



Flexible paths?

**Higher Education
admissions in Finland
2020**

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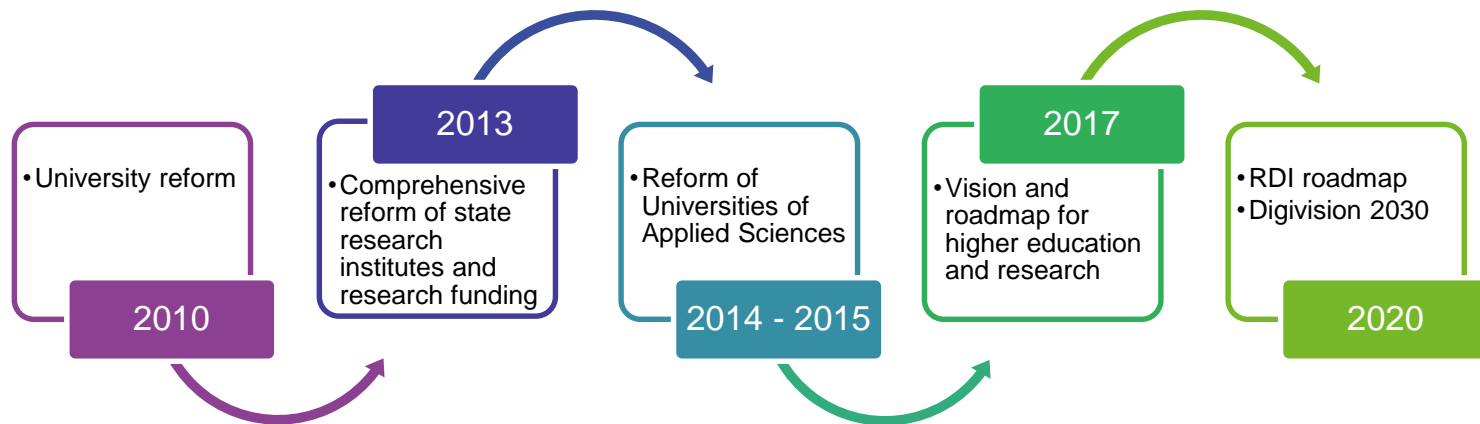
Long-term aims of Finnish HE and research policy (vision 2030, roadmap)

- Finland is a nation *with the most competent workforce*.
- Renewable higher education and digital service channel.
- Finland has the world's best learning and learning environments with the expertise of higher education community.
- Collaboration and openness function as drivers for research and innovation activity.
- Higher education institutes will become Finland's best workplaces.

50%

At least 50 % of the age group of 25-34 will hold a tertiary education degree in 2030. (41 % in 2018)

Consistent renewal of HE and research to meet the needs of a changing environment



Quick facts, transition from secondary ed. to HE in Finland

EUA autonomy scorecard

▼ Admissions procedures at Bachelor level

- ▼ Admission criteria are set by the university 9

countries

This applies to 9 countries: Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Poland, Slovakia, United Kingdom

- ▼ Admission criteria are co-regulated by an external authority and universities 12

countries

This applies to 12 countries: Brandenburg, Croatia, Denmark, Hesse, Latvia, The Netherlands, North Rhine-Westphalia, Norway, Portugal, Serbia, Spain, Sweden

- ▼ Admissions are entirely regulated by an external authority 8

countries

This applies to 8 countries: Austria, Flanders, France, Wallonia, Hungary, Lithuania, Slovenia, Switzerland

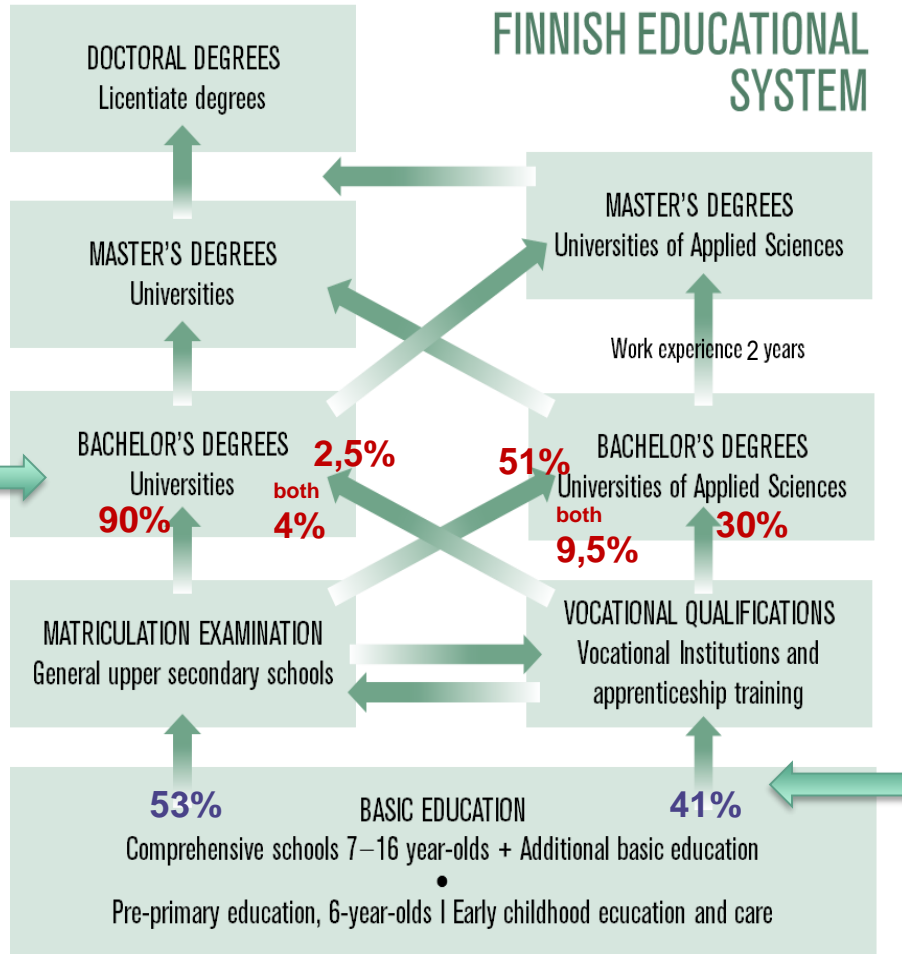
The most selective HE system in OECD (see OECD EAG 2019);

- About 1 in 3 applicants accepted
- →Late transition to HE

Low correlation of parent-child educational level (compared to most other countries)

<https://www.university-autonomy.eu/>

FINNISH EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM



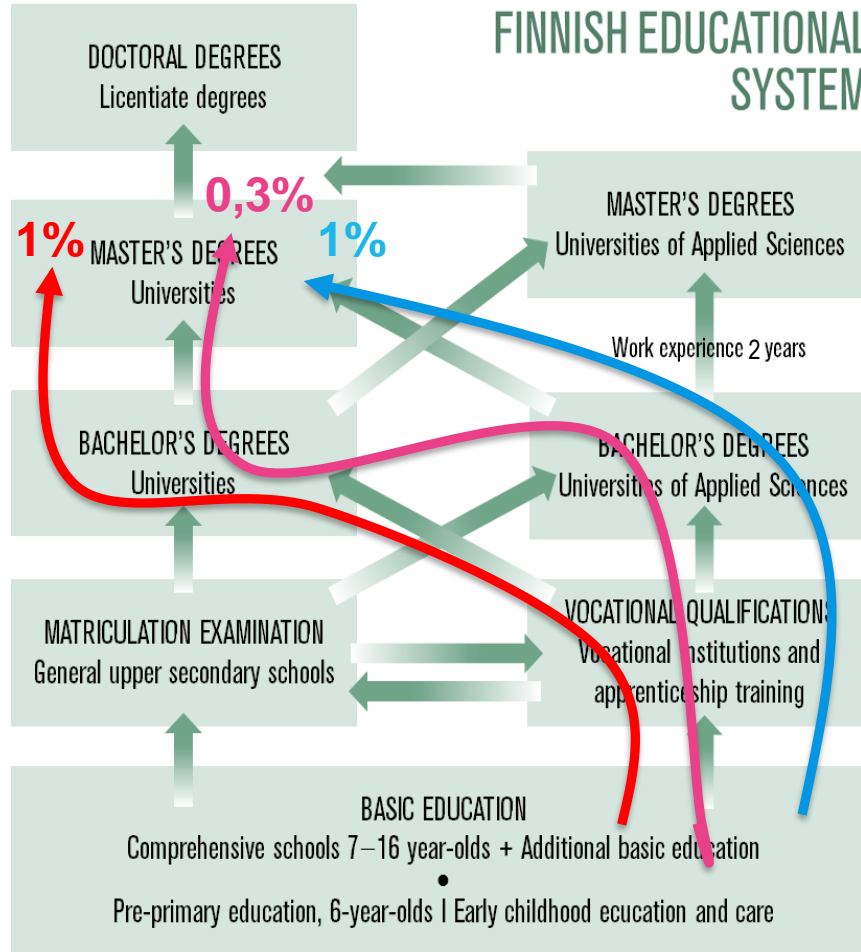
2020 HE admissions

Percentages of admitted students with Matriculation exam, vocational degree or both
 No change compared to previous years
 (degrees from other countries not shown)

Direct transition from 9th grade to secondary (2018)

Percentages of 9th grade finishers continuing in vocational/general upper secondary
 (some also attend additional basic education, not shown)

FINNISH EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM



Percentages of University Masters degree graduates with vocational qualification in secondary education + possible UAS degree (2017)

Vocational qualification (NO general upper secondary matriculation) + University Bachelor

Vocational qualification (NO general upper secondary matriculation) + UAS Bachelor

Vocational qualification (NO general upper secondary matriculation) + UAS Bachelor + University bachelor

The most common route from general upper secondary not shown (>95 %)! Also, the more common cases of graduates with *both* matriculation and a vocational qualification not shown.

HE admissions in 2020

- Both general upper secondary education and vocational education grants eligibility.
- In universities, admission usually for 1st+2nd cycle at the same time.
- In UAS separate admission for 1st and 2nd cycle
- Multiple paths to HE: a share of placements filled based on
 1. **Upper secondary matriculation exam results** (50-70% of placements)
 - In UASs a subshare based on **vocational qualification results**
 2. **Entrance exams by HEIs** (30-50%, open for all applicants with a degree from secondary education)
 - Since 2019 **UAS have a single “SAT-like” admission exam** developed and agreed upon by the institutions autonomously! (excluding art, design, music, etc.)
 - In universities, around 180 different exams (excluding art, design, music, etc.) in some fields a common field specific exam for all HEIs (medicine, engineering, business administration)
 3. **Other paths**, i.e. open university studies (some percentage points depending on the field)



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AND CULTURE