



Educational system in Slovenia with special emphasis on primary education



Education population

- **Population: 2 100 000**
- **Elementary schools: 855**
- **Number of pupils: 193 000**
- **Number of teachers: 19 000**

A close-up photograph of several white ceramic coffee cups. The central cup is decorated with a yellow flower and a small bee. The background is softly blurred, showing more cups and a warm, indoor setting.

Education population

- **Secondary schools: 142**
attendance is not obligatory
- **Number of students: 73 000**
98% of the population aged between 15 and 19 years
- **Number of teachers: 6 300**

A background image showing several white ceramic coffee cups with floral patterns. One cup in the foreground has a green stem and orange flowers. The cups are arranged on a light-colored surface, and the background is softly blurred.

Education population

- **Colleges: 51**
- **Universities: 4**
- **Number of students: 83 000**
50% of the population aged between 19 and 23 years
- **Number of teachers: 5 600**

A close-up photograph of several white ceramic coffee cups with colorful floral patterns. The cups are arranged on a surface, with some in the foreground and others slightly blurred in the background. The lighting is soft and warm, creating a cozy atmosphere.

Public vs private sector schools

- **Public-sector schools (99%)**
- **Private-sector schools**



Structure of the educational system

- **Pre-school education (1-year-olds +)**
- **(Compulsory) Primary education (age 6-14)**
- **Secondary education**
- **Higher education**



Structure of the educational system

Pre-school education

- **children aged from one year**
not obligatory
- **80% of children aged from 3 to 6 years**



Structure of the educational system

Primary education (Compulsory)

lasts for 9 years

three-year cycles:

- first cycle 1-3 (age 6-8)
- second cycle 4-6 (age 9-11)
- third cycle 7-9 (age 12-14)

Structure of the educational system

Secondary education

Vocational and technical education

- short-term vocational education
- secondary vocational education
- secondary technical education

General secondary education

- general gimnazija
- gimnazija with specialisation



Structure of the educational system

Higher education - three levels:

- higher professional programmes and academic (university) programmes
- master's programmes
- doctoral programmes



Teaching process at primary schools

- **school year 175-190 days**
- **1st September – 31st August**
- **5 days a week**
- **lessons per week: from 20 (1st grade) to 30 (9th grade)**
- **two assessment periods**



Teaching process at primary schools

first cycle (1st – 3rd grade)	second cycle (4th – 6th)	third cycle (7th – 9th)
one teacher (2nd and 3rd grade)	one teacher + specialist teachers	specialist teachers
two teachers (1st grade)		



Teaching process at primary schools

Compulsory school subjects in primary education

mother tongue, one foreign language (from 2nd grade), mathematics, geography, history, civic education and ethics, environmental studies, physics, chemistry, biology, social studies, music, visual arts, technologies (ICT included), home economics, sports

in the last cycle, optional compulsory subjects in the fields of:

social sciences and humanities, natural sciences and technology



Teaching process at primary schools

The extra curriculum activities

- before- and after- school classes
- supplementary lessons
- additional lessons
- interest activities



Assessment and progression

- **achievement assessed continuously**
- **descriptive grades (in the first cycle) and numerical grades (in the second and third cycle)**
- **statewide (external) examination at the end of:**
 - the first cycle – mother tongue, mathematics
 - the second cycle - mother tongue, mathematics, foreign language
 - the third cycle - mother tongue, mathematics, and a third subject (determined each school year anew)



Primary education for children with special needs

In mainstream schools

- educational programme with adapted implementation and additional professional support

In special schools and professional institutions

- General customized educational programme with equivalent educational standard (schools and institutions for the hearing impaired, visually impaired and movement-impaired persons)
- customized educational programme with lower educational standards
- a special educational programme for children with moderate, severe and profound intellectual disabilities

References



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GORNJA RADGONA



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Photographs

Šedivy, Bine. Pottery Workshop. 2021. Author's personal collection.

Text

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