

# Higher education in Opolskie Voivodship in the 2021/2022 academic year

14.07.2022 r.

 **2,9%**

Decrease in the number of students compared to the 2020/21 academic year

In higher education institutions of Opole region, 17.9 thousand students studied in the 2021/22 academic year, i.e. by 0.5 thousand fewer in relation to the previous year, and by 20.4 thousand compared to the 2010/11 academic year. 4.6 thousand students obtained a diploma certifying the completion of higher education in the 2020/21 academic year, i.e. more by 0.2 thousand than a year earlier, and fewer by 6.1 thousand than in the 2009/10 academic year.

In the 2021/22 academic year, 17871 students (including students at branch campuses) studied in five higher education institutions located in Opolskie Voivodship. In relation to the previous academic year, the number of students decreased by 2.9%, and compared to the 2010/11 academic year – by 53.3%.

In addition, there was one branch campus of the higher education institution with the seat of the home unit outside Opolskie Voivodship, where 3159 people studied, i.e. more by 7.8% compared to the 2020/21 academic year.

In the 2021/22 academic year, the number of students decreased both, compared to the previous academic year and in relation to the 2010/11 academic year

**Table 1. Higher education institutions**  
as of 31 December

Specification	Higher education institutions	Students		Graduates <sup>a</sup>		
		total	of which females	total	of which females	
<b>Total</b>	2010/11 <sup>b</sup>	6	38301	23628	10729	7155
	2020/21	5	18398	10467	4412	2788
	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>17871</b>	<b>10278</b>	<b>4608</b>	<b>2832</b>
Universities	2010/11 <sup>b</sup>	1	16138	11974	4466	3479
	2020/21	1	9161	6549	2030	1571
	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9177</b>	<b>6567</b>	<b>2175</b>	<b>1693</b>
Higher schools of technology	2010/11 <sup>b</sup>	1	10755	3910	2877	1299
	2020/21	1	5498	1795	1414	589
	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5000</b>	<b>1582</b>	<b>1422</b>	<b>520</b>

a From the previous academic year. b As of 30 November.

**Table 1. Higher education institutions (cont.)**  
as of 31 December

Specification		Higher education institutions	Students		Graduates <sup>a</sup>	
			total	of which females	total	of which females
Economic higher education institutions	2010/11 <sup>b</sup>	1	5473	3543	1641	1078
	2020/21	1	1738	931	410	257
	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1624</b>	<b>866</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>297</b>
Other higher education institutions	2010/11 <sup>b</sup>	3	5935	4201	1745	1299
	2020/21	2	2001	1192	558	371
	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2070</b>	<b>1263</b>	<b>501</b>	<b>322</b>

a From the previous academic year. b As of 30 November.

Out of the total number of students studying in higher education institutions, 74.8% were studying full-time programmes. Compared to the previous year, their number decreased by 3.9%. The percentage of women among all students in the 2021/22 academic year was 57.5%. Among people studying full-time programmes there were 59.4% women, and part-time programmes – 52.0%.

As of the beginning of the 2021/22 academic year, a total of 1780 foreigners studied in higher education institutions of Opolskie Voivodship, compared to 1863 in the 2020/21 academic year and 188 in 2010/11. The most numerous group of foreigners studying in Opolskie Voivodship were students from Ukraine – 58.1%.

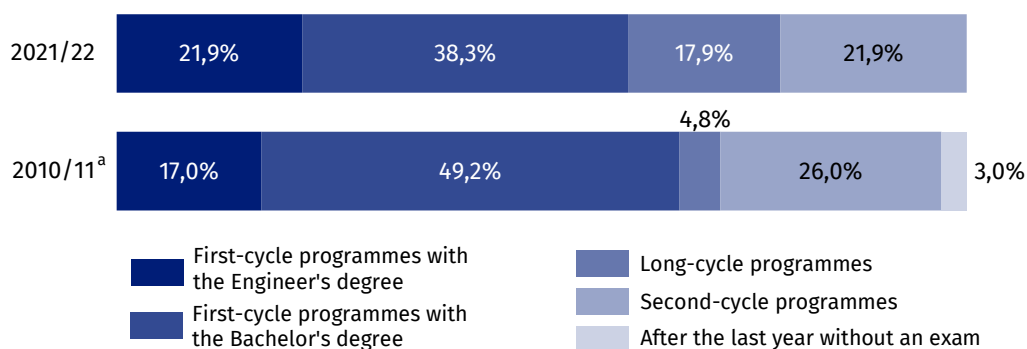
In the 2021/22 academic year there were 331 disabled students and they constituted 1.9% of all students (in the 2020/21 academic year – 1.7%).

Among all higher education institutions located in Opolskie Voivodship, three were public schools. Most of the total number of students (89.4%) were students of public higher education institutions (an increase of 0.2 percentage points compared to the previous academic year). The dominant form of education in public higher education institutions was full-time programmes, where 78.7% studied (in 2020/21 – 78.8%), while in non-public higher education institutions – part-time studies – 57.5% (in 2020/21 – 49, 8%).

The majority of students (60.1%) took up first-cycle programmes (Engineer's and Bachelor's studies). 21.9% of people studied second-cycle programmes, and 17.9% – long-cycle programmes. Compared to the 2020/21 academic year, in the total number of students, the share of students of first-cycle programmes decreased by 1.7 percentage points, and of second-cycle by 1.1 percentage points, while it increased of long-cycle programmes by 2.8 percentage points. Among all students, the most – 38.3% studied first-cycle programmes with the Bachelor's degree (38.8% in the 2020/21 academic year).

Over 74% of students were in full-time programmes

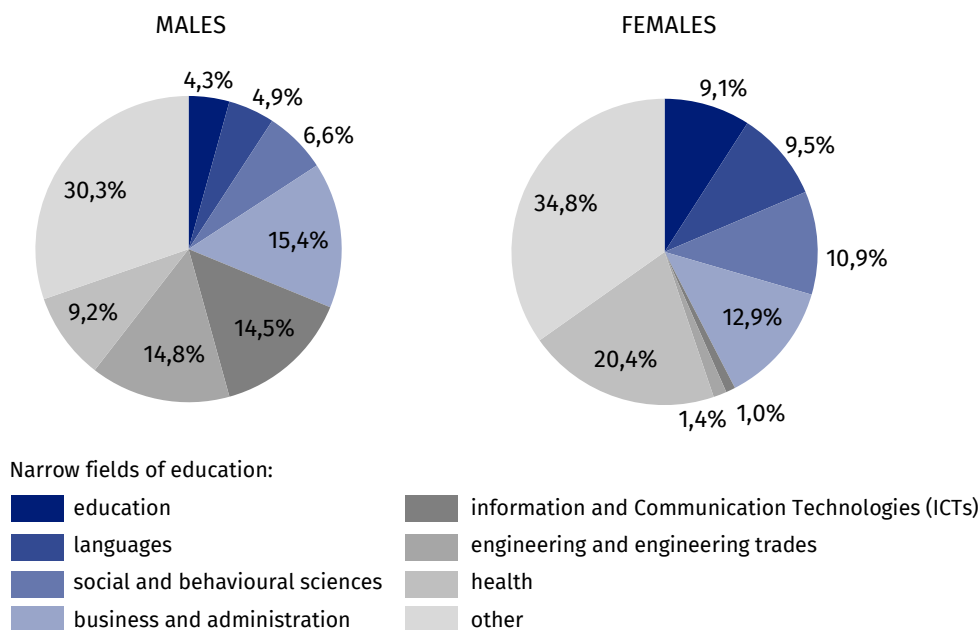
**Chart 1. Structure of students by types of studies**  
as of 31 December



a As of 30 November.

The main academic centre in the voivodship was the city of Opole, with the largest higher education institution – the Opole University educating 9177 students, and the Opole University of Technology (5000 students). In the 2021/22 academic year, 15801 students were studying in the city of Opole, and they constituted 88.4% of the total number of students in the voivodship.

**Chart 2. Structure of students by sex and narrow fields of education<sup>a</sup>**  
in the 2021/22 academic year  
as of 31 December



a According to the International Classification of Fields of Education and Training (ISCED-F 2013).

In the 2021/22 academic year, most people studied in the following broad fields of education: business, administration and law (19.5%), health and welfare (17.8%) as well as engineering, manufacturing and construction (13.2%). Women more often than men studied in the fields of: health and welfare (23.4% of all female students chose this field of education, while among men 10.3% of students) as well as social sciences, journalism and information (11.7% and 7.2%, respectively). On the other hand, men much more often chose the following fields: engineering, manufacturing and construction (22.7% of all male students, while 6.2% among women) as well as Information and Communication Technologies – ICTs (17.0% and 1.4%, respectively)

Students most often chose the following broad fields of education: business, administration and law, as well as health and welfare

In the 2020/21 academic year, there were 4608 graduates, 87.5% of whom were persons obtaining diplomas of public education institutions. Compared to the previous academic year, the number of graduates increased by 4.4%, and in relation to the 2009/10 academic year it decreased by 57.1%. More than a half of all graduates (57.3% of the total) completed first-cycle programmes, of whom 30.8% with an Engineer's degree, and 69.2% with a Bachelor's degree. Out of all graduates, 5.5% completed long-cycle programmes, and 37.2% – second-cycle programmes.

Most graduates obtained a diploma in courses of following broad fields of education: business, administration and law (21.4%), education (14.7%), engineering, manufacturing and construction (13.6%) as well as health and welfare (13.2%).

### **Non-degree postgraduate programmes and doctoral programmes (including foreigners)**

The number of postgraduate students in the 2021/22 academic year decreased by 16.4% compared to the previous year and by 6.0% in relation to 2010/11, and amounted to 2942 (of which 154 persons studied in public education institutions, and in non-public – 2788). In comparison with the 2020/21 academic year, public schools recorded an increase in the number of students by 85.5%, and non-public schools a decrease by 18.9%. Women studying in non-degree postgraduate programmes accounted for 87.9% of all students and their share did not change compared to the previous academic year.

Among the postgraduate students, the following narrow fields of education were the most popular: education – 2356 students, health – 205 as well as business and administration – 184.

In the 2020/21 academic year, 3420 awards of postgraduate qualifications were issued, including 2998 women. It was less by 4.8% and by 8.8%, respectively, than the year before, and more than in the 2009/10 academic year by 47.0% and by 67.2%, respectively.

In the 2021/22 academic year, 159 persons were enrolled in doctoral programmes conducted by higher education institutions, i.e. fewer by 41.3% compared to the previous year and by 57.4% in relation to 2010/11. On the other hand, doctoral schools concentrated 84 doctoral students, i.e. more by 44.8% than in the previous academic year. Women accounted for 52.8% of all participants in doctoral programmes, and in doctoral schools – 36.9%.

In doctoral programmes, the most frequently chosen fields of science were: humanities (47.2% of participants) and theology (15.7%), while the least – physical sciences (1.3%) and chemical sciences (3.8%). In doctoral schools, however, the field of engineering and technology was the most popular (54.8% of participants), while theology – the least (4.8%).

In 2021, 37 persons obtained a doctoral degree following doctoral programmes, i.e. by 12.1% more than the year before.

\* \* \*

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In the 2021/22 academic year, the number of postgraduate students decreased both, compared to the previous year and in relation to 2010/11

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#### **Terms used in official statistics**

[Higher education institution](#)

[Education](#)