

WORK-BASED LEARNING MODELS AT EQF-LEVELS 5 TO 7 AUSTRIA



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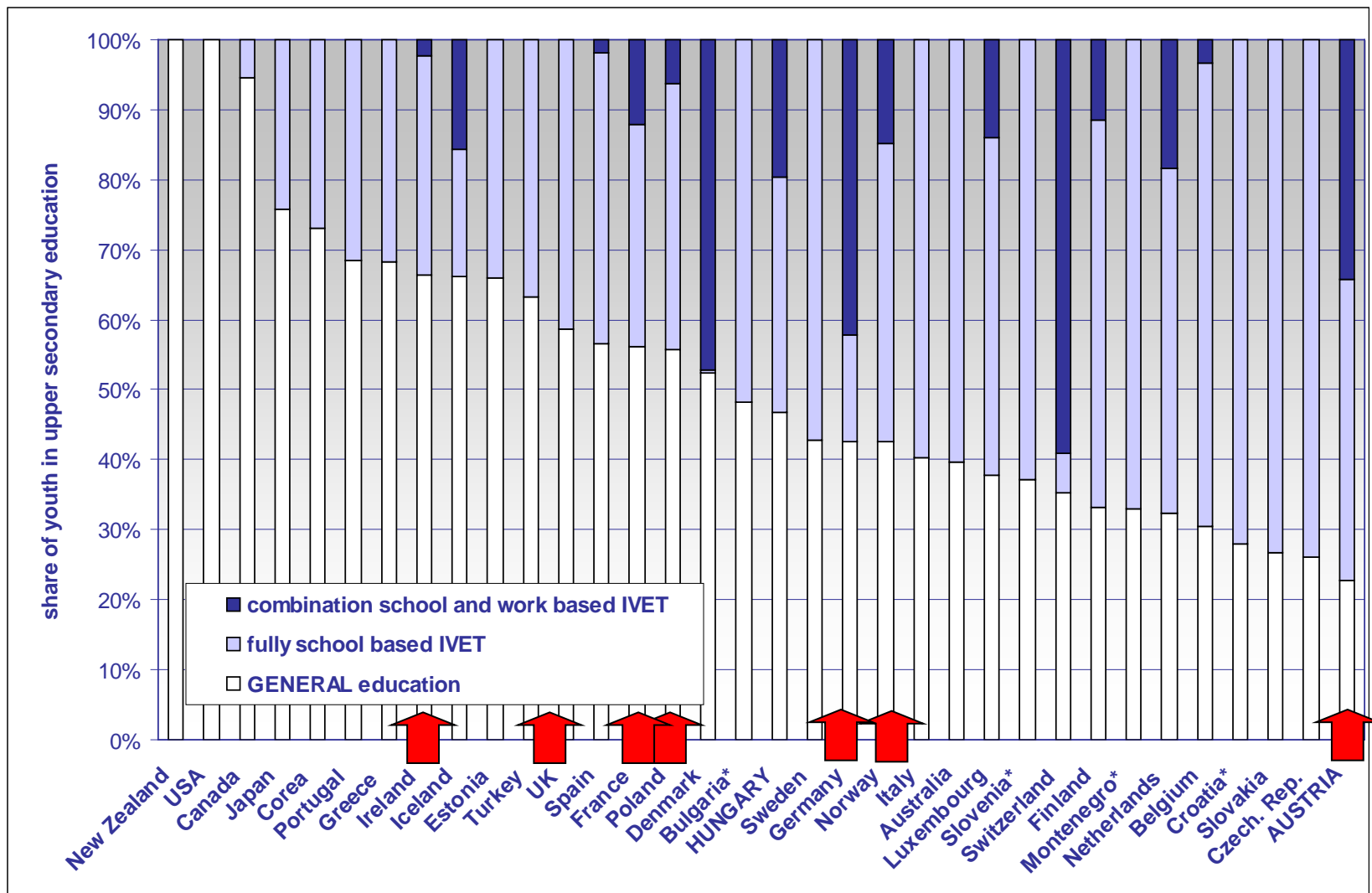
System Background I

academic # vocational

- IVET dominates upper secondary education 
=> Austria has a qualification-oriented system
- => traditionally comparatively „small“ & focussed HE-sector
=> tertiary usually synonymous with academic (scientific/research-oriented) education 
 - “HE = university” => academic/research focus
 - self-perception of HE-sector as well as public perception
 - even polytechnical institutes (Fachhochschulen) are oriented towards universities



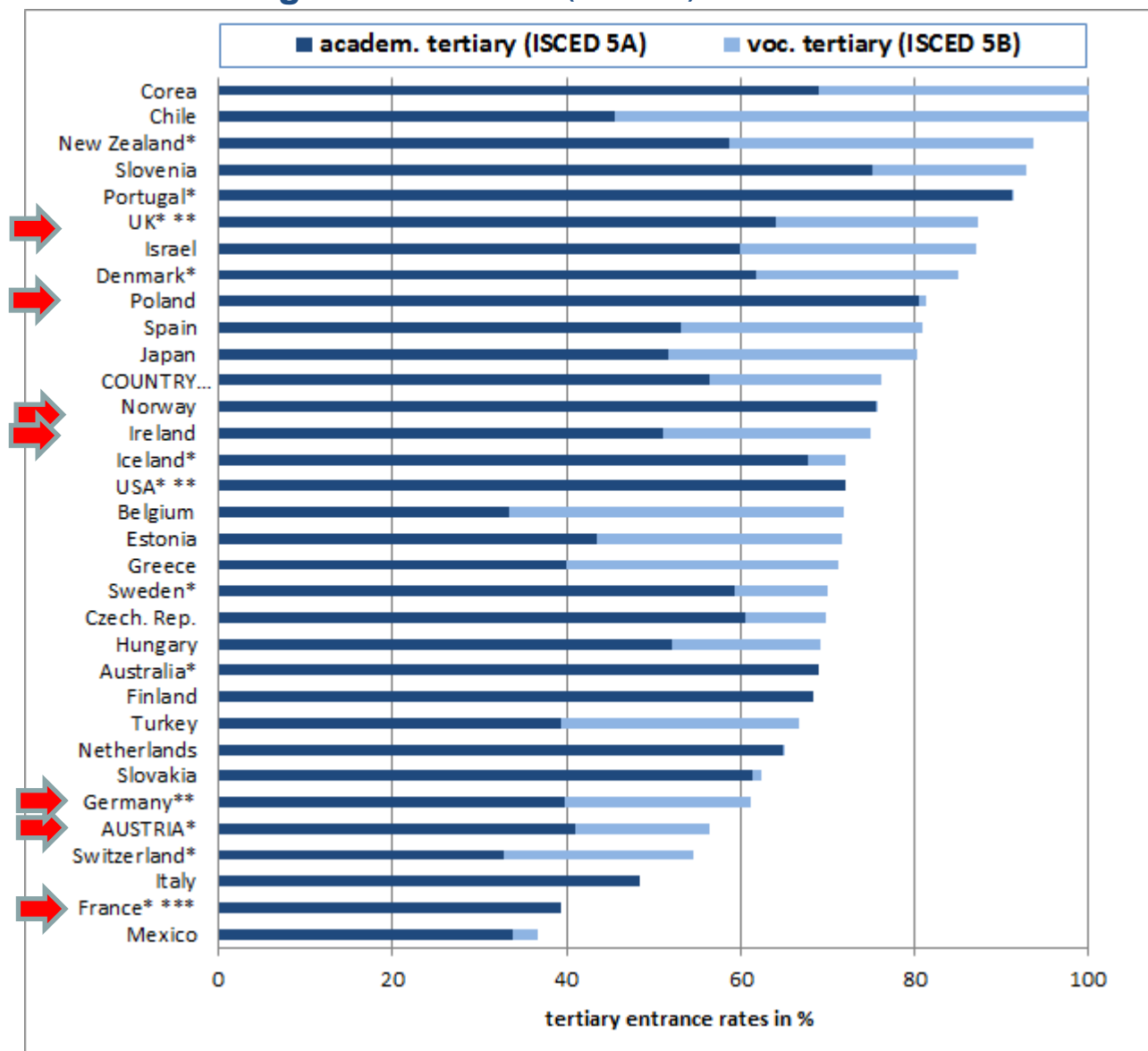
Share of students in Upper Secondary Education by programme type



Source: ibw based on EUROSTAT data; * internet based data (not strictly comparable to Eurostat)



Entrance in Higher Education (ISCED-97)



Source: ibw based on OECD data; for most countries entrance rates are adjusted for international students

System Background II

Traditionally: voc. tertiary education as “appendix” of IVET, often provided in non-formal training setting

=> there is hardly any understanding in Austria of „short-cycle tertiary education“

Changes under way:

- in the formal educational system: academisation of certain vocational tracks OR vocationalisation of HE?:
 - “upgrading” to HE-institutes (academies for teacher training, health etc.)
 - Re-classification in ISCED-2011: Level 5 now composed of ..
“old ISCED-97 5B” + graduates of VET colleges
- non-formal educational system: discussion about integrating some „training“ into formal system, „joint umbrella“?
- however, still the bulk of non-formal voc. HE is “missing”
- NQF: up to now, only reference qualifications exist
 some voc. higher educational programmes at levels 6 or 7
 however, Y-design of NQF

Y-Design of Austria's NQF:

3 rd cycle – PhD Level (university)	NQF Level 8
2 nd cycle – Master Level (university, FH)	NQF Level 7 (qualifying examination for master builders, engineering offices and the civil engineers' qualification)
1 st cycle – Bachelor Level (university, FH)	NQF Level 6 (master craftsperson qualification)
NQF Level 5 (BHS [VET college] qualification, BAKIP**)	
NQF Level 4 (apprenticeship diploma, BMS [VET school] qualification, AHS matriculation certificate*)	
NQF Level 3 (certificate obtained at <i>Hauswirtschaftsschule</i> [secondary home economics school, two-year course])	
NQF Level 2 (certificate obtained at <i>polytechnische Schule</i> [prevocational school], <i>Haushaltungsschule</i> [secondary home economics school, one-year course])	
NQF Level 1	

Practical learning in Austria

- strong in upper sec.: dual system (apprenticeship training) & internships in fully-school based IVET (VET schools & colleges)
- low in HE: internships in polytechnicals (& some university fields like medicine, teacher education...)
- strong in non-formal training: e.g. mastercraftsman, Fachakademien

Involvement of companies / business sector in HE:

high involvement of business representative bodies ...

... in design & provision of educational tracks/offers, curriculum development in non-formal HE / training

... as a provider of polytechnics (Fachhochschulen)

... in apprenticeship training

some involvement of business representative bodies in curriculum design in school based IVET at upper secondary

=> VOC. HE:

High correspondence between work tasks & curriculum content

However, small offer of „real alternating“ educational programmes

Tertiary programmes with practical learning I

▪ **Master craftsperson exam**

- **formal (legally regulated) qualification that can be obtained in a non-formal educational setting**
- ISCED-2011: 5 (short-cycle tertiary education); ISCED-97: partly in 5B
- NQF: Level 6 (out of 8), but „own Y-arm“
- de jure no legal prerequisite but full legal age (18 y.)
- de facto most have relevant specialist professional qualification (apprenticeship) & experience
- exam is comprised of 5 modules (3 related to the relevant craft, 1 für IVET trainer exam, 1 entrepreneurial exam / start-up business exam)
- preparation for exam: either in specific schools but not in part-time preparatory courses (of SP)
- high involvement of business sector in design, content, examination
- **MOST of knowledge-/skills acquisition is informally / on the job!**

Tertiary programmes with practical learning II

▪ **WIFI-Fachakademie**

- non-formal programme
- no ISCED coverage
- NQF classification according to corridor 2 procedure
- Training is offered part-time by WIFI
- In 7 area specialisations: from IT to marketing...
- 4 semester (minimum of 1.000 lessons)
- prerequisite: mostly IVET qualification + experience
- Content strongly geared towards practice (content by business, lecturers and examiners are experts from companies, content can be applied immediately at work) –
- learners do not complete any practical phases at companies because **programmes are provided in tandem with practical work** anyway!!!

Tertiary programmes with practical learning III

▪ **Dual study programmes at Fachhochschulen**

- formal qualification
- alternation of theoretical and practical phases
- up to now only 4 available programmes & moderate student numbers
- companies are important education and training partners
- companies have some role in content and curriculum design

▪ **Current discussion topics**

Austria's tertiary voc. education is fragmented & often not formally recognised

=> low transparency despite high labour market attractiveness

=> establishing a „joint umbrella“? Bachelor professional?

ThanX a lot 4 your attention!!!

Overview:

Tertiary vocational and academic programmes (ISCED 2011) tertiary programmes with practical learning

ISCED	Access requirements	Duration	Place(s) of learning	Work placement	Focus	Relevance	Funding
ISCED 2011 5							
Master craftsperson school, master craftsperson course	Vocational qualification, minimum age 18 y.	Two to four semesters	School	No	Labour market		Public
Industrial master college and building craftsperson school	Specialist relevant professional qualification – BMS or apprenticeship certificate	Four semesters	School; CET establishment	No	Labour market	Part-time industrial master college (WM): In the whole of Austria, there are more than 50 WM programmes with some 3,700 employed pupils.	Public
BHS (VET college)	Entitlement to access from year 3 of BHS	2 school years (years 4 and 5)	School	YES *	Labour market / HE entrance qualification	Some 24,000 graduates a year (54% of all holders of the matriculation and diploma certificate)	Public
BHS <i>Kolleg</i> (post-secondary VET course)	HE entrance qualification (matriculation and diploma certificate); for technical <i>Kollegs</i> also successful completion of a relevant four-year BMS	Four to six semesters	School	YES, analogous to BHS	Labour market	Some 1,850 graduates a year (4% of all holders of the matriculation and diploma certificate)	Public
CVET university course (matriculation level)	HE entrance qualification (matriculation certificate)	Two to four semesters	University	no	Labour market	Some 5,500 graduates a year**	Private

Overview: *continued*

Tertiary vocational and academic programmes (ISCED 2011) tertiary programmes with practical learning

ISCED	Access requirements	Duration	Place(s) of learning	Work placement	Focus	Relevance	Funding
ISCED 2011 6-7							
Bachelor's programme	HE entrance qualification (matriculation certificate)	Three years	University, FH, PH	YES, compulsory at FH ***	Labour market or higher qualification	Some 28,000 graduates a year, (52% of all tertiary qualifications)	Public, partly private (tuition fees)
Master's programme	Completed bachelor's programme	At least two years	University, FH	YES, mostly only optional	Labour market or higher qualification	Some 23,000 graduates a year (44% of all tertiary qualifications)	Public, partly private (tuition fees)
CVET university course (post-graduate)	Completed study programme or equivalent qualification	Four semesters	University		Labour market		Private