



Fact sheet – Statistical activity and published results

Vocational Education and Training Statistics (SBG–SFPI): survey on persons in vocational education and training

Description

The Vocational Education and Training Statistics (SBG–SFPI) are based on the cantonal registers of apprentices. The information collected in these registers includes information on the people undertaking initial vocational training mentioned in apprenticeship contracts and are supplemented by the results of the qualification procedure (end-of-apprenticeship exam). The statistics have existed since the Vocational Education and Training Act came into force (1934) and have been produced by the FSO since 1984.

Methodology

Type of survey

Exhaustive survey (300,000 people/year). The FSO compiles the Swiss Vocational Education and Training Statistics on the basis of electronic transmitted electronically by the cantonal VET/PET offices. Participation is compulsory.

Variables

The survey includes people enrolled in an initial VET programme leading to a Federal VET Diploma (CFC/EFZ) or a Federal VET Certificate (CFP/AFP). It covers all people on an initial VET programme (in most cases under an apprenticeship contract with a training company - or in a trade school or business school in the case of full-time initial vocational training) and enrolled in a vocational school for the academic year. Also included are people who in the process of obtaining a qualification or certification (without an apprenticeship contract).

The variables recorded relate to the individual, the occupation they are learning and events relating to their initial vocational training: signing of apprenticeship contract, current course of study, training company, qualification procedure (end-of-apprenticeship exam) and any termination of an apprenticeship contract.

- **Person**
 - Personal identifier
 - Sex
 - Year of birth
 - **Apprenticeship contract**
 - Identifier of apprenticeship contract
 - Occupation and specialisation/option
 - Variant
 - Programme year
 - Type of programme
 - Start date of apprenticeship
 - **Current course**
 - Identifier of apprenticeship contract
 - Occupation and specialisation/option
 - Variant
 - Programme year
 - Type of programme
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- **Training company**
Company identifier

- **Qualification procedure**
Identifier of apprenticeship contract
Occupation and specialisation/option
Variant
Type of programme
Type of exam
Exam number
Exam resits
Exam results

- **Termination of contract**
Identifier of apprenticeship contract
Occupation and specialisation/option
Variant
Programme year
Type of programme
Termination date
Reasons for termination

Reference period

Calendar year

Periodicity

Annual

Degree of regionalisation

Commune in which the training company is based (aggregated at cantonal level for data protection reasons)

Linkages

BER, STATPOP, CdC, SYMIC

Quality of statistical data

The quality of the data is high overall. The personal identifier enables longitudinal analyses.

Revision policy

Periodic revisions

The new results published each year (at the end of April) incorporate retroactive corrections received throughout the previous year and any new nomenclatures (e.g. Swiss classification). The time series has been updated for up to 2007.

Methodological revisions

Methodological revisions are undertaken as required (e.g. revision of nomenclatures).

Most recent revisions

2007 : individual data

2011 : introduction of the OASI number (NAVS13) as a personal identifier.

Legal basis

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

Organisation

Federal Statistical Office (FSO) in collaboration with the cantonal authorities for vocational education and training

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