



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 more than 92 per cent of all students in Germany are enrolled.

Higher Education Institutions in Germany

Higher education institutions in total	394 ¹
Universities	121 ¹
Universities of applied sciences	216 ¹
Colleges of art and music	57 ¹

Higher education institutions by type of funding

State (public) higher education institutions	240 ¹
Non-state, state-recognised higher education institutions	154 ¹
- of which private	115 ¹
- of which church maintained	39 ¹

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2019

Studies

Degree programmes in total by type of degree	19,839 ¹
Diplom (Uni)	121 ¹
Magister	46 ¹
Staatsexamen	1,237 ¹
Diplom (FH)	60 ¹
Bachelor's	8,896 ¹
Master's	9,330 ¹
Other degrees	149 ¹

Degree programmes by type of higher education institution

Universities	12,303 ¹
Universities of applied sciences (FH)	6,333 ¹
Colleges of art and music	1,203 ¹

Students

Students in total	2.9m ²
Women	1.40m ²
Men	1.46m ²
Proportion of foreign students	13.7 % ²

Students by type of higher education institution

Universities	1.78m ²
Universities of applied sciences	1.05m ²
Colleges of art and music	36,483 ²

First-year students in total in the academic year

510,371 ²	
Women	261,758 ²
Men	248,613 ²
Proportion of first-year students among the same-age population	55.9 % ³

Graduates

Degrees gained in total	501,734 ⁴
Women	255,038 ⁴
Men	246,696 ⁴
Proportion of foreign graduates	10.5 % ⁴

Graduates by type of degree

473,330 ⁴	
Diplom (Uni) and equivalent degrees	32,145 ⁴
Lehramt (teaching degree incl. BA and MA)	44,248 ⁴
Diplom (FH)	8,194 ⁴
Bachelor's	252,286 ⁴
Master's	136,457 ⁴

Doctorates

28,404 ⁴	
Women	12,713 ⁴
Men	15,691 ⁴

Habilitations in total

1,586 ⁴	
Women	464 ⁴
Men	1,122 ⁴

Staff

Staff in total at higher education institutions

704,607⁴

Academic, research and artistic staff combined

394,878 ⁴	
Full-time staff	249,535 ⁴
- Professors	47,568 ⁴
- Lecturers and assistants	3,569 ⁴
- Academic, research and artistic staff	188,047 ⁴
- Teaching staff for special purposes	10,351 ⁴
Temporary, part-time staff	145,343 ⁴

Administrative, technical and other staff combined

309,729⁴

Finances	
Expenditure	
Higher education institutions in total (incl. university hospitals)	54.1bn euros ⁴
Universities (excl. university hospitals)	21.5bn euros ⁴
University hospitals	25.0bn euros ⁴
Universities of applied sciences	7.0bn euros ⁴
Colleges of art and music	0.7bn euros ⁴
Current expenditure	49.6bn euros ⁴
Investment expenditure	4.5bn euros ⁴
Income	
Higher education institutions in total	54.1bn euros ⁴
Administrative income (excl. university hospitals)	2.3bn euros ⁴
Administrative income of hospitals	18.1bn euros ⁴
Core funding for higher education institutions	25.8bn euros ⁴
Third-party funding	7.9bn euros ⁴
Sources of third-party funding	
German Research Foundation (DFG)	2.6bn euros ⁴
Federal Government	2.2bn euros ⁴
Federal States (Länder)	0.1bn euros ⁴
European Union	0.7bn euros ⁴
Foundations and similar sources	0.5bn euros ⁴
Business, industry and similar sources	1.4bn euros ⁴
Core funding	
Core funding Federal States (Länder)	24.7bn euros ⁵
Core funding Federal Government	5.8bn euros ⁵
Core funding: Expenditure of higher education institutions as a proportion of GDP	0.9 % ⁵
Current expenditure (core funding) per student	7,800 euros ⁶
Current expenditure (core funding) by average length of studies per graduate	28,500 euros ⁶

Internationality	
Foreign students in Germany in total	282,002 ⁷
of which from:	
China	36,915 ⁷
India	17,294 ⁷
Austria	11,130 ⁷
Russia	10,795 ⁷
German students abroad in total	143,853 ⁶
of which in:	
Austria	28,220 ⁶
Netherlands	21,956 ⁶
United Kingdom	15,770 ⁶
Switzerland	14,609 ⁶
United States	10,169 ⁶
China	8,145 ⁶
International Comparisons	
First-year student rate for the same-age population*	
United Kingdom	65 % ⁸
Russia	63 % ⁸
France	55 % ⁸
Japan	50 % ⁸
Germany	49 % ⁸
Italy	41 % ⁸
Spending on tertiary sector education institutions as a percentage of GDP	
United States	2.6 % ⁹
Canada	2.4 % ⁹
United Kingdom	1.9 % ⁹
France	1.5 % ⁹
Japan	1.4 % ⁹
Germany	1.2 % ⁹
Russia	1.1 % ⁹
Italy	0.9 % ⁹

Research	
Total higher education institution expenditure on R+D	16.6bn euros ⁶
Third-party funds	
Third-party income of higher education institutions in total	7.9bn euros ⁴
Third-party funds by type of higher education institution	
Universities (excl. university hospitals)	5.4bn euros ⁴
University hospitals	1.9bn euros ⁴
Universities of applied sciences	0.6bn euros ⁴
Third-party funds per professor	
Higher education institutions in total	174,800 euros ⁶
Universities (incl. university hospitals)	299,600 euros ⁶
Universities (excl. university hospitals)	258,000 euros ⁶
Universities of applied sciences	32,000 euros ⁶
Colleges of art and music	17,400 euros ⁶
Source and Period under Review	
¹	German Rectors' Conference (HRK): Higher Education Compass, Summer Semester 2019
²	Federal Statistical Office: Winter Semester 2018/2019, (provisional)
³	Federal Statistical Office: as per November 2018
⁴	Federal Statistical Office: 2017
⁵	Federal Statistical Office: 2017, (provisional)
⁶	Federal Statistical Office: 2016
⁷	Federal Statistical Office: Winter Semester 2017/2018
⁸	OECD: Education at a Glance: 2016
⁹	OECD: Education at a Glance: 2015
*	Limited comparability due to the differing degrees of academisation in the individual vocational training programmes.