Nordic Education

– Key Data

2012

Nordic Education Key Data 2012

ANP 2012:733

Nordic Education – Key Data 2012

ISBN 978-92-893-2367-3

DOI <http://dx.doi.org/10.6027/ANP2012-733>

ANP 2012:733

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Cover design: Jette Koefoed

Photos: ImageSelect

Print: Scanprint, Viby

Copies: 2 000

Printed in Denmark

Main suppliers of data: Nordic database, OECD, Eurostat.

Editor: Klaus Munch Haagenzen, Statistics Denmark.

Nordic Council of Ministers

Ved Stranden 18

DK-1061 Copenhagen K

Telefon: +45 3396 0200

The Nordic Council

Ved Stranden 18

DK-1061 Copenhagen K

Telefon: +45 3396 0400

www.norden.org

Nordic co-operation

Nordic co-operation is one of the world's most extensive forms of regional collaboration, involving Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, and the Faroe Islands, Greenland, and Åland.

Nordic co-operation has firm traditions in politics, the economy, and culture. It plays an important role in European and international collaboration, and aims at creating a strong Nordic community in a strong Europe.

Nordic co-operation seeks to safeguard Nordic and regional interests and principles in the global community. Common Nordic values help the region solidify its position as one of the world's most innovative and competitive.

Preface

This is the second edition of a booklet, which was published for the first time in 2010, entitled “The Nordic Countries in Educational Key Figures 2010”. Like its predecessor, this edition “Nordic Education – Key Data 2012”, contains up-to-date tables and diagrams on Nordic education. The booklet has been prepared for everyone interested in Nordic Education statistics, both inside and outside the Nordic region.

The Nordic figures are in most tables and diagrams compared with a number of other countries to achieve a global perspective of education in the Nordic countries. Since the Nordic region is a part of Europe, the EU is a natural and important entity with which to compare figures. The Netherlands has been selected owing to its many similarities with the Nordic countries as regards both size and structure of the welfare state. Asia is represented by Korea and Japan because they both rank among the top ten in all Pisa studies. The OECD represents many of the industrialized countries, while the United States has been chosen since it is often used for benchmarking in similar studies.

The booklet has been prepared by Statistics Denmark and is published by the Nordic Council of Ministers.

The booklet, together with the underlying statistical material, is also available at the website www.norden.org/publications

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Throughout the book the following symbols and country codes are used:

Symbols

Nil	-
Less than half	0
Not applicable	.
Data not available	..

Country codes

Denmark: DK	Iceland: IS
Faroe Islands: FO	Norway: NO
Greenland: GL	Sweden: SE
Finland: FI	Korea: KO
Åland: AX	Netherlands: NL
Japan: JP	USA: USA

EU-21: Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, the Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

EU-27: The 27 member states of the European Union.

To describe the different countries in the figures the following colours are used:

Denmark:		Iceland:		Netherlands:
Faroe Islands:		Norway:		Japan:
Greenland:		Sweden:		USA:
Finland:		EU:		OECD:
Åland:		Korea:

<i>English</i>	<i>Swedish</i>	<i>Finnish</i>
Day care / pre-school		
Day care / pre-school	Förskola	Päiväkoti
Primary level		
Basic school	Grundskola	Perusopetus
- Pre-school class	- Förskoleklass	Esiopetus
- Primary school	- Lågstadiet	.
- Lower secondary	- Högstadiet	.
Upper secondary level		
Upper secondary	Gymnasium	Lukio
- General	- Generell	- Yleinen
- Vocational	- Yrkesförberedande program	- Ammatillinen
Tertiary level		
Higher education	Universitet och högskola	Korkea-aste
Adult education		
Adult education	Vuxenutbildning	Aikuiskoulutus

Summary

Children, pupils and students by level of education. 2010

	DK	FI	IS	NO	SE
<i>1 000 persons</i>					
<i>Day care</i>					
Total	321	180	20	277	476
0–2 years	129	50	8	101	158
3–5 years	192	131	13	175	318
<i>Primary education</i>					
Total	116	71	4	65	256
Men	61	37	2	34	119
Women	55	34	2	32	137
<i>Upper secondary education</i>					
Total	247	392	26	266	564
Men	126	189	13	141	267
Women	121	203	13	126	296
<i>Tertiary education</i>					
Total	204	308	19	226	469
Men	86	142	7	89	192
Women	119	166	12	137	277

Source: Nordic database. Day care: Iceland 2009 data. Education: Sweden 2008 data.

Children in day care in the age group 0–2 years

Source: Nordic database.

Children in day care in the age group 3–5 years

Source: Nordic database.

Children in day care. 2010

	Age group 0–2 years	Age group 3–5 years
<i>Per cent of age group</i>		
Denmark	66.4	97.5
Faroe Islands	63.0	92.7
Finland	27.2	73.3
Åland	24.1	90.3
Iceland	54.5	95.2
Norway	54.7	97.0
Sweden	46.8	98.2
Netherlands	55.9	67.1
EU-27	28.0	83.0
USA	31.4	55.7
Korea	37.7	79.8
Japan	28.3	90.0
OECD	30.1	77.3

Source: Nordic database, OECD and Eurostat. Åland, Iceland and Japan 2009 data.
Netherlands, USA, Korea and OECD: 2008 data.

Number of pupils in basic school.

	Primary			Lower secondary		
<i>1 000 persons</i>	2000	2005	2009	2000	2005	2009
Denmark	384	414	407	207	234	248
Finland	388	382	351	198	201	199
Iceland	31	31	30	12	14	14
Norway	420	430	427	158	186	189
Sweden	776	719	666	355	419	382
Netherlands	1 279	1 278	1 290	756	789	761
EU-27	31 148	28 845	28 082	22 723	23 397	22 066
United States	24 973	24 455	24 586	12 336	13 166	12 734
Japan	7 529	7 232	7 156	4 264	3 689	3 629

Source: Eurostat.

Population projection – children in school age (5–14 years)

Source: Nordic database.

Pupils in private primary school

Source: OECD

Pupils in public and private basic school. 2009

	DK	FI	IS	NO	SE	KO	JP	USA
<i>Per cent</i>								
Primary school								
Public	86.5	98.6	98.1	97.7	92.4	98.6	98.9	90.2
Private	13.5	1.4	1.9	2.3	7.6	1.4	1.1	9.8
Lower secondary school								
Public	74.2	95.6	99.2	96.9	89.7	81.6	92.8	90.9
Private	25.8	4.4	0.8	3.1	10.3	18.4	7.2	9.1

Source: OECD.

Average number of pupils per classroom. 2009

Source: OECD. Norway: 2001 data. Sweden: Data not available.

Ratio of pupils to teacher staff, 2009

Number of pupils per teacher in full time equivalents

	Primary school	Lower secondary school
<i>Persons</i>		
Denmark	..	9.9
Finland	13.6	10.1
Iceland	..	9.9
Norway	10.7	9.9
Sweden	12.1	11.3
Netherlands	15.8	..
EU-21	14.5	11.5
USA	14.8	14.3
Korea	22.5	19.9
Japan	18.6	14.5
OECD	16.0	13.5

Source: OECD.

Teacher salary after 15 years of experience in lower secondary school, 2009

Source: OECD.

Note: The currency is converted from national currencies to USD in Purchasing Power Parities (PPP) to eliminate the impact of differences in price levels among the countries.

Teachers' working time, primary school. 2009

Source: OECD

Teachers' working time, primary school. 2009

	Average hours per year	Net hours spent teaching	Per cent spent teaching
Denmark	1 680	648	39
Finland	..	677	..
Iceland	1 800	609	34
Norway	1 688	741	44
Sweden	1 767	..	..
Netherlands	1 659	930	56
EU-21	1 913	1 097	57
USA	1 601	763	48
Korea	1 680	836	50
Japan	1 899	707	37
OECD	1 659	779	47

Source: OECD.

Basic school/Upper secondary: general and vocational

Instruction in reading, writing and literature, 12–14 year-olds. 2009

Source: OECD.

Students in upper secondary education, by orientation. 2009

Source: OECD.

Students at upper secondary level. 2010

	DK	FI	IS	NO	SE
Total, 1000s	247	392	26	266	564
% Men	50.9	48.2	50.1	52.8	47.4
% Women	49.1	51.8	49.9	47.2	52.6
	<i>Per cent</i>				
Total	100	100	100	100	100
General programmes	34.6	28.5	64.8	39.2	26.9
Social science, business and law	24.0	12.9	1.5	7.5	3.7
Engineering, manufacturing and construction	23.8	22.9	13.0	21.9	17.0
Health and social services	7.0	11.2	3.6	9.6	5.2
Services and defence	5.9	14.6	7.9	10.6	2.7
Other (incl. not specified)	4.7	9.8	9.2	11.1	44.6

Source: Nordic database. Sweden. 2009 data.

Students at upper secondary level. 2010

Source: Nordic database. Sweden: 2009 data

Students at upper secondary level

Source: Nordic database.

Graduation rates, upper secondary level. 2009

Source: OECD.

Note: Graduation rates: The percentage of the population in the typical age cohort for upper secondary education that successfully completes upper secondary programmes.

Source: OECD

$$\sin^2 \alpha + \cos^2 \alpha = 1$$

Early leavers from education and training

Source: Eurostat

Denmark: Break in time series 2007. Norway: Break in time series 2006. Sweden: Break in time series 2001.

Higher education

Students at tertiary level. 2010

	DK	FI	IS	NO	SE
Total, 1000s	204	308	19	226	469
% Men	41.9	46.0	37.7	39.5	40.9
% Women	58.1	54.0	62.3	60.5	59.1
<i>Per cent</i>					
Total	100	100	100	100	100
Teacher training, education and science	10.0	5.0	14.7	14.8	12.9
Arts, humanities and religion	16.6	14.1	14.7	10.5	13.6
Social science, business and law	26.3	23.0	36.0	32.3	27.5
Engineering, manufacturing and construction	10.6	23.9	9.3	8.1	16.9
Health and social services	23.7	16.2	13.3	19.4	16.9
Other (incl. not specified)	12.8	17.7	12.0	14.8	12.3

Students at tertiary level. 2010

Source: Nordic database. Sweden: 2009 data

Students at tertiary level

Source: Nordic database.

Women studying at tertiary level

Source: Nordic database

Men studying at tertiary level

Source: Nordic database.

Graduates from tertiary level

Source: Nordic database.

Graduation rates at tertiary level

Source: OECD.

Note: Graduation rates: The percentage of the population in the typical age cohort for tertiary education that successfully completes tertiary programmes.

Nordic students in the other Nordic countries by type of study. 2010/11

Source: Kela – The Social Insurance Institution of Finland.

Note: All data related to students abroad is limited to students registered as receiving financial support for studies abroad. Covers full-time students taking exams abroad.

Nordic students in the other Nordic countries. 2010/11

By country of study

*Source: Nordic database.****Nordic students in the other Nordic countries. 2010/11***

Students from	DK	FI	IS	NO	SE	Nordic
Total	614	1 178	1 307	4 087	3 121	10 307
Denmark	.	133	1 058	2 938	2 117	6 246
Finland	16	.	3	37	215	271
Iceland	46	13	.	34	26	119
Norway	189	76	66	.	763	1 094
Sweden	363	956	180	1 078	.	2 577

Source: Nordic database.

Note: Data limited to students registered as receiving financial support for studies abroad. Covers full-time students taking exams abroad.

Students abroad

Nordic students abroad. 2010/11

Students from	DK	FI	IS	NO	SE	Nordic
Total	3 385	5 457	2 406	15 169	21 705	48 122
<i>Country of study:</i>						
Nordic total	614	1 178	1 307	4 087	3 121	10 307
Baltic countries	2	558	3	82	165	810
France	69	101	23	322	832	1 347
Germany	198	263	61	207	656	1 385
Great Britain	1 478	1 777	247	3 552	4 484	11 538
Netherlands	126	215	100	361	241	1 043
Spain	71	113	49	189	1 174	1 596
Hungary	9	21	77	751	428	1 286
Poland	21	16	4	1 383	1 100	2 524
Other Europe	125	395	105	989	2 038	3 652
USA, Canada and other America	343	416	381	1 472	4 583	7 195
Asia	15	94	17	163	1 384	1 673
Australia, New Zealand and other Oceania	131	159	29	1 511	1 354	3 184
Other	183	151	3	100	145	582

Source: Nordic database.

Nordic students abroad. 2010/11

Source: Nordic database.

Attained level of education. Population aged 15–74. 2011

	Total <i>(ISCED</i> 1–6)	Primary level <i>(ISCED</i> 1–2)	Secondary level <i>(ISCED</i> 3–4)	Tertiary level <i>(ISCED</i> 5–6)	Level not specified or unknown
<i>Per cent</i>					
<i>Total</i>					
Denmark	100	30.5	40.4	25.3	3.8
Finland	100	29.0	41.7	29.4	0.0
Åland	100	37.4	39.3	23.3	0.0
Iceland	100	38.3	35.5	26.0	0.3
Norway	100	26.0	40.1	27.6	6.3
Sweden	100	21.3	50.3	26.3	2.1
<i>Men</i>					
Denmark	100	30.6	43.0	22.5	3.9
Finland	100	31.0	43.8	25.3	0.0
Åland	100	39.5	38.4	22.2	0.0
Iceland	100	35.6	42.1	22.0	0.4
Norway	100	26.4	42.3	24.6	6.8
Sweden	100	23.0	52.6	22.1	2.3
<i>Women</i>					
Denmark	100	30.4	37.8	28.2	3.6
Finland	100	27.0	39.5	33.6	0.0
Åland	100	35.2	40.3	24.5	0.0
Iceland	100	41.0	28.7	30.1	0.3
Norway	100	25.6	37.8	30.8	5.9
Sweden	100	19.6	47.9	30.6	1.9

Source: Nordic database. Finland, Åland and Norway: 2010 data.

Attained education

Attained level of education. Population aged 25–64. 2009

Source: OECD

Tertiary level attained. Population aged 30–34

Source: Eurostat

Attained education. Population aged 25–64 years

	Primary Level			Upper secondary level			Tertiary level		
	2000	2005	2009	2000	2005	2009	2000	2005	2009
<i>Per cent</i>									
Denmark	21	19	24	52	47	42	26	34	34
Finland	27	21	18	41	44	45	32	35	37
Iceland	45	37	34	32	32	33	23	31	33
Norway	15	23	19	15	23	19	28	33	37
Sweden	22	16	14	47	54	53	30	30	33
Netherlands	35	28	27	41	42	41	23	30	33
EU-21	36	29	25	45	48	48	19	24	27
USA	13	12	11	51	48	47	36	39	41
Korea	32	24	20	44	44	41	24	32	39
Japan	17	..	..	49	60	56	34	40	44
OECD	36	30	27	43	44	44	22	27	30

Source: OECD.

Adult education

Participation in formal or non-formal education after leaving initial education. 2007

Source: Eurostat.

Participation in formal or non-formal education after leaving initial education, by attained education. 2007

Source: Eurostat.

Public expenditure on education

Source: OECD

Expenditure on educational institutions. 2008

Source: OECD

Note: Norway: Government expenditure only

Expenditure in the education system

Annual expenditure by student. 2008

Primary education

Secondary education

Tertiary education

Source: OECD

Note: The currency is converted from national currencies to USD in Purchasing Power Parities (PPP) to eliminate the impact of differences in price levels among the countries.

Expenditure on educational institutions by financing source. 2008

Source: OECD.

The nordic education systems

The Danish education system

Source: The Danish Ministry of Education

¹ International Standard classification of Education. In Denmark the ISCED-level 4 only consist of a small number of preparatory programmes

² In Denmark there is a ten-year compulsory education. The 10th form is an offer to pupils who have completed the compulsory education.

³ The broken line indicates that not all professional bachelor education programmes give direct access to the masters programmes (candidatus).

⁴ An individual basic vocational education and training programme.

The Finnish education system

ISCED-
classification

Source: Ministry of Education and Culture, Finland

ISCED-classification 1997

0 Pre primary education	4 Post-secondary non-tertiary education
1-2 Primary education or lower secondary education	5 First stage of tertiary education
3 Upper secondary education	6 Second stage of tertiary education

The Icelandic education system

Source: Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, Iceland.

→ = Open access

→ = Access to specific programs

There are four levels of education in Iceland; pre-primary schools, compulsory (single structure - primary and lower secondary education), upper and higher education.

The Norwegian education system

The nordic education systems

The Swedish education system

Source: Based on European Commission, *Structures of education and training systems in Europe. Sweden. 2009/10 Edition* and Swedish National Agency for Higher Education.

¹ International Standard classification of Education

² No institutional distinction between ISCED 1 and 2.

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