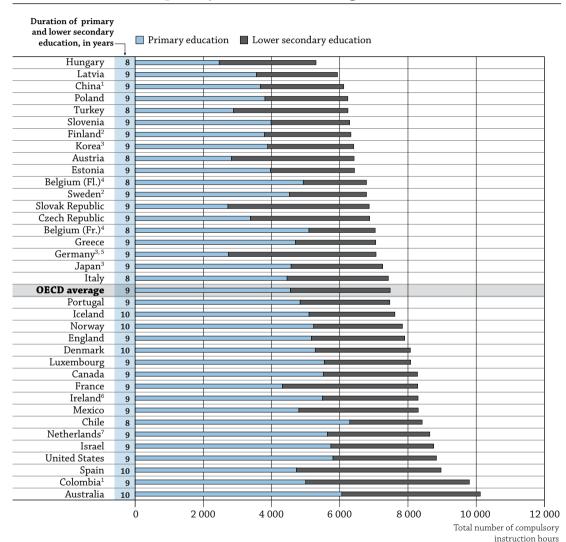
#### **HOW MUCH TIME DO STUDENTS SPEND IN THE CLASSROOM?**

- Students in OECD countries receive an average of 7475 hours of compulsory instruction during their primary and lower secondary education.
- On average across OECD countries, instruction in reading, writing and literature, mathematics, and the arts represents 45% of compulsory instruction time for primary school students; instruction in reading, writing and literature, first and other foreign languages, and mathematics represents 39% of compulsory instruction time for lower secondary school students.

## **INDICATOR D1**

#### Chart D1.1. Compulsory instruction time in general education (2014)



<sup>1.</sup> Year of reference 2012.

Countries are ranked in ascending order of the total number of compulsory instruction hours.

Source: OECD. Table D1.1. See Annex 3 for notes (www.oecd.org/edu/eag.htm).

<sup>2.</sup> Estimated number of hours by level of education as the allocation of instruction time across multiple grades is flexible.

<sup>3.</sup> Year of reference 2013.

<sup>4.</sup> It is compulsory for students to attend full-time education up to the age of 15 or 16. However, those in general education must continue until they are 18.

<sup>5.</sup> Excludes the last year of compulsory education, which can be classified either at the lower secondary level or at the upper secondary level.

<sup>6.</sup> Actual instruction time for lower secondary education.

<sup>7.</sup> The number of grades in lower secondary education is 3 or 4 years depending on the track.

#### Context

Providing instruction in formal classroom settings accounts for a large portion of public investment in education. Countries make various choices concerning the overall amount of time devoted to instruction and which subjects are compulsory. These choices reflect national and/or regional priorities and preferences concerning what material students should be taught and at what age. Countries usually have statutory or regulatory requirements regarding hours of instruction. These are most often stipulated as the minimum number of hours of instruction a school must offer, and are based on the understanding that sufficient instruction time is required for good learning outcomes. Matching resources with students' needs and making optimal use of time are central to education policy. Teachers' salaries, institutional maintenance and provision of other educational resources constitute the main costs of education. The length of time during which these resources are made available to students (as partly shown in this indicator) is an important factor in determining how funds for education are allocated (see Indicator B7, which shows the factors influencing the salary cost of teachers per student).

Other findings

- In OECD countries, compulsory instruction time for primary students averages 794 hours per year; lower secondary students receive an average of 111 more hours of compulsory education per year than primary students do.
- The proportion of the compulsory curriculum for primary students that is devoted to reading, writing and literature ranges from 18% in Poland to 37% in France; for lower secondary students, it ranges from 12% in the Czech Republic, Finland, Ireland and Japan to 33% in Italy.
- In OECD countries, an average of 14% (for primary students) and 6% (for lower secondary students) of compulsory instruction time is devoted to compulsory subjects with a flexible timetable. An average of 4% of compulsory instruction time for both groups of students is devoted to compulsory flexible subjects chosen by schools.
- In about one-third of countries with available data, the allocation of instruction time across grades is flexible, i.e. instruction time for a specific subject is defined for a certain number of grades, or even the whole of compulsory education, without specifying the time to be allocated to each grade.

#### **INDICATOR D1**

#### **Analysis**

#### Compulsory general education

Annual instruction time should be examined together with the length of compulsory education. In some countries, the duration of compulsory education is shorter and students bear a heavier workload and, in other countries, the workload is distributed evenly over a greater number of years.

In about three-quarters of countries with available data, students start primary education at the age of 6. However, in Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Poland and Sweden students do not start until age 7. Only in Australia, England and Scotland does primary education start at age 5. There is also substantial variation in the duration of primary education. On average, primary education lasts six years, but ranges from four years in Austria, Germany, Hungary, the Slovak Republic and Turkey, to seven years in Denmark, Iceland, Norway and Scotland. Lower secondary education averages three years but ranges from two years in Belgium (Flemish and French Communities), and Chile to five years in the Slovak Republic. In slightly more than half of countries with available data, at least one year of upper secondary education is part of compulsory full-time education (Table D1.2).

Countries also allocate annual instruction time differently over the year. On average across OECD countries, primary and lower secondary students attend 185 and 183 instruction days per year, respectively. However, students in China (primary and lower secondary), France (primary), Greece (lower secondary), Iceland (primary and lower secondary), Ireland (lower secondary), Latvia (primary) and Luxembourg (lower secondary) attend 170 instruction days, or fewer, per year. In contrast, primary and lower secondary school students in Brazil, Colombia, Israel, Italy, Japan and Mexico attend at least 200 instruction days per year (Table D1.2).

#### Compulsory instruction time

Compulsory instruction time refers to the amount and allocation of instruction time that has to be provided in almost every public school and must be attended by almost all public sector students, as per public regulations.

Students in OECD countries attend an average of 4 553 hours of instruction during primary school and an average of 2 922 hours during lower secondary education. While the average total compulsory instruction time for primary and lower secondary students in OECD countries is 7 475 hours, formal instruction-time requirements range from 5 304 hours in Hungary to 10 120 hours in Australia (Table D1.1).

Compulsory instruction time can differ from actual instruction time, as it only captures the time spent by students in formal classroom settings. This is only a part of the total time students spend receiving instruction. Instruction also occurs outside the classroom and/or school. In some countries, secondary school students are encouraged to take after-school classes in subjects already taught in school to help them improve their performance. Students can participate in after-school lessons in the form of remedial "catch-up" classes or enrichment courses, with individual tutors or in group lessons provided by school teachers, or in other independent courses. These lessons can be financed through public funds or by students and their families (see Box D1.1 in OECD, 2011).

#### Intended instruction time

Total intended instruction time is the number of hours during which schools are obliged to offer instruction in compulsory, and if applicable, non-compulsory subjects.

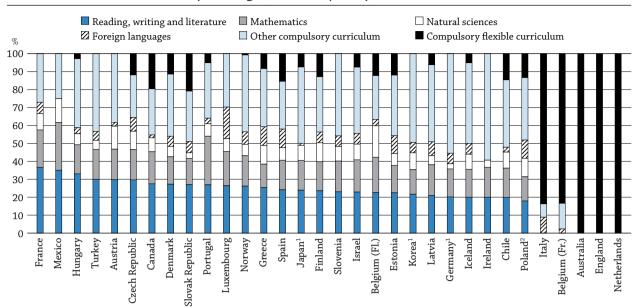
Intended instruction time is fully compulsory, i.e. intended and compulsory instruction time are of the same length, in primary and lower secondary education in about three-quarters of countries with available data. However, in Finland, Greece, Poland, Portugal and Slovenia, the total intended instruction time in primary and lower secondary education is at least 5% longer than the compulsory instruction time.

#### Instruction time per subject

Primary students spend an average of 45% of the compulsory curriculum on three subjects: reading, writing and literature (22%), mathematics (15%) and the arts (9%). Together with physical education and health (8%), natural sciences (7%) and social studies (6%), these six study areas form the major part of the curriculum in all OECD countries where instruction time per subject is specified. Foreign languages, religion/ethics/moral education, information and communication technologies (ICT), technology, practical and vocational skills, and other subjects make up the remainder (16%) of the non-flexible compulsory curriculum at the primary level (Table D1.3a and Chart D1.2a).

Chart D1.2a. Instruction time per subject in primary education (2014)

As a percentage of total compulsory instruction time



1. Year of reference 2013.

2. Excludes the first three years of primary education where a large proportion of the time allocated to compulsory subjects is flexible. Countries are ranked in descending order of the proportion of instruction hours devoted to reading, writing and literature.

Source: OECD. Table D1.3a. See Annex 3 for notes (www.oecd.org/edu/eag.htm).

StatLink http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933119644

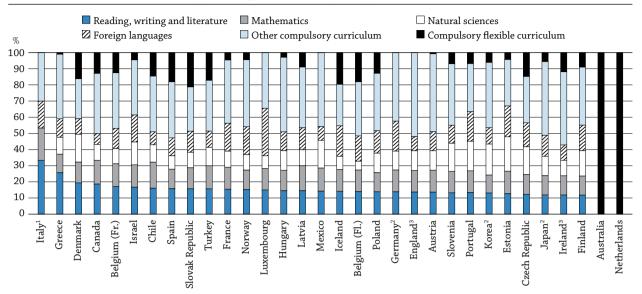
On average, the largest portion of the primary school curriculum is devoted to reading, writing and literature, but the size of that portion differs widely. For example, in Chile, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, and Poland, reading, writing and literature accounts for 20% or less of compulsory instruction time while in France and Mexico, it accounts for 35% or more of compulsory instruction time. The variations between countries in the time spent learning mathematics and arts are also very large. In Greece, Korea and Poland mathematics accounts for 14% or less of instruction time; In Mexico and Portugal, it accounts for 27% of instruction time. In Israel and Mexico, arts education accounts for 5% of instruction time, while in Estonia, Germany, Iceland, Norway and Slovenia, it accounts for 15% or more of compulsory instruction time. In Finland, arts education accounts for at least 13% of compulsory instruction time but schools must also allocate additional flexible time to arts, music or crafts.

At the lower secondary level, an average of 39% of the compulsory curriculum is composed of three subjects: reading, writing and literature (14%), first and other foreign languages (13%) and mathematics (12%). On average, an additional 11% of the compulsory curriculum is devoted to natural sciences and 10% to social studies. Together with physical education and health (7%) and the arts (7%), these seven study areas form the major part of the curriculum for this age group in all OECD and partner countries where instruction time per subject is specified. Religion/ethics/moral education, ICT, technology, practical and vocational skills, and other subjects make up the remainder (12%) of the non-flexible compulsory curriculum for students at this level of education (Table D1.3b and Chart D1.2b).

There is a significant shift in the allocation of time from primary to lower secondary schooling. Instruction in reading, writing and literature drops from 22% of the compulsory curriculum to 14%. Instruction in mathematics drops from 15% to 12% of compulsory instruction time. Conversely, instruction in both natural science and social studies climbs from 7% and 6% of the compulsory curriculum to 11% and 10% respectively, while instruction in foreign languages (first and others) climbs from 5% to 13%. Instruction in foreign languages accounts for the largest share of the compulsory core curriculum at the lower secondary level in Belgium (Flemish Community), Finland (together with natural sciences), France, Germany, Iceland, Israel (together with reading, writing and literature), Japan, Luxembourg, Norway, Poland (together with reading, writing and literature) and Portugal (together with natural sciences) (Tables D1.3a and b).

# Chart D1.2b. Instruction time per subject in lower secondary education (2014)

As a percentage of total compulsory instruction time



- 1. Natural sciences included in mathematics
- 2. Year of reference 2013.
- 3. Actual instruction time.

Countries are ranked in descending order of the proportion of instruction hours devoted to reading, writing and literature.

**Source:** OECD. Table D1.3b. See Annex 3 for notes (www.oecd.org/edu/eag.htm).

StatLink http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933119663

At the lower secondary level, there is substantial variation in how countries allocate time among the different subjects within the compulsory curriculum. For example, reading, writing and literature accounts for 12% of compulsory instruction time in the Czech Republic, Finland, Ireland and Japan, while it accounts for more than 25% of compulsory instruction time in Greece and Italy. In Canada, England and Greece, instruction in a first foreign language accounts for 7% or less of compulsory instruction time while it accounts for 17% in Luxembourg. In addition, in slightly less than half of the countries with available data, studying a second foreign language is compulsory for lower secondary students.

As seen at the primary and lower secondary levels, there are significant differences in how time is allocated to school subjects as students grow older. On average across OECD countries, 25% of instruction time for 7-year-olds is devoted to reading, writing and literature; for 11-year-olds, 17% of instruction time is devoted to these subjects, and for 15-year-olds, 12% of instruction time is devoted to them. By contrast, whereas an average of 2% of instruction time for 7-year-olds is devoted to foreign languages, 9% of instruction time for 11-year-olds is spent studying a first foreign language and 2% studying other foreign languages, and 10% and 4% of instruction time for 15-year-olds is devoted to the first and other foreign languages respectively (Tables D1.5b, f and j, available on line).

#### Flexibility in the curriculum

In most countries, central and state authorities establish regulations or recommendations regarding instruction time and the curriculum. However, local authorities, schools, teachers and/or students also have varying degrees of freedom in organising instruction time or in choosing subjects.

In about one-third of countries with available data, the allocation of instruction time across grades is flexible, i.e. instruction time for a specific subject is defined for a certain number of grades, or even the whole of compulsory education, without specifying the time to be allocated to each grade. In such cases, schools/local authorities are free to decide how much time should be allocated for each grade (Table D1.2).

Setting compulsory subjects within a flexible timetable is more common at the primary level where, on average across OECD countries, it accounts for 14% of the compulsory instruction time. In this case, compulsory subjects and total instruction time are specified, but not the time to be allocated to each subject. Local authorities, schools and/or teachers are free to decide how much time should be allocated to each compulsory subject. In Belgium (French Community) and Italy, compulsory subjects within a flexible timetable account for around 85% of instruction time at the primary level and up to 100% in Australia, England and the Netherlands. This is also the case in Denmark for the first year of primary education. At the lower secondary level, Australia and the Netherlands also allow complete flexibility in allocating instruction time across compulsory subjects. In Scotland, at both primary and lower secondary levels, some compulsory subjects are specified, but there is no regulation on total instruction time, which is the responsibility of local authorities.

Flexibility in the choice of subjects is less common across OECD countries than flexibility in the allocation of instruction time across compulsory subjects. On average, 4% of compulsory instruction time is allocated to subjects chosen by schools at the primary level. At the lower secondary level, 4% of compulsory instruction time is allocated to subjects chosen by schools and another 4% to subjects chosen by the students. However, some countries allocate a substantial part of the compulsory instruction time to flexible subjects. For example, in Belgium (Flemish Community, primary level), Chile, the Czech Republic, Estonia (primary level), Ireland (lower secondary level) and Poland, at least 10% of compulsory instruction time is allocated to subjects chosen by schools; up to 21% of compulsory instruction time is so allocated in the Slovak Republic. In Iceland, Spain and Turkey, at least 17% of the compulsory instruction time is allocated to subjects chosen by lower secondary students (Tables D1.3a and b).

#### Non-compulsory instruction time

Among OECD countries, the non-compulsory part of the curriculum accounts for an average of 4% of the total compulsory instruction time at the primary level, and 2% at the lower secondary level. Nevertheless, a considerable amount of additional non-compulsory instruction time is provided in some countries. At the primary level, additional non-compulsory time accounts for 36% in Greece and 23% in Portugal. At the lower secondary level, non-compulsory instruction time accounts for 13% of the total compulsory instruction time in Slovenia and 10% in France (Tables D1.3a and b).

#### Box D1.1. Extracurricular activities at school

Intended instruction time only captures the time spent by students in formal classroom settings. In addition to formal instruction time, students may participate in extracurricular activities before and/or after the school day or during school holidays, on school premises.

In OECD and partner countries, extracurricular activities are more commonly offered during the school year (before and/or after classes) than during school holidays. Although schools often have the autonomy to decide whether they provide these activities or not, it is sometimes compulsory for all schools to offer extracurricular activities. For example, this is the case at the primary and/or the lower secondary level, in France, Poland and Slovenia. In Hungary, not only do primary and lower secondary schools have to organise extracurricular activities until 4 pm, but students are also required to attend them.

These activities can be organised by schools, as in Brazil and Hungary, by municipalities, as in Israel, or by volunteer school staff, as in Ireland. External public partners are also often involved in organising extracurricular activities on school premises as are private stakeholders, though less commonly so. For example, in Portugal, these activities can be organised by parent associations and non-governmental organisations. In 18 of 36 countries with available data, additional payments are offered to teachers to participate in these extracurricular activities (see Indicator D3).

Before- and/or after-school activities typically include childcare (at the primary level), tutoring or remedial courses, sports and/or artistic and cultural activities. In Hungary and Turkey, these activities also include community service; in Spain, classes in foreign languages, ICT and reading and writing workshops are offered.

#### **Definitions**

Compulsory curriculum refers to the amount and allocation of instruction time that has to be provided in almost every public school and must be attended by almost all public sector students. The compulsory curriculum may be flexible as local authorities, schools, teachers and/or pupils may have varying degrees of freedom to choose the subjects and/or the allocation of compulsory instruction time.

Compulsory flexible subjects chosen by schools refer to the total amount of compulsory instruction time indicated by the central authorities, which regional authorities, local authorities, schools or teachers allocate to subjects of their choice (or subjects they chose from a list defined by central education authorities). It is compulsory for the school to offer one of these subjects and students must attend it.

Compulsory options chosen by the students refer to the total amount of instruction time in one or more subjects that pupils have to select (from a set of subjects that are compulsory for schools to offer) in order to cover part of their compulsory instruction time.

Compulsory subjects with a flexible timetable refer to the total amount of instruction time indicated by the central authorities for a given group of subjects, which regional authorities, local authorities, schools or teachers allocate to individual subjects. There is flexibility in the time spent on a subject, but not in the subjects to be taught.

Flexible allocation of instruction time across multiple grades refers to the case when the curriculum only indicates the total instruction time for a specific subject for a certain number of grades, or even the whole of compulsory education, without specifying the time to be allocated to each grade. In such cases, schools/local authorities are free to decide how much time should be assigned for each grade.

**Instruction time** refers to the number of 60-minute hours per school year a public school is expected to provide instruction to students on all the subjects integrated into the compulsory and non-compulsory curriculum, on school premises or in before-/after-school activities, that are formal parts of the compulsory programme. Instruction time excludes breaks between classes or other types of interruptions, non-compulsory time outside the school day, time dedicated to homework activities, and individual tutoring or private study.

Intended instruction time refers to the number of hours per year of the compulsory and non-compulsory part of the curriculum that students are entitled to receive in public schools. The intended curriculum can be based on regulations or standards of the central (or top level) education authorities or may be established as a set of recommendations at the regional level.

The non-compulsory part of the curriculum refers to the total amount of instruction time to which students are entitled beyond the compulsory hours of instruction and that almost every public school is expected to provide. Subjects can vary from school to school or from region to region and take the form of elective subjects. Students are not required to choose one of the elective subjects, but all public schools are expected to offer this possibility.

#### Methodology

Data on instruction time are from the 2013 Joint Eurydice-OECD Instruction time data collection and refer to instruction time during compulsory primary and full time (lower and upper) secondary general education for the school year 2013/14.

In the previous editions of *Education at a Glance*, data on instruction time used to be collected with another survey using a different scope, methodology and definitions than the 2013 Joint Eurydice-OECD Instruction time data collection. As a consequence, data on instruction time are not comparable with the figures published in the previous editions of *Education at a Glance*.

This indicator captures intended instruction time, as established in public regulations, as a measure of learning in formal classroom settings. It does not show the actual number of hours of instruction that students receive and does not cover learning outside of the formal classroom setting. Differences may exist across countries between the regulatory minimum hours of instruction and the actual hours of instruction received by students. A study conducted by Regioplan Beleidsonderzoek in the Netherlands showed that, given such factors as school timetables, lesson cancellations and teacher absenteeism, schools may not consistently attain the regulatory minimum instruction time (see Box D1.1 in OECD, 2007).

The indicator also illustrates how minimum instruction hours are allocated across different curricular areas. It shows the intended net hours of instruction for those grades that are part of compulsory full-time general education. Although the data are difficult to compare among countries because of different curricular policies, they nevertheless provide an indication of how much formal instruction time is considered necessary for students to achieve the desired educational goals.

When the allocation of instruction time across grades is flexible, i.e. instruction time for a specific subject is defined for a certain number of grades, or even the whole of compulsory education, without specifying the time to be

Notes on definitions and methodologies for each country are provided in Annex 3, available at www.oecd.org/edu/ eag.htm.

#### 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.

#### References

OECD (2011), Education at a Glance 2011: OECD Indicators, OECD Publishing, Paris, http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/eag-2011-en. OECD (2007), Education at a Glance 2007: OECD Indicators, OECD Publishing, Paris, http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/eag-2007-en.

#### **Tables of Indicator D1**

| StatLink http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933119530 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Table D1.1                                      | Instruction time in compulsory general education (2014)          |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Table D1.2                                      | rganisation of compulsory general education (2014)               |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Table D1.3a                                     | Instruction time per subject in primary education (2014)         |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Table D1.3b                                     | Instruction time per subject in lower secondary education (2014) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WEB Table D1.4                                  | Instruction time in compulsory general education, by age (2014)  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WEB Table D1.5a                                 | Instruction time per subject for 6-year-olds (2014)              |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WEB Table D1.5b                                 | Instruction time per subject for 7-year-olds (2014)              |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WEB Table D1.5c                                 | Instruction time per subject for 8-year-olds (2014)              |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WEB Table D1.5d                                 | Instruction time per subject for 9-year-olds (2014)              |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WEB Table D1.5e                                 | Instruction time per subject for 10-year-olds (2014)             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WEB Table D1.5f                                 | Instruction time per subject for 11-year-olds (2014)             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WEB Table D1.5g                                 | Instruction time per subject for 12-year-olds (2014)             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WEB Table D1.5h                                 | Instruction time per subject for 13-year-olds (2014)             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WEB Table D1.5i                                 | Instruction time per subject for 14-year-olds (2014)             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WEB Table D1.5j                                 | Instruction time per subject for 15-year-olds (2014)             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WEB Table D1.5k                                 | Instruction time per subject for 16-year-olds (2014)             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WEB Table D1.5l                                 | Instruction time per subject for 17-year-olds (2014)             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**D**1

Table D1.1. [1/2] Instruction time in compulsory general education<sup>1</sup> (2014)

By level of education, in public institutions

|      |  |   |                                   | P   | rimary educat                   | ion                               |   |                                 | Lower secondary education                                       |                                   |   |                                 |  |  |  |  |
|------|--|---|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
|      |  | sa  | Aver                              | age hours pe                              | er year                         | Tota                              | l number of                               | hours                           | se  | Average hours per year            |   |                                 |  |  |  |  |
|      |  | Number of grades<br>that are part<br>of compulsory<br>education | Compulsory<br>instruction<br>time | Non-<br>compulsory<br>instruction<br>time | Intended<br>instruction<br>time | Compulsory<br>instruction<br>time | Non-<br>compulsory<br>instruction<br>time | Intended<br>instruction<br>time | Number of grades<br>that are part<br>of compulsory<br>education | Compulsory<br>instruction<br>time | Non-<br>compulsory<br>instruction<br>time | Intended<br>instruction<br>time |  |  |  |  |
|      |  | (1)   | (2)                               | (3)                                       | (4)=(2)+(3)                     | (5)                               | (6)                                       | (7)=(5)+(6)                     | (8)   | (9)                               | (10)                                      | (11)=(9)+(10)                   |  |  |  |  |
| 5    | Australia<br>Austria                                   | 6<br>4  | 1 010<br>705                      | m<br>m                                    | m<br>m                          | 6 060<br>2 820                    | m<br>m                                    | m<br>m                          | 4   | 1 015<br>900                      | m<br>m                                    | m<br>m                          |  |  |  |  |
| ō    | Belgium (Fl.) <sup>2</sup>                             | 6   | 821                               | n   | 821                             | 4 928                             | n   | 4 928                           | 2   | 928                               | n   | m<br>928                        |  |  |  |  |
|      | Belgium (Fr.) <sup>2</sup>                             | 6   | 849                               | m   | m                               | 5 096                             | m   | m                               | 2   | 971                               | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
|      | Canada   | 6   | 919                               | n   | 919                             | 5 515                             | n   | 5 515                           | 3   | 921                               | 3   | 924                             |  |  |  |  |
|      | Chile  | 6<br>5  | 1 049                             | a   | 1 049                           | 6 293                             | a   | 6 293                           | 2<br>4  | 1 062                             | a   | 1 062                           |  |  |  |  |
|      | Czech Republic<br>Denmark                              | 7   | 676<br>754                        | m<br>a                                    | m<br>754                        | 3 381<br>5 280                    | m<br>a                                    | m<br>5 280                      | 3   | 874<br>930                        | m<br>a                                    | m<br>930                        |  |  |  |  |
|      | England  | 6   | 861                               | m   | m                               | 5 168                             | m   | m                               | 3   | 912                               | n   | 912                             |  |  |  |  |
|      | Estonia  | 6   | 661                               | a   | 661                             | 3 964                             | a   | 3 964                           | 3   | 823                               | a   | 823                             |  |  |  |  |
|      | Finland <sup>3</sup>                                   | 6   | 632                               | 29  | 661                             | 3 794                             | 171                                       | 3 965                           | 3   | 844                               | 57  | 901                             |  |  |  |  |
|      | France   | 5<br>4  | 864<br>683                        | n   | 864<br>683                      | 4 320<br>2 732                    | n   | 4 320<br>2 732                  | 4<br>5  | 991<br>866                        | 99  | 1 090<br>866                    |  |  |  |  |
|      | Germany <sup>4, 5</sup><br>Greece                      | 6   | 783                               | a<br>282                                  | 1 065                           | 4 699                             | a<br>1 690                                | 6 390                           | 3   | 785                               | a<br>n                                    | 785                             |  |  |  |  |
|      | Hungary  | 4   | 616                               | a   | 616                             | 2 464                             | a   | 2 464                           | 4   | 710                               | a   | 710                             |  |  |  |  |
|      | Iceland  | 7   | 729                               | a   | 729                             | 5 100                             | a   | 5 100                           | 3   | 839                               | a   | 839                             |  |  |  |  |
|      | Ireland <sup>6</sup>                                   | 6   | 915                               | a   | 915                             | 5 490                             | a   | 5 490                           | 3   | 935                               | a   | 935                             |  |  |  |  |
|      | Israel   | 6   | 957                               | n   | 957                             | 5 741                             | n   | 5 741                           | 3   | 1 004                             | n   | 1 004                           |  |  |  |  |
|      | Italy<br>Japan <sup>4</sup>                            | 5<br>6  | 891<br>762                        | a<br>m                                    | 891<br>m                        | 4 455<br>4 573                    | a<br>m                                    | 4 455<br>m                      | 3   | 990<br>895                        | a<br>m                                    | 990<br>m                        |  |  |  |  |
|      | Korea <sup>4</sup>                                     | 6   | 648                               | a   | 648                             | 3 885                             | a   | 3 885                           | 3   | 842                               | a   | 842                             |  |  |  |  |
|      | Luxembourg   | 6   | 924                               | a   | 924                             | 5 544                             | a   | 5 544                           | 3   | 845                               | a   | 845                             |  |  |  |  |
|      | Mexico   | 6   | 800                               | a   | 800                             | 4 800                             | a   | 4 800                           | 3   | 1 167                             | a   | 1 167                           |  |  |  |  |
|      | Netherlands <sup>7</sup>                               | 6   | 940                               | m   | m                               | 5 640                             | m   | m                               | 3   | 1 000                             | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
|      | New Zealand<br>Norway                                  | m<br>7  | m<br>748                          | m<br>a                                    | m<br>748                        | m<br>5 234                        | m<br>a                                    | m<br>5 234                      | m<br>3  | m<br>868                          | m<br>a                                    | m<br>868                        |  |  |  |  |
|      | Poland   | 6   | 635                               | 58  | 693                             | 3 807                             | 348                                       | 4 155                           | 3   | 810                               | 64  | 874                             |  |  |  |  |
|      | Portugal   | 6   | 806                               | 189                                       | 995                             | 4 838                             | 1 133                                     | 5 971                           | 3   | 877                               | 27  | 903                             |  |  |  |  |
|      | Scotland <sup>8</sup>                                  | 7   | a                                 | a   | a                               | a                                 | a   | a                               | 3   | a                                 | a   | a                               |  |  |  |  |
|      | Slovak Republic  | 4   | 680                               | a   | 680                             | 2 722                             | a   | 2 722                           | 5   | 828                               | a   | 828                             |  |  |  |  |
|      | Slovenia<br>Spain                                      | 6<br>6  | 664<br>787                        | 79<br>a                                   | 743<br>787                      | 3 986<br>4 725                    | 473<br>a                                  | 4 459<br>4 725                  | 3<br>4  | 767<br>1 061                      | 102<br>a                                  | 869<br>1 061                    |  |  |  |  |
|      | Sweden <sup>3</sup>                                    | 6   | 754                               | m   | m                               | 4 523                             | m   | 4 725<br>m                      | 3   | 754                               | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
|      | Switzerland  | m   | m                                 | m   | m                               | m                                 | m   | m                               | m   | m                                 | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
|      | Turkey   | 4   | 720                               | a   | 720                             | 2 880                             | a   | 2 880                           | 4   | 840                               | a   | 840                             |  |  |  |  |
|      | United States <sup>9</sup>                             | 6   | 967                               | m   | m                               | 5 802                             | m   | m                               | 3   | 1 011                             | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
|      | OECD average <sup>8</sup><br>EU21 average <sup>8</sup> | 6<br>6  | 794<br>768                        | 26<br>40                                  | ~ ~                             | 4 553<br>4 290                    | 159<br>238                                | ~ ~                             | 3<br>3  | 905<br>882                        | 14<br>21                                  | ~ ~                             |  |  |  |  |
| 2    | Argentina<br>Brazil <sup>8</sup><br>China <sup>9</sup> | m   | m                                 | m   | m                               | m                                 | m   | m                               | m   | m                                 | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
| rtue | Brazil <sup>8</sup>                                    | 5   | m                                 | m   | m                               | m                                 | m   | m                               | 4   | m                                 | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
| Pa   | Colombia <sup>9</sup>                                  | 6<br>5  | 612<br>1 000                      | m<br>m                                    | m<br>m                          | 3 669                             | m<br>m                                    | m<br>m                          | 3<br>4  | 816                               | m<br>m                                    | m<br>m                          |  |  |  |  |
|      | Colombia <sup>9</sup><br>India                         | m   | 1 000<br>m                        | m<br>m                                    | m<br>m                          | 5 000<br>m                        | m<br>m                                    | m<br>m                          | m 4   | 1 200<br>m                        | m<br>m                                    | m<br>m                          |  |  |  |  |
|      | Indonesia  | m   | m                                 | m   | m                               | m                                 | m   | m                               | m   | m                                 | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
|      | Latvia   | 6   | 592                               | m   | m                               | 3 551                             | m   | m                               | 3   | 794                               | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
|      | Russian Federation                                     | m   | m                                 | m   | m                               | m                                 | m   | m                               | m   | m                                 | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
|      | Saudi Arabia   | m   | m                                 | m   | m                               | m                                 | m   | m                               | m   | m                                 | m   | m<br>                           |  |  |  |  |
|      | South Africa   | m   | m                                 | m   | m                               | m                                 | m   | m                               | m   | m                                 | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
|      | G20 average <sup>8</sup>                               | 6   | 811                               | m   | m                               | 4 488                             | m   | m                               | 3   | 939                               | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |

Note: Columns showing instruction time in compulsory upper secondary education (i.e. columns 19-25) are available for consultation on line (see StatLink below).

- 1. Refers to full-time compulsory education and excludes pre-primary education, even if compulsory.
- 2. It is compulsory for students to attend full-time education up to the age of 15 or 16. However, those in general education must continue until they are 18.
- 3. Estimated number of hours by level of education, as the allocation of instruction time across multiple grades is flexible.
- 4. Year of reference 2013.
- 5. Excludes the last year of compulsory education, which can be classified either at the lower secondary level or at the upper secondary level.
- 6. Actual instruction time for lower and upper secondary education.
- 7. The number of grades in lower secondary education is 3 or 4 years depending on the track. The 4th year of pre-vocational secondary education (VMBO) was excluded from the calculation.
- 8. Brazil and Scotland are not included in the averages.
- 9. Year of reference 2012.

Sources: OECD. Argentina, China, Colombia, India, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa: UNESCO Institute for Statistics. Latvia: Eurydice. See Annex 3 for notes (www.oecd.org/edu/eag.htm).

Please refer to the Reader's Guide for information concerning the symbols replacing missing data.

#### Table D1.1. [2/2] Instruction time in compulsory general education<sup>1</sup> (2014)

By level of education, in public institutions

| Total number   | y education                             |                                  | Primary and lower                 | secondary educatio                        | education                       |  |  |  |  |
|--|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Australia  | of hours                                | r.s                              | Total number of hours             |   |                                 |  |  |  |  |
| Australia  | time<br>Intended<br>instruction<br>time | Theoretical<br>duration in years | Compulsory<br>instruction<br>time | Non-<br>compulsory<br>instruction<br>time | Intended<br>instruction<br>time |  |  |  |  |
| Austria         3 600         m           Belgium (FL)²         1 856         n           Belgium (Fr.)²         1 941         m           Canada         2 764         8           Chile         2 123         a           Czech Republic         3 495         m           Denmark         2 790         a           England         2 736         n           Estonia         2 468         a           Finland³         2 533         171           France         3 964         396           Germany⁴,5         4 331         a           Gerece         2 356         n           Leland         2 516         a           Ireland²         2 806         a           Israel         3 011         n           Italy         2 970         a           Japan⁴         2 686         m           Korea⁴         2 525         a           Luxembourg         2 535         a           Mexico         3 500         a           Netherlands²         3 000         m           New Zealand         m         m           Portugal  | (14)=(12)+(13)                          | (15)                             | (16)                              | (17)                                      | (18)                            |  |  |  |  |
| Belgium (FI.)²         1 886         n           Belgium (Fr.)²         1 941         m           Canada         2 764         8           Chile         2 123         a           Czech Republic         3 495         m           Denmark         2 790         a           England         2 736         n           Estonia         2 468         a           Finland³         2 533         171           France         3 964         396           Germany⁴,5         4 331         a           Greece         2 356         n           Hungary         2 840         a           Iceland         2 516         a           Ireland³         2 806         a           Israel         3 011         n           Italy         2 970         a           Japan⁴         2 686         m           Korea⁴         2 525         a           Luxembourg         2 535         a           Netherlands²         3 000         m           New Zealand         m         m           New Zealand         m         m           New Zealand  | m m                                     | 10                               | 10 120                            | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
| Belgium (Fr.)²         1 941         m           Canada         2 764         8           Chile         2 123         a           Czech Republic         3 495         m           Denmark         2 790         a           Estonia         2 468         a           Estonia         2 468         a           Finland³         2 533         171           France         3 964         396           Germany⁴,5         4 331         a           Gerece         2 356         n           Hungary         2 840         a           Iceland         2 516         a           Israel         3 011         n           Italy         2 970         a           Japan⁴         2 686         m           Korea⁴         2 525         a           Luxembourg         2 535         a           Mexico         3 500         a           Netherlands²         3 000         m           New Zealand         m         m           Mexico         3 500         a           Scotland³         a         a           Slovak Republic  |   | 8                                | 6 420                             | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
| Canada         2 764         8           Chile         2 123         a           Czech Republic         3 495         m           Denmark         2 790         a           England         2 736         n           Estonia         2 468         a           Finland³         2 533         171           France         3 964         396           Germany⁴,5         4 331         a           Germany⁴,5         4 331         a           Germany⁴,5         4 331         a           Iceland         2 516         a           Iceland         2 516         a           Ireland⁶         2 806         a           Israel         3 011         n           Italy         2 970         a           Japan⁴         2 686         m           Korea⁴         2 525         a           Luxembourg         2 535         a           Mexico         3 500         a           New Zealand         m         m           Mexico         3 500         a           New Zealand         m         m           New Zealand         m<   |   | 8                                | 6 784                             | n   | 6 784                           |  |  |  |  |
| Chile         2 123         a           Czech Republic         3 495         m           Denmark         2 790         a           England         2 736         n           Estonia         2 468         a           Finland³         2 533         171           France         3 964         396           Germany⁴,5         4 331         a           Greece         2 356         n           Hungary         2 840         a           Iceland         2 516         a           Ireland³         2 806         a           Israel         3 011         n           Italy         2 970         a           Japan⁴         2 686         m           Korea⁴         2 525         a           Luxembourg         2 535         a           Mexico         3 500         a           Netherlands³         3 000         m           New Zealand         m         m           Portugal         2 604         a           Scotland³         a         a           Solovenia         2 302         306           Spain         4 245   |   | 8                                | 7 037                             | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
| Czech Republic         3 495         m           Denmark         2 790         a           England         2 736         n           Estonia         2 468         a           Finland³         2 533         171           France         3 964         396           Germany⁴, 5         4 331         a           Gerece         2 356         n           Hungary         2 840         a           Iceland         2 516         a           Ireland²         2 806         a           Israel         3 011         n           Italy         2 970         a           Japan⁴         2 686         m           Korea⁴         2 525         a           Luxembourg         2 535         a           Mexico         3 500         a           Netherlands²         3 000         m           New Zealand         m         m           Norway         2 604         a           Poland         2 430         193           Portugal         2 630         80           Scotland³         a         a           Slovenia         2  |   | 9                                | 8 279                             | 8   | 8 287                           |  |  |  |  |
| Denmark         2 790         a           England         2 736         n           Estonia         2 468         a           Finland³         2 533         171           France         3 964         396           Germany⁴,5         4 331         a           Geece         2 356         n           Hungary         2 840         a           Iceland         2 516         a           Ireland6         2 806         a           Israel         3 011         n           Italy         2 970         a           Japan⁴         2 686         m           Korea⁴         2 525         a           Luxembourg         2 535         a           Mexico         3 500         a           Netherlands²         3 000         m           New Zealand         m         m           New Zealand         m         m           Poltugal         2 604         a           Portugal         2 604         a           Scotland8         a         a           Slovenia         2 302         306           Spain         4 245   |   | 8                                | 8 416                             | a   | 8 416                           |  |  |  |  |
| England         2 736         n           Estonia         2 468         a           Finland³         2 533         171           France         3 964         396           Germany⁴,5         4 331         a           Greece         2 356         n           Hungary         2 840         a           Iceland         2 516         a           Ireland⁶         2 806         a           Israel         3 011         n           Italy         2 970         a           Japan⁴         2 686         m           Korea⁴         2 525         a           Luxembourg         2 535         a           Mexico         3 500         a           Netherlands²         3 000         m           New Zealand         m         m         m           Scotland  |   | 9                                | 6 876                             | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
| Estonia         2 468         a           Finland³         2 533         171           France         3 964         396           Germany⁴,5         4 331         a           Greece         2 356         n           Hungary         2 840         a           Iceland         2 516         a           Ireland⁶         2 806         a           Israel         3 011         n           Italy         2 970         a           Japan⁴         2 686         m           Korea⁴         2 525         a           Luxembourg         2 535         a           Mexico         3 500         a           Netherlands³         3 000         m           New Zealand         m         m           Mexico         3 500         a           New Zealand         m         m           Norway         2 604         a           Poland         2 430         193           Scotland <sup>8</sup> a         a           Soloweia         2 302         306           Spain         4 245         a           Sweden³         2 262   |   | 10                               | 8 070                             | a   | 8 070                           |  |  |  |  |
| Finland³         2 533         171           France         3 964         396           Germany⁴,5         4 331         a           Greece         2 356         n           Hungary         2 840         a           Iceland         2 516         a           Ireland⁵         2 806         a           Israel         3 011         n           Italy         2 970         a           Japan⁴         2 686         m           Korea⁴         2 525         a           Luxembourg         2 535         a           Mexico         3 500         a           Netherlands²         3 000         m           New Zealand         m         m           New Zealand         m         m           New Zealand         m         m           Norway         2 604         a           Poland         2 430         193           Portugal         2 630         80           Scotland³         a         a           Slovenia         2 302         306           Spain         4 245         a           Sweden³         2 262  |   | 9                                | 7 904<br>6 431                    | m   | m<br>6 431                      |  |  |  |  |
| France         3 964         396           Germany <sup>4, 5</sup> 4 331         a           Greece         2 356         n           Leland         2 516         a           Ireland <sup>6</sup> 2 806         a           Ireland <sup>6</sup> 2 806         a           Israel         3 011         n           Italy         2 970         a           Japan <sup>4</sup> 2 686         m           Korea <sup>4</sup> 2 525         a           Luxembourg         2 535         a           Mexico         3 500         m           Netherlands <sup>7</sup> 3 000         m           New Zealand         m         m           Norway         2 604         a           Poland         2 430         193           Portugal         2 630         80           Scotland <sup>8</sup> a         a           Slovenia         2 302         306           Spain         4 245         a           Sweden <sup>3</sup> 2 262         m           Switzerland         m         m         m           Turkey         3 360         a           Uni   |   | 9                                | 6 327                             | 342                                       | 6 669                           |  |  |  |  |
| Germany <sup>4,5</sup> 4 331         a           Greece         2 356         n           Hungary         2 840         a           Iceland         2 516         a           Ireland <sup>6</sup> 2 806         a           Israel         3 011         n           Italy         2 970         a           Japan <sup>4</sup> 2 686         m           Korea <sup>4</sup> 2 525         a           Luxembourg         2 535         a           Mexico         3 500         a           Netherlands <sup>7</sup> 3 000         m           New Zealand         m         m           New Zealand         m         m           Poland         2 430         193           Portugal         2 604         a           Poland         2 430         193           Portugal         2 630         80           Scotland <sup>8</sup> a         a           Slovenia         2 302         306           Spain         4 245         a           Switzerland         m         m           Turkey         3 360         a           United States <sup>9</sup>   |   | 9                                | 8 284                             | 396                                       | 8 680                           |  |  |  |  |
| Greece         2 356         n           Hungary         2 840         a           Iceland         2 516         a           Ireland <sup>6</sup> 2 806         a           Israel         3 011         n           Italy         2 970         a           Japan <sup>4</sup> 2 686         m           Korea <sup>4</sup> 2 525         a           Luxembourg         2 535         a           Mexico         3 500         a           Netherlands <sup>7</sup> 3 000         m           New Zealand         m         m           Norway         2 604         a           Poland         2 430         193           Portugal         2 630         80           Scotland <sup>8</sup> a         a           Slovak Republic         4 139         a           Slovak Republic         4 139         a           Sweden <sup>3</sup> 2 262         m           Switzerland         m         m           Turkey         3 360         a           United States <sup>9</sup> 3 033         m           OECD average <sup>8</sup> 2 922         46 <t< td=""><td></td><th>9</th><td>7 063</td><td>a a</td><td>7 063</td></t<>                                    |   | 9                                | 7 063                             | a a                                       | 7 063                           |  |  |  |  |
| Hungary  |   | 9                                | 7 055                             | 1 690                                     | 8 746                           |  |  |  |  |
| Iceland         2 516         a           Ireland <sup>6</sup> 2 806         a           Israel         3 011         n           Italy         2 970         a           Japan <sup>4</sup> 2 686         m           Korea <sup>4</sup> 2 525         a           Luxembourg         2 535         a           Mexico         3 500         m           Netherlands <sup>7</sup> 3 000         m           New Zealand         m         m           New Zealand         m         m           Norway         2 604         a           Poland         2 430         193           Portugal         2 630         80           Scotland <sup>8</sup> a         a           a         a         a           Slovenia         2 302         306           Spain         4 245         a           Sweden <sup>3</sup> 2 262         m           Switzerland         m         m           Turkey         3 360         a           United States <sup>9</sup> 3 033         m           OECD average <sup>8</sup> 2 922         46           EU21 average <sup>8</sup>   |   | 8                                | 5 304                             | a a                                       | 5 304                           |  |  |  |  |
| Ireland6   |   | 10                               | 7 616                             | a   | 7 616                           |  |  |  |  |
| Israel   |   | 9                                | 8 296                             | a   | 8 296                           |  |  |  |  |
| Italy         2 970         a           Japan <sup>4</sup> 2 686         m           Korea <sup>4</sup> 2 525         a           Luxembourg         2 535         a           Mexico         3 500         a           Netherlands <sup>7</sup> 3 000         m           New Zealand         m         m           Norway         2 604         a           Poland         2 430         193           Portugal         2 604         a           Portugal         2 604         a           Sortland         2 430         193           Scotland <sup>8</sup> a         a           Slovak Republic         4 139         a           Slovak Republic         4 139         a           Spain         4 245         a           Sweden <sup>3</sup> 2 262         m           Switzerland         m         m           Turkey         3 360         a           United States <sup>9</sup> 3 033         m           OECD average <sup>8</sup> 2 922         46           EU21 average <sup>8</sup> 2 919         67           Argentina         m         m         m  |   | 9                                | 8 752                             | n   | 8 752                           |  |  |  |  |
| Japan <sup>4</sup> 2 686         m           Korea <sup>4</sup> 2 525         a           Luxembourg         2 535         a           Mexico         3 500         a           Netherlands <sup>7</sup> 3 000         m           New Zealand         m         m           Norway         2 604         a           Poland         2 430         193           Portugal         2 604         a           Soctland <sup>8</sup> a         a           a         a         a           Slovak Republic         4 139         a           Slovenia         2 302         306           Spain         4 245         a           Sweden <sup>3</sup> 2 262         m           Switzerland         m         m         m           Turkey         3 360         a         a           United States <sup>9</sup> 3 033         m           OECD average <sup>8</sup> 2 922         46           EU21 average <sup>8</sup> 2 919         67           Argentina         m         m         m           Brazil <sup>8</sup> m         m         m           China <sup>9</sup>  |   | 8                                | 7 425                             | a   | 7 425                           |  |  |  |  |
| Korea <sup>4</sup> 2 525         a           Luxembourg         2 535         a           Mexico         3 500         a           Netherlands <sup>7</sup> 3 000         m           New Zealand         m         m           New Zealand         m         m           Norway         2 604         a           Poland         2 430         193           Portugal         2 630         80           Scotland <sup>8</sup> a         a           Slovak Republic         4 139         a           Slovenia         2 302         306           Spain         4 245         a           Sweden <sup>3</sup> 2 262         m           Switzerland         m         m           Turkey         3 360         a           United States <sup>9</sup> 3 033         m           OECD average <sup>8</sup> 2 922         46           EU21 average <sup>8</sup> 2 919         67           Argentina         m         m           Brazil <sup>8</sup> m         m           China <sup>9</sup> 2 448         m           China <sup>9</sup> 2 448         m <t< td=""><td></td><th>9</th><td>7 259</td><td>m</td><td>m</td></t<>                                      |   | 9                                | 7 259                             | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
| Luxembourg         2 535         a           Mexico         3 500         a           Netherlands <sup>7</sup> 3 000         m           New Zealand         m         m           Morway         2 604         a           Poland         2 430         193           Portugal         2 630         80           Scotland <sup>8</sup> a         a           Slovek Republic         4 139         a           Slovenia         2 302         306           Spain         4 245         a           Sweden <sup>3</sup> 2 262         m           Switzerland         m         m           Turkey         3 360         a           United States <sup>9</sup> 3 033         m           OECD average <sup>8</sup> 2 922         46           EU21 average <sup>8</sup> 2 919         67           Argentina         m         m         m           Brazil <sup>8</sup> m         m         m           China <sup>9</sup> 2 448         m         m           China <sup>9</sup> 4 800         m         m           India         m         m         m  |   | 9                                | 6 410                             | a   | 6 410                           |  |  |  |  |
| Mexico         3 500         a           Netherlands <sup>7</sup> 3 000         m           New Zealand         m         m           Morway         2 604         a           Poland         2 430         193           Portugal         2 630         80           Scotland <sup>8</sup> a         a           Slovenia         2 302         306           Spain         4 245         a           Sweden <sup>3</sup> 2 262         m           Switzerland         m         m         m           Turkey         3 360         a         a           United States <sup>9</sup> 3 033         m         m           OECD average <sup>8</sup> 2 922         46         EU21 average <sup>8</sup> 2 919         67           Argentina         m         m         m         m           Brazil <sup>8</sup> m         m         m           China <sup>9</sup> 2 448         m         m           Colombia <sup>9</sup> 4 800         m         m           India         m         m         m           India         m         m         m           India         <  |   | 9                                | 8 079                             | a   | 8 079                           |  |  |  |  |
| Netherlands <sup>7</sup> 3 000         m           New Zealand         m         m         m           Norway         2 604         a         m         m           Poland         2 430         193         193           Portugal         2 630         80         80           Scotland <sup>8</sup> a         a         a           Slovak Republic         4 139         a         306         306           Spain         4 245         a         a         306         306         a         w         m <t< td=""><td></td><th>9</th><td>8 300</td><td>a</td><td>8 300</td></t<> |   | 9                                | 8 300                             | a   | 8 300                           |  |  |  |  |
| New Zealand         m         m           Norway         2 604         a           Poland         2 430         193           Portugal         2 630         80           Scotland <sup>8</sup> a         a           a         a         a           Slovak Republic         4 139         a           Slovenia         2 302         306           Spain         4 245         a           Sweden <sup>3</sup> 2 262         m           Switzerland         m         m           Turkey         3 360         a           United States <sup>9</sup> 3 033         m           OECD average <sup>8</sup> 2 922         46           EU21 average <sup>8</sup> 2 919         67           Argentina         m         m         m           Brazil <sup>8</sup> m         m         m           China <sup>9</sup> 2 448         m         m           Colombia <sup>9</sup> 4 800         m         m           India         m         m         m           India         m         m         m  |   | 9                                | 8 640                             | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
| Norway         2 604         a           Poland         2 430         193           Portugal         2 630         80           Scotland <sup>8</sup> a         a           Slovak Republic         4 139         a           Slovenia         2 302         306           Spain         4 245         a           Sweden <sup>3</sup> 2 262         m           Switzerland         m         m           Turkey         3 360         a           United States <sup>9</sup> 3 033         m           OECD average <sup>8</sup> 2 922         46           EU21 average <sup>8</sup> 2 919         67           Argentina         m         m         m           Brazil <sup>8</sup> m         m         m           China <sup>9</sup> 2 448         m         m           Colombia <sup>9</sup> 4 800         m         m           India         m         m         m           India         m         m         m           Latvia         2 381         m   |   | m                                | m                                 | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
| Poland         2 430         193           Portugal         2 630         80           Scotland <sup>8</sup> a         a           Slovak Republic         4 139         a           Slovenia         2 302         306           Spain         4 245         a           Sweden <sup>3</sup> 2 262         m           Switzerland         m         m         m           Turkey         3 360         a         a           United States <sup>9</sup> 3 933         m         m           OECD average <sup>8</sup> 2 922         46         EU21 average <sup>8</sup> 2 919         67           Argentina         m         m         m         m           Brazil <sup>8</sup> m         m         m           China <sup>9</sup> 2 448         m         m           Colombia <sup>9</sup> 4 800         m         m           India         m         m         m           India         m         m         m           Latvia         2 381         m         m  |   | 10                               | 7 838                             | a a                                       | 7 838                           |  |  |  |  |
| Portugal         2 630         80           Scotland <sup>8</sup> a         a           Slovak Republic         4 139         a           Slovenia         2 302         306           Spain         4 245         a           Sweden <sup>3</sup> 2 262         m           Switzerland         m         m           Turkey         3 360         a           United States <sup>9</sup> 3 033         m           OECD average <sup>8</sup> 2 922         46           EU21 average <sup>8</sup> 2 919         67           Argentina         m         m           Brazil <sup>8</sup> m         m           China <sup>9</sup> 2 448         m           Colombia <sup>9</sup> 4 800         m           India         m         m           India         m         m           Latvia         2 381         m   |   | 9                                | 6 237                             | 541                                       | 6 778                           |  |  |  |  |
| Scotland <sup>8</sup> a         a           Slovak Republic         4 139         a           Slovenia         2 302         306           Spain         4 245         a           Sweden <sup>3</sup> 2 262         m           Switzerland         m         m           Turkey         3 360         a           United States <sup>9</sup> 3 033         m           OECD average <sup>8</sup> 2 922         46           EU21 average <sup>8</sup> 2 919         67           Argentina         m         m         m           Brazil <sup>8</sup> m         m         m           China <sup>9</sup> 2 448         m         m           Colombia <sup>9</sup> 4 800         m         m           India         m         m         m           India         m         m         m           Latvia         2 381         m         m   |   | 9                                | 7 467                             | 1 214                                     | 8 681                           |  |  |  |  |
| Slovak Republic         4 139         a           Slovenia         2 302         306           Spain         4 245         a           Sweden³         2 262         m           Switzerland         m         m           Turkey         3 360         a           United States³         3 033         m           OECD average8         2 922         46           EU21 average8         2 919         67           Argentina         m         m           Brazil8         m         m           China³         2 448         m           Colombia³         4 800         m           India         m         m           India         m         m           Latvia         2 381         m   |   | 10                               | a                                 | a   | a                               |  |  |  |  |
| Slovenia         2 302         306           Spain         4 245         a           Sweden³         2 262         m           Switzerland         m         m           Turkey         3 360         a           United States³         3 033         m           OECD average8         2 922         46           EU21 average8         2 919         67           Argentina         m         m         m           Brazil8         m         m         m           China³         2 448         m         m           Colombia³         4 800         m         m           India         m         m         m           India         m         m         m           Latvia         2 381         m   |   | 9                                | 6 861                             | a   | 6 861                           |  |  |  |  |
| Spain         4 245         a           Sweden³         2 262         m           Switzerland         m         m           Turkey         3 360         a           United States⁰         3 033         m           OECD average⁰         2 922         46           EU21 average⁰         2 919         67           Argentina         m         m         m           Brazil⁰         m         m         m           China⁰         2 448         m         m           Colombia⁰         4 800         m         m           India         m         m         m           Indonesia         m         m         m           Latvia         2 381         m  |   | 9                                | 6 288                             | 779                                       | 7 067                           |  |  |  |  |
| Sweden³         2 262         m           Switzerland         m         m           Turkey         3 360         a           United States³         3 033         m           OECD average8         2 922         46           EU21 average8         2 919         67           Argentina         m         m           Brazil³         m         m           China³         2 448         m           Colombia³         4 800         m           India         m         m           India         m         m           Indonesia         m         m           Latvia         2 381         m  |   | 10                               | 8 969                             | a   | 8 969                           |  |  |  |  |
| Switzerland         m         m           Turkey         3 360         a           United States9         3 033         m           OECD average8         2 922         46           EU21 average8         2 919         67           Argentina         m         m           Brazil8         m         m           China9         2 448         m           Colombia9         4 800         m           India         m         m           India         m         m           Latvia         2 381         m  |   | 9                                | 6 785                             | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
| Turkey         3 360         a           United States <sup>9</sup> 3 033         m           OECD average <sup>8</sup> 2 922         46           EU21 average <sup>8</sup> 2 919         67           Argentina         m         m           Brazil <sup>8</sup> m         m           China <sup>9</sup> 2 448         m           Colombia <sup>9</sup> 4 800         m           India         m         m           Indonesia         m         m           Latvia         2 381         m  |   | m                                | m                                 | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
| United States <sup>9</sup> 3 033         m           OECD average <sup>8</sup> 2 922         46           EU21 average <sup>8</sup> 2 919         67           Argentina         m         m           Brazil <sup>8</sup> m         m           China <sup>9</sup> 2 448         m           Colombia <sup>9</sup> 4 800         m           India         m         m           Indonesia         m         m           Latvia         2 381         m   |   | 8                                | 6 240                             | a   | 6 240                           |  |  |  |  |
| EU21 average8         2 919         67           Argentina         m         m           Brazil8         m         m           China9         2 448         m           Colombia9         4 800         m           India         m         m           Indonesia         m         m           Latvia         2 381         m   |   | 9                                | 8 835                             | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
| EU21 average8         2 919         67           Argentina         m         m           Brazil8         m         m           China9         2 448         m           Colombia9         4 800         m           India         m         m           Indonesia         m         m           Latvia         2 381         m   |   |                                  |                                   |   |                                 |  |  |  |  |
| Argentina         m         m           Brazil8         m         m           China9         2 448         m           Colombia9         4 800         m           India         m         m           Indonesia         m         m           Latvia         2 381         m  |   | 9                                | 7 475                             | 207                                       | ~                               |  |  |  |  |
| Brazil <sup>8</sup> m         m           China <sup>9</sup> 2 448         m           Colombia <sup>9</sup> 4 800         m           India         m         m           Indonesia         m         m           Latvia         2 381         m  | ~                                       | 9                                | 7 209                             | 310                                       | ~                               |  |  |  |  |
| Brazil <sup>8</sup> m         m           China <sup>9</sup> 2 448         m           Colombia <sup>9</sup> 4 800         m           India         m         m           Indonesia         m         m           Latvia         2 381         m  | m                                       | m                                | m                                 | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
| China9         2 448         m           Colombia9         4 800         m           India         m         m           Indonesia         m         m           Latvia         2 381         m  |   | m                                | m                                 | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
| Colombia9         4 800         m           India         m         m           Indonesia         m         m           Latvia         2 381         m   |   | 9                                | 6 117                             | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
| India         m         m           Indonesia         m         m           Latvia         2 381         m   |   | 9                                | 9 800                             | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
| Indonesia         m         m           Latvia         2 381         m   |   | m                                | m                                 | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
| Latvia 2 381 m   | m m                                     | m                                | m                                 | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
|  |   | 9                                | 5 933                             | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
| Russian Federation m m   |   | m                                | m                                 | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
| Saudi Arabia m m   |   | m                                | m                                 | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
| South Africa m m   |   | m                                | m                                 | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |
| G20 average <sup>8</sup> 3 198 m   |   | m                                | 7 686                             | m   | m                               |  |  |  |  |

Note: Columns showing instruction time in compulsory upper secondary education (i.e. columns 19-25) are available for consultation on line (see StatLink below).

- 1. Refers to full-time compulsory education and excludes pre-primary education, even if compulsory.
- 2. It is compulsory for students to attend full-time education up to the age of 15 or 16. However, those in general education must continue until they are 18.
- 3. Estimated number of hours by level of education, as the allocation of instruction time across multiple grades is flexible.
- 4. Year of reference 2013.
- 5. Excludes the last year of compulsory education, which can be classified either at the lower secondary level or at the upper secondary level.
- 6. Actual instruction time for lower and upper secondary education.
- 7. The number of grades in lower secondary education is 3 or 4 years depending on the track. The 4th year of pre-vocational secondary education (VMBO) was excluded from the calculation.
- 8. Brazil and Scotland are not included in the averages.
- 9. Year of reference 2012.

Sources: OECD. Argentina, China, Colombia, India, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa: UNESCO Institute for Statistics. Latvia: Eurydice. See Annex 3 for notes (www.oecd.org/edu/eag.htm).

 $Please\ refer\ to\ the\ Reader's\ Guide\ for\ information\ concerning\ the\ symbols\ replacing\ missing\ data.$ 

Table D1.2. Organisation of compulsory general education<sup>1</sup> (2014)

By level of education, in public institutions

| _          |                                    |  | Pı                          | rimary educati                                       | ion  | Lower secondary education   |  |                             |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |
|------------|------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|--|---|--|-----------------------------|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|
|            |                                    | Number of<br>grades that<br>are part of<br>compulsory<br>education | Theoretical<br>starting age | Average<br>number of<br>instruction<br>days per year | Average<br>number of<br>instruction<br>days per<br>school week | Flexible<br>allocation of<br>instruction<br>time across<br>multiple<br>grades | Number of<br>grades that<br>are part of<br>compulsory<br>education | Theoretical<br>starting age | Average<br>number of<br>instruction<br>days per year | Average<br>number of<br>instruction<br>days per<br>school week | Flexible<br>allocation of<br>instruction<br>time across<br>multiple<br>grades |  |  |  |  |
|            |                                    | (1)  | (2)                         | (3)  | (4)  | (5)   | (6)  | (7)                         | (8)  | (9)  | (10)  |  |  |  |  |
| <u>Ω</u> Α | ustralia<br>ustria                 | 6  | 5                           | 197  | 5  | No  | 4  | 11                          | 197  | 5  | No  |  |  |  |  |
| A          | ustria                             | 4  | 6                           | 180  | 5  | No  | 4  | 10                          | 180  | 5  | No  |  |  |  |  |
| - В        | elgium (Fl.) <sup>2</sup>          | 6  | 6                           | 176  | 5  | No  | 2  | 12                          | 174  | 5  | No  |  |  |  |  |
|            | elgium (Fr.) <sup>2</sup>          | 6  | 6                           | 182  | 5  | No  | 2  | 12                          | 182  | 5  | No  |  |  |  |  |
|            | anada                              | 6  | 6                           | 183  | 5  | No  | 3  | 12                          | 183  | 5  | No  |  |  |  |  |
|            | hile                               | 6<br>5   | 6<br>6                      | 190<br>191   | 5<br>5   | No<br>Yes   | 2  | 12<br>11                    | 190<br>191   | 5<br>5   | No  |  |  |  |  |
|            | zech Republic<br>Jenmark           | 7  | 6                           | 191<br>a   | 5  | No Yes  | 3  | 13                          | 191<br>a   | 5  | Yes<br>No   |  |  |  |  |
|            | ngland                             | 6  | 5                           | 190  | 5  | No  | 3  | 11                          | 190  | 5  | No  |  |  |  |  |
|            | stonia                             | 6  | 7                           | 175  | 5  | Yes   | 3  | 13                          | 175  | 5  | Yes   |  |  |  |  |
|            | inland                             | 6  | 7                           | 187  | 5  | Yes   | 3  | 13                          | 187  | 5  | Yes   |  |  |  |  |
|            | rance                              | 5  | 6                           | 162  | 4.5  | No  | 4  | 11                          | 180  | 5  | No  |  |  |  |  |
|            | ermany <sup>3, 4</sup>             | 4  | 6                           | 180  | 5  | No  | 5  | 10                          | 180  | 5  | No  |  |  |  |  |
|            | reece                              | 6  | 6                           | 171  | 5  | No  | 3  | 12                          | 152  | 5  | No  |  |  |  |  |
| Н          | lungary                            | 4  | 6                           | 180  | 5  | No  | 4  | 10                          | 180  | 5  | No  |  |  |  |  |
| Ic         | celand                             | 7  | 6                           | 170  | 5  | Yes   | 3  | 13                          | 170  | 5  | Yes   |  |  |  |  |
| Ir         | reland                             | 6  | 6                           | 183  | 5  | No  | 3  | 12                          | 167  | 5  | No  |  |  |  |  |
|            | srael                              | 6  | 6                           | 219  | 6  | No  | 3  | 12                          | 210  | 6  | Yes   |  |  |  |  |
|            | taly                               | 5  | 6                           | 200  | 5  | No  | 3  | 11                          | 200  | 6  | No  |  |  |  |  |
|            | apan <sup>3</sup>                  | 6  | 6                           | 200  | 5  | No  | 3  | 12                          | 200  | 5  | No  |  |  |  |  |
|            | Corea <sup>3</sup>                 | 6  | 6                           | 190  | 5  | Yes   | 3  | 12                          | 190  | 5  | Yes   |  |  |  |  |
|            | uxembourg                          | 6<br>6   | 6                           | 180<br>200   | 5<br>5   | Yes   | 3  | 12                          | 169  | 5<br>5   | No  |  |  |  |  |
|            | Iexico<br>Ietherlands <sup>5</sup> | 6  | 6                           | 200<br>m   | 5  | No<br>Yes   | 3  | 12<br>12                    | 200<br>m   | 5  | No<br>Yes   |  |  |  |  |
|            | lew Zealand                        | m  | m                           | m m  | m  | m   | m  | m m                         | m m  | m  | m   |  |  |  |  |
|            | lorway                             | 7  | 6                           | 190  | 5  | Yes   | 3  | 13                          | 190  | 5  | Yes   |  |  |  |  |
|            | oland                              | 6  | 7                           | 181  | 5  | Yes   | 3  | 13                          | 179  | 5  | Yes   |  |  |  |  |
|            | ortugal                            | 6  | 6                           | 179  | 5  | No  | 3  | 12                          | 178  | 5  | No  |  |  |  |  |
|            | cotland                            | 7  | 5                           | 190  | 5  | Yes   | 3  | 12                          | 190  | 5  | Yes   |  |  |  |  |
|            | lovak Republic                     | 4  | 6                           | 189  | 5  | Yes   | 5  | 10                          | 189  | 5  | Yes   |  |  |  |  |
| S          | lovenia                            | 6  | 6                           | 190  | 5  | No  | 3  | 12                          | 185  | 5  | No  |  |  |  |  |
| S          | pain                               | 6  | 6                           | 175  | 5  | No  | 4  | 12                          | 175  | 5  | No  |  |  |  |  |
| S          | weden                              | 6  | 7                           | 178  | 5  | Yes   | 3  | 13                          | 178  | 5  | Yes   |  |  |  |  |
|            | witzerland                         | m  | m                           | m  | m  | m   | m  | m                           | m  | m  | m   |  |  |  |  |
|            | urkey                              | 4  | 6                           | 180  | 5  | No  | 4  | 10                          | 180  | 5  | No  |  |  |  |  |
| U          | Inited States                      | 6  | 6                           | 180  | 5  | m   | 3  | 12                          | 180  | 5  | m   |  |  |  |  |
| C          | ECD average                        | 6  | 6                           | 185  | 5  | _   | 3  | 12                          | 183  | 5  | _   |  |  |  |  |
|            | U21 average                        | 6  | 6                           | 182  | 5  | -   | 3  | 12                          | 180  | 5  | -   |  |  |  |  |
| 10 A       |                                    |  |                             |  |  |   |  |                             |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |
| E A        | rgentina<br>razil                  | m<br>5   | m<br>6                      | m<br>200   | m<br>5   | m<br>m  | m<br>4   | m<br>11                     | m<br>200   | m<br>5   | m<br>m  |  |  |  |  |
|            | hina <sup>6</sup>                  | 6  | 6                           | 160  | 5  | m<br>m  | 3  | 12                          | 160  | 5  | m<br>m  |  |  |  |  |
| <u>.</u> C | olombia <sup>6</sup>               | 5  | 6                           | 200  | 5  | m m   | 4  | 11                          | 200  | 5  | m m   |  |  |  |  |
|            | ndia                               | m  | m                           | m  | m  | m   | m  | m                           | m  | m  | m   |  |  |  |  |
|            | ndonesia                           | m  | m                           | m  | m  | m   | m  | m                           | m  | m  | m   |  |  |  |  |
|            | atvia                              | 6  | 7                           | 169  | 5  | No  | 3  | 13                          | 173  | 5  | No  |  |  |  |  |
|            | ussian Federation                  | m  | m                           | m  | m  | m   | m  | m                           | m  | m  | m   |  |  |  |  |
| R          |                                    |  |                             | 1  | l .  |   |  |                             |  |  | 1   |  |  |  |  |
|            | audi Arabia                        | m  | m                           | m  | m  | m   | m  | m                           | m  | m  | m   |  |  |  |  |
| Sa         | audi Arabia<br>outh Africa         | m<br>m   | m<br>m                      | m<br>m   | m<br>m   | m<br>m  | m<br>m   | m<br>m                      | m<br>m   | m<br>m   | m<br>m  |  |  |  |  |

Note: Columns showing the organisation of compulsory upper secondary education (i.e. columns 11-15) are available for consultation on line (see StatLink below).

Sources: OECD. Argentina, China, Colombia, India, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa: UNESCO Institute for Statistics. Latvia: Eurydice. See Annex 3 for notes (www.oecd.org/edu/eag.htm).

Please refer to the Reader's Guide for information concerning the symbols replacing missing data.

<sup>1.</sup> Refers to full-time compulsory education and excludes pre-primary education, even if compulsory.

<sup>2.</sup> It is compulsory for students to attend full-time education up to the age of 15 or 16. However, those in general education must continue until they are 18.

<sup>3.</sup> Year of reference 2013.

<sup>4.</sup> Excludes the last year of compulsory education, which can be classified either at the lower secondary level or at the upper secondary level.

<sup>5.</sup> The number of grades in lower secondary education is 3 or 4 years depending on the track. The 4th year of pre-vocational secondary education (VMBO) was excluded from the calculation.

<sup>6.</sup> Year of reference 2012.

Table D1.3a. Instruction time per subject in primary education (2014)

As a percentage of total compulsory instruction time

|  | As a percentage of total compulsory instruction time |             |                  |                |                        |                            |                                  |             |                                      |  |            |                                    |                |  |  |  |                                |                              |
|--|--|-------------|------------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|--|------------|------------------------------------|----------------|--|--|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
|  | Reading, writing<br>and literature                   | Mathematics | Natural sciences | Social studies | First foreign language | Other foreign<br>languages | Physical education<br>and health | Arts        | Religion/ Ethics/ Moral<br>education | Information and<br>Communication<br>Technologies (ICT) | Technology | Practical and<br>vocational skills | Other subjects | Compulsory subjects<br>with flexible timetable | Compulsory options<br>chosen by the students | Compulsory flexible<br>subjects chosen by<br>schools | Total compulsory<br>curriculum | Non-compulsory<br>curriculum |
|  | (1)  | (2)         | (3)              | (4)            | (5)                    | (6)                        | (7)                              | (8)         | (9)                                  | (10)   | (11)       | (12)                               | (13)           | (14)   | (15)   | (16)   | (17)                           | (18)                         |
| Australia Austria  | x(14)  | x(14)       | x(14)            | x(14)          | x(14)                  | x(14)                      | x(14)                            | x(14)       | x(14)                                | x(14)  | x(14)      | x(14)                              | x(14)          | 100  | x(14)  | x(14)  | 100                            | m                            |
| Austria  | 30   | 17          | 13               | x(3)           | 2                      | n                          | 11                               | 9           | 9                                    | n  | x(3)       | 6                                  | 4              | a  | n  | a  | 100                            | m                            |
| Belgium (Fl.) <sup>1</sup><br>Belgium (Fr.) <sup>1</sup> | 23<br>x(14)  | 20<br>x(14) | 18<br>x(14)      | x(3)<br>x(14)  | 4 2                    | n                          | 7<br>7                           | 10<br>x(14) | 7<br>7                               | n  | n<br>x(14) | n                                  | n              | n<br>83  | n  | 12   | 100<br>100                     | n<br>m                       |
| Canada   | 27   | 18          | X(14)            | 7              | 2                      | n<br>n                     | 10                               | X(14)       | n                                    | n<br>n   | x(14)      | a<br>n                             | n<br>1         | 16   | n<br>n                                       | n<br>3   | 100                            | n                            |
| Chile  | 20   | 16          | 9                | 9              | 3                      | x(16)                      | 9                                | 10          | 5                                    | x(16)  | 3          | x(16)                              | 2              | a  | n  | 15   | 100                            | a                            |
| Czech Republic   | 30   | 17          | 10               | x(3)           | 8                      | n                          | 8                                | 10          | x(13)                                | 1  | 4          | x(11)                              | x(16)          | a  | x(16)  | 12   | 100                            | m                            |
| Denmark  | 27   | 15          | 6                | 4              | 6                      | n                          | 8                                | 10          | 5                                    | n  | n          | 6                                  | 3              | 11   | n  | n  | 100                            | a                            |
| England  | x(14)  | x(14)       | x(14)            | x(14)          | n                      | a                          | x(14)                            | x(14)       | x(14)                                | x(14)  | x(14)      | n                                  | n              | 100  | n  | a  | 100                            | m                            |
| Estonia  | 23   | 15          | 7                | 5              | 8                      | 2                          | 11                               | 15          | x(16)                                | x(16)  | 3          | a                                  | a              | a  | a  | 12   | 100                            | a                            |
| Finland<br>France  | 24<br>37   | 16<br>21    | 11 9             | 5              | 6                      | n<br>n                     | 10<br>13                         | 13<br>9     | 5<br>x(17)                           | a<br>x(3)  | a<br>x(3)  | a<br>n                             | n<br>n         | 6<br>n   | a<br>n                                       | 7<br>n   | 100<br>100                     | 5<br>n                       |
| Germany <sup>2</sup>                                     | 20   | 16          | 3                | 4              | 6                      | n                          | 12                               | 15          | 8                                    | x(11)  | 1          | n                                  | 16             | a  | n  | a  | 100                            | a                            |
| Greece   | 25   | 13          | 10               | 7              | 8                      | 2                          | 8                                | 10          | 4                                    | 3  | n          | n                                  | a              | a  | a  | 8  | 100                            | 36                           |
| Hungary  | 33   | 16          | 6                | n              | 3                      | n                          | 18                               | 14          | 1                                    | 1  | 4          | a                                  | n              | a  | a  | 3  | 100                            | a                            |
| Iceland  | 20   | 16          | 8                | 13             | 6                      | x(5)                       | 9                                | 19          | x(4)                                 | 3  | a          | x(8)                               | x(15)          | n  | 5  | a  | 100                            | a                            |
| Ireland <sup>3</sup>                                     | 20   | 17          | 4                | 8              | n                      | a                          | 4                                | 12          | 10                                   | x(17)  | x(3)       | n                                  | 25             | a  | a  | m  | 100                            | a                            |
| Israel   | 23   | 18          | 9                | 8              | 6                      | n                          | 6                                | 5           | 11                                   | n  | x(3)       | 4                                  | 2              | n  | n  | 7  | 100                            | n                            |
| Italy  | x(14)  | x(14)       | x(14)            | x(14)          | 9                      | n                          | x(14)                            | x(14)       | 7                                    | n  | x(14)      | a                                  | n              | 84   | a  | a  | 100                            | a                            |
| Japan <sup>2</sup>                                       | 24   | 17          | 8                | 8              | 1                      | a                          | 10                               | 12          | 3                                    | (1.0)  | n (10)     | a (O)                              | 10             | 7  | n  | m  | 100                            | m                            |
| Korea <sup>2</sup><br>Luxembourg                         | 22<br>26   | 14<br>19    | 9 7              | 9 2            | 6<br>x(1)              | n<br>18                    | 7<br>10                          | 9<br>11     | x(4)                                 | x(13)  | x(12)      | x(3)                               | 24             | n  | n  | n  | 100<br>100                     | a                            |
| Mexico   | 35   | 27          | 13               | 10             | m m                    | a                          | 5                                | 5           | 5                                    | a<br>n   | a<br>n     | a<br>n                             | a<br>n         | a<br>a   | a<br>a                                       | a<br>a   | 100                            | a<br>a                       |
| Netherlands  | x(14)  | x(14)       | x(14)            | x(14)          | x(14)                  | n                          | x(14)                            | x(14)       | x(14)                                | x(14)  | x(14)      | x(14)                              | a              | 100  | a  | a  | 100                            | m                            |
| New Zealand  | m  | m           | m                | m              | m                      | m                          | m                                | m           | m                                    | m  | m          | m                                  | m              | m  | m  | m  | m                              | m                            |
| Norway   | 26   | 17          | 6                | 7              | 7                      | n                          | 11                               | 15          | 8                                    | a  | a          | 2                                  | a              | a  | n  | 1  | 100                            | a                            |
| Poland <sup>4</sup>                                      | 18   | 14          | 10               | 5              | 10                     | n                          | 14                               | 7           | x(18)                                | 3  | 3          | a                                  | 3              | n  | a  | 13   | 100                            | 9                            |
| Portugal   | 27   | 27          | 7                | 8              | 3                      | n                          | 8                                | 9           | x(18)                                | x(18)  | 2          | a                                  | 4              | a  | n  | 5  | 100                            | 23                           |
| Scotland <sup>5</sup>                                    | x(14)  | x(14)       | x(14)            | x(14)          | x(14)                  | n                          | x(14)                            | x(14)       | x(14)                                | x(14)  | x(14)      | n                                  | n              | a  | a  | a  | a                              | a                            |
| Slovak Republic  | 27<br>23   | 15<br>17    | 3<br>8           | 3<br>7         | 6                      | x(16)                      | 8<br>15                          | 8<br>16     | 4                                    | 3<br>x(17)   | n          | 1 2                                | x(16)          | a  | x(16)  | 21   | 100                            | a<br>12                      |
| Slovenia<br>Spain  | 23   | 16          | 7                | 8              | 10                     | n                          | 9                                | 9           | x(4)<br>x(15)                        | x(17)  | 6<br>n     |                                    | 1<br>n         | a<br>a   | n<br>7                                       | a<br>9   | 100<br>100                     | 12<br>a                      |
| Sweden   | m m  | m           | m                | m              | m                      | n<br>m                     | m                                | m           | x(13)                                | m m  | m          | a<br>m                             | m              | m  | m  | m  | m                              | m                            |
| Switzerland  | m  | m           | m                | m              | m                      | m                          | m                                | m           | m                                    | m  | m          | m                                  | m              | m  | m  | m  | m                              | m                            |
| Turkey   | 30   | 17          | 5                | 13             | 5                      | n                          | 14                               | 7           | 2                                    | n  | n          | 1                                  | 7              | a  | n  | a  | 100                            | a                            |
| United States  | m  | m           | m                | m              | m                      | m                          | m                                | m           | m                                    | m  | m          | m                                  | m              | m  | m  | m  | m                              | m                            |
| OECD average <sup>5</sup>                                | 22   | 15          | 7                | 6              | 4                      | 1                          | 8                                | 9           | 5                                    | 1  | 1          | 1                                  | 3              | 14   | n  | 4  | 100                            | 4                            |
| EU21 average <sup>5</sup>                                | 21   | 14          | 7                | 4              | 5                      | 1                          | 8                                | 9           | 5                                    | 1  | 1          | 1                                  | 3              | 15   | n  | 4  | 100                            | 5                            |
| J  |  |             |                  |                |                        |                            |                                  |             |                                      |  |            |                                    |                |  |  |  |                                |                              |
| Argentina<br>Brazil                                      | m<br>m   | m<br>m      | m<br>m           | m<br>m         | m<br>m                 | m<br>n                     | m<br>m                           | m<br>m      | m<br>m                               | m<br>m   | m<br>a     | m<br>a                             | m<br>m         | m<br>m   | m<br>m                                       | m<br>m   | m<br>m                         | m<br>m                       |
| China  | m  | m           | m                | m              | m                      | m                          | m                                | m           | m                                    | m  | m          | m                                  | m              | m  | m  | m  | m                              | m                            |
| Colombia   | m  | m           | m                | m              | m                      | m                          | m                                | m           | m                                    | m  | m          | m                                  | m              | m  | m  | m  | m                              | m                            |
| India  | m  | m           | m                | m              | m                      | m                          | m                                | m           | m                                    | m  | m          | m                                  | m              | m  | m  | m  | m                              | m                            |
| Indonesia  | m  | m           | m                | m              | m                      | m                          | m                                | m           | m                                    | m  | m          | m                                  | m              | m  | m  | m  | m                              | m                            |
| Latvia   | 21   | 17          | 5                | 6              | 7                      | 1                          | 8                                | 12          | 2                                    | 1  | a          | 4                                  | 11             | a  | a  | 6  | 100                            | m                            |
| Russian Federation                                       | m  | m           | m                | m              | m                      | m                          | m                                | m           | m                                    | m  | m          | m                                  | m              | m  | m  | m  | m                              | m                            |
|  |  |             |                  |                |                        | 1 100                      | m                                | m           |                                      |  |            | m                                  | m              | m  | m  | m  | m                              | l m                          |
| Saudi Arabia   | m  | m           | m                | m              | m                      | m                          |                                  |             | m                                    | m  | m          |                                    |                |  |  | m  |                                |                              |
| Saudi Arabia<br>South Africa                             | m<br>m   | m<br>m      | m<br>m           | m<br>m         | m<br>m                 | m                          | m                                | m           | m                                    | m  | m          | m                                  | m              | m  | m  | m  | m                              | m                            |

Notes: Please refer to Tables D1.5a to D1.5l, available on line, for instruction time per subject for each age (see StatLink below).

The averages were adjusted to 100% and do not correspond exactly to the average of each column.

- 1. It is compulsory for students to attend full-time education up to the age of 15 or 16. However, those in general education must continue until they are 18.
- 2. Year of reference 2013.
- $3. \ The second language of the school (either Irish or English) is included in "Other".$
- 4. Excludes the first three years of primary education for which a large proportion of the time allocated to compulsory subjects is flexible.
- 5. Scotland is not included in the averages.

Sources: OECD. Argentina, China, Colombia, India, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa: UNESCO Institute for Statistics. Latvia: Eurydice. See Annex 3 for notes (www.oecd.org/edu/eag.htm).

Please refer to the Reader's Guide for information concerning the symbols replacing missing data.

Table D1.3b. Instruction time per subject in lower secondary education (2014)

As a percentage of total compulsory instruction time

|          | As a percentage of total compulsory instruction time |                                    |             |                  |                |                        |                            |                                  |         |                                    |  |            |                                    |                |  |  |  |                                |                              |
|----------|--|------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------|------------------------------------|--|------------|------------------------------------|----------------|--|--|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
|          |  | Reading, writing<br>and literature | Mathematics | Natural sciences | Social studies | First foreign language | Other foreign<br>languages | Physical education<br>and health | Arts    | Religion/Ethics/Moral<br>education | Information and<br>Communication<br>Technologies (ICT) | Technology | Practical and<br>vocational skills | Other subjects | Compulsory subjects<br>with flexible timetable | Compulsory options<br>chosen by the students | Compulsory flexible<br>subjects chosen by<br>schools | Total compulsory<br>curriculum | Non-compulsory<br>curriculum |
|          |  | (1)                                | (2)         | (3)              | (4)            | (5)                    | (6)                        | (7)                              | (8)     | (9)                                | (10)   | (11)       | (12)                               | (13)           | (14)   | (15)   | (16)   | (17)                           | (18)                         |
| 8        | Australia  | x(14)                              | x(14)       | x(14)            | x(14)          | x(14)                  | x(14)                      | x(14)                            | x(14)   | x(14)                              | x(14)  | x(14)      | x(14)                              | x(14)          | 100  | x(14)  | x(14)  | 100                            | m                            |
| OECD     | Austria  | 14                                 | 14          | 12               | 11             | 12                     | n                          | 11                               | 12      | 7                                  | n  | n          | 7                                  | n              | a  | 1  | a  | 100                            | m                            |
| •        | Belgium (Fl.) $^1$                                   | 14                                 | 13          | 5                | 9              | 9                      | 6                          | 6                                | 5       | 6                                  | x(15)  | 6          | x(15)                              | x(15)          | n  | 9  | 9  | 100                            | n                            |
|          | Belgium (Fr.) <sup>1</sup>                           | 17                                 | 14          | 9                | 13             | 13                     | n                          | 9                                | 3       | 6                                  | m  | 3          | a                                  | x(15)          | n  | 13   | n  | 100                            | m                            |
|          | Canada   | 19                                 | 15          | 10               | 13             | 7                      | n                          | 10                               | 8       | 1                                  | n  | 3          | 1                                  | 2              | 4  | 1  | 8  | 100                            | n                            |
|          | Chile  | 16                                 | 16          | 11               | 11             | 8                      | x(16)                      | 5                                | 8       | 5                                  | x(16)  | 3          | x(16)                              | 3              | a  | n  | 14   | 100                            | a                            |
|          | Czech Republic                                       | 12                                 | 12          | 17               | 9              | 10                     | 5                          | 8                                | 8       | x(13)                              | 1 (15)   | 2          | x(11)                              | x(16)          | a  | x(16)  | 15   | 100                            | m                            |
|          | Denmark  | 19<br>14                           | 13<br>13    | 17<br>12         | 10<br>14       | 10<br>5                | x(15)                      | 6<br>9                           | x(15)   | 2 4                                | x(15)  | x(15)      | 3                                  | 3              | n  | 12   | 4  | 100<br>100                     | a                            |
|          | England <sup>2</sup>                                 | 13                                 | 14          | 21               | 11             | 10                     | 4<br>10                    | 6                                | 11<br>6 | x(16)                              | x(16)  | 5          | n                                  |                | a  | a  | a<br>4   | 100                            | n                            |
|          | Estonia<br>Finland                                   | 12                                 | 12          | 16               | 8              | 9                      | 7                          | 9                                | 9       | x(16)                              | x(16)  | a          | a<br>a                             | a<br>6         | a<br>4   | a<br>a                                       | 5  | 100                            | a<br>7                       |
|          | France   | 15                                 | 14          | 10               | 11             | 12                     | 5                          | 12                               | 7       | x(4)                               | x(11)  | 6          | x(15)                              | 3              | n  | 4  | 1  | 100                            | 10                           |
|          | Germany <sup>3</sup>                                 | 14                                 | 13          | 12               | 11             | 19                     | x(5)                       | 9                                | 10      | 6                                  | x(11)  | 3          | 2                                  | 1              | a  | n  | a  | 100                            | a                            |
|          | Greece   | 26                                 | 11          | 10               | 12             | 6                      | 6                          | 7                                | 6       | 6                                  | 3  | 2          | 5                                  | a              | a  | a  | 1  | 100                            | n                            |
|          | Hungary  | 15                                 | 13          | 12               | 13             | 12                     | n                          | 15                               | 8       | 2                                  | 3  | 3          | a                                  | 2              | a  | a  | 3  | 100                            | a                            |
|          | Iceland  | 14                                 | 14          | 8                | 8              | 19                     | x(5)                       | 8                                | 8       | x(4)                               | 2  | a          | x(8)                               | x(15)          | n  | 20   | a  | 100                            | a                            |
|          | Ireland <sup>2</sup>                                 | 12                                 | 12          | 10               | 17             | 10                     | m                          | 7                                | m       | 7                                  | 5  | m          | m                                  | 10             | m  | m  | 12   | 100                            | a                            |
|          | Israel   | 17                                 | 14          | 14               | 15             | 11                     | 6                          | 5                                | x(16)   | 9                                  | x(3)   | x(3)       | 1                                  | 4              | 3  | n  | 2  | 100                            | n                            |
|          | Italy  | 33                                 | 20          | x(2)             | x(1)           | 10                     | 7                          | 7                                | 13      | 3                                  | n  | 7          | a                                  | n              | n  | a  | a  | 100                            | a                            |
|          | Japan <sup>3</sup>                                   | 12                                 | 12          | 12               | 11             | 13                     | a                          | 10                               | 7       | 3                                  | a  | 3          | a                                  | 12             | 6  | n  | m  | 100                            | m                            |
|          | Korea <sup>3</sup>                                   | 13                                 | 11          | 19               | 15             | 10                     | n                          | 8                                | 8       | x(4)                               | x(12)  | x(12)      | x(3)                               | 9              | n  | x(16)  | 6  | 100                            | a                            |
|          | Luxembourg<br>Mexico                                 | 15<br>14                           | 13<br>14    | 8<br>17          | 11<br>12       | 17<br>9                | 13                         | 8<br>6                           | 9       | 7<br>8                             | a  | a<br>9     | a                                  | a<br>6         | a  | a  | a  | 100<br>100                     | a                            |
|          | Netherlands  | x(14)                              | x(14)       | x(14)            | x(14)          | x(14)                  | a<br>x(14)                 | x(14)                            | x(14)   | x(14)                              | n<br>x(14)   | x(14)      | n<br>x(14)                         | a              | a<br>100                                       | a<br>a                                       | a<br>a   | 100                            | a<br>m                       |
|          | New Zealand  | m                                  | m           | m                | m              | m                      | m                          | m                                | m       | m                                  | m  | m          | m                                  | m              | m  | m  | m  | m                              | m                            |
|          | Norway   | 15                                 | 12          | 10               | 11             | 9                      | 9                          | 9                                | 9       | 6                                  | a  | a          | 7                                  | a              | a  | 4  | n  | 100                            | a                            |
|          | Poland   | 14                                 | 12          | 12               | 12             | 14                     | x(5)                       | 12                               | 4       | x(18)                              | 2  | 2          | a                                  | 4              | n  | a  | 13   | 100                            | 8                            |
|          | Portugal   | 13                                 | 13          | 18               | 15             | 9                      | 9                          | 7                                | 6       | x(18)                              | 2  | n          | a                                  | n              | a  | n  | 7  | 100                            | 3                            |
|          | Scotland <sup>4</sup>                                | x(14)                              | x(14)       | x(14)            | x(14)          | x(14)                  | n                          | x(14)                            | x(14)   | x(14)                              | x(14)  | x(14)      | n                                  | n              | a  | a  | a  | а                              | a                            |
|          | Slovak Republic                                      | 16                                 | 13          | 10               | 10             | 10                     | 3                          | 7                                | 5       | 3                                  | 1  | x(16)      | 1                                  | x(16)          | a  | x(16)  | 21   | 100                            | a                            |
|          | Slovenia   | 13                                 | 13          | 17               | 15             | 11                     | x(15)                      | 9                                | 8       | x(4)                               | x(17)  | 4          | n                                  | 2              | a  | 7  | a  | 100                            | 13                           |
|          | Spain  | 16                                 | 12          | 8                | 12             | 11                     | n                          | 7                                | 7       | 1                                  | x(11)  | 5          | a                                  | 3              | a  | 18   | n  | 100                            | a                            |
|          | Sweden   | m                                  | m           | m                | m              | m                      | m                          | m                                | m       | m                                  | m  | m          | m                                  | m              | m  | m  | m  | m                              | m                            |
|          | Switzerland  | m                                  | m           | m<br>11          | m<br>o         | m<br>10                | m                          | m                                | m       | m                                  | m  | m          | m<br>1                             | m              | m  | m<br>17                                      | m  | 100                            | m                            |
|          | Turkey<br>United States                              | 16<br>m                            | 14<br>m     | 11<br>m          | 8<br>m         | 10<br>m                | n<br>m                     | 6<br>m                           | 6<br>m  | 6<br>m                             | 3<br>m   | 3<br>m     | 1<br>m                             | n<br>m         | a<br>m   | 17<br>m                                      | a<br>m   | 100<br>m                       | a<br>m                       |
|          |  |                                    |             |                  |                |                        |                            |                                  |         |                                    |  |            | 111                                |                |  | ***  |  |                                |                              |
|          | OECD average <sup>4</sup>                            | 14                                 | 12          | 11               | 10             | 10                     | 4                          | 7                                | 7       | 4                                  | 1  | 3          | 1                                  | 3              | 6  | 4  | 4  | 100                            | 2                            |
|          | EU21 average <sup>4</sup>                            | 14                                 | 12          | 11               | 11             | 10                     | 4                          | 8                                | 7       | 4                                  | 2  | 3          | 1                                  | 2              | 5  | 3  | 4  | 100                            | 2                            |
| S.       | Argentina  | m                                  | m           | m                | m              | m                      | m                          | m                                | m       | m                                  | m  | m          | m                                  | m              | m  | m  | m  | m                              | m                            |
| Partners | Brazil   | m                                  | m           | m                | m              | m                      | n                          | m                                | m       | m                                  | m  | a          | m                                  | m              | m  | m  | m  | m                              | m                            |
| Pa       | China  | m                                  | m           | m                | m              | m                      | m                          | m                                | m       | m                                  | m  | m          | m                                  | m              | m  | m  | m  | m                              | m                            |
|          | Colombia   | m                                  | m           | m                | m              | m                      | m                          | m                                | m       | m                                  | m  | m          | m                                  | m              | m  | m  | m  | m                              | m                            |
|          | India  | m                                  | m           | m                | m              | m                      | m                          | m                                | m       | m                                  | m  | m          | m                                  | m              | m  | m  | m  | m                              | m                            |
|          | Indonesia  | 1 m                                | 1 m         | m<br>10          | m<br>14        | m                      | m                          | m                                | m       | m                                  | m 1  | m          | m 1                                | m              | m  | m  | m  | 100                            | m                            |
|          | Latvia<br>Russian Federation                         | 15                                 | 16          | 10<br>m          | 14<br>m        | 8<br>m                 | 6<br>m                     | 6<br>m                           | 6<br>m  | n<br>m                             | 1<br>m   | a<br>m     | 4<br>m                             | 8<br>m         | a<br>m   | a  | 9  | 100<br>m                       | m<br>m                       |
|          | Saudi Arabia   | m<br>m                             | m<br>m      | m<br>m           | m<br>m         | m<br>m                 | m<br>m                     | m<br>m                           | m<br>m  | m<br>m                             | m<br>m   | m<br>m     | m<br>m                             | m<br>m         | m<br>m   | m<br>m                                       | m<br>m   | m<br>m                         | m<br>m                       |
|          | South Africa   | m                                  | m           | m                | m              | m                      | m                          | m                                | m       | m                                  | m  | m          | m                                  | m              | m  | m  | m  | m                              | m                            |
|          |  |                                    |             |                  |                |                        |                            |                                  |         |                                    |  |            |                                    |                |  |  |  |                                |                              |
|          | G20 average  | m                                  | m           | m                | m              | m                      | m                          | m                                | m       | m                                  | m  | m          | m                                  | m              | m  | m  | m  | m                              | m                            |

Notes: Please refer to Tables D1.5a to D1.5l, available on line, for instruction time per subject for each age (see StatLink below).

The averages were adjusted to 100% and do not correspond exactly to the average of each column.

Sources: OECD. Argentina, China, Colombia, India, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa: UNESCO Institute for Statistics. Latvia: Eurydice. See Annex 3 for notes (www.oecd.org/edu/eag.htm).

 ${\it Please refer to the Reader's Guide for information concerning the symbols replacing missing data}.$ 

<sup>1.</sup> It is compulsory for students to attend full-time education up to the age of 15 or 16. However, those in general education must continue until they are 18.

<sup>2.</sup> Actual instruction time.

<sup>3.</sup> Year of reference 2013.

<sup>4.</sup> Scotland is not included in the averages.



# From: Education at a Glance 2014 OECD Indicators

# Access the complete publication at:

https://doi.org/10.1787/eag-2014-en

### Please cite this chapter as:

OECD (2014), "Indicator D1 How much time do students spend in the classroom?", in *Education at a Glance 2014: OECD Indicators*, OECD Publishing, Paris.

DOI: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1787/eag-2014-29-en">https://doi.org/10.1787/eag-2014-29-en</a>

This work is published under the responsibility of the Secretary-General of the OECD. The opinions expressed and arguments employed herein do not necessarily reflect the official views of OECD member countries.

This document and any map included herein are without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory, to the delimitation of international frontiers and boundaries and to the name of any territory, city or area.

You can copy, download or print OECD content for your own use, and you can include excerpts from OECD publications, databases and multimedia products in your own documents, presentations, blogs, websites and teaching materials, provided that suitable acknowledgment of OECD as source and copyright owner is given. All requests for public or commercial use and translation rights should be submitted to rights@oecd.org. Requests for permission to photocopy portions of this material for public or commercial use shall be addressed directly to the Copyright Clearance Center (CCC) at info@copyright.com or the Centre français d'exploitation du droit de copie (CFC) at contact@cfcopies.com.

