

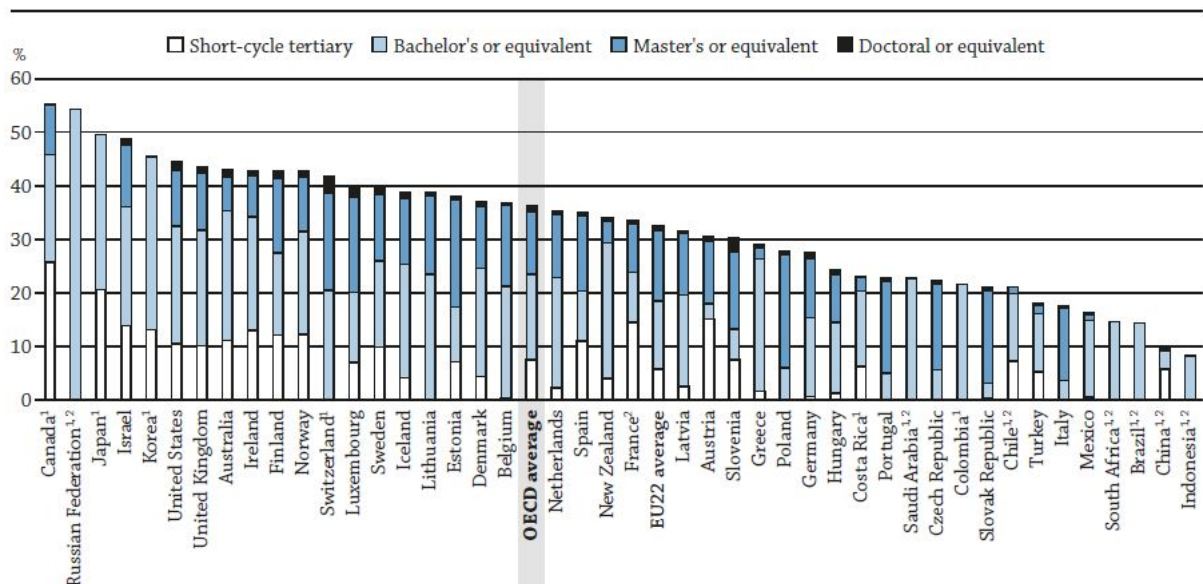
EDUCATION AT A GLANCE 2016

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

Iceland

- As of 2015, **39% of adults in Iceland aged 25-64 had a tertiary qualification**, 4 percentage points above the OECD average. Half of those with a tertiary degree had a bachelor's and nearly one-third a master's or equivalent.
- Nearly all (99%) of expenditure on primary and lower secondary levels of education comes from public funds.** High levels of public spending on education carry all the way through to the tertiary level, where 91% of expenditure comes from public sources, well above the OECD average of 70%.
- Half as many women as men study engineering, construction and manufacturing**, part of a common trend of under-representation of women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects. However, Iceland has a better gender balance in the field than the OECD average.
- Leadership skills among principals in Iceland vary significantly** in the dimensions measured, with over three-quarters reporting frequently taking action to ensure that teachers feel responsible for students' learning outcomes, but only 15% reporting often observing instruction in the classroom.

Figure 1. Percentage of 25-64 year-olds with tertiary education, by level of tertiary education (2015)




1. Some levels of education are included in others. Refer to the source table for more details.

2. Reference year differs from 2015. Refer to the source table for more details.

Countries are ranked in descending order of the percentage of 25-64 year-olds with tertiary education, regardless of the level of tertiary attainment.

Source: OECD, Table A1.1. See Annex 3 for notes (www.oecd.org/education/education-at-a-glance-19991487.htm).

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933396600>

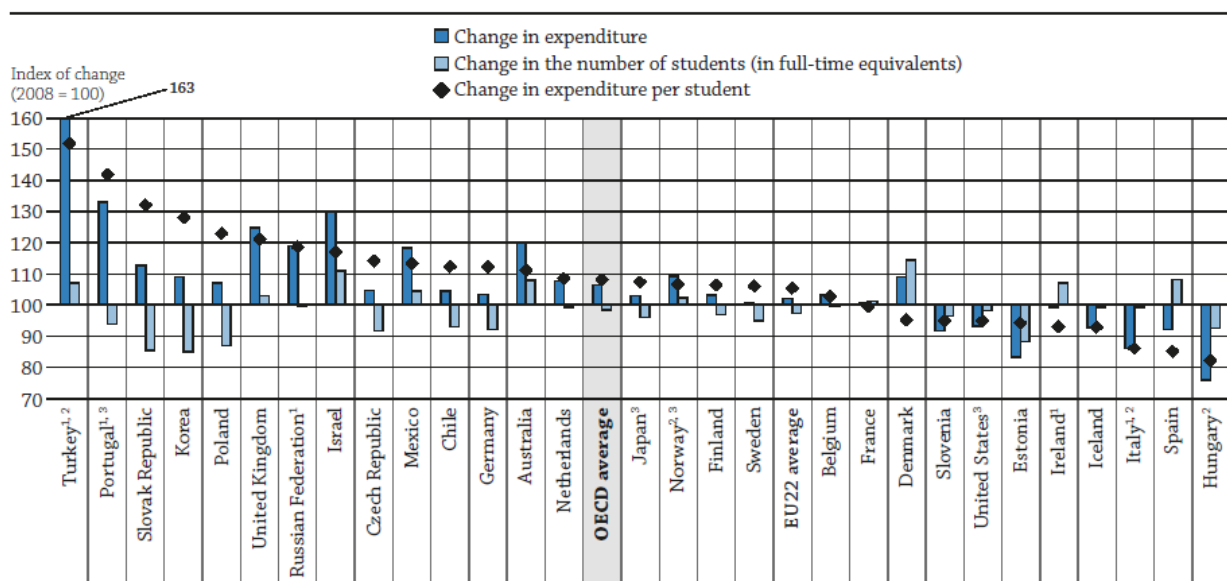
Tertiary education has a strong impact in the labour market

- As of 2015, 39% of adults in Iceland aged 25-64 had attained a tertiary qualification as their highest level of education, 4 percentage points above the OECD average. Of those who had studied to the tertiary level, 55% attained a bachelor's degree and 32% attained a master's or equivalent.
- Employment rates for those with tertiary education are well above OECD averages: 90% for bachelor's graduates compared to the OECD average of 82%; and 94% for master's graduates compared to 87% across the OECD. However, employment rates for tertiary-educated adults have fallen between 2005 and 2015, particularly for young adults aged 25-34, who experienced a 6 percentage point drop in employment over the past decade.
- While there is a generally widespread positive relationship between higher levels of education and higher levels of subjective assessment of life satisfaction, Iceland is the only country where 100% of its tertiary-educated adults report positive life satisfaction today, and 100% anticipate positive life satisfaction in five years. The OECD averages are 92% and 94% respectively.
- Iceland has the third highest share of national tertiary students who pursue higher education abroad. In 2014, 13.7% of Icelandic tertiary students studied outside of Iceland, with the greatest proportion of students going to Denmark.

High-quality education needs sustainable funding

- Total expenditure (public and private sources combined) by educational institutions at primary through to secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary levels fell by 7% between 2008 and 2013. As the number of students remained constant, this meant expenditure per student fell by 7% as well.
- Total expenditure per student at both primary (USD 10 569) and lower secondary (USD 11 276) levels slightly exceed the OECD averages (USD 8 477 and USD 9 980, respectively). However, in upper secondary and tertiary education, Iceland's expenditure per student is below the average across OECD countries.
- While expenditure on tertiary educational institutions is lower than the OECD average, it increased by 7% between 2008 and 2013. However, as the number of tertiary students increased by 7% over the same time frame, expenditure per student remained unchanged.

Figure 2. Changes in the number of students, expenditure on educational institutions and expenditure per student in primary, secondary and post-tertiary non-tertiary education (2008, 2013)
Index of change between 2008 and 2013 (2008 = 100, 2013 constant prices)



1. Public institutions only.

2. Public expenditure only.

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

Countries are ranked in descending order of the change in expenditure per student by educational institutions.

Source: OECD, Table B5.1a. See Annex 3 for notes (www.oecd.org/education/education-at-a-glance-19991487.htm).

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933397628>

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

- Nearly all (99%) of expenditure on primary and lower secondary levels of education comes from public funds, compared to the OECD average of 93%. This high share of public spending on education carries all the way through to the tertiary level, where 91% of expenditure comes from public sources, well above the OECD average of 70%.
- Public expenditure on education is also predominantly local: 73% of initial funds for primary to secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education come from the local level of government, an inversion of the OECD average where only 22% of funds are from local government.

Gender gaps in education and employment persist

- Women are more likely to graduate tertiary education than men: in 2013, 63% of bachelor's students and 68% of master's students were women, compared with OECD averages of 58% and 57% respectively in 2014.
- The employment differential between men and women is far less severe in Iceland than the average across OECD countries, for all levels of educational attainment. The employment rate for tertiary-educated women is 90%, only 4 percentage points below the rate for tertiary-educated men, compared to a 9 percentage point difference at the OECD level.
- For both men and women, higher levels of educational attainment are associated with lower levels of self-reported limitations on activities due to health problems. But women systematically report higher levels of burden imposed by health issues than men across all levels of educational attainment.
- Half as many women as men study engineering, construction and manufacturing, and there are only seven women for every ten men studying sciences, demonstrating the common trend of under-representation of women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects.
- Women far outnumber men in the field of education: over three times as many women as men study education, which is a large ratio, but more gender balanced than the OECD average of over four women for every man in this field.

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

- Teachers in public schools face an average class size of 19 students at the primary level, and 20 students for lower secondary, similar to the OECD averages of 21 at primary and 23 at lower secondary. However, average class sizes in private schools are significantly smaller: 13 for primary and 11 for lower secondary, considerably below the OECD averages of 20 and 21 respectively.
- Iceland's average hours of compulsory instruction per year are slightly below the OECD averages for both primary and secondary levels.
- Unlike most OECD countries, more than half of principals at the lower secondary level are women in Iceland. Principals are also on average younger, with 44% of them under the age of 50 against an OECD average of 35%. Over 36% of lower secondary principals work full-time and have teaching responsibilities, above the OECD average of 33%.
- The leadership skills of principals in Iceland tend to vary considerably depending on the dimension considered: over three-quarters of principals in Iceland report frequently taking action to ensure that teachers feel responsible for their students' learning outcomes, but only 15% report having often observed instruction in the classroom often.

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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.

References

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

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

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

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

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Key Facts for Iceland in Education at a Glance 2016

Source	Main topics in <i>Education at a Glance</i>	Iceland		OECD average	
Gender					
Chart A5.2.	Employment rate of 25-64 year-olds, by educational attainment	2015			
		Men	Women	Men	Women
	Below upper secondary	85%	71%	66%	46%
	Upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary	92%	83%	81%	67%
	Tertiary	94%	90%	88%	80%
Table A6.2	Full-year earnings of women as a percentage of men's earnings, by educational attainment (25-64 year-olds)	2014			
		Ratio (women/men)		Ratio (women/men)	
	Below upper secondary	**		76%	
	Upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary	**		77%	
	Tertiary	**		73%	
Table C5.2	Percentage of people not in employment, nor in education or training (NEET)	2015			
		Men	Women	Men	Women
	15-29 year-olds	6%	6%	12%	17%
Table A3.4	Percentage of female graduates, by tertiary levels of education	2014			
		% Women		% Women	
	Short-cycle tertiary	43%		56%	
	Bachelor's or equivalent	63%		58%	
	Master's or equivalent	68%		57%	
	Doctoral or equivalent	47%		47%	
Table A1.5.	Field of education studied among tertiary-educated adults (25-64 year-old non-students)	2012			
		Men	Women	Men	Women
	Teacher training and education science	**	**	7%	18%
	Engineering, manufacturing and construction	**	**	31%	7%
Vocational Education and Training (VET)					
Table C1.3a	Distribution of enrolment, by programme orientation	2014			
		General	Vocational	General	Vocational
	Upper secondary education	**	**	56%	44%
Table A1.4.	Educational attainment, by programme orientation	2015			
		General	Vocational	General	Vocational
	25-34 year-olds with upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education	19%	16%	17%	26%
Table A5.5	Unemployment rate, by programme orientation	2015			
		General	Vocational	General	Vocational
	25-34 year-olds with upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education as their highest educational attainment level	6.2%	2.5%	10%	9.2%
Financial Investment in Education					
Table B1.1	Annual expenditure per student, by level of education (in equivalent USD, using PPPs)	2013			
	Primary education	USD 10 569		USD 8 477	
	Secondary education	USD 9 041		USD 9 811	
	Tertiary (including R&D activities)	USD 11 256		USD 15 772	
Table B2.2	Total expenditure on primary to tertiary educational institutions	2013			
	As a percentage of GDP	5.9%		5.2%	
Table B4.2	Total public expenditure on primary to tertiary education	2013			
	As a percentage of total public expenditure	13.5%		11.2%	
Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC)					
Table C2.1	Enrolment rates in early childhood education at age 3	2014			
	ISCED 01 and 02	**		71%	
Table C2.3	Expenditure on all early childhood educational institutions	2013			
	As a percentage of GDP	1.7%		0.8%	
	Proportions of total expenditure from public sources	86%		81%	
Teachers					
Table D3.2a	Actual salaries of teachers in public institutions relative to wages of full-time, full-year workers with tertiary education	2014			
	Pre-primary school teachers	**		0.74	
	Primary school teachers	**		0.81	
	Lower secondary school teachers (general programmes)	**		0.85	
	Upper secondary school teachers (general programmes)	**		0.89	
Table D3.1a	Annual statutory salaries of teachers in public institutions, based on typical qualifications, at different points in teachers' careers (in equivalent USD, using PPPs)	Starting salary	Salary after 15 years of experience	Starting salary	Salary after 15 years of experience
	Pre-primary school teachers	**	**	USD 29 494	USD 39 245
	Primary school teachers	**	**	USD 31 028	USD 42 675
	Lower secondary school teachers (general programmes)	**	**	USD 32 485	USD 44 407
	Upper secondary school teachers (general programmes)	**	**	USD 34 186	USD 46 379

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

Source	Main topics in <i>Education at a Glance</i>	Iceland		OECD average	
	Mean monthly earnings of tertiary-educated 25-64 year-old, by selected field of education studied	2012		2012 ¹	
Table A6.4	Teacher training and education science	**		USD 3 004	
	Engineering, manufacturing and construction	**		USD 3 883	
	Ratio of students to teaching staff	2014			
Table D2.2	Primary education	**		15 students per teacher	
	Secondary education	**		13 students per teacher	
	Tertiary education	**		17 students per teacher	
Tertiary Education					
	Percentage of adults who have attained tertiary education, by tertiary level of educational attainment and age group	2015			
		25-34 year-olds	25-64 year-olds	25-34 year-olds	25-64 year-olds
Table A1.2	Short-cycle tertiary	3%	4%	8%	8%
	Bachelor's or equivalent	25%	21%	21%	16%
	Master's or equivalent	11%	12%	14%	11%
	Doctoral or equivalent	**	1%	1%	1%
	All tertiary levels of education	40%	39%	42%	35%
	Employment rate of 25-64 year-olds, by tertiary educational attainment	2015			
Tables A5.1 & A5.3	Short-cycle tertiary	90%		80%	
	Bachelor's or equivalent	90%		82%	
	Master's or equivalent	94%		87%	
	Doctoral or equivalent	98%		91%	
	All tertiary levels of education	92%		84%	
	Relative earnings of full-time full-year 25-64 year-old workers, by tertiary educational attainment (upper secondary education = 100)	2014			
Table A6.1	Short-cycle tertiary	**		120	
	Bachelor's or equivalent	**		148	
	Master's, doctoral or equivalent	**		191	
	All tertiary levels of education	**		155	
	Share of international or foreign students, by level of tertiary education	2014			
Table C4.1.	Bachelor's or equivalent	**		5%	
	Master's or equivalent	**		12%	
	Doctoral or equivalent	**		27%	
	All tertiary levels of education	**		6%	
	First-time entry rates into tertiary education	2014			
Table C3.1.	All tertiary levels (including international students)	86%		68%	
	All tertiary levels (excluding international students)	70%		61%	
	All tertiary levels (students younger than 25 years old and excluding international students)	49%		51%	
Other: Immigration and intergenerational mobility in education					
	Proportion of adults with same educational attainment levels as their parents, by parents' immigrant status ²	2012		2012 ¹	
		Native-born parents	Foreign-born parents	Native-born parents	Foreign-born parents
Table A4.3	25-44 year-old adults with below upper secondary education as their highest educational attainment level	**	**	27%	37%
Other: Adult education and learning					
	Participation of 25-64 year-olds in formal and/or non-formal education, by level of education ²	2012		2012 ¹	
Table C6.3	Below upper secondary	**		26%	
	Upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary	**		46%	
	Tertiary	**		70%	
Other: Education and social outcomes					
	Percentage of 25-64 year-old adults reporting that they are in good health, by selected literacy proficiency level	2012		2012 ¹	
Table A8.1 (L)	Low literacy proficiency (Level 1 or below)	**		67%	
	High literacy proficiency (Level 4 or 5)	**		90%	
	Life satisfaction today and life satisfaction expected in five years for 25-64 year-olds, by educational attainment ³	2015			
		Life satisfaction today	Life satisfaction in 5 years	Life satisfaction today	Life satisfaction in 5 years
Table A8.3a	Upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary	89%	92%	83%	87%
	Tertiary	100%	100%	92%	94%

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

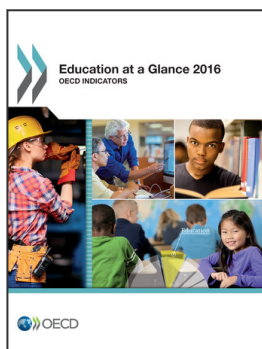
Refer to Annex 3 for notes and for more information on data presented in this key facts table (www.oecd.org/education/education-at-a-glance-19991487.htm).

1. OECD average includes some countries with 2015 data.

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

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

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



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