

INTRODUCTION

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General

This publication presents data on student enrollment in universities, the Open University and other institutions of higher education during 2005/06, based on files received from those institutions. The files are processed by the Central Bureau of Statistics, as commissioned by the Planning and Budgeting Committee of the Council for Higher Education.

We wish to express our thanks to the academic institutions for their cooperation.

The publication includes data that are presented in three parts:

- a) A synopsis of data on students listed in the files, accompanied by data from previous years, for the purpose of comparison. These data relate to all students enrolled at universities (Introductory Tables A to E, and see Section 1 below).
- b) Detailed data on the students enrolled at universities in 2005/06 (Tables 1-9).
- c) Data on students enrolled at the Open University and other institutions of higher education (Tables 10-15).

1. Main Findings and Multi-Annual Comparison

1.1 In 2005/06, 250,110 students were enrolled in academic degree or certificate programs at institutions of higher education in Israel. Of this population, 122,658 students attended universities and 86,318 attended other higher education institutions. In addition, there were 41,134 applicants for academic programs at the Open University.

From the data presented in the following table, it is possible to see the growth in the number of students enrolled in the various frameworks of study towards an academic degree.

Students, by Educational Institution

Educational Institution	1989/90	1999/2000	2004/05	2005/06	Percentage of Average Annual Change(1) <u>1999/2000</u> 1989/90	Percentage of Annual Change <u>2005/06</u> 1999/2000
Absolute numbers						
TOTAL	88,494	199,438	244,486	250,110		
Thereof: first degree	67,812	159,848	192,644	197,358		
Universities	67,201	112,987	124,044	122,658		
first degree	46,519	74,194	78,247	76,707		
second degree	16,155	30,454	35,165	34,935		
third degree	3,764	6,645	9,315	9,715		
Other institutions of higher education	8,286	53,713	81,428	86,318		
first degree	8,286	53,254	77,738	82,023		
second degree	-	459	3,690	4,295		
The Open University	13,007	32,738	39,014	41,134		
first degree	13,007	32,400	36,659	38,628		
second degree	-	338	2,303	2,479		
Percentages						
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	8.5	3.9
Thereof: first degree	76.6	80.1	78.8	78.9	9.0	3.6
Universities	75.9	56.7	52.1	49.1	5.3	1.4
Thereof: first degree	52.6	37.2	32.9	30.7	4.8	0.6
Other institutions of higher education	9.4	26.9	31.8	34.5	20.6	8.2
Thereof: first degree	9.4	26.7	30.6	32.8	20.4	7.5
The Open University	14.7	16.4	16.1	16.4	9.7	3.9
Thereof: first degree	14.7	16.2	15.3	15.4	9.6	3.0

(1) Geometric mean.

The data show that in 1989/90 the number of students studying for their first degree at universities was 5.6 times higher than at other institutions of higher education. In 1999/2000 the ratio was 1.4, and in 2005/06, the trend reversed and the ratio is 1.1 in favour of other institutions of higher education.

1.2 197,358 (78.9%) of the students attending institutions of higher education were enrolled in first-degree programs. Of the students enrolled in first-degree programs, 38.9% attended universities, 41.5% attended other institutions of higher education, and 19.6% attended the Open University. In 2005/06, the trend of an increase in the number of students enrolled at other institutions of higher education continued.

From 1989/90 to 2005/06, enrollment in first-degree programs at other institutions of higher education increased by an average of 15.4% per year, whereas enrollment in first-degree programs at universities increased by an average of 3.2% per year. As a result, the relative proportion of students enrolled in first-degree programs at universities has dropped from 68.8% in 1989/90, to 38.9% in 2005/06; and the relative proportion of students enrolled at other institutions of higher education increased from 12.1% in 1989/90 to 41.5% in 2005/06.

Students Enrolled in First-Degree Programs, by Educational Institution

Year	Grand Total	Universities	Other Institutions of Higher Education	The Open University
	Absolute Numbers	Percentages		
1989/90	68,253	100.0	68.8	12.1
1990/91	74,070	100.0	65.8	12.9
1991/92	84,190	100.0	64.1	14.6
1992/93	91,657	100.0	64.0	15.3
1993/94	99,775	100.0	63.3	16.9
1994/95	109,778	100.0	60.8	17.7
1995/96	120,039	100.0	57.4	19.8
1996/97	130,394	100.0	53.9	24.2
1997/98	144,121	100.0	50.3	28.5
1998/99	153,591	100.0	48.1	30.9
1999/2000	159,867	100.0	46.4	33.3
2000/01	165,980	100.0	44.6	34.4
2001/02	174,525	100.0	43.1	36.2
2002/03	182,102	100.0	42.1	37.4
2003/04	188,228	100.0	41.7	38.9
2004/05	192,644	100.0	40.6	40.4
2005/06	197,358	100.0	38.9	41.5
Percentage of Annual Change 2005/06 1989/90	6.9		3.2	15.4
				7.0

**First-Degree Students⁽¹⁾, by Educational Institution and Field of Study
2005/06**

Field of Study	Total	Universities	Academic Colleges	Colleges of Education
	Absolute Numbers			
Total	158,730	76,707	60,645	21,378
Humanities	19,612	14,833	4,779	-
Education and Teacher Training	24,059	2,107	574	21,378
Social Sciences	32,440	20,104	12,336	-
Business and Management Sciences	16,393	2,681	13,712	-
Law	14,575	2,990	11,585	-
Medicine	1,347	1,347	-	-
Paramedical Studies	7,277	6,337	940	-
Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Sciences	7,669	5,162	2,507	-
Physical Sciences	3,056	3,056	-	-
Biological Sciences	5,136	4,044	1,092	-
Agriculture	865	865	-	-
Engineering and Architecture	26,301	13,181	13,120	-
	Percentages			
Total	100.0	48.3	38.2	13.5
Humanities	100.0	75.6	24.4	-
Education and Teacher Training	100.0	8.8	2.4	88.9
Social Sciences	100.0	62.0	38.0	-
Business and Management Sciences	100.0	16.4	83.6	-
Law	100.0	20.5	79.5	-
Medicine	100.0	100.0	-	-
Paramedical Studies	100.0	87.1	12.9	-
Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Sciences	100.0	67.3	32.7	-
Physical Sciences	100.0	100.0	-	-
Biological Sciences	100.0	78.7	21.3	-
Agriculture	100.0	100.0	-	-
Engineering and Architecture	100.0	50.1	49.9	-

⁽¹⁾ Excluding those enrolled at the Open University.

There are differences in the distribution of students in first-degree programs in the various fields of study, between those at universities and those in academic colleges. It was found that 79.5% of all students studying Law, 83.6% of all those studying Business and Management Studies and 91.3% of those studying Education, were enrolled in colleges. Students in these three fields constitute 57.6% of all first-degree students in academic colleges.

In the rest of the various fields of study, the six universities have a higher share of the student population. 75.6% of all students in the Humanities study at universities, as do 62.0% of all those studying Social Sciences, 91.0% of all those in Medicine and Paramedical Studies, 67.3% of all those studying Mathematics, Statistics and

Computer Sciences and 100.0% of all those studying Physical Sciences, 78.7% of all those studying Biological Sciences, and 100.0% of all those studying Agriculture. The students in these fields constitute 72.7% of all first-degree students at universities.

The number of students in Engineering and Architecture in colleges, is similar to that at universities.

1.3 Universities

In 2005/06, 122,658 students attended universities – an decrease of 1.0% compared with 2004/05, whereas between the years 1989/90 and 2005/06 their number increased by an annual average of 3.8%. At the first-degree level, there were 76,707 students in 2005/06 – a decrease of 2.0% compared with 2004/05. Between 1989/90 and 2005/06, the number of first-degree students increased by an annual average of 3.2%. At the second-degree level, there were 34,935 students in 2005/06 – a decrease of 0.7% compared with 2004/2005. Between 1989/90 and 2005/06, the number of students increased by an annual average of 4.9%. At the third-degree level there were 9,715 students in 2005/06 – an increase of 4.3% compared with 2004/05. Between 1989/90 and 2005/06 the number of students increased by an annual average of 5.9%.

The decrease in the number of students is particularly evident among those studying towards a first degree. In the humanities, there was a decrease of 6.3% between 2004/5 and 2005/6, compared with an average annual increase of 1.7% between 1989/90 and 2005/06; in law, there was a decrease of 2.7% compared with an average annual increase of 2.4% between 1989/90 and 2005/06; In mathematics, statistics and computer sciences there was a decrease of 5.8% between 2004/5 and 2005/6, compared with an average annual increase of 3.8% between 1989/90 and 2005/06; and in the biological sciences there was a decrease of 1.3% between 2004/05 and 2005/06, compared with an average annual increase of 6.2% between 1989/90 and 2005/06. Among those studying towards a second degree there was also a certain decrease (0.7%) between 2004/5 and 2005/6, which was mainly expressed in the biological sciences, with a decrease of 4.3% between 2004/05 and 2005/06, compared with an average annual increase of 4.7% between 1989/90 and 2005/06; and in engineering and architecture – a decrease of 5.7% between 2004/05 and 2005/06, compared with an average annual increase of 2.8% between 1989/90 and 2005/06. However, there were fields in which the number of those studying towards a second degree rose: in law there was an increase of 9.4% between 2004/05 and 2005/06 (between 1989/90 and 2005/06 there was an average annual increase of 17.3%), and in medicine and paramedical studies there was an increase of 7.0%, compared with an average annual increase of 4.5% between 1989/90 and 2005/06. Among those studying towards a third degree in medicine and paramedical studies, there was an increase of 18.3% between 2004/05 and 2005/06; in agriculture there was an increase of 10.3%, and in engineering and architecture there was an increase of 5.8% between 2004/05 and 2005/06.

The following table presents the changes in the number of students from 2004/05 to 2005/06, compared with the annual changes since 1989/90.

**Percentage of Change in the Number of Students at Universities,
by Field of Study and Degree⁽¹⁾**

Field of Study	Percentage of Annual Change							
	Total		First Degree		Second Degree		Third Degree	
	2005/06 1989/90	2005/06 2004/05	2005/06 1989/90	2005/06 2004/05	2005/06 1989/90	2005/06 2004/05	2005/06 1989/90	2005/06 2004/05
Total	3.8	-1.1	3.2	-2.0	4.9	-0.7	5.9	4.3
Humanities	2.7	-4.7	1.7	-6.3	4.6	-3.5	6.3	0.4
Social Sciences	3.6	-1.4	3.0	-1.0	5.0	-2.4	8.8	-1.0
Business and Management Sciences	5.4	1.1	4.7	-0.3	5.6	1.8	7.6	-1.3
Law	5.5	2.0	2.3	-2.7	17.3	9.4	9.7	-3.2
Medicine and Para- Medical Studies	5.5	7.2	6.0	6.4	4.5	7.0	8.5	18.3
Mathematics and the Natural Sciences – total	4.2	-1.3	5.9	-2.8	4.3	-3.5	4.7	7.3
Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Sciences	4.1	-4.7	3.8	-5.8	5.3	-5.1	5.6	5.3
Physical Sciences	2.8	1.4	2.8	0.4	2.4	0.5	3.6	5.5
Biological Sciences	5.5	0.3	6.2	-1.3	4.7	-4.3	5.0	8.9
Agriculture	1.9	1.1	1.0	-4.1	3.0	5.5	3.1	10.3
Engineering and Architecture	3.4	-1.8	3.5	-1.3	2.8	-5.7	4.5	5.8

⁽¹⁾ For more data – see Introductory Tables, Table A.

The proportion of women in the student population in 2005/06 is 55.5%, compared with 43.3% in 1969/70. Note that as of 1998/99, the proportion of women studying for their third degree has grown, and in 2005/06 they constituted 52.5% of all students studying towards a third degree.

Percentage of Women in the Student Population at Universities, by Degree

Degree	1969/70	1979/80	1989/90	2005/06
Total	43.3	46.2	50.8	55.5
First degree	46.9	47.6	51.3	55.0
Second degree	26.1	41.4	50.3	56.6
Third degree	19.3	32.2	41.3	52.5

On the other hand, the percentage of women studying in academic colleges is lower; 46.5% in 2005/06 compared with 40.2% in 1989/90. In colleges of education women constitute 80.0% of all students, compared with 90.6% in 1989/90.

2. Sources and Processing Methods

2.1 Universities

Student tuition fees files are the main source of the data in this publication. These files, which are managed and continually updated by each institution, differ from each other in content and structure of the individual records, as well as in the coding keys used by the various institutions. In this format, it is impossible to perform statistical processing on them, on a nation-wide scale. For this reason, the institutions were asked to supply the Central Bureau of Statistics with files of a uniform format.

The student files are updated each year in the middle of April; all students studying by this date are included, and students who registered but cancelled their registration, are not included. The files contain the following basic details:

- a. Identification particulars and other personal information: family name, first name, identity (or passport) number and gender.
- b. Details of studies at the academic institution: the degree towards which the studies are directed, subjects studied for the degree, year of beginning studies towards the degree at the institution, and additional details.

The files that were received by the Central Bureau of Statistics underwent strict checks for uniformity of classification and definitions in each individual record, as well as for the completeness and coverage of the populations included in them.

Each student was listed only once, even if he was studying for two degrees at the same time (see below).

2.2 The Open University

Data on enrollment at the Open University are based on statistical reports which resulted from registration data of the second semester. As of 1997/98, the data are based on processing conducted on the tuition fees file of the Open University, which reflects the situation in April of that academic year. These data include students who registered by this date, but do not include students who registered but later cancelled their registration.

2.3 Other Institutions of Higher Education

The sources for data on students in other institutions of higher education are files produced by each one of these institutions, and transferred by them to the Central Bureau of Statistics. In order to create a nation-wide file of students at these institutions, the codes of the fields of study used by each institution were "translated" into a uniform system of codes.

The files include two kinds of data:

- a. Personal information about the student
- b. Information about studies at the institution

The files were received at the Central Bureau of Statistics by the end of April 2006, and were checked for completeness of population and codes. Following this check missing students or details (such as sex and main subject of study) were added.

3. Definitions, Classifications and Explanations

3.1 Universities

Student: a student at a university, studying for an academic degree or for a recognized academic certificate. These were included on condition that they were required to pay tuition fees. Students who cancelled their registration by the date of updating the file, were not included.

University:¹ processing included students at the following institutions:

The Hebrew University, Jerusalem.

The Technion – Israel Institute of Technology.

Tel Aviv University.

Bar-Ilan University.

Haifa University.

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

Weizmann Institute of Science.

Academic degree or certificate: the students were classified according to the degree (or certificate) towards which they were studying, as follows:

First degree: B.A., B.Sc., and equivalent degrees¹, as well as first-degree students in medicine and dental medicine.

Second degree: M.A., M.Sc., and equivalent degrees¹, as well as fourth-year and thereafter M.D. students.

Third degree: Ph.D., Dr.Sc., and equivalent degrees.

Academic certificate: a certificate awarded upon completion of studies, open only to those already holding an academic degree, such as: a teaching certificate, a certificate in library science, etc.

A student studying for both an academic degree and a certificate was counted only once according to the degree. Therefore, the number of students studying for academic certificates includes only those students studying solely for a certificate. A student studying towards two degrees concurrently, was classified according to the degree towards which he first started to study.

Year of study: determined according to the academic year in which the student began to study at a given institution.

Subject of study: A detailed classification of subjects of studies is updated on an ongoing basis by the Central Bureau of Statistics. Until 1984/85, a first-degree student studying two subjects was counted only in the first subject stated in the institution's file. As of 1985/86, students studying in two fields are listed in each one. Table D presents a comparison between the two counting methods, with regard to a first degree.

¹ Including students studying at regional colleges under the auspices of a university.

Field of study: subjects of studies were grouped according to the scientific field to which they belong. A student who studied two subjects was classified by the field of the subject appearing first in the institution's file.

The fields of study are listed below:

15 specific fields

General Humanities
Languages, Literature and Regional Studies
Education and Teacher Training
Art, Crafts and Applied Arts
Special Programs and Miscellaneous
Social Sciences
Business and Management Sciences
Law
Medicine
Paramedical Studies
Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Sciences
Physical Sciences
Biological Sciences
Agriculture
Engineering and Architecture

7 general fields

Humanities
Social Sciences
Law
Medicine
Mathematics and Sciences
Agriculture
Engineering and Architecture

Weighted field of study: a student who studied in two fields of study was listed as "half a student" in each field. A student who studied in only one field of study was listed as a "full student" in that field (Table E).

3.2 The Open University

Enrolled: anyone who paid tuition fees for recognized studies in at least one of the sessions held during that year. An enrollee is counted only once even if in 2004/05 he attended two sessions or more than one course in a session. Those who did not study in previous years are registered as "new".

Field of study: students were grouped into one of two fields:

- (a) Humanities and Social Sciences.
- (b) Mathematics and Natural Sciences.

The designation was determined by the majority of courses taken by the student.

Year of study: determined in accordance with the number of credit points earned by the student, including credit points on account of previous studies:

First year: 0-36 credit points

Second year: 37-72 credit points

Third year: 73-108 credit points

A first degree is granted after accumulating 108 credit points.

3.3 Other Institutions of Higher Education

Student: A person studying towards a degree at an institution of higher education (other than a university).

Institution of Higher Education (other than a university): An institution which was recognized by the Council for Higher Education, and was authorized to grant a first degree.

Following is the list of institutions:

Academic Colleges:

Bezalel – Academy of Arts and Design, Jerusalem

The Jerusalem Rubin Academy of Music and Dance

Jerusalem College of Technology – Machon Lev

Shenkar – College of Engineering and Design

The Ruppin Academic Center

The Academic Studies Track at The College of Management, Tel Aviv

“ORT” Braude College of Engineering

The Academic College of Tel Aviv-Yaffo

The Max Stern Jezreel Valley Academic College

Tel-Hai Academic College

Netanya Academic College

The Interdisciplinary Center Herzliyya

Afeka - The Academic College of Engineering in Tel Aviv

The Hadassah Academic College, Jerusalem

The College of Judea and Samaria

The Negev College in the Name of Pinhas Sapir

The Sami Shimon Academic College of Engineering (formerly “Negev Academic College of Engineering”)

Sha'arei Mishpat – The College of Legal Studies

The Holon Academic Institute of Technology

The Academic College of Law – Ramat Gan

Jerusalem College of Engineering

The Academic College, Kiryat Ono

The Schechter College of Jewish Studies

The Academic College, Ashqelon

The Academic College Kinneret, Emek HaYarden

The Lander Institute

Colleges of Education:

David Yellin College of Education
Michlala, Jerusalem College
Beit-Berl Teachers Training College
Levinsky Teachers College (including the Academy for Music Education)
The Zinman College of Physical Education and Sport Sciences at the Wingate
Institute
Kibbutzim College of Education
ORT Syngalowsky Academic College for Teachers in Technology
Oranim – The School of Education of the Kibbutz Movement
Gordon Teachers College
Talpiot Teachers' College – The State Religious College for the Training of
Teachers
The Arabic College for Education in Israel, Haifa
The E.M. Liphshitz Religious Teachers College
The Kaye College of Education
Achva – The Academic College of Education
Orot Israel College
Efrata – The Academic College of Education
Herzog College at Yeshivat Har Etzion
"Moreshet Yaakov" Religious Academic College for Education
Hemdat HaDarom – Academic College for Education, Judaism and Sciences
The Teachers College of Technology
The College for Education, Tourism, Physical Education and Sport in "Ohalu"
Shaanan Teachers College
Academic Teachers Training College Givat Washington
The Academic College for Education - Al-Qasemi
Wizo – College of Design and Teacher Training
Emunah Teacher Training College
Sakhnin Teacher Training College

Degree: the students were classified according to the degree towards which they were studying, as follows:

First degree: B.A., B.Sc., B.Tech., B.Ed., and corresponding diplomas

Second degree: M.B.A., M.A.Mus.

Subject of study: a detailed classification of subjects of study, updated on an ongoing basis, at the Central Bureau of Statistics.

Field of study: subjects were grouped according to the field of science to which they belong (see above, Paragraph 3.1).