



Republic of Latvia Ombudsman

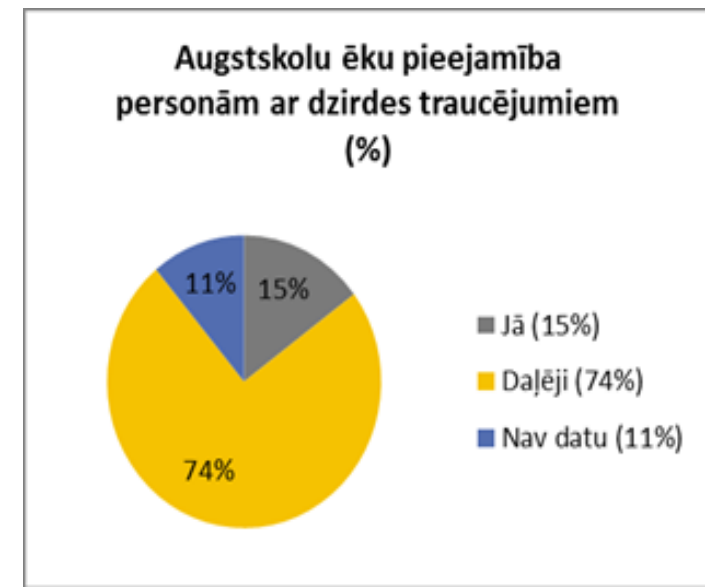
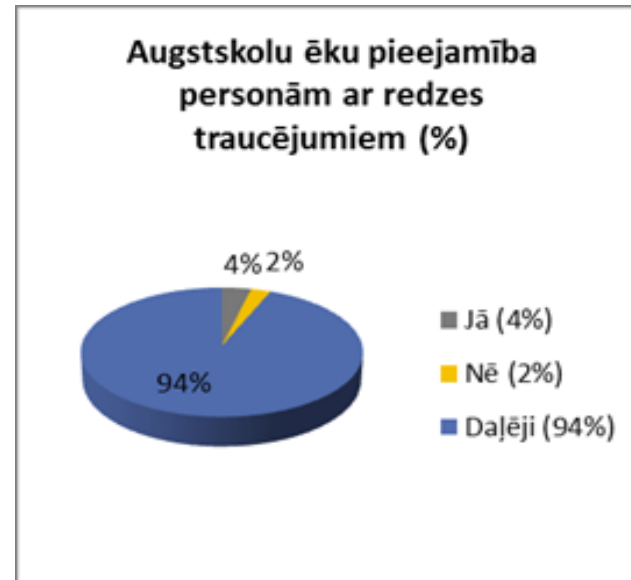
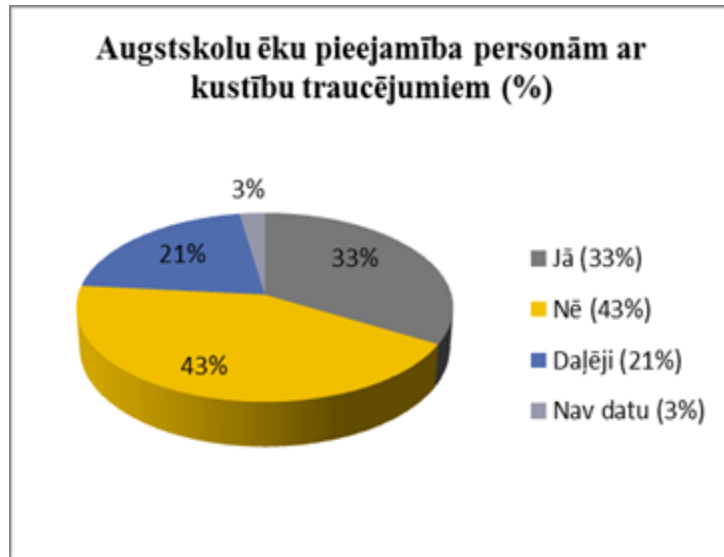
Inclusive education for students with disabilities

Anete Ilves, Legal counsellor
the Ombudsman Office of the Republic of Latvia,
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Inclusive higher education for students with disabilities I

- Research (2016), in cooperation with DPO
- Movement, vision and hearing disabilities
- All higher education institutions where students with disabilities can study
 - ✓ 43 higher education institutions + libraries and dormitories
 - ✓ 164 buildings (81 studying building; 42 libraries and 40 dormitories)
- Independence

Inclusive higher education for students with disabilities II



Inclusive higher education for students with disabilities II

Main issues

- ✓ Accessibility is meant only for persons with movement disorders
- ✓ «use the building according to its functions» - not relevant
- ✓ use of accessibility elements – negligent

Main reasons

- ✓ Amendments in norms regarding accessibility elements
- ✓ Lack of information on accessibility for responsible institutions
- Incomprehension on the need of accessibility
- Incomprehension on the universality of accessibility elements

Inclusive higher education for students with disabilities IV

- Home pages
 - ✓ Add information on accessibility of every building, describe which building shall be used for which faculty
 - ✓ Information how to check accessibility of home pages
- Accessible information
 - ✓ Moodle, Ortus
 - ✓ Guidelines on how to make documents (Word, PDF, PPT and scanned documents) accessible

Inclusive higher education for students with disabilities V

- Accessible study process
 - ✓ Guidelines for academic staff
 - ✓ Accessible study process for students with vision disability (Braille included)
 - ✓ Accessible study process for students with partial and total hearing loss
- Physical accessibility – good/ bad practice (directions)

Inclusive higher education for students with disabilities VI

- Recommendations
- ✓ Home pages
- ✓ Directions

Thank you for attention!