

Higher education in Opolskie Voivodship in the 2024/2025 academic year

15 July, 2025

↑ 2.7%

Increase in the number of students compared to the 2023/24 academic year

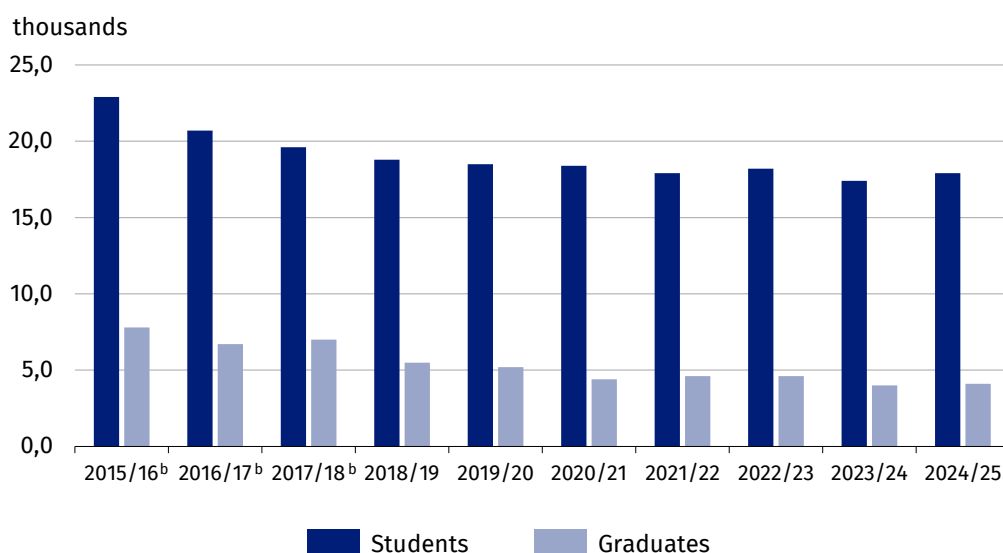
17.9 thousand students studied at Opolskie Voivodship education institutions in 2024/25 academic year, that is more by 0.5 thousand in relation to the previous academic year and fewer by 5.1 thousand compared to the year 2015/16. In 2023/24 academic year, 4.1 thousand graduates received diplomas, i.e. more by 2.3% compared to the previous academic year and by 46.8% compared to the 2015/16 academic year.

In the 2024/25 academic year, 17858 students (including students of off-campus branches) studied on five higher education institutions located in Opolskie Voivodship. In relation to previous academic year the number of students increased by 2.7%, while compared to the 2015/16 academic year it decreased by 22.2%.

In addition, there was one off-campus branch of the higher education institution with the seat of the parent unit outside of Opolskie Voivodship, where 3818 persons studied, i.e. more by 7.5% compared to the academic year 2023/24.

In the 2024/25 academic year, there was an increase in the number of students compared to the previous academic year, however a decrease in relation to 2015/16 academic year

Chart 1. Students and graduates^a
as of 31 December



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

Out of the total number of students on higher education institutions, 73.5% of them were enrolled in full-time programmes. Compared to the previous year their number decreased by 0.1%. Percentage of women among all persons studying in 2024/25 academic year amounted to 56.3%. Among persons enrolled in full-time programmes, there were 57.7% women, while on part-time programmes – 52.5%.

In the academic year 2024/25, in higher education institutions of Opolskie Voivodship, a total of 2221 foreigners took up studies, versus 2344 in the 2023/24 academic year and 1089 in

73.5% students were enrolled in full-time programmes

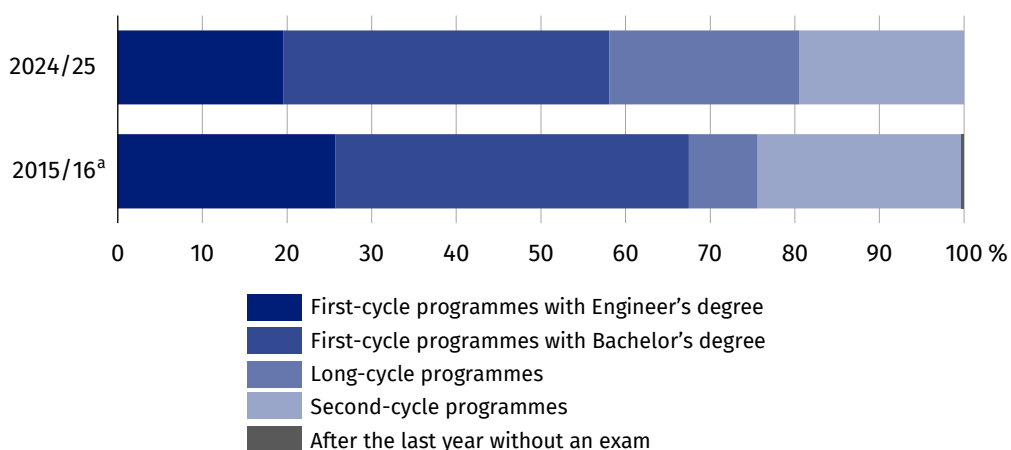
2015/16. The most numerous group of foreigners studying in Opolskie Voivodship were students from Ukraine – 58.7%.

In 2024/25 academic year, there were 337 students with disabilities and they accounted for 1.9% of all students (1.8% in the 2023/24 academic year).

Out of all higher education institutions located in Opolskie Voivodship, three were public. Among all students, majority (86.8%) were public higher institutions students (compared to the previous academic year a decrease of 0.2 percentage points). The dominant form of studies in public higher education institutions were full-time programmes, on which 79.0% students studied (in 2023/24 – 79.8%), while in non-public institutions – part-time programmes – 62.5% (in 2023/24 – 52.9%).

The largest number of students (58.1%) took up first-cycle studies (Engineer's and Bachelor's). Second-cycle studies were attended by 19.5% persons while long cycle programmes – 22.4%. Compared to the 2023/24 academic year in the total number of students, there was an increase in the share of persons on second-cycle studies of 0.7 percentage point and on long cycle programmes of 0.3 percentage point, however a decrease on first-cycle of 1.0 percentage point. Among all students the most – 38.5% studied on the first-cycle on Bachelor's level (in the 2023/24 academic year – 38.4%).

Chart 2. Structure of students by type of studies
as of 31 December



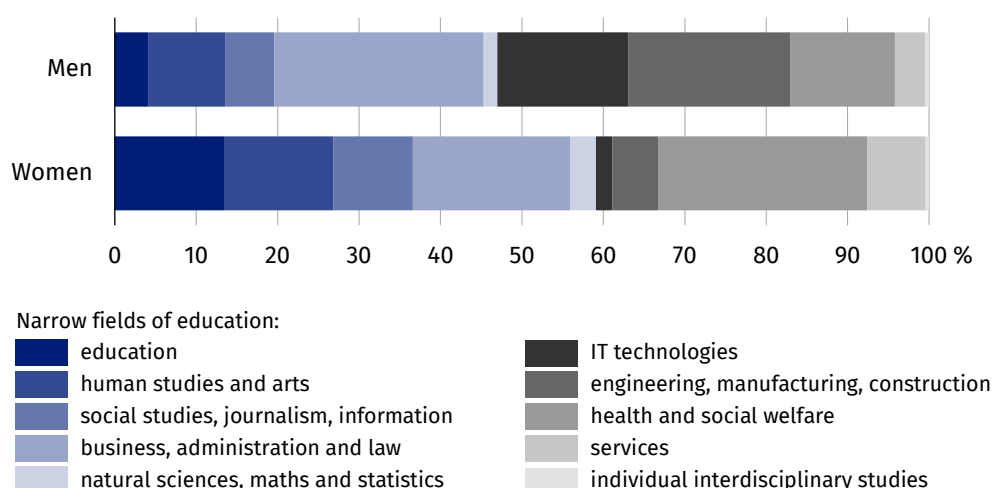
a As of 30 November.

The main academic centre in the voivodship was the city of Opole, with the largest higher education institution – the Opole University, educating 8887 students as well as Opole University of Technology (4798 students). In the 2024/25 academic year in the city of Opole, there were 15608 students, who accounted for 87.4% of the total number of students in the voivodship.

In the 2024/25 academic year, the majority of persons studied in the fields of education from the group: business, administration and law (22.1%), health and welfare (20.1%) as well as engineering, manufacturing, construction (11.8%). Women more often than men studied in the fields: health and welfare (25.7% of the total number of female students chose this field, while among men it was 12.8%) as well as social sciences, journalism and information 13.4% each (for men: 4.2% and 9.5%, respectively). On the other hand, men considerably more often chose fields of: engineering, manufacturing, construction (respectively, 19.9% of the total number of studying men, while among women it was 5.6%) as well as Information and Communication technologies (16.1% and 2.0%, respectively).

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

Chart 3. Structure of students by sex and fields of education^a in the 2024/25 academic year
as of 31 December



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

In the 2024/25 academic year, there were 4135 graduates, of which 87.7% were persons obtaining diplomas from public higher education institutions. Compared to the previous academic year, the number of graduates increased by 2.3% however decreased by 46.8% in relation to 2015/16 academic year. Over a half of all graduates (54.0% of the total number) completed first-cycle programmes, of whom 31.0% with an Engineer's title, while 69.0% with a Bachelor's title. Long-cycle programmes were completed by 13.2% of all graduates, while second-cycle programmes were completed by 32.8%.

The most graduates obtained a diploma in the fields of education from groups: business, administration and law (22.6%), health and social welfare (16.2%) as well as engineering, manufacturing and construction (12.7%).

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

The number of postgraduate students in the 2024/25 academic year increased by 91.6% compared to the previous year and by 139.3% in relation to 2015/16 year and amounted to 7304 (of which 227 persons studied in public education institutions, and in non-public – 7077). Compared to the 2023/24 academic year, in public schools an increase in the number of participants of 62.1% was recorded, while in non-public of 92.7%. Women further educating themselves in non-degree postgraduate studies constituted 90.1% of all participants and their share increased by 2.5 percentage points compared to the previous academic year.

Among attendants of non-degree postgraduate studies, the most popular were from the narrow fields of education: education – 6808 participants, medical – 167 as well as business and administration – 99.

In the 2023/24 academic year, 3493 certificates of postgraduate qualifications were issued, of which 3102 for women. This was both lower than in the previous year (of 35.7% and of 49.0%, respectively), as well as in comparison with 2015/16 academic year (similarly: of 44.4% and of 49.7%).

Doctoral students studied at doctoral programmes and in doctoral schools. In 2024 there were 230 doctoral students at doctoral programmes, of which 99.6% as part of doctoral schools. Compared to the previous year, a total number of persons enrolled on doctoral programmes increased by 23.0%. Women accounted for 41.7% of the total number of attendants.

In the 2024/25 academic year, the number of postgraduate students increased both, compared to the previous year and in relation to 2015/16

In doctoral schools, the one met with most interest was a field of engineering and technology (44.5% participants) and the least of theological sciences (3.1%).

In 2024, 14 persons obtained a doctoral degree, of these 4 as part of doctoral schools. Compared to the previous year, the number of persons who obtained a doctoral degree decreased by 63.2%.

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In case of quoting Statistics Poland data, please provide information: "Source of data: Statistics Poland" and in case of publishing calculations made on data published by Statistics Poland, please include information: "Own study based of figures of Statistics Poland".

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