Globalisation is leading to an increasing internationalisation of workplaces. It is advantageous that relevant competencies are already gained during training by means of stays abroad. The government has set a target of 10 per cent mobile trainees by 2020. On behalf of the NA at BIBB, a study has captured the current status of mobility in vocational education and training for 2017.

Consistent growth trend in trainees’ stays abroad

2.4 %
Mobility rate

16,877
Absolute value (extrapolation)

The most popular destinations 2017

- Within Europe
  - France: 6.8 %
  - Netherlands: 10.5 %
  - Great Britain: 24.5 %
- Outside Europe
  - USA: 1.9 %
  - Japan: 0.4 %

Large proportion of mobile apprentices finance stays abroad without public funding

- Financing type (proportionately):
  - Company or privately: 43 %
  - Public programme: 34 %
  - No information available: 2 %

Further increase in stays abroad is expected

- Percentage of schools and companies which plan on sending trainees abroad:
  - Companies: 97.3 %
  - Vocational schools: 97.9 %

Majority of mobile apprentices come from small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

- Share of mobile apprentices based on total number:
  - SME: 63 %
  - > 250 EMP: 37 %

The option of visits abroad increases the attractiveness of an apprenticeship with us as opposed to other apprenticeships.

“Visits abroad as a fixed part of the training make the training considerably more attractive.”

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Company statements

Stays abroad have manifold positive effects

- Average values on a scale from 1 (very strong) to 5 (no effect):
  - Career opportunities: a visit abroad leads to better chances on the labour market
  - Knowledge: language skills
  - Professional skills: working with international teams or contacts
  - Personal competences: self-confidence

2.3
Very strong effect

1.9
Strong effect

2.3
Medium effect

1.9
Weak effect

0.4
No effect