

TYPICAL GRADUATION AGES

The typical graduation age is the age at the end of the last school/academic year of the corresponding level and programme when the degree is obtained. The typical age is based on the assumption of full-time attendance in the regular education system without grade repetition. (Note that at some levels of education the term “graduation age” may not translate literally and is used here purely as a convention.)

Table X1.1a
Typical graduation ages in upper secondary education

		Programme orientation		Educational/labour market destination			
		General programmes	Pre-vocational or vocational programmes	ISCED 3A programmes	ISCED 3B programmes	ISCED 3C short programmes ¹	ISCED 3C long programmes ¹
OECD COUNTRIES	Australia	m	m	17	m	m	m
	Belgium	18	18	18	a	18	18
	Czech Republic	18	18	18	18	a	17
	Denmark	19-20	19-20	19-20	a	a	19-20
	Finland	19	19	19	a	a	a
	France	18-19	17-20	18-19	19-20	17-20	18-21
	Germany	19	19	19	19	a	a
	Greece	18	17-18	18	a	a	17-18
	Hungary	18-20	16-17	18-20	20-22	16-17	18
	Iceland	19	19	19	18	17	19
	Ireland	18	18	18	a	a	18
	Italy	19	19	19	19	17	a
	Japan	18	16-18	18	18	16	16
	Korea	17-18	17-18	17-18	a	a	17-18
	Luxembourg	19	17-19	17-19	19	n	17-19
	Mexico	18	19	18	a	19	19
	Netherlands	17-18	18-20	17-18	a	a	18-20
	New Zealand	m	m	18	17	17	17
	Norway	18-19	18-19	18-19	a	18-19	16-18
	Poland	19	20	19-20	a	18	a
Slovak Republic	18	16-18	18	a	17	16	
Spain	17	15-17	17	a	15-17	17	
Sweden	19	19	19	a	a	19	
Switzerland	m	m	18-20	18-20	17-19	17-19	
Turkey	16	16	16	a	a	m	
United States	18	a	18	a	a	a	
Argentina	17	17	17	a	a	a	
Brazil	17	17	17	17	a	17	
Chile	18	18	18	18	a	a	
China	18	18	18	a	17-18	18	
Egypt ²	17	17	17	17	a	17	
India	18	18	18	a	m	m	
Indonesia	18	18-19	18	18	a	a	
Israel	18	18	18	18	18	18	
Jamaica	17	17	17	17	a	a	
Jordan ²	18	18	18	a	18	18	
Malaysia ³	17-19	17	19	a	a	17	
Paraguay ²	17	17	17	a	a	17	
Peru	17	17	17	17	a	a	
Philippines ²	16	a	16	a	a	a	
Russian Federation ²	17	17-18	17	a	m	m	
Thailand	17	17	17	17	a	a	
Tunisia ²	19	19	19	19	a	19	
Uruguay ²	17	18	18	18	a	a	
Zimbabwe ²	19	17	19	a	a	17	

1. Duration categories for ISCED 3C - Short: at least one year shorter than ISCED 3A/3B programmes; Long: of similar duration to ISCED 3A or 3B programmes.

2. OECD estimate.

3. OECD estimate for general and pre-vocational/vocational programmes.

Source: OECD.

Table X1.1b
Typical graduation ages in post-secondary non-tertiary education

		Educational/labour market destination		
		ISCED 4A programmes	ISCED 4B programmes	ISCED 4C programmes
OECD COUNTRIES	Belgium	19	a	19-21
	Canada	a	a	20
	Czech Republic	20	a	20
	Denmark	21-22	a	21-22
	Finland	a	a	25-29
	France	18-21	a	19-21
	Germany	22	22	a
	Greece	a	a	19-20
	Hungary	20-22	a	19-22
	Iceland	a	a	21
	Ireland	a	a	19
	Italy	a	a	20
	Korea	a	a	a
	Luxembourg	a	a	20-25
	Mexico	a	a	a
	Netherlands	a	a	18-20
	New Zealand	18	18	18
	Norway	20-25	a	20-25
	Poland	a	21	a
	Slovak Republic	20-21	a	a
Spain	18	18	a	
Sweden	m	m	19-20	
Switzerland	19-21	21-23	a	
Turkey	a	a	a	
United States	a	a	20	
NON-OECD COUNTRIES	Argentina	a	a	a
	Brazil	a	a	a
	China	a	20	20
	Indonesia	a	a	a
	Jordan ¹	a	a	a
	Malaysia ¹	20	18	19
	Paraguay	a	a	a
	Peru	a	a	m
	Philippines ¹	19	19	17
	Russian Federation	a	a	18
	Thailand ¹	a	a	19
	Tunisia	a	21	a

1. OECD estimate.

Source: OECD.

Table X1.1c
Typical graduation ages in tertiary education

	Tertiary-type B (ISCED 5B)	Tertiary-type A (ISCED 5A)			Advanced research programmes (ISCED 6)
		3 to less than 5 years	5 years	6 years or more	
OECD COUNTRIES					
Australia	m	20	22-23	a	25-29
Austria	m	22	23	a	25
Belgium	m	m	m	m	25-29
Canada	m	22	26	26	29
Czech Republic	22	22	24	a	27
Denmark	21-25	22-24	25-26	27	30
Finland	21-22	25-29	25-29	30-34	29
France	20-21	21-22	23-24	25	25-26
Germany	21	25	26	a	28
Hungary	m	m	m	m	30
Iceland	22-24	23	25	27	29
Ireland	20	22	23	24	27
Italy	22-23	22	23-25	25-27	27-29
Japan	20	22	22	23	27
Korea	m	m	m	m	26
Netherlands	m	m	m	m	25
New Zealand	m	m	m	m	28
Norway	m	m	m	m	29
Poland	m	24	25	26	m
Portugal	m	m	m	m	27-29
Slovak Republic	20-21	m	m	m	27
Spain	19	m	m	m	25-27
Sweden	22-23	23-25	25-26	a	27-29
Switzerland	m	23-26	23-26	28	29
Turkey	m	m	m	m	28-29
United Kingdom	m	21	23	24	24
United States	20	21	23	25	28

Source: OECD.

