



VET

in

AUSTRIA



Statistics Austria

Surface: 83,871 km²

Inhabitants: 8,200,000

Capital: Wien

Federal States: 9 Bundesländer

Statistics Austria

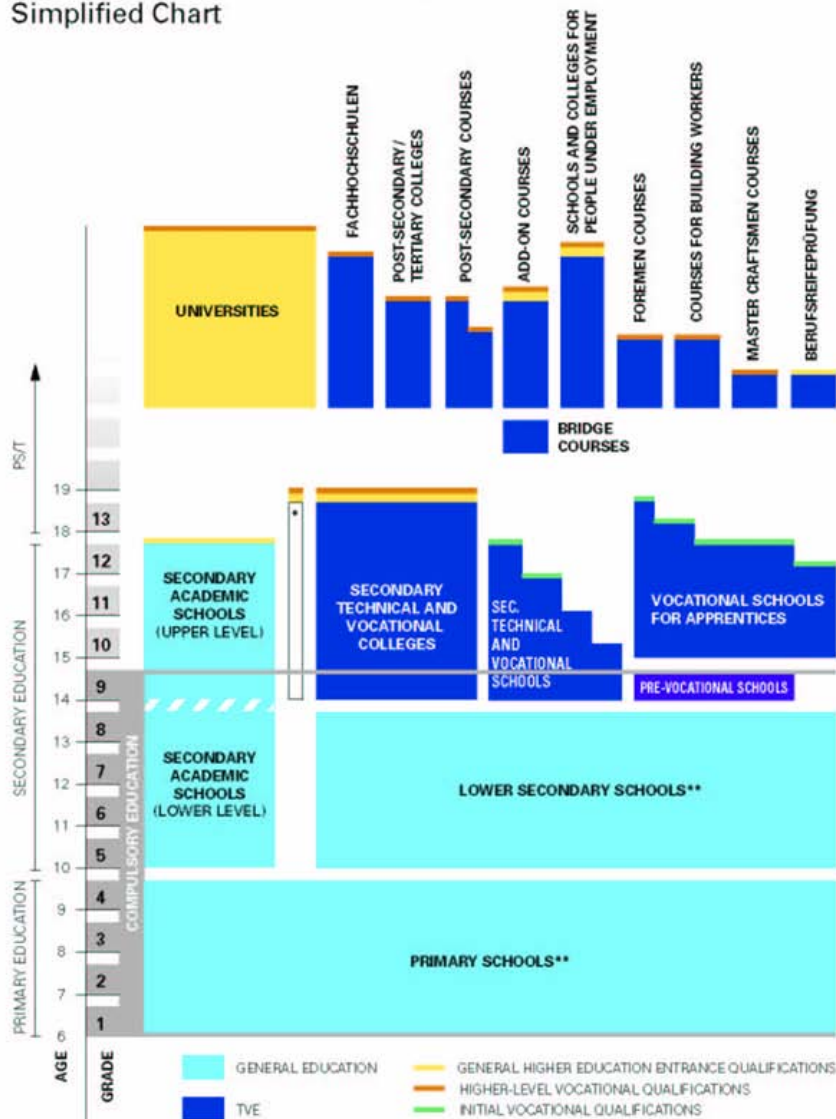
Unemployment rate: 4.2 % (May 2011)

Youth unemployment: 7.8 % (age under 25, May 2011)

Number of schools:	approx. 5,800
Number of teachers:	approx. 113,000
Total number of pupils:	approx. 1.1 million
Total number of pupils in VET:	approx. 330,000
<u>Apprenticeship</u>	
Total number of apprentices in	
Part time Vocational Schools	approx. 139,000
Number of teachers	approx. 5,000



The Austrian Education System Simplified Chart



* Colleges for the Training of Nursery School Teachers, Colleges for Social Education
** including Special Needs Schools



THE APPRENTICESHIP ("dual system")

Entrance requirements:

to be over compulsory school age (successful completion of lower secondary school is not a condition)

Duration: 2 – 4 years (in most cases 3 years)

8 to 10 weeks: in part time vocational school each year

In the part time vocational school:

$\frac{2}{3}$ occupation related technical tuition

$\frac{1}{3}$ general education



THE FINANCING OF THE APPRENTICESHIP

Education and training in the **part time vocational school:**
paid by the state

Training in the **enterprise:**
paid by the company

- **Costs:** remuneration
insurance
cost for material
working time for trainers
administrative costs



APPRENTICESHIP CONTRACT

Pupils have to apply for a vacancy before finishing school.

Career guidance offices of the labour market service and the apprenticeship offices of the Economic Chambers of each province help to find apprenticeship placements.

After a successful application, the apprenticeship training-agreement is concluded between the apprentice or his/her legal representative and the training master of the training enterprise.

It has to be in line with the provisions of the Vocational Training Act („Berufsbildungsgesetz“).

The apprentice receives from the company an apprenticeship remuneration.

The minimum level of the remuneration is negotiated by the social partners, i.e. the employer's associations and the trade unions.



REASONS FOR EMPLOYING APPRENTICES

FUNCTION OF APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING	PERCENTAGE OF COMPANIES FOR WHICH THIS FUNCTION IS IMPORTANT
Finding young qualified workers exactly matching the needs of the company	91 %
Finding young qualified workers who are otherwise not available on the labourmarket	85 %
Possibility to choose the best workers from a pool of apprentices	74 %
Avoiding high fluctuation of the labour force, as former apprentices are especially loyal to the company	71 %
Avoiding of wrong decisions when employing new staff	58 %



REASONS FOR EMPLOYING APPRENTICES

FUNCTION OF APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING	PERCENTAGE OF COMPANIES FOR WHICH THIS FUNCTION IS IMPORTANT
Esteem of company linked to apprenticeship training	51 %
Less costs of unskilled workers due to contributions of the apprentices	47 %
Less costs for training of new personal recruited outside of the company	42 %
Saving of costs for finding new employees on the labour market	28 %



How to ensure that all occupational skills required for a trade are offered?

- **Training workshops** in part time vocational schools
- **Enterprise training workshops** and **training corners** in large companies
- **Supra-enterprise training center:**
For ex. in the construction industry training centers have been set up by the employer's organisations
- **Training alliances** between two or more training enterprises in the case of smaller and specialised enterprises



THE ROLE OF THE SOCIAL PARTNERS: (chambers of commerce and industry, chambers of labour)

Negotiating minimum remuneration for apprenticeship (**collective agreement**)

Apprenticeship offices (first-instance vocational training authorities):

- set up at the provincial chambers of economy
- apprenticeship authority at the first level
- examination of suitability of training enterprises (personal and technical aspects)
- checking and registration of apprenticeship agreements
- Secretariat of Provincial Advisory Board on Apprenticeship
- advice for training enterprises
- advice for apprentices



THE ROLE OF THE SOCIAL PARTNERS: (chambers of commerce and industry, chambers of labour)

Apprenticeship and youth welfare centers: defend interests of apprentices

Federal advisory council on vocational training (12 voting members from Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Chamber of Labour):

Preparation of regulations for each apprenticeship trade
Advisory work for the Ministry of Economic Affairs

Provincial advisory councils: 4 members from Chamber of Commerce and Chamber of Labour

Alone entitled to draw up proposals for the composition of the examination boards for final apprenticeship examinations



„Inclusive (integrative) Vocational Training“ (introduced in 2003)

Two possibilities:

- Prolongation of the apprenticeship period
- Acquisition of a partial qualification



„Berufsreifeprüfung“ (Lateral access matriculation) (introduced in 1997)

Additional examination for candidates from an apprenticeship or technical and vocational schools background giving access to all institutes of higher education



SECONDARY TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL COLLEGES (1)

- **Technical colleges:** e.g. mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, electronics, computer systems and organisation, construction technology, chemical engineering, textile engineering
- **Colleges of fashion and garment production**
- **Colleges of tourism**
- **Commercial colleges**
- **Colleges for occupations in the services sector**
- **Colleges of agriculture and forestry:** e.g. agriculture and horticulture, wine and fruit growing, forestry, dairy production)



SECONDARY TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL COLLEGES (2)

Offer general education and occupation related training

The curriculum is divided into three equal parts:

general education, vocational theory and vocational practice

(in school work shops, laboratories, virtual companies, kitchens and other practice facilities)

Compulsory periods of practical training in business and industry during the summer holidays



SECONDARY TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL COLLEGES (3)

- Admission:** successful completion of the 8th grade, in some subjects entrance examination or aptitude test (arts)
- Duration:** 5 years (from 14 to 19)
- Qualification:** matriculation examination giving access to all universities
+ vocational qualification giving access to regulated trades

Good career prospects:

1950: approx. 10,000 pupils

2000: over 105,000 pupils



SECONDARY TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

- Agriculture and Forestry
- Industry and Trade
- Commerce
- Tourism
- Secretarial and Administrative
- Business
- Textile Industry
- Art and Crafts
- Social Work
- Nursing Professions



SECONDARY TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

- duration: 1 – 4 years, the majority has a duration of 3 years (age 14 – 17)
- general education and training
- focus on practical training in school workshops, laboratories and practical classes
- compulsory practical training in an enterprise during the summer holidays
- school leaving certificate does not give access to universities, but there is a possibility to follow „bridging courses“ (2 to 3 years) leading to the matriculation examination
- school leaving certificate gives access to regulated professions