

AES from a research perspective

February, 19th, 2015
11.00-11.45

DwB-Training Course: Working with data from official statistics in Europe particularly the Adult Education Survey (2011) Athens (Greece), February 18th - 20th, 2015, hosted by National Centre for Social Research (EKKE)

Overview

- **Getting started – relevant information provided by Eurostat**
- **Structure of the data**
 - optional variables
 - sample definitions
 - proxy information
- **Classification of learning activities**
 - FED, NFE and INF
 - Differences reported for collecting information on learning activities
 - Concept of employer sponsored education and training in the Adult Education Survey 2011

Getting started – relevant information provided by Eurostat

Getting started: relevant documents to be considered

- **Eurostat (2013): Draft AES manual Version 9.** (pdf-Document: A1 – AES MANUAL 2013 November)

- SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION (Background information on AES)
- SECTION 2: EUROPEAN STANDARD QUESTIONNAIRE
- SECTION 3: INTERVIEW GUIDELINES
- SECTION 4: SURVEY GUIDELINES
- ANNEXES (see separate documents)

Part A – Field work

- Annexes 1 to 2: methodology
- Annexes 3 to 4: Code books and checking rules
- Annexes 5 to 10: classifications
- Annexes 11: precision requirements
- Annexes 12 to 14: comparability with previous surveys, regulations
- Annex 13 – EP/Council Regulation
- Annex 14 – Commission Regulation

- **Part B – Data transmission to Eurostat**

- Annexes 15 to 16: Quality report and control tables
- Quality reports available on CIRCBAC

Eurostat (2012): Draft AES manual – Part A Annexes 1 to 14 - FIELD WORK Version 8. (pdf-Document: A2 - AES_MANUAL_ANNEXES_PartA_Annexes_1to14)

Eurostat: Standard Quality Report for Adult Education Survey (excel-Document: A3 - AES_MANUAL_ANNEXES_PartB_Annex15_AES_QualityReportTemplate)

Getting started: relevant documents to be considered

Second, deeper impression

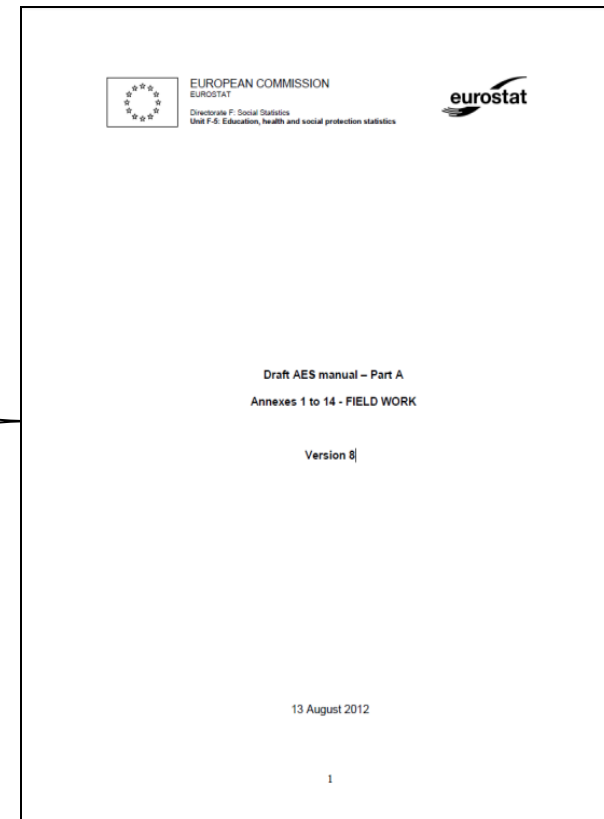
•Eurostat (2013): Draft AES manual Version 9. (pdf-Document: A1 – AES MANUAL 2013 November)

- SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION (Background information on AES)
- SECTION 2: EUROPEAN STANDARD QUESTIONNAIRE
- SECTION 3: INTERVIEW GUIDELINES
- SECTION 4: SURVEY GUIDELINES

ANNEXES (see separate documents)

Part A – Field work

- Annexes 1 to 2: **methodology**
- Annexes 3 to 4: **Code books and checking rules**
- Annexes 5 to 10: **classifications**
- Annexes 11: precision requirements
- Annexes 12 to 14: comparability with previous surveys, regulations
- Annex 13 – EP/Council Regulation
- Annex 14 –Commission Regulation



Getting started: relevant documents to be considered

Second, deeper impression

•Eurostat (2013): Draft AES manual Version 9. (pdf-Document: A1 – AES MANUAL 2013 November)

- SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION (Background information on AES)
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ANNEXES (see separate documents)

Part A – Field work

- Annexes 1 to 2: **methodology**
- Annexes 3 to 4: **Code books and checking rules**
- Annexes 5 to 10: **classifications**
- Annexes 11: precision requirements
- Annexes 12 to 14: comparability with previous surveys, regulations
- Annex 13 – EP/Council Regulation
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Comfortable support: Gesis-Setup:
Labels values and names according to the code book and checking rules.

However: you might have to check the codebook sometimes, in order to understand some missing values due to filters set

Example:

- participation in NFE-Activity during/outside working hours (NFEWORKTIME1)
- This information is NOT available for Guided-on-the-job training
- --> check code book: filter: NFERAND1 is not -2 and NFERAND1_TYPE is not 3

Getting started: relevant documents to be considered

Second, deeper impression

- ANNEXES (see separate documents)
 - Part A – Field work
 - Annexes 1 to 2: methodology
 - Annexes 3 to 4: Code books and checking rules
 - Annexes 5 to 10: classifications
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 - Annex 14 – Commission Regulation
- **Part B – Data transmission to Eurostat**
 - Annexes 15 to 16: Quality report and control tables
- Quality reports available on CIRCBAC (necessary to sign up)
 - Information on country-specific survey conditions
 - optional variables, sampling methods, difficulties with specific concepts, ...

Eurostat: Standard Quality Report for Adult Education Survey (excel-Document: A3 - AES_MANUAL_ANNEXES_PartB_Annex15_AES_QualityReportTemplate)

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	II. Content										
2											
3	1 Survey variables										
4	<i>Please list the optional variables proposed in the AES Commission Regulation which were included in the survey at national level</i>										
5	Information collected for household and individual										
6	<i>Tick all appropriate boxes</i>										
7	<input type="checkbox"/>	Orientation of the highest level of education or training successfully completed									
8	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other formal education or training successfully completed									
9	<input type="checkbox"/>	Level of the other formal education or training successfully completed									
10	<input type="checkbox"/>	Orientation of the other formal education or training successfully completed									
11	<input type="checkbox"/>	Field of the other formal education or training successfully completed									
12	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recognition of the skills and competences undertaken									
13	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recognition of the skills and competences with access to a higher formal education programme									
14	<input type="checkbox"/>	Orientation of the formal education programme not completed									
15	<input type="checkbox"/>	Main occupation of father									
16	<input type="checkbox"/>	Main occupation of mother									
17	Information collected for participation in education and training										
18	<input type="checkbox"/>	Satisfaction with formal education activity									
19	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reasons for not being satisfied with formal education activity									
20	<input type="checkbox"/>	Full payment for the 1st non-formal education activity									
21	<input type="checkbox"/>	Satisfaction with 1st non-formal education activity									
22	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reasons for not being satisfied with 1st non-formal education activity									
23	<input type="checkbox"/>										
24	<input type="checkbox"/>										
25	Information collected for the ICT skills, language skills, cultural and social participation										
26	<input type="checkbox"/>	Internet related activities									
27	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural participation - Live performances									
28	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural participation - Cinema									
29	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural participation - Visit to cultural sites									
30	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural participation - Live sport events									
31	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural participation - Reading newspapers									
32	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural participation - Reading books									
33	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural participation - Number of books									
34	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social participation									
35	<input type="checkbox"/>										
36	<input type="checkbox"/>										
37	<input type="checkbox"/>										
38	2 Statistical units, scope and target population										
39	<i>a. Please give the definition of the target population of the survey, e.g. permanent residents aged 25 to 64 years, coverage of the optional age group 18 to 24 years old, etc.</i>										
40											
41											
42											
43											
44	<i>c. Please report any exclusions from the target population (e.g. persons living in collective</i>										
45											

Getting started: relevant documents to be considered

Second, deeper impression

- ANNEXES (see separate documents)
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Adult Education Survey 2011

EU Quality Report

(Version October 2014)

Comfortable support: Eurostat (2014): Adult Education Survey 2011. EU Quality Report (Version October 2014)

Structure of the data

- optional variables
- sample definitions
- proxy information

Optional variables

- Total of **48 optional variables** proposed in the AES Commission Regulation
 - **All optional variables**
 - Cyprus (only country to include all)
 - **Almost all** have been included by
 - Austria, Estonia & Romania
 - **Very few** were included by
 - Denmark, the Netherlands & Switzerland
 - **All optional variables excluded:**
 - Norway

(EU Commission/Eurostat 2014, S. 12)

Optional variables in the AES

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
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Source: Eurostat: Standard Quality Report for Adult Education Survey (excel-Document: A3 - AES_MANUAL_ANNEXES_PartB_Annex15_AES_QualityReportTemplate)

Sample definition: EU-standard 25-64 years

Table 12. Deviations from the methodological recommendations for the AES 2011

Methodological recommendations	Target	Deviations
<i>Deviation from the AES questionnaire</i>		CZ, DE, EE, LV, SE, CH
<i>National data collection period</i>	07/2011-06/2012	EL, IT, IE, MT, FI, SE, UK, CH
<i>Survey vehicle</i>	Standalone survey	BE, IE, UK
<i>Age¹⁶</i>	All individuals aged 25-64	
	Coverage of the optional age group 18-24	AT, BG, FR, EL, IT, CZ, CY, NL, IE, SE, NO, PL, PT, RO, SK, ES
	Coverage of other age groups (younger or older)	EE (20-64), IT (65-75), LT, SI (18-69), NO, PL, PT, RO, CZ (65-69), CH (15-74), UK (16-24/25+)
<i>Statistical unit</i>	Individuals learning activities	
<i>Sampling frame</i>	Population register or census	CZ, LU, HU, SK, UK

On an optional basis countries are allowed to include age groups

- 18-24
- 65-69

(Article 2, COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No 823/2010 of 17 September 2010; available in A2 AES-Manual Annexes Part A_Annexes 1 to 14)

Table from: Eurostat (2014): Adult Education Survey 2011. EU Quality Report (Version October 2014), extract from Table 12; pp. 29-30

Table 8. Share of proxy interviews and existence of testing for the questionnaire

Proxy Information in the AES

	% of proxy interviews	Pilot test questionnaire for AES 2011 (Y\N)	
		<i>partial</i>	<i>full</i>
BE	-		Y
BG	-		Y
CZ	33.0		Y
DK	-		Y
DE	-	N	N
EE	-		Y
IE	-	N	N
EL	40,6	N	N
ES	0,3	N	N
FR	-		Y
IT	19,5		Y
CY	-		Y
LV	-	Y	
LT	-	Y	
LU	-	N	N
HU	48.0	Y	Y*
MT	-		Y
NL	-	N	N
AT	-	Y	
PL	-		Y
PT	-	N	N
RO	16,4		Y
SI	Unknown (only for paper questionnaires)		Y
SK	-		Y

- Problematic, at least for collecting detailed information on NFE and INF (e.g. Dürnberger et al. 2011)

FI	-	Y	
SE	-	N	N
UK	-		Y
NO	-	Y	
CH	2.0		Y
RS	-		Y

*only cognitive test
Source: AES 2011 Standard National Quality Reports

- Keep proxy-information in mind and decide, depending on your research question

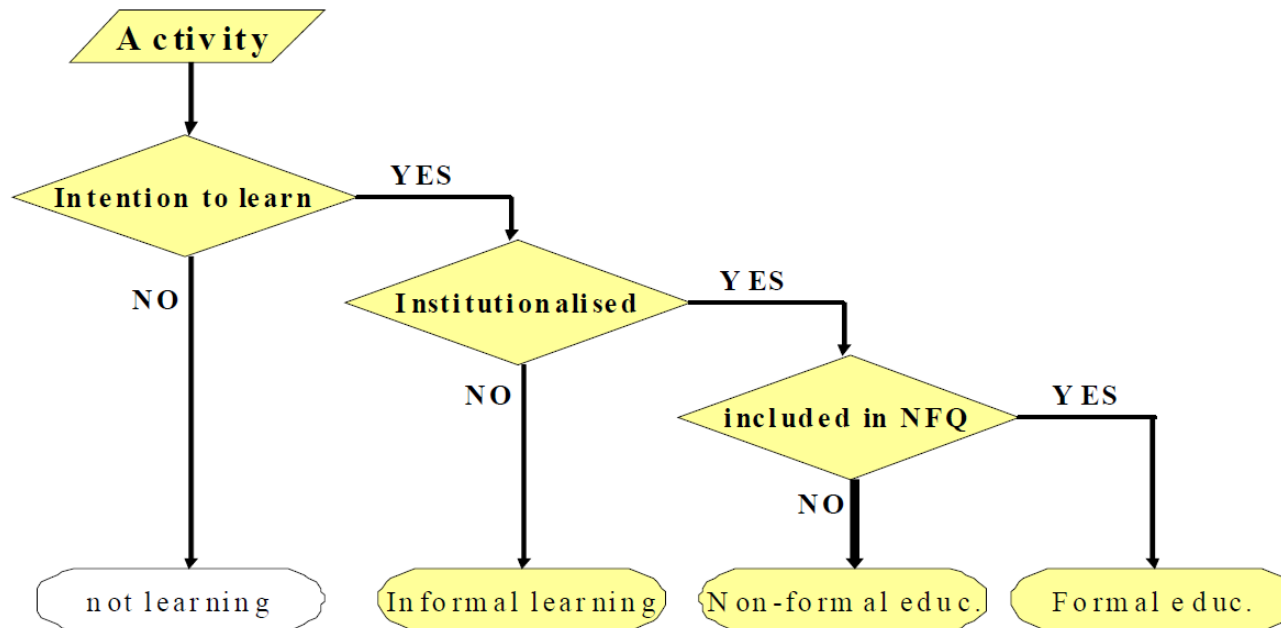
Eurostat (2014): Adult Education Survey 2011. EU Quality Report (Version October 2014), Table 8; pp. 20-21

Classification of learning activities

- FED, NFE & INF
- Difficulties reported for collecting information on learning activities
- Concept of employer sponsored education and training in the Adult Education Survey 2011

Definitions: FED, NFE, INF (CLA 2006) used in AES 2011

Chart A1 – Forms of learning in the CLA (2006)



Eurostat 2012, p. 3 (A2 AES-Manual, Annex 1)

Definitions: FED, NFE, INF (CLA 2006) used in AES 2011

FED

ISCED-Recognition

<u>“hierarchy-level” criterion</u>	<u>Admission requirements</u>	<u>Registration requirements</u>	<u>Duration requirements</u>	<u>Recognition requirements</u>
a complex “ladder” of education → requires successful completion of one level-grade before proceeding to the next one	have to be fulfilled to have access to training → usually relate to age & prior education attainment	requirement / set of requirements that need to be filled to record formally the enrolment to learning	at least 1 semester of theoretical duration (or equivalent)	have to be recognised by relevant national authorities
<i>Not valid for NFE</i>	<i>Not (necessarily) valid for NFE</i>	<i>Not (necessarily) valid for NFE</i>	<i>Not (necessarily) valid for NFE</i>	<i>Not valid for NFE</i>

Definitions: FED, NFE, INF (CLA 2006) used in AES 2011

NFE

institutionalised learning activities & structured programmes

Private lessons / Courses

- a planned series of single learning activities
- in a particular range of subject-matters
- offered by a provider → taught by one or more persons specialised in the field(s) of education and training

Courses conducted through open and distance education

- taking place via
- postal correspondence or electronic media
 - linking instructors/ teacher/ tutor & students who are not together in a classroom
- similar to face-to-face courses, including elements:*
- Curriculum
 - Registration
 - Tutoring
 - Tests

Seminars or workshops

- sessions combining theoretical instruction with “hands-on” training
- provided during a conference/ congress

Guided on the job training

- planned periods of training, instruction/ practical experience
- using normal tools of work either in the immediate place of work or in the work-situation
- with the presence of a tutor

No ISCED-Recognition

due to provider and/or the awarding organisation, the content or duration

Definitions: FED, NFE, INF (CLA 2006) used in AES 2011

INF

*intentional, less organised and less structured
– not institutionalised!*

learning events (activities) on a self-directed, family-directed or socially directed basis

- occurring in the in the family
- occurring in the work place
- occurring in daily life of every person

INF

- Learning from a family member, friend or colleague
 - i.e. lessons provided by household members or other individuals, such as relatives, acquaintances or neighbours
- Using printed materials (books, professional magazines etc),
 - i.e. studying a subject using books, magazines etc.
- Using computers (online or offline)
 - e.g. using teaching material from the internet
- Through television/radio/video
 - e.g. watching a documentary on TV or listening a foreign language audio tape in the car

guided-on-the-job training

- work-based (localised at the workplace)
- planned periods of training
- presence of a tutor or instructor
- organised (or initiated) by the employer
- individual based and practical activity

Difficulties collecting information on INF

- Standard EU questionnaire
 - “Other than the activities discussed earlier, have you deliberately tried since the last 12 months to learn anything at work or during your free time to improve your knowledge or skills?”
 - Yes, one activity
 - Yes, at least two activities
 - No.“

(European Commission / Eurostat 2013, S. 37)

Similar as NFE: Informal learning activities should be collected with supported question techniques (e.g. Kuwan/Larsson 2008)

- Deviation from the standard EU questionnaire: supported question technique: choice based question
- Germany
- Norway
- Belgium (Flanders)
- practically also Switzerland (see Kuwan/Seidel 2013, pp. 266-268; information should be included in quality reports, too)

Changes AES pilot – AES 2011

Possibilities for trend analyses limited due to modification in operationalisation of some variables and categories between AES-pilot (2005-08) and AES (2011-12)

(European Commission / Eurostat 2014, p. 4)

Overview on changes provides by Eurostat

Detailed information concerning randomly selected activities			
Variable name	Description	Old variable name	Change
NFERAND1	Code of the 1 st randomly selected non-formal activity	-	New variable
NFERAND1_TYPE	Type of the 1 st randomly selected activity	NFE2_1V	2 digit code
NFEPURP1	Purpose of the 1 st non-formal activity	NFE3_1Q	No change
NFEFIELD1	Field of the 1 st non-formal activity	-	New variable
NFEMETHOD1	Main method of learning in the 1 st non-formal activity	NFE18_1Q	Reformulation of the question with better distinction between the different types of methods
NFEREASON1	Reasons for participating in the 1 st non-formal activity	NFE4_1Q	No change
NFEWORKTIME1	1 st non-formal activity during	NFE6_1V	No change

extract from Eurostat (2012): Draft AES manual – Part A Annexes 1 to 14 - FIELD WORK Version 8, p. 132-144

Collecting NFE

&

Concept of employer sponsored education and training in the Adult Education Survey 2011

Collecting NFE-activities

- 1. activity
 - Private lessons / courses
 - Seminars or workshops
 - Courses conducted through open and distance education
 - Guided on the job training
 - 2. activity
 - Private lessons / courses
 - Seminars or workshops
 - Courses conducted through open and distance education
 - Guided on the job training
- Detailed information for max. 2 NFE-activities – randomly selected

Some countries collect details for more than 2 NFE-activities

- AT (3), DE (4), EE (3), FR (3), LT (3), SE (3), NO (3), BE (3), BG (3), CZ (3), DK (3), HU (3), MT (3), NL (3), PL (3) RO (3), (UK and SK unclear)

Number of NFE-activities

In selected countries (AT, BG, CZ, ES, FI, CH, HU, PL, PT, SK, UK, IE, LU) respondents overall report to have participated in...

- 1 NFE-activity – 58%
 - 2 NFE-activities – 24%
 - 3 NFE-activities – 11%
 - 4 NFE-activities – 4%
 - More: 2,5%
- } ~ 42% NFE-participants reported more than 1 NFE-activity

AES 2011 training data set, own calculations, weighted data

Number of NFE-activities

In selected countries (AT, BG, CZ, ES, FI, CH, HU, PL, PT, SK, UK, IE, LU) respondents overall report to have participated in...

Country	1 NFE-activity (in % of all NFE-participants)	2 NFE-activities (in % of all NFE-participants)	3 NFE-activities (in % of all NFE-participants)	4 and more NFE-activities (in % of all NFE-participants)
AT	54,8	20,0	11,7	13,5
BG	70,2	22,3	5,8	1,7
CZ	63,1	25,9	6,9	4,1
ES	70,1	22,2	5,1	2,6
FI	40,7	33,2	13,6	12,5
CH	40,9	22,1	13,9	23,1
HU	58,4	23,7	6,2	11,8
PL	51,4	30,3	16,1	2,2
PT	49,2	25,5	13,2	12,1
SK	54,7	25,0	9,9	10,4
UK	63,3	20,3	12,0	4,4
IE	68,0	15,1	8,4	8,5
LU	37,7	29,5	15,4	17,5

AES 2011 training data set, own calculations; weighted data

Type of first NFE-activity

Differences between countries regarding the type of NFE-activities

Country	Courses	Workshops and seminars	Guided on the job training	Private lessons
AT	47,0	41,8	9,1	2,1
BG	14,1	12,9	72,5	,5
CZ	49,7	17,4	26,6	6,3
ES	20,1	29,5	42,9	7,5
FI	85,6	4,5	9,1	,8
CH	59,8	26,4	10,4	3,4
HU	87,3	8,5	3,1	1,1
PL	65,9	16,7	15,9	1,6
PT	65,6	7,2	25,1	2,2
SK	39,2	20,7	38,0	2,1
UK	44,2	<i>n.a.</i>	52,5	3,3
IE	53,9	21,5	9,6	15,0
LU	35,8	27,9	28,4	7,9

AES 2011 training data set, own calculations; weighted data; type of 1st NFE-activity

Type of first NFE-activity

Differences between countries regarding the type of NFE-activities

Country	Courses	Workshops and seminars	Guided on the job training	Private lessons
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- Within the practical training session, we will not analyse the types of activities separately
- We will aggregate the reported NFE-types into one variable → NFE-participation (= includes courses, workshops/seminars, guided-on-the job and private lessons)
 - We might, however, check differences between countries regarding the amount of guided-on-the job training vs. courses, workshops/seminars and private lessons in the activity dataset
- We will differentiate the NFE-activities with reference to financial support of employers

Employer sponsored education and training In the Adult Education Survey 2011

AES 2011 – Criteria (European Commission / Eurostat 2012b. p. 4)

1. Activity took place during only/mostly paid working hours **OR**
2. Tuition, registration or examination fees, books, study materials partly or of fully by employer

FED

- Variable: FEDWORKTIME
 - Did the most recent formal education activity take place during paid working hours (including paid leave or recuperation)? - reference to FEDNAME
- = 1 or 2 (only or mostly during paid working hours)

OR

- Variable: FEDPAIDBY
 - Please indicate who paid in-part or in-full for your tuition, registration, exam fees, and expenses for books or technical study means, regarding your studies for the most recent formal education activity. (MARK ALL THAT APPLY) - reference to FEDNAME
- = 1 (employer or prospective employer)

Employer sponsored education and training In the Adult Education Survey 2011

NFE

- Variable: NFERAND1_TYPE
 - Type of the 1st randomly selected activity
= 3 (Guided on the job training)

OR

- Variable: NFEWORKTIME1
 - Did the 1st activity take place during paid working hours (including paid leave and recuperation)?
= 1 or 2 (only or mostly during paid working hours)

OR

- Variable: NFEPAIDBY1 [in the data it is NFEPAIDBY1_1]
 - Please indicate which of the following paid in-part or in-full for tuition, registration, exam fees, and expenses for books or technical study means, regarding your studies in the 1st activity. (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)
= 1 (employer or prospective employer)

(European Commission / Eurostat 2012b. p. 4)

Conclusion

AES – promising data source for analysing adults education participation in an international comparative perspective

- wide variety of information, not only on education participation (e.g. difficulties, employment characteristics)
- especially for FED & NFE detailed information
 - subject, motivation, outcome, provider, volume, financial support,

Keep in mind

- sample definition, optional variables, proxy information
- difficulties collecting some information, e.g. informal learning
- check possibilities for trend analyses

Enjoy

- exploring the data for analysing AES for answering your research question, soon

Thank you!

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Empirical Research on Further Education

[www.ewi-ps.fu-berlin.de/empirische weiterbildungsforschung](http://www.ewi-ps.fu-berlin.de/empirische_weiterbildungsforschung)

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References

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- European Commission / Eurostat (2013). Eurostat (2013): *Draft AES manual Version 9.* (pdf-Document: A1 – AES MANUAL 2013 November)
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