

English summary of Fafo-rapport 2021:21

Continuing education and labour market mobility

characteristics, and the uptake in different types of continuing education also differs across the groups. For example, engineers are quicker to return to the education system to take a longer education (typically a master's degree), while continuing education for teachers and nurses more often entails shorter courses. There are also differences between the groups when it comes to job and occupational mobility. For example, engineers faced a much higher risk of unemployment and were also more likely to change occupations than teachers and nurses in the reference period.

Teachers who are subject to the new competence requirements for teaching (those appointed after 1 January 2014) are both quicker to start continuing education and less likely to change jobs than others. However, we also find that a shortage of teachers in schools, which will often be related to the number of teachers participating in continuing education, means that teachers take longer to start continuing education. In the analysis of nurses, we found that having children after starting work as a nurse often leads to nurses postponing continuing education, particularly those who work in a hospital. Nurses who have children are also more likely to change jobs, but this mainly applies to nurses who work in hospitals and to a much lesser extent to nurses who work in other health and care institutions. Finally, we found that the fall in oil prices in 2014 has probably affected both the uptake of continuing education and job mobility among engineers. Petroleum engineers in particular were more likely to participate in continuing education after 2014, and they are also slower to change jobs since 2014 than previously.

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