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Higher education graduates, by subject groups, examination types and sex¹

Examination type	Year ^{2,3}	Number					
		Subject groups, total ⁴	Humanities ⁵	Law, economics, social sciences	Mathematics, natural sciences	Human medicine, health sciences	Agricultural, forestry and nutritional sciences, veterinary medicine
University degree ^{6,7,8}	1993	101,401	14,499	27,542	18,898	13,582	4,109
	2000	94,999	17,826	30,784	14,828	10,698	3,160
	2005	101,755	21,550	32,589	16,883	10,680	2,699
	2010	103,413	21,408	31,118	18,758	11,864	2,009
	2011	94,018	19,143	26,383	16,296	11,669	1,966
	2012	80,290	16,287	20,686	12,904	11,619	1,728
	2013	64,054	11,364	15,539	9,571	11,914	1,402
	2014	50,675	8,338	12,638	6,577	11,559	1,176
	2015	39,049	4,567	10,439	4,622	11,305	1,059
	2016	34,623	1,665	11,729	3,314	11,686	995
	2017	32,145	1,315	11,100	2,575	11,795	1,023
	2018	29,953	1,152	10,218	2,334	11,406	936
	2019	30,294	1,066	10,491	2,377	11,904	942
2020	28,777	1,303	9,256	2,169	11,845	1,148	
2021	30,494	1,220	10,593	2,563	12,164	944	
Doctorate	1993	21,032	1,899	2,109	6,019	7,847	1,143
	2000	25,780	2,732	3,261	7,607	8,397	1,059
	2005	25,952	2,942	3,811	7,068	8,224	1,243
	2010	25,629	2,875	3,534	8,092	7,287	1,019
	2011	26,981	2,849	3,761	8,460	7,771	1,027
	2012	26,807	3,019	3,509	8,718	7,350	1,065
	2013	27,707	3,125	3,746	9,560	7,003	897
	2014	28,147	3,172	3,646	9,521	7,326	969
	2015	29,218	3,184	3,692	9,950	7,322	1,016
	2016	29,303	2,280	4,794	8,782	7,414	1,008
	2017	28,404	2,170	4,412	8,616	7,125	1,100
	2018	27,838	2,130	4,242	8,445	7,301	946
	2019	28,280	2,130	4,157	8,314	7,715	889
2020	26,220	1,786	3,898	7,930	7,256	892	
2021	28,153	1,920	3,891	7,896	8,753	901	
Teacher's degree ⁹	1993	16,235	10,588	779	2,914	-	177
	2000	26,938	17,759	1,716	4,869	-	225
	2005	24,286	16,505	1,132	4,425	80	161
	2010	37,577	25,195	1,804	7,857	180	196
	2011	38,758	26,079	1,942	7,876	200	163
	2012	38,708	26,099	2,045	7,704	281	218
	2013	41,519	27,893	2,521	8,198	224	204
	2014	43,291	29,227	2,464	8,492	256	242
	2015	43,989	30,096	2,336	8,686	249	272
	2016	43,998	22,152	10,935	8,103	279	243
	2017	44,248	21,215	12,143	8,082	351	277
	2018	45,460	22,733	10,957	8,886	370	249
	2019	46,090	22,801	10,902	9,340	350	323
2020	43,248	22,651	8,459	8,986	343	427	
2021	48,415	24,760	9,806	10,266	460	471	

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Higher education graduates, by subject groups, examination types and sex¹

Examination type	Year ^{2,3}	Number					
		Subject groups, total ⁴	Humanities ⁵	Law, economics, social sciences	Mathematics, natural sciences	Human medicine, health sciences	Agricultural, forestry and nutritional sciences, veterinary medicine
Degree at university of applied sciences ⁷	1993	63,055	1,279	27,222	3,362	-	2,276
	2000	66,260	1,198	33,769	3,030	-	2,398
	2005	81,483	1,568	43,681	7,228	1,162	2,675
	2010	56,248	658	28,707	4,128	1,075	1,575
	2011	38,638	432	19,989	2,459	821	995
	2012	25,804	321	14,263	1,294	499	481
	2013	17,381	194	10,555	785	335	159
	2014	12,074	94	7,378	491	351	48
	2015	10,044	42	6,304	306	276	11
	2016	9,830	16	6,484	22	328	2
	2017	8,194	11	5,863	15	328	3
	2018	7,217	15	5,275	6	476	-
	2019	6,716	17	5,424	10	1	-
	2020	7,664	12	6,500	10	120	-
2021	8,384	15	7,375	11	1	-	
Bachelor's degree ⁸	1993	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2000	126	42	13	3	-	65
	2005	9,848	2,172	2,783	2,834	162	609
	2010	112,108	17,849	44,879	19,796	2,298	3,439
	2011	152,484	22,003	61,173	25,210	3,231	4,526
	2012	183,169	25,943	71,708	28,994	3,751	5,036
	2013	207,401	30,574	80,529	31,061	4,374	5,524
	2014	229,282	33,879	88,730	34,732	5,555	5,699
	2015	245,658	35,595	94,379	36,089	6,525	6,296
	2016	249,561	22,090	111,464	19,910	7,711	5,959
	2017	252,286	21,928	113,660	19,505	8,355	6,117
	2018	247,247	19,631	113,545	18,518	8,437	6,302
	2019	252,216	19,738	115,352	18,884	10,111	6,220
	2020	236,472	16,945	112,147	16,408	8,722	5,807
2021	257,716	18,078	123,835	18,831	9,362	6,247	
Master's degree ⁸	1993	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2000	370	23	207	42	9	12
	2005	9,158	1,140	3,342	1,255	132	603
	2010	26,722	3,288	9,350	4,866	1,048	1,491
	2011	41,292	4,988	14,605	7,355	1,137	1,862
	2012	58,560	7,357	21,169	10,729	1,482	2,329
	2013	78,358	10,423	26,866	15,083	1,807	2,786
	2014	97,034	13,351	31,979	18,366	1,994	3,203
	2015	113,630	15,756	36,841	20,820	2,456	3,492
	2016	124,363	10,003	46,902	15,029	2,650	3,591
	2017	136,457	10,955	51,042	16,340	2,686	3,901
	2018	140,960	11,166	52,891	15,788	3,406	3,969
	2019	144,649	11,156	55,484	16,041	3,388	3,843
	2020	134,532	9,710	52,496	14,486	3,121	3,622
2021	144,782	10,457	56,628	15,361	4,105	3,720	

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Higher education graduates, by subject groups, examination types and sex¹

Examination type	Year ^{2,3}	Number				
		Total		Subject groups, total ⁴	Female	
		Engineering	Art, art theory		Humanities ⁵	Law, economics, social sciences
University degree ^{6,7,8}	1993	18,217	4,554	39,507	9,066	10,804
	2000	12,342	5,361	42,599	12,082	12,468
	2005	10,743	6,611	51,761	15,281	15,113
	2010	11,905	6,351	54,086	15,475	15,170
	2011	12,518	6,043	48,460	13,520	13,010
	2012	11,602	5,464	41,707	11,306	10,421
	2013	10,002	4,262	33,346	8,043	8,073
	2014	7,080	3,307	27,229	5,670	6,879
	2015	4,519	2,537	21,615	3,057	5,773
	2016	3,387	1,847	19,659	1,002	6,726
	2017	2,664	1,673	18,309	738	6,424
	2018	2,072	1,835	17,466	660	5,894
	Doctorate	1993	1,656	303	6,438	769
2000		2,398	317	8,852	1,213	934
2005		2,336	328	10,272	1,426	1,190
2010		2,561	261	11,301	1,554	1,301
2011		2,833	248	12,105	1,581	1,359
2012		2,860	256	12,179	1,670	1,273
2013		3,119	255	12,256	1,675	1,352
2014		3,187	306	12,798	1,781	1,393
2015		3,736	318	13,052	1,838	1,375
2016		4,719	302	13,248	1,178	2,207
2017		4,711	263	12,713	1,133	1,983
2018		4,458	315	12,577	1,142	1,955
Teacher's degree ⁹		1993	502	1,275	11,991	8,264
	2000	671	1,698	19,157	13,369	1,150
	2005	402	1,581	18,498	13,160	765
	2010	462	1,883	27,707	19,389	1,029
	2011	508	1,989	28,348	19,927	1,104
	2012	455	1,906	28,456	19,962	1,224
	2013	531	1,948	30,352	21,276	1,520
	2014	532	2,077	31,724	22,326	1,490
	2015	488	1,862	32,108	23,017	1,416
	2016	656	1,630	31,728	16,251	8,504
	2017	668	1,511	31,921	15,346	9,520
	2018	660	1,605	32,891	16,802	8,337
	2019	744	1,622	33,653	17,107	8,320
2020	727	1,655	31,585	17,095	6,422	
2021	801	1,850	35,669	18,862	7,499	

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Higher education graduates, by subject groups, examination types and sex¹

Examination type	Year ^{2,3}	Number				
		Total		Subject groups, total ⁴	Female	
		Engineering	Art, art theory		Humanities ⁵	Law, economics, social sciences
Degree at university of applied sciences ⁷	1993	27,036	1,880	20,622	1,042	13,152
	2000	23,779	2,086	25,321	859	16,904
	2005	22,240	2,929	35,760	1,130	24,113
	2010	18,083	2,022	23,124	484	15,441
	2011	12,527	1,415	15,407	326	10,237
	2012	7,956	990	10,228	242	7,014
	2013	4,764	589	6,872	152	5,083
	2014	3,454	258	4,575	66	3,505
	2015	2,968	137	3,786	31	3,032
	2016	2,788	190	3,878	14	3,174
	2017	1,785	189	3,624	10	3,015
	2018	1,300	145	3,417	11	2,779
	2019	1,142	122	3,293	15	3,055
2020	886	136	3,710	12	3,380	
2021	885	97	4,308	13	4,100	
Bachelor's degree ⁸	1993	-	-	-	-	-
	2000	3	-	56	27	8
	2005	1,089	199	4,955	1,663	1,474
	2010	20,326	3,521	57,326	13,475	25,824
	2011	31,272	5,069	76,176	16,724	34,779
	2012	41,296	6,441	90,385	19,793	40,741
	2013	47,809	7,529	102,561	23,390	45,514
	2014	52,646	8,040	111,483	25,826	49,314
	2015	58,163	8,607	119,010	26,912	53,004
	2016	73,200	9,210	123,882	15,677	67,244
	2017	72,694	9,482	127,134	15,609	69,150
	2018	71,529	9,270	124,990	14,021	69,224
	2019	72,606	9,276	128,327	13,975	70,561
2020	68,173	8,241	120,720	11,980	68,017	
2021	71,935	9,347	133,934	12,796	75,663	
Master's degree ⁸	1993	-	-	-	-	-
	2000	77	-	92	11	47
	2005	2,597	76	3,725	730	1,559
	2010	5,912	767	12,225	2,391	4,525
	2011	10,079	1,266	18,241	3,527	7,063
	2012	13,606	1,888	26,736	5,339	10,427
	2013	18,869	2,524	36,200	7,763	13,573
	2014	24,998	3,143	44,818	10,090	16,427
	2015	30,527	3,721	52,098	11,887	18,899
	2016	42,188	3,945	56,509	7,174	26,327
	2017	47,124	4,225	61,337	7,777	28,361
	2018	49,171	4,525	63,542	7,830	29,529
	2019	50,200	4,503	66,401	7,768	31,401
2020	47,154	3,884	61,767	6,717	29,684	
2021	49,732	4,768	68,573	7,288	32,857	

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Higher education graduates, by subject groups, examination types and sex¹

Examination type	Year ^{2,3}	Number				
		Female				
		Mathematics, natural sciences	Human medicine, health sciences	Agricultural, forestry and nutritional sciences, veterinary medicine	Engineering	Art, art theory
University degree ^{6,7,8}	1993	6,557	5,919	2,054	2,589	2,518
	2000	5,296	5,088	1,864	2,537	3,264
	2005	7,038	5,888	1,828	2,502	4,111
	2010	7,644	7,432	1,508	2,847	4,010
	2011	6,537	7,198	1,482	2,874	3,839
	2012	5,305	7,413	1,356	2,463	3,443
	2013	3,957	7,518	1,100	2,045	2,610
	2014	3,064	7,211	919	1,496	1,990
	2015	2,236	7,144	879	993	1,532
	2016	2,116	7,259	818	670	1,068
	2017	1,646	7,200	839	522	940
	2018	1,607	7,080	795	369	1,061
	2019	1,690	7,311	795	433	907
2020	1,534	7,441	976	398	774	
2021	1,713	7,635	801	437	828	
Doctorate	1993	1,443	3,038	442	97	175
	2000	2,023	3,710	536	246	190
	2005	2,353	4,059	721	317	206
	2010	3,179	4,067	635	394	171
	2011	3,366	4,472	664	500	158
	2012	3,568	4,278	707	505	171
	2013	3,763	4,132	565	602	165
	2014	3,788	4,381	642	605	194
	2015	3,873	4,374	662	720	210
	2016	3,738	4,411	674	833	206
	2017	3,645	4,194	697	879	180
	2018	3,511	4,285	621	853	210
	2019	3,496	4,641	554	892	196
2020	3,265	4,247	568	818	144	
2021	3,258	5,180	586	882	158	
Teacher's degree ⁹	1993	2,015	-	144	173	916
	2000	2,948	-	189	198	1,303
	2005	3,043	68	130	103	1,229
	2010	5,362	150	156	167	1,454
	2011	5,274	178	131	197	1,536
	2012	5,204	249	167	154	1,496
	2013	5,518	192	166	191	1,489
	2014	5,701	229	200	198	1,580
	2015	5,689	223	217	169	1,377
	2016	5,145	243	180	234	1,171
	2017	5,241	297	211	248	1,057
	2018	5,853	322	188	249	1,140
	2019	6,296	286	271	214	1,153
2020	6,039	287	356	235	1,151	
2021	6,983	394	380	228	1,322	

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Higher education graduates, by subject groups, examination types and sex¹

Examination type	Year ^{2,3}	Number				
		Female				
		Mathematics, natural sciences	Human medicine, health sciences	Agricultural, forestry and nutritional sciences, veterinary medicine	Engineering	Art, art theory
Degree at university of applied sciences ⁷	1993	770	-	1,017	3,571	1,070
	2000	486	-	1,194	4,553	1,325
	2005	1,566	839	1,393	4,853	1,866
	2010	906	825	833	3,311	1,324
	2011	524	639	490	2,280	911
	2012	286	396	232	1,492	566
	2013	153	240	84	787	373
	2014	85	258	30	492	139
	2015	62	223	6	336	96
	2016	13	237	-	320	120
	2017	4	260	1	206	128
	2018	1	360	-	167	99
	2019	2	1	-	150	70
2020	2	98	-	124	94	
2021	5	1	-	127	62	
Bachelor's degree ⁸	1993	-	-	-	-	-
	2000	-	-	21	-	-
	2005	877	129	398	281	133
	2010	7,235	1,686	2,024	4,842	2,240
	2011	8,933	2,408	2,636	7,365	3,331
	2012	10,334	2,913	2,977	9,436	4,191
	2013	10,932	3,358	3,157	11,277	4,933
	2014	11,718	4,205	3,234	11,942	5,244
	2015	11,913	4,960	3,463	13,223	5,534
	2016	9,117	6,061	3,270	16,538	5,962
	2017	9,043	6,372	3,400	17,054	6,252
	2018	8,586	6,433	3,522	17,180	6,016
	2019	8,895	7,542	3,524	17,776	6,036
2020	7,970	6,851	3,359	17,075	5,448	
2021	9,323	7,519	3,647	18,846	6,111	
Master's degree ⁸	1993	-	-	-	-	-
	2000	11	4	1	18	-
	2005	386	76	312	612	46
	2010	1,718	609	882	1,598	502
	2011	2,607	676	1,085	2,470	813
	2012	3,826	1,003	1,393	3,473	1,275
	2013	5,469	1,210	1,666	4,859	1,660
	2014	6,773	1,299	1,926	6,194	2,109
	2015	7,477	1,661	2,108	7,649	2,414
	2016	6,669	1,695	2,085	9,969	2,573
	2017	7,154	1,871	2,292	11,055	2,769
	2018	6,855	2,282	2,281	11,864	2,888
	2019	7,186	2,456	2,233	12,448	2,906
2020	6,508	2,234	2,120	11,958	2,539	
2021	7,051	2,978	2,277	13,031	3,090	

Higher education graduates, by subject groups, examination types and sex¹

- 1 As of the 2016 examination year, there has been a change in the subject classification (for more information see source). Former group “Veterinary medicine” has been added to group “Agricultural, forestry and nutritional sciences, veterinary medicine”; the values have been retrospectively adjusted to all years presented. As of the 2021 examination year, there has been a change in the subject classification (for more information see source). Therefore parts of the data are of limited comparability with the previous years.
- 2 Winter semester and the following summer semester (e.g. 1993 = WS 1992/1993 and SS 1993).
- 3 Due to a revision of the study subject assignments in North Rhine-Westphalia, as of the 2007 examination year the results can only be compared with the previous years to a limited extent.
- 4 Including subjects outside the fields of study structure.
- 5 Including sports.
- 6 Including “artistic degree” and “other degree”.
- 7 Excluding bachelor's degree and master's degree.
- 8 Excluding teacher's degree.
- 9 Including teacher's bachelor degree and teacher's master degree.

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Source: Federal Statistical Office, Fachserie 11 Reihe 4.2

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