

Education and Training Statistics

Education and Training Statistics

Education

Purpose

To produce and publish indicators and analysis on the operation, evolution and impact of education, from early childhood through formal education to learning and training throughout life. The collected data cover the outputs of educational institutions, the policy levers that shape educational outputs, the human and financial resources invested in education and structural characteristics of education systems. The main publications are the annual publications "Education at a Glance" and "Education Policy Analysis".

Objectives and outputs

Production of indicators on the financing of education, participation in and graduation from education, the educational attainment of the adult population, teacher salaries and work conditions, and instruction time.

Consolidation of the technical documentation of the education data collection. Analysis of the organisation of upper secondary education, development of a data strategy to collect information on teachers and teaching. Ongoing methodological work including: coverage study of public subsidies to households for education, expenditure comparability study, development of a new classification of educational personnel, conceptual framework for the measurement of knowledge and skills, and the development of an international module for the measurement of continuing education and training.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Israel, Russian Federation

Databases

Education database

Main Developments for 2005

General aspects:

In coordination with the other data requesters (Unesco and Eurostat), several improvements are envisaged for 2005 and 2006, especially to extent the coverage of the data collection to address data gaps pointed by users. To reduce the potential increase of the response workload an organisation based on a core data collection and ad hoc rotating modules is envisaged.

Education database will benefit from the OECD.Stat and MetaStore developments.

Education and Training Statistics

Handbook for Internationally Comparative Education Statistics

Purpose

The Handbook containing concepts, standards, definitions and classifications used in the compilation and publication of OECD statistics and indicators on education was published for the first time in May 2004.

Objectives and outputs

This activity will assess the impact of the Handbook to evaluate to what extent the standards set out in the Handbook are actually being applied in practice in the OECD data collections and the reasons, if any, preventing this. In addition, it will be evaluated to what extent countries have modified their reporting practices in the light of the standards set out in the Handbook and, if countries have not done this but need to, what are the barriers preventing this and how can OECD help overcome them. Areas for further clarifications in standards will finally be identified.

Main Developments for 2005

General aspects:

The objective of the activity in 2005 is the dissemination of the first edition of the Handbook and the assessment of its impact on the further consolidation of the OECD education statistics and indicators.

The new aspect of the activity is likely to highlight areas that require further clarification in standards and definitions which will serve as the basis for a revised, second edition of the Handbook to be produced in due course. A report of the findings is expected to be produced by the end of 2005.

Education and Training Statistics

Programme for International Student Assessment

Purpose

The Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) was created by the OECD member countries in 1997 to produce direct assessments of student performance, on a regular basis in an efficient, timely and cost-effective manner; and to provide more relevant and powerful indicators of human capital. PISA produces assessments of reading literacy, mathematical literacy, scientific literacy and a growing range of cross-curricular competencies among 15-year-olds in school.

Objectives and outputs

In 2005 a number of publications and further reports will be created using the data collected in the second round of PISA testing in 2003. A training and database manual will be produced to facilitate the use of the PISA database by researchers. In 2005 the Field Trial for the third round of the PISA survey will take place. The major focus of assessment in this round is science and a large number of questions have been created to be trialled in the first half of the year. An innovation this time is the inclusion, in some countries, of an assessment of science using computers. Questions have been created to maximise the use of visual stimulus to better assess students' scientific literacy. In the second half of the year a process is in place to choose the questions which will go forward to be used in the Main Study in 2006.

Non-member countries involved in the activity:

Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Estonia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Russian Federation, Uruguay

Databases

PISA 2006 international database

Main Developments for 2005

General aspects:

In 2005, the project enters a new phase, following a focus, during 2004, on producing the initial report based on data collected in 2003. The focus also shifts from creating assessment questions to actually using them in the field, analysing their characteristics and making a final selection of questions to be used in the Main Study of PISA 2006.

Data management:

No new data will be collected for dissemination - only to be used to finalise questions to be used in PISA 2006.