

Recommended annual taught time

in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2011/12





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CONTENTS

Part I: Explanatory and Country specific notes	3
Part II: Taught Time by subject	13
Part III: Taught Time by Country	45

PART I: EXPLANATORY AND COUNTRY SPECIFIC NOTES

Introduction	3
Section 1. Explanatory notes	3
Section 2. Country specific notes	7

Introduction

The Eurydice data collection on taught time targets the **recommended compulsory curriculum by grades/stages for full time compulsory education**. The intended curriculum, its goals, structure, subjects and the notional workload for students can be based on regulations or standards defined by central (or top-level) education authorities or may be established as a set of recommendations at regional level. In some countries steering documents only include information of main goals of the national framework curriculum and delegate the taught time allocation to regional/local authorities or to the discretion of individual schools. In the present data collection, all these sources of information are used to complement the time allocation between subjects and/or educational stages.

The recommended compulsory curriculum can be composed by a **compulsory core curriculum** and a **compulsory flexible curriculum**. The **compulsory core curriculum** normally includes the subjects or study domains that must be studied by all students. At certain levels of study students can make choices between a group of subjects and in these cases the corresponding taught time is indicated as Core curriculum options. On the other hand, the **compulsory flexible curriculum** is the part of the curriculum that can be devoted to various subjects selected by the school or the student but still included in the total compulsory time for student instruction. In all these cases a country specific note alerts the reader about the precise subject allocation.

Section 1. Explanatory notes

Education Levels and Programmes

The scope of the taught time data collection is the **compulsory full time primary and secondary general education** as defined in the national education systems. For more information on the situation in each country, please see the brochure "Structure of European education systems 2009/10: schematic diagrams"

(http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/education/eurydice/documents/tools/structure_education_systems_EN.pdf).

The taught time presented in the national figures corresponds to the most common **general education programme** in the country concerned. In countries where more than one educational pathway/track for general education exist in parallel (e.g. Hauptschule, Realschule or Gymnasium in Germany), the specific curricula and taught time distributions for each one of these tracks are specified. The secondary vocational education programmes are not within the coverage of the present data collection.

Taught time

The compulsory taught time includes the time spent by a student in receiving instruction on all the subjects integrated in the compulsory core or compulsory flexible curriculum in the school premises or in out-of school activities which are formal part of the programme. The instruction time excludes:

- Breaks between lessons or other types of interruptions.
- Time dedicated to optional lessons.
- Non-compulsory time outside the school day.
- Time dedicated to homework activities.
- Individual tutoring or private study.

The information presents the country data as annual compulsory taught time in hours of 60 minutes per grade bearing in mind the number of taught days and weeks per year as well as the number and length of the class periods. All figures are rounded up to the next complete number and for this reason some non correspondence between individual subjects and total annual figures might exist.

When the data collected from the national steering document is presented in periods (from 35 till 50 minutes), per week or per year, calculations are done in order to obtain standard annual data in hours. In the following paragraphs some examples of these time conversions are presented.

Examples

Information provided by YEAR and in PERIODS: if for Literacy learning the indicated taught time is 200 periods per year and one period is of 45 minutes, then the total annual number of hours of 60 minutes will be **150 hours** (200*45/60).

Information provided by WEEK and in HOURS of 60 minutes: if for Literacy learning the indicated taught time is 8 hours per week for a specific grade, one week has 5 days and the total number of school days for one year is 175 then the total annual number of hours of 60 minutes per year will be **280 hours** (8/5*175).

Information provided by WEEK and in PERIODS: if for Literacy learning the indicated taught time is 8 periods per week for a specific grade, one period is of 45 minutes, one week has 5 days and the total number of school days for one year is 175 then the total annual number of hours of 60 minutes per year will be **210 hours** (8/5*175)*(45/60).

Definitions of subject categories

The subjects taught during compulsory education in Europe vary depending on the country. It is therefore necessary to group them according to more general subject categories, in order to be able to compare the information gathered or produce trends. Certain subject categories (e.g. natural sciences) cover several subjects taught (physics, chemistry or biology), whereas others are more specific (e.g. physical education).

The following table defines the subject categories which are included in the information presented in the national figures. Country specific notes explain the national specificities in the subject distribution among general categories.

Table 1: Definitions of subject areas

Subject category	Definitions
Literacy learning	Covers skills such as spelling, reading, and writing on the language of instruction and includes subjects such as grammar, language of instruction and literature.
Mathematics	Covers all the numeracy skills and subjects such as arithmetic, algebra, geometry or statistics, etc.
Natural Sciences	Includes subjects such as science, physics, chemistry, biology, environmental sciences and ecology.
Social Sciences	Includes subjects such as history, geography and all connected studies. May also include community studies, social and political instruction or civics education.
Foreign Language	Includes subjects that develop students' knowledge of a language viewed as 'foreign' (or modern) in the curriculum. This definition is educationally based and unrelated to the political status of languages. Therefore some languages which from a political perspective are regarded as regional and minority languages may be classified in the curriculum as foreign languages.
Physical Education	Includes subjects such as physical or sports education as well as time devoted to competitive games, gymnastics, swimming, dance or other activities that develop pupils' health and psychomotor coordination.
Arts Education	Includes subjects such as arts, history of arts, music, visual arts, drama, music and dance performance, photography, creative handicraft.
Religion/ Ethics	Includes subjects whose aim is to teach the principles and history of one or more religions and subjects such as Ethics or Philosophy which aim is to determine how to live and behave in accordance with human and social principles.
Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)	Includes subjects such as Informatics, Information and Communication Techno- logies or Computer science. These subjects include a wide range of topics concerned with the new technologies used for the processing and transmission of digital information, including computers, computerised networks (including the Internet), microelectronics, multimedia, software and programming, etc. ICT may be taught as a subject in its own right or used as a resource for teaching other subjects (integrated subject).
Technology	Includes subjects that provide knowledge on the practical use of scientific or tech- nological discoveries which use resources, instruments and characteristic pro- cesses for different occupations. For example, construction, electricity, woodwork, metalwork, sewing, etc. If ICT skills are included in a general Technology subject, a specific country note must be included in the specific worksheet.
Core curriculum options	Comprise a set of subjects that are compulsory for schools to offer and from which pupils have to select one or more in order to cover part of their compulsory curriculum.
Other subjects	This category includes different subjects that cannot be classified within the other groups or which specifically reflect national concerns. In this category the following types of subjects may be included: Classical languages and Minority languages which the curriculum does not consider to be foreign languages, vocational classes, domestic science, home economics, accountancy, business studies, career education, driving and road security, or compulsory "Tutoring", etc.
Compulsory subjects with flexible timetable	In some countries, the regional authorities, local authorities or schools themselves are relatively autonomous in determining how time should be allocated to teaching.

Subject category Definitions

Compulsory subjects with flexible timetable	Two situations may occur: - The instructions or recommendations indicate solely a total amount of taught time for each school year, which schools may then allocate to individual subjects as they wish. This may be termed horizontal flexibility as for example in primary education (ISCED 1) in the Netherlands.
	- The instructions or recommendations refer to a number of hours to be allocated to each subject for a certain number of years, or even the whole of compulsory education. Schools may then allocate these hours to individual years as they wish. This may be termed vertical flexibility as for example in Sweden during compulsory education.

General Terms and Definitions used for information gathering

In the following table some 'support' definitions related to the taught time data collection are specified with the aim to facilitate the understanding of the figures.

Table 2: Definitions and concepts

Terms	Definitions
Educational Pathway/Track/ Branch	Different types of general educational provision that may be chosen by the parents/students or defined by the schools at the beginning of lower secondary education.
Grade	Each education level is composed of a series of grades or classes that must be taken in a consecutive way by the students making normal progress (i.e. who has not had to redo a year) and where they are taught together in the same course of instruction.
Number of days per school year	The number of days each year when the school is open and students are studying.
Length of a class period/lesson	Each school day is divided into a given number of periods or lessons, the length of which may vary depending on the country or school year concerned. It may not therefore correspond to exactly one hour (it is generally between 45 and 55 minutes).
Subject in its own right	Subject devoted exclusively to work on a single area or group of topics. This concept is to be distinguished from integrated subjects.
Integrated subject	Topics that are not necessarily learnt as subjects in their own right, but in the course of other subjects for which they may even serve as a tool, as in the case of ICT.
Foreign langua- ge as a com- pulsory subject	A foreign language which is taught as one of the compulsory subjects in the curriculum laid down by the central (top-level) education authorities. All pupils must study this subject.
Vertical flexibility	Curricula only indicate the total taught time that have to be taught for a specific subject, without specifying the time to be allocated to each grade. In such cases, schools/local authorities are free to decide how much time should be assigned for each grade.
Horizontal flexibility	Curricula only specify the subjects and the total taught time per year, without specifying the time to be allocated to each one of them. In such cases, schools/local authorities are free to decide how much time should be assigned for compulsory subjects.

Section 2. Country specific notes

Belgium – French Community

The teaching of compulsory foreign languages is significantly different in the Brussels-Capital Region and in the communes with special linguistic regime where a second foreign language is taught 3 periods per week in third and fourth grades and five periods per week in fifth and sixth grades.

Belgium – Flemish Community

Schools organised by a public authority are obliged to provide minimum 3 teaching periods of Religion and moral education for grades 1 to 6 and 2 teaching periods for grades 7 to 9. There is no minimum compulsory number of hours for this subject in the regulations for the subsidised schools.

Czech Republic

The presented taught time is in accordance to the 2007/08 Framework Educational Programme for Basic Education (FEP BE). In primary education in the category 'Natural sciences' is allocated the total time for the educational area "People and Their World" including the social studies component. In secondary education in the category 'Physical education' includes the broad area "People and their health". The topics related to the "Health education" can be provided either separately, within other subjects (for example Natural sciences), or within the "Physical education" by including a theoretical part. In secondary education in the category 'Core curriculum options' six hours per week are set for other foreign language (which must be offered) or optional subjects from the eighth grade at the latest.

The 'Flexible' timetable is devoted to implement cross-curricular topics (personal and social education, education for democratic citizenship, education towards thinking in the European and global context, multicultural education, environmental education, and media studies); to increase time for particular educational areas and fields; to introduce other areas of compulsory education; to introduce supplementary educational fields (e.g. drama); to introduce other optional educational content, etc.

Denmark

The first year in the figures is classified for statistical purposes as ISCED 0 (pre-primary level), but corresponds to the first year of the Single structure of education. Second foreign language (usually German) is offered by all schools in grades 7, 8 and 9 with 90, 120 and 120 hours per year respectively and students can select this option among others. The core curriculum options in years 8 and 9 can be French, word processing, technology, media, visual arts, photography, film studies, theatre, music, crafts, metal works, home economics, engine mechanics, work knowledge.

Germany

The information is based on the regulations of the Land of Bavaria. Regulations of other Länder may vary. The taught time is provided following the normal five-day school week. Some Länder have a six-day school week with two school Saturdays per month.

In fifth and sixth grades two additional hours per week of basic sports instruction can be added. In seventh and eighth grades two additional hours of differentiated sports instruction can be added, depending on the availability of staff, rooms and organizational possibilities.

Subjects only taught in some branches are left out (e.g. woodwork, metal work or housekeeping/home economics).

Estonia

In schools with language of instruction other than Estonian the number lessons per week for 'Foreign language' (FL) and 'Core Curriculum Options' (CCO) are different: Grades 1-3: FL-6, CCO-2; Grades 4-6: FL -12, CCO-1; Grades 7-9: FL 1-12, CCO-1.

Ireland

In Secondary education (grades 7-10) the only compulsory subjects are: 'Irish', 'English', 'Mathematics', 'Physical Education', 'Civic, Social and Political Education' (CSPE), 'Social', 'Personal and Health Education' (SPHE) and, in most schools, History and Geography. The hours of tuition required for these subjects are not prescribed, except for CSPE and SPHE (One lesson of c.0.67 hours per week each). However, accepted norms and advice from inspectors suggests that the minimum amount of time acceptable for these subjects is 2.67 hours per week for Irish, English and Mathematics, 2 hours each for History and Geography and 1.33 hours for Physical Education. The total amount of time stipulated in this manner for these compulsory subjects is thus 13.31 hours and the remaining time (up to 28 hours per week) is made up by religious education for almost all students, and by languages, arts subjects, technologies, science, etc. at the discretion of individual schools and in most instances based on the choices students make too.

Spain

The compulsory curriculum laid down by the central government for the entire country represents 55 % of taught time in Autonomous Communities with a second joint official language and 65 % in the others. The remaining taught time is set by each Autonomous Community.

As 'Compulsory subjects with flexible timetable' is indicated the total average compulsory instruction time regulated by the Autonomous Communities, which is added to the minimum compulsory time established by the central level, has been included. The Autonomous Communities with a co-official language can use in grades 1-6 a maximum of 10% of the total time established in the national core curriculum for the instruction of their own co-official language; however they cannot subtract more than 35 hours of the same subject. In grades 7-10 the Autonomous Communities with a co-official language can use 10% of the total time established in the national core curriculum for the instruction of their own co-official language; however they cannot subtract more than 35 hours of the total time established in the national core curriculum for the instruction of their own co-official language, however they cannot subtract more than 50 hours of the same subject in the first three years of Lower secondary education, or 20 hours in the fourth year.

In grades 7-10 students must take certain optional subjects and in any case schools must always offer 'Second Foreign Language' and 'Classical Culture' lessons. In grade 10 all students must take three 'Core curriculum options' from the following list of subjects: 'Biology and Geology'; 'Plastic and Visual Education'; 'Physics and Chemistry'; 'Computer Science'; 'Latin'; 'Music'; a second 'Foreign Language'; and 'Technology'.

'Religion/Ethics/Moral education': Students can opt for taking Religion classes or not. Schools must offer educational attention to those students not following 'Religion', but it can never include the provision of curriculum contents. In grade 10, the reported taught time in this category includes two different subjects: 'Religion' (or alternative activities) and 'Ethical-Civic education', with 35 hours each.

The category 'Other subjects' includes 'Citizenship and human rights education'. This subject must be taught in one of the two years of the third cycle of ISCED 1 (eg. grades 5 or 6) and in one of the last three years of ISCED 2 (grades 8, 9 or 10). The exact grade is decided by each Autonomous Community. In the table of Intended Taught Time it has been included in grades 5 and 8 because these are the grades in which it is provided in most of the Autonomous Communities.

France

In grades 3-5 the category 'Natural sciences' includes the subject 'Sciences expérimentales et technologie'. In grade 6-9, the category 'Other subjects' includes a lesson for class discussion called 'Heure de vie de classe'. In grades 7-8 schools also can attribute 30 additional minutes per week for extracurricular activities. In grade 9 the students in the branch 'Découverte professionnelle' representing 6,5% of the total students have the Second foreign language as curriculum option.

In grade 10 the taught time dedicated to 'Core curriculum options' varies depending on the chosen subjects by each pupil and 'Others Subjects' include 72 hours for '*Aide aux élèves et accompagnement de leur travail personnel*'. The hours indicated for 'First Foreign Language' are usually split between two foreign languages depending of the school decision.

Italy

According to legislation, schools are required to work for not less than 5 days a week and for not less than 200 days per year. However, the annual taught time is commonly calculated on an average of 33 weeks. Schools have autonomy in the distribution of the timetable both over the week and the school year, which goes from the 1st of September and the 31st of June. In many schools, especially at secondary level, lessons are distributed over 6 days. One hour is considered of 60 minutes. Schools can organize the timetable in periods lasting less than 60 minutes, provided that the sum of periods corresponds to the total amount of time foreseen by the timetable.

As for the first and second grade of primary school, the minimum annual taught time is calculated according to the minimum weekly timetable of 24 hours for 33 weeks, gradually introduced starting from school year 2009/2010. However, schools most commonly work according to the weekly timetable of 27 hours a week (891 hours per year). For the remaining grades, the previous minimum annual taught time of 891 hours a year still applies.

At secondary level the category 'Literacy learning' includes "'History" and "Geography". The category 'Mathematics' includes "Sciences" and the category 'Technology' includes "ICT". The hours foreseen for the second foreign language can be used for complementary teaching of the first language (English).

In all levels the teaching of "Citizenship and Constitution" is included in the timetable for history/ geography/social teaching. In the lower secondary level, the taught time for this subject is included in the category 'Literacy learning', while for primary and upper secondary levels it is included in the category 'Social Studies'.

Cyprus

"Geography" is included in the category 'Natural Science'. In grade 8 the subject "Fist aid" is included in the category 'Physical education'. In grade 9 the subjects "Civics" and "Vocational guidance" are included in the category 'Social Sciences'.

Latvia

According to the Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers, lessons/instruction for the grade 9 ends earlier, but a school year is longer than for other grades because of examinations' period and consists of 185 days. Duration of lessons is either 40 or 45 minutes upon the decision of the school head (for calculation is used the most common duration of 40 minutes).

In the category 'Other subjects' is included the subject called "Class hour", organized by class teacher and with one lesson per week. "Class hours" are for discussing various themes like value education, communication culture, patriotism and civil participation, traffic safety, handling extreme situations, healthy lifestyle, career guidance etc.

Lithuania

In 2008 the curriculum framework was updated by renewing subject contents and allowing up to 10 % flexibility between subjects.

In primary school pupils are taught integrated Natural and Social sciences and also Arts and Technology. In the grades 5-6 pupils are taught integrated Natural sciences. Half of the Information Technology lessons should be integrated into other subjects. In grades 5-10 a subject called "Personal Safety" including civil, traffic and fire safety is taught for half period a week. In the 9th and 10th grades pupils are also taught Citizenship with one lesson per week.

Students are allowed to have lessons on "National minority languages" (such as Belorussian, Polish, Russian and German) as follows: grades 1-4: seven lessons per week; grades 5-8: five lessons per week; grades 9-10: four lessons a week.

Primary education schools with musical, arts or sports education program are allowed to adjust up to 25 percent of teaching time. An additional number of lessons can be allocated under school discretion to supply pupils needs in additional education of arts, foreign language, bilingual, individual education or consultation.

Luxembourg

The category 'Other subject' includes "Letzebrurgesch", "History", "Geography", "Music" and "Biology".

Hungary

In the category 'Other subjects' are included the following subjects: "Teachers' class" (grades 4-12), "Health care studies"(grade 6), "Film and Media" (grades 11-12).

The Netherlands

Every child must attend school full time from the first school day of the month following its fifth birthday, however almost all four year-olds (99 %) attend *Basisonderwijs* primary school. Children must attend school full time until the end of the school year in which they turn sixteen. From then on all pupils up to the age of eighteen will be required to continue learning until they have obtained a basic qualification (a HAVO, VWO or MBO level 2 certificate – qualifications at ISCED level 3).

Austria

During the first two years, foreign language teaching is linked to other subjects (50 minutes per week) as part of an integrated approach.

Poland

The new outline timetable was implemented during school year 2009/10 only in first grade of primary school and first grade of lower secondary school. The new outline timetable for grades 4-6 of primary school hasn't been published yet and for this reason the previous timetable is presented. The subject "Geography" is included in the 'Natural sciences' category. 'Other subjects' category includes 30 periods per year of education for safety and 95 periods of lessons with class tutor.

Portugal

The hours established for Literacy, Mathematics and Social Studies, in first cycle (first four years of schooling), are a result of a guideline from de Ministry of Education, there are no formal regulation for their distribution on timetable. For the first four years of primary equation the 'Natural science' category includes the content of the curricular subject "*Estudo do meio*" (study of the environment). The attendance to religion and moral education is optional in all three cycles of schooling.

In the first cycle there are also non-compulsory activities called "curricular enrichment activities". These activities have duration of 45 minutes per day. They include English lessons, physical and music education (with physical education accounting for 135 minutes per week) and also plastic "expressions" with a maximum of 90 minutes per week.

In grades 5 and 6 Mathematic and Natural sciences are part of the same curricular area, but the law established that at least half of the time should be dedicated to mathematics. Literacy learning

(Portuguese), Foreign language and Social studies (history and geography) are part of the same curricular area and at least half must be dedicated to literacy learning (Portuguese). In Grades 10-11 students must choose a different foreign language that the one they attend in basic education (foreign language 2), notwithstanding, they may choose to attend in addition classes on the foreign language 1 as an optional subject.

In grade 9 students must choose between 1,5 periods per week of arts education and technology the periods are allocated in the figure in the subject technology. In grades 10-12 the taught time for Core curriculum options should be between 9 and 10,5 periods of 90 minutes per week depending of the selected specific subjects. In the figure the minimum value of 9 period per week is used. The total taught time for secondary education (general and specific subjects) must be: between 17,5 and 19,5 (10th grade); between 17 and 19 (11th grade); and, between 13 and 15,5 (10th grade).

Romania

In the category 'Other subjects' are included "Counselling and Guidance" in grades 5-9; Latin - grade 8; Informatics - grades 9-10; Entrepreneurship Education - grade 10.

Slovenia

From the school year 2008/09 a second compulsory foreign language is gradually phasing in (in grades 7 to 9); it is expected that in 2013/14 all basic school pupils shall have to learn two compulsory foreign languages at the age of 12 to 14; there are approximately 30% of schools which have already started with the second language as compulsory subject.

In addition to compulsory subjects, basic schools offer in grades 7-9 compulsory options in the field of social sciences and humanities and in the field of natural sciences and technology. Pupils select two lessons per week, with their parents' approval they may select three hours a week. Compulsory subjects may be combined and joined into subject fields.

Teaching of ICT starts at the 1st grade and up to 5th grade as extracurricular lessons and also included in various subjects. In 6th grade it becomes a compulsory content of the Technical science and technology. In 7th to 9th grade ICT is provided as compulsory optional subject of its own right. The annual compulsory additional learning activities in Arts, Science, Physical education and Technology are also included in the respective timetables. The category 'Other subjects' includes "Home economics" and "Class discussion". During the class discussion periods, pupils discuss issues related to their work and life with their home class teacher.

The annual compulsory additional days of learning activities in Arts, Science, Physical education and Technologies are also included in the respective syllabus.

Slovakia

The taught time for the grade 10 is calculated as 1/4 of the time indicated for the stage 3.

Finland

The indicated values for 'Total annual taught time' are an estimate as the number of hours for each area are not defined per year, but depending on the subject they are allocated over 2-5 years. The education provider can decide subject allocation within the frames given in the Government's decision for distribution of taught time. The local curriculum can be specified in which year for example language teaching begins. First foreign language can be taught even from the first grade.

The category 'Other subjects' includes "Home economics and Educational and vocational guidance".

Sweden

The number of hours for a subject or group of subjects given in the timetable may be reduced by at most 20 percent to accommodate school options. In the category 'Core Curriculum Options' are included "Language Options" (320 hours for grades 1-9), and "Student Options" (382 hours for grades 1-9).

The category 'Other subjects' includes "Home and Consumer studies" and in the category 'Technology' is included the subject "Crafts (Textiles, Wood and Metalwork)". 65 % if all pupils do a second not compulsory Foreign Language, with a total of 320 hours for grades 1-9.

United Kingdom (Scotland)

The Scottish Curriculum for Excellence does not prescribe total annual taught time or taught time by subjects with except a minimum of 2 hours per week for "Physical education". Local Authorities and schools themselves are responsible for agreeing the subjects studied in schools. However, the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, which reflects previous legislation dating back to 1872, imposes a statutory duty on local authorities to provide religious education in Scottish schools. In the case of Religious Education in Roman Catholic Schools – all Catholic schools are expected by the Bishops' Conference of Scotland to follow guidelines established by the Catholic Education Commission on the provision of adequate time for religious education within the school curriculum.

Iceland

In grades 8-10, individual schools are intended to determine almost 20% of the total hours of instruction. They are expected to offer pupils in these grades an opportunity to select subjects and subject areas. The contents of study options in grades 8-10 can be divided into three main groups: 1) options intended as direct preparation for study in academic programmes of upper secondary school; 2) options conceived as direct preparation for vocational, artistic or technical study; 3) pupils can select subjects aimed in particular at broadening their horizons or giving pleasure throughout their lives. In the school-year 2010/11, schools offered around 70 subjects and subject areas.

Norway

Second Foreign language in Grades 8-10 covers in-depth studies in languages (Norwegian, English, Sami). The category 'Other subjects' includes the following disciplines: Grades 1-7: "Food and health" (114 hours per year); Grade 5-7: "Physical activity" (76 hours per year); Grade 8-10: "Food and health" (85 hours per year); "Class council and pupils' council" (71 hours per year). Since 2010/11 school year an additional lesson per week is added to the programme for grades 1-7 (*Barneskolen*). This lesson can be used in a flexible way to reinforce a theme upon a decision of the local authorities.

Croatia

The taught time indicated in the categories 'Natural sciences' and 'Social Sciences' for grades 1-4 correspond to an integrated subject called "Nature and society".

Turkey

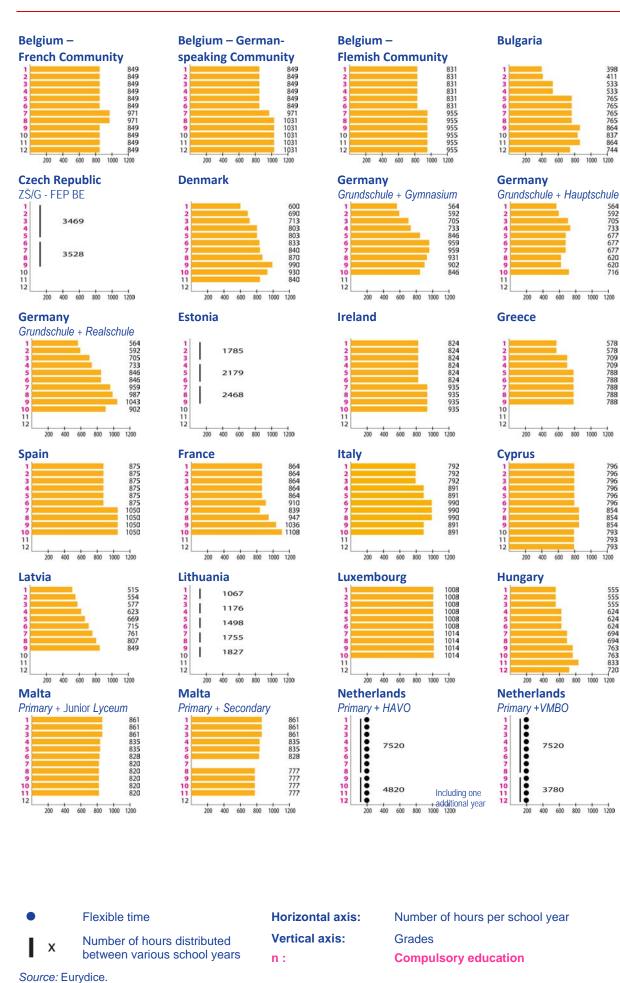
The category 'Compulsory subjects with flexible time' includes the course "Guidance and Social Activities" taught one hour per week.

The category 'Other subjects' includes the following disciplines: Grades 1-3 "Life Studies" comprising among other Natural and Social Studies (5 hours per week); Grades 4-5: "Traffic Security" (1 hour per week); Grade 8: "Principles of Atatürk and History of the Revolution" (3 hours per week).

PART II: TAUGHT TIME BY SUBJECT

TOTAL ANNUAL TAUGHT TIME	14
COMPULSORY SUBJECTS WITH FLEXIBLE TIMETABLE	16
LITERACY LEARNING	18
MATHEMATICS	20
NATURAL SCIENCES	22
SOCIAL STUDIES	24
FIRST FOREIGN LANGUAGE	26
OTHER FOREIGN LANGUAGES	28
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	30
ARTS EDUCATION	32
RELIGION, ETHICS AND MORAL EDUCATION	34
ICT SUBJECT IN ITS OWN RIGHT	36
TECHNOLOGY	38
CORE CURRICULUM OPTIONS	40
OTHER SUBJECTS	42

TOTAL ANNUAL TAUGHT TIME

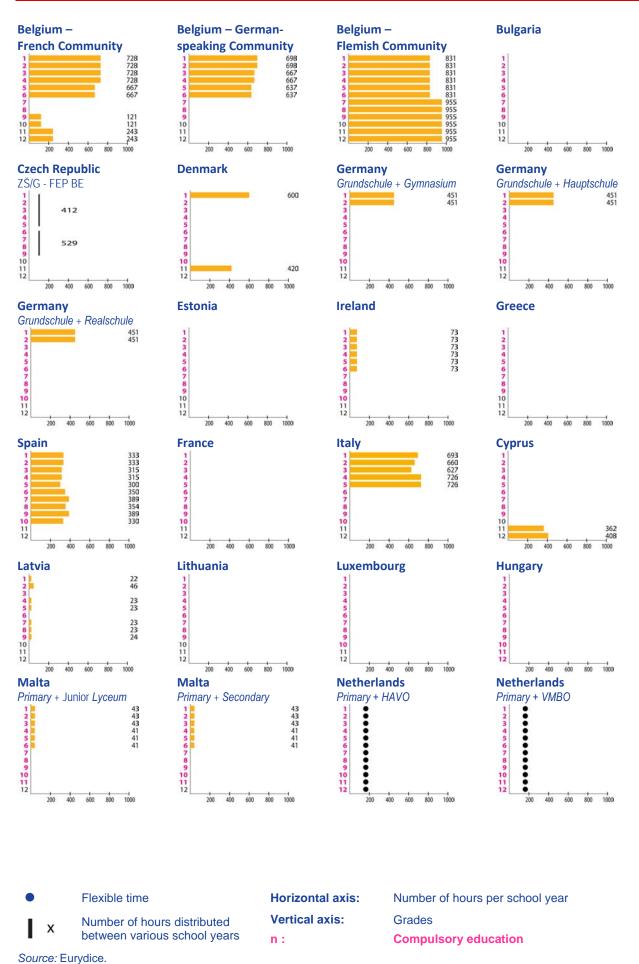


Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2011/12

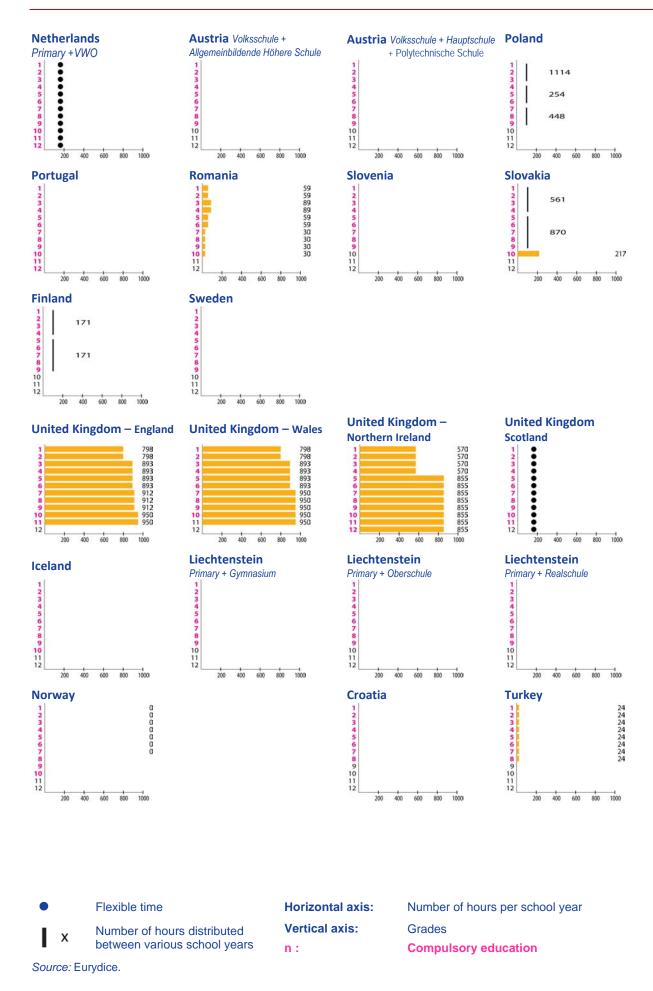




COMPULSORY SUBJECTS WITH FLEXIBLE TIMETABLE



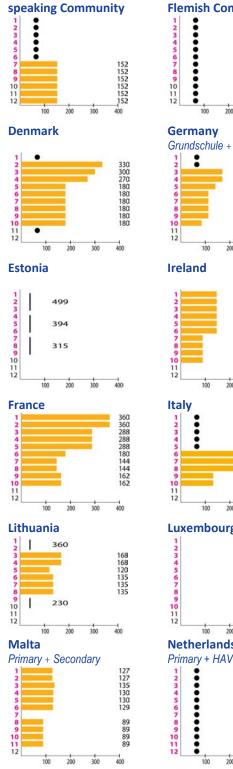
COMPULSORY SUBJECTS WITH FLEXIBLE TIMETABLE

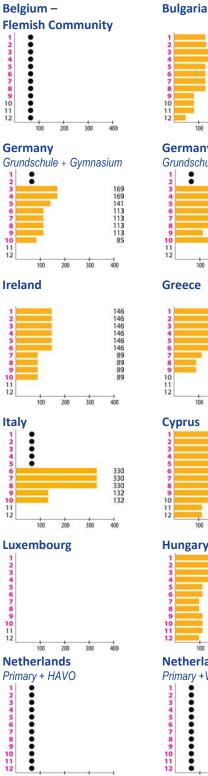


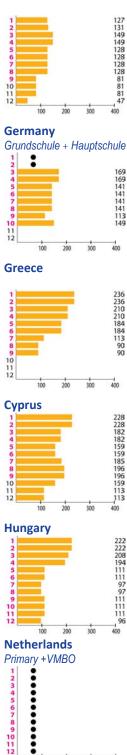
LITERACY LEARNING

Belgium - German-









200

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- Flexible time
- Number of hours distributed between various school years
- Horizontal axis:

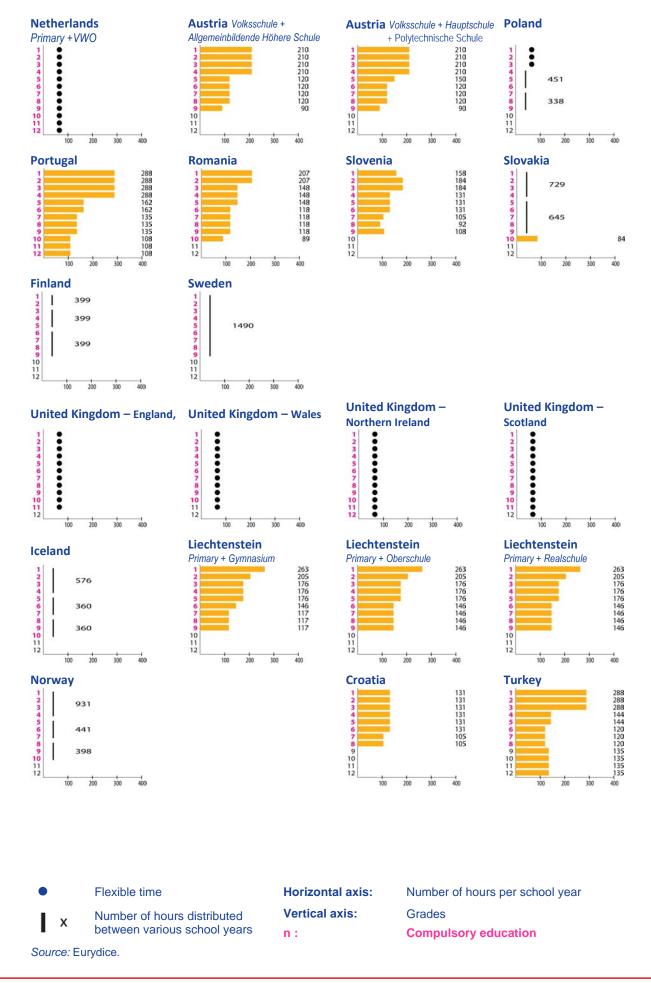
Vertical axis:

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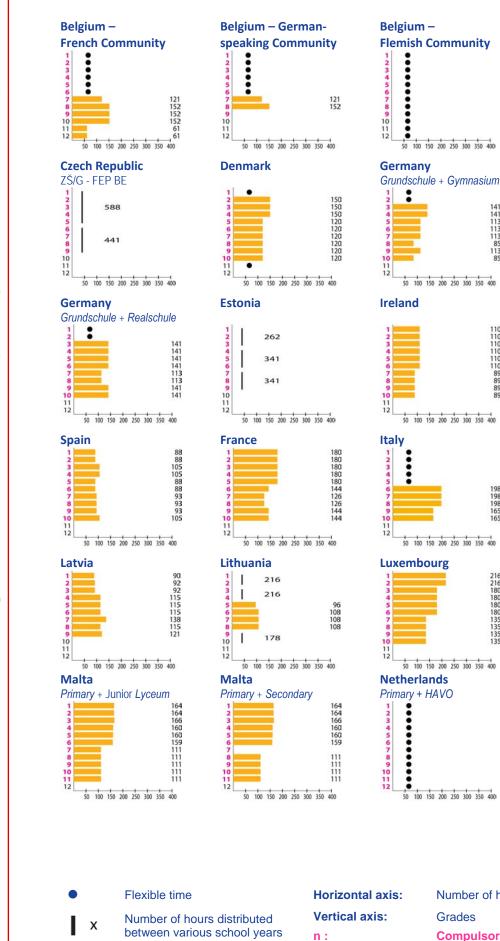
Number of hours per school year Grades **Compulsory education**

Source: Eurydice.

LITERACY LEARNING



MATHEMATICS





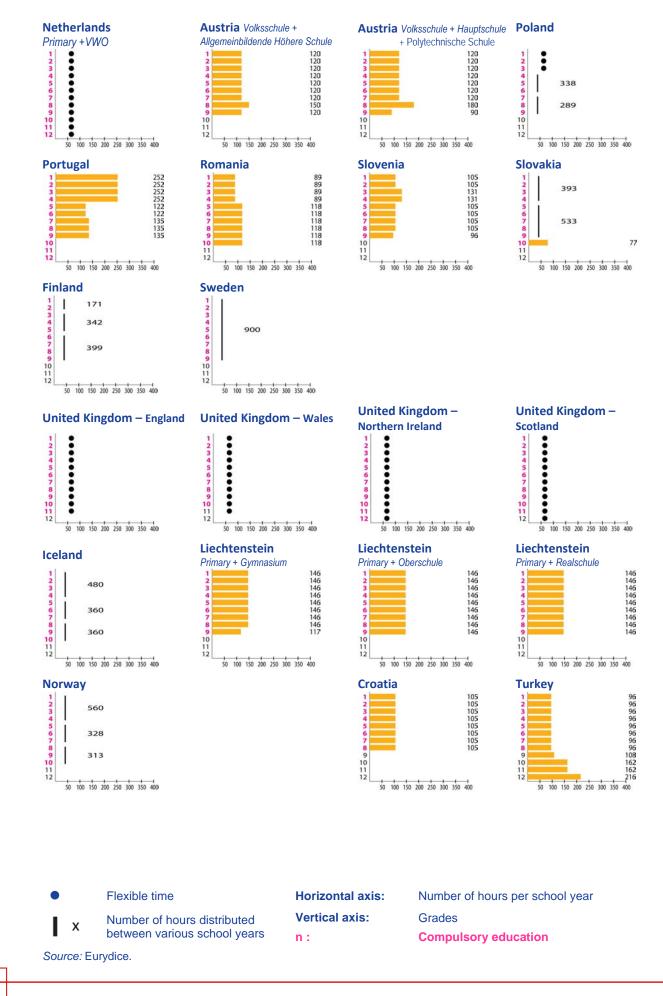
between various school years

Number of hours per school year **Compulsory education**

Source: Eurydice.

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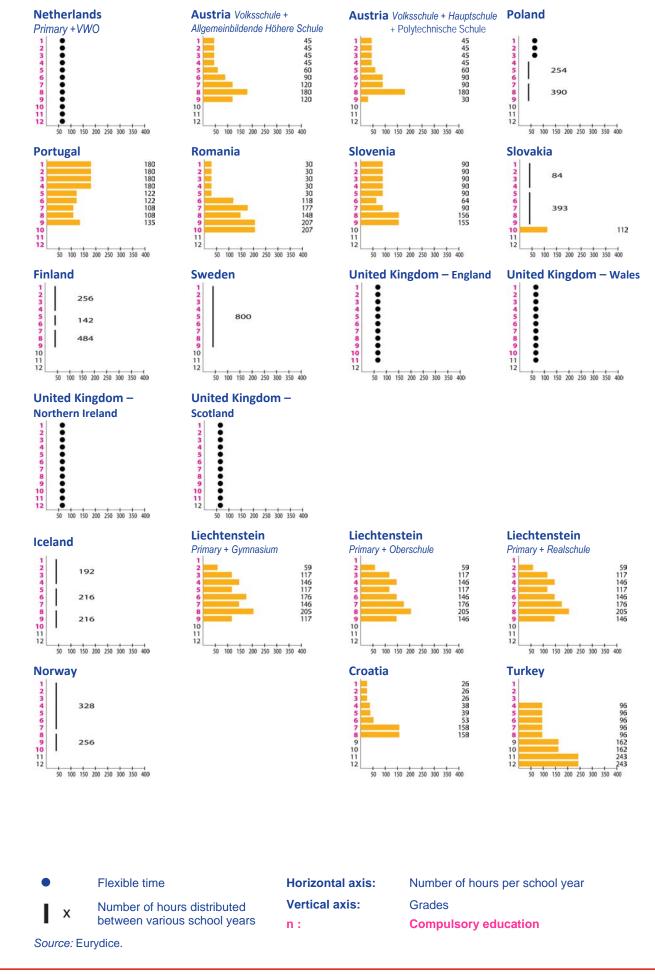
MATHEMATICS



NATURAL SCIENCES

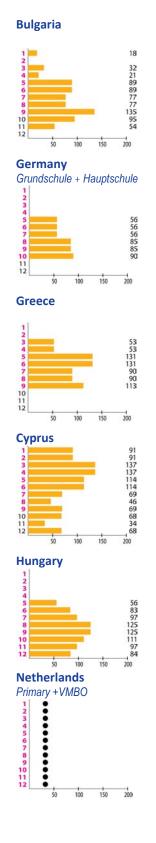


NATURAL SCIENCES



SOCIAL STUDIES

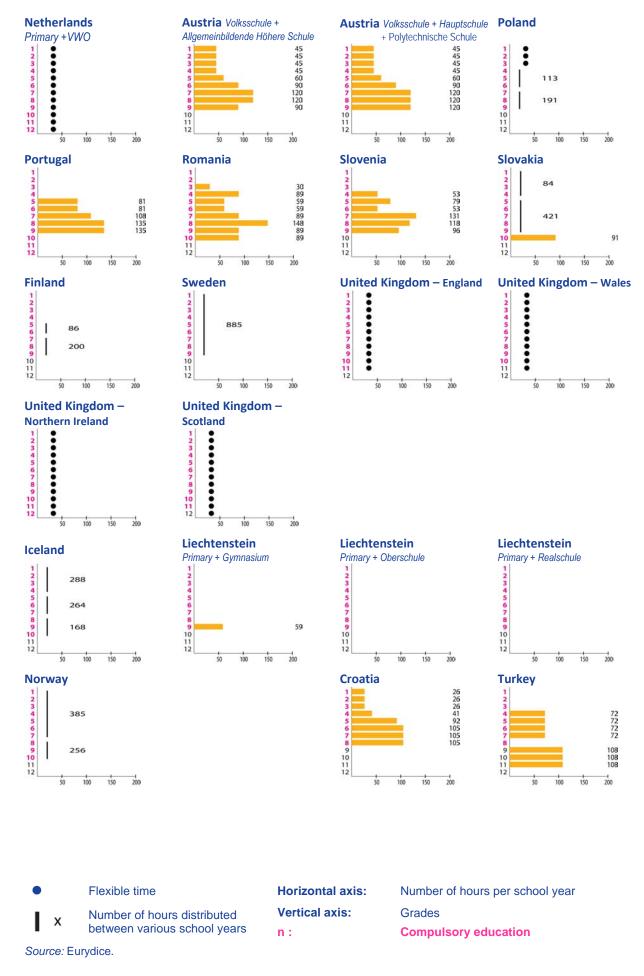




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Source: Eurydice.

SOCIAL STUDIES

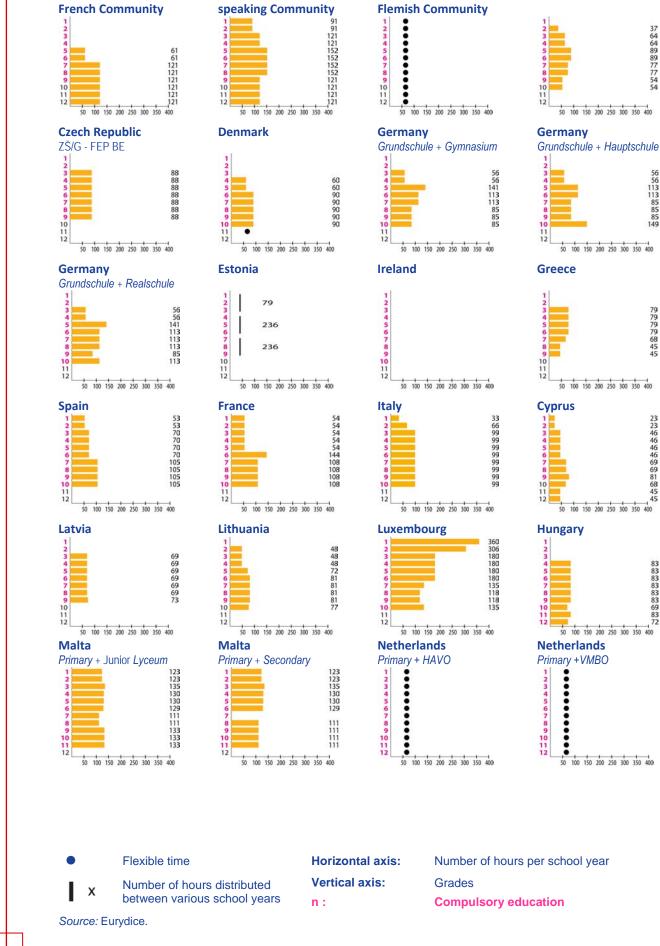


FIRST FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Belgium -

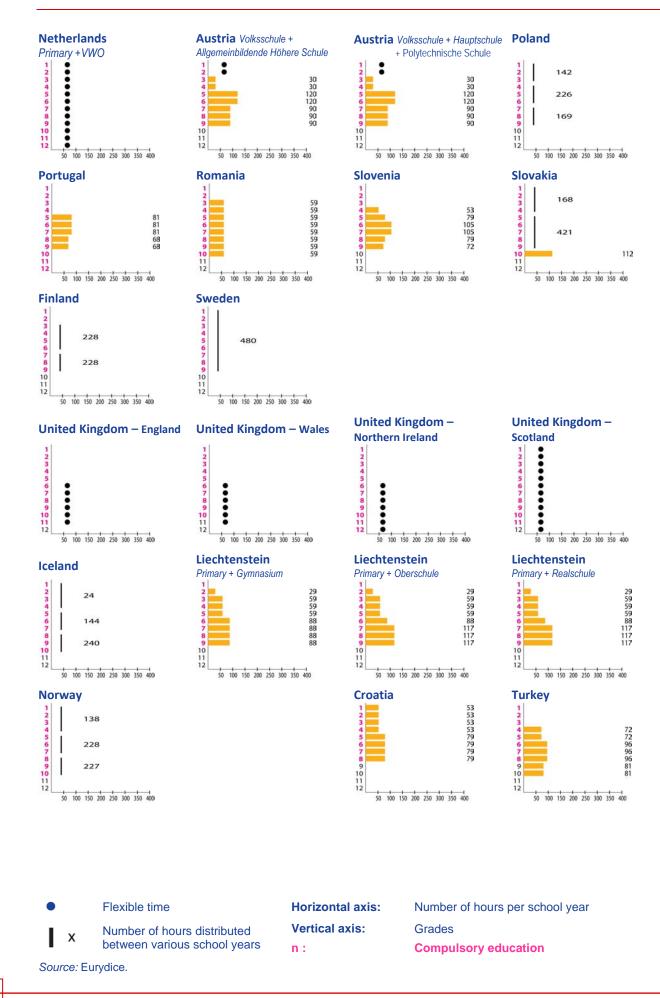
Bulgaria

Belgium – German-

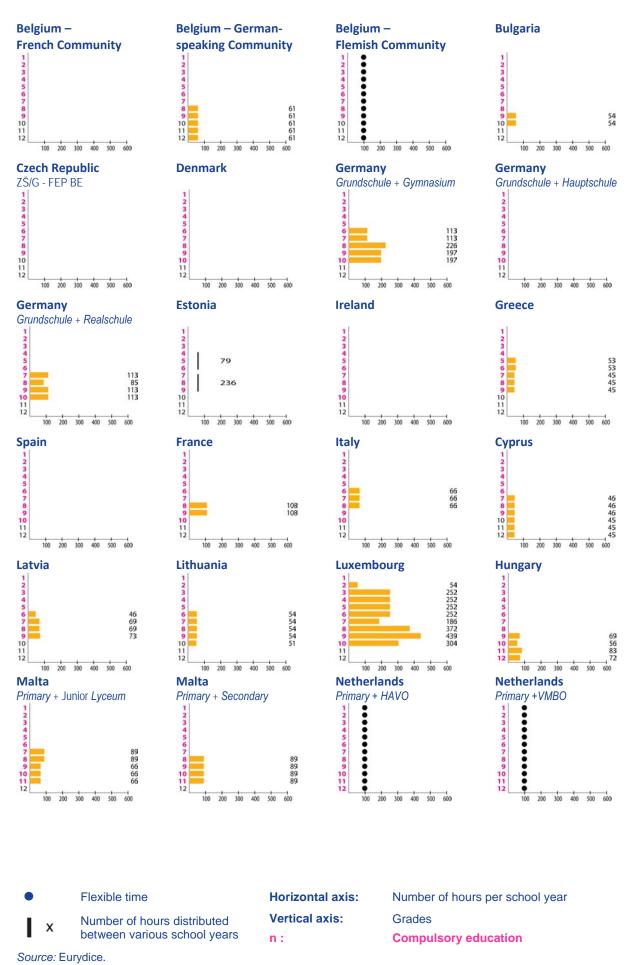


Belgium -

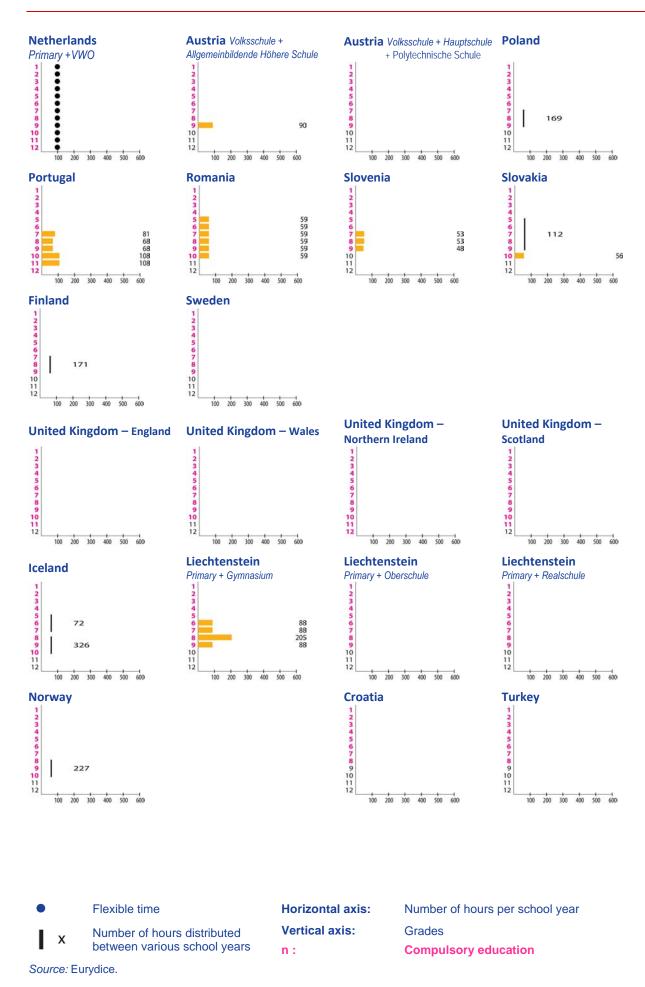




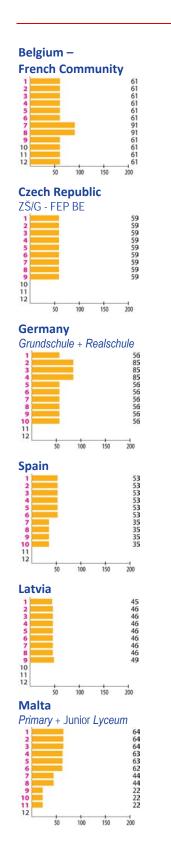
OTHER FOREIGN LANGUAGES

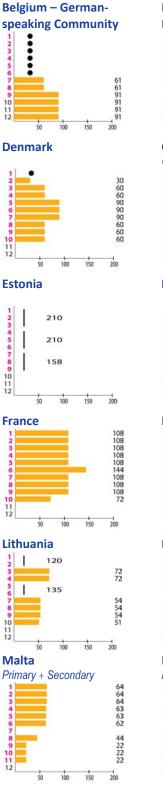


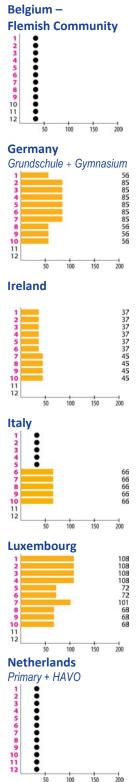
OTHER FOREIGN LANGUAGES

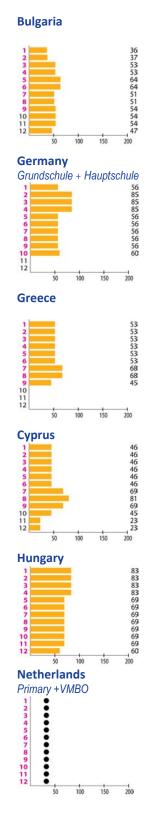


PHYSICAL EDUCATION









Flexible time

- Number of hours distributed between various school years
- Horizontal axis:
- Vertical axis:

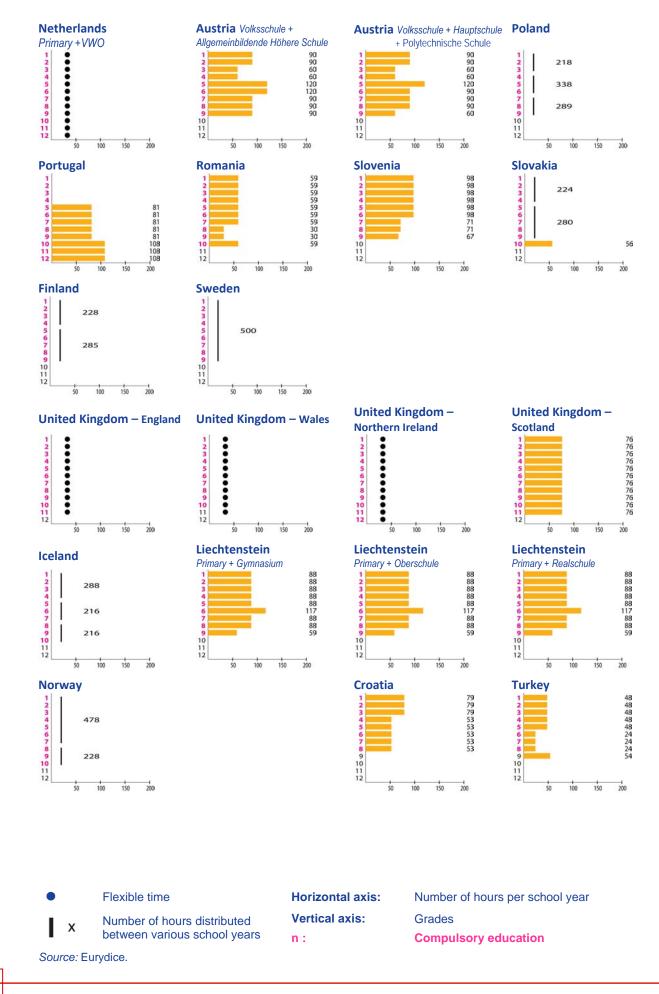
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Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

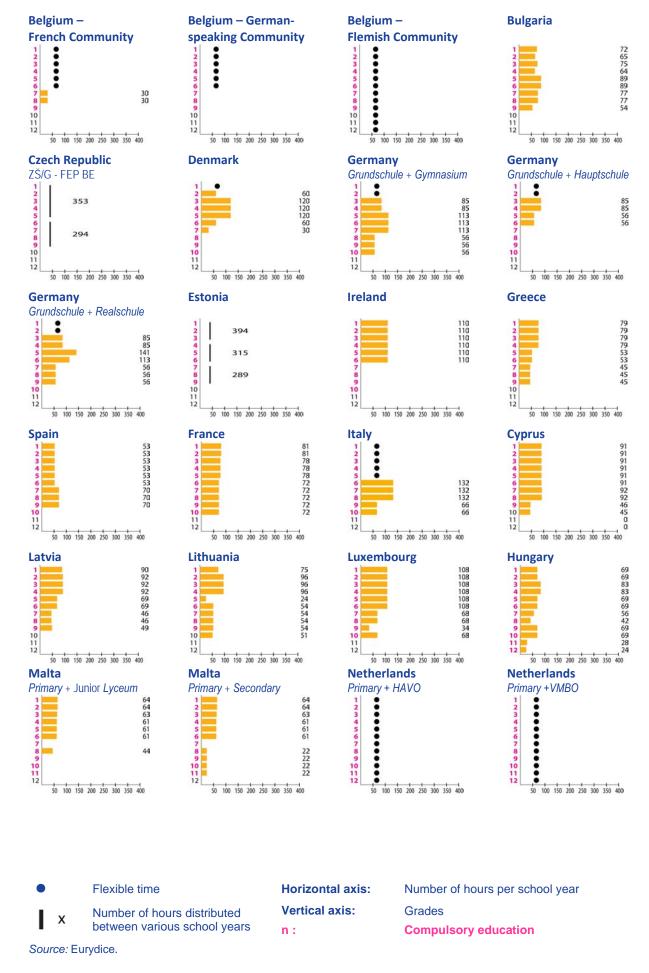
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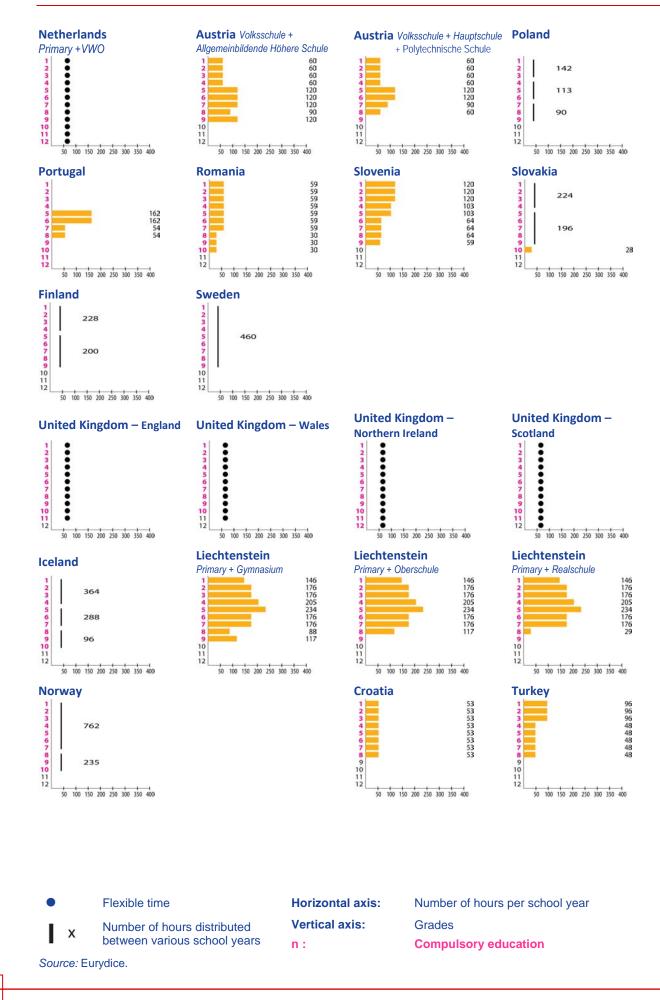
PHYSICAL EDUCATION



ARTS EDUCATION



ARTS EDUCATION



RELIGION, ETHICS AND MORAL EDUCATION

Bulgaria

27 47

14

24

9 10

11 12

11 12

Hungary

Netherlands

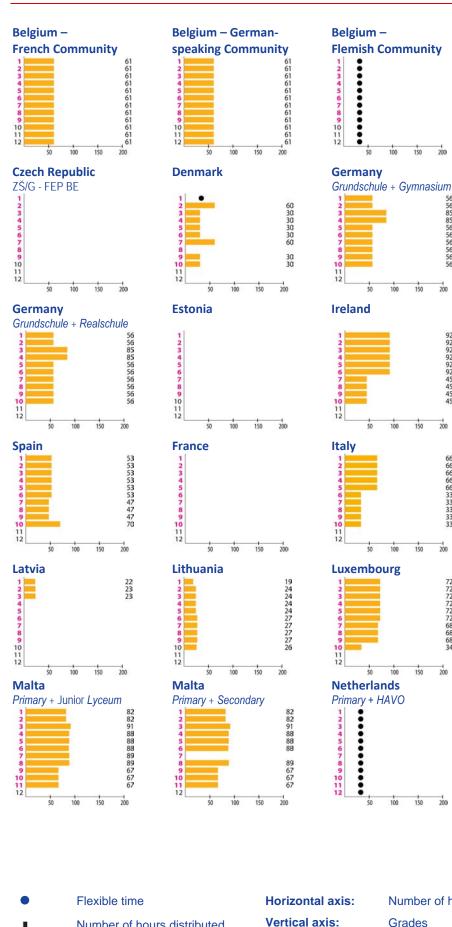
Primary +VMBO

Cyprus

Greece

Germany

Grundschule + Hauptschule



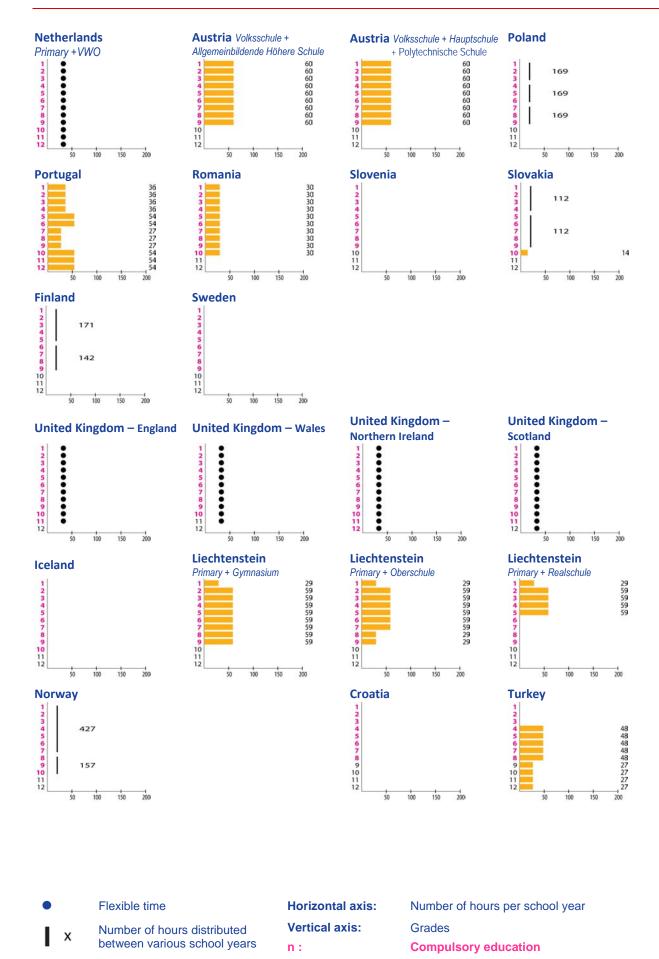
Number of hours distributed between various school years

n:

Number of hours per school year Grades **Compulsory education**

Source: Eurydice.

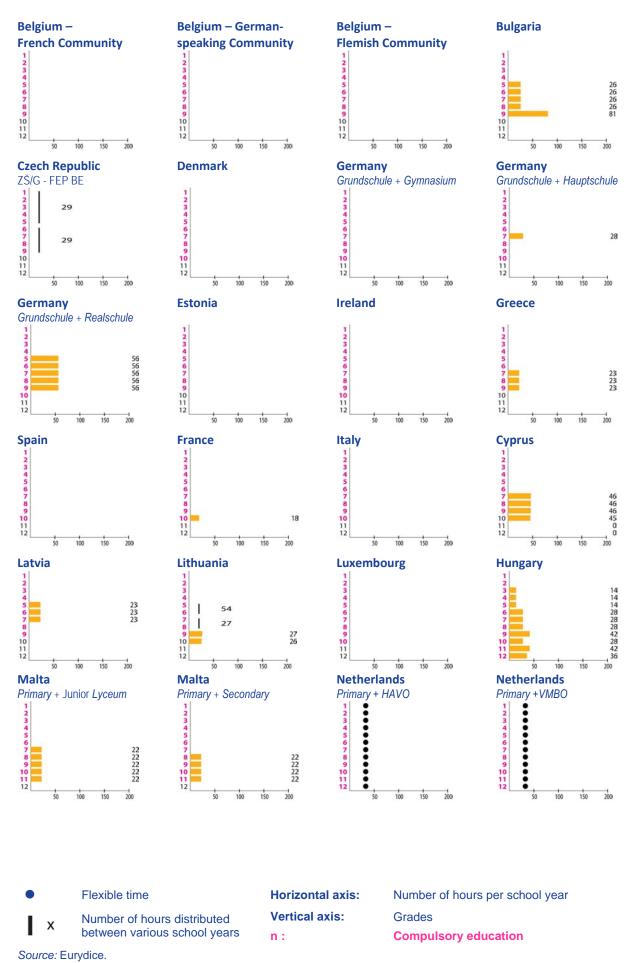
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RELIGION, ETHICS AND MORAL EDUCATION

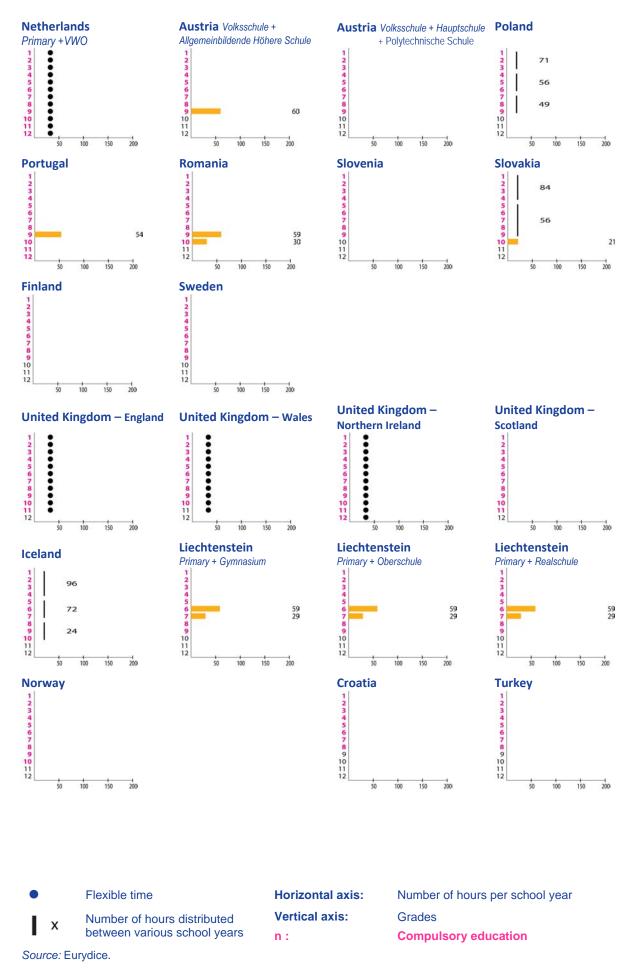
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ICT SUBJECT IN ITS OWN RIGHT

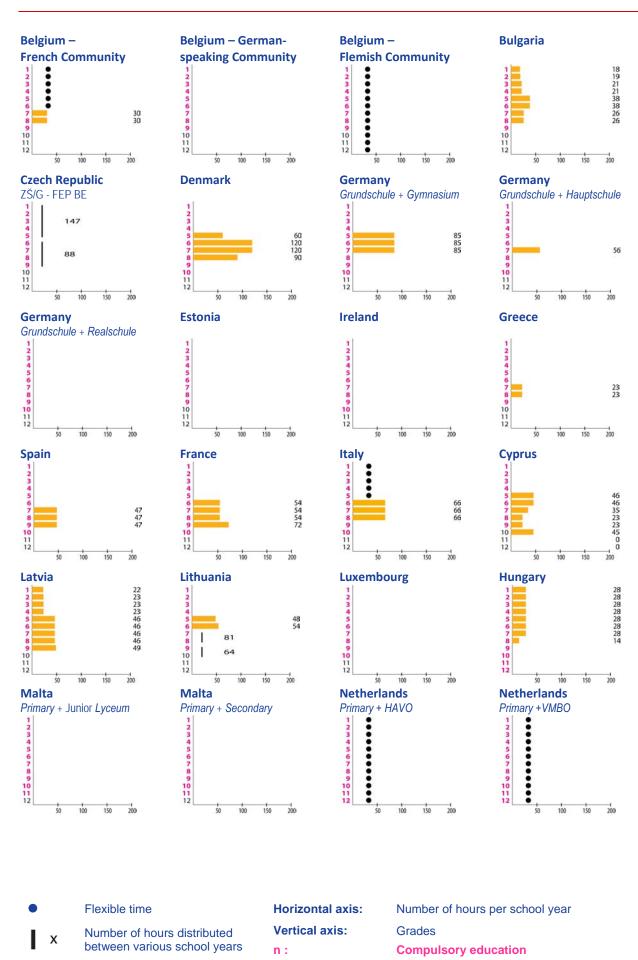




ICT SUBJECT IN ITS OWN RIGHT

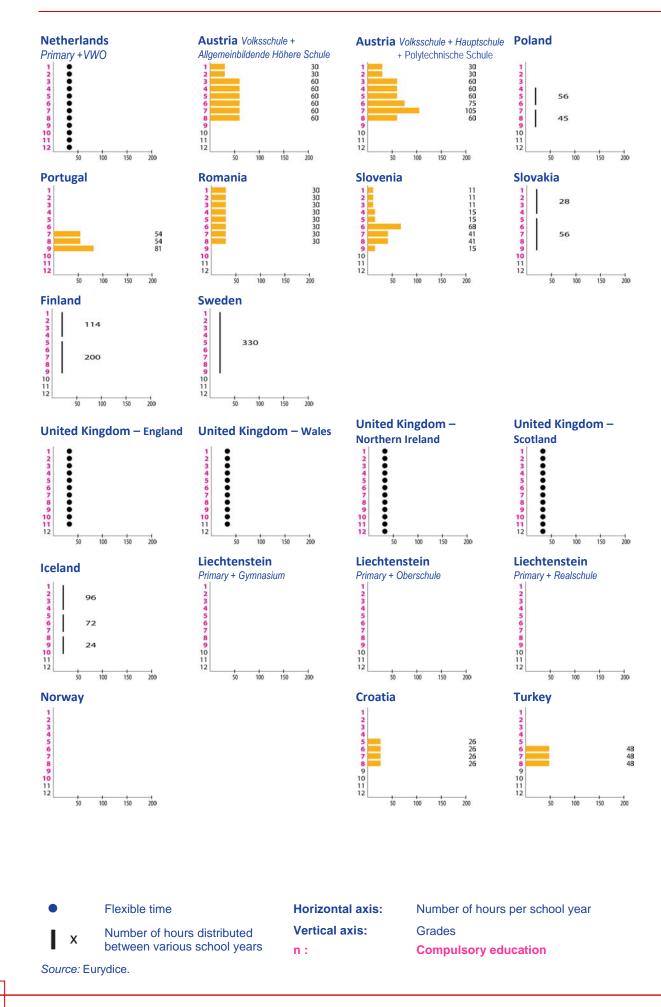


TECHNOLOGY

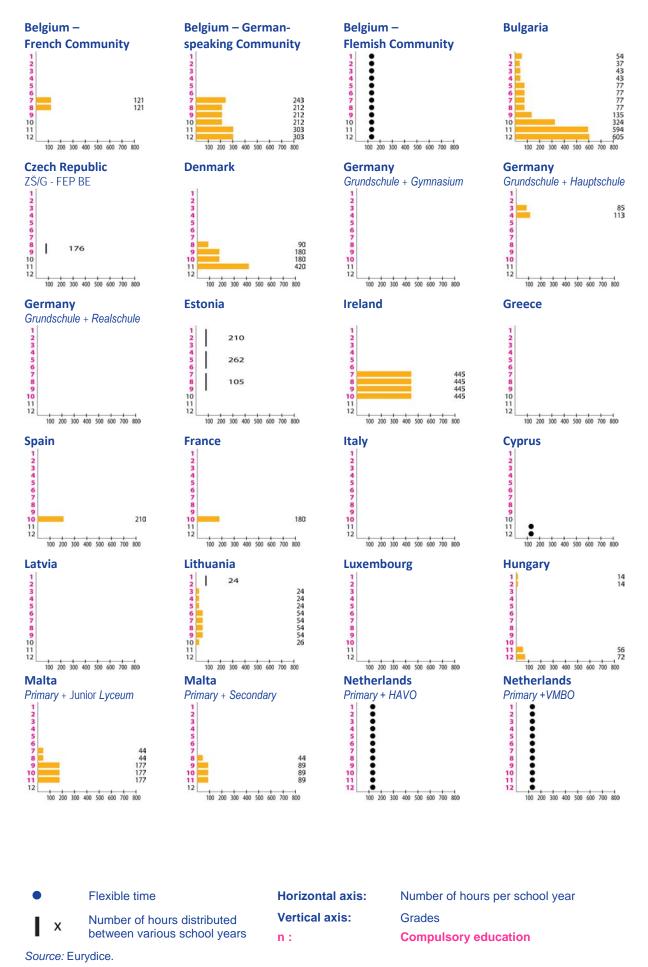


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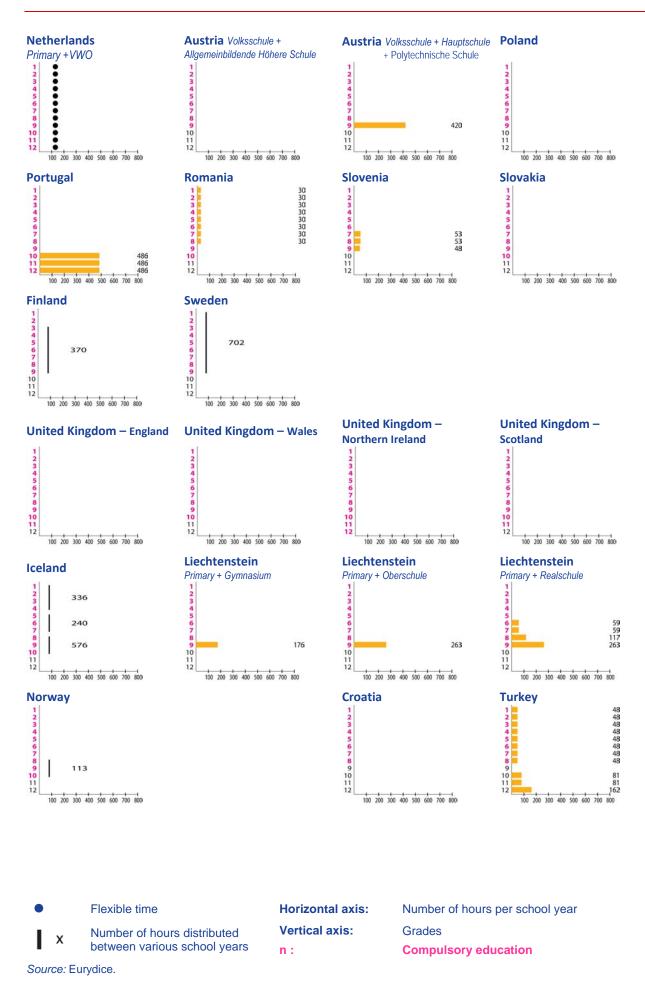
TECHNOLOGY



CORE CURRICULUM OPTIONS

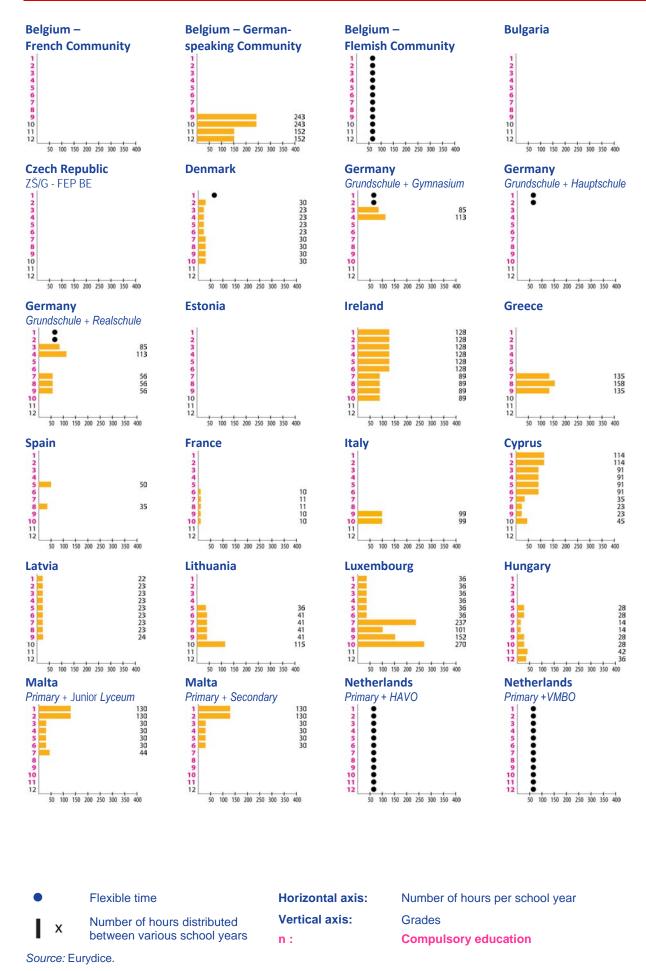


CORE CURRICULUM OPTIONS



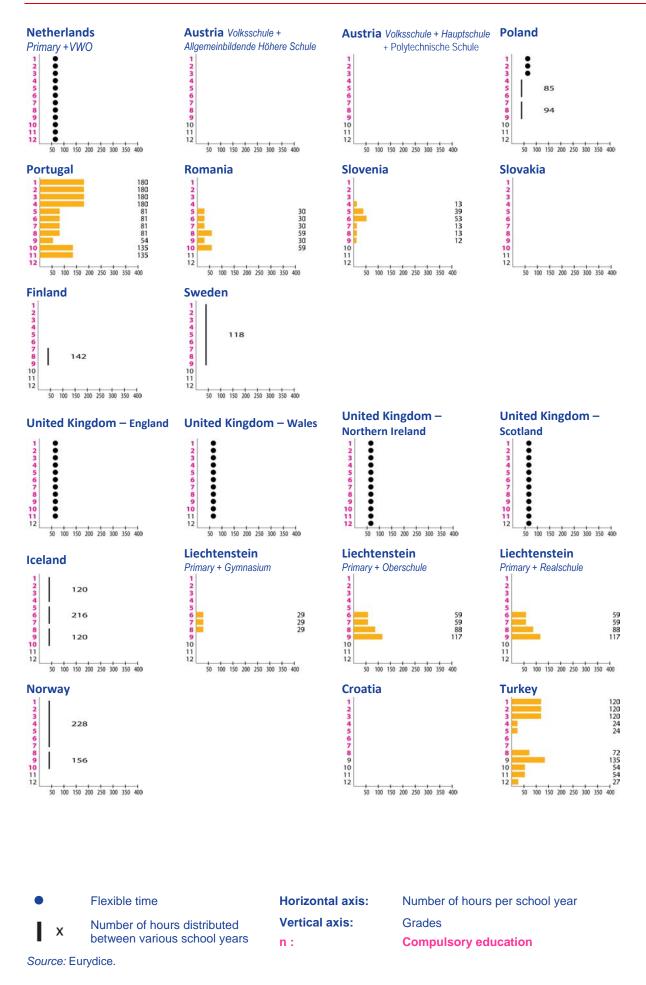
Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2011/12

OTHER SUBJECTS



Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2011/12

OTHER SUBJECTS



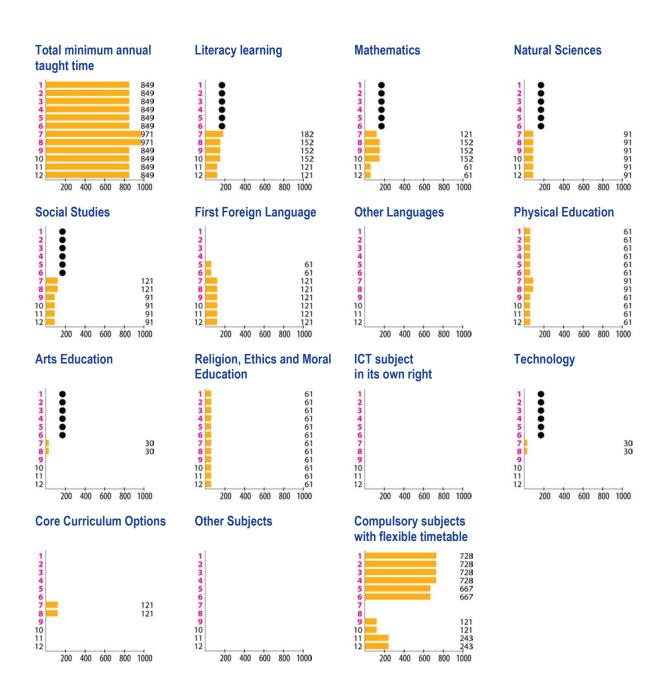
Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2011/12

PART III:

TAUGHT TIME BY COUNTRY

Belgium – French Community	46
Belgium – German-speaking Community	47
Belgium – Flemish Community	48
Bulgaria	49
Czech Republic – Základní škola/Gymnázium FEP BE	50
Denmark	51
Germany – Grundschule and Gymnasium	52
Germany – Grundschule and Hauptschule	53
Germany – Grundschule and Realschule	54
Estonia	55
Ireland	56
Greece	57
Spain	58
France	59
Italy	60
Cyprus	61
Latvia	62
Lithuania	63
Luxembourg	64
Hungary	65
Malta – Primary and Junior Lyceum	66
Malta – Primary and Secondary	67
The Netherlands – Primary and HAVO	68
The Netherlands – Primary and VMBO	69
The Netherlands – Primary and VWO	70
Austria – Volksschule and Allgemeinbildende Höhere Schule	71
Austria – Volksschule and Hauptschule and Polytechnische Schule	72
Poland	73
Portugal	74
Romania	75
Slovenia	76
Slovakia	77
Finland	78
Sweden	79
United Kingdom – England	80
United Kingdom – Wales	81
United Kingdom – Northern Ireland	82
United Kingdom – Scotland	83
Iceland	84
Liechtenstein – Primary and Gymnasium	85
Liechtenstein – Primary and Oberschule	86
Liechtenstein – Primary and Realschule	87
Norway	88
Croatia	89
Turkey	90





Note:

Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2011/12

The teaching of compulsory foreign languages is significantly different in the Brussels-Capital Region and in the communes with special linguistic regime where a second foreign language is taught 3 periods per week in third and fourth grades and five periods per week in fifth and sixth grades.



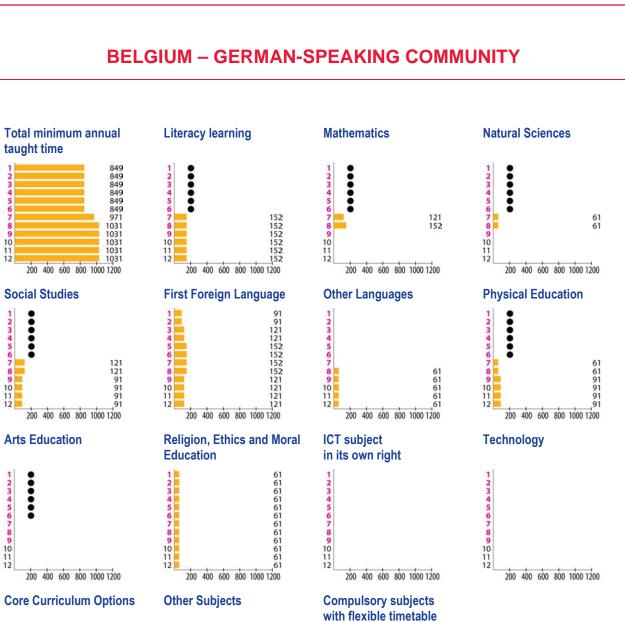
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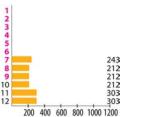
Flexible time

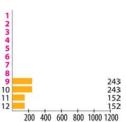
Number of hours distributed between various school years

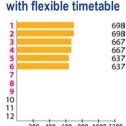
Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

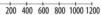
Source: Eurydice.











Flexible time

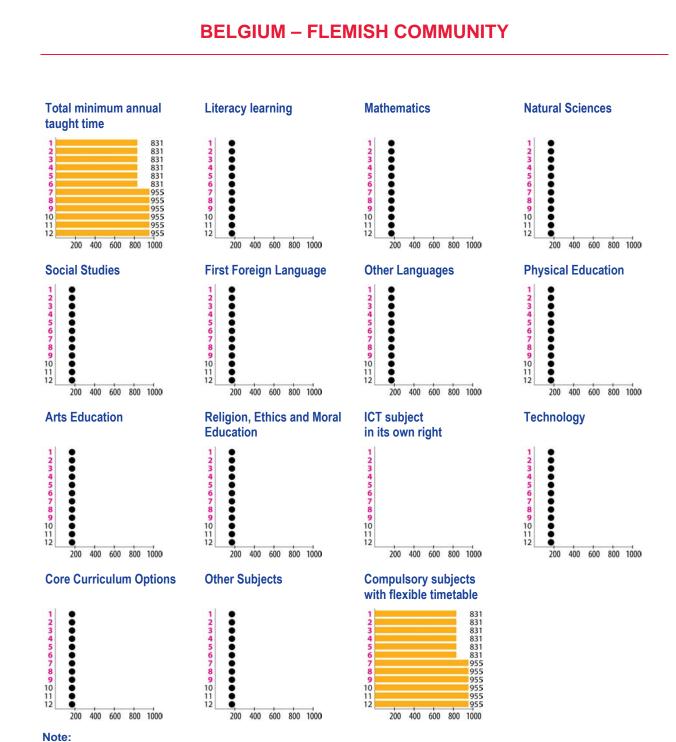
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Number of hours distributed between various school years Horizontal axis: Vertical axis:

n :

Number of hours per school year Grades **Compulsory education**

Source: Eurydice.



Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2011/12

Schools organised by a public authority are obliged to provide minimum 3 teaching periods of Religion and moral education for grades 1 to 6 and 2 teaching periods for grades 7 to 9. There is no minimum compulsory number of hours for this subject in the regulations for the subsidised schools.

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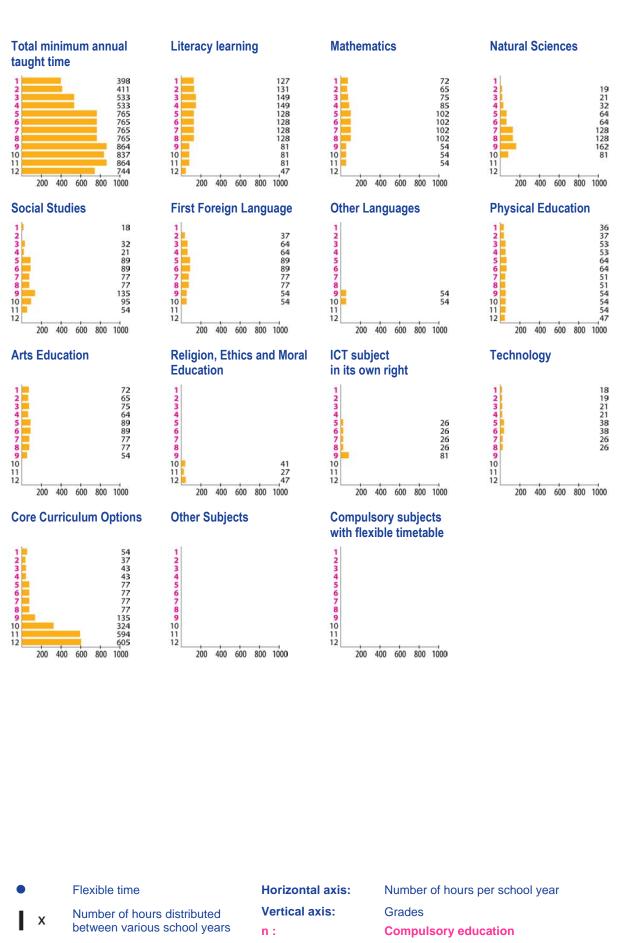
Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: **n** :

Number of hours per school year Grades **Compulsory education**

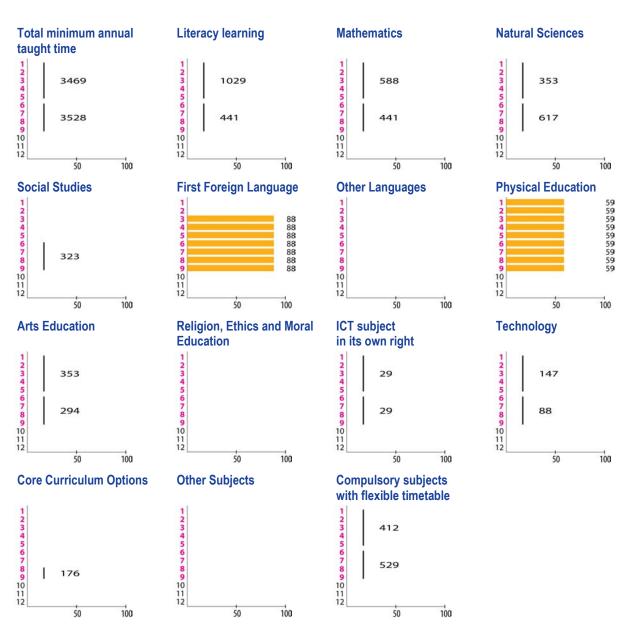
Source: Eurydice.

BULGARIA



Source: Eurydice.





Note

The presented taught time is in accordance to the 2007/08 Framework Educational Programme for Basic Education (FEP BE). In primary education in the category 'Natural sciences' is allocated the total time for the educational area "People and Their World" including the social studies component. In secondary education in the category 'Physical education' includes the broad area "People and their health". The topics related to the "Health education" can be provided either separately, within other subjects (for example Natural sciences), or within the "Physical education" by including a theoretical part. In secondary education in the category 'Core curriculum options' six hours per week are set for other foreign language (which must be offered) or optional subjects from the eighth grade at the latest.

The 'Flexible' timetable is devoted to implement cross-curricular topics (personal and social education, education for democratic citizenship, education towards thinking in the European and global context, multicultural education, environmental education, and media studies); to increase time for particular educational areas and fields; to introduce other areas of compulsory education; to introduce supplementary educational fields (e.g. drama); to introduce other optional educational content, etc.



Х

Source: Eurydice.

Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2011/12

DENMARK



Note

The first year in the figures is classified for statistical purposes as ISCED 0 (pre-primary level), but corresponds to the first year of the Single structure of education. Second foreign language (usually German) is offered by all schools in grades 7, 8 and 9 with 90, 120 and 120 hours per year respectively and students can select this option among others. The core curriculum options in years 8 and 9 can be French, word processing, technology, media, visual arts, photography, film studies, theatre, music, crafts, metal works, home economics, engine mechanics, work knowledge.



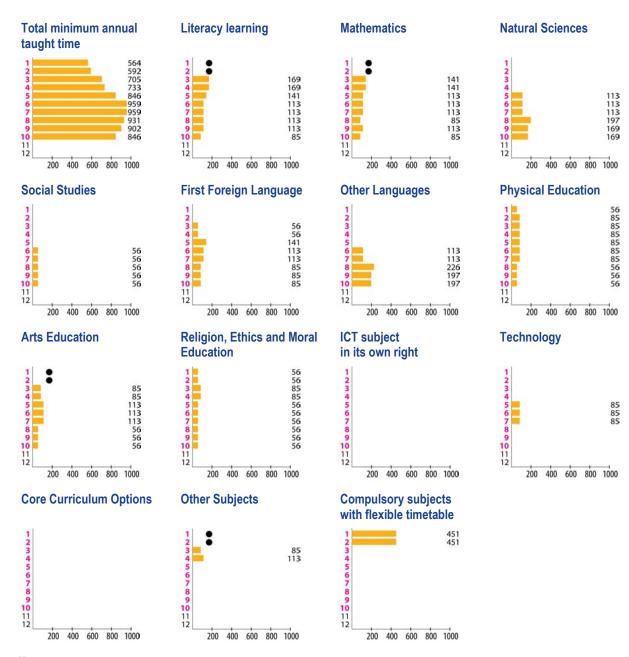
Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.





Note

The information is based on the regulations of the Land of Bavaria. Regulations of other Länder may vary. The taught time is provided following the normal five-day school week. Some Länder have a six-day school week with two school Saturdays per month.

In fifth and sixth grades two additional hours per week of basic sports instruction can be added. In seventh and eighth grades two additional hours of differentiated sports instruction can be added, depending on the availability of staff, rooms and organizational possibilities.

Subjects only taught in some branches are left out (e.g. woodwork, metal work or housekeeping/home economics).

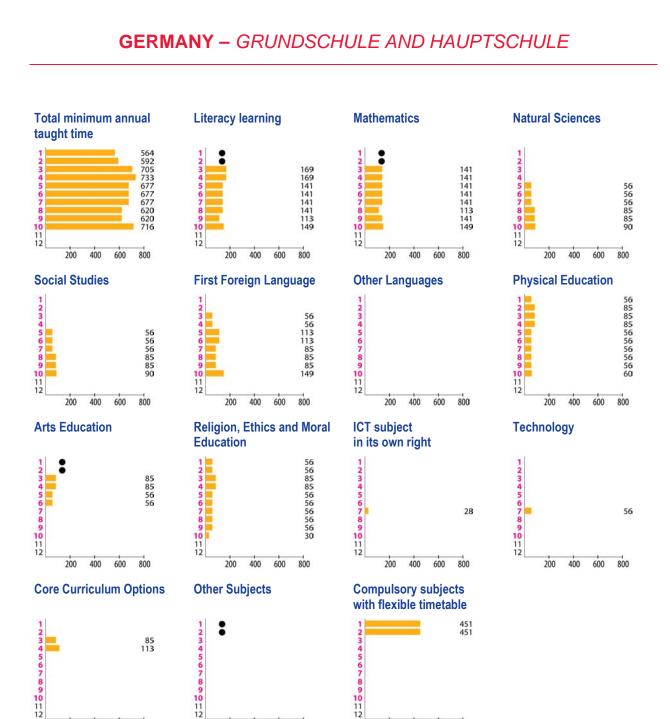


Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.



Note

200 400 600 800

The information is based on the regulations of the Land of Bavaria. Regulations of other Länder may vary. The taught time is provided following the normal five-day school week. Some Länder have a six-day school week with two school Saturdays per month.

200 400 600 800

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200 400 600 800

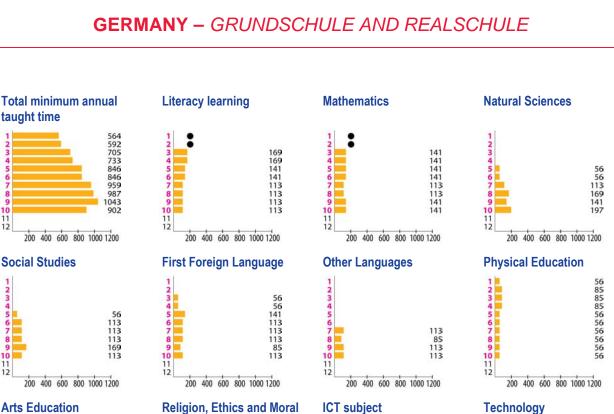


Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

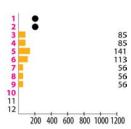
Source: Eurydice.



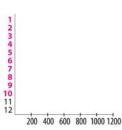
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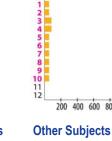
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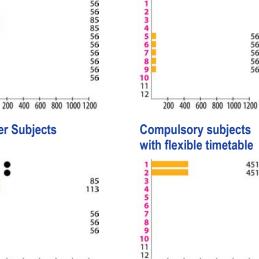


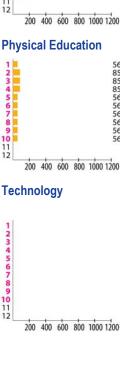






Education





Note

The information is based on the regulations of the Land of Bavaria. Regulations of other Länder may vary. The taught time is provided following the normal five-day school week. Some Länder have a six-day school week with two school Saturdays per month.

In fifth and sixth grades two additional hours per week of basic sports instruction can be added. In seventh and eighth grades two additional hours of differentiated sports instruction can be added, depending on the availability of staff, rooms and organizational possibilities.

Subjects only taught in some branches are left out (e.g. woodwork, metal work or housekeeping/home economics).

200 400 600 800 1000 1200



Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: **n**:

Number of hours per school year Grades **Compulsory education**

Source: Eurydice.

ESTONIA

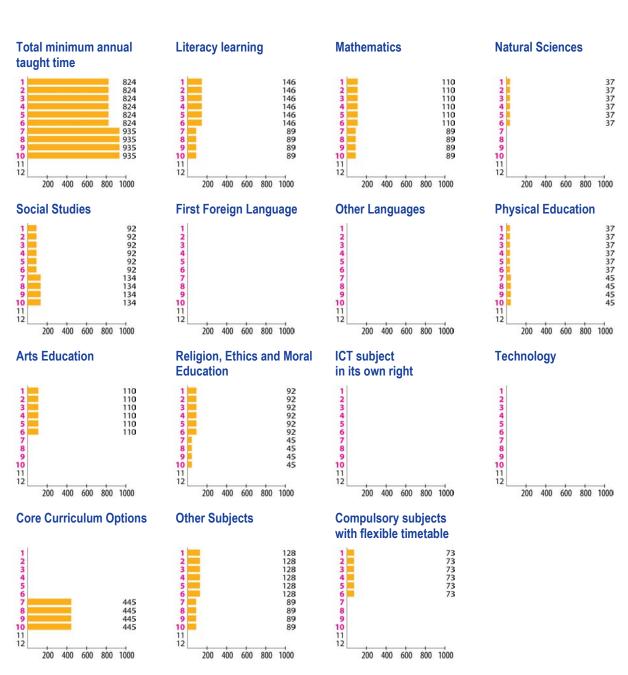


In schools with language of instruction other than Estonian the number lessons per week for 'Foreign language' (FL) and 'Core Curriculum Options' (CCO) are different: Grades 1-3: FL-6, CCO-2; Grades 4-6: FL -12, CCO-1; Grades 7-9: FL 1-12, CCO-1.



Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2011/12

IRELAND



Note

In Secondary education (grades 7-10) the only compulsory subjects are: 'Irish', 'English', 'Mathematics', 'Physical Education', 'Civic, Social and Political Education' (CSPE), 'Social', 'Personal and Health Education' (SPHE) and, in most schools, History and Geography. The hours of tuition required for these subjects are not prescribed, except for CSPE and SPHE (One lesson of c.0.67 hours per week each). However, accepted norms and advice from inspectors suggests that the minimum amount of time acceptable for these subjects is 2.67 hours per week for Irish, English and Mathematics, 2 hours each for History and Geography and 1.33 hours for Physical Education. The total amount of time stipulated in this manner for these compulsory subjects is thus 13.31 hours and the remaining time (up to 28 hours per week) is made up by religious education for almost all students, and by languages, arts subjects, technologies, science, etc. at the discretion of individual schools and in most instances based on the choices students make too.



Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

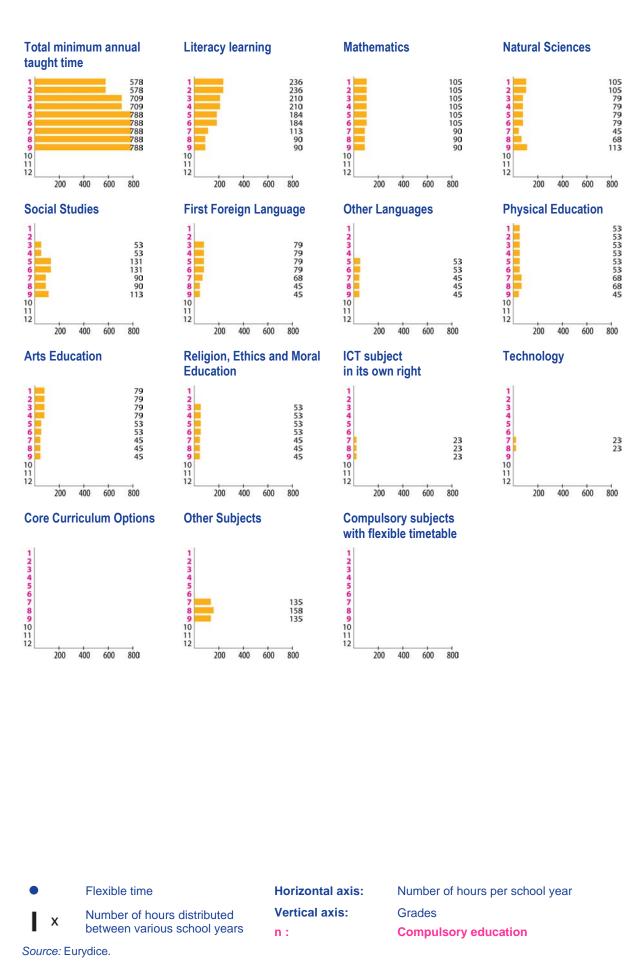
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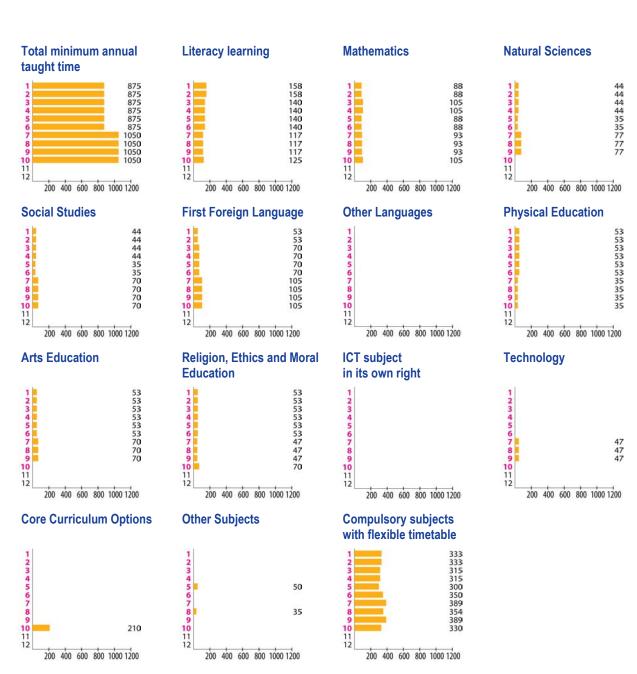
Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

GREECE



SPAIN



Note

The compulsory curriculum laid down by the central government for the entire country represents 55 % of taught time in Autonomous Communities with a second joint official language and 65 % in the others. The remaining taught time is set by each Autonomous Community.

As 'Compulsory subjects with flexible timetable' is indicated the total average compulsory instruction time regulated by the Autonomous Communities, which is added to the minimum compulsory time established by the central level, has been included. The Autonomous Communities with a co-official language can use in grades 1-6 a maximum of 10% of the total time established in the national core curriculum for the instruction of their own co-official language; however they cannot subtract more than 35 hours of the same subject. In grades 7-10 the Autonomous Communities with a co-official language can use 10% of the total time established in the national core curriculum for the instruction of their own co-official language, however they cannot subtract more than 50 hours of the same subject in the first three years of Lower secondary education, or 20 hours in the fourth year.

In grades 7-10 students must take certain optional subjects and in any case schools must always offer 'Second Foreign Language' and 'Classical Culture' lessons. In grade 10 all students must take three 'Core curriculum options' from the following list of subjects: 'Biology and Geology'; 'Plastic and Visual Education'; 'Physics and Chemistry'; 'Computer Science'; 'Latin'; 'Music'; a second 'Foreign Language'; and 'Technology'

'Religion/Ethics/Moral education': Students can opt for taking Religion classes or not. Schools must offer educational attention to those students not following 'Religion', but it can never include the provision of curriculum contents. In grade 10, the reported taught time in this category includes two different subjects: 'Religion' (or alternative activities) and 'Ethical-Civic education', with 35 hours each. The category 'Other subjects' includes 'Citizenship and human rights education'. This subject must be taught in one of the two years of the third cycle of ISCED 1 (eg. grades 5 or 6) and in one of the last three years of ISCED 2 (grades 8, 9 or 10). The exact grade is decided by each Autonomous Community. In the table of Intended Taught Time it has been included in grades 5 and 8 because these are the grades in which it is provided in most of the Autonomous Communities.

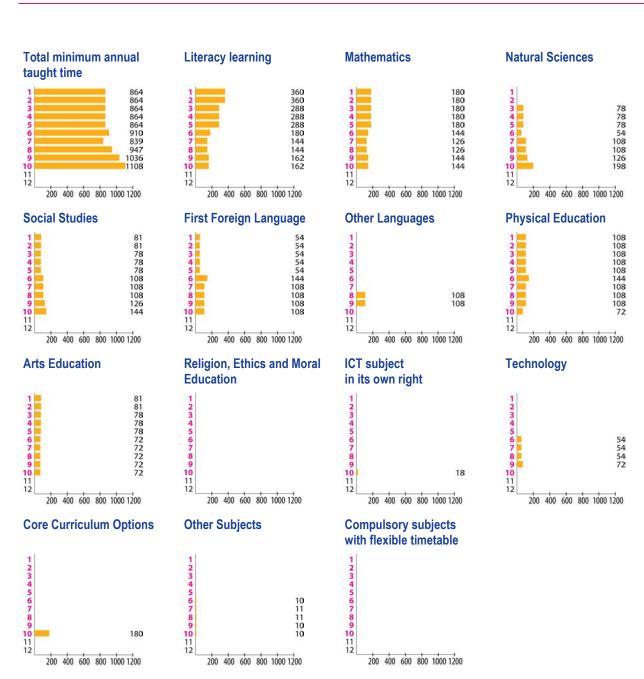
- Flexible time
 - Number of hours distributed х between various school years
- Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: **n**:

Number of hours per school year Grades

Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

FRANCE



Note

In grades 3-5 the category 'Natural sciences' includes the subject 'Sciences expérimentales et technologie'. In grade 6-9, the category 'Other subjects' includes a lesson for class discussion called 'Heure de vie de classe'. In grades 7-8 schools also can attribute 30 additional minutes per week for extracurricular activities. In grade 9 the students in the branch 'Découverte professionnelle' representing 6.5% of the total students have the Second foreign language as curriculum option.

In grade 10 the taught time dedicated to 'Core curriculum options' varies depending on the chosen subjects by each pupil and 'Others Subjects' include 72 hours for 'Aide aux élèves et accompagnement de leur travail personnel'. The hours indicated for 'First Foreign Language' are usually split between two foreign languages depending of the school decision.



Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

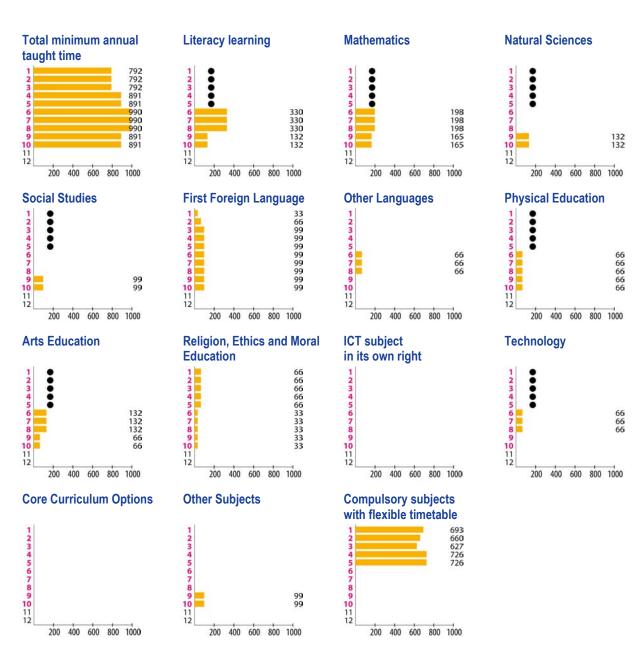
Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: **n** :

Number of hours per school year Grades **Compulsory education**

Source: Eurydice.

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ITALY



Note

According to legislation, schools are required to work for not less than 5 days a week and for not less than 200 days per year. However, the annual taught time is commonly calculated on an average of 33 weeks. Schools have autonomy in the distribution of the timetable both over the week and the school year, which goes from the 1st of September and the 31st of June. In many schools, especially at secondary level, lessons are distributed over 6 days. One hour is considered of 60 minutes. Schools can organize the timetable in periods lasting less than 60 minutes, provided that the sum of periods corresponds to the total amount of time foreseen by the timetable. As for the first and second grade of primary school, the minimum annual taught time is calculated according to the minimum weekly timetable of 24 hours for 33 weeks, gradually introduced starting from school year 2009/2010. However, schools most commonly work according to the weekly timetable of 27 hours a week (891 hours per year). For the remaining grades, the previous minimum annual taught time of 891 hours a year still applies. Information on Grades 9 and 10 refer to the taught time for *'Liceo Scientifico*'

At lower secondary level, the category 'Literacy learning' includes "'History" and "Geography", the category 'Mathematics' includes "Sciences" and the category 'Technology' includes "ICT" At upper secondary level (grades 9and 10) 'Mathematics' includes 'ICT'. The hours foreseen for the second foreign language can be used for complementary teaching of the first language (English). In all levels the teaching of "Citizenship and Constitution" is included in the timetable for history/geography/social teaching. In the lower secondary level, the taught time for this subject is included in the category 'Literacy learning', while for primary and upper secondary levels it is included in the category 'Social Studies'.



Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis:

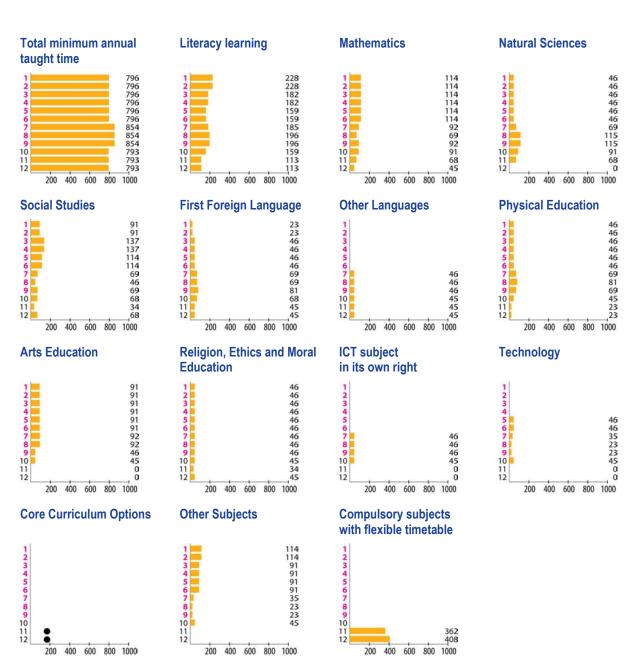
n:

Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

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CYPRUS



Note

"Geography" is included in the category 'Natural Science'. In grade 8 the subject "Fist aid" is included in the category 'Physical education'. In grade 9 the subjects "Civics" and "Vocational guidance" are included in the category 'Social Sciences'.



Source: Eurydice.

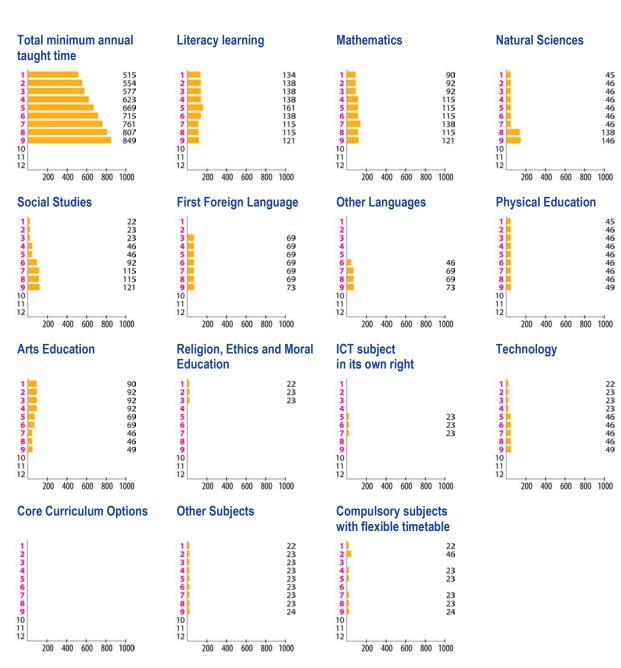
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- Flexible time
- Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2011/12

LATVIA



Note

According to the Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers, lessons/instruction for the grade 9 ends earlier, but a school year is longer than for other grades because of examinations' period and consists of 185 days. Duration of lessons is either 40 or 45 minutes upon the decision of the school head (for calculation is used the most common duration of 40 minutes).

In the category 'Other subjects' is included the subject called "Class hour", organized by class teacher and with one lesson per week. "Class hours" are for discussing various themes like value education, communication culture, patriotism and civil participation, traffic safety, handling extreme situations, healthy lifestyle, career guidance etc.



Flexible time

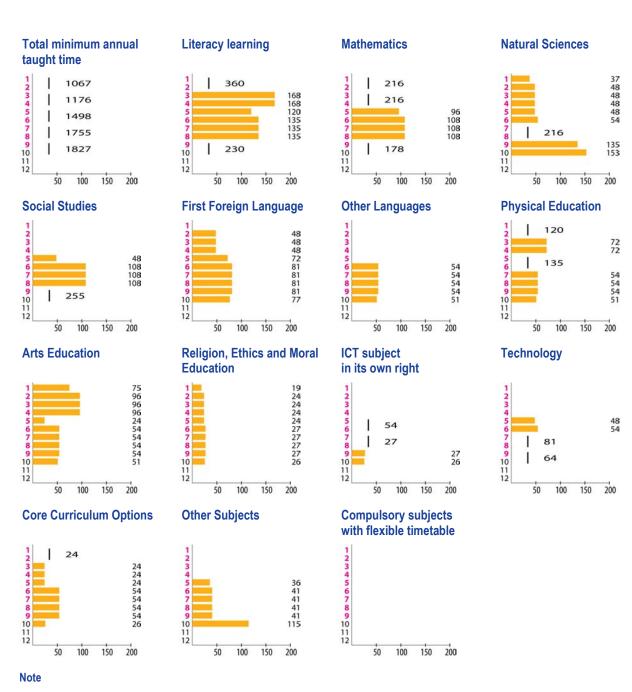
Number of hours distributed between various school years Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: **n**:

Number of hours per school year Grades **Compulsory education**

Source: Eurydice.

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LITHUANIA



In 2008 the curriculum framework was updated by renewing subject contents and allowing up to 10 % flexibility between subjects.

In primary school pupils are taught integrated Natural and Social sciences and also Arts and Technology. In the grades 5-6 pupils are taught integrated Natural sciences. Half of the Information Technology lessons should be integrated into other subjects. In grades 5-10 a subject called "Personal Safety" including civil, traffic and fire safety is taught for half period a week. In the 9th and 10th grades pupils are also taught Citizenship with one lesson per week.

Students are allowed to have lessons on "National minority languages" (such as Belorussian, Polish, Russian and German) as follows: grades 1-4: seven lessons per week; grades 5-8: five lessons per week; grades 9-10: four lessons a week.

Primary education schools with musical, arts or sports education program are allowed to adjust up to 25 percent of teaching time. An additional number of lessons can be allocated under school discretion to supply pupils needs in additional education of arts, foreign language, bilingual, individual education or consultation.

٠		Flexible time	Horizontal axis:	Number of hours per school year
I	v	 Number of hours distributed 	Vertical axis:	Grades
	between various school years	n :	Compulsory education	
Source: Eurydice.				

Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2011/12

LUXEMBOURG



The category 'Other subject' includes "Letzebrurgesch", "History", "Geography", "Music" and "Biology".

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Flexible time

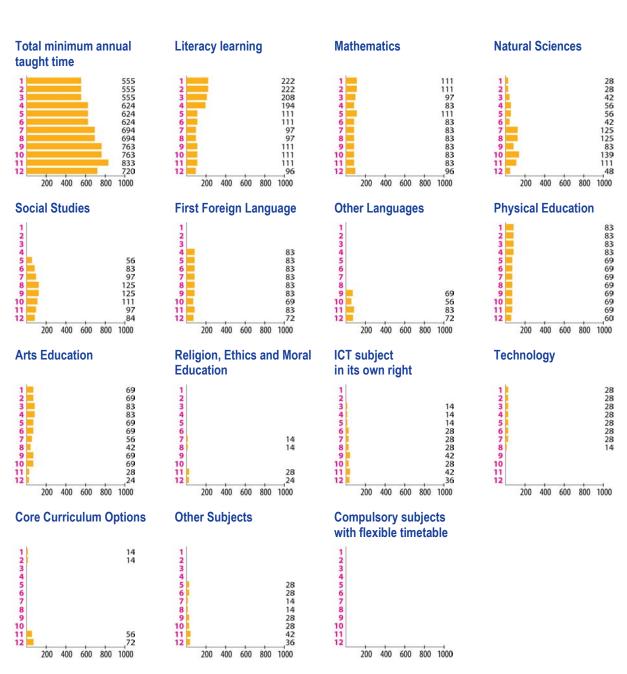
Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n :

Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

HUNGARY



Note

In the category 'Other subjects' are included the following subjects: "Teachers' class" (grades 4-12), "Health care studies" (grade 6), "Film and Media" (grades 11-12).

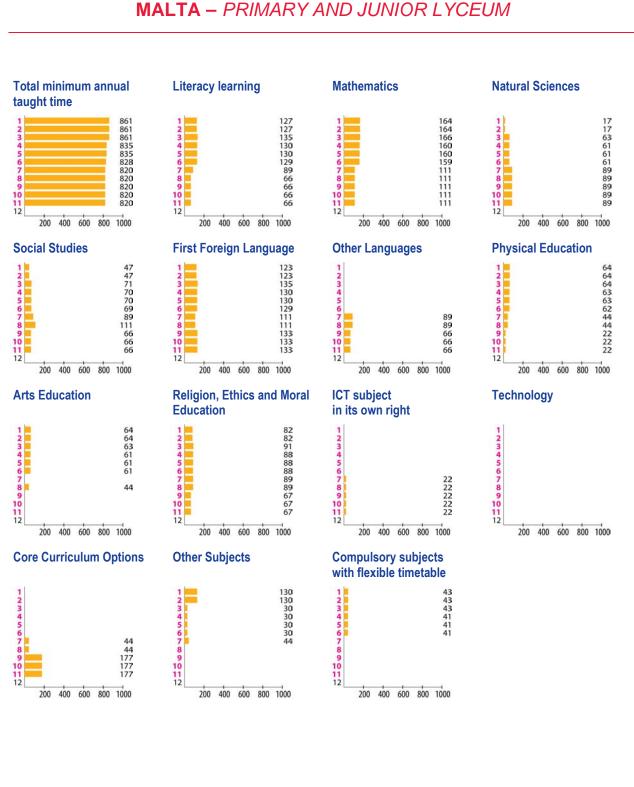
Source: Eurydice.

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Number of hours distributed between various school years Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2011/12





MALTA – PRIMARY AND JUNIOR LYCEUM

х between various school years

Source: Eurydice.

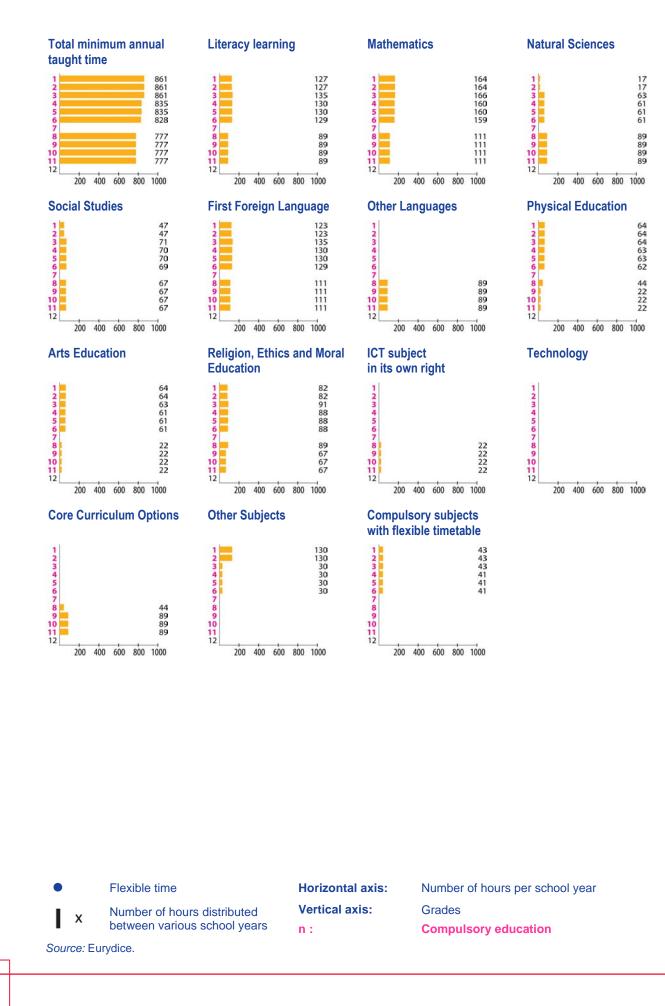
Flexible time

Number of hours distributed

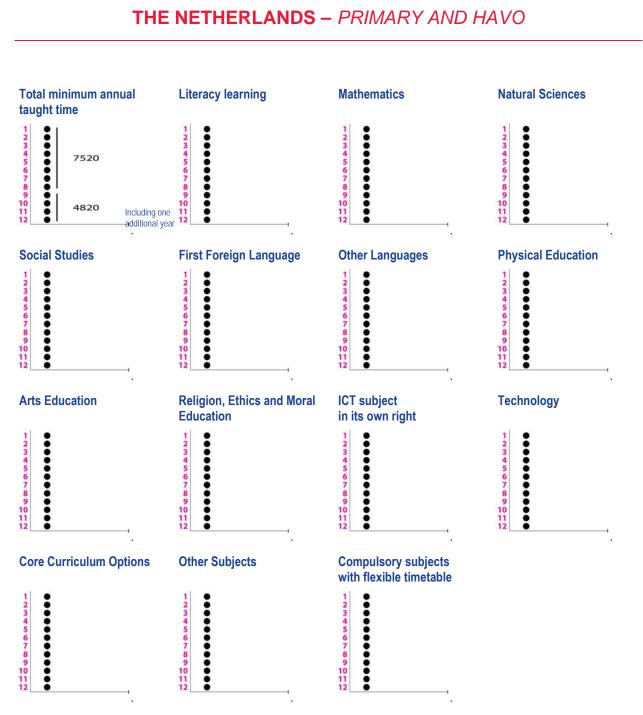
Horizontal axis: Vertical axis:

n :

Number of hours per school year Grades **Compulsory education**



MALTA – PRIMARY AND SECONDARY



Note

Every child must attend school full time from the first school day of the month following its fifth birthday, however almost all four year-olds (99 %) attend Basisonderwijs primary school. Children must attend school full time until the end of the school year in which they turn sixteen. From then on all pupils up to the age of eighteen will be required to continue learning until they have obtained a basic qualification (a HAVO, VWO or MBO level 2 certificate – qualifications at ISCED level 3).



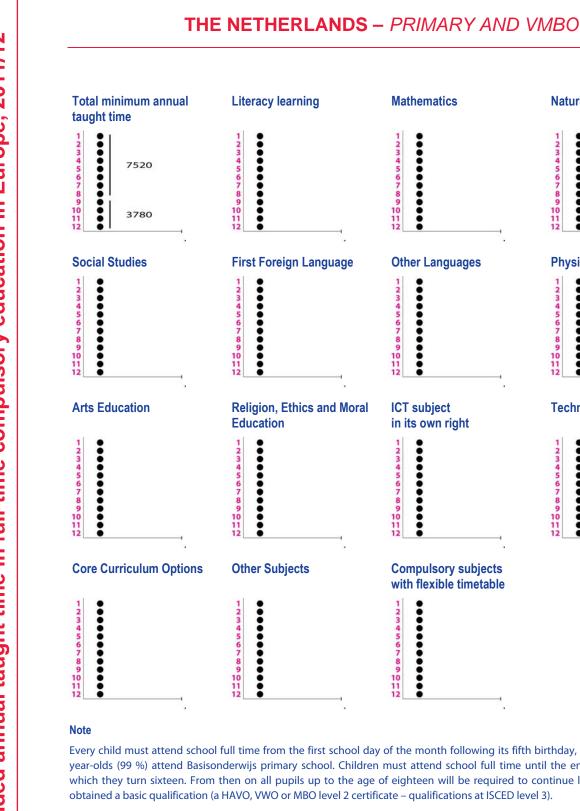
Flexible time

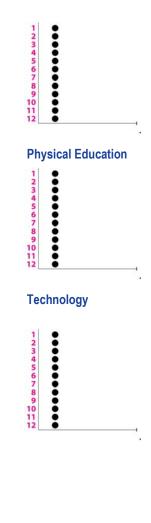
Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n :

Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.





Natural Sciences

Every child must attend school full time from the first school day of the month following its fifth birthday, however almost all four year-olds (99 %) attend Basisonderwijs primary school. Children must attend school full time until the end of the school year in which they turn sixteen. From then on all pupils up to the age of eighteen will be required to continue learning until they have obtained a basic qualification (a HAVO, VWO or MBO level 2 certificate - qualifications at ISCED level 3).

Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2011/12



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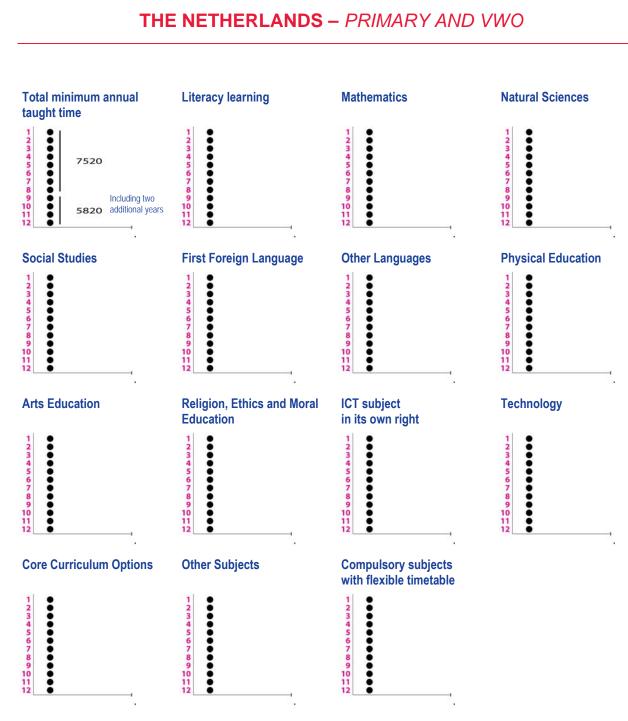
Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: **n** :

Number of hours per school year Grades **Compulsory education**

Source: Eurydice.



Note

Every child must attend school full time from the first school day of the month following its fifth birthday, however almost all four year-olds (99 %) attend Basisonderwijs primary school. Children must attend school full time until the end of the school year in which they turn sixteen. From then on all pupils up to the age of eighteen will be required to continue learning until they have obtained a basic qualification (a HAVO, VWO or MBO level 2 certificate – qualifications at ISCED level 3).

Flexible time

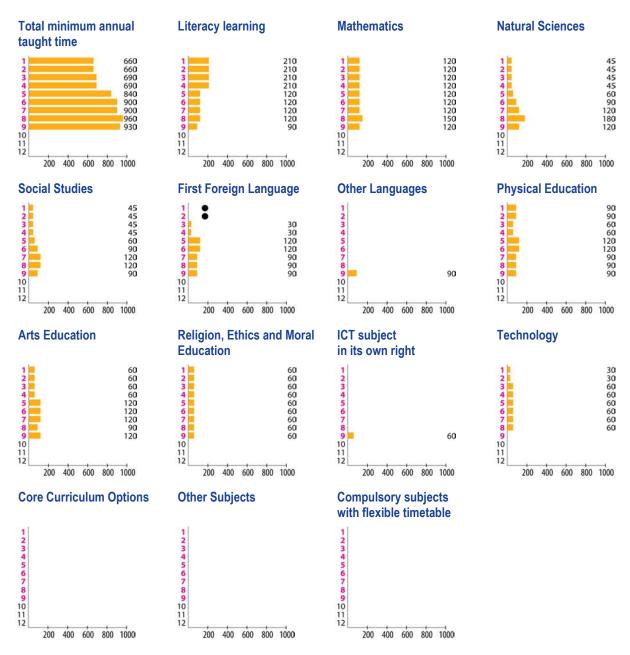
Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

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AUSTRIA – VOLKSSCHULE AND ALLGEMEINBILDENDE HÖHERE SCHULE



Note

During the first two years, foreign language teaching is linked to other subjects (50 minutes per week) as part of an integrated approach.



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Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

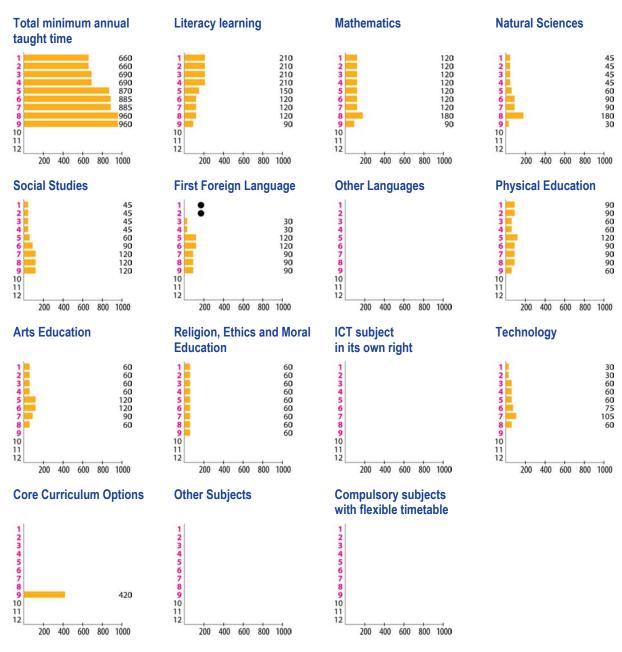
Horizontal axis: Vertical axis:

n :

Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

AUSTRIA – VOLKSSCHULE AND HAUPTSCHULE AND POLYTECHNISCHE SCHULE



Note

During the first two years, foreign language teaching is linked to other subjects (50 minutes per week) as part of an integrated approach.



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Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

POLAND



Note

The new outline timetable was implemented during school year 2009/10 only in first grade of primary school and first grade of lower secondary school. The new outline timetable for grades 4-6 of primary school hasn't been published yet and for this reason the previous timetable is presented. The subject "Geography" is included in the 'Natural sciences' category. 'Other subjects' category includes 30 periods per year of education for safety and 95 periods of lessons with class tutor.



Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

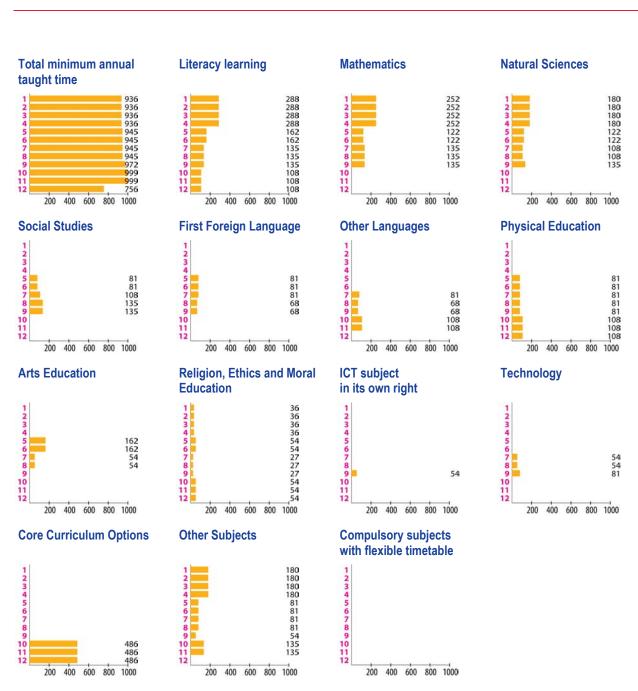
Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n :

Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

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PORTUGAL



Note

The hours established for Literacy, Mathematics and Social Studies, in first cycle (first four years of schooling), are a result of a guideline from de Ministry of Education, there are no formal regulation for their distribution on timetable. For the first four years of primary equation the 'Natural science' category includes the content of the curricular subject "Estudo do meio" (study of the environment). The attendance to religion and moral education is optional in all three cycles of schooling. In the first cycle there are also non-compulsory activities called "curricular enrichment activities". These activities have duration of 45 minutes per day. They include English lessons, physical and music education (with physical education accounting for 135 minutes per week) and also plastic "expressions" with a maximum of 90 minutes per week.

In grades 5 and 6 Mathematic and Natural sciences are part of the same curricular area, but the law established that at least half of the time should be dedicated to mathematics. Literacy learning (Portuguese), Foreign language and Social studies (history and geography) are part of the same curricular area and at least half must be dedicated to literacy learning (Portuguese). In Grades 10-11 students must choose a different foreign language that the one they attend in basic education (foreign language 2), notwithstanding, they may choose to attend in addition classes on the foreign language 1 as an optional subject. In grades 9 students must choose between 1,5 periods per week of arts education and technology the periods are allocated in the figure in the subject technology. In grades 10-12 the taught time for Core curriculum options should be between 9 and 10,5 periods of 90 minutes per week depending of the selected specific subjects. In the figure the minimum value of 9 period per week is used. The total taught time for secondary education (general and specific subjects) must be: between 17,5 and 19,5 (10th grade); between 17 and 19 (11th grade); and, between 13 and 15,5 (10th grade).

Flexible time

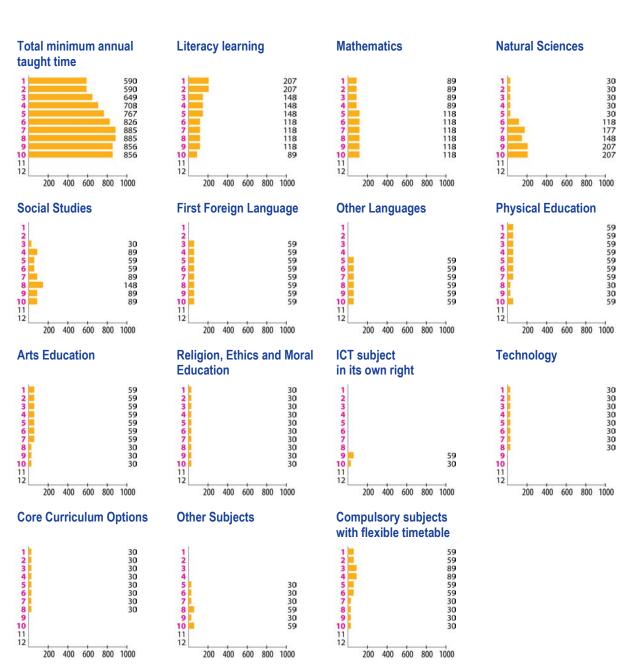
Source: Eurydice.

- x Number of hours distributed between various school years
- Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n :

Number of hours per school year Grades

Compulsory education

ROMANIA



Note

In the category 'Other subjects' are included "Counselling and Guidance" in grades 5-9; Latin - grade 8; Informatics - grades 9-10; Entrepreneurship Education - grade 10.

- Flexible time
 - Number of hours distributed
 - x between various school years

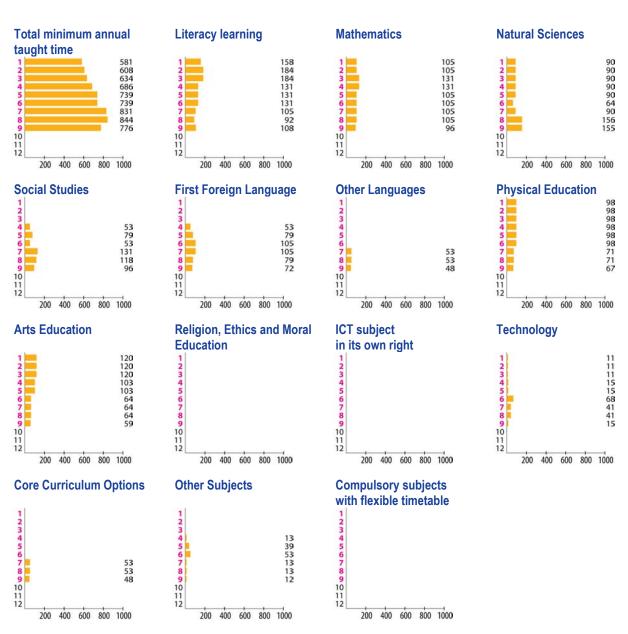
Horizontal axis: Vertical axis:

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Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

SLOVENIA



Note

From the school year 2008/09 a second compulsory foreign language is gradually phasing in (in grades 7 to 9); it is expected that in 2013/14 all basic school pupils shall have to learn two compulsory foreign languages at the age of 12 to 14; there are approximately 30% of schools which have already started with the second language as compulsory subject. In addition to compulsory subjects, basic schools offer in grades 7-9 compulsory options in the field of social sciences and humanities and in the field of natural sciences and technology. Pupils select two lessons per week, with their parents' approval they may select three hours a week. Compulsory subjects may be combined and joined into subject fields.

Teaching of ICT starts at the 1st grade and up to 5th grade as extracurricular lessons and also included in various subjects. In 6th grade it becomes a compulsory content of the Technical science and technology. In 7th to 9th grade ICT is provided as compulsory optional subject of its own right. The annual compulsory additional learning activities in Arts, Science, Physical education and Technology are also included in the respective timetables. The category 'Other subjects' includes "Home economics" and "Class discussion". During the class discussion periods, pupils discuss issues related to their work and life with their home class teacher.

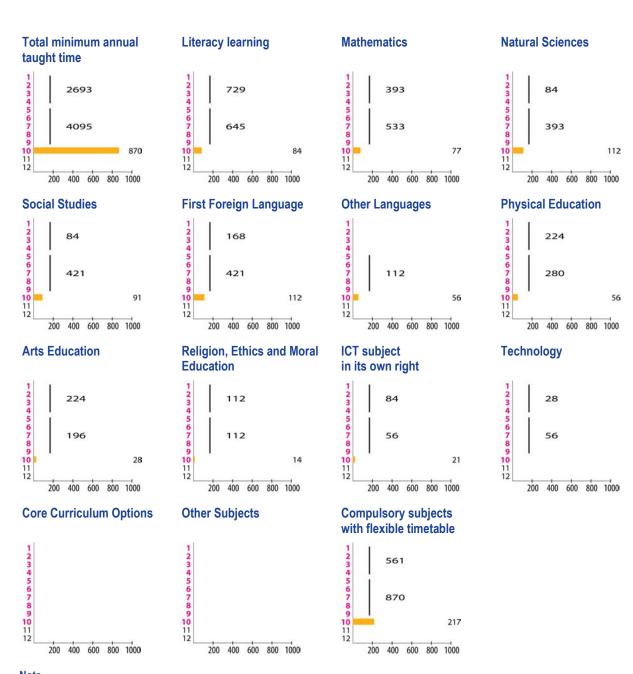
The annual compulsory additional days of learning activities in Arts, Science, Physical education and Technologies are also included in the respective syllabus.

- Flexible time
 - x Number of hours distributed between various school years
- Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n :

Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

SLOVAKIA



Note

Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2011/12



Flexible time

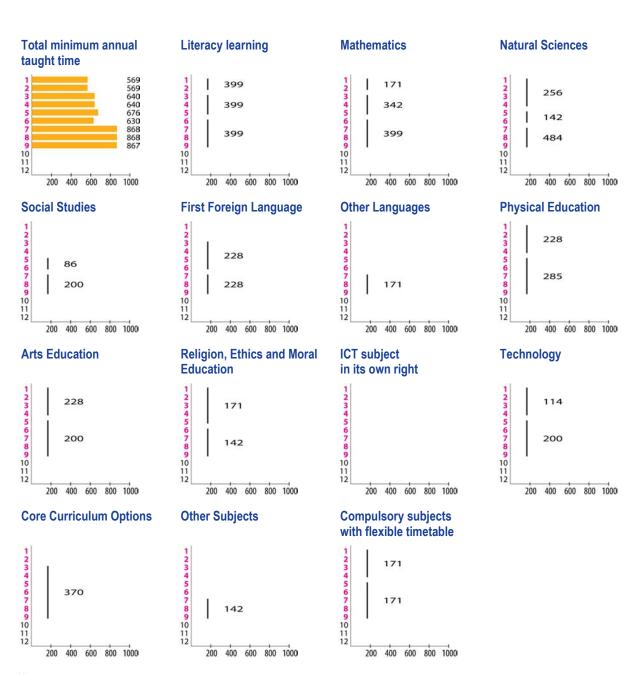
Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

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FINLAND



Note

The indicated values for 'Total annual taught time' are an estimate as the number of hours for each area are not defined per year, but depending on the subject they are allocated over 2-5 years. The education provider can decide subject allocation within the frames given in the Government's decision for distribution of taught time. The local curriculum can be specified in which year for example language teaching begins. First foreign language can be taught even from the first grade.

The category 'Other subjects' includes "Home economics and Educational and vocational guidance".



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Source: Eurydice.

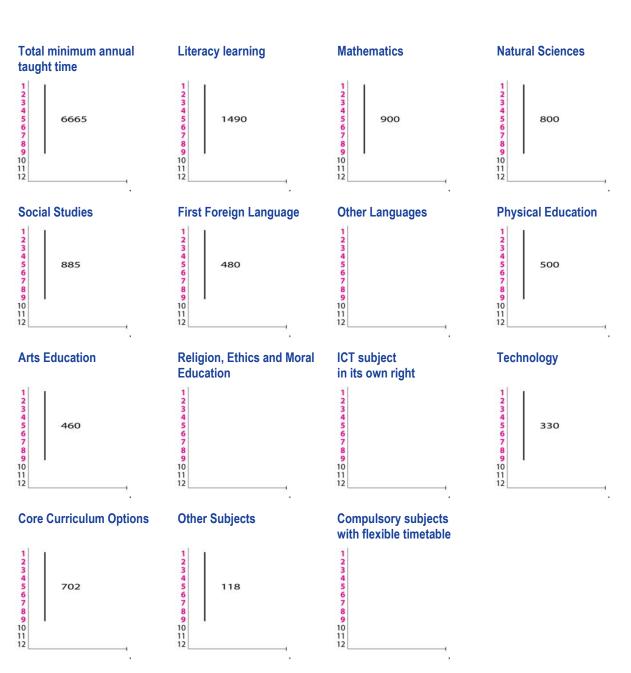
Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2011/12

SWEDEN



Note

The number of hours for a subject or group of subjects given in the timetable may be reduced by at most 20 percent to accommodate school options. In the category 'Core Curriculum Options' are included "Language Options" (320 hours for grades 1-9), and "Student Options" (382 hours for grades 1-9).

The category 'Other subjects' includes "Home and Consumer studies" and in the category 'Technology' is included the subject "Crafts (Textiles, Wood and Metalwork)". 65 % if all pupils do a second not compulsory Foreign Language, with a total of 320 hours for grades 1-9.



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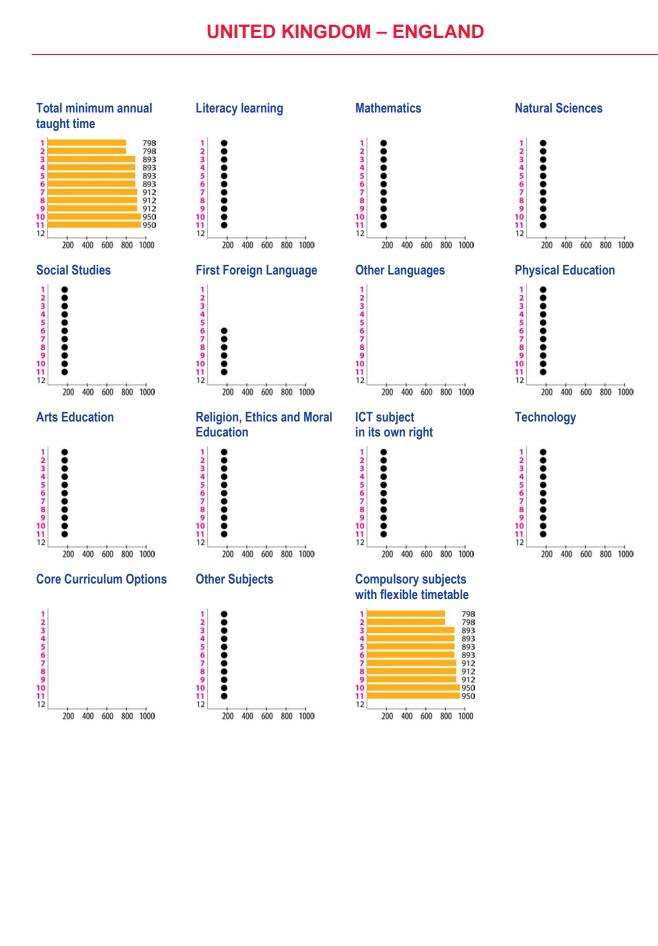
Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years Horizontal axis: Vertical axis:

n :

Number of hours per school year Grades **Compulsory education**

Source: Eurydice.



Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2011/12

Flexible time

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Source: Eurydice.

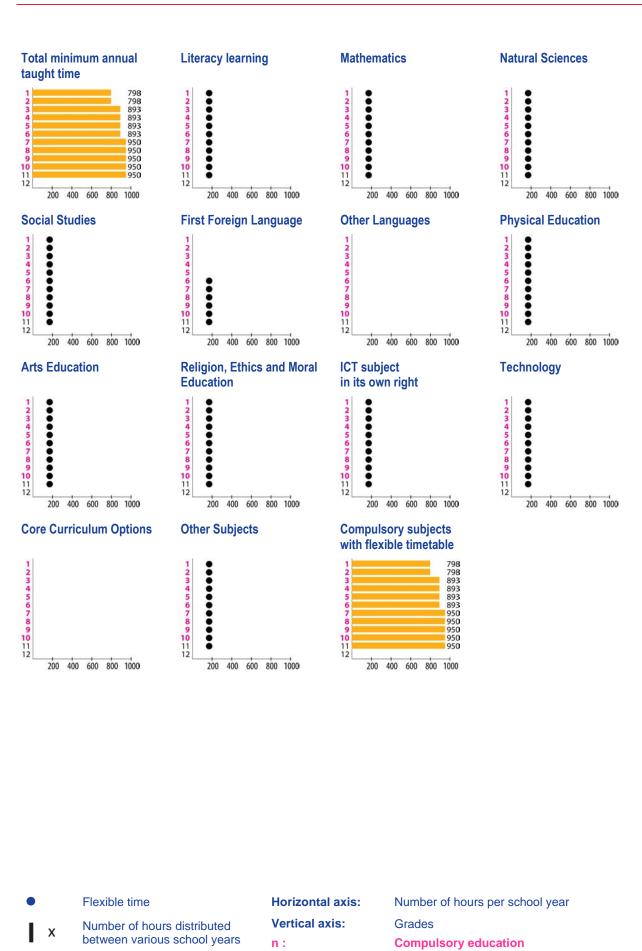
Number of hours distributed between various school years

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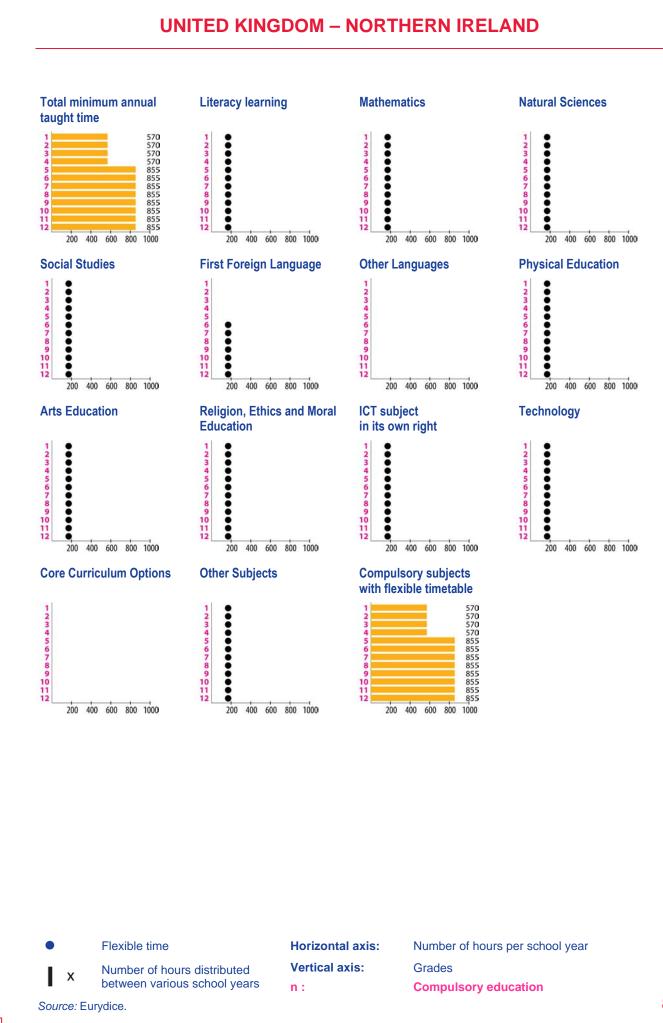
Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education





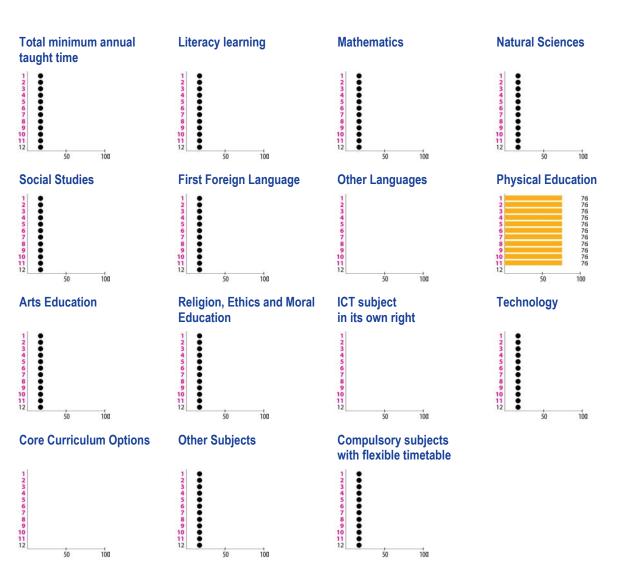
Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2011/12

Source: Eurydice.





UNITED KINGDOM – SCOTLAND



Note

The Scottish Curriculum for Excellence does not prescribe total annual taught time or taught time by subjects with except a minimum of 2 hours per week for "Physical education". Local Authorities and schools themselves are responsible for agreeing the subjects studied in schools. However, the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, which reflects previous legislation dating back to 1872, imposes a statutory duty on local authorities to provide religious education in Scottish schools. In the case of Religious Education in Roman Catholic Schools – all Catholic schools are expected by the Bishops' Conference of Scotland to follow guidelines established by the Catholic Education Commission on the provision of adequate time for religious education within the school curriculum.

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Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

ICELAND



Note

In grades 8-10, individual schools are intended to determine almost 20% of the total hours of instruction. They are expected to offer pupils in these grades an opportunity to select subjects and subject areas. The contents of study options in grades 8-10 can be divided into three main groups: 1) options intended as direct preparation for study in academic programmes of upper secondary school; 2) options conceived as direct preparation for vocational, artistic or technical study; 3) pupils can select subjects aimed in particular at broadening their horizons or giving pleasure throughout their lives. In the school-year 2010/11, schools offered around 70 subjects and subject areas.



Flexible time

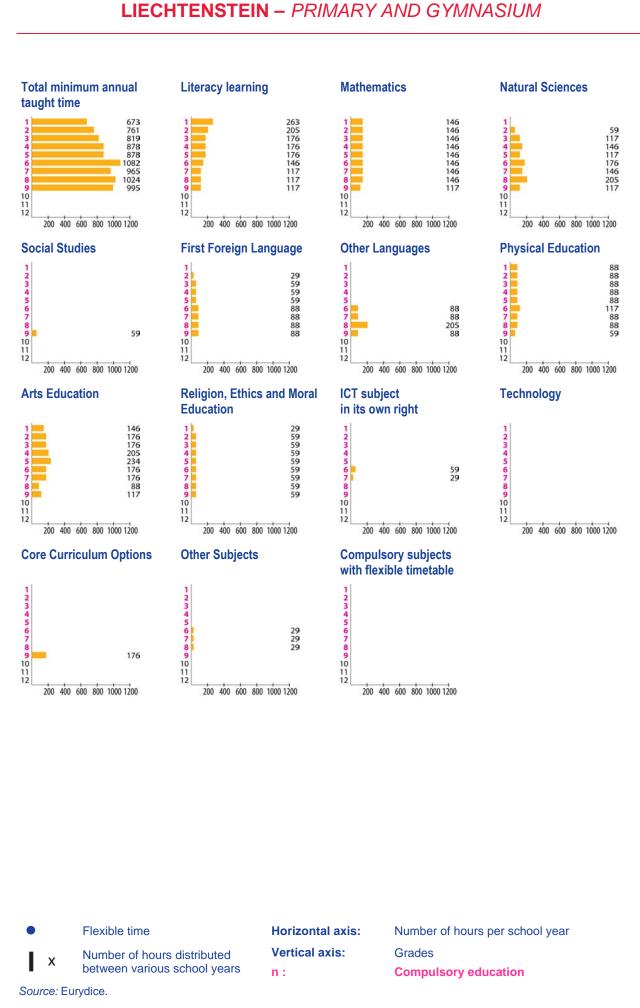
Number of hours distributed between various school years

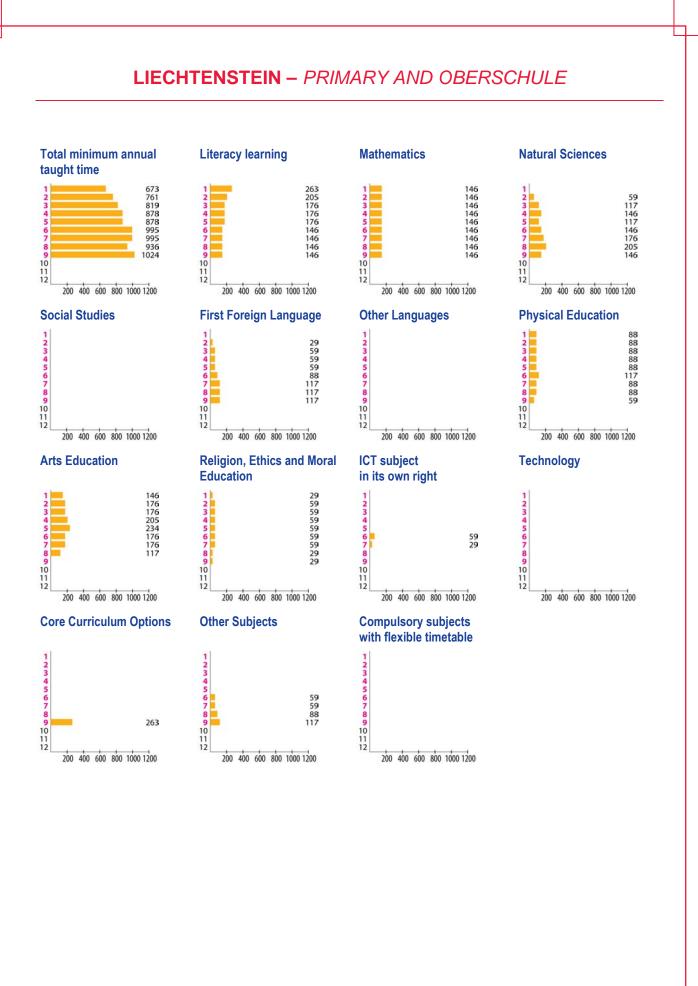
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Source: Eurydice.

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Source: Eurydice.

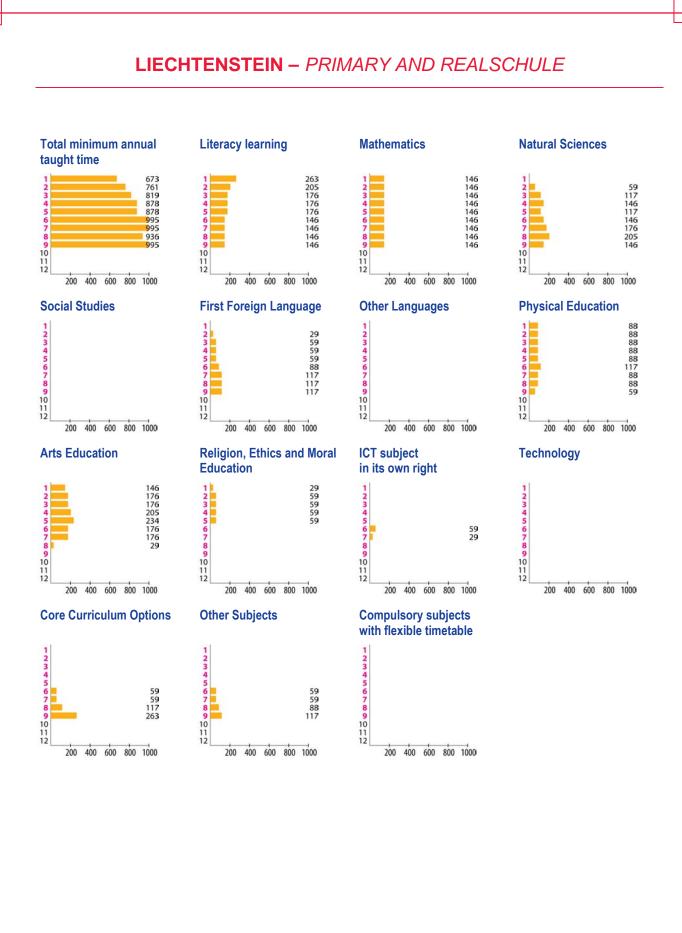
- Flexible time
- Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis:

n :

Number of hours per school year Grades **Compulsory education**





Flexible time

х

Source: Eurydice.

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis:

n :

Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

NORWAY



Note

Second Foreign language in Grades 8-10 covers in-depth studies in languages (Norwegian, English, Sami). The category 'Other subjects' includes the following disciplines: Grades 1-7: "Food and health" (114 hours per year); Grade 5-7: "Physical activity" (76 hours per year); Grade 8-10: "Food and health" (85 hours per year); "Class council and pupils' council" (71 hours per year). Since 2010/11 school year an additional lesson per week is added to the programme for grades 1-7 (Barneskolen). This lesson can be used in a flexible way to reinforce a theme upon a decision of the local authorities.



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Source: Eurydice.

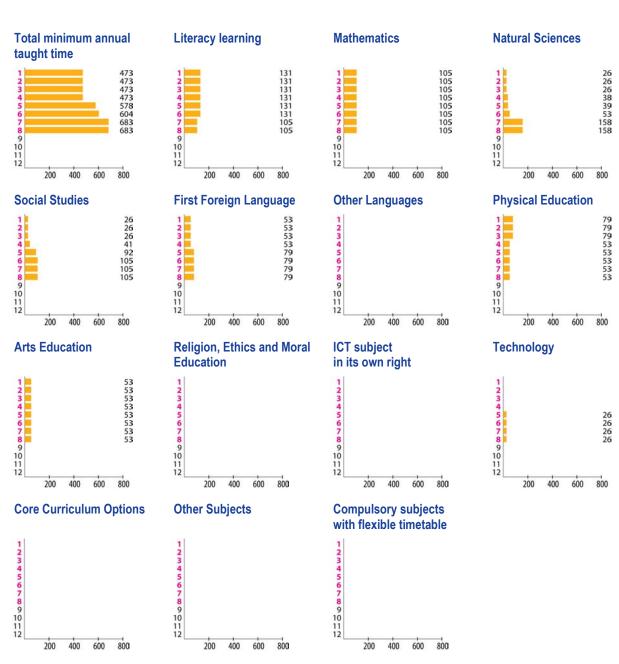
Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis: n : Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Recommended annual taught time in full-time compulsory education in Europe, 2011/12

CROATIA



Note

The taught time indicated in the categories 'Natural sciences' and 'Social Sciences' for grades 1-4 correspond to an integrated subject called "Nature and society".



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- Flexible time
- Number of hours distributed between various school years

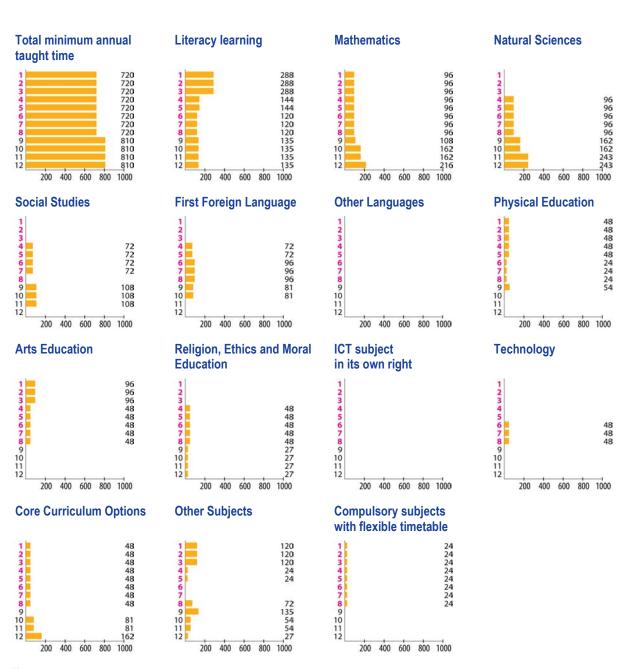
Horizontal axis: Vertical axis:

n :

Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

TURKEY



Note

The category 'Compulsory subjects with flexible time' includes the course "Guidance and Social Activities" taught one hour per week.

The category 'Other subjects' includes the following disciplines: Grades 1-3 "Life Studies" comprising among other Natural and Social Studies (5 hours per week); Grades 4-5: "Traffic Security" (1 hour per week); Grade 8: "Principles of Atatürk and History of the Revolution" (3 hours per week).



Х

Flexible time

Number of hours distributed between various school years

Horizontal axis: Vertical axis:

n :

Number of hours per school year Grades Compulsory education

Source: Eurydice.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

EDUCATION, AUDIOVISUAL AND CULTURE EXECUTIVE AGENCY

P9 EURYDICE

Avenue du Bourget 1 (BOU2) B-1140 Brussels (http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/education/eurydice)

Managing editor

Arlette Delhaxhe

Authors

Stanislav Ranguelov

Layout and graphics

Patrice Brel

Production coordinator

Gisèle De Lel

EURYDICE NATIONAL UNITS

BELGIQUE / BELGIË

Unité francophone d'Eurydice Ministère de la Communauté française Direction des Relations internationales Boulevard Léopold II, 44 – Bureau 6A/002 1080 Bruxelles

Eurydice Vlaanderen / Afdeling Internationale Relaties Ministerie Onderwijs Hendrik Consciencegebouw 7C10 Koning Albert II – Iaan 15 1210 Brussel

Eurydice-Informationsstelle der Deutschsprachigen Gemeinschaft Agentur für Europäische Bildungsprogramme VoG Gospertstrasse 1 Postfach 72 4700 Eupen

BULGARIA

Eurydice Unit Human Resource Development Centre 15, Graf Ignatiev Str. 1000 Sofia

ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA

Eurydice Unit Centre for International Services of MoYES Dům zahraničních služeb Na Poříčí 1035/4 110 00 Praha 1

DANMARK

Eurydice Unit Danish Agency for Universities and Internationalisation Bredgade 36 1260 København K

DEUTSCHLAND

Eurydice-Informationsstelle des Bundes Project Management Agency Part of the German Aerospace Center EU-Bureau of the German Ministry for Education and Research Heinrich-Konen-Str. 1 53227 Bonn

Eurydice-Informationsstelle des Bundes Project Management Agency Part of the German Aerospace Center EU-Bureau of the German Ministry for Education and Research Rosa-Luxemburg-Straße 2 10178 Berlin

Eurydice-Informationsstelle der Länder im Sekretariat der Kultusministerkonferenz Graurheindorfer Straße 157 53117 Bonn

EESTI

Eurydice Unit SA Archimedes Koidula 13A 10125 Tallinn

ÉIRE / IRELAND

Eurydice Unit Department of Education and Skills International Section Marlborough Street Dublin 1

ELLÁDA

Eurydice Unit Ministry of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs Directorate for European Union Affairs Section C 'Eurydice' 37 Andrea Papandreou Str. (Office 2168) 15180 Maroussi (Attiki)

ESPAÑA

Unidad Española de Eurydice Instituto de Formación del Profesorado, Investigación e Innovación Educativa (IFIIE) Ministerio de Educación c/General Oraa 55 28006 Madrid

FRANCE

Unité française d'Eurydice Ministère de l'Éducation nationale, de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la Recherche Direction de l'évaluation, de la prospective et de la performance Mission aux relations européennes et internationales 61-65, rue Dutot 75732 Paris Cedex 15

HRVATSKA

Ministarstvo znanosti, obrazovanja i športa Donje Svetice 38 10000 Zagreb

ÍSLAND

Eurydice Unit Ministry of Education, Science and Culture Office of Evaluation and Analysis Sölvhólsgötu 4 150 Reykjavik

ITALIA

Unità italiana di Eurydice Agenzia Nazionale per lo Sviluppo dell'Autonomia Scolastica (ex INDIRE) Via Buonarroti 10 50122 Firenze

KYPROS

Eurydice Unit Ministry of Education and Culture Kimonos and Thoukydidou 1434 Nicosia

LATVIJA

Eurydice Unit Valsts izglītības attīstības aģentūra State Education Development Agency Vaļņu street 3 1050 Riga

LIECHTENSTEIN

Informationsstelle Eurydice Schulamt Austrasse 79 9490 Vaduz

LIETUVA

Eurydice Unit National Agency for School Evaluation Didlaukio 82 08303 Vilnius

LUXEMBOURG

Unité d'Eurydice Ministère de l'Éducation nationale et de la Formation professionnelle (MENFP) 29, Rue Aldringen 2926 Luxembourg

MAGYARORSZÁG

Eurydice National Unit Ministry of National Resources Department for International Relations in Education Szalay utca. 10-14 1055 Budapest

MALTA

Eurydice Unit Research and Development Department Directorate for Quality and Standards in Education Ministry of Education, Employment and the Family Great Siege Rd. Floriana VLT 2000

NEDERLAND

Eurydice Nederland Ministerie van Onderwijs, Cultuur en Wetenschap Directie Internationaal Beleid / EU-team Kamer 08.022 Rijnstraat 50 2500 BJ Den Haag

NORGE

Eurydice Unit Ministry of Education and Research Department for Policy Analysis, Lifelong Learning and International Affairs Kirkegaten 18 0032 Oslo

ÖSTERREICH

Eurydice-Informationsstelle Bundesministerium für Unterricht, Kunst und Kultur Abt. IA/1b Minoritenplatz 5 1014 Wien

POLSKA

Eurydice Unit Foundation for the Development of the Education System LLP Agency Mokotowska 43 00-551 Warsaw

PORTUGAL

Unidade Portuguesa da Rede Eurydice (UPRE) Ministério da Educação Direcção-Geral de Estatísticas da Educação e Ciência -DGEEC Av. 24 de Julho, n.º 134 1399-054 Lisboa

ROMÂNIA

Eurydice Unit National Agency for Community Programmes in the Field of Education and Vocational Training Calea Serban Voda, no. 133, 3rd floor Sector 4 040205 Bucharest

SCHWEIZ/SUISSE/SVIZZERA

Foundation for Confederal Collaboration Dornacherstrasse 28A Postfach 246 4501 Solothurn

SLOVENIJA

Eurydice Unit Ministry of Education and Sport Department for Development of Education (ODE) Masarykova 16/V 1000 Ljubljana

SLOVENSKO

Eurydice Unit Slovak Academic Association for International Cooperation Svoradova 1 811 03 Bratislava

SUOMI / FINLAND

Eurydice Finland Finnish National Board of Education P.O. Box 380 00531 Helsinki

SVERIGE

Eurydice Unit Department for the Promotion of Internationalisation International Programme Office for Education and Training Kungsbroplan 3A Box 22007 104 22 Stockholm

TÜRKIYE

Eurydice Unit Türkiye MEB, Strateji Geliştirme Başkanlığı (SGB) Eurydice Birimi, Merkez Bina 4 Kat B-Blok Bakanlıklar 06648 Ankara

UNITED KINGDOM

Eurydice Unit for England, Wales and Northern Ireland National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) The Mere, Upton Park Slough SL1 2DQ

Eurydice Unit Scotland Learning Directorate Information, International, Intelligence and Performance Team Area 2B South Victoria Quay Edinburgh EH6 6QQ



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