



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	390¹
Universities	120 ¹
Universities of applied sciences	213 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	150 ¹
- of which private	111 ¹
- of which church maintained	39 ¹

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2020

Studies

Degree programmes in total by type of degree	20,079¹
Diplom (Uni)	124 ¹
Magister	39 ¹
Staatsexamen	1,246 ¹
Diplom (FH)	55 ¹
Bachelor's	9,026 ¹
Master's	9,452 ¹
Other degrees	137 ¹

Degree programmes by type of higher education institution

Universities	12,411 ¹
Universities of applied sciences (FH)	6,475 ¹
Colleges of art and music	1,193 ¹

Students

Students in total	2.9m²
Women	1.43m ²
Men	1.47m ²
Proportion of foreign students	14.2 % ²

Students by type of higher education institution

Universities	1.78m ²
Universities of applied sciences	1.08m ²
Colleges of art and music	36,644 ²

First-year students in total in the academic year

Women	262,652 ²
Men	244,914 ²
Proportion of first-year students among the same-age population	56,2 % ³

Graduates

Degrees gained in total	498,675⁴
Women	254,883 ⁴
Men	243,792 ⁴
Proportion of foreign graduates	11.0 % ⁴

Graduates by type of degree

Graduates by type of degree	470,837⁴
Diplom (Uni) and equivalent degrees	29,953 ⁴
Lehramt (teaching degree incl. BA and MA)	45,460 ⁴
Diplom (FH)	7,217 ⁴
Bachelor's	247,247 ⁴
Master's	140,960 ⁴

Doctorates

27,838⁴	
Women	12,577 ⁴
Men	15,261 ⁴

Habilitations in total

Residential buildings in total	1,529 ⁴
Women	483 ⁴
Men	1,046 ⁴

Staff

Staff in total at higher education institutions

719,310⁴

Academic, research and artistic staff combined

Full-time staff	255,605 ⁴
- Professors	48,128 ⁴
- Lecturers and assistants	3,715 ⁴
- Academic, research and artistic staff	193,494 ⁴
- Teaching staff for special purposes	10,268 ⁴
Temporary, part-time staff	146,547 ⁴

Administrative, technical and other staff combined

317,158⁴

Finances

Expenditure

Higher education institutions in total (incl. university hospitals)	57.3bn euros ⁴
Universities (excl. university hospitals)	22.3bn euros ⁴
University hospitals	26.9bn euros ⁴
Universities of applied sciences	7.4bn euros ⁴
Colleges of art and music	0.7bn euros ⁴

Current expenditure	52.5bn euros ⁴
Investment expenditure	4.8bn euros ⁴

Income

Higher education institutions in total	57.3bn euros ⁴
Administrative income (excl. university hospitals)	2.4bn euros ⁴
Administrative income of hospitals	19.3bn euros ⁴
Core funding for higher education institutions	27.2bn euros ⁴
Third-party funding	8.3bn euros ⁴

Sources of third-party funding

German Research Foundation (DFG)	2.8bn euros ⁴
Federal Government	2.3bn 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	1.5bn euros ⁴

Core funding

Core funding Federal States (Länder)	25.4bn euros ⁵
Core funding Federal Government	5.3bn euros ⁵
Core funding: Expenditure of higher education institutions as a proportion of GDP	1.2 % ⁶
Current expenditure (core funding) per student	8,010 euros ⁶
Current expenditure (core funding) by average length of studies per graduate	29,000 euros ⁶

Internationality

Foreign students in Germany in total	302 157 ⁷
of which from: China	39,871 ⁷
India	20,562 ⁷
Austria	11,495 ⁷
Russia	10,439 ⁷

German students abroad in total	139,205 ⁶
of which in: Austria	28,670 ⁶
Netherlands	21,858 ⁶
United Kingdom	15,745 ⁶
Switzerland	14,558 ⁶
United States	10,042 ⁶
China	7,814 ⁶

International Comparisons

First-year student rate for the same-age population*

United Kingdom	66 % ⁸
France	55 % ⁸
Russia	52 % ⁸
Japan	49 % ⁸
Germany	49 % ⁸
Italy	43 % ⁸

Spending on tertiary sector education institutions as a percentage of GDP

United States	2.5 % ⁹
Canada	2.3 % ⁹
United Kingdom	1.7 % ⁹
France	1.4 % 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	17.3bn euros ⁶
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Third-party funds

Third-party income of higher education institutions in total	8.3bn euros ⁴
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Third-party funds by type of higher education institution

Universities (excl. university hospitals)	5.7bn euros ⁴
University hospitals	1.9bn euros ⁴
Universities of applied sciences	0.7bn euros ⁴

Third-party funds per professor

Higher education institutions in total	180,960 euros ⁶
Universities (incl. university hospitals)	310,410 euros ⁶
Universities (excl. university hospitals)	266,210 euros ⁶
Universities of applied sciences	33,510 euros ⁶
Colleges of art and music	19,530 euros ⁶

Source and Period under Review

¹ German Rectors' Conference (HRK): Higher Education Compass, Summer Semester 2020

² Federal Statistical Office: Winter Semester 2019/2020, (provisional)

³ Federal Statistical Office: as per November 2019

⁴ Federal Statistical Office: 2018

⁵ Federal Statistical Office: 2018, (provisional)

⁶ Federal Statistical Office: 2017

⁷ Federal Statistical Office: Winter Semester 2018/2019

⁸ OECD: Education at a Glance: 2017

⁹ OECD: Education at a Glance: 2016

* Limited comparability due to the differing degrees of academisation in the individual vocational training programmes.