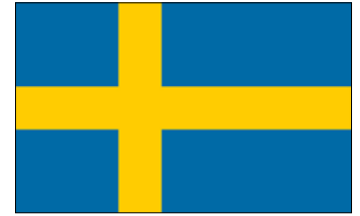


Sweden



REGION: WESTERN EUROPE

Also included in this region: Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom

PART I: ENROLMENTS AND INSTITUTIONS

The Swedish HE system fits the Northern European model. Roughly two-thirds of the country's students were enrolled in comprehensive universities in 2018 with most of the remainder either in hybrids or short-cycle HEIs. Enrolments in Swedish HE rose by 10% between 2006 and 2018, a rate which lagged the rest of Western Europe. The number of HEIs declined somewhat during this period, with the reduction concentrated in the short-cycle HEI sector where average enrolments were modest. Roughly 85% of Swedish students attended public HEIs in 2018, which was below the average across the rest of Western Europe.

TABLE 1 – Types of higher education providers

CATEGORY	INSTITUTIONS	INSTITUTIONS COUNT IN 2018		
		PUB.	PRIV.	TOTAL
Comprehensive Universities	Universities	14	2	16
Specialised Universities	Artistic institutions	3	2	5
Hybrids	Högeskolor; other institutions; Psychological institutions	13	14	27
Short-cycle HEIs	Polytechnics (Yrkeshögskolan as of 2009, before that referred to as qualified vocational education - Kvalificerad yrkesutbildning (KY))	93	121	214

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

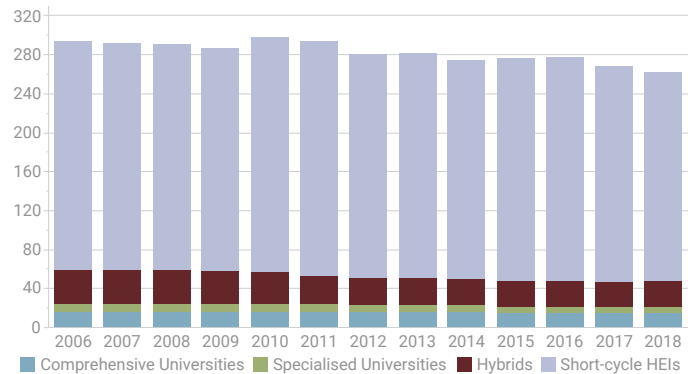


FIGURE 2 – Total enrolments with public and private higher education providers, 2006-2018 (Millions)

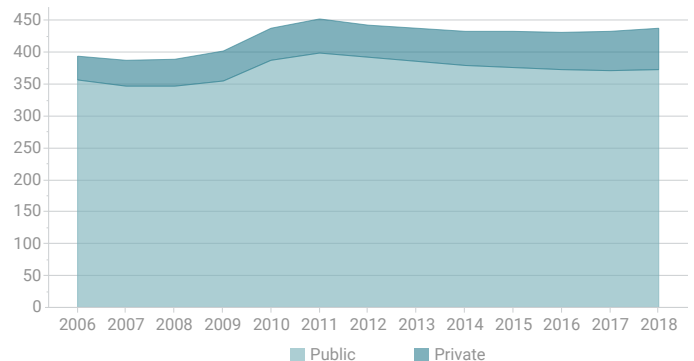


FIGURE 3 – Changes in enrolment, in Sweden, the rest of Western Europe and the rest of the Global North, 2006-2018

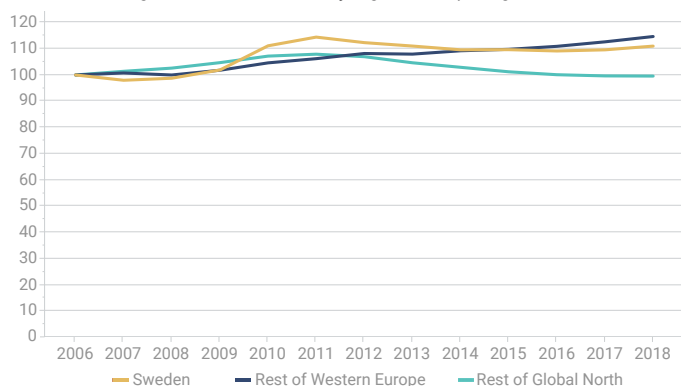


FIGURE 4 – Share of enrolments by institution type in Sweden and the rest of Western Europe, 2006 and 2018 (2006=100)

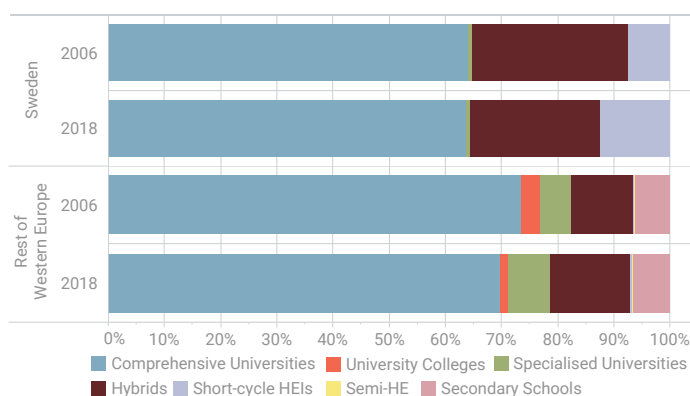


FIGURE 5 – Share of enrolments in public and private institutions, by institution type in Sweden and the rest of Western Europe, 2018

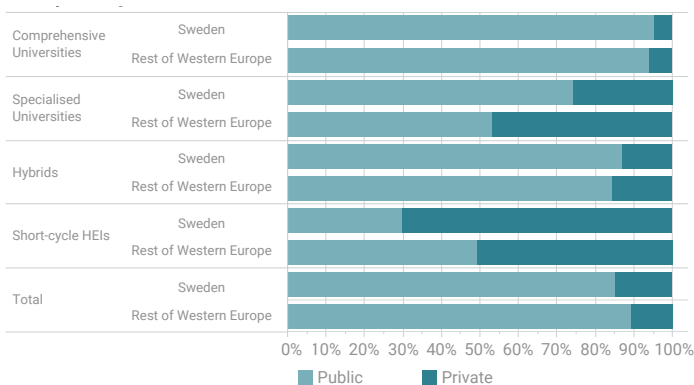
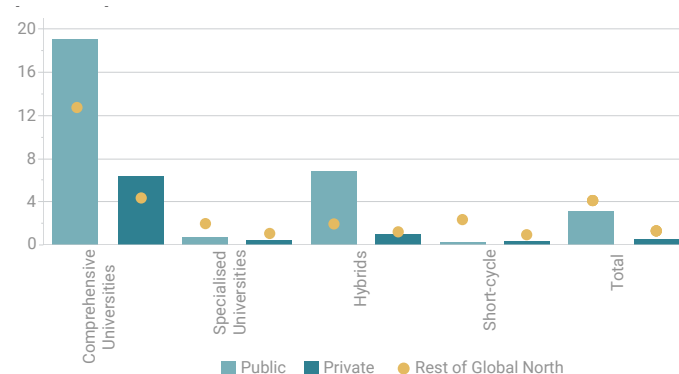


FIGURE 6 – Average institution-size by institution type in Sweden and the rest of the Global North, 2018 (Thousands)



PART II: HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCING

Public HE spending in Sweden rose by 16% between 2006 and 2018, which was slightly below the average across the rest of Western Europe. Relative to GDP, public spending declined slightly but remained about twice the average for the rest of Western Europe. Total expenditures of public HEIs rose slightly more quickly than total public HE spending, and spending at private HEIs rose even more quickly.

FIGURE 7 – Change in real total public spending on higher education in Sweden, the rest of Western Europe and the rest of the Global North, 2006-2018 (2006=100)

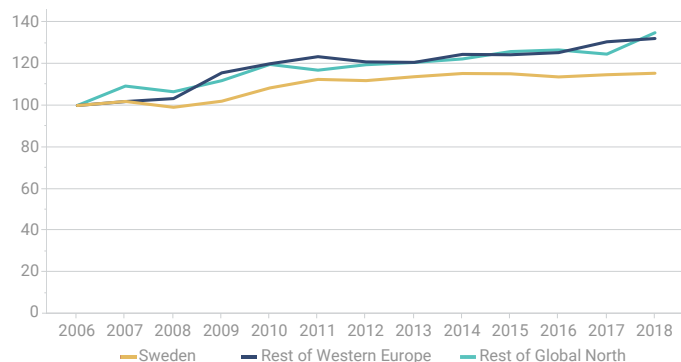


FIGURE 8 – Total public spending on higher education relative to GDP in Sweden, the rest of Western Europe and the rest of the Global North, 2006-2018

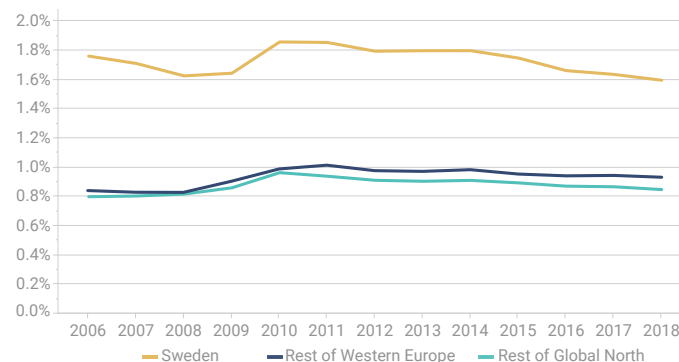


FIGURE 9 – Change in real total institutional spending of public institutions by institution-type in Sweden and the rest of the Global North, 2006-2018 (2006=100)

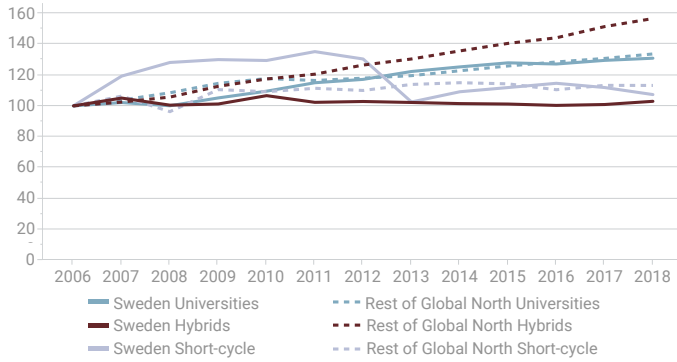


FIGURE 10 – Per-student total institutional spending of public institutions by institution-type in real PPP, in Sweden and the rest of the Global North, 2006-2018

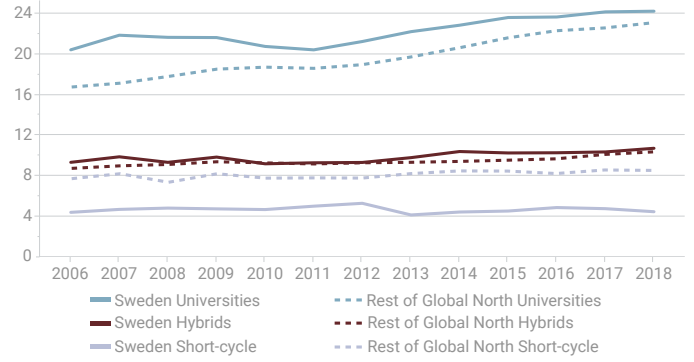


FIGURE 11 – Government transfers relative to total institutional spending of public institutions by institution-type in Sweden and the rest of the Global North, 2006 and 2018

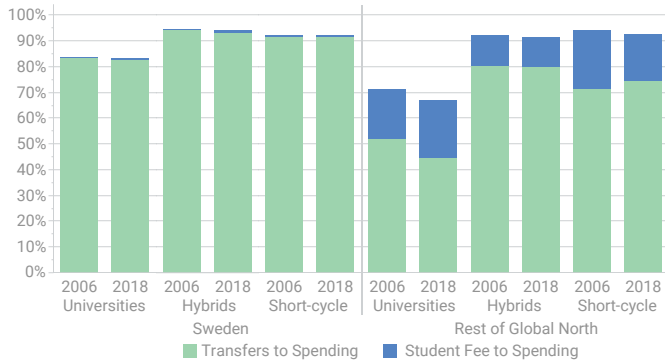


FIGURE 12 – Change in real total institutional spending of private institutions by institution-type in Sweden and the rest of the Global North, 2006-2018 (2006=100)

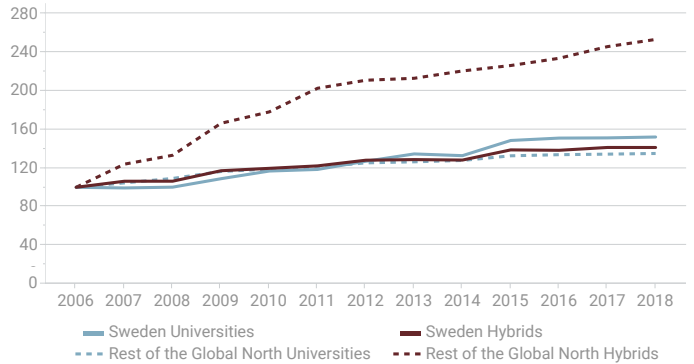
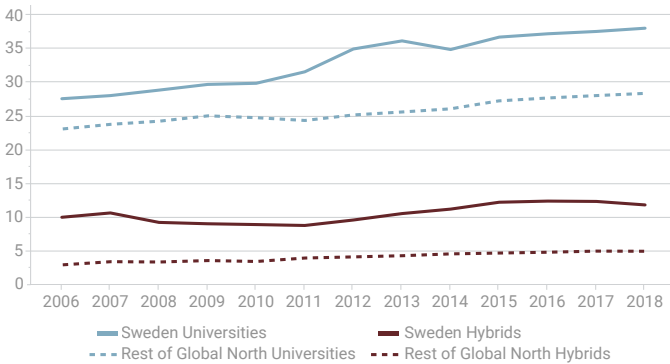


FIGURE 13 – Per-student total institutional spending of private institutions by institution-type in Sweden and the rest of the Global North, 2006-2018



PART III: STUDENT FEES

Domestic and EU students pay no fees in Sweden. International students from outside the EU, who represented roughly 3% of students in 2018, do pay compulsory fees. Annual compulsory fee income per fee-paying student was USD 8,000 in 2018.

FIGURE 14 – Share of students at public institutions under each type of tuition regime in Sweden, the rest of Western Europe and the rest of the Global North, 2006 and 2018

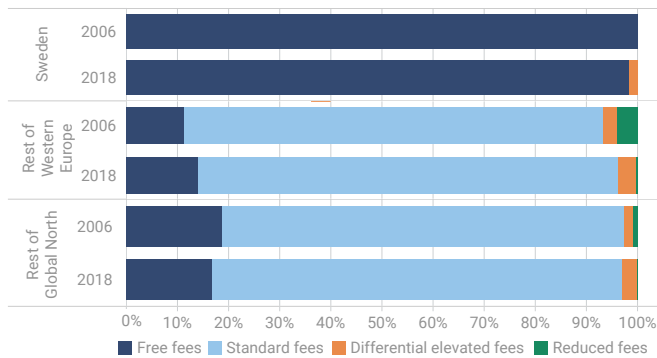
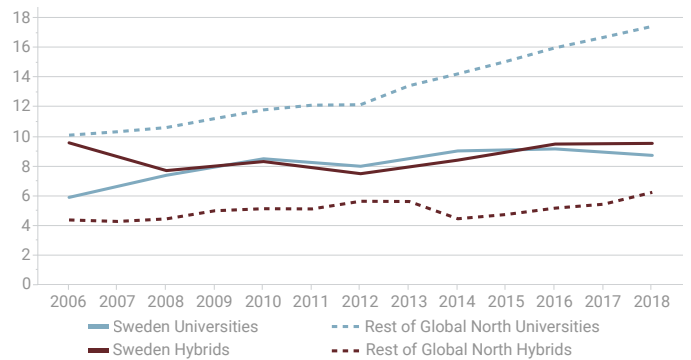
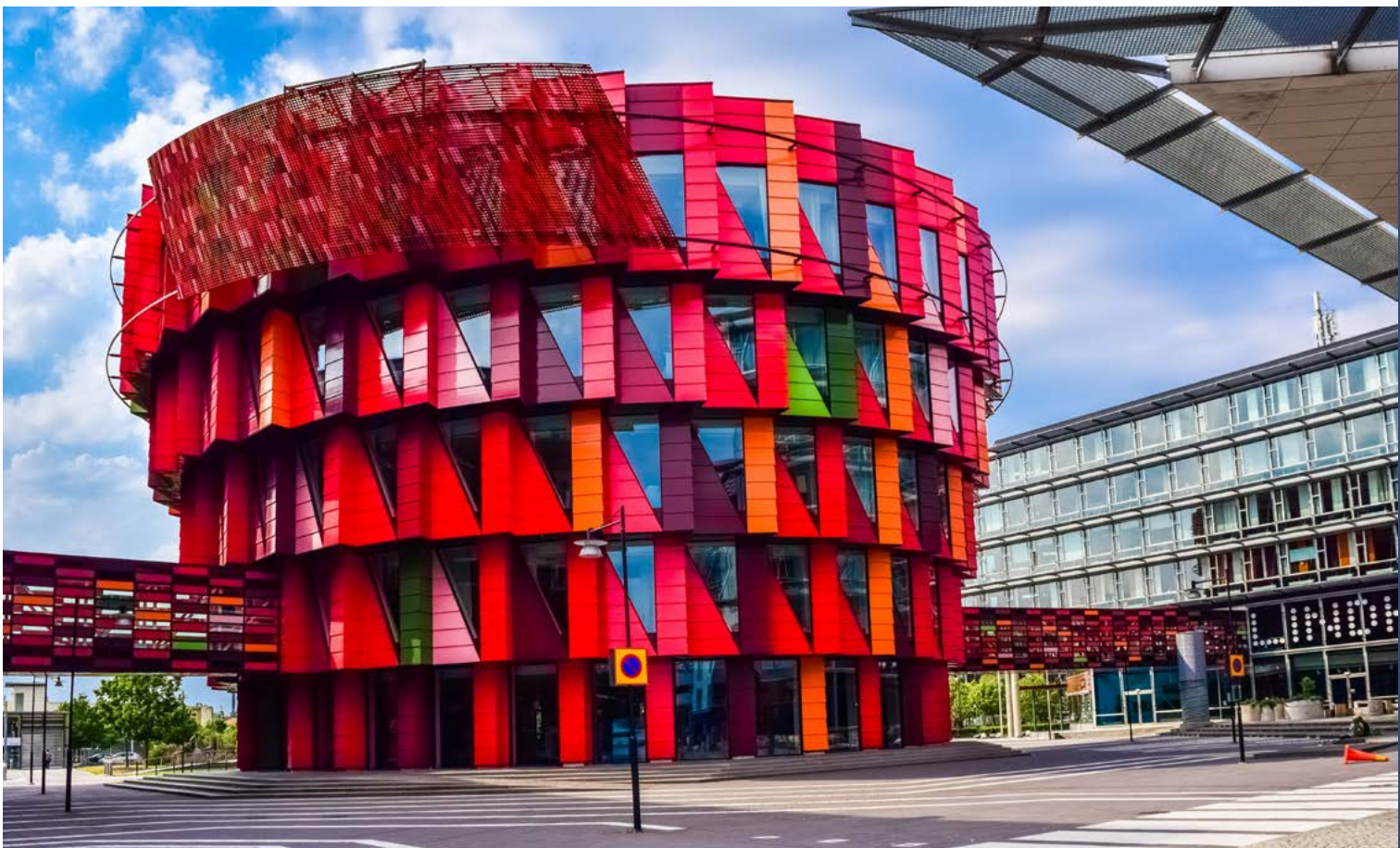


FIGURE 15 – Fee revenues per student paying elevated differential fees at public institutions by institution type in PPP, 2006-2018



Kuggen Building, Chalmers University of Technology, Gothenburg, Sweden



PART IV: STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

Government student financial aid in Sweden is a mix of loans and grants, with loans accounting for two-thirds of disbursements. Both recipient numbers and average disbursements per recipient grew faster for loans than grants from 2006 to 2018. Still, in GDP terms, disbursements stayed around 0.5% of GDP, or roughly twice the average for the rest of the Global North.

TABLE 2 – Student financial aid regime, including recipients and amounts disbursed in 2018

CATEGORY	PROGRAMS	BASIS OF ALLOCATION	RECIPIENTS	AMOUNTS DISBURSED (USD)
Grants	Grants provided by Swedish Student Aid (CSN)	Universal for full-time enrollees	345,389	890,389,787
Loans	Loans provided by Swedish Student Aid (CSN)	Optional enrolment	272,258	1,717,045,866
Housing	Modest periodic investment in student housing development	ND	ND	ND

FIGURE 16 – Total disbursements to students in financial aid relative to Gross Domestic Product, Sweden, the rest of Western Europe and the rest of the Global North, 2006-2018

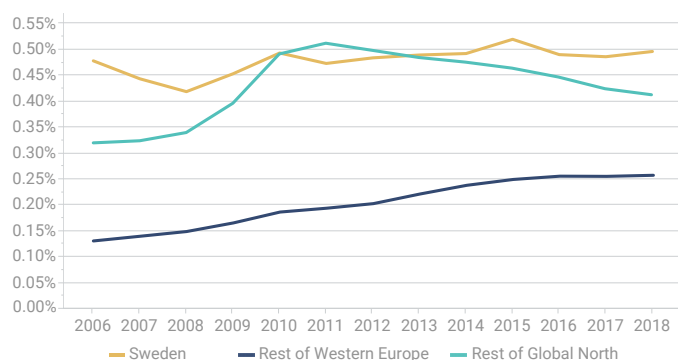


FIGURE 17 – Change in amounts disbursed to students by form of financial aid in Sweden and other Global North countries that offer financial aid of this type, 2006-2018 (2006=100)

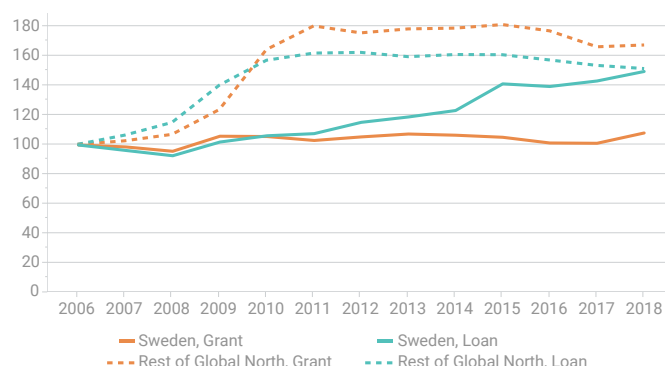


FIGURE 18 – Share of higher education students receiving student financial aid by type in Sweden and other Global North countries that offer financial aid of this type, 2006-2018

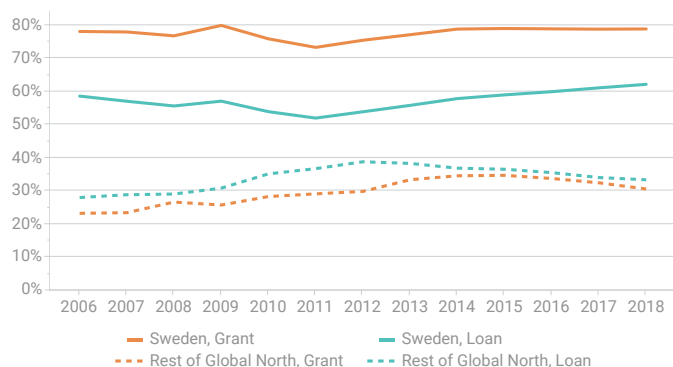
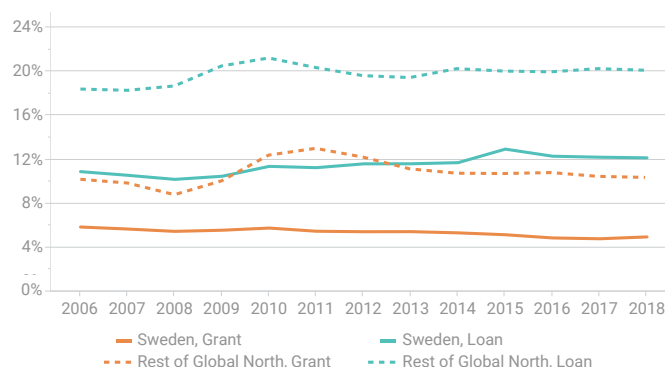


FIGURE 19 – Financial aid per recipient relative to GDP per capita by form of financial aid in Sweden and other Global North countries that offer financial aid of this type, 2006-2018



*Note: For more on methodology and data quality please see [Appendices A and B](#).