

## Compulsory Education in Europe

2011/12

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	Full-time compulsory education		Part-time compulsory education	Duration of full-time compulsory education (in years)
	Starting age	Ending age	Ending age	
BE fr	6	15	18	9
BE de	6	15	18	9
BE nl	6	15	18	9
BG (1)	6	16	na	10
CZ	6	15	na	9
DK	6	16	na	10
DE in 12 Länder (2)	6	15	18	9
DE in 5 Länder (3)	6	16	19	10
EE	7	16	na	9
IE	6	16	na	10
EL	5	15	na	10
ES	6	16	na	10
FR	6	16	na	10
IT	6	16	na	10
CY	4 + 8 months	15	na	10 + 4 months
LV	5	16	na	11
LT	7	16	na	9
LU	4	16	na	12
HU	5	18	na	13
MT	5	16	na	11
NL	5	18	na	13
AT	6	15	na	9
PL	6	16	18	10
PT	6	18	na	12
RO	6	16	na	10
SI	6	15	na	9
SK	6	16	na	10
FI	7	16	na	9
SE	7	16	na	9
UK-ENG/WLS	5	16	na	11
UK-NIR	4	16	na	12
UK-SCT	5	16	na	11
IS	6	16	na	10
LI	6	15	na	9
NO	6	16	na	10
CH in 11 cantons (4)	6	15	na	9
CH in 9 cantons (5)	5	15	na	10
CH in 6 cantons (6)	4	15	na	11
HR	6	14	na	8
TR	6	14	na	8

(1) The National Educational Law prescribes that pre-primary education is applicable to all children two years before the start of first grade, but not before the year in which they are 5 years-old. However until 2012/13, pre-primary education will be only compulsory for children having completed 6 years in the calendar year and done one year of pre-primary education. Derogation is given to the municipalities to implement the free provisions for the two years of pre-primary education till the school year 2012/13.

(2) Baden-Wuerttemberg, Bayern, Hamburg, Hessen, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Niedersachsen, Nordrhein-Westfalen (at *Gymnasium*), Rheinland-Pfalz, Saarland, Sachsen, Sachsen-Anhalt and Schleswig-Holstein.

(3) Berlin, Brandenburg, Bremen, Nordrhein-Westfalen (at other lower secondary education institutions apart from *Gymnasium*) and Thuringen.

(4) Aargau, Bern, Geneva, Graubünden, Jura, Neuchâtel, Solothurn, Ticino, Uri, Valais and Vaud.

(5) Appenzell Ausserrhoden, Appenzell Innerrhoden, Basel-Landschaft, Lucerne, Nidwalden, Obwalden, Schaffhausen, Schwyz and Zug.

(6) Basel-Stadt, Fribourg, Glarus, St. Gallen, Thurgau and Zurich.