

■ Table 2.5.46 1 / 8

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

Examination type	Number						
	Year ^{2,3}	Total					
		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
	2010	103,413	21,408	31,118	18,758	11,864	2,009
	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
	2022	29,716	1,226	9,898	2,446	12,241	841
	2023	29,820	1,325	10,197	2,246	12,081	1,081
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
	2010	25,629	2,875	3,534	8,092	7,287	1,019
	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
	2022	27,692	1,844	3,910	7,755	8,721	827
	2023	26,570	1,676	3,768	7,488	8,111	831
Teacher's degree ⁹	1993	16,235	10,588	779	2,914	-	177
	2000	26,938	17,759	1,716	4,869	-	225
	2010	37,577	25,195	1,804	7,857	180	196
	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
	2022	47,107	23,720	9,750	10,348	406	408
	2023	47,550	23,621	10,178	10,378	448	411
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
	2010	56,248	658	28,707	4,128	1,075	1,575
	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	-
	2022	8,456	10	7,498	12	-	-
	2023	7,868	11	7,013	6	-	-

■ Table 2.5.46 2 / 8

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

Examination type	Number						
	Year ^{2,3}	Total					
		Subject groups, total ⁴	Humanities ⁵	Law, economics, social sciences	Mathematics, natural sciences	Human medicine, health sciences	Agricultural, forestry and nutritional sciences, veterinary medicine
Bachelor's degree ⁸	1993	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2000	126	42	13	3	-	65
	2010	112,108	17,849	44,879	19,796	2,298	3,439
	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
	2022	246,802	16,346	117,868	17,493	9,011	5,789
	2023	243,633	15,557	117,165	17,334	9,333	5,837
Master's degree ⁸	1993	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2000	370	23	207	42	9	12
	2010	26,722	3,288	9,350	4,866	1,048	1,491
	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
	2022	145,877	9,874	57,297	15,398	3,798	3,673
	2023	146,484	9,606	58,203	15,278	4,113	3,641

■ Table 2.5.46 3 / 8

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

Examination type	Year ^{2,3}	Number					
		Total		Subject groups, total ⁴	Male		
		Engineering	Art, art theory		Humanities ⁵	Law, economics, social sciences	Mathematics, natural sciences
University degree ^{6,7,8}	1993	18,217	4,554	61,894	5,433	16,738	12,341
	2000	12,342	5,361	52,400	5,744	18,316	9,532
	2010	11,905	6,351	49,327	5,933	15,948	11,114
	2016	3,387	1,847	14,964	663	5,003	1,198
	2017	2,664	1,673	13,836	577	4,676	929
	2018	2,072	1,835	12,487	492	4,324	727
	2019	1,933	1,581	12,446	477	4,368	687
	2020	1,683	1,373	11,624	547	3,982	635
	2021	1,575	1,435	12,121	450	4,404	850
	2022	1,594	1,470	11,877	423	4,094	808
	2023	1,502	1,342	11,495	469	4,094	710
Doctorate	1993	1,656	303	14,594	1,130	1,644	4,576
	2000	2,398	317	16,928	1,519	2,327	5,584
	2010	2,561	261	14,328	1,321	2,233	4,913
	2016	4,719	302	16,055	1,102	2,587	5,044
	2017	4,711	263	15,691	1,037	2,429	4,971
	2018	4,458	315	15,261	988	2,287	4,934
	2019	4,773	297	15,418	1,004	2,201	4,818
	2020	4,215	239	14,395	804	2,098	4,665
	2021	4,560	230	15,226	867	2,081	4,638
	2022	4,416	217	14,938	891	2,042	4,638
	2023	4,486	199	14,278	808	1,999	4,344
Teacher's degree ⁹	1993	502	1,275	4,244	2,324	300	899
	2000	671	1,698	7,781	4,390	566	1,921
	2010	462	1,883	9,870	5,806	775	2,495
	2016	656	1,630	12,270	5,901	2,431	2,958
	2017	668	1,511	12,327	5,869	2,623	2,841
	2018	660	1,605	12,569	5,931	2,620	3,033
	2019	744	1,622	12,437	5,694	2,582	3,044
	2020	727	1,655	11,663	5,556	2,037	2,947
	2021	801	1,850	12,746	5,898	2,307	3,283
	2022	766	1,709	12,286	5,580	2,349	3,251
	2023	757	1,757	12,453	5,692	2,336	3,273
Degree at university of applied sciences ⁷	1993	27,036	1,880	42,433	237	14,070	2,592
	2000	23,779	2,086	40,939	339	16,865	2,544
	2010	18,083	2,022	33,124	174	13,266	3,222
	2016	2,788	190	5,952	2	3,310	9
	2017	1,785	189	4,570	1	2,848	11
	2018	1,300	145	3,800	4	2,496	5
	2019	1,142	122	3,423	2	2,369	8
	2020	886	136	3,954	-	3,120	8
	2021	885	97	4,076	2	3,275	6
	2022	805	131	4,160	1	3,427	7
	2023	734	104	3,947	1	3,280	2

■ Table 2.5.46 4 / 8

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

Examination type	Year ^{2,3}	Number					
		Total		Subject groups, total ⁴	Male		
		Engineering	Art, art theory		Humanities ⁵	Law, economics, social sciences	Mathematics, natural sciences
Bachelor's degree ⁸	1993	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2000	3	-	70	15	5	-
	2010	20,326	3,521	54,782	4,374	19,055	12,561
	2016	73,200	9,210	125,679	6,413	44,220	10,793
	2017	72,694	9,482	125,152	6,319	44,510	10,462
	2018	71,529	9,270	122,257	5,610	44,321	9,932
	2019	72,606	9,276	123,889	5,763	44,791	9,989
	2020	68,173	8,241	115,752	4,965	44,130	8,438
	2021	71,935	9,347	123,782	5,282	48,172	9,508
	2022	71,504	8,768	119,453	4,897	45,363	8,744
	2023	69,577	8,810	117,791	4,824	45,534	8,607
	Master's degree ⁸	1993	-	-	-	-	-
2000		77	-	278	12	160	31
2010		5,912	767	14,497	897	4,825	3,148
2016		42,188	3,945	67,854	2,829	20,575	8,360
2017		47,124	4,225	75,120	3,178	22,681	9,186
2018		49,171	4,525	77,418	3,336	23,362	8,933
2019		50,200	4,503	78,248	3,388	24,083	8,855
2020		47,154	3,884	72,765	2,993	22,812	7,978
2021		49,732	4,768	76,209	3,169	23,771	8,310
2022		51,305	4,529	76,977	3,016	24,258	8,136
2023		51,108	4,532	76,717	2,960	24,391	8,055

■ Table 2.5.46 5 / 8

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

Examination type	Year ^{2,3}	Number					
		Male				Female	
		Human medicine, health sciences	Agricultural, forestry and nutritional sciences, veterinary medicine	Engineering	Art, art theory	Subject groups, total ⁴	Humanities ⁵
University degree ^{6,7,8}	1993	7,663	2,055	15,628	2,036	39,507	9,066
	2000	5,610	1,296	9,805	2,097	42,599	12,082
	2010	4,432	501	9,058	2,341	54,086	15,475
	2016	4,427	177	2,717	779	19,659	1,002
	2017	4,595	184	2,142	733	18,309	738
	2018	4,326	141	1,703	774	17,466	660
	2019	4,593	147	1,500	674	17,848	589
	2020	4,404	172	1,285	599	17,153	756
	2021	4,529	143	1,138	607	18,373	770
	2022	4,636	132	1,182	602	17,839	803
	2023	4,387	174	1,104	528	18,325	856
Doctorate	1993	4,809	701	1,559	128	6,438	769
	2000	4,687	523	2,152	127	8,852	1,213
	2010	3,220	384	2,167	90	11,301	1,554
	2016	3,003	334	3,886	96	13,248	1,178
	2017	2,931	403	3,832	83	12,713	1,133
	2018	3,016	325	3,605	105	12,577	1,142
	2019	3,074	335	3,881	101	12,862	1,126
	2020	3,009	324	3,397	95	11,825	982
	2021	3,573	315	3,678	72	12,927	1,053
	2022	3,450	293	3,537	85	12,754	953
	2023	3,169	284	3,606	59	12,292	868
Teacher's degree ⁹	1993	-	33	329	359	11,991	8,264
	2000	-	36	473	395	19,157	13,369
	2010	30	40	295	429	27,707	19,389
	2016	36	63	422	459	31,728	16,251
	2017	54	66	420	454	31,921	15,346
	2018	48	61	411	465	32,891	16,802
	2019	64	52	530	469	33,653	17,107
	2020	56	71	492	504	31,585	17,095
	2021	66	91	573	528	35,669	18,862
	2022	64	53	538	451	34,821	18,140
	2023	55	64	548	485	35,097	17,929
Degree at university of applied sciences ⁷	1993	-	1,259	23,465	810	20,622	1,042
	2000	-	1,204	19,226	761	25,321	859
	2010	250	742	14,772	698	23,124	484
	2016	91	-	2,468	70	3,878	14
	2017	68	2	1,579	61	3,624	10
	2018	116	-	1,133	46	3,417	11
	2019	-	-	992	52	3,293	15
	2020	22	-	762	42	3,710	12
	2021	-	-	758	35	4,308	13
	2022	-	-	683	42	4,296	9
	2023	-	-	631	33	3,921	10

■ Table 2.5.46 6 / 8

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

Examination type	Year ^{2,3}	Number					
		Male				Female	
		Human medicine, health sciences	Agricultural, forestry and nutritional sciences, veterinary medicine	Engineering	Art, art theory	Subject groups, total ⁴	Humanities ⁵
Bachelor's degree ⁸	1993	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2000	-	44	-	-	56	27
	2010	612	1,415	15,484	1,281	57,326	13,475
	2016	1,650	2,689	56,662	3,248	123,882	15,677
	2017	1,983	2,717	55,640	3,230	127,134	15,609
	2018	2,004	2,780	54,349	3,254	124,990	14,021
	2019	2,569	2,696	54,830	3,240	128,327	13,975
	2020	1,871	2,448	51,098	2,793	120,720	11,980
	2021	1,843	2,600	53,089	3,236	133,934	12,796
	2022	1,792	2,426	53,116	3,113	127,349	11,449
	2023	1,807	2,427	51,507	3,076	125,842	10,733
Master's degree ⁸	1993	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2000	5	11	59	-	92	11
	2010	439	609	4,314	265	12,225	2,391
	2016	955	1,506	32,219	1,372	56,509	7,174
	2017	815	1,609	36,069	1,456	61,337	7,777
	2018	1,124	1,688	37,307	1,637	63,542	7,830
	2019	932	1,610	37,752	1,597	66,401	7,768
	2020	887	1,502	35,196	1,345	61,767	6,717
	2021	1,127	1,443	36,701	1,678	68,573	7,288
	2022	969	1,498	37,549	1,548	68,900	6,858
	2023	1,072	1,379	37,243	1,617	69,767	6,646

■ Table 2.5.46 7 / 8

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

Examination type	Year ^{2,3}	Number					
		Female					
		Law, economics, social sciences	Mathematics, natural sciences	Human medicine, health sciences	Agricultural, forestry and nutritional sciences, veterinary medicine	Engineering	Art, art theory
University degree ^{6,7,8}	1993	10,804	6,557	5,919	2,054	2,589	2,518
	2000	12,468	5,296	5,088	1,864	2,537	3,264
	2010	15,170	7,644	7,432	1,508	2,847	4,010
	2016	6,726	2,116	7,259	818	670	1,068
	2017	6,424	1,646	7,200	839	522	940
	2018	5,894	1,607	7,080	795	369	1,061
	2019	6,123	1,690	7,311	795	433	907
	2020	5,274	1,534	7,441	976	398	774
	2021	6,189	1,713	7,635	801	437	828
	2022	5,804	1,638	7,605	709	412	868
	2023	6,103	1,536	7,694	907	398	814
Doctorate	1993	465	1,443	3,038	442	97	175
	2000	934	2,023	3,710	536	246	190
	2010	1,301	3,179	4,067	635	394	171
	2016	2,207	3,738	4,411	674	833	206
	2017	1,983	3,645	4,194	697	879	180
	2018	1,955	3,511	4,285	621	853	210
	2019	1,956	3,496	4,641	554	892	196
	2020	1,800	3,265	4,247	568	818	144
	2021	1,810	3,258	5,180	586	882	158
	2022	1,868	3,117	5,271	534	879	132
	2023	1,769	3,144	4,942	547	880	140
Teacher's degree ⁹	1993	479	2,015	-	144	173	916
	2000	1,150	2,948	-	189	198	1,303
	2010	1,029	5,362	150	156	167	1,454
	2016	8,504	5,145	243	180	234	1,171
	2017	9,520	5,241	297	211	248	1,057
	2018	8,337	5,853	322	188	249	1,140
	2019	8,320	6,296	286	271	214	1,153
	2020	6,422	6,039	287	356	235	1,151
	2021	7,499	6,983	394	380	228	1,322
	2022	7,401	7,097	342	355	228	1,258
	2023	7,842	7,105	393	347	209	1,272
Degree at university of applied sciences ⁷	1993	13,152	770	-	1,017	3,571	1,070
	2000	16,904	486	-	1,194	4,553	1,325
	2010	15,441	906	825	833	3,311	1,324
	2016	3,174	13	237	-	320	120
	2017	3,015	4	260	1	206	128
	2018	2,779	1	360	-	167	99
	2019	3,055	2	1	-	150	70
	2020	3,380	2	98	-	124	94
	2021	4,100	5	1	-	127	62
	2022	4,071	5	-	-	122	89
	2023	3,733	4	-	-	103	71

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

Examination type	Year ^{2,3}	Number					
		Female					
		Law, economics, social sciences	Mathematics, natural sciences	Human medicine, health sciences	Agricultural, forestry and nutritional sciences, veterinary medicine	Engineering	Art, art theory
Bachelor's degree ⁸	1993	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2000	8	-	-	21	-	-
	2010	25,824	7,235	1,686	2,024	4,842	2,240
	2016	67,244	9,117	6,061	3,270	16,538	5,962
	2017	69,150	9,043	6,372	3,400	17,054	6,252
	2018	69,224	8,586	6,433	3,522	17,180	6,016
	2019	70,561	8,895	7,542	3,524	17,776	6,036
	2020	68,017	7,970	6,851	3,359	17,075	5,448
	2021	75,663	9,323	7,519	3,647	18,846	6,111
	2022	72,505	8,749	7,219	3,363	18,388	5,655
	2023	71,631	8,727	7,526	3,410	18,070	5,734
Master's degree ⁸	1993	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2000	47	11	4	1	18	-
	2010	4,525	1,718	609	882	1,598	502
	2016	26,327	6,669	1,695	2,085	9,969	2,573
	2017	28,361	7,154	1,871	2,292	11,055	2,769
	2018	29,529	6,855	2,282	2,281	11,864	2,888
	2019	31,401	7,186	2,456	2,233	12,448	2,906
	2020	29,684	6,508	2,234	2,120	11,958	2,539
	2021	32,857	7,051	2,978	2,277	13,031	3,090
	2022	33,039	7,262	2,829	2,175	13,756	2,981
	2023	33,812	7,223	3,041	2,262	13,865	2,915

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. 2023 = winter semester 2022/2023 and summer semester 2023).

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.

Last update: September 16, 2024

Source: Federal Statistical Office (Statistischer Bericht Prüfungsstatistik, Fachserie 11 Reihe 4.2)

This work is licensed under a Data licence Germany attribution 2.0.

<https://www.govdata.de/dl-de/by-2-0>