

## COUNTRY NOTE



### *Education at a Glance: OECD Indicators 2012*

## BRAZIL

**Under embargo until 11 September, at 11:00 am Paris time**

Questions can be directed to:

Andreas Schleicher, Advisor to the Secretary-General on Education Policy, Deputy Director for Education

Email: [Andreas.Schleicher@OECD.org](mailto:Andreas.Schleicher@OECD.org)

Telephone: +33607385464

Please visit our website: [www.oecd.org/edu/eag2012](http://www.oecd.org/edu/eag2012) <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/eag-2012-en>

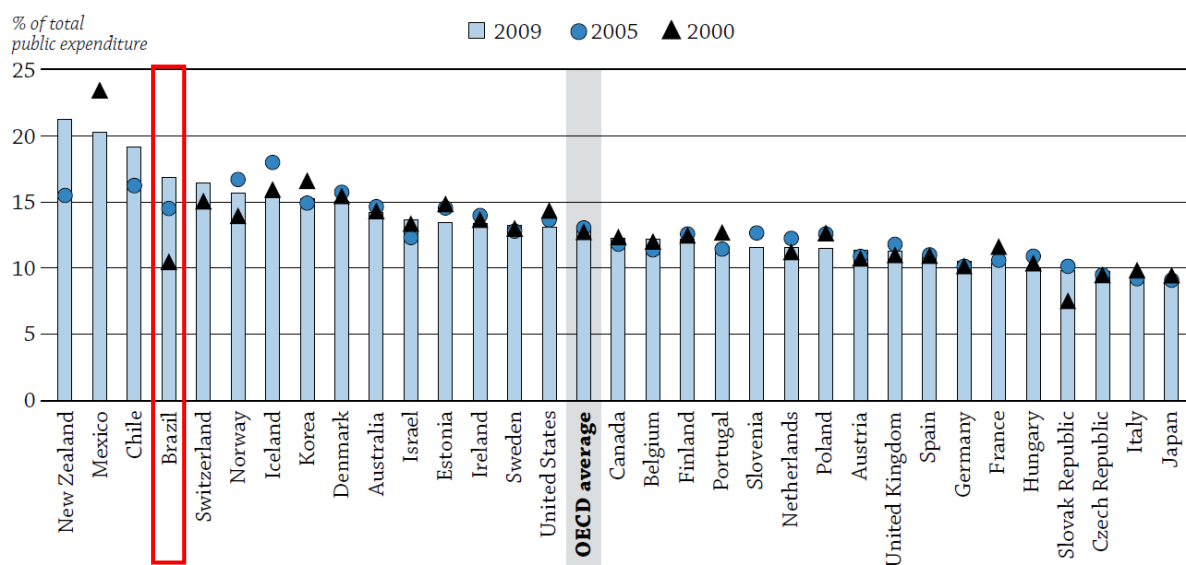
## KEY FINDINGS

- Brazil boasts one of the largest increases in expenditure on education between 2000 and 2009 among the countries for which data was available.
- Even though Brazil's spending on education as a percentage of GDP is below the OECD average, there has been a steady increase in the percentage of GDP invested in education, particularly between 2000 and 2009.
- Educational attainment rates have been rising over the past decade, but one in five 15-29 old Brazilians was neither in education nor employment in 2009.

### *Brazil increased its investment in education between 2000 and 2009...*

Brazil increased public spending on education from 10.5% of total public expenditure in 2000, to 14.5% in 2005, and to 16.8% in 2009 (Chart B4.1 below) – one of the steepest rates of growth among the 33 countries for which data are available. Brazil ranks 4th in this measure out of the 32 countries for which data are available and above the OECD average of 13%.

**Chart B4.1. Total public expenditure on education as a percentage of total public expenditure (2000, 2005, 2009)**



Countries are ranked in descending order of total public expenditure on education at all levels as a percentage of total public expenditure in 2009.

**Source:** OECD. Table B4.3. See Annex 3 for notes ([www.oecd.org/edu/eag2012](http://www.oecd.org/edu/eag2012)).

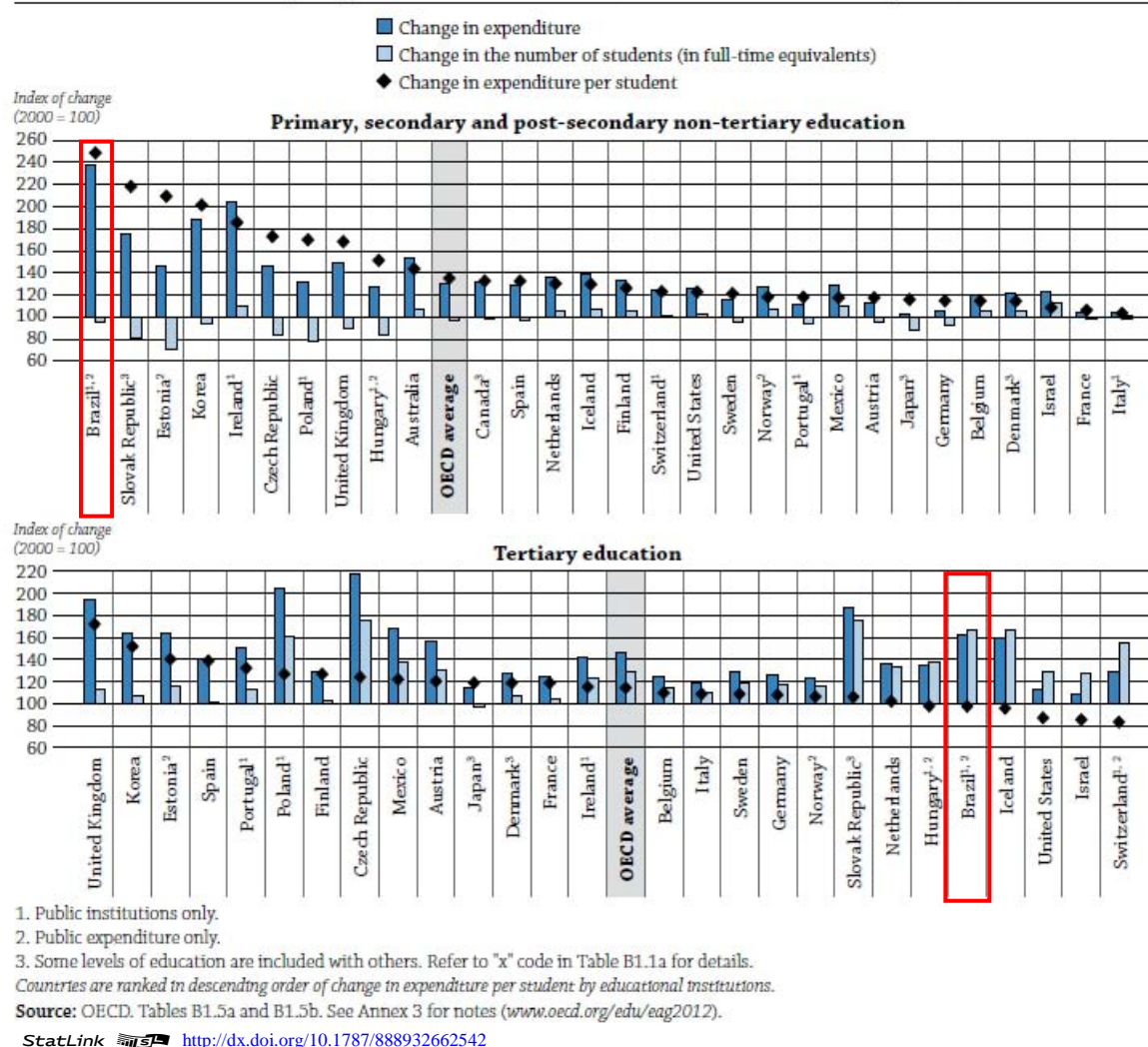
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#### How to read this chart

This chart shows direct public expenditure on educational institutions, plus public support to households (which includes subsidies for living costs, such as scholarships and grants to students/households and student loans) and to other private entities, as a percentage of total public expenditure, by year.

Expenditure on education can also be analysed in terms of investment per student at different levels of education. By this measure, Brazil ranks first among the 29 countries with available data, as its expenditure per student in primary to upper secondary education rose 149% between 2005 and 2009 (Chart B1.6, Tables B1.5a and b).

**Chart B1.6. Changes in the number of students and changes in expenditure per student by educational institutions, by level of education (2000, 2009)**  
Index of change between 2000 and 2009 (2000 = 100, 2009 constant prices)



This increase coincided with a 5% decrease in the student population. However, despite the general rise in spending on education, expenditure per tertiary student decreased by 2% during the period, as the investment could not keep up with the 67% increase in the number of tertiary students between 2005 and 2009. As a result, Brazil is among the countries with smallest increases in expenditure per student in tertiary education, and ranks 23 of the 29 countries with available data (Chart B1.6 above, Tables B1.5a and B1.5b).

*... but overall investment in education as a percentage of GDP remained below the OECD average.*

Brazil invests 5.55% of its GDP in education, below the OECD average of 6.23% (Chart B2.1, Table B2.1). As do most OECD countries, Brazil devotes receives the largest share of that expenditure to primary and secondary education. For Brazil, this amounted to 4.23% of GDP (Chart B2.2), larger than the OECD average of 4.00% of the combined GDP. In contrast, Brazil invested only 0.8% of GDP on tertiary education – the 4th lowest investment among the 36 countries for which data are available – and only 0.04% of GDP on research and development, the smallest share among the 36 countries (Table B2.4 and Chart B2.3).

*Enrolment rates in early childhood and primary education are rising, but were still below the OECD average in 2010.*

Enrolment rates in early childhood and primary education among Brazil's three-year-olds rose from 21% in 2005 to 32% in 2010 (far below the OECD average of 66%), while those rates among four-year-olds increased from 37% to 55% during the same period (below the OECD average of 81%). Enrolment rates among five-year-olds have also increased substantially, from 63% in 2005 to 78% in 2010 – much closer to the OECD average of 88%. Some 92% of six-year-olds in Brazil attended early childhood or primary education in 2010. This is a clear improvement over 2005, when only 83% of six-year-olds attended that level of education, but still falls short of universal primary education for six-year-olds found across OECD countries (Table C2.1 and Chart C2.1).

*Secondary and tertiary education attainment rates are rising...*

The rise in secondary education attainment rates in Brazil is clearly evident when comparing the proportion of 55-64 year-olds with the proportion of 25-34 year-olds who had enrolled in upper secondary education. In 2009, 25% of the older age group and as much as 53% of the younger group had graduated from upper secondary education. The 28 percentage-point difference between the groups is the 8th largest among the 34 countries for which data are available. However, Brazil's 41% upper secondary attainment rate for 25-64 year-olds is below the G20 average of 56% and far below the OECD average of 74%.

Tertiary attainment rates have risen, too, but at a much slower pace. In 2009, 12% of 25-34 year-olds in Brazil had attained a tertiary education, compared to 9% of 55-64 year-olds. As a whole, the country lags behind OECD and other G20 countries in tertiary attainment: in 2009, 11% of 25-64 year-olds in Brazil held a tertiary degree, well below the OECD average of 31% and the G20 average of 26% (Table A1.3).

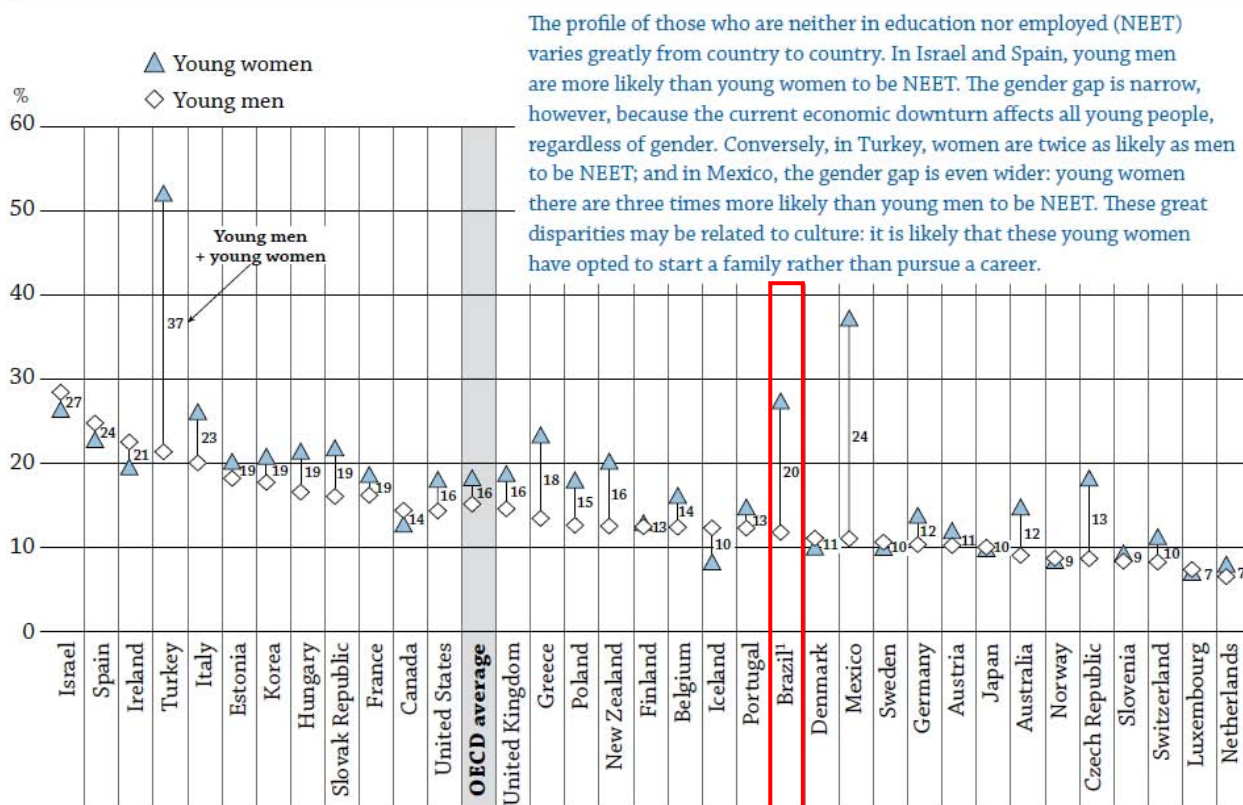
*...and higher levels of education are rewarded in the labour market...*

As in all the other OECD countries, in Brazil, further education increases the likelihood of employment. While only 68.7% of Brazilians without an upper secondary education were employed, the employment rate rose to 77.4% for those with an upper secondary education, and to 85.6% for those with tertiary education (Chart A7.1 below, Table A7.3a). Across all education levels, the employment rate is generally higher for men (86.3%) than for women (61.2%). However, this gender gap narrowed with increasing levels of education: among those with only primary education, 83.4% of men and only 51.8% women were employed, while among those with tertiary education, 91.3% of men and 81.5% of women were employed (Table A7.1).

*...but one in five 15-29 year-olds was neither in education nor employed in 2009.*

In 2009, 20% of 15-29 year old Brazilians were neither in education nor employed (NEET), as compared to the average of 16% in OECD countries. Interestingly, while the proportions of men and women considered as NEET is roughly equal in OECD countries, of the total population of Brazil: 27.4% of women and 11.7% men were NEET (Chart C5.1, below). This difference might reflect more traditional gender choices, whereby women were more likely to start a family rather than pursue an education or a career.

**Chart C5.1. Percentage of 15-29 year-olds neither in education nor employed (2010)**



1. Year of reference 2009.

Countries are ranked in descending order of the percentage of young men who are neither in education nor employed.

Source: OECD. Tables C5.4a, C5.4b and C5.4c (available on line). See Annex 3 for notes ([www.oecd.org/edu/eag2012](http://www.oecd.org/edu/eag2012)).

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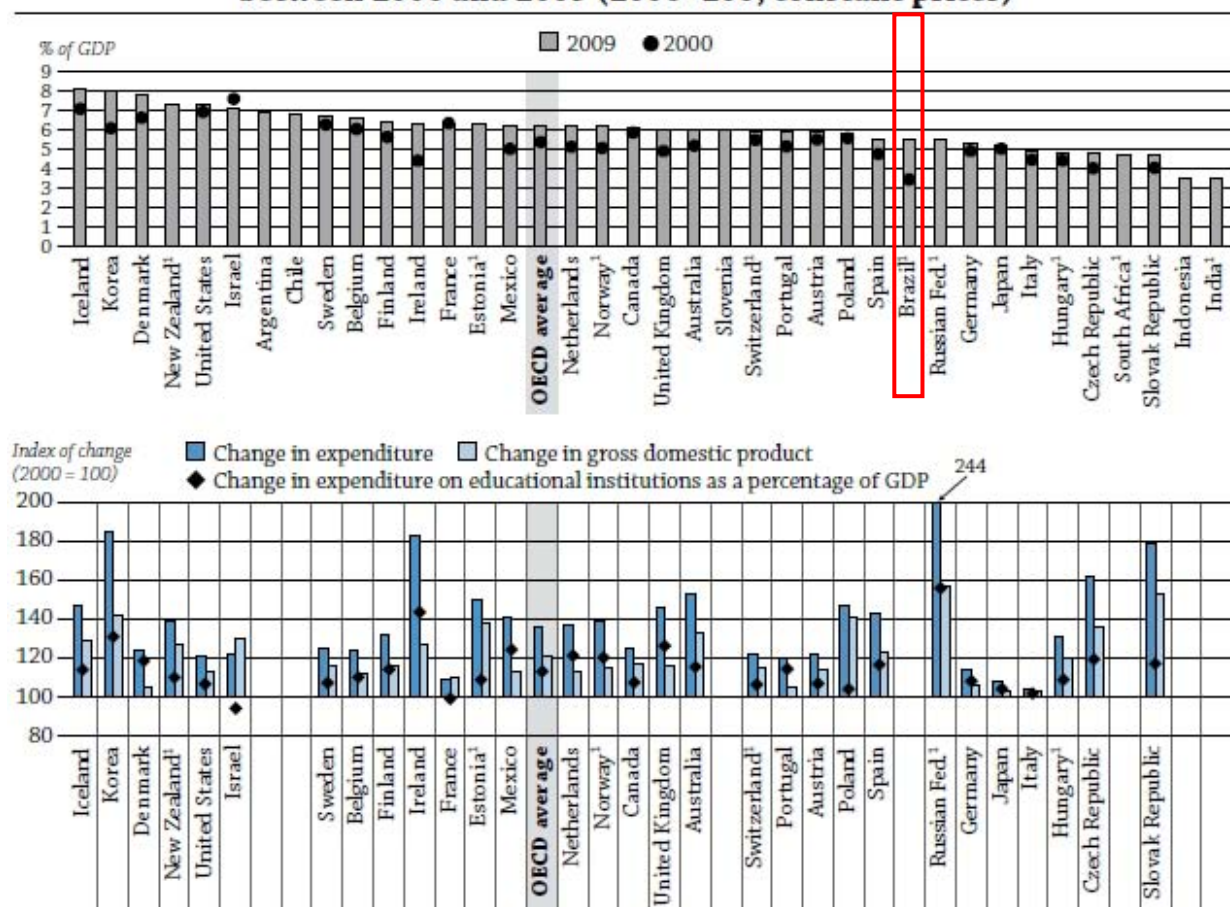
## NOTABLE TRENDS

*Brazil is increasing its expenditure on education steadily, as seen in the percentage of GDP it invests in education.*

While Brazil's investment in education, as measured by the percentage of GDP devoted to education, is below the OECD average, the proportion of GDP invested in education grew considerably between 1995 and 2009. In 1995 Brazil invested 3.7% of its GDP in education, compared with the OECD average of 5.6%. While the level of investment dropped slightly in 2000 in both Brazil (to 3.5%) and across the OECD as a whole (to 5.4%), by 2005 Brazil managed to increase its investment in education to 4.4% of GDP (the OECD average that year was 5.7%); and by 2009 the level rose to 5.5% of GDP in Brazil, while the OECD average reached 6% and, among G20 countries, 5.7%. Thus, Brazil is gradually catching up with OECD and other G20 countries in this regard. Indeed, with its nearly 2.1% rise in the proportion of GDP devoted to education between 2000 and 2009, Brazil recorded the second steepest increase of the 38 countries with available data (Chart B2.1 below, Table B2.1).



**Chart B2.1. Expenditure on educational institutions as a percentage of GDP for all levels of education (2000 and 2009) and index of change between 2000 and 2009 (2000=100, constant prices)**



1. Public expenditure only (for Switzerland, in tertiary education only; for Norway, in primary, secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education only; for Estonia, New Zealand and the Russian Federation, for 2000 only).

Countries are ranked in descending order of expenditure from both public and private sources on educational institutions in 2009.

Source: OECD. Argentina, India, Indonesia: UNESCO Institute for Statistics (World Education Indicators programme). South Africa: UNESCO Institute for Statistics. Table B2.1 and Table B2.5, available on line. See Annex 3 for notes ([www.oecd.org/edu/eag2012](http://www.oecd.org/edu/eag2012)).

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## KEY FACTS

Indicator	Brazil	OECD average	Brazil rank*
<b>Educational Access and Output</b>			
<b>Enrolment rates</b>			
3-year-olds (in early childhood education)	32%	66%	31 of 36 countries
4-year-olds (in early childhood and primary education)	55%	81%	32 of 38 countries
5-14 year-olds (all levels)	96%	96%	31 of 39 countries
<b>Percentage of population that has attained pre-primary or primary levels of education only</b>			
25-64 year-olds	45%	m	5 of 37 countries
<b>Percentage of population that has attained at least upper secondary education</b>			
25-64 year-olds	41%	74%	33 of 40 countries
25-34 year-olds	53%	82%	32 of 36 countries
55-64 year-olds	25%	62%	32 of 36 countries
<b>Percentage of population that has attained tertiary education</b>			
25-64 year-olds	11%	31%	38 of 41 countries
25-34 year-olds	12%	38%	36 of 37 countries
55-64 year-olds	9%	23%	35 of 37 countries
<b>Entry rates into tertiary education</b>			
Vocational programmes (Tertiary-type B)	m	17%	m
University programmes (Tertiary-type A)	m	62%	m
<b>Graduation rates</b>			
Percentage of today's young people expected to complete upper secondary education in their lifetime	m	84%	m
Percentage of today's young people expected to complete university education (tertiary-type A) in their lifetime	m	39%	m
<b>Economic and Labour Market Outcomes</b>			
<b>Unemployment rate of 25-64 year-olds</b>			
Below upper secondary	m	12.5%	m
Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary	m	7.6%	m
Tertiary	m	4.7%	m
<b>Average earnings premium for 25-64 year-olds with tertiary education (compared to people with upper secondary education; upper secondary = 100)</b>			
Men and women	256	155	1 of 32 countries
Men	275	160	1 of 32 countries
Women	263	157	1 of 32 countries
<b>Average earnings penalty for 25-64 year-olds who have not attained upper secondary education (compared to people with upper secondary education; upper secondary = 100)</b>			
Men and women	53	77	32 of 32 countries
Men	53	78	32 of 32 countries
Women	47	74	31 of 32 countries
<b>Percentage of people not in employment, education or training</b>			
15-29 year-olds (2005 data)	m	15.0%	m
15-29 year-olds (2010 data)	m	15.8%	m

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<b>Financial Investment in Education</b>			
<b>Annual expenditure per student (in equivalent USD, using PPPs)</b>			
Pre-primary education	1 696	6 670	32 of 34 countries
Primary education	2 405	7 719	32 of 35 countries
Secondary education	2 235	9 312	35 of 37 countries
Tertiary education	11 741	13 728	19 of 37 countries
<b>Total public and private expenditure on education</b>			
As a percentage of GDP	5.5%	6.2%	27 of 37 countries
<b>Total public expenditure on education</b>			
As a percentage of total public expenditure	16.8%	13.0%	4 of 32 countries
<b>Share of private expenditure on educational institutions</b>			
Primary, secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education	m	8.8%	m
Tertiary education	m	30%	m
All levels of education	m	16%	m
<b>Schools and Teachers</b>			
<b>Ratio of students to teaching staff</b>			
Pre-primary education	17.7	14.4	8 of 32 countries
Primary education	23.4	15.8	4 of 36 countries
Secondary education	19.0	13.8	4 of 38 countries
<b>Number of hours of compulsory instruction time per year</b>			
7-8 year-olds	m	774 hours	m
9-11 year-olds	m	821 hours	m
12-14 year-olds	m	899 hours	m
<b>Number of hours of teaching time per year (for teachers in public institutions)</b>			
Primary education	800	782 hours	15 of 35 countries
Lower secondary education	800	704 hours	7 of 34 countries
Upper secondary education	800	658 hours	6 of 35 countries
<b>Ratio of teachers' salaries to earnings for full-time, full-year adult workers with tertiary education</b>			
Primary school teachers	m	0.82	m
Lower secondary school teachers	m	0.85	m
Upper secondary school teachers	m	0.90	m

\* Countries are ranked in descending order of values.

See: *Education at a Glance 2012: OECD Indicators*

Visit: [www.oecd.org/edu/eag2012](http://www.oecd.org/edu/eag2012)

Country note author: Katarzyna KUBACKA ([Katarzyna.kubacka@oecd.org](mailto:Katarzyna.kubacka@oecd.org))





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