



Education Prospects

Description

The aim of the “Education Prospects” project is to provide scenarios for the next ten years on the development of the number of pupils, students and qualifications for the entire Swiss education system, as well as on the evolution of human resources in the education system and the level of education of the population. The primary purpose of the scenarios is to anticipate developments in the education system insofar as possible and thus provide the responsible bodies with a solid basis for decision making. The scenarios are carried out with a high level of granularity in order to identify both regional trends and the development of certain training courses.

Methodology

Scenarios. The scenarios are based on the most appropriate possible modelling of the educational pathways of pupils, students and school staff. They are based on FSO data sources (Analyses of educational flows LABB, Swiss Labour Force Survey SLFS, Structural Survey RS and Population projections) and external sources (in particular SECO unemployment rate projections).

Variables used:

- Socio-demographic information
- Educational pathways
- Migration

Degree of regionalisation:

- Compulsory school pupils: cantons
- Upper secondary education students and qualifications: cantons
- Students and graduates of higher education institutions: institutions
- Students and graduates of universities of professional education and training: linguistic region
- Federal diplomas and advanced federal diplomas: Switzerland
- Compulsory school teachers: cantons
- Educational level of the population: Switzerland

Periodicity:

Every 2 years for pupils, students and qualifications; variable for other topics.

Reference period:

Most current statistical data at the time the scenarios were developed. Forecast horizon: 10 years, 30 years for the population’s educational level.

Quality of statistical data:

The quality of scenarios in the field of education depends on many factors, including reforms of the education system or structural measures, economic factors, changes in the behaviour of the involved stakeholders, as well as the adequacy of the model. Gaps are systematically monitored and published on the Internet.

Policy on revisions

Revision of sources of the scenarios are incorporated in each update. We always take the latest information into account.

Methodology is revised as necessary, for example when adding new modules or adopting new approaches, and when new data sources are integrated.

Legal bases

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

Organisation

Federal Statistical Office (FSO) with the support of the governing authorities of education policy in Switzerland and cooperation between the higher education institutions.

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