

Standard-documentation Meta information

(Definitions, comments, methods, quality)

on

Continuing Vocational Training Survey (CVTS5)

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Executive Summary

The regulation (EC) 1552/2005 has created a legal act for the European Survey on vocational training which is compulsory for all EU member states. The regulation provides for a European survey on vocational training, starting with the reference year 2005.

Already before the implementation of the regulation quoted two CVTS (which stands for Continuing Vocation Training Survey) surveys were conducted on a voluntary basis; therefore the CVTS on the reference year 2005 is considered as CVTS3. All member states of the EU-28 participated in the European survey on vocational training 2015 (CVTS5) as well as Norway and Macedonia.

CVTS is a sample survey among enterprises. The subject of the statistics is vocational training courses and other forms of vocational training as well as the education for apprentices. The survey focuses especially on

- The qualification strategies of enterprises
- Costs which accrued in the enterprises for vocational training courses
- The question which hampering factors for qualifying their personnel training enterprises are confronted with
- The question which public funding or measures for qualification are considered supportive by training enterprises
- If and how enterprises supervise the success of qualifying measures

Focussing on these topics the enterprise survey CVTS provides necessary complements to respective surveys among individual's, especially such as the Adult Education Survey (AES).

The CVTS covers enterprises with at least ten employees in the manufacturing and service sector (NACE sectors B to N as well as R and S). The target population in Austria consists of around 39,500 enterprises with, altogether, more than two million employees.

As a sampling frame for the sample survey the statistical business register of Statistics Austria was used. In Austria, for enterprises surveyed in the CVTS5 were not obliged to report data, participation was completely voluntary. Stratification of the sample and requests for precision for each cell of the sample matrix were subject to strict European rules. For Austria, underlying an expected response of around 40% of the sample size, this resulted in sample size of approximately 4,000 enterprises.

First, the enterprises of the sample were subject to a screening in a computer assisted telephone interview (CATI). In this survey for each firm the person responsible for training in the enterprise was identified and asked if in the reference year employees have participated in further training courses and if not, whether employees have participated in one out of five other forms of further training.

After the screening via telephone a computer assisted web interview (CAWI) was offered to the companies. In addition, all those companies that did not complete the web questionnaire until the second reminder received an individually designed paper questionnaire (PAPI).

The CVTS questionnaire comprises of the following modules:

- Structural data of the enterprise
- Training strategies
- Characteristics of the vocational training
- Vocational training courses
- Quality and results of vocational training
- Hampering factors for vocational training
- Reasons for not being involved in vocational training
- Apprenticeship training

The CVTS questionnaire corresponds to a large extent to the European standard questionnaire, only a few national questions are added. Variables of the European questionnaire which could be filled from registers or administrative data were not asked for the sake of response burden. The only exception from this principle is the question on the number of employees on 31st December of the reference year. This question was included to check if the respondents answered for the enterprise sampled as it was defined in the sampling frame.

The completed questionnaires had to fulfil European standards with respect to completeness. Only such questionnaires were allowed to be evaluated where all core variables and at least half of the other variables were filled out. 1,894 questionnaires fulfilled these criteria. The response rate was 47.1%.

Missing data in the 1,894 analysed questionnaires were imputed according to the European methodological recommendations.

Finally two data files with 1,894 datasets each were transmitted to Eurostat, of which one data file before imputations were made, and one data file after imputation of missing values.

Continuing Vocational Training Survey (CVTS5) – Main features

Subject Matter	Vocational training and apprenticeship training in 2015 in Austrian enterprises of the manufacturing and service sector
Population	All approximately 39,500 enterprises with 10 and more employees of the economic activities (NACE Rev. 2) B to N, R and S. With the reference day 31 December 2015 these enterprises employed around 2 million people.
Type of statistics	Sample survey among 4,000 enterprises using also administrative data and register data
Data sources/Survey techniques	Telephone screening (CATI), Computer Assisted Web Interview (CAWI), Paper and Pencil Interview (PAPI), business register, social security, wage tax. Sample stratification by three enterprise size classes (number of employees), and 20 industries (NACE Rev. 2)
Reference period or due day	Calendar year 2015
Periodicity	Every 5 years
Survey participation (in case of a survey)	Voluntary
Main legal acts	Regulation (EC) No 1552/2005 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 September 2005 on statistics relating to vocational training in enterprises
Most detailed regional breakdown	Austria
Availability of results	Final data: 31 March 2018
Other	Two-stage survey design: 1) Short telephone pre-screening (CATI) 2) Main survey: Computer Assisted Web Interview (CAWI) and tailor-made Paper And Pencil Interview (PAPI)