1
	Other	162	1,9	484	2,5	140	2,9
<b>Higher university degree (Master)</b>	<b>Fields of education, total</b>	<b>6 829</b>	<b>53,3</b>	<b>52 121</b>	<b>56,9</b>	<b>15 513</b>	<b>58,9</b>
	Renewable natural resources sector	850	40,0	6 286	47,3	1 836	51,3
	Technology and transport sector	1 277	23,7	8 903	24,1	2 737	25,4
	Administration and commerce sector	2 103	63,0	14 938	61,0	4 472	61,4
	Health and social services sector	1 191	55,9	7 471	61,1	1 456	66,8
	Culture	361	62,9	2 457	63,4	717	67,4
	Humanities and education	970	80,4	11 710	79,1	4 098	80,3
	Other	77	3,9	356	3,7	197	3,0
<b>Professional specialisation in medicine, veterinary and dentistry</b>	<b>Fields of education, total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>80,0</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>93,0</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>85,0</b>
	Health and social services sector	15	80,0	157	93,0	20	85,0

Level of education		New students, total	New students, women	Students, total	Students, women	Completed degrees, total	Completed degrees, women
			%		%		%
<b>Licentiate's degree</b>	<b>Fields of education, total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>80,6</b>	<b>1 274</b>	<b>50,1</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>66,4</b>
	Renewable natural resources sector	3	100,0	84	40,5	16	62,5
	Technology and transport sector	1	100,0	531	21,1	31	45,2
	Administration and commerce sector	7	28,6	296	70,3	33	75,8
	Health and social services sector	3	100,0	26	92,3	1	100,0
	Culture	0	0,0	2	50,0	3	0,0
	Humanities and education	22	90,9	334	77,2	38	81,6
	Other	0	0,0	1	100,0	0	0,0
<b>Doctoral degree</b>	<b>Fields of education, total</b>	<b>1 716</b>	<b>51,2</b>	<b>18 253</b>	<b>52,9</b>	<b>1 884</b>	<b>51,8</b>
	Renewable natural resources sector	260	46,2	3 015	46,6	443	46,0
	Technology and transport sector	338	26,9	4 169	29,6	438	29,7
	Administration and commerce sector	363	55,9	3 512	54,6	262	56,5
	Health and social services sector	311	59,5	2 946	69,6	412	66,0
	Culture	54	55,6	525	58,1	34	32,4
	Humanities and education	380	65,3	4 007	68,2	292	71,9
	Other	10	20,0	79	10,1	3	0,0

**Appendix table 2. Foreign students in universities and completed university degrees by level of education, fields of education (Educational Administration's classification 1995) and gender in 2015**

Level of education		New students, total <sup>1)</sup>	New students, women	Students, total <sup>1)</sup>	Students, women	Completed degrees, total <sup>1)</sup>	Completed degrees, women
			%		%		%
<b>Fields of education, total</b>		<b>2 708</b>	<b>42,8</b>	<b>10 618</b>	<b>42,6</b>	<b>2 058</b>	<b>42,8</b>
	Renewable natural resources sector	542	38,0	2 316	37,0	475	38,5
	Technology and transport sector	865	24,2	3 114	24,7	645	25,7
	Administration and commerce sector	661	53,6	2 361	52,3	454	53,3
	Health and social services sector	127	44,9	687	50,8	114	45,6
	Culture	172	54,7	676	54,4	140	56,4
	Humanities and education	341	69,8	1 455	64,7	229	69,0
	Other	0	0,0	9	11,1	1	0,0
<b>University Bachelor's degree</b>	<b>Fields of education, total</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>52,8</b>	<b>678</b>	<b>49,6</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>49,0</b>
	Renewable natural resources sector	27	51,9	99	38,4	11	27,3
	Technology and transport sector	20	10,0	90	23,3	10	20,0
	Administration and commerce sector	38	57,9	171	46,8	41	46,3
	Health and social services sector	3	66,7	12	75,0	3	66,7
	Culture	23	56,5	74	48,6	16	37,5
	Humanities and education	52	63,5	232	65,5	21	85,7
	<b>Fields of education, total</b>	<b>2 071</b>	<b>42,9</b>	<b>6 296</b>	<b>42,6</b>	<b>1 553</b>	<b>45,3</b>
<b>Higher university degree (Master)</b>	Renewable natural resources sector	422	37,0	1 333	35,9	343	42,9
	Technology and transport sector	701	24,8	1 995	23,7	507	27,2
	Administration and commerce sector	531	54,8	1 590	55,7	379	55,4
	Health and social services sector	62	50,0	172	45,3	41	46,3
	Culture	131	56,5	475	57,1	115	62,6
	Humanities and education	224	72,3	731	68,5	168	70,2
	<b>Fields of education, total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>25,0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0,0</b>
	<b>Professional specialisation in medicine, veterinary and dentistry</b>	Health and social services sector	3	0,0	4	25,0	3
<b>Fields of education, total</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>38,5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>83,3</b>
<b>Licentiate's degree</b>	Renewable natural resources sector	0	0,0	3	33,3	1	0,0
	Technology and transport sector	0	0,0	14	35,7	4	100,0
	Administration and commerce sector	0	0,0	4	25,0	1	100,0
	Culture	0	0,0	1	100,0	0	0,0
	Humanities and education	0	0,0	4	50,0	0	0,0
	<b>Fields of education, total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0,0</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>38,5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>83,3</b>

Level of education		New students, total <sup>1)</sup>	New students, women	Students, total <sup>1)</sup>	Students, women	Completed degrees, total <sup>1)</sup>	Completed degrees, women
			%		%		%
<b>Doctoral degree</b>	<b>Fields of education, total</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>39,1</b>	<b>3 614</b>	<b>41,2</b>	<b>394</b>	<b>30,7</b>
	Renewable natural resources sector	93	38,7	881	38,7	120	27,5
	Technology and transport sector	144	22,9	1 015	26,7	124	17,7
	Administration and commerce sector	92	44,6	596	45,1	33	36,4
	Health and social services sector	59	40,7	499	52,3	67	46,3
	Culture	18	38,9	126	47,6	9	11,1
	Humanities and education	65	66,2	488	58,8	40	55,0
	Other	0	0,0	9	11,1	1	0,0

1) foreign students citizenship other than Finnish

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Source: Education. Statistics Finland