

## Annex

# 1

# CHARACTERISTICS OF EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS

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 age is the age that normally corresponds to the age of graduation. (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 age of graduation in upper secondary education (2006)

	Programme orientation		Educational/labour market destination				
	General programmes	Pre-vocational or vocational programmes	ISCED 3A programmes	ISCED 3B programmes	ISCED 3C short programmes <sup>1</sup>	ISCED 3C long programmes <sup>1</sup>	
OECD countries	Australia	17	17	17	m	m	17
	Austria	18	17-18	18	17-18	15-16	17
	Belgium	18	18	18	a	17	18
	Canada	17-18	17-18	17-18	17-18	17-18	17-18
	Czech Republic	19	18	19	19	a	18
	Denmark	19	20	19	a	23	20
	Finland	19	19	19	a	a	a
	France	18-19	17-21	18-19	19-21	a	17-19
	Germany	19-20	19-20	19-20	19-20	19-20	a
	Greece	17	18-19	18	a	17	18
	Hungary	19	19	19	a	m	19
	Iceland	20	18	20	21	18	23
	Ireland	18	19	18	a	19	18
	Italy	19	18	19	18	17	a
	Japan	18	18	18	18	16	18
	Korea	17	17	17	a	a	17
	Luxembourg	18	17-20	18-19	19-20	17-18	18-19
	Mexico	18	18	18	a	a	18
	Netherlands	17-18	18-20	17-20	a	18	18-19
	New Zealand	17-18	17-18	18	17	17	17
	Norway	18	19-20	18	a	m	19-20
	Poland	19	20	19	a	a	19
	Portugal	17	18	17	m	m	m
	Slovak Republic	19-20	19-20	19-20	a	18	18-19
	Spain	17	17	17	a	17	17
	Sweden	19	19	19	a	a	19
	Switzerland	18-20	18-20	18-20	18-20	17-19	18-20
Turkey	16	16	16	a	a	a	
United Kingdom	16-18	m	18	18	16	16	
United States	18	m	18	m	m	m	
Partner countries	Brazil	18	20	18	20	a	a
	Chile	18	18	18	a	a	a
	Estonia	19	19	19	a	19	a
	Israel	17	17	17	a	a	17
	Russian Federation	17	17	17	17	16	17
	Slovenia	19	18-19	19	19	18	a

1. Duration of ISCED 3C short programme: at least one year less than ISCED 3A/3B programme; duration of ISCED 3C long programme: similar to ISCED 3A or 3B programme.

Source: OECD.

Please refer to the Reader's Guide for information concerning the symbols replacing missing data.

Table X1.1b.  
**Typical age of graduation in post-secondary non-tertiary education (2006)**

	Educational/labour market destination		
	ISCED 4A programmes	ISCED 4B programmes	ISCED 4C programmes
<b>OECD countries</b>			
Australia	a	a	18
Austria	19	19	20
Belgium	18-19	19-21	19-21
Canada	30-34	30-34	30-34
Czech Republic	21	a	21
Denmark	22	a	a
Finland	a	a	35-39
France	18-21	a	19-21
Germany	22	22	a
Greece	a	a	20-22
Hungary	a	a	20
Iceland	a	a	22
Ireland	a	a	18-19
Italy	a	a	20
Japan	19	19	19
Korea	a	a	a
Luxembourg	a	a	22-24
Mexico	a	a	a
Netherlands	a	a	20-21
New Zealand	18-19	18-19	18-19
Norway	20-21	a	21-22
Poland	a	a	21
Portugal	m	m	m
Slovak Republic	21-22	a	a
Spain	a	a	a
Sweden	a	a	20-23
Switzerland	21-23	21-23	a
Turkey	a	a	a
United Kingdom	m	m	m
United States	m	m	m
<b>Partner countries</b>			
Brazil	a	a	a
Chile	a	a	a
Estonia	a	21	a
Israel	m	a	a
Russian Federation	a	a	19
Slovenia	20-21	20-21	a

Source: OECD.

Please refer to the Reader's Guide for information concerning the symbols replacing missing data.

Table X1.1c.  
**Typical age of graduation in tertiary education (2006)**

	Tertiary-type B (ISCED 5B)	Tertiary-type A (ISCED 5A)			Advanced research programmes (ISCED 6)	
		3 to less than 5 years	5 to 6 years	More than 6 years		
OECD countries	Australia	19-22	20-22	22-24	24-25	25-26
	Austria	20-21	22-24	24-26	a	25
	Belgium	21-22	22	23-24	24	26-29
	Canada	21-25	22	23-24	25	27-29
	Czech Republic	22-23	23	25	a	28
	Denmark	23-25	24	26	27	30-34
	Finland	30-34	24	26	35-39	30-34
	France	20-24	20-23	22-25	28-29	26
	Germany	21-23	24-26	25-27	a	28-29
	Greece	22-24	22-24	m	m	25-29
	Hungary	21	23	24	a	30-34
	Iceland	30-34	24	26	28	30-34
	Ireland	20-21	21	23	25	27
	Italy	22-23	22	23-25	30-34	27-29
	Japan	20	22	24	a	27
	Korea	19	21	23	a	30-34
	Luxembourg	m	m	m	m	m
	Mexico	20	23	m	m	24-28
	Netherlands	a	21-23	21-24	a	28-29
	New Zealand	20-23	21-22	23	25	30-34
	Norway	21-22	22-23	24-25	26-27	28-29
	Poland	22	23	25	a	25-29
	Portugal	21-23	22	23-24	a	30-34
	Slovak Republic	21-22	23	24	a	28-29
	Spain	19	20	22	27-28	25-27
	Sweden	22-23	25	25	a	30-34
	Switzerland	23-29	24-26	25-27	25-27	30-34
	Turkey	20-22	22-24	25-27	30-34	30-34
United Kingdom	19-24	20-22	22-24	23-25	25-29	
United States	20	22	24	a	27	
Partner countries	Brazil	21-24	21-24	m	m	25-29
	Chile	20-22	22	24	25	29
	Estonia	22	22	24	a	30-34
	Israel	m	26	a	a	30-34
	Russian Federation	20	19-24	19-25	a	24-26
	Slovenia	23-26	25-26	25-26	a	29

Note: Where tertiary-type A data are available by duration of programme, the graduation rate for all programmes is the sum of the graduation rates by duration of programme.

Source: OECD.

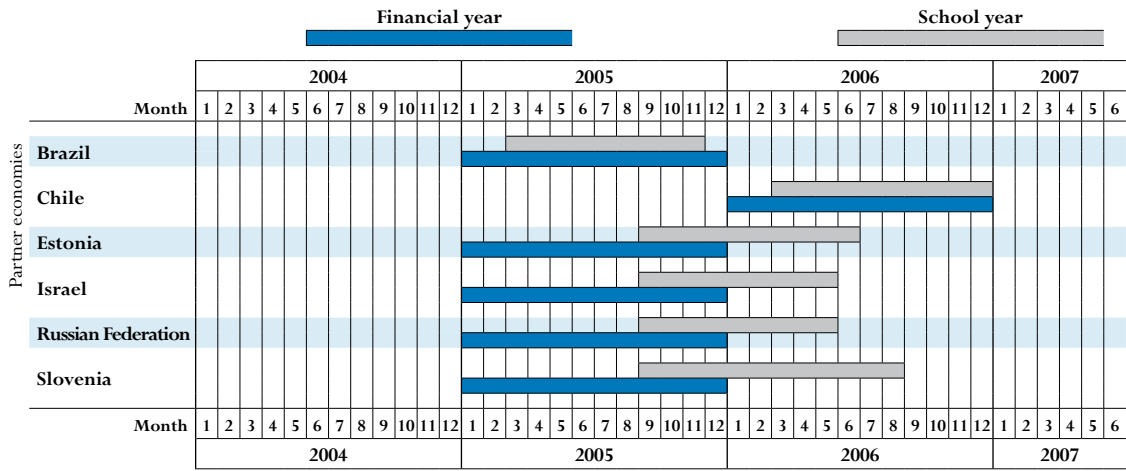
Please refer to the Reader's Guide for information concerning the symbols replacing missing data.

Table X1.2a.  
School year and financial year used for the calculation of indicators, OECD countries



Source: OECD.

Table X1.2b.  
School year and financial year used for the calculation of indicators, partner economies



Source: OECD.

Table X1.3.  
**Summary of completion requirements for upper secondary (ISCED 3) programmes**

	ISCED 3A programmes				ISCED 3B programmes				ISCED 3C programmes				
	Final examination	Series of examinations during programme	Specified number of course hours AND examination	Specified number of course hours only	Final examination	Series of examinations during programme	Specified number of course hours AND examination	Specified number of course hours only	Final examination	Series of examinations during programme	Specified number of course hours AND examination	Specified number of course hours only	
OECD countries	Australia <sup>1, 2</sup>	N/Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N
	Austria	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N
	Belgium (Fl.) <sup>3</sup>	Y	Y	N	N	a	a	a	a	Y	Y	N	N
	Belgium (Fr.)	Y	Y	N	N	a	a	a	a	Y	Y	N	N
	Canada (Québec) <sup>1</sup>	N	Y	Y	N					N	Y	Y	N
	Czech Republic <sup>1</sup>	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N
	Denmark <sup>1</sup>	Y	Y	Y		a	a	a	a	Y	Y	Y	
	Finland	Y/N	Y	Y	N								
	France	Y	N	Y	N	a	a	a	a	Y/N	Y	N	
	Germany	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	a	a	a	a
	Greece <sup>1</sup>	N	Y	N	N					N	Y	N	N
	Hungary	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N
	Iceland <sup>1</sup>	Y/N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y/N	Y	N	N
	Ireland <sup>1</sup>	Y	N	N	N	a	a	a	a	Y	Y	Y	N
	Italy	Y	N	Y/N	N	Y	Y/N	Y/N	N	Y	N	Y/N	N
	Japan	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N
	Korea	N	N	N	Y					N	N	N	Y
	Luxembourg	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N
	Mexico	N	Y	Y	N					Y/N	Y	Y	N
	Netherlands <sup>1</sup>	Y	Y	Y	N	a	a	a	a	Y	Y	Y	N
	New Zealand	Y	N	N	N								
	Norway	N	Y	Y	N	a	a	a	a	N	Y	Y	N
	Poland	Y/N	N	N	N	a	a	a	a	Y	N	N	N
	Portugal	m	m	m	m	m	m	m	m	m	m	m	m
	Slovak Republic <sup>1</sup>	Y	N	Y	N					Y	N	Y	N
	Spain	N	Y	Y	N					Y/N	Y/N	Y/N	N
	Sweden	Y/N	Y/N	N	Y/N								
Switzerland	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y		Y		Y		
Turkey <sup>1</sup>	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	
United Kingdom <sup>1</sup>	N4	Y	N	N	a	a	a	a		Y	N	N	
United States <sup>1</sup>	20Y/30N	SS	SS	Y5	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	
Partner countries	Israel <sup>1</sup>	Y/N	Y	Y	N	a	a	a	a	Y/N	Y	Y	

Note: Y = Yes; N = No; SS = Some states

1. See Annex 3 for additional notes on completion requirements ([www.oecd.org/edu/eag2008](http://www.oecd.org/edu/eag2008)).

2. Completion requirements for ISCED 3A vary by state and territory. The information provided represents a generalisation of diverse requirements.

3. Covers general education only.

4. There is usually no final examination, though some ISCED 3A programmes can be completed this way.

5. Almost all states specify levels of Carnegie credits (*i.e.* acquired through completion of a two-semester course in specific subjects, which vary by state).

Source: OECD.

Please refer to the Reader's Guide for information concerning the symbols replacing missing data.