

# UIS Survey of Formal Education

The UNESCO Institute for Statistics is the custodian of cross-national education data and indicators. From the Education for All to the Sustainable Development Goals agenda the Institute has continuously improved its capacity to achieve its mandate and to provide the global education community with quality international education statistics, produced and validated in collaboration with UNESCO Member States. The first UIS Survey of Formal Education was launched in 2000 and has since remained one of the main official data collection mechanisms that underlie the production of international education indicators.

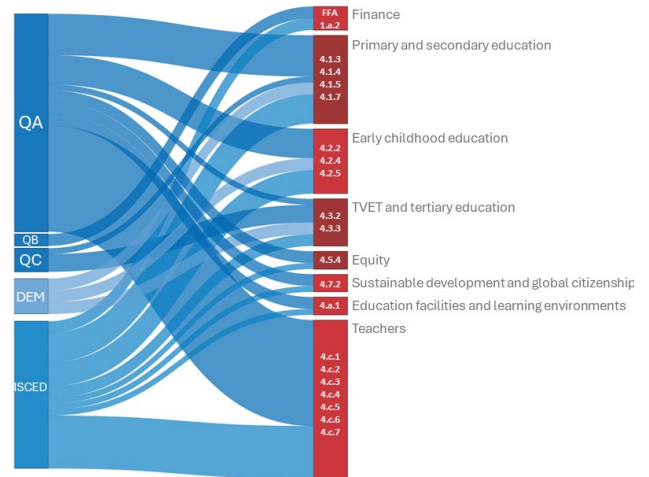
## For all UNESCO Member States.

Today, the UIS Survey of Formal Education is sent annually to 163 Member States and territories and is comprised of four questionnaires: Questionnaire A (QA) on *Students and Teachers (ISCED 0-4)*, Questionnaire B (QB) on *Educational Expenditure (ISCED 0-8)*, Questionnaire C (QC) on *Students and Teachers (ISCED 5-8)*, and the ISCED Questionnaire which collects data on *National Education Systems*. The Survey of Formal Education is complemented by the UOE data collection for 47 OECD countries and partner countries, as well as by the UIS dynamic template.

## Informs 21 SDG 4 Global and Thematic indicators.

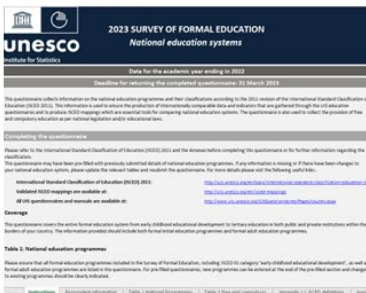
Together, the four questionnaires provide the data that underlie twenty-one SDG 4

global and thematic indicators, informing SDG targets 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5, 4.7, 4.a, and 4.c as well as two global education finance indicators.



## Adapts to global needs and Member States demands.

For the first time this year, and to respond to demands from Member States made through the Technical Cooperation Group on SDG4 Indicators (TCG), the Survey of Formal Education will collect national data on population (DEM). This will provide Member States with the option to request the use of their population data in the calculation of international indicators under the condition that the data provided meet global quality requirements. An additional table on teachers by highest level of education achieved has also been added following the adoption of a minimum global qualification standard by the TCG.



2023 SURVEY OF FORMAL EDUCATION  
National education systems

Date for the academic year ending in 2022

Deadline for returning the completed questionnaire: 31 March 2023

This questionnaire collects information on the national education system and their classification according to the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED). The information is used for the production of international comparable data and indicators that are published through the UIS website and to provide ISCED mapping, which is essential for comparing national education systems. The questionnaire also collects the presence of five and six-year education systems and various governance structures.

Please refer to the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED) 2011, and the Annexes listing the questionnaires for further information regarding the classification.

The questionnaire may have pre-filled with previously submitted details of national education programmes. If any information is missing or if there has been a change to your national education system, please update the relevant tables and include the questionnaires. For more details about the following, see the following links:

International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED) 2011: <https://uis.unesco.org/en/isced>

Individual ISCED mappings are available at: <https://uis.unesco.org/en/isced-mappings>

All ISCED questionnaires are available at: <https://uis.unesco.org/en/questionnaires>

**Coverage**

This questionnaire covers the entire formal education system from early childhood educational development to tertiary education in both public and private institutions within the territory of each country. The information generated should be used to monitor national education programmes and formal adult education programmes.

**Table 1. National education programmes**

Representative list of national education programmes included in the Survey of Formal Education, including ISCED 1 categories 'early childhood educational development', as well as National adult education programmes as listed in the questionnaire. For pre-filled questionnaires, new programmes can be entered at the end of the pre-filled section and changes to existing programmes should be made in the table.

**Questionnaires** | **Respondent information** | **Table 1. National programmes** | **Table 2. Cross-comparability** | **Appendix 1.1. ISCED definitions** | **Appendix 1.2. ISCED definitions**



2023 SURVEY OF FORMAL EDUCATION  
Students and teachers (ISCED 0-4)

Date for the academic year ending in 2022

Deadline for returning the completed questionnaire: 31 March 2023

This questionnaire is designed to collect information on the students and teachers in the national education system. The information is used for the production of international comparable data and indicators that are published through the UIS website and to provide ISCED mapping, which is essential for comparing national education systems. The questionnaire also collects the presence of five and six-year education systems and various governance structures.

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2023 SURVEY OF FORMAL EDUCATION  
Educational expenditure (ISCED 0-8)

Date for the financial year ending in 2022

Deadline for returning the completed questionnaire: 31 March 2023

This questionnaire is designed to collect information on the national education system. The information is used for the production of international comparable data and indicators that are published through the UIS website and to provide ISCED mapping, which is essential for comparing national education systems. The questionnaire also collects the presence of five and six-year education systems and various governance structures.

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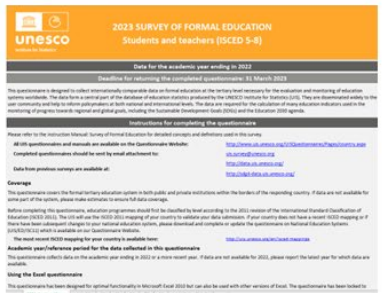
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2023 SURVEY OF FORMAL EDUCATION  
Students and teachers (ISCED 5-8)

Date for the academic year ending in 2022

Deadline for returning the completed questionnaire: 31 March 2023

This questionnaire is designed to collect information on the students and teachers in the national education system. The information is used for the production of international comparable data and indicators that are published through the UIS website and to provide ISCED mapping, which is essential for comparing national education systems. The questionnaire also collects the presence of five and six-year education systems and various governance structures.

Please refer to the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED) 2011, and the Annexes listing the questionnaires for further information regarding the classification.

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#Data4Education

For more information: <https://uis.unesco.org/en/uis-questionnaires>

## How to make sure your country reports on key SDG 4 indicators?

This year the Survey of Formal Education will be launched the week following the Conference on Education Data and Statistics. Each Member State will receive all relevant questionnaires as well as links to accompanying resources.

If your country has not reported to the Survey of Formal Education in 2023, you can still access your questionnaires at <https://uis.unesco.org/uis-questionnaires> by selecting your country. The instruction manual and other supporting documents are also available at the same link under 2023 Survey of Formal Education. Should you have any questions or need for support regarding your country's participation to the Survey of Formal Education, please contact the UIS by email at [uis.survey@unesco.org](mailto:uis.survey@unesco.org).

## When will indicators for your country be published?

Upon reception of your country's responses to the Survey, the UNESCO Institute for Statistics will process and validate the data with national focal points. Provisional indicator values will also be communicated prior to official releases. Updates of administrative data-based indicators in UIS database, available at <http://sdg4-data.uis.unesco.org/> and <http://data.uis.unesco.org/>, are typically made at the **end of February** for the UIS data refresh and **mid-September** for the main data release which includes updated values for regional aggregates. The UIS calendar is provided below and also highlights when global SDG 4 indicators are updated by the United Nations Statistical Division and used in SDG Global Monitoring events.

### 2024 Calendar for international education data and indicators

January							February							March						
	1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3					1	2	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
														31						

April							May							June						
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4							1
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
														30						







  

July							August							September						
	1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					




  

October							November							December						
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				

#### Key dates UNESCO Institute for Statistics

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-  Launch of the 2024 Survey of Formal Education
  -  2024 Survey of Formal Education deadline for country submission
  -  UIS Data refresh
  -  New country data cannot be introduced anymore for UIS main data release
  -  Main Data release (including regional aggregates)

#### Key dates United Nations Statistical Division and SDG Global Monitoring

-  Education data are updated in UNSD SDG Global Database
-  High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) 2024
-  Summit of the Future in 2024

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For more information: <https://uis.unesco.org/en/uis-questionnaires>