

20 November 2023

Survey on Adult Population Involvement in Learning Activities (EADA) Year 2022

50.6% of the population aged 18 to 69 engaged in some form of educational activity in 2022

54.6% of adults acquired knowledge through informal learning

Participation in educational activities

Over 16.5 million people aged 18-69 undertook some form of training activity (formal or non-formal) in 2022. This accounted for 50.6% of the population in that age range.

Women participated in these educational activities slightly more than men (51.4% of the total, compared to 48.6%).

The percentage of people who undertook some training activity decreased with age, from 85.1% of those aged 18-24 to 30.4% of those aged 55-69.

Participation of the population in training and learning activities in the last year.

Year 2022 (percentages over the total population of each group)

	Total from 18 to 69 years old	Total from 18 to 24 years old	Total from 25 to 34 years old	Total from 35 to 44 years old	Total from 45 to 54 years old	Total from 55 to 69 years old
FORMAL OR NON-FORMAL EDUCATION	50.6	85.1	60.9	53.7	49.7	30.4
Formal Education	15.7	71.4	21.5	10.5	6.9	2.3
Male	14.2	67.7	18.9	8.7	5.1	1.7
Female	17.1	75.4	24.2	12.2	8.5	2.8
Non-formal Education	43.6	51.7	51.1	49.8	46.8	29.3
Male	42.7	48.4	50.7	48.4	46.5	28.4
Female	44.5	55.3	51.6	51.2	47.0	30.1
INFORMAL LEARNING	54.6	71.7	62.0	54.6	52.5	45.6
Male	52.8	72.2	59.9	51.5	51.6	42.6
Female	56.4	71.2	64.1	57.7	53.5	48.4

* Includes cases of participation in both formal and non-formal education.

The autonomous communities with the highest participation in formal or non-formal education activities were the Community of Madrid, Catalonia, and the Chartered Community of Navarre, all surpassing a 50% participation rate.

In contrast, those with the lowest percentages were the Region of Murcia, Extremadura, and Galicia, each with a little under 45% participation.

Formal education

A total of 5.1 million students participated in formal education (or education provided in school systems, institutes, universities and other educational institutions offering an official degree) in the year 2022.

This represented 15.7% of the population aged 18 to 69. By gender, women participated more than men (17.1%, compared to 14.2%).

In terms of age groups, younger people participated in a greater extent (71.4% of the total) as they are of an age closely associated with the completion of formal education. Participation dropped to 21.5% in the 25-34 age group and continued to decrease with increasing age.

Looking at the type of education completed, 45.3% were university graduates and 33.1% were in upper secondary education (including post-secondary non-tertiary education).

Participation of the population in formal education in the last year. Year 2022

Total and percentage over the total of each group of age

-	Total number of people who have completed formal education	1st stage of secondary education or lower	2nd stage of secondary education	Higher vocational training	University studies and equivalent
TOTAL	5.114.464	7,0	33,1	14,7	45,3
From 18 to 24 years old	2.537.295	2,7	31,1	17,3	48,9
From 25 to 34 years old	1.140.126	6,0	22,4	16,3	55,3
From 35 to 44 years old	691.224	10,7	43,4	9,3	36,6
From 45 to 54 years old	533.235	19,4	44,2	8,6	27,7
From 55 to 69 years old	212.584	19,8	51,8	6,9	21,4

Non-formal education

In non-formal education (organised and institutionalised educational activities that do not lead to a formal degree) 14.2 million people participated in 2022. Similar to formal education, women participated more than men (44.5%, compared to 42.7%).

In terms of age groups, participation in non-formal education was higher in the 18 to 24 age group (51.7% of the total). Then, it gradually declined with increasing age.

54.5% of participants in non-formal education took part in activities related to guided on-the-job training (such as training for new software applications or handling work tools or machinery), 42.9% in theoretical and practical workshops or seminars (for example, a driving licence course, a cookery course, etc.) and 34.0% in theoretical courses and lectures.

12.9% of participants, on the other hand, received private lessons given by a specialised teacher who received remuneration for these activities.

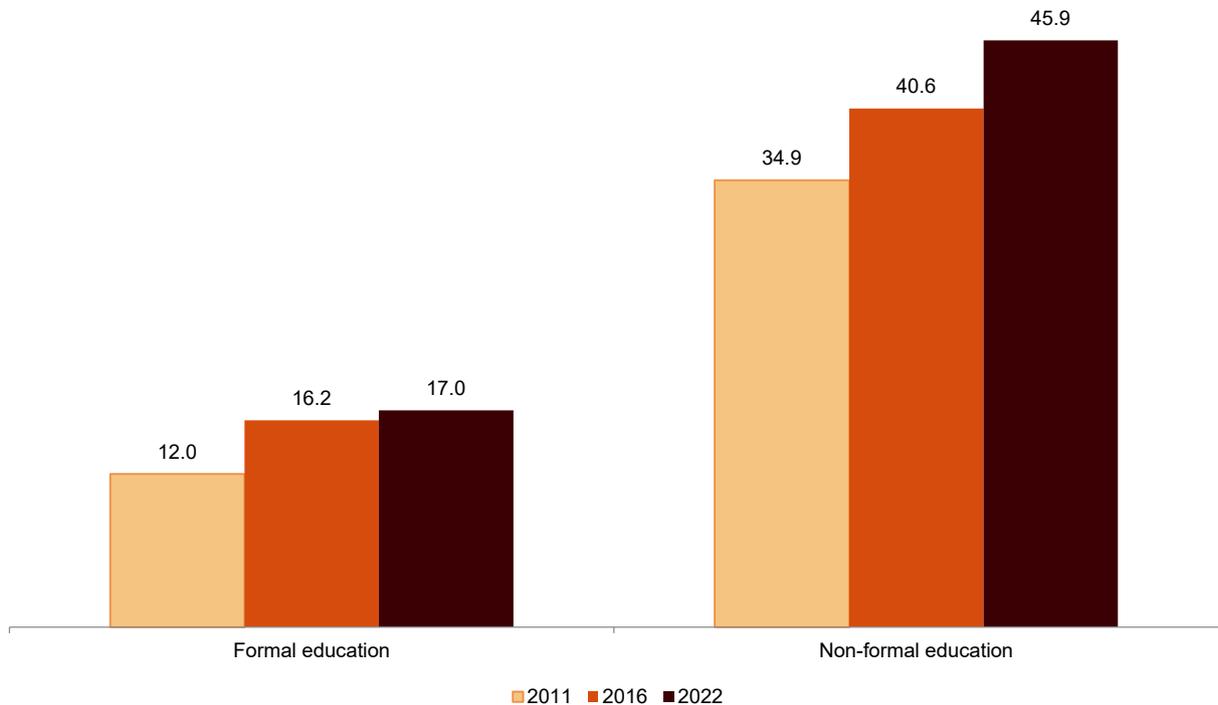
Participation of the population in non-formal education in the last year. Year 2022

Total and percentage over the total of each group of age

	Total number of people who have done non-formal education	Guided-on-the-job training	Theoretical-practical workshops or seminars	Theoretical courses or lectures	Private lessons
TOTAL	14,218,989	54.5	42.9	34.0	12.9
From 18 to 24 years old	1,837,633	20.9	59.2	31.7	26.7
From 25 to 34 years old	2,708,103	55.5	42.4	31.2	17.0
From 35 to 44 years old	3,280,321	61.6	40.9	32.4	9.5
From 45 to 54 years old	3,639,065	66.6	38.1	33.5	7.9
From 55 to 69 years old	2,753,867	51.5	41.2	41.2	10.2

Between 2016 and 2022, the participation in formal education of the population aged 18-64 increased by eight tenths (from 16.2% to 17.0%). In non-formal education, it increased from 40.6% to 45.9%.

Participation in formal and non-formal education and training in 2011, 2016 y 2022
(Percentage of people from 18 to 64 years of age)¹



(1) The population considered is 18 to 64 years old, in order to be comparable with the study populations from previous years.

Informal learning

Another type of learning activity is informal learning, which involves acquiring knowledge in a less organised and structured manner than non-formal education and without going to any educational institution.

In 2022, more than 17.8 million adults (54.6% of the total) attempted to acquire knowledge on their own. The main ways of obtaining knowledge were through the use of electronic devices (86.5% of self-learners), using books, magazines or other printed material (48.8%) and through family, friends or co-workers (32.3%).

Revision and updating of data

The data published today are final. All results are available on INEBase.

Methodological note

The Survey on Adult Involvement in Learning Activities (EADA) provides information on the participation in education and learning activities of the population aged 18 to 69. It also provides information on language skills and educational profiles. Due to its nature, it is the main source of information on the level of studies achieved by the Spanish population.

The EADA follows the methodological guidelines of Eurostat and is harmonised under Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council dated October 10, 2019, which establishes a common framework for European statistics related to people and households, based on individual data collected from samples.

The aim of EADA is to find out about the training and learning activities carried out by the adult population (lifelong learning) in the 12 months prior to the interview. It is a sample survey targeting 34,000 people living in family households. The fieldwork was carried out between May and July of 2023.

Definitions:

Formal education is the institutionalised, intentional and planned education provided by public organisations and accredited private bodies that together make up the country's formal education system. By definition, formal education programmes and the corresponding certificates are officially recognised, although the minimum duration of the activity must be at least one semester.

Non-formal education refers to education that is institutionalised, intentional and organised by an education provider, but lacks standardisation. It is characterised as an alternative or complement to formal education and leads to non-officially recognised credentials.

Informal learning is learning that is deliberate, but less organised and structured than educational activities. It may include events (activities) that take place in the family, in the workplace or in everyday life, but which is not institutionalised.

For further information, the methodology can be accessed at:

<https://www.ine.es/metodologia/t13/t133045916.pdf>

The standardised methodological report can be found at:

<https://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/es/RespuestaDatos.html?oe=30459>

INE statistics are produced in accordance with the Code of Good Practice for European Statistics, which is the basis for the institution's quality policy and strategy. For more information, see the section on [Quality at the INE and the Code of Best Practices](#) on the INE website.

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