

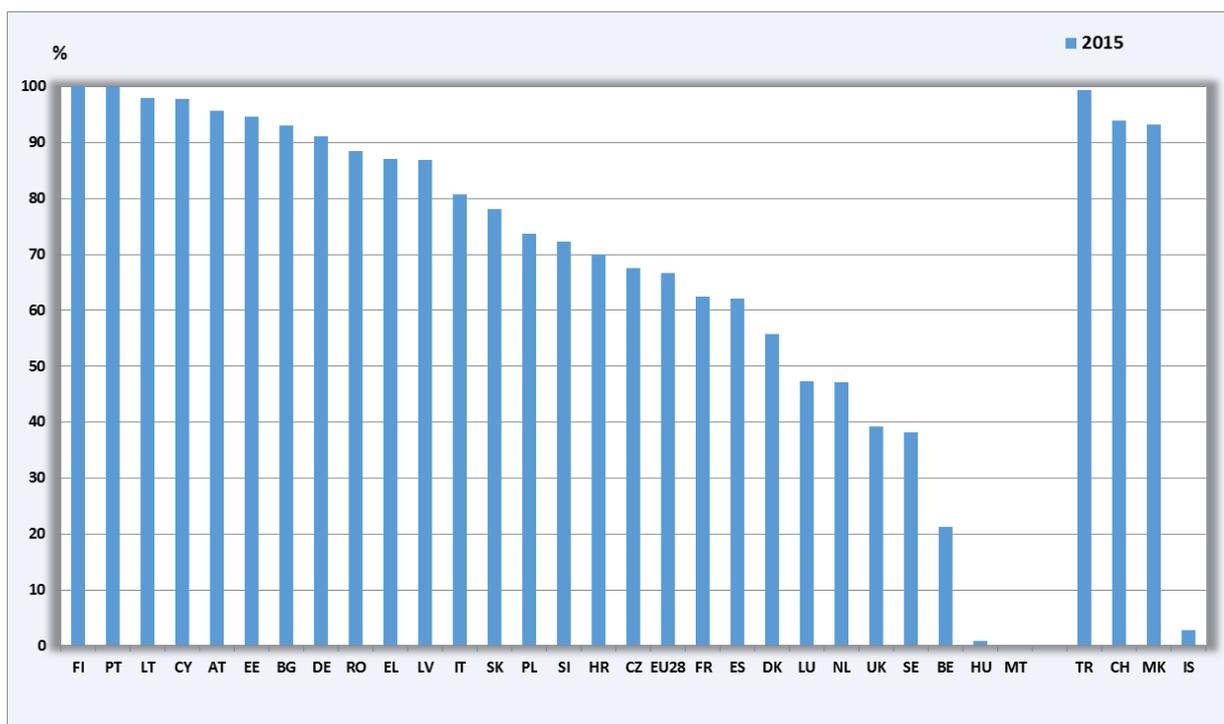
3. How many IVET students have direct access to tertiary education?

Indicator 1025: IVET students with direct access to tertiary education

Education programmes in upper secondary VET are diverse. One of the elements of diversity is whether, upon completion, they allow direct access to tertiary education. Shorter programmes may contribute to raising education beyond lower secondary levels, reducing early school leaving and improving the transition to the labour market. Other longer or more complex programmes may be geared towards excellence by developing higher skills for the world of work or for continuing education and training at the tertiary level. The availability of such programmes is necessary to attract the best students to VET. Balanced participation and offering should be pursued.

The indicator is defined as the percentage of upper secondary VET students that are enrolled in programmes providing direct access to tertiary education ⁽¹⁾. EU averages are estimated from available country data.

Figure 1 IVET students with direct access to tertiary education as % of all upper secondary IVET



Source: Cedefop calculations based on Eurostat data/UOE data collection on education.

Key points

In 2015, 66.7% of students in upper secondary VET in the EU were enrolled in programmes granting direct access to tertiary education (estimate based on available country data).

¹ Education programmes assigned to ISCED level 35 constitute vocational upper secondary education. Amongst those, the programmes belonging to ISCED level 354 offer direct access to tertiary education.

On average, and apart from a few exceptions, programmes granting direct access to tertiary education are well attended. In Finland, all upper secondary VET students had direct access to tertiary education. Portugal is a close second, with a share of upper secondary VET students with direct access to tertiary education at 99.9%. Shares were also higher than 90% in Lithuania (98.0%), Cyprus (97.9%), Austria (95.6%), Estonia (94.6%), Bulgaria (93.0%), and Germany (91.2%). IVET students in programmes with direct access to tertiary education accounted for less than 50% of the total in Luxembourg (47.3%), the Netherlands (47.2%), the United Kingdom (39.2%), Sweden (38.2%) and for less than a quarter in Belgium (21.2%), Hungary (0.9%), and Malta.

More than 90% of all upper secondary VET students had access to tertiary education in three non-EU countries (Turkey, Switzerland and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) for which data were available.

On average, in the EU, it is estimated that the share of upper secondary VET students with direct access to tertiary education dropped between 2013 and 2015 (down 2.8 percentage points). The largest changes occurred in Sweden (at 38.2% in 2015 after an increase by 17.4 percentage points) and in Luxembourg (at 47.3% in 2015 after a decrease by 18.3 percentage points).

Table 1 IVET students with direct access to tertiary education as % of all upper second. IVET

Country code	Country	2015		Recent change		
		Value	Flag	Range	Country	EU28
EU28	European Union (28)	66.7		'13-'15	↘ -2.8	
BE	Belgium	21.2		'13-'15	↗ 0.5	↘ -2.8
BG	Bulgaria	93.0		'13-'15	↗ 0.8	↘ -2.8
CZ	Czech Republic	67.6		'13-'15	↘ -1.1	↘ -2.8
DK	Denmark	55.8		'13-'15	↗ 0.9	↘ -2.8
DE	Germany	91.2		'13-'15	↘ -0.4	↘ -2.8
EE	Estonia	94.6		'13-'15	↗ 1.0	↘ -2.8
IE	Ireland		z			
EL	Greece	87.1		'13-'15	↗ 13.0	↘ -2.8
ES	Spain	62.1		'13-'15	↘ -0.8	↘ -2.8
FR	France	62.4		'13-'15	↗ 1.4	↘ -2.8
HR	Croatia	70.0		'13-'15	↗ 1.6	↘ -2.8
IT	Italy	80.7		'14-'15	↘ -10.0	↘ -1.4
CY	Cyprus	97.9		'13-'15	→ 0.0	↘ -2.8
LV	Latvia	87.0		'13-'15	↘ -1.4	↘ -2.8
LT	Lithuania	98.0		'13-'15	↗ 0.2	↘ -2.8
LU	Luxembourg	47.3		'13-'15	↘ -18.3	↘ -2.8
HU	Hungary	0.9		'13-'15	↘ -2.4	↘ -2.8
MT	Malta	0.0		'13-'15	→ 0.0	↘ -2.8
NL	Netherlands	47.2				
AT	Austria	95.6		'13-'15	↘ -0.3	↘ -2.8
PL	Poland	73.7		'13-'15	↘ -0.3	↘ -2.8
PT	Portugal	99.9		'13-'15	↗ 0.4	↘ -2.8
RO	Romania	88.4		'13-'15	↘ -7.7	↘ -2.8
SI	Slovenia	72.3		'13-'15	↘ -0.9	↘ -2.8
SK	Slovakia	78.1		'13-'15	↘ -1.6	↘ -2.8
FI	Finland	100.0		'13-'15	→ 0.0	↘ -2.8
SE	Sweden	38.2		'13-'15	↗ 17.4	↘ -2.8
UK	United Kingdom	39.2		'13-'15	↘ -10.9	↘ -2.8
MK	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	93.2		'13-'15	↗ 0.8	↘ -2.8
IS	Iceland	2.9		'13-'15	↗ 0.1	↘ -2.8
NO	Norway	0.0	z	'13-'15	→ 0.0	↘ -2.8
CH	Switzerland	94.0		'13-'15	↘ -0.5	↘ -2.8
TR	Turkey	99.3		'13-'15	↘ -0.3	↘ -2.8

Arrows ↗ or ↘ signal a positive or negative change. Arrow → indicates: no change.

Indicator available from 2013 onwards. The EU28 values are based on 28 countries, with partial information for IT, NL. (z) Eurostat: "not applicable". Source: Cedefop calculations based on Eurostat data/UOE data collection on education.

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