

Adult Education Survey (AES)

The entity that has organized the survey and is responsible for data collection – as well as key data on the entity's membership, governance arrangements, source of funding etc.

The Adult Education Survey (AES) is organized by Eurostat, the official statistical office of the European Union, situated in Luxembourg. Its main objective is to provide the EU with statistics that enable comparisons between the European countries and regions. Eurostat was established in 1953 and became a Directorate-General (DG) of the European Commission when the European Community was founded in 1958. Today, seven different DGs are responsible for different sectors of Eurostat activities. Eurostat is funded by the European Commission.

The national statistical institutes are responsible for selecting the sample, preparing the questionnaires, conducting the direct interviews among households, and forwarding the results to Eurostat in accordance with the common coding scheme.

A historical sketch of the initiation and origin of the survey

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Internet links to the website of the responsible organization

[The website of Eurostat](#)

[The subsite of the AES](#)

The frequency or repetitions of the survey. Possible explanation of this.

The AES is planned to be conducted every fifth year. Fieldwork for the pilot round was done between 2005 and 2008, with 2007 as its reference year.

A description of the survey's content, i.e. both focused rotational and / or core modules of the survey

The AES covers participation in education and lifelong learning activities (both formal and informal/non-formal). In addition to socio-demographic data on the respondent, the survey contains questions about self-reported skills, participation in cultural and social activities, learning and education and characteristics of learning activities.

An outline of the type of sample and the main data collection methods used

The total net sample size for the 26 countries included in the dataset is about 186,000. The remaining three countries, i.e. Malta, Switzerland, and Turkey, refused to allow for dissemination of their national data. Country-by-country sample sizes are not available until downloading the data set.

The target population is all persons of working age, i.e. 25-64 years. Institutionalized persons are excluded. The national statistical institutes are responsible for the data collection.

An account of the availability of the data to researchers, restrictions on access, etc.

Some of the results may be found on Eurostat's website. Direct access to the microdata is only provided by means of research contracts available upon application. This is due to the confidential character of the data. For details on how to submit an access request, who can access the data, and so on please refer to the [SES microdata for for scientific purposes: how to obtain them?](#)

Questionnaires, English version

These are developed by the national statistical institutes. Eurostat recommends implementing a special survey for the AES, but the national statistical institutes may use a national survey which is country-specific.

The countries included in the different rounds

The AES is conducted in the 27 member states of the EU, Norway, Switzerland, and Turkey.

Cumulative file of the various rounds

There is no cumulative file.

Publications based on the data

[Publications based on the AES](#)

Analytical summary...

Sources

Unless otherwise noted, all information is extracted from the website of the AES/Eurostat.