



Šiauliai Academy



In 2024, Šiauliai Academy of Vilnius University achieved ambitious goals and implemented significant projects that undoubtedly contribute to high-quality education and social welfare. A focus on the main priority of the Academy – to increase the number of Lithuanian and international students enrolled in priority fields of study – resulted in annual growth of as much as 30 per cent. Currently, 189 international students are studying in degree-awarding programmes. Students rate the quality of studies very highly (ranked 3rd out of 15 academic units at Vilnius University). The seven-year accreditation granted to the Master study programme ‘Information Technology Management’ in the field of informatics further strengthens the academic standing of Šiauliai Academy.

In addition to the development of studies, teacher retraining activities have been intensive, involving 590 persons. The Academy was also involved in three international Horizon projects and four national research projects. The steady increase in the number of high-level scientific publications, the organisation of 20 international and national conferences and other events, as well as the defence of five doctoral theses, testifies to our strong scientific foundation.

The activities of the Academy not only strengthen the field of education but also contribute to the well-being of society. The development of 37 teaching tools, which have already reached 48,000 participants in education, reinforces its leadership in the field. STEAM programmes have been successfully expanded, with 14,348 professionals participating, and the Botanical Garden’s programmes attracted 23,000 visitors over the year (with 7,400 followers on social media). As part of lifelong learning activities aiming to strengthen the national education system, various teacher training events were organised for 730 teachers, following the award of two national project grants.

An important event was the inauguration in March of the renovated Teacher Training Centre, which provides modern facilities for both study and teaching activities and further reinforces the Academy’s innovative approach to education. The culture of patronage is also being developed – EUR 17,000 of business support for student scholarships and scientific events testify to strong ties with business partners and favourable conditions for academic activities.

Vilnius University Šiauliai Academy, established on 4 January 2021 as a result of the reorganisation of Šiauliai University and its merger with Vilnius University, is an important academic unit carrying out research and study activities across the Bachelor’s, Master’s, and Doctoral cycles. The Academy trains professionals in demand in the region, enhances teachers’ qualifications, and conducts research in five priority research fields: education, natural sciences, technological sciences, economics, management, and the humanities. Currently, 1,448 students and 500 unclassified students are enrolled at the Academy, whose intensive research and applied activities help build a strong academic foundation and strengthen its expertise both nationally and internationally.

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

Areas of research interest

Natural sciences and advanced technologies (environmental research, research on analytical number theory problems, modelling, and data science)

Research on language, literature, culture, and foreign languages (English)

Academy's researchers implement scientific and applied projects, actively engage in expert activities

Strengthening of inclusive society through socio-educational means (research on innovations in inclusive education and meeting special educational needs, research on psychosocial well-being and social education)

Socio-economic phenomena in the process of creation of the welfare state: research on regional resilience (expression of good governance in local self-governance, quantitative modelling of macroeconomic processes, educational management and leadership), education and training/learning processes (research on global and sustainable education and didactics, art education studies and research, teacher training and teaching/learning processes, childhood phenomena studies and research)

Study portfolio in 2024

	Bachelor studies	Master studies	Professional (pedagogy) studies
Total number of programmes implemented	12	13	1
Joint programmes	1	1	-
Interdisciplinary programmes	-	1	-
Programmes implemented in a foreign language	2	2	-
Doctoral studies			
Number of science fields	4 (Philology, Management, Education, Economics)		

The figures for the study programmes are based on the data of 1 October.

Number of employees, students, and graduates in 2024

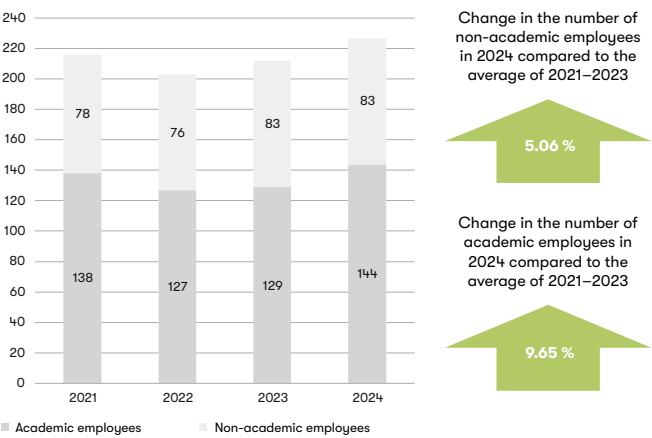


Number of foreign nationals employed in 2023–2024

	Academic employees	Non-academic employees	Total
2024	7	3	10
2023	4	1	5

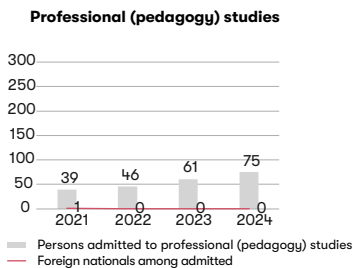
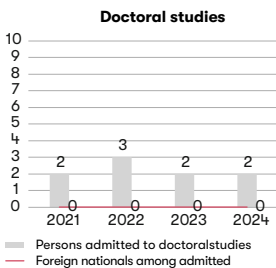
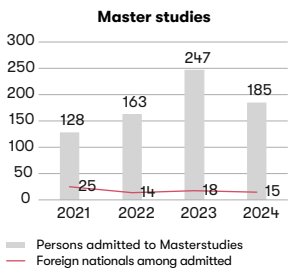
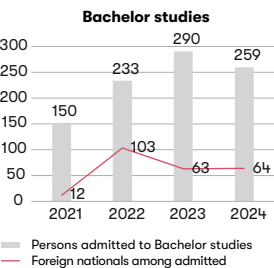
Based on the data of 31 December.

Changes in the number of employees, 2021–2024



Based on the data of 31 December.

Admissions to studies, 2021–2024



Change in the number of admitted persons by study cycle in 2024 compared to the average of 2021–2023

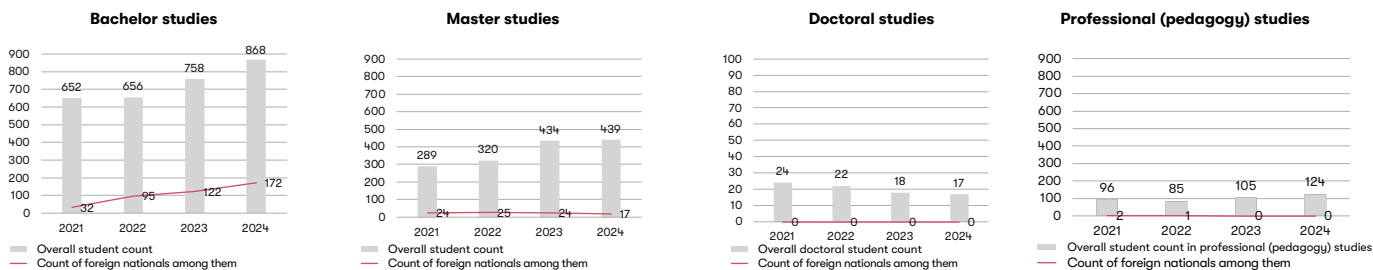


The first cycle and the second cycle indicators were calculated on the basis of the data of 1 October, and the third cycle indicators were calculated on the basis of the data of 31 December.

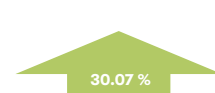
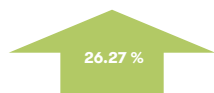
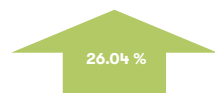


Based on the data of 1 October.

Number of students, 2021–2024



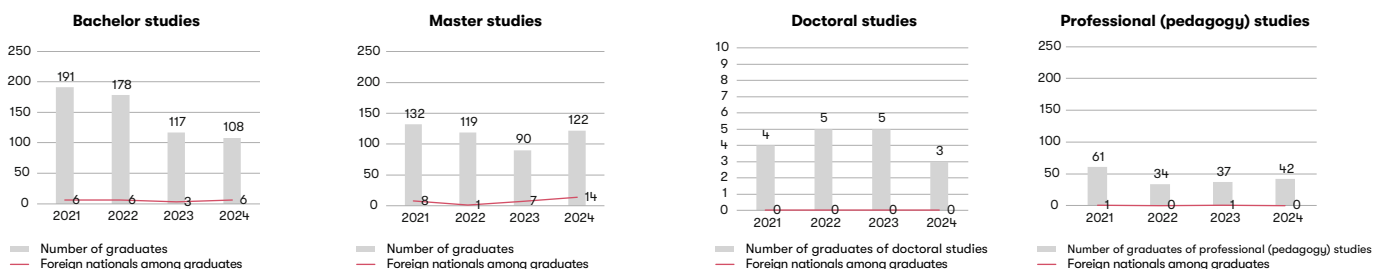
Change in the number of students by study cycle in 2024 compared to the average of 2021–2023



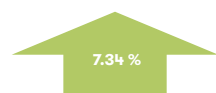
The first cycle and the second cycle indicators were calculated on the basis of the data of 1 October, and the third cycle indicators were calculated on the basis of the data of 31 December.

Based on the data of 1 October.

Number of graduates, 2021–2024



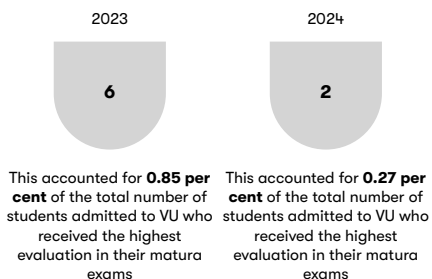
Change in the number of graduates by cycle in 2024 compared to the average of 2021–2023



The first cycle and the second cycle indicators were calculated on the basis of the data of 1 September, and the third cycle indicators were calculated on the basis of the data of 31 December.

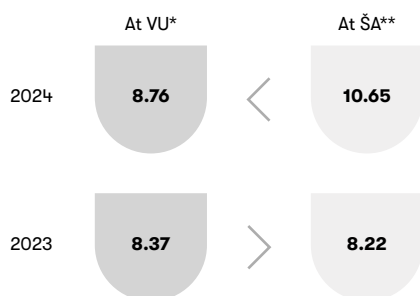
Based on the data of 1 September.

Number of admitted students who received the highest evaluation in their matura exams in 2023–2024



Based on the data of 1 October.

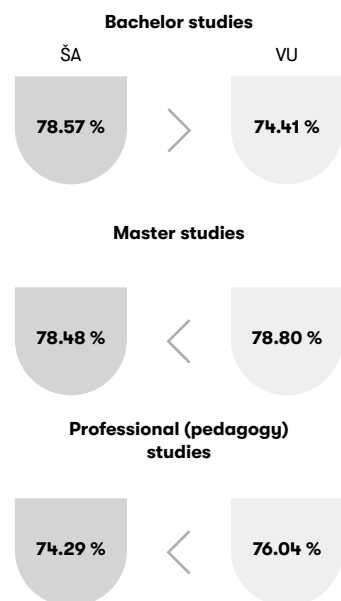
Student–faculty ratio, 2023–2024



* Calculated by dividing the total number of VU students in the first cycle, second cycle, integrated, and professional (pedagogy) studies on 1 October by the total number of VU teaching staff on 31 December.

** Calculated by dividing the total number of Academy students in the first cycle, second cycle, and integrated studies on 1 October by the number of Academy teaching staff on 31 December.

Graduate career success in 2024



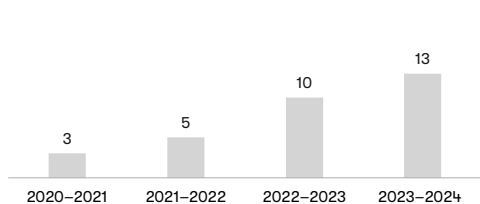
Target outcome → the level of highly qualified graduates and/or graduates continuing their studies in a higher cycle growing at least 1 per cent annually, but no lower than 60 per cent Based on the data of 1 October.

Mobility of students, doctoral students and employees, 2020–2024

Bachelor studies

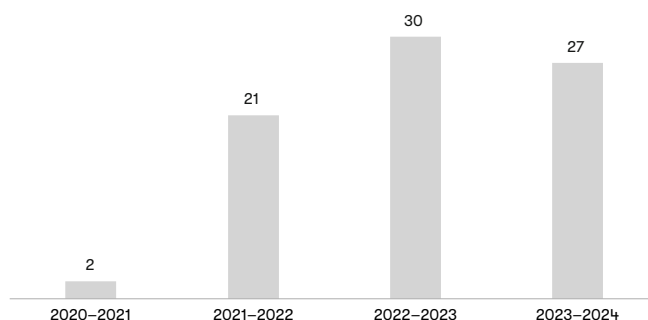
Partial study visits under bilateral university agreements, Erasmus+, and ISEP exchange programmes

International internship visits under the Erasmus+ programme in 2024



Academic and non-academic employees

Visits under the Erasmus+ programme for teaching and learning purposes*



*The statistics on employee mobility do not include secondments and work placements carried out under mobility forms and programmes other than Erasmus+.

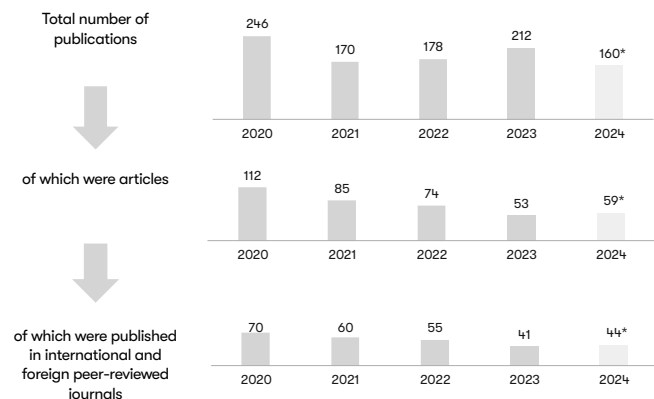
Doctoral studies

Doctoral study visits to higher education institutions and companies with a duration of more than five days



Based on the data of 31 December.

Number of publications, 2020–2024



Change in 2023 compared to the average of 2020–2022

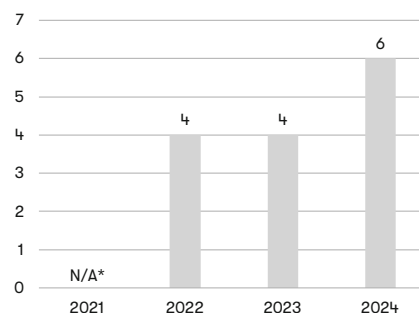
7.07 %

-41.32 %

-33.5 %

* The publication figures for 2024 are based on the data of 10 February 2024 and are not exhaustive, as the registration of publications was still ongoing at that time. The publication figures for 2024 are not included in the calculations.

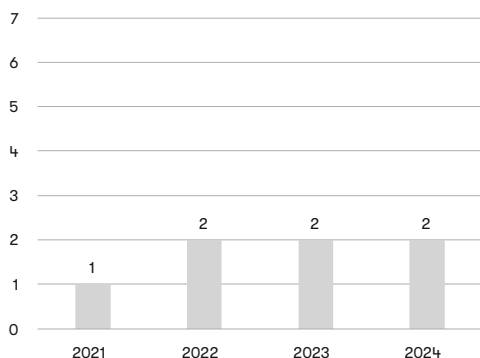
Successfully defended dissertations, 2021–2024



The total number of successfully defended dissertations during the period of 2021–2024 is 14

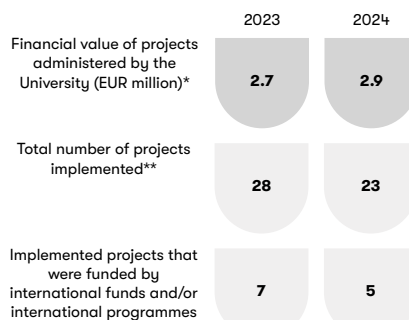
Based on the data of 31 December.

Number of postdoctoral trainees at the University, 2021–2024



Based on the data of 31 December.

Projects, 2023–2024



* The value of projects implemented in a given year is presented.

** The total number of projects include projects whose activities were in the implementation phase during the given year. In the case of internal partnership at VU, i.e. when several faculties participated in one project, the project was accounted only once and assigned only to the unit that owned the project.

Key projects in 2024

AI-Augmented Ecosystem for Earth Observation Data Accessibility with Extended Reality User Interfaces for Service and Data Exploitation (EO4EU)

The value of the project administered by the University is EUR 328,750. The project is funded by the European Union under the Horizon Europe programme (Project No. 101060784). Project manager – Prof. Dr Irena Šaulienė.

SYstem for reaL-time obserVation for Aeroallergen (SYLVA)

The value of the project administered by the University is EUR 208,150. The project is funded by the European Union under the Horizon Europe programme (Project No. 101086109). Project manager – Prof. Dr Irena Šaulienė. The project is implemented by Šiauliai Academy and the Faculty of Chemistry and Geosciences.

Regionų ekonomikos atsparumo prognozavimas taikant mašininio mokymosi algoritmus (Forecasting the Resilience of Regional Economies Using Machine Learning Algorithms)

The value of the project amounts to EUR 199,980.82. The project is funded by the Research Council of Lithuania under the research group instrument (Project No. S-MIP-24-35). Project manager – Assoc. Prof. Dr Kristina Matuzevičiūtė-Balčiūnienė.

Darbo vietų nekuriantis ekonomikos augimas: demografinių, sektorinių ir institucinių aspektų sąveika (Jobless Growth: Interaction Between Demographic, Sectoral, and Institutional Aspects)

The value of the project amounts to EUR 149,952. The project is funded by the Research Council of Lithuania under the research group instrument (Project No. S-MIP-22-18). Project manager – Prof. Dr Mindaugas Butkus.

Miesto žaliųjų erdvių ekosistemos paslaugų vertės bendrakūra gyvojoje laboratorijoje (Co-Creation of the Urban Green Space Ecosystem Services' Value in a Living Laboratory)

The value of the project amounts to EUR 199,700.37. The project is funded by the Research Council of Lithuania under the research group instrument (Project No. S-MIP-24-18). Project manager – Assoc. Prof. Dr Milda Damkuvienė.