

European Union

Extra-european

Comments

General information on educational system

Information on teachers

	Belgium (fr)	Estonia	France	Germany	Greece	Italy	Slovenia	Spain	Portugal	USA	South Korea	Comments
Rather centralized or decentralized educational system?	decentralized	decentralized	centralized	decentralized	centralized	decentralized	decentralized	decentralized	centralized	decentralized	decentralized	
At what age does full-time compulsory education/training start?	5 years old	7 years old	3 years old	6 years old	4 years old	6 years old	6 years old	6 years old	6 years old	from 5 to 8 years old	6 years old	Full-time compulsory education/training refers to a period of full-time education/training that is regulated by law as compulsory for all students. This period is often determined by students' age. Usually, full-time compulsory education/training is provided in educational institutions/schools. In addition, some systems apply a dual education system, where certain compulsory education/training programmes combine part-time school and workplace courses. In such cases, students are assessed for the work they do in both places.
Until what age is full-time education/training mandatory?	15 years old* (*from 15 to 18 no longer full-time compulsory education but part-time schooling with part-time employment possible)	16-17 years old* (*The obligation to attend schools lasts until basic education is acquired or until a student attains 17 years of age.)	16 years old* (*from 16-18 no longer compulsory education but compulsory training "obligation à la formation")	from 15 to 16 years old* (* then from 15/16 to 18/19 part-time schooling mandatory)	15 years old	16 years old	15 years old	16 years old	18 years old	from 16 to 18 years old	15 years old	USA : 16 years old (15 states) 17 years old (11 states) 18 years old (24 states and the District of Columbia)
Duration of full-time compulsory education	13 years in total	10 years in total	13 years in total	9 - 10 years in total of full-time schooling	11 years in total	10 years in total	9 years in total	10 years in total	12 years in total	from 8 to 13 years in total	9 years in total	
How many schools does a European pupil have to attend during its compulsory education?	4 schools	1 or 2 schools	4 schools	2 schools* (*for the general pathway "Grundschule" + "Gymnasium" more in the training pathway)	3 schools	3 schools	1 unique school	2 schools	2 schools	3 schools	2 schools	
Name of secondary school final exam/diploma	Certificat d'Enseignement Supérieur (CES)	no data available	Baccalauréat	Abitur	Panhellenic examination	Esame di stato	Matura	Bachillerato	Diploma de Ensino Secundário	High School Diploma	Suneung (rather competitive entrance examination to university)	
Start and end of a school year in general education (for the primary and general secondary school, based on 2022-2023)	beginning of september - end of june	beginning of september - mid june	beginning of september - beginning of july	beginning of August/ mid september - mid/end of july* (*very significantly according to the regions)	mid september - mid june	beginning/mid september - beginning/mid june* (*very significantly according to the regions)	beginning of september - end of june	beginning/mid september - mid/end of june* (*very significantly according to the regions)	mid september - mid june	mid august/beginning september - early/mid june	beginning march - end of january	
Approximate number of school days in a school year (based on 2019/2020)	182 days	177 days	163 days in primary school and lower secondary school (collège) - 180 days in upper secondary school (lycée)	186 days	173 days in primary school - 184 in secondary school	200 days	189 days in primary school - 181 days in lower secondary school (collège) - 185 days in upper secondary school (lycée)	175 days	161-173 days* (*according to schools first day)	from 160 to 180 days (majority of states required 180)	220 days* (*pupils have school from Monday to Saturday, 2 Saturdays off per month)	INFO : most common range of number of school days is between 170 and 190 across Europe
Approximate number of holiday weeks in a school year (based on 2022/2023)	11 weeks	14 weeks	16 weeks	12 weeks	15 weeks	14 weeks	from 12 to 16 weeks	14 weeks	15-16 weeks	16 weeks	11 weeks	
The minimal qualification of general education staff (primary and secondary school)	bachelor degree (CTE 6) required for primary school and lower secondary school (collège), master degree (CTE 7) for upper secondary school (lycée)	master degree (CTE 7) for both primary school and secondary school	master degree (CTE 7) is required to teach in both	master degree (CTE 7) for both primary school and secondary school	bachelor degree (CTE 6) is required to teach in both	master degree (CTE 7) for both primary school and secondary school	master degree (CTE 7) for both primary school and secondary school	bachelor degree (CTE 6) required for primary school, master degree (CTE 7) for secondary school	master degree (CTE 7) for both primary school and secondary school	bachelor degree + one-year Postgraduate Certificate in Education (CTE 6) is required to teach in both	bachelor degree (CTE 6) is required to teach in both	
Average annual gross statutory salaries for teachers entering the profession in euros (full-time, fully qualified, in public schools, in 2020-2022)	Pre-primary education (ISCED 02): 28 134 (€ 344,5/month) Primary education (ISCED 1): 28 134 General lower secondary education (ISCED 2A): 28 134 General upper secondary education (ISCED 3A): 34 977 (€ 314,75/month)	Pre-primary education (ISCED 02): 15 156 (€ 1 263/month) Primary education (ISCED 1): 19 607 (€ 634/month) General lower secondary education (ISCED 2A): 19 607 (€ 634/month) General upper secondary education (ISCED 3A): 19 607 (€ 634/month)	Pre-primary education (ISCED 02): 24 563 (€ 2 046,9/month) Primary education (ISCED 1): 24 563 General lower secondary education (ISCED 2A): 26 889 (€ 2 240,75/month) General upper secondary education (ISCED 3A): 26 889 *Salaries are weighted averages of the data available at regional level (Länder).	Pre-primary education (ISCED 02): data not available Primary education (ISCED 1): 50 357 (€ 1 964,6/month) General lower secondary education (ISCED 2A): 55 371 (€ 664,25/month) General upper secondary education (ISCED 3A): 58 541 (€ 879,4/month)	Pre-primary education (ISCED 02): 15 435 (€ 286,25/month) Primary education (ISCED 1): 15 435 General lower secondary education (ISCED 2A): 15 435 General upper secondary education (ISCED 3A): 15 435	Pre-primary education (ISCED 02): 23 601 (€ 966,75/month) Primary education (ISCED 1): 23 601 General lower secondary education (ISCED 2A): 25 366 (€ 1 118/month) General upper secondary education (ISCED 3A): 25 366	Pre-primary education (ISCED 02): 22 298 (€ 858/month) Primary education (ISCED 1): 27 426 (€ 2 282,5/month) General lower secondary education (ISCED 2A): 27 938 (€ 2 326,5/month) General upper secondary education (ISCED 3A): 29 409 (€ 450,75/month)	Pre-primary education (ISCED 02): 31 603 (€ 2 633,5/month) Primary education (ISCED 1): 31 603 General lower secondary education (ISCED 2A): 35 308 (€ 2 942/month) General upper secondary education (ISCED 3A): 35 308	Pre-primary education (ISCED 02): 53 863 (€ 2 821,5/month) Primary education (ISCED 1): 30 881 (€ 1 371/month) General lower secondary education (ISCED 2A): 30 078 (€ 2 506,5/month) General upper secondary education (ISCED 3A): 32 656 (€ 2 711/month)	Pre-primary education (ISCED 02): 41 427 USD (37 926 EUR) Primary education (ISCED 1): 45 762 USD (38 233 EUR) General lower secondary education (ISCED 2A): 42 488 USD (38 898 EUR) General upper secondary education (ISCED 3A): 42 461 USD (38 873 EUR)	Pre-primary education (ISCED 02): 33 477 USD (30 649 EUR) Primary education (ISCED 1): 33 477 USD (30 649 EUR) General lower secondary education (ISCED 2A): 33 529 USD (30 705 EUR) General upper secondary education (ISCED 3A): 32 800 USD (30 029 EUR)	
Potential salary increase	Significant increase in the first 15 years (an increase of at least 60% over the whole career and at least 40% in the first 15 years).	no data available	Significant increase over a long period: an increase of at least 60% over the whole career and less than 40% in the first 15 years.	Modest increase over time but the average number of years to reach the salary at the top of the range is not available.	Significant increase over a long period: an increase of at least 60% over the whole career and less than 40% in the first 15 years.	Modest increase over a long period: an increase of less than 50% over the whole career and within a minimum of 12 years.	Significant increase in the first 15 years (an increase of at least 60% over the whole career and at least 40% in the first 15 years).	Modest increase over time : teachers need 39 years of service for an increase of 42% of their salaries	Significant increase over a long period: an increase of at least 60% over the whole career and less than 40% in the first 15 years.	no data available	no data available	