



SUOMI
FINLAND

EDUCATION LIES AT THE HEART OF FINNISH SOCIETY

Photo: Atte Tanner, Ministry of Education and Culture



EQUAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

The welfare of Finnish society is based on knowledge and expertise
– citizens need equal learning opportunities.

Student performance in Finland is among the world's best - excellent
learning outcomes are achieved with just average expenditure.



EXCELLENCE BASED ON EQUALITY, TRUST AND FLEXIBILITY

Equal learning opportunities for everyone (free education, free school meals).
Most education is publicly funded - learning and welfare are extensively supported and tailored to individual needs.



Finland has a flexible education model, road is left open all the way up to higher education.

The international PISA assessments have ranked Finnish students among the world's best in reading, mathematics and science.

The average class size in basic education is 20 pupils – Finnish pupils spend less time in the classroom than their international peers.



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Finland has a firmly grounded belief in providing schools with autonomy and support. This means a great deal of freedom for schools and teachers.

Teaching profession is very popular and highly respected in the Finnish society. Master's degree studies include pedagogical studies and teaching practice. Only 10 percent of all applicants are accepted on teacher training studies.



A Highly Educated Country

87 percent of Finnish people over the age of 25 hold at least an upper secondary education certificate. 42 percent hold a higher education degree.



87%

87% hold an upper secondary education certificate

42%

42% hold a higher education degree





FACTS AND FIGURES

87%

Almost 90% of Finnish people hold at least an upper secondary education certificate (between the ages of 25 and 64), more than 40 percent hold higher education degrees.

90%

More than 90% begin general or vocational upper secondary studies immediately after basic education.



FACTS AND FIGURES

50%

Today around 50% apply for vocational upper secondary studies immediately after basic education (compared to around 40% 10 years ago).

9/10

According to Eurobarometer surveys, nine out of ten Finns believe that vocational education and training (VET) offers high-quality learning.



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Learn more about
THE FINNISH EDUCATION SYSTEM

Ministry of Education and Culture
www.minedu.fi

Finnish National Board of Education
www.oph.fi

