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Abstract

The thesis "Barriers to continuing education of the unemployed in the age groups endangered in the labor market" examines the barriers to continuing education in unemployed groups of age 15-25 and 50-64 in the Czech Republic, both of which are often referred to as disadvantaged in the labor market. These age groups are characterized by a low rate of participation in continuing education, while having very specific needs and problems. The aim of this work is to identify the most frequent barriers in the education of the above-mentioned groups, to find out the differences between them and to explore their sociodemographic predictors. For the statistical analysis, data from the Kooperace research conducted by the Fund of Further Education was used. The first chapter defines the concepts of adult education, disadvantaged groups in labor market and introduces different concepts of barriers to education. Furthermore, the most important surveys of adult education in the Czech Republic are presented. In the methodological chapter, seven barrier dimensions have been examined, such as lack of selfconfidence, insufficient relevance of adult education supply, lack of time, low personal priority of education, financial barrier, insufficient awareness of educational opportunities and preference of work experience versus continuing education. Comparing the two age groups, the results show low level of self-confidence, low personal priority of education and insufficient awareness of educational opportunities are more present in the group aged 50-64. On the contrary, the preference of practice versus education is a greater barrier in the group aged 15-25. Moreover, the sociodemographic predictors of individual dimensions of barrier and the impact of these barriers on participation in adult education are analyzed in detail.