

COUNTRY SHEETS

Public Funding Observatory

April 2021

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Public funding to public universities (2008-2020)

In Austria, the 'staircase' progression in funding reflects the three-year contractual framework between the state and public universities, eroded by inflation in the second and third year of each cycle. The new funding cycle started in 2019 with a 12.5% increase in real terms, going down to -1.4% decrease in 2020. The Austrian funding system was subject to re-organisation in 2018 in which different indicators are used for research and teaching areas. Student numbers have been mostly stable since a large increase before 2010. Both academic and non-academic staff numbers have increased since 2010.



+34.1%

funding increase in real terms



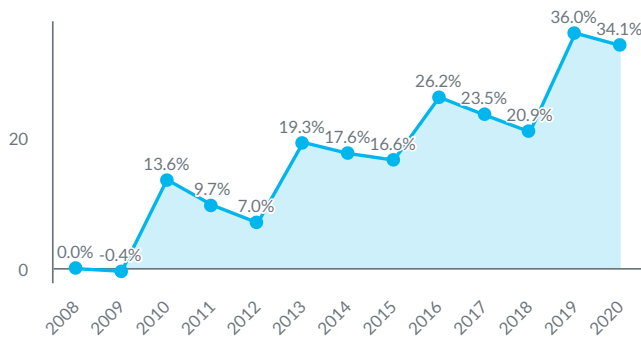
funding increase higher than economic growth



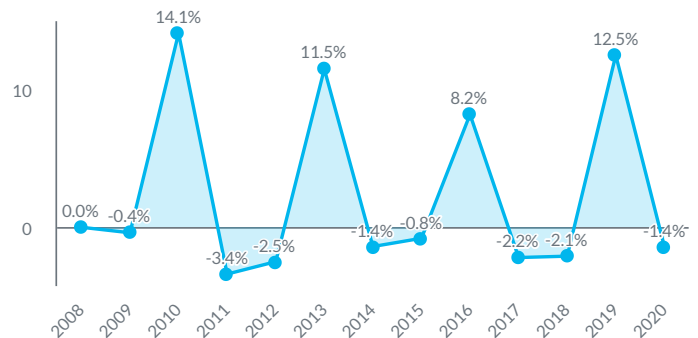
funding increase higher than student numbers growth

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics



+18.5% students
in 2008/09-2019/20



+12% academic staff
in 2010/11-2019/20
(+17.4% in 2010/11-2020/21)



+14% non-academic staff
in 2010/11-2019/20
(+15.8% in 2010/11-2020/21)

AUSTRIA

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ²	Inflation rate ³	Student numbers ⁴	Staff numbers ⁵
Sources	Universities Austria	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Universities Austria	Universities Austria
2008	1,870,000,000	0.64%	3.2%	223,562	32.698*
2009	1,870,000,000	0.65%	0.4%	255,561	33.715*
2010	2,169,000,000	0.73%	1.7%	265,030	33,918
2011	2,169,000,000	0.70%	3.6%	272,061	34,276
2012	2,169,000,000	0.68%	2.6%	275,523	34,064
2013	2,470,000,000	0.76%	2.1%	273,280	34,569
2014	2,470,000,000	0.74%	1.5%	277,678	35,090
2015	2,470,000,000	0.72%	0.8%	280,550	35,621
2016	2,699,000,000	0.75%	1%	280,783	35,733
2017	2,699,000,000	0.73%	2.2%	278,052	36,305
2018	2,699,000,000	0.70%	2.1%	268,586	36,306
2019	3,081,000,000	0.77%	1.5%	264,945	38,220 c
2020	3,081,000,000 o	N/A	1.4%	268,335	39,629

Last update: 23/03/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR provided to public universities by national authorities only, not including EU funds. The indicated figures exclude university hospitals and clinical additional expenditure and expenditure for construction and maintainance as well as funding of Donauuniversität Krems (University for continuing education Krems).

² Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices (revised as described in PFO report).

³ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁴ Total number of regular students (headcount) enrolled in public universities in Austria (excluding further education). Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁵ Total number of academic and non-academic staff employed in public universities in Austria. Doctoral candidates who have a working contract with the university are included. Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

*Data not used because of change of methodology in the data collection in Austria. Data is taken into account from 2010/2011 onwards.

N/A= not available

c = corrected

f = forecast/estimate

p = provisional

o = officially announced figure



Public funding to universities (2008-2020)

The French-speaking community of Belgium has been demonstrating the overall positive funding trajectory over the last decade. However, the investment effort has substantially reduced since 2017 despite the expanding student population. Additional funding was announced at the end of 2020 to cover costs resulting from pandemic-related measures, as well as to partially account for the increase in the number of students.



+24.2%

funding increase in real terms
(+24.3% in 2008-2019)



+51.8%

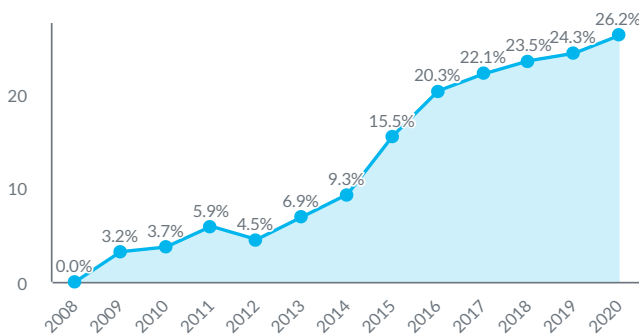
funding increase in nominal terms
(+48.9% in 2008-2019)



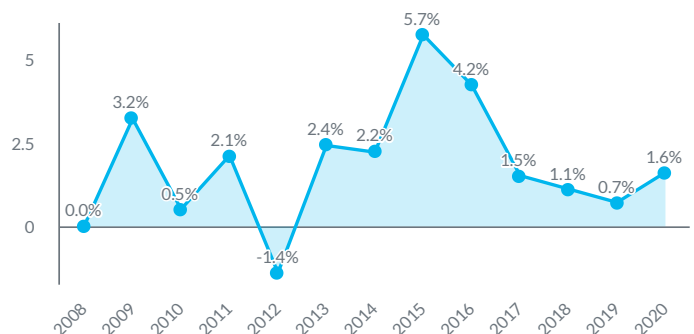
real funding increase lower than student numbers growth

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics (2008/09-2018/19)



+38.4% students



+21% academic staff



+7% non-academic staff

BELGIUM - French-speaking Community

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ²	Inflation rate ³	Student numbers ⁴	Staff numbers ⁵
Sources	Rectors' Conference, French Community of Belgium	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Rectors' Conference, French Community of Belgium	Rectors' Conference, French Community of Belgium
2008	501,268,000	N/A	4.5%	73,601	13,629
2009	517,102,000	N/A	0%	77,346	13,994
2010	531,896,000	N/A	2.3%	84,550	14,336
2011	561,481,000	N/A	3.4%	86,381	14,699
2012	568,414,000	N/A	2.6%	87,711	14,817
2013	589,082,000	N/A	1.2%	89,459	14,991
2014	604,725,000	N/A	0.5%	91,887	15,054 c
2015	643,004,000	N/A	0.6%	95,630	15,252 c
2016	681,647,000	N/A	1.8%	97,409	14,157 c
2017	707,284,000	N/A	2.2%	99,203	14,801 c
2018	731,877,000	N/A	2.3%	101,844	14,912 c
2019	745,959,000 c	N/A	1.2%	N/A	N/A
2020	760,899,000	N/A	0.4%	N/A	N/A

Last update: 23/03/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR provided to universities by the French-speaking Community government, not including EU funds. These figures only cover institutional funding ("allocations de fonctionnement") provided by the French-speaking Community to universities.

² Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices.

³ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁴ Total number of students (headcount) enrolled in universities in the French-speaking Community in Belgium. Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁵ Total number of academic and non-academic staff employed in universities in the French-speaking Community in Belgium. Doctoral candidates are excluded. Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available

c = corrected

f = forecast/estimate

p = provisional

o = officially announced figure



Public funding to public universities (2008-2019)

Public funding for Flemish universities has grown consistently since 2008 with the exception of 2010 and 2016. The investment was back on track in 2017 and further consolidated in 2018 and 2019, as additional funds were channeled into research and teaching. However, funding increased at a lower pace than student numbers, calling for further investment in staff and infrastructure. Changes in the research funding model and performance-based funding are among the issues that are currently debated in Flanders.



+35%

funding increase in real terms



+61.7%

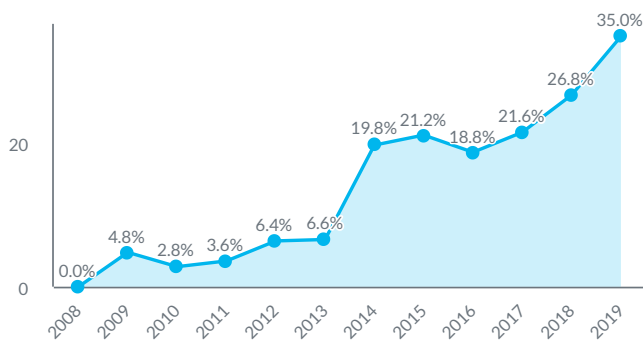
funding increase in nominal terms



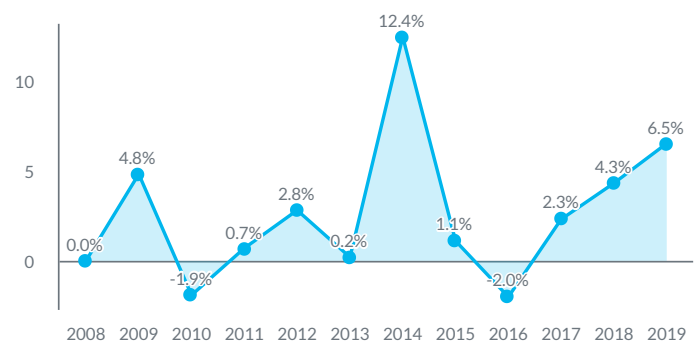
funding increase lower than
student numbers growth

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics (2008/09-2019/20)



+57.7% students



+41% academic staff



+33% non-academic staff

BELGIUM - Flanders

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ²	Inflation rate ³	Student numbers ⁴	Staff numbers ⁵
Sources	Flemish Interuniversity Council	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Flemish Interuniversity Council	Flemish Interuniversity Council
2008	1,190,218,607	N/A	4.5%	95,684	19,771
2009	1,247,052,870	N/A	0%	102,366	20,788
2010	1,252,044,500	N/A	2.3%	107,488	21,111
2011	1,303,362,189	N/A	3.4%	112,030	21,444
2012	1,374,623,095	N/A	2.6%	115,514	22,117
2013	1,394,656,455	N/A	1.2%	145,329	24,681
2014	1,574,912,095	N/A	0.5%	146,825	25,003
2015	1,602,763,369	N/A	0.6%	145,681	25,120
2016	1,598,850,897	N/A	1.8%	145,891	25,442
2017	1,672,427,124	N/A	2.2%	142,439	25,905
2018	1,784,361,277	N/A	2.3%	146,428	26,648
2019	1,924,277,918	N/A	1.2%	150,908	27,347
2020	N/A	N/A	0.4%	N/A	N/A

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR provided to the five public universities by the Flemish regional government, the EU and the Belgian federal government.

² Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices.

³ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁴ Total number of students (headcount) enrolled in universities in Flanders (including students enrolled in non-publicly funded programmes). Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁵ Total number of academic and non-academic staff employed in universities in Flanders (excluding university colleges). Doctoral candidates are included. Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available

c = corrected

f = forecast/estimate

p = provisional

o = officially announced figure



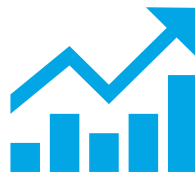
Public funding to public universities (2008-2020)

In 2017, Croatia closed its funding gap (compared to 2008 levels). Since 2018, there has been a sizeable funding increase, demonstrating the country's efforts to sustain the investment above economic growth. Nevertheless, Croatia is a system under pressure, as student numbers have been growing faster than public funding over the period 2008-19. However, demographic pressure has now been diminishing since 2017/18 and the country is expected to feature differently in the proposed categories next year.



+12.3%

funding increase in real terms



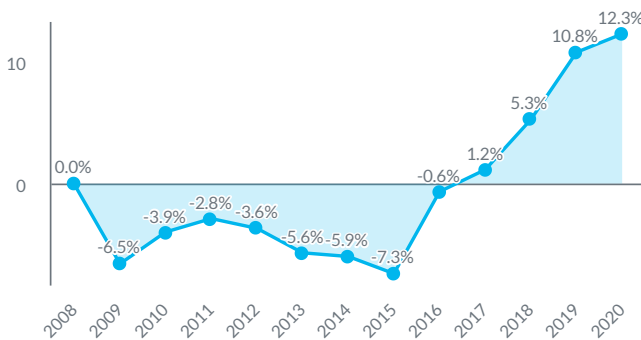
funding increase higher than economic growth



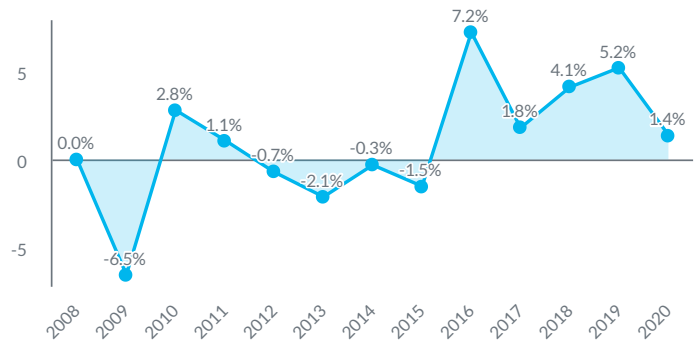
funding increase lower than student numbers growth (2008-2019) but higher when considering 2008-2020

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics (2008/09-2019/20)



+6.5% students



+30% academic staff



+18% non-academic staff

CROATIA

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding (in national currency) (HRK) ²	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ³	Inflation rate ⁴	Student numbers ⁵	Staff numbers ⁶
Sources	European Commission official exchange rate November 2020	Ministry of Science, Higher Education and Sports of Croatia	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Ministry of Science, Higher Education and Sports of Croatia	Ministry of Science, Higher Education and Sports of Croatia
2008	352,227,057 c	2,667,376,427	0.73% c	5.8%	138,859	12,058
2009	336,634,818 c	2,549,298,130	0.75% c	2.2%	149,636	12,658
2010	349,859,787 c	2,649,449,349	0.77% c	1.1%	153,960	12,866
2011	361,436,480 c	2,737,118,364	0.80% c	2.2%	157,289	13,185
2012	370,795,128 c	2,807,990,364	0.84% c	3.4%	165,214	13,243
2013	371,392,262 c	2,812,512,398	0.85% c	2.3%	166,054	13,353
2014	371,022,023 c	2,809,708,620	0.85% c	0.2%	162,022	13,348
2015	364,557,392 c	2,760,752,681	0.82% c	-0.3%	177,919	14,861
2016	388,357,798 c	2,940,990,521	0.83% c	-0.6%	164,427	14,966
2017	400,613,047 c	3,033,798,160	0.81% c	1.3%	167,452	14,942
2018	423,469,301 c	3,206,886,032	0.82% c	1.6%	157,736	15,148
2019	448,803,310 c	3,398,737,672	0.83%	0.8%	147,881	15,266
2020	455,236,478	3,447,455,340	N/A	0%	143,742	15,541

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR provided to public higher education institutions by national public authorities only, not including EU funds

² Total public funding provided to public higher education institutions by national public authorities only, not including EU funds, in national currency.

³ Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices (revised as described in PFO report)

⁴ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation

⁵ Students (FTEs) enrolled in public HEIs per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁶ Total academic and non-academic staff employed at higher education institutions in Croatia. Doctoral candidates are included. Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009)

N/A= not available

c = corrected

f = forecast/estimate

p = provisional

o = officially announced figure



Public funding to public universities (2008-2020)

The positive funding trend witnessed since 2017 in the Czech Republic came to a halt in 2020, with the country still not reaching its pre-crisis level of investment in higher education, despite a growing GDP. Smaller student cohorts have led to lower numbers of academic staff, while non-academic staff decreases to a smaller extent.



-7.1%

funding decrease in real terms



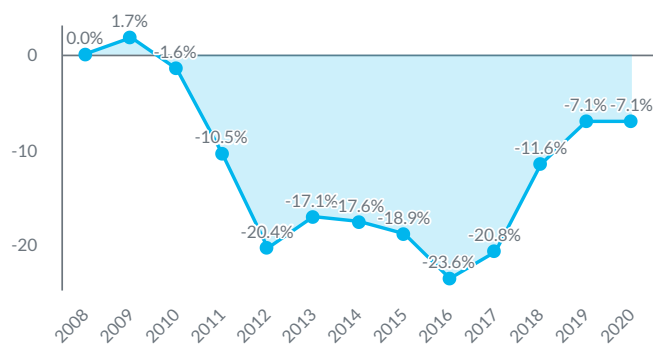
funding decrease despite economic growth



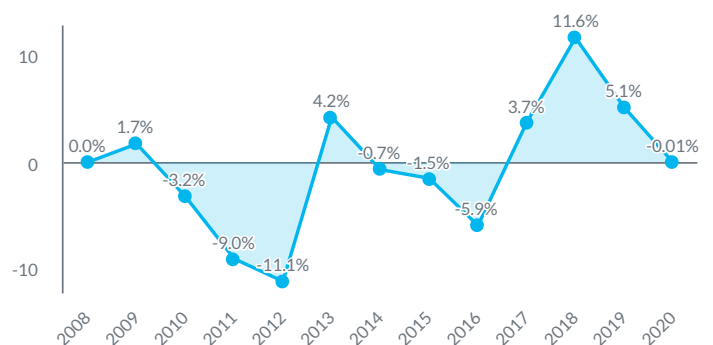
funding decline lower than student numbers decline

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



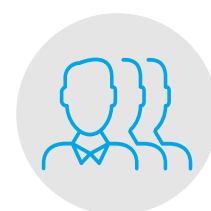
University demographics (2008/09-2019/20)



-18.3% students



-14% academic staff



-8% non-academic staff

CZECH REPUBLIC

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding (in national currency) (CZK) ²	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ³	Inflation rate ⁴	Student numbers ⁵	Staff numbers ⁶
Sources	European Commission official exchange rate November 2020	Czech Rectors Conference	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Czech Rectors Conference; Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of Czech Republic	Czech Rectors Conference; Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of Czech Republic
2008	880,684,705 c	24,101,935,000	0.54% c	6.3%	319,148	32,903
2009	900,354,735 c	24,640,250,000	0.60% c	0.6%	333,148	33,277
2010	881,716,339 c	24,130,168,000	0.56% c	1.2%	339,361	32,799
2011	819,370,695 c	22,423,938,000	0.50% c	2.2%	339,054	31,684
2012	754,689,925 c	20,653,802,000	0.46% c	3.5%	333,501	29,265
2013	796,710,925 c	21,803,802,000	0.50% c	1.4%	324,594	29,056
2014	795,505,105 c	21,770,802,000	0.50% c	0.4%	305,614	29,438
2015	785,307,955 c	21,491,733,845	0.46% c	0.3%	292,578	29,854
2016	744,578,393 c	20,377,076,980	0.42% c	0.6%	280,340	30,940
2017	790,253,393 c	21,627,076,980	0.41% c	2.4%	269,689	30,036
2018	899,310,677 c	24,611,676,980	0.43%	2%	261,796	29,345
2019	969,357,857 c	26,528,676,980	0.43%	2.6%	260,776	29,260
2020	1,001,622,677	27,411,676,980 o	N/A	3.3%	N/A	N/A

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR provided to public and state universities by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, not including EU funds.

² Total public funding in CZK provided to public and state universities by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, not including EU funds.

³ Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices (revised as described in PFO report).

⁴ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁵ Total number of students enrolled in public HEIs in Czech Republic (headcount). Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁶ Total number of academic and non-academic staff employed in public HEIs in Czech Republic (FTE). Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available

c = corrected

f = forecast/estimate

p = provisional

o = officially announced figure



Public funding to public universities (2008-2019)

Although public funding has been expanding at a faster pace than economic growth in Denmark, it has not been sufficient to accommodate the rapidly growing student body. While in real terms the annual funding increase was close to zero in the last two years, student numbers were growing at a stable pace. A new funding allocation model was introduced for teaching in 2019 and the government is also discussing a new funding allocation model for research. A possible cap on intake of international students is another area for discussion in Denmark.



+23.7%

funding increase in real terms



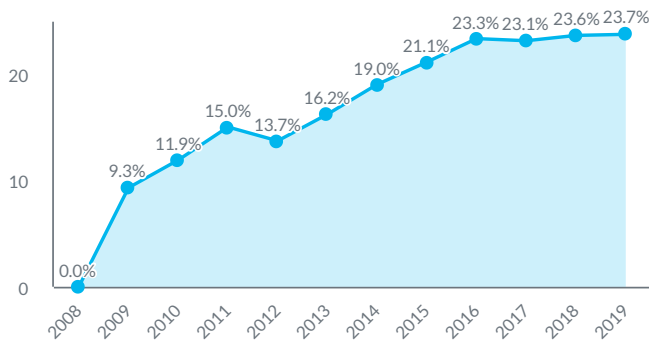
funding increase higher than economic growth



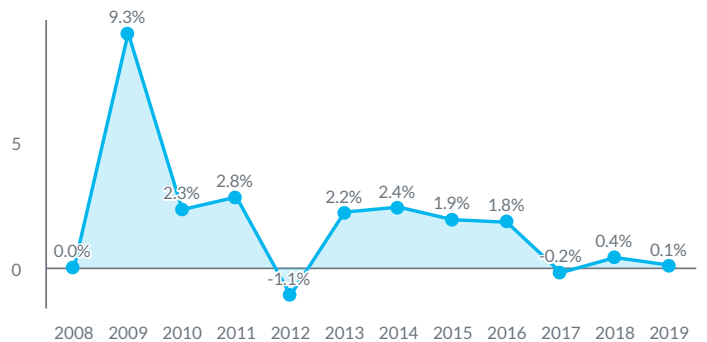
funding increase lower than student numbers growth

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics (2008/09-2018/19)



+55.4% students



+34% academic staff*
(+34% for 2008/09-2019/20)



+16% non-academic staff
(+18% for 2008/09-2019/20)

DENMARK

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding (in national currency) (DKK) ²	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ³	Inflation rate ⁴	Student numbers ⁵	Staff numbers ⁶
Sources	European Commission official exchange rate November 2020	Universities Denmark	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Universities Denmark	Universities Denmark
2008	1,815,913,759 c	13,521,323,599	0.75%	3.6%	74,445	26,596
2009	2,004,638,470 c	14,926,570,884	0.87% c	1%	76,734	28,039
2010	2,096,191,669 c	15,608,277,506	0.86%	2.2%	80,128	29,579
2011	2,211,927,622 c	16,470,049,310	0.89%	2.7%	85,408	30,405
2012	2,239,073,743 c	16,672,179,773	0.88%	2.4%	92,002	31,721
2013	2,299,488,777 c	17,122,031,105	0.89%	0.5%	98,693	33,450
2014	2,363,572,335 c	17,599,198,327	0.89%	0.4%	108,502	33,997
2015	2,412,025,382 c	17,959,980,509	0.88%	0.2%	110,494	33,874
2016	2,455,342,199 c	18,282,518,235	0.87%	0%	111,926	33,470
2017	2,478,246,321 c	18,453,062,705	0.84%	1.1%	115,433	33,213
2018	2,504,846,089 c	18,651,125,013	0.83% c	0.7%	115,709	33,396
2019	2,524,309,041	18,796,046,467	0.81%	0.7%	N/A	33,565
2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.3%	N/A	N/A

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR provided to public universities by all public authorities in the country with a significant funding role for higher education. The figures do not include EU funding (1 bn DKK) or grants from Danish research councils or ministries through open competition (around 3.5 bn DKK).

² Total public funding in national currency provided to higher education institutions by all public authorities in the country with a significant funding role for higher education, not including EU funds.

³ Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices (revised as described in PFO report).

⁴ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁵ Total number of students enrolled in the 8 member universities of Universities Denmark, counted in full time equivalents (FTEs). Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁶ Total number of academic and non-academic staff enrolled in the 8 member universities of Universities Denmark, counted in FTEs (include full-time and part-time staff). Doctoral candidates are included. Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available c = corrected f = forecast/estimate p = provisional o = officially announced figure



Public funding to higher education (2008-2017)

Estonian universities continue operating with considerably fewer resources than in 2008 despite two significant funding efforts in 2011 and more recently in 2017 (funding data was not available after this date). The country also experiences a significant shrinking of the student population. As of 2020, all public universities in Estonia will have a new governance system based on a dual model. With the majority of external members, the Council (the management body) will have responsibility for strategic and financial issues, while the Senate (the academic decision-making body) will be responsible for R&D, education and creativity. The current policy debate in research funding (not covered by data presented here) is focused on reviewing the share of block grant and project funding and reconsidering the selection of thematic priorities for funding in order to increase the overall research funding.



-23.3%

funding decrease in real terms



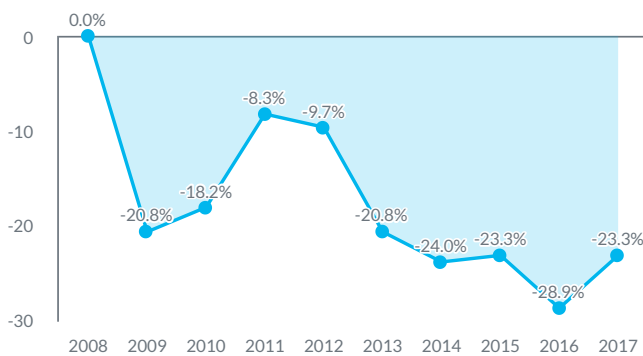
funding decrease despite economic growth



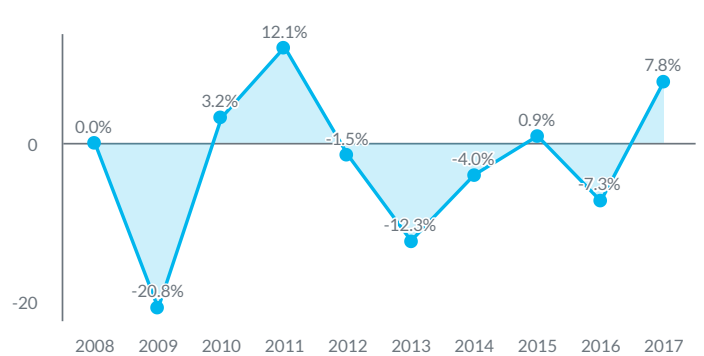
funding decrease higher than student numbers decline

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



Higher education demographics



-32.3% students
in 2008/09-2018/19
(-31.9% in 2008/09-2017/18)



academic staff
no data



non-academic staff
no data

ESTONIA

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ²	Inflation rate ³	Student numbers ⁴	Staff numbers
Sources	HaridusSilm (Statistical Database of the Estonian Ministry of Education and Research)	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Estonian Rectors' Conference	(not available)
2008	254,500,000	1.53% c	10.6%	66,333	N/A
2009	202,100,000	1.42% c	0.2%	66,966	N/A
2010	214,300,000	1.44% c	2.7%	67,055	N/A
2011	252,500,000	1.50% c	5.1%	65,389	N/A
2012	259,200,000	1.44% c	4.2%	62,483	N/A
2013	234,600,000	1.23% c	3.2%	57,791	N/A
2014	226,300,000	1.12% c	0.5%	53,254	N/A
2015	228,500,000	1.1% c	0.1%	49,590	N/A
2016	213,600,000	0.97% c	0.8%	46,621	N/A
2017	238,600,000	1% c	3.7%	45,176	N/A
2018	N/A	N/A	3.4%	44,908	N/A
2019	N/A	N/A	2.3%	N/A	N/A
2020	N/A	N/A	-0.6%	N/A	N/A

Note: Estonian funding data is provided in Euro even for the years prior to the entry into the Eurozone because of its fixed exchange rate with the Euro during that period.

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹ General government expenditure for tertiary education, including EU funds.

² Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices (revised as described in PFO report).

³ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁴ Total ISCED'97 5&6 in Estonia (including private institutions), counted in full time equivalents (FTE). Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available c = corrected f = forecast/estimate p = provisional o = officially announced figure



Public funding to public universities (2010-2020)

In May 2020, the Finnish government announced a large supplementary budget for 2020. It included a proposal for additional funding for up to 4800 new higher education student places for 2020 and 2021 and further investment in open university studies. The "university index" was revised positively. However, these revisions do not provide universities with sufficient resources to meet the goal of raising the share of higher education in Finland to 50%, as set by the government. The new funding model will be implemented as of 2021. The model slightly simplifies and increases the transparency of funding allocation. The share of funding supporting strategic development has been increased in the model and has been a focus for debate.



+1.5%

funding increase in real terms (2010-2020)



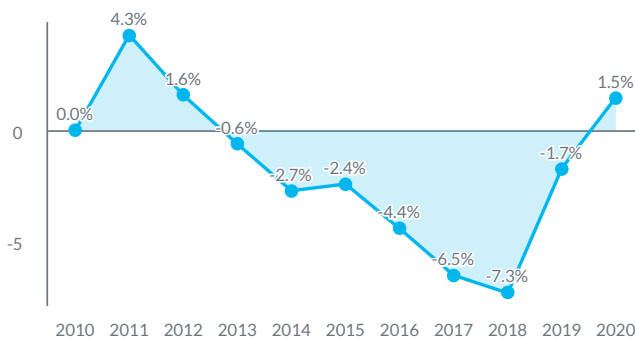
Negative average annual funding growth (in real terms) despite economic growth (2010-2019)



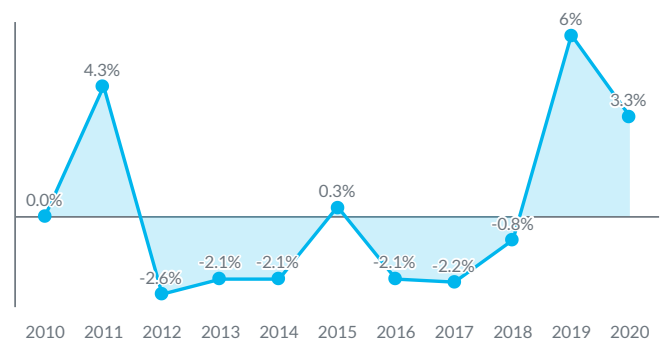
funding increase lower than student numbers growth (2010-2020)

Funding volumes (real terms)

2010 basis



Annual change



University demographics (2010/11-2019/20)



+4.3% students

(+4.3% from 2010/11 to 2020/21)



-3% academic staff



-11% non-academic staff

FINLAND

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ²	Inflation rate ³	Student numbers ⁴	Staff numbers ⁵
Sources	Statistics Finland	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Vipunen Education statistics Finland	Vipunen Education statistics Finland
2008	N/A	N/A	3.9%	111,775	N/A
2009	N/A	N/A	1.6%	112,455	N/A
2010	2,162,000,000	1.15% c	1.7%	112,110	31,528
2011	2,330,000,000	1.18%	3.3%	112,338	31,504
2012	2,340,000,000	1.16% c	3.2%	111,492	31,737
2013	2,341,000,000	1.15%	2.2%	110,451	31,481
2014	2,320,000,000	1.12% c	1.2%	111,726	30,752
2015	2,323,000,000	1.10% c	-0.2%	111,648	29,957
2016	2,284,000,000	1.05% c	0.4%	111,360	28,728
2017	2,253,000,000	1% c	0.8%	112,155	28,402
2018	2,261,000,000 c	0.97% c	1.2%	113,493	29,008
2019	2,423,000,000 c	1.01%	1.1%	116,970	29,450
2020	2,513,000,000 f	N/A	0.4%	116,901	30,050

Last update: 23/03/2021

¹ Total public funding consists of expenditure of universities. Consumption expenditure refers to budget funded operating expenditure as entered in the financial statements of the state. Additionally, the consumption expenditure of university education and research includes external research funding of universities. Due to changes caused by the amended Universities Act, the data from 2010 onwards are not fully comparable with those on earlier years. EU structural funds are included.

² Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices (revised as described in PFO report).

³ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁴ Total number of university students (all degrees, FTEs). The numbers do not include the students at The National Defence University. Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁵ Total number of academic and non-academic staff employed at public universities in Finland (FTEs). Doctoral candidates employed by the university are included. Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available

c = corrected

f = forecast/estimate

p = provisional

o = officially announced figure



Public funding to public universities (2008-2019)

France has been featuring a relatively stable level of investment since 2008, with room for improvement considering that the funding increase has been lower than economic growth. The demographic pressure reflected by rising student and staff numbers has not been met by sufficient investment so far. An important discussion theme in the last year has been the preparation and approval of the new programming law for research and higher education, which is meant to set out the financing and organisation of the sector for the period 2021-2030. The law notably foresees funding increases that will first and foremost be channeled via competitive funding and contains a series of measures related to staff careers.



+8%

funding increase in
real terms



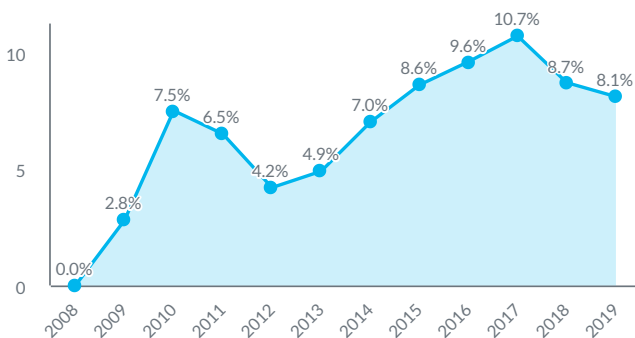
funding increase lower than
economic growth



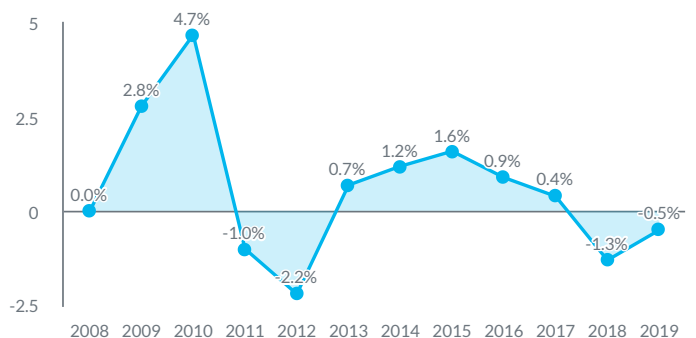
funding increase lower
than student numbers growth

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics (2008/09-2019/20)



+16% students



+4% academic staff



+9% non-academic staff

FRANCE

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ²	Inflation rate ³	Student numbers ⁴	Staff numbers ⁵
Sources	French Conference of University Presidents	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Ministry for Education and Research	Ministry for Education and Research
2008	21,000,000,000	1.05%	3.2%	1,863,000	137,585
2009	21,600,000,000	1.12%	0.1%	1,913,000	140,840
2010	23,000,000,000 c	1.15%	1.7%	1,909,000	141,309
2011	23,300,000,000 c	1.13%	2.3%	1,926,000	140,866
2012	23,300,000,000	1.12%	2.2%	1,950,000	140,820
2013	23,700,000,000	1.12%	1%	1,986,000	140,084
2014	24,300,000,000 c	1.13% c	0.6%	2,039,000	142,434
2015	24,700,000,000 c	1.12% c	0.1%	2,101,000	142,377
2016	25,000,000,000 c	1.12% c	0.3%	2,131,000	142,800
2017	25,400,000,000 c	1.11% c	1.2%	2,161,500	145,100
2018	25,600,000,000 c	1.08% c	2.1%	2,137,000 c	143,769 c
2019	25,800,000,000	1.06%	1.3%	2,161,000	145,838
2020	N/A	N/A	0.5%	N/A	N/A

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹Total public funding in EUR provided to higher education and research by national public authorities at different levels. The funding series includes all public funding from the state (85% of funding), territories (12%) and other public administration units (3%); as well as funding from European sources, chambres of commerce, industry, and agriculture.

²Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices (revised as described in PFO report).

³Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁴Total number of students (FTEs) enrolled in public HEIs in France. Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁵Total number of academic and non-academic staff (headcount) employed in public HEIs in France, coming under the Ministry of Higher Education and Research (HEI staff that come under other ministries are excluded). Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available

c = corrected

f = forecast/estimate

p = provisional

o = officially announced figure



Public funding to public higher education institutions (2008-2019)

Germany has been steadily increasing its funding for public HEIs which has grown by more than one third in real terms over the last decade. While the investment level remains above GDP growth, it is lower than the rapid increase in student numbers. As a result, basic funding for universities is mostly stagnating, whereas the level of third-party funding for research is growing. In several states ('Länder') budgets cuts are under consideration due to massively reduced tax revenue.



+36.4%

funding increase in real terms



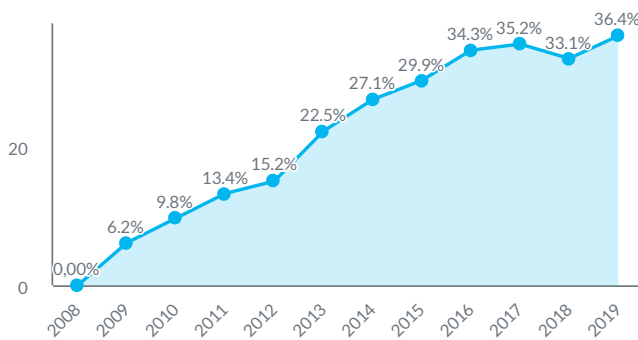
funding increase higher than economic growth



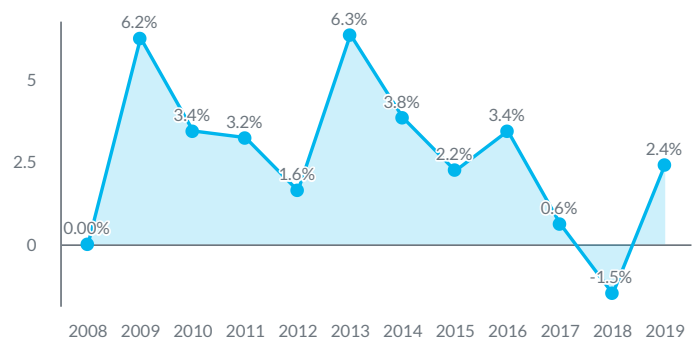
funding increase lower than student numbers growth

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics (2008/09-2019/20)



+45% students



+48% academic staff



+26% non-academic staff

GERMANY

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ²	Inflation rate ³	Student numbers ⁴	Staff numbers ⁵
Sources	German Rectors' Conference	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	German Rectors' Conference	German Rectors' Conference
2008	20,200,000,000	0.79%	2.8%	2,000,000	537,335
2009	21,500,000,000	0.88%	0.2%	2,100,000	573,364
2010	22,500,000,000	0.88%	1.1%	2,200,000	601,682
2011	23,800,000,000	0.88%	2.5%	2,400,000	619,233
2012	24,700,000,000	0.90%	2.2%	2,500,000	640,021
2013	26,700,000,000	0.95%	1.6%	2,600,000	662,076
2014	27,900,000,000	0.95%	0.8%	2,700,000	675,146
2015	28,700,000,000	0.95% c	0.7%	2,800,000	684,385
2016	29,800,000,000	0.95% c	0.4%	2,800,000	691,363
2017	30,500,000,000	0.94% c	1.7%	2,800,000	704,607
2018	30,600,000,000 c	0.91% c	1.9%	2,900,000	719,203 c
2019	31,800,000,000	0.92%	1.4%	2,900,000	737,762
2020	N/A	N/A	0.4%	N/A	N/A

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR provided to public higher education institutions by all public authorities in the country with a significant funding role for higher education (Federal government and Länder).

² Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices (revised as described in PFO report).

³ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁴ Total number of students (headcount) enrolled in universities and universities of applied sciences in Germany (public and private). Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁵ Total number of academic and non-academic staff (headcount) in Germany (including temporary, part-time staff). Doctoral candidates are included as far as they are employed by a higher education institution. Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available

c = corrected

f = forecast/estimate

p = provisional

o = officially announced figure



Public funding to higher education institutions (2008-2019)

Hungarian universities have undergone massive budget cuts before the government started reinvesting in the system. While this has led the country to technically close the funding gap in 2019 (compared to 2008), it has come at the cost of significant changes to the regulatory framework, progressively curbing down university autonomy from 2014-15. Student numbers continuously decline over the entire period in the context of negative demographic trends.



+4.2%

funding increase in real terms



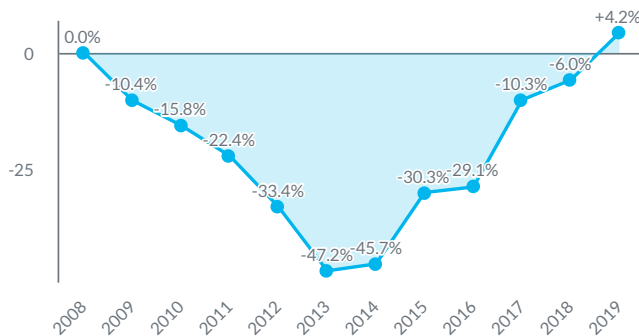
funding increase lower than economic growth



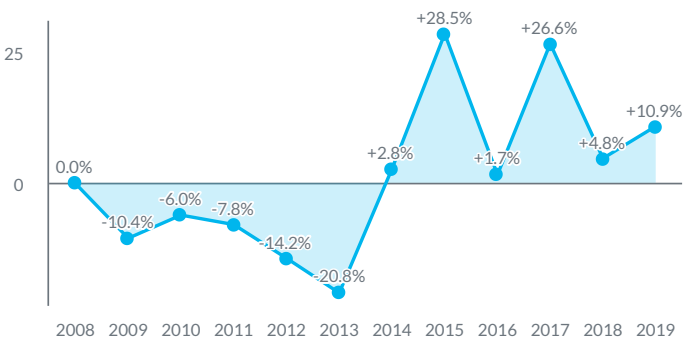
funding increase while student numbers decline

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics (2008/09-2018/19)



-26.1% students



+4% academic staff



+56% non-academic staff

HUNGARY

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding (in national currency) (HUF) ²	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ³	Inflation rate ⁴	Student numbers ⁵	Staff numbers ⁶
Sources	European Commission official exchange rate November 2020	Hungarian Rectors' Conference	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Hungarian Rectors' Conference	Hungarian Rectors' Conference
2008	563,040,000 c	207,000,000,000	0.52% c	6%	381,033	51,871
2009	524,960,000 c	193,000,000,000	0.56% c	4%	370,331	53,165
2010	516,800,000 c	190,000,000,000	0.52% c	4.7%	361,347	57,015
2011	495,040,000 c	182,000,000,000	0.49% c	3.9%	359,824	54,114
2012	448,800,000 c	165,000,000,000	0.45% c	5.7%	338,467	54,317
2013	361,760,000 c	133,000,000,000	0.35% c	1.7%	320,124	52,337
2014	371,788,912 c	136,687,100,000	0.35% c	0%	306,524	54,563
2015	477,965,907 c	175,722,760,000	0.42% c	0.1%	295,316	57,722
2016	488,022,400 c	179,420,000,000	0.42% c	0.4%	287,018	57,496
2017	632,334,720 c	232,476,000,000	0.5% c	2.4%	283,350	62,098
2018	682,034,560 c	250,748,000,000	0.5% c	2.9%	281,461	68,196
2019	782,146,894 c	287,554,005,000	0.54%	3.4%	N/A	N/A
2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.4%	N/A	N/A

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR provided to higher education institutions by national public authorities only, not including EU funds.

² Total public funding provided to higher education institutions by national public authorities only, not including EU funds, in national currency.

³ Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices (revised as described in PFO report).

⁴ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁵ Total number of students enrolled in public higher education institutions in Hungary, counted in full time equivalents (FTE). Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁶ Total number of academic and non-academic staff (headcount) employed in public higher education institutions in Hungary. Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available c = corrected f = forecast/estimate p = provisional o = officially announced figure



Public funding to higher education institutions (2008-2020)

In a context of robust economic growth, Iceland has significantly re-invested in the sector, as proven by the steady funding increase since 2013. Nevertheless, the scale of annual increases has been diminishing for three consecutive years. Student numbers, which had stabilised, seem to increase again as a response to the pandemic. The Ministry has appointed a working group with the goal of improving the quality, competence and efficiency of universities. One of the tasks of this group is to review the funding model. Recommendations are expected in 2021.



+34.2%
funding increase in real terms



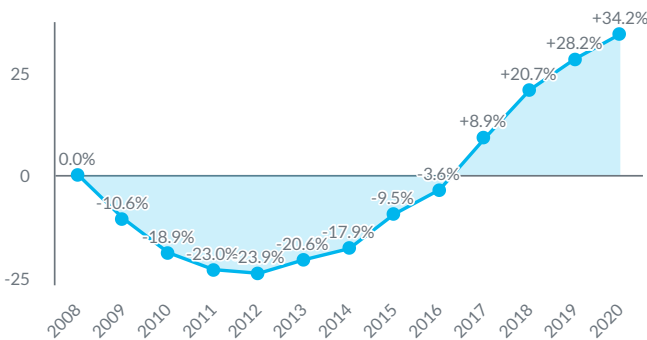
funding increase higher than
economic growth



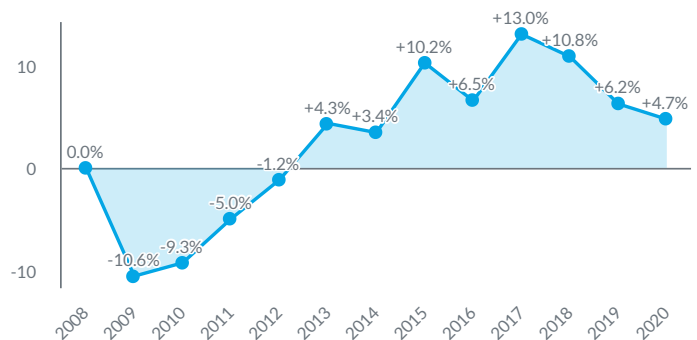
funding increase higher than
student numbers growth

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics (2009/10-2019/20)



+8.6% students

(+8.6% between 2009/10
and 2020/21)



+7% academic staff

(+10.6% between 2009/10
and 2020/21)



+27% non-academic staff

(+51% between 2009/10
and 2020/21)

ICELAND

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding (in national currency) (ISK) ²	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ³	Inflation rate ⁴	Student numbers ⁵	Staff numbers ⁶
Sources	European Commission official exchange rate November 2020	Icelandic Rectors' Conference	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Icelandic Rectors' Conference	Icelandic Rectors' Conference
2008	86,070,180 c	14,203,000,000	0.79% c	12.8%	12,587	1,066
2009	89,457,720 c	14,762,000,000	0.95% c	16.3%	13,044	1,260
2010	87,191,280 c	14,338,000,000	0.84% c	7.5%	13,818	1,275
2011	86,306,520 c	14,242,000,000	0.79% c	4.2%	13,843	1,278
2012	90,445,500 c	14,925,000,000	0.79% c	6%	13,827	1,283
2013	98,226,540 c	16,209,000,000	0.81% c	4.1%	14,377	1,316
2014	102,583,680 c	16,928,000,000	0.77% c	1%	14,035	1,343
2015	113,328,060 c	18,701,000,000	0.72% c	0.3%	14,195	1,391
2016	121,684,800 c	20,080,000,000	0.65% c	0.8%	14,121	1,425
2017	135,198,600 c	22,310,000,000	0.62% c	-1.7%	14,129	1,433
2018	150,924,300 c	24,905,000,000	0.69% c	0.7%	14,254	1,455
2019	163,504,860 c	26,981,000,000	0.76%	2%	14,170	1,462
2020	173,140,260	28,571,000,000 f	N/A	1.2%	14,170	1,622

Last update: 25/03/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR provided to higher education institutions by national public authorities.

² Total public funding in national currency provided to higher education institutions by national public authorities only, not including EU funds (current prices).

³ Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices (revised as described in PFO report).

⁴ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁵ Total number of students enrolled in publicly funded higher education institutions (public and private) in Iceland, counted in full time equivalents (FTE). Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁶ Total number of academic and non-academic staff (FTE) employed by the University of Iceland which constitutes about 2/3 of the publicly funded Higher Education Institutions (public and private). Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009). The large increase reported in 2020 reflects increased research activity and specific government funding linked to the Covid-19 pandemic.

N/A= not available

c = corrected

f = forecast/estimate

p = provisional

o = officially announced figure



Public funding to public higher education institutions (2008-2020)

Recurrent funding to Irish universities has been growing for four consecutive years with a significant re-investment in 2019 and in 2020. This year's funding includes once-off covid-support funding of about €155 million in recognition of the significant additional costs arising from the impact of the pandemic. Yet the increase in the level of funding for teaching was modest when continuing growth in students numbers and cost increases arising from national pay agreements are taken in to account. Restrictions remain in place in respect of core staffing numbers but some growth in core staffing numbers have been sanctioned in 2020, and now translates in a positive growth of academic staff over the period. Various developments related to governance and funding are ongoing, including a review of the economic impact of funding options for higher education (due to be concluded in 2021) and preparations for drafting the legislation governing the Higher Education Authority (the agency responsible for funding and regulation of higher education). The latter is expected to have an impact on university governance, while the process around the creation of Technological Universities, which involves the merger of Institutes of Technology, continues.



-9.5%

funding decrease in real terms



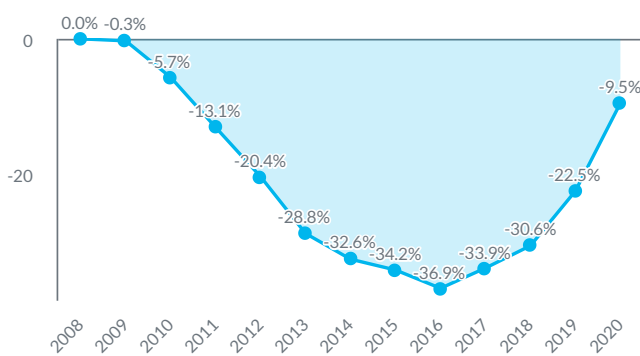
funding decrease despite economic growth



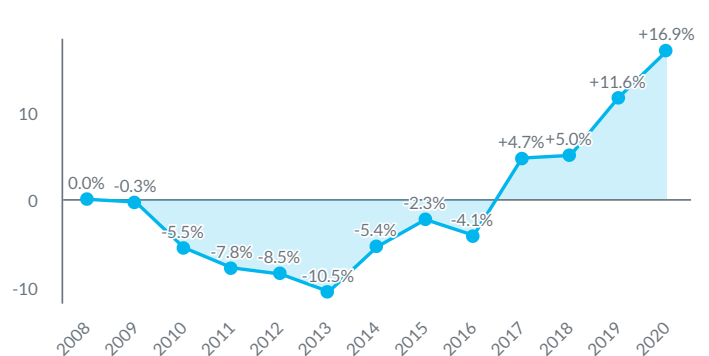
funding decrease despite student numbers growth

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics (2009-2020)



+31.7% students



+3% academic staff



-10% non-academic staff

IRELAND

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ²	Inflation rate ³	Student numbers ⁴	Staff numbers ⁵
Sources	Irish Universities' Association	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Irish Universities' Association	Irish Universities' Association
2008	1,548,400,000	0.83% c	3.1%	154,819	19,333
2009	1,517,800,000	0.89%	-1.7%	161,539	20,035
2010	1,411,600,000	0.84%	-1.6%	172,217	19,176
2011	1,317,900,000	0.77%	1.2%	177,079	18,044
2012	1,228,600,000	0.70%	1.9%	179,487	17,699
2013	1,104,800,000	0.62% c	0.5%	182,089	17,337
2014	1,048,300,000	0.54%	0.3%	186,560	17,106
2015	1,024,300,000	0.39%	0%	191,304	17,069
2016	980,300,000	0.36%	-0.2%	197,979	17,162
2017	1,029,900,000	0.34% c	0.3%	199,427	17,475
2018	1,088,700,000	0.33% c	0.7%	203,693	17,920
2019	1,226,300,000	0.34%	0.9%	206,989 c	18,518
2020	1,426,100,000 f	N/A	-0.5%	212,801	19,341
2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	216,013 f	N/A

Last update: 24/03/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR provided to HEIs by national public authorities; includes recurrent grant funding provided by the Higher Education Authority (HEA) plus capital funding provided by the HEA and research funding provided in respect of the Programme for Research in Third Level Institutions (PRTL). Further research grant funding provided by other national research agencies are not included. 2020 funding also includes a once-off allocation of emergency covid support funding of c. €155m.

² Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices (revised as described in PFO report).

³ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁴ Total number of students enrolled in public higher education institutions in Ireland, counted in full time equivalents (FTE). Student numbers are reported per academic year (**Caution! 2008 = academic year 2007/2008**).

⁵ Total number of academic and non-academic staff employed at public higher education institutions in Ireland (core funded staff only) (FTE). Doctoral candidates are excluded. Staff numbers reported are numbers employed at 1 January of each year.

N/A= not available

c = corrected

f = forecast/estimate

p = provisional

o = officially announced figure



Public funding to public universities (2008-2020)

Italy continues to be marked by critical underfunding, currently sitting at a level still 15 per cent below the one of 2008. Positive signs previously detected were not followed up in 2019 and 2020, hence the funding decrease is still higher than the economic decline. Difficult financial circumstances have led universities to cut down on non-academic staff more than on academic staff. With Spain, Italy is an exception regarding demographic trends in Western Europe.



-14.9%

funding decrease in real terms



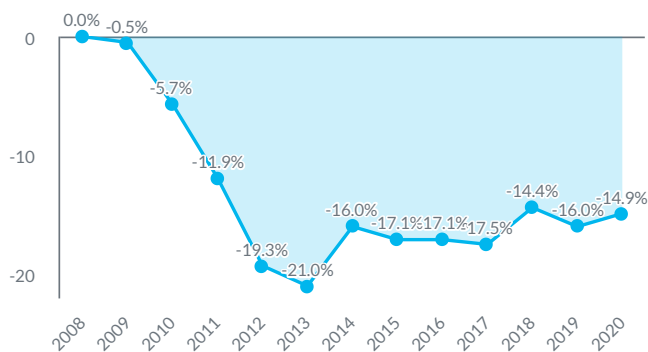
funding decrease higher than economic decline



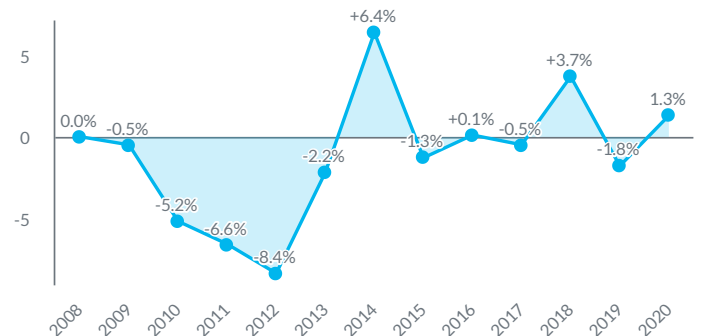
funding decrease higher than student numbers decline

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



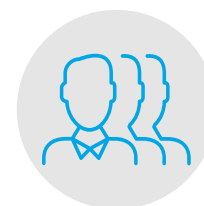
University demographics (2008/09-2019/20)



-4.6% students



-8% academic staff



-19% non-academic staff

ITALY

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ²	Inflation rate ³	Student numbers ⁴	Staff numbers ⁵
Sources	Italian Rectors' Conference	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Italian Rectors' Conference: Office for Statistics of the Ministry for Education, University and Research (USTAT)	Italian Rectors' Conference
2008	7,551,000,000	0.46%	3.5%	1,814,344	122,940 c
2009	7,573,000,000	0.48%	0.8%	1,799,542	118,171 c
2010	7,295,000,000	0.45%	1.6%	1,781,786	113,607 c
2011	7,015,000,000	0.43%	2.9%	1,751,192	111,263 c
2012	6,633,000,000	0.41%	3.3%	1,709,408	108,963 c
2013	6,576,000,000	0.41%	1.2%	1,676,956	107,775 c
2014	7,010,000,000	0.43%	0.2%	1,652,592	105,886 c
2015	6,923,000,000	0.42%	0.1%	1,641,696	105,016 c
2016	6,921,000,000	0.41%	-0.1%	1,654,680	103,385 c
2017	6,981,900,000	0.4%	1.3%	1,695,728	105,582 c
2018	7,327,000,000	0.41% c	1.2%	1,721,790	105,249 c
2019	7,241,127,399	0.4%	0.6%	1,730,563	105,701 c
2020	7,324,035,571 o	N/A	-0.1%	N/A	N/A

Last update: 24/03/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR provided to public universities by national public authorities only, not including EU funds.

² Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices (revised as described in PFO report).

³ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁴ Total number of students enrolled in public and private universities in Italy (headcount). Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁵ Total number of academic and non-academic staff employed at public higher education institutions in Italy (headcount). Post-docs and doctoral candidates are excluded. Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available

c = corrected

f = forecast/estimate

p = provisional

o = officially announced figure



Public funding to public universities (2008-2020)

Public funding to universities in Lithuania dropped by more than one fifth, whereas student numbers declined by nearly a half between 2008 and 2020. The government made some sizeable re-investments since 2018; however, this is not sufficient for the country to reach its 2008 level of funding. The scale of these increases has also been diminishing.



-19.2%

funding decrease in real terms



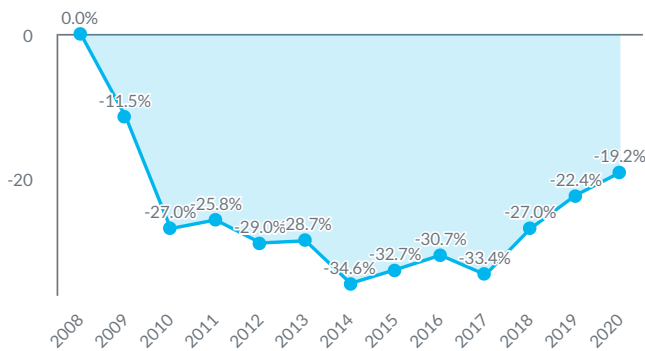
funding decrease despite economic growth



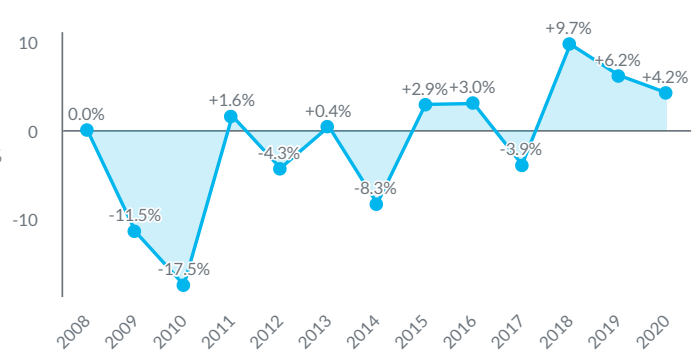
funding decrease lower than student numbers decline

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics



-48% students
in 2008/09-2019/20



-3% academic staff
in 2008/09-2016/17



-20% non-academic staff
in 2008/09-2016/17

LITHUANIA

Item	Total public funding (EUR): state subsidies and EU structural funds ¹	Public funding breakdown:		National public funding as percentage of GDP ⁴	Inflation rate ⁵	Student numbers ⁶	Staff numbers ⁷
		State subsidies ²	EU structural funds ³				
Sources	Lithuanian Rectors' Conference			Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Lithuanian Rectors' Conference	Lithuanian Rectors' Conference
2008	N/A	235,501,607	N/A	0.72%	11.1%	149,017 c	8,940
2009	224,051,931	217,173,584	6,878,347	0.81%	4.2%	144,301 c	8,731
2010	199,935,866	181,262,442	18,673,424	0.65%	1.2%	133,564 c	9,622
2011	257,568,977	191,807,796	65,761,181	0.61%	4.1%	125,046 c	9,498
2012	272,054,608	189,326,621	82,727,987	0.57%	3.2%	113,780 c	9,503
2013	275,604,614	192,242,516	83,362,098	0.55%	1.2%	104,923 c	9,497
2014	284,679,330	176,713,960	107,965,370	0.48%	0.2%	98,872	9,236
2015	312,705,602	180,663,666	132,041,936	0.48%	-0.7%	93,524	9,054
2016	224,742,000	187,336,000	37,406,000	0.48%	0.7%	87,797	8,234
2017	208,777,823	186,696,000	22,081,823	0.44%	3.7%	82,345	N/A
2018	314,506,599	210,007,000	104,499,599	0.46% c	2.5%	77,321	N/A
2019	275,984,130 c	228,083,000	47,901,130 c	0.47%	2.2%	77,525	N/A
2020	310,528,390	240,175,000 o	70,353,390	N/A	1.1%	73,166	N/A

Note: Lithuanian funding data is provided in Euro even for the years prior to the entry into the Eurozone because of its fixed exchange rate with the Euro during that period.

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹ Aggregated total of "state subsidies" and "EU structural funds".

² Direct Ministry funding provided to public universities in EUR.

³ EU structural funds channeled to universities.

⁴ National public funding as defined above (state subsidies only) as percentage of GDP at market prices (revised as described in PFO report).

⁵ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁶ Total number of students enrolled in state and private universities in Lithuania, counted in full time equivalents (FTE). Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁷ Total academic and non-academic staff employed in public universities in Lithuania (in FTE). Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available c = corrected p = provisional o = officially announced figure



Public funding to public universities (2009-2019)

Luxembourg more than doubled the public funding for the country's university over the last decade. Additional funding supported an increase in student numbers and the recruitment of new academic and non-academic staff. The current performance contract between the Ministry and the University (2018-2021) includes a competitive "bonus" element rewarding success in EU research funding programmes.



+127.4%

funding increase in real terms



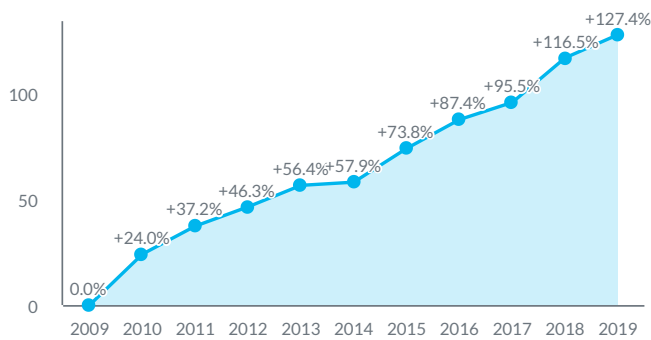
funding increase higher than economic growth



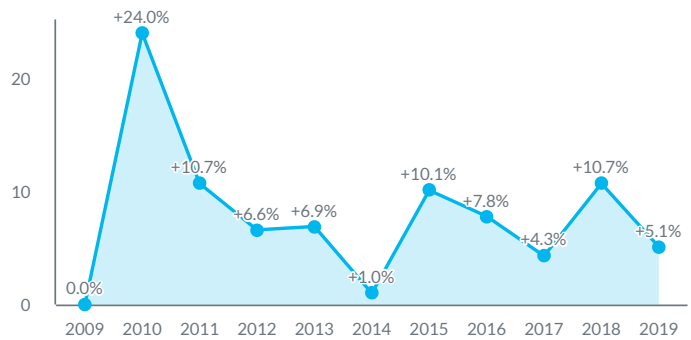
funding increase higher than student numbers growth

Funding volumes (real terms)

2009 basis



Annual change



University demographics



+47.2% students

in 2008/09-2019/20
(+35.3% in 2009/10-2019/20)



+33% academic staff

in 2012/13-2019/20



+95% non-academic staff

in 2012/13-2019/20

LUXEMBOURG

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ²	Inflation rate ³	Student numbers ⁴	Staff numbers ⁵
Sources	University of Luxembourg	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	University of Luxembourg	University of Luxembourg
2008	N/A	N/A	4.1%	4,561	N/A
2009	91,800,000	0.25%	0%	4,961	N/A
2010	117,000,000	0.29%	2.8%	5,204	N/A
2011	134,300,000	0.31%	3.7%	5,709	N/A
2012	147,300,000	0.33%	2.9%	6,308	1,126
2013	160,200,000	0.34%	1.7%	6,231	1,312
2014	162,900,000	0.33%	0.7%	6,309	1,414
2015	179,400,000	0.34% c	0.1%	6,189	1,504
2016	193,500,000	0.35% c	0%	6,153	1,587
2017	206,100,000	0.36% c	2.1%	6,366	1,741
2018	232,800,000	0.39% c	2%	6,423	1,759
2019	248,600,000	0.39%	1.6%	6,714	1,970 c
2020	N/A	N/A	0%	N/A	2,069

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR provided to higher education by all national public authorities with a significant role in university funding, including EU funds

² Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices (revised as described in PFO report)

³ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation

⁴ Total number of students enrolled at the University of Luxembourg, counted in full time equivalents (FTE). Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009)

⁵ Total number of academic and non-academic staff employed at the University of Luxembourg (FTE). Doctoral candidates with working contracts are included. 2019 data corresponds to 30/06/2019.

N/A= not available

c = corrected

f = forecast/estimate

p = provisional

o = officially announced figure



Public funding to public universities (2008-2020)

Over the period, The Netherlands have invested in public universities at a rate that has remained too slow to cater for student numbers growth. In general, however, the average funding increase is higher than average annual economic growth. In 2020, the country reports funding increases in both research and teaching. The funding allocation models for research and teaching are currently being reformed and the current public funding system is being evaluated in order to assess whether the budget currently allocated is sufficient.



+22.4%

funding increase in real terms



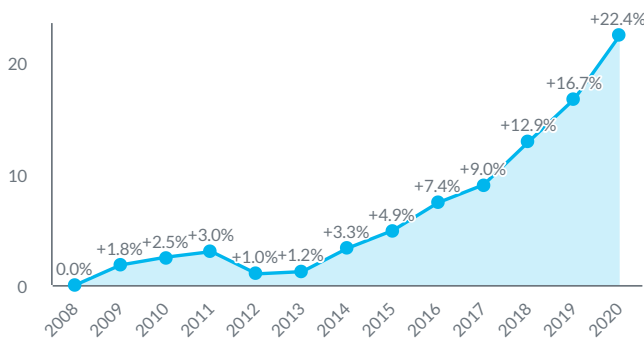
funding increase higher than economic growth



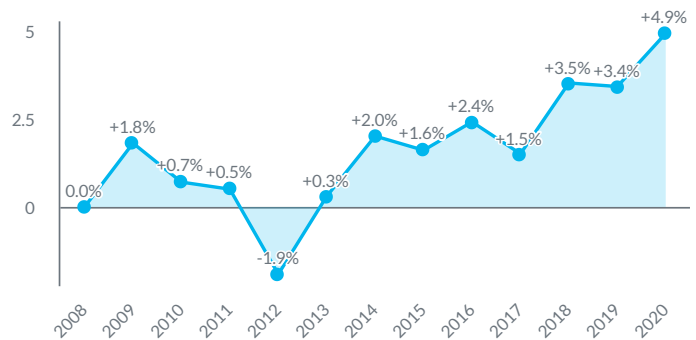
funding increase lower than student numbers growth

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics (2008/09-2019/20)



+38.4% students



+26% academic staff



+15% non-academic staff

THE NETHERLANDS

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ²	Inflation rate ³	Student numbers ⁴	Staff numbers ⁵
Sources	Dutch Rectors' Conference (VSNU)	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Dutch Rectors' Conference (VSNU)	Dutch Rectors' Conference (VSNU)
2008	3,217,000,000	0.50%	2.2%	219,221	40,684
2009	3,306,000,000	0.53%	1%	231,786	42,175
2010	3,359,000,000	0.53%	0.9%	240,755	42,910
2011	3,460,000,000	0.53%	2.5%	243,796	42,877
2012	3,489,000,000	0,53%	2.8%	239,742	42,902
2013	3,587,000,000	0.54%	2.6%	248,288	43,186
2014	3,670,000,000	0.55%	0.3%	253,465	43,605
2015	3,735,000,000	0.54%	0.2%	258,041	44,244
2016	3,828,000,000	0.54%	0.1%	264,681	45,282
2017	3,937,000,000	0.53%	1.3%	276,598 c	46,554
2018	4,141,000,000	0.54% c	1.6%	291,204 c	47,521 c
2019	4,396,000,000 c	0.54%	2.7%	303,299	49,395
2020	4,661,000,000 o	N/A	1.1%	N/A	N/A

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR provided to public research universities (excluding universities of applied sciences) by the public authorities, not including EU funds.

² Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices (revised as described in PFO report).

³ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁴ Total number of students (headcount, full time and part time) enrolled in the 13 Dutch research universities (not including the Open University). Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁵ Total number of academic and non-academic staff (FTE) at 14 universities that are member of the Association of universities in the Netherlands (Excluding universities of applied sciences and faculties of medicine and Health departments). Doctoral candidates are included. Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).



Public funding to higher education institutions (2008-2020)

In Norway, public funding for HEIs has been growing in line with student numbers since 2008. This growth enabled universities to continue recruiting staff. The return to moderately growing GDP levels since 2017 has further supported this positive trajectory, although there have been some annual cuts to administrative funding. The country is discussing take performance agreements for universities, as a tool for governance and strategic planning, a step further in 2023. The country is also discussing investment in infrastructures. The Ministry of Education and Research has tasked an expert group to explore possible solutions to reform the national regulatory framework. The results of the proposed changes will be presented with a white paper on regulation of HEIs. A separate white paper on governance will be released in Spring 2021. The government has decided to set up an expert group to review the funding system of HEIs.



+36.2%

funding increase in real terms



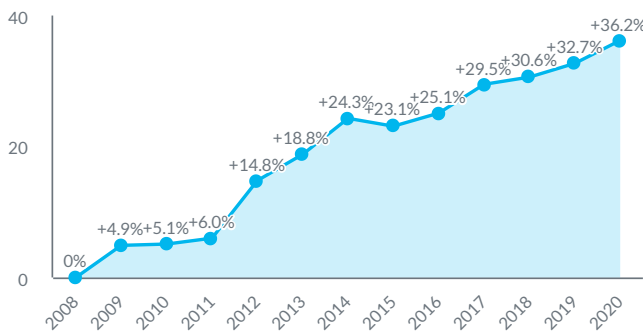
funding increase higher than economic growth



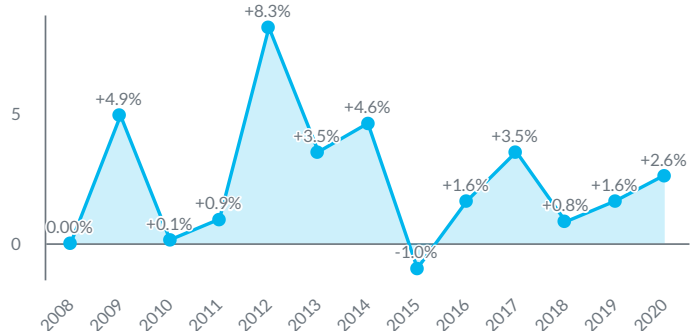
funding increase higher than student numbers growth

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics (2008/09-2019/20)



+30.4% students



+34% academic staff



+22% non-academic staff

NORWAY

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding (in national currency) (NOK) ²	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ³	Inflation rate ⁴	Student numbers ⁵	Staff numbers ⁶
Sources	European Commission official exchange rate November 2020	Norwegian Rectors' Conference	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Norwegian Rectors' Conference	Norwegian Rectors' Conference
2008	1,998,472,580 c	22,282,000,000	0.63% c	3.4%	163,500	28,737
2009	2,143,680,690 c	23,901,000,000	0.77% c	2.3%	170,700	29,312
2010	2,196,418,410 c	24,489,000,000	0.68% c	2.3%	175,200	29,919
2011	2,245,568,530 c	25,037,000,000	0.63% c	1.3%	178,000	30,419
2012	2,439,747,380 c	27,202,000,000	0.62% c	0.4%	183,500	30,718
2013	2,574,730,830 c	28,707,000,000	0.65% c	2%	188,500	31,219
2014	2,743,617,100 c	30,590,000,000	0.73% c	1.9%	193,500	32,074
2015	2,772,497,280 c	30,912,000,000	0.8% c	2%	202,086	33,300
2016	2,927,655,419 c	32,641,938,000	0.88% c	3.9%	206,328	34,450
2017	3,086,775,614 c	34,416,051,000	0.87% c	1.9%	210,250	35,309
2018	3,206,916,804 c	35,755,567,000	0.87% c	3.0%	211,927	36,131
2019	3,333,865,645 c	37,170,985,000	0.93%	2.3%	213,120	37,128
2020	3,460,969,738	38,588,134,000 o	N/A	1.2%	218,431	37,873

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR provided to higher education institutions by national public authorities. EU funds are not included.

² Total public funding in national currency provided to higher education institutions by national public authorities. EU funds are not included.

³ Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices.

⁴ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁵ Total number of students enrolled in public higher education institutions in Norway, counted in full time equivalents (FTE). Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁶ Total number of academic and non-academic staff employed at public higher education institutions in Norway, counted in full time equivalents (FTE). Figures include doctoral candidates. Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available c = corrected f = forecast/estimate p = provisional o = officially announced figure



Public funding to public higher education institutions (2008-2018)

Real public funding to public HEIs in Poland grew by more than one quarter over the last decade, whilst student numbers shrunk by almost a third, in comparison to 2008/09. After a few years of remarkable growth, public investment slowed down in 2016-2017 and picked up again in 2018. Starting from 2019, public funding for teaching, research and infrastructure is combined, so universities are allocated a block grant for all areas of activity. Recent debates included the implementation of the new Act on Higher Education and Science and the related ministerial decrees. Research performance assessment, which has an impact on the elements of the funding formula, is also a topic for discussion.



+26.8%

funding increase in real terms



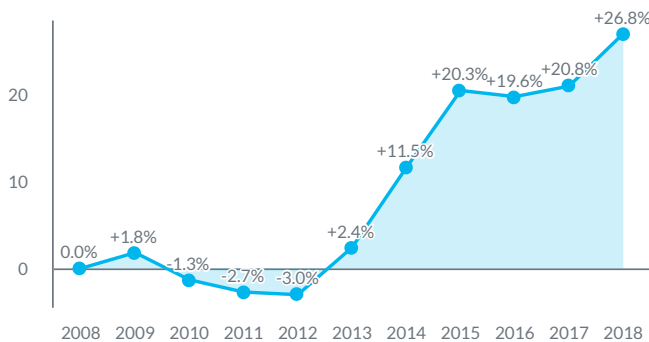
funding increase lower than economic growth



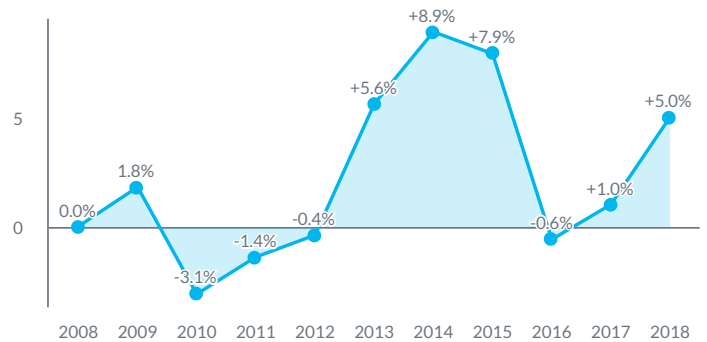
funding increase and student numbers decline

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics



-30.4% students
(2008/09-2018/19)



-2% academic staff
(2008/09-2017/18)



+2% non-academic staff

POLAND

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding (in national currency) (PLN) ²	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ³	Inflation rate ⁴	Student numbers ⁵	Staff numbers ⁶
Sources	European Commission official exchange rate November 2020	Polish Rectors' Conference	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Polish Rectors' Conference	Polish Rectors' Conference
2008	2,420,949,030 c	11,191,000,000	0.66% c	4.2%	1,268,366	144,322
2009	2,563,834,995 c	11,851,500,000	0.81% c	4%	1,266,917	146,367
2010	2,551,071,525 c	11,792,500,000	0.70% c	2.6%	1,261,175	147,616
2011	2,613,699,060 c	12,082,000,000	0.69% c	3.9%	1,245,864	147,540
2012	2,699,106,144 c	12,476,800,000	0.70% c	3.7%	1,217,477	146,899
2013	2,874,117,114 c	13,285,800,000	0.73% c	0.8%	1,151,315	145,697
2014	3,131,852,676 c	14,477,200,000	0.77% c	0.1%	1,110,208	144,861
2015	3,355,667,694 c	15,511,800,000	0.78% c	-0.7%	1,075,199	144,365
2016	3,329,751,360 c	15,392,000,000	0.78% c	-0.2%	1,034,161	144,550
2017	3,415,807,434 c	15,789,700,000	0.73% c	1.6%	969,835	143,830
2018	3,628,027,164 c	16,770,800,000	0.73% c	1.2%	883,115	N/A
2019	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.1%	N/A	N/A
2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.7%	N/A	N/A

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR provided to public higher education institutions by all public authorities in the country with a significant funding role for higher education. EU funds are not included.

² Total public funding in national currency provided to public higher education institutions by all public authorities in the country. EU funds are not included. 2018 data does not include expenditures from the local governments.

³ Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices.

⁴ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁵ Total number of students (full time and part time) enrolled in public higher education institutions in Poland, not including doctoral candidates. Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁶ Total number of academic and non-academic staff employed at public higher education institutions in Poland (the number of full-time-employed is given; the number of part-time-employed is not included; part-time-employed account for less than 5% of the total number of employees in headcount (even less in FTE)). Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available c = corrected f = forecast/estimate p = provisional o = officially announced figure



Public Funding Observatory 2020/2021

PORTUGAL



Public funding to public universities (2008-2019)

Portugal closed its funding gap in 2014, when a 20% investment increase compensated for some of the previous cuts. Although investment remains higher than the economic growth, rising student numbers are outpacing current funding increases.



+13.3%

funding increase in real terms



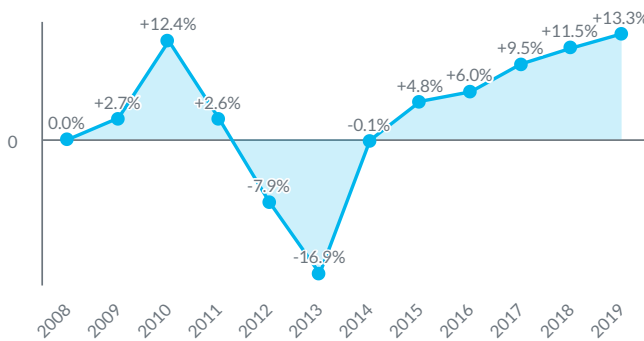
funding increase higher than economic growth



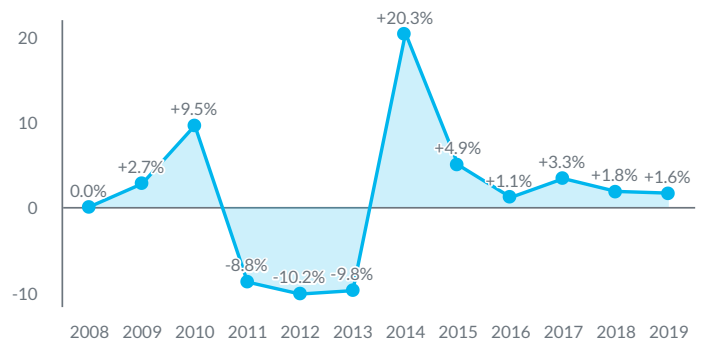
funding increase lower than student numbers growth

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics



+15.2% students
in 2008/09-2019/20



+15% academic staff
in 2008/09-2018/19



non-academic staff
no data

PORTUGAL

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ²	Inflation rate ³	Student numbers ⁴	Academic staff numbers ⁵
Sources	CRUP - Portuguese Rectors' Conference	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	PORDATA	PORDATA
2008	610,958,604	0.34%	2.7%	175,645	14,466
2009	621,610,065	0.35%	-0.9%	183,806	14,803
2010	690,029,725	0.38%	1.4%	193,106	15,506
2011	651,915,870	0.37%	3.6%	197,912	15,538
2012	602,025,013	0.36%	2.8%	197,036	15,563
2013	545,136,257	0.32%	0.4%	198,380	15,348
2014	654,628,672	0.38%	-0.2%	191,707	15,140
2015	690,000,000	0.38%	0.5%	191,633	15,704
2016	702,312,427	0.38%	0.6%	192,201	15,914
2017	736,857,196	0.38%	1.6%	195,199	16,390
2018	759,232,173	0.37% c	1.2%	199,388	16,653
2019	773,906,832	0.36%	0.3%	202,188	N/A
2020	N/A	N/A	-0.1%	N/A	N/A

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹Total public funding in EUR provided to public universities by the national public authorities, not including EU funds.

²Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices (revised as described in PFO report).

³Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁴Total number of students (headcount) enrolled in public universities in Portugal. The dataset no longer includes public polytechnics. Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁵Total academic staff (headcount) employed at public universities in Portugal. Non-academic staff not included. The dataset no longer includes staff employed at public polytechnics. Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available

c = corrected

f = forecast/estimate

p = provisional

o = officially announced figure



Public funding to public higher education institutions (2008-2020)

Romania closed its funding gap in 2020, after several years of constant investment in higher education. However, the funding increase remains lower than the economic growth, and the average annual funding change remains negative over the period. In terms of university demographics, the student population decreased by almost a third compared to 2008. The country's funding model was reformed in 2016 with a greater focus on performance. Currently under discussion are a funding allocation model for teaching, staffing policies, but also mergers and achieving higher efficiency. University initiatives in the field of governance are supported through competitive grants from the fund for institutional development built around several national strategic directions.



13.9%

funding increase in real terms



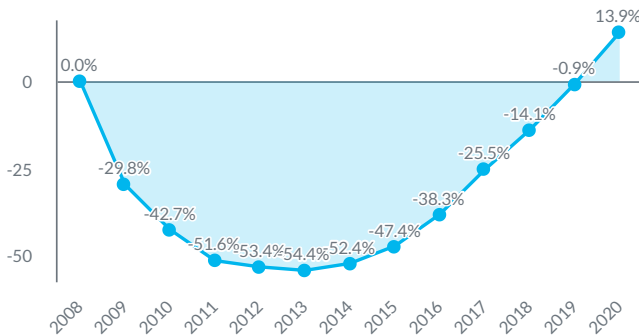
funding increase lower than economic growth



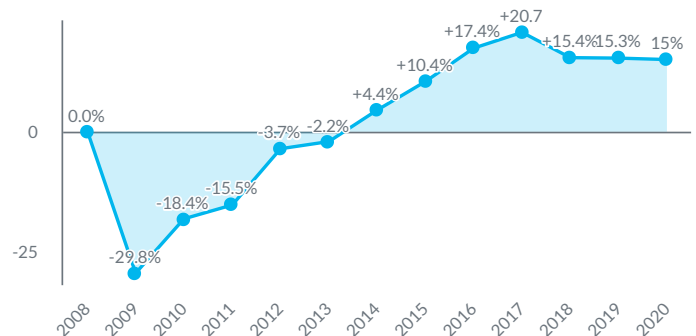
funding increase and student numbers in decline

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics (2008/09-2019/20)



-29.7% students



-12% academic staff



0% non-academic staff

ROMANIA

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding (in national currency) (RON) ²	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ²	Inflation rate ³	Student numbers ⁴	Academic staff numbers ⁵
Sources	European Commission official exchange rate November 2020	Romanian Rectors' Conference	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Romanian Rectors' Conference	Romanian Rectors' Conference
2008	800,368,367 c	3,901,951,868	0.55% c	7.9%	650,247	42,828
2009	593,417,915 c	2,893,028,058	0.47% c	5.6%	624,654	44,080
2010	513,403,187 c	2,502,940,652	0.41% c	6.1%	579,290	43,664
2011	459,181,468 c	2,238,599,201	0.35% c	5.8%	520,853	41,644
2012	457,358,000 c	2,229,709,439	0.34% c	3.4%	479,876	39,425
2013	461,798,963 c	2,251,360,000	0.32% c	3.2%	461,582	38,939
2014	488,558,654 c	2,381,818,709	0.32% c	1.4%	448,939	38,579
2015	537,326,198 c	2,619,570,000	0.34% c	-0.4%	449,152	39,084
2016	623,921,914 c	3,041,741,000	0.37% c	-1.1%	445,064	38,612
2017	760,942,456 c	3,709,742,865	0.41% c	1.1%	449,139	38,249
2018	913,604,480 c	4,454,000,000 c	0.45% c	4.1%	448,964	39,667
2019	1,094,930,560 c	5,338,000,000 c	0.49%	3.9%	457,230	39,808 c
2020	1,288,153,600	6,280,000,000 f	N/A	2.3%	475,955	39,600

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR provided to public higher education institutions by national public authorities (excluding military higher education institutions). Competitive research funding is not included.

² Total public funding in national currency provided to public higher education institutions by national public authorities (excluding military higher education institutions). Competitive research funding is not included.

³ Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices.

⁴ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁵ Total number of students enrolled in public higher education institutions in Romania, except military higher education institutions (headcount). Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁶ Total number of tenured/full-time academic and non-academic staff employed at public higher education institutions in Romania, except military higher education institutions (FTE). Doctoral candidates are not included. Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available c = corrected f = forecast/estimate p = provisional o = officially announced figure



Public funding to public universities (2008-2019)

The Serbian system is put under high pressure, with funding to universities reduced by nearly one fifth since 2008, while student numbers started growing again in 2016/17. Two re-investment efforts were made in 2018 and 2019 and there are opportunities to sustain this positive trajectory as forecasts point to robust economic growth in the next years. No data was made available for this edition of the Public Funding Observatory.



funding decrease in real terms

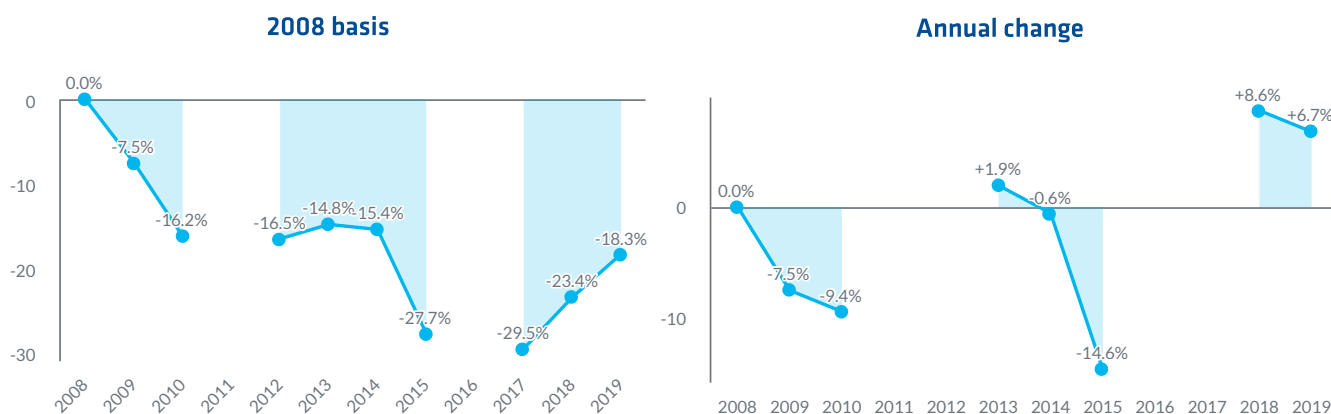


funding decrease despite economic growth



funding decrease despite student numbers growth

Funding volumes (real terms)



NB: no data for 2011 and 2016

University demographics (2008/09-2018/19)



+11.8% students



academic staff
no data



non-academic staff
no data

SERBIA

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding (in national currency) (RSD) ²	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ³	Inflation rate ⁴	Student numbers ⁵	Staff numbers ⁶
Sources	European Commission official exchange rate November 2020	Conference of Universities of Serbia (KONUS)	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Conference of Universities of Serbia (KONUS)	Conference of Universities of Serbia (KONUS)
2008	183,812,211 c	21,624,966,000	0.51%	11.9%	193,157	N/A
2009	183,812,211 c	21,624,966,000	0.57%	8.2%	188,294	N/A
2010	176,950,561 c	20,817,713,000	0.56%	6.2%	189,438	N/A
2011	N/A	N/A	N/A	11.2%	194,576	N/A
2012	210,579,349 c	24,774,041,000	0.63% c	7.4%	203,467	N/A
2013	231,237,834 c	27,204,451,000	0.63%	7.7%	207,869	N/A
2014	235,025,7998 c	27,650,094,000	0.66%	2.3%	209,273	N/A
2015	203,884,961 c	23,986,466,000	0.57%	1.5%	218,819	21,081
2016	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.3%	229,284	20,571
2017	208,061,972 c	24,477,879,000	0.53%	3.3%	223,728	20,933
2018	230,580,155 c	27,127,077,000	0.54%	2%	215,877	23,660
2019	250,632,904 c	29,486,224,000	0.55%	1.9%	N/A	N/A
2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.8%	N/A	N/A

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR provided to public universities by national public funding authorities.

² Total public funding in national currency provided to public universities by national public funding authorities.

³ Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices.

⁴ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁵ Total number of students enrolled in public higher education institutions in Serbia. Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁶ Total number of academic and non-academic staff employed at public higher education institutions in Serbia (FTE). Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available c = corrected f = forecast/estimate p = provisional o = officially announced figure



Public funding to public higher education institutions (2008-2020)

Following several harmonization rules in 2020, Slovakia managed to close its funding gap and achieve its highest peak in public funding since 2008. The country reports increase in funding in most areas, such as research, teaching, staff and infrastructure, while the sharp decline of the student population shows no sign of slowing down. The policy debates are focused on new elements in the performance-based funding, evaluation of staff policies and investments for dormitories' reconstruction. Another topic for discussion is changes being planned to increase the importance of competition between HEIs. The country will feature in different categories in next year's Observatory (the report analysis is based on 2019 as end year).



-2.5%

(2008-2019)
+14.5% funding increase
in real terms (2008-2020)



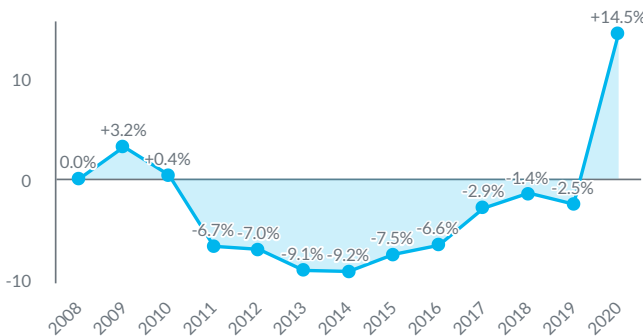
average annual funding decrease
despite economic growth (2008-2019)
(positive as of 2020)



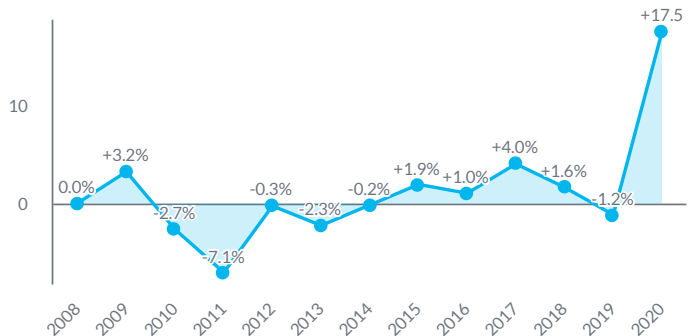
funding decrease lower than
student numbers decline
(2008-2019)
(funding increase and student
numbers decline for 2008-2020)

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics (2008/09-2019/20)



-38.5% students



-1% academic staff



-8% non-academic staff

SLOVAKIA

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ²	Inflation rate ³	Student numbers ⁴	Staff numbers ⁵
Sources	Slovak Rectors' Conference	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Slovak Rectors' Conference	Slovak Rectors' Conference
2008	437,939,000	0.66%	3.9%	187,644	21,401 c
2009	456,127,000	0.71%	0.9%	179,658	21,440 c
2010	446,912,000	0.66%	0.7%	172,993	21,673 c
2011	432,247,000	0.61%	4.1%	164,938	21,538 c
2012	447,167,000	0.61% c	3.7%	204,724	21,467 c
2013	443,424,063	0.60%	1.5%	192,851	21,561 c
2014	442,296,981	0.58%	-0.1%	179,391	21,644 c
2015	449,125,127	0.56% c	-0.3%	152,515	31,365 c
2016	451,235,920	0.56%	-0.5%	121,837	20,882 c
2017	475,776,678	0.56%	1.4%	119,709	20,648 c
2018	495,435,471	0.55%	2.5%	116,398	20,492
2019	503,221,226	0.54%	2.8%	115,366	20,409
2020	602,965,667 f	N/A	2%	N/A	N/A

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR provided to public HEIs from the State budget, not including EU funds.

² Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices (revised as described in PFO report).

³ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁴ Total number of students (headcount) enrolled in public higher education institutions in Slovakia. Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁵ Total academic and non-academic staff employed in public higher education institutions in Slovakia (FTE). Doctoral candidates are not included. Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).



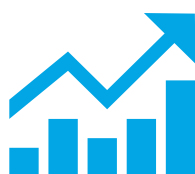
Public funding to public higher education institutions (2008-2019)

After four years of funding cuts, Slovenia started re-investing in the tertiary education sector in 2016. After the launch of a new funding model in 2019 aimed at refinancing HEIs and providing them with sustainable funding in the long term, in 2020, the country exceeds its 2008 basis by more than 7%. The increase is mostly in the areas of teaching, research and staff. The student population, however, shrank by nearly one third over the last decade. A proposal for new legislation for Research and Development is currently being discussed.



+7.2%

funding increase in real terms



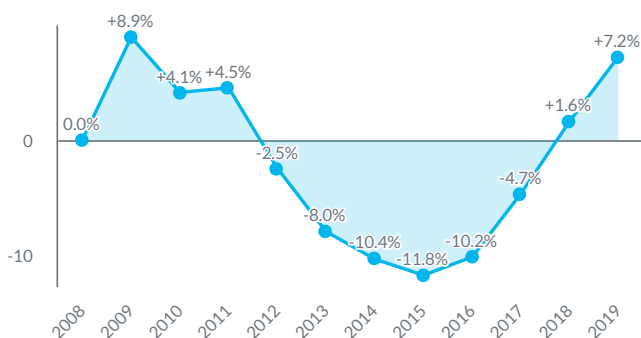
funding increase lower than economic growth



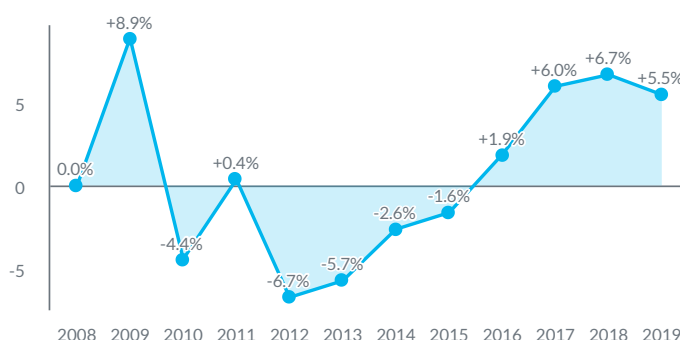
funding increase despite student numbers decline

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics (2008/09-2019/20)



-27.9% students



-7% total staff

SLOVENIA

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	<i>for information: Direct expenditure for public institutions (higher education only)</i>	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ²	Inflation rate ³	Student numbers ⁴	Staff numbers ⁵
Sources	Slovenia Rectors' Conference / National Statistical Office	Ministry for Higher Education	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Slovenia Rectors' Conference / Ministry of Education, Science and Sports	Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Public Legal Records and Related Services / Ministry of Public Administration
2008	346,646,000	N/A	0.91%	5.5%	64,950	7,910 c
2009	380,651,000	N/A	1.05%	0.8%	64,791	7,856 c
2010	371,408,000	N/A	1.02%	2.1%	62,026	9,119 c
2011	380,583,000	N/A	1.03%	2.1%	61,129	6,337 c
2012	365,138,000	335,641,000	1.01%	2.8%	58,757	8,316 c
2013	351,021,000	330,083,000	0.96% c	1.9%	56,341	7,917 c
2014	343,160,000	326,919,000	0.91%	0.4%	53,691	7,758 c
2015	335,164,000	321,284,000	0.86%	-0.8%	50,849	7,752 c
2016	341,002,000	330,249,000	0.84%	-0.2%	49,413	7,790 c
2017	367,169,000	352,367,000	0.85%	1.6%	46,844	7961 c
2018	399,209,000	384,633,000	0.87%	1.9%	46,649	8167 c
2019	428,183,000	413,273,000	0.88%	1.7%	46,795	8,471
2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	-0.3%	N/A	8,614

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR for tertiary education (direct expenditure for public institutions). Direct public expenditure for higher education is included for information but is not used for calculations considering the limited dataset.

² Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices (revised as described in PFO report).

³ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁴ Total number of students enrolled in public HEIs (ISCED 6-8) in FTE. Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁵ Total number of academic and non-academic staff employed in the four universities members of the Slovenian Rectors' Conference (FTE). Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available

c = corrected

f = forecast/estimate

p = provisional

o = officially announced figure



Public funding to public higher education institutions (2008-2020)

Despite the economic growth, Spain did not yet manage to close its funding gap, witnessing a funding decrease by 20% in real terms compared to 2008 which has not significantly evolved since 2013. In terms of university demographics, the student population decreased by 4% since 2008, but has stabilised in the last three years. Among the topics for discussion and reform in 2020 is a change in tuition fee policies, as the authorities are seeking to homogenize tuition fees in the different regions.



-20.1%

funding decrease in real terms



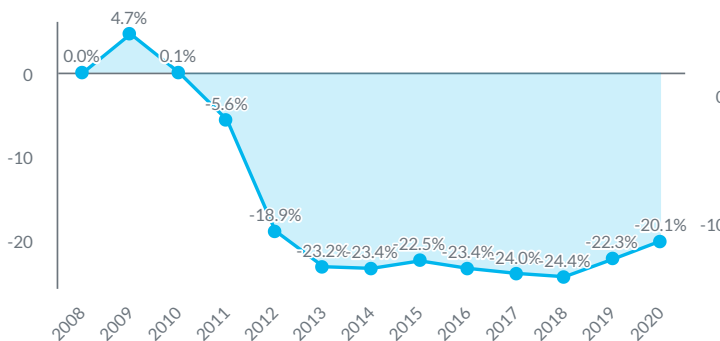
funding decrease despite economic growth



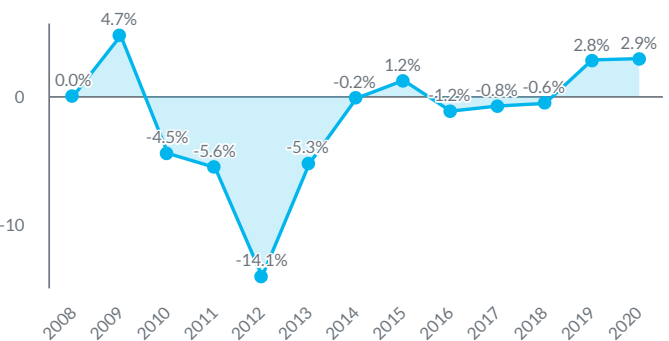
funding decrease higher than student numbers decline

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics (2008/09-2019/20)



-4.3% students



0% academic staff



+1% non-academic staff

SPAIN

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ²	Inflation rate ³	Student numbers ⁴	Staff numbers ⁵
Sources	Spanish Rectors' Conference	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Spanish Rectors' Conference	Spanish Rectors' Conference
2008	8,879,362,459	0.8%	4.1%	1,299,665	125,933
2009	9,278,175,322	0.87% c	-0.2%	N/A	N/A
2010	9,044,147,583	0.84%	2%	N/A	129,270
2011	8,794,147,583	0.83% c	3%	N/A	N/A
2012	7,740,979,908	0.75% c	2.4%	1,366,200	124,602
2013	7,439,903,672	0.73%	1.5%	1,357,489	121,943
2014	7,411,880,543	0.72% c	-0.2%	1,322,358	121,645
2015	7,450,120,000	0.69%	-0.6%	1,291,451	119,182
2016	7,338,899,534	0.66%	-0.3%	1,259,811	121,432
2017	7,427,674,514	0.64%	2%	1,247,547	121,374 c
2018	7,515,495,994 c	0.62% c	1.7%	1,246,432 c	123,354 c
2019	7,781,807,863 c	0.63%	0.8%	1,243,222	126,438 c
2020	7,981,807,863 f	N/A	-0.3%	1,239,838	129,599

Last update: 24/03/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR provided to public HEIs by all public authorities in the country with a significant funding role for higher education, including EU funds.

² Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices (revised as described in PFO report).

³ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁴ Total number of students enrolled in 1st and 2nd cycle programmes at public universities in Spain. Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁵ Total number of academic and non-academic staff employed at public universities in Spain (FTE). Doctoral candidates are excluded. Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available

c = corrected

f = forecast/estimate

p = provisional

o = officially announced figure



Public funding to public higher education institutions (2008-2020)

In Sweden, funding increased by slightly over one-fifth whilst student numbers have been slowly picking up since 2008. However, in the last two years higher education institutions have received less funding every year in real terms. One of the main policy topics relates to the formal adoption of the Research Bill that foresees increasing the floor for research funding to HEIs per student, as well as the introduction of a new model to finance and boost quality research as of 2023. In addition to other changes, it is expected that the four state funding agencies will receive more funding in the next four years. Investment is also planned to support the transformation of a higher education institution into Sweden's latest university (Mälardalen University).



+21.8%

funding increase in real terms



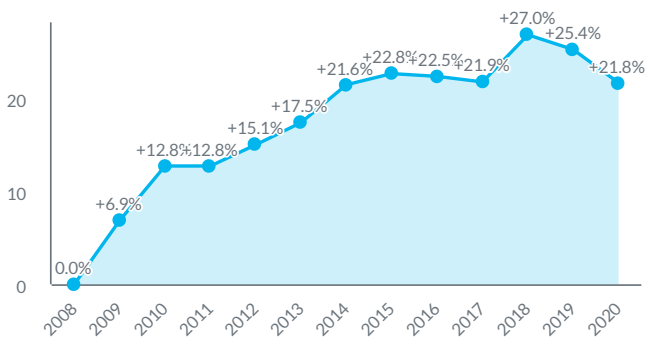
funding increase higher than economic growth



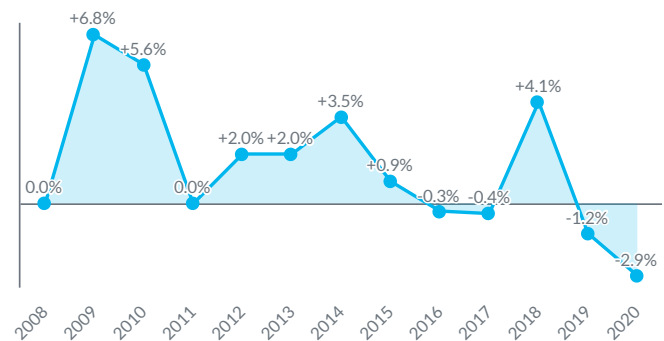
funding increase higher than student numbers growth

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics (2008/09-2019/20)



+6% students



+32% academic staff



+14% non-academic staff

SWEDEN

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding (in national currency) (SEK) ²	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ³	Inflation rate ⁴	Student numbers ⁵	Staff numbers ⁶
Sources	European Commission official exchange rate November 2020	Association of Swedish Higher Education	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	Association of Swedish Higher Education	Association of Swedish Higher Education
2008	4,077,875,000 c	42,500,000,000	1.15% c	3.3%	286,390	42,668
2009	4,442,485,000 c	46,300,000,000	1.41% c	1.9%	311,677	44,665
2010	4,778,310,000 c	49,800,000,000	1.28% c	1.9%	317,222	46,565
2011	4,845,475,000 c	50,500,000,000	1.17% c	1.4%	307,648	48,402
2012	4,989,400,000 c	52,000,000,000	1.16% c	0.9%	300,584	49,011
2013	5,114,135,000 c	53,300,000,000	1.16% c	0.4%	296,276	49,963
2014	5,306,035,000 c	55,300,000,000	1.21% c	0.2%	295,091	50,576
2015	5,392,390,000 c	56,200,000,000	1.18% c	0.7%	294,328	50,375
2016	5,440,365,000 c	56,700,000,000	1.17% c	1.1%	293,792	50,536
2017	5,517,125,000 c	57,500,000,000	1.15%	1.9%	297,296	50,829
2018	5,862,545,000 c	61,100,000,000	1.25% c	2%	298,668	51,670
2019	5,891,330,000 c	61,400,000,000	1.24%	1.7%	303,590	52,880
2020	5,757,000,000	60,000,000,000 o	N/A	0.7%	N/A	N/A

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR provided to public higher education institutions by all public authorities in the country with a significant funding role for higher education. Competitive national research funds are included. EU funds are excluded.

² Total public funding in national currency provided to public higher education institutions by all public authorities in the country. Competitive national research funds are included. EU funds are excluded.

³ Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices.

⁴ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁵ Total number of students enrolled in public higher education institutions in Sweden, counted in full time equivalents (FTE). Student numbers are reported per calendar year.

⁶ Total number of academic and non-academic staff employed in public HEIs in Sweden (FTE). Data does not include doctoral candidates. Staff numbers are reported per calendar year.

N/A= not available

c = corrected

f = forecast/estimate

p = provisional

o = officially announced figure



Public funding to public higher education institutions (2008-2017)

In Switzerland, public funding to public HEIs has been growing at a faster rate than the country's economic growth. Recent data confirms the continuing expansion of the student population, which puts universities under pressure, so further investment is needed to cater for this trend. In terms of topics for reform and discussion in 2020, infrastructure and investment are at the forefront, with a roadmap process allowing universities to apply, for the first time, for additional funding for research infrastructures at federal level.



+31.5%

funding increase in real terms



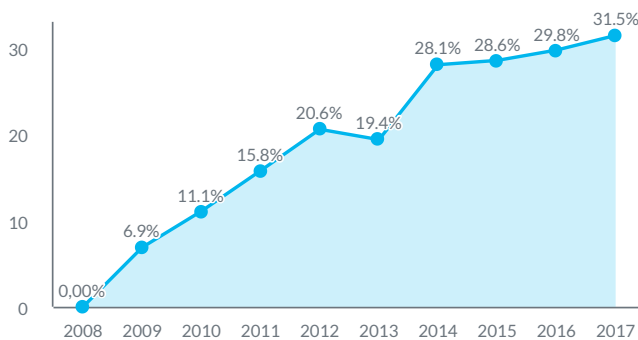
funding increase higher than economic growth



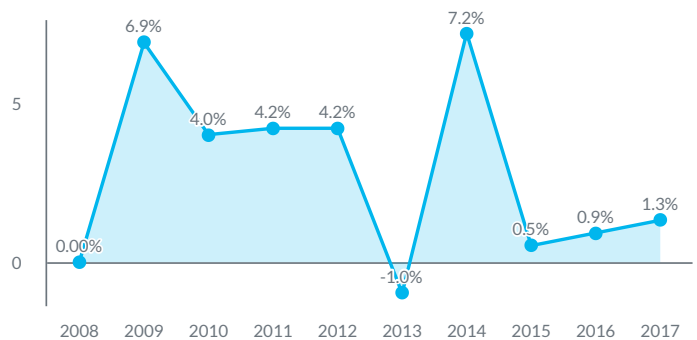
funding increase lower than student numbers growth

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics (2008/09-2017/18)



+34.2% students

(+39.7% in 2008/09-2019/20)



+36% academic staff

(+42% in 2008/09-2019/20)



+34% non-academic staff

(+40% in 2008/09-2019/20)

SWITZERLAND

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding (in national currency) (CH) ²	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ³	Inflation rate ⁴	Student numbers ⁵	Staff numbers ⁶
Sources	European Commission official exchange rate November 2020	swissuniversities	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	swissuniversities	swissuniversities
2008	5.898,920,352 c	6,302,400,000	1.52% c	2.4%	184,756	44,787
2009	6.257,213,496 c	6,685,200,000	1.56% c	-0.7%	196,616	47,741
2010	6.545,027,346 c	6,992,700,000	1.44%	0.6%	206,529	49,820
2011	6.826,382,934 c	7,293,300,000	1.31%	0.1%	213,856	51,627
2012	7,061,033,120 c	7,544,000,000	1.31% c	-0.7%	222,656	54,345
2013	6,996,356,902 c	7,474,900,000	1.30% c	0.1%	229,455	54,466
2014	7.503,470,866 c	8.016.700.000 c	1.35% c	0%	233,616	56,061
2015	7,474,736,280 c	7.986.000.000 c	1.18% c	-0.8%	238,756	58,135
2016	7,505,249,228 c	8.018.600.000 c	1.19% c	-0.5%	244,104	59,278
2017	7,650,419,726	8,173,700,000 o	1.23%	0.6%	247,905	60,540
2018	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.9%	252,522 c	61,808
2019	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.4%	258,076	63,226
2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	-0.8%	N/A	N/A

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR provided to higher education institutions by the Confederation, cantons/concordates and communes. Corrections correspond to annual re-calculation by the Federal Audit Office.

² Total public funding in swiss francs provided to higher education institutions by the Confederation, cantons/concordates and communes. Corrections correspond to annual re-calculation by the Federal Audit Office.

³ Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices.

⁴ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁵ Total number of students (headcount) enrolled in public universities, universities of applied sciences and universities of teacher education in Switzerland. Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁶ Total number of academic and non-academic staff employed in public universities, universities of applied sciences and universities of teacher education in Switzerland (FTE) (expressed as a ratio of actual hours employed and the normal hours of a person employed full-time). Doctoral candidates are included. Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available c = corrected f = forecast/estimate p = provisional o = officially announced figure



Public funding to public higher education institutions (2008-2020)

In Turkey, public funding to HEIs grew between 2008 and 2016 with a large increase applied every few years. However, the trend has been negative in the past four years (except in 2019), which puts universities under pressure considering the massively growing student numbers (+239% in both public and private universities between 2008 and 2020). While some positive effects of funding increases could be felt in all areas of university activity, the investment effort still needs to be enhanced to cater for the continuing higher education massification.



+62.2%

funding increase in real terms
(2008-2020)
(+66.4% for 2008-2019)



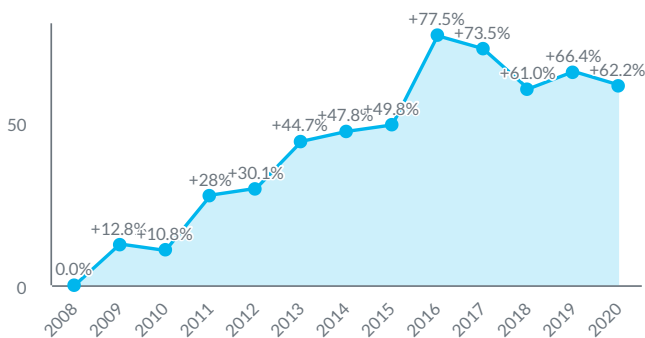
funding increase higher than
economic growth



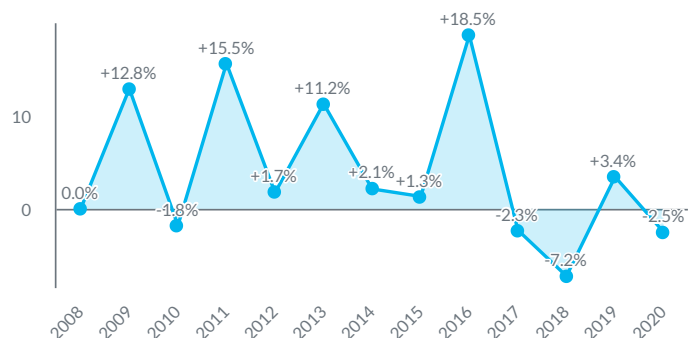
funding increase lower than
student numbers growth

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics (2008/09-2019/20)



+239% students



+82% academic staff



non-academic staff
no data

TURKEY

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding (in national currency) (Turkish lira) ²	Total public funding as percentage of GDP ³	Inflation rate ⁴	Student numbers ⁵	Academic staff numbers ⁶
Sources	European Commission official exchange rate November 2020	YOK - Council of Higher Education (CoHE)	Eurostat (for GDP at market prices)	Eurostat	YOK - Council of Higher Education (CoHE)	YOK - Council of Higher Education (CoHE)
2008	751,221,919 c	7,318,284,650	0.14% c	10.4%	2,345,053	96,105
2009	900,519,628 c	8,772,719,225	0.19% c	6.3%	2,711,178	97,923
2010	960,337,723 c	9,355,457,600	0.16% c	8.6%	3,299,070	102,682
2011	1,180,878,158 c	11,503,927,500	0.20% c	6.5%	3,571,866	108,462
2012	1,308,130,848 c	12,743,603,000	0.19% c	9%	4,069,342	115,798
2013	1,563,129,615 c	15,227,760,500	0.22% c	7.5%	4,629,167	142,437 c
2014	1,738,789,377 c	16,939,010,000	0.25% c	8.9%	5,074,559	148,903 c
2015	1,898,332,318 c	18,493,252,000	0.24% c	7.7%	6,689,185	156,168 c
2016	2,421,584,944 c	23,590,696,000	0.31% c	7.7%	7,198,987	151,763 c
2017	2,629,939,193 c	25,620,450,000	0.35%	11.1%	7,560,371	158,098 c
2018	2,839,628,507 c	27,663,210,000	0.43%	16.3%	7,740,502	166,225 c
2019	3,380,266,553 c	32,930,020,000 c	0.50%	15.2%	7,940,133	174,494 c
2020	3,699,904,898	36,043,886,000 o	N/A	12.3%	N/A	N/A

Last update: 25/03/2021

¹ Total public funding in EUR provided to public higher education institutions by national public authorities.

² Total public funding in national currency provided to public higher education institutions by national public authorities.

³ Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices.

⁴ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁵ Total number of students enrolled in public and private higher education institutions in Turkey (FTE). Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁶ Total academic staff employed in public higher education institutions in Turkey. Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available

c = corrected

f = forecast/estimate

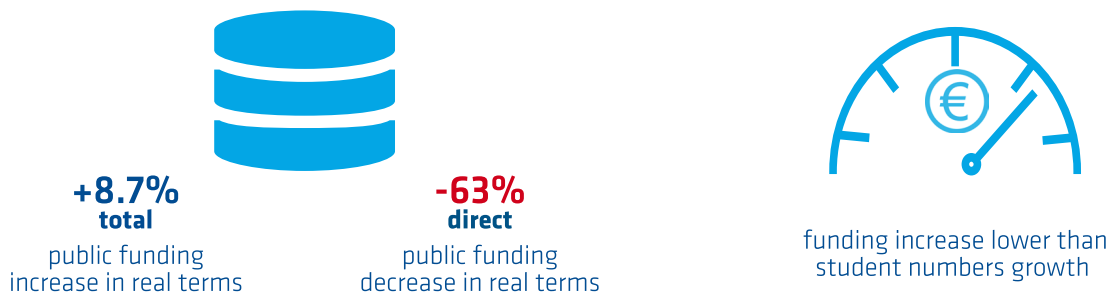
p = provisional

o = officially announced figure

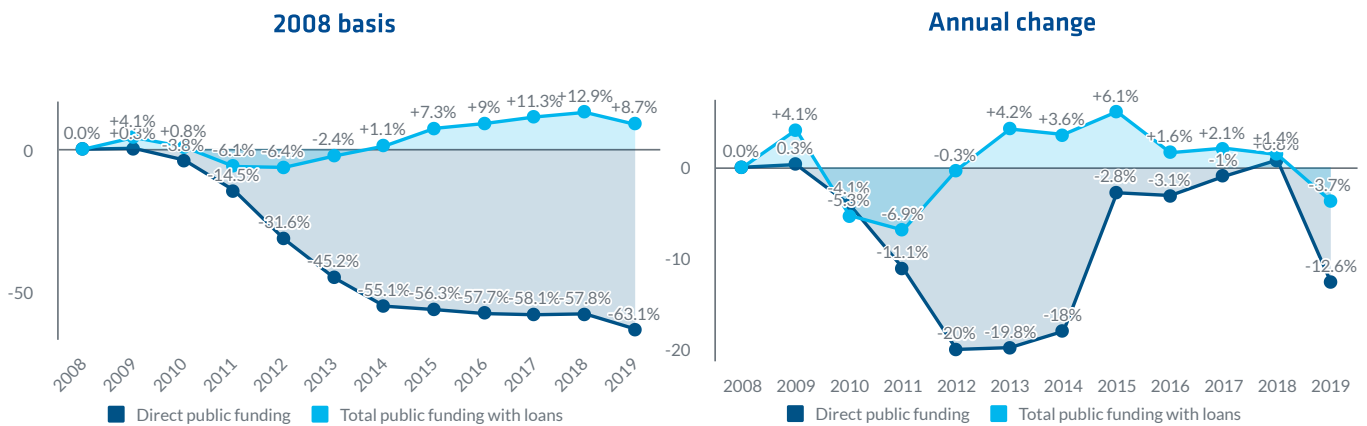


Public funding to public higher education institutions (2008-2020)

Following student funding reform, a growing share of public funding for teaching at HEIs in England has been replaced by financial support for students in the form of publicly subsidised loans for tuition and living costs. Research England budgets have increased slightly for recurrent research and knowledge exchange funding as of 2010-21 financial guidance. The Office for Students has provided additional funding to both teaching grants and competitive capital funds in response to high intakes of students in 2020, particularly in high-cost subjects. However, this has not compensated for a cut in teaching grant value between 2019/20 and 2020/21. The government has announced an upcoming major review of the Research Excellence Framework which determines recurrent research funding allocation, and has launched the Higher Education Restructuring Regime to support institutions at risk of insolvency as a result of Covid-19 through restructuring options, including mergers.



Funding volumes (real terms)



University demographics (2008/09-2018/19)



+12.7% students



+24% academic staff



+14% non-academic staff

UNITED KINGDOM: England

Item	Direct public funding (EUR) ¹	Direct public funding (in national currency) (GBP) ²	Public funding to HEIs for student loans (GBP) ³	Inflation rate ⁴	Student numbers ⁵	Staff numbers ⁶
Sources	European Commission official exchange rate November 2020	Universities UK	Universities UK	Eurostat	Universities UK	Universities UK
2008	7,848,312,158 c	7,097,214,000	1,914,300,000	3.6%	1,468,810	257,695
2009	8,050,583,946 c	7,280,128,000	2,309,100,000	2.2%	1,552,565	258,285
2010	7,967,204,364 c	7,204,728,000	2,385,385,380	3.3%	1,564,220	257,220
2011	7,398,062,415 c	6,690,054,000	2,637,918,154	4.5%	1,599,720	257,225
2012	6,087,734,590 c	5,505,127,000	4,063,966,935	2.8%	1,542,720	261,810
2013	5,002,749,486 c	4,523,977,000	5,700,076,760 c	2.6%	1,530,275	271,020
2014	4,164,154,364 c	3,765,637,000	6,988,298,029 c	1.5%	1,520,490	279,695
2015	4,047,665,126 c	3,660,296,000	7,753,986,789 c	0%	1,550,870	286,005
2016	3,948,154,801 c	3,570,309,000	8,109,315,197 c	0.7%	1,590,570	292,150
2017	4,014,302,235 c	3,630,126,000 c	8,611,842,278 c	2.7%	1,624,025	299,325
2018	4,143,901,087 c	3,747,322,000 c	8,968,189,693 c	2.5%	1,654,640	306,155
2019	3,688,529,536	3,335,530,358	9,127,422,485	1.8%	N/A	N/A
2020	3,704,328,392	3,349,817,234	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

and capital investment. For 2019-20 onward figures reflect initial allocations to HEIs as outlined by the Office for Students and UK Research and Innovation (Research England).

³ Loans are repaid by graduates on an income contingent basis, and are subsidised by government (interest subsidy and write-off of unpaid loans). Public funding to HEIs for student loans covers tuition Fee Loans paid to Higher Education Providers on behalf of full-time undergraduate students domiciled in England, and EU domiciled applicants, studying at English providers. This data does not include fees support for part-time or postgraduate loans or support for HEIs in non-loan form (e.g., grants) or support for students directly. This data also does not include fees funding for other UK domicile students studying in England. All data cover academic years (e.g., "2017" = academic year 2017/18). Updated figures for Public funding to HEIs for student loans based on updated data from the Student Loans Company. The coverage is England domiciled students studying in England or as EU domiciled students studying in England. In previous years, loan data showed only fee funding for English-domicile students studying in England.

⁴ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁵ Total number of students enrolled in public universities in England, as recorded in administrative returns to HESA, counted in full time equivalents (FTE). Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁶ Total academic and non-academic staff employed by public higher education institutions in England (FTE). Doctoral candidates are not included. Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available c = corrected f = forecast/estimate p = provisional o = officially announced figure



Public funding to public higher education institutions (2008-2018)

Direct public funding to five HEIs (including the Open University) allocated by the Department for Employment and Learning in Northern Ireland has been decreasing since 2010. Total public funding to HEIs (including funding received by HEIs for student loans) has also been going down, but at a lower scale due to some compensating growth in public funding allocated to HEIs for loans. Universities in Northern Ireland continue to face significant funding challenges and an uncertain political environment. The government has announced an upcoming major review of the Research Excellence Framework which determines recurrent research funding allocation.



-10.7%
total

public funding decrease
in real terms

-24.8%
direct

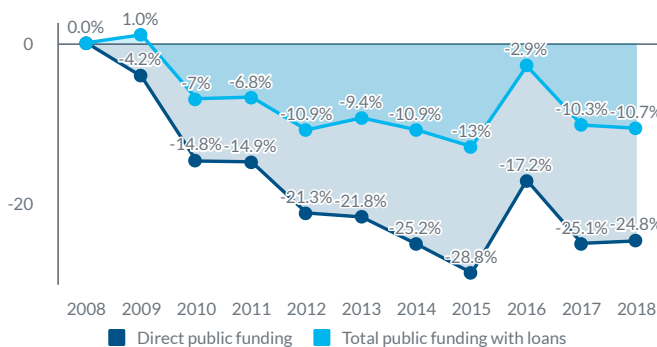
public funding
decrease in real terms



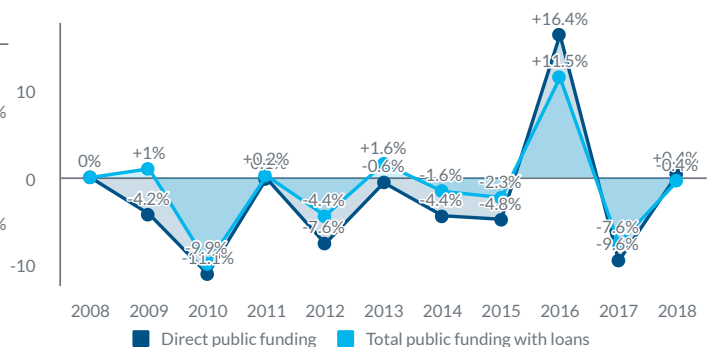
funding decrease despite student
numbers growth

Funding volumes (real terms)

2008 basis



Annual change



University demographics (2008/09-2018/19)



+8.5% students



+2% academic staff



-8% non-academic staff

UNITED KINGDOM: Northern Ireland

Item	Direct public funding (EUR) ¹	Direct public funding (in national currency) (GBP) ²	Public funding to HEIs for student loans (GBP) ³	Inflation rate ⁴	Student numbers ⁵	Staff numbers ⁶
Sources	European Commission official exchange rate November 2020	Universities UK	Universities UK	Eurostat	Universities UK	Universities UK
2008	236,456,311 c	213,827,000	55,200,000	3.6%	39,760	6,820
2009	231,717,830 c	209,542,000	68,200,000	2.2%	40,905	6,840
2010	212,726,305 c	192,368,000	71,700,000	3.3%	40,350	6,640
2011	221,726,305 c	200,731,000	75,750,163	4.5%	41,630	6,255
2012	211,075,301 c	190,875,000	81,187,746	2.8%	41,665	6,170
2013	215,056,289 c	194,475,000	88,897,756 c	2.6%	42,735	6,190
2014	208,743,106 c	188,766,000	94,267,707 c	1.5%	43,150	6,235
2015	198,725,392 c	179,707,000	96,761,513 c	0%	42,620	5,975
2016	232,867,893 c	210,582,000	99,954,792 c	0.7%	42,440	6,025
2017	216,285,972 c	195,587,000 c	99,005,052 c	2.7%	42,415	6,255
2018	222,402,318 c	201,118,000 c	99,361,476	2.5%	43,130	6,585
2019	N/A	N/A	101,863,253	1.8%	N/A	N/A
2020	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹ Direct public funding (in EUR) provided to the 5 HEIs, including the open university, from the Department for Employment and Learning in Northern Ireland.

² Direct public funding provided to the 5 HEIs, including the open university, from the Department for Employment and Learning in Northern Ireland.

³ Public funding to HEIs for student loans covers tuition Fee Loans paid to Higher Education Providers on behalf of full-time undergraduate students domiciled in Northern Ireland, and EU domiciled applicants, studying at Northern Irish providers. This data does not include fees support for part-time or postgraduate loans or support for HEIs in non-loan form (e.g., grants) or support for students directly. This data also does not include fees funding for other UK domicile students studying in Northern Ireland.

⁴ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁵ Total number of students enrolled in public universities in Northern Ireland, counted in full time equivalents (FTE). Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁶ Total academic and non-academic staff employed by public higher education institutions in Northern Ireland (FTE). Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available

c = corrected

f = forecast/estimate

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o = officially announced figure



Public funding to public higher education institutions (2010-2020)

Direct public funding for 19 Scottish HEIs (distributed through the Scottish Funding Council and the Student Awards Agency (SAAS)) has been declining since 2015. The system is facing significant challenges to its sustainability and competitiveness.

A "review of coherent provision and sustainability" is scheduled to deliver its final report mid-2021 with a delivery plan to strengthen the funding regime.



-17.7%

funding decrease in real terms

-0.8%

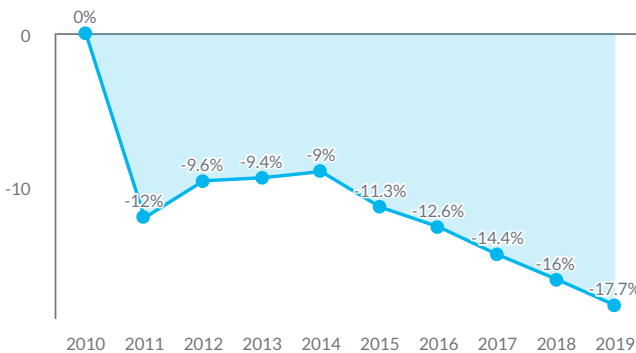
funding decrease in nominal terms



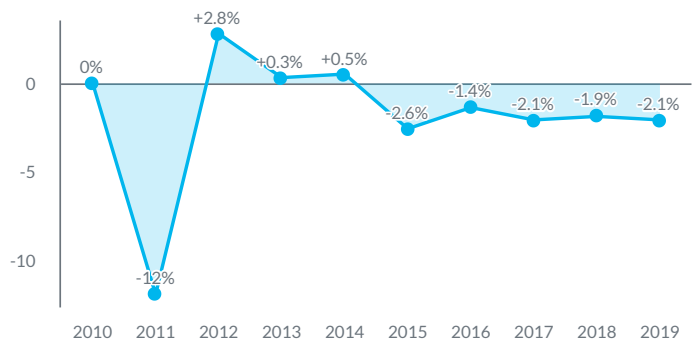
funding decrease higher than student numbers decline

Funding volumes (real terms)

2010 basis



Annual change



University demographics (2010/11-2018/19)



-4.3% students
in 2010/11-2018/19
(-4% in 2010/11-2019/20)



+55.6% academic staff
in 2010/11-2018/19



+34.7% non-academic staff
in 2010/11-2018/19

UNITED KINGDOM: Scotland

Item	Total public funding (EUR) ¹	Total public funding (in national currency) (GBP) ²	Inflation rate ⁴	Student numbers ⁵	Staff numbers ⁶
Sources	European Commission official exchange rate November 2020	Universities UK / Universities Scotland	Eurostat	Universities UK / Universities Scotland	Universities UK / Universities Scotland
2008	N/A	N/A	3.6%	N/A	35,864
2009	N/A	N/A	2.2%	N/A	35,400
2010	1,451,401,875 c	1,312,500,000	3.3%	147,975	34,423
2011	1,333,852,146 c	1,206,200,000	4.5%	146,225	33,810
2012	1,410,154,416 c	1,275,200,000	2.8%	141,400	35,279
2013	1,448,969,049 c	1,310,300,000	2.6%	138,290	37,007
2014	1,477,831,212 c	1,336,400,000	1.5%	137,140	38,232
2015	1,439,790,660 c	1,302,000,000	0%	135,150	38,398
2016	1,429,727,607 c	1,292,900,000	0.7%	137,480	38,350
2017	1,436,915,502 c	1,299,400,000	2.7%	139,120	39,360
2018	1,444,435,146 c	1,306,200,000	2.5%	141,560	49,525
2019	1,440,232,992 c	1,302,400,000	1.8%	142,105	N/A
2020	1,465,667,082	1,325,400,000 o	N/A	N/A	N/A

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹ Public funding (in EUR) provided to the 19 Scottish HEIs from the Scottish government. EU funds, competitive funding and additional funding for controlled subjects not included.

² Public funding provided to the 19 Scottish HEIs from the Scottish government. EU funds, competitive funding and additional funding for controlled subjects not included. Figures represent Scottish Funding Council revenue and capital budget (excluding Financial Transactions) as announced in the Scottish Government Budget.

³ Total public funding as defined above as percentage of GDP at market prices.

⁴ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁵ Total 'students eligible for funding' as published by the Scottish funding Council. The figure is for undergraduate and taught postgraduate. Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁶ Total academic and non-academic staff employed by Universities in Scotland (FTE). Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available c = corrected f = forecast/estimate o = officially announced figure



Public funding to public higher education institutions (2010-2020)

Direct public funding allocated by the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales to nine Welsh HEIs for teaching and research declined between 2010 and 2017. Total public funding to HEIs, which includes funding allocated for loans, has been declining as well, but at a lower level due to some compensating growth in public funding for loans. After 2017, the increase is significant and so far maintained over two years. The Welsh Government is currently consulting on a draft Tertiary Education and Research (Wales) Bill which proposes major changes to the funding and regulatory framework for tertiary education in Wales including higher education with a view to its potential introduction in the new Assembly following the Senedd elections in May 2021.



-25.2%
total

public funding decrease
in real terms

-62.1%
direct

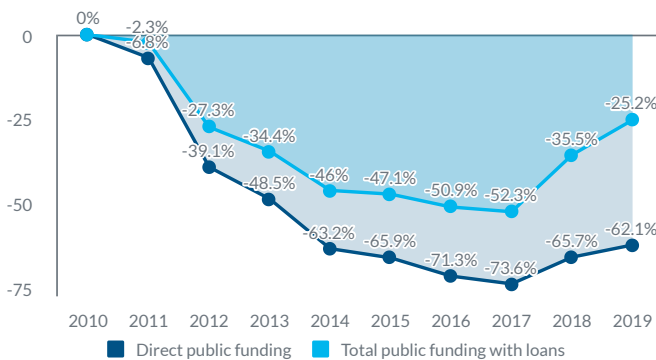
public funding decrease
in real terms



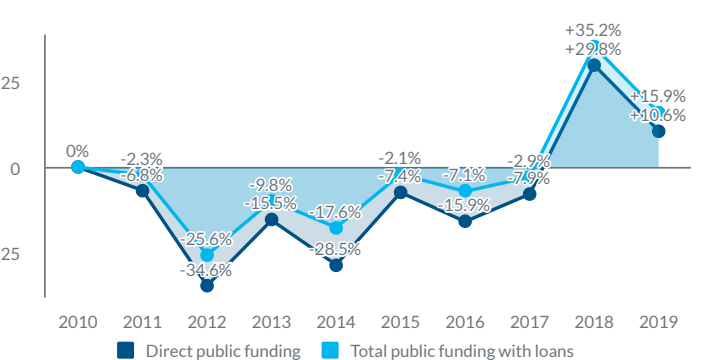
funding decrease higher
than student numbers decline

Funding volumes (real terms)

2010 basis



Annual change



University demographics (2010/11-2018/19)



-0.3% students



+17.6% academic staff



+2.3% non-academic staff

UNITED KINGDOM: Wales

Item	Direct public funding (EUR) ¹	Direct public funding (in national currency) (GBP) ²	Public funding to HEIs for student loans (GBP) ³	Inflation rate ⁴	Student numbers ⁵	Staff numbers ⁶
Sources	European Commission official exchange rate November 2020	Universities UK	Universities UK	Eurostat	Universities UK	Universities UK
2008	N/A	N/A	N/A	3.6%	96,960	15,925
2009	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.2%	103,700	15,875
2010	436,965,076 c	395,146,701	64,600,000	3.3%	103,820	15,920
2011	425,400,038 c	384,688,458	84,700,000	4.5%	105,870	16,110
2012	286,164,725 c	258,778,225	100,600,000	2.8%	105,220	16,180
2013	247,728,852 c	224,020,737	108,190,009	2.6%	106,205	16,545
2014	179,877,786 c	162,663,145	115,208,332	1.5%	103,380	16,885
2015	166,600,851 c	150,656,838	121,502,157	0%	100,495	16,690
2016	141,088,916 c	127,586,443	126,910,208	0.7%	102,120	17,285
2017	133,480,716 c	120,706,362 c	133,123,067	2.7%	103,025	17,110
2018	177,444,546 c	160,462,771	191,098,729	2.5%	103,530	17,355
2019	199,680,569 c	180,570,765 c	234,346,565	1.8%	N/A	N/A
2020	189,659,960	171,509,147 o	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Last update: 26/02/2021

¹ Direct public funding (in EUR) allocated by the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales to the 9 Welsh HEIs for teaching and research, including the Open University in Wales. Funding provided by the Welsh European Funding Office (WEFO) which distributed EU structural funds have not been included. Figures represent public funding allocated by the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales (HEFCW) for all higher education activities including teaching and research for the academic year (AY). This includes funding for higher education at FE colleges and funding for the OU in Wales, but does not include funding for further education provision at higher education institutions.

² Direct public funding allocated by the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales to the 9 Welsh HEIs for teaching and research.

³ Public funding to HEIs for student loans covers tuition Fee Loans paid to Higher Education Providers on behalf of full-time undergraduate students domiciled in Wales, and EU domiciled applicants, studying at Welsh providers. This data does not include fees support for part-time or postgraduate loans or support for HEIs in non-loan form (e.g., grants) or support for students directly. This data also does not include fees funding for other UK domicile students studying in Wales.

⁴ Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) inflation rate as annual average rate of change. HICPs are designed for international comparisons of consumer price inflation.

⁵ Total number of students enrolled in public universities in Wales, counted in full time equivalents (FTE). Student numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

⁶ Total academic and non-academic staff employed by public universities in Wales, apart from the Open University (FTE). Staff numbers are reported per academic year (2008 = academic year 2008/2009).

N/A= not available c = corrected f = forecast/estimate p = provisional o = officially announced figure

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