

Vocational Education in Estonia

education
estonia

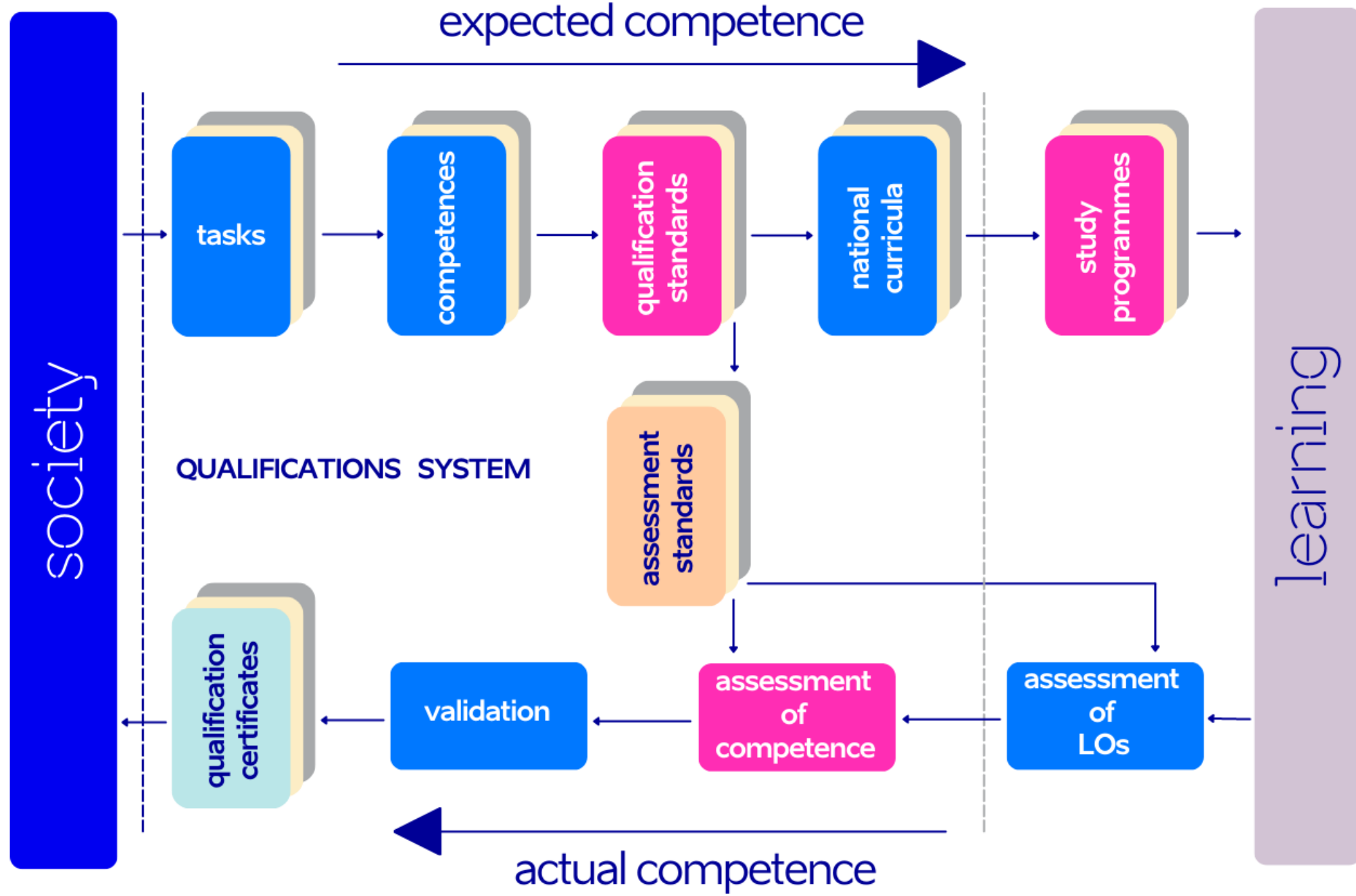


Characteristics

A person in a yellow shirt and white pants is standing in a warehouse, reaching up to a high shelf to retrieve a box. The shelves are filled with various boxes and containers. The background is a deep blue gradient.

- + With over 130 specialities to choose from, Estonian vocational education offers a comprehensive range of options.
- + Vocational education is FREE-OF-CHARGE for everybody.
- + Flexible study formats offer wide range of possibilities, including full-time, part-time, and distance learning.
- + The state has special project (OSKA) to ANALYSE THE LABOUR MARKET to find out what skills are needed in the future.
- + A significant portion of vocational education is WORK-BASED, allowing students to better prepare for the job market.
- + Close COOPERATION WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR provides students real workplace experience.
- + Moving from vocational education to higher education and vice versa is becoming increasingly popular.

Competence circle

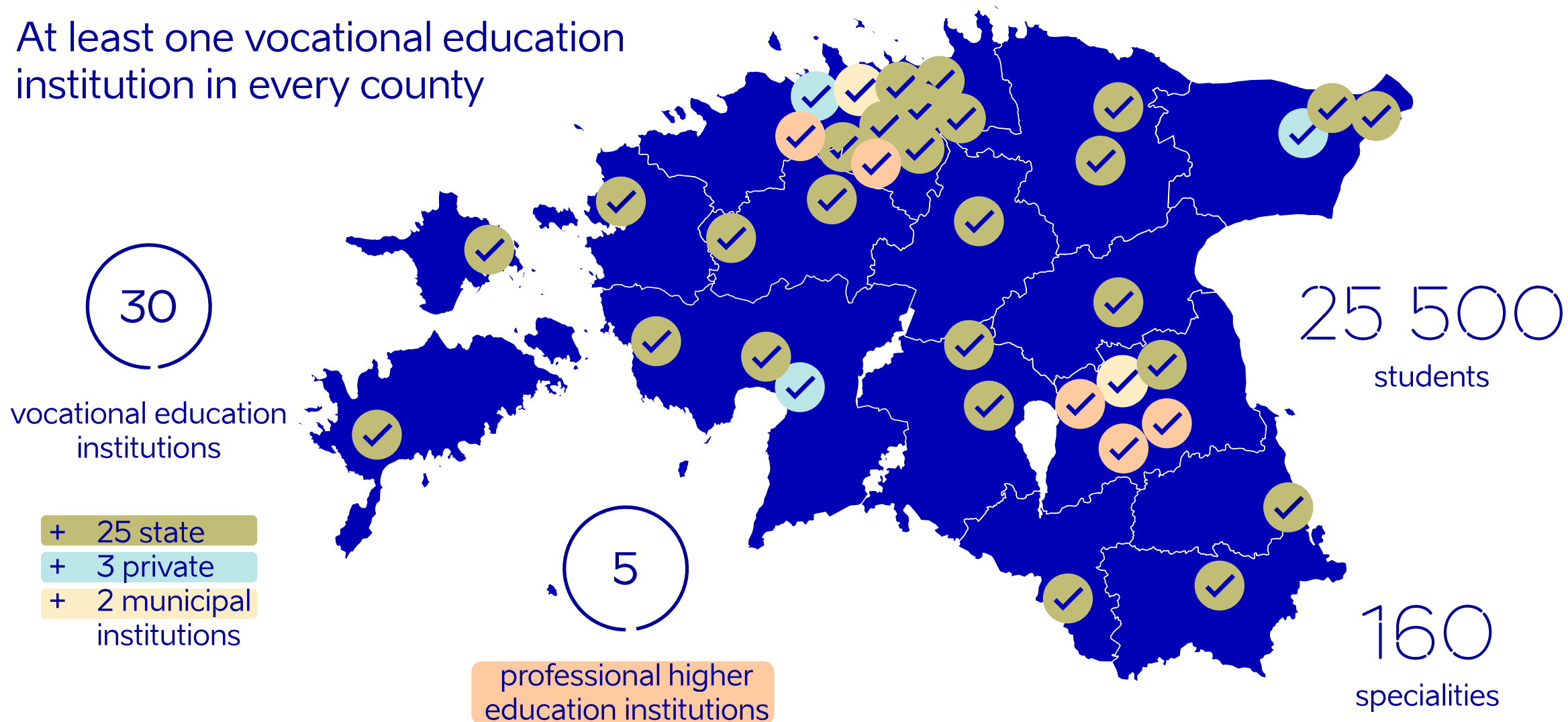


Qualification framework

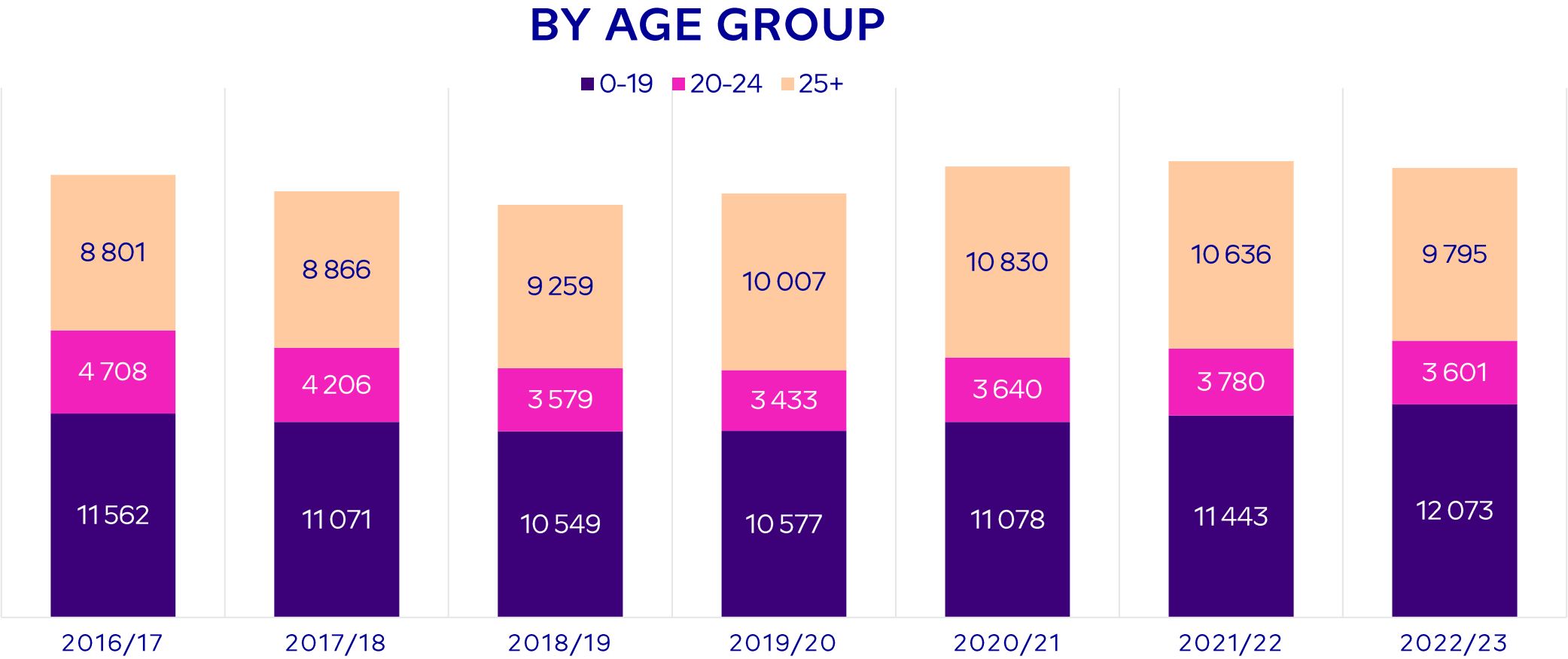
VET qualifications till 2013	Levels of Estonian qualifications framework	VET qualifications since 01.09.2013
	1	
Vocational education without the requirement for basic education	2	2. level vocational education
Vocational education based on basic education	3	3. level vocational education
Vocational secondary education / Vocational education based on secondary education	4	4. level vocational education (including vocational secondary education)
	5	5. level vocational education
	6	
	7	
	8	

Vocational Education and training in Estonia

At least one vocational education institution in every county



Students



Quality assessment

- + Internal evaluations for quality control and improvement
- + External evaluations to align with national educational standards
- + Incorporating feedback from students and employers for curriculum development

Meeting the needs of labour market

- + Workplace based studies
 - + At least 2/3 of the curriculum is practical assignments in companies
 - + Intern contract between the school, student and employee
 - + The employee has to recompense the student for tasks performed. The wage must not be less than the statutory minimum wage

OSKA

Coordination system for the monitoring and forecasting of the labour market needs

Answers to the following questions:

- + How many people and which skills are needed in our labour market today and tomorrow?
- + Where and how to acquire those skills?
- + What should be changed in today's educational system and in lifelong learning system to meet the future needs?



OSKA

- + Based on the existing occupational qualifications system
- + The results of analysis are used as:
 - + input to the qualification and career counselling system
 - + curriculum development of educational institutions
 - + financing of educational institutions (allocation of study places)

Contests for skill-building

- + Offering students the chance to test and develop their skills in a professional environment
- + Enhancing the attractiveness of vocational fields among young people
- + Strengthening Estonia's international reputation in vocational education through successful participation in global competitions



Aitäh!

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Photos: Küllike Heide, Lauri Kadajane, Marek Metslaid