

First university degrees and ratio of first university degrees and S&E degrees to 24-year-old population in selected locations, by region: 2000 or most recent year

Region/location	All first university degrees	All S&E	Natural sciences ^a	Mathematics/computer sciences	Agricultural sciences	Social/behavioral sciences ^b	Engineering	24-year-olds	First university degrees	NS&E degrees	Social/behavioral science degrees
											Ratio to 24-year-old population ^c
	Number								Ratio to 24-year-old population ^c		
All regions ^d	7,438,071	2,838,044	699,110	177,387	106,601	847,920	1,007,026	74,233,401	10.0	2.7	1.1
Asia ^e	2,528,607	1,176,103	275,969	23,810	42,316	356,203	477,805	46,635,694	5.4	1.8	0.8
Cambodia ^e	2,905	525	106	125	68	148	78	157,000	1.9	0.2	0.1
China (2001)	567,839	337,352	63,517	NA	19,005	35,267	219,563	19,639,000	2.9	1.5	0.2
Hong Kong (1995)	11,362	5,425	2,370	NA	NA	1,233	1,822	104,000	10.9	4.0	1.2
India (1990)	750,000	176,036	147,036	NA	NA	NA	29,000	17,700,800	4.2	1.0	NA
Indonesia (1997)	144,314	97,095	10,711	NA	NA	65,740	20,644	4,125,800	3.5	0.8	1.6
Japan (2001)	542,314	359,019	14,192	4,965	14,084	221,300	104,478	1,719,400	31.5	8.0	12.9
Kazakstan (1995)	45,536	13,252	6,779	NA	NA	952	5,521	290,600	15.7	4.2	0.3
Laos	1,762	389	63	30	100	23	173	94,000	1.9	0.4	0.0
Malaysia (1990)	10,511	4,760	1,685	NA	NA	2,198	877	406,800	2.6	0.6	0.5
Singapore (1995)	5,599	5,599	2,103	NA	NA	1,820	1,676	49,600	11.3	7.6	3.7
South Korea	209,747	96,859	13,427	9,299	5,859	11,766	56,508	783,600	26.8	10.9	1.5
Taiwan (2001)	117,430	48,624	3,684	9,391	3,200	5,762	26,587	385,894	30.4	11.1	1.5
Thailand (1995)	119,288	31,168	10,296	NA	NA	9,994	10,878	1,179,200	10.1	1.8	0.8
Middle East ^d	422,908	143,092	35,889	11,987	10,435	43,496	41,285	3,874,135	10.9	2.6	1.1
Egypt ^f (1995)	85,608	13,578	6,710	NA	NA	1,437	5,431	1,258,800	6.8	1.0	0.1
Iran	69,211	33,625	6,016	3,301	4,785	9,542	9,981	1,371,000	5.0	1.8	0.7
Israel	30,267	14,259	945	2,054	171	8,327	2,762	102,200	29.6	5.8	8.1
Jordan (1996)	12,633	3,539	1,753	NA	NA	986	800	101,800	12.4	2.5	1.0
Lebanon	11,990	3,030	674	418	28	1,433	477	63,200	19.0	2.5	2.3
Morocco (short)	24,680	7,972	3,020	960	NA	3,771	221	590,400	4.8	0.9	0.6
Morocco (long)	3,598	1,228	7	151	427	38	605	NA	NA	NA	NA
Oman	2,344	217	51	7	45	0	114	51,400	4.6	0.4	0.0
Palestine	8,807	2,615	513	758	66	746	532	55,000	16.0	3.4	1.4
Qatar	1,320	353	138	62	0	85	68	6,600	20.0	4.1	1.3
Saudi Arabia (1996)	26,641	5,879	4,201	NA	NA	828	850	389,800	6.8	1.3	0.2
Syria (1995)	16,600	4,530	1,398	NA	NA	NA	3,132	342,600	4.8	1.3	NA
Tunisia (1996)	10,327	3,198	1,719	NA	NA	760	719	191,200	5.4	1.3	0.4
Turkey (short)	118,882	49,069	8,744	4,276	4,913	15,543	15,593	1,318,000	9.0	2.5	1.2
Sub-Saharan Africa ^d	96,296	25,335	5,855	469	3,696	10,262	5,053	1,931,824	5.0	0.8	0.5
Eritrea	790	360	70	46	74	11	159	67,000	1.2	0.5	0.0
Ethiopia ^f	17,579	3,664	264	233	1,404	536	1,227	1,152,400	1.5	0.3	0.0
Ghana	7,122	2,951	916	0	362	1,177	496	376,800	1.9	0.5	0.3
Kenya ^f	15,620	3,870	1,120	71	1,494	445	740	627,000	2.5	0.5	0.1
Lesotho	425	177	54	0	16	107	0	36,600	1.2	0.2	0.3
Madagascar ^f	3,084	1,091	270	22	0	599	200	281,400	1.1	0.2	0.2
South Africa (1996)	32,957	10,920	2,937	NA	NA	6,494	1,489	861,000	3.8	0.5	0.8
Tanzania	4,208	1,071	NA	87	299	88	597	650,800	0.6	0.2	0.0
Uganda	15,301	1,591	294	56	121	816	304	426,200	3.6	0.2	0.2
Europe ^d	2,348,771	836,456	230,506	70,003	24,568	173,240	338,139	9,844,745	23.9	6.7	1.8
European Union	1,330,025	477,973	112,797	60,763	16,738	107,746	179,929	4,903,035	27.1	7.6	2.2
Austria (short)	1,662	744	0	46	0	0	698	92,400	16.4	4.5	1.1
Austria (long)	13,470	4,434	752	476	236	1,057	1,913	NA	NA	NA	NA
Belgium (long)	22,526	8,211	1,451	519	498	2,396	3,347	125,200	18.0	4.6	1.9

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Denmark (1998).....	11,951	4,962	1,882	209	171	1,925	775	65,000	18.4	4.7	3.0
Finland (short).....	13,441	4,662	37	356	391	198	3,680	65,600	38.5	13.2	2.3
Finland (long).....	11,828	5,521	958	490	141	1,319	2,613	NA	NA	NA	NA
France (short).....	226,314	91,030	33,511	13,910	95	31,057	12,457	762,200	36.1	11.2	4.1
France (long).....	49,002	25,130	0	1,132	2,162	0	21,836	NA	NA	NA	NA
Germany (short) (2001).....	56,681	25,868	487	1,165	960	60	23,196	892,800	20.0	6.4	0.9
Germany (long) (2001).....	121,937	39,295	11,029	6,139	1,180	7,824	13,123	NA	NA	NA	NA
Greece (long).....	18,556	4,576	2,570	NA	NA	221	1,785	155,000	12.0	2.8	0.1
Iceland (short).....	1,318	354	72	58	9	122	93	4,200	31.4	5.5	2.9
Ireland.....	18,669	6,636	2,231	1,405	196	790	2,014	69,000	27.1	8.5	1.1
Italy (short).....	11,568	3,729	147	740	102	59	2,681	726,600	20.7	5.9	2.0
Italy (long).....	139,109	53,534	8,738	4,087	1,243	14,462	25,004	NA	NA	NA	NA
Netherlands (short).....	66,932	17,586	2,185	1,278	1,336	5,461	7,326	187,000	37.3	6.8	2.9
Netherlands (long).....	2,877	607	52	57	75	0	423	NA	NA	NA	NA
Portugal (short).....	2,587	425	70	NA	NA	32	323	160,200	16.3	2.8	2.3
Portugal (long).....	23,482	7,823	1,895	NA	NA	3,685	2,243	NA	NA	NA	NA
Spain (short).....	87,464	23,302	0	4,606	3,236	0	15,460	637,200	32.6	8.1	2.2
Spain (long).....	120,114	42,511	10,908	4,404	1,503	13,975	11,721	NA	NA	NA	NA
Sweden (short).....	32,573	11,475	1,256	1,263	178	1,892	6,886	102,200	33.4	9.5	2.1
Sweden (long).....	1,524	379	0	0	53	278	48	NA	NA	NA	NA
United Kingdom ^a (2001).....	274,440	95,179	32,566	18,423	2,973	20,933	20,284	696,600	39.4	10.7	3.0
European Free Trade Association.....	41,449	11,005	1,286	1,110	379	3,240	4,990	141,264	29.3	5.5	2.3
Norway (short).....	17,959	3,166	32	609	52	1,764	709	54,400	41.2	5.2	3.8
Norway (long).....	4,462	1,694	114	164	154	280	982	NA	NA	NA	NA
Switzerland (short).....	7,648	2,488	6	15	84	123	2,260	76,600	24.8	6.5	1.6
Switzerland (long).....	11,380	3,657	1,134	322	89	1,073	1,039	NA	NA	NA	NA
Central/Eastern Europe.....	977,297	347,478	116,423	8,130	7,451	62,254	153,220	4,800,446	20.4	5.9	1.3
Albania (long).....	4,350	436	37	42	50	129	178	107,600	4.0	0.3	0.1
Armenia (long).....	10,206	1,343	NA	NA	335	NA	1,008	51,600	19.8	2.6	NA
Bulgaria.....	20,166	4,798	43	409	205	3,906	235	122,400	16.5	0.7	3.2
Croatia.....	8,847	3,003	465	486	309	216	1,527	64,000	13.8	4.4	0.3
Czech Republic (short).....	10,010	3,484	258	489	129	1,828	780	174,400	14.6	4.9	1.4
Czech Republic (long).....	15,534	7,550	821	1,660	939	602	3,528	NA	NA	NA	NA
Estonia.....	2,272	289	37	21	9	87	135	20,000	11.4	1.0	0.4
Georgia.....	19,797	4,824	995	170	446	110	3,103	79,600	24.9	5.9	0.1
Hungary (short).....	30,320	4,320	0	181	1,024	0	3,115	165,200	28.4	11.9	1.2
Hungary (long).....	16,658	17,364	516	369	635	2,023	13,821	NA	NA	NA	NA
Latvia (short).....	9,051	2,374	235	347	46	1,142	604	32,600	55.7	6.4	6.1
Latvia (long).....	9,114	1,695	183	217	48	833	414	NA	NA	NA	NA
Lithuania.....	11,617	3,983	313	490	177	530	2,473	51,800	22.4	6.7	1.0
Macedonia ^a	3,180	943	147	182	94	68	452	37,800	8.4	2.3	0.2
Poland (1996).....	147,536	43,304	7,544	NA	NA	14,142	21,618	599,490	24.6	4.9	2.4
Romania (short).....	39,013	11,899	1,249	1,014	975	2,029	6,632	390,400	17.1	4.3	0.9
Romania (long).....	27,631	8,479	880	740	686	1,464	4,709	NA	NA	NA	NA
Russia (long) (1999).....	554,814	216,017	101,320	NA	NA	32,288	82,409	2,170,000	25.6	8.5	1.5

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Serbia-Montenegro ^d	12,545	4,477	601	378	579	323	2,596	159,600	7.9	2.6	0.2
Slovak Republic (short).....	5,226	851	29	242	29	76	475	82,430	24.4	6.3	0.4
Slovak Republic (long).....	14,903	4,630	367	693	736	232	2,602	NA	NA	NA	NA
Slovenia.....	4,507	1,415	383	NA	NA	226	806	29,000	15.5	4.1	0.8
America ^d	1,907,776	622,870	140,020	64,961	24,274	259,393	134,222	11,628,603	16.4	3.1	2.2
North America.....	1,531,958	500,391	97,532	64,569	23,268	219,134	95,888	6,491,403	23.6	4.3	3.4
Canada.....	116,160	53,307	10,353	5,424	1,236	26,660	9,634	397,200	29.2	6.7	6.7
Costa Rica.....	4,393	1,074	104	214	167	264	325	70,600	6.2	1.1	0.4
Cuba.....	16,769	3,374	1,009	219	384	408	1,354	201,800	8.3	1.5	0.2
Mexico.....	135,233	42,049	1,701	9,589	3,237	3,338	24,184	2,038,406	6.6	1.9	0.2
Nicaragua (1997).....	6,282	1,965	834	NA	NA	276	855	80,397	7.8	2.1	0.3
United States.....	1,253,121	398,622	83,531	49,123	18,244	188,188	59,536	3,703,000	33.8	5.7	5.1
South America.....	375,818	122,479	42,488	392	1,006	40,259	38,334	5,137,200	7.3	1.6	0.8
Argentina (1996).....	37,878	16,106	5,369	NA	NA	7,325	3,412	672,200	5.6	1.3	1.1
Bolivia.....	15,341	5,115	563	392	1,006	997	2,157	148,000	10.4	2.8	0.7
Brazil (1996).....	245,401	78,049	32,556	NA	NA	27,421	18,072	3,300,000	7.4	1.5	0.8
Chile (1996).....	23,010	10,531	2,358	NA	NA	4,516	3,657	239,400	9.6	2.5	1.9
Colombia (1996).....	54,188	12,678	1,642	NA	NA	NA	11,036	777,600	7.0	1.6	NA
Oceania ^d	133,713	34,188	10,871	6,157	1,312	5,326	10,522	318,400	42.0	9.1	1.7
Australia (short).....	106,985	28,737	8,454	5,433	1,069	4,737	9,044	269,200	41.9	9.3	1.8
Australia (long).....	5,760	1,122	69	332	47	181	493	NA	NA	NA	NA
New Zealand (short).....	17,177	3,529	2,292	358	156	408	315	49,200	42.6	8.0	0.8
New Zealand (long).....	3,791	800	56	34	40	0	670	NA	NA	NA	NA

NA not available

NS&E natural sciences and engineering

^aIncludes physical, biological, earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences.^bJapanese social science data also include business administration.^cNumber of degrees per 100 24-year-olds. For countries with both short and long degrees, the ratios are calculated with both short and long degrees as the numerator.^dIncludes only those locations for which relatively recent data are available.^eEngineering and agriculture degrees are long, more than 5 years.^fEngineering degrees are long.^gIncludes former colleges and polytechnics.

NOTES: NS&E degrees include natural, agricultural, and computer sciences; mathematics; and engineering. Data for first university degrees use the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED 97), level 5A. First university degree programs in most countries are less than 5 years. However, in some countries, especially European, some level 5A degree programs are more than 5 years and noted as long. When a country has first university degrees that are less than 5 years and some more than 5 years, such as Germany, the duration is noted as short or long. An unspecified duration means less than 5 years.

SOURCES: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Center for Education Research and Innovation, *Education at a Glance 2002*; United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), UNESCO Institute for Statistics database, <http://www.unesco.org/statistics>; Iberoamerican Network of Science and Technology Indicators (RICYT), *Principales Indicadores de Ciencia y Tecnología* (Buenos Aires, 1999); China—National Research Center for Science and Technology for Development, special tabulations, 2002; India—Department of Science and Technology, *Research and Development Statistics 1996–97* (New Delhi, 1999); Japan—Government of Japan, Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, *Monbusho Survey of Education*, special tabulations (Tokyo, 2003); Taiwan—Ministry of Education, *Educational Statistics of the Republic of China: 2002* (Taipei, 2002); Germany—Federal Statistical Office, *Prüfungen an Hochschulen 2001* (Wiesbaden, 2002); United Kingdom—Higher Education Statistics Agency special tabulations (Cheltenham, 2003); Russia—Center for Science Research and Statistics, unpublished tabulations (2001); Brazil—Ministry of Education and Culture, *Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior*, unpublished tabulations, 2001; Mexico—National Association of Universities and Institutions of Higher Education, *Anuario Estadístico 2001: Población Escolar de Nivel Licenciatura en Universidades e Institutos Tecnológicos*, (Mexico, 2002); and United States—National Science Foundation, Division of Science Resources Statistics, WebCASPAR database system, <http://caspar.nsf.gov>.