

EDUCATION
AT A GLANCE 2013

SLOVAK REPUBLIC

Tertiary education in the Slovak Republic is lagging behind other OECD countries

A large percentage of the Slovak Republic population has traditionally attained at least an upper secondary education, and the figures remained high in 2011 with 91% of 25-64 year-olds and 84% of 55-64 year-olds holding at least an upper secondary qualification compared to the OECD average of 75% and 64%, respectively. Gender differences in educational attainment at this level have faded away over the generations. In 2011, men's attainment rates at upper secondary education were 11 percentage points higher than women's among the oldest generation (55-64 year-olds). For younger adults (25-34 year-olds), this difference has disappeared, with 94% of both men and women attaining an upper secondary education.

However, the Slovak Republic ranks second among OECD countries when it comes to the percentage of the population with no more than an upper secondary education. This is caused by low tertiary-level attainment rates. In 2011, the proportion of 25-64 year-olds (19%) and 25-34 year-olds with a university degree (26%) remained behind many other OECD countries (average: 32% and 39%, respectively). It is expected, however, that the gap will close since the rate is growing faster among the youngest generation in the Slovak Republic (7.8%) than the OECD average (3.5%). In addition, as in most countries across the OECD in 2011, among the youngest cohort (25-34 year-olds) more women than men had attained a tertiary education (31% versus 21% against the OECD average of 43% and 34%).

Secondary and tertiary education: a safety net against unemployment

Employment rates for people who have achieved upper secondary (70%) and tertiary levels (82%) of education are close to the OECD average of 74% and 83% respectively. However, the employment rate for those without an upper secondary qualification has fallen more steeply than in other countries, to 30%, against an OECD average of 55%. The unemployment rate for those in the labour force without upper secondary education is 39%, the highest rate among OECD countries. People without an upper secondary qualification also earn, on average, 33% less than those with an upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, compared with an OECD average of 24% less.

15-29 year-olds: where are they?

In the Slovak Republic, traditionally the vast majority of 15-29 year-olds (83% in 2011) continue their studies after completing lower secondary education, in contrast with the OECD average of about 68%. At the same time, among those who were not in education, only 4% of this group were employed in

2011 (four times less than the OECD average). This rate increased by 1 percentage point since 2008, unlike most OECD countries which experienced a decrease of 4 percentage points.

At the other end of the educational spectrum, however, the situation looks very different. Among tertiary-educated 15-29 year-olds, 33% were still in education, 53% were employed and 15% were unemployed. The share of people employed shrank by 20 percentage points since the start of the financial crisis, from 72% in 2008 to 53% in 2011, more than two times the average decrease across OECD countries (5 percentage points). At the same time, the proportion of 15-29 year-olds with a university degree who decided to continue their studies increased by 18 percentage points between 2008 and 2011 (from 14% to 33%), a significant increase compared with the OECD average increase of 2 percentage points during the same period. This might be due to worsening conditions in the labour market resulting from the financial crisis.

Teachers' salaries: room for improvement

Teachers' salaries in the Slovak Republic are well under the OECD average, especially when compared with the earnings of other tertiary-educated workers (25-64 year-old full-time, full-year). At the primary, lower secondary and upper secondary levels, teachers after 15 years of experience in the Slovak Republic earn less than half of what other workers of a similar education level earn (44% of this benchmark compared to an OECD average of 82%, 85% and 89% respectively). In addition, pre-primary teachers in the Slovak Republic earn significantly less than teachers at other levels of education. Primary, lower secondary and upper secondary teachers with 15 years of experience earn around 20% more than pre-primary teachers with the same experience.

The Slovak Republic also has one of the lowest salaries per teaching hour: USD 20 for a lower secondary teacher with 15 years experience versus the OECD average of USD 58.

Other findings:

- Across OECD countries, the Slovak Republic has the fourth lowest annual expenditure per student from primary through tertiary education (USD 5 400 compared to an OECD average of USD 9 308). Total expenditure for all levels of education relative to GDP in 2010 was 4.2%, lower than the OECD average 5.8%.
- The share of private expenditure on all levels of education, at 16%, is the same as the OECD average. The same is true for private expenditure on pre-primary education with 18%, while at tertiary level, 70% of all spending came from public sources compared to an OECD average of 68%.

<p>Questions can be directed to: Andreas Schleicher Advisor to the Secretary-General on Education Policy, Deputy Director for Education and Skills Email: Andreas.Schleicher@oecd.org Telephone: +33 6 07 38 54 64</p>	<p>For more information on <i>Education at a Glance 2013</i>, visit: www.oecd.org/edu/eag.htm Country Note Authors: Diane Lalancette (Diane.Lalancette@oecd.org) Ignacio Marin (ignacio.marin@oecd.org)</p>
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Key Facts for Slovak Republic in Education at a Glance 2013

Table	Indicator	Slovak Republic		OECD average		EU21 average		Rank among OECD countries and other G20 countries*
Educational Access and Output								
	Enrolment rates	2011	2005	2011	2005	2011	2005	
C2.1	3-year-olds (in early childhood education)	60%	61%	67%	64%	77%	73%	23 of 36
	4-year-olds (in early childhood and primary education)	73%	74%	84%	79%	90%	84%	29 of 36
C1.1a	5-14 year-olds (all levels)	96%		99%		98%		32 of 38
	Percentage of population that has attained below upper secondary education	2011	2000	2011	2000	2011	2000	
A1.4a	25-64 year-olds	9%	16%	26%	34%	25%	34%	33 of 35
	Percentage of population that has attained upper secondary education	2011	2000	2011	2000	2011	2000	
A1.4a	25-64 year-olds	73%	73%	44%	44%	48%	46%	2 of 36
	Percentage of population that has attained tertiary education	2011	2000	2011	2000	2011	2000	
A1.3a	25-64 year-olds	19%	10%	32%	22%	28%	20%	30 of 36
	30-34 year-olds	23%		39%		37%		30 of 34
A1.4a	25-34 year-olds	26%	11%	39%	26%	36%	24%	30 of 36
	55-64 year-olds	14%	8%	24%	15%	21%	14%	28 of 36
	Entry rates into tertiary education	2011	2000	2011	2000	2011	2000	
C3.1a	Vocational programmes (Tertiary-type B)	1%	3%	19%	16%	15%	11%	27 of 32
C3.2a	University programmes (Tertiary-type A)	61%	37%	60%	48%	59%	46%	16 of 36
	Graduation rates	2011	2000	2011	2000	2011	2000	
A2.1a	Percentage of today's young people expected to complete upper secondary education in their lifetime	85%	87%	83%	76%	83%	77%	15 of 27
A3.1a	Percentage of today's young people expected to complete university education (tertiary-type A) in their lifetime	46%	m	39%	28%	41%	27%	6 of 26
Economic and Labour Market Outcomes								
	Unemployment rate of 25-64 year-olds - Men and Women	2011	2008	2011	2008	2011	2008	
A5.4b	Below upper secondary	39.3%	36.3%	12.6%	8.8%	15.6%	10.4%	1 of 35
	Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary	11.5%	7.4%	7.3%	4.9%	8.5%	5.2%	5 of 36
	Tertiary	5.2%	3.1%	4.8%	3.3%	5.2%	3.2%	8 of 36
	Unemployment rate of 25-64 year-olds - Women	2011	2008	2011	2008	2011	2008	
A5.4d	Below upper secondary	34.5%	35.2%	12.2%	9.5%	15.1%	11.0%	1 of 35
	Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary	12.2%	9.1%	8.0%	5.7%	9.1%	6.1%	5 of 35
	Tertiary	5.9%	3.7%	5.1%	3.6%	5.5%	3.6%	9 of 36
	Average earnings premium for 25-64 year-olds with tertiary education**	2011 or latest year available		2011		2011		
A6.1	Men and women	175		157		158		8 of 33
	Men	185		162		164		7 of 33
	Women	169		161		161		10 of 33
	Average earnings penalty for 25-64 year-olds who have not attained upper secondary education**	2011 or latest year available		2011		2011		
A6.1	Men and women	67		76		77		27 of 33
	Men	69		77		78		25 of 33
	Women	71		74		75		24 of 33
	Percentage of people not in employment, education or training for 15-29 year-olds, by level of education attained	2011	2008	2011	2008	2011	2008	
C5.4d	Below upper secondary	13.3%	14.7%	15.8%	14.4%	15.3%	13.5%	19 of 34
	Upper secondary	23.5%	17.4%	16.2%	13.6%	15.1%	11.8%	6 of 34
	Tertiary	14.8%	13.6%	13.3%	10.6%	12.3%	9.6%	11 of 34

Key Facts for Slovak Republic in Education at a Glance 2013

Table	Indicator	Slovak Republic		OECD average		EU21 average		Rank among OECD countries and other G20 countries*
Financial Investment in Education								
	Annual expenditure per student (in equivalent USD, using PPPs)	2010		2010		2010		
B1.1a	Pre-primary education	4306 USD		6762 USD		7085 USD		24 of 32
	Primary education	5732 USD		7974 USD		8277 USD		26 of 34
	Secondary education	4806 USD		9014 USD		9471 USD		27 of 34
	Tertiary education	6904 USD		13528 USD		12856 USD		31 of 33
	Total expenditure on educational institutions as a percentage of GDP	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	
B2.1	As a percentage of GDP	4.6%	4.1%	6.3%	5.4%	5.9%	5.2%	32 of 33
	Total public expenditure on education	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	
B4.1	As a percentage of total public expenditure	10.6%	7.5%	13.0%	12.6%	11.4%	11.4%	25 of 32
	Share of private expenditure on educational institutions	2010	2000	2010	2000	2010	2000	
B3.2a	Pre-primary education	17.7%		17.9%		11.3%		12 of 28
B3.2a	Primary, secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education	12.0%	2.4%	8.5%	7.1%	6.1%	5.6%	8 of 31
B3.2b	Tertiary education	29.8%	8.8%	31.6%	22.6%	22.7%	14.3%	14 of 30
B3.1	All levels of education	15.8%	3.6%	16.4%	12.1%	10.7%	7.9%	12 of 29
Schools and Teachers								
	Ratio of students to teaching staff	2011		2011		2011		
D2.2	Pre-primary education	12 students per teacher		14 students per teacher		13 students per teacher		21 of 31
	Primary education	17 students per teacher		15 students per teacher		14 students per teacher		13 of 35
	Secondary education	14 students per teacher		14 students per teacher		12 students per teacher		15 of 36
	Total intended instruction time for students (hours)	2011		2011		2011		
D1.1	Primary education	2793 hours		4717 hours		m		29 of 31
	Lower secondary education	4161 hours		3034 hours		m		5 of 31
	Number of hours of teaching time per year (for teachers in public institutions)	2011	2000	2011	2000	2011	2000	
D4.2	Pre-primary education	1045 hours		994 hours		977 hours		12 of 29
	Primary education	846 hours	m	790 hours	780 hours	777 hours	776 hours	10 of 31
	Lower secondary education	656 hours	m	709 hours	697 hours	669 hours	658 hours	15 of 30
	Upper secondary education	627 hours	m	664 hours	628 hours	651 hours	635 hours	16 of 31
	Index of change in statutory teachers' salaries for teachers with 15 years of experience/minimum training (2000 = 100)	2011	2008	2011	2008	2011	2008	
D3.4	Primary school teachers	m	m	120	120	121	122	m
	Lower secondary school teachers	m	m	116	116	121	121	m
	Upper secondary school teachers	m	m	117	118	118	119	m
	Ratio of teachers' salaries to earnings for full-time, full-year adult workers with tertiary education***	2011		2011		2011		
D3.2	Pre-primary school teachers	0.36		0.80		0.77		22 of 22
	Primary school teachers	0.44		0.82		0.80		27 of 27
	Lower secondary school teachers	0.44		0.85		0.84		27 of 27
	Upper secondary school teachers	0.44		0.89		0.89		27 of 27

* Countries are ranked in descending order of values.

** Compared to people with upper secondary education; upper secondary = 100.

'm': data is not available.



From:
Education at a Glance 2013
OECD Indicators

Access the complete publication at:
<https://doi.org/10.1787/eag-2013-en>

Please cite this chapter as:

OECD (2013), "Slovak Republic", in *Education at a Glance 2013: OECD Indicators*, OECD Publishing, Paris.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1787/eag-2013-69-en>

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