



EDUCATION AT A GLANCE 2016

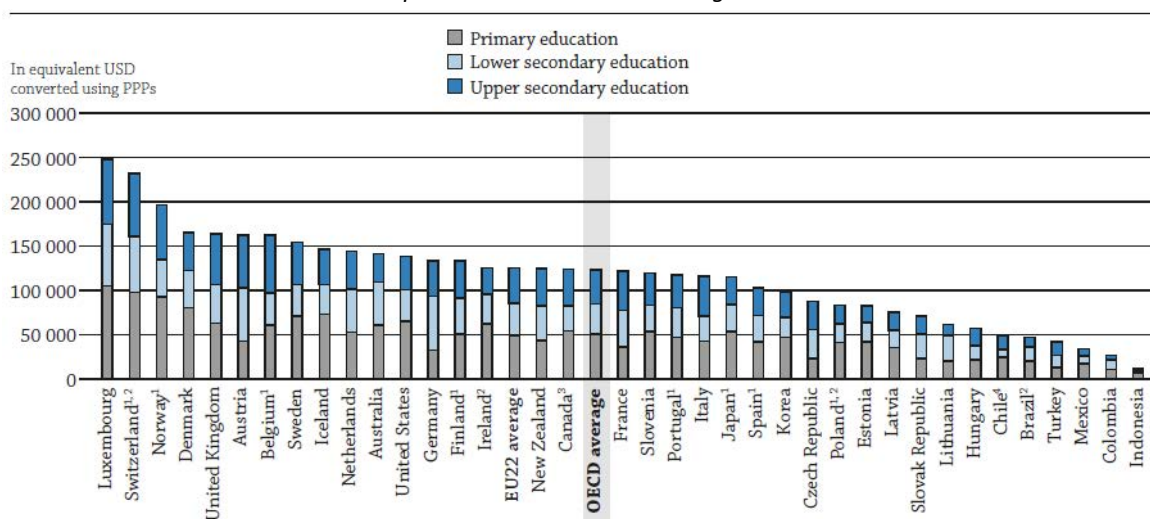
Education at a Glance: OECD Indicators is the authoritative source for information on the state of education around the world. It provides data on the structure, finances and performance of education systems in the 35 OECD countries and a number of partner countries.

Switzerland

- **Swiss graduation rates from upper secondary vocational programmes are among the highest of all OECD countries.** Young adults in Switzerland also choose school- and work-based programmes at upper secondary level at a higher rate than the OECD average.
- **Women in the labour force earn less than men with the same education attainment** although the difference varies with their level of educational attainment, **and the average gender gap in earnings is lower in Switzerland than the OECD average.**
- **The share of secondary teachers over 60 has increased in Switzerland at the same rate as the OECD average** but the share of teachers over 50 has increased faster.
- **Teachers' starting salaries in Switzerland rank second highest of all countries with available data.** This is true from pre-primary to upper secondary levels. However, they increase more slowly over the course of teachers' careers than the average among OECD countries.
- **In 2013, public expenditure on primary to tertiary educational institutions accounted for 14.9% of Switzerland's total public expenditure,** the fourth highest share among OECD countries

Figure 1. Cumulative expenditure per student by educational institutions over the expected duration of primary and secondary studies (2013)

Annual expenditure on educational institutions per student multiplied by the theoretical duration of studies, in equivalent USD converted using PPPs



1. Some levels of education are included with others. Refer to "x" code in Table B1.1 for details.

2. Public institutions only.

3. Year of reference 2012 for expenditure per student.

4. Year of reference 2014 for expenditure per student.

Countries are ranked in descending order of the total expenditure by educational institutions per student over the theoretical duration of primary and secondary studies.

Source: OECD, Table B1.3. See Annex 3 for notes (www.oecd.org/education/education-at-a-glance-19991487.htm).

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Vocational education and training can provide more direct pathways into the labour market

- Vocational programmes at the upper secondary level (*Berufliche Grundbildung / formation professionnelle initiale*) are quite popular in Switzerland. Graduation rates from these programmes were over 70% in 2014.
- Although the distribution of expenditure between general and vocational education is the same in Switzerland as the OECD average (52% for vocational and 48% for general programmes), Switzerland spends almost twice as much per student for both programmes than the average across OECD countries.¹ On average, Switzerland spends USD 18 855² a year per student in upper secondary vocational programmes and USD 17 530 per student in general programmes.
- Vocational education combining school- and work-based programmes is more popular among students in Switzerland than in any other OECD country. On average, 36% of young adults between 15 and 19 years old are enrolled in school- and work-based programmes, while the share is just 7% on average in OECD countries.
- Switzerland has one of the highest employment rates among OECD countries for 25-34 year-olds with a vocational education qualification, at 89%. This is the same employment rate as for those with a tertiary degree, whereas for those with an upper secondary general qualification as their highest level of education the rate is 80%.

Gender gaps in education and employment persist

- In contrast to general trends across OECD countries, women do not make up the majority of new entrants into bachelor's and master's programmes in Switzerland. The share of female new entrants is 6 percentage points below the OECD average for both levels: 48% compared to 54% for bachelor's programmes; 50% compared to 56% for master's.
- Women remain under-represented in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields at tertiary level. Only 17% of new entrants into the field of engineering, manufacturing and construction are women, below the OECD average of 24%. Just 33% of female new entrants study sciences, compared to 37% among OECD countries. In common with all OECD and partner countries, men are under-represented in the field of health and welfare as well as the field of education where they make up 26% and 28% of students respectively.
- The gender distribution of teachers across levels of education in Switzerland follows the same pattern as the OECD average: women comprise the majority of teachers at lower levels of education and the minority at tertiary level. For early childhood education, 97% of teachers are women, falling to 82% at primary level, closely matching the OECD averages. At lower secondary level, female teachers are still the majority at 54%, but not to the same extent as on average across OECD countries (68%). At upper secondary level, the gender distribution of teachers is the reverse of the OECD average: 43% are women compared with 58% among OECD countries. At tertiary level, only 34% of teachers in Switzerland are women compared to an OECD average of 43%.
- There is a gender gap between men and women's earnings for all levels of educational attainment for which data are available. Women in Switzerland with upper secondary education as their highest level of attainment earn 18% less than similarly-educated men. Among tertiary-educated workers, the difference is even greater: female workers earn 21% less than their male counterparts. In both cases, however, the gender gap is narrower than the OECD average of 22% for upper secondary and 27% for tertiary-educated workers.

Salary, the school environment and workload all influence teachers' decisions to enter – and remain in – the profession

- Similar to the trend in many OECD countries, the teaching workforce in Switzerland is ageing: in 2005, 5% of secondary teachers were over 60, increasing to 9% in 2014, the same as the OECD average. Furthermore, 38% of secondary teachers were over 50 in 2014, comparable to the OECD (37%) and EU22* (39%) averages.
- Teachers' statutory starting salaries in Switzerland are among the highest of all countries with available data: USD 47 641 at pre-primary level, USD 52 863 at primary, USD 60 231 at lower secondary and USD 67 483 at upper secondary. In comparison, the average starting salary at lower secondary level was USD 32 485 across OECD

¹ Note that the figures for Switzerland take only public institutions into account and that they also include post-secondary non-tertiary education and short-cycle tertiary programmes.

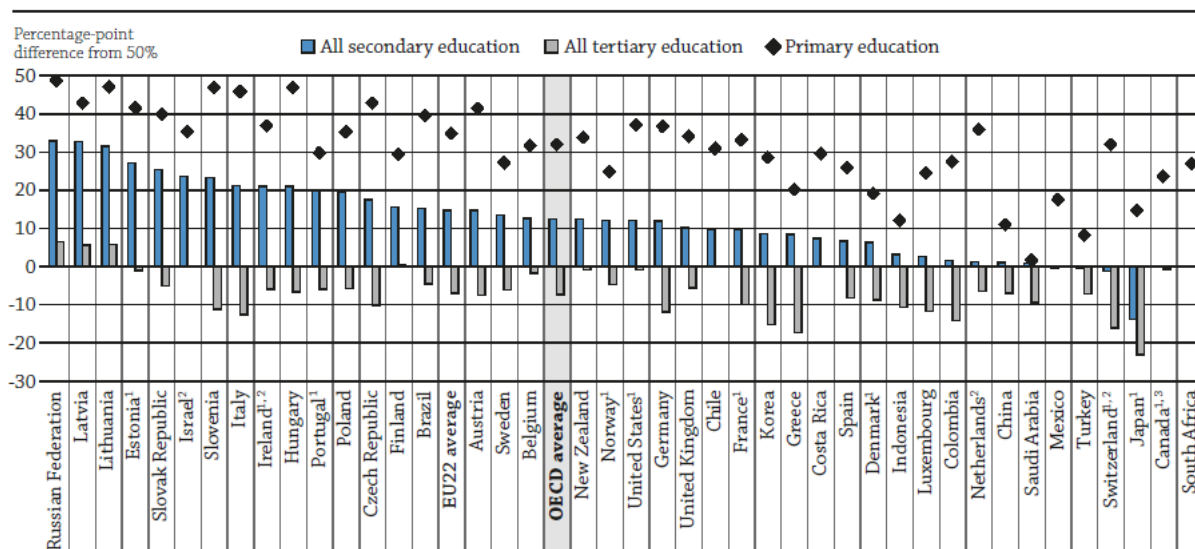
² Values reported in equivalent US dollars (USD) have been converted using purchasing power parities (PPPs).

countries. With these relatively high starting salaries come lower relative increases at the top of the scale: 53% in Switzerland, less than the average among OECD countries.

- Despite these high salaries relative to other OECD teachers, Swiss teachers at lower education levels earn less than other tertiary-educated workers. Primary and lower secondary teachers with 15 years of experience earn on average 83% and 95% of what other tertiary-educated professionals earn respectively. At upper secondary level, however, teachers earn 9% more than their peers compared with 4% less on average among OECD countries.

Figure 2. Gender distribution of teachers

Percentage point difference from 50% for share of women among teaching staff in public and private institutions, by level of education



How to read this figure

The zero line represents a 50-50 gender ratio for teachers in a given education level. Points above zero mean there is a higher share of female teachers and points below zero mean there is a higher share of male teachers. For example, in Slovenia, 97% of teachers in primary education are female, and the same is true for 73% of teachers at secondary and only 39% at the tertiary level.

1. Some levels of education are included with others. Please refer to "x" code in Table D5.3 for details.
2. Public institutions only. For the Netherlands, private data are available and included for pre-primary education. For Israel, private data are available and included in all levels except for pre-primary and upper secondary.
3. Year of reference 2013.

Countries are ranked in descending order of the percentage of female teachers at the secondary level.

Source: OECD, Table D5.3. See Annex 3 for notes (www.oecd.org/education/education-at-a-glance-19991487.htm).

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High-quality education needs sustainable funding

- In 2013, public expenditure on primary to tertiary educational institutions accounted for 14.9% of Switzerland’s total public expenditure, the fourth highest share among OECD countries, behind Chile, Mexico and New Zealand. This corresponds to 4.8% of Swiss gross domestic product (GDP), the same as the OECD average.
- Between 2008 and 2013, total public expenditure on primary to tertiary education increased by 14%. Given that total public expenditure increased by 9% in the same period, education’s share of total public expenditure increased by 4%.
- Switzerland’s annual expenditure per student in public institutions from primary to tertiary level was USD 19 052 in 2013, but spending varied significantly across the different levels of education. Expenditure per student at the tertiary level was USD 25 126, 58% higher than at the primary level, and expenditure at the secondary level was nearly 20% higher than in primary: USD 18 944 versus USD 15 930 respectively.
- Because the cantons have authority over the main part of the education system, the funding of education in Switzerland is highly decentralised, especially at the tertiary level. After transfers of funds between levels of government, 81% of funds to tertiary education come from regional authorities. Together with Spain, Switzerland has the highest share of final funds to tertiary level covered by regional governments.

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Note regarding data from Israel

The statistical data for Israel are supplied by and are under the responsibility of the relevant Israeli authorities. The use of such data by the OECD is without prejudice to the status of the Golan Heights, East Jerusalem and Israeli settlements in the West Bank under the terms of international law.

* EU22 countries are those that are members of both the European Union and the OECD. These 22 countries are Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, the Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

References

OECD (2016), *Education at a Glance 2016: OECD Indicators*, OECD Publishing, Paris, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/eag-2016-en>.

For more information on Education at a Glance 2016 and to access the full set of Indicators, visit www.oecd.org/education/education-at-a-glance-19991487.htm.

Updated data can be found on line at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/eag-data-en> and by following the under the tables and charts in the publication.

Explore, compare and visualise more data and analysis using:  <http://gpseducation.oecd.org/CountryProfile?primaryCountry=CHE&treshold=10&topic=EO>.

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Key Facts for Switzerland in Education at a Glance 2016

Source	Main topics in <i>Education at a Glance</i>	Switzerland		OECD average	
Gender					
Employment rate of 25-64 year-olds, by educational attainment		2015			
		Men	Women	Men	Women
Chart A5.2.	Below upper secondary	78%	62%	66%	46%
	Upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary	88%	79%	81%	67%
	Tertiary	93%	84%	88%	80%
Full-year earnings of women as a percentage of men's earnings, by educational attainment (25-64 year-olds)		2014			
		Ratio (women/men)		Ratio (women/men)	
Table A6.2	Below upper secondary	79%		76%	
	Upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary	82%		77%	
	Tertiary	79%		73%	
Percentage of people not in employment, nor in education or training (NEET)		2015			
		Men	Women	Men	Women
Table C5.2	15-29 year-olds	9%	8%	12%	17%
Percentage of female graduates, by tertiary levels of education		2014			
		% Women		% Women	
Table A3.4	Short-cycle tertiary	63%		56%	
	Bachelor's or equivalent	49%		58%	
	Master's or equivalent	48%		57%	
	Doctoral or equivalent	43%		47%	
Field of education studied among tertiary-educated adults (25-64 year-old non-students)		2012		2012 ¹	
		Men	Women	Men	Women
Table A1.5.	Teacher training and education science	**	**	7%	18%
	Engineering, manufacturing and construction	**	**	31%	7%
Vocational Education and Training (VET)					
Distribution of enrolment, by programme orientation		2014			
		General	Vocational	General	Vocational
Table C1.3a	Upper secondary education	34%	66%	56%	44%
Educational attainment, by programme orientation		2015			
		General	Vocational	General	Vocational
Table A1.4.	25-34 year-olds with upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education	10%	33%	17%	26%
Unemployment rate, by programme orientation		2015			
		General	Vocational	General	Vocational
Table A5.5	25-34 year-olds with upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education as their highest educational attainment level	4.2%	4.1%	10%	9.2%
Financial Investment in Education					
Annual expenditure per student, by level of education (in equivalent USD, using PPPs)		2013			
		USD		USD	
Table B1.1	Primary education	15 930		8 477	
	Secondary education	18 994		9 811	
	Tertiary (including R&D activities)	25 126		15 772	
Total expenditure on primary to tertiary educational institutions		2013			
Table B2.2	As a percentage of GDP	5.1%		5.2%	
Total public expenditure on primary to tertiary education		2013			
Table B4.2	As a percentage of total public expenditure	14.9%		11.2%	
Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC)					
Enrolment rates in early childhood education at age 3²		2014			
Table C2.1	ISCED 01 and 02	3%		71%	
Expenditure on all early childhood educational institutions		2013			
		As a percentage of GDP		As a percentage of GDP	
Table C2.3	As a percentage of GDP	0.2%		0.8%	
	Proportions of total expenditure from public sources	**		81%	
Teachers					
Actual salaries of teachers in public institutions relative to wages of full-time, full-year workers with tertiary education		2014			
Table D3.2a	Pre-primary school teachers	**		0.74	
	Primary school teachers	**		0.81	
	Lower secondary school teachers (general programmes)	**		0.85	
	Upper secondary school teachers (general programmes)	**		0.89	
Annual statutory salaries of teachers in public institutions, based on typical qualifications, at different points in teachers' careers (in equivalent USD, using PPPs)		2014			
		Starting salary	Salary after 15 years of experience	Starting salary	Salary after 15 years of experience
Table D3.1a	Pre-primary school teachers	USD 47 641	**	USD 29 494	USD 39 245
	Primary school teachers	USD 52 863	**	USD 31 028	USD 42 675
	Lower secondary school teachers (general programmes)	USD 60 231	**	USD 32 485	USD 44 407
	Upper secondary school teachers (general programmes)	USD 67 483	**	USD 34 186	USD 46 379

Switzerland - Country Note - Education at a Glance 2016: OECD Indicators

Source	Main topics in <i>Education at a Glance</i>	Switzerland		OECD average	
	Mean monthly earnings of tertiary-educated 25-64 year-old, by selected field of education studied	2012		2012¹	
Table A6.4	Teacher training and education science	**		USD 3 004	
	Engineering, manufacturing and construction	**		USD 3 883	
	Ratio of students to teaching staff	2014			
Table D2.2	Primary education	15 students per teacher		15 students per teacher	
	Secondary education	**		13 students per teacher	
	Tertiary education	**		17 students per teacher	
Tertiary Education					
	Percentage of adults who have attained tertiary education, by tertiary level of educational attainment and age group	2015			
		25-34 year-olds	25-64 year-olds	25-34 year-olds	25-64 year-olds
Table A1.2	Short-cycle tertiary	**	**	8%	8%
	Bachelor's or equivalent	26%	20%	21%	16%
	Master's or equivalent	21%	18%	14%	11%
	Doctoral or equivalent	2%	3%	1%	1%
	All tertiary levels of education	49%	42%	42%	35%
	Employment rate of 25-64 year-olds, by tertiary educational attainment	2015			
Tables A5.1 & A5.3	Short-cycle tertiary	**		80%	
	Bachelor's or equivalent	89%		82%	
	Master's or equivalent	89%		87%	
	Doctoral or equivalent	93%		91%	
	All tertiary levels of education	89%		84%	
	Relative earnings of full-time full-year 25-64 year-old workers, by tertiary educational attainment (upper secondary education = 100)	2014			
Table A6.1	Short-cycle tertiary	**		120	
	Bachelor's or equivalent	131		148	
	Master's, doctoral or equivalent	154		191	
	All tertiary levels of education	143		155	
	Share of international or foreign students, by level of tertiary education	2014			
Table C4.1.	Bachelor's or equivalent	10%		5%	
	Master's or equivalent	28%		12%	
	Doctoral or equivalent	53%		27%	
	All tertiary levels of education	17%		6%	
	First-time entry rates into tertiary education	2014			
Table C3.1.	All tertiary levels (including international students)	80%		68%	
	All tertiary levels (excluding international students)	45%		61%	
	All tertiary levels (students younger than 25 years old and excluding international students)	36%		51%	
Other: Immigration and intergenerational mobility in education					
	Proportion of adults with same educational attainment levels as their parents, by parents' immigrant status³	2012		2012¹	
		Native-born parents	Foreign-born parents	Native-born parents	Foreign-born parents
Table A4.3	25-44 year-old adults with below upper secondary education as their highest educational attainment level	**	**	27%	37%
Other: Adult education and learning					
	Participation of 25-64 year-olds in formal and/or non-formal education, by level of education³	2012		2012¹	
Table C6.3	Below upper secondary	**		26%	
	Upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary	**		46%	
	Tertiary	**		70%	
Other: Education and social outcomes					
	Percentage of 25-64 year-old adults reporting that they are in good health, by selected literacy proficiency level	2012		2012¹	
Table A8.1 (L)	Low literacy proficiency (Level 1 or below)	**		67%	
	High literacy proficiency (Level 4 or 5)	**		90%	
	Life satisfaction today and life satisfaction expected in five years for 25-64 year-olds, by educational attainment⁴	2015			
		Life satisfaction today	Life satisfaction in 5 years	Life satisfaction today	Life satisfaction in 5 years
Table A8.3a	Upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary	**	99%	83%	87%
	Tertiary	97%	99%	92%	94%

The reference year is the year cited or the latest year for which data are available.

Refer to Annex 3 for notes and for more information on data presented in this key facts table (www.oecd.org/education/education-at-a-glance-19991487.htm).

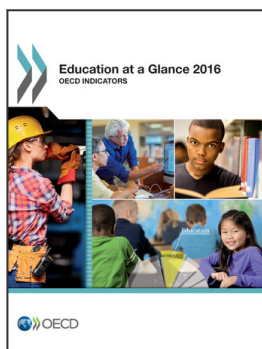
1. OECD average includes some countries with 2015 data.

2. For Switzerland, only data on ISCED 02 is available.

3. Data refer to ISCED-97 instead of ISCED-A 2011.

4. Educational attainment categories collected by Gallup World Poll may differ from ISCED-A 2011.

** Please refer to the source table for details on this data.



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