

Indicator 4.3.1

Indicator Name, Target and Goal

Indicator 4.3.1 Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and non-formal education and training in the previous 12 months, by sex

Target 4.3 By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university

Goal 4 Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Definition and Rationale

○ Definition

This indicator is defined as the percentage of a specific age group who have participated in formal and non-formal education during a specific period of time. In Japan, it is defined as the percentage of adults (25 to 65 years old) who responded that they had participated in formal or non-formal education within the previous 12 months among the participants in the survey, based on the Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC) survey, which was conducted by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

○ Concepts

(1) Persons participating in formal education: Those responding “Yes” in response to the background question: “Are you currently studying for any kind of formal qualification?”

(2) Persons participating in non-formal education: Those responding “Yes” in response to any of the following background questions: “During the last 12 months, have you participated in courses conducted through open or distance education?” “During the last 12 months, have you attended any organized sessions for on-the-job training or training by supervisors or co-workers?” “During the last 12 months, have you participated in seminars or workshops?” “During the last 12 months, have you participated in courses or private lessons, not already reported?”

○ Rationale and Interpretation

This indicator is calculated by using data compiled from administrative information obtained from schools or institutions conducting other non-formal education, data from households, surveys of households by age or by age group regarding participation in formal or non-formal education, or other sampling surveys. According to the UN E-Handbook, for the “Data Sources and Collection Method”, the “OECD’s Survey of Adult Skills in its Programme for the

International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC) is a good source of data for this indicator.” Therefore, the indicator is calculated by using the results of the PIAAC.

The high value of this indicator shows that the majority of persons in the designated age group have access to, and participate in, formal or non-formal education.

However, since the value was calculated based on the respondents’ subjective responses, it does not indicate an objective evaluation of the contents of formal or non-formal education.

Data Sources and Collection Method

The PIAAC survey measures adults’ proficiency in skills needed for individuals to participate in society and for economies to prosper. It also gathers information and data on how adults use their skills at home and at work.. In order to suitably understand this proficiency, a background survey is also conducted to inquire about the attributes of the respondents.

For the survey, a survey investigator visits the target person’s house, etc., and using a special-use computer, conducts the survey for between one-and-a-half to two hours. During the 1st Cycle, if the target person was unfamiliar with using a computer, the survey was conducted by paper

The target populations of the survey is between the ages of 16 and 65. Those who are residents of hospitals, nursing care facilities, prisons, military bases, etc. are excluded (for the 1st Cycle, foreign residents or illegal residents were also excluded from the survey sampling since they were not registered in the Basic Resident Registers) Moreover, since the survey period for the 1st Cycle was from August 2011 to February 2012, areas hit by the Great East Japan Earthquake Disaster (applicable areas designated by the Disaster Relief Act: all of Iwate, Miyagi, and Fukushima Prefectures, and parts of Aomori, Ibaraki, Tochigi, and Chiba Prefectures) were excluded from the survey locations.

Since a probability sampling enabling calculation of specific values for each person’s selection as a survey sample was required, selection was made using the Basic Resident Register as a sampling frame and a stratified two-stage sampling method. At first, cities, towns, and villages throughout Japan were divided into 30 groups (strata) by regional blocks on a city scale, and town-district-street areas that became the survey area for each stratum were selected (first stage); individuals were then selected (second stage) from among the residents of the town-district-street to become the survey targets, with the Basic Resident Registers as a sampling frame.

The survey was carried out so that bias would not arise due to non-responses; correcting as much as possible for biases is internationally recognized.

Method of Computation and Other Methodological Considerations

○ Computation Method

This indicator can be calculated by dividing a) the total number of subjects aged 25-65 who responded that they had participated in formal or non-formal education by b) the total number of respondents in the same age group, and multiplying the result by 100. The c) participation rate in the 25-65 age cohort can be calculated as below.

$$c = \frac{a}{b} \times 100$$

○ Comments and limitations

- When analyzing the participation rate in formal or non-formal education in the PIAAC survey, the OECD excludes the 16-24 age cohort since it is likely that such persons will still be in their initial period of school education; the same sampling handling was used for this indicator.
- It should be noted that the target samples numbered some 5,000 persons, and not the entire number selected as survey targets.
- PIAAC survey is designed as 10 yearly cycles ; the indicator cannot be updated during this time.

Data Disaggregation

Female / Male

(The data by sex is used for indicator 4.5.1)

References

Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC)

<http://www.oecd.org/skills/piaac/>

Custodian Ministries of Data

Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

Custodian Ministries of Related Policies

Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

International Organizations

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)