

Higher education in Opolskie Voivodship in 2025/2026 academic year

15 July 2026

↑ 2.9%

Increase in the number of graduates compared to the previous academic year

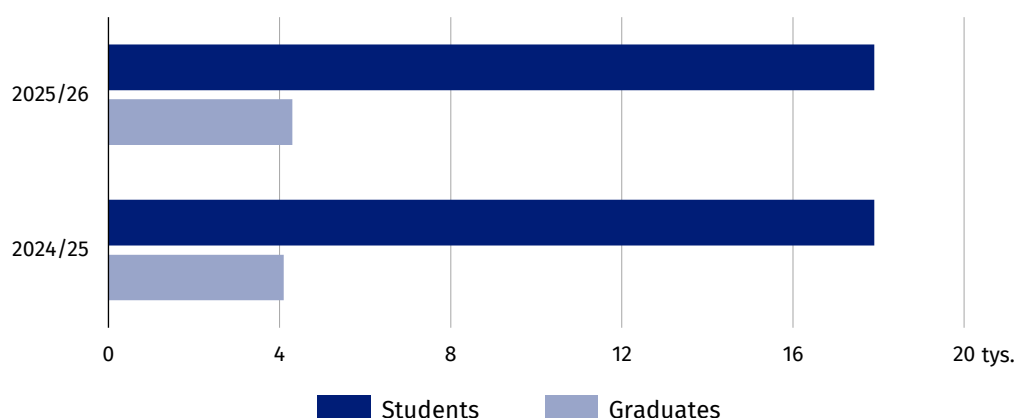
17.9 thousand students studied at Opolskie Voivodship education institutions in 2025/26 academic year, similarly as in the previous year. In 2024/25 academic year, 4.3 thousand graduates received diplomas, i.e. more by 2.9% than in 2023/24 academic year.

In the 2025/26 academic year, 17863 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 remained at the similar level.

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 3946 persons studied, i.e. more by 3.4% compared to the academic year 2024/25.

As of 31 December 2025, there were 17.9 thousand students studying on higher education institutions, similarly as in the previous year

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



a From the previous academic year.

Out of the total number of students in higher education institutions, 70.7% of them were enrolled in full-time programmes. Compared to the previous year their number decreased by 3.9%. Percentage of women among all persons studying in 2025/26 academic year amounted to 57.3%. Among persons enrolled in full-time programmes, there were 58.7% women, while on part-time programmes – 53.8%.

70.7% students were enrolled in full-time programmes

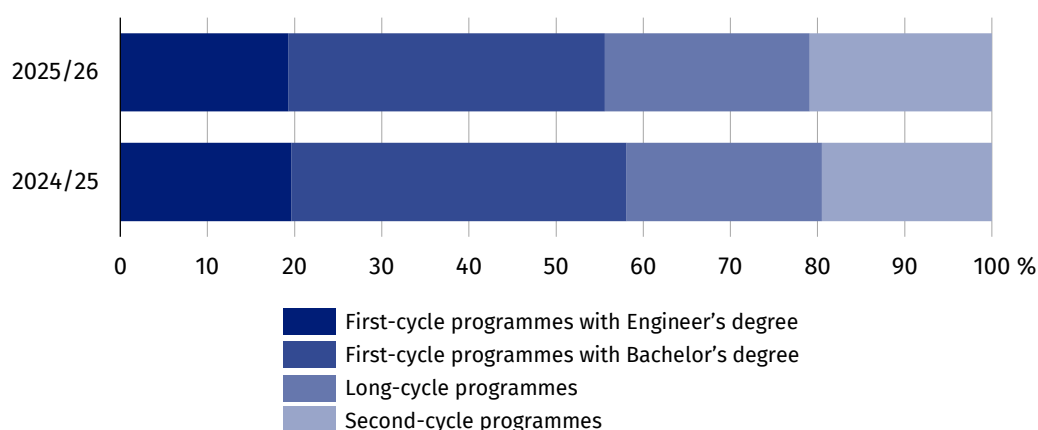
In the academic year 2025/26, in higher education institutions of Opolskie Voivodship, a total of 1769 foreigners took up studies, versus 2221 in the 2024/25 academic year. The most numerous group of foreigners studying in Opolskie Voivodship were students from Ukraine – 63.6%.

In 2025/26 academic year, there were 333 students with disabilities and they accounted for 1.9% of all students (as in the previous academic year).

Out of all higher education institutions located in Opolskie Voivodship, three were public. Among all students, majority (87.7%) were public higher institutions students (compared to the previous academic year an increase of 0.9 percentage point). The dominant form of studies in public higher education institutions were full-time programmes, on which 77.9% students studied (in 2024/25 – 79.0%), while in non-public institutions – part-time programmes – 80.9% (in 2024/25 – 62.5%).

The largest number of students (55.6%) took up first-cycle studies (Engineer's and Bachelor's). Second-cycle studies were attended by 20.9% persons while long cycle programmes – 23.5%. Compared to the 2024/25 academic year in the total number of students, there was an increase in the share of persons on second-cycle studies of 1.4 percentage point and on long cycle programmes of 1.1 percentage point, however a decrease on first-cycle of 2.5 percentage points. Among all students the most – 36.3% studied on the first-cycle on Bachelor's level (in the 2024/25 academic year – 38.5%).

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

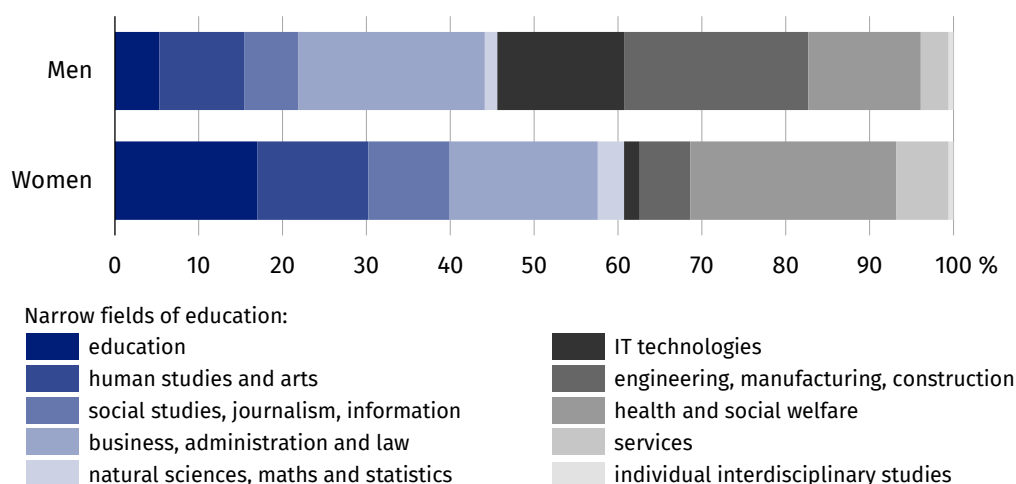


The main academic centre in the voivodship was the city of Opole, with the largest higher education institution – the Opole University, educating 8893 students as well as Opole University of Technology (4980 students). In the 2025/26 academic year in the city of Opole, there were 15310 students, who accounted for 85.7% of the total number of students in the voivodship.

In the 2025/26 academic year, the majority of persons studied in the fields of education from the group: health and welfare (19.9%), business, administration and law (19.6%) as well as engineering, manufacturing, construction (12.8%). Women more often than men studied in the fields: health and welfare (24.6% of the total number of female students chose this field, while among men it was 13.4%), education – 17.0% (for men: 5.3%) as well as human studies and arts 13.2% (for men: 10.1%). On the other hand, men considerably more often chose fields of: business, administration and law (22.2% of the total number of studying men, while among women – 17.7%), engineering, manufacturing, construction (22.0% and 6.0%, respectively) as well as Information and Communication technologies (15.1% and 1.9%, respectively).

Most often students chose fields of education from the group health and welfare as well as business, administration and law

Chart 3. Structure of students by sex and fields of education^a in the 2025/26 academic year
as of 31 December



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

In the 2025/26 academic year, there were 4256 graduates, of which 86.6% were persons obtaining diplomas from public higher education institutions. Compared to the previous academic year, the number of graduates increased by 2.9%. Over a half of all graduates (54.3% of the total number) completed first-cycle programmes, of whom 27.5% with an Engineer's title, while 72.5% with a Bachelor's title. Long-cycle programmes were completed by 13.9% of all graduates, while second-cycle programmes were completed by 31.8%

The most graduates obtained a diploma in the fields of education from groups: business, administration and law (24.2%), health and social welfare (17.8%) as well as human studies and arts (12.1%).

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

The number of postgraduate students in the 2025/26 academic year increased by 1.3% compared to the previous year and amounted to 7399 (of which 128 persons studied in public education institutions, and in non-public – 7271). Compared to the 2024/25 academic year, in public schools a decrease in the number of participants of 43.6% was recorded, while in non-public an increase of 2.7%. Women further educating themselves in non-degree postgraduate studies constituted 88.1% of all participants and their share decreased by 2.0 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 – 7043 participants, medical – 152 as well as business and administration – 109.

In the 2024/25 academic year, 6921 certificates of postgraduate qualifications were issued, of which 6274 for women. This was higher than in the previous year: by 98.1% and 102.3%, respectively.

In the 2025/26 academic year, the number of postgraduate students increased, compared to the previous year

In 2025 there were 259 doctoral students at doctoral programmes. Compared to the previous year, a total number of doctoral students increased by 13.1%. Women accounted for 43.2% of the total number of attendants.

In doctoral schools, the one met with most interest was a field of engineering and technology (36.7% participants) and the least of theological sciences (4.2%).

In 2025 calendar year, 10 persons submitted their doctoral dissertations. At the same time 10 individuals initiated doctoral degree proceedings and 10 persons completed doctoral school. Doctoral degree was obtained by 8 persons, i.e. by 100% more than in the year before.

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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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