

Study courses, output and problems with regard to the Bologna Process in Switzerland

Piera Dell'Ambrogio and Jean-François Stassen
Observatoire de la vie étudiante
University of Geneva



**UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE**

OBSERVATOIRE
DE LA VIE ÉTUDIANTE

Our main objective

- To assess the Bologna reform and system from the students point of view
 - Assess what ?
 - With which indicators ?
 - With which methods ?

Assess what ?

Bologna Declaration :

Creation of the European area of higher education

- Promotion of citizens' mobility
- Promotion of citizens' employability
- Continent's overall development

Compatibility and comparability of the systems higher education

Competitiveness of the European system of higher education

Co-ordinating european policies to reach the following objectives:

- Adoption of a system of easily readable and comparable degrees in order to promote European citizens employability and the international competitiveness of the European higher education system
- Adoption of a system essentially based on **two main cycles**, undergraduate (lasting a min of 3 years) and graduate; the first cycle having to be relevant to the European **labour market** as an appropriate level of qualification; the second cycle should lead to doctorate
- Establishment of **a system of credits** (as ECTS) as a proper means of promoting the most widespread **student mobility**; credits could be acquired in non-higher education contexts
- Promotion of **mobility** by overcoming obstacles to the free movement
- Promotion of European co-operation in **quality assurance** to develop comparable criteria and methodologies
- Promotion of the necessary European dimensions in higher education (curricular development, interinstitutional co-operation, mobility schemes and integrated programmes of study, training and research)

Assess what ? Bologna Declaration

Objectives :

- Creation of the european area of higher studies characterized by
 - compatibility and comparability of the degrees
 - employability of the students
 - competitiveness of the study system

—————→ **Harmonization**

Means :

- Mobility (horizontal and vertical)
- Two-cycle system
- ECTS

Assess what ? Bologna Declaration

Additional conferences :

- 2001 (Prague) :
- lifelong learning
 - students participate in and influence the organisation and content of education at universities
 - promoting the attractiveness of the European Higher Education Area
- 2003 (Berlin) : - supplement to degree
- 2005 (Bergen) :
- 2007 (London) :
- 2009 (Louvain) :

Assess what ? BolognaProcess

Swiss specificities

- Two cycles = basic studies
- Swiss universities system harmonization
- Focused on democratisation

Assess what ?

- Bologna Declaration (1999, agreement between states)
 - harmonisation
 - Magna Charta Universitatum (1988, agreement between universities)
 - autonomy, liberty for universities
- Freedom within Harmonization


Which assessing methods ?

- Are the Bologna objectives realized ?

Impossible to give a response

- Are the Bologna means realized ?

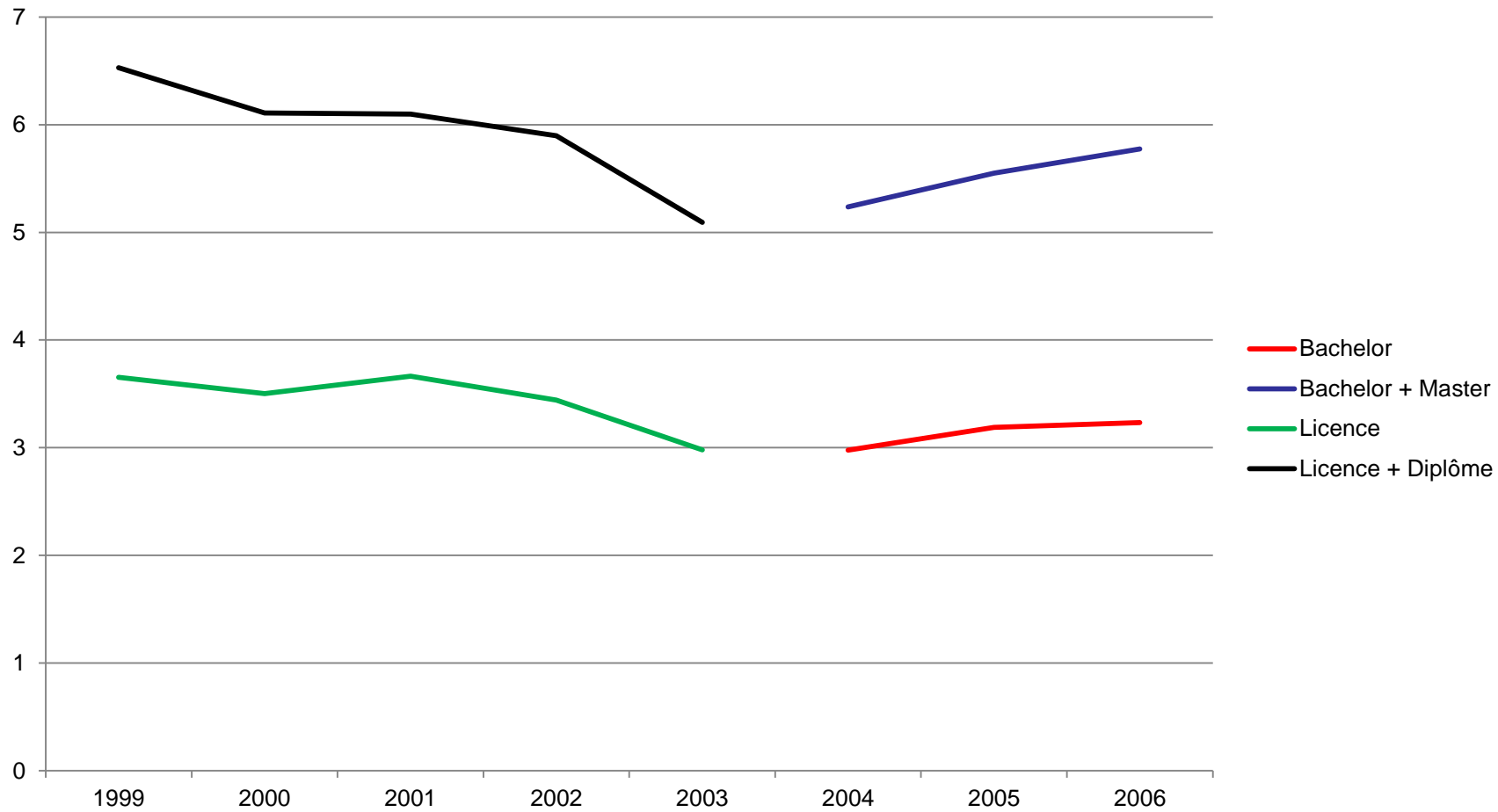
Possible to try to give a response



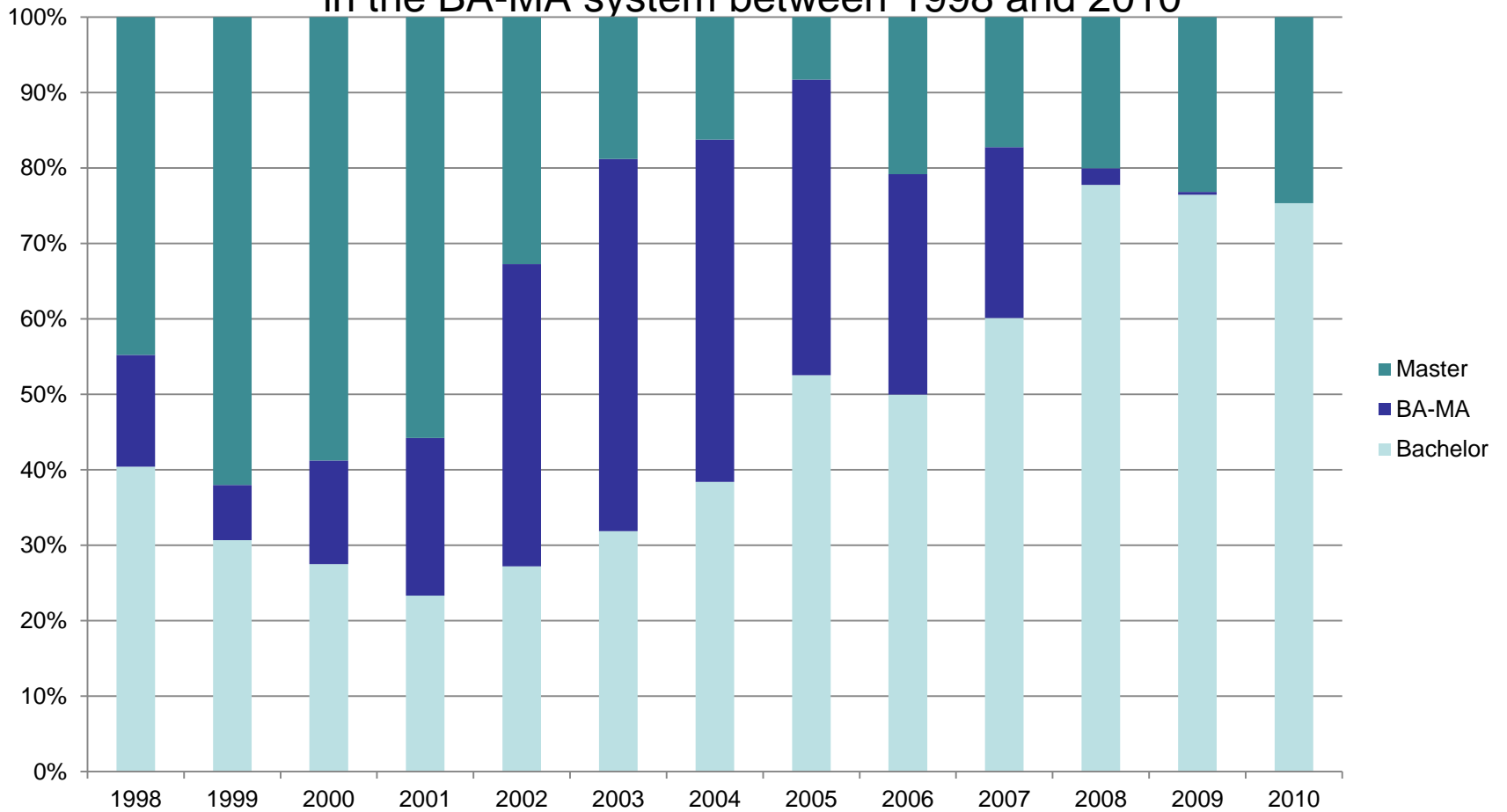
	2 cycle system	Mobility	ECTS
Is it implemented?	OK	OK	OK
Does it work ?	+/-	+/-	???
Is it desirable, good ?			
Is it improving ?	???	???	???

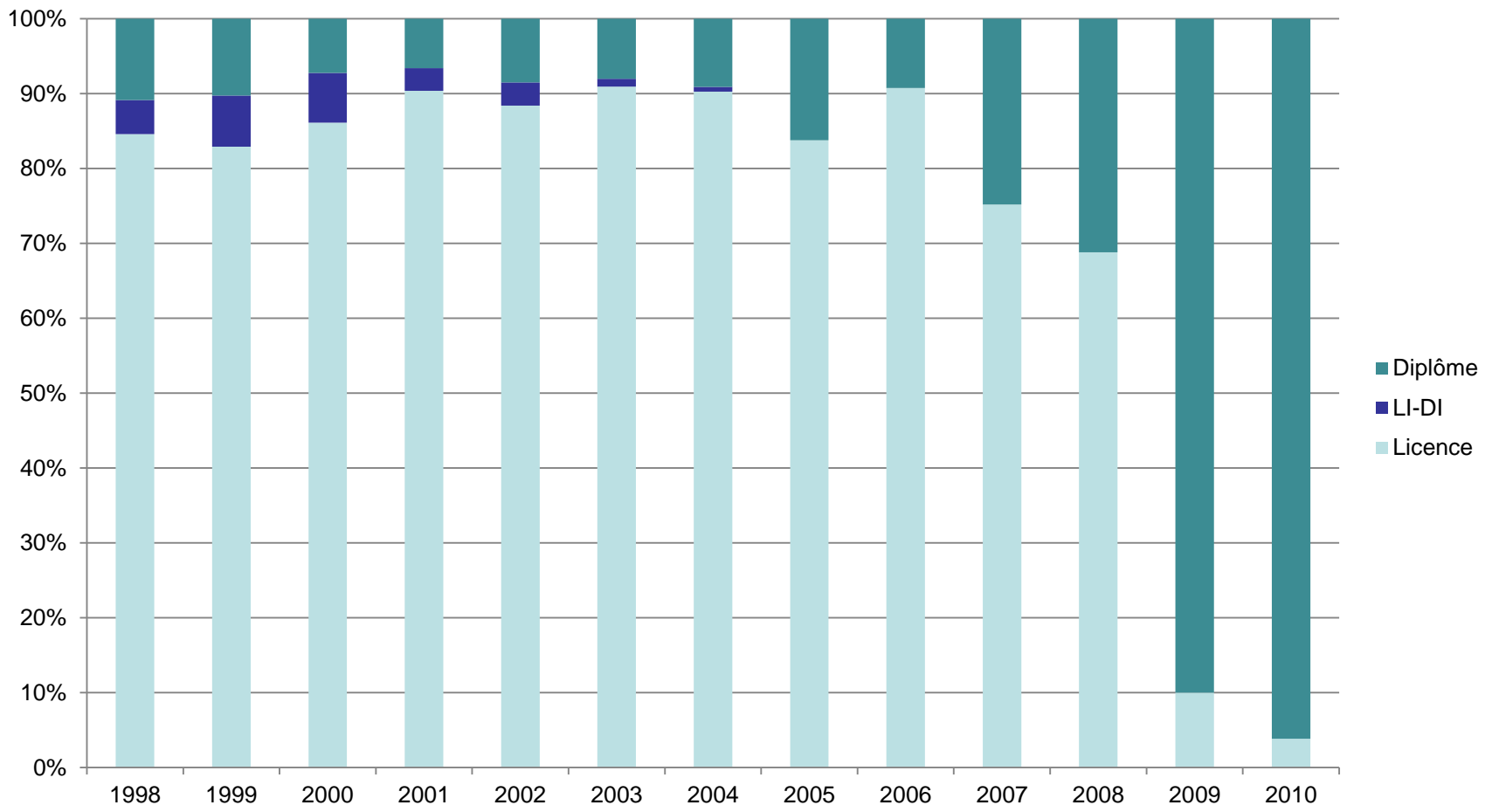
Assessing the 2 cycle system

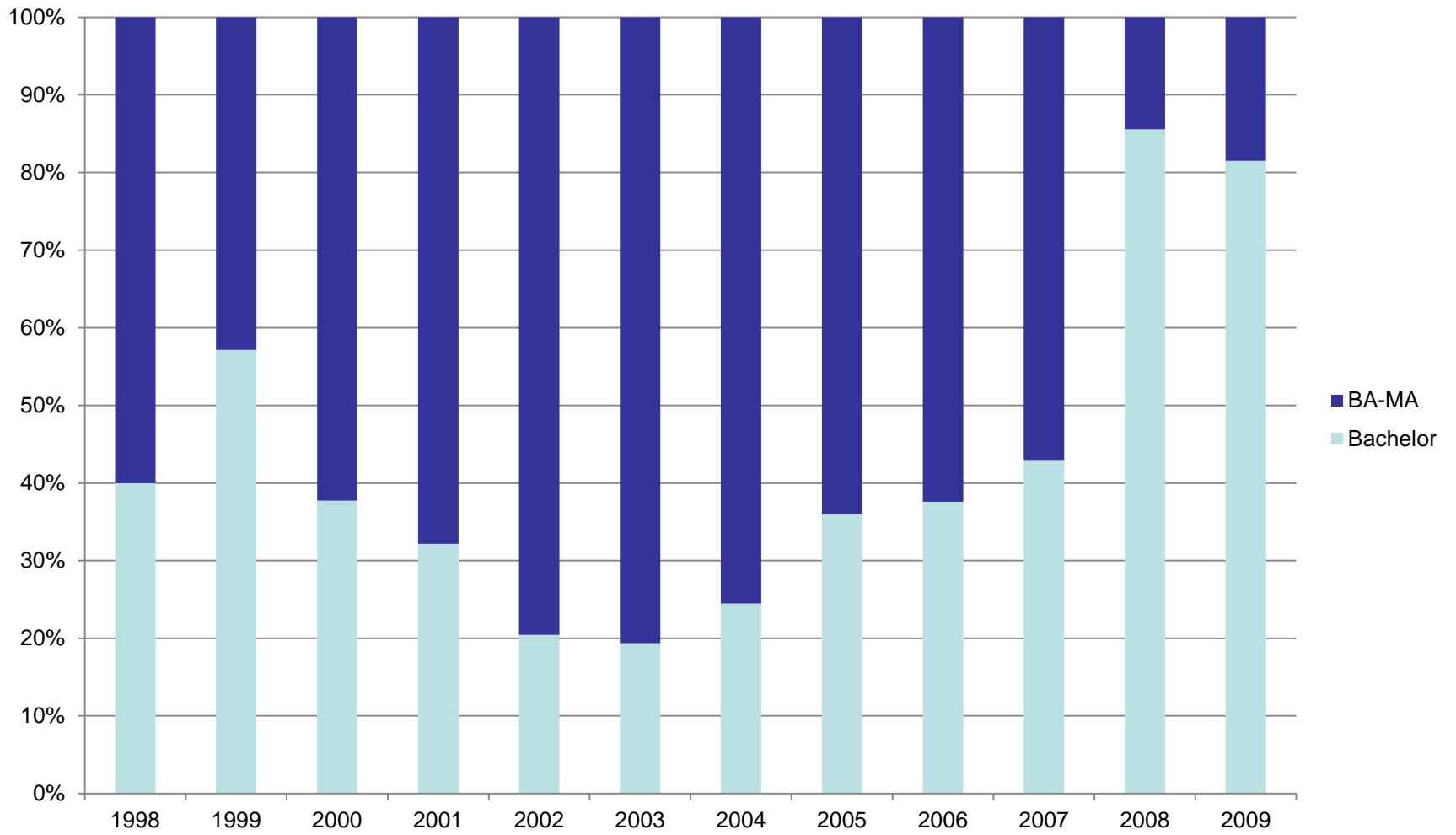
- In every swiss university and HES (HES=Vocational higher studies), the 2 cycle system is implemented.
- It works.
- Is the duration of the studies under control ?
- The Bachelor-Master system is replacing the Licence-Diplôme system...

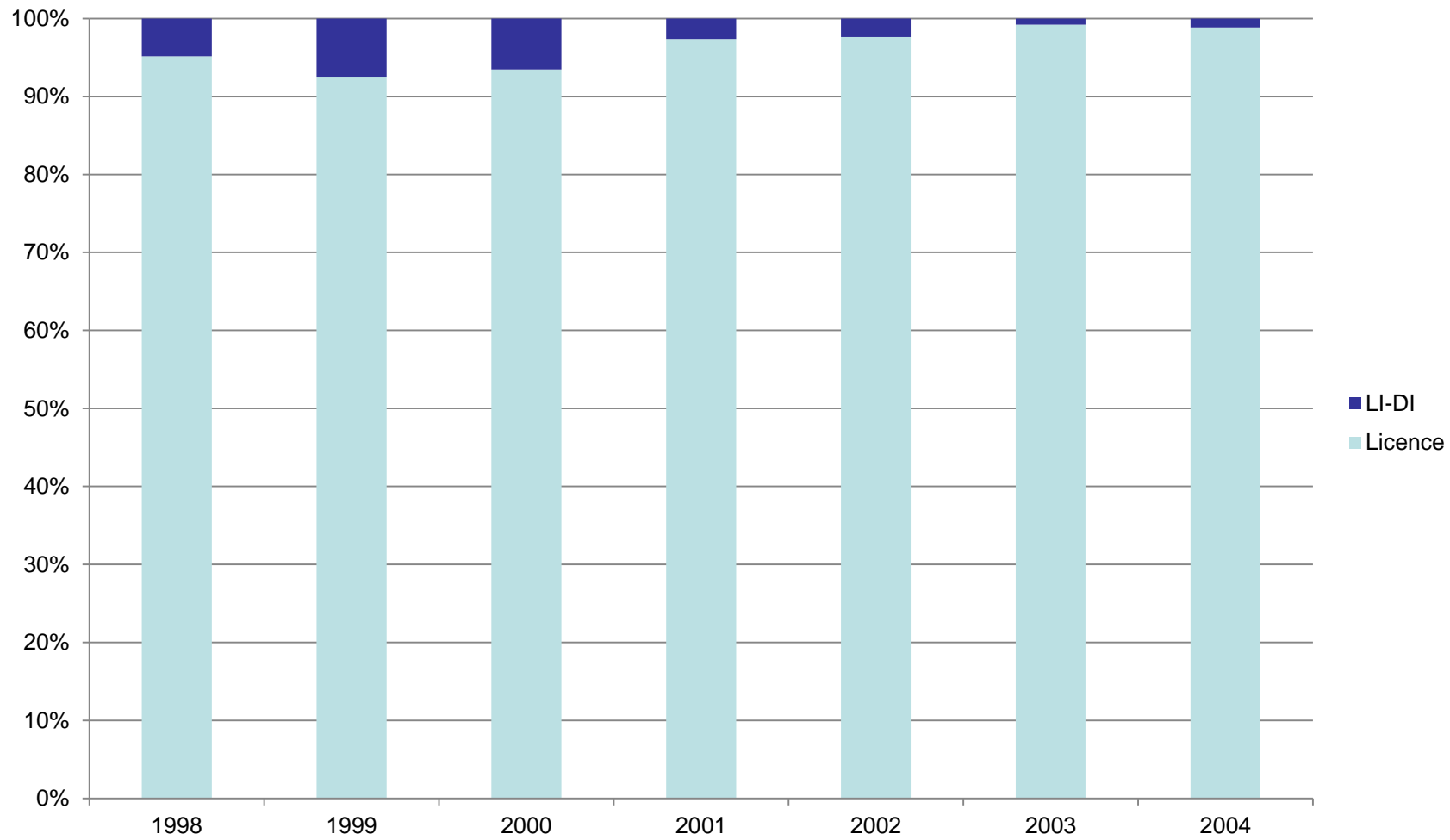


Graduate or undergraduate registrations of the new students at the University of Geneva in the BA-MA system between 1998 and 2010









- 
- Thus,

The average study duration has increased
after Bologna

- But,

The students think that