

Nuclear education and training in Lithuania in the context of EU accession

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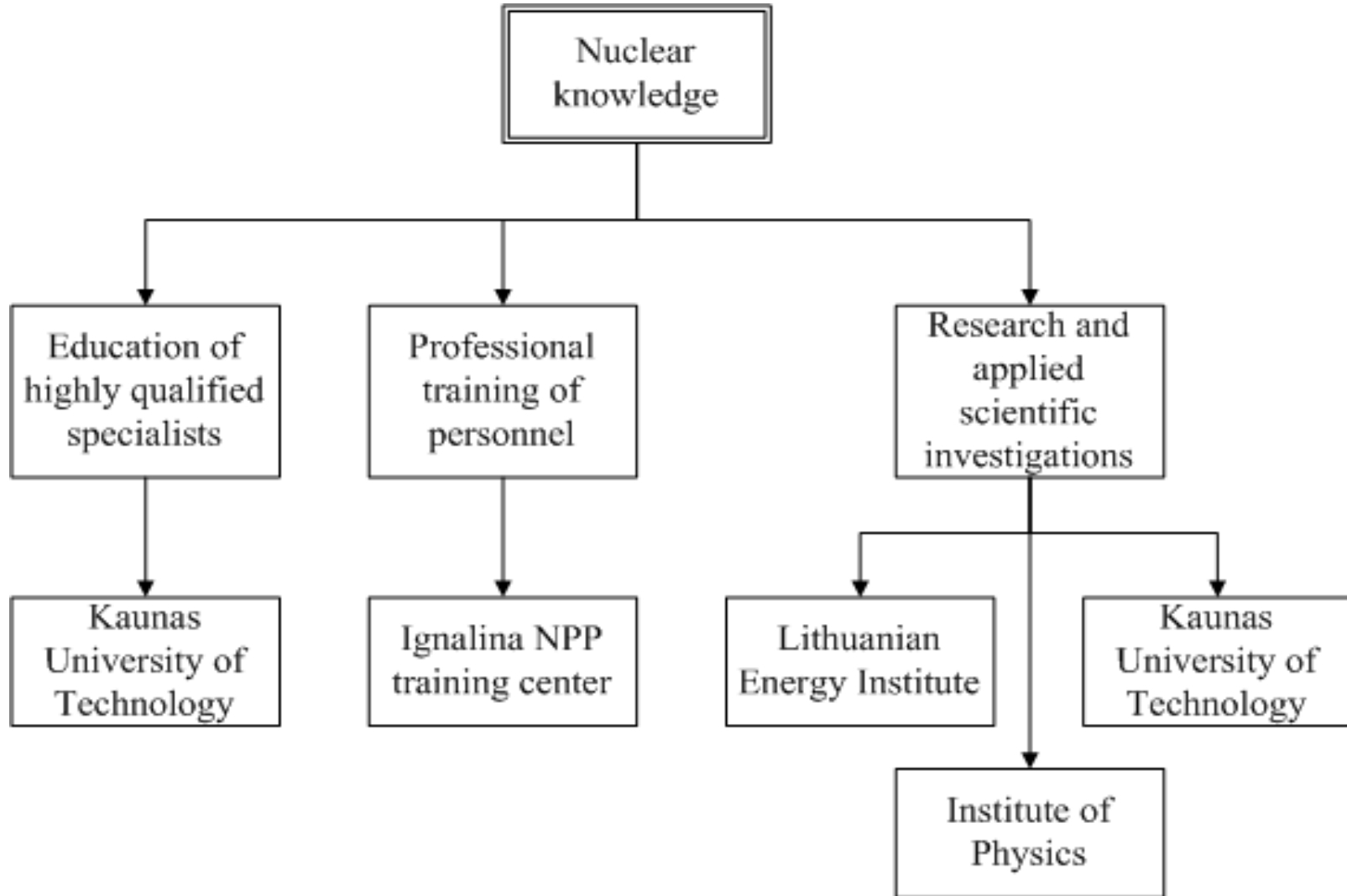
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Lithuania**

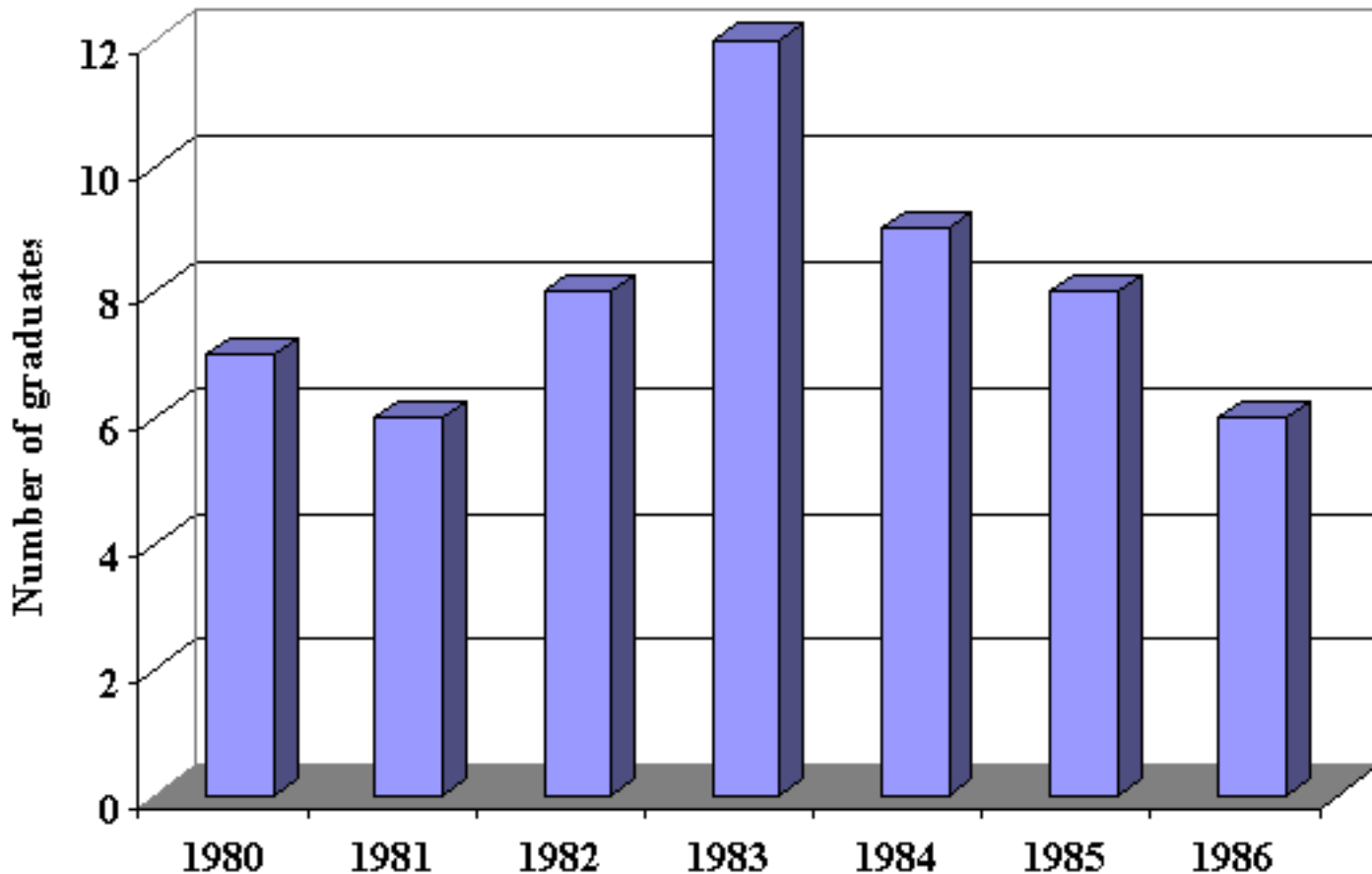
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Main activities and organisations



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Number of nuclear energy engineers, prepared at Kaunas University of Technology in period 1978-198

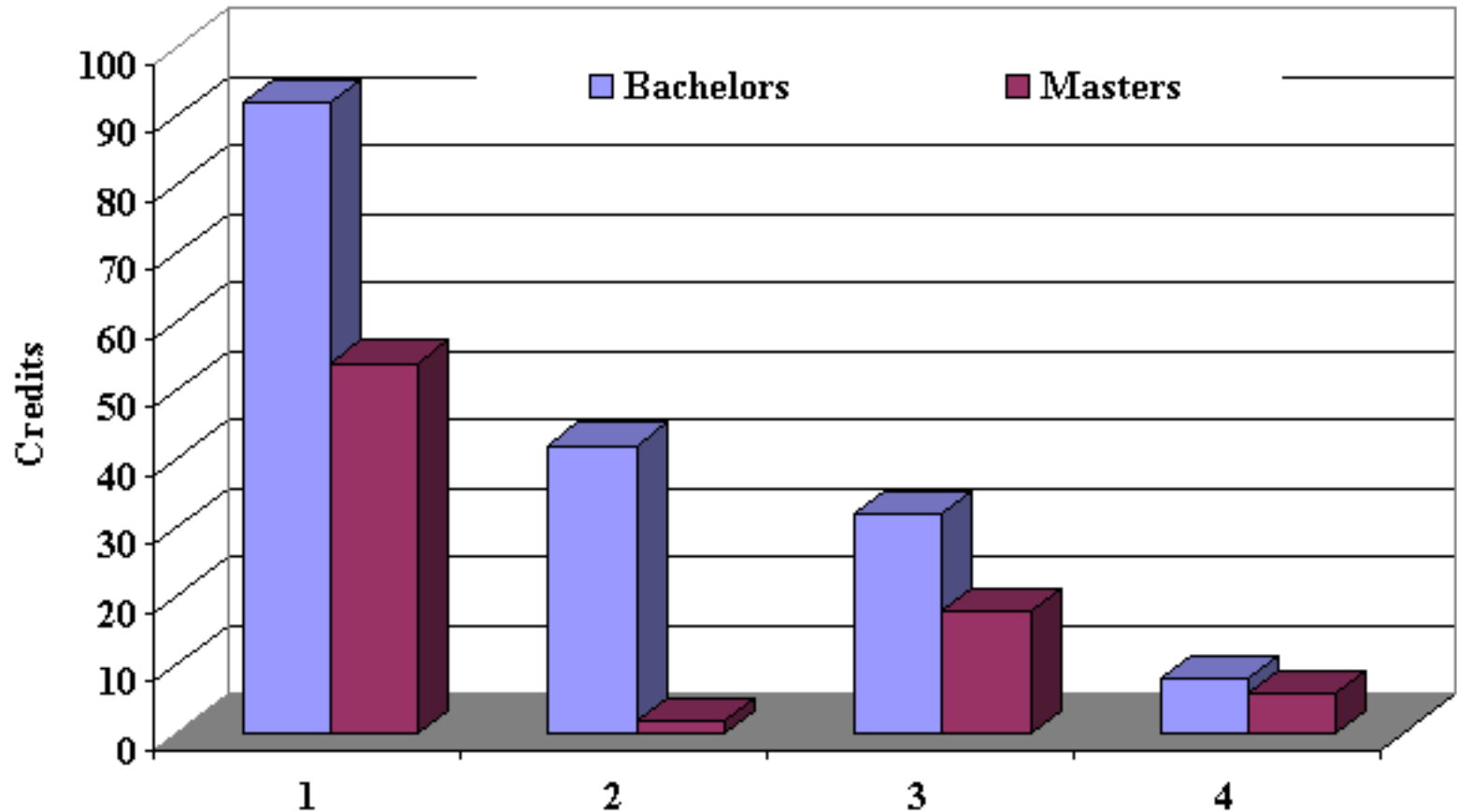


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Structure of study system at Kaunas University of Technology



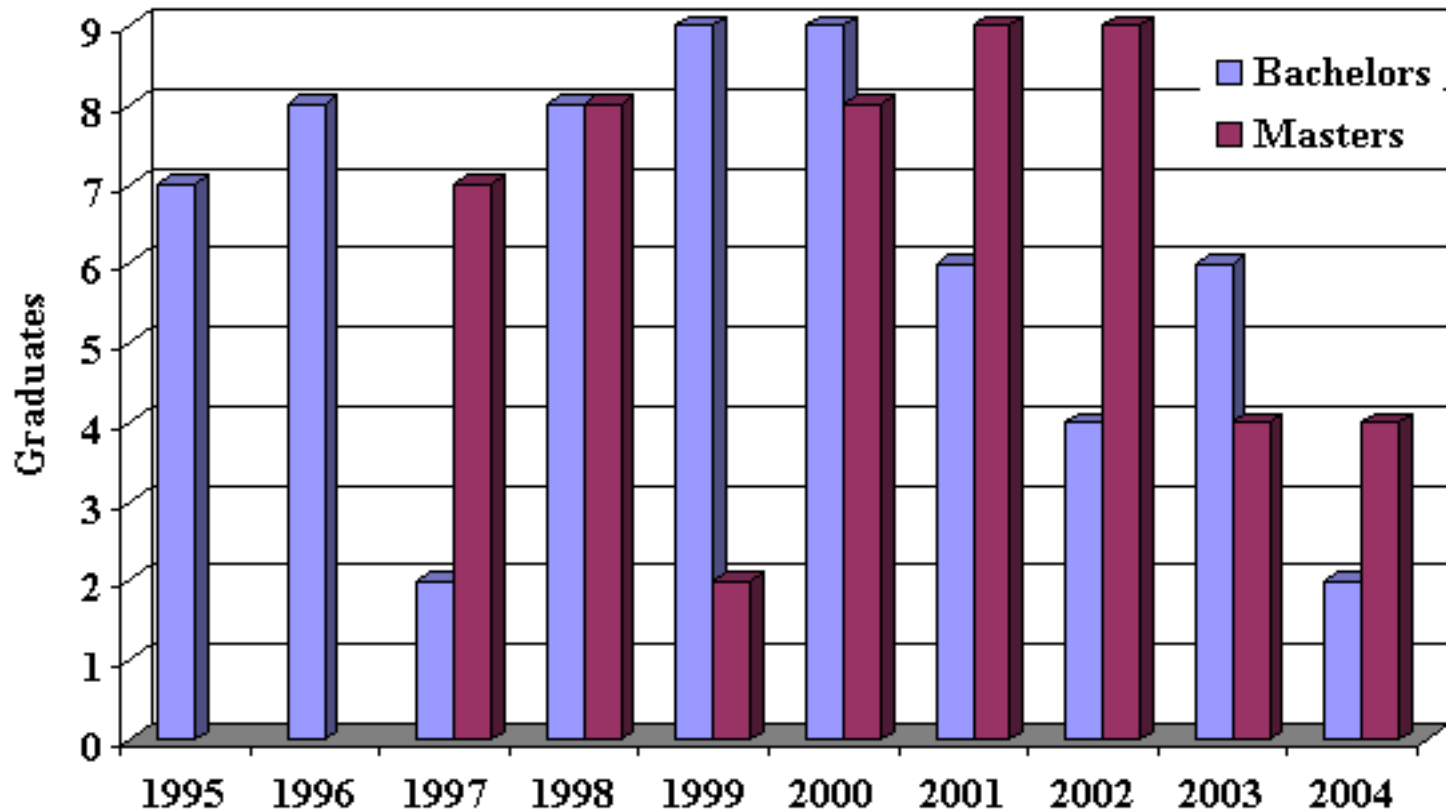
Structure of Bachelor's and Master's study programs



1 - obligatory courses; 2 - common alternative courses; 3 - specialised alternative courses; 4 - freely chosen courses

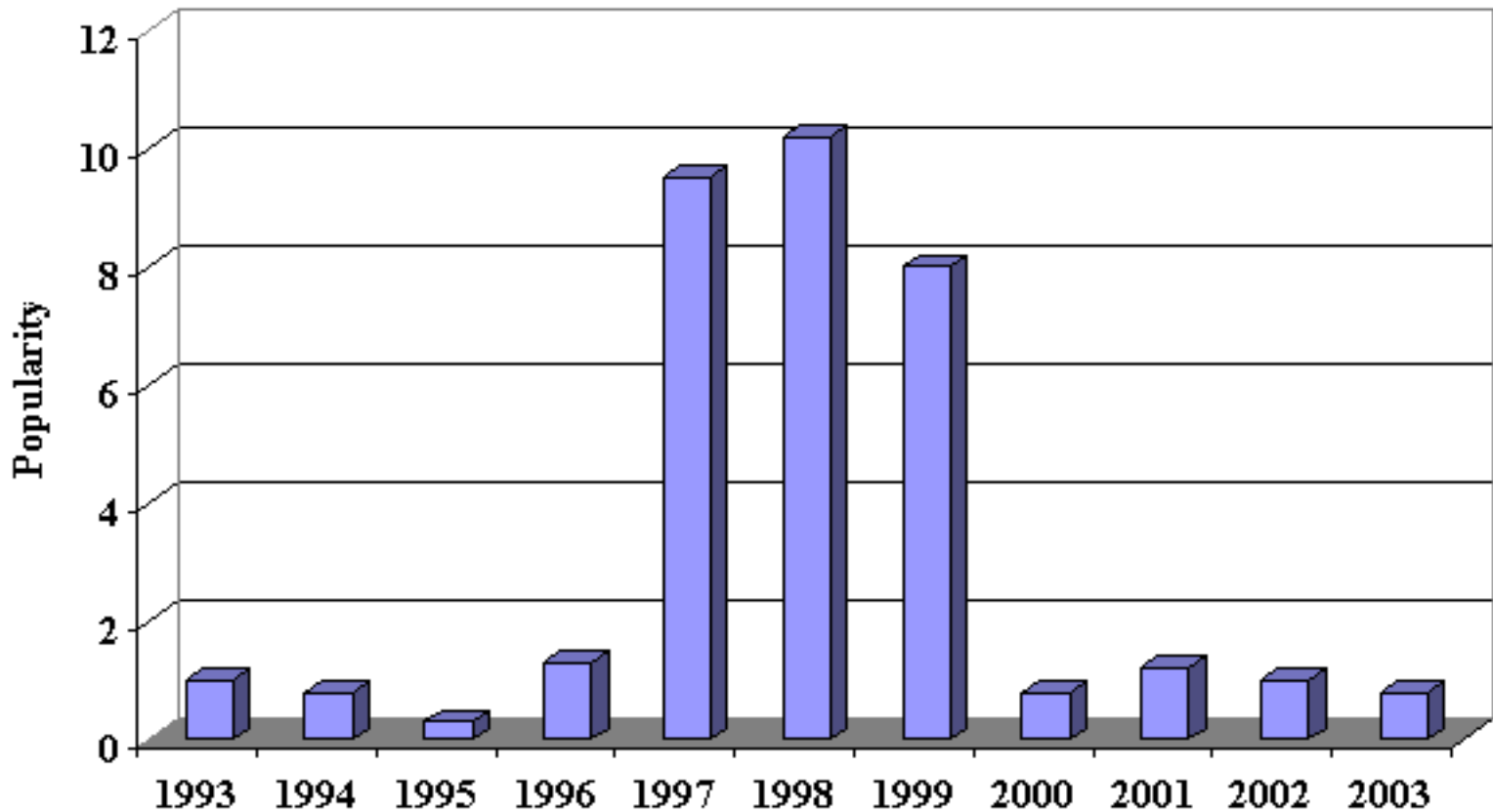
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Numbers of prepared Bachelors and Masters of nuclear engineering



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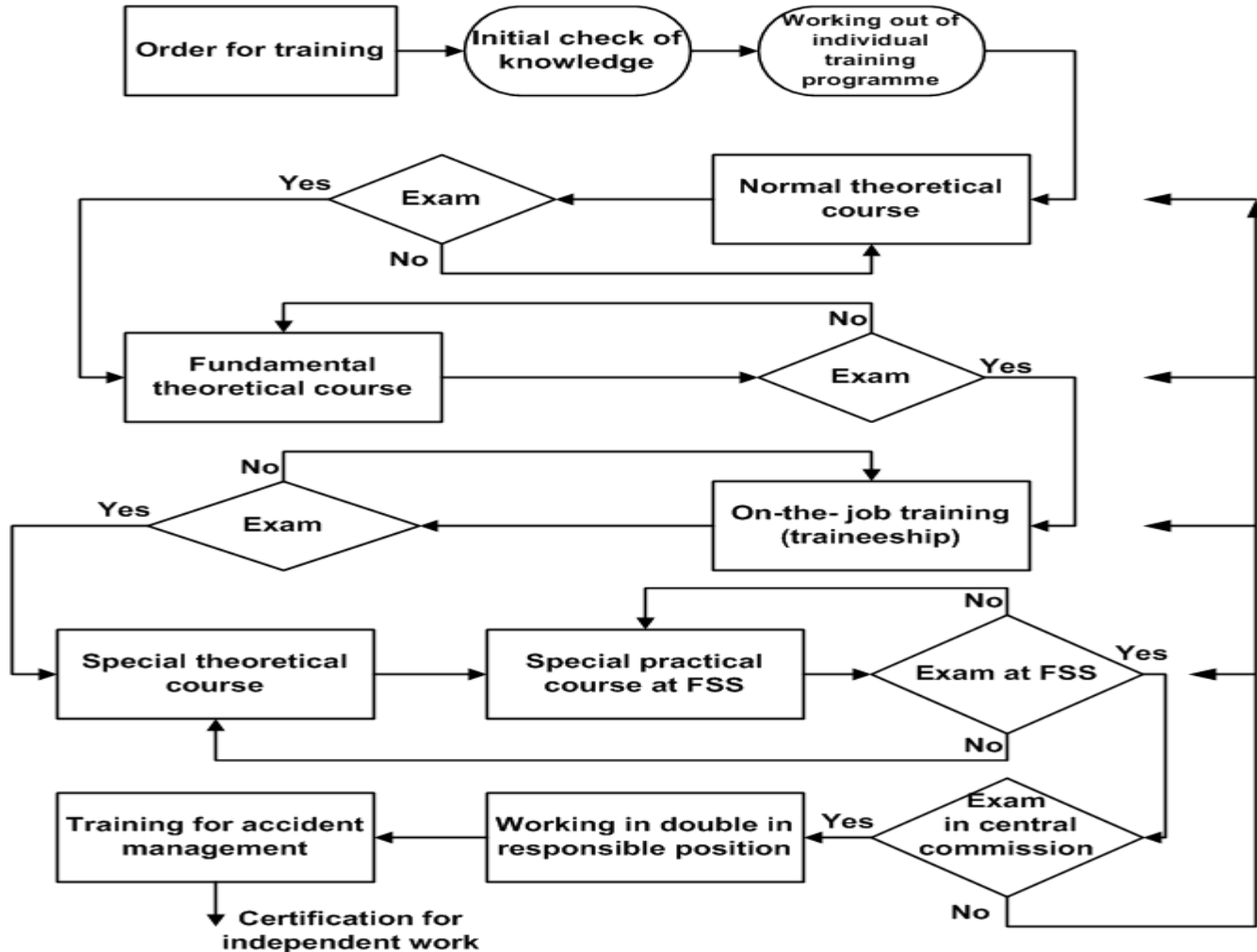
Dynamics of popularity of nuclear engineering studies



Popularity = number of applicants/number of places

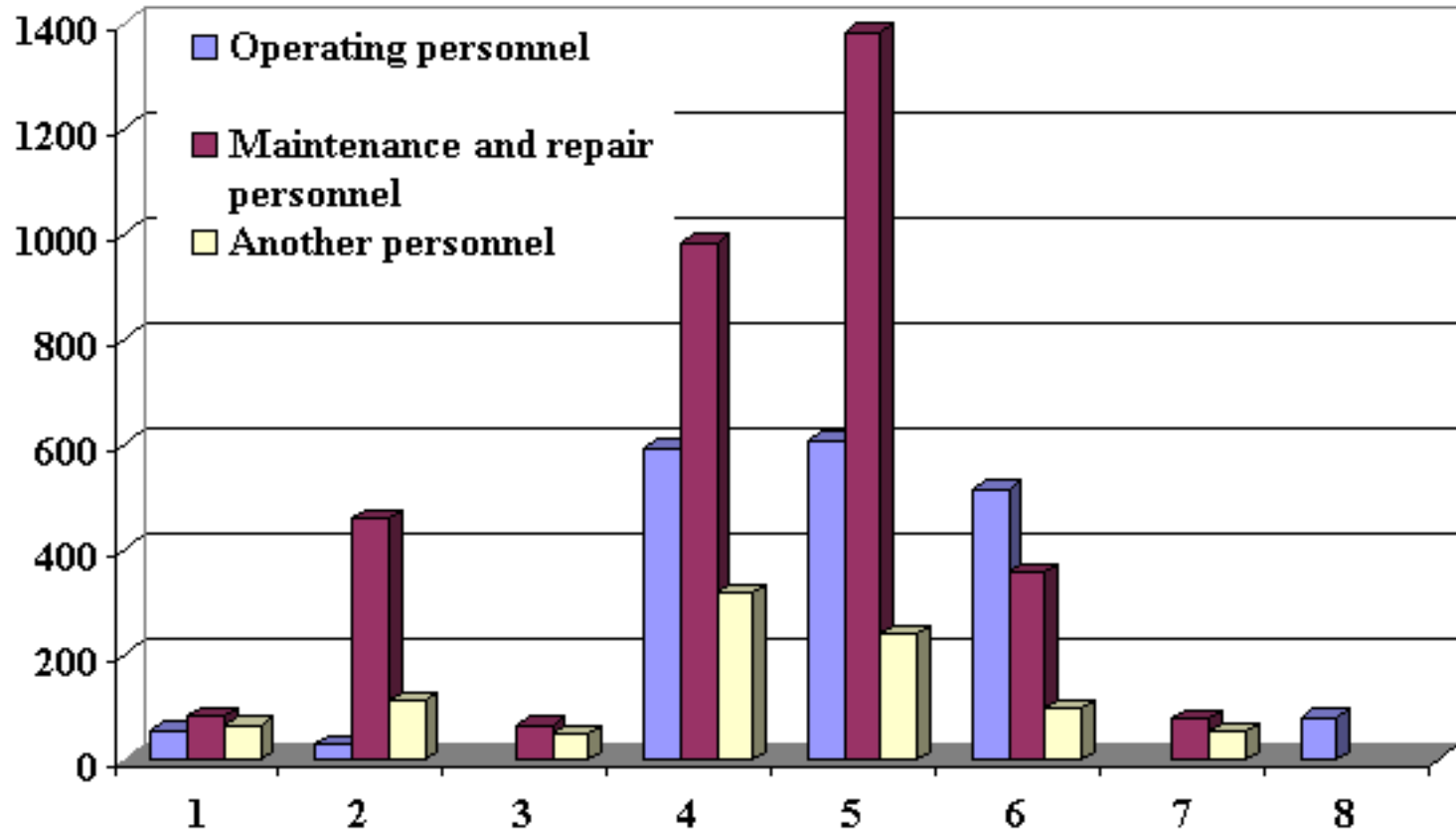
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Simplified flowchart of senior reactor operator preparation process



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Results of training of Ignalina NPP personnel in 2003



1-initial training (for new position or for reserve); 2-improvement of qualification; 3-maintaining qualification; 4-radiation protection training; 5-fire protection training; 6- training for works with potentially dangerous equipment; 7- training in safety culture; 8-training at the full-scale simulator

Conclusions

- (1) Lithuania has established effective and successfully working national system of education and training of highly qualified specialists of nuclear engineering.**
- (2) Political decision to close both reactors of Ignalina NPP at the end of 2009 has a negative impact to nuclear knowledge system of Lithuania. Popularity of nuclear engineering sciences and numbers of students studying these sciences are decreasing, and lack of motivation to work in the nuclear energy sector is observable. Current trends lead to gradual degradation of nuclear knowledge system of Lithuania.**

Conclusions (continued)

- (3) Preventive measures being implemented and reorganization of existing system of nuclear education and training can slow down process of degradation, but they cannot change current trends.**
- (4) Nuclear education and training system of Lithuania can survive, be strengthened and modernized, if Lithuania remains the nuclear state. This way is feasible, if real plans to built new nuclear plant or reactor are approved by Lithuanian government in the near future.**