

Inclusive and accessible

The Slovenian education system is accessible to all. Citizen can enrol on a study programme at any time in their life if they meet the specific enrolment requirements. As long as they hold the status of a student, they have access to the student job market, subsidised meals, transportation and accommodation, as well as health insurance.

Share of tuition fee payers, 2021/2022

Short-cycle higher vocational education

54%
No fee paid



46%
Fee paid

First and second cycle higher education

83%
No fee paid

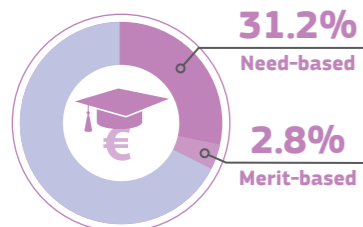


17%
Fee paid

Source: Ministry of Education, Science and Sport.

The gifted and talented students can compete for merit-based scholarships, and students from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds can compete for need-based scholarships. For mobility, both scholarships are portable internationally.

Scholarships, 2021

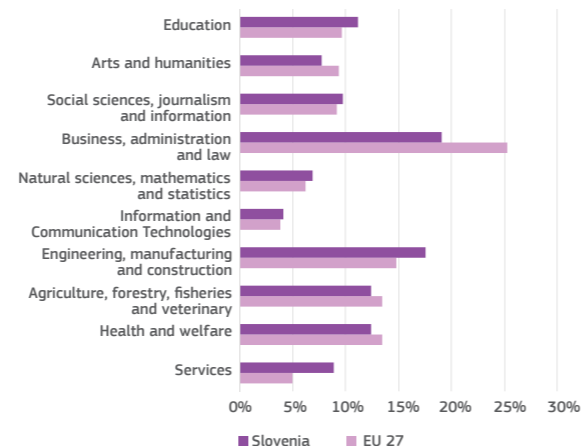


Source: Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities.

International comparison

The share of graduates by field of study does not differ significantly from the EU average (27 states). It is greater in the field of production and construction technology, personal services, and lower in humanities, business, administration and legal studies.

Distribution of tertiary education graduates by broad field of education, 2020



Source: Eurostat. [educ_uoe_grad02].

The public expenditure on tertiary education in 2019 was at 1.02% as a percentage of GDP, below the EU27 average of 1.22%.¹ The public expenditure for tertiary educational institutions per student in 2018 was USD 12.6462 using purchasing power standard, below the OECD average of USD 13.855 and below the EU23 average of USD 14.622. Still, the public expenditure per student at tertiary level was highest of all education levels.²

The Eurostat³ data show a reduction in the student-to-staff ratio. In 2019, there were 14.0 students for every academic staff member or 2.8 students less compared to 2013. The OECD and the EU average 2022 student-to-staff ratio was 15 students.

¹Eurostat. Public expenditure on education by education level and programme orientation - as % of GDP. [educ_uoe_fine06].

²OECD, Education at a Glance 2021, Table C1.2.

³Eurostat. Ratio of pupils and students to teachers and academic staff by education level and programme orientation. [educ_uoe_perp04].



TERTIARY EDUCATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA

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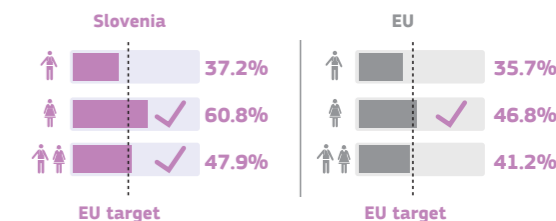
The tertiary education includes short-cycle higher vocational education and higher education. Both subsystems of tertiary education are interrelated and linked by a system of quality assurance, progression from lower to higher levels, and institutional and programme compatibility, in part.

The autonomy of universities and higher education institutions is enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia.

The top objectives of tertiary education are quality, employability and mobility in Europe and the world, fair access, and diversity of institutions and study programmes.

Slovenia exceeded the specific target of the Europe 2030 strategy, namely 45% of 25 to 34-year-olds with tertiary educational qualification. In 2020, the number was at 47.9%.

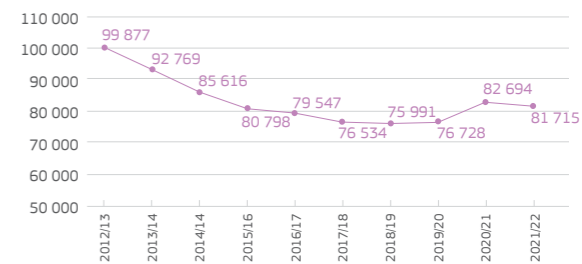
Tertiary educational attainment (age 25-34), 2021



Source: Eurostat, LFS. [eda_lfse_03].

Over half of 19-year-olds pursue tertiary education. The generational cohort continue to decrease since 2010, so students decrease in number, too.

Tertiary education students



Source: Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia.

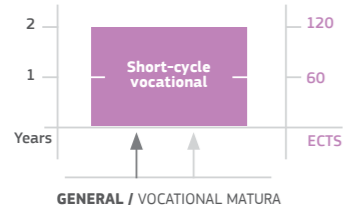
National higher education programme 2030 priorities

Short-cycle higher vocational education

Students pursue the short-cycle higher vocational education at higher vocational colleges.

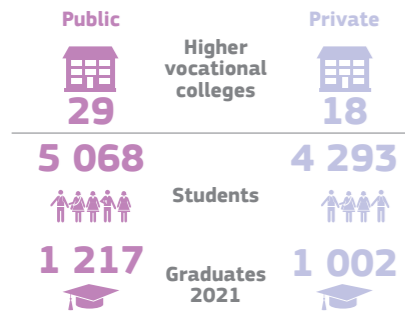
These two-year practice-orientated programmes aim to meet the needs of economy and to equip students with competences by vocational and professional standards.

Study programmes



The graduates learn skills to manage, plan and oversee work processes. The common enrolment requirement is the certificate in vocational or general *matura*.

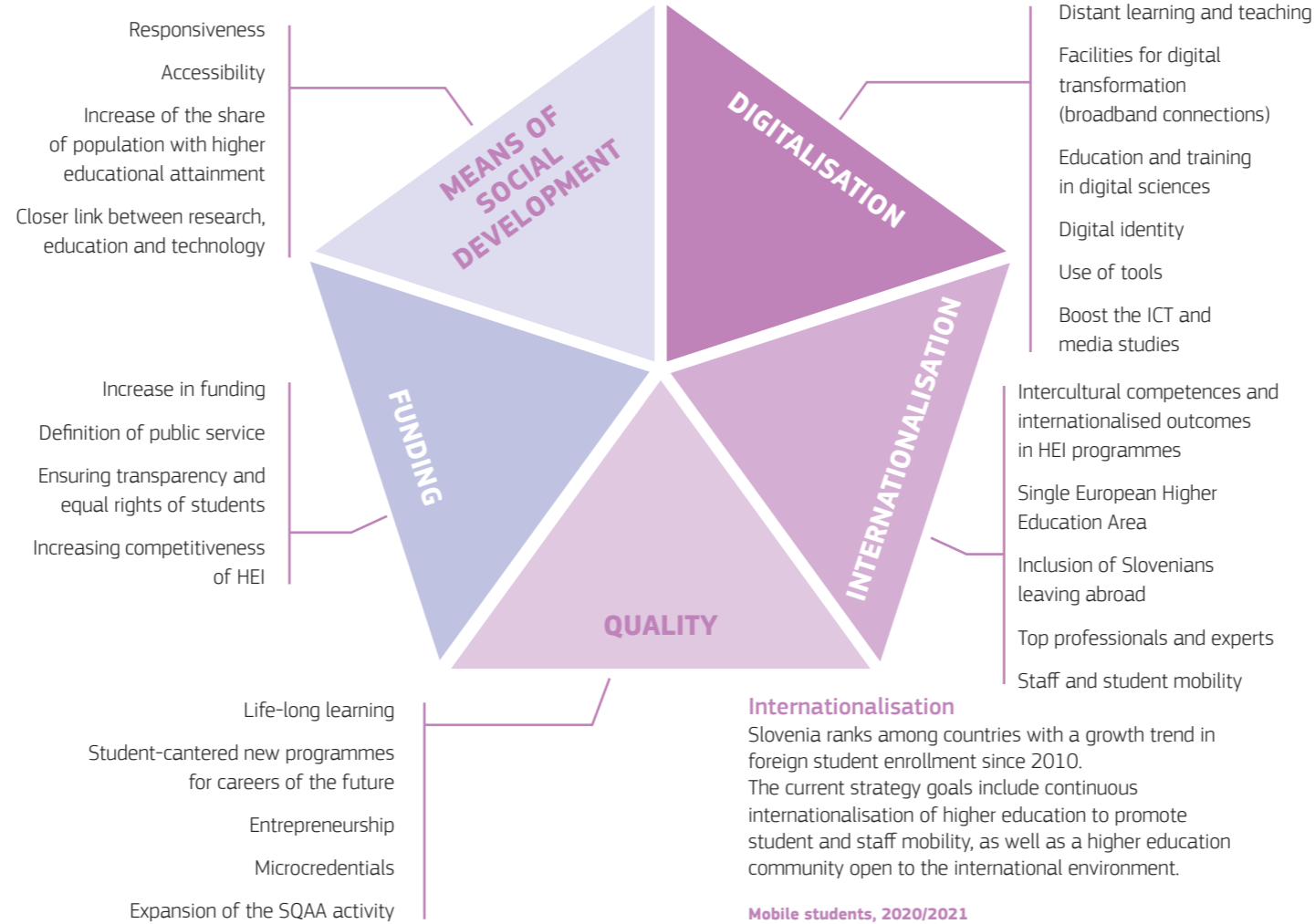
Short-cycle higher vocational education, 2021/2022



Source: Ministry of Education, Science and Sport and Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia.

A significant number of students attend private colleges.

The Strategy of the Republic of Slovenia for short-cycle higher vocational education 2020–2030 foresees the future study programmes as vastly technology-orientated. Alongside the set of digital skills, the strategy pushes for learning of transversal basic skills such as group work, problem solving, conflict resolving, and similar. Equipped with all those skills, the graduates will have better chances for a successful work and life in an environment ever so dominated by artificial intelligence.



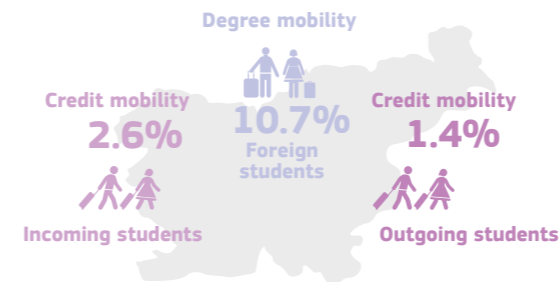
Quality

The Slovenia Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (SQAA) of 2009, since 2013 EQUAR registered (European Register of Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education), is part of the European system of quality assurance in higher education. It supports the quality improvement to the European higher education, promotes mobility of students and facilitates trust between higher education institutions.

Internationalisation

Slovenia ranks among countries with a growth trend in foreign student enrollment since 2010. The current strategy goals include continuous internationalisation of higher education to promote student and staff mobility, as well as a higher education community open to the international environment.

Mobile students, 2020/2021



Source: Ministry of Education, Science and Sport.

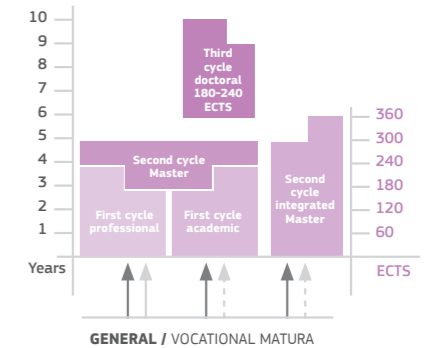
Higher education

Students pursue all three cycles of higher education at universities and independent higher education institutions.

In the first study cycle, students enrol on professional or academic undergraduate study programmes. The second and third study cycle are postgraduate, and include Master's, Integrated Master's, and PhD study programmes respectively.

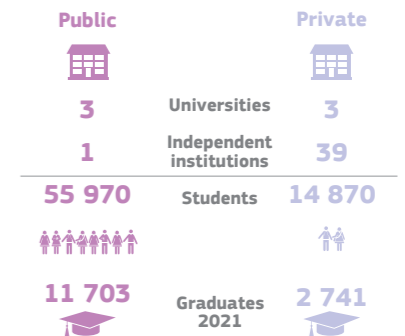
The common enrolment requirement for undergraduate study programmes is the certificate in general *matura*.

Study programmes



In case of a cap on places, the selection criteria extend to include the candidate's *matura* results and learning outcomes of the last two years of upper-secondary school, or even the learning outcomes in specific subjects and/or the results of talent testing.

Higher education, 2021/2022



Source: Ministry of Education, Science and Sport and Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia.