



KIT – 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

KIT – THE UNIVERSITY IN THE HELMHOLTZ ASSOCIATION

Our Mission

We create and communicate knowledge for the benefit of society and the environment.

From basic research to practical applications, we excel in a broad range of disciplines including natural sciences, engineering, economics, and the humanities and social sciences.

By focusing our scientific activities on the key issues of our time, such as climate change, the energy transition, sustainable use of natural resources, artificial intelligence, and technological sovereignty, we make significant contributions to addressing the global challenges confronting humanity.

As a major scientific institution, we are internationally competitive and hold a leading position in Europe.

We prepare our students for responsible positions in civil society, industry, and academia with research-oriented study programs.

Our innovation efforts build bridges between important scientific findings and their applications, benefiting society, ensuring economic prosperity, and preserving our natural basis of life.

Our interactions and our management culture are characterized by mutual respect, cooperation, trust, and subsidiarity. An inspiring work environment and cultural diversity define and enrich life and work at KIT.

Employees in 2025

Total	10,131
Scientists	5,930
of which professors	424
of which international employees	1,773
Administration and infrastructure	4,201
of which trainees	319

Students

Winter semester 2025/2026	23,083
of which international students	5,878

2025 budget

Total	EUR 1,216,2 million
Federal funds	EUR 393,1 million
State funds	EUR 386,0 million
Third-party funds	EUR 437,1 million

What makes the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology what it is? The answer is simple: community! What I especially appreciate about KIT is our large and diverse community – on campus, in our region, and around the world. That community includes not only the students and the employees involved in teaching, research, and administration here at KIT but also our alumni and former staff members who gladly return to KIT again and again. With them and our partners and supporters in academia, industry, government, the arts, and civil society, our community strives to be more than the sum of its parts. Together we are KIT.



We experienced that in a special way last year as 2025 was all about our 200th anniversary. In countless events over all twelve months, we brought the impressive history of KIT and its predecessor institutions to life while always looking to the future as well. We came together, we talked and listened, we looked back and looked forward, we laughed and celebrated, and we opened our doors wide to all who wanted to keep on learning. We’re shaping tomorrow while staying rooted in society.

Establishing an institution committed first and foremost to serving society was already a key idea in 1825. Responsibility to humanity is our guiding principle, as expressed in our vision, “Science for Impact.” The urgent problems of our time call for bold solutions – solutions that we at KIT work toward every day, from original ideas to practical applications, to ensure a livable future.

Another thing that makes KIT what it is: Science is our strength, and using that strength to make a difference is our chosen goal. As The University in the Helmholtz Association, KIT is uniquely positioned to make that happen. Our tight integration of education and research is also reflected in the structure of KIT’s Executive Board with its new Academic Affairs department headed by Vice President Professor Oliver Kraft. A key role in the development of our mission statement for research-oriented teaching was played by Professor Alexander Wanner, Vice President for Higher Education and Academic Affairs, who retired in May 2025. Another major role in KIT’s development was played by Professor Michael Kaschke, who stepped down from his position as Chairperson of the Supervisory Board at the end of 2025. Both men dedicated a great deal of time and energy to KIT, and I extend my heartfelt thanks to them. As esteemed members of our KIT community, they remain close to us and are always welcome here.

Now, dear readers, let us look back together at 2025, KIT’s anniversary year. On the following pages, we present a few special highlights from the many events, great and small, of the past year.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jan S. Hesthaven". The signature is stylized, with the first letters of the first and last names being prominent.

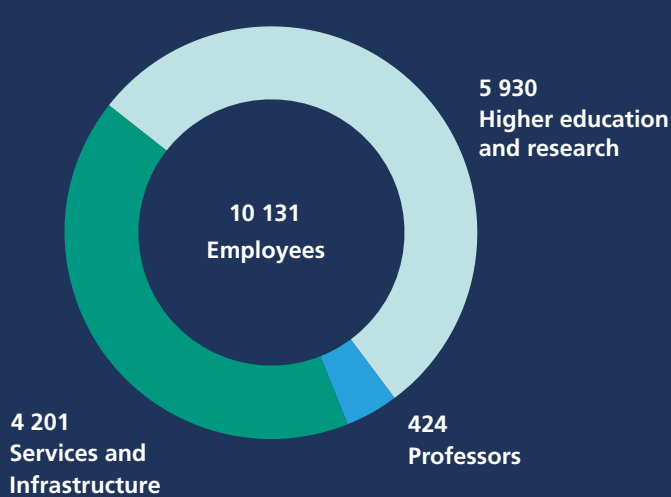
Professor Dr. Jan S. Hesthaven, President of KIT

FACTS AND FIGURES

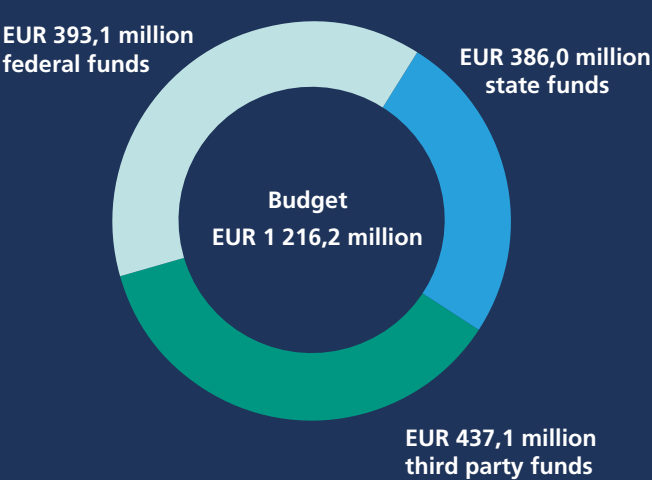
Number of Students



Employees 2025

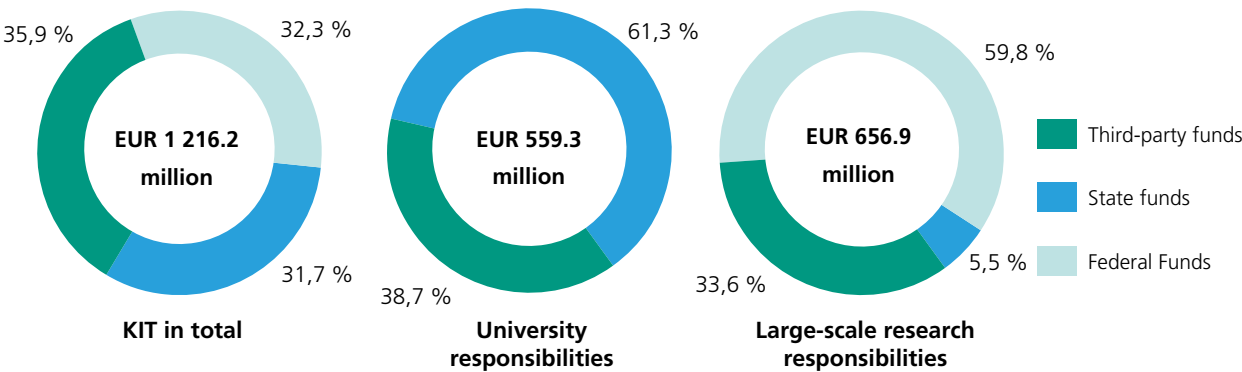


Total budget 2025



FUNDING

Federal, State and Third-party Funds Acquired



Sources of Funding

KIT in Total

in million euros	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Income in total	1 071.3	1 101.1	1 147.6	1 225.2	1 216.2
Third-party funds	432.6	457.0	487.0	495.6	437.1
State funds	304.9	312.4	315.9	364.6	386.0
Federal funds	333.7	331.7	344.7	365.0	393.1

University Responsibilities

in million euros	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Income in total	510.1	531.4	539.4	576.4	559.3
Third-party funds	237.0	250.4	255.7	247.7	216.6
State funds	273.1	281.0	283.7	328.7	342.7
Federal funds*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

* Federal funds for university responsibilities are included in the third-party funds, as they are granted for special projects rather than for basic funding.

Large-scale Research Responsibilities

Appointments* to Apl. Professor and Honorary Professor

Name	Type	KIT department	Division
Prof. Dr. Gerd Gutekunst	Honorarprofessor	WIWI	Division II
Prof. Dr. Frank Hase	apl. Professor	BGU	Division IV
Prof. Dr. Andreas Haupt	apl. Professor	GEISTSOZ	Division II
Prof. Dr. Martin Husemann	Honorarprofessor	CHEMBIO	Division I
Prof. Dr. Martin Kagerbauer	apl. Professor	BGU	Division IV
Prof. Dr. Volker Waßmuth	Honorarprofessor	BGU	Division IV

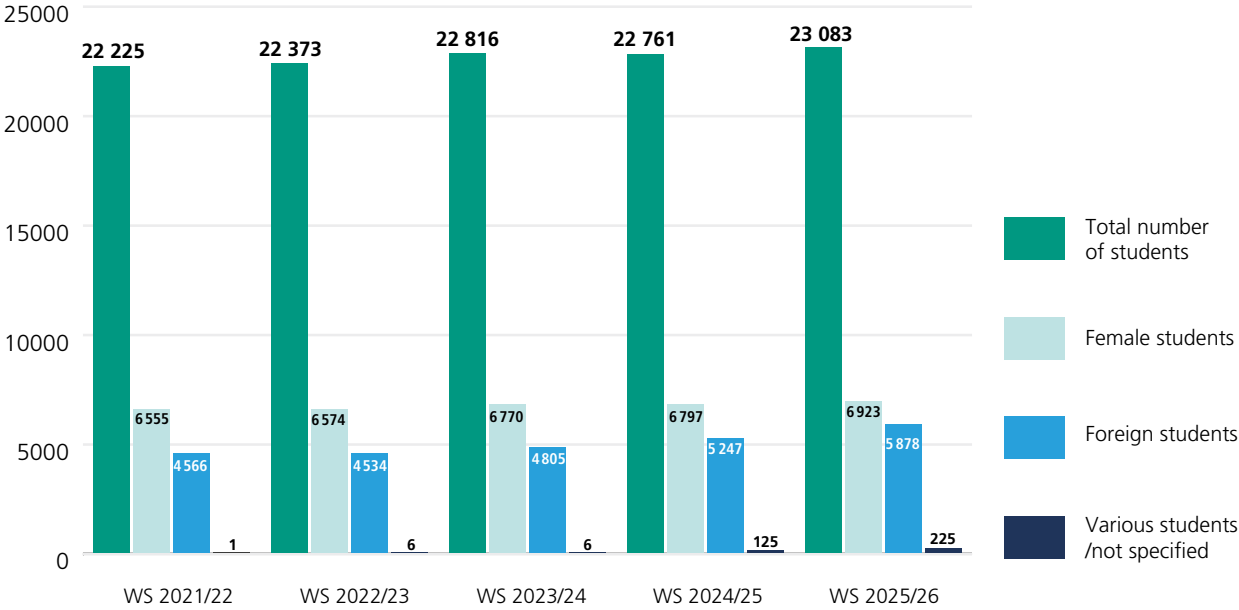
* Appointment or entry into service

Emeriti/Retirements

Name	Institute		Division
Prof. Dr. Guido Drexlin	ETP	Gem. Einrichtung	Division V
Prof. Dr. Gerd Gidion	ISD	Berufspäd. m. Schwer. Technikdidaktik	Division II
Prof. h.c. Dr. Joachim Knebel	BL3	Maschinenbau und Elektrotechnik	Division III
Prof. Dr. Tilman Lamparter	JKIP	Allgemeine Botanik	Division II
Prof. Dr. Ulrich Maas	ITT	Technische Thermodynamik	Division III
Prof. Dr. Meinrad Morger	EKUT	Gebäudelehre	Division IV
Prof. Dr. Ulrich Nienhaus	APH	Gemeinsame Institutseinrichtung	Division V
Prof. Dr. Hartmut Prautzsch	IVD	Algorithmen der Rechnergraphik	Division II
Prof. Dr. Rosemarie Wagner	IEB	Tragkonstruktionen	Division IV
Prof. Dr. Alexander Wanner	P3	Lehre u. Akademische Angelegenh.	Präsidium
Prof. Dr. Ludwig Wappner	IEB	Baukonstruktion und Entwerfen	Division IV
Prof. Dr. Christof Wöll	IFG	Institut für Funktionelle Grenzflächen	Division I

STUDENTS

Students in Total

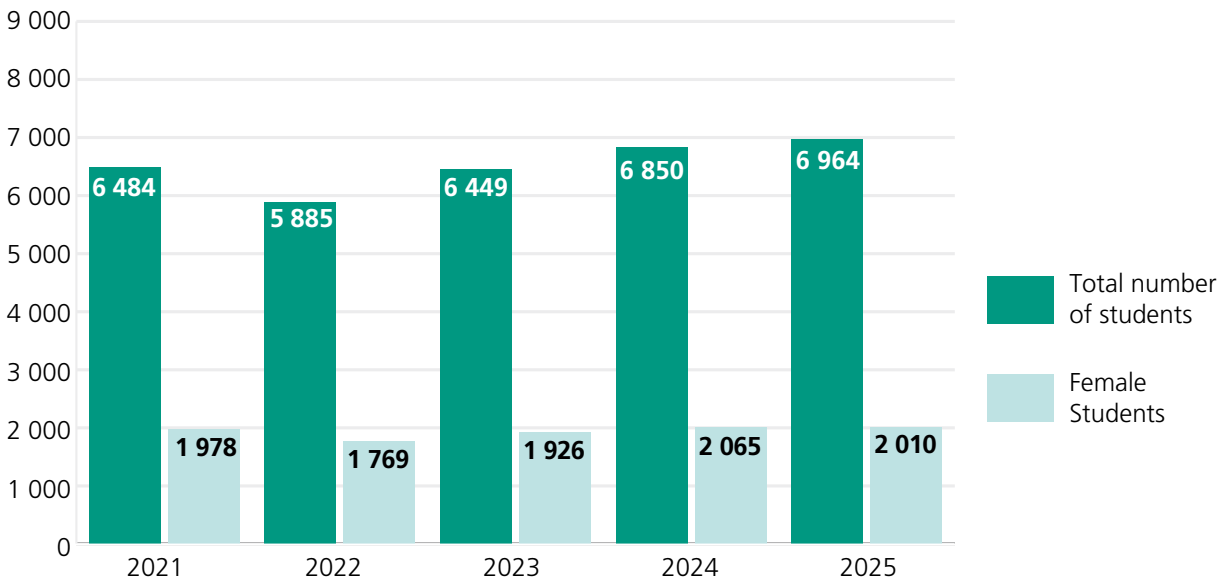


Students and Desired Degrees

Desired degree	WS 2021/22	WS 2022/23	WS 2023/24	WS 2024/25	WS 2025/26
Bachelor	12 454	12 329	12 434	12 147	12 173
Master	8 089	7 928	8 042	8 132	8 523
Teacher (secondary and vocational schools)	960	959	973	899	846
Doctorate	325	720	950	1 126	1 145
Studienkolleg	114	168	173	188	148
No degree*	279	269	244	269	248
Total	22 225	22 373			

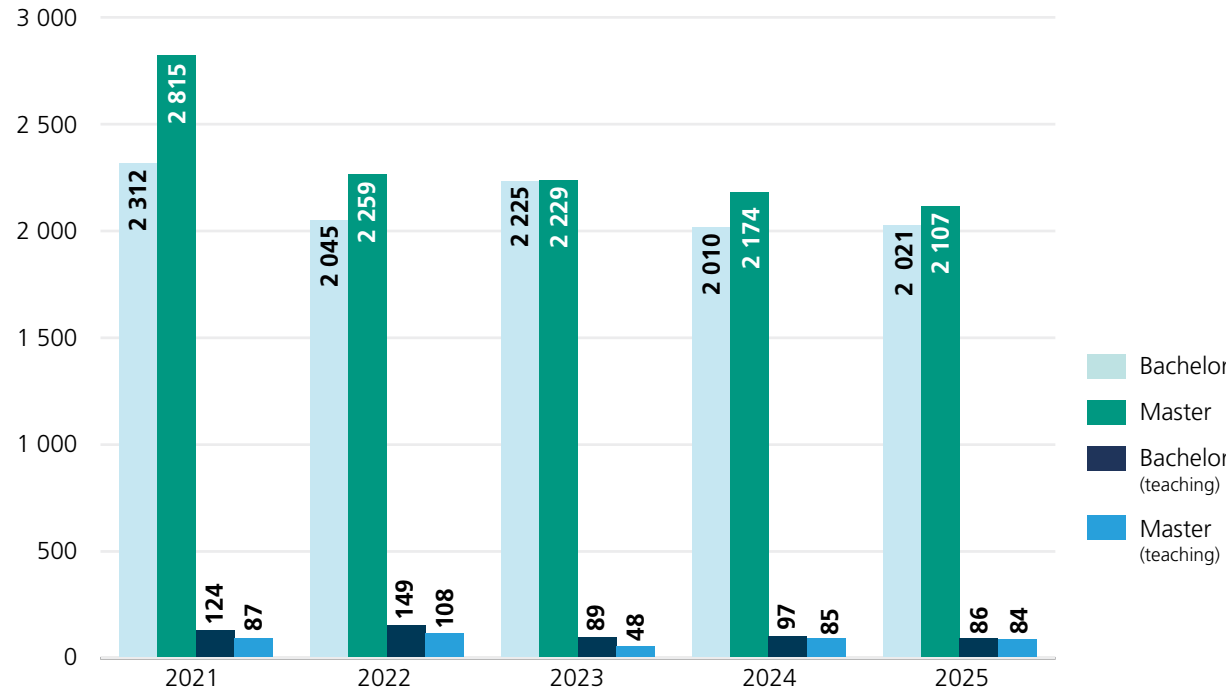
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Number of Student Beginners in the 1st Semester

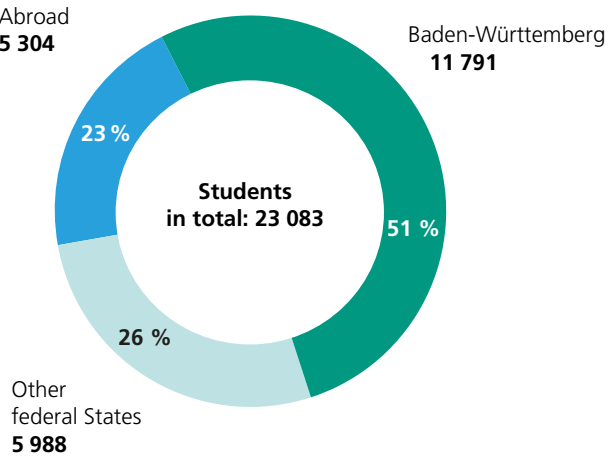


* excluding doctoral students and exchange students who are not pursuing a degree at KIT

Number of Graduates



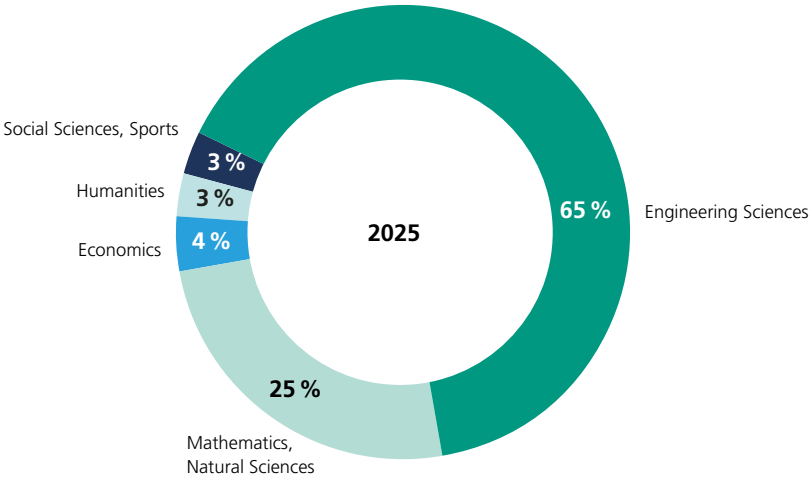
Origin of Students in the 2025/26 Winter Semester*



Region	Students
Karlsruhe city and district	3 224
Karlsruhe Regional Council District	3 293
Rest of Baden-Württemberg	5 274
Baden-Württemberg in total	11 791
Rhineland-Palatinate	1 639
Bavaria	1 010
North Rhine-Westphalia	943
Hesse	871
Lower Saxony	436
Other federal states	1 089
Germany without Baden-Württemberg	5 988
Asia	3 119
Europe	1 574
Africa	179
America	418
Australia and Oceania	14
Abroad	5 304
KIT in total	23 083

Doctoral Candidates in the Different Subject

Subject group	Male	Female	Non-binary	Gesamt
Engineering Sciences	1 724	574	1	2 299
Mathematics, Natural Sciences	540	338	1	879
Economics	98	51	0	149
Humanities	42	50	0	92
Social Sciences, Sports	39	50	0	89
Arts, Art Science	2	14	0	16
Others	4	4	0	8
Not specified	9	3	0	12
Total	2 458	1 084	2	3 544



Study Programs in the Area of Arts, Art Science

Subject (program)	Bachelor	Master (consecutive)	Teacher	Master (cont. education)	Double degree
Kunstgeschichte	●	●			

Study Programs in the Area of Mathematics, Natural Sciences

Subject (program)	Bachelor	Master (consecutive)	Teacher	Master (cont. education)	Double degree
Angewandte Geowissenschaften	●	●			
Angewandte Umweltinformatik und Erdbeobachtung	●				
Biologie	●	●	●		
Chemie	●	●	●		
Chemische Biologie	●	●			
Geographie			●		
Geoökologie	●	●			
Geophysik / Geophysics	●	●			
Lebensmittelchemie	●	●			
Mathematik	●	●	●		
Meteorologie und Klimaphysik/ Meteorology and Climate Physics	●	●			
Physik / Physics	●	●	●		Deutsch-Französischer Doppelmaster (Université Grenoble Alpes, Frankreich)
Technomathematik	●	●			
Wirtschaftsmathematik	●	●			

Studiengänge Fächergruppe Economics

Subject (program)	Bachelor	Master (consecutive)	Teacher	Master (cont. education)	Double degree
Digital Economics	●	●			
Wirtschaftsingenieurwesen	●	●			Deutsch-Französischer Doppelmaster M.Sc. (Institut National Polytechnique Grenoble, Frankreich)

Studiengänge Fächergruppe Sozial- und Verhaltenswissenschaften, Sport

Subject (program)	Bachelor	Master (consecutive)	Teacher	Master (cont. education)	Double degree
Ingenieurpädagogik	●	●			
Ingenieurpädagogik für Ingenieurinnen und Ingenieure			●		
Pädagogik	●	●			
Sport			●		
Sportwissenschaften	●	●			

Study Programs in the Area of the Humanities

Fach (Studiengang)	Bachelor	Master (konsekutiv)	Lehramt	Master (weiterbildend)	Doppelabschluss
Europäische Kultur und Ideen- geschichte (EUKLID)		●			
Germanistik / Deutsch	●	●	●		
Liberal Arts and Sciences	●				
Philosophie / Ethik			●		
Wissenschaft – Medien – Kommunikation		●			

P. 34: The division heads began their new terms in office on October 1. From left: Professor Marcel Utz, Professor Johannes Orphal, and Professor Marc Weber. *Photo: KIT*

P. 34: Professor Michael Kaschke stepped down as Chairman of the Supervisory Board at KIT on December 31, 2025. *Photo: Markus Breig, KIT*

P. 34: The KIT Executive Board from mid-2025. From left: Dr. Stefan Schwartze, Vice President Operations; Professor Kora Kristof, Vice President Digitalization and Sustainability; Professor Jan S. Hesthaven, President of KIT; Professor Thomas Hirth, Vice President Transfer and International Affairs; Professor Oliver Kraft, Vice President Academic Affairs. *Photo: KIT*

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December 31, 2025

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