

31 May 2010

**University Education Statistics.
2008-2009 Academic year**

**The number of students enrolled for university studies decreases
0.4% as compared with the previous academic year**

**Teaching begins on 178 degree programmes, with 19,443 students
enrolled, with the purpose of adapting to The European Space for
Higher Education**

During the 2008-2009 academic year, 1,391,253 students enrolled for first- and second-cycle university studies, indicating a 0.4% drop as compared with the previous academic year. Of these students, 759,952 were women, accounting for 54.6% of the total.

While enrolment at private universities increased 3.1% as compared with the previous academic year, the student body decreased 0.8% at public universities.

Evolution of the enrolled student body, classified by type of university

	2006/2007 Academic year		2007/2008 Academic year		2008/2009 Academic year	
	Both sexes	%	Both sexes	%	Both sexes	%
TOTAL	1,410,440	100.0	1,396,607	100.0	1,391,253	100.0
Public universities	1,268,031	89.9	1,250,317	89.5	1,240,488	89.2
Private universities	142,409	10.1	146,290	10.5	150,765	10.8

The Distance University (UNED) topped the list of universities with the largest number of students enrolled in the 2008-2009 academic year, with 144,334, ahead of the Universidad Complutense de Madrid (74,771), the Universidad de Sevilla (56,985) and the Universidad de Granada (56,031).

The three distance-learning universities (UNED, Oberta de Catalunya and the Madrid Distance University (UDIMA)) accounted for 13.4% of the total enrolment, 2.2% more than the previous academic year.

By Autonomous Community, and excluding distance-learning universities, Comunidad de Madrid had the largest number of university students (232,193), followed by Andalucía (226,111) and Cataluña (172,507). At the other end of the scale, the Communities with the fewest students were La Rioja (5,874) and Cantabria (10,113).

Student body enrolled in first- and second-cycle and degree studies

The programmes with the highest number of students were Teaching (7.7%), the Bachelor's degree in Law (with 6.6%), and the Bachelor's degree in Business Studies and Management (6.1%).

The number of students enrolled in programmes leading to the simultaneous gaining of two official qualifications (joint degrees) outside the European Space for Higher Education (ESHE) increased 4.0% as compared with the previous academic year. Among these qualifications, that with the highest number of students was Business Studies and Management and Law (10,537).

Enrolled student body, classified by type of programme and sex

	TOTAL	Architecture and Technical Engineering	Diplomas	Bachelor's degrees	Architecture and Engineerin	Joint degrees ¹	Degree studies
Both sexes	1,391,253	193,781	364,639	648,653	142,307	22,430	19,443
Males	631,301	147,264	106,887	260,970	97,883	9,141	9,156
Females	759,952	46,517	257,752	387,683	44,424	13,289	10,287

¹ Programmes leading to the simultaneous gaining of two official qualifications

Newly enrolled student body

Out of the 302,761 students enrolling for the first time for university studies, 63.8% did so after passing the University Entrance Examinations (UEE). On the other hand, 11.5% accessed new programmes, because they already had a university degree or because they had finished the first cycle of a different degree. The remaining 24.72% entered through Vocational Training, access for persons over 25 years of age, recognition of foreign studies, etc.

In public universities, new enrolment increased 3.0% as compared with the previous academic year, and in private universities, it increased 2.5%.

As with the previous academic year, the four programmes with the highest number of new enrolments were Teaching (29,716), Business Science (20,443), Law (17,778) and Business Studies and Management (15,246). These four programmes together accounted for 27.5% of the new enrolment.

By sex, of note were the Teaching diploma (in which women represented 74.5% of new enrolment), and Technical Industrial Engineering (in which men represented 84.8% of new enrolment).

Student body who completed their studies in 2009

During the year 2009, a total of 189,899 students completed their university studies. 115,446 of these students were women, accounting for 60.8% of the total, a percentage similar to that registered the previous academic year.

It is also worth noting that 53.4% of students finishing their studies did so at the age of 24 or under (in the case of women, this percentage was 59.4%). The age at which most persons graduated was 23 years old (15.4% of the graduates).

Enrolment for doctoral programmes

Having decreased during the last two years, third-cycle (doctorate) enrolment was maintained in the 2008/2009 academic year, with a total of 67,000 students enrolled for doctoral programmes. 51.5 of these students were women.

94.3% of students chose public universities to carry out their doctoral programmes, as compared with the 5.7% who chose private universities to do so.

Percentage of students enrolled in third-cycle programmes, classified by area of studies and sex

	Total	Experimental and Health Sciences	Social and Legal Sciences	Humanities	Engineering and Technology	Not distributed by area
Both sexes	72,741	22,644	19,354	13,624	8,170	8,949
Men	35,059	9,029	9,362	5,874	5,907	4,887
Women	37,682	13,615	9,992	7,750	2,263	4,062

During the 2008-2009 academic year, a total of 7,915 doctoral dissertations were successfully defended, this figure being 8.4% higher than that registered the previous academic year. Women successfully defended 48.8% of the dissertations.

Experimental and Health Sciences was the area with the greatest female participation (56.2% as compared with 43.8% male participation). In turn, there was a clear male predominance in Engineering and Technology (71.9% as compared with the 28.1% of dissertations successfully defended by women).

Enrolments for Official Professional Specialisation Programmes

During the third year in existence of the Official Professional Specialisation Programmes (Master's), 1,667 Master's were taught in Spanish universities.

51,441 students enrolled for these programmes, 47.5% more than the previous academic year. 83.4% of these opted for public universities in order to carry out this type of study. 18,068 students completed these programmes in the year 2009, of whom, 56.2% were female.

University teaching body

The number of university lecturers increased to 120,447 during the 2008-2009 academic year, indicating an increase of 3.3% as compared with the previous academic year. Women accounted for 37.6% of the university teaching body.

100,809 lecturers taught classes in public centres of public universities. 10.8% of them were tenured professors, 39.2% were lecturers (of universities or university schools) and 29.0% were associate lecturers. The remaining categories (assistant, hired, emeritus, etc.) accounted for 21.0% of the teaching body.

In public university centres, 49.1% of the teaching body was comprised of civil servants. In these centres, 68.1% of the teaching personnel worked there full-time, while in private universities, only 28.7% of the teaching personnel did likewise.

Methodological note

The University Education Statistics is an exhaustive study aimed at the universities and higher level education centres in Spain, regardless of their type and ownership. It is carried out annually, with the data reference period being the corresponding academic year.

The fundamental objective is to ascertain the most relevant characteristics of the student body (enrolment, new entries, completion of studies) broken down by programme, sex and age, as well as of the teaching personnel and the centres. This information allows for obtaining an overall perspective of higher education in Spain.

The research encompasses University Education (1st and 2nd cycles), Doctorate (3rd university cycle), Official Professional Specialisation Programmes (Master's) and Higher Education equivalent to University studies.

For further information see INEbase-www.ine.es/en/welcome_en.htm All press releases at: www.ine.es/en/prensa/prensa_en.htm

Press office: Telephone: 91 583 93 63 / 94 08 – Fax: 91 583 90 87 - gprensa@ine.es

Information area: Telephone: 91 583 91 00 – Fax: 91 583 91 58 – www.ine.es/infoine
