

Annex A. Map of Portugal's adult learning system

This map aims to provide a snapshot of the adult-learning programmes in Portugal, along two dimensions: the level of skills provided and the context in which they are delivered. Quality assurance, information tools and data supporting the system are also included.

For the purpose of the National Skills Strategy Action Phase for Portugal, adults are broadly defined as adults age 18 to 75. However, in many cases, the report focuses on adults aged 25 to 64 for data availability purposes.

Adult learners are adults of 18 to 75 who are participating in learning that is:

- formal, informal and non-formal
- delivered by:
 - education programmes (up to 12 years of schooling)
 - post-secondary non-tertiary programmes
 - tertiary education programmes
 - Focus on programmes targeting individuals who had a break in their education pathway
 - Students in CTeSP (*Cursos Técnicos Superiores Profissionais*) should be included
 - employers in workplaces, also called “on-the-job” learning
 - other types of training institutions targeting adults.

Sources:

- National Project Team workshop on 24 March 2017
- Ministry workbooks submitted to OECD in April-May 2017
- Relatório Anual de Formação Contínua 2015
- Statistics from Direção-Geral de Estatísticas da Educação e Ciência (2015-16)
- Figures for Training Action were provided on 30 June 2017 by Ministry of Economy
- Figures for the National Reform Programme, Cheque Formação, Coop Jovem, InCode and Indústria 4.0 were provided on 31 July 2017 by Ministry of Planning and Infrastructure.

Note:

- Budget figures are usually expressed in million euros (noted as EUR xM).
- Where available, reference periods for participants or budget allocations are noted.
- Information provided is as received, with certain gaps for programme budgets and number of participants.
- EQF levels are equivalent to the National Qualifications Framework (QNQ) levels.

Multi-ministry overarching policy initiatives – with impact on adult learning

NATIONAL REFORM PROGRAMME (NRP) 2016-2020

EUR 8 952M invested in Pillar 1 “Qualifications of the Portuguese Population” (2017) through government budget (EUR 3 601M) and Portugal 2020 (EUR 5 301M)
Through Portugal 2020, investments of EUR 2 302M in the Training and Qualifications of Adults

INCoDE.2030 – DIGITAL SKILLS STRATEGY: Expected participants: 20 000 individuals

INDUSTRIA 4.0 EUR 414M Expected participants: 50 000 enterprises

Policy and strategic planning:

- Central Ministries (MEDU, MTSSS, MEcon, MF, MPI, MSTHE, MPA) & PMO
- Agency Cohesion and Development
- ANQEP
- Co-ordinating Council of the System for the Anticipation of Skills Needs
- Sector Qualifications Councils
- INA & National Governing System for Public Administration Training
- High Commission for Migrations
- National Youth Council
- National Federation of Youth Associations

Local planning and delivery:

- CIMs
- Municipalities
- Qualifica Centres (QC)
- IEFP Centres
- Tourism Portugal schools
- Schools
- Higher education institutions (HEIs)
- Local associations
- Employers
- Other private training

Adult learning programmes by skill level (vertical axis) and delivery setting (horizontal axis)

Higher education

Total university students: 234 614 (2015-16)
Total polytechnic students: 121 785 (2015-16)
“+23” route: from 10 000 to 6 000 students between 2007-08 and 2013-14

CTeSP (in polytechnics)
6 430 students (2015-16)
11 048 students (2016-17)

CET

6 299 students (2015-16)
Delivered in vocational training centres, schools and other providers (not higher education institutions)

HIGHER LEVEL SKILLS

Training for SME managers

- Action Training: EUR 70M
- Business Empowerment Training; Financial training

Coop Jóvem:

EUR 13.9M; 2 700 participants

National Model of Recognition & Validation of Non-Formal Education for youth

Cheque Formação

EUR 6.2M
75 000 participants (target)

Empreende Já

630 participants (2016-18)
EUR 3.3M (2018)

Sector-specific. e.g. Creative Tourism Factory & Open Kitchen Labs
100 participants (both)

Employer-sponsored training

(35h annual requirement, according to Lei n°7/2009 of 12 February)
About 880 000 workers (2015)
More than EUR 229M

FORMAL LEARNING (MOSTLY IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS)

Overarching education strategies: National Programme for School Success; Student profiles for the 21st century; Project for Curricular Autonomy and Flexibility

Compulsory education: secondary (EQF 3 & 4)

- Youth: 330 858 students in 2015/16 in tracks for youth (excluding Apprenticeship Courses), with 60% in academic stream and 40% in vocational stream (see table below for details)
- Adults: 6 280 participants in *Ensino Recorrente*, + distance pilot (ESRaD): expecting 189 students (2017/18). Other tracks include: EFA, FMC and RVCC, totalling an extra 28 390 participants

Compulsory education: basic (first cycle to EQF 2):

- 986 022 students in 2015-16 in tracks for youth
- 831 participants in *Ensino Recorrente*

(Other tracks for adults, see EFA, FMC and RVCC, totalling an extra 26 544 participants)

Apprenticeship courses (youth only)

EUR 67.5M (2016)
26 010 participants (2015-16)

EFA courses

39 997 participants (2015-16), about half at EQF 3 to 4, half at EQF 2 or below

Tourism Portugal Schools Professional Training

7 500 participants (2016-17)

NON-FORMAL (MOSTLY IN LABOUR MARKET COMMUNITY)

Vida Ativa, including *Formação Modular*, on-the-job training, RVCC

2016 (November): EUR 46M, 135 471 participants
2015: EUR 71M, 280 387

Formação Modular Certificada

399 participants (2015-16), 151 at EQF 2 or below

Prior learning assessment and recognition (RVCC)

12 288 participants (2015-16), about half at EQF

Qualifica Centres EUR 129M for Qualifica Centres - 303 centres in 2018

LOWER LEVEL & BASIC SKILLS

SYSTEM SUPPORT FEATURES

System structure and quality assurance

- National Qualifications System
- National Catalogue of Qualifications
- ANQEP (EQAVET/ECVET implementation)
- MEDU policies
- MTSSS – DGERT policies
- MSTHE + A3ES policies

Information and guidance systems & tools

SANQ
Qualifica Passport
Portal Qualifica
Garantia Jovem website
Information campaigns (e.g. *Minuto Qualifica*)

Data collection tools and systems

- DGEEC, including SIGO
- MTSS-GEP – *Relatório Unico* (companies), IEFP data, LFS
- ANQEP
- INA – *Relatório de Gestão de Formação* (RGF)

Name of programme	Description (from top left to bottom right)
Higher level and/or technical and transversal skills, formal delivery setting in educational institutions	
National Reform Programme	Medium-term government strategy based on six pillars: <i>i)</i> Qualifications of the Portuguese population; <i>ii)</i> Innovation of the Portuguese economy; <i>iii)</i> Territorial promotion; <i>iv)</i> State modernisation; <i>v)</i> Enterprise capitalisation; <i>vi)</i> Cohesion and equality Investments in the Qualifications of the Portuguese Population focus on the following areas: <i>i)</i> Expansion of compulsory school and increase in educational success; <i>ii)</i> Expansion of the socio-economic profile of HE students; <i>iii)</i> Reform of professional higher education; <i>iv)</i> Adult training: Qualifica; <i>v)</i> Digital competencies
InCode 2030	Initiative to increase digital skills among the Portuguese population
Indústria 4.0	Initiative to promote the adoption of Indústria 4.0 by Portuguese companies
Higher education	Includes all tertiary programmes EQF 6 to 8, ISCED 5 to 8
CTeSP	Short-cycle tertiary education with 120 ECTS delivered in polytechnics
CET	Vocational, post-secondary non-tertiary courses (EQF 5) with 60 to 90 ECTS, granting double certification, and delivered in several non-tertiary educational establishments.
Tourism for Portugal's schools	Schools offering courses at EQF Levels 4 and 5, as well as continuous training in the fields of tourism, hospitality and culinary arts and sciences.
Higher-level and/or technical and transversal skills, mixed-delivery setting (formal, non-formal, informal) including labour market and community	
Formação-Ação	Programme for delivering management training in firms and promoting organisational change.
Business empowerment training	Actions to develop entrepreneurial skills and practices that facilitate management or lead to entrepreneurial projects.
Cheque Formação	Financial incentives to firms, employed and unemployed people wishing to participate in training.
Emprende Já!	Programme supporting 18- to 29-year-old NEETs with at least compulsory education in developing and implementing a business project
Coop Jovem	Programme supporting 18- to 29-year-old NEETs with EQF 2 or greater in creating a co-operative
Employer-sponsored training (Formação Contínua)	Training offered by companies to employees. Legal minimum of 35 hours per year, created by <i>Lei n°7/2009</i> of 12 February.
Lower level and/or basic skills, formal delivery setting in education institutions	
National Programme for School Success	Programme for schools to develop measures to increase quality, and decrease retention and drop-out rates.
Student Profile for the 21st Century	Reflection on the skills and educational that profile students should have acquired upon completing compulsory education, intended to serve as guidelines for educational policy – https://dge.mec.pt/sites/default/files/Noticias_Imagens/perfil_do_aluno.pdf
Project for Autonomy and Flexibility	Pilot programme for 2017-18 for interested public and private schools offering autonomy and flexibility in organising school hours and developing and implementing pedagogical projects
Compulsory – secondary education	Years 10-12, equivalent to EQF 3 or, in the case of double certification, EQF4. The two major tracks for youth are <i>i)</i> Regular <i>Científico-Humanístico</i> (EQF 3), for those

	<p>wishing to access higher education, with 206 346 enrolments in 2015/16 and <i>ii) Cursos Profissionais</i> (EQF 4), conferring a double certification, with 112 395 enrolments. Other tracks for youth are <i>Cursos Tecnológicos</i> (3 913), <i>Cursos de Aprendizagem</i> (26 010), <i>Cursos vocacionais</i> (5 244), <i>Cursos CEF</i> (506), and <i>Ensino Artístico-Especializado</i> (2 454).</p> <p>Tracks for adults at that level are <i>i) Ensino Recorrente</i> (8 530), <i>ii) RVCC</i> (6 280), <i>iii) Formação Modular Certificada</i> (248) and <i>iv) EFA courses</i> (19 612).</p>
Compulsory – basic education	<p>Years 1-9, divided into three cycles, 1st (1-4), 2nd (5 and 6, equivalent to EQF 1), and 3rd (7-9, equivalent to EQF 2). Tracks for youth are <i>i) Regular</i> (947 773), <i>ii) Ensino Artístico Especializado</i> (2 513), <i>iii) Percursos Curriculares Alternativos</i> (6 433), <i>iv) Cursos Vocacionais</i> (26 574), 5) <i>CEF</i> (2499) and 6) <i>Cursos Profissionais</i> (230).</p> <p>Tracks for adults at that level are <i>i) Ensino Recorrente</i> (831), <i>ii) RVCC</i> (6 008), <i>iii) Formação Modular Certificada</i> (151), and <i>iv) EFA courses</i> (20 385).</p>
Ensino Recorrente	<p>Courses in compulsory education (1st cycle to EQF 4) targeting those over the age of 15 wishing to finish basic education, and those over 18 wishing to finish secondary education. This track is adjusted to adults by offering flexible schedules, evening classes and distance-learning (including the pilot <i>Ensino Secundário Recorrente à Distância</i>, or ESRaD).</p>
Programa de Formação em Competências Básicas	<p>Set of short-term training units (50 hours each) for adults (aged 18 or over) lacking the most basic reading, writing and digital skills</p>
Cursos de Aprendizagem	<p>Courses targeting 15- to 25-year-olds who have not completed high school. They confer a high-school degree, and a dual certification of educational and professional attainment equivalent to an EQF Level 4.</p>
EFA courses	<p>Courses for adults, ranging from EQF Level 1 to 4. Some offer a double certification, academic and professional.</p>
Lower-level and/or essential skills, mixed-delivery setting (formal, non-formal, informal) including labour market and community	
RVCC	<p>National system for recognising, validating and certifying academic or professional skills obtained throughout an individual's life. Allows recognition from EQF Levels 1 to level 4.</p>
Formação Modular Certificada	<p>25- to 50-hour courses on specific subjects, enabling a flexible acquisition of skills, update of competences and requalification.</p>
Vida Ativa	<p>Measure to boost an unemployed individual's employability by offering tailored <i>Formação Modular Certificada</i>.</p>
Qualifica Centres	<p>Access points to RVCC and career guidance. Open to all low-skilled adults and to those wishing to requalify – target up to NQF/EQF level 4. Aim to reach 600 000 to 1 million by 2020.</p>



From:
**Skills Strategy Implementation Guidance for
Portugal**
Strengthening the Adult-Learning System

Access the complete publication at:
<https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264298705-en>

Please cite this chapter as:

OECD (2018), "Map of Portugal's adult learning system", in *Skills Strategy Implementation Guidance for Portugal: Strengthening the Adult-Learning System*, OECD Publishing, Paris.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264298705-9-en>

This work is published under the responsibility of the Secretary-General of the OECD. The opinions expressed and arguments employed herein do not necessarily reflect the official views of OECD member countries.

This document and any map included herein are without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory, to the delimitation of international frontiers and boundaries and to the name of any territory, city or area.

You can copy, download or print OECD content for your own use, and you can include excerpts from OECD publications, databases and multimedia products in your own documents, presentations, blogs, websites and teaching materials, provided that suitable acknowledgment of OECD as source and copyright owner is given. All requests for public or commercial use and translation rights should be submitted to rights@oecd.org. Requests for permission to photocopy portions of this material for public or commercial use shall be addressed directly to the Copyright Clearance Center (CCC) at info@copyright.com or the Centre français d'exploitation du droit de copie (CFC) at contact@cfcopies.com.