

The data on higher education are as of 15.11. of the corresponding year. In the data about the teaching staff in the higher schools are included the teaching staff and the researchers working under a full-time and supplementary or civil contract (part - time).

The net enrolment rate is calculated as a relative share (in per cent) of the number of students at a given age group from the number of population at the same age group. This rate characterises the participation rate of the population in the education system.

Metadata about education are included in the IMF 'General Data Dissemination System'.

More information about education can be found in the annual publication 'Education in Bulgaria' issued by NSI.

'Scientists' (tables 28, 29, 30 and 31) are surveyed by annual exhaustive survey, covering scientific institutions and organizations, academies, higher education institutes, university hospitals, firms and enterprises in which there are scientific personnel resources for performing research and development activity.

'Scientists' are persons who have been awarded a scientific title (academician, corresponding member, professor, associate professor, associate researcher, lecturer, assistant) irrespective of their administrative position.

The number of scientists comprises those working under labour contract and does not include scientists who are not on the payroll, lecturers on honorarium and employees under civil contract.

'Scientists holders of scientific degrees' are persons who have obtained diploma from High-Testimonial Commission in Bulgaria or equivalent certificate abroad.

The distribution of the scientists by field of science and specialities is carried out on the basis of the information in their latest diploma.

Research and experimental development (R&D) comprise creative work undertaken on a systematic basis in order to increase the stock of knowledge, including knowledge of man, culture and society, and the use of this stock of knowledge to devise new applications. R&D activity covers basic research, applied research and experimental development.

Researchers are professionals, directly engaged in performing R&D activity, i.e. working on conception and creation of new knowledge, products, processes, methods and systems and in the management of the projects concerned.

Technicians comprise persons having required technical knowledge and experience in one or more fields of science. They perform scientific and technical tasks involving the application of concepts and operational methods, under the supervision of researchers.

Other personnel (other supporting staff) includes skilled, unskilled craftsmen, accountants, administrators dealing with financial and personnel matters, secretarial and clerical staff participating in R&D projects or directly associated with such projects.

Personnel in full-time equivalent (FTE) is calculated on the basis of working time spent on R&D activity during reference year.

R&D personnel is distributed in four sectors of performance:

- Business enterprises sector - includes all firms, organizations and institutions whose primary activity is the market production of goods and services (other than those included in sector Higher education);

- Government sector is comprised of state offices and bodies which provide but do not sell common services to satisfy the individual and collective needs of society and which are predominantly budgetary funded (other than those included in sector Higher education);

- Sector Higher education is comprised of all universities, colleges and other institutes of post-secondary education, R&D departments at the universities and university hospitals;

- Private non-profit sector includes foundations, associations, etc. providing non-market services.

The definitions of research and development (R&D) activity, categories of personnel and sectors of performance are fully compliant with definitions recommended in adopted by Eurostat methodological manual for R&D surveys - 'FRASCATI MANUAL' (Proposed Standard Practice for Surveys of Research and Experimental Development, OECD, Paris, 1993).