

FLEMISH EDUCATION IN FIGURES 2011-2012



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DEFINITIONS

SCHOOL POPULATION

The number of pupils in elementary and secondary education in this publication refers to all pupils and students enrolled (including pupils not eligible for funding) on 1 February 2012. For non-university tertiary education and university education, the data refer to all active enrolments in a degree contract in an institution for higher education on 30 June 2012 (enrolments on academic initial programmes). Courses in a language other than Dutch are also taken into account in the figures. A student may be enrolled on several programmes.

In adult education, the number of unique enrolments on a programme during the reference period is recorded. Students can enroll on more than one programme. The data concerning adult education refer to the period from 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012. In part-time arts education, the number of pupils/students eligible for funding is reported. Individuals enrolled on more than one course of study are counted more than once.

In order to avoid double counting, pupils enrolled in special education due to long-term illness (type 5 special education) are not included in the figures for special education (117 pupils in special nursery education, 242 pupils in special primary education and 216 pupils in special secondary education on 1 February 2012).

Pupils and students enrolled in French language schools or in French language sections of Dutch language schools under the control of the Flemish authorities are not included in the figures either.

On 1 September 2009, two new education concepts were introduced in the Flemish educational system: the associate degree ('HBO') and advanced secondary education ('Se-n-Se'). In the Flemish qualification structure these training forms are situated between secondary level and bachelor level. They do not form a separate education level. In legal terms, advanced secondary education is part of secondary education, while the associate degree belongs to higher education. The programmes leading to an associate degree are organised by the centres for adult education and the university colleges. The only exception is the associate degree in nursing (previously fourth stage vocational secondary education), which is organised by schools organising full-time secondary education.

Since the 2004-2005 academic year, Flemish tertiary education has been organising courses leading to Bachelor's and Master's degrees. In Flanders, Bachelor's programmes are either professionally oriented or academically oriented. Academically oriented Bachelor's programmes are mainly intended to lead into Master's programmes. The holder of a professionally oriented Bachelor's degree can take a Master's course after successful completion of a bridging programme. The minimum study volume of Bachelor's programmes is 180 credits. The minimum study volume of Master's programmes is 60 credits. Since the 2005-2006 academic year, the traditional year system has been replaced by a more flexible system of credits.

SCHOOLS

A school is an institution which provides education and which is managed by one principal.

In continuing education, the term 'centre for adult education' is used; in adult basic education the term 'centre for adult basic education'.

Institutions providing type 5 special education are not included in the figures (six schools in special nursery education, six schools in special primary education and four schools in special secondary education).

STAFF

Staff statistics only record staff members who are either paid directly by the Education and Training policy area or whose salaries are covered by the block grant awarded to higher education. As a consequence, staff members benefiting from the pre-pension scheme (TBS55+) are included in the figures. Maintenance, technical and service staff in subsidised educational networks are not included. Subsidised contractual staff are not taken into account either, as these staff members are not fully paid by the Education and Training policy area. Contractual staff in tenured posts is included in the figures.

Staff data for the 2011-2012 school year relate to January 2012, as known in June 2012. University staff data were provided by the Flemish Interuniversity Council (VLIR) and reflect the position on 1 February 2010. Data on the 2011-2012 academic year were not available at the time of publication (November 2012).

The staff data include school principals, vice-principals, teaching staff, administrative staff, manual staff in Community education, educational support staff, paramedic staff, staff of pupil guidance centres, inspectorate staff, educational advisors, staff in boarding schools and childcare workers in nursery education.

In this publication, most data in the tables and charts refer to staff members expressed as numbers of physical persons. Replacements of less than one year are taken into account. Physical persons are registered for the education level and education network where they carry out their main teaching assignment.

In a limited number of tables and charts the number of staff members is expressed in budgetary full-time equivalents. This is explicitly mentioned in the title. The number of budgetary full-time equivalents is the sum of all partial assignments of all staff members (i.e. including the replacements of less than one year). In university colleges, teaching assignments of visiting professors and mandate fees are not included in the full-time equivalents. For university education, staff figures include visiting professors and those in early retirement in terms of staff members, but not in the budgetary full-time equivalents.

The number of budgetary full-time equivalents in January 2012 may be lower than normal due to a strike during that month. This strike is not taken into account in the calculation of budgetary full-time equivalents.

On 1 September 2009, the fourth stage vocational secondary education programme in nursing was converted into the associate degree programme. This kind of programme can be organised by secondary schools, centres for adult education and university colleges. The data for the associate degree in nursing are estimates. Since the school year 2009-2010, these data have no longer been reported in the tables on secondary education.

BUDGET

The budget is expressed in terms of available operating appropriations which are estimated annually and included in the (adjusted) expenditure budget of the Flemish authorities.

The operating appropriations comprise non-differentiated appropriations, differentiated new commitment appropriations, variable appropriations, authorisations and additional appropriations of previous years, minus appropriations intended to meet previously made commitments and expenditure intended to cover debt load.

The term 'available appropriations' means that these appropriations, in addition to the appropriations mentioned above, also comprise the share of overall provisions (mainly index and collective labour agreement) and reallocations of appropriations. Data for 2011 relate to the initial appropriations.

Certain cross-level expenses, of which the breakdown among the different levels is known, are allocated to the respective levels (including educational priority policy and investments). Without this adjustment, the picture of actual expenditure per level is distorted. For 2012, the actual data are not available yet, so either an estimate is used or the same breakdown as in 2011 is assumed.

These figures do not take account of the contributions by other (local) authorities, nor of the contributions by parents, schools and private companies.

The cost per pupil is calculated on the basis of the number of pupils eligible for funding. A pupil eligible for funding is a regularly enrolled pupil who is assigned a weighting factor on the grounds of certain criteria such as education level, course of study, origin, etc. The number of pupils eligible for funding defines the size of the operating budget and the staff of each educational institution.

OTHER SECTIONS

The information relating to infrastructure, NARIC and the examination board relate to the calendar year 2011.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Educational institutions, boarding schools and pupil guidance centres in both subsidised public and subsidised private education can file an application for infrastructure subsidies to the Agency for Infrastructure in Education (AGION). Infrastructure work in primary schools is 70% subsidised and other educational levels, boarding schools and the pupil guidance centres can receive a grant of 60% of their building cost. The Agency for Infrastructure in Education (AGION) also provides finance for infrastructure work for the university colleges, but not for the universities.

The school buildings of the Flemish Community are financed by GO! Education of the Flemish Community.

NARIC

NARIC-Flanders is responsible for the recognition of foreign diplomas in higher education (academic recognition), higher vocational education, adult education and secondary education, as well as for professional recognition for teachers from the EEA. In addition, NARIC-Flanders issues certificates to holders of a Flemish diploma who want to go abroad to work or study.

EXAMINATION BOARD

The Elementary Education Examination Board issues the certificate of elementary education. The Secondary Education Examination Board issues the diploma of secondary education.

ABBREVIATIONS

M	Male
F	Female
T	Total
GO	Community education
VGO	Subsidised private education
OGO	Subsidised public education
ASO	General secondary education
TSO	Technical secondary education
KSO	Arts secondary education
BSO	Vocational secondary education
Se-n-Se	Advanced secondary education
BCR	Brussels-Capital Region
CLB	Pupil guidance centre
HBO	Associate degree
NARIC	National Academic (& Professional) Recognition and Information Centre
n/a	Not available
SLO	Specific teacher training
PBA	Professionally oriented Bachelor's degree
MA	Master's degree
VLIR	Flemish Interuniversity Council

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Elementary education

www.ond.vlaanderen.be/basisonderwijs

Secondary education

www.ond.vlaanderen.be/secundair

Higher education

www.ond.vlaanderen.be/hogeronderwijs

Adult education

Secondary adult education, higher vocational education in adult education and basic education
www.ond.vlaanderen.be/volwassenenonderwijs

Part-time arts education

www.ond.vlaanderen.be/dko

Infrastructure

www.agion.be

School and study allowances

www.ond.vlaanderen.be/studietoelagen

NARIC

www.ond.vlaanderen.be/NARIC

Elementary Education Examination Board

www.ond.vlaanderen.be/basisonderwijs/examencommissie

Secondary Education Examination Board

www.ond.vlaanderen.be/secundair/examencommissie

Find out more about the Policy Domain Education and Training via

www.ond.vlaanderen.be/wegwijs



STRUCTURE OF FLEMISH EDUCATION

STRUCTURE OF FLEMISH EDUCATION SCHOOL AND ACADEMIC YEAR 2011 - 2012

