

ENROLLMENT IN FORMAL EDUCATION

Key Findings: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States

In 1999, the United States and six of the seven other countries presented had close to universal participation in school of children ages 5 to 14—the age range that generally corresponds with primary and lower secondary education in these countries. The Russian Federation was the only country presented in which the enrollment rate for this age group was below 80 percent (figure 3a).

The United States had an enrollment rate of 78 percent in 1999 for youth ages 15 to 19—the age range that corresponds most closely with upper secondary education in the countries presented. The enrollment rate for the United States for this age group was higher than the rates for Canada, the United Kingdom, Italy, and the Russian Federation, but lower than the rates for France and Germany. Higher enrollment rates in France and Germany can partly be attributed to the later statutory graduation age from secondary

school in these countries (19 in Germany and between 18 and 20 in France). A much higher proportion of 18- and 19-year-olds are still enrolled in secondary school in France and Germany than in the United States (figure 3b).

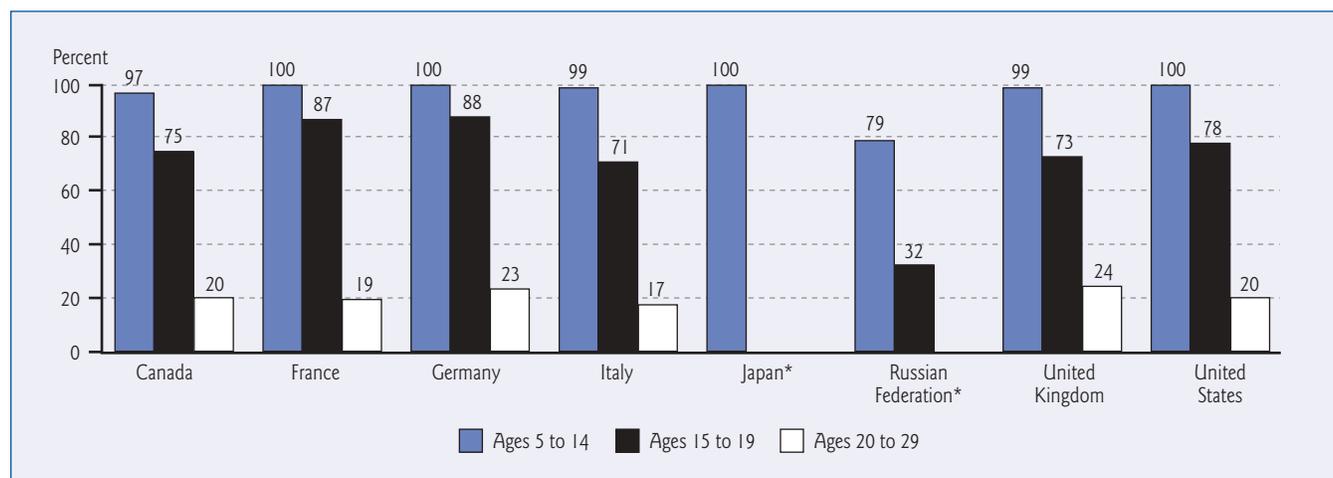
Enrollment rates of 20- to 29-year olds—the age range that corresponds most closely to higher education in the countries presented—were less than 25 percent among the six countries reporting data. The United States had an enrollment rate of 20 percent for adults ages 20 to 29. This rate was lower than the rates in the United Kingdom (24 percent) and Germany (23 percent), the same as the rate in Canada (20 percent), but higher than the rates in France (19 percent) and Italy (17 percent) (figure 3a).

Definition and Methodology

The percentage of the population at given ages enrolled in education is called an “enrollment rate” in international comparisons. In this indicator, the term “enrollment rate” refers to “net enrollment rate.” Net enrollment rate is defined as the number of stu-

dents in a particular age group enrolled in education divided by the population of that same age group. Enrollments include all full-time and part-time students in public and private institutions, ages 5 to 14, 15 to 19, and 20 to 29, in 1999.

Figure 3a. Percentage of the population ages 5 to 29 enrolled formal education, by age group and country: 1999

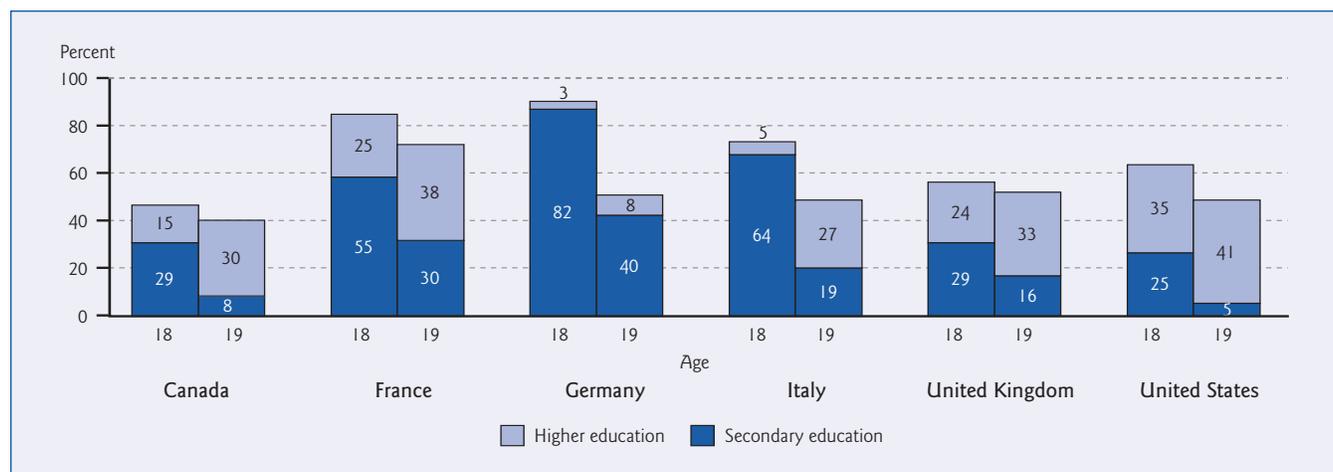


*Data not available for age groups 15 to 19 and 20 to 29 for Japan; data for age group 20 to 29 included in an unspecified "other" category for the Russian Federation.

NOTE: The United Kingdom includes England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. For Japan and the United States, enrollment rates exceeded 100 percent for students ages 5 to 14 due to different reference dates for school enrollment and population data.

SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, *Education at a Glance*, 2001, Table C 1.2.

Figure 3b. Percentage of the population ages 18 and 19 enrolled in secondary and higher education, by age group and country: 1999



NOTE: The United Kingdom includes England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales.

SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, *Education at a Glance*, 2001, Table C 1.3.

Enrollment in Formal Education – Data Tables

Table A-3a. Percentage of the population ages 5 to 29 enrolled in formal education, by age group and country: 1999

Country	Age group		
	5 to 14	15 to 19	20 to 29
Canada	97	75	20
France	100	87	19
Germany	100	88	23
Italy	99	71	17
Japan	101	—	—
Russian Federation	79	32	—
United Kingdom	99	73	24
United States	101	78	20

— Data not available or missing.

NOTE: The United Kingdom includes England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales.

For Japan and the United States, enrollment rates exceed 100 percent for students ages 5 to 14 due to different reference dates for school enrollment and population data.

SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, *Education at a Glance*, 2001, Table C 1.2.

Table A-3b. Percentage of the population ages 18 and 19 enrolled in secondary and higher education, by age group and country: 1999

Country	Age and education levels			
	Age 18 secondary education	Age 18 higher education	Age 19 secondary education	Age 19 higher education
Canada	29	15	8	30
France	55	25	30	38
Germany	82	3	40	8
Italy	64	5	19	27
Japan	—	—	—	—
Russian Federation	—	—	—	—
United Kingdom	29	24	16	33
United States	25	35	5	41

— Data not available or missing.

NOTE: The United Kingdom includes England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales.

SOURCE: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, *Education at a Glance*, 2001, Table C 1.3.