■ Table 2.5.85

Percentage of people qualified to enter higher education of the age-specific population, by types of qualification¹

Share in %			
Year ²	Total	University entrance qualification ³	Entrance qualification for universities of applied sciences ⁴
1975	20.4	14.7	5.7
1980	22.2	16.9	5.3
1985	27.9	21.5	6.3
1990	31.4	22.9	8.6
1991	32.6	23.7	8.9
1992	30.8	22.6	8.2
1993	32.8	24.2	8.5
1994	34.4	25.5	8.9
1995	36.4	27.7	8.6
1996	36.7	28.2	8.5
1997	36.9	28.2	8.7
1998	37.2	27.6	9.6
1999	37.3	27.9	9.4
2000	37.2	27.6	9.6
2001	36.1	25.6	10.6
2002	38.2	26.7	11.4
2003	39.2	27.1	12.1
2004	41.5	28.3	13.2
2005	42.5	28.8	13.7
2006	43.0	29.6	13.4
2007	43.6	30.2	13.4
2008	44.7	31.2	13.5
2009	46.2	32.2	14.0
2010	48.5	33.4	15.1
2011	51.5	35.7	15.9
2012	53.5	37.3	16.2
2013	51.7	39.8	11.8
2014	52.8	41.0	11.8
2015	53.0	41.2	11.8
2016	52.1	41.1	11.1
2017	51.0	40.3	10.7
2018	50.6	40.1	10.6
2019	50.6	40.2	10.4
2020	46.8	37.2	9.6
2021	48.4	39.1	9.3
2022 5	48.4	39.3	9.1
2023	47.1	38.5	8.6

¹ Until 2005, the percentage of people qualified to enter higher education is related to the average 18 to under 21 age group. From 2006 to 2008, the percentage of people qualified to enter higher education is related to the age-specific population. Quotas are calculated for single age cohorts, and afterwards they are added up. As of 2009, the percentage of people qualified to enter higher education is related to the population of the specific years of birth. Until 2013, population data are based on past censuses. As of 2014, population data are based on 2011 Census. From 2007 to 2013, data are adjusted considering the double Abitur graduation classes. Rounding differences are possible.

Last update: January 9, 2025

Source: Federal Statistical Office, Fachserie 11 Reihen 4.3, 4.3.1 and calculations of the German Centre for Higher Education Research and Science Studies

² Until 1991: former West Germany including Berlin-West.

³ Including subject-restricted higher education entrance qualification.

⁴ As of 2013, excluding academic part of entrance qualification for universities of applied sciences (as of 2012, in Saxony-Anhalt).

⁵ In Saarland, only people qualified to enter higher education from general schools.