

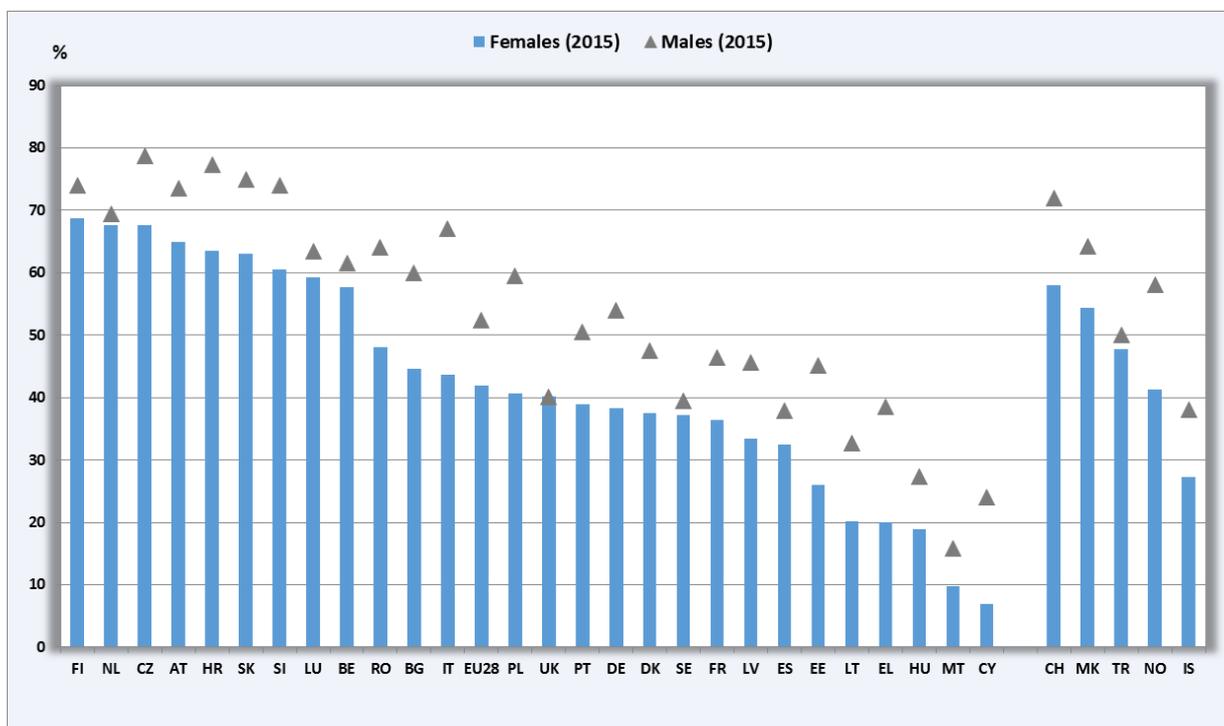
8. Are female students less likely to participate in IVET?

Indicator 1070: female IVET students as a share of all female upper secondary students

Of particular interest is the extent to which different groups are more or less likely to participate in VET. Data considered here focus on participation in IVET for female students, whose levels of participation are traditionally lower than for male students.

The indicator below considers the number of female upper secondary students (ISCED 3) enrolled in IVET programmes and expresses it as a percentage of the total number of female upper secondary students. The same indicator specified for males is presented as a basis for comparison. EU averages are estimated from available country data.

Figure 1 Female IVET students as % of all female upper secondary students, including comparison with a similar indicator for males



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

Key points

In 2015, nearly half (47.3%, indicator 1010) of all upper secondary students in the EU were enrolled in vocational programmes. The proportion among male students (52.4%) was significantly higher than among female students (42.0%). Enrolment of female students in the vocational stream was more than 50% in nine EU Member States. The highest shares (more than 60%) were in Finland, the Netherlands, the Czech Republic, Austria, Croatia and Slovakia. Estonia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, and Cyprus had the lowest shares (at less than 30%).

In nearly all EU Member States, enrolments in upper secondary VET were lower among women than among men. In some countries this gender gap was considerable. The difference was largest, in absolute terms, in Italy (at 67.1% versus 43.7%, a gap of 23.4 percentage points). In relative terms, the gap appeared largest in Cyprus (a difference of 17.2 percentage points between enrolments 6.9% and 24.1%).

Between 2013 and 2015, female participation in upper secondary IVET went down 1.9 percentage points in the EU as whole. Sweden (-7.4%), Greece (-7.1%), Italy (-5.1%), and the United Kingdom (-4.2%) reported a decrease of more than four percentage points. In the non-EU countries for which data are available, the share of female upper secondary students enrolled in the vocational stream in 2015 was between 25% and 60%.

Table 1 Female IVET students as % of all female upper secondary students, including comparison with a similar indicator for males

Country code	Country	Female IVET						Male	
		2015		Recent change				2015	
		Value	Flag	Range	Country	EU28	Value	Flag	
EU28	European Union (28)	42.0	b	'13-'15	↘	-1.9		52.4	b
BE	Belgium	57.8	b	'13-'15	↘	-0.8	↘ -1.9	61.6	b
BG	Bulgaria	44.6	b	'13-'15	↗	0.8	↘ -1.9	60.0	b
CZ	Czech Republic	67.6	b	'13-'15	↘	-0.7	↘ -1.9	78.7	b
DK	Denmark	37.4	b	'13-'15	↘	-1.4	↘ -1.9	47.6	b
DE	Germany	38.4	b	'13-'15	↘	-0.7	↘ -1.9	53.9	b
EE	Estonia	26.0	b	'13-'15	↗	2.2	↘ -1.9	45.2	b
IE	Ireland	0.0	b z	'13-'15	↘	-2.0	↘ -1.9	0.0	b z
EL	Greece	20.1	b	'13-'15	↘	-7.1	↘ -1.9	38.6	b
ES	Spain	32.4	b	'13-'15	↗	1.4	↘ -1.9	37.9	b
FR	France	36.5	b	'13-'15	↘	-1.2	↘ -1.9	46.4	b
HR	Croatia	63.5	b	'13-'15	↘	-0.7	↘ -1.9	77.3	b
IT	Italy	43.7	b	'13-'15	↘	-5.1	↘ -1.9	67.1	b
CY	Cyprus	6.9	b	'13-'15	↗	1.7	↘ -1.9	24.1	b
LV	Latvia	33.5	b	'13-'15	↗	1.2	↘ -1.9	45.7	b
LT	Lithuania	20.2	b	'13-'15	↘	-0.2	↘ -1.9	32.8	b
LU	Luxembourg	59.3	b	'13-'15	↗	1.8	↘ -1.9	63.5	b
HU	Hungary	18.9	b	'13-'15	↘	-3.4	↘ -1.9	27.3	b
MT	Malta	9.8	b	'13-'15	↘	-1.1	↘ -1.9	15.8	b
NL	Netherlands	67.7	b					69.4	b
AT	Austria	65.0	b	'13-'15	↘	-0.9	↘ -1.9	73.6	b
PL	Poland	40.7	b	'13-'15	↗	2.8	↘ -1.9	59.5	b
PT	Portugal	39.0	b	'13-'15	↘	-1.1	↘ -1.9	50.5	b
RO	Romania	48.1	b	'13-'15	↘	-3.4	↘ -1.9	64.1	b
SI	Slovenia	60.5	b	'13-'15	↗	1.9	↘ -1.9	74.0	b
SK	Slovakia	63.0	b	'13-'15	↗	0.7	↘ -1.9	75.0	b
FI	Finland	68.8	b	'13-'15	↗	1.1	↘ -1.9	74.0	b
SE	Sweden	37.1	b	'13-'15	↘	-7.4	↘ -1.9	39.5	b
UK	United Kingdom	40.1	b	'13-'15	↘	-4.2	↘ -1.9	40.1	b
MK	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	54.4	b	'13-'15	↗	0.1	↘ -1.9	64.3	b
IS	Iceland	27.3	b	'13-'15	↗	0.5	↘ -1.9	38.1	b
NO	Norway	41.2	b	'13-'15	↘	-2.9	↘ -1.9	58.0	b
CH	Switzerland	58.0	b	'13-'15	↘	-0.6	↘ -1.9	71.9	b
TR	Turkey	47.8	b	'13-'15	↗	4.1	↘ -1.9	50.1	b

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

The UOE back reconstruction of the 2010 values based on ISCED 2011 is not yet available.

The EU28 values are based on 28 countries, with partial information for EL and NL.

(b) Break after 2010. Therefore baseline data not included. (z) Eurostat: "not applicable".

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

Please cite this document as: Cedefop (2018). 8. Are female students less likely to participate in IVET? Indicator 1070: female IVET students as a share of all female upper secondary students, (2017 update) In: Cedefop. *Statistics and indicators: Statistics and graphs*. <http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/statistics-and-indicators/statistics-and-graphs/08-are-female-students>