

METHODOLOGY
Pre-primary education

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PRE-PRIMARY EDUCATION SURVEY

Legal basis

The legal basis for the implementation of statistical surveys in the area of pre-primary education statistics is the Law on Official Statistics and Official Statistical System of Montenegro (Official Gazette of Montenegro No 18/12, 47/19, and 23/25).

METHODOLOGICAL BASIS

Purpose of survey

Statistics on pre-primary education collect, process, and publish data on the number and capacity of pre-primary institutions, the number of educational groups, the total number of children, by sex and age, according to the length of attendance, as well as the number of employees implementing pre-primary education programmes.

Pre-primary education is an integral part of the unified education system. It provides education and care for children while supporting parents in improving the quality of family life and children's well-being.

Pre-primary education covers children from birth until they enrol in primary school.

Data sources and coverage

Data on pre-primary education are the result of the statistical processing of the database maintained by the Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation (MEIS). The data cover all licensed public and private pre-primary education institutions operating in the territory of Montenegro. These institutions have been granted a license to operate by the competent ministry.

Pre-primary education is an integral part of the unified education system.

Data confidentiality

Under the Cooperation Agreement concluded between the Statistical Office and the Ministry of Education, the data submitted to the Statistical Office do not contain any information that would enable the identification of individuals.

The obtained data are used exclusively for statistical purposes. Data are aggregated at appropriate classification levels and published in summary form.

Definitions

Pre-primary education is an integral part of the unified education system. It provides education and care for children while supporting parents in improving the quality of family life and children's well-being. Pre-primary education covers children from birth until they enrol in primary school. Depending on the child's age, pre-primary education is provided in nurseries and kindergartens.

Nurseries cater for children up to the age of three, while kindergartens cater for children from the age of three until they enrol in primary school.

For the purposes of these statistics, the following definitions apply:

Educational programme – the broadest programme framework for the implementation of educational activities.

Educational group – a group of children structured according to age, pedagogical standards, and group size.

Educational unit – a unit of a pre-primary institution located outside the institution's main premises, comprising one or more educational groups.

Publicly approved programme – a programme adopted or approved by the competent public authority.

Private institution – a pre-primary education institution established by a legal or natural person.

Private preschool teacher – a qualified pre-primary teacher engaged, as needed, to implement the core programme requirements with a child in the family setting.

Children from the most vulnerable population groups – children with disabilities and developmental difficulties, and children facing challenges caused by social, linguistic, or cultural barriers.

Data representativeness

The data are collected for the entire territory of Montenegro, at the municipal level where public and private pre-primary education institutions are located.

Harmonization with EU regulations

The survey on statistics of education and lifelong learning is harmonized with the regulation <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/education-and-training/legislation>.

National classification of education (aligned with the International Standard Classification of Education - ISCED 2011).

The International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED) is a framework that enables standardized reporting of a wide range of relevant education statistics in accordance with an internationally accepted set of common definitions and concepts, ensuring international comparability of the obtained indicators.

Organization of survey

The Statistical Office of Montenegro, through its Department of Education, Culture and Justice Statistics, and the Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation participate in the preparation and implementation of the statistical survey. The Ministry provides the database on pre-primary education (MEIS), which serves as the source of data for the survey.

Survey instruments

- ❖ Reception of the MEIS database - enrolment of children in pre-primary institutions as at 30 September of the school year, the Ministry of Education, Science and Innovation delivers the database at the end of November;
- ❖ Tabulation, control (logical and computational), creation of results - December, January;
- ❖ Drafting of the announcement – February.

Dissemination

The data are disseminated through statistical releases and statistical publications, including the *Statistical Yearbook*, and *Women and Men in Montenegro*.

The data are also published in electronic format on the website of the Statistical Office of Montenegro.