

SURVEYS ON UPPER SECONDARY SCHOOLS

LEGAL BASIS

The Survey on Upper Secondary Education is regulated by the Law on Official Statistics, ("Official Journal of the RS", number 110/2009) adopted by the Government of the Republic of Serbia in line with Article 8 of the Law on Official Statistics ("Official Journal of the RS", number 104/2009), as well as the Strategy of Official Statistics Development of the Republic of Serbia in the period from 2009 to 2012 ("Official Journal of the RS", number 7/2009).

METHODOLOGICAL BASIS

Objective of the survey

The objective of the survey of upper secondary education is to provide data on the situation, structure and advancement of schools and classes, as well as data on the structure and movement of pupils and teachers fulfilling the upper secondary education curriculum. The statistics of upper secondary education is particularly focused on ensuring data on educational level completed during schooling, fields of education and educational profiles that are significant for employment and further schooling, as well as on compiling data on education as part of the social activity.

This survey provides data on the number and type of upper secondary schools, form of ownership, number of classes, regular full-time and part-time pupils and repeaters, on pupils by fields of education and educational profiles for which they attend school, sex and age, completion of school, language learning, instructions in languages of ethnic minorities, specialist-vocational education, teachers and teaching assistants by sex and duration of working hours, as well as on computers available in schools and the use of the latter during instructions

Reporting units

Reporting units are all upper secondary schools carrying out the general upper education, vocational education lasting three years and four years, arts education, as well as schools or classes for pupils with developmental disabilities.

Survey coverage

The coverage of the survey ŠS/P and ŠS/K is complete. The statistical report is to be transmitted by every secondary school (public and private) for the base school and classroom at another location – settlement (if the school performs the activity away from its seat) and every school or class for upper secondary education of pupils with developmental disabilities.

Data sources

The data on upper secondary education are the result of the regular annual survey carried out at the beginning and end of every school year. Data are collected by means of the Statistical questionnaire for regular upper secondary schools – as of the beginning of the school year (form SŠ/P) and the Statistical questionnaire for regular upper secondary schools – as of the end of the school year (form ŠS/K). The data for the beginning of the school year are collected as of 15 September, and those for the end of the school year as of 30 August.

Obligation to protect individual data

The data received from reporting units are subject to professional secret, used only for statistical purposes and cannot be published or made available to users. The data being aggregated by territory, type of education, type of school, etc. can be made accessible to external users.

Explanations of the main concepts and characteristics

Upper secondary education provides knowledge and develop skills for employment and further education.

Upper secondary school is an institution where the activity of upper secondary education is performed. The upper secondary education classroom in another locality – settlement (activity away from the seat) is presented as a separate unit (school).

Upper secondary school can be created as gymnasium (general-type and specialized), arts, vocational as well as a mixed school (gymnasium and vocational school or arts school).

Gymnasium provides general education in natural and social sciences for continuing education. Gymnasium education lasts four years. Upon completion of the fourth grade, pupils pass a general final year examination.

Art schools provide four-year education in fine arts, music and ballet. Upon completion of the fourth grade of art education, pupils pass final year art examination.

Four-year and three-year vocational schools provide education for employment and further education. Upon completion of the third, i.e. fourth grade, students pass a vocational final year examination.

Specialist-vocational education implies further specialization in an educational profile after a two-year work experience and lasts one or two years. Upon completion of the specialist-vocational education, pupils pass final year specialist-vocation examination.

School or class for the education of pupils with developmental disabilities is a special school or class in a regular upper secondary school where persons are enrolled on the basis of a decision identifying the type and degree of developmental disability, which is adopted by municipal administrations in line with the law.

Class is a group of students taught during the school year by several teachers successively.

Grade is the level of education providing pupils with a range of knowledge foreseen in the curriculum of a selected type of school during a certain period of time, at most during one school year.

Pupil – to become a full-time, i.e. part-time pupil one has to enroll every school year in a school, under conditions stipulated by the law.

Full-time pupil attends regularly instructions and fulfills school obligations. **Full-time pupil** of the first grade cannot be over 17 years old. As for enrollment in an arts school and school for pupils with developmental disabilities another age limit can be defined.

Part-time pupil passes exams and fulfills other defined obligations.

Repeater is a pupil who enrolls in the same grade for the second time or several times.

Teacher provides instructions and other forms of educational work foreseen in the curriculum.

Teacher's assistant implies psychologist, school counselor, librarian, which work is significant for the realization of the educational programme.

Level of data representativeness

As far as territorial representativeness is concerned, the data are collected on the level of municipalities, administrative districts, AP Vojvodina and for the Republic of Serbia. Data aggregation is possible according to the type of school, form of ownership and field of education.

Harmonization with international recommendations and standards

The forms ŠS/P and ŠS/K have been partially modified and harmonised with international statistical standards. Thus, they facilitate the presentation of data on upper secondary education in compliance with the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED-97, level 3, 4).

SURVEY MANAGEMENT

Bodies responsible for survey management

The Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia – Department of Population Statistics and Data Collection – Group of Education and Social Security Statistics, Department of Statistics for the regional unit for AP Vojvodina and regional offices prepare and carry out the survey.

The Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia defines and produces unique methodological basis and instruments for the survey, prepares address books and code lists for the survey, prepares and prints the questionnaires and distributes the latter to regional offices.

The Division of Statistical and Information Support in the Department of Statistics for the regional unit for AP Vojvodina controls the data coverage, accuracy and exhaustiveness, corrects the materials, processes and analyses the materials.

Regional offices in the Department of Statistics for the regional unit for AP Vojvodina are in charge of the distribution of the questionnaires to reporting units for their territories, collection of filled in questionnaires – reports, control of data coverage, accuracy and exhaustiveness of data and data entry.

Regional offices in Central Serbia are in charge of the distribution of questionnaires to reporting units on their territory, collection of the questionnaires, control of data coverage, accuracy and exhaustiveness and data entry.

Obligation to provide data

The obligation to provide data is laid down in Article 26a of the penalty provision in case of refusal or provision of incomplete or erroneous data and in Article 52 of the Law on Official Statistics ("Official Journal of the RS ", number 104/2009).

Timetable of the main stages of the survey

Survey preparation – preparation and printing of the questionnaire, up-date of the address book and code list – July and August. **Data collection** – transmission of the questionnaires to regional offices - August. **Preparations of materials** in regional offices, materials control and transmission of correct materials to the SORS – 30 September – 30 November. **Data entry, data editing and computing control** in the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia

- 20 February.

Tabulation and production of results - March.

Production of the Bulletin "Regular Upper Secondary Education – beginning of the school year " – 28 May.

SURVEY TOOLS

The survey uses the following tools:

1. List of municipalities by districts
2. List of educational profiles by fields of education regulated by the Ministry of Education.

Annexed are the questionnaires ŠS/P and ŠS/K.

Publication of the results

The results are published in the bulletin „Regular Upper Secondary Education – beginning of the school year“, Statistical Yearbook of Serbia, publication Municipalities in Serbia and on the website of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia.

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