

Number of first-time graduates and subject-structure rate¹⁾

First-degree graduates and subject structure rate: the subject structure rate indicates the percentage of first-degree graduates who have completed their studies in a particular subject or group of subjects. First-degree graduates are persons who have successfully completed a first degree.

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Total number of graduates²⁾	239,877	260,498	287,997	294,330	307,271	309,621	309,870	313,796	317,102	315,168	311,441
Percentage of women	51.8	52.2	51.7	52.1	51.4	51.3	51.5	51.2	51.1	52.0	52.6
Percentage of graduates from universities	62.4	62.4	62.0	62.0	62.1	61.3	59.9	59.0	56.8	54.7	53.9
Humanities	30,997	36,458	38,684	38,385	39,435	38,444	38,247	38,788	37,135	34,886	32,205
Percentage of subject group	12.9	14.0	13.4	13.0	12.8	12.4	12.3	12.4	11.7	11.1	10.3
Legal, economics and social sciences	98,668	101,418	116,414	119,289	122,294	122,239	123,171	125,628	128,273	132,737	134,605
Percentage of subject group	41.1	38.9	40.3	40.5	39.8	39.5	39.7	40.0	40.5	42.1	43.2
Human medicine	13,358	14,345	15,142	15,222	15,686	15,856	16,534	17,331	17,935	19,521	20,308
Percentage of subject group	5.6	5.5	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.3	5.5	5.7	6.2	6.5
Agriculture, forestry and food sciences, veterinary medicine	6,534	7,204	7,729	7,125	7,521	7,345	7,158	7,008	7,442	6,978	7,148
Percentage of subject group	2.7	2.8	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.2	2.3
Art	10,399	11,185	11,544	11,820	12,525	12,866	12,542	11,913	11,514	11,268	11,119
Percentage of subject group	4.3	4.3	4.0	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.0	3.8	3.6	3.6	3.6
Mathematics, natural sciences	22,986	27,377	30,953	32,800	34,096	32,793	31,665	31,635	30,001	28,081	26,261
Percentage of subject group	9.6	10.5	10.7	11.1	11.1	10.6	10.2	10.1	9.5	8.9	8.4
Engineering	53,496	58,514	64,004	65,621	71,128	75,697	77,049	78,018	81,300	78,552	76,133
Percentage of subject group	22.3	22.5	22.2	22.3	23.1	24.4	24.9	24.9	25.6	24.9	24.4

¹⁾ The Federal Statistical Office's new subject-group classification has been in use since the 2015/16 winter semester. Apart from minor changes, such as the renaming of study subjects or the merger of Veterinary Medicine with Agricultural, Forestry and Food Sciences, there were two major re-classifications. The subject group Legal, Economic and Social Sciences now also includes Psychology, Education and Special Needs Education, which used to be assigned to the subject group Language and Cultural Sciences (now called Humanities). Since the changeover, Computer Science has been counted under Engineering and not, as previously, as part of Mathematics, Natural Sciences. Furthermore, a new area of study called Materials Science was introduced under Engineering. These two subjects had previously been assigned to Mechanical Engineering. All the time series have been retrospectively reclassified to fit the new system of subjects. This avoids breaks in the time series. However, comparisons with the tables from the previous EFI Reports are now only possible to a limited extent.

²⁾ Graduates with first academic degree.

Source: Federal Statistical Office and research by DZHW-ICE, in Gehrke et al. (2019).

© EFI – Commission of Experts for Research and Innovation 2019.