

Anuari de  
la formació  
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a Barcelona,  
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Mercat de treball i  
Formació Professional  
a Barcelona

**Executive summery**



## Yearbook of the Vocational Education Training in Barcelona 2012 – Executive summary

This summary presents the main outcomes and conclusions of the *Yearbook of the Vocational Education Training in Barcelona, 2012*. This is the third edition of the publication and, therefore, a support tool for the strategy and planning of vocational education training is consolidated.

Before presenting the data it is worth mentioning that in order to show trends and deduce relevant conclusions about the reality of the city of Barcelona, the key indicators provided in the previous editions have been also used in the current edition; however, given the willingness to continue innovating and working for a better understanding of the social and economic dynamics of the city, new indicators have been added in this edition.

### ▪ Regarding the educational level and economic activity

The population of the city of Barcelona shows better educational levels than the rest of the metropolitan region, Catalonia and Spain. Nevertheless, the data shows that the educational levels are not yet comparable to those in other territories of the European Union where two out of three people has achieved postgraduate studies (17 percentage units more than in Barcelona).

Table 1. Levels of studies of total population aged from 16 to 64 years old by type and area. 2012

Area	ESO or lower	High School (Batx.)	CFGM	CFGS	University degree	Postcompulsory studies
Barcelona*	43,90%	15,40%	8,80%	10,50%	21,40%	56,10%
Catalunya	46,10%	15,10%	9,30%	9,60%	19,80%	53,90%
Spain **	48,00%	14,00%	8,00%	10,00%	20,00%	52,00%
OCDE**	27,00%	44,00%		30,00%		73,00%

Source: \*own elaboration from EPA's data - 1st trimester 2012. \*\* OCDE, Education at a Glance, p. 38.

The figures confirm the dualism of educational levels of the population of Barcelona: on the one hand, the population presents polarized levels of people with high percentages of compulsory education levels or less and, at the same time, with a high percentage of population with tertiary studies - both intermediate or higher technical studies and university degrees. The percentage of people with a university degree is higher than in the EU.

This division has been observed along the different components that are part of the labour market: occupancy, unemployment and hiring - meaning that people with tertiary studies with a specialization behave differently in the labour market than those who only have compulsory studies (ESO).

In terms of training, despite the economic downturn affects all educational levels, it is hardly surprising that the main indicators of the Yearbook are more favourable to those with tertiary levels of education: intermediate or higher technical studies and university degrees.

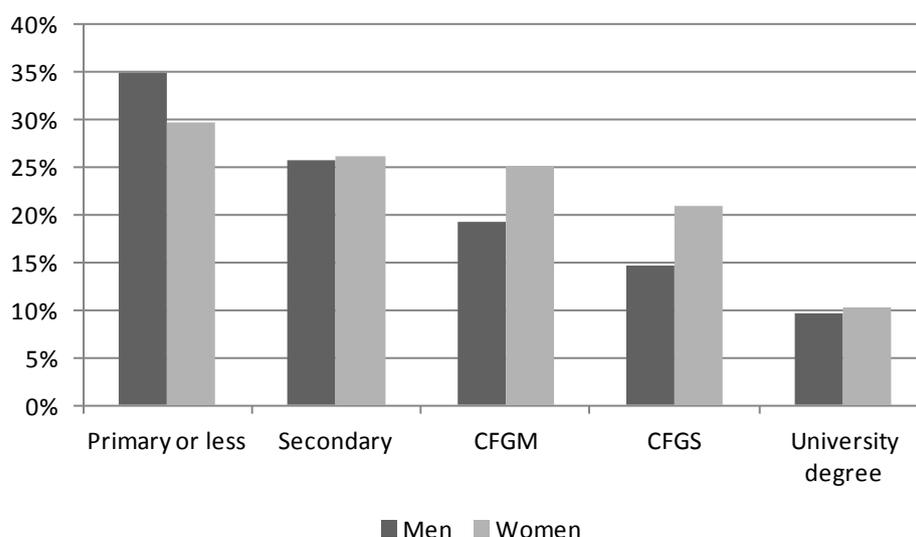
Therefore, in terms of unemployment, the two groups show lower unemployment rates than people with other educational levels and they spend less time searching a job. In terms of hiring, both equally present lower levels of temporality. Perhaps due to these and others factors related to labour conditions (no less important), the VET graduated students are, in all educational levels, those with a higher level of satisfaction with regards to their tasks, surely because their job better adjust to the training received.

Table 16. Employed population by education level. Province of Barcelona . 1T2012

Education level	Number of people	%
Primary or lower	275.224	12,77%
Secondary	788.904	36,60%
CFGM	200.407	9,30%
CFGS	275.405	12,78%
University degree	615.528	28,56%
Total	2.155.468	100,00%

Source: own elaboration from EPA's data (INE).

Chart 21. Unemployment rate by education level and gender  
1st trimester 2012



Source: own elaborations from EPA's data (INE)

Table 42. Distribution (%) of annual contracting by education levels. 2006-2011

Year	Primary or lower	ESO and High School	VET			University degree	Total
			CFGM	CFGS	Total		
2006	11,55%	60,62%	8,71%	5,29%	14,00%	13,82%	100,00%
2007	12,38%	58,95%	9,86%	4,49%	14,35%	14,31%	100,00%
2008	11,72%	57,70%	10,34%	4,08%	14,42%	16,17%	100,00%
2009	11,07%	57,67%	10,32%	4,13%	14,45%	16,82%	100,00%
2010	10,27%	57,68%	11,06%	3,98%	15,03%	17,02%	100,00%
2011	9,38%	59,16%	10,16%	3,90%	14,06%	17,07%	100,00%

Source: own elaboration from data of Observatory of Employment of Generalitat de Catalunya.

The current economic downturn is reflected in all dimensions of the labour market, even though this shows a structural change given by the switch of the industrial society of the twentieth century to the knowledge society of the twenty-one century.

The indicators that show this change of paradigm are, on the one hand, the permanence of the people with both tertiary and specialized studies in the labour market and, on the other hand, the emerging economic sectors based in the added value and high technologic content.

Probably the position of the city of Barcelona for the promotion of these strategic sectors will end up in lower unemployment rates than in the rest of the territories analysed.

Table 47. Economic activities that created more work positions. Barcelona. 2008-2012

Activity	Increment of members 2008-2012	Type of activity
85 –Education	6.486	Knowledge- driven services
82 -Administrative activities and other support activities in company	6.052	Knowledge- driven services
87 -Social services and accommodation activites	4.156	Knowledge- driven services
56 -Food and drink services	2.323	Not knowledge-driven services
72 -Research and development	2.264	High-tech services
74 -Other professional activities (science & technology)	2.133	Knowledge- driven services
62 -ICT services	2.002	High-tech services
63 -Information services	1.352	High-tech services
91 -Library activities, registry, museums and other cultural activities	350	Not knowledge-driven services
37 -Swage water collection and processing	338	Low-tech industry

Source: own elaboration from data of Observatory of Employment of Generalitat de Catalunya.

However, the restructuring of the labour market still faces some important challenges such as to improve the match between the offer made by the business fabric and the employers' training. It is necessary to stress the importance of lifelong learning and of having a specialization in order to adapt to a changing world more and more competitive, as well as to create new work placements that require a professional qualification which, in turn, contribute to add value to the city of Barcelona.

Table 53. Job offers linked to VET by job position. Province of Barcelona. 2012

Job positon	Job offers	Weight
Manager	149	0,61%
Intermediate	994	4,08%
Especialist	3.268	13,40%
Worker	14.520	59,55%
Intern	552	2,26%
No specification	4.900	20,10%
Total	24.383	100,00%

Source: own elaboration from Infojobs' data

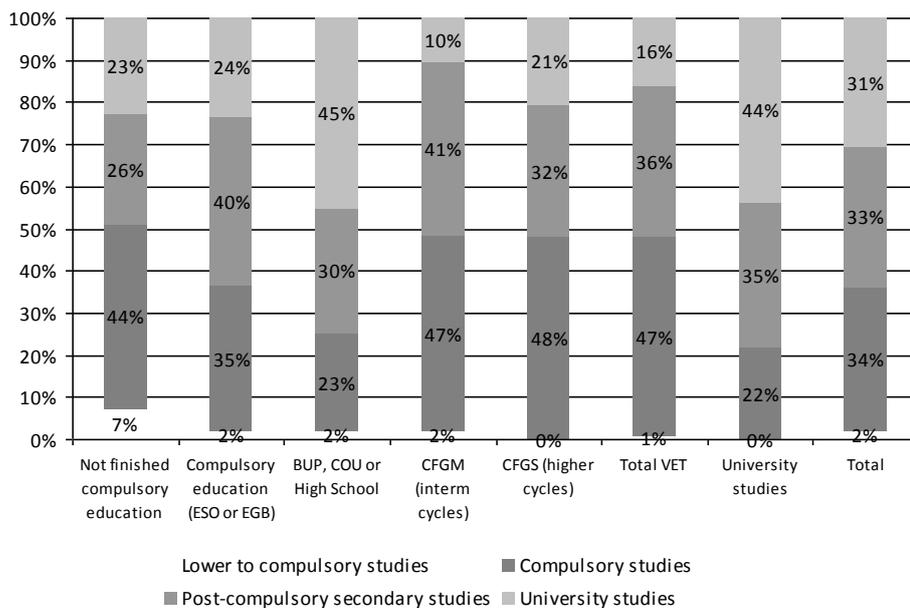
▪ **Regarding the Initial Vocational Educational Training (VET) system and occupancy**

Before presenting the data of the evolution of VET in Barcelona, it is worth mentioning the analysis carried out on the *Youth Survey of Catalonia, 2012*, which confirms the importance of the cultural and social capital of families that enable the youngsters to get trained and attain a specialisation, either through VET or university studies.

It is also worth highlighting that, bearing in mind the age effect of youth, parents of one out of two youngsters, who have a maximum of VET studies, have a specialization: they are parents with post-compulsory studies (35.88%) and with university studies (16.03%).

Gràfic 6. Relationship between higher education levels of students and parents.

Population aged from 15 to 34 years old. RMB. 2012



Y: Higher education level of parents (%) X: Higher education level of students

Source: own elaboration from the *Youth Survey of Catalonia, 2012*

The city of Barcelona presents a total of 92 VET centres. During the course 2011-2012, the last year for which there is official data at the moment of the elaboration of the Yearbook's current edition, the figure of students enrolled in VET studies within the city of Barcelona is 30.28%. Depending on the type of courses done, the number of pupils in intermediate VET studies (CFGM) is 11,804, whereas the number of pupils in higher VET studies (CFGS) is 19,481.

With regards to the offer of employment, during the same year, there were a total of 141 types of VET studies that corresponded to 22 different fields of studies. Most of the students in the city prefer to attend private or mid-private (*concertado*) centres (36.73% and 16.29%, respectively), compared to public/state centres (46.98%). This is a different trend compared to the total of Catalonia, where the 73.63% of students study in public schools. The figures on the evolution of students show an upward trend, as in the last course have increased 0.97%.

At the same time, VET illustrates more advantageous figures than any other education levels, because, for example, high-school shows a slight decrease in the number of students, not only with regards to the last course (-1,16%), but also with regards to five years ago (-4.12%). In this sense, therefore, it seems that the promotion of VET is a clear option that is rising among people that chooses post-compulsory studies, likely due to the more specific and professional profile, which turns into a more attractive option not only for the youngest population that comes from high school but also for older people that prefer to study what they consider it gives them more recognition and professional ‘recycling’ to access, this way, to the labor market in better conditions.

Table 67. Evolution of postcompulsory education students. Course 2004-2005 to 2011-2012

Level	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Ev. 2007-12
CFGM	8.586	8.860	9.064	9.320	9.988	10.780	11.894	11.804	26,65%
CFGS	13.520	13.502	13.700	14.357	14.876	16.039	18.100	18.481	28,72%
Total VET	22.106	22.362	22.764	23.677	24.864	26.819	29.994	30.285	27,91%
High School	24.248	23.599	22.900	22.552	22.412	22.161	21.876	21.622	-4,12%
University	188.170	190.141	187.689	185.055	187.179	188.748	188.882	-	2,07%

Source: own elaboration from Department of Teaching of Generalitat de Catalunya.

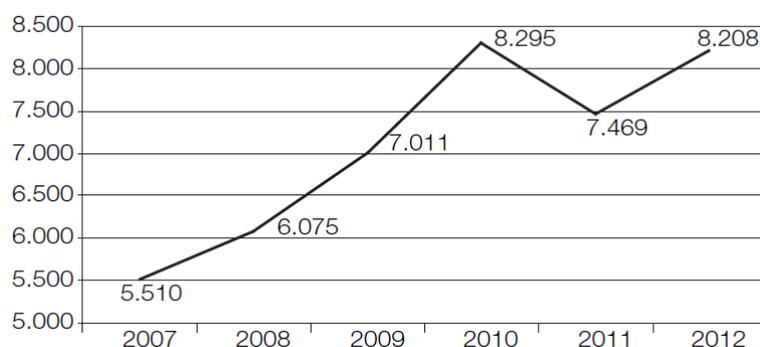
The number of places is very different by field of studies and needs to be better adjusted to the real number of pre-enrolment demand. Thus, the course 2011-2012 has achieved a better relationship between pre-enrolment and final enrolment, showing 87.08%, whereas the previous year was 79.01%.

Going into detail about the field of studies, we can observe a sort of relation between the number of pre-enrolment applications and the final gap of enrolments: *Healthcare, Socio-cultural & Community Services* and *Image & Sound* (three of the studies with more demand) are also the ones that show a higher difference with regards to the final number of enrolments. In this case, without any doubt, it would be necessary to think about the interest of the students and the criteria used to plan the training offer.

Field of studies	Total students				Type of course		Insertion				
	Public school	Mid public/private (concertada) school	Private	Total	CFGM	CFGS	I keep studying	I am looking for a job	I am studying and working	I am working	Total working
Rural activities	275	0	0	275	164	111	25,00%	33,33%	33,33%	8,33%	41,67%
Sport activities	528	65	713	1.306	308	998	49,39%	4,05%	23,89%	22,67%	46,56%
Administration	1.212	1.639	26	2.877	1.078	1.799	42,00%	15,25%	27,75%	15,00%	42,75%
Graphic arts	221	147	0	368	204	164	46,30%	12,96%	29,63%	11,11%	40,74%
Trade and marketing	647	729	79	1.455	318	1.137	53,78%	11,76%	21,57%	12,89%	34,45%
Communications, image & sound	1.059	691	722	2.472	265	2.207	41,18%	21,79%	22,00%	15,03%	37,04%
Construction	290	39	18	347	0	347	61,70%	8,51%	19,15%	10,64%	29,79%
Electricity and electronics	1.073	716	0	1.789	826	963	48,59%	16,88%	26,34%	8,18%	34,53%
Energy and water	34	111	0	145	0	145	n. d.	n. d.	n. d.	n. d.	n. d.
Mechanic workings	642	154	47	843	390	453	43,23%	12,90%	30,97%	12,90%	43,87%
Wood and furniture	122	59	0	181	181	0	5,88%	41,18%	52,94%	0,00%	52,94%
Hotelry and tourism	914	359	985	2.258	877	1.381	27,97%	18,22%	45,34%	8,47%	53,81%
Personal Image	767	39	669	1.475	973	502	32,91%	22,68%	29,07%	15,34%	44,41%
Agro-food industry	256	0	30	286	207	79	44,44%	22,22%	22,22%	11,11%	33,33%
IT	1.093	1.442	46	2.581	1.201	1.380	61,22%	9,98%	19,27%	9,52%	28,80%
Installation and maintenance	60	104	0	164	0	164	35,25%	22,95%	30,33%	11,48%	41,80%
Maintenance of self-propelled vehicles	96	384	7	487	485	2	n. d.	n. d.	n. d.	n. d.	n. d.
Maintenance and production services	370	99	50	519	421	98	n. d.	n. d.	n. d.	n. d.	n. d.
Chemistry	571	51	0	622	170	452	35,25%	19,67%	35,25%	9,84%	45,08%
Healthcare	1.913	1.567	1.428	4.908	2.228	2.680	34,92%	17,11%	33,53%	14,44%	47,97%
Sociocultural services	1.457	1.808	93	3.358	667	2.691	43,32%	10,52%	22,03%	24,13%	46,16%
Clothing, dressmaking and leather	176	0	0	176	71	105	50,00%	25,00%	0,00%	25,00%	25,00%
Transports and maintenance of vehicles	451	922	20	1.393	770	623	39,53%	15,60%	36,54%	8,33%	44,87%
<b>Total</b>	<b>14.227</b>	<b>11.125</b>	<b>4.933</b>	<b>30.285</b>	<b>11.804</b>	<b>18.481</b>	<b>41,80%</b>	<b>15,20%</b>	<b>28,55%</b>	<b>14,46%</b>	<b>42,24%</b>

The training 'paths' are a good resource for many people that want to keep studying. In the academic course under analysis, the access to university studies' path has been used by the 14% of VET graduates, same percentage as last year.

Gràfic 54. Pre-enrollment to university degrees from VET studies. Catalunya.2007-2012.



Source: own elaboration from Department of Innovation, Universities and Enterprise's data of Generalitat de Catalunya.

Regarding VET students' profile, most of them are male (55.23%), with a major presence within the intermediate courses (CFGM) (59.28%). Regarding the age, we can observe an increase of the population of 20 years old and more. Regarding their origin, the percentage of foreigners remains similar (12.44%), being Latin Americans the main group (67.82%) followed by European (8.36%) and Asian (7.22%).

Finally, vocational education training for occupancy shows two different dynamics: the continuous vocational training increases significantly, and training for unemployed experiences an outstanding decrease. At last, Initial Professional Qualification Programs (*PQPI* in Spanish, for undergraduate secondary students) show almost the same number of participants.

Table 95. Attendance in continuous training courses by type of plan. 2004-2011

Year	Participants FC	Evolution N	Evolution (%)
2004	28.504	n.d	
2005	23.859	-4.645	-16,30%
2006	39.090	15.231	63,84%
2007	37.922	-1.168	-2,99%
2008	37.997	75	0,20%
2009	33.811	-4.186	-11,02%
2010	36.916	3.105	9,18%
2011	55.768*	18.852	51,07%

Source: own elaboration from ConForCat' s data

\*Provisional figure before final review by ConForCat.

To sum up, we expound the main challenges in order to improve the adaptation between the labour market and the initial and permanent vocational educational training in the future.

- To optimize the VET aimed at reducing school failure and early school leaving, as well as to fight against youth unemployment and to re-qualify both the employed and the unemployed population.
- To improve the orientation in order to add value in VET studies, to make its professional profile known in front to other training options and to inform about the training 'paths' offered by the education system.
- To improve the information related to VET within the business sector, so that to make them know about this type of studies and all that can be provided in terms of human resources.
- To take advantage of the current situation regarding the reformulation of work placements aimed at promoting the professional training through the 'dual' training.
- To continue working through a collaborative and coordinated way between different areas of the administration, as well as between the centres and companies, in order to optimize the existing network of agents.
- To adjust and specify the demand of reference companies to the professional profiles of VET.
- To convert the European frame of reference, both of qualification (EQE) and of quality (EQARF), into effective shared references, both from the education system and the labour market.
- To reflect about the offer of intermediate VET studies (CFGM) in terms of gender and professional profiles. The CFGM should be a good option to get a specialization for many youngsters who do not continue studying after completing the compulsory secondary education (ESO).