

Greece

Introduction

According to the analysis in St. Aubyn, the tertiary education system in Greece seems to perform well below the efficiency frontier. Low efficiency coefficients are estimated for both teaching and research. As regards changes over time (DEA analysis), the situation of Greece has somewhat deteriorated between the first period (1998 – 2001) and the second (2002 – 2005).

Indicators

Table - Summary of indicators in St. Aubyn (2009)

Scores of efficiency indicators						
	Average ISI citation		Recruiter review		Peer review	
	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank
GR	2,71	20	1,10	11	1,07	16
best performer	NL - 5,51	1	IE - 2	1	FI - 2	1
worst performer	RO - 1,63	26	CZ - 1,06	16	GR - 1,02	16

Indicators of main determinants of efficiency							
	Funding rules		Staff policy		Evaluation		
	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	Score	Rank	
GR	4,60	13	3,2	16	2,3		18
best performer	PT - 7,8	1	CZ, DK, NL, AT, SK, SE, UK - 10	1	HU - 8,3		1
worst performer	SK - 2,9	18	FR - 1,8	18	GR - 2,3		18

Descriptive indicators							
	Academic staff	Students	Graduates	Publications	Students	Graduates	Graduates
			per capita		per academic staff	per student	per student
GR	1,9	58,3	5,5	0,5	30,5	2,9	9,5
EU27	1,9	33,7	7,1	0,6	17,8	3,7	19,8

PISA		
	Score 2000*	Rank
GR	460	16
best performer	FI - 540	1
worst performer	RO - 410	18

The Greek tertiary education system has below average publications per academic staff and 17th out of 25 in the number of graduates per academic staff.

The quality of research in terms of citations is weak, but more recent statistics show An improvement. Greece is the country with fewer universities pointed out by peers as being excellent (data only for 16 countries). The recruiter review indicator, which reflects the employability of graduates of Greek TEIs, is below average.

Greece has a particularly large tertiary education system with extensive provision of higher education: Greece has the largest number of students per capita (the same as Finland). Students seem to take a long time to graduate (and many do not conclude graduation). The graduation output is half the EU average value. The ratio of graduates per student is the smallest in the EU. The number of students per academic staff is the second largest, which can be associated with a low quality of the students' experience.

Average PISA scores are weak.

Public expenditure on tertiary education institutions as a % of GDP in Greece is the 5th largest in the EU, after Finland, Denmark, Sweden and Poland. Research and teaching output and quality are below average, suggesting scope for increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of public expenditure in tertiary education.

The scores of the efficiency indicators are below average. These indicators suggest that the tertiary education system in Greece is among the least flexible. The Greek Constitution does not allow private Universities, or tuition fees. Faculty and administrators are civil servants.

The Education Ministry determines selection criteria, arranges nation-wide entrance exams and precise *numerus clausus* for each institution and each Department and attributes places to students. Students cannot transfer between programmes nor between TEIs.

There is a system of additional private classes to prepare students for the national entrance examination? According to Psacharopoulos (2004), each year around 0.4% of GDP is spent on such preparatory courses.

Policy developments

A reform in 2007 devolves a wider control of human and financial resources to Universities. An evaluation system for universities was introduced in 2005 and a law on evaluation was adopted in 2008. Universities are required to submit academic development programmes.