



## METHODOLOGICAL EXPLANATION

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# STUDENTS IN PRE-TERTIARY EDUCATION AND THOSE WHO COMPLETED EDUCATION AT THESE LEVELS

This methodological explanation relates to the data releases:

- Students in pre-tertiary education, Slovenia, annually (First Release)
- Students who completed basic and upper-secondary education, Slovenia, annually (First Release)



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## 1 PURPOSE

The purpose of the statistical survey is to present data on enrolment of children in kindergartens and basic schools, of students in upper secondary education and basic music and dance schools and adults in basic and upper secondary education. We also collect the data on children with special education needs in education. The most important statistics are:

- number of children in preschools-education and participation rates of children in different age groups,
- number of pupils in basic education and share of children with special needs,
- number of students in upper-secondary education and share of students in different types of education,
- number of children enrolled in music and dance education,
- number of adult education participants.

## 2 LEGAL FRAMEWORK

- [Annual Programme of Statistical Surveys \(LPSR\)](#) (only in Slovene)
- [National Statistics Act](#) (OJ RS, No. 45/95 and 9/01)
- Regulation (EC) No 452/2008 of the European Parliament and the Council concerning the production and development of statistics on education and lifelong learning (CELEX: 32008R0452). Data is internationally comparable.

## 3 UNIT DESCRIBED BY THE PUBLISHED DATA

Units described are children in kindergarten, pupils and students in basic and upper secondary schools, students in music schools and adults in basic and upper secondary education.

## 4 SELECTION OF OBSERVATION UNIT

The unit described is a student enrolled in pre-school, basic, upper secondary and music education in a given school year. We also observe every student completing basic and upper secondary education. We collect personal data of students (sex, age, citizenship, permanent residence, previous educational attainment, special needs status) and data on their enrolment (type and field of education, educational program and institution, grade, type of enrolment, etc.).

The survey covers all students enrolled in pre-school, basic, upper secondary and music education. The data are collected and published as of 1 October in a given school year (31 August in the previous year for adults in basic and upper

secondary education). Data are collected at the participants' level (approximately 400,000 observation units per year).

## 5 SOURCES AND METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION

The data is collected annually.

Since 2017 (the data on participants in education in the school year 2016/17 (adults for 2015/16)), the individual data on students have been collected with the survey Students in pre-tertiary education and those who completed education at these levels (ŠOL-DOTERC) from the administrative databases of the following institutions:

- Ministry of Education, Science and Sport (MIZŠ) – administrative database on participants in education (CEUVIZ) and on education programmes and institutions. The data are collected also from Organisation Reports reported by the institutions to the Ministry.
- The data on students that have passed the final or matura exam are collected from the National Examination Centre (RIC).
- The data on children with special needs are collected from the National Education Institute of the Republic of Slovenia.

## 6 DEFINITIONS

**Education (and training)** is an activity which relates to recognizing, accepting, giving and/or creating knowledge, developing skills, developing personal and professional competencies and values. The most common form of organization of educational or training activities is educational or study programs.

**Educational or study program** is a form of organization in which learning activities are organized as a series, with different methods of learning/teaching different subjects are learnt/taught. Educational programs are defined on the basis of their content as a series of activities organized in order to achieve a predetermined goal or a specific set of educational tasks.

**Type of education** is as a rule determined indirectly through educational or study program which the person was attending or finished. "Type of education" is a systemic or difficulty characteristic (content) of the programme. "Type of education" expresses (determines) into which segment of the national system of education and training the programme falls, particularly into which level it falls (for example: short-term vocational upper-secondary education, higher education, etc.).

**Field of education** is as a rule determined indirectly through educational or study program which the person was attending or finished. "Field of education" is a subject-specific characteristic (content) of the program. "Fields of education" are, for example, engineering, manufacturing and construction, health and welfare.

## Pre-school education

**Kindergartens** are institutions, taking care and education the youngest children before entering basic education. It is aimed at children aged one to six or the starting age of compulsory education. The **first age group** includes children aged 1 and 2 years. The **second age group** includes children from 3 years of age until entering school. Pre-school education is not compulsory.

Pre-school education is provided by **public and private kindergartens**. Public kindergartens are founded by local communities in line with the needs of the local population.

## Basic education

Primary and lower secondary education is organized in a single-structure nine-year basic school, attended by pupils aged 6 to 15 years. It is provided by public and private schools, as well as educational institutions for children with special needs. As specified by the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia, basic school education is compulsory and state-funded. It is set up by local communities.

The basic school education is divided into **three educational cycles**, each cycle covers three grades. In a separate **grade**, there are pupils of the same age. Pupils of the same grade are further grouped into **classes**. Smaller schools form multi-grade classes in which they place pupils of two or three different grade levels.

**Children with special educational needs (SEN)** are children with mental disabilities, deaf children and children with hearing impairments, blind children and children with visual impairments, children with speech and language impairments, children with physical disabilities, children with problems in specific fields of education, children with long-term illness, children with emotional and behavioral problems and children with autistic disorders. SEN children are included:

- in regular basic education school programs with the adapted implementation and additional professional assistance,
- in adapted programs for SEN children
- in special programs.

These programs are provided by basic schools, specialized basic schools for SEN children or institutions for SEN children. According to their disabilities SEN children are placed into one of these programs and institutions by the National education institute of the Republic of Slovenia.

## Basic music and dance education

Basic music and dance education is non-compulsory and is provided outside mainstream formal education. It is provided by public and private music and dance schools. Music school is part of the educational system and gives publicly valid music education.

**Educational programs** carried out in the basic music and dance education are as follows: pre-school music education, preparatory music programs, preparatory dance programs, music programs and dance programs. Pre-school music education and preparatory music programs are one-year programs, the preparatory dance program is a three-year program, music programs are four-, six- or eight-year programs, and dance programs are four- or six-year programs. Music and dance programs are divided into lower and upper levels.

Music school performs educational work in grades, class units and educational groups. A **grade** is an educational entity that in accordance with the curriculum covers the subjects of one school year. A **class** unit for individual instructions comprises pupils of individual instrument or groups of instruments or singing. An educational group comprises pupils of one or more instruments or singing at chamber-ensemble performance.

### Upper secondary education

The next stage after nine years of compulsory basic education is two to five year non-compulsory upper secondary education that begins at the age of 15.

The upper secondary education encompasses:

- **general education**, with different types of four-year gimnazija programs which end by passing the **matura** examination. After finishing a one-year matura course, graduates of vocational and technical programs can take the matura examination. Adults who are at least 21 years old can also sit for a matura exam, irrespective of their previous education.
- **vocational and technical education**, with educational programs of different levels of difficulty that gives knowledge and skills required for performing an occupation. It enables the choice of occupation and preparation for it. Types of vocational and technical education:
  - upper secondary short-term vocational (2 years) and vocational (3 years) programs ending with the final school-leaving exam,
  - upper secondary technical programs (4 years) being completed by passing the vocational matura exam. Technical upper secondary education can also be obtained by:
    - finishing vocational technical programmes (2 additional years after completing a vocational program),
    - foreman/manager exams and master craftsman courses,
    - vocational courses of different professions (1 year).

Upper secondary education is provided by public upper secondary schools (organised in single upper secondary schools or school centers), private upper secondary schools and educational institutions for SEN children. The system of upper secondary education is centralized and managed at the national level.

### Adult education

**Adults** are participants in basic education that have made a break in their education for a year or more no matter how old they are.

**Basic schools for adults** are organizations providing basic adult education.

**Upper secondary schools for adults** include upper secondary schools with class units for adults and other institutions that perform upper secondary education for adults.

## 7 EXPLANATIONS

### 7.1 CLASSIFICATIONS

**KLASIUS (Classification System of Education and Training)** is an obligatory national standard used for classifying educational activities and qualifications in the official and other administrative records, in statistical surveys and in statistical registers. The main purpose of KLASIUS is to ensure the consistency of data, especially in monitoring the participation in education and training and in the dissemination of educational and qualification structure of the population.

KLASIUS consists of two classifications: **KLASIUS-SRV** for classifying educational activities and qualifications regarding segments, levels and types and **KLASIUS-P-16** for classifying educational activities and qualifications regarding fields of education and training. KLASIUS-SRV takes into account the concept of the International Standard Classification of Education ISCED 1997 and ISCED 2011, but is not directly comparable. In KLASIUS-P-16 the concept and structure with the set of categories follow the new International Standard Classification of Education – Fields of Education and Training 2013 (ISCED-F 2013).

For further information please visit:

<https://www.stat.si/statweb/en/Methods/Classifications>

**International standard classification of education ISCED**, is a classification for preparing the data for international purposes. For further information please visit:

[https://ec.europa.eu/education/international-standard-classification-of-education-isced\\_sl](https://ec.europa.eu/education/international-standard-classification-of-education-isced_sl)

### 7.2 DATA PROCESSING

#### DATA EDITING

Data were edited with appropriate imputation procedures and by using appropriate systemic and individual corrections. The following imputation methods were used: logical imputations and hot deck imputations.

For more, see the general methodological explanations [Statistical data editing](#).

## **WEIGHTING**

Weighting was not performed.

## **SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT**

Seasonal adjustment was not performed.

## **7.3 INDICES**

Indices are not published.

## **7.4 PRECISION**

The survey is not conducted on the basis of a random sample.

## **7.5 OTHER EXPLANATIONS**

## **8 PUBLISHING**

- SI-STAT Data Portal: [Education](#) – Preschool education, Basic education, Upper secondary education, Music and dance education; the data and important indicators are published by field and type of education, NUTS etc.
- First release (Education): »Students in pre-tertiary education, Slovenia, annually«
- First release (Education): »Students who completed basic and upper-secondary education, Slovenia, annually«
- Statøbook
- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD, publication Education at a Glance)
- The statistical office of the European Union (Eurostat)
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organizations (UNESCO)

## **9 REVISION OF THE DATA**

### **9.1 PUBLISHING OF PRELIMINARY AND FINAL DATA**

Provisional data are not disseminated. Only final data are published.



## 9.2 FACTORS INFLUENCING COMPARABILITY OVER TIME

The data for 2016 (participants and graduates in pre-tertiary education, school years 2016/17 and 2015/16) were collected from the administrative data sources of the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport (participants, programs, institutions), the National Examination Centre (graduates in upper secondary education) and the National Education Institute of Slovenia (SEN children) for the first time. Mostly the methodology is unchanged and data series undisturbed. Few data, however, are not completely comparable to the data for previous years and will be marked with footnotes as such. For example the data on SEN children, adults in education, etc.

## 10 OTHER METHODOLOGICAL MATERIALS

Methodological materials on SURSs website are available at <https://www.stat.si/statweb/en/Methods/QuestionnairesMethodologicalExplanationsQualityReports>.

- Questionnaire:
  - SURS does not collect data for this survey by using a questionnaire.
- Annual quality report for the survey:
  - Students in pre-tertiary education and those who completed education at these levels (ŠOL-DOTERC) - theme: Education