

2018 REPORTS ON GRADUATES' PROFILE AND OCCUPATIONAL CONDITION

The Consorzio Interuniversitario AlmaLaurea presents the **2018 Reports on Profile and Occupational condition (XX Edition)** at the Conference on “*Structural change, graduates and jobs*” at the University of Turin, on Monday June 11th, 2018. The inquiry was conducted on graduates from 74 universities belonging to the Consorzio Interuniversitario AlmaLaurea*.

AlmaLaurea's Report on graduates' Profile reviewed the academic achievement of over **276.000 graduates in 2017**: namely, 157.000 first-cycle's degrees, 81.000 second-cycle's degrees, and 36.000 single-cycle's degrees. AlmaLaurea's Report on graduates' Occupational condition reviewed **630.000 graduates** with a first-cycle's or second-cycle's degree from 2016, 2014 and 2012 that had been contacted one, three and five years after graduating.

FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS: BACKGROUND.

Information from MIUR (Italian Ministry of Education, Universities and Research) suggests that **the number of first-year students has increased since the academic year 2014/15**, an evidence supported by 2015/16's figures, and increased even further in 2016/17 (+7.7% than in 2013/14). Despite this, **from 2003/04 to 2016/17, our universities lost nearly 50.000 first-year students**, equal to a 14.1% rate of decrease. The decrease is even higher in the Southern regions (-24.9%), among students from technical and vocational schools, or from disadvantaged family backgrounds, where polarisation is a higher threat.

2018 GRADUATES' PROFILE

The 2018 Report on Graduates' Profile as focussed **on 276.000 graduates** from 2017. They include 157.000 first-cycle's (first-cycle) degrees (57.0%), 81.000 second-cycle's degrees (29.1%), and 36.000 single-cycle's degrees (13.1%); the rest are pre-1999 graduates (including graduates in primary education).

STUDYING AWAY FROM HOME.

In 2017, **nearly one half of graduates (46.2%) achieved their qualification in the same province** in which they had attended secondary-school. 25.5% of graduates did not have to move too far, as they got their qualification in a province near the one where they had attended secondary-school. 12.5% experienced midrange mobility, as they graduated in a province that, although not neighbouring with theirs, was still within the same geographical macro-area (i.e. North-Centre-South), while another 12.5% graduated in a different geographical macro-area from that in which they had got their secondary-school diploma. Lastly, 3.1% completed their studies in an Italian university but achieved their diploma abroad.

Graduates with a second-cycle's degree are those most inclined to study away from home: **36.1%** qualified in a **different province** that did not border the one where they had attended secondary school (versus 24.7% of first-cycle degrees and 26.1% of single-cycle's degrees).

Most of the students who study away from home usually move from **Southern Italy to Central-Northern Italy**. Most of the graduates who went to secondary school in Northern Italy choose to attend a university in the same geographical macro-area (97.4%).

89.1% of graduates from Central Italy stay in the same geographical macro-area, but, if they decide to migrate, they mainly go to Northern Italy (8.1%).

It is for young people from the south of Italy or from the islands that migration escalates instead to remarkable proportions: **23.9% of them decide to attend a university in Central and Northern Italy**, in equal numbers. Interestingly, over 90% of foreign students choose a university in Central-Northern Italy.

Students who most often move away from home come from a higher social and cultural background: 36.1% of those who move farther away have at least one graduated parent, versus 28.3% of those who stay in the same geographical macro-area. Similar trends can be found in earlier education: students who study away from home (or get a foreign diploma) graduate from secondary school with an average mark of 83.0/100 versus 80.8/100 of those who stay in the same geographical macro-area.

2017 graduates: geographical location of the university by geographical location of secondary school
(row)

Geographical location of secondary school	Geographical location of university		
	North	Centre	South and islands
North	97.4	2.1	0.5
Centre	8.1	89.1	2.8
South and islands	11.8	12.1	76.1
Abroad	65.8	26.0	8.1
TOTAL	44.3	24.3	31.4

ROUGHLY THE SAME NUMBER OF FOREIGNERS (3.5%).

The proportion of **foreign graduates is 3.5%** (i.e. 9,532 graduates in the AlmaLaurea universities in 2017; this does not include graduates from San Marino), with a **peak of 4.6% of second-cycle's degrees** and roughly 3% of first-cycle's degrees (3.1%) and single-cycle's degrees (2.5%). These figures are roughly the same as in 2016.

Interestingly, the proportion of foreign graduates has increased in the last 10 years (in 2007, they were 2.6%).

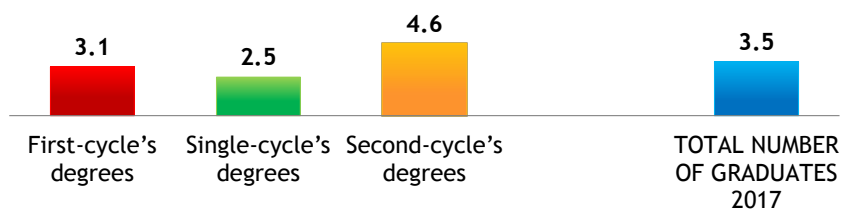
The **majority of foreign graduates (57.1%)** arrived in Italy after earning a secondary-school diploma. However, more and more foreign students come from families that already live in Italy, as proven by the fact that 42.9% of non-Italian graduates got a secondary-school diploma in our country: in 2011, the proportion was 28.2%.

As to their **origin**, 52.1% of foreign graduates come from Europe; in particular, 12.9% of them are Albanian and 11.2% Rumanian. 24.3% come from Asia and Oceania: more specifically, 9.2% of Asian students come from China (a number that has noticeably grown in the last few years: in 2009, it was 2.9%) and 3.3% from Iran. 14.3% come from the African continent (mostly from Cameroon, 4.4%, and from Maghreb, 3.8%) and 9.4% from North and South America (mostly from Peru, 1.8%). Foreign students mainly look for specific branches of knowledge: languages, architecture, economy and statistics, politics and sociology, engineering. At the opposite end of the spectrum, in two groups of disciplines (PE and psychology), foreign graduates make up less than 2% of the total.

According to the OECD (Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development), Italy is the eighth most attractive OECD country for undergraduate and graduate students: 2.6 out of one hundred "moving" students, i.e. university

students who go abroad, choose Italy. Our country comes after the USA (26.3%), the UK (15.0%), France (10.5%), Germany (9.8%), Australia (8.3%), Japan (2.9%) and Canada (2.7%).

2017 graduates: origin by course
(per cent)



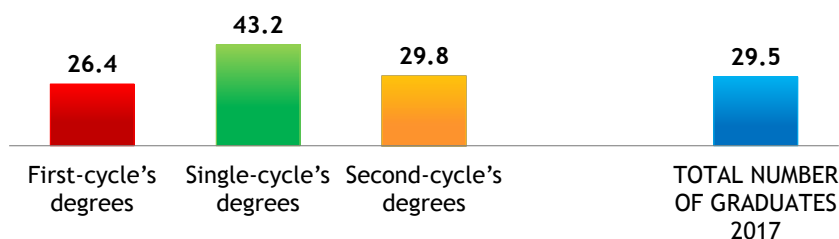
CHOOSING A UNIVERSITY: HOW FAMILY AND PARENTAL EDUCATION AFFECT YOUNG PEOPLE'S CHOICES.

It has been found that the **family background** deeply affects the chance of completing one's academic education: actually, graduates who come from more educated and socially advantaged families outnumber the rest.

29.5% of graduates have at least one graduated parent. 21.0% of graduates' fathers have a university degree (only 13.0% of Italian men aged 45 to 64 have a degree).

The family's cultural and social background also affects the **choice of course**: graduates from more educated families choose a single-cycle's degree (43.2% of them have at least one graduated parent) more often than a 3+2-year course (26.4% of first-cycle's degrees and 29.8% of second-cycle's degrees). In 2007, graduates with at least one graduated parent amounted to 25.3%: 23.2% of first-cycle's degrees, 30.2% of second-cycle's degrees, and 45.1% of single-cycle's degrees.

2017 graduates: with at least one graduated parent by course
(per cent)

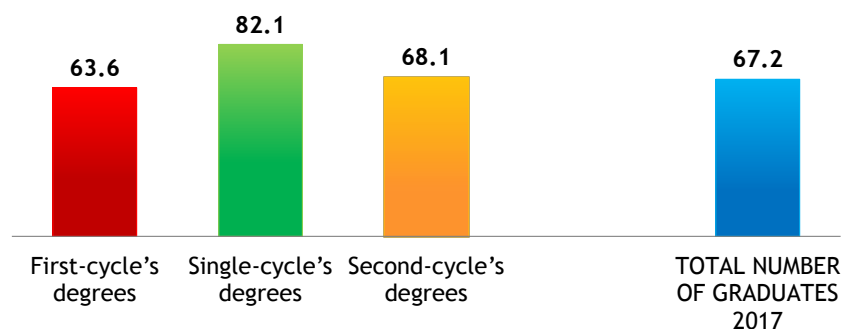


GRADUATES' ACADEMIC BACKGROUND: MOST OF THEM COME FROM A "LICEO".

As to the 2017 graduates' academic background, most of them (67.2%) come from a "liceo" (*a selective type of school, very much like a British grammar school*), above all from one that specialises in sciences (43.9%) or in humanities (16.3%), followed by 19.0% who come from a technical school and 8.1% from a social-science or teacher-training school (8.1%); the rest of the students come from a vocational school (1.8%), an art school (1.6%) or have a foreign diploma (2.2%).

As to types of diplomas, there are minimal differences between first-cycle's degrees and second-cycle's degrees (students who come from a "liceo" are 63.6% and 68.1%, respectively), while the majority of graduates with a single-cycle's degree definitely come from a "liceo": as a matter of fact, 82.1% of them come from a "liceo", firstly from one that specialises in sciences (48.4%), then one that specialises in humanities (29.8%).

2017 graduates: students coming from a liceo
(humanities, science, language) by course
(per cent)



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT: AGE AND DEADLINES IMPROVING, FINAL GRADES UNCHANGED.

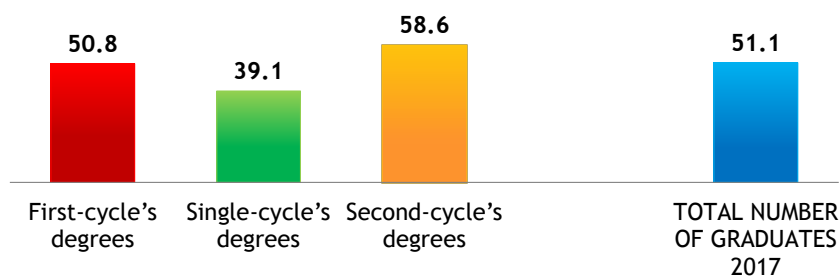
Virtually all 2017's graduates graduated at **26.0 years of age** (in 2016, graduation age was 26.1 years old): at 24.8 years of age for first-cycle's degrees, 27.0 years of age for single-cycle's degrees, and 27.4 years of age for second-cycle's degrees. A figure that also reflects the late age of first-year university students (the age of enrolment is later than the "standard" 19 years for first-cycle's degrees and single-cycle's degrees, and 22 years for second-cycle's degrees), which was 1.4 years of age for 2017's graduates.

Graduation age has noticeably **decreased** in the last few years: in 2007, the average graduation age was 27.0 years old, one year older than it is now.

The deadline, which measures a student's ability to complete a degree by the prescribed time, has **remarkably improved** in the last few years. While, in 2007, 37.9% of students completed their studies by the deadline, in 2017 **such figures rose to 51.1%**: namely, 58.6% for second-cycle's degrees, 50.8% for first-cycle's degrees, and 39.1% for single-cycle's degrees.

Moreover, while ten years ago 17.5 students out of one hundred completed their studies four or more years after the deadline, such figure is now nearly a half of that (9.8%).

2017 graduates: completion by the deadline, by course
(per cent)



The **GPA** is basically unchanged and in 2017 it was **102.7 out of 110** (versus 102.9 out of 110 in 2007): 99.8 for first-cycle's degrees, 104.6 for single-cycle's degrees, and 107.7 for second-cycle's degrees. In master's degrees, the GPA is very high, mainly because it depends on the student's performance while studying for a first-cycle's degree (in 2017, the average rise in the GPA for a master's degree, compared with a first-cycle's degree, was 7.4 points out of 110).

STUDYING ABROAD. INTERNSHIPS AND WORKING WHILE STUDYING INCREASE THE CHANCE TO FIND A JOB.

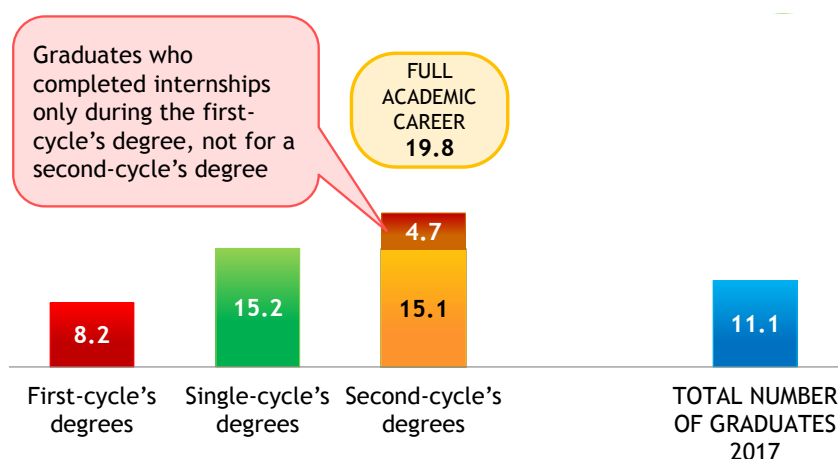
11.1% of 2017's graduates attended **schools abroad that were validated at home**: this happened to 8.8% of those who were in EU programmes (first and foremost, Erasmus) and to 2.3% of them through other validated experiences (Overseas, etc.).

Basically, graduates with a first-cycle's degree are less frequently involved in such experiences (8.2%) than graduates with a single-cycle's degree (15.2%) or a second-cycle's degree (15.1%); add an additional number of graduates who took part in EU foreign student programmes only while studying for a first-cycle's degree, which adds up to 19.8% in a 3+2-year course: a figure that is close to the 20% goal set out by the European Union for 2020.

In addition, **8.8% of all graduates took exams abroad that were validated back home**, and 4.7% of them (rising to 9.7% for second-cycle's degrees) **worked at their dissertations while abroad**.

The profile that comes out of the Report is that of a graduate that has a **good grasp of languages**: 76.1% of 2017's graduates can at least write English "well", as do 81.3% of those who have a second-cycle's degree.

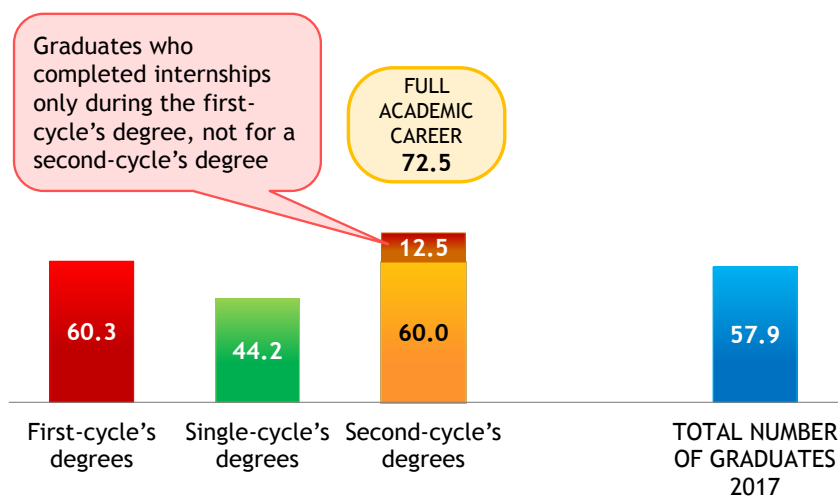
2017 graduates: validated international courses, by course
(per cent)



57.9% of graduates (in 2007, they were 50.8%) **took part in a validated curricular internship or traineeship**: specifically, internships were attended by 60.3% of students in first-cycle's degrees (over two thirds of which outside of the university), 44.2% of students in single-cycle's degrees, and 60.0% of students in second-cycle's degrees; add an extra 12.5% of students who took part in an internship only while studying for a first-cycle's degree, which means that 72.5% of students in second-cycle's degrees took part in an internship.

69.5% of students who took part in such experiences have a **definitely favourable opinion** of curricular internships.

2017 graduates: curricular internship, by course (per cent)



The number of graduates who worked while studying has decreased in the last ten years (**from 74.9% to 65.6%**), probably due to the recession and to the slowly decreasing number of adult students. But **such trend was reversed in the last year**: the number of graduates who worked while studying has slightly increased (+0.6 per cent), mainly because of a surge in temporary jobs. In 2017, overall work experiences involved 66.1% of graduates with a first-cycle's degree, 58.4% for single-cycle's degrees, and 67.2% for second-cycle's degrees.

In greater detail, 6.3 students out of one hundred graduated while working (working students); another 59.3 students out of one hundred had some short job stints (working students).

Quite the opposite, the proportion of students who graduated without having had any professional experience has increased in the last 10 years, with 34.2% in 2017 (+10.0 per cent more than in 2007).

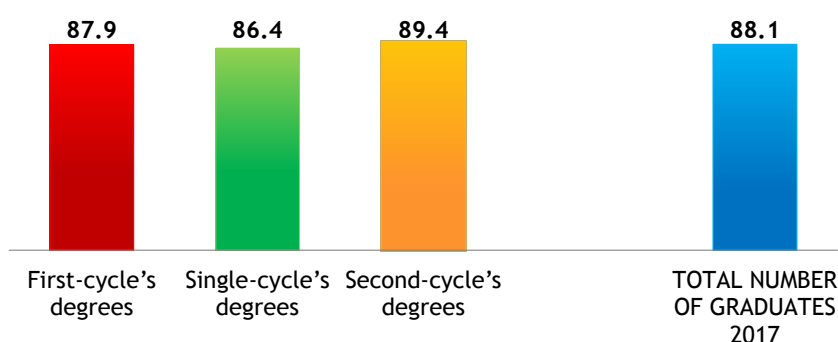
Through special insights, AlmaLaurea shows that studying abroad as part of a European programme or a curricular internship or working while studying, all other things being equal, increase the chances of finding a job within one year of completing one's studies. In this case, **studying abroad as part of a European programme increases job opportunities by 14.0%, internships by 20.6%, and having a temporary job while studying by 53.0%**.

In addition, studying abroad or a curricular internship, all other things being equal, will not prevent one from completing its studies by the deadline, it will also favourably affect the chance to be awarded a high GPA.

STUDENTS STILL HAPPY ABOUT THEIR ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE.

To measure the students' **satisfaction** for their just-completed academic experience, we decided to look at the feedback received from graduates. Broadly speaking, **88.1%** of graduates said they were generally happy with their just-completed academic experience (in 2007, they were 87.1%); in particular, the figure is split into 87.9% of first-cycle's degrees, 86.4% of single-cycle's degrees, and 89.4% of second-cycle's degrees. A few differences can be found in the graduates' satisfaction with their academic experience depending on which university they graduated from, though the feedback is always very good, ranging from 82.1% to 96.7%.

2017 graduates: overall satisfaction with the academic experience, by course
(per cent)



85.5% of graduates are generally happy at the way they related with the **teaching staff** (ranging from 73.4% to 96.4%, depending on the university); such figure is the same for first-cycle's degrees, drops to 77.9% for single-cycle's degrees, and rises to 89.2% for second-cycle's degrees. As to **academic facilities**, 72.0 graduates out of one hundred who used them think **the classrooms** were good enough (with peaks of 98.8% for some universities and only occasionally dropping below 50%): they include 70.6% for first-cycle's degrees, 66.3% for single-cycle's degrees, and 77.3% for second-cycle's degrees.

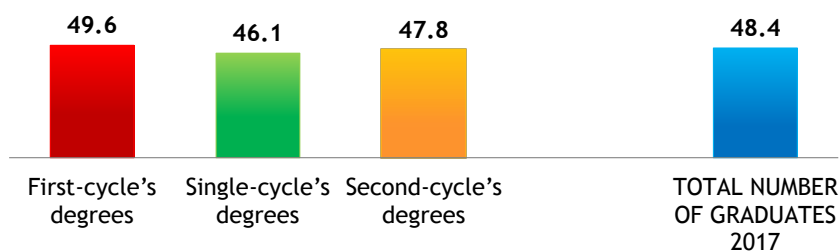
And, **how many of them would attend the same university again?** 69.1% of graduates would choose the same course and the same university again (the same as in 2007); 12.6% of them would choose the same academic career but in a different university; 9.1% would attend the same university but would choose a different course. 67.1 and 66.3 out of one hundred graduates with a first-cycle's degree or a single-cycle's degree would choose the same course and the same university, respectively, as would 74.2 out of one hundred graduates with a second-cycle's degree.

AFTER GRADUATION: ALMOST ONE HALF OF GRADUATES WOULD MOVE ABROAD.

As to career prospects, for some time now the traditional flows of graduates who move from the south to the north of Italy to study/work, something which still often happens in our country, have been replaced by flows of graduates who move abroad. This is something an increasing number of young graduates are looking forward to, not just to study but as a potential workplace.

Problems finding proper jobs at home are most likely the reason graduates are willing to cross the Alps.

2017 graduates: definitely willing to work abroad, by degree
(per cent)



48.4% of graduates said they are willing to work in a different European country (in 2016, they were 49.8%, while, in 2007, they were 38.5%); 33.7% would even go as far as a different continent. Most of them are prepared to move, even frequently (27.3%), and even to live abroad (50.8%). Only 2.8% of them are not willing to move.

2018 GRADUATES' OCCUPATIONAL CONDITION

The 2018 inquiry on occupational condition investigated a total of **630.000 graduates**. Specifically, the inquiry included all graduates with a first-cycle's degree or with a master's degree – a second-cycle's degree or a single-cycle's degree – who graduated in 2016 (270.000), and who were interviewed one year after completing their studies, graduates with a master's degree who graduated in 2014 (110.000) and in 2012 (108.000), who were interviewed three and five years after graduation. Lastly, two specific parts of the inquiry concerned graduates with a first-cycle's degree who graduated in 2014 and 2012 and left university (approximately 80.000 and 68.000, respectively), who were contacted three and five years after graduation.

The figures shown below are focussed on the graduates' achievements in first-cycle's degrees and second-cycle's degrees who graduated in 2016 and in 2012, and who were interviewed one and five years after graduation¹.

GRADUATES ONE YEAR AFTER GRADUATION: 71.1% OF GRADUATES WITH A FIRST-CYCLE'S DEGREE (+2.9 PER CENT THAN IN 2016) AND 73.9% OF GRADUATES WITH A SECOND-CYCLE'S DEGREE (+3.1 PER CENT) HAVE A JOB.

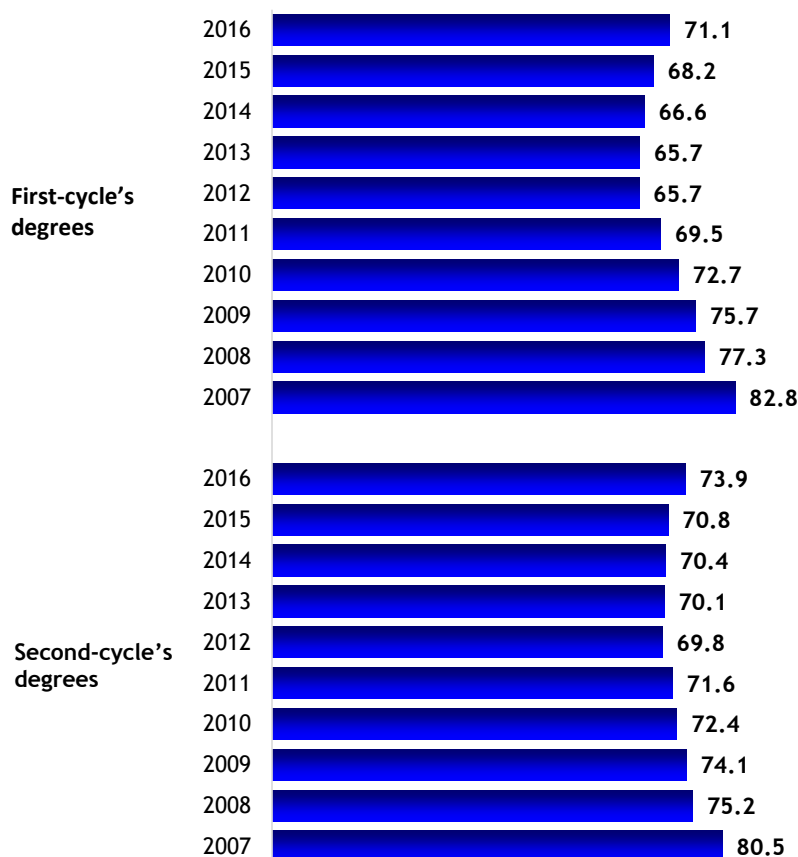
The inquiry was carried out on **156.000 graduates with a first-cycle's degree** from 2016, and **79.000 graduates with a second-cycle's degree** from 2016, who were interviewed in 2017, one year after graduation.

58.6% of graduates with a first-cycle's degree decide to keep studying and go on to enrol in a master's degree (the number of students enrolling in another three-year course is quite small). One year later, 57.6% are still studying. Therefore, for a more accurate inquiry, the occupational condition of graduates with a first-cycle's degree who chose not to keep studying but find a job straightaway is portrayed below.

One year after graduation, the employment rate, which also includes all those who are in paid internships, is 71.1% for graduates with a first-cycle's degree and 73.9% for second-cycle's degrees. A comparison with the previous figures show that the employment rate is basically improving, increasing by 5.4 per cent in the last four years for graduates with a first-cycle's degree and by 3.8 per cent for second-cycle's degrees. This looks very promising, especially for the last year (the employment rate has increased by 2.9 per cent for graduates with a first-cycle's degree and by 3.1 per cent for second-cycle's degrees), though it cannot yet make up for the remarkable decrease in the employment rate between 2008 and 2013 (-17.1 per cent for the former; -10.8 per cent for the latter, respectively).

¹ As graduates with a single-cycle's degree naturally tend to keep studying with a view to self-employment (such as internships, postgraduate courses, traineeships), their occupational condition has been left out of this inquiry.

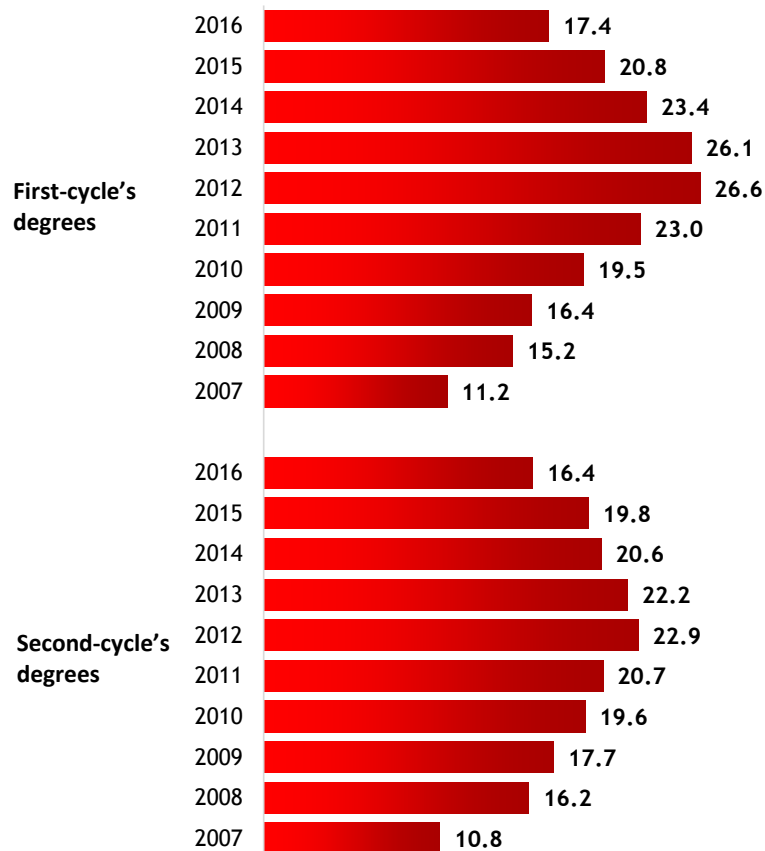
**2007-2016 graduates interviewed one year after graduation:
employment rates by course. Years 2008-2017**
(per cent)



Note: first-cycle's degrees only included graduates who had not enrolled in any other graduation course.

One year after graduation, the **unemployment rate** for graduates with a first-cycle's degree is **17.4%**, while the unemployment rate for graduates **with a second-cycle's degree is 16.4%**. **The unemployment rate has decreased** for the fourth year on end; compared with 2013, the decrease is 9.2 per cent for graduates with a first-cycle's degree and 6.5 per cent for second-cycle's degrees (in the last year, such decrease was 3.4 per cent in both groups). Once again, though, the improvement of recent years does not reflect the pre-crisis unemployment rate. Between 2008 and 2013, the unemployment rate had actually increased by 15.4 per cent for graduates with a first-cycle's degree and 12.1 per cent for second-cycle's degrees.

**2007-2016 graduates interviewed one year after graduation:
unemployment rates by course. Years 2008-2017**
(per cent)



Note: first-cycle's degrees only included graduates who had not enrolled in any other graduation course.

JOBS: FREELANCE AND PERMANENT JOBS DECREASING IN THE LAST YEAR TOO. NONSTANDARD EMPLOYMENT ON THE RISE.

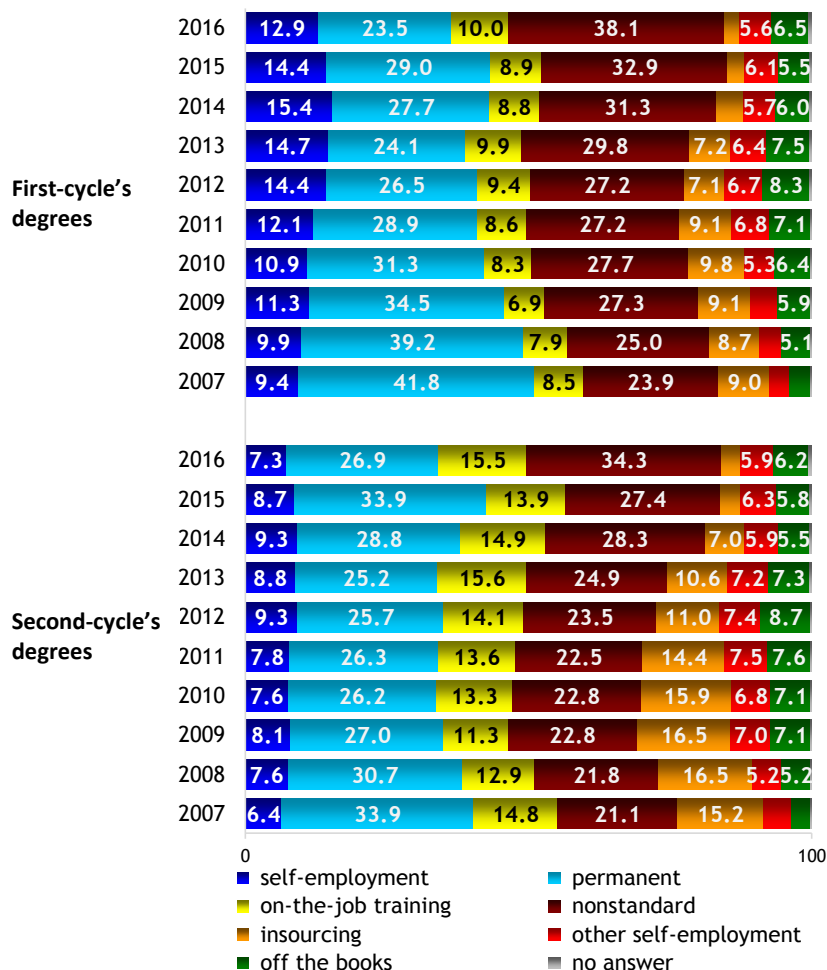
Self-employment (freelancers, entrepreneurs, businessmen, etc.) was chosen by 12.9% of graduates with a first-cycle's degree and by 7.3% of graduates with a second-cycle's degree who have a job: both figures are lower than last year's (-1.5 and -1.4 per cent, respectively).

Permanent employment too is decreasing from last year: for graduates with a first-cycle's degree, such rate is 23.5% (-5.5 per cent less than in 2016); for graduates with a second-cycle's degree, it is 26.9% (-7.0 per cent less than in 2016).

Nonstandard employment (mostly **temporary employment**) has been found to be increasing in the last year with 38.1% for graduates with a first-cycle's degree and 34.3% for second-cycle's degrees (+5.2 and +6.9 per cent more than in the previous inquiry, respectively).

Compared with 2008, nonstandard employment is definitely on the rise, growing at a rate of 14.2 per cent for graduates with a first-cycle's degree and 13.2 per cent for second-cycle's degrees; while permanent employment has decreased by 18.3 and 7.0 per cent, respectively. The other figures have not changed so much: above all, self-employment has increased by 3.5 per cent from 2008 for graduates with a first-cycle's degree and by 0.9 per cent for graduates with a second-cycle's degrees.

**2007-2016 graduates who have a job one year after graduation,
type of job by course.
Years 2008-2017
(per cent)**

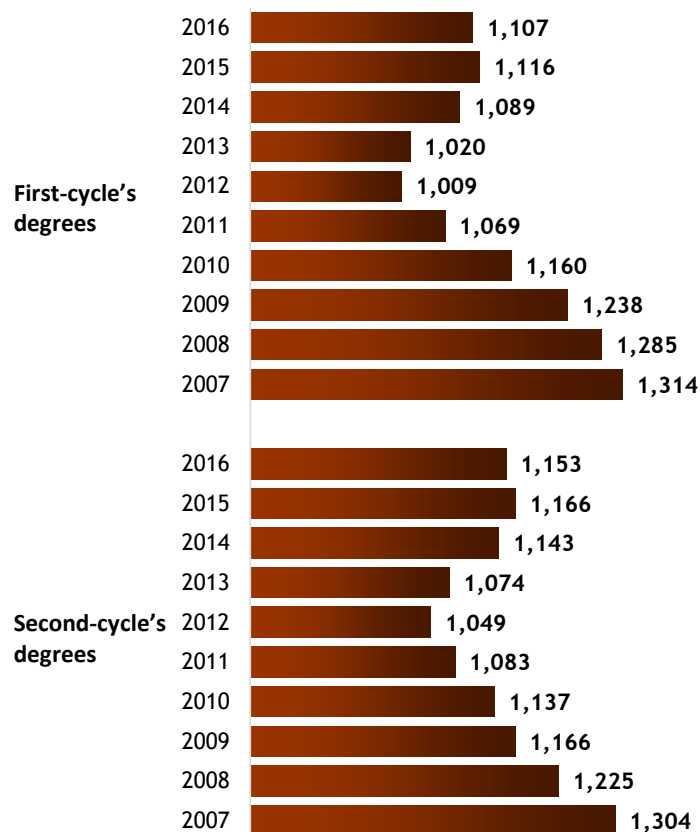


Note: first-cycle's degrees only included graduates who had not enrolled in any other graduation course.

LABOUR INCOMES IN THE LAST YEAR.

On average, the **net monthly income** one year after graduation is **1,107 euro for graduates with a first-cycle's degree and 1,153 euros for graduates with a second-cycle's degree**. Even if there are no big changes from 2016, in the last four years the wages actually paid to graduates one year after graduation have been increasing: +9.7% for graduates with a first-cycle's degree, +9.9% per cent for second-cycle's degrees. However, such increase is not big enough yet to make up for the remarkable loss of wages suffered in 2008-2013 (-23.2% for first-cycle's degrees, -19.5% for second-cycle's degrees).

**2007-2016 graduates who have a job one year after graduation,
net monthly income by course. Years 2008-2017**
(based on ISTAT -National Institute of Statistics- consumer prices; average prices in euros)



Note: first-cycle's degrees only included graduates who had not enrolled in any other graduation course.

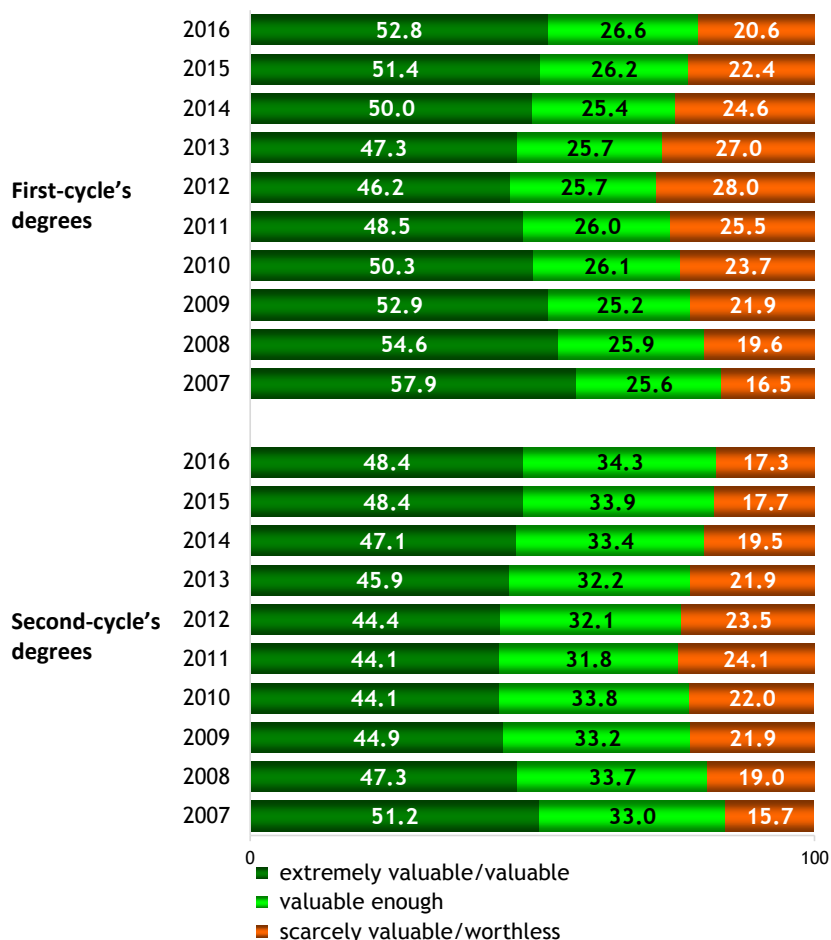
EFFECTIVENESS OF DEGREES: POSITIVE FEEDBACK FROM 52.8% OF GRADUATES WITH A FIRST-CYCLE'S DEGREE AND 48.4% OF GRADUATES WITH A SECOND-CYCLE'S DEGREE.

But how many have a job that they qualified for? To answer this question, AlmaLaurea looks at how much the qualification is worth, by matching the demand for the qualification with the skills learnt at university.

For about one half of graduates who have a job one year after graduation, the qualification is **“extremely valuable or reasonably valuable”** for **52.8% of graduates with a first-cycle's degree and for 48.4% of graduates with a second-cycle's degree**. Compared with last year, the value of the degree increases by 1.4 per cent for graduates with a first-cycle's degree and is the same as before for second-cycle's degrees.

Compared with 2013, the rise is 6.6 per cent for graduates with a first-cycle's degree and 4.0 per cent for second-cycle's degrees. Once again, though, the improvement of the last few years is not big enough yet to solve the problems met in 2008-2013, when the proportion of graduates who thought their degree was extremely valuable or reasonably valuable decreased by 11.7 per cent for graduates with a first-cycle's degree and by 6.8 per cent for graduates with a second-cycle's degree.

**2007-2016 graduates who have a job one year after graduation:
value of degrees by course. Years 2008-2017**
(per cent)



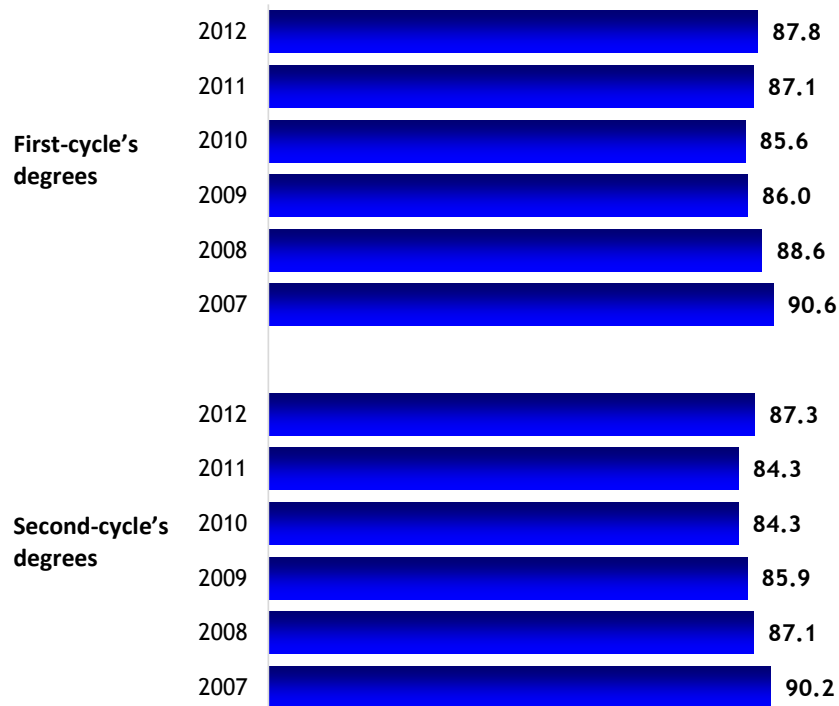
Note: first-cycle's degrees only included graduates who had not enrolled in any other graduation course.

EMPLOYMENT FIVE YEARS AFTER GRADUATION: 87.8% OF GRADUATES WITH A FIRST-CYCLE'S DEGREE (+0.7 PER CENT MORE THAN IN 2016) AND 87.3% OF GRADUATES WITH A SECOND-CYCLE'S DEGREE (+3.0 PER CENT) HAVE A JOB.

Five years after graduation, the inquiry investigated 68 thousand graduates with a first-cycle's degrees taken in 2012, who did not enrol in a master's degree, and 78 thousand graduates with a second-cycle's degree taken in 2012, who were interviewed in 2017, five years after graduation.

One to five years after graduation, the occupational condition improves but the critical situations experienced by those who approached the job market in the years of deep depression unfailingly affected the outcomes. For such graduates, it was only in the last two years that some signs of recovery began to appear in the job market. Namely, five years after graduation, the **employment rate** (graduates in paid internships are equated to permanent employees) is **87.8% for graduates with a first-cycle's degree and 87.3% for graduates with a second-cycle's degree**. Such figures are higher than those of 2015, by 2.2 and 3.0 per cent, respectively; a comparison with last year's figures shows a 0.7 and a 3.0 per cent increase, respectively. Of course, once again, such signs of improvement appear after years during which the employment rate steeply fell, and decreased by 5.0 per cent for graduates with a first-cycle's degree and by 5.9 per cent for second-cycle's degrees between 2012 and 2015.

**2007-2012 graduates interviewed five years after graduation:
 employment rate by course. Years 2012-2017**
 (per cent)

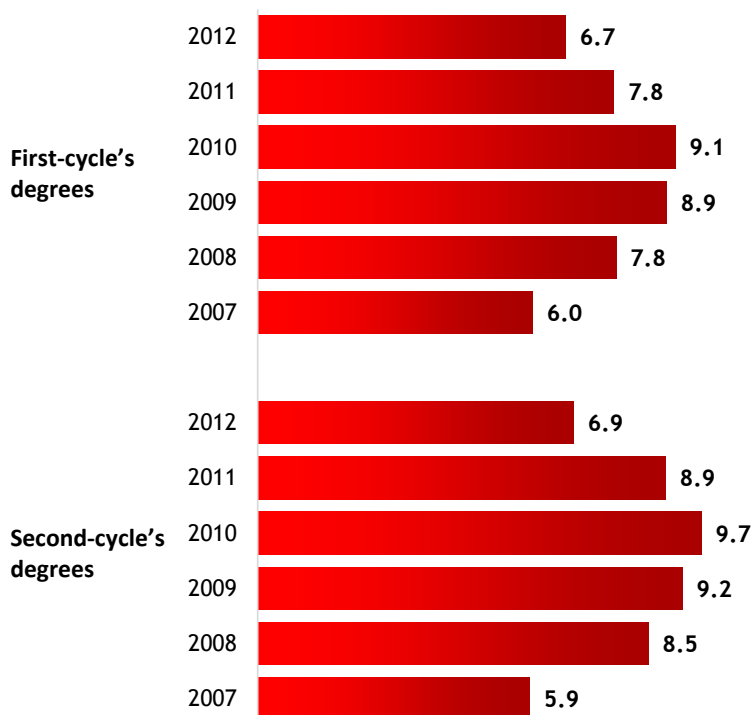


Note: first-cycle's degrees only included graduates who had not enrolled in any other graduation course.

Five years after graduation, the **unemployment rate is 6.7% for graduates with a first-cycle's degree and 6.9% for graduates with a second-cycle's degree.**

Such rates are 1.1 and 2.0 per cent less than last year's, respectively; it is the second time they have shrunk (compared with 2015, by 2.4 and 2.8 per cent, respectively). However, such rate shrunk after a time during which the unemployment rate had been slowly increasing and had actually increased by 3.1 per cent for graduates with a first-cycle's degree and by 3.8 per cent for second-cycle's degrees between 2012 and 2015.

**2007-2012 graduates interviewed five years after graduation:
 unemployment rate by course. Years 2012-2017**
 (per cent)



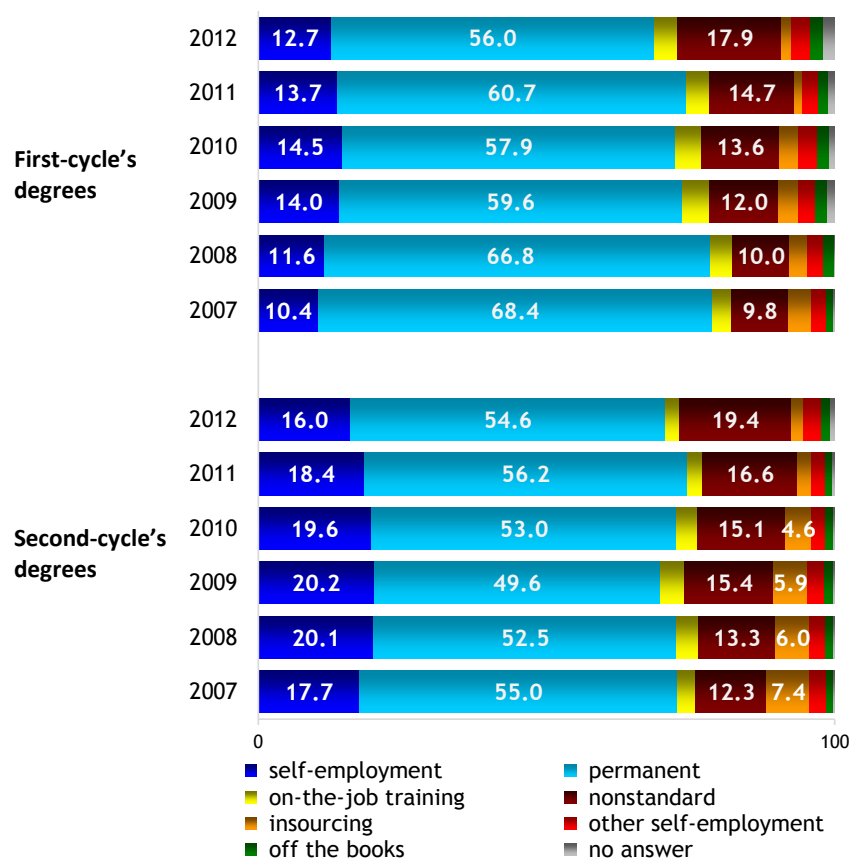
Note: first-cycle's degrees only included graduates who had not enrolled in any other graduation course.

JOBS: FREELANCE AND PERMANENT JOBS DECREASING IN THE LAST YEAR. NONSTANDARD EMPLOYMENT ON THE RISE.

Self-employment (freelancers, entrepreneurs, businessmen, etc.) for the graduates of 2012, five years after graduation, sets at **12.7% for first-cycle's degrees** and rises instead to **16.0% for second-cycle's degrees**. The proportion of graduates in **permanent jobs** reaches **56.0% for graduates with a first-cycle's degree** and **54.6% for second-cycle's degrees**. Compared with the previous inquiry, **self-employment** (-1.0 and -2.4 per cent, respectively) and **permanent jobs** (-4.7 per cent for graduates with a first-cycle's degree and -1.6 for second-cycle's degrees) **decreased in both groups**.

For graduates who have a job five years after graduation, **17.9% graduates with a first-cycle's degree** out of one hundred have a **nonstandard job**; they are **19.4% of graduates with a second-cycle's degree**. These figures have been basically increasing in the last few years (compared with 2016: +3.2 per cent for graduates with a first-cycle's degree, +2.8 per cent for second-cycle's degrees).

**2007-2012 graduates who have a job five years after graduation:
 type of job by course. Years 2012-2017**
 (per cent)



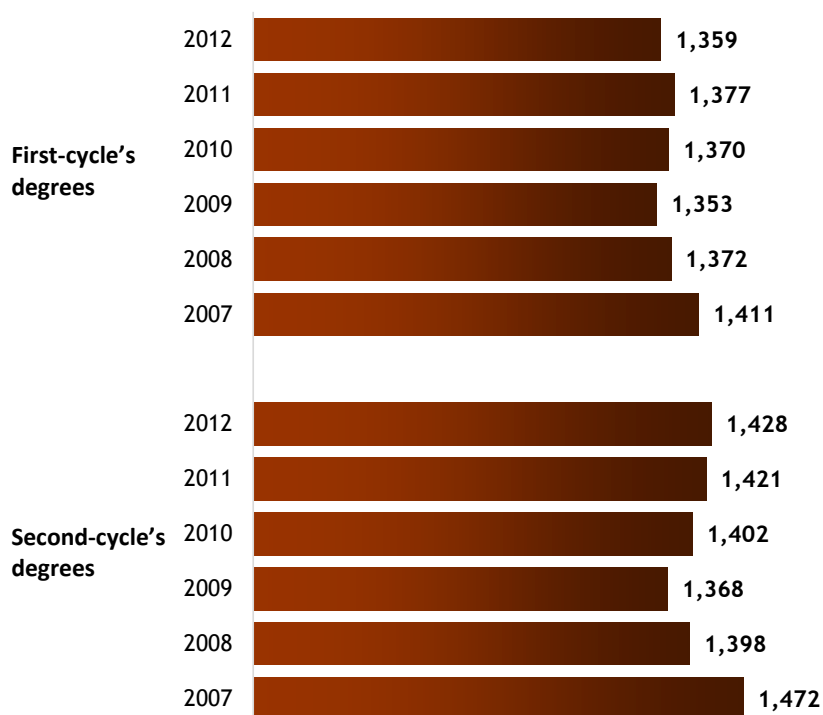
Note: first-cycle's degrees only included graduates who had not enrolled in any other graduation course.

Compared with 2012, nonstandard employment has increased (+8.1 per cent for graduates with a first-cycle's degree and +7.1 for second-cycle's degrees), permanent employment has decreased (-12.4 and -0.4 per cent, respectively), and so has insourced employment (-2.4 and -5.2 per cent). Self-employment has increased (+2.3 per cent) for graduates with a first-cycle's degree and has decreased for graduates with a second-cycle's degree (-1.7 per cent).

REGULAR PAYCHECKS BASICALLY THE SAME FOR GRADUATES WITH A FIRST-CYCLE'S DEGREE AND SLIGHTLY INCREASING FOR GRADUATES WITH A SECOND-CYCLE'S DEGREE.

Five years after graduation, the net monthly income is **1,359 euros for graduates with a first-cycle's degree and 1,428 euros for graduates with a second-cycle's degree**. Compared with 2015, the **actual paycheques** are basically the same (meaning that they reflect a different purchasing power) for graduates with a first-cycle's degree and generally increasing for second-cycle's degrees (+1.9%). Despite all this, in 2017 wages are lower than in 2012.

**2007-2012 graduates who have a job five years after graduation:
net monthly income by course. Years 2012-2017**
(based on ISTAT -National Institute of Statistics- consumer prices; average prices in euros)

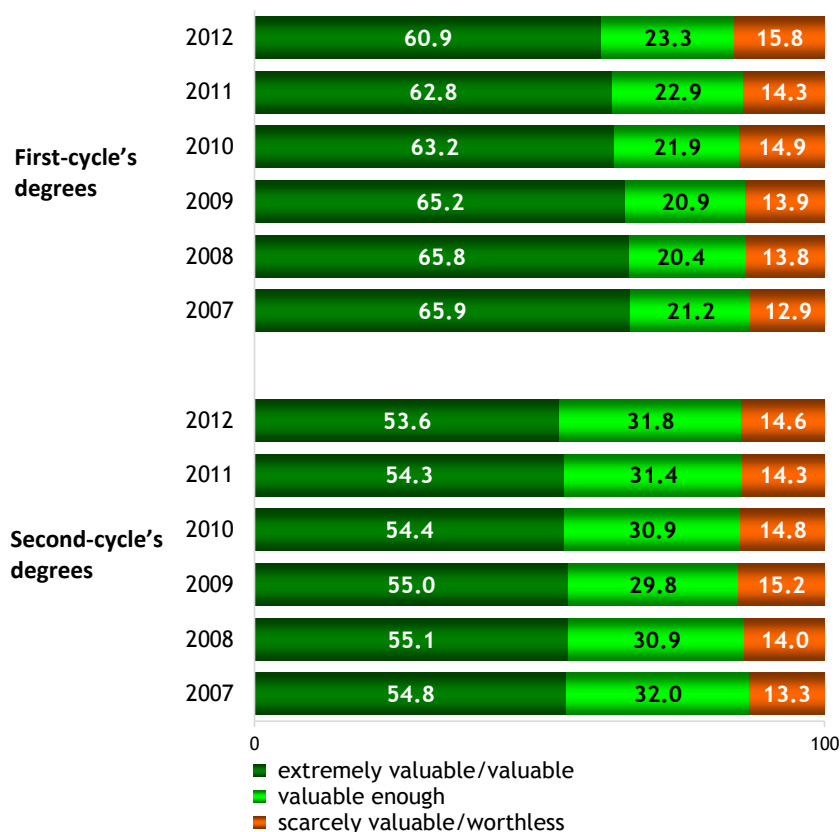


Note: first-cycle's degrees only included graduates who had not enrolled in any other graduation course.

EFFECTIVENESS OF DEGREES: POSITIVE FEEDBACK FROM 60.9% OF GRADUATES WITH A FIRST-CYCLE'S DEGREE AND 53.6% OF GRADUATES WITH A SECOND-CYCLE'S DEGREE.

The match between the degree and the job is measured by the value of the qualification, which, five years later, turns out to be **“extremely valuable or reasonably valuable” for 60.9% of graduates with a first-cycle's degree and a job, and for 53.6% of graduates with a second-cycle's degree and a job**. A comparison with the 2012's inquiry shows that the degree is 5.0 per cent less valuable for graduates with a first-cycle's degree and 1.2 per cent less valuable for second-cycle's degrees (-1.9 and -0.7 per cent, respectively, in the last year alone).

**2007-2012 graduates who have a job five years after graduation:
value of degree by course. Years 2012-2017**
(per cent)



Note: first-cycle's degrees only included graduates who had not enrolled in any other graduation course.

2016 and 2012 graduates interviewed one and five years later: occupational status
Year 2017

	First-cycles's degree		Second-cycles's degree	
	One year after graduation	Five years after graduation	One year after graduation	Five years after graduation
Employment rate (%)	71.1	87.8	73.9	87.3
Unemployment rate (%)	17.4	6.7	16.4	6.9
Net monthly income (average, in euros)	1,107	1,359	1,153	1,428
Value of degree (%) ("Extremely valuable/valuable")	52.8	60.9	48.4	53.6

Note: first-cycle's degrees only included graduates who had not enrolled in any other graduation course.

WORKING AWAY FROM HOME.

A combined inquiry of the geographical locations of students and workers shows that **graduates with a second-cycle's degree from Northern, Central and Southern Italy move differently around the globe**; namely:

- 1) **10.2% of graduates from Northern Italy** who have a job five years after graduation work **in a different geographical macro-area**; most of them work abroad (7.7%);
- 2) **18.1% of graduates from Central Italy** who have a job five years after graduation work **in a different geographical macro-area**, mainly in Northern Italy (10.4%) or abroad (6.2%);
- 3) **44.9% of graduates from Southern Italy** who have a job five years after graduation work **in a different geographical macro-area**; more specifically, 25.6% of them work in Northern Italy, 13.7% in Central Italy, and 5.6% work abroad.

6.6% OF ITALIAN GRADUATES WITH A SECOND-CYCLE'S DEGREE WORK ABROAD FIVE YEARS AFTER GRADUATION.

Five years after graduation, **6.6%** of Italian graduates with a second-cycle's degree work abroad (same as in 2016, +0.6 per cent more than in 2013). Those who decide to work abroad turn out to be generally smarter (they usually have better test results and complete their studies by the deadline) than those who decide to stay and work in Italy.

Five years after getting a master's degree, **83.3% of graduates working abroad work in Europe**: 20.6% of them work in the UK, 12.9% in Switzerland, and 11.7% in Germany; on the contrary, 10.3% work in France and 5.8% in Spain. The numbers of graduates working in North and South America (7.9%) and in Asia (5.2%) are slightly lower; the numbers of those working in the other continents are negligible (1.4% in Africa and 2.0% in Oceania, respectively).

The **average salary** earned abroad is remarkably higher than the average salary earned by those working in Italy: five years after graduation, graduates with a second-cycle's degree who have a job abroad earn 2,258 euros a month after tax, +65.4% more than the 1,365 euros earned by graduates who work in Italy.

Five years after graduation, **45.9% of graduates with a second-cycle's degree said they moved abroad because of underemployment in Italy**, plus an extra **24.1% left our country because they received an attractive job offer from a foreign company**. Conversely, 11.4% said they studied abroad (Erasmus, working at their dissertation, postgraduate courses, etc.) and stayed on, or they went back home to work. A further 13.0% moved because of personal or family reasons, while 4.7% did it because the company they were working for in Italy asked them to.

In addition, graduates working abroad were asked whether they would consider the **option to go back home**: overall, **36.2% think such scenario is very unlikely**, at least for the next five years. Conversely, a mere 15.2% are definitely optimistic, as they believe they are quite likely to go back home. 30.0% believe such option is fairly unlikely, while 18.1% could not say.

GRADUATING PAYS OFF

The more educated one is, the lower the risk of getting trapped in unemployment. Graduates are generally able to respond to changes in the employment market, as they have better cultural and professional skills. Graduates have remarkable **professional advantages** compared with people who have just a secondary-school diploma throughout their professional career: in 2017, the employment rate among people aged 20 to 64 was 78.3% for graduates versus 65.5% of people with a secondary-school diploma.

In addition, in 2013, a graduate earned 41.2% more than someone with a secondary-school diploma. Of course, in Italy, the bonus granted on degrees versus secondary-school diplomas is not so high as it is in other European countries (+52.6% in EU-22, +66.3% in Germany, and +53.0% in the UK), but it is still sizeable and substantial, and it is similar to that paid out in France (+54.4%).

**AlmaLaurea is an interuniversity consortium founded in 1994, which currently brings together 75 universities (with another 2 universities about to decide whether to join in as well) and accounts for approximately 90% of Italian graduates. The Consortium is supported by the member universities, by the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR) and by the companies and organisations that use its services.*

Since 2015, AlmaLaurea has been a member of Sistan, the national statistic system (under Prime Minister's Ruling dated November 9th 2015).

Once a year, AlmaLaurea conducts a inquiry of graduates' profile and occupational condition, one, three and five years after graduation, and provides the member universities, the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR) and the Italian National Agency for the assessment of university and research systems (ANVUR) with reliable evidence on which they can build their decision-making processes and make plans. It monitors the students' academic careers and reviews the graduates' features and achievements, so as to make courses and universities comparable with each other; it collects and publishes the graduates' CVs online (currently nearly 2.7 million of them) to help balance supply and demand for higher-level skills; it review professional profiles and requirements sought by Italian and international public and private companies and provides headhunting and recruitment services.

AlmaLaurea brings an international outlook and a global perspective to its services, skills and research efforts by partnering with European countries – in keeping with the Lisbon Strategy – and non-European countries, with a special focus on Mediterranean countries and, more recently, on Asian ones as well.

The response rate for the 2017 academic experience questionnaire is 92.4%. Such response rate is as high as 92.9% for graduates with a first-cycle's degree, 92.8% for single-cycle's degrees, and 91.6% for second-cycle's degrees.

The response rate for the occupational condition inquiry is 77.1% one year after graduation, 69.3% for graduates with a master's degree three years after graduation, and 64.2% for graduates with a master's degree five years after graduation.