

Supplementary Material

Why Do High-Performing School Leavers Aspire to Occupations Atypical of Their Qualification?

Table A1. Wording of the questions on parental expectations, benefits and self-assessed chance to successfully complete VET

Parental expectation (as perceived by respondent)	“How important is it to your parents that you achieve a university entrance qualification?”, response scale 1 = <i>very unimportant</i> to 5 = <i>very important</i>
Self-assessed strengths	“In which of the following areas are your strengths, in which your weaknesses?”, response scale 1 = <i>weak</i> to 5 = <i>strong</i>
Career and life goals	“How important are the following career and life goals to you?”, response scale 1 = <i>very unimportant</i> to 5 = <i>very important</i>
Self-assessed chance to successfully complete VET	“How do you rate your chances of successfully completing vocational training?”, response scale 1 = <i>very low</i> to 5 = <i>very high</i>

Note: own translation.

Table A2. Distribution of the dependent and independent variables, mean, proportion values and standard deviations (in brackets)

	total	boys	girls	HEEC	non-HEEC
<i>Dependent variable</i>					
Non-HEEC	0.55 (0.50)	0.64 (0.48)	0.48 (0.50)	-	-
<i>Independent variables</i>					
Migration background	0.21 (0.41)	0.21 (0.41)	0.22 (0.41)	0.21 (0.41)	0.22 (0.41)
Vocational school	0.52 (0.50)	0.49 (0.50)	0.56 (0.50)	0.52 (0.50)	0.52 (0.50)
Academic family background	0.34 (0.48)	0.41 (0.49)	0.29 (0.45)	0.31 (0.46)	0.37 (0.48)
Parental expectation	3.86	4.06	3.66	3.85	3.86

	(1.08)	(0.99)	(1.12)	(1.09)	(1.07)
Strengths					
Craft trades	3.13	3.59	2.68	2.67	3.51
	(1.34)	(1.26)	(1.27)	(1.19)	(1.34)
Technical	3.01	3.73	2.31	2.57	3.37
	(1.35)	(1.16)	(1.13)	(1.18)	(1.37)
Foreign languages	3.00	2.94	3.06	3.13	2.89
	(1.20)	(1.18)	(1.22)	(1.19)	(1.20)
Economic sciences	3.07	3.22	2.91	3.37	2.82
	(1.10)	(1.08)	(1.11)	(1.06)	(1.08)
Goals					
High income	0.74	0.78	0.71	0.79	0.71
	(0.44)	(0.41)	(0.46)	(0.41)	(0.45)
Good career opportunities	0.85	0.86	0.84	0.90	0.81
	(0.36)	(0.35)	(0.37)	(0.30)	(0.39)
Support others	0.62	0.55	0.69	0.65	0.60
	(0.48)	(0.50)	(0.46)	(0.48)	(0.49)
Act selflessly	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.43	0.42
	(0.49)	(0.49)	(0.49)	(0.50)	(0.49)
Current average marks	2.71	2.76	2.67	2.65	2.77
	(0.52)	(0.50)	(0.53)	(0.50)	(0.53)
Chance of VET success	4.51	4.59	4.43	4.50	4.52
	(0.61)	(0.57)	(0.63)	(0.60)	(0.61)
Training market situation	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.22	0.27
	(0.43)	(0.43)	(0.43)	(0.41)	(0.44)
n	3186	1596	1590	1392	1794

Notes: DZHW Panel Study of German School Leavers with a HEEC 2018, own calculations, weighted.