Labour Market Policy for Young People in Austria

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FACTS AND FIGURES
EDUCATION SYSTEM - VET
Educational System

- **Primary School**: age 6-10 (4 years)

- **Lower secondary (level I)**: age 10-14 (4 years):
  - Comprehensive Secondary School (*Neue Mittelschule, Hauptschule*)
  - Academic Secondary School: lower level (*Allgemeinbildende Höhere Schule*; usually lower and upper level combined in one school: age 10-18; 8 years)

- **Upper secondary (level II, different forms, 1-5 years)**:
  - Pre-Vocational School: age 14-15 (1 year)
  - Dual System: age 15-18 (2-4 years)
  - Secondary Technical and Vocational School: age 14-16/17/18 (1-4 years)
  - Colleges for Higher Technical Education: age 14-19 (5 years)
  - Academic Secondary School: upper level; age 14-18 (4 years)

Vocational education

general qualification for university entrance (matriculation examination)
Transitions

Secondary education level I to level II:

- Transition possible from every type of level 1 to every type of level II
- Many different school types esp. in VET
- In reality different types of transition:
  - from comprehensive school mostly to apprenticeship or BMS and BHS,
  - from Academic secondary school (lower level) mostly to general education upper level and BHS (target: tertiary education)
- Discrepancy between compulsory school attendance (9 years) and end of comprehensive school (secondary ed. Level I – 8 years)
- Start of apprenticeship only possible after end of compulsory education, prevocational school intended as preparation and transition, is partially circumvented (1 year BMS, BHS or AHS)
- Early decision on educational pathways (General higher education, full vocational education in schools, dual training) at the age of 14/15 years

→ Difficult to find the pathway, in particular if there is little support from parents
## School types – Secondary level II

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISCED</th>
<th>Ratio General Education and vocational education</th>
<th>Education in school / practical education (company, internship)</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Share of students</th>
<th>Access to university</th>
<th>Vocational Degree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Academic secondary school</strong></td>
<td>3A</td>
<td>100% general education</td>
<td>100% school</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Secondary technical and vocational school</strong></td>
<td>3B</td>
<td>40% general education, 60% VET</td>
<td>90% school, 10% practical education</td>
<td>3-4 years</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Not directly - additional exam needed (Berufsreifeprüfung)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>College of Higher Vocational Education</strong></td>
<td>3A/4A</td>
<td>40% general education, 60% VET</td>
<td>90% school, 10% practical education</td>
<td>5 years</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Apprenticeship / Dual System</strong></td>
<td>3B</td>
<td>40% general education, 60% VET</td>
<td>20% school, 80% practical education</td>
<td>2-4 years</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Not directly - additional exam needed (Berufsreifeprüfung)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Which school types are chosen? (II)

- IVET students as a percentage of all upper secondary students:

Source: Cedefop: On the way to 2020: data for vocational education and training policies
LABOUR MARKET POLICY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN AUSTRIA
Aims of LMP for Young People

• Reducing drop-outs and marginalisation
• Improving measures between school and further education/formation
  - Easing transitions (standardising offers, increasing coverage, enhancing low-threshold, individualisation of programmes)
• Support all young people that have difficulties: Mainstreaming
• Further education and education certificates
• Enhancing cross-system co-operation and integrating labour market and education policy
What are the reasons for low unemployment?

Reasons:
• Economic Environment, comparatively low unemployment
• Demographic decrease of the number of 15-19-year-olds
• Vocational education is easing the school-to-work transition
• Youth labour market policy (training guarantee etc.)

Means to integrate young people into the labour market:
• Budget 2012: € 613m (GDP: 307bn €)
  - Thereof: approx. € 450m on subsisdies and promotion of the PES , € 160m on subsidies of the apprenticeship system and €34 Mio. for the Social Ministry Service (Youth Coaching, subsidies for person with disabilites or other target groups)
• Young people benefit disproportionally
Youth Guarantee Measures

• Since 1998: offer of additional apprenticeship places

Youth Employment Package 2008

• **Training Guarantee** for young people up to the age of 18
• Appreciation of *supra-company apprenticeship* training as fully-fledged element of the dual system
• Guaranteed apprenticeship position

“Future for Youth” Programme

• Training or employment guarantee for young jobseekers aged 19 to 24 within 6/3 months (since April 2009):
  - job, subsidized employment or a (further) education and formation offer (as e.g. apprenticeship final exams)
• In 2014 (Jan-Oct) 48,000 young people could benefit from a PES training and 78,000 could take up employment after a period of unemployment.
Supra-Company Apprenticeship
Überbetriebliche Lehrausbildung

- **Target group**: young people after compulsory education and couldn’t find an apprenticeship position or who did drop out of a company-based apprenticeship.
- The priority is, also during supra-company apprenticeship, to find an apprenticeship position within a company.

- **How does it usually work?**
  - Start: vocational education/job information
  - Support during the apprenticeship
  - Theoretical and practical instruction, Internships (organisation differs from agency to agency)
  - Diploma of completing a vocational education that completely corresponds to the diploma acquired at a company-based apprenticeship

More than 100 apprenticeship trades are offered

- Persons with migration background are over-represented compared to company-based apprenticeships
- In 2013/14: 9,300 persons were on average in supra-company training entities, thereof 8,250 in apprenticeship training (1,000: support and preparation)
Youth Coaching

• Based on „Clearing“, which was an offer of Case Management and support to young people with disabilities
• Nation-wide implementation in 2013
• Early intervention in cooperation with schools and social work –

**Target group:**
Young people in school year 9 (last year of compulsory education), young people with disabilities up to the age of 24 and NEETs up to 19 years of age, who need support in finding an apprenticeship, their way back into the education system or employment and/or are in danger of dropping out of the education system

**Aim:**
Comprehensive support including all relevant actors, from the end of compulsory school until the aim of a sustainable integration in further education is reached.
Youth Coaching: How does it work?

Level I: First Contact – One-two-one dialogue (duration: 3 hours)
Conversation of the young person with the youth coach including general information on education pathways etc. For young people who will find their education pathway relatively independently.
If no support is needed -> level I or II.

Level II (max. 3 months) – Support with Case management approach
Targeted vocational and education orientation, support in making decisions and organising additional support offers

Level II (up to one year) – Case management
Intensive support, case management. Analysing strengths and weaknesses and drawing up a development plan
Youth Coaching: first results

- 45 projects with 432 coaches
- 27,500 young people starte youth coaching
- 45% women und 55% men
- 37,6% have another first language than German
- 57% level I, 25% level II und 18% level III
- 16% had already left the education system (NEET)
- Only about 3% dropouts of youth coaching

Budget – relatively low
- Total expenditure in 2013: ca. € 22m
- That is roughly € 800, per case bzw. Entry
- Planned Budget for 2014: ca. 25 Mio. €
Further programmes (I)

“Production schools” (combination of working and learning)

- Stabilisation, acquisition of social and practical skills „learning by doing“
- Disadvantaged young people

- **Content:**
  - socio-pedagogical support,
  - key competences and basic skills (educational and vocational),
  - job information and vocational education (workshops and internships),
  - integration into the labour market (outplacement, follow-up support)

- **Aim:** preparing for further education and support in choosing and finding it, information on professional perspectives

- Sustainable integration of 50% of the students
- Around 20 production schools
- Approx. 2,500 participants
Further programmes (II)

Pilot: AusbildungsFit - Fit for (further) education and training (new low-threshold offer, bridging function)

- **Reason:** young people lacking basic skills to start a further education/apprenticeship and students with severe familial or social problems are at most risk of becoming NEETs
- Establishment of a standardised nation-wide offer to achieve „fitness“ for education and training:
  - Clearing of problems
  - Basis qualification
  - Social skills, sports
- **Aim:** Integration into vocational education, the labour market or the educational system
- **2014:** Pilot (already > 1,000 participants)
- Further projects will be integrated and/or developed in 2015
Current Developments / Outlook

- Establishing further low-threshold offers and increasing co-operation
- Support in transitions and for NEET
- Under discussion: Ausbildung bis 18 / Education and Formation up to the age of 18
Additional Information
Additional Information in English

- Austrian Youth Guarantee Implementation Plan: http://www.sozialministerium.at/site/Arbeit/News/EU_Mitgliedstaaten_praesentieren_Umsetzungsplaene_zur_Jugendgarantie
- Brochure Youth and Work in Austria: http://www.sozialministerium.at/siteEN/_Labour/Labour_Market/Labour_market_policy_in_Austria/Youth_and_Work_in_Austria
- Information on active and passive labour market policy and labour law: Basic Information Report: http://www.sozialministerium.at/siteEN/_Labour/Labour_Market/Labour_market_policy_in_Austria/
- Background Paper from the Learning Exchange on the Austrian Apprenticeship System, which took place last November: http://ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=11197&langId=en
Zusätzliche Informationen

- Broschüre Jugend und Arbeit:
  [http://www.sozialministerium.at/cms/site/attachments/7/6/7/CH2124/CMS1249976411510/jugend_und_arbeit_2013_deutsch.pdf](http://www.sozialministerium.at/cms/site/attachments/7/6/7/CH2124/CMS1249976411510/jugend_und_arbeit_2013_deutsch.pdf)
- Beschreibung aller Maßnahmen und Reformen der aktiven Arbeitsmarktpolitik in Österreich: [Dokumentation aktive Arbeitsmarktpolitik 1994-2013 und 2014](http://www.sozialministerium.at/site/Arbeit/Arbeitsmarkt/Arbeitsmarktpolitik_in_Oesterreich/);
  Basisinformationsbericht: [http://www.sozialministerium.at/site/Arbeit/Arbeitsmarkt/Arbeitsmarktpolitik_in_Oesterreich/](http://www.sozialministerium.at/site/Arbeit/Arbeitsmarkt/Arbeitsmarktpolitik_in_Oesterreich/)
- Lehre in Österreich – Duale Berufsausbildung in Österreich, Borschüre des BMWFW:

Links zu einigen Evaluierungen und Studien:

- Evaluierung der Überbetrieblichen Lehrausbildung, L&R Sozialforschung 201:
  [http://www.lrsocialresearch.at/sozialforschung/archiv-de/534-Evaluierung+der+%FCberbetrieblichen+Lehrausbildung+%28DCBA%29](http://www.lrsocialresearch.at/sozialforschung/archiv-de/534-Evaluierung+der+%FCberbetrieblichen+Lehrausbildung+%28DCBA%29)
- Aktuelle Studie zu NEETs in Österreich: [Studie zur Unterstützung der arbeitsmarktpolitischen Zielgruppe NEET der JKU](http://www.sozialministerium.at/cms/site/attachments/0/0/9/CH2247/CMS1318326022365/bmask_neet-studie.pdf)
Dual System – Apprenticeship

What?
- Duration: 3 years (2.5 - 4 years)
- Employment contract with the firm (special type - apprenticeship), remuneration
- 80% company-based learning, 20% school
- 200+ different professions with standardised curricula
- Final examination – diploma of completing a vocational education
- Possibility of passing an entry exam for university after completing the apprenticeship

Who?
- 40% of each age cohort; approx. 125,000 apprentices
- Usually after finishing compulsory school (age 15)
- Offers opportunities also for weaker pupils
- Support for disadvantaged:
  - Supra-company apprenticeship (training guarantee)
  - Integrated vocational education (company or supra-company)

How to find an apprenticeship position?
- Usually the young person applies directly at the company
- Support of the PES to find a company
- If no apprenticeship place can be found, students can do a supra-company apprenticeship