



LABOUR MARKET INTELLIGENCE SOURCES

Country fiche - SWEDEN

Author: Siim Krusell

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Innovating the use of Labour Market Intelligence
within European Universities - LMI-EUniv



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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CEDEFOP	European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training
EU	European Union
HEI	Higher Education Institution
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IO	Intellectual Output
LISER	Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research
LMI	Labour Market Intelligence
LMI-EUniv	Innovating the use of Labour Market Intelligence within European Universities
LMO	Labour Market Observatory
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
OJA	Online Job Advertisement
OVATE	Skills Online Vacancy Analysis Tool for Europe (Skills OVATE)
PES	Public Employment Service
R&D	Research and Development
TU	Tallinn University
WUT	West University of Timisoara

BACKGROUND

LMI-EUniv project

“Innovating the use of Labour Market Intelligence within European Universities - LMI-EUniv”, the project was the subject of a successful application to Key Action 2 - Cooperation among organisations and institutions - of the Erasmus+ programme.

Consortium

The consortium is composed of West University of Timisoara (project leader), University of Milano-Bicocca (Italy), University of Tallinn (Estonia), Prospektiker - (Spain) and Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research (Luxembourg).

Aims

The primary focus of the project is to understand how are European Universities using labour market information and labour market intelligence in the planning and delivery of their provision and how can this be improved. Therefore, the project aims to help HEI to develop appropriate skills and competencies through better matching of education supply to demand through innovative learning and teaching practices.

Objectives

The LMI-EUniv project has three main objectives: (1) to map essential LMI sources at national level, (2) to explore how HEI in Europe are using LMI, and (3) to produce a training course, guide and a Labour Market Intelligence Hub. This will be an online platform, aggregating LMI sources and information, and aims to become a reference point for all HEI.

INTRODUCTION

This country fiche provides information concerning the essential LMI sources at national level with a particular focus on LMI sources used by HEI. It was developed within the Intellectual Output 1 of the LMI-EUniv project - Mapping essential LMI sources at national level. The role of the country fiches is to systemize information related to LMI sources and gather them into a LMI Hub. The country fiches will form the basis for the Data (Evidence) Report and in turn, will inform the production of the Final Report.

During the inception phase of the project, we have noticed the existence of a large number of LMI sources but also a lack of information about them. We consider that having access to a single point of information with LMI sources will enable HEI to better use this for their activities. Thus, this research represents the first step in this direction through mapping the LMI sources at the European level.

We believe that this study is the first of its kind focused on LMI sources across Europe and is in itself a considerable innovation. Through this activity, we are seeking to influence how universities in Europe view, analyse, utilise and produce their own LMI to aid with their decision-making. Further, we aim to make this available to help stakeholders such as policymakers in national and regional governments, employers, and regional development agencies to be better able to bring their demand-side knowledge to support universities and ensure higher education supply fits to current and future labour market need.

The Final Report Recommendations given the project's geographical coverage and the pressing need for action on using labour market intelligence should have considerable transferability potential.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Demography

On the 1st of January 2022, Sweden had a population of 10,452,326 inhabitants, making it the 10th-most populous member state of the European Union. In the 2021, 114,263 children were born in Sweden. The number of births has remained relatively same level in last 10 years. The fertility rate was rated at 1.8 in 2021, which is below the replacement rate of 2.1. In 2021, there were nearly 92,000 deaths, and the number of deaths has also remained relatively at the same level for the last ten years. Sweden has long been a country where immigration is significantly higher than emigration. In 2021, 91,000 people arrived in the country and 48,000 emigrated. It is mainly due to immigration that Sweden's population has grown by nearly a million people in ten years. This is despite the lower number of births than is needed for population recovery. Sweden's population has become much more ethnically and linguistically diverse over the past 70 years because of immigration. Every fourth resident in the country has a foreign background and every third has at least one parent born abroad. In the last ten years, the age structure of the Swedish population has not changed much. However, the share of people older than 65 has increased by a few percent, while the share of young people up to 14 has increased by a percentage. So, the percentage of those in age group 15-64 has decreased. In 2021, up to 14-year-olds accounted for 17.7%, age group 15-64, 62.2% of the population and 65 years and older 20% of the population. Life expectancy in Sweden is one of the highest in the world. In 2021 it was estimated 83 years.

Labour market

Sweden is known for its strong economy, favorable working conditions and a strong welfare system. GDP per capita was 123% of EU average in 2021. Employment rate in Sweden grew by 0.1 percentage point in 2021 compared to 2020 and was 67.3% for 15-74 years. It was still below pre-pandemic levels. However, in 2022, it increased to 69 percent. In 2021 the workforce comprised around 5,146,015 people, and it meant decrease by 32,354 people since a year ago. While employment figures have improved the same has happened to unemployment. While having increased since 2018, and reaching nearly nine percent in 2021,

in 2022 the unemployment rate decreased to 7.5% for 15-74 years. The unemployment rate was not among the lowest in EU but rather a bit above the average.

In 2021 and in age group 20-24 the activity rate was 73%, employment rate 60% and unemployment rate 17%. In age group 25-64 the activity rate was 89%, employment rate 83% and unemployment rate 7%.

In 2022, the highest percentage of employees in Sweden were employed in business service and financial industries, constituting around 970,000 employees. The second largest field was human health and social work activities, with 7,358,000 employees, followed by educational sector. People working in agriculture, forestry, and fishing was the smallest, considering the number of employees (89,000 employees). Nearly 80% of employees are working in the service and nearly 20% in the industry. Employees active in the agricultural sector constituted less than 2% of the employees. It is estimated that approximately 44.9% of occupations in the country are at a qualification level equivalent to upper-secondary, while 44.4% are at a qualification level equivalent to post-secondary.

Higher education market

In Sweden, the share of tertiary students (Isced 5-8) among the 20-24 years was 28% in 2020. The higher education system in Sweden is similar with the rest of EU through the Bologna Process where degrees are divided into three levels: basic level, advanced level, and doctoral level.

Stockholm University is the largest university in Sweden in terms of registered students. 38,500 students were registered at the university in the Swedish capital in 2021. The University of Gothenburg was the second largest, followed by Lund University, Uppsala University and Linköping University. About 385,000 students were studying in universities and other higher education institutions in Sweden in the 2021. Stockholm University is also ranked among the world's top 100 universities.

By field of study most of the students studied law and social studies, the second most common field of study was humanities and theology, followed by students attending studies in technological subjects.

Sweden has also a strong VET (vocational education) system. Upper-secondary VET prepares for higher levels of education and for employment by providing students with sound basic and occupational skills.

LMI SOURCES AT NATIONAL LEVEL

LMI providers

LMI comprises any information and knowledge about labour market dynamics. It covers topics such as labour demand and supply, unemployment, employment and earnings, emergence of new occupations, new skills required on labour market, post-graduate path, career expectations, etc.

List of potential providers:

- National institute of statistics
- Public employment service
- Social security
- Ministry of labour
- Ministry of education
- Employer organizations, employees organizations (Chamber of employees), trade unions and professional associations
- Academic and research institute
- Private and public centres of lifelong learning
- Private providers (e.g. job portal, Inomics, AKADEUS ...)

In the following section, there is a brief description of the Swedish LMI sources. A more detailed description of what LMI information source provides can be seen in the form in the Appendix (Table 1).

Statistics Sweden

Statistics Sweden is responsible for official statistics and for other government statistics. They develop, produce, and disseminate the statistics. In addition, they coordinate the system for the official statistics in Sweden. Main task of the Statistics Sweden is to supply users and customers with statistics for decision making, debate and research.

Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth

Swedish Agency for Economic and Regional Growth is a national government authority with a regional presence in nine locations. Aim of the Agency is to strengthen companies and regions and create the conditions to meet the challenges of the future. Activities are based on three policy areas: economic policy, regional development policy and rural policy. The Agency for Growth promotes and facilitates change and renewal in various industries and industries. They carry out initiatives that promote entrepreneurship, sustainable growth, and development in companies.

Swedish Agency for Growth Policy Analysis

Swedish Agency for Growth Policy Analysis task is to analyze and evaluate Swedish growth policy. Agency studies the effects of politics on business development. Its mission is to develop knowledge for growth policy. This means that Agency analyse, evaluate, and report the effects of the state's efforts. The studies are compiled in publications that you can find on Agency website. Agency also delivers the studies to the government and other actors.

Swedish National Agency for Education

The Swedish National Agency for Education is a state authority under the Ministry of Education. The seven departments which Agency has, are business support, analysis, business development support, curricula, communication, administration, and school development. Agency sets the framework for how the education is to be conducted and assessed. For example, by developing course plans, subject plans, assessment criteria, tests, regulations, and general advice. They also carry out in-depth studies, make analyzes and produce statistics and are also responsible for Swedish participation in international studies.

National Institute of Economic Research

The Institute's mission is to create a good basis for economic decisions, primarily for the government but also for other institutions and private companies. Institute is a government agency under the Ministry of Finance. One of the main tasks is to analyze the economic development and forecasts made are used as a decision-making basis for the economic policy. Institute also conduct research in macro and environmental economics. The Institute

was established in 1937 and since then has built up time series that are used in own analysis and for research, among other things.

IFAU

The Institute for Evaluation of Labour Market and Education Policy (IFAU) is a state-owned research institute. IFAU carry out research on questions related to the labour market, education, and social security. IFAU specialises in quantitative effect studies based on register data. The Institute for Labor Market and Education Policy Evaluation shall promote, support and, through research, carry out follow-ups and evaluations. The research areas of IFAU are for example employment agency and labor market policy measures, labor force participation, employment and unemployment, The regulations and organizations of the labor market and the education system, the labor market for the young and the elderly.

Research Institute of Industrial Economics

IFN is a private and independent institute that conducts national economic research on business-related issues with high integrity. IFN Conducts independent national economic research at the highest international academic level, contribute high-quality analyzes and policy recommendations to public and private decision-makers in areas of high relevance to Swedish business life. For IFN it is also important to disseminate research results to the academic world and society at large.

Ministry of Labour

The Ministry of Labor and Employment is responsible for questions and matters relating to the labor market, labor law and the work environment. The department is also responsible for integration issues, the work against segregation and the work for greater equality between women and men. The policy area deals, among other things, with initiatives for young people in work, matching of jobseekers and vacant jobs, labor market policy programs, unemployment insurance and the European Social Fund.

University Chancellor's Office (UKÄ)

UKÄ is a state authority. UKÄ reviews the quality of higher education and the higher education institutions' systems for quality assurance of higher education and research. They follow up

and analyze developments and trends within Swedish higher education and are responsible for reviewing the effectiveness of the higher education institutions' resource utilization. UKÄ is also responsible for all official statistics in the higher education sector.

Arbetsförmedlingen

Arbetsförmedlingen is the Swedish Public Employment Service. Their job is to match those who are looking for employees with those who are looking for work as efficiently as possible. Arbetsförmedlingen assignment is about contributing to a well-functioning labour market. An important task is also proving those who find it difficult to enter the labour market with the right tools. Addition to main tasks they offer statistics, analyzes and forecasts about the labor market. Statistics are used e.g., to control labor market measures and educational initiatives throughout Sweden.

Riksbank

The Riksbank is Sweden's central bank and an authority under the Riksdag. The Riksbank is responsible for monetary policy with the goal of keeping inflation low and stable over time, contribute to the financial system being stable and efficient and that payments can be made. The Riksbank also issues Sweden's banknotes and coins. Riksbank monitors the financial system, prepares to handle financial crises, has the opportunity to provide temporary liquidity support to e.g., banks to counteract serious disturbances in the financial system and cooperates with the Financial Supervisory Authority and the National Debt Office on these issues. The goal of the economic research conducted within the Riksbank is to provide a solid conceptual and empirical basis for decision-making. An important task for economic research is to provide models, tools and analyzes so that the Riksbank can fulfill its obligations.

Assessing the sources of LMI at national level

Once the sources of LMI have been identified, their quality is needed to be assessed. There are many organisations that produce LMI but only through a standardized evaluation process they can be considered as being qualitative. The quality of LMI sources is sustained by their representativeness, validity and reliability.

The **Table 1** below contains a list of LMI sources identified at national level and their rating in accordance with LMI-EUniv methodology.

Table 1: LMI Sources at national level

[SEE THE LMI SOURCES HERE](#)

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