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Success rate for school-leaving examinations slightly down in 2023

Positive rate still significantly higher than before the Corona pandemic

Vienna, 2024-01-11 – In summer 2023, around 89.4% of students passed the the standardised skills-oriented diploma examination (sRDP) that qualifies graduates for university, as Statistics Austria reports. Although the positive rate fell compared to the previous year (2022: 90.5%), in which special coronavirus regulations still applied, it was still higher than the success rate of 85.1% in the pre-pandemic year 2019.

“Exam results have improved significantly since the Matura process was changed in 2020 due to the pandemic. Although all special coronavirus regulations were withdrawn with the main examination date of 2023, the inclusion of the performance of the final school levels remained in place and will continue to be a fixed component of the standardised skills-oriented diploma examination. In 2023, only 6.7% of candidates who sat the summer Matura failed. In 2019, the proportion of those who failed at least one subject on the main date was almost twice as high,” says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

Results worse than in previous year, but significantly better than before the Corona pandemic

At the 2023 exam main date, 39 502 candidates sat for the sRDP, of which around 89.4% or 35 318 completed positively. Thus, the positive rate decreased compared to previous years (2022: 90.5%; 2021: 93.5%), but was still significantly higher than before the Corona pandemic (2018: 84.5%; 2019: 85.1%).

The proportion of final exams passed with a negative result has fallen accordingly: About 6.7% of the candidates were negative in at least one subject at the main date in 2023. In 2019, this figure was almost twice as high, at 12.7%. 3.6% of the candidates did not pass the 2023 main date exam, because they only sat part of the examination areas.

At the main date 2023, around 20.1% of the candidates achieved an “excellent success” and around 18.1% a “good success”. This represents a slight decrease from the previous year, but also an improvement from before the pandemic. As in previous years, there were significantly more “excellent successes” at general secondary schools (25.8%) than at vocational secondary schools (15.0%).

For detailed results and further information please refer to our [website](#).

Information on methodology, definitions: The results of the standardised skills-oriented diploma examination (sRDP) for the main date (= summer) and the secondary dates (= autumn and winter) were collected and processed throughout Austria by Statistics Austria on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research (BMBWF). For the main date in 2023, the written exams took place in May 2023 and oral exams in June and July 2023. The secondary dates of the school year 2021/22 took place in autumn 2022 (September and October) and in winter 2022/23 (January and February).

Positive rate: Proportion of candidates who successfully passed the standardised skills-oriented diploma examination as a percentage of all candidates who sat the standardised skills-oriented diploma examination.

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