

TERTIARY EDUCATION

LEGAL BASIS

The annual survey on tertiary education is carried out pursuant to the Law on Official Statistics ("Official Gazette of RS ", number 104/09).

METHODOLOGICAL BASIS

Methodological solutions (standards, classifications, nomenclatures, definitions, etc.) and questionnaires for carrying out the survey on tertiary education are regulated by the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia.

Objective and scope of statistical surveys

Tertiary education is an activity of special interest for the Republic of Serbia and is part of the international, and particularly European educational, scientific and arts space. It is realized through academic and applied studies based on accredited study programmes for attaining tertiary education. The objective of the tertiary education statistics is to collect, process and publish data on universities, faculties, academies and higher schools and study programmes, types and cycles of studies, students enrolled and graduated at all cycles of studies (studies of first, second and third cycle) and teaching staff by main characteristics.

Tertiary education surveys provide data on the number of tertiary education institutions and their territorial distribution, ownership, cycles of studies they are organizing, types of study programmes, students enrolled, i.e. graduated at a cycle of studies by sex, age, previously completed school, financing modalities during the studies, students' socio-economic status, students' mobility as well as data on teaching staff.

Reporting units

Reporting units for tertiary education surveys are all tertiary education institutions – universities, faculties, art academies and higher schools.

Survey coverage

The coverage of tertiary education surveys is complete. The annual surveys on enrolled students (ŠV-20) and on graduated students (ŠV-50) cover all students enrolled at all cycles of studies in the current school year, i.e. all students who completed a cycle of studies in the calendar year at all higher schools, faculties and art academies whatever the ownership status. The survey on enrolled students does not include senior undergraduate students (do not enrol in a year of study).

The annual survey on teaching staff and the structure of higher education institutions (ŠV-21) covers all teachers and assistants in an educational process whatever the type of employment relationship and of working hours.

The annual survey on newly enrolled students at the first year of studies (ŠV-22a) covers students who have enrolled for the first time in the first year of studies at faculties/higher schools.

Data sources

Data on enrolled and graduated students are collected via individual statistical questionnaires "Statistical report on students enrolled" (form ŠV'20) and "Statistical report for students who completed studies at tertiary education institutions (ŠV-50). Data on teaching staff at tertiary education institutions are collected via a cumulative report "Report on teaching staff and the structure of tertiary education institutions" (ŠV-21) which is filled in by all tertiary education institutions. The surveys are conducted once a year. The Report on newly enrolled students at the first year of studies (SV-22a) is filled in by tertiary education institutions. The surveys are conducted once a year.

Obligation to protect personal data

Data obtained from reporting units are considered official secret, are used for statistical purposes only and cannot be released or made available to users. Data aggregated according to territory, cycle of study, ownership status, financing modality, etc. may be accessed by external users

Explanation of the main concepts and characteristics

Tertiary education institutions are educational institutions where educational and scientific process is carried out in view of preparing specialists to work in corresponding areas, according to specially regulated curricula. The activity of tertiary education is performed by the following tertiary education institutions: university, faculty, i.e. art academy within a university; academy of applied studies; higher school and higher school of applied studies

University, academy of applied studies, higher school of applied studies are independent tertiary education institutions. Faculty, i.e. art academy is a tertiary education institution in the scope of a university that realizes academic study programmes and develops R&D, specialized, i.e. art works in one or more fields. Faculty, i.e. art academy can also organize applied study programmes.

The activity of tertiary education is realized through academic and applied studies based on selected, i.e. accredited study programmes for attaining tertiary education.

Academic studies involve academic study programmes that enable students to develop and apply scientific, specialist and art achievements.

Applied studies involve applied study programmes that enable students to apply knowledge and skills necessary to become included in work process.

First cycle studies are undergraduate academic studies and undergraduate applied studies, and specialized applied studies.

Second cycle studies are: master academic studies and specialized applied studies.

Third cycle studies are doctoral academic studies.

Mobility in tertiary education is focused on removing barriers in knowledge flow and is the key element of the European strategy that should contribute to personal and professional students' development and to provide them with skills they need in future. Eurostat defines two types of mobility:

1. Students' enrolment abroad, i.e. in another country other than that where secondary education has been attained, for the purpose of getting a degree, and
2. Temporary departure for abroad to follow study programmes or trainings of the same cycle as the studies carried out in the country.

For a student to be considered mobile, she/he must spend at least three months abroad or the programme attended abroad must ensure at least 15 ECTS credits

Data collected through the statistical report on students enrolled (SV -20):

- Number of students' file and personal identification number
- Data on tertiary education institution: name of the faculty-academy or higher school, as well as university and study programme, type and cycle of study and municipality where the school is located
- Background information on the student: sex, year and place of birth, residence – student's place of permanent residence (foreign students enter the name of the country from which they have come), type of settlement of the place of permanent residence (urban and other), citizenship, ethnic affiliation, marital status
- Data on previously completed secondary school
- Data on the studies: calendar year of the first enrolment at a study programme, acquired ECTS credits (total and those in the previous academic year), financing modality (budget or self-financing)
- Data on student's socio-economic status: sources of supporting during the studies, address and type of accommodation during the studies, student's main employment status, does the student support other persons, father's and mother's educational attainment and occupation of parents/provider.
- Data on the type of support the student needs in her/his daily activities at faculty/higher school (the answer to this question is optional).

Data are collected through statistical the statistical report for students who have completed their studies at tertiary education institutions (SV-50):

- Number of student's file
- Data on the tertiary education institution: name of the faculty-academy or higher school, as well as university and study programme, type and cycle of studies and municipality where the school is located
- Student's background information: sex, year and place of birth, residence – place of permanent residence (foreign students enter the name of the country they have come from), citizenship, ethnic affiliation
- Data on the studies: calendar year of the first enrolment at the study programme, way of financing during the studies, average score during the studies
- Mobility during the studies
- Data on the previously completed secondary school and previously completed same cycle and type of studies
- Data on student's socio-economic status: sources of supporting during the studies, type of accommodation during the studies, father's and mother's educational attainment.

Data that are collected in the Annual survey on teaching staff and structure of tertiary education institution (SV-21):

The main data on tertiary institution and its structure, data on teachers and assistants participating in lectures, by title (doctors of science, masters and specialists), scientific title, working hours.

Level of data representativeness

Data are available for the levels of the Republic of Serbia, regions, area, up to municipal level.

Data aggregation is possible by faculties in the scope of universities, forms of ownership, educational fields, and modalities of financing and cycles of studies.

Harmonisation with international recommendations, standards and practice

The methodology of tertiary education is harmonized with international statistical standards and provides data on tertiary education by the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED-2011, levels 5-8).

DESCRIPTION OF THE SURVEY MANAGEMENT

Bodies in charge of the survey management

The Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, as responsible producer of official statistics, establishes tools for carrying out the survey, produces methodological instructions, code lists required for the survey, prepares, prints and distributes the questionnaires (except for SV-20) to reporting units (tertiary education institutions).

Collection of filled in questionnaires, coverage control, accuracy control and control of data completeness as well as correction of data are performed by the Group for statistics of science, tertiary education and culture and the Sector of statistics for regional unit for AP Vojvodina.

Final control, analysis, tabulation and publication of data are performed by the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia.

Obligation to provide data

Reporting units are committed to provide accurate, complete and up-dated data that meet, by their content and form, the requirements of the official statistics. The obligation to provide data is founded on Article 26a and penalty provisions in case of refusal to provide data or in case of provision of incomplete and inaccurate data on Article 54 of the Law on Official Statistical ("Official Journal of RS ", No 104/2009).

Timetable of the main phases

Statistical report on enrolled students (SV-20):

- Preparation of the survey – preparation of questionnaires, up-dating the address book and code list and other methodological materials - March.
- Reception of materials in the Sector of statistics for the regional unit for AP Vojvodina and SORS, in January of the next year
- Data entry, data editing – May
- Tabulation and production of results –end of June

Report on teaching staff and structure of tertiary education (SV-21)

- Sending questionnaires to reporting units – October
- Tabulation and production of results up to February of the next year

Annual report on newly enrolled students at the first year of studies (SV-22a)

- Sending questionnaires to reporting units – October
- Production of the release “Newly enrolled students in the Republic of Serbia “- end of December.

Statistical report for students who have completed studies at tertiary education institutions (SV-50):

- Survey preparation – preparation and printing of questionnaires, up-dating the address book and code list, up-dating other methodological materials - January.
- Sending questionnaires to reporting units – December (questionnaires for the next year)
- Reception of materials in the Sector of statistics for the regional unit for AP Vojvodina and SORS –
up to the 10th of the months for the
previous month
- Data entry, data editing - quarterly
- Tabulation and production of results –end of June.
- Production of the publication “Tertiary education” in December.

SURVEY TOOLS

The tools for carrying out annual surveys of tertiary education are the questionnaires:

- “Statistical report on enrolled students “ (SV-20),
- “Report on teaching staff and structure of tertiary education institutions” (SV-21),
- “Annual report on newly enrolled students at the first year of studies” (SV-22a),
- “Statistical report for students who have completed studies at tertiary education institutions” (SV-50).

Publication of results

The results are published in the annual publication “Tertiary education”, statistical releases “Newly enrolled students in the Republic of Serbia” and “Graduated students in the Republic of Serbia”, Statistical yearbook of the Republic of Serbia, publication “Municipalities and regions in the Republic of Serbia”, Statistical pocket-book of Serbia, and on the website of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia: www.stat.gov.rs

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