

EUROPEAN AGENCY STATISTICS ON INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

**Slovakia 2012/2013 data
background information**



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

How the official decision of special educational needs (SEN) used in the country relates to the agreed EASIE operational definition:

An official decision leads to a pupil being recognised as eligible for additional educational support to meet their learning needs.

Pupils' legal entitlements under what legislation

Act No. 245/2008 of the Law Code on Education (the Education Act).

How additional support is understood within the country context

It comprises special teachers, psychologists, speech and language therapists, special textbooks, special aids, special curricula, special teaching methods, ICT, teaching assistants and support from counselling centres.

The criteria for an official decision are:

There has been an educational assessment procedure involving a multi-disciplinary team

This involves medical assessment, as well as all necessary psychological and special educational assessment, which is carried out at an educational counselling and prevention centre.

The multi-disciplinary team includes members from within and external to the pupil's school

The team consists of a special teacher, a psychologist, a doctor, a speech and language therapist, the head teacher, the class teacher and parents.

There is a legal document which describes the support the pupil is eligible to receive and which is used as the basis for planning

The relevant document is the Proposal on Education of a Pupil with SEN. The Proposal forms the basis for the individual education plan (IEP).

The official decision is subject to a formal, regular review process

The IEP is assessed regularly and re-diagnosis is carried out.



Proxy indicator(s) for the 80% benchmark used for the country's data collection

Placement in a mainstream class implies over 80% or more with non-disabled peers.

Details on what the country proxy is:

All pupils with SEN are assessed in an educational counselling prevention centre and then admitted to a mainstream class, where they spent 80% or more of their instructional time.

Why this proxy was used:

There are no exact records on the number of support hours allocated to pupils with SEN.

Difficulties in using any proxy:

Some pupils with SEN do not have an official decision, due to their mild disabilities. They are not included in the official statistics.

Detailed description of what is meant by 'out of formal education' within the country's data collection

The 2011 International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED) defines Formal Education as follows:

*[...] education that is institutionalised, intentional and planned through public organizations and recognised private bodies and, – in their totality – constitute the formal education system of a country. Formal education programmes are thus recognised as such by the relevant national education or equivalent authorities, e.g. any other institution in cooperation with the national or sub-national educational authorities. Formal education consists mostly of initial education [...] Vocational education, special needs education and some parts of adult education are often recognised as being part of the formal education system. Qualifications from formal education are by definition recognised and, therefore, are within the scope of ISCED. Institutionalised education occurs when an organization provides structured educational arrangements, such as student-teacher relationships and/or interactions, that are specially designed for education and learning (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2011, *International Standard Classification of Education ISCED 2011*, p. 11).*

Information on pupils considered out of education (i.e. those not in formal education as per the ISCED definition):

There is no non-formal provision or setting in education in Slovakia.



Provision of data on private sector education

The data collection covers all sectors of education, including numbers for the pupil population in the private sector.

Private sector education in the country:

In Slovakia, the private education sector refers to the non-government sector, which includes private and church schools. Private and church schools have the same duties in education as public schools. They must follow the same National Educational Programme.

Pupil population counted for each relevant question:

The data in all tables includes pupils educated in the private sector.

Specific issues with providing data on private education and how these have been overcome in the data collection:

There were no specific issues with providing data on private sector schools. They are included in the official statistics, the same as the public schools.

Pupil age ranges

Usual pupil age ranges in the country at ISCED level 1: 6 to 9

Usual pupil age ranges in the country at ISCED level 2: 10 to 14