

■ Table 2.5.46 1 / 8

Higher education graduates, by subject groups, examination types and sex<sup>1</sup>

Examination type	Year <sup>2,3</sup>	Number					
		Subject groups, total <sup>4</sup>	Humanities <sup>5</sup>	Law, economics, social sciences	Mathematics, natural sciences	Human medicine, health sciences	Agricultural, forestry and nutritional sciences, veterinary medicine
University degree <sup>6,7,8</sup>	1993	101,401	14,499	27,542	18,898	13,582	4,109
	2000	94,999	17,826	30,784	14,828	10,698	3,160
	2010	103,413	21,408	31,118	18,758	11,864	2,009
	2015	39,049	4,567	10,439	4,622	11,305	1,059
	2016	34,623	1,665	11,729	3,314	11,686	995
	2017	32,145	1,315	11,100	2,575	11,795	1,023
	2018	29,953	1,152	10,218	2,334	11,406	936
	2019	30,294	1,066	10,491	2,377	11,904	942
	2020	28,777	1,303	9,256	2,169	11,845	1,148
	2021	30,494	1,220	10,593	2,563	12,164	944
	2022	29,716	1,226	9,898	2,446	12,241	841
	Doctorate	1993	21,032	1,899	2,109	6,019	7,847
2000		25,780	2,732	3,261	7,607	8,397	1,059
2010		25,629	2,875	3,534	8,092	7,287	1,019
2015		29,218	3,184	3,692	9,950	7,322	1,016
2016		29,303	2,280	4,794	8,782	7,414	1,008
2017		28,404	2,170	4,412	8,616	7,125	1,100
2018		27,838	2,130	4,242	8,445	7,301	946
2019		28,280	2,130	4,157	8,314	7,715	889
2020		26,220	1,786	3,898	7,930	7,256	892
2021		28,153	1,920	3,891	7,896	8,753	901
2022		27,692	1,844	3,910	7,755	8,721	827
Teacher's degree <sup>9</sup>		1993	16,235	10,588	779	2,914	-
	2000	26,938	17,759	1,716	4,869	-	225
	2010	37,577	25,195	1,804	7,857	180	196
	2015	43,989	30,096	2,336	8,686	249	272
	2016	43,998	22,152	10,935	8,103	279	243
	2017	44,248	21,215	12,143	8,082	351	277
	2018	45,460	22,733	10,957	8,886	370	249
	2019	46,090	22,801	10,902	9,340	350	323
	2020	43,248	22,651	8,459	8,986	343	427
	2021	48,415	24,760	9,806	10,266	460	471
	2022	47,107	23,720	9,750	10,348	406	408
	Degree at university of applied sciences <sup>7</sup>	1993	63,055	1,279	27,222	3,362	-
2000		66,260	1,198	33,769	3,030	-	2,398
2010		56,248	658	28,707	4,128	1,075	1,575
2015		10,044	42	6,304	306	276	11
2016		9,830	16	6,484	22	328	2
2017		8,194	11	5,863	15	328	3
2018		7,217	15	5,275	6	476	-
2019		6,716	17	5,424	10	1	-
2020		7,664	12	6,500	10	120	-
2021		8,384	15	7,375	11	1	-
2022		8,456	10	7,498	12	-	-

■ Table 2.5.46 2 / 8

Higher education graduates, by subject groups, examination types and sex<sup>1</sup>

Examination type	Year <sup>2,3</sup>	Number					
		Subject groups, total <sup>4</sup>	Humanities <sup>5</sup>	Total			
				Law, economics, social sciences	Mathematics, natural sciences	Human medicine, health sciences	Agricultural, forestry and nutritional sciences, veterinary medicine
Bachelor's degree <sup>8</sup>	1993	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2000	<b>126</b>	42	13	3	-	65
	2010	<b>112,108</b>	17,849	44,879	19,796	2,298	3,439
	2015	<b>245,658</b>	35,595	94,379	36,089	6,525	6,296
	2016	<b>249,561</b>	22,090	111,464	19,910	7,711	5,959
	2017	<b>252,286</b>	21,928	113,660	19,505	8,355	6,117
	2018	<b>247,247</b>	19,631	113,545	18,518	8,437	6,302
	2019	<b>252,216</b>	19,738	115,352	18,884	10,111	6,220
	2020	<b>236,472</b>	16,945	112,147	16,408	8,722	5,807
	2021	<b>257,716</b>	18,078	123,835	18,831	9,362	6,247
	2022	<b>246,802</b>	16,346	117,868	17,493	9,011	5,789
Master's degree <sup>8</sup>	1993	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2000	<b>370</b>	23	207	42	9	12
	2010	<b>26,722</b>	3,288	9,350	4,866	1,048	1,491
	2015	<b>113,630</b>	15,756	36,841	20,820	2,456	3,492
	2016	<b>124,363</b>	10,003	46,902	15,029	2,650	3,591
	2017	<b>136,457</b>	10,955	51,042	16,340	2,686	3,901
	2018	<b>140,960</b>	11,166	52,891	15,788	3,406	3,969
	2019	<b>144,649</b>	11,156	55,484	16,041	3,388	3,843
	2020	<b>134,532</b>	9,710	52,496	14,486	3,121	3,622
	2021	<b>144,782</b>	10,457	56,628	15,361	4,105	3,720
	2022	<b>145,877</b>	9,874	57,297	15,398	3,798	3,673

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Higher education graduates, by subject groups, examination types and sex<sup>1</sup>

Examination type	Year <sup>2,3</sup>	Number					
		Total		Subject groups, total <sup>4</sup>	Male		
		Engineering	Art, art theory		Humanities <sup>5</sup>	Law, economics, social sciences	Mathematics, natural sciences
University degree <sup>6,7,8</sup>	1993	18,217	4,554	<b>61,894</b>	5,433	16,738	12,341
	2000	12,342	5,361	<b>52,400</b>	5,744	18,316	9,532
	2010	11,905	6,351	<b>49,327</b>	5,933	15,948	11,114
	2015	4,519	2,537	<b>17,434</b>	1,510	4,666	2,386
	2016	3,387	1,847	<b>14,964</b>	663	5,003	1,198
	2017	2,664	1,673	<b>13,836</b>	577	4,676	929
	2018	2,072	1,835	<b>12,487</b>	492	4,324	727
	2019	1,933	1,581	<b>12,446</b>	477	4,368	687
	2020	1,683	1,373	<b>11,624</b>	547	3,982	635
	2021	1,575	1,435	<b>12,121</b>	450	4,404	850
	2022	1,594	1,470	<b>11,877</b>	423	4,094	808
Doctorate	1993	1,656	303	<b>14,594</b>	1,130	1,644	4,576
	2000	2,398	317	<b>16,928</b>	1,519	2,327	5,584
	2010	2,561	261	<b>14,328</b>	1,321	2,233	4,913
	2015	3,736	318	<b>16,166</b>	1,346	2,317	6,077
	2016	4,719	302	<b>16,055</b>	1,102	2,587	5,044
	2017	4,711	263	<b>15,691</b>	1,037	2,429	4,971
	2018	4,458	315	<b>15,261</b>	988	2,287	4,934
	2019	4,773	297	<b>15,418</b>	1,004	2,201	4,818
	2020	4,215	239	<b>14,395</b>	804	2,098	4,665
	2021	4,560	230	<b>15,226</b>	867	2,081	4,638
	2022	4,416	217	<b>14,938</b>	891	2,042	4,638
Teacher's degree <sup>9</sup>	1993	502	1,275	<b>4,244</b>	2,324	300	899
	2000	671	1,698	<b>7,781</b>	4,390	566	1,921
	2010	462	1,883	<b>9,870</b>	5,806	775	2,495
	2015	488	1,862	<b>11,881</b>	7,079	920	2,997
	2016	656	1,630	<b>12,270</b>	5,901	2,431	2,958
	2017	668	1,511	<b>12,327</b>	5,869	2,623	2,841
	2018	660	1,605	<b>12,569</b>	5,931	2,620	3,033
	2019	744	1,622	<b>12,437</b>	5,694	2,582	3,044
	2020	727	1,655	<b>11,663</b>	5,556	2,037	2,947
	2021	801	1,850	<b>12,746</b>	5,898	2,307	3,283
	2022	766	1,709	<b>12,286</b>	5,580	2,349	3,251
Degree at university of applied sciences <sup>7</sup>	1993	27,036	1,880	<b>42,433</b>	237	14,070	2,592
	2000	23,779	2,086	<b>40,939</b>	339	16,865	2,544
	2010	18,083	2,022	<b>33,124</b>	174	13,266	3,222
	2015	2,968	137	<b>6,258</b>	11	3,272	244
	2016	2,788	190	<b>5,952</b>	2	3,310	9
	2017	1,785	189	<b>4,570</b>	1	2,848	11
	2018	1,300	145	<b>3,800</b>	4	2,496	5
	2019	1,142	122	<b>3,423</b>	2	2,369	8
	2020	886	136	<b>3,954</b>	-	3,120	8
	2021	885	97	<b>4,076</b>	2	3,275	6
	2022	805	131	<b>4,160</b>	1	3,427	7

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Higher education graduates, by subject groups, examination types and sex<sup>1</sup>

Examination type	Year <sup>2,3</sup>	Number					
		Total		Subject groups, total <sup>4</sup>	Male		
		Engineering	Art, art theory		Humanities <sup>5</sup>	Law, economics, social sciences	Mathematics, natural sciences
Bachelor's degree <sup>8</sup>	1993	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2000	3	-	70	15	5	-
	2010	20,326	3,521	54,782	4,374	19,055	12,561
	2015	58,163	8,607	126,648	8,683	41,375	24,176
	2016	73,200	9,210	125,679	6,413	44,220	10,793
	2017	72,694	9,482	125,152	6,319	44,510	10,462
	2018	71,529	9,270	122,257	5,610	44,321	9,932
	2019	72,606	9,276	123,889	5,763	44,791	9,989
	2020	68,173	8,241	115,752	4,965	44,130	8,438
	2021	71,935	9,347	123,782	5,282	48,172	9,508
	2022	71,504	8,768	119,453	4,897	45,363	8,744
	Master's degree <sup>8</sup>	1993	-	-	-	-	-
2000		77	-	278	12	160	31
2010		5,912	767	14,497	897	4,825	3,148
2015		30,527	3,721	61,532	3,869	17,942	13,343
2016		42,188	3,945	67,854	2,829	20,575	8,360
2017		47,124	4,225	75,120	3,178	22,681	9,186
2018		49,171	4,525	77,418	3,336	23,362	8,933
2019		50,200	4,503	78,248	3,388	24,083	8,855
2020		47,154	3,884	72,765	2,993	22,812	7,978
2021		49,732	4,768	76,209	3,169	23,771	8,310
2022		51,305	4,529	76,977	3,016	24,258	8,136

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Higher education graduates, by subject groups, examination types and sex<sup>1</sup>

Examination type	Year <sup>2,3</sup>	Number					
		Male				Female	
		Human medicine, health sciences	Agricultural, forestry and nutritional sciences, veterinary medicine	Engineering	Art, art theory	Subject groups, total <sup>4</sup>	Humanities <sup>5</sup>
University degree <sup>6,7,8</sup>	1993	7,663	2,055	15,628	2,036	<b>39,507</b>	9,066
	2000	5,610	1,296	9,805	2,097	<b>42,599</b>	12,082
	2010	4,432	501	9,058	2,341	<b>54,086</b>	15,475
	2015	4,161	180	3,526	1,005	<b>21,615</b>	3,057
	2016	4,427	177	2,717	779	<b>19,659</b>	1,002
	2017	4,595	184	2,142	733	<b>18,309</b>	738
	2018	4,326	141	1,703	774	<b>17,466</b>	660
	2019	4,593	147	1,500	674	<b>17,848</b>	589
	2020	4,404	172	1,285	599	<b>17,153</b>	756
	2021	4,529	143	1,138	607	<b>18,373</b>	770
	2022	4,636	132	1,182	602	<b>17,839</b>	803
	Doctorate	1993	4,809	701	1,559	128	<b>6,438</b>
2000		4,687	523	2,152	127	<b>8,852</b>	1,213
2010		3,220	384	2,167	90	<b>11,301</b>	1,554
2015		2,948	354	3,016	108	<b>13,052</b>	1,838
2016		3,003	334	3,886	96	<b>13,248</b>	1,178
2017		2,931	403	3,832	83	<b>12,713</b>	1,133
2018		3,016	325	3,605	105	<b>12,577</b>	1,142
2019		3,074	335	3,881	101	<b>12,862</b>	1,126
2020		3,009	324	3,397	95	<b>11,825</b>	982
2021		3,573	315	3,678	72	<b>12,927</b>	1,053
2022		3,450	293	3,537	85	<b>12,754</b>	953
Teacher's degree <sup>9</sup>		1993	-	33	329	359	<b>11,991</b>
	2000	-	36	473	395	<b>19,157</b>	13,369
	2010	30	40	295	429	<b>27,707</b>	19,389
	2015	26	55	319	485	<b>32,108</b>	23,017
	2016	36	63	422	459	<b>31,728</b>	16,251
	2017	54	66	420	454	<b>31,921</b>	15,346
	2018	48	61	411	465	<b>32,891</b>	16,802
	2019	64	52	530	469	<b>33,653</b>	17,107
	2020	56	71	492	504	<b>31,585</b>	17,095
	2021	66	91	573	528	<b>35,669</b>	18,862
	2022	64	53	538	451	<b>34,821</b>	18,140
	Degree at university of applied sciences <sup>7</sup>	1993	-	1,259	23,465	810	<b>20,622</b>
2000		-	1,204	19,226	761	<b>25,321</b>	859
2010		250	742	14,772	698	<b>23,124</b>	484
2015		53	5	2,632	41	<b>3,786</b>	31
2016		91	-	2,468	70	<b>3,878</b>	14
2017		68	2	1,579	61	<b>3,624</b>	10
2018		116	-	1,133	46	<b>3,417</b>	11
2019		-	-	992	52	<b>3,293</b>	15
2020		22	-	762	42	<b>3,710</b>	12
2021		-	-	758	35	<b>4,308</b>	13
2022		-	-	683	42	<b>4,296</b>	9

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Higher education graduates, by subject groups, examination types and sex<sup>1</sup>

Examination type	Year <sup>2,3</sup>	Number					
		Male				Female	
		Human medicine, health sciences	Agricultural, forestry and nutritional sciences, veterinary medicine	Engineering	Art, art theory	Subject groups, total <sup>4</sup>	Humanities <sup>5</sup>
Bachelor's degree <sup>8</sup>	1993	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2000	-	44	-	-	56	27
	2010	612	1,415	15,484	1,281	57,326	13,475
	2015	1,565	2,833	44,940	3,073	119,010	26,912
	2016	1,650	2,689	56,662	3,248	123,882	15,677
	2017	1,983	2,717	55,640	3,230	127,134	15,609
	2018	2,004	2,780	54,349	3,254	124,990	14,021
	2019	2,569	2,696	54,830	3,240	128,327	13,975
	2020	1,871	2,448	51,098	2,793	120,720	11,980
	2021	1,843	2,600	53,089	3,236	133,934	12,796
	2022	1,792	2,426	53,116	3,113	127,349	11,449
	Master's degree <sup>8</sup>	1993	-	-	-	-	-
2000		5	11	59	-	92	11
2010		439	609	4,314	265	12,225	2,391
2015		795	1,384	22,878	1,307	52,098	11,887
2016		955	1,506	32,219	1,372	56,509	7,174
2017		815	1,609	36,069	1,456	61,337	7,777
2018		1,124	1,688	37,307	1,637	63,542	7,830
2019		932	1,610	37,752	1,597	66,401	7,768
2020		887	1,502	35,196	1,345	61,767	6,717
2021		1,127	1,443	36,701	1,678	68,573	7,288
2022		969	1,498	37,549	1,548	68,900	6,858

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Higher education graduates, by subject groups, examination types and sex<sup>1</sup>

Examination type	Year <sup>2,3</sup>	Number					
		Female					
		Law, economics, social sciences	Mathematics, natural sciences	Human medicine, health sciences	Agricultural, forestry and nutritional sciences, veterinary medicine	Engineering	Art, art theory
University degree <sup>6,7,8</sup>	1993	10,804	6,557	5,919	2,054	2,589	2,518
	2000	12,468	5,296	5,088	1,864	2,537	3,264
	2010	15,170	7,644	7,432	1,508	2,847	4,010
	2015	5,773	2,236	7,144	879	993	1,532
	2016	6,726	2,116	7,259	818	670	1,068
	2017	6,424	1,646	7,200	839	522	940
	2018	5,894	1,607	7,080	795	369	1,061
	2019	6,123	1,690	7,311	795	433	907
	2020	5,274	1,534	7,441	976	398	774
	2021	6,189	1,713	7,635	801	437	828
	2022	5,804	1,638	7,605	709	412	868
Doctorate	1993	465	1,443	3,038	442	97	175
	2000	934	2,023	3,710	536	246	190
	2010	1,301	3,179	4,067	635	394	171
	2015	1,375	3,873	4,374	662	720	210
	2016	2,207	3,738	4,411	674	833	206
	2017	1,983	3,645	4,194	697	879	180
	2018	1,955	3,511	4,285	621	853	210
	2019	1,956	3,496	4,641	554	892	196
	2020	1,800	3,265	4,247	568	818	144
	2021	1,810	3,258	5,180	586	882	158
	2022	1,868	3,117	5,271	534	879	132
Teacher's degree <sup>9</sup>	1993	479	2,015	-	144	173	916
	2000	1,150	2,948	-	189	198	1,303
	2010	1,029	5,362	150	156	167	1,454
	2015	1,416	5,689	223	217	169	1,377
	2016	8,504	5,145	243	180	234	1,171
	2017	9,520	5,241	297	211	248	1,057
	2018	8,337	5,853	322	188	249	1,140
	2019	8,320	6,296	286	271	214	1,153
	2020	6,422	6,039	287	356	235	1,151
	2021	7,499	6,983	394	380	228	1,322
	2022	7,401	7,097	342	355	228	1,258
Degree at university of applied sciences <sup>7</sup>	1993	13,152	770	-	1,017	3,571	1,070
	2000	16,904	486	-	1,194	4,553	1,325
	2010	15,441	906	825	833	3,311	1,324
	2015	3,032	62	223	6	336	96
	2016	3,174	13	237	-	320	120
	2017	3,015	4	260	1	206	128
	2018	2,779	1	360	-	167	99
	2019	3,055	2	1	-	150	70
	2020	3,380	2	98	-	124	94
	2021	4,100	5	1	-	127	62
	2022	4,071	5	-	-	122	89

**Higher education graduates, by subject groups, examination types and sex<sup>1</sup>**

Examination type	Year <sup>2,3</sup>	Number					
		Female					
		Law, economics, social sciences	Mathematics, natural sciences	Human medicine, health sciences	Agricultural, forestry and nutritional sciences, veterinary medicine	Engineering	Art, art theory
Bachelor's degree <sup>8</sup>	1993	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2000	8	-	-	21	-	-
	2010	25,824	7,235	1,686	2,024	4,842	2,240
	2015	53,004	11,913	4,960	3,463	13,223	5,534
	2016	67,244	9,117	6,061	3,270	16,538	5,962
	2017	69,150	9,043	6,372	3,400	17,054	6,252
	2018	69,224	8,586	6,433	3,522	17,180	6,016
	2019	70,561	8,895	7,542	3,524	17,776	6,036
	2020	68,017	7,970	6,851	3,359	17,075	5,448
	2021	75,663	9,323	7,519	3,647	18,846	6,111
	2022	72,505	8,749	7,219	3,363	18,388	5,655
Master's degree <sup>8</sup>	1993	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2000	47	11	4	1	18	-
	2010	4,525	1,718	609	882	1,598	502
	2015	18,899	7,477	1,661	2,108	7,649	2,414
	2016	26,327	6,669	1,695	2,085	9,969	2,573
	2017	28,361	7,154	1,871	2,292	11,055	2,769
	2018	29,529	6,855	2,282	2,281	11,864	2,888
	2019	31,401	7,186	2,456	2,233	12,448	2,906
	2020	29,684	6,508	2,234	2,120	11,958	2,539
	2021	32,857	7,051	2,978	2,277	13,031	3,090
	2022	33,039	7,262	2,829	2,175	13,756	2,981

1 As of the 2016 examination year, there has been a change in the subject classification (for more information see source). Former group "Veterinary medicine" has been added to group "Agricultural, forestry and nutritional sciences, veterinary medicine"; the values have been retrospectively adjusted to all years presented. As of the 2021 examination year, there has been a change in the subject classification (for more information see source). Therefore parts of the data are of limited comparability with the previous years.

2 Winter semester and the following summer semester (e.g. 2022 = winter semester 2021/2022 and summer semester 2022).

3 Due to a revision of the study subject assignments in North Rhine-Westphalia, as of the 2007 examination year the results can only be compared with the previous years to a limited extent.

4 Including subjects outside the fields of study structure.

5 Including sports.

6 Including "artistic degree" and "other degree".

7 Excluding bachelor's degree and master's degree.

8 Excluding teacher's degree.

9 Including teacher's bachelor degree and teacher's master degree.

Last update: October 26, 2023

Source: Federal Statistical Office (Statistischer Bericht Prüfungsstatistik, Fachserie 11 Reihe 4.2)

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<https://www.govdata.de/dl-de/by-2-0>