

REGION: MENA

Also included in this region: Algeria, Iran, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Turkey

PART I: ENROLMENTS AND INSTITUTIONS

The Egyptian HE system loosely follows the Former Eastern Bloc model. A little over 80% of students were enrolled in comprehensive universities in 2018, with the remainder attending either hybrids or short-cycle HEIs. Total enrolments were 20% higher in 2018 than in 2006 despite declines in many years in between. This pace of growth was well behind the average across the rest of the MENA region and the Global South. HEI numbers grew at a much faster rate than enrolments, meaning that Egyptian institutions on average shrank in size. Roughly 80% of students in Egypt attended public providers in 2018, which was just below the share across the rest of the MENA region.

TABLE 1 – Types of higher education providers

CATEGORY		INSTITUTIONS	INSTITUTIONS COUNT IN 2018		
			PUB.	PRIV.	TOTAL
	Comprehensive Universities	Universities	24	25	49
	Hybrids	Academies and higher institutes	4	166.5	170.5
	Short-Cycle HEIs	Technical institutes	8	69	77

FIGURE 1 – Numbers of institutions by type, 2006-2018

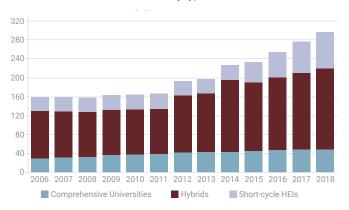


FIGURE 2 – Total enrolments with public and private higher education providers, 2006-2018 (Millions)

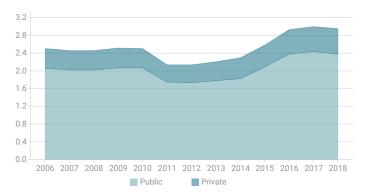




FIGURE 3 – Changes in enrolment, in Egypt, the rest of MENA and the rest of the Global South, 2006-2018

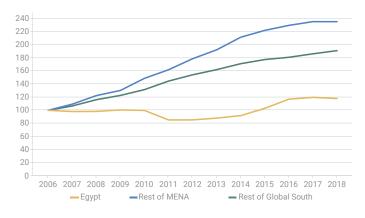


FIGURE 5 — Share of enrolments in public and private institutions, by institution type, in Egypt and the rest of MENA, 2018

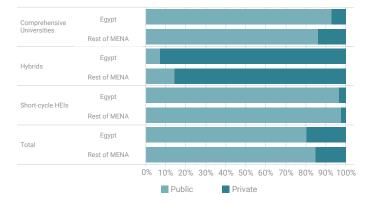


FIGURE 4 — Share of enrolments by institution type in Egypt and the rest of MENA, 2006 and 2018 (2006=100)

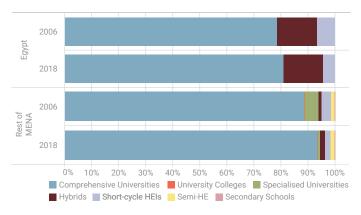
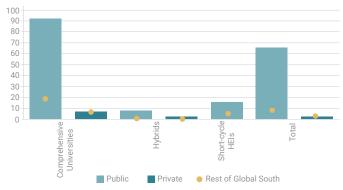


FIGURE 6 – Average institution-size by institution type in Egypt and the rest of the Global South, 2018 (Thousands)



Al Azhar University, Egypt



PART II: HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCING

Public HE spending in Egypt fell between 2006 and 2012, rose by over 40% between 2012 and 2014 – precisely when enrolments were falling – and then fell back again to end the period almost exactly where it began. Public transfers to public HEIs followed a similar path, and as a result ended the period at lower levels per student (USD 3,000 per year, down from USD 3,500 in 2006). Relative to GDP, public spending on HE fell dramatically from 1.4% in 2006 to 0.8% in 2018. This last figure put Egypt roughly even with the average across the rest of the Global South, but well below the average for the rest of the MENA.

FIGURE 7 — Change in real total public spending on higher education in Egypt, the rest of MENA and the rest of the Global South, 2006-2018 (2006=100)

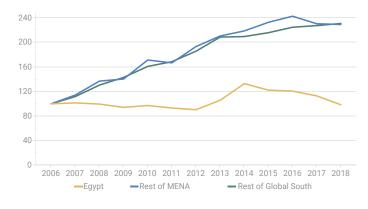


FIGURE 9 — Change in real government transfers to public institutions by institution-type in Egypt and the rest of the Global South, 2006-2018 (2006=100)

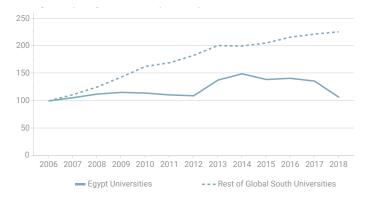


FIGURE 8 — Total public spending on higher education relative to GDP in Egypt, the rest of MENA and the rest of the Global South, 2006-2018

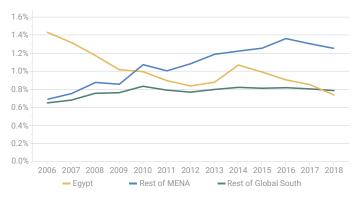
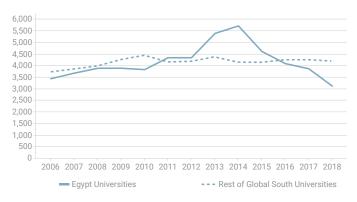


FIGURE 10 – Per-student government transfers to public institutions by institution-type in real PPP, in Egypt and the rest of the Global South, 2006-2018



PART III: STUDENT FEES

We classify Egyptian higher education as token feecharging system. The system most closely resembles Kenya in that fees are lower for students admitted through national exams, but they appear to be generally low in both cases. There is insufficient data to analyze student fees in Egypt in any greater detail.

PART IV: STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

We classify Egypt as having a token government student financial aid model given the limited extent of assistance. There is insufficient data to analyze student financial aid any further.