

# **Recommended Annual**

# Taught Time in Full-time Compulsory Education in Europe

## 2012/13

**Eurydice - Facts and Figures** 

Education and Training



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## PART I: EXPLANATORY AND COUNTRY SPECIFIC NOTES

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### Introduction

The Eurydice data collection on taught time targets the **recommended compulsory curriculum by grades/stages for full time compulsory education**. The intended curriculum, its goals, structure, subjects and the notional workload for students can be based on regulations or standards defined by central (or top-level) education authorities or may be established as a set of recommendations at regional level. In some countries steering documents only include information of main goals of the national framework curriculum and delegate the taught time allocation to regional/local authorities or to the discretion of individual schools. In the present data collection, all these sources of information are used to complement the time allocation between subjects and/or educational stages.

The recommended compulsory curriculum can be composed by a **compulsory core curriculum** and a **compulsory flexible curriculum**. The **compulsory core curriculum** normally includes the subjects or study domains that must be studied by all students. At certain levels of study students can make choices between a group of subjects and in these cases the corresponding taught time is indicated as Core curriculum options. On the other hand, the **compulsory flexible curriculum** is the part of the curriculum that can be devoted to various subjects selected by the school or the student but still included in the total compulsory time for student instruction. In all these cases a country specific note alerts the reader about the precise subject allocation.

## Section 1. Explanatory notes

#### **Education Levels and Programmes**

The scope of the taught time data collection is the **compulsory full time primary and secondary general education** as defined in the national education systems. For more information on the situation in each country, please see the brochure "Structure of European education systems 2012/13: schematic diagrams"

(http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/education/eurydice/documents/tools/structure\_education\_systems\_EN.pdf).

The taught time presented in the national figures corresponds to the most common **general education programme** in the country concerned. In countries where more than one educational pathway/track for general education exist in parallel (e.g. Hauptschule, Realschule or Gymnasium in Germany), the specific curricula and taught time distributions for each one of these tracks are specified. The secondary vocational education programmes are not within the coverage of the present data collection.

#### **Taught time**

The compulsory taught time includes the time spent by a student in receiving instruction on all the subjects integrated in the compulsory core or compulsory flexible curriculum in the school premises or in out-of school activities which are formal part of the programme. The instruction time excludes:

- Breaks between lessons or other types of interruptions.
- Time dedicated to optional lessons.
- Non-compulsory time outside the school day.
- Time dedicated to homework activities.
- Individual tutoring or private study.

The information presents the country data as annual compulsory taught time in hours of 60 minutes per grade bearing in mind the number of taught days and weeks per year as well as the number and length of the class periods. All figures are rounded up to the next complete number and for this reason some non correspondence between individual subjects and total annual figures might exist.

When the data collected from the national steering document is presented in periods (from 35 till 50 minutes), per week or per year, calculations are done in order to obtain standard annual data in hours. In the following paragraphs some examples of these time conversions are presented.

#### Examples

**Information provided by YEAR and in PERIODS:** if for specific subject the indicated taught time is 200 periods per year and one period is 45 minutes, then the total annual number of hours of 60 minutes will be **150 hours** (200\*45/60).

**Information provided by WEEK and in HOURS of 60 minutes:** if for specific subject the indicated taught time is 8 hours per week for a specific grade, one week has 5 days and the total number of school days for one year is 175 then the total annual number of hours of 60 minutes per year will be **280 hours** (8/5\*175).

**Information provided by WEEK and in PERIODS:** if for specific the indicated taught time is 8 periods per week for a specific grade, one period is of 45 minutes, one week has 5 days and the total number of school days for one year is 175 then the total annual number of hours of 60 minutes per year will be **210 hours** (8/5\*175)\*(45/60).

## **Definitions of subject categories**

The subjects taught during compulsory education in Europe vary depending on the country. It is therefore necessary to group them according to more general subject categories, in order to be able to compare the information gathered or produce trends. Certain subject categories (e.g. natural sciences) cover several subjects taught (physics, chemistry or biology), whereas others are more specific (e.g. physical education).

The following table defines the subject categories which are included in the information presented in the national figures. Country specific notes explain the national specificities in the subject distribution among general categories.

Subject category	Definitions
Literacy learning	Covers skills such as spelling, reading, and writing on the language of instruction and includes subjects such as grammar, language of instruction and literature.
Mathematics	Covers all the numeracy skills and subjects such as arithmetic, algebra, geometry or statistics, etc.
Natural Sciences	Includes subjects such as science, physics, chemistry, biology, environmental sciences and ecology.
Social Sciences	Includes subjects such as history, geography and all connected studies. May also include community studies, social and political instruction or civics education.
Foreign Language	Includes subjects that develop students' knowledge of a language viewed as 'foreign' (or modern) in the curriculum. This definition is educationally based and unrelated to the political status of languages. Therefore some languages which from a political perspective are regarded as regional and minority languages may be classified in the curriculum as foreign languages.
Physical Education	Includes subjects such as physical or sports education as well as time devoted to competitive games, gymnastics, swimming, dance or other activities that develop pupils' health and psychomotor coordination.
Arts Education	Includes subjects such as arts, history of arts, music, visual arts, drama, music and dance performance, photography, creative handicraft.
Religion/ Ethics	Includes subjects whose aim is to teach the principles and history of one or more religions and subjects such as Ethics or Philosophy which aim is to determine how to live and behave in accordance with human and social principles.
Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)	Includes subjects such as Informatics, Information and Communication Technologies or Computer science. These subjects include a wide range of topics concerned with the new technologies used for the processing and transmission of digital information, including computers, computerised networks (including the Internet), microelectronics, multimedia, software and programming, etc. ICT may be taught as a subject in its own right or used as a resource for teaching other subjects (integrated subject).
Technology	Includes subjects that provide knowledge on the practical use of scientific or techno- logical discoveries which use resources, instruments and characteristic processes for different occupations. For example, construction, electricity, woodwork, metalwork, sewing, etc. If ICT skills are included in a general Technology subject, a specific country note must be included in the specific worksheet.
Core curriculum options	Comprise a set of subjects that are compulsory for schools to offer and from which pupils have to select one or more in order to cover part of their compulsory curriculum.

#### Table 1: Definitions of subject areas

Subject category	Definitions
Other subjects	This category includes different subjects that cannot be classified within the other groups or which specifically reflect national concerns. In this category the following types of subjects may be included: Classical languages and Minority languages which the curriculum does not consider to be foreign languages, vocational classes, domestic science, home economics, accountancy, business studies, career education, driving and road security, or compulsory "Tutoring", etc.
Compulsory subjects with flexible timetable	In some countries, the regional authorities, local authorities or schools themselves are relatively autonomous in determining how time should be allocated to teaching.
Compulsory subjects with flexible timetable	<ul> <li>Two situations may occur:</li> <li>The instructions or recommendations indicate solely a total amount of taught time for each school year, which schools may then allocate to individual subjects as they wish. This may be termed horizontal flexibility as for example in primary education (ISCED 1) in the Netherlands.</li> <li>The instructions or recommendations refer to a number of hours to be allocated to each subject for a certain number of years, or even the whole of compulsory education. Schools may then allocate these hours to individual years as they wish. This may be termed vertical flexibility as for example in Sweden during compulsory education.</li> </ul>

## General Terms and Definitions used for information gathering

In the following table some 'support' definitions related to the taught time data collection are specified with the aim to facilitate the understanding of the figures.

## Table 2: Definitions and concepts

Terms	Definitions
Educational Pathway/Track/ Branch	Different types of general educational provision that may be chosen by the parents/students or defined by the schools at the beginning of lower secondary education.
Grade	Each education level is composed of a series of grades or classes that must be taken in a consecutive way by the students making normal progress (i.e. who has not had to redo a year) and where they are taught together in the same course of instruction.
Number of days per school year	The number of days each year when the school is open and students are studying.
Length of a class period/lesson	Each school day is divided into a given number of periods or lessons, the length of which may vary depending on the country or school year concerned. It may not therefore correspond to exactly one hour (it is generally between 45 and 55 minutes).
Subject in its own right	Subject devoted exclusively to work on a single area or group of topics. This concept is to be distinguished from integrated subjects.
Integrated subject	Topics that are not necessarily learnt as subjects in their own right, but in the course of other subjects for which they may even serve as a tool, as in the case of ICT.

Terms	Definitions
Foreign langua- ge as a com- pulsory subject	A foreign language which is taught as one of the compulsory subjects in the curriculum laid down by the central (top-level) education authorities. All pupils must study this subject.
Vertical flexibility	Curricula only indicate the total taught time that have to be taught for a specific subject, without specifying the time to be allocated to each grade. In such cases, schools/local authorities are free to decide how much time should be assigned for each grade.
Horizontal flexibility	Curricula only specify the subjects and the total taught time per year, without specifying the time to be allocated to each one of them. In such cases, schools/local authorities are free to decide how much time should be assigned for compulsory subjects.

## Section 2. Country specific notes

#### **Belgium – French Community**

The teaching of compulsory foreign languages is significantly different in the Brussels-Capital Region and in the communes with special linguistic regime where a second foreign language is taught 3 periods per week in third and fourth grades and five periods per week in fifth and sixth grades.

#### **Belgium – Flemish Community**

Schools organised by a public authority are obliged to provide minimum 3 teaching periods of Religion and moral education for grades 1 to 6 and 2 teaching periods for grades 7 to 9. There is no minimum compulsory number of hours for this subject in the regulations for the subsidised schools.

#### **Czech Republic**

The presented taught time is in accordance to the 2010/11 Framework Educational Programme for Basic Education (FEP BE). In primary education in the category 'Natural sciences' is allocated the total time for the educational area "People and Their World" including the social studies component. In secondary education the category 'Physical education' includes the broad area "People and their health". The topics related to the "Health education" can be provided either separately, within other subjects (for example Natural sciences), or within the subject "Physical education" by including additional theoretical part (two flexible periods of 45 minutes). In secondary education in the category 'Core curriculum options' six periods of 45 minutes per week are set for other foreign language (which must be offered) or other optional subjects starting from the eighth grade at the latest.

The 'Flexible' timetable is devoted to implement cross-curricular topics (personal and social education, education for democratic citizenship, education towards thinking in the European and global context, multicultural education, environmental education, and media studies); to increase time for particular educational areas and fields; to introduce other areas of compulsory education; to introduce supplementary educational fields (e.g. drama); to introduce other optional educational content, etc.

#### Denmark

The first year in the figures is classified for statistical purposes as ISCED 0 (pre-primary level), but corresponds to the first year of the single structure of education. Second foreign language (usually German) is offered by all schools in grades 7, 8 and 9 with 90, 120 and 120 hours per year respectively and students can select this option among others. The core curriculum options in years 8 and 9 can be French, word processing, technology, media, visual arts, photography, film studies, theatre, music, crafts, metal works, home economics, engine mechanics, work knowledge.

#### Germany

The information is based on the regulations of the Land of Bavaria. Regulations of other Länder may vary. The taught time is provided following the normal five-day school week. Some Länder have a six-day school week with two school Saturdays per month.

In fifth and sixth grades two additional hours per week of basic sports instruction can be added. In seventh and eighth grades two additional hours of differentiated sports instruction can be added, depending on the availability of staff, rooms and organizational possibilities.

Subjects only taught in some branches are left out (e.g. woodwork, metal work or housekeeping/home economics).

#### Estonia

In schools with language of instruction other than Estonian the number of lessons per week for Foreign languages (FL 1 and FL 2) and Core Curriculum Options (CCO) are different: Grades 1-3: FL 1 – 6, FL 2 – 3, CCO – 2; Grades 4-6: FL 1 – 12, FL 2 – 9, CCO – 1; Grades 7-9: FL 1 – 12, FL 2 – 9, CCO – 1. For that reason the annual taught time is also different: First Foreign Language: grades 1-3 – 158; grades 4-6 – 315; grades 7-9 – 315; Other Foreign Languages: grades 1-3 – 79; grades 4-6 – 236; grades 7-9 – 236; Core Curriculum Options: grades 1-3 - 53; grades 4-6 - 26; grades 7-9 - 26. Estonian as second language is FL 1 in all schools with language of instruction other than Estonian.

#### Ireland

Whilst children are not obliged to attend school until they are 6 years old, the vast majority of 5 years olds do so. Pupils who are 4 years old are also allowed to attend primary school and many do so.

In lower secondary education (grades 9-11), the only compulsory subjects are: 'Irish', 'English', 'Mathematics', 'Physical Education', 'Civic, Social and Political Education' (CSPE), 'Social', 'Personal and Health Education' (SPHE) and, in most schools, History and Geography. The hours of tuition required for these subjects are not prescribed, except for CSPE and SPHE (One lesson of 0.67 hours per week each). However, accepted norms and advice from inspectors suggests that the minimum amount of time acceptable for these subjects is 2.67 hours per week for Irish, ideally 3.33 hours in most schools (5 40-minute periods per week) in English and Mathematics in line with department circulars in 2011 and 2012, 2 hours each for History and Geography and 1.33 hours for Physical Education. In schools which use Irish as the language of instruction, 3.33 hours would also be expected to be allocated to the subject Irish. The remaining time (up to 28 hours per week) is made up by religious education for almost all students, and by languages, arts subjects, technologies, science, etc. at the discretion of individual schools and in most instances based on the choices students make too. In Grade 12, students enter a Leaving Certificate of more limited subject range than in Grades 9-11, or a Transition Year (TY) programme between lower and upper secondary which offers a considerable variety of subjects. The sample time allocations for Year 12 here reflect, generally, a TY timetable.

#### Greece

Primary and secondary education curricula are centrally defined (by Ministerial Decisions) and are uniformly applied in all schools of the same education level.

#### Spain

The compulsory curriculum laid down by the central government for the entire country represents 55 % of the total taught time in Autonomous Communities with a second joint official language and 65 % in the others. The remaining part of the taught time is set by each Autonomous Community.

As 'Compulsory subjects with flexible timetable' is indicated the total average compulsory instruction time regulated by the Autonomous Communities, which is added to the minimum compulsory time established by the central level. The Autonomous Communities with a co-official language can use in grades 1-6 a maximum of 10% of the total time established in the national core curriculum for the instruction of their own co-official language; however they cannot subtract more than 35 hours of the same subject. In grades 7-10 the Autonomous Communities with a co-official language can use 10% of the total time established in the instruction of their own co-official language, however they cannot subtract more than 35 hours of the same subject. In grades 7-10 the Autonomous Communities with a co-official language can use 10% of the total time established in the national core curriculum for the instruction of their own co-official language, however they cannot subtract more than 50 hours of the same subject in the first three years of Lower secondary education, or 20 hours in the fourth year.

In grades 7-10 students must take certain optional subjects and in any case schools must always offer 'Second Foreign Language' and 'Classical Culture' lessons. In grade 10 all students must take three 'Core curriculum options' from the following list of subjects: "Biology and Geology"; "Plastic and Visual Education"; "Physics and Chemistry"; "Computer Science"; "Latin"; "Music"; a second "Foreign Language;" and "Technology".

'Religion/Ethics/Moral education': Students can opt for taking Religion classes or not. Schools must offer educational attention to those students not following 'Religion', but it cannot include curriculum contents of the 'Religion' subject. In grade 10, the reported taught time in this category includes two different subjects: "Religion" (or alternative activities) and "Ethical-Civic education", with 35 hours each.

The category 'Other subjects' includes 'Citizenship and human rights education'. This subject must be taught in one of the two years of the third cycle of ISCED 1 (eg. grades 5 or 6) and in one of the last three years of ISCED 2 (grades 8, 9 or 10). The exact grade is decided by each Autonomous Community. In the table of Intended Taught Time it has been included in grades 5 and 8 because these are the grades in which it is provided in most of the Autonomous Communities.

#### France

Grades 1-2: Moral and civic education is taught to pupils ("Instruction civique et morale"), but no specific duration is mentioned in texts. "Natural sciences" and "Social studies" belong to a single course ("Découverte du monde"), with a balanced distribution between the two areas. Grades 3, 4, 5 : "Natural sciences" correspond to the major part of single course entitled "Sciences expérimentales et technologie", which is composed of 8 main areas ("sky and earth", "matter", "energy", "unity and diversity of living things", "functioning of living things", functioning of the human body and health", "living beings in their environment", "technical objects"). "Technology" ("objets techniques") represents approximately one eighth of "Sciences expérimentales et technologie". Moral (and civic) education ("Instruction civique et morale") is included in "Social studies" ("Histoire-géographie"), but no specific duration is mentioned. Grade 6: "Literacy learning": the number of hours per week goes from 4h30 to 5h (30 minutes minimum are taught to a reduced number of pupils). Moral (and civic) education ("Instruction civique et morale") is included in "Social studies" ("Histoire-géographie"), but no specific duration is mentioned. "Natural sciences": 30 minutes minimum are taught to a reduced number of pupils. "Technologies": 30 minutes minimum are taught to a reduced number of pupils. "ICT" are integrated in "Technology". "Other subjects" include classroom discussion sessions called "Heure de vie de classe" and personalized accompanying ("accompagnement personnalisé"). Grades 7: Civic education ("Education civique") is included in "Social

studies" ("Histoire-géographie"). "Other subjects" include classroom discussion sessions. "Core curriculum options" correspond to "Itinéraires de découverte" and are composed of 2 different courses minimum. Schools also can attribute 30 additional minutes per week to strengthen a particular subject area (compulsory subjects with flexible timetable). Grade 8: "Foreign language 2" (modern language/langues vivantes in France)" can be a regional language. Civic education ("Education civique") is included in "Social studies" ("Histoire-géographie"). "Other subjects" include classroom discussion sessions. "Core curriculum options" correspond to "Itinéraires de découverte" and are composed of 2 different courses minimum. Schools also can attribute 30 additional minutes per week to strengthen a particular subject area (compulsory subjects with flexible timetable). Grade 9: "Foreign language 2" can be a regional language. Only a minority of students (who take the optional subject called "Découverte professionnelle") have the Second foreign language (langue vivante) as a curriculum option. Civic education ("Education civique") is included in "Social studies" ("Histoire-géographie"). Grade 10: "Social studies" include "History and geography" ("Histoire-géographie"), "Civic, legal and social education" and one of the two following "exploration courses": "Economic and social sciences" ("Sciences économiques et sociales") / Fundamental principles of economy and management" ("Principes fondamentaux de l'économie et de la gestion"). "Foreign language" 1 and 2 belong to a global time interval. "Other subjects" include personalized accompanying ("accompagnement personnalise") and classroom discussion sessions. "Core curriculum options" correspond to the second part of the "exploration courses".

#### Italy

According to legislation, schools are required to work for not less than 5 days a week and for not less than 200 days per year. However, the annual taught time is commonly calculated on an average of 33 weeks. Schools have autonomy in the distribution of the timetable both over the week and the school year. In many schools, especially at secondary level, lessons are distributed over 6 days. One hour is considered of 60 minutes. Schools can organize the timetable in periods lasting less than 60 minutes, provided that the sum of periods corresponds to the total amount of time foreseen by the timetable.

As for the first to the fourth grades of primary school, the minimum annual taught time is calculated according to the minimum weekly timetable of 24 hours for 33 weeks, gradually introduced starting from school year 2009/2010. However, schools commonly work according to the weekly timetables of 27 and 30 hours (891 and 990 hours per year, respectively) and several schools also offer the 40-hour weekly timetable. In the fifth grades, in school year 2012-2013, the previous minimum annual taught time of 891 hours a year still applies. Information on Grades 9 and 10 refer to the taught time for 'Liceo Scientifico'.

At lower secondary level, the category 'Literacy learning' includes "'History" and "Geography" and the category 'Mathematics' includes "Sciences". The hours foreseen for the second foreign language can be used for complementary teaching of the first language (English). At upper secondary level (grades 9 and 10) 'Mathematics' includes 'ICT'. At all levels the teaching of "Citizenship and Constitution" is included in the timetable of the history/geography/social teaching. In the lower secondary level, the taught time for this subject is included in the category 'Literacy learning', while for primary and upper secondary levels it is included in the category 'Social Studies'.

#### Cyprus

The National Curriculum is the same for all public primary schools, but the time allocated to each subject varies, according to the school type. The described taught times apply for the school type with 6 or more classes (the majority of primary schools falls within this type). The length of taught periods for lower secondary schools is not constant. For three days in the week the length is 45 minutes and the corresponding instruction periods for these days is 7. For the other two days the length of periods is 40 minutes and the corresponding instruction periods is 8. The average length of a period is 43 minutes.

In Primary Education, Technology in the 5th and 6th grades is divided into two subjects: Design and Technology/Health Education and Home Economics. Social studies in primary schools include the

following subjects in grades 1-4: History, Geography and Life Education (Health Education/Environmental Education – Education for Sustainable Development). In grades 5-6, Environmental Education - Education for Sustainable Development is taught for one period as a separate subject. The time in the "other subjects' category" is devoted to consolidation.

In lower and upper secondary education Literacy Learning contains the subjects of "Modern Greek" and "Ancient Greek Literature". "Geography" is included in the category "Natural Science". In grade 8 the subject "First aid" is included in the category "Physical education". In grade 9 the subjects "Civics" and "Vocational guidance" are included in the category "Social Sciences". At lower secondary level, the time in the "other subjects' category" is devoted to Home economics.

#### Latvia

According to the Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers, lessons/instruction for the grade 9 ends earlier, but a school year is longer than for other grades because of examinations' period and consists of 185 days. Duration of lessons is either 40 or 45 minutes upon the decision of the school head (for calculation is used the most common duration of 40 minutes).

In the category 'Other subjects' is included the subject called "Class hour", organized by class teacher and with one lesson per week. "Class hour" are for discussing various themes like value education, communication culture, patriotism and civil participation, traffic safety, handling extreme situations, healthy lifestyle, career guidance etc.

#### Lithuania

In 2008 the curriculum framework was updated by renewing subject contents and allowing up to 10 % flexibility between subjects.

In primary school pupils are taught integrated Natural and Social sciences and also Arts and Technology. In the grades 5-6 pupils are taught integrated Natural sciences. Half of the Information Technology lessons should be integrated into other subjects. In grades 5-10 a subject called "Personal Safety" including civil, traffic and fire safety is taught for half period a week. In the 9th and 10th grades pupils are also taught Citizenship with one lesson per week.

Students are allowed to have lessons on "National minority languages" (such as Belorussian, Polish, Russian and German) as follows: grades 1-4: seven lessons per week; grades 5-8: five lessons per week; grades 9-10: four lessons a week.

Primary education schools with musical, arts or sports education program are allowed to adjust up to 25% of the total teaching time. An additional number of lessons can be allocated under school discretion to supply pupils needs in additional education of arts, foreign language, bilingual, individual education or consultation.

#### Luxembourg

The category 'Other subject' includes "Letzebuergesch", "History", "Geography", "Music" and "Biology".

#### Hungary

The category 'Other subjects' includes "Teachers' class" (grades 4-12), "Health care studies" (grade 6) and "Film and Media" (grades 11-12).

#### Malta

Currently a reform is underway in Malta effecting the secondary cycle up till compulsory school age. Till June 2010 students ending the primary cycle sat for examinations the results of which determined the type of secondary school they proceeded to: those who passed these examinations attended Junior Lyceums and those who failed them went on to Area Secondary schools. These examinations were last held in June 2010 and have now been replaced by the End of Primary Benchmark assessment. This assessment serves as a diagnostic tool by which identified literacy and numeracy weaknesses can be addressed in the secondary cycle.

As from September 2011 both Junior Lyceums and Area Secondary schools are gradually being phased out over a number of years. This is the second school year where all students beginning the secondary cycle (Grade 7) are attending College Secondary Schools. During school year 2012/13 only around 16% of state school students in the secondary cycle are still attending Area Secondary schools.

Information for the primary cycle is being given only in the graphics for *Primary and College Secondary Schools*. This is a consequence of the fact that as from September 2011 all primary pupils now proceed to College Secondary Schools and no pupils are channelled to Area Secondary Schools.

The category 'Other Subjects' include: In Grades 1 and 2; Handwriting, Storytelling, Reading Sessions, Talk about sessions and Choosing time. In Grades 3, 4, 5 and 6: Time which teachers can utilise for the prioritising of needs including additional time for Literacy Learning, Mathematics or First Foreign Language, and other initiatives such as the development of entrepreneurial skills and thinking skills. In Grades 7 and 8 various extra-curricular subjects are covered ranging from arts and crafts to drama to sports.

#### The Netherlands HAVO (ref. year 2011/12)

Every child must attend school full time from the first school day of the month following its fifth birthday, however almost all four year-olds (99 %) attend Basisschool primary school. Children must attend school full time until the end of the school year in which they turn sixteen. From then on all pupils up to the age of eighteen will be required to continue learning until they have obtained a basic qualification (a HAVO, VWO or MBO level 2 certificate – qualifications at ISCED level 3).

#### The Netherlands – VMBO (ref. year 2011/12)

Every child must attend school full time from the first school day of the month following its fifth birthday, however almost all four year-olds (99 %) attend Basisschool primary school. Children must attend school full time until the end of the school year in which they turn sixteen. From then on all pupils up to the age of eighteen will be required to continue learning until they have obtained a basic qualification (a HAVO, VWO or MBO level 2 certificate – qualifications at ISCED level 3).

#### The Netherlands – VWO (ref. year 2011/12)

Every child must attend school full time from the first school day of the month following its fifth birthday, however almost all four year-olds (99 %) attend Basisschool primary school. Children must attend school full time until the end of the school year in which they turn sixteen. From then on all pupils up to the age of eighteen will be required to continue learning until they have obtained a basic qualification (a HAVO, VWO or MBO level 2 certificate – qualifications at ISCED level 3).

#### Austria - Volksschule and AHS Gymnasium

The data provided for grades 1-4 relate to *Volksschule* (primary school) and for grades 5 – 9 to *AHS-Gymnasium* (academic secondary school with language focus). AHS (*Gymnasium*) accounts for 48% of the total students' population attending the AHS pathway. During the first two years of primary school foreign language teaching is linked to other subjects (50 minutes per week) as part of an integrated approach.

#### Austria – Volksschule and AHS (Realgymnasium)

The data provided for grades 1-4 relate to *Volksschule* (primary school) and for grades 5 – 9 to *AHS*-*Realgymnasium* (academic secondary school with science focus). *AHS* (*Realgymnasium*) accounts for 45% of the total students' population attending the AHS pathway. During the first two years of primary school foreign language teaching is linked to other subjects (50 minutes per week) as part of an integrated approach.

#### Austria - Volksschule and Hauptschule

The data provided for grades 1-4 relate to *Volksschule* (primary school) and for grades 5 - 8 to *Hauptschule* (general secondary school). *Hauptschule* will be phased-out 2014/15. Compulsory schooling lasts 9 years. After year 8 students are free to choose different school-types for grade 9. Therefore no data for year 9 are indicated. During the first two years of primary school foreign language teaching is linked to other subjects (50 minutes per week) as part of an integrated approach.

#### Austria - Volksschule and Neue Mittelschule

The data provided for grades 1-4 relate to *Volksschule* (primary school) and for grades 5 – 8 to *Neue Mittelschule* (new secondary school). Compulsory schooling lasts 9 years. After year 8 students are free to choose different school-types for grade 9. Therefore no data for year 9 are indicated. During the first two years of primary school foreign language teaching is linked to other subjects (50 minutes per week) as part of an integrated approach.

#### Poland

The category 'Compulsory subjects with flexible timetable' include 1150 compulsory periods of integrated teaching in grades 1-3 and for all grades the hours resulting from difference between the number of hours calculated on the basis of minimum weekly workload and hours calculated on the basis of all subjects workload.

For grades 4-6 (Stage 2) 'Other subjects' category includes 95 periods (71 hours) for lessons with class tutor. In Grades 7-9 the 450 periods (338 hours) allocated to teaching of two foreign languages can be divided freely by a particular school. The subject "Geography" is included in the 'Natural sciences' category. 'Other subjects' category includes 30 periods per year of education for safety and 95 periods (71 hours) for lessons with class tutor.

#### Portugal

Primary education (ISCED 1) in Portugal corresponds to the first two cycles of schooling (first cycle - ages 6-10 and second cycle - ages 10-12). In what concerns to national age for admission in compulsory primary education (6 years) it is important to refer that children who turn six years between September 16 and December 31 are also eligible to enter first grade upon request of a parent. According to the legislation, at primary (ages 6-10) there are 25 h of taught time, 7 h of these for Literacy and 7 h for Mathematics. The curriculum includes also the curricular subject "*Estudo do meio*" (study of the environment), which comprises History, Geography and Sciences; Arts and Physical Education. There are crosscurricular areas - monitored study, project area and civic education - and non-compulsory

activities called "curricular enrichment activities". These activities have the duration of 45 minutes per day. They include English lessons, Physical and Music Education (between 90 and 135 minutes per week). There is no formal regulation for the organisation of the timetable.

At primary level (ages 10-12), Literacy learning (Portuguese), Foreign language (English) and Social Studies (History and Geography of Portugal) are part of the same curricular area and at least half of the time must be dedicated to Literacy learning (Portuguese). Mathematic and Natural Sciences are part of the same curricular area and the law established that two thirds of the time should be dedicated to Mathematics. There is Arts education (visual and musical) and Technology education. At lower secondary level students learn another language besides English. At this level ICT is included in the curriculum. At upper secondary level, students may choose among 4 different courses: Sciences and Technology; Social and Economic Sciences; Languages and Humanities or Visual Arts. In all these courses the students have Literacy learning (Portuguese), a Foreign language, Philosophy and Physical Education. The other subjects depend on the course chosen and they can be studied during 1, 2 or 3 years.

Physical Education is included in the curriculum of primary and secondary education.

The attendance to religion and moral education is optional in primary and secondary education. At upper secondary there are also Artistic Courses and Professional Courses.

#### Romania

The presented taught time is in accordance with the Law of National education (Law 1/2011) that stipulates the introduction of the preparatory year in primary school. Primary education as a consequence is composed by a preparatory year and other four years. Lower secondary education comprises four years of compulsory education. In the school year 2012-13 pupils that were 6 years old and had at least one year of attendance in a pre-primary setting start directly in Grade 1.

In the category 'Other subjects' are included the following topics: For the preparatory grade "Music and movement" (1 hours/week); "Personal development" (1 hours/week); In grades 5-9 "Counselling and Guidance"; in grade 8 "Latin", in grade 9-10 "Informatics" and in grade 10 "Entrepreneurship Education".

#### Slovenia

The taught time indicated in the category 'Natural sciences' for grades 1-3 corresponds to an integrated subject called "Environmental education" that includes also Social Studies.

From the school year 2008/09 a second compulsory foreign language is gradually phasing in (in grades 7 to 9). In addition to compulsory subjects, basic schools offer in grades 7-9 compulsory options in the field of social sciences and humanities and in the field of natural sciences and technology. Pupils select two lessons per week, with their parents' approval they may select three hours a week.

The annual compulsory additional learning activities in Arts, Science, Physical education and Technology are also included in the respective timetables. The category 'Other subjects' includes "Home economics" and "Class discussion". During the class discussion periods, pupils discuss issues related to their work and life with their home class teacher.

#### Slovakia

The taught time for the grade 10 is calculated as 1/4 of the time indicated for the stage 3 (grades 10-13).

#### Finland

The indicated values for 'Total annual taught time' are an estimate as the number of hours for each area are not defined per year, but depending on the subject they are allocated over 2-5 years. The education provider can decide subject allocation within the frames given in the Government's decision for distribution of taught time. The local curriculum can be specified in which year for example language teaching begins. First foreign language can be taught even from the first grade.

The category 'Other subjects' includes "Home economics and Educational and vocational guidance".

#### Sweden

The number of hours for a subject or group of subjects given in the timetable may be reduced by at most 20% to accommodate school options. In the category 'Core Curriculum Options' are included "Language Options" (320 hours for grades 1-9), and "Student Options" (382 hours for grades 1-9).

The category 'Other subjects' includes "Home and Consumer studies" and in the category 'Technology' is included the subject "Crafts (Textiles, Wood and Metalwork)". 65 % of all pupils study a second not compulsory Foreign Language, with a total of 320 hours for grades 1-9.

#### United Kingdom (England)

Under the terms of the Education Act 1996, the amount of time to be spent per subject cannot be prescribed. However, schools must allow enough taught time to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum that includes all statutory requirements and, in the case of academies, any curriculum requirements set out in the funding agreement.

Total annual taught time is not available as the Department for Education no longer provides guidance on minimum weekly lesson time. The requirement to provide a school year of 190 days (38 weeks) remains.

#### United Kingdom (Wales)

Under the terms of the Education Act 1996, the amount of time to be spent per subject cannot be prescribed. However, schools must allow enough taught time to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum that includes all statutory requirements.

Total annual taught time is based on a 190-day (38-week) school year and on the recommended minimum weekly lesson times set out in Welsh Office Management of the School Day Circular 43/90, which are 21 hours for pupils in years 1 and 2, 23.5 hours for pupils in years 3 to 6 and 25 hours for pupils in years 7 to 11. Schools may provide a longer school day than the minimum if they wish.

#### United Kingdom (Northern Ireland)

Under the terms of the Education (Northern Ireland) Order 2006, the amount of time to be spent per subject cannot be prescribed. However, schools must allow enough taught time to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum that includes all statutory requirements.

Total annual taught time is based on a 190-day (38-week) school year and on the minimum daily lesson time set by the Department of Education Northern Ireland. Pupils under eight are required to attend school for a minimum of three hours each day, other than for religious education. Those aged eight and over must attend for four and a half hours a day, other than for religious education. Schools may provide a longer school day than the minimum if they wish.

#### United Kingdom (Scotland)

The Scottish Curriculum for Excellence does not prescribe total annual taught time or taught time by subjects with except a minimum of 2 hours per week for "Physical education". Local Authorities and

schools themselves are responsible for agreeing the subjects studied in schools. However, the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, which reflects previous legislation dating back to 1872, imposes a statutory duty on local authorities to provide religious education in Scottish schools. In the case of Religious Education in Roman Catholic Schools – all Catholic schools are expected by the Bishops' Conference of Scotland to follow guidelines established by the Catholic Education Commission on the provision of adequate time for religious education within the school curriculum.

#### Croatia

The taught time indicated in the categories 'Natural sciences' and 'Social Sciences' for grades 1-4 correspond to an integrated subject called "Nature and society".

#### **Turkey**

For the first three grades, there is a course named "Life Studies" taught 4 hours per week. Furthermore, the course "Game and Physical Activities" is taught 5 hours a week. For the fourth grade, there is a course called "Traffic Security" taught once a week, "Game and Physical Activities" taught two hours a week, "Human Rights", "Citizenship and Democracy" taught two hours a week. For the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades, there is a course called "Guidance" one hour taught a week. Students choose certain fields of study by the 10th grade, some of which are social studies, mathematics and natural sciences. For mathematics and natural sciences, courses are given 4 hours for Algebra, and two hours for Geometry. As for natural sciences, chemistry, physics, and biology are only provided to the students who wish to take them.

#### Iceland

In grades 8-10, individual schools are intended to determine almost 20% of the total hours of instruction. They are expected to offer pupils in these grades an opportunity to select subjects and subject areas. The contents of study options in grades 8-10 can be divided into three main groups: 1) options intended as direct preparation for study in academic programmes of upper secondary school; 2) options conceived as direct preparation for vocational, artistic or technical study; 3) pupils can select subjects aimed in particular at broadening their horizons or giving pleasure throughout their lives. In the school-year 2010/11, schools offered around 70 subjects and subject areas.

#### Liechtenstein

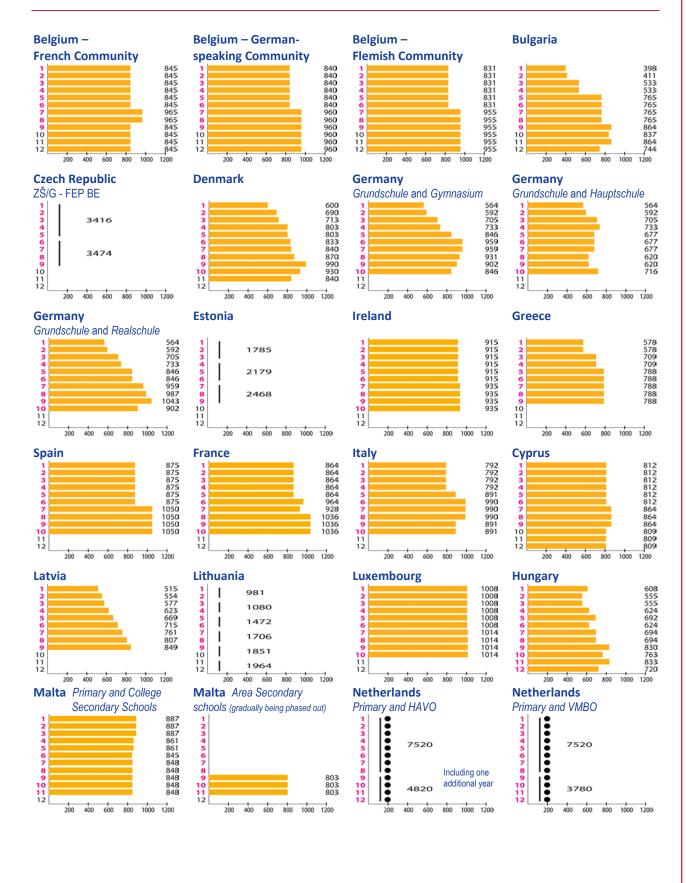
In 2010 the government decided on the reform of the ninth grade aiming at individualising education based on an analysis of the pupils individual situation. The analysis contains three elements: pupils self-assessment; teachers assessment; parents assessment. Three pathways are offered in the 9th grade with varying compulsory subjects (in brackets): Technics and arts (Arts, Music and geometry); Trade and administration (French, ICT and Economics); Health and social affairs (French, ICT and Music).

#### Norway

The presented taught time is in accordance with the newly introduced New Core Curriculum Options at Grade 8. Second Foreign language in Grades 8-10 covers in-depth studies in languages (Norwegian, English, Sami). The category 'Other subjects' includes the following disciplines: Grades 1-7: "Food and health" (114 hours per year); Grade 5-7: "Physical activity" (76 hours per year); Grade 8-10: "Food and health" (85 hours per year); "Class council and pupils' council" (71 hours per year). Since 2010/11 school year an additional lesson per week is added to the programme for grades 1-7 (*Barneskolen*). This lesson can be used in a flexible way to reinforce a theme upon a decision of the local authorities. Students in Grades 9 and 10 in 2012-13 are following the old time table. The new core curriculum options now implemented only for Grade 8 will successively be introduced at Grades 9 and 10.

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### Flex

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Source: Eurydice.

Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

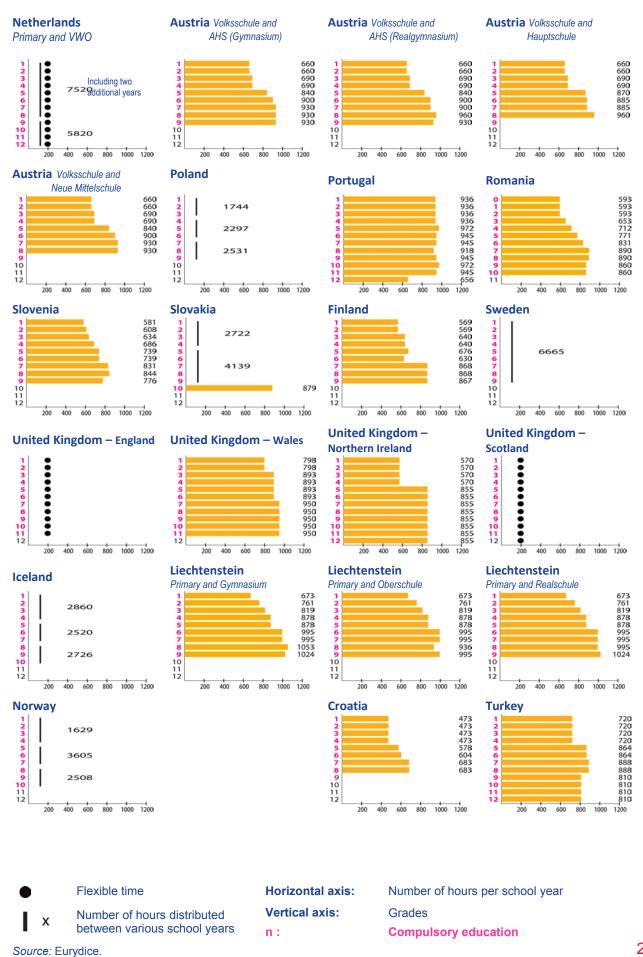
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Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

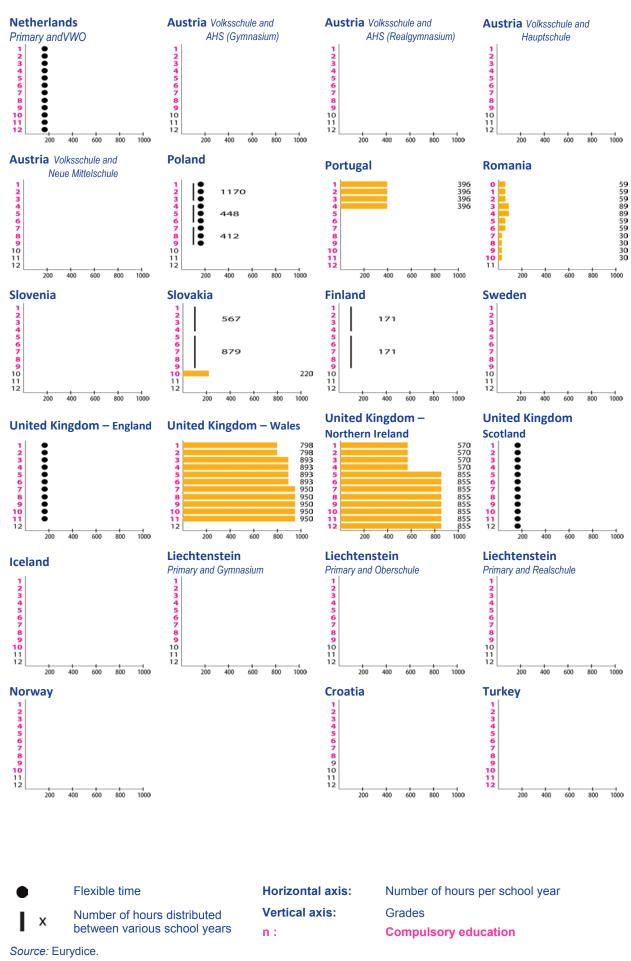
## TOTAL ANNUAL TAUGHT TIME



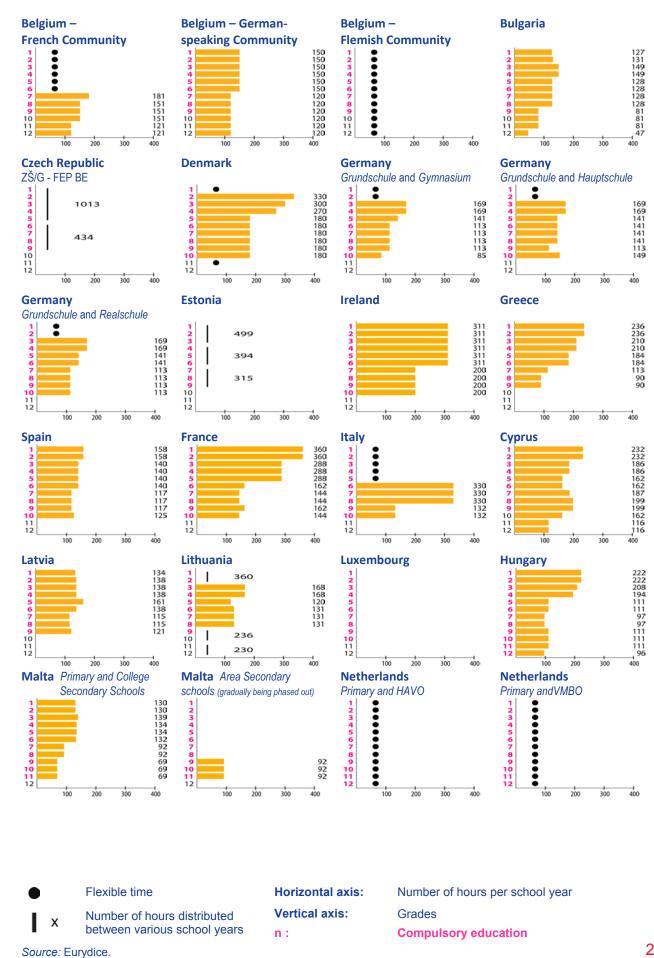
## **COMPULSORY SUBJECTS WITH FLEXIBLE TIMETABLE**



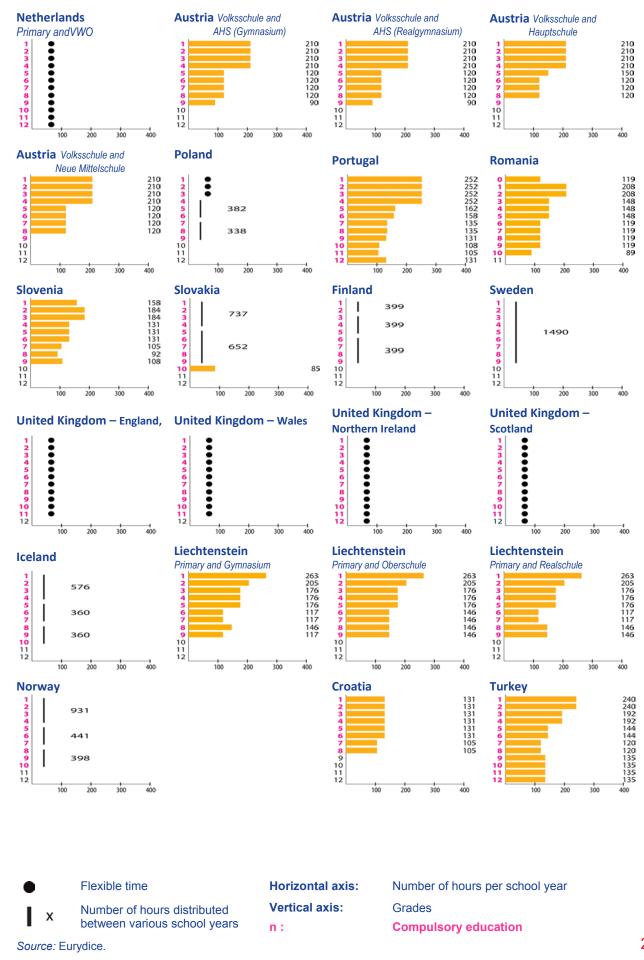
## COMPULSORY SUBJECTS WITH FLEXIBLE TIMETABLE



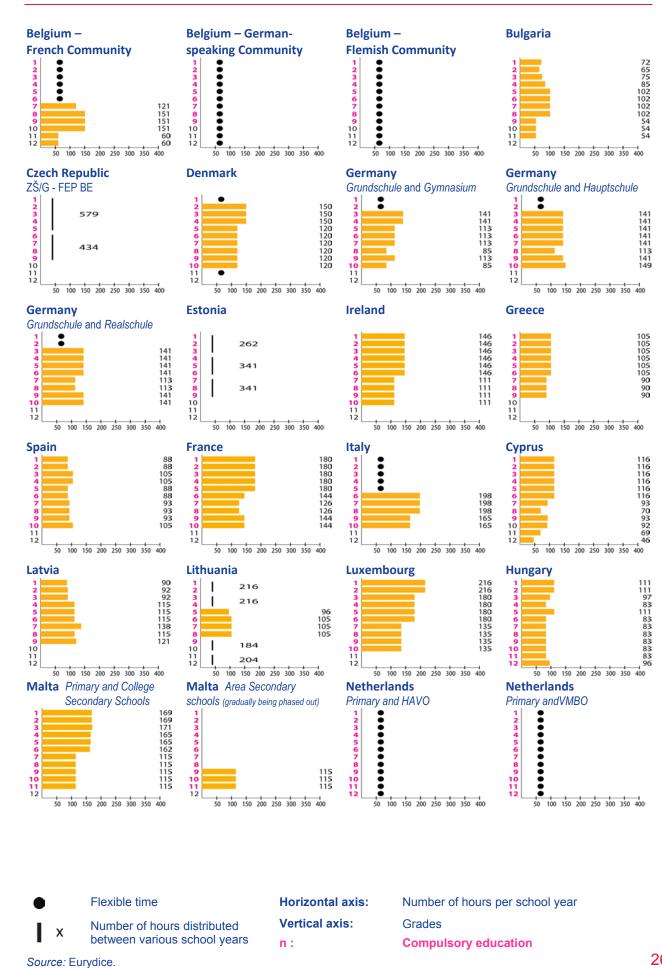
## LITERACY LEARNING



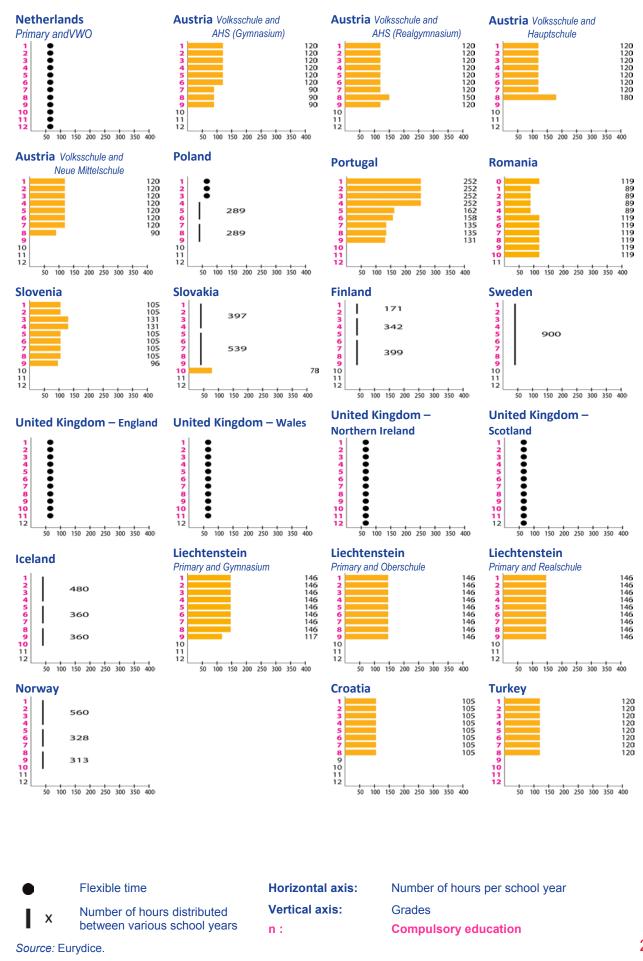
## LITERACY LEARNING



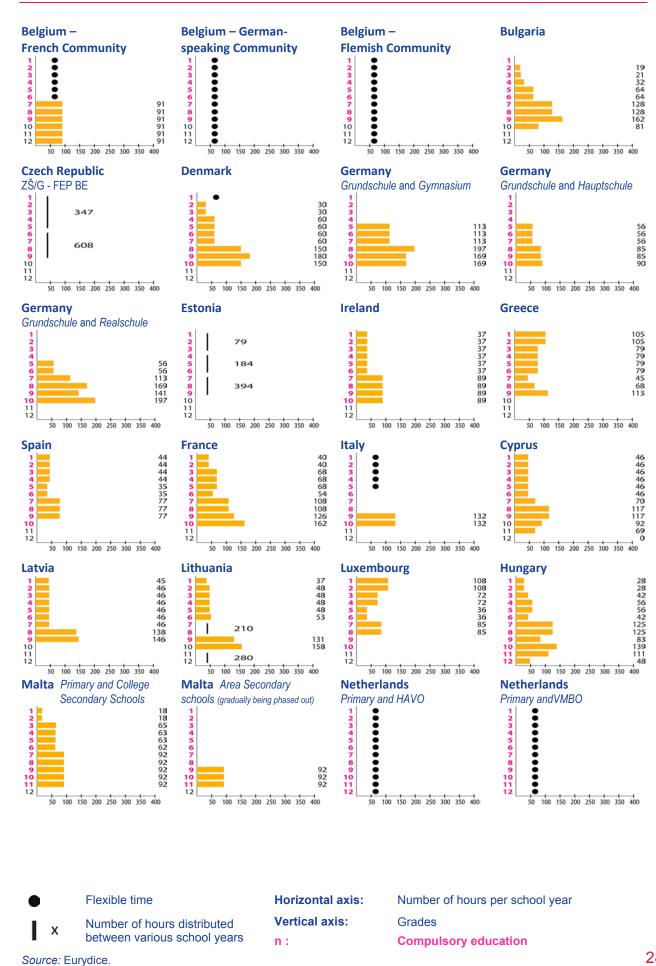
## **MATHEMATICS**



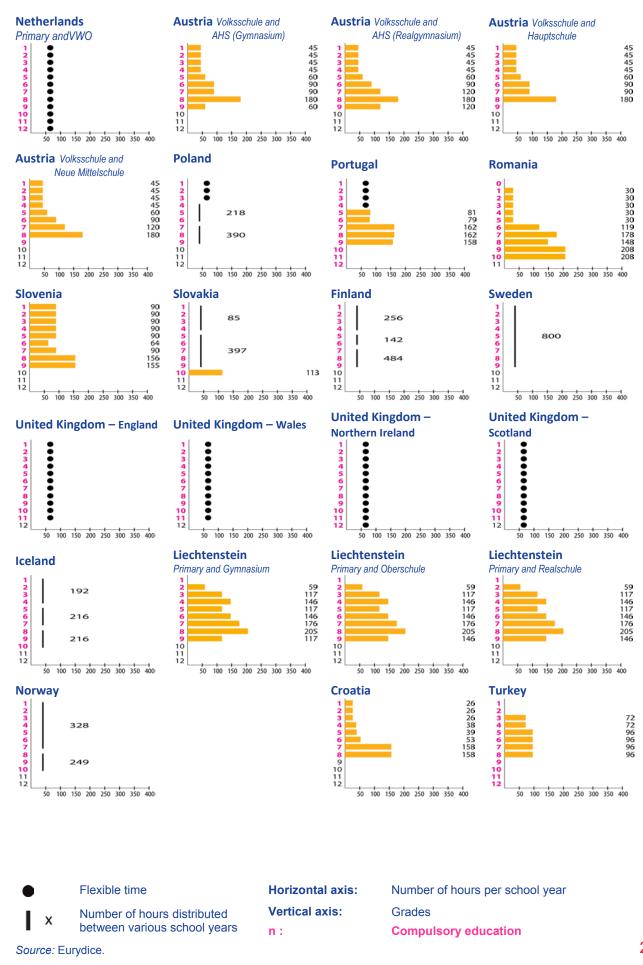
## **MATHEMATICS**



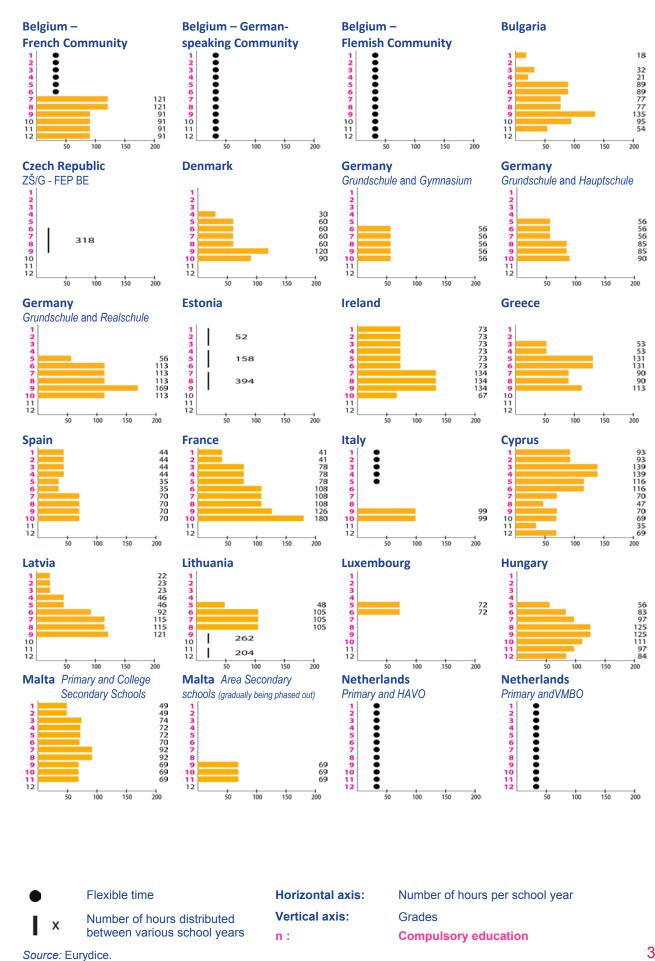
## NATURAL SCIENCES



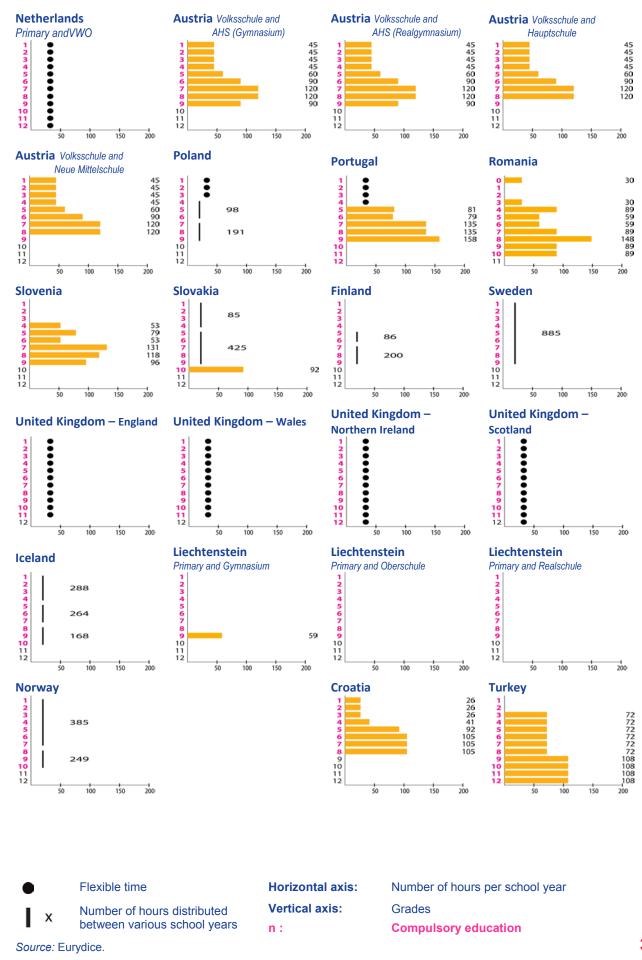
## NATURAL SCIENCES



## SOCIAL STUDIES



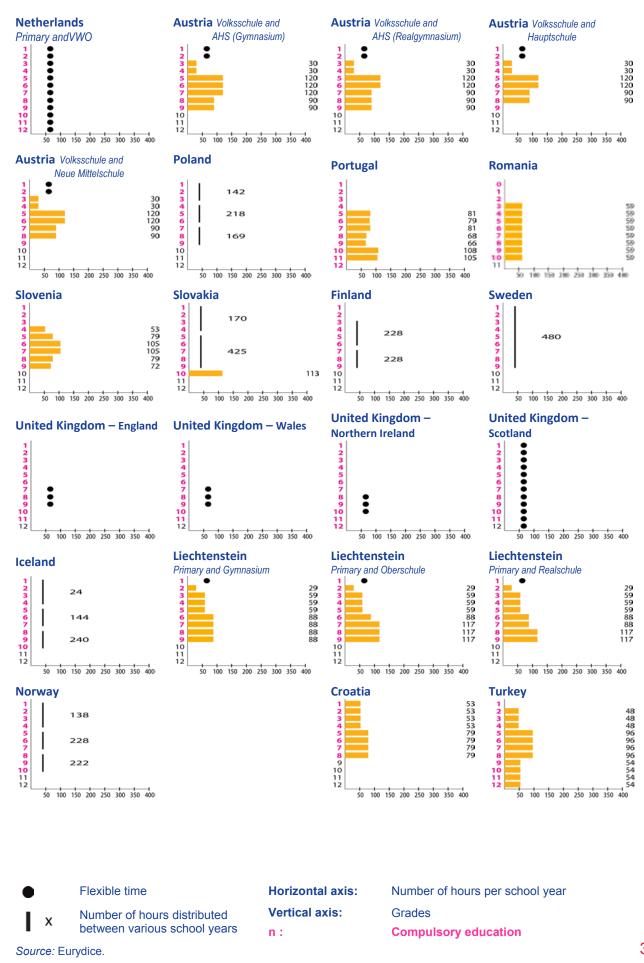
## **SOCIAL STUDIES**



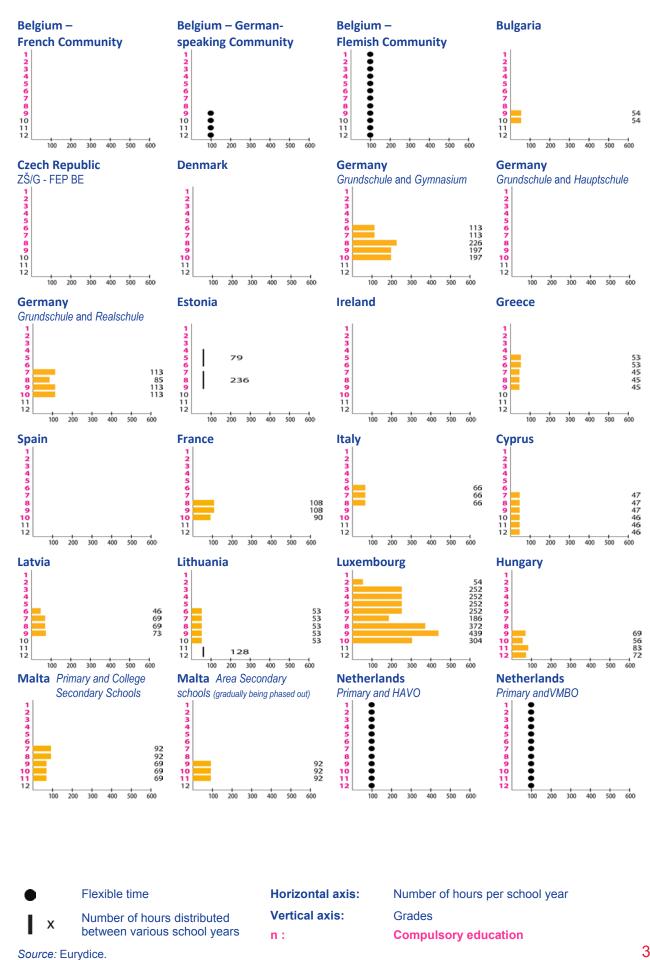
## FIRST FOREIGN LANGUAGE



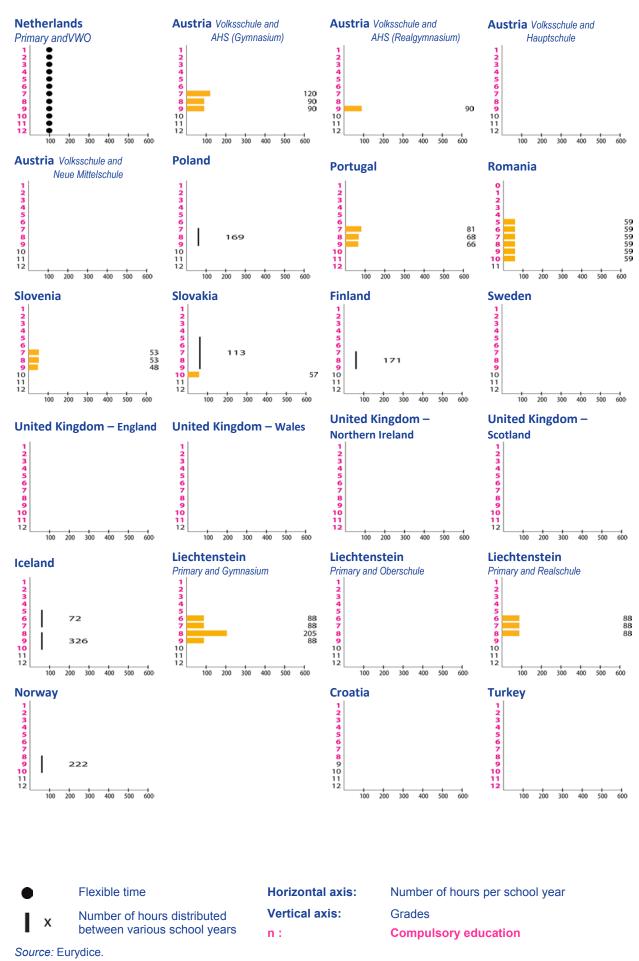
## FIRST FOREIGN LANGUAGE



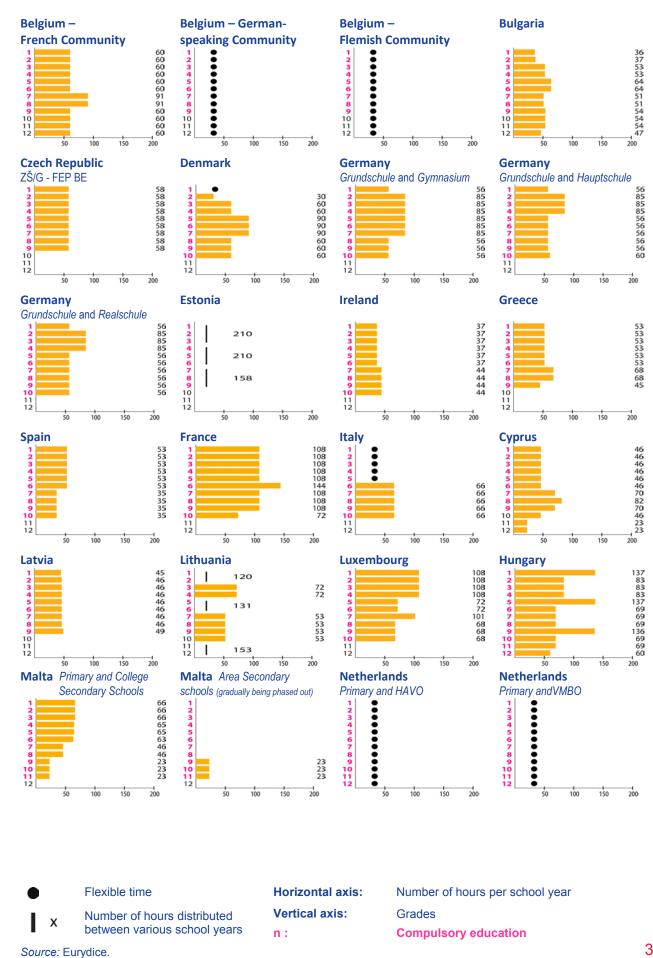
## **OTHER FOREIGN LANGUAGES**



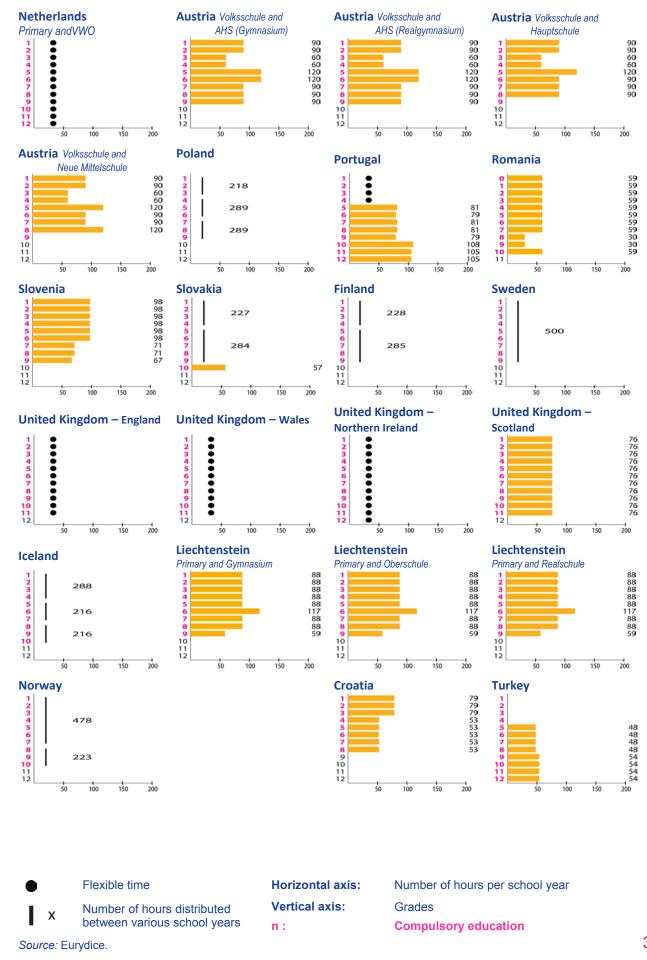
## **OTHER FOREIGN LANGUAGES**



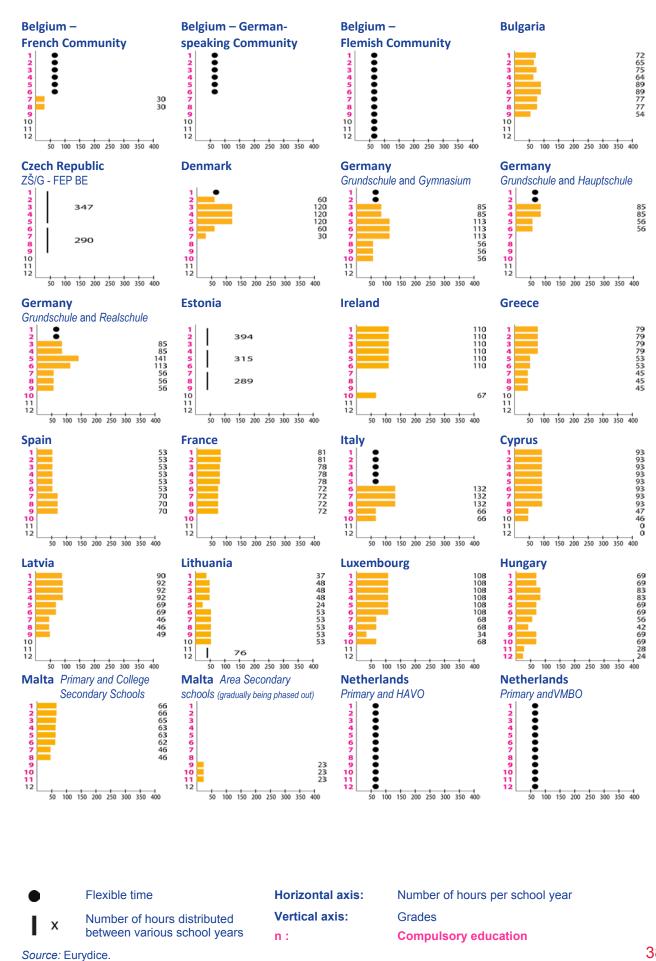
### PHYSICAL EDUCATION



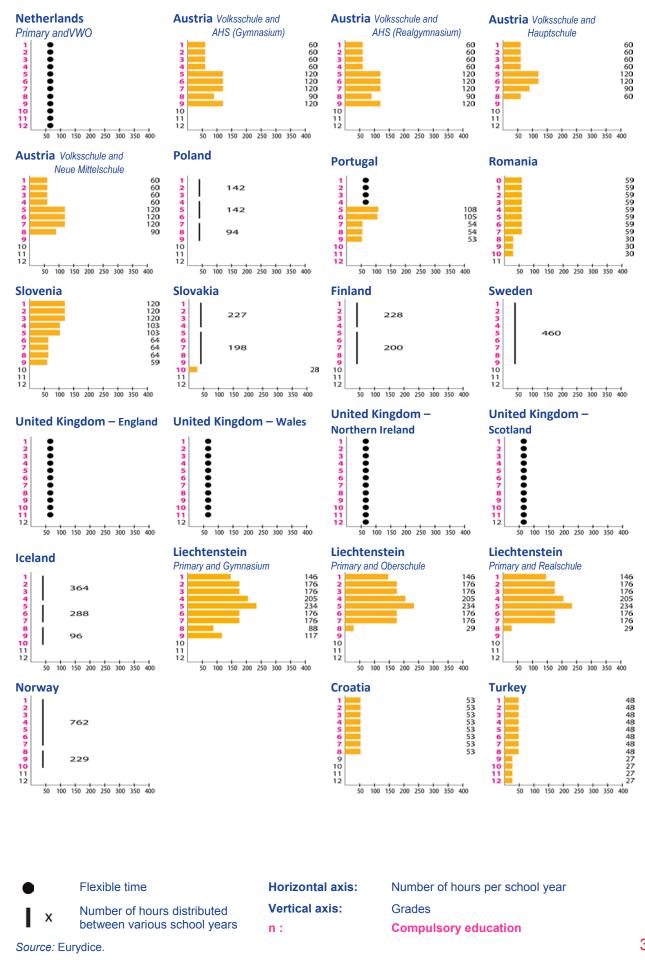
### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**



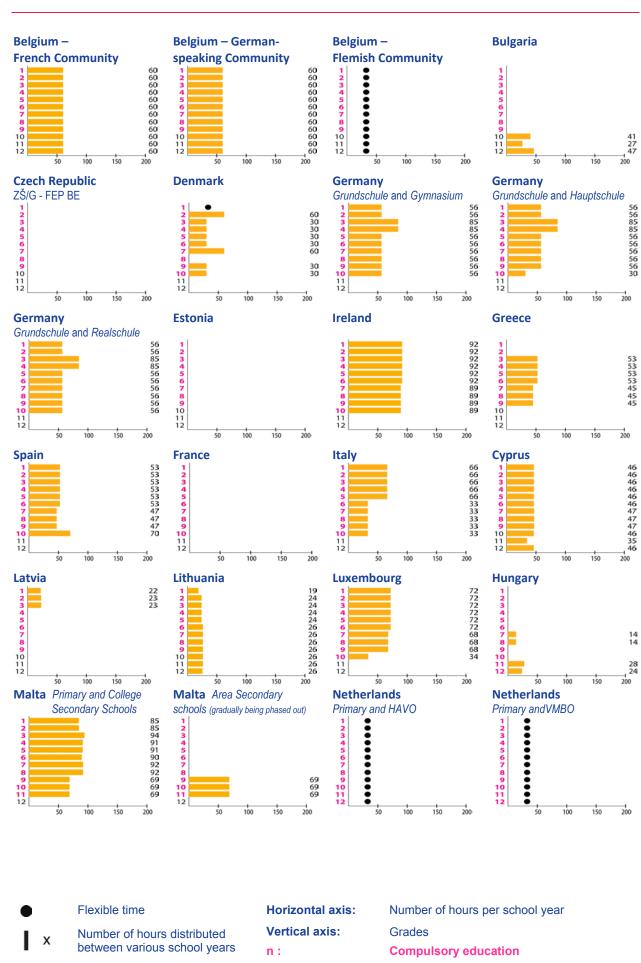
### **ARTS EDUCATION**



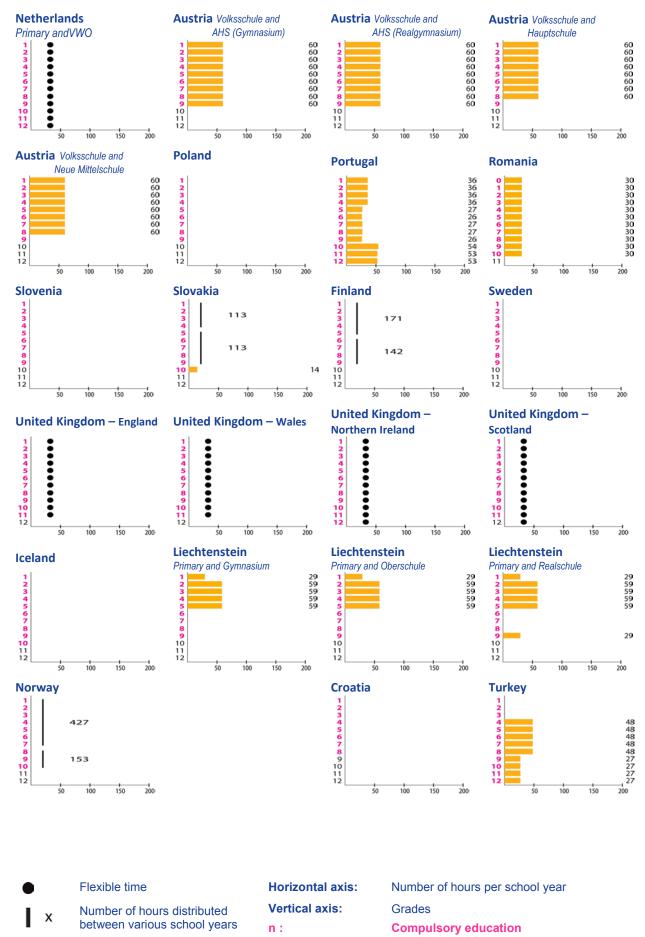
### **ARTS EDUCATION**



Source: Eurydice.



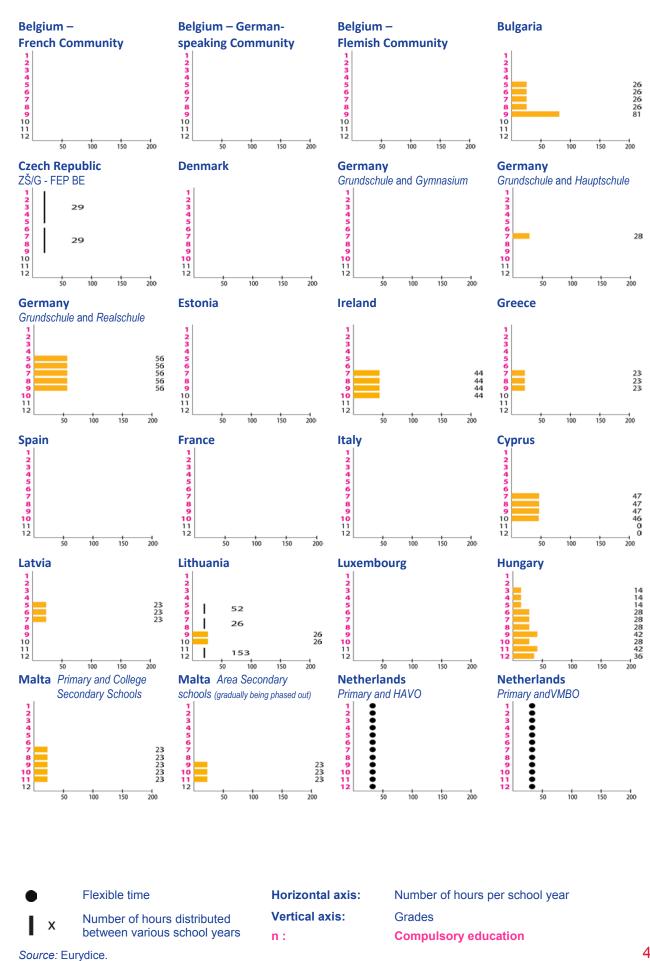
**RELIGION, ETHICS AND MORAL EDUCATION** 

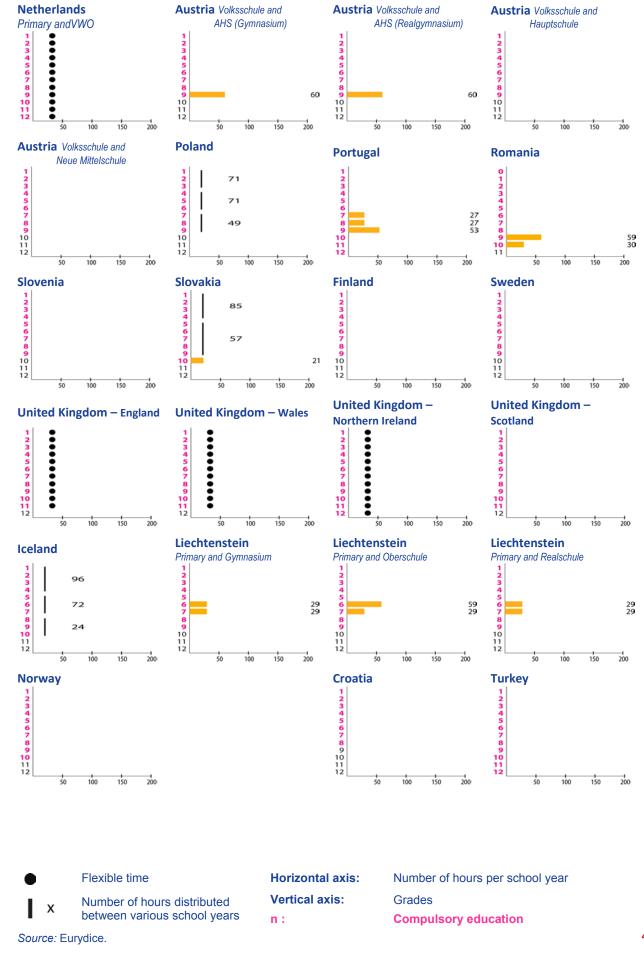


# **RELIGION, ETHICS AND MORAL EDUCATION**

Source: Eurydice.

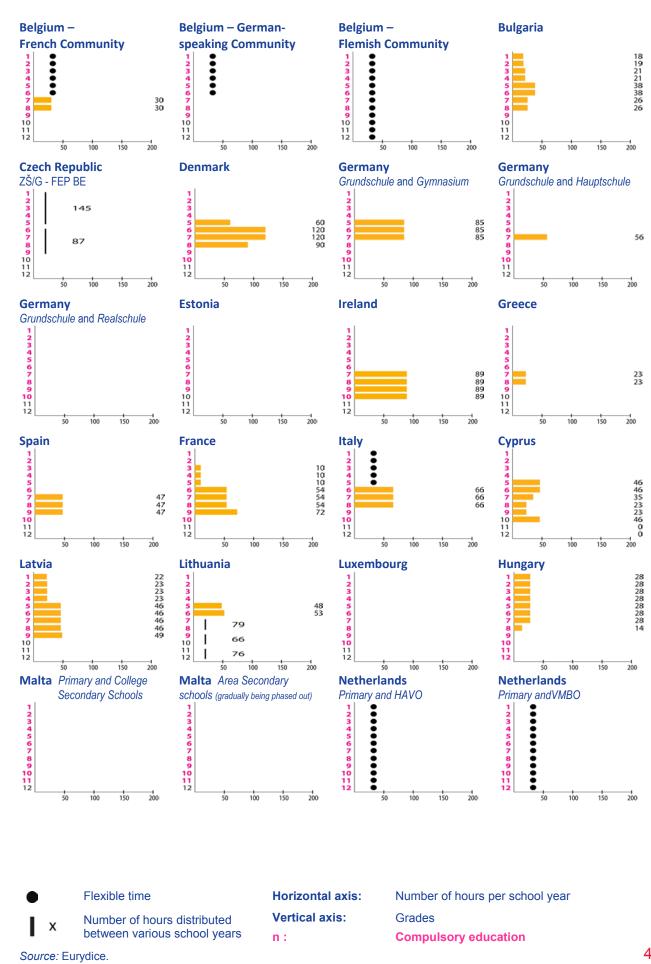
### ICT SUBJECT IN ITS OWN RIGHT



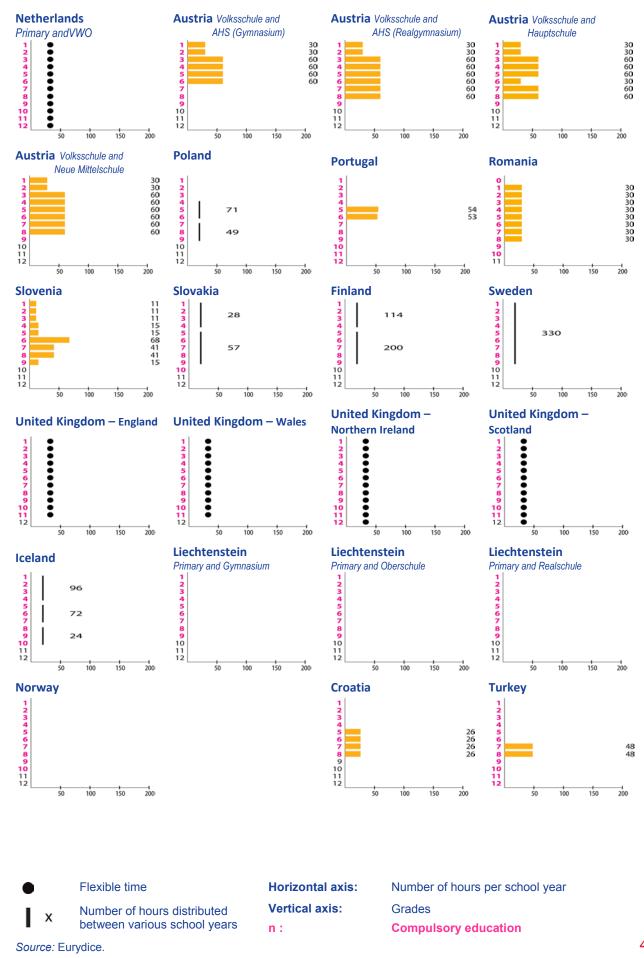


### ICT SUBJECT IN ITS OWN RIGHT

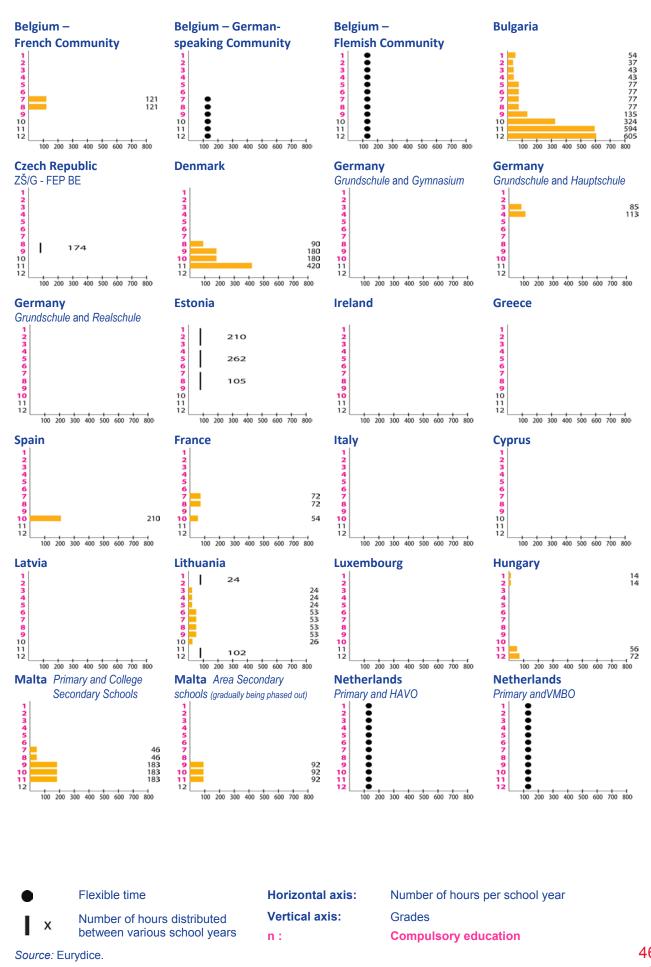
## **TECHNOLOGY**



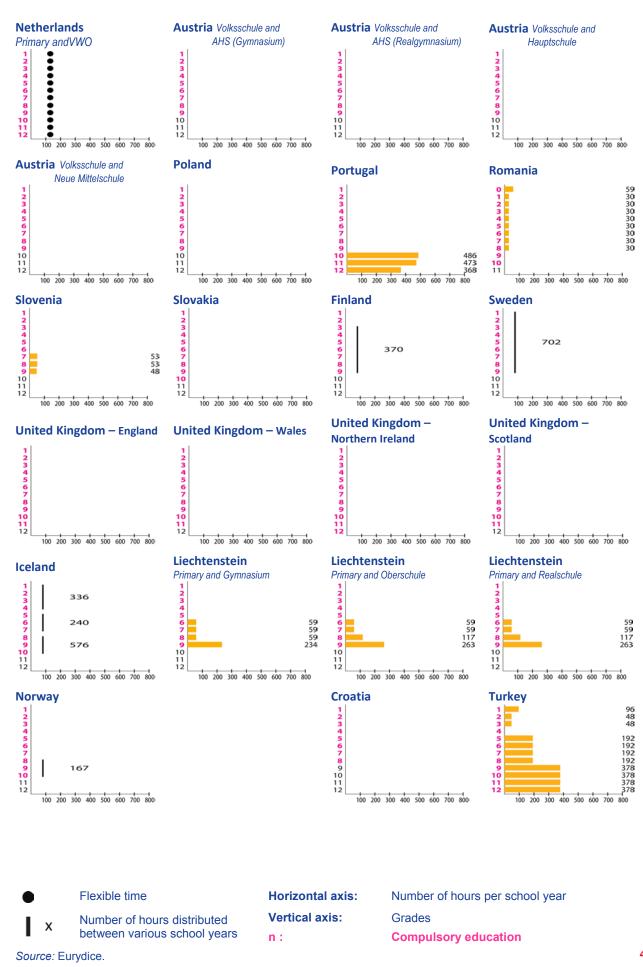
## TECHNOLOGY



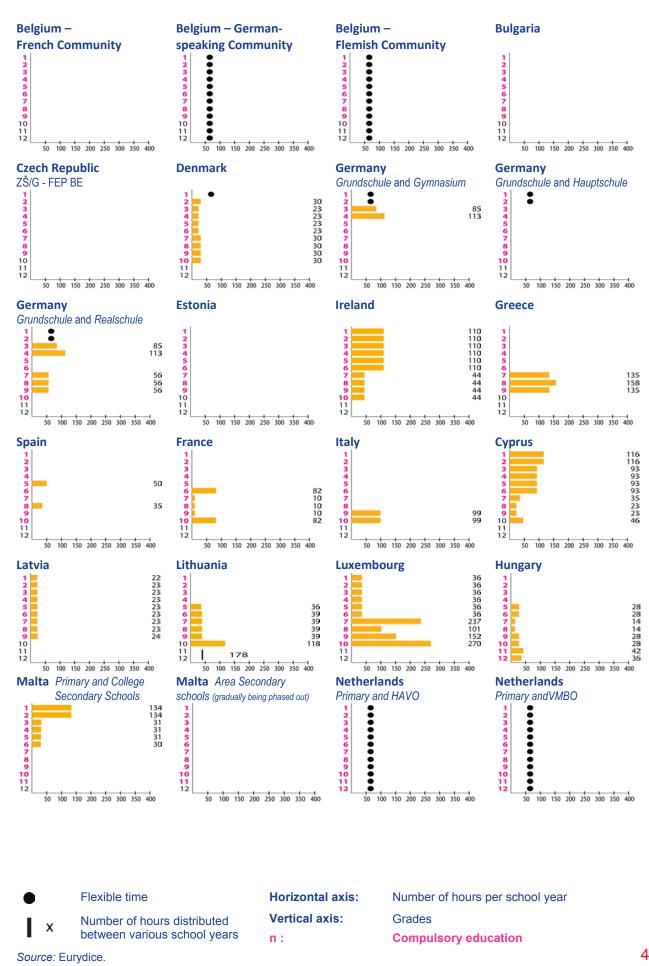
### CORE CURRICULUM OPTIONS



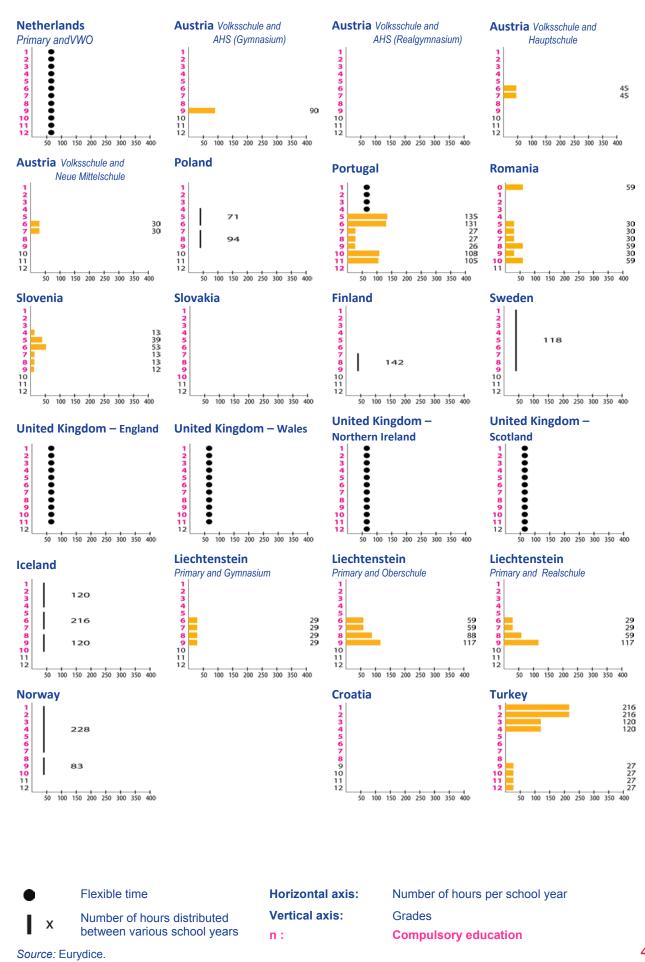
### CORE CURRICULUM OPTIONS



### **OTHER SUBJECTS**



### **OTHER SUBJECTS**

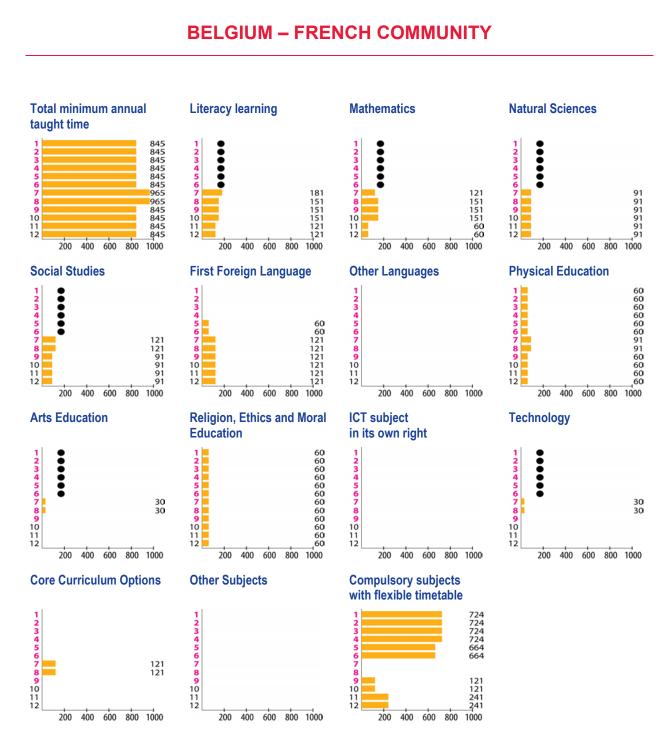


# PART III:

# TAUGHT TIME BY COUNTRY

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#### Note:

The teaching of compulsory foreign languages is significantly different in the Brussels-Capital Region and in the communes with special linguistic regime where a second foreign language is taught 3 periods per week in third and fourth grades and five periods per week in fifth and sixth grades.



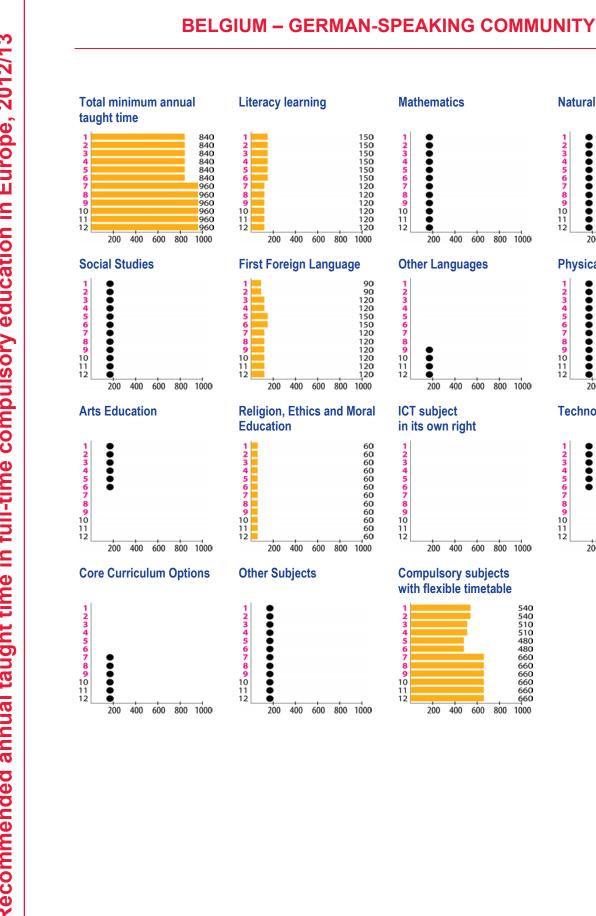
#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

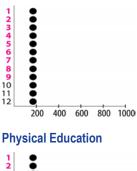
Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

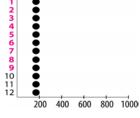
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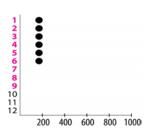


#### **Natural Sciences**





#### Technology



Horizontal axis:

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**n** :

Flexible time

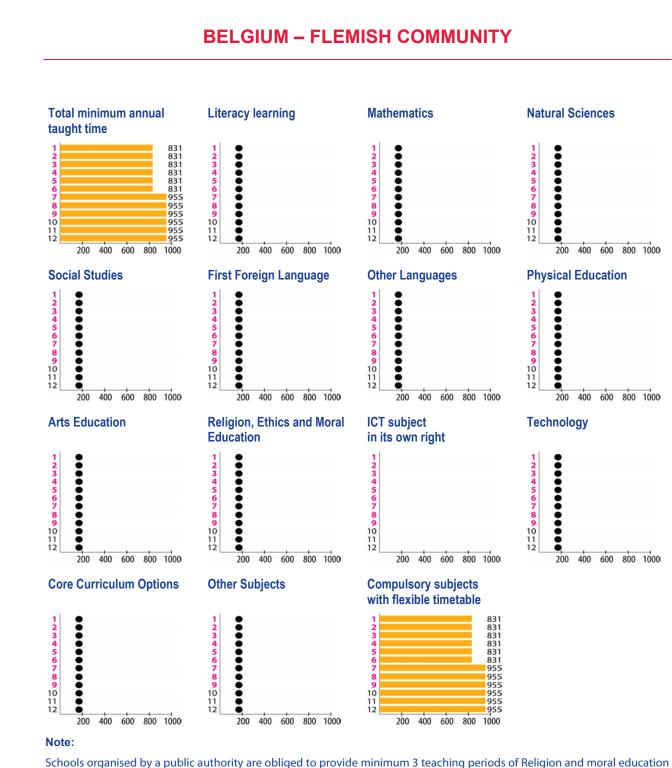
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Source: Eurydice.

Number of hours distributed

between various school years

Number of hours per school year Grades **Compulsory education** 



Schools organised by a public authority are obliged to provide minimum 3 teaching periods of Religion and moral education for grades 1 to 6 and 2 teaching periods for grades 7 to 9. There is no minimum compulsory number of hours for this subject in the regulations for the subsidised schools.



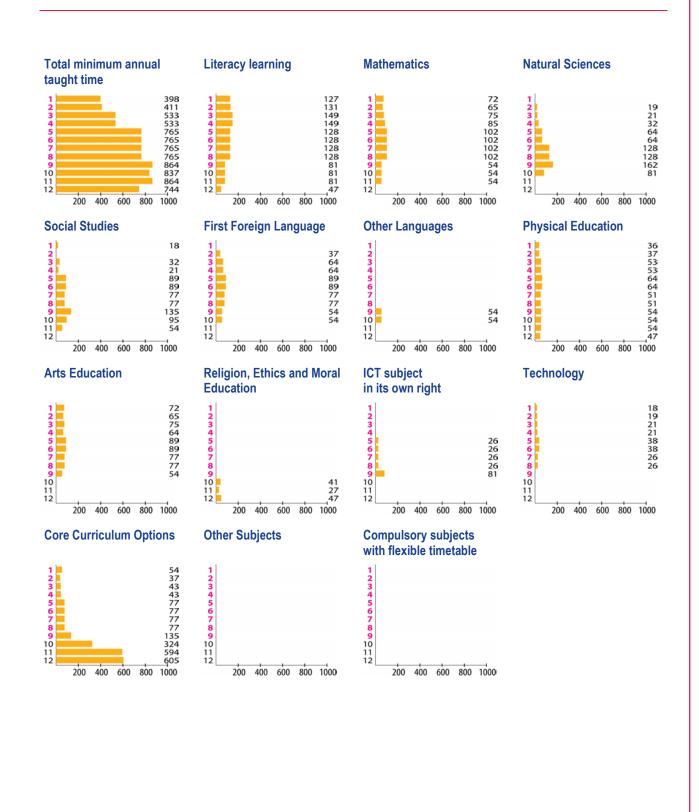
#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

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Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

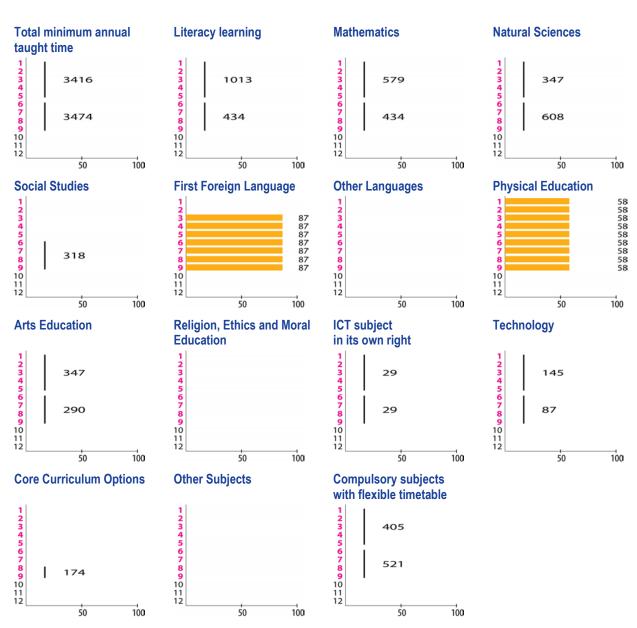
Horizontal axis: Vertical axis:

**n** :

Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

# CZECH REPUBLIC – ZÁKLADNÍ ŠKOLA/GYMNÁZIUM FEP BE



#### Note

The presented taught time is in accordance to the 2010/11 Framework Educational Programme for Basic Education (FEP BE). In primary education in the category 'Natural sciences' is allocated the total time for the educational area "People and Their World" including the social studies component. In secondary education the category 'Physical education' includes the broad area "People and their health". The topics related to the "Health education" can be provided either separately, within other subjects (for example Natural sciences), or within the subject "Physical education" by including additional theoretical part (two flexible periods of 45 minutes). In secondary education in the category 'Core curriculum options' six periods of 45 minutes per week are set for other foreign language (which must be offered) or other optional subjects starting from the eighth grade at the latest.

The 'Flexible' timetable is devoted to implement cross-curricular topics (personal and social education, education for democratic citizenship, education towards thinking in the European and global context, multicultural education, environmental education, and media studies); to increase time for particular educational areas and fields; to introduce other areas of compulsory education; to introduce supplementary educational fields (e.g. drama); to introduce other optional educational content, etc.



#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

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### DENMARK



### Note

The first year in the figures is classified for statistical purposes as ISCED 0 (pre-primary level), but corresponds to the first year of the single structure of education. Second foreign language (usually German) is offered by all schools in grades 7, 8 and 9 with 90, 120 and 120 hours per year respectively and students can select this option among others. The core curriculum options in years 8 and 9 can be French, word processing, technology, media, visual arts, photography, film studies, theatre, music, crafts, metal works, home economics, engine mechanics, work knowledge.



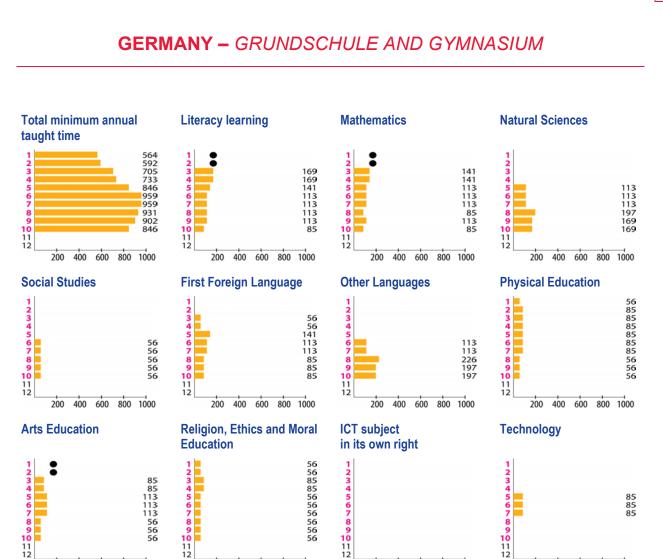
#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

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#### Note

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**Core Curriculum Options** 

200 400 600 800 1000

200

600 800 1000

The information is based on the regulations of the Land of Bavaria. Regulations of other Länder may vary. The taught time is provided following the normal five-day school week. Some Länder have a six-day school week with two school Saturdays per month.

In fifth and sixth grades two additional hours per week of basic sports instruction can be added. In seventh and eighth grades two additional hours of differentiated sports instruction can be added, depending on the availability of staff, rooms and organizational possibilities.

Subjects only taught in some branches are left out (e.g. woodwork, metal work or housekeeping/home economics).

400 600 800 1000

600 800 1000

85 113

200 400

**Other Subjects** 

200

1234567890 11112



#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

600 800 1000

451 451

200 400

**Compulsory subjects** 

with flexible timetable

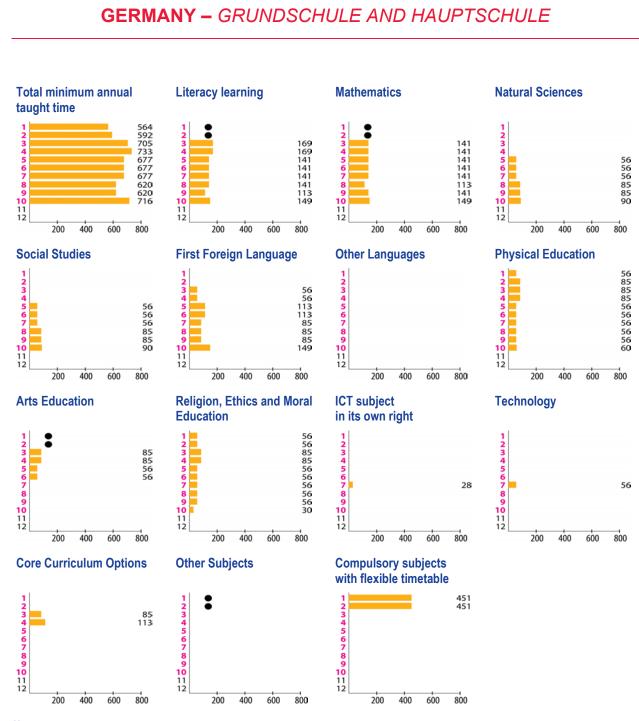
200 400 600 800 1000

Source: Eurydice.

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800 1000

200 400 600



#### Note

The information is based on the regulations of the Land of Bavaria. Regulations of other Länder may vary. The taught time is provided following the normal five-day school week. Some Länder have a six-day school week with two school Saturdays per month.

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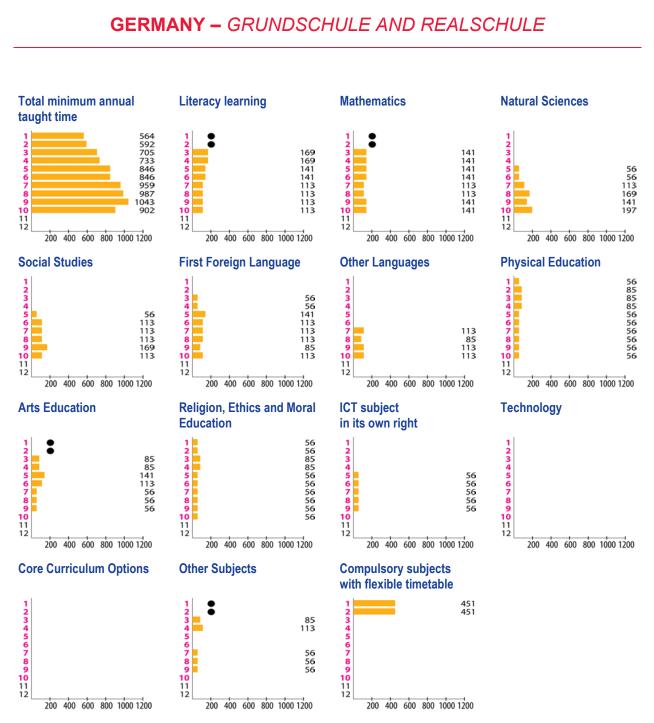
Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

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#### Note

The information is based on the regulations of the Land of Bavaria. Regulations of other Länder may vary. The taught time is provided following the normal five-day school week. Some Länder have a six-day school week with two school Saturdays per month.

In fifth and sixth grades two additional hours per week of basic sports instruction can be added. In seventh and eighth grades two additional hours of differentiated sports instruction can be added, depending on the availability of staff, rooms and organizational possibilities.

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#### Flexible time

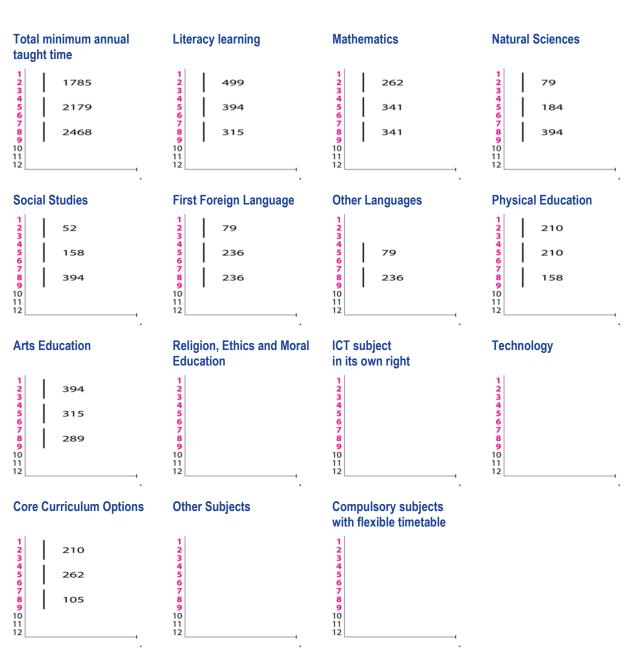
Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

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### **ESTONIA**



#### Note

In schools with language of instruction other than Estonian the number of lessons per week for Foreign languages (FL 1 and FL 2) and Core Curriculum Options (CCO) are different: Grades 1-3: FL 1 – 6, FL 2 – 3, CCO – 2; Grades 4-6: FL 1 – 12, FL 2 – 9, CCO – 1; Grades 7-9: FL 1 – 12, FL 2 – 9, CCO – 1. For that reason the annual taught time is also different: First Foreign Language: grades 1-3 – 158; grades 4-6 – 315; grades 7-9 – 315; Other Foreign Languages: grades 1-3 – 79; grades 4-6 – 236; grades 7-9 – 236; Core Curriculum Options: grades 1-3 – 53; grades 4-6 – 26; grades 7-9 – 26. Estonian as second language is FL 1 in all schools with language of instruction other than Estonian.



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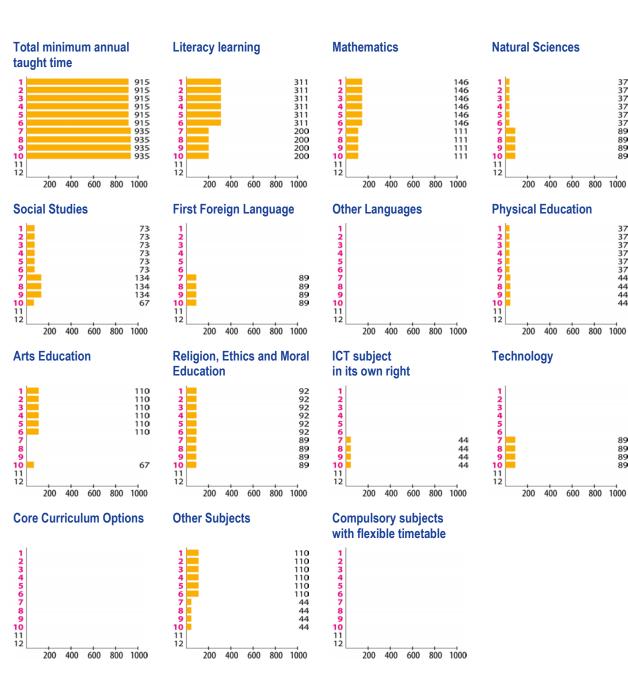
Source: Eurydice.

#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

### IRELAND



#### Note

Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2012/13

Whilst children are not obliged to attend school until they are 6 years old, the vast majority of 5 years olds do so. Pupils who are 4 years old are also allowed to attend primary school and many do so.

In lower secondary education (grades 9-11), the only compulsory subjects are: 'Irish', 'English', 'Mathematics', 'Physical Education', 'Civic, Social and Political Education' (CSPE), 'Social', 'Personal and Health Education' (SPHE) and, in most schools, History and Geography. The hours of tuition required for these subjects are not prescribed, except for CSPE and SPHE (One lesson of 0.67 hours per week each). However, accepted norms and advice from inspectors suggests that the minimum amount of time acceptable for these subjects is 2.67 hours per week for Irish, ideally 3.33 hours in most schools (5 40-minute periods per week) in English and Mathematics in line with department circulars in 2011 and 2012, 2 hours each for History and Geography and 1.33 hours for Physical Education.

In schools which use Irish as the language of instruction, 3.33 hours would also be expected to be allocated to the subject Irish. The remaining time (up to 28 hours per week) is made up by religious education for almost all students, and by languages, arts subjects, technologies, science, etc. at the discretion of individual schools and in most instances based on the choices students make too. In Grade 12, students enter a Leaving Certificate of more limited subject range than in Grades 9-11, or a Transition Year (TY) programme between lower and upper secondary which offers a considerable variety of subjects. The sample time allocations for Year 12 here reflect, generally, a TY timetable.



Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n :

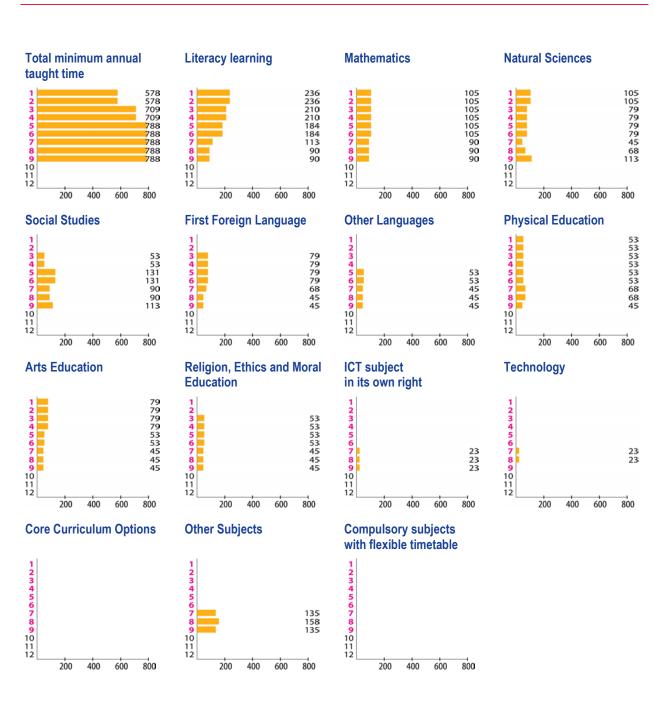
Number of hours per school year Grades

**Compulsory education** 

Source: Eurydice.

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### GREECE



#### Note

Primary and secondary education curricula are centrally defined (by Ministerial Decisions) and are uniformly applied in all schools of the same education level.



### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

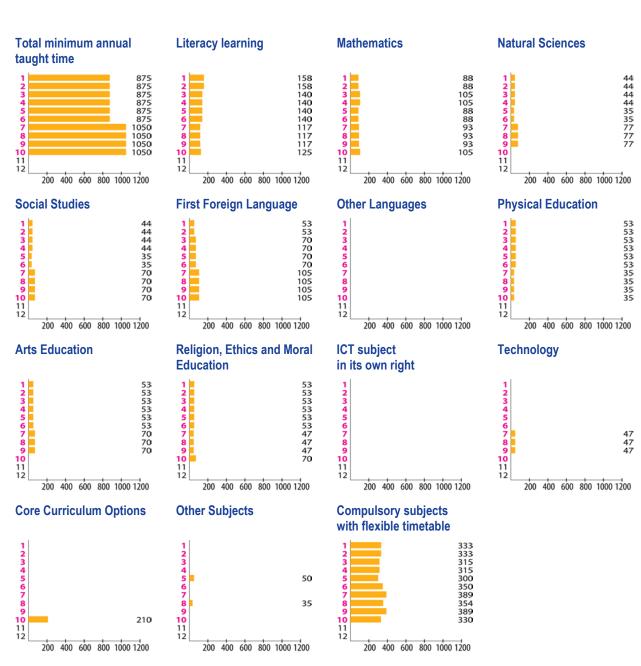
Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n :

Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

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### SPAIN



#### Note

The compulsory curriculum laid down by the central government for the entire country represents 55 % of the total taught time in Autonomous Communities with a second joint official language and 65 % in the others. The remaining part of the taught time is set by each Autonomous Community. As 'Compulsory subjects with flexible timetable' is indicated the total average compulsory instruction time regulated by the Autonomous Communities, which is added to the minimum compulsory time established by the central level. The Autonomous Communities with a co-official language can use in grades 1-6 a maximum of 10% of the total time established in the national core curriculum for the instruction of their own co-official language; however they cannot subtract more than 35 hours of the same subject. In grades 7-10 the Autonomous Communities with a co-official language in the national core curriculum for the instruction of their own co-official language, however they cannot subtract more than 50 hours of the same subject in the first three years of Lower secondary education, or 20 hours in the fourth year.

In grades 7-10 students must take certain optional subjects and in any case schools must always offer 'Second Foreign Language' and 'Classical Culture' lessons. In grade 10 all students must take three 'Core curriculum options' from the following list of subjects: "Biology and Geology"; "Plastic and Visual Education"; "Physics and Chemistry"; "Computer Science"; "Latin"; "Music"; a second "Foreign Language;" and "Technology". 'Religion/Ethics/Moral education': Students can opt for taking Religion classes or not. Schools must offer educational attention to those students not following 'Religion', but it cannot include curriculum contents of the 'Religion' subject. In grade 10, the reported taught time in this category includes two different subjects: "Religion" (or alternative activities) and "Ethical-Civic education", with 35 hours each. The category 'Other subjects three years of ISCED 1 (eg. grades 5 or 6) and in one of the last three years of ISCED 2 (grades 8, 9 or 10). The exact grade is decided by each Autonomous Community. In the table of Intended Taught Time it has been included in grades 5 and 8 because these are the grades in which it is provided in most of the Autonomous Communities.



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Source: Eurydice.

#### Flexible time

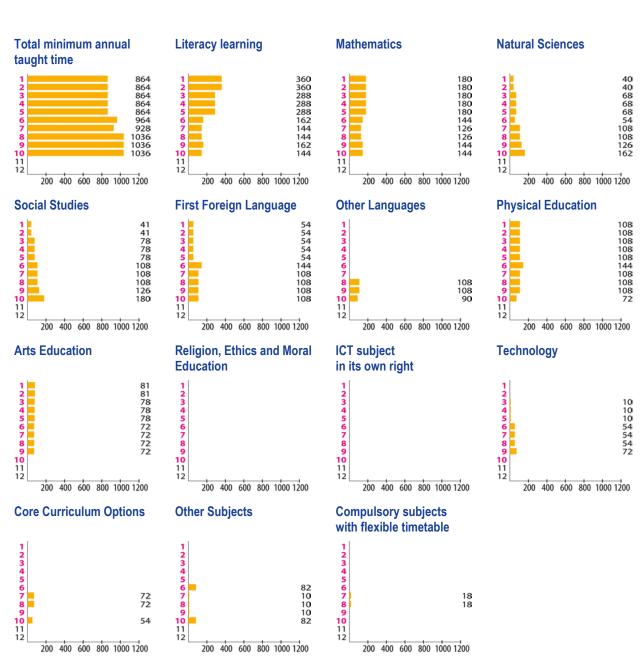


Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n :

Number of hours per school year Grades

### Compulsory education

### FRANCE



#### Note

No specific duration is mentioned for "Moral and civic education". However, it is taught to pupils at all levels. In grades 3-9, it is included in 'Social studies' (always within "*Histoire-géographie*", excepted in grade 10). Facts about religion are also taught within "Moral and civic education", especially starting from the grade 3.

The category "Foreign languages" corresponds, in France, to "Modern languages" (*langues vivantes*). The second modern language can be a regional language.

In grades 7 and 8, schools also can attribute 30 additional minutes per week to strengthen a particular subject area (this amount of time is assimilated to compulsory subjects with flexible timetable).



#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis:

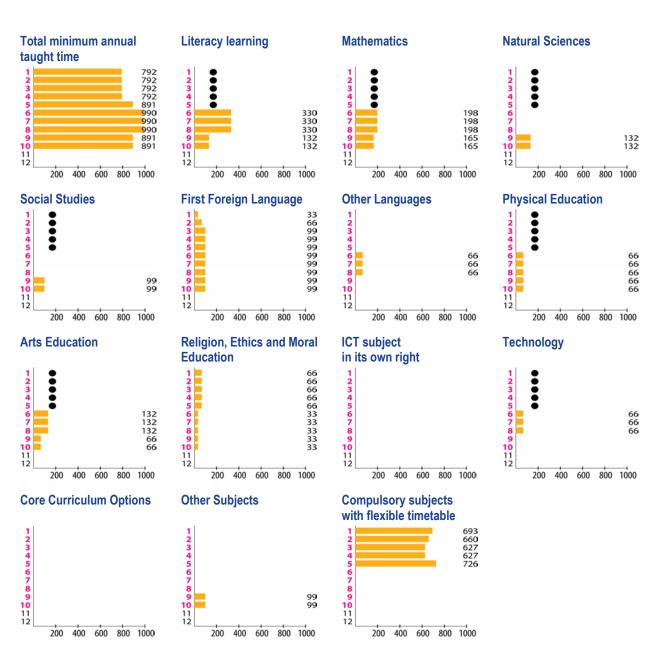
**n**:

Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

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## ITALY



#### Note

According to legislation, schools are required to work for not less than 5 days a week and for not less than 200 days per year. However, the annual taught time is commonly calculated on an average of 33 weeks. Schools have autonomy in the distribution of the timetable both over the week and the school year. In many schools, especially at secondary level, lessons are distributed over 6 days. One hour is considered of 60 minutes. Schools can organize the timetable in periods lasting less than 60 minutes, provided that the sum of periods corresponds to the total amount of time foreseen by the timetable.

As for the first to the fourth grades of primary school, the minimum annual taught time is calculated according to the minimum weekly timetable of 24 hours for 33 weeks, gradually introduced starting from school year 2009/2010. However, schools commonly work according to the weekly timetables of 27 and 30 hours (891 and 990 hours per year, respectively) and several schools also offer the 40-hour weekly timetable. In the fifth grades, in school year 2012-2013, the previous minimum annual taught time of 891 hours a year still applies. Information on Grades 9 and 10 refer to the taught time for 'Liceo Scientifico'.

At lower secondary level, the category 'Literacy learning' includes "'History" and "Geography" and the category 'Mathematics' includes "Sciences". The hours foreseen for the second foreign language can be used for complementary teaching of the first language (English). At upper secondary level (grades 9 and 10) 'Mathematics' includes 'ICT'. At all levels the teaching of "Citizenship and Constitution" is included in the timetable of the history/geography/social teaching. In the lower secondary level, the taught time for this subject is included in the category 'Literacy learning', while for primary and upper secondary levels it is included in the category 'Social Studies'.



#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

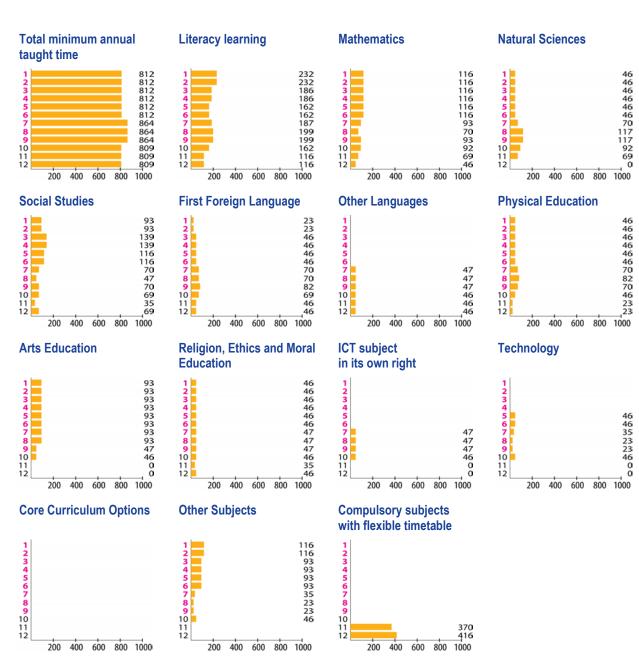
Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n :

Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

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### **CYPRUS**



#### Note

The National Curriculum is the same for all public primary schools, but the time allocated to each subject varies, according to the school type. The described taught times apply for the school type with 6 or more classes (the majority of primary schools falls within this type). The length of taught periods for lower secondary schools is not constant. For three days in the week the length is 45 minutes and the corresponding instruction periods for these days is 7. For the other two days the length of periods is 40 minutes and the corresponding instruction periods is 8. The average length of a period is 43 minutes

In Primary Education, Technology in the 5th and 6th grades is divided into two subjects: Design and Technology/Health Education and Home Economics. Social studies in primary schools include the following subjects in grades 1-4: History, Geography and Life Education (Health Education/Environmental Education -Education for Sustainable Development). In grades 5-6, Environmental Education - Education for Sustainable Development is taught for one period as a separate subject. The time in the "other subjects' category" is devoted to consolidation.

In lower and upper secondary education Literacy Learning contains the subjects of "Modern Greek" and "Ancient Greek Literature". "Geography" is included in the category "Natural Science". In grade 8 the subject "First aid" is included in the category "Physical education". In grade 9 the subjects "Civics" and "Vocational guidance" are included in the category "Social Sciences". At lower secondary level, the time in the "other subjects' category" is devoted to Home economics.



Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

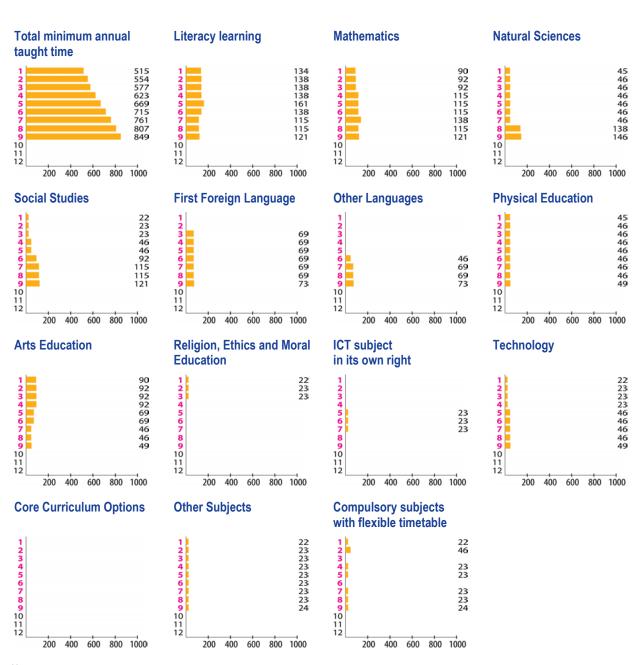
Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: **n**:

Number of hours per school year Grades **Compulsory education** 

Source: Eurydice.

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## LATVIA



### Note

According to the Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers, lessons/instruction for the grade 9 ends earlier, but a school year is longer than for other grades because of examinations' period and consists of 185 days. Duration of lessons is either 40 or 45 minutes upon the decision of the school head (for calculation is used the most common duration of 40 minutes).

In the category 'Other subjects' is included the subject called "Class hour", organized by class teacher and with one lesson per week. "Class hour" are for discussing various themes like value education, communication culture, patriotism and civil participation, traffic safety, handling extreme situations, healthy lifestyle, career guidance etc



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Source: Eurydice.

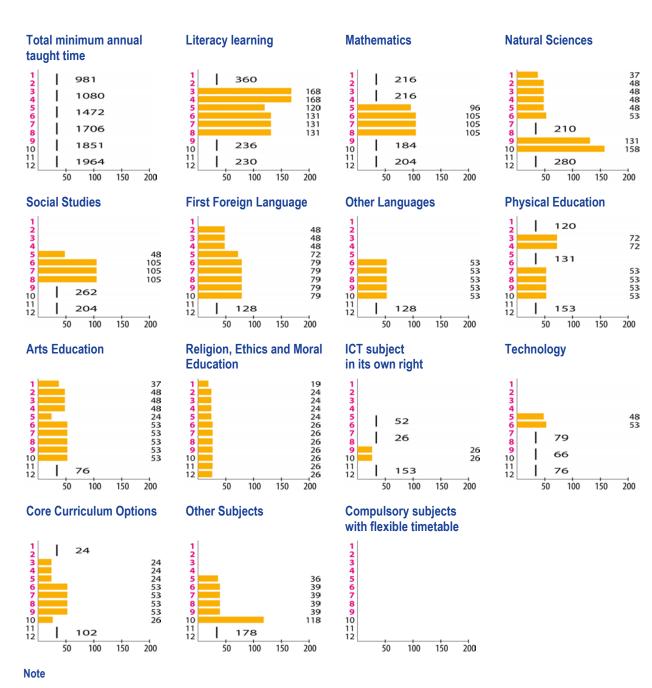
#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2012/13

### LITHUANIA



In 2008 the curriculum framework was updated by renewing subject contents and allowing up to 10 % flexibility between subjects.

In primary school pupils are taught integrated Natural and Social sciences and also Arts and Technology. In the grades 5-6 pupils are taught integrated Natural sciences. Half of the Information Technology lessons should be integrated into other subjects. In grades 5-10 a subject called "Personal Safety" including civil, traffic and fire safety is taught for half period a week. In the 9th and 10th grades pupils are also taught Citizenship with one lesson per week.

Students are allowed to have lessons on "National minority languages" (such as Belorussian, Polish, Russian and German) as follows: grades 1-4: seven lessons per week; grades 5-8: five lessons per week; grades 9-10: four lessons a week.

Primary education schools with musical, arts or sports education program are allowed to adjust up to 25% of the total teaching time. An additional number of lessons can be allocated under school discretion to supply pupils needs in additional education of arts, foreign language, bilingual, individual education or consultation.



Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2012/13

Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

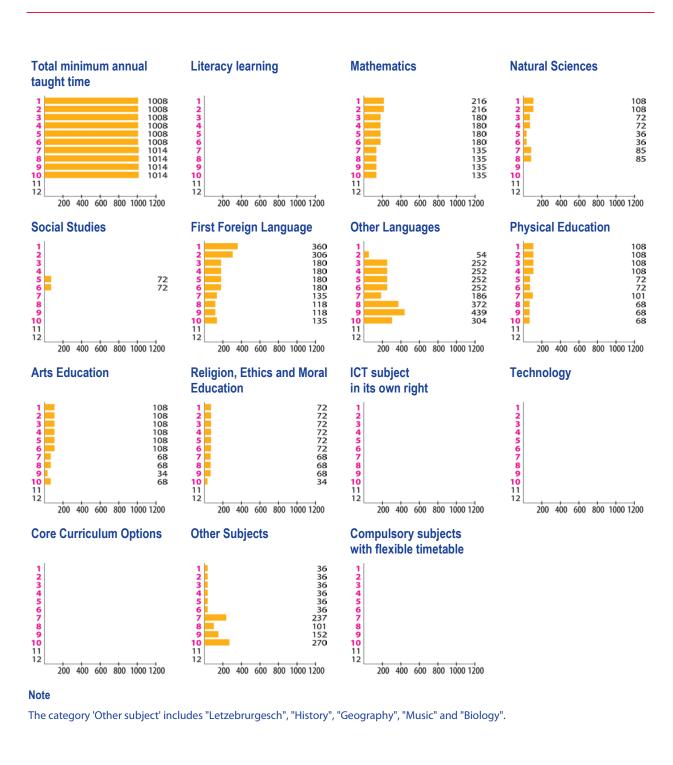
Horizontal axis:
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n :

Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

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### LUXEMBOURG



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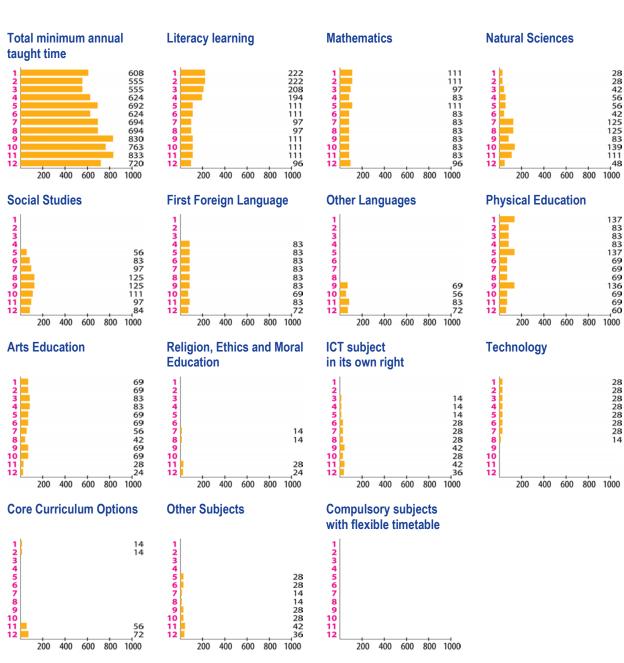
Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

# HUNGARY



# Note

The category 'Other subjects' includes "Teachers' class" (grades 4-12), "Health care studies" (grade 6) and "Film and Media" (grades 11-12).



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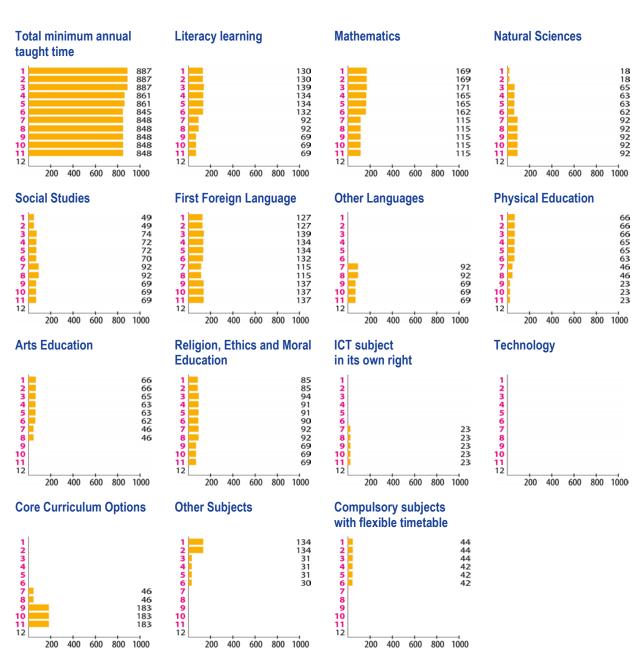
#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

# MALTA – PRIMARY AND COLLEGE SECONDARY SCHOOLS



#### Note

Currently a reform is underway in Malta effecting the secondary cycle up till compulsory school age. Till June 2010 students ending the primary cycle sat for examinations the results of which determined the type of secondary school they proceeded to: those who passed these examinations attended Junior Lyceums and those who failed them went on to Area Secondary schools. These examinations were last held in June 2010 and have now been replaced by the End of Primary Benchmark assessment. This assessment serves as a diagnostic tool by which identified literacy and numeracy weaknesses can be addressed in the secondary cycle.

As from September 2011 both Junior Lyceums and Area Secondary schools are gradually being phased out over a number of years. This is the second school year where all students beginning the secondary cycle (Grade 7) are attending College Secondary Schools. During school year 2012/13 only around 16% of state school students in the secondary cycle are still attending Area Secondary schools.

The category 'Other Subjects' include: In Grades 1 and 2; Handwriting, Storytelling, Reading Sessions, Talk about sessions and Choosing time. In Grades 3, 4, 5 and 6: Time which teachers can utilise for the prioritising of needs including additional time for Literacy Learning, Mathematics or First Foreign Language, and other initiatives such as the development of entrepreneurial skills and thinking skills. In Grades 7 and 8 various extra-curricular subjects are covered ranging from arts and crafts to drama to sports.



#### Flexible time

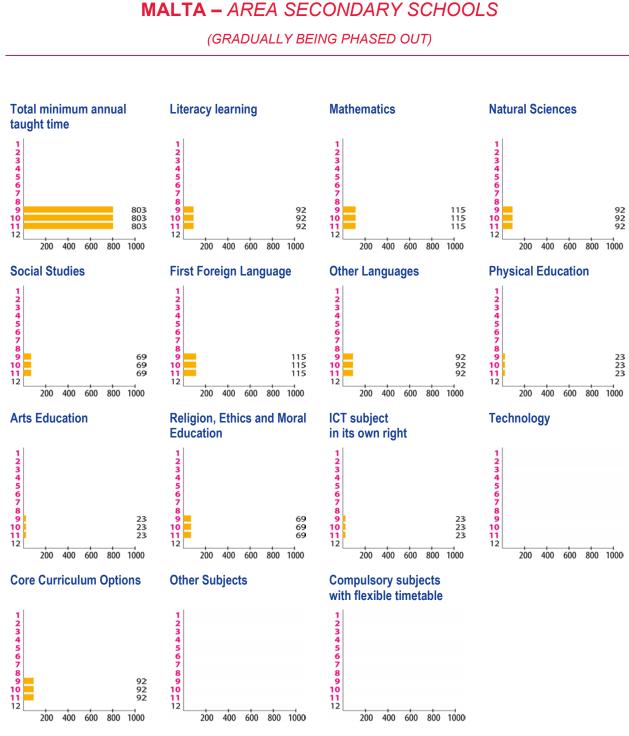
Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n :

Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

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Information for the primary cycle is being given only in the graphics for Primary and College Secondary Schools. This is a consequence of the fact that as from September 2011 all primary pupils now proceed to College Secondary Schools and no pupils are channelled to Area Secondary Schools.







Every child must attend school full time from the first school day of the month following its fifth birthday, however almost all four year-olds (99 %) attend Basisonderwijs primary school. Children must attend school full time until the end of the school year in which they turn sixteen. From then on all pupils up to the age of eighteen will be required to continue learning until they have obtained a basic qualification (a HAVO, VWO or MBO level 2 certificate – qualifications at ISCED level 3).



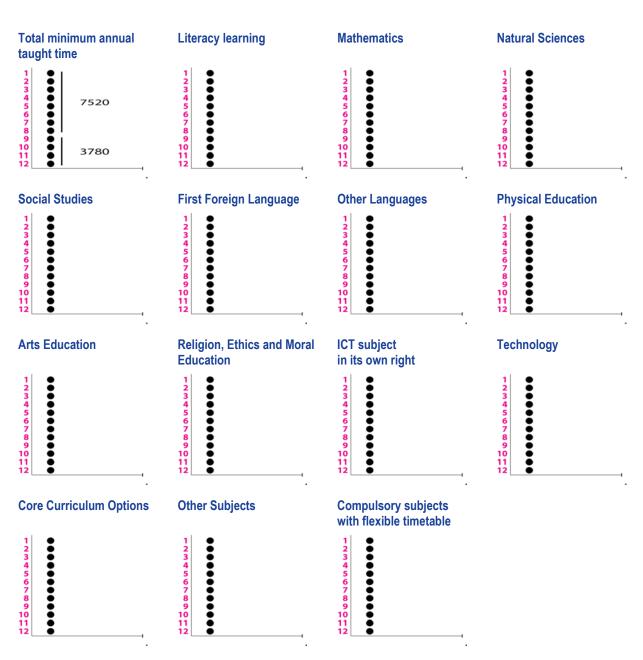
#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

# THE NETHERLANDS – PRIMARY AND VMBO (REF. YEAR 2011/12)



#### Note

Every child must attend school full time from the first school day of the month following its fifth birthday, however almost all four year-olds (99 %) attend Basisonderwijs primary school. Children must attend school full time until the end of the school year in which they turn sixteen. From then on all pupils up to the age of eighteen will be required to continue learning until they have obtained a basic qualification (a HAVO, VWO or MBO level 2 certificate – qualifications at ISCED level 3).



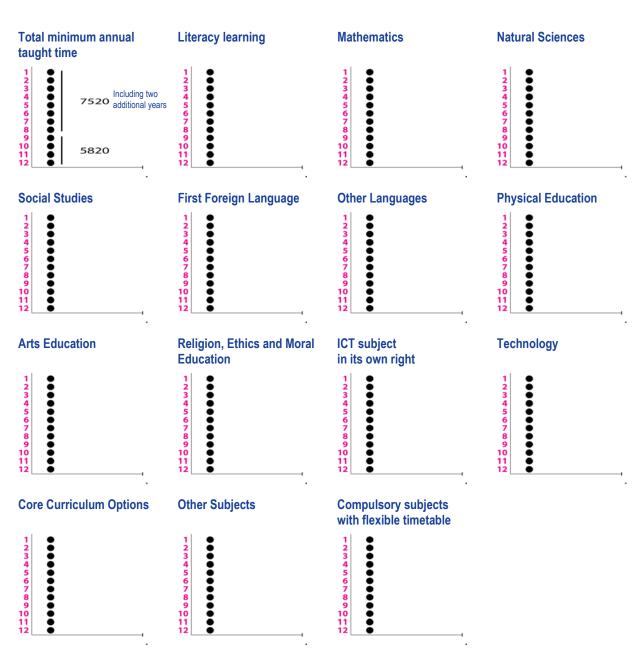
#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.





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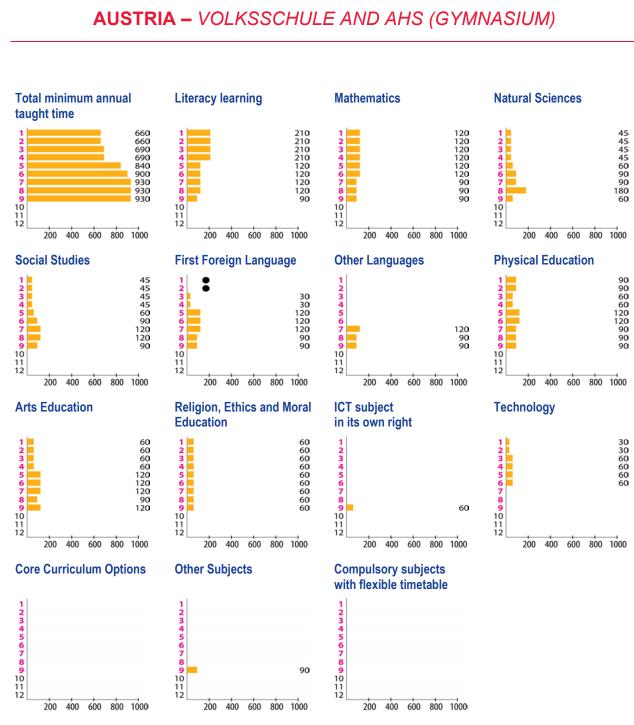


#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.



The data provided for grades 1-4 relate to Volksschule (primary school) and for grades 5 – 9 to AHS-Gymnasium (academic secondary school with language focus). AHS (Gymnasium) accounts for 48% of the total students' population attending the AHS pathway. During the first two years of primary school foreign language teaching is linked to other subjects (50 minutes per week) as part of an integrated approach.



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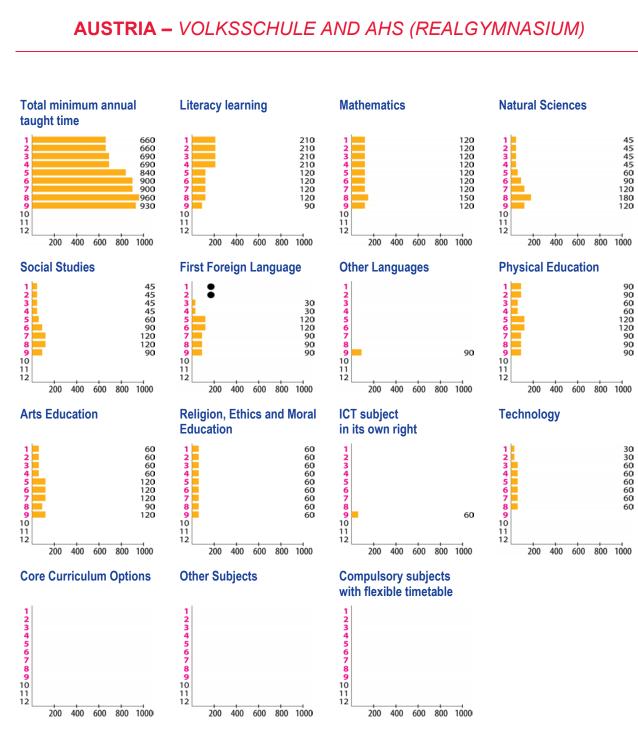
#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n :

Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.



The data provided for grades 1-4 relate to Volksschule (primary school) and for grades 5 – 9 to AHS-Realgymnasium (academic secondary school with science focus). AHS (Realgymnasium) accounts for 45% of the total students' population attending the AHS pathway. During the first two years of primary school foreign language teaching is linked to other subjects (50 minutes per week) as part of an integrated approach.



#### Flexible time

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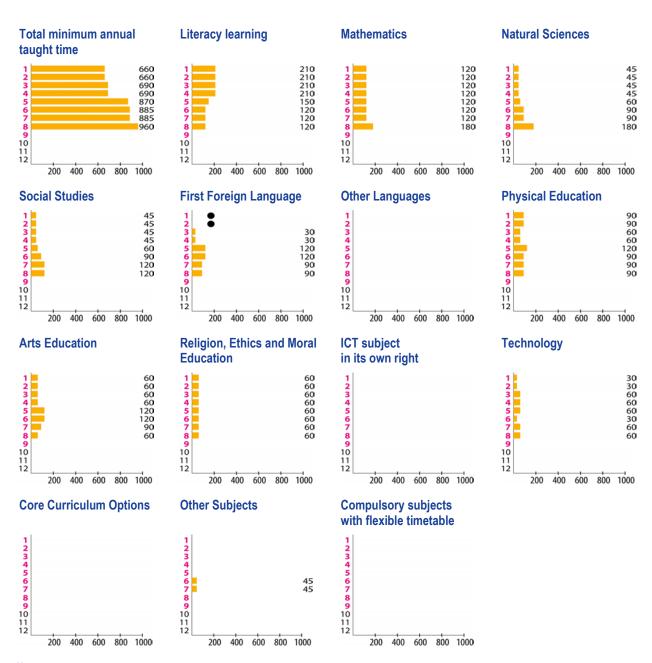
Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

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# AUSTRIA – VOLKSSCHULE AND HAUPTSCHULE



#### Note

The data provided for grades 1-4 relate to Volksschule (primary school) and for grades 5 – 8 to Hauptschule (general secondary school). Hauptschule will be phased-out 2014/15. Compulsory schooling lasts 9 years. After year 8 students are free to choose different school-types for grade 9. Therefore no data for year 9 are indicated. During the first two years of primary school foreign language teaching is linked to other subjects (50 minutes per week) as part of an integrated approach.



#### Flexible time

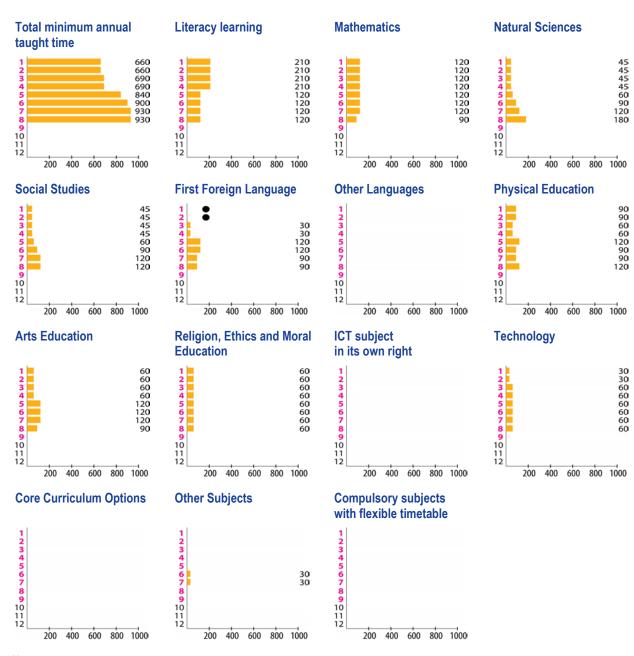
Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.



# AUSTRIA – VOLKSSCHULE AND NEUE MITTELSCHULE



### Note

The data provided for grades 1-4 relate to *Volksschule* (primary school) and for grades 5 – 8 to *Neue Mittelschule* (new secondary school). Compulsory schooling lasts 9 years. After year 8 students are free to choose different school-types for grade 9. Therefore no data for year 9 are indicated. During the first two years of primary school foreign language teaching is linked to other subjects (50 minutes per week) as part of an integrated approach.



#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

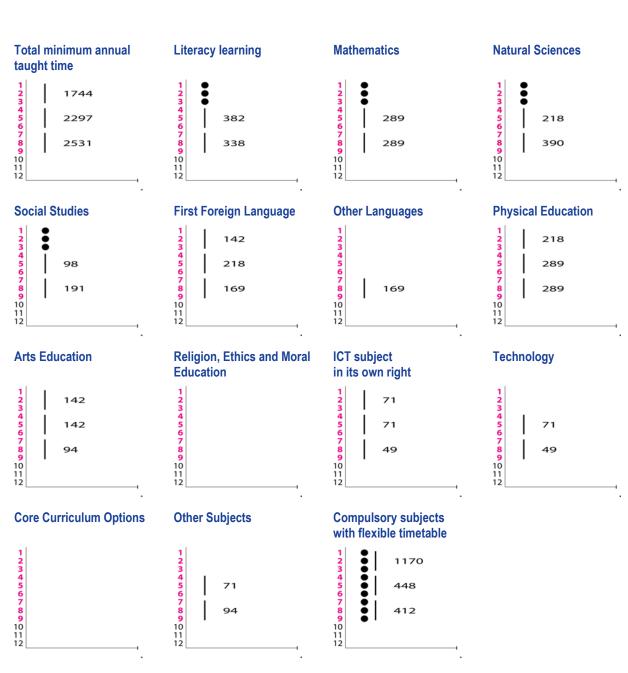
Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

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# POLAND



#### Note

The category 'Compulsory subjects with flexible timetable' include 1150 compulsory periods of integrated teaching in grades 1-3 and for all grades the hours resulting from difference between the number of hours calculated on the basis of minimum weekly workload and hours calculated on the basis of all subjects workload.

For grades 4-6 (Stage 2) 'Other subjects' category includes 95 periods (71 hours) for lessons with class tutor. In Grades 7-9 the 450 periods (338 hours) allocated to teaching of two foreign languages can be divided freely by a particular school. The subject "Geography" is included in the 'Natural sciences' category. 'Other subjects' category includes 30 periods per year of education for safety and 95 periods (71 hours) for lessons with class tutor.



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Source: Eurydice.

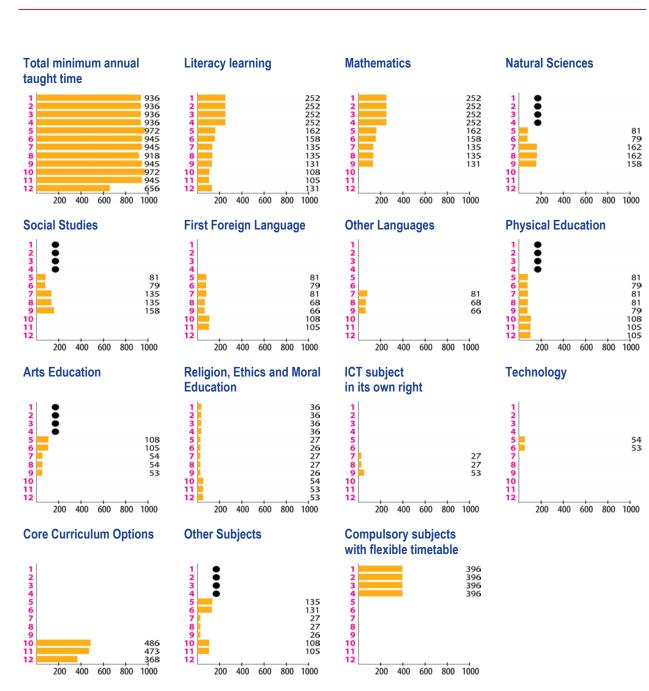
#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n :

Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

# PORTUGAL



#### Note

Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2012/13

Primary education (ISCED 1) in Portugal corresponds to the first two cycles of schooling (first cycle - ages 6-10 and second cycle - ages 10-12). In what concerns to national age for admission in compulsory primary education (6 years) it is important to refer that children who turn six years between September 16 and December 31 are also eligible to enter first grade upon request of a parent. According to the legislation, at primary (ages 6-10) there are 25 h of taught time, 7 h of these for Literacy and 7 h for Mathematics. The curriculum includes also the curricular subject "*Estudo do meio*" (study of the environment), which comprises History, Geography and Sciences; Arts and Physical Education. There are crosscurricular areas - monitored study, project area and civic education - and non-compulsory activities called "curricular enrichment activities". These activities have the duration of 45 minutes per day. They include English lessons, Physical and Music Education (between 90 and 135 minutes per week). There is no formal regulation for the organisation of the timetable.

At primary level (ages 10-12), Literacy learning (Portuguese), Foreign language (English) and Social Studies (History and Geography of Portugal) are part of the same curricular area and at least half of the time must be dedicated to Literacy learning (Portuguese). Mathematic and Natural Sciences are part of the same curricular area and the law established that two thirds of the time should be dedicated to Mathematics. There is Arts education (visual and musical) and Technology education. At lower secondary level students learn another language besides English. At this level ICT is included in the curriculum. At upper secondary level, students may choose among 4 different courses: Sciences and Technology; Social and Economic Sciences; Languages and Humanities or Visual Arts. In all these courses the students have Literacy learning (Portuguese), a Foreign language, Philosophy and Physical Education. The other subjects depend on the course chosen and they can be studied during 1, 2 or 3 years.

Physical Education is included in the curriculum of primary and secondary education.

The attendance to religion and moral education is optional in primary and secondary education. At upper secondary there are also Artistic Courses and Professional Courses.



#### Flexible time

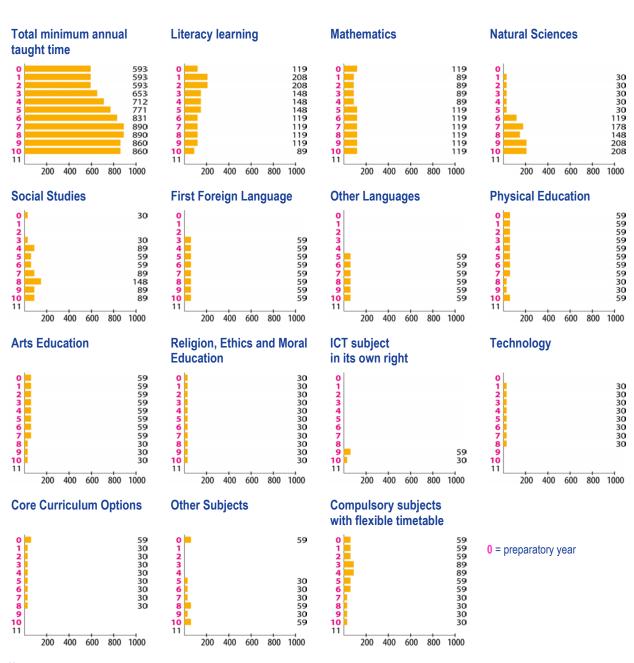
Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n :

Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

# ROMANIA



### Note

Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2012/13

The presented taught time is in accordance with the Law of National education (Law 1/2011) that stipulates the introduction of the preparatory year in primary school. Primary education as a consequence is composed by a preparatory year and other four years. Lower secondary education comprises four years of compulsory education. In the school year 2012-13 pupils that were 6 years old and had at least one year of attendance in a pre-primary setting start directly in Grade 1.

In the category 'Other subjects' are included the following topics: For the preparatory grade "Music and movement" (1 hours/week); "Personal development" (1 hours/week); In grades 5-9 "Counselling and Guidance"; in grade 8 "Latin", in grade 9-10 "Informatics" and in grade 10 "Entrepreneurship Education".



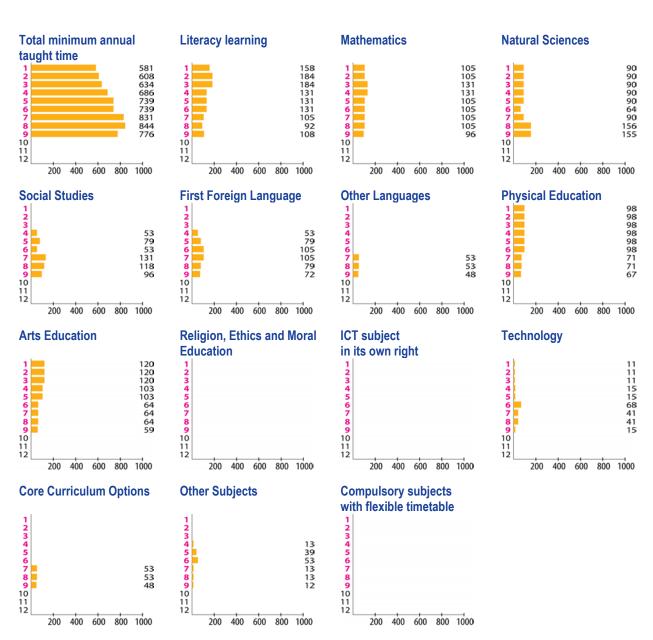
#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

# **SLOVENIA**



#### Note

The taught time indicated in the category 'Natural sciences' for grades 1-3 correspond to an integrated subject called "Environmental education" that includes also Social Studies.

From the school year 2008/09 a second compulsory foreign language is gradually phasing in (in grades 7 to 9). In addition to compulsory subjects, basic schools offer in grades 7-9 compulsory options in the field of social sciences and humanities and in the field of natural sciences and technology. Pupils select two lessons per week, with their parents' approval they may select three hours a week.

The annual compulsory additional learning activities in Arts, Science, Physical education and Technology are also included in the respective timetables. The category 'Other subjects' includes "Home economics" and "Class discussion". During the class discussion periods, pupils discuss issues related to their work and life with their home class teacher.



#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n :

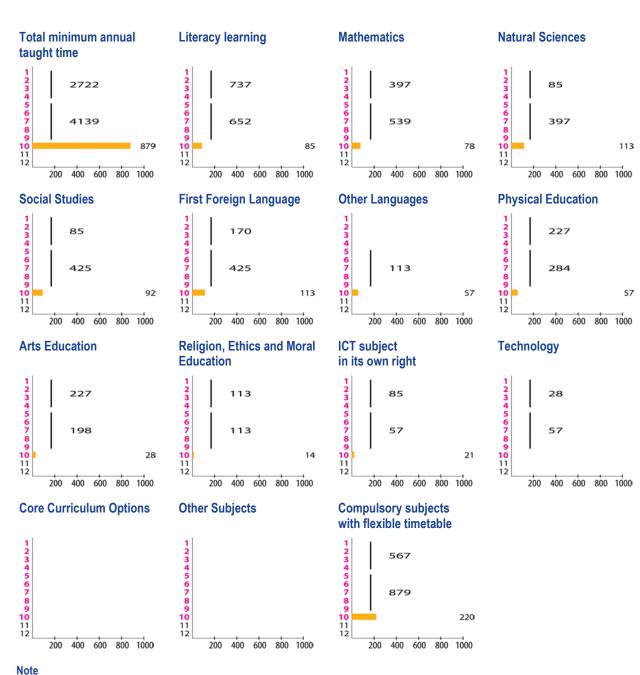
Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

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# **SLOVAKIA**



Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2012/13





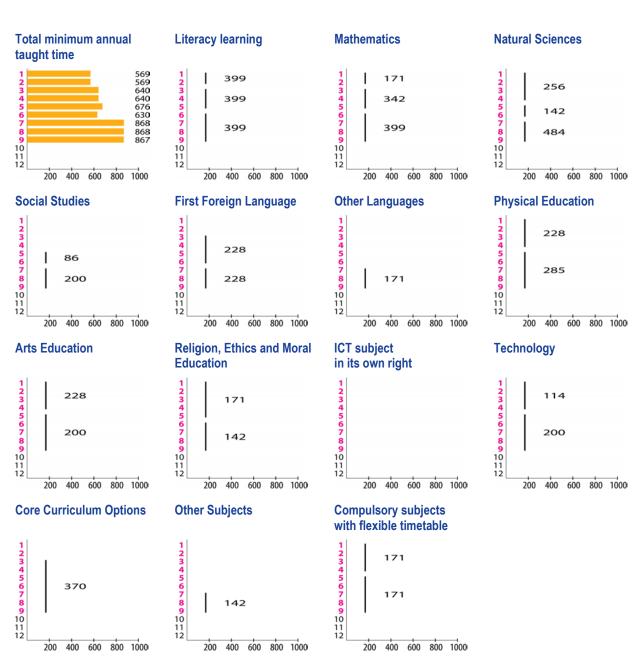
Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: **n** :

Number of hours per school year Grades **Compulsory education** 

Source: Eurydice.

# **FINLAND**



### Note

The indicated values for 'Total annual taught time' are an estimate as the number of hours for each area are not defined per year, but depending on the subject they are allocated over 2-5 years. The education provider can decide subject allocation within the frames given in the Government's decision for distribution of taught time. The local curriculum can be specified in which year for example language teaching begins. First foreign language can be taught even from the first grade.

The category 'Other subjects' includes "Home economics and Educational and vocational guidance".



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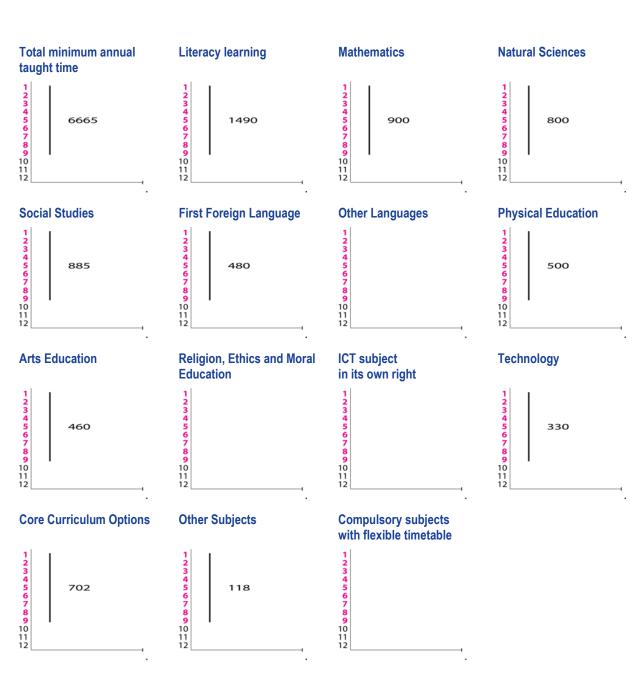
Source: Eurydice.

Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

# SWEDEN



#### Note

The number of hours for a subject or group of subjects given in the timetable may be reduced by at most 20% to accommodate school options. In the category 'Core Curriculum Options' are included "Language Options" (320 hours for grades 1-9), and "Student Options" (382 hours for grades 1-9).

The category 'Other subjects' includes "Home and Consumer studies" and in the category 'Technology' is included the subject "Crafts (Textiles, Wood and Metalwork)". 65 % of all pupils study a second not compulsory Foreign Language, with a total of 320 hours for grades 1-9.



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Source: Eurydice.

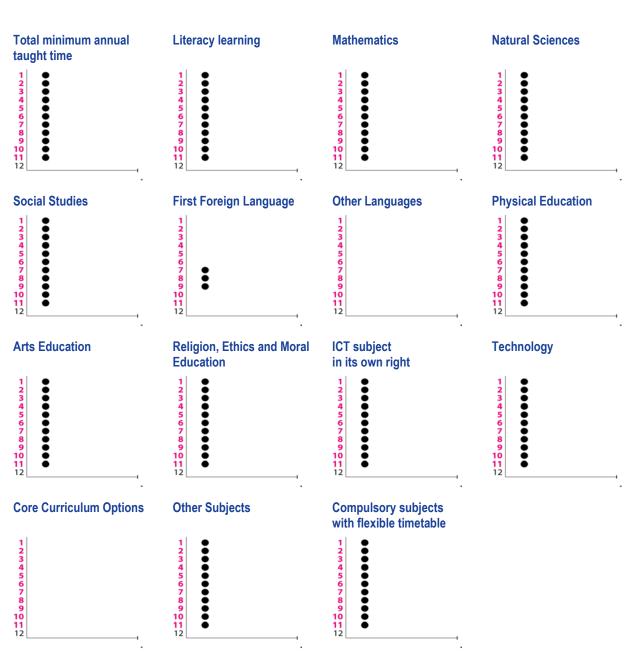
#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n :

Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education





Under the terms of the Education Act 1996, the amount of time to be spent per subject cannot be prescribed. However, schools must allow enough taught time to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum that includes all statutory requirements and, in the case of academies, any curriculum requirements set out in the funding agreement.

Total annual taught time is not available as the Department for Education no longer provides guidance on minimum weekly lesson time. The requirement to provide a school year of 190 days (38 weeks) remains.



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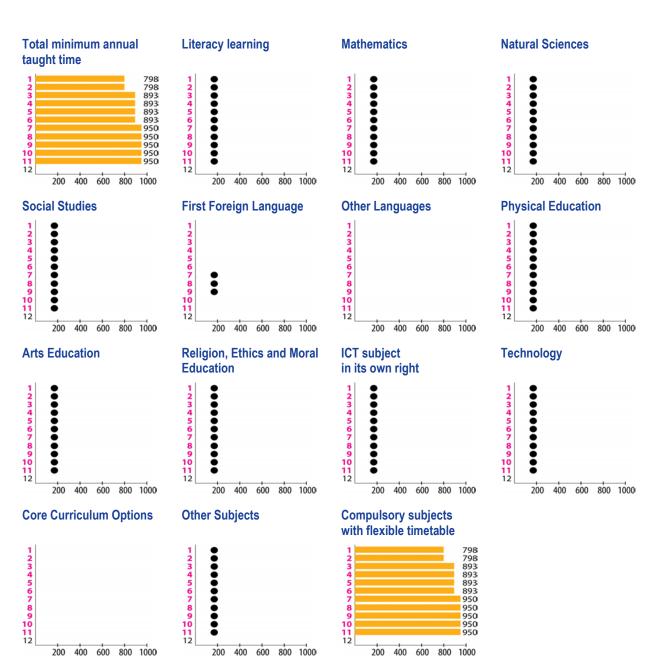
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#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education





Under the terms of the Education Act 1996, the amount of time to be spent per subject cannot be prescribed. However, schools must allow enough taught time to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum that includes all statutory requirements.

Total annual taught time is based on a 190-day (38-week) school year and on the recommended minimum weekly lesson times set out in Welsh Office Management of the School Day Circular 43/90, which are 21 hours for pupils in years 1 and 2, 23.5 hours for pupils in years 3 to 6 and 25 hours for pupils in years 7 to 11. Schools may provide a longer school day than the minimum if they wish.



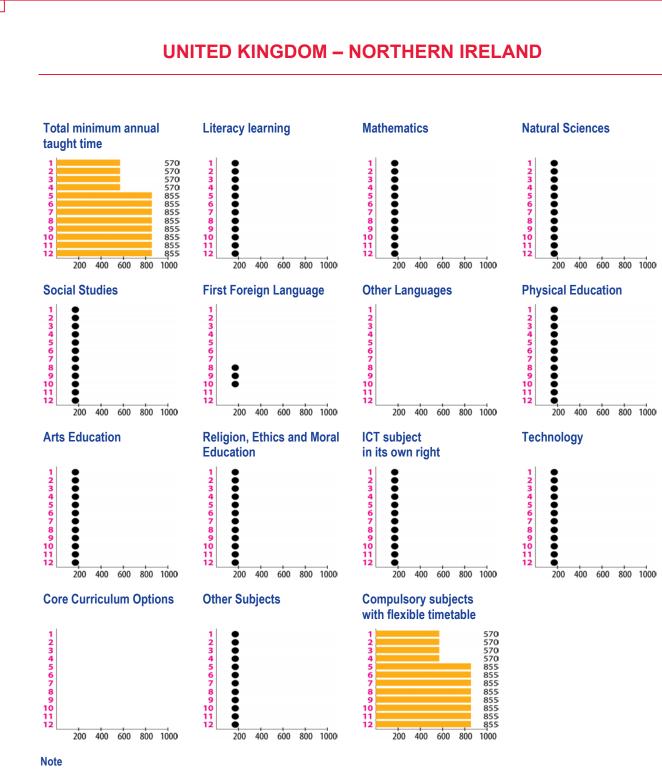
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Source: Eurydice.

#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education



Under the terms of the Education (Northern Ireland) Order 2006, the amount of time to be spent per subject cannot be prescribed. However, schools must allow enough taught time to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum that includes all statutory requirements.

Total annual taught time is based on a 190-day (38-week) school year and on the minimum daily lesson time set by the Department of Education Northern Ireland. Pupils under eight are required to attend school for a minimum of three hours each day, other than for religious education. Those aged eight and over must attend for four and a half hours a day, other than for religious education. Schools may provide a longer school day than the minimum if they wish.



#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

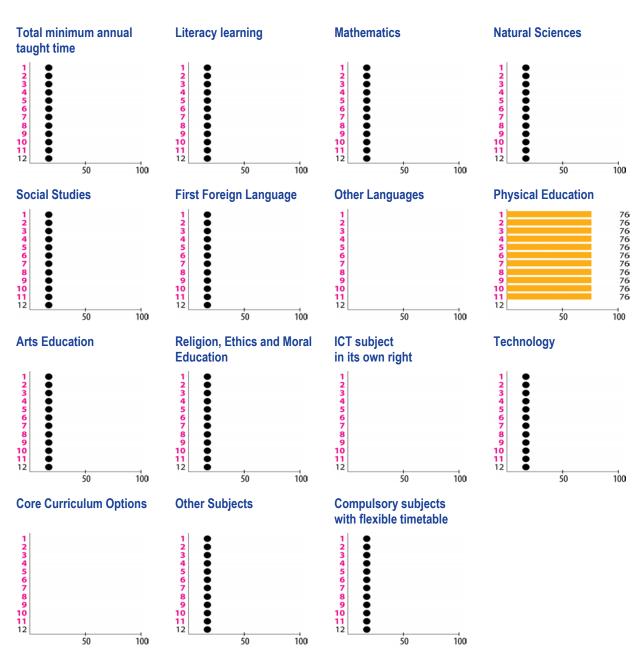
Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

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# **UNITED KINGDOM – SCOTLAND**



#### Note

The Scottish Curriculum for Excellence does not prescribe total annual taught time or taught time by subjects with except a minimum of 2 hours per week for "Physical education". Local Authorities and schools themselves are responsible for agreeing the subjects studied in schools. However, the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, which reflects previous legislation dating back to 1872, imposes a statutory duty on local authorities to provide religious education in Scottish schools. In the case of Religious Education in Roman Catholic Schools – all Catholic schools are expected by the Bishops' Conference of Scotland to follow guidelines established by the Catholic Education Commission on the provision of adequate time for religious education within the school curriculum.



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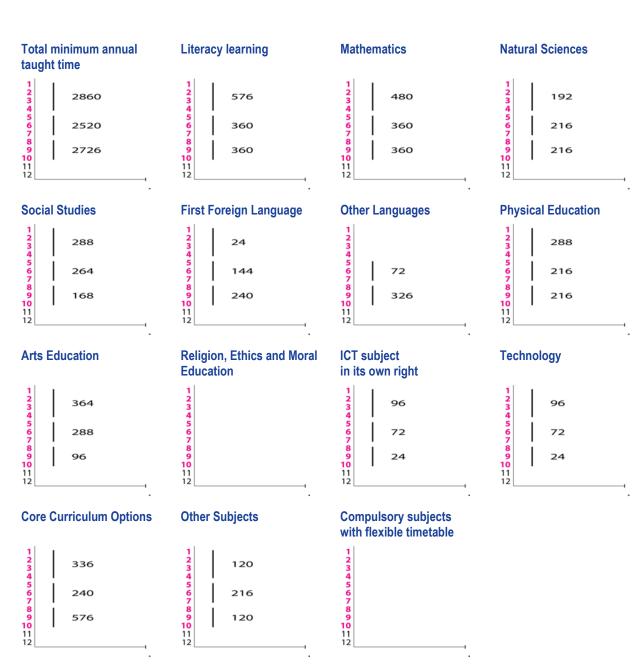
Source: Eurydice.

#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

# **ICELAND**



#### Note

Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2012/13

In grades 8-10, individual schools are intended to determine almost 20% of the total hours of instruction. They are expected to offer pupils in these grades an opportunity to select subjects and subject areas. The contents of study options in grades 8-10 can be divided into three main groups: 1) options intended as direct preparation for study in academic programmes of upper secondary school; 2) options conceived as direct preparation for vocational, artistic or technical study; 3) pupils can select subjects aimed in particular at broadening their horizons or giving pleasure throughout their lives. In the school-year 2010/11, schools offered around 70 subjects and subject areas.



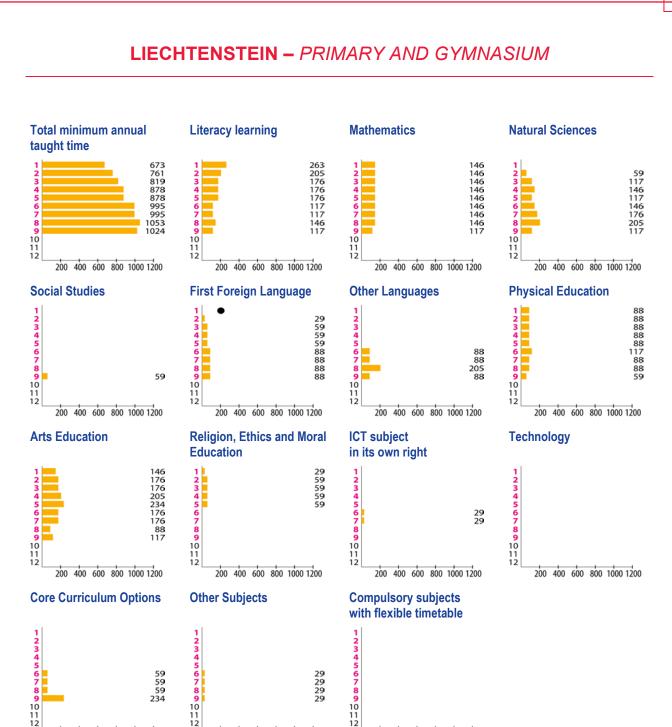
#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.





In 2010 the government decided on the reform of the ninth grade aiming at individualising education based on an analysis of the pupils individual situation. The analysis contains three elements: pupils self-assessment; teachers assessment; parents assessment. Three pathways are offered in the 9th grade with varying compulsory subjects (in brackets): Technics and arts (Arts, Music and geometry); Trade and administration (French, ICT and Economics); Health and social affairs (French, ICT and Music).

200 400 600 800 1000 1200



#### Flexible time

200 400 600 800 1000 1200

Number of hours distributed between various school years

11 12

200 400 600 800 1000 1200

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: **n** :

Number of hours per school year Grades **Compulsory education** 

Source: Eurydice.



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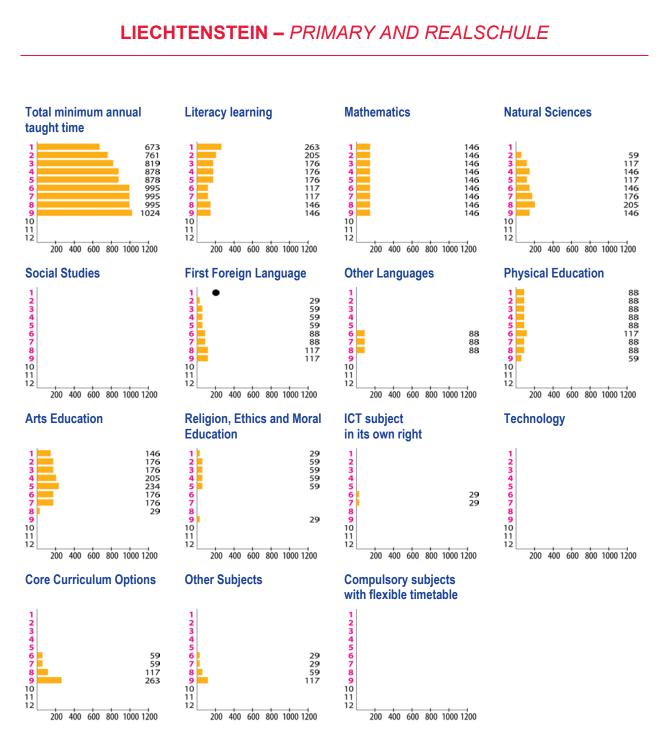


#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.



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#### Flexible time

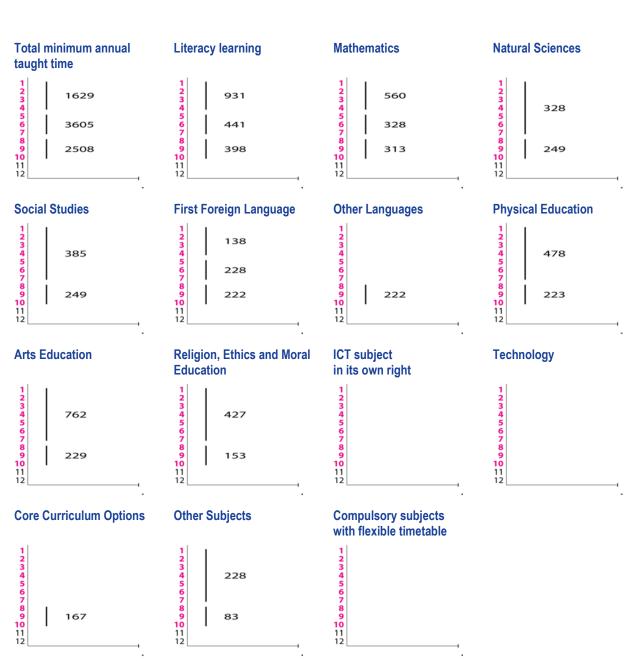
Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n :

Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

# NORWAY



#### Note

The presented taught time is in accordance with the newly introduced New Core Curriculum Options at Grade 8. Second Foreign language in Grades 8-10 covers in-depth studies in languages (Norwegian, English, Sami). The category 'Other subjects' includes the following disciplines: Grades 1-7: "Food and health" (114 hours per year); Grade 5-7: "Physical activity" (76 hours per year); Grade 8-10: "Food and health" (85 hours per year); "Class council and pupils' council" (71 hours per year). Since 2010/11 school year an additional lesson per week is added to the programme for grades 1-7 (Barneskolen). This lesson can be used in a flexible way to reinforce a theme upon a decision of the local authorities. Students in Grades 9 and 10 in 2012-13 are following the old time table. The new core curriculum options now implemented only for Grade 8 will successively be introduced at Grades 9 and 10.



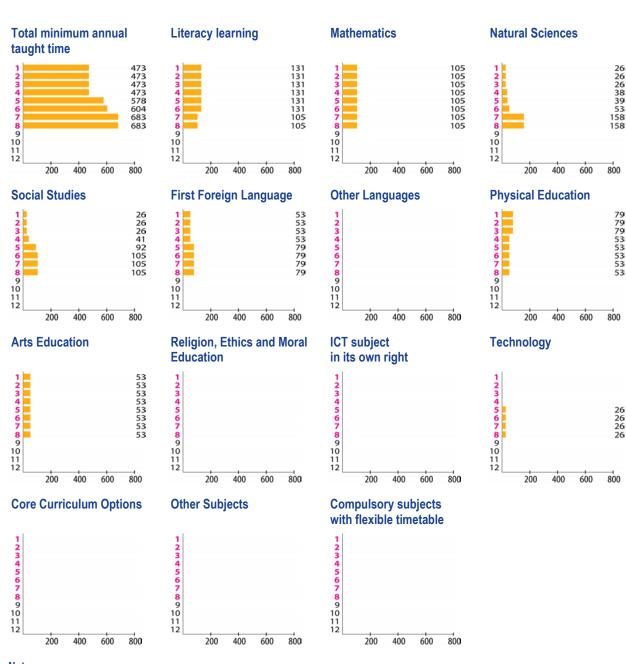
Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

# CROATIA



### Note

The taught time indicated in the categories 'Natural sciences' and 'Social Sciences' for grades 1-4 correspond to an integrated subject called "Nature and society".



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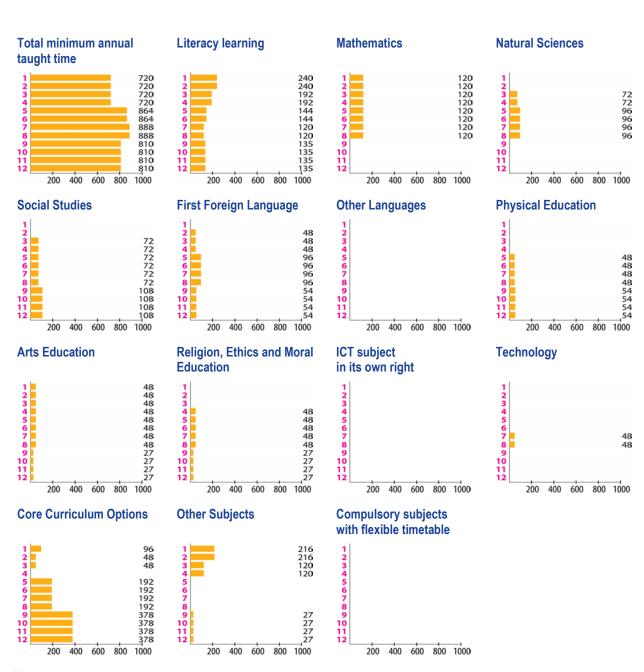
Source: Eurydice.

Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

# TURKEY



#### Note

For the first three grades, there is a course named "Life Studies" taught 4 hours per week. Furthermore, the course "Game and Physical Activities" is taught 5 hours a week. For the fourth grade, there is a course called "Traffic Security" taught once a week, "Game and Physical Activities" taught two hours a week, "Human Rights", "Citizenship and Democracy" taught two hours a week. For the 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades, there is a course called "Guidance" one hour taught a week. Students choose certain fields of study by the 10th grade, some of which are social studies, mathematics and natural sciences. For mathematics and natural sciences, courses are given 4 hours for Algebra, and two hours for Geometry. As for natural sciences, chemistry, physics, and biology are only provided to the students who wish to take them.



#### Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis:

**n** :

Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

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