

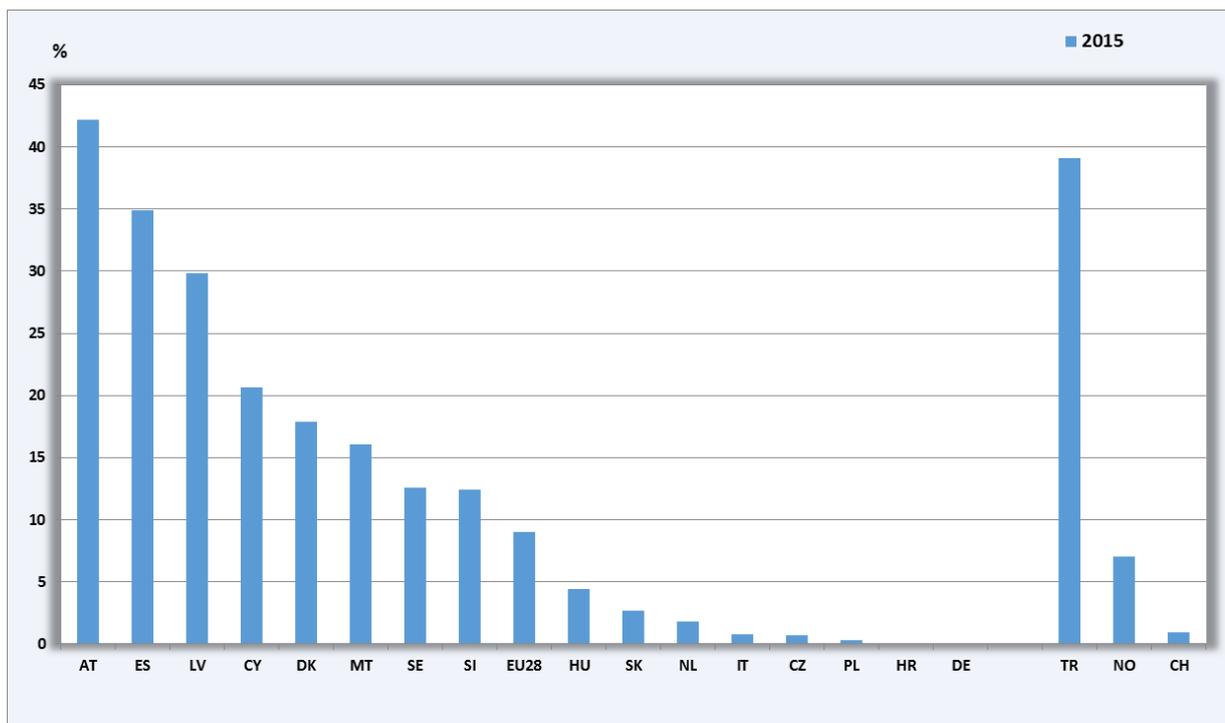
## 21. How many young people obtain a VET qualification at tertiary level?

Indicator 2065: short cycle VET graduates as a percentage of first time tertiary education graduates

A key EU policy aim is to have a highly skilled and qualified population and labour force. Increasing the EU average share of 30-34 year-olds with education attainment at tertiary level is one target of the Europe 2020 strategy. VET can contribute to this objective. This indicator is a proxy measure for the contribution of VET to tertiary level education attainment among the young population.

The indicator below is defined as the number of short cycle VET graduates <sup>(1)</sup> in a given year, expressed as a percentage of all graduates from first programmes at tertiary level of education <sup>(2)</sup> in that year. This is assumed to be an underestimated proxy measure of vocational education attainment at tertiary level <sup>(3)</sup>. EU averages are estimated from available country data.

**Figure 1 Short cycle VET graduates as % of first time tertiary education graduates**



Source: Cedefop calculations based on Eurostat data/UOE data collection on education.

### Key points

In 2015, 9.0% of first time tertiary education graduates in the EU were short cycle VET graduates. There is substantial variation in this percentage across the EU, ranging from 42.2% (Austria) to some countries reporting a share close to zero (for example: Poland, Croatia, and Germany). In

<sup>1</sup> Graduates from ISCED 554 programmes.

<sup>2</sup> Graduates from programmes assigned to ISCED 544, 554; 645, 655, 665; 646, 656, 666; 746, 756 or 766.

<sup>3</sup> The concept of "tertiary level VET" is not clearly defined at present. The limitation to short cycle VET (ISCED 554) may be too restrictive.

Hungary (4.4%), Slovakia (2.7%), the Netherlands (1.8%), Italy (0.8%), and the the Czech Republic (0.7%), the share of short cycle VET graduates among first time tertiary education graduates was also well below the EU average.

Comparing the non-EU countries for which data are available with the EU Member States, the percentage of first time tertiary education graduates in Turkey in 2015 who were short cycle VET graduates (at 39.1%) was in the top of the range; in Norway (at 7.0%) this share was slightly below and in Switzerland (at 0.9%) it was well below the EU average.

**Table 1 Short cycle VET graduates as % of first time tertiary education graduates**

Country code	Country	2015		Recent change			
		Value	Flag	Range	Country	EU28	
EU28	European Union (28)	9.0		'13-'15	↗	0.2	
BE	Belgium		b				
BG	Bulgaria	0.0	z	'13-'15	→	0.0	↗ 0.2
CZ	Czech Republic	0.7		'13-'15	↗	0.1	↗ 0.2
DK	Denmark	17.9		'13-'15	↗	0.3	↗ 0.2
DE	Germany	0.1		'13-'15	→	0.0	↗ 0.2
EE	Estonia	0.0	z	'13-'15	→	0.0	↗ 0.2
IE	Ireland						
EL	Greece			'13-'14	→	0.0	↗ 0.4
ES	Spain	34.9		'13-'15	↗	0.7	↗ 0.2
FR	France						
HR	Croatia	0.1		'13-'15	↗	0.1	↗ 0.2
IT	Italy	0.8		'13-'15	↗	0.3	↗ 0.2
CY	Cyprus	20.7		'13-'15	↘	-3.0	↗ 0.2
LV	Latvia	29.8		'13-'15	↗	5.1	↗ 0.2
LT	Lithuania	0.0	z	'13-'15	→	0.0	↗ 0.2
LU	Luxembourg			'13-'14	↗	6.2	↗ 0.4
HU	Hungary	4.4		'13-'15	↘	-16.0	↗ 0.2
MT	Malta	16.1		'13-'15	↘	-2.1	↗ 0.2
NL	Netherlands	1.8		'13-'15	↗	0.4	↗ 0.2
AT	Austria	42.2		'13-'15	↗	2.0	↗ 0.2
PL	Poland	0.3		'13-'15	↘	-0.9	↗ 0.2
PT	Portugal	0.0	z	'13-'15	→	0.0	↗ 0.2
RO	Romania	0.0	z	'13-'15	→	0.0	↗ 0.2
SI	Slovenia	12.5		'13-'15	↘	-2.3	↗ 0.2
SK	Slovakia	2.7		'13-'15	↗	0.5	↗ 0.2
FI	Finland	0.0	b z	'14-'15	→	0.0	↘ -0.2
SE	Sweden	12.6		'13-'15	↘	-0.3	↗ 0.2
UK	United Kingdom						
MK	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia			'13-'14	→	0.0	↗ 0.4
IS	Iceland						
NO	Norway	7.0		'13-'15	↘	-1.2	↗ 0.2
CH	Switzerland	0.9		'13-'15	↘	-3.4	↗ 0.2
TR	Turkey	39.1		'14-'15	↘	-2.8	↘ -0.2

Arrows ↗ or ↘ signal a positive or negative change. Arrow → indicates: no change.

Indicator available from 2013 onwards.

The EU28 values are based on 25 countries (missing: IE, FR, UK), with partial information for BE, EL, LU.

(b) Eurostat: "break in time series". (z) Eurostat: "not applicable".

Source: Cedefop calculations based on Eurostat data/UOE data collection on education.

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