



EDUCATION AT A GLANCE 2014

Education at a Glance: OECD Indicators is the authoritative source for accurate and relevant information on the state of education around the world. It provides data on the structure, finances and performance of the education systems in the 34 OECD member countries, as well as a number of G20 and partner countries.

Portugal

The proportion of adults with upper secondary and tertiary attainment has grown steadily since 2000 as Portugal catches up with OECD and EU21* countries.

Portugal's efforts to improve the level of qualification and skills of its adult population **are showing encouraging results**. According to the latest data (2012), some **62% of adults have not attained upper secondary education**. Although this proportion is still very high (the third highest among OECD countries, only exceeded by Mexico and Turkey), **it has decreased by almost 20 percentage points since 2000**. Nonetheless, as of 2012, the 38% of adults with at least upper secondary attainment is still much lower than the average for OECD countries, where 75% of adults have attained at least this level.

Such low levels of attainment can be explained by the low level of attainment among older adults (55-64 year-olds), where **8 out of 10 have not attained upper secondary education** (against one-third of older adults on average across OECD countries). By contrast, between 2000 and 2012, the proportion of **young adults (25-34 year-olds) with upper secondary attainment increased from 19% to 30%** and the proportion without an upper secondary diploma fell by 26 percentage points. The proportion of young adults with tertiary attainment also increased by 15 percentage points to 28%. If current patterns of graduation remain stable, it is expected that 41% of young people will graduate from tertiary-type A first-degree programmes, bringing Portugal in line with other OECD countries.

Declining public expenditure on education has resulted in the first decrease in teachers' salaries in years.

Expenditure per student in primary, secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education fell by 5 percentage points between 2010 and 2011, including both private and public sources of expenditure. This was above the average drop in EU21* countries of 2 percentage points. In 2011, Portugal spent 5.3% of its GDP on education, 0.3 percentage points less than in 2010. These budget cuts had an impact on teachers' salaries: **from 2011 to 2012, salaries for teachers with 15 years of experience and minimum training decreased by almost 16%, in a reversal of the historical pattern**: between 2005 and 2011, teachers' salaries rose by 11%, almost four times more than the

average in OECD countries (3%). In spite of this, across all educational levels teachers earn, on average, around USD 34 700, compared to an OECD average of USD 37 350 for pre-primary, USD 39 024 for primary, USD 40 570 for lower secondary and USD 42 861 for upper secondary teachers. In Portugal, unlike many other OECD countries, teachers receive the same statutory salary regardless of the level of education they teach. Although teachers' salaries increase as they gain experience, in Portugal it takes longer to reach the top of the salary scale. **Lower secondary teachers, for instance, only reach the top of salary scale after 34 years of teaching**, ten years more than the average across OECD countries. Teachers' salaries at the top of the scale are 66% higher than those at the bottom, which is similar to the average difference across OECD countries of around 60% for all educational levels.

Portugal is one of three OECD countries whose students improved their performance in maths since 2003.

The most recent PISA results (2012) showed that **students in Portugal have significantly improved their mathematical skills since 2003**: Portugal, along with Italy and Poland, reduced the proportion of low performers while increasing the proportion of top performers. Nonetheless, the assessment also revealed that there is a **strong relationship between a student's socio-economic background and his or her performance** which can be a threat to equity. Differences also emerge at the regional level, **where enrolment rates among 15-19 year olds range from 71% to 95%** and the **proportion of adults aged 30-34 years old with tertiary attainment can double depending on the region**.

Other findings

- **The teaching workforce used to be younger than average across OECD**: while in 2002 59% of secondary teachers were under 40 years old, compared with 38% on average across OECD countries, in 2012, this had fallen to 37%, compared with 37% on average.
- **The earnings premium of attaining higher education is high**: on average, the earning difference between tertiary educated adults and those with upper secondary education is 70 percentage points, 11 more than the OECD average.
- **The salary gap between men and women persists**: on a par with other OECD countries, women with tertiary educational attainment have salaries, on average, 30% lower than those of equally educated men.

* EU21 countries are those that are members of both the European Union and the OECD. These 21 countries are Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

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For more information on *Education at a Glance 2014* and to access the full set of Indicators, visit <http://www.oecd.org/edu/eag.htm>.

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Key Facts for Portugal in Education at a Glance 2014

Table	Indicator	Portugal		OECD average		EU21 average		Rank among OECD countries and partner countries*
Educational Access and Output								
	Enrolment rates	2012	2005	2012	2005	2012	2005	
C2.1	3-year-olds (in early childhood education)	78%	61%	70%	64%	79%	73%	18 of 37
	4-year-olds (in early childhood and primary education)	92%	84%	84%	79%	89%	84%	18 of 38
C1.1a	5-14 year-olds (all levels)	100%		98%		98%		1 of 44
	Percentage of population that has only attained below upper secondary education	2012	2000	2012	2000	2012	2000	
A1.4a	25-64 year-olds	62%	81%	24%	34%	23%	34%	3 of 36
	Percentage of the population whose highest level of attainment is upper secondary education	2012	2000	2012	2000	2012	2000	
A1.4a	25-64 year-olds	19%	11%	44%	44%	48%	46%	36 of 37
	Percentage of population that has attained tertiary education	2012	2000	2012	2000	2012	2000	
A1.3a A1.4a	25-64 year-olds	19%	9%	33%	22%	29%	20%	32 of 37
	25-34 year-olds	28%	13%	40%	26%	37%	24%	29 of 36
	55-64 year-olds	11%	5%	25%	15%	22%	14%	34 of 36
	Entry rates into tertiary education	2012	2000	2012	2000	2012	2000	
C3.1b	Youth expected to enter tertiary-type A programmes before turning 25	54%	m	48%	m	48%	m	11 of 35
	Graduation rates	2012	2000	2012	2000	2012	2000	
A2.2a	Percentage of today's young people expected to complete upper secondary education in their lifetime	m	52%	84%	76%	83%	77%	
A3.2a	Percentage of today's young people expected to complete university education (tertiary-type A) in their lifetime	41%	23%	38%	28%	38%	27%	13 of 27
Economic and Labour Market Outcomes								
	Unemployment rate of 25-64 year-olds - Men and Women	2012	2008	2012	2008	2012	2008	
A5.4a	Below upper secondary	16%	8%	14%	9%	17%	10%	10 of 35
	Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary	14%	7%	8%	5%	9%	5%	5 of 36
	Tertiary	11%	6%	5%	3%	6%	3%	3 of 36
	Unemployment rate of 25-64 year-olds - Women	2012	2008	2012	2008	2012	2008	
A5.4c (Web)	Below upper secondary	16%	9%	13%	9%	16%	11%	9 of 35
	Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary	16%	8%	9%	6%	10%	6%	5 of 35
	Tertiary	10%	7%	5%	4%	6%	4%	4 of 35
	Average earnings advantage for 25-64 year-olds with tertiary education**	2012 or latest year available		2012 or latest year available		2012 or latest year available		
A6.1a A6.1b (Web)	Men and women	170		159		159		13 of 33
	Men	173		164		166		11 of 33
	Women	172		162		160		11 of 34
	Average earnings penalty for 25-64 year-olds who have not attained upper secondary education**	2012 or latest year available		2012 or latest year available		2012 or latest year available		
A6.1a A6.1b (Web)	Men and women	70		78		79		25 of 33
	Men	68		78		80		28 of 33
	Women	69		75		76		28 of 34
	Percentage of 15-29 year-olds neither employed nor in education or training, by highest level of education	2012	2008	2012	2008	2012	2008	
C5.3d (Web)	Below upper secondary	17%	14%	15%	14%	15%	13%	12 of 35
	Upper secondary	15%	7%	16%	14%	16%	12%	17 of 34
	Tertiary	18%	14%	13%	11%	12%	10%	7 of 34

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Financial Investment in Education								
	Annual expenditure per student (in equivalent USD, using PPPs)	2011		2011		2011		
B1.1a	Pre-primary education	5674		7428		7933		21 of 36
	Primary education	5865		8296		8482		26 of 38
	Secondary education	8676		9280		9615		19 of 38
	Tertiary education	9640		13958		13572		25 of 37
	Total expenditure on educational institutions as a percentage of GDP	2011	2000	2011	2000	2011	2000	
B2.2	Percentage of GDP	6%	5%	6%	5%	6%	5%	26 of 37
	Total public expenditure on education	2011	2000	2011	2000	2011	2000	
B4.2	As a percentage of total public expenditure	11%	13%	13%	13%	12%	11%	27 of 34
	Share of private expenditure on educational institutions	2011		2011		2011		
B3.1	Pre-primary education	m		19%		13%		
B3.1	Primary, secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education	0%		9%		6%		35 of 36
B3.1	Tertiary education	31%		31%		21%		15 of 34
B3.1	All levels of education	7%		16%		11%		28 of 33
Schools and Teachers								
	Ratio of students to teaching staff	2012		2012		2012		
D2.2	Pre-primary education	16		14		13		11 of 31
	Primary education	12		15		14		28 of 36
	Secondary education	9		13		12		37 of 37
	Number of hours of teaching time per year (for teachers in public institutions)	2012	2000	2012	2000	2012	2000	
D4.2	Pre-primary education	970		1001		988		14 of 28
	Primary education	756	815	782	780	761	776	18 of 33
	Lower secondary education	616	595	694	697	657	658	23 of 33
	Upper secondary education	616	515	655	628	638	635	15 of 33
	Index of change in statutory teachers' salaries for teachers with 15 years of experience/minimum training (2005 = 100)	2012	2008	2012	2008	2012	2008	
D3.5	Primary school teachers	93	97	103	103	99	103	24 of 26
	Lower secondary school teachers	93	97	102	103	99	103	23 of 25
	Upper secondary school teachers	93	97	101	103	98	103	22 of 25
	Ratio of teachers' salaries to earnings for full-time, full-year adult workers with tertiary education	2012		2012		2012		
D3.2	Pre-primary school teachers	1.23		0.80		0.76		2 of 25
	Primary school teachers	1.23		0.85		0.81		2 of 28
	Lower secondary school teachers	1.23		0.88		0.85		4 of 28
	Upper secondary school teachers	1.23		0.92		0.90		4 of 28

* Countries are ranked in descending order of values.

** Compared to people with upper secondary education; upper secondary = 100.

'm': data is not available. 'n': magnitude is either negligible or zero.