



Factsheet - Statistical activity and published results

Survey on professional education (eHBB)

Description

The survey's main focus is the employment and educational situation of professional education candidates one and four years after final examination. Among the questions it seeks to answer are: What influence does professional education have on employment and pay? What difficulties (financial or personal) do people face during their studies? Do people in professional education receive financial support and if so, from whom? The findings obtained from the survey constitute a useful information tool for education policy makers, labour organisations and careers advisers.

First conducted in 2017

Methodology

Methodology used:

Panel design full-population survey of professional education candidates (PET examinations, higher PET examinations and diplomas from professional education institution). In the first-wave survey, all persons who took a final examination at professional education level in the previous year (excluding post-graduate courses at professional education institution) are contacted. Only candidates who participated in the first-wave survey are asked to take part in a second-wave survey, taken five years after the examination.

Survey by online questionnaire. Participation is voluntary.

Survey language:
German, French and Italian

Variables used:

- Details on the course of study
- Transition from higher education to labour market
- Professional situation before, during and after professional education.
- Previous and current education courses
- Details on the financing and costs of education
- Self-evaluation of professional situation and career
- Self-evaluation of educational situation
- Personal data and current living situation

Date / period of survey:

First survey: September to December one year after final examination

Second survey: January to April five years after final examination

Periodicity of publication:

Every two years

Degree of regionalisation:

All candidates whose main residence is in Switzerland are contacted. It is generally possible to do analyses by major regions and, if the number of respondents allows it, by cantons.

Reference period:

Before and during the study and at the time of the survey

Links used:

Population and Households Statistics (STATPOP), Bildungsabschlüsse (Sekundarstufe II und Höhere Berufsbildung) (SBA), Längsschnittanalysen im Bildungsbereich (LABB)

Statistical quality of data:

The data are weighted with socio-demographic variables to take into account those who did not participate in the survey.

Policy on revisions**Methodology revisions:**

Methodology is revised as necessary (e.g. revision of sources).

Legal bases

Ordinance of 30 April 2025 on Federal Statistics (SR 431.011)

Organisation

Federal Statistical Office (FSO) in collaboration with survey institutes

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