

## PE050: EDUCATION INTERRUPTED OR ABANDONED

**Topic and detailed topic:** Educational attainment and background / Educational attainment details, including education interrupted or abandoned

**Variable type:** Every 3 years

**Unit:** All current household members or selected respondent (where applies) aged 16-34

**Reference period:** Lifetime

**Mode of collection:** Personal interview (proxy as an exception for persons temporarily away or in incapacity) or registers

**In use (period):** New, 2023

**Series' differences:** --

### VALUES AND FORMAT

- 1 Yes, one
- 2 Yes, several
- 3 No

### FLAGS

- 1 Collected via survey/interview
- 2 Collected from administrative data
- 3 Imputed
- 4 Not possible to establish a source
- 1 Missing
- 2 Not applicable (RB081≠16-34 or never attended school)
- 3 Not selected respondent
- 7 Not applicable (not collected according to the implementation of the “multiannual rolling planning”)

### DESCRIPTION

Formal education or training is defined according to the International Standard Classification of Education 2011 (ISCED 2011), see <http://uis.unesco.org/sites/default/files/documents/international-standard-classification-of-education-isced-2011-en.pdf>

'Formal education and training interrupted or abandoned' means that a person has started a formal education programme, but has not successfully completed this programme. According to ISCED 2011, 'a common characteristic of an education programme is that, upon fulfilment of learning objectives or educational tasks, successful completion is certified.' Accordingly, abandoning formal education is defined as leaving formal education without certification or a diploma, and without obtaining the final credential associated with this formal education.

This variable aims to find out if respondents ever started but did not successfully complete a formal education programme. In addition to the information provided in PE041 Educational attainment level, this variable provides a general picture of people who have ever started but then not completed some other formal education ('dropouts'). It also makes possible some further analyses of people with a low level of education (i.e. whether a person with at most lower secondary education ever started upper secondary education but then left without attaining a qualification at this level).

There is no specific reference period, i.e. the variable covers all formal education activities abandoned during the life of the person. There is a limitation in the age group; this variable needs to be asked only for persons aged 16-34 years old.

If a person changes their field of studies, then this is considered as abandoning formal education. For example, a person who started a bachelor programme in social sciences, then stopped without successfully completing it (i.e. without receiving the certification) and then started a bachelor programme in economics is