

AUSTRIAN REFERENCE POINT FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE
ÖSTERREICHISCHE REFERENZSTELLE FÜR QUALITÄT IN DER BERUFSBILDUNG | OeAD
IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING ARQA-VET

Promoting attractiveness of VET in Austria

Bucharest, October 6th - 7th 2016

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Mini agenda for 10 minutes

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- 🔍 Some facts and figures
- 🔍 (I)VET in Austria in a nutshell
- 🔍 Strengths of (I)VET in Austria
- 🔍 About the attractiveness of VET

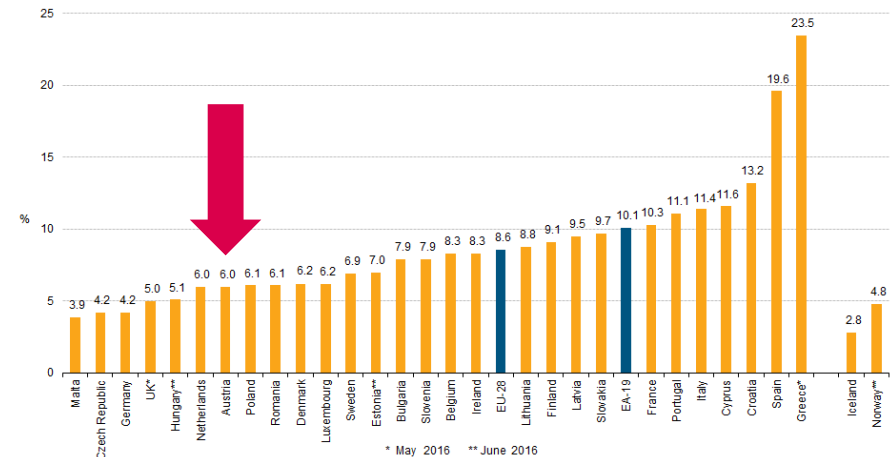
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Some Facts and Figures

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- ⊙ Austria in EU top 5, in OECD top 10 measured by GDP per capita
- ⊙ One of the lowest unemployment rates in Europe: 6,0% (Eurostat July 2016)
- ⊙ Low youth unemployment: year 2015: 10,6% (EU 28: 20,3%) but in 2009 8,7%
- ⊙ OECD: Austria in top 3 in regard to VET-orientation
=> 77 % of any given cohort aged 14-18/19 in VET

OECD Education at Glance 2016:

“Upper secondary students in Austria are more likely to follow vocational programmes than on average among OECD countries”.

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Some Facts and Figures

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- 687 VET schools and colleges
- 26.770 teachers
- 322.500 students
- 77% of the population of the age group 14 to 18/19 are in VET

(Zahlenspiegel 2013: Schuljahr 2012/13)



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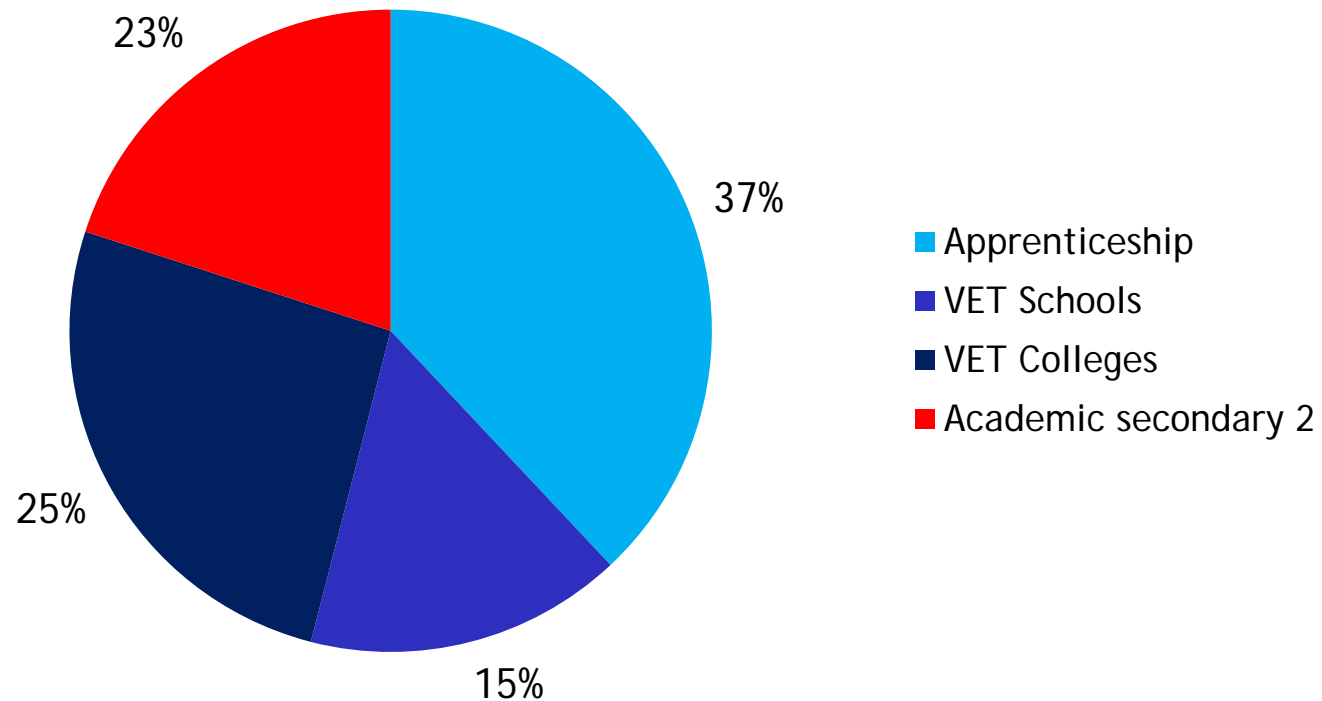
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4 out of 5 youngsters are in VET (Statistical Guide 2015)

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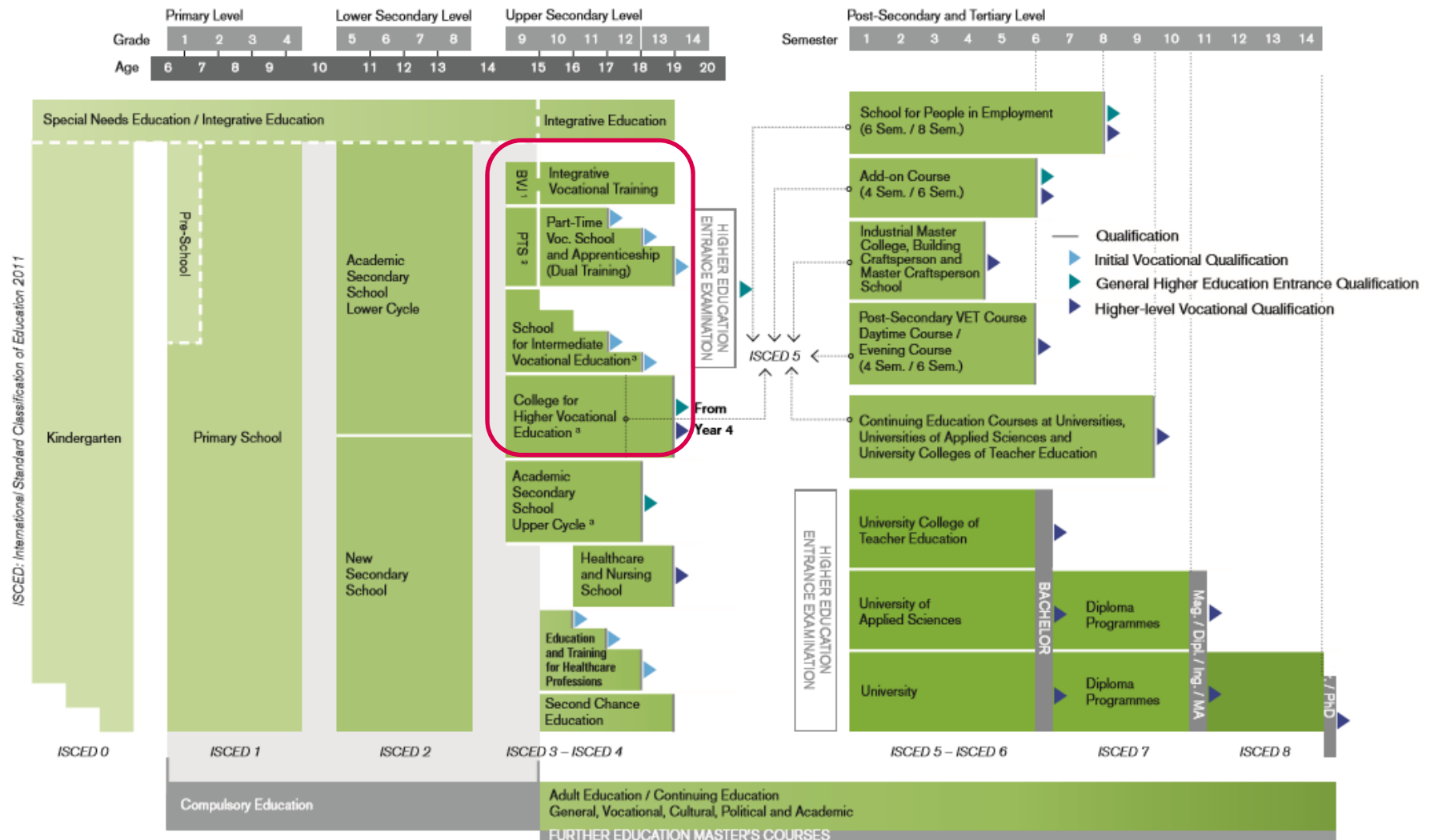
Distribution of students in year 10 of schooling



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The Austrian Education System



¹Preparation Year for Work ²Pre-vocational School ³from age 15: no grades, but semester structure



(I)VET in Austria in a Nutshell

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🔍 Apprenticeship - Dual System

- combination of company-based training and part-time schooling (Berufsschule)
- has a long tradition in AT
- apprentices get a remuneration, companies train and educate "their" future staff
- permeability to HE increased



🔍 VET Schools (BMHS Berufsbildende Mittlere Schulen)

- 1 to 4 years of full-time schooling and school-based training
- complete VET for certain occupations, ~ similar to Apprenticeship
- keeps the young people "in the system"



🔍 VET Colleges (BHS Berufsbildende Höhere Schulen)

- 5-years full-time, school-based, highly specialised training with thorough general education
- granting access to Higher Education
- labour market relevance/ job perspectives



→ SUCCESS STORY

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VET Colleges - BHS Berufsbildende Höhere Schulen

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- ⊙ 5-years full-time, school-based, highly specialised training
- ⊙ thorough general education
- ⊙ granting access to Higher Education
- ⊙ granting full vocational qualifications and access to regulated professions
- ⊙ Labour market relevance/ job perspectives
(2014/15: 134.802 students)



Strengths of (I)VET in Austria

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- ◉ Differentiated VET offers different paths to achieve VET qualification - **attractive option** - something for everybody!
- ◉ Well-structured apprenticeships integrating school- and work-based learning
- ◉ Smooth transitions from education to first employment
- ◉ **Broad scope of VET: from safety net to high level technical training**
- ◉ Wide range of progression routes at various levels - no dead ends and good linkage between VET and tertiary education
- ◉ Social partner involvement at all levels (VET policy design, provision) => doing it together

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Communalities of all VET schools

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- ⊗ Strong relation of theory and practice
- ⊗ Work based learning (from 80 % in the company to an internship)
- ⊗ General education *is* important
- ⊗ Entrepreneurship (50 % of entrepreneurs come from the Dual System)
- ⊗ Large variety and diversity of offers (approx. 200 professions in Dual System, approx. 500 curricula in VET schools and colleges!)

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About the Attractiveness of VET

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- ⊙ not really a topic in Austria → it *is* attractive (4 out of 5!)
- ⊙ there is a long tradition (Dual System)
- ⊙ a real success story since the 1970`s with full time vocational schools
- ⊙ good job opportunities and employment rates

As a matter of fact

- ⊙ VET sector has to be innovative as there are permanent changes
- ⊙ Demography boosts competition for the young people
-> good for quality!
- ⊙ strong support and trust from society, industry and commerce and social partners

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Why is VET attractive?

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for the learners:

- ⊙ good general education and specific training with
- ⊙ good job opportunities
- ⊙ many (direct) pathways to tertiary education
- ⊙ good reputation in society

for companies and industry:

- ⊙ there are many qualified employees at young age
- ⊙ they have influence on curricula and on training regulations (dual)
- ⊙ if they want they can train - and educate - their own apprentices

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(SOURCE: FUTURE OF JOBS REPORT, WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM)

TOP 10 SKILLS IMPORTANT IN THE WORKFORCE

2015

1. Complex Problem Solving



2. Coordinating with Others



3. People Management



4. Critical Thinking



5. Negotiation



6. Quality Control



7. Service Orientation



8. Judgement and Decision Making



9. Active Listening



10. Creativity



2020

1. Complex Problem Solving



2. Critical Thinking



3. Creativity



4. People Management



5. Coordinating with Others



6. Emotional Intelligence



7. Judgement and Decision Making



8. Service Orientation



9. Negotiation



10. Cognitive Flexibility



VET schools <-> companies & industry



They need each other



They help each other

DOING VET TOGETHER

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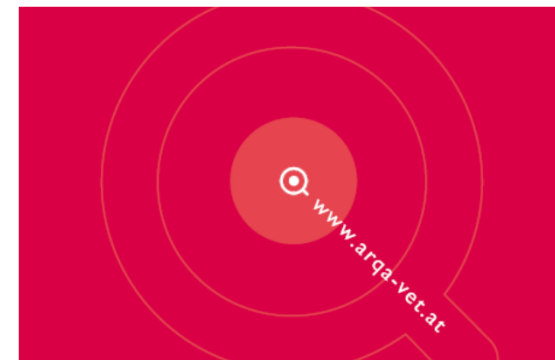


Thank you!

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