

PE040: Highest ISCED level attained

Domain/Area	Education/Current education and highest ISCED level attained
Transmission type	Early and regular
Reference period	Current
Unit	All current household members aged 16 and over
Mode of collection	Personal interview, proxy or register
Values	<p><i>Before 2014(PB010<2014)</i></p> <p>0 pre-primary education</p> <p>1 primary education</p> <p>2 lower secondary education</p> <p>3 (upper) secondary education</p> <p>4 post-secondary non tertiary education</p> <p>5 first stage of tertiary education (not leading directly to an advanced research qualification)</p> <p>6 second stage of tertiary education (leading to an advanced research qualification)</p> <p><i>From 2014 onwards(PB010>2013)</i></p> <p>000 Less than primary education</p> <p>100 Primary education</p> <p>200 Lower secondary education</p> <p>300 Upper secondary education (not further specified)</p> <p><i>Only for people 16-34:</i></p> <p><i>34 General education</i></p> <p><i>340 without distinction of direct access to tertiary education</i></p> <p><i>342 partial level completion and without direct access to tertiary education</i></p> <p><i>343 level completion, without direct access to tertiary education</i></p> <p><i>344 level completion, with direct access to tertiary education</i></p> <p><i>35 Vocational education</i></p> <p><i>350 without distinction of direct access to tertiary education</i></p> <p><i>352 partial level completion and without direct access to tertiary education</i></p> <p><i>353 level completion, without direct access to tertiary education</i></p> <p><i>354 level completion, with direct access to tertiary education</i></p> <p>400 Post-secondary non-tertiary education (not further specified)</p> <p><i>Only for people 16-34:</i></p> <p><i>440 General education</i></p>

	450 Vocational education
	500 Short cycle tertiary
	600 Bachelor or equivalent
	700 Master or equivalent
	800 Doctorate or equivalent
Flags	1 Filled -1 Missing -2 non applicable (the person has never been in education) can only be used <i>before 2014</i> (PB010<2014)

Description

The educational attainment level of an individual is the highest ISCED level successfully completed, the successful completion of educational programme being validated by a recognised qualification (or credential), i.e. a qualification officially recognized by the relevant national education authorities.

The classification to be used for this variable is the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED 2011) which includes 9 categories for educational attainment (please see: <http://www.uis.unesco.org/Education/Documents/isced-2011-en.pdf>).

The main tool to be used for the coding of educational attainment is the national ISCED integrated mapping. This mapping classifies in ISCED all national educational programmes and formal qualifications (educational attainment).

The expression 'level successfully completed' must be associated with obtaining a certificate (qualification). Eurostat recommends for all household surveys to use “diploma approach” in the collection of data on educational attainment, e.g. to ask about the diploma obtained.

In cases where there is no certification (e.g. in primary education), successful completion must be associated with full attendance or the acquired competences to access the upper level.

When determining the highest educational level, both general and vocational education should be taken into consideration. In the case of double qualifications obtained at the same level, the most recent one should be coded for this variable.

Persons who have not completed their studies (dropped-out) should be coded according to the highest level they have successfully completed.

For all questions related to the measurement of educational attainment according to the ISCED 2011, please consult the methodological guidelines available on: <https://circabc.europa.eu/w/browse/2ac28e82-eaeb-4caf-9626-90560837a2a7>