

## ~ Methodology ~

### PRIMARY EDUCATION STATISTICS

#### LEGAL BASIS

The statistical activity is conducted in accordance with the Statistical Programme of Republika Srpska for the period 2026-2029 and pursuant to the Law on Statistics of Republika Srpska ("Official Gazette of Republika Srpska", No 85/03).

#### CLASSIFICATIONS APPLIED

The International Standard Classification of Education ISCED-2011 is applied as recommended by UNESCO, OECD, Eurostat and other international organisations for the collection of data on education. This classification ensures comparability of data both within countries and internationally. ISCED-2011 is the reference classification for organizing education programmes and related qualifications by education levels and fields.

#### METHODOLOGICAL BASIS

##### Aim and content

The aim of primary education statistics is to produce data on the situation, structure and development of schools and classes, on the structure and movement of pupils and teachers, on schooling results and on the teaching staff that implements the primary education programme.

##### Reporting units/Observation units

Reporting units are all public and private primary schools. Public primary schools submit data through the Unified Information System of the Ministry of Education and Culture of Republika Srpska. Private primary schools submit data via the Institute's web application.

Statistical observation unit are all pupils attending regular primary schools and schools for children with disabilities, as well as teachers employed in primary schools.

##### Coverage

The coverage is full; the survey covers pupils of all primary schools and schools for children with disabilities in Republika Srpska enrolled in primary schools in a given school year, as well as teachers employed in primary schools.

## Method and period of data collection

The data on primary education are collected through the Annual statistical report on primary education at the beginning of the school year, for the beginning of the school year and for the end of the previous school year, as on 25 September. The data are collected from the administrative source, namely the Unified Information System of the Ministry of Education and Culture which receives data from primary schools, as well as via a web application.

## Protection of confidential data

Confidential data are protected pursuant to Articles 25 and 27 of the Law on Statistics of Republika Srpska ("Official Gazette of Republika Srpska, No 85/03) and in accordance with the Rules of protection of confidential data.

## Definitions

Primary education lasts nine years, it is obligatory and free of charge for all children from 6 to 15 years of age.

Major definitions in primary education statistics are:

- **School** in education statistics refers to a group of pupils organized in one school unit, with one or more teachers who teach according to a predefined curriculum, regardless of whether the school is a central or independent school, a regional branch or a branch of another type of school. Territorially separated units/regional branches within the primary school are also considered schools, as well as classes for children with disabilities at regular primary schools.
- **Class** is a group of pupils who are, at the same time and in the same room, taught by one or more teachers successively during the school year. Classes can be:
  - Non-combined classes, with pupils attending one grade.
  - Combined classes, with pupils attending two or more grades.
- **Grade** is a level of education in which pupils, during a certain time interval not longer than one school year, acquire a certain level of knowledge in accordance with the curriculum of a certain type of school.
- **Regular pupil** is a person enrolled in a school with the aim of attending classes.
- **Repeater** is a pupil who is negatively graded in three or more subjects at the end of the school year (in accordance with regulations for the given type of school) or one who does not pass the resit at the end of the school year.

## Compliance with international recommendations and standards

The data partly comply with international recommendations and standards.

## IMPLEMENTATION ORGANISATION

### Authorities implementing the statistical survey

The Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics is the responsible authority for the production of data on primary education. The collection of data is carried out through the Unified Information System of the Ministry of Education and Culture, while the data processing is carried out at the Institute.

## **Obligation to provide data**

Reporting units must submit data to the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics in accordance with the Law on Statistics of Republika Srpska.

## **IMPLEMENTATION FREQUENCY**

The Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics takes over the data on pupils and teachers from the Ministry of Education and Culture in November of the current year.

Preliminary data are published on 15 January, while final data are published on 15 May.

## **INSTRUMENTS**

### **Questionnaire**

A questionnaire available at the Institute's website is used for the implementation of activities in the field of primary education statistics.

### **Instructions for completing the questionnaire**

Instructions for completing the questionnaire are provided in the questionnaire itself.

## **PUBLISHING**

Preliminary data are published in the annual release on primary education. Detailed final data are published in the thematic bulletin, as well as in the Statistical Yearbook of Republika Srpska and in the publications Cities and Municipalities of Republika Srpska and This is Republika Srpska. All the publications are available at the website of the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics.

## **ONLINE DATABASE**

An online database containing a series of statistical data on primary education is available at the official website of the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics.

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