

## Methodology of the Adult Education Survey

Data in this chapter are calculated from the results of the 2022 Adult Education Survey (AES) carried out in the European Union, for which the Czech Statistical Office is responsible in the Czech Republic. The survey is carried out with a six-year periodicity.

The tables (1–3, 5) show the share of persons aged 18–69 years who participated in formal or non-formal education within 12 months preceding the date of the survey enquiring (whether the education took place at work or during their leisure time). Successful completion of the study is not of key importance.

**Formal education** means education in formal education institutions – schools and universities. It is governed by legal regulations and includes levels of education, which follow one another (primary, secondary, and tertiary); attainment of each level is confirmed by a relevant certificate (a school report, an apprenticeship certificate, an A-level certificate, a diploma, and the like), which is acknowledged by relevant national authorities and entitles to enter a higher level of education. At the most general level, it applies to traditional education in basic, secondary, and higher professional schools and at universities.

**Non-formal education** includes organised and institutionalised education under the tutelage of an authority in education (e.g. a professional instructor), which takes place along with formal education. It applies to various job-related and non-job-related courses, trainings, seminars, workshops, private lessons, and the like. The objective is to gain knowledge, skills, and competences, i.e. it is intentional. However, it does not lead to completion of a certain level of education and gaining a standard formalised certificate (a school report, an apprenticeship certificate, a university diploma, and the like). It takes place out of the formal educational system.

**Educational attainment** is published for the age group of 25–69 years. Among persons aged 18–24 years, there is a high proportion of people whose educational pathways had not been completed at the time of the survey. Their educational attainment is therefore determined rather by their age than their educational aspirations. A shift of the lower age limit upwards thus better illustrates the impact of education on the observed indicators.

**Foreign language skills** apply to knowledge at – at least – a basic (beginner) level as declared by respondents, i.e. to be able to use or to understand several basic phrases.

More information on the Adult Education Survey and outputs from it are available on the CZSO website.