

eurostat

Statistics Explained

http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statisticsexplained/index.php/Tertiary_education_statistics

Fields of study

Across the EU-28, almost one third (32.2%) of all students in tertiary education were studying social sciences, journalism, information, business, administration or law in 2015 (note the information presented again includes 2014 data for Ireland, Greece and Italy). There were considerably more female than male students studying social sciences, journalism, information, business, administration or law, with women accounting for 57.6% of all students within this field of education — see Figure 1. The second most common field of education was engineering, manufacturing and construction-related studies which accounted for 15.8% of all tertiary education students. In this field, almost three quarters (74.0%) of all students were male. The third largest field of study was health and welfare, with a 13.1% share of all tertiary education shown in Figure 1, the highest share of female students was recorded for those studying education (where 77.8% of all students were women), while women accounted for almost two thirds (64.6%) of all students studying arts and humanities. By contrast, within natural sciences, mathematics, statistics, and information and communication technologies the share of men in the total number of tertiary students was 61.3%.

Distribution of tertiary graduates by field and sex, EU-28, 2015 (%)

