



15 September - the first school day in Bulgaria



September 15th is the day when the school year traditionally starts in Bulgarian schools!

Until 1921, students started their classes on September 1st, but the date was shifted by two weeks by Alexander Stamboliiski's agricultural government so that children could help harvest the crops.

Nowadays the school year starts in early September in a large number of EU Member States - Belgium, Estonia, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovenia, Hungary, France and the Czech Republic, as well as other European countries such as Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Montenegro and the Russian Federation.

The middle of September usually marks the beginning of the school sessions in 11 EU Member States most of which are in southern Europe - Bulgaria, Greece, Cyprus, Spain, Italy, Portugal, Croatia, Romania, Slovakia, Austria and Luxembourg.¹

Interestingly, in 10 European countries, the first school bell rings in August - Germany, Denmark, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Finland, the Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland.

In the UK, the school year begins on different dates in different regions of the country, ranging from the end of August to the first week of September.

In the United States of America and Canada, there is no exact day when the school year starts. The first school day for most of the schools is on Tuesday after Labor Day, which is celebrated on the first Monday of September.

In Japan, the first school day is traditionally at the beginning of April, when the Japanese Sakura cherries are blooming, as it is believed that spring symbolizes the beginning of a new life and there is no better time to start schooling.

In the Southern Hemisphere, the school year begins in late February and early March - Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Chile and other countries.

We wish a successful new academic year to all students and teachers in Bulgaria and abroad!

¹ Source: Eurydice.



Average annual population¹

3 715 600



7 127 800

Teachers per 10 000 population

25.70



84.50

Students as a percentage of population

9.6%

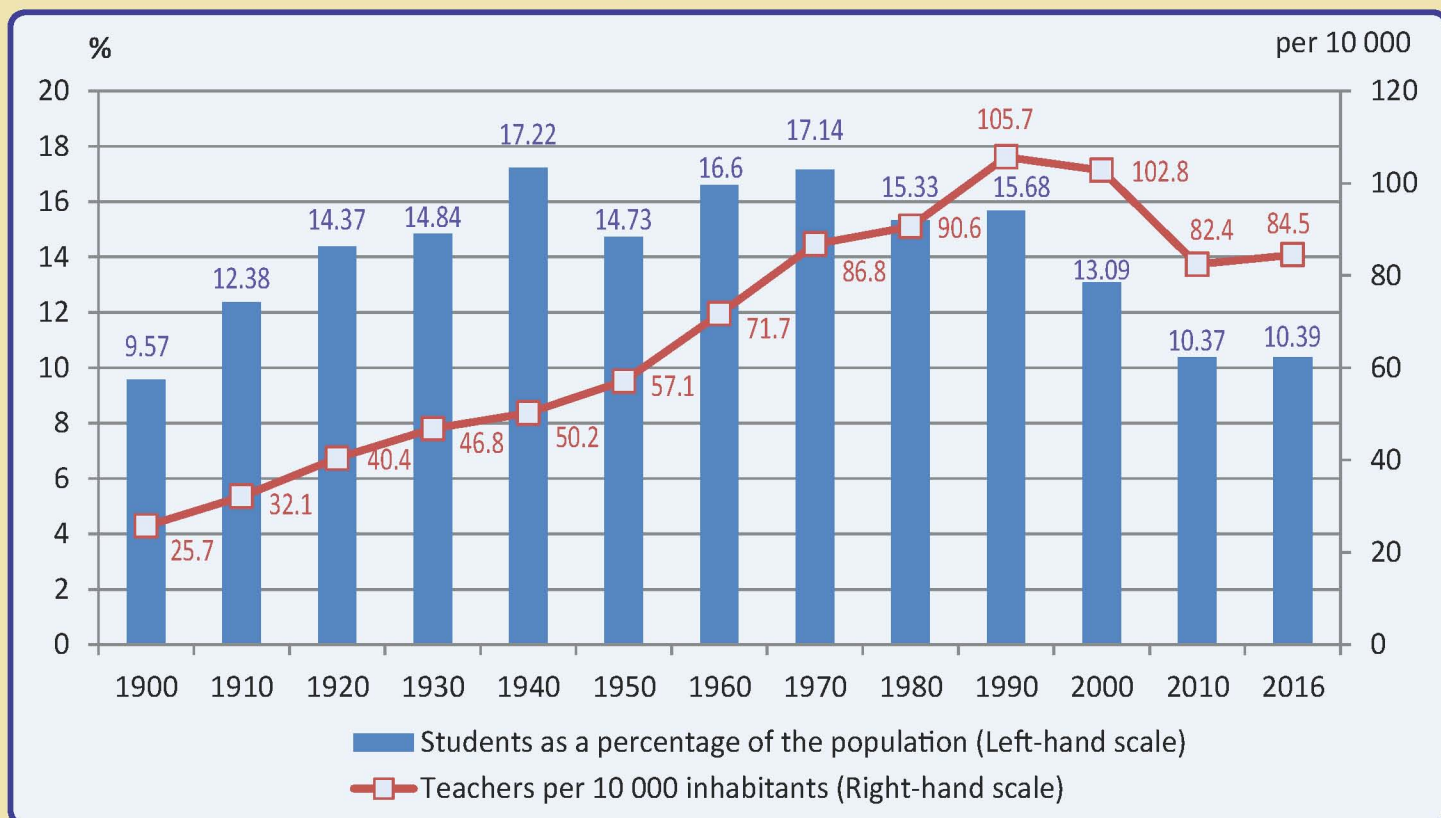


10.4%

¹ The average annual number of population is average arithmetical value of the population at the end of previous and the end of reference year.



Students as a percentage of the population and teachers per 10 000 inhabitants in the period 1900 - 2016

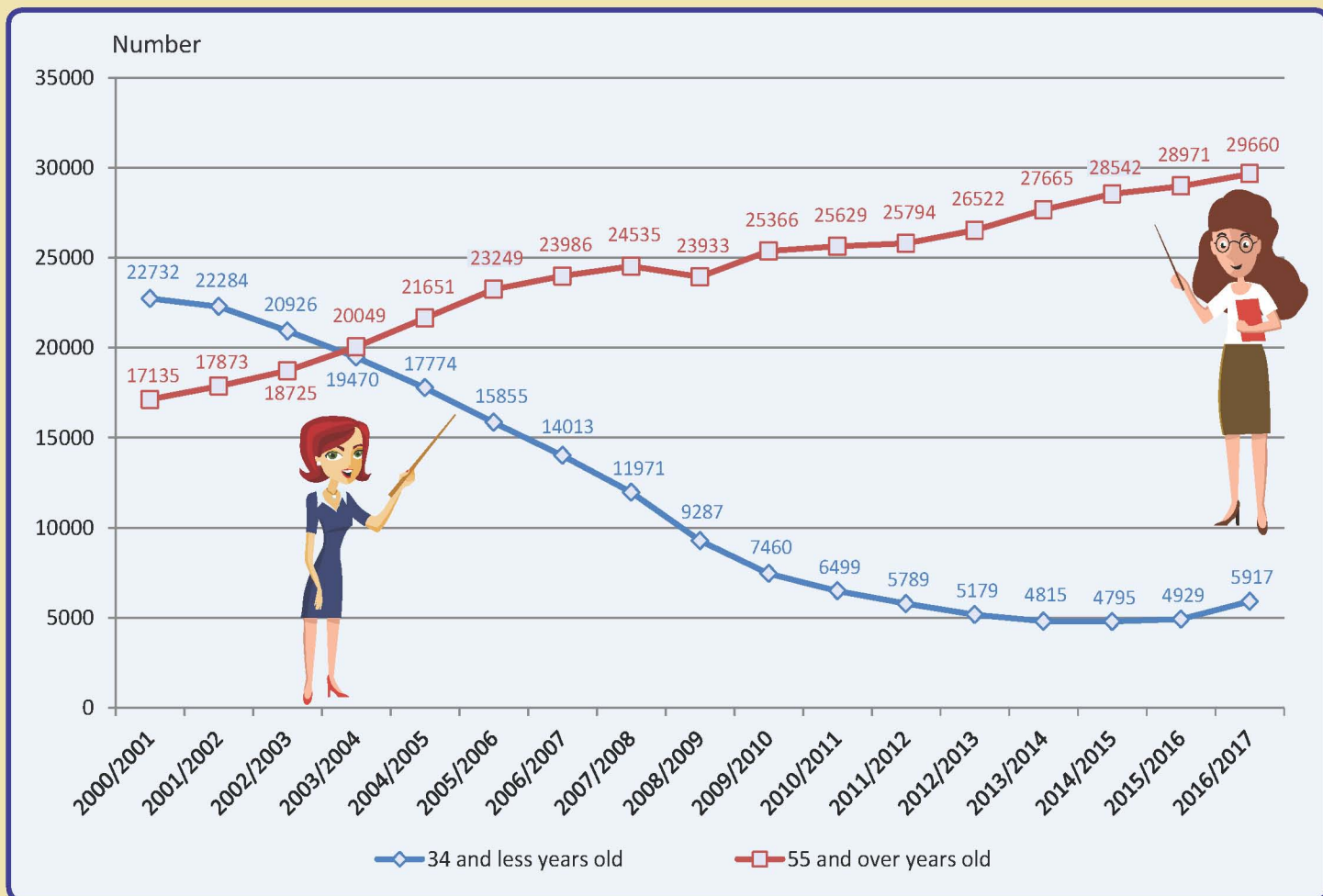


Students and teachers in schools

School year	Students (I - XII grade)	Teachers (I - XII grade)	Students per 1 teacher
1895/96	386076	9880	39.1
1900/01	355763	9565	37.2
1910/11	532993	13804	38.6
1920/21	693284	19488	35.6
1930/31	850628	26825	31.7
1940/41	1092502	31825	34.3
1950/51	1067994	41400	25.8
1960/61	1306327	56374	23.2
1970/71	1454710	73722	19.7
1980/81	1358494	80290	16.9
1990/91	1366927	92182	14.8
2000/01	1069835	84026	12.7
2010/11	781665	62067	12.6
2016/17	740362	60203	12.3



Teachers in schools by age



Teachers in schools by sex

