

EDUCATION AT A GLANCE 2015

Education at a Glance: OECD Indicators is the authoritative source for information on the state of education around the world. It provides data on the structure, finances and performance of education systems in the 34 OECD countries and a number of partner countries.

Greece

Educational attainment, skills and participation in the labour market

Unemployment in Greece continued to rise for all levels of educational attainment. Educated young adults have been particularly affected, with the highest rate of unemployment of all OECD countries.

- Greece continues to have some of the highest unemployment rates of all OECD countries at all levels of educational attainment. In Greece the unemployment rate for 25-64 year-olds with below upper secondary education increased from 12% in 2010 to 28% in 2014. Over the same period the OECD average rate remained steady at 13%.
- In 2014, the unemployment rate among 25-64 year-olds with upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education was 28% compared to an OECD average of 8%, the highest of all OECD countries. Similarly, the unemployment rate for 25-64 year-olds with tertiary education is also the highest at 19%, against an OECD average of 5%.
- Unemployment is a particular issue for educated young people in Greece. Greece has the highest rate (40%) of 15-29 year-olds with a tertiary degree who are neither employed nor in education or training, compared with an average of 14% among OECD countries with available data.

Tertiary attainment in Greece continues to rise, but is still below OECD and EU21 averages.*

- In 2014, 28% of Greek adults aged 25-64 had attained a tertiary qualification. While this represents an increase from 25% in 2010, the level of attainment remains below the OECD and EU21 averages, which were 34% and 32% respectively.
- In 2014, 39% of 25-34 year-olds had attained tertiary education, an increase from 31% in 2010. This represents a significant increase and a narrowing of the gap between Greece and the OECD, where the average was 38% in 2010 and 41% in 2014.

Equity in education and the labour market

Young women in Greece continue to reach higher levels of education than their male counterparts, but employment rates and salaries for women remain lower than for men. While wage disparity is still evident in Greece for all ages, there are signs that the salary gap is narrower for young women than in many other OECD countries.

- In line with the trend seen across many OECD countries, the percentage of 25-34 year-old women with tertiary education in Greece (44%) is higher than for men of the same age (33%).

- Differences in unemployment rates between men and women in Greece are wider than the OECD average. In 2014, 21% of tertiary educated women were unemployed, compared with 17% of tertiary educated men, a difference of 4 percentage points. This is higher than the gap between the OECD averages, where the unemployment rate for tertiary educated women is 1 percentage point higher than for similarly educated men.
- In common with most OECD countries, women in Greece continue to earn lower average salaries than men with equivalent educational backgrounds but, across all levels of educational attainment, the gap between women and men is narrower in Greece than in most OECD countries. In 2013, 35-44 year-old women as a whole earned on average 87% of what men earned, compared to an OECD average of 78%. Women of that age with tertiary education earned on average 77% of their male counterparts, compared to an OECD average of 74%.
- Among men and women aged 55-64 the gap in earnings is higher than in almost all other OECD countries across every single level of educational attainment; women in that age group with tertiary level education earn just 54% of their male counterparts.

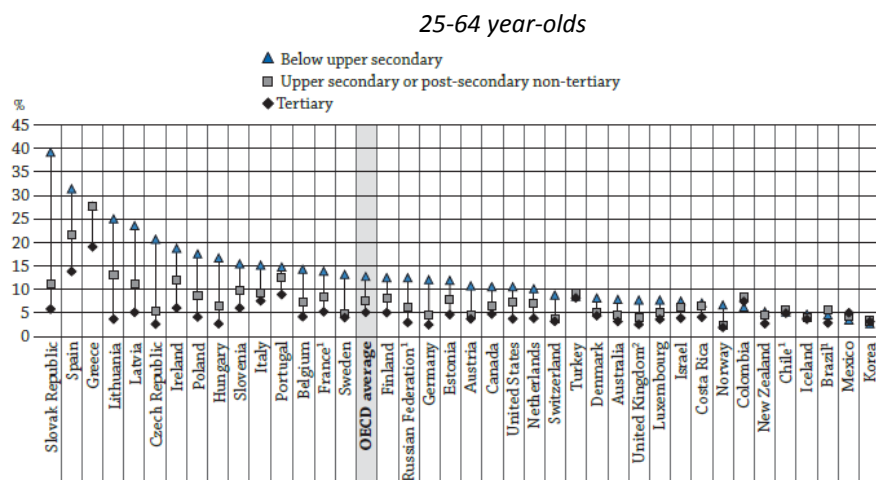
The teaching profession

Greece is on the brink of a generational turnover in the teaching profession. Teachers' salaries are low in real terms. Class sizes are comparatively small.

- Almost half (49%) of Greece's primary teachers are aged 50 or over and less than 1% are under 30 years old. A similar trend can be seen at secondary level, with 39% of teachers aged between 40 and 49.
- In real terms, teachers' salaries in Greece are lower than in other OECD countries across all levels of education. In 2013, the average statutory salary in Greece for teachers with the minimum qualifications and 15 years of experience was USD 25 826.¹ The equivalent average OECD salary for a lower secondary teacher was USD 42 825. Furthermore, due to the economic situation in Greece, teachers' salaries have decreased to 76% of their 2008 level. By contrast, half of OECD countries with available data increased teachers' salaries in real terms between 2008 and 2013.
- Classes in Greece are comparatively small, especially in primary schools. The average primary class size in Greece in 2013 was 17 students compared to an OECD average of 21 students. As with most OECD countries, the average class size tends to increase between primary and lower secondary education. In Greece the average lower secondary class has 22 students compared to an OECD average of 24.

¹ Values reported in equivalent US dollars (USD) have been converted using purchasing power parities (PPPs)

Figure 1: Unemployment rates, by educational attainment (2014)



1. Brazil, Chile, France, the Russian Federation: Data for year 2014 refer to year 2013.

2. The United Kingdom: Data for upper secondary attainment includes completion of a sufficient volume and standard of programmes that would be classified individually as completion of intermediate upper secondary programmes (18% of the adults are under this group).

Countries are ranked in descending order of the unemployment rate of adults with below upper secondary education.

Source: OECD. Table A5.4a.

See Annex 3 for notes (www.oecd.org/education/education-at-a-glance-19991487.htm).

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933283600> (Education at a Glance 2015, Chart A5.1)

* EU21 countries are those that are members of both the European Union and the OECD. These 21 countries are Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, the Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

References

OECD (2015), *Education at a Glance 2015: OECD Indicators*, OECD Publishing, Paris, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/eag-2015-en>.

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Note regarding data from Israel

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

For more information on Education at a Glance 2015 and to access the full set of Indicators, visit www.oecd.org/education/education-at-a-glance-19991487.htm.

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

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<http://gpseducation.oecd.org/CountryProfile?primaryCountry=GRC&threshold=10&topic=EO>

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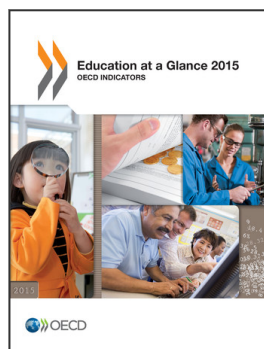
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Key Facts for Greece in Education at a Glance 2015

Table	Indicator	Greece	OECD average
Educational Access and Output			
	Enrolment rates	2013	2013
C2.1	3-year-olds (in early childhood education)	**	74%
	Highest educational attainment level of 25-64 year-olds	2014	2014
A1.4a	Below upper secondary	32%	24%
	Upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary	40%	43%
	Tertiary	28%	34%
	Highest educational attainment level of 25-64 year-olds (disaggregation at tertiary level)	2014	2014
A1.1a	Short cycle tertiary	2%	8%
	Bachelor's or equivalent	23%	16%
	Master's or equivalent	2%	11%
	Doctoral or equivalent	1%	1%
	Entry and graduation rates	2013	2013
C3.1	Percentage of today's young people expected to enter tertiary education at least once during their lifetime	**	67%
A3.1	Percentage of today's young people expected to graduate with a bachelor's or equivalent degree in their lifetime	**	36%
Economic and Labour Market Outcomes			
	Unemployment rate of 25-64 year-olds	2014	2014
A5.4a	Below upper secondary	27.7%	12.8%
	Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary	27.6%	7.7%
	Tertiary	19.1%	5.1%
	Average earnings premium for tertiary-educated 25-64 year-olds (upper secondary = 100)	2013	2013
A6.1a	Short cycle tertiary	148	125
	Bachelor's or equivalent	198	157
	Master's, Doctoral or equivalent	**	214
	All tertiary	149	160
	Percentage of people not in employment, education or training (NEET) for 15-29 year-olds	2014	2014
C5.2b	Men	26.9%	13.2%
	Women	29.7%	17.9%
Financial Investment in Education			
	Annual expenditure per student (in equivalent USD, using PPPs)	2012	2012
B1.1a	Primary education	**	8247 USD
	Secondary education	**	9518 USD
	Tertiary (including R&D activities)	**	15028 USD
	Total expenditure on primary to tertiary educational institutions	2012	2012
B2.2	As a percentage of GDP	**	5.2%
	Total public expenditure on primary to tertiary education	2012	2012
B4.2	As a percentage of total public expenditure	**	11.6%
Schools and Teachers			
	Ratio of students to teaching staff	2013	2013
D2.2	Primary education	9 students per teacher	15 students per teacher
	Secondary education	8 students per teacher	13 students per teacher
	Average actual teachers' salaries	2013	2013
D3.4	Pre-primary school teachers	26466 USD	37798 USD
	Primary school teachers	26466 USD	41248 USD
	Lower secondary school teachers (general programmes)	26717 USD	43626 USD
	Upper secondary school teachers (general programmes)	26717 USD	47702 USD

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

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



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