

## 6. EDUCATION

### Methodological notes

The Act on the Education and Training No 245/2008 Coll. (Education Act) defines individual types of schools that provide pre-primary, primary, lower secondary, upper secondary, post-secondary non tertiary, the lowest level of tertiary education and leisure time educational activities: **kindergarten, basic school, grammar school, secondary vocational school, conservatory, school for children and pupils with special pedagogical and educational needs, basic school of arts, language school. Educational facilities** are also the part of the educational system.

According to the Act No 245/2008 apprentice schools and secondary vocational apprentice schools established according to the former regulations are titled as **secondary vocational schools** providing lower secondary vocational and secondary vocational education. For this reason, all data on apprentice schools and secondary vocational apprentice schools are included in the data on secondary vocational schools (levels 252, 253 and 352, 353 by ISCED 2011).

Data on **grammar schools and secondary vocational schools** covers schools managed by the Ministry of Education, Research, Development and Youth, the Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Health.

**Universities and colleges** are defined by the Act No 131/2002 Coll. on Universities and Colleges and on amendment of some acts.

Schools, where upbringing and education are carried out in classes with Slovak teaching language as well as in classes where upbringing and education are carried out comprehensively in a language of minority, are reported as schools with several teaching languages.

**Shift teaching** expresses the share of pupils involved in the second shift.

The school years presented in the tables are indicated by the years in which they started, e. g. the year 2023 refers to the school year 2023/2024.

Basic information on statistics of education is completed by data on participation of adults on lifelong learning acquired by sample surveys – **Adult Education Survey (AES)**. AES is based on a random selection of dwellings in all districts of the Slovak Republic. The survey covers all persons aged 18 – 69 (until 2022 target population was 18-64) who live in the households of the selected dwellings without regards to permanent, temporary or unregistered stay, institutionally population excepted. The methodology used for the AES fully corresponds the Eurostat recommendations and particular European regulations.

### Definitions

**Secondary vocational school** providing vocational education at level 253, 353, 344, 354, 454 and 554 by ISCED 2011 is secondary school, where pupils are educated at least in two- and at most five-year educational program of respective branch of education. Educational programs of secondary vocational school are mainly specialized for professional activities of economy, health system, public administration, culture, arts and other professional branches and also they can prepare pupils for next study.

According to article 94, paragraph 1 of the Act No 245/2008 Coll. the education of handicapped children is usually realized in **special schools** or in other schools in established **special classes** usually for children with the same kind of health impact. Upbringing and education of handicapped children can be realized in classes or educational groups together with other pupils of the

school. If it is necessary, this child or pupil is educated according to individual educational program.

**Sports schools** are secondary schools (former sport grammar schools) that in all classes and in all educational years ensure the education of students with sports talent for studying at university or college as well as for the performance of professions and professional activities in sports.

**Sports classes** are classes focused on developing sporting talent of the pupils and students. They are established at ordinary kindergartens, basic, grammar and secondary vocational schools.

**Formal education** is executed in the framework of the system of basic and secondary schools and universities organized and structured considering a place, time and means. It is connected to the institution determined for the education and vocational education. It leads to the achievement of a qualification and to the granting of officially recognized documents.

**Non-formal education** is running alongside formal education system and it is not usually completed by a issuing of qualification documents. The aim of educational activities of non-formal education is to complete, extend or deepen a knowledge, skills and competences of individuals.

## Source

Source of data are mainly statistical surveys carried out by the Ministry of Education, Research, Development and Youth of the SR through the Slovak Centre of Scientific and Technical Information. The published data on formal and non-formal education are result of the Adult Education Survey in the Slovak Republic carried out by the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic. Selected indicators for the branch of education are also available in the public database of the Statistical Office of the SR DATAcube.

# International Standard Classification of Education ISCED 2011 and the system of education in the Slovak Republic

Age of education		Educational programmes and educational attainment by ISCED 2011		Code	School system in the Slovak Republic
Less than 3 – 6 years		PRE-PRIMARY early childhood education / without education, unfinished 1 <sup>st</sup> stage of basic schools		020 030	Nursery schools, kindergartens and special kindergartens, zero grades in basic schools, preparatory classes in basic schools, preparatory classes in special schools
6 – 15 years		Compulsory school attendance <sup>1)</sup>	BASIC Primary 1 <sup>st</sup> stage of basic schools Lower secondary 2 <sup>nd</sup> stage of basic schools	100 244	1 <sup>st</sup> stage of basic schools, 1 <sup>st</sup> stage of special basic schools variant C 2 <sup>nd</sup> stage of basic schools, 2 <sup>nd</sup> stage of special basic schools – variant A, 1 <sup>st</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup> grade of eight-year secondary schools
15 – 18/19 years or others			SECONDARY Lower secondary vocational	243 252	Practical schools Secondary vocational schools (study fields for students with mental handicap)
		Secondary vocational with apprenticeship certificate Secondary vocational without maturita and apprenticeship certificate UPPER SECONDARY <sup>2)</sup> Secondary general with maturita Secondary vocational with maturita and apprenticeship certificate Secondary vocational with maturita and without apprenticeship certificate	253	Secondary vocational schools (2-year educational programmes with specially adjusted curriculum)	
			352	Secondary vocational schools (study fields for students with mental handicap)	
			353	Secondary vocational schools (educational programmes providing apprenticeship certificate)	
			353	Secondary vocational schools (educational programmes without maturita and without providing apprenticeship certificate)	
			344	Grammar schools	
			354	Secondary vocational schools (educational programmes with maturita providing apprenticeship certificate)	
			354	Secondary vocational schools (educational programmes with maturita)	
			454	Secondary vocational schools (educational programmes with maturita for graduates of study fields in follow-up courses)	
		18/19 + 2 years		POST-SECONDARY NON TERTIARY Qualification, innovation and improvement study	
18/19 + 3 years		TERTIARY Higher vocational (specialised for graduates with maturita) – graduates are awarded by the title DiS. (or its equivalent)		554	Secondary vocational schools, conservatoires, dance conservatoires, higher secondary vocational schools
18/19 + 4 – 6 years or others	18/19 + 3 – 4 years	1 <sup>st</sup> degree of university study – bachelor’s study – graduates are awarded by the title Bc. (or its equivalent)		655 665	Universities, colleges Police Academy Armed Forces Academy (bachelor’s study programmes)
	21/22 + 2 years	2 <sup>nd</sup> degree of university study – magister’s (master’s), engineering, doctor’s study – graduates are awarded by the title Mgr. (MA), Ing., Dr. (or its equivalent)		766 767 768	Universities, colleges Police Academy Armed Forces Academy (magister’s, engineering and doctor’s study programmes)
24/25 + 3 years or more		3 <sup>rd</sup> degree of university study – postgraduate study – postgraduates are awarded by degree PhD., ThD. (or its equivalent)		864	Universities, colleges Police Academy, Armed Forces Academy (postgraduate study, science education)

<sup>1)</sup> Compulsory school attendance is until 16

<sup>2)</sup> Graduates of study with school-leaving examination (maturita) have direct access to tertiary education