



VET in Austria

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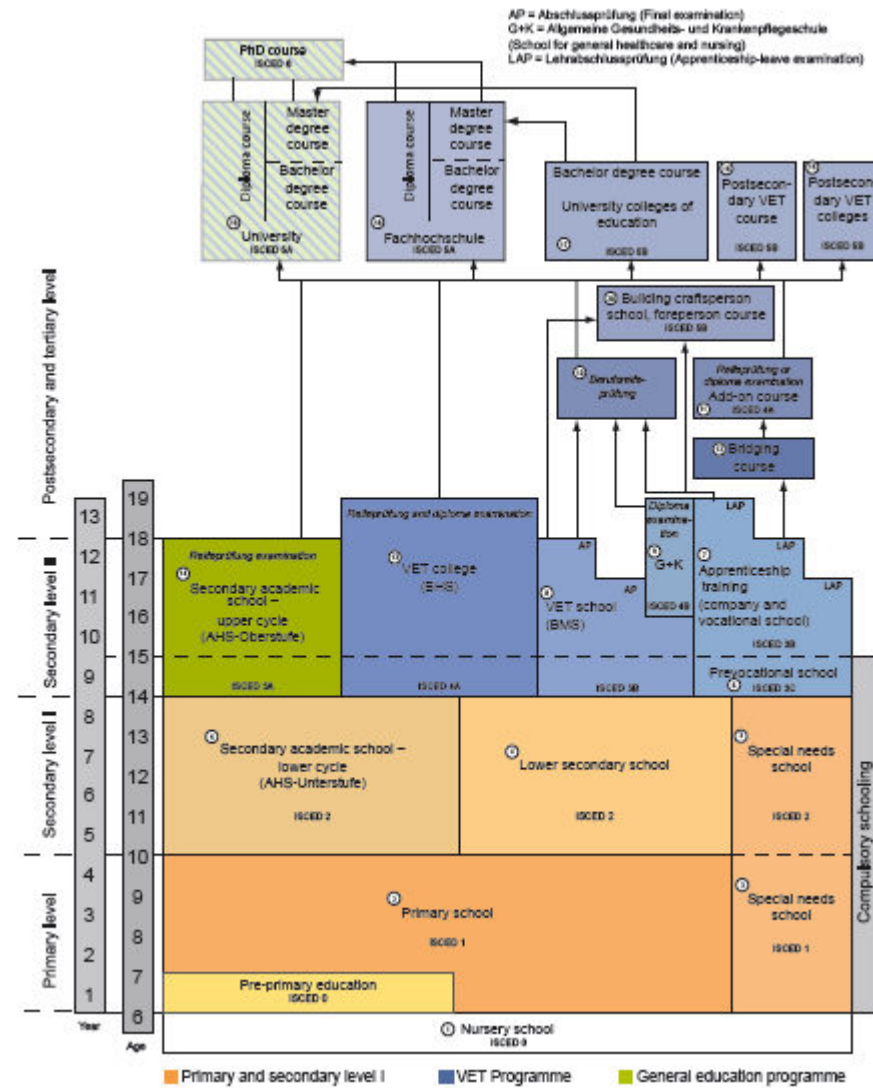


Statistics Austria

- Surface: 83.871 km²
- Capital city: Wien
- Inhabitants: 8,4 Mio
- 9 federal states

Statistics Austria

- Unemployment rate: 4,7 % (May 2013 , EUROSTAT)
 - (EU-unemployment rate: 10,9 % (May 2013 ,EUROSTAT)
 - Youth unemployment: 8,7 % (age 15 - 24, May 2013)
 - (EU youth unemployment: 23,0 % (age 15 - 24 , May 2013)
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- Young people in initial VET at upper secondary level: 80 %
 - Highest percentage of all European Union and OECD Countries in 2011



The apprenticeship („Dual system“)

Entrance requirements:

to be over compulsory school age (successful completion of lower secondary school is not a condition)

Duration: 2 – 4 years (in most cases 3 years)

3,5 or 4 days: training in the company

1 or 1,5 days: in part time vocational school

in rural areas: Several weeks in school and
rest of the year in the company

In the part time vocational school:

$\frac{2}{3}$ occupation related technical tuition, $\frac{1}{3}$ general education

Enrollment: 38% of an age cohort

ISCED Level: 3b

The apprenticeship (2)

- Apprentice has to find a training place in a company
- Company provides training and pays a salary
- Company has to register with the regional economic chamber
- Training company receives state support

The apprenticeship (3) - Conditions

- Willingness of companies to train the apprentices
- Well defined curricula and standards for the qualifications
- Definition of the qualifications in co-operation with the trades and social partners
- Co-operation between school and company

The apprenticeship (4) – additional options

Recognition of previous vocational experience:

Admission to the Final Apprenticeship Exam without
previous apprenticeship

Special apprenticeship programs for young people at risk.

Master Craftmanship exam

Condition: Final apprenticeship exam plus vocational experience

Exam: practical and theoretical

external exam at the economic chamber

Entitlements: Self employment, Recognized as part of the
Berufsreifeprüfung , Ausbilderprüfung (Trainer for apprentices)

Approximately **4000 exams** per year

ISCED: 5b

Berufsreifeprüfung 1

- *Berufsreifeprüfung* (BRP) – introduction in 1997 to increase permeability and attractiveness of VET
- Attract ambitious and talented young people
- No dead-ends in education
- Gives access to all forms of tertiary education and to public employment at respective level
- Four partial exams: German, mathematics, foreign language, specialist area
- Target group: people with VET qualification - apprenticeship graduates, graduates of VET schools, etc.

„Berufsreifeprüfung 2

- Three of four partial exams can be taken already before the final apprenticeship exam, the last partial exam over the age of 19
- Support programme for free preparation for exams and for completion of exams in preparation
- “Lehre mit Matura”
- Over 15,000 BRP graduates overall since **1997**

Überbetriebliche Ausbildung (1)

- Training guarantee for young people who cannot be placed into regular apprenticeship posts
- Financed by the Austrian Federal Ministry for Social Affairs
- Commissioning of suitable training institutions by the Public Employment Service Austria (AMS)
- Possibility to complete the entire training duration until the apprenticeship-leave exam
- Safeguarding the priority of company-based VET by imposing the obligation to make targeted efforts to place the young person into a company-based apprenticeship

Überbetriebliche Ausbildung (2)

- Participants receive an apprenticeship salary from the government
- During the first and second year : 255 € per month, during the third and forth year: 550 € per month
- Approximately 10.000 participants
- 100 different trades
- Total cost per year and participant : 14.000 to 16.000 €

Integrative vocational training (1)

1. 2003 Amendment to the Vocational Training Act (BAG)
2. Tailored vocational training for socially disadvantaged or less gifted people
3. Types:
 - A. Acquisition of partial qualifications – duration: 1 to 3 years
 - B. Apprenticeship with a longer training period: prolongation of the programme by 1 to max. 2 years

Integrative vocational training (2)

- **Target groups:**
 - Leavers of special needs schools
 - Youth who did not acquire any qualification at lower secondary level or obtained a negative assessment in the final exam
 - People with disabilities
 - People who are not suitable to be placed into a regular apprenticeship relation for “reasons related to the person himself/herself”

Secondary technical and vocational schools and colleges

- **Colleges of engineering, arts and crafts:** e.g. mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, electronics, computer systems and organisation, construction technology, chemical engineering, textile engineering
- **Colleges of fashion and artistic design**
- **Colleges of service industries and tourism**
- **Colleges of business administration**
- **Colleges of agriculture and forestry:** e.g. agriculture and horticulture, wine and fruit growing, forestry, dairy production)

Secondary technical and vocational colleges

Offer general education and occupation related training

The curriculum is divided into three equal parts:

general education, vocational theory and vocational practice

(in school work shops, laboratories, virtual companies, kitchens and other practice facilities)

Compulsory periods of practical training in business and industry during the summer holidays

Secondary technical and vocational colleges

Admission: successful completion of the 8th grade, in some subjects entrance examination or aptitude test (arts)

Duration: 5 years (from 14 to 19)

Qualification: matriculation examination giving access to all universities + vocational qualification giving access to regulated trades; ISCED Level 4a

Good career prospects

Enrollment: 26 % of an age cohort

Secondary and vocational schools

- duration: 1 – 4 years, the majority has a duration of 3 years (age 14 – 17)
- general education, vocational theory and vocational practice
- focus on practical training in school workshops, laboratories and practical classes
- compulsory practical training in an enterprise during the summer holidays
- school leaving certificate does not give access to universities, but there is a possibility to follow „bridging courses“ (2 to 3 years) leading to the matriculation examination
- school leaving certificate gives access to regulated professions

Secondary and vocational schools

- school leaving certificate does not give access to universities, but there is a possibility to follow „bridging courses“ (2 to 3 years) leading to the matriculation examination
- school leaving certificate gives access to regulated professions
- ISCED Level: 3b
- Enrollment: 16 % of an age cohort



THE ROLE OF THE SOCIAL PARTNERS: (economic chambers, chambers of labour)

Negotiating minimum remuneration for apprenticeship (**collective agreement**)

Apprenticeship offices (first-instance vocational training authorities):

- set up at the provincial chambers of economy
- apprenticeship authority at the first level
- examination of suitability of training enterprises (personal and technical aspects)
- checking and registration of apprenticeship agreements
- Secretariat of Provincial Advisory Board on Apprenticeship
- advice for training enterprises
- advice for apprentices



THE ROLE OF THE SOCIAL PARTNERS: (chambers of commerce and industry, chambers of labour)

Apprenticeship and youth welfare centers: defend interests of apprentices

Federal advisory council on vocational training (12 voting members from Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Chamber of Labour):

Preparation of regulations for each apprenticeship trade
Advisory work for the Ministry of Economic Affairs

Provincial advisory councils: 4 members from Chamber of Commerce and Chamber of Labour

Alone entitled to draw up proposals for the composition of the examination boards for final apprenticeship examinations

Financing of VET

- **Vocational schools and colleges:**
 - financed by the federal state,
 - Most schools are public
 - Some private schools
- **Average cost per student and year:**
 - Technical college: 10.000 €
 - College for Business administration: 7.000 €

Financing of VET

Apprenticeship:

Vocational school: financed by the Bundesländer (public funds)
(4000 – 4500 € per year)

Training in the company: financed by the employer

Costs: apprenticeship remuneration, insurance,
administration, salary of trainer

Benefits: contribution of apprentice, easier recruitment procedure

5.2 Financial Subsidies (1/2)

- **State support**
 - Basic support: three apprenticeship remunerations in the 1st, two in the 2nd and one in the 3rd and 4th years of apprenticeship
 - Training alliance and additional qualifications – 75% of the costs up to a max. of EUR 1,000.00.
 - CVET for trainers: 75% of the costs up to a max. of EUR 1,000.00.
 - Excellent and good performance in apprenticeship-leave exams: EUR 200.00 in case of good performance, EUR 250.00 for excellent performance
 - Measures for apprentices with learning difficulties

Success Factors for Austrian VET

- High Prestige of VET
- Good co-operation with the business world
- Labour-market oriented curricula and focus on employability
- Very diversified training offer at upper secondary level
- Safety nets for young people at risk
- VET teachers and trainers must have at least two years of practical experience

Youth unemployment statistics 2008

Mostly general education:

Average 19 %

- Sweden: 25%
- Spain: 24%
- Finland: 22%
- Greece: 21 %
- Italy: 20%
- France: 17%
- USA: 14%
- UK: 14%
- Portugal: 14%
- Belgium: 14%

Well developped VET

Average: 7%

- Denmark: 7%
- Austria: 7%
- Germany: 11% (West 7%)
- Switzerland: 7%
- Holland: 6%

Youth unemployment – autumn 2009

Mostly general education

Average: 25%

- Spain: 43%
- Ireland: 28%
- Italy: 27%
- Sweden: 27%
- France: 25%
- Finland: 23 %
- UK: 20%
- Portugal: 19%
- USA 19 %

Well devolopped VET:

Average: 8%

- Danmark: 11%
- Austria: 7%
- Germany: 10% (West 6%)
- Holland: 7%
- Switzerland: 6%

Dual Training in Austria, Germany and Switzerland - Differences

- „Number of Trades“
- Percentage of young people in Dual Developing internships and forms of dual training
- Age of young people starting an apprenticeship
- Access to universities and tertiary education
- Financing (state support to companies)
- Safety Net for young people

Ideas for introducing VET in countries without a proper VET tradition

- „Apprenticeship light“
- Definition of qualifications in co-operation with the relevant business sectors
- Development of learning outcomes and recognition systems for non-formal and informal learning
- Improving esteem of VET through improved permeability to continuing and higher education
- Developing internships and forms of dual training
- Introducing vocational courses in schools for general upper secondary education
- Improving entrepreneurial education, also through Virtual enterprises

Thank you for your attention!

