



Higher Education Institutions in Figures

The German Rectors' Conference (HRK) is the association of public and government-recognised universities in Germany. The HRK currently has 268 member institutions, in which around 94 per cent of all students in Germany are enrolled.

Higher Education Institutions in Germany

Higher education institutions in total	399 ¹
Universities	120 ¹
Universities of applied sciences (FH)	221 ¹
Colleges of art and music	58 ¹

Higher education institutions by type of funding

State (public) higher education institutions	240 ¹
Non-state, state-recognised higher education institutions	159 ¹
- of which private	120 ¹
- of which church maintained	39 ¹

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2017

Studies

Degree programmes in total by type of degree	18,725 ¹
Diplom (Uni)	133 ¹
Magister	45 ¹
Staatsexamen	1,247 ¹
Diplom (FH)	56 ¹
Bachelor's	8,550 ¹
Master's	8,537 ¹
Other degrees	157 ¹

Degree programmes by type of higher education institution

Universities	11,628 ¹
Universities of applied sciences (FH)	5,925 ¹
Colleges of art and music	1,172 ¹

Students

Students in total	2.8m ²
Women	1.35m ²
Men	1.45m ²
Proportion of foreign students	12.8 % ²

Students by type of higher education institution

Universities	1.77m ²
Universities of applied sciences	995,662 ²
Colleges of art and music	35,607 ²

First-year students in total in the academic year

First-year students in total in the academic year	507,779 ²
Women	256,655 ²
Men	251,124 ²
Proportion of first-year students among the same-age population	55.5 % ³

Graduates

Degrees gained in total	481,588 ⁴
Women	241,669 ⁴
Men	239,919 ⁴
Proportion of foreign graduates	9.6 % ⁴

Graduates by type of degree

Graduates by type of degree	452,370 ⁴
Diplom (Uni) and equivalent degrees	39,049 ⁴
Lehramt (teaching degree incl. BA and MA)	43,989 ⁴
Diplom (FH)	10,044 ⁴
Bachelor's	245,658 ⁴
Master's	113,630 ⁴

Doctorates

Doctorates	29,218 ⁴
Women	13,052 ⁴
Men	16,166 ⁴

Habilitations in total

Habilitations in total	1,627 ⁴
Women	462 ⁴
Men	1,165 ⁴

Staff

Staff in total at higher education institutions

684,385⁴

Academic, research and artistic staff combined

385,311⁴

Full-time staff	239,200 ⁴
- Professors	46,344 ⁴
- Lecturers and assistants	3,400 ⁴
- Academic, research and artistic staff	179,651 ⁴
- Teaching staff for special purposes	9,805 ⁴
Temporary, part-time staff	146,111 ⁴

Administrative, technical and other staff combined

299,074⁴

Finances	
Expenditure	
Higher education institutions in total (incl. university hospitals)	48.2bn euros ⁵
Universities (excl. university hospitals)	19.8bn euros ⁵
University hospitals	21.8bn euros ⁵
Universities of applied sciences	6.0bn euros ⁵
Colleges of art and music	0.6bn euros ⁵
Current expenditure	44.2bn euros ⁵
Investment expenditure	4.0bn euros ⁵
Income	
Higher education institutions in total	48.2bn euros ⁵
Administrative income (excl. university hospitals)	2.1bn euros ⁵
Administrative income of hospitals	15.4bn euros ⁵
Current expenditure (core funding)	19.0bn euros ⁵
Third-party funding	7.3bn euros ⁵
Sources of third-party funding	
German Research Foundation (DFG)	2.4bn euros ⁵
Federal Government	1.9bn euros ⁵
Federal States (Länder)	0.2bn euros ⁵
European Union	0.7bn euros ⁵
Foundations and similar sources	0.5bn euros ⁵
Business, industry and similar sources	1.4bn euros ⁵
Core funding	
Core funding Federal States (Länder)	23.6bn euros ⁶
Core funding Federal Government	5.0bn euros ⁶
Core funding: Expenditure of higher education institutions as a proportion of GDP	0.9 % ⁶
Current expenditure (core funding) per student	7,600 euros ⁵
Current expenditure (core funding) by average length of studies per graduate	29,000 euros ⁵

Internationality	
Foreign students in Germany in total	251,542 ⁷
of which from:	
China	32,268 ⁷
India	13,537 ⁷
Russia	11,413 ⁷
Austria	10,129 ⁷
German students abroad in total	134,390 ⁵
of which in:	
Austria	26,868 ⁵
Netherlands	22,265 ⁵
United Kingdom	17,059 ⁵
Switzerland	14,783 ⁵
United States	10,193 ⁵
China	8,193 ⁵
International Comparisons	
First-year student rate for the same-age population*	
Russia	71 % ⁸
United Kingdom	64 % ⁸
Germany	52 % ⁸
Japan	49 % ⁸
Austria	41 % ⁸
Italy	37 % ⁸
Spending on tertiary sector education institutions as a percentage of GDP	
United States	2.6 % ⁹
Canada	2.5 % ⁹
United Kingdom	1.8 % ⁹
Japan	1.6 % ⁹
France	1.5 % ⁹
Russia	1.4 % ⁹
Germany	1.2 % ⁹
Italy	1.0 % ⁹

Research	
Total higher education institution expenditure on R+D	15.4bn euros ⁴
Third-party funds	
Third-party income of higher education institutions in total	7.3bn euros ⁵
Third-party funds by type of higher education institution	
Universities (excl. university hospitals)	5.0bn euros ⁵
University hospitals	1.7bn euros ⁵
Universities of applied sciences	0.6bn euros ⁵
Third-party funds per professor	
Higher education institutions in total	175,200 euros ⁵
Universities (incl. university hospitals)	297,200 euros ⁵
Universities (excl. university hospitals)	256,400 euros ⁵
Universities of applied sciences	33,300 euros ⁵
Colleges of art and music	17,600 euros ⁵
Source and Period under Review	
¹	German Rectors' Conference (HRK): Higher Education Compass, Summer Semester 2017
²	Federal Statistical Office: Winter Semester 2016/2017, (provisional)
³	Federal Statistical Office: as per November 2016
⁴	Federal Statistical Office: 2015
⁵	Federal Statistical Office: 2014
⁶	Federal Statistical Office: 2015, (provisional)
⁷	Federal Statistical Office: Winter Semester 2015/2016
⁸	OECD: Education at a Glance: 2014
⁹	OECD: Education at a Glance: 2013
*	Limited comparability due to the differing degrees of academisation in the individual vocational training programmes.