

REFERENCE YEAR 2026

UNDERSTANDING OF APPRENTICESHIPS IN THE NATIONAL CONTEXT

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Q5. Relevant information that is essential to understanding the specificity of apprenticeships in the country.

A decade after the Royal Decree of 2012, the following conclusions could be drawn:

- implementation of Dual VET had been limited in quantity. However, it was increasing year by year, apart from the COVID-19 period. The latest data available date indicates that 4% of vocational training students in the education system are enrolled in this modality.
- implementation of Dual VET has been very different (and uneven) across Spanish regions. Regional regulators have clearly implemented their own programmes (in accordance with the national regulation). For example, in some regions the student was linked to the company through an employment contract, and in others it had only the written agreement between the school and the company. The training duration in the company also varied significantly between regions.
- The introduction of the dual modality meant an injection of innovation in the VET system itself, and has greatly activated intermediate bodies, especially business organisations and chambers of commerce, which already play a leading role in dual vocational training in many regions.

In short, before the 2022 VET Law, the country has experimented a great deal with models, projects, etc. in relation to the Dual VET pathway.