

Education in Iceland

Erasmus+ project - ELECOTEAM - Iceland
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Iceland

Total population 375.000

2010 - 2022 + 18,5%

Reykjavik area 240.000

2010 - 2022 + 20%

Within 1 h from Reykjavik
additional 50 - 60.000

North East area 31.000

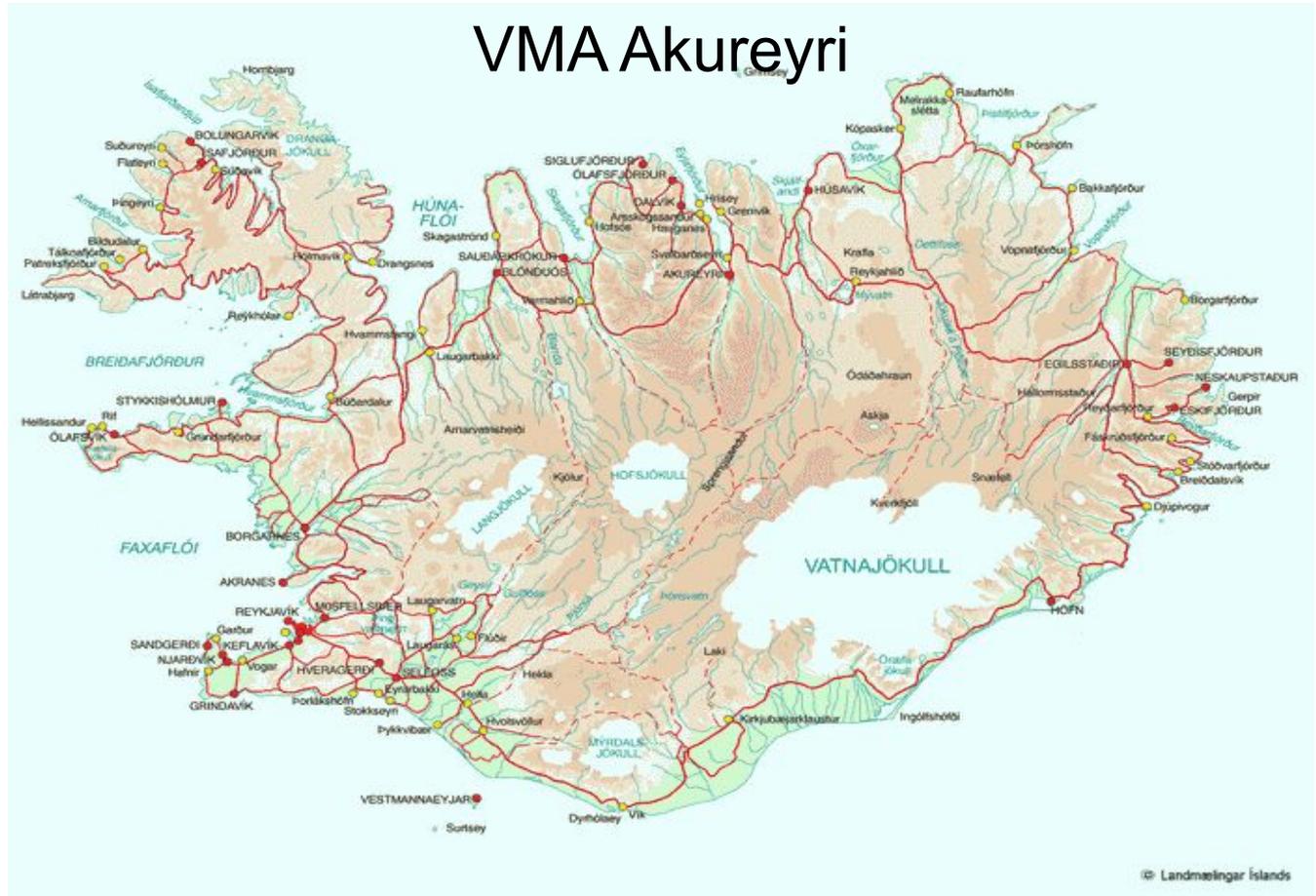
2010 - 2022 + 8%

East area 11.000

2010 - 2022 + 6,5%

Highland no one lives there.

VMA Akureyri



North East Iceland region - Jan 2022.

Farms and villages
4,500

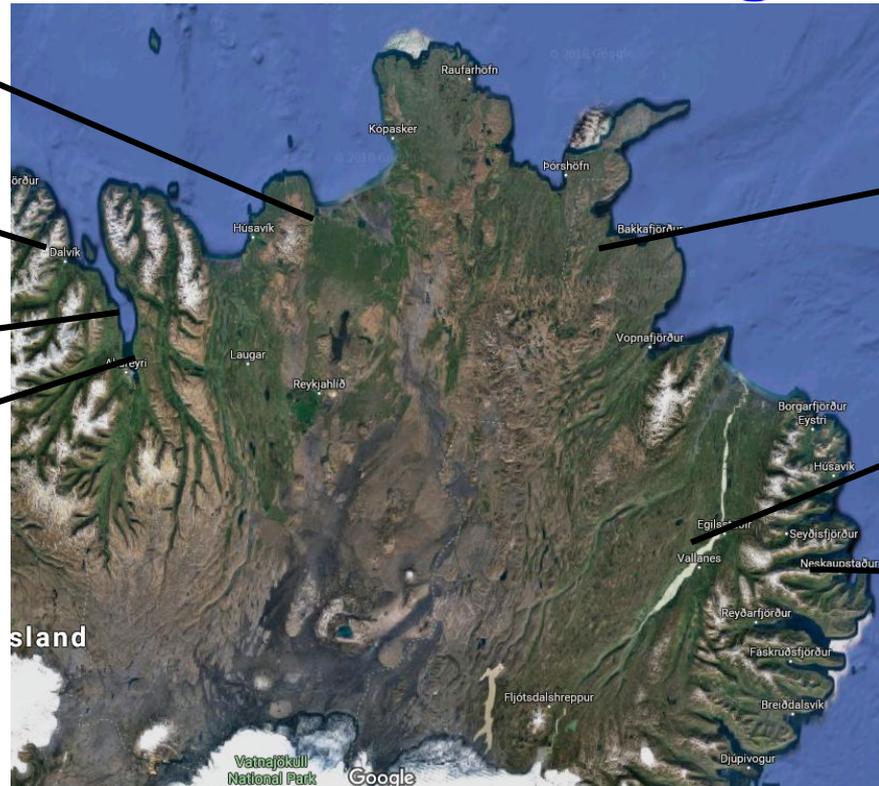
Fishing villages
4,000

Rural
2,500

Akureyri
20,000

Total NE&E
42,000

Tot Iceland
375,000



NE rural area
1,200

East inland
3,500

Fishing villages
6,000

Overview of education in Iceland - [Link](#)

age 1 - 5 Preschool - kindergarden run by Municipalities or private.

age 6 - 16 Elementary - middle school run by Municipalities or private.

age 16 - 19/20/21 Secondary school run by government or private. Academic Gymnasium or Comprehensive VET schools. VET = vocational educ and training.

age 19 - - - University - run by government or private.

Lifelong learning centers.

Universities - paid by participants, many get grants from labor union educ funds.

Workers use learning centers funded mostly by labor unions and employers.

Maternity - paternity leave

Each parent has a right to 6 months paid leave to attend to the baby, each parent can move 6 weeks to the other parent. Total 12 months.

80% of full salary of parent - not more than 600 000 ISK approx 4000 EUR per month.

After the first 12 months parents need to take care of baby along with job or find private day care.

Municipalities run kindergardens, taking in children at 18 - 24 months old.

Kindergardens age 1 - 5

Icelandic society needs people at work.
Municipalities mostly fund kindergardens.
Often close to primary schools
Parents do not have to use kindergardens.

Parents pay approx 10 - 12% of the cost of municip. kindergardens through fees.

Private run kindergardens have contracts with municipalities and get money per child. Can take additional payments from parents.



Neighborhood school age 6 - 16

Run by municipalities / Akureyri town.

Free, parents pay for meals, trips, ??

Mostly neighborhood schools for 10 years. Some are only for age 13 - 16.

Mostly the same program for everyone. Inclusion (not many in special schools).

Difficult to meet different skills, academic subjects weigh more.



Age 16 and above. Two types. Academic schools.

Students cover the cost of books and in VET some of the materials cost.
Up to 700 - 1000 EUR per year

Gymnasium - academic, offer only academic programmes towards matriculation / graduation towards university. To get into university you need this matriculation certificate. 3 - 4 years, graduation 19 or 20 years old.

Some of the gymnasium schools are prestige, some of them select only the students with high marks from 10th grade. Students get good preparation for university, specialization in natural science, social science, business, health and sport or other. High emphasis on student extracurricular activities.

Like in many other European Countries students are afraid to or have not had the information that they can develop many different talents, not only academic ones.

University studies. General.

In Iceland - seven universities. Four general, three specialized.

University of Iceland, state run. Large multi disciplinary research university, many programmes. Registration fee 700 EUR per year.

Admission different between departments, competitive entrance exams (medicine), competitive first semester (nursing and other), requirements for finished certain courses in math and more (engineering and natural science). <https://www.hi.is/>

Many departments only require matriculation certificate for university from secondary school.

University of Reykjavik, private, strong in technology, business and other programmes. Fee approx 4.000 - 6.000 EUR (12.000 MBA) per year. <https://www.ru.is/>

[University of Akureyri](#) state run. Teacher programmes, nursing, seafood business and more.

University at Bifröst, private. Business and more, strong in distance programmes.

University studies, specialized

Iceland University of the Arts. Entrance auditions / portfolios.

Design and Architecture, Performing arts (actor and dancer), Fine art (painting etc), Music different programmes.

Agriculture University of Iceland. Offers programmes both at the secondary and university level. Agriculture is not in general VET schools in Iceland, based on older funding regulations. VMA does not have any agriculture programmes.

University at Hólar. Focus on Tourism, Fish farming and Horses / Equine studies.

Age 16 and above. Two types. Comprehensive - VET schools.

The other type of secondary school is comprehensive or partly or mostly VET school.

VMA is a good example. Offering many different programmes, academic and vocational lines of study. 2 - 5 years in school. <https://www.vma.is/>

VMA - Academic lines, very little or no practical training:
Social science, Natural science, Business, Sport and health.

VMA - Art programmes. Strong art, practical and academic, classical drawing / painting and textiles. Not only preparation for artist studies, a big focus on visual literacy and developing and channeling creativity.

VMA - Matriculation to university with any other programme. It is possible to add a few courses to any other programme, VET or other, and get a certificate to be eligible for university.

VMA has a strong Special Education programme for students in need of special assistance.

VMA - VET tech programmes

Electricity - electronics four semesters basic studies, theory and practice, general subjects. Three semesters specialization in electrical studies or electronics. Practical period ½ - 1 year then trade exam.

Carpentry house building and other. 4 semesters in school, 1,5 years apprenticeship 5th semester in school and then trade exam.

Metalwork - mechanics. Two semesters basic studies. Then different system for metalwork, automechanics and ship mechanics and engineering. 2,5 - 5 years in school. Certification after apprenticeship and trade exam.

VMA - VET programmes

Food - catering. Two semesters basic studies. additional two to three semesters in school, Apprenticeship 2 years, trade exam.

Hairdressing. Six semesters in school, part of practical training at workplace integrated into school semesters. (A model for reform in VET in Iceland).
Apprenticeship and trade exam.

Practical nursing / assistant nursing. Six semesters in school, some practical training integrated into school program. One year apprenticeship. Certification.

Distance education in general subjects and for Masters of Trade. Becoming a Master of Electricity you need to finish some business courses.

Some specialization in VET schools.

VMA needs to have everything we can possibly offer.

In the Reykjavik area we have a VET school mostly for food related programmes.

Another is mostly for health related programmes.

Agriculture in special schools.

Tækniskólinn - Reykjavik Technical college is the largest and very strong in technology. Major departments, Construction, Electrical, Engines - metalwork, Captains for ships, Handicraft and design (hairdressing, clothes..), Information techn and media and more.

Secondary schools in NE region.

VMA, Akureyri.

MA Akureyri, gymnasium - academic prestige.

MTR Ólafsfjörður, mostly academic towards metric to university, frontline in information techn. 150 students.

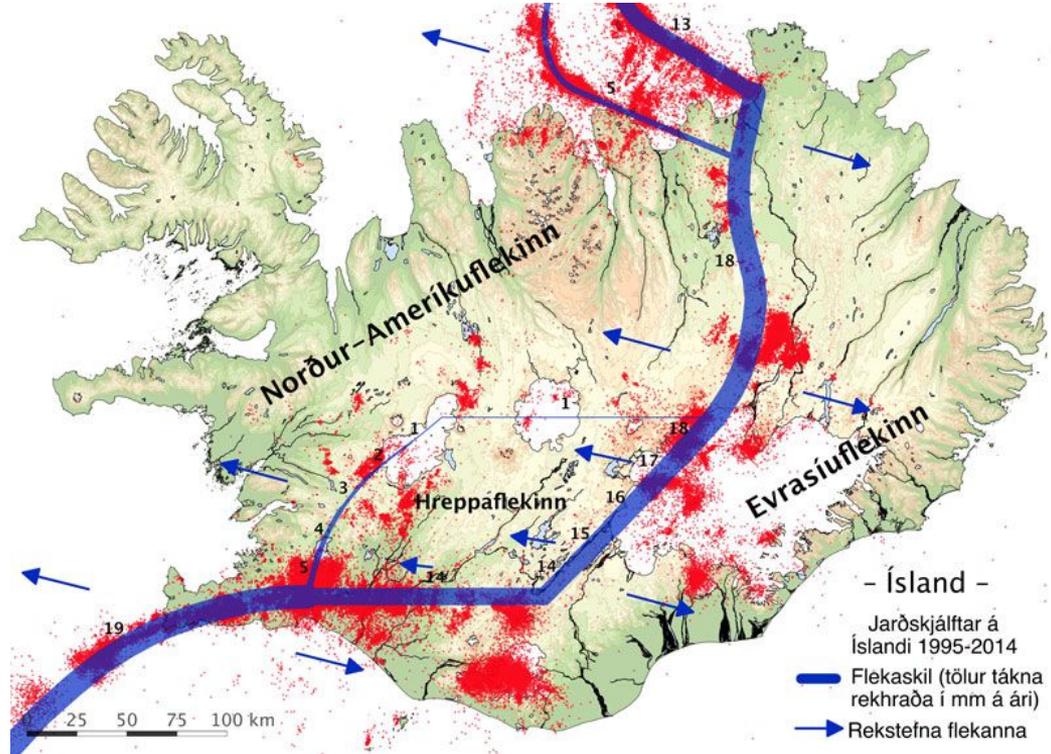
FL, Laugar in a rural area. 100 students only academic programmes, very structured self study workshops.

FSH Húsavík. 150 students mostly academic programmes.

Some smaller villages have study centers so people can come and study with assistance. Both from secondary school and university, take exams etc.

Will we have a Volcanic Eruption?

- 2021 Fagradalsfjall Reykjanes, lava only.
- 2014 - 2015 Holuhraun, lava only, gas.
- 2011 Grímsvötn under glacier a lot of ash, disrupting flights.
- 2010 Eyjafjallajökull first lava then another place under glacier, a lot of ash, major disruptions to flights.
- 2004 Grímsvötn under glacier. Small, ash.
- 2000 Hekla South Iceland
- 1998 Grímsvötn
- 1996 Gjálp / Grímsvötn Gigantic flood.
- 1991 Hekla 1983 Grímsvötn.
- 1975 - 1984 Krafla. Nine small lava fields formed North Iceland.
- 1973 Vestmannaeyjar. 1970 Hekla
- 1963 - 1967 Surtsey, new island formed.



Eruption at Reykjavik?

Black areas are lava fields younger than Icelandic settlement, 1100 years.

Between years 900 - 1240 was a very active time in Reykjanes peninsula.

Before that 1000 years earlier.

Is a new active time beginning? Next 200 years? Earthquakes.

