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YES: Youth Engagement in Society  
ERASMUS + KA2 PROJECT

# Statistics of NEET Across Europe

## | UK, Portugal, Italy, Sweden and Cyprus |



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## Statistics for UK

### Introduction/explanation of NEETs in your country and compared to Europe

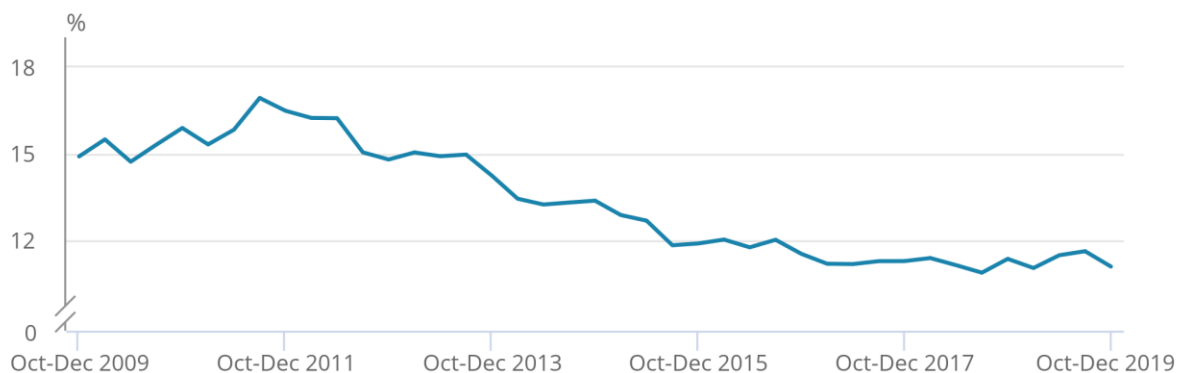
The term NEET (acronym for Not in Education, nor in Employment or Training) was used for the first time in UK in 1999 and refers to a person who is unemployed, not in school or vocational training. When talking about young people in NEETS category, that would be ages 16 to 24.

### Statistic/s of NEETs in your country and compared other European Countries

- There were an estimated 763,000 young people (aged 16 to 24 years) in the UK who were not in education, employment or training (NEET) in October to December 2019; this was a decrease of 26,000 compared with October to December 2018 and was down 38,000 compared with July to September 2019.
- The percentage of all young people in the UK who were NEET in October to December 2019 was estimated at 11.1%; the proportion was down 0.3 percentage points compared with October to December 2018 and down 0.5 percentage points compared with July to September 2019.
- Of all young people in the UK who were NEET in October to December 2019, an estimated 39.6% were looking for, and available for, work and therefore classified as unemployed; the remainder were either not looking for work and/or not available for work and were classified as economically inactive

Figure 1: The percentage of young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) had been decreasing since 2011 but has been relatively flat since 2017

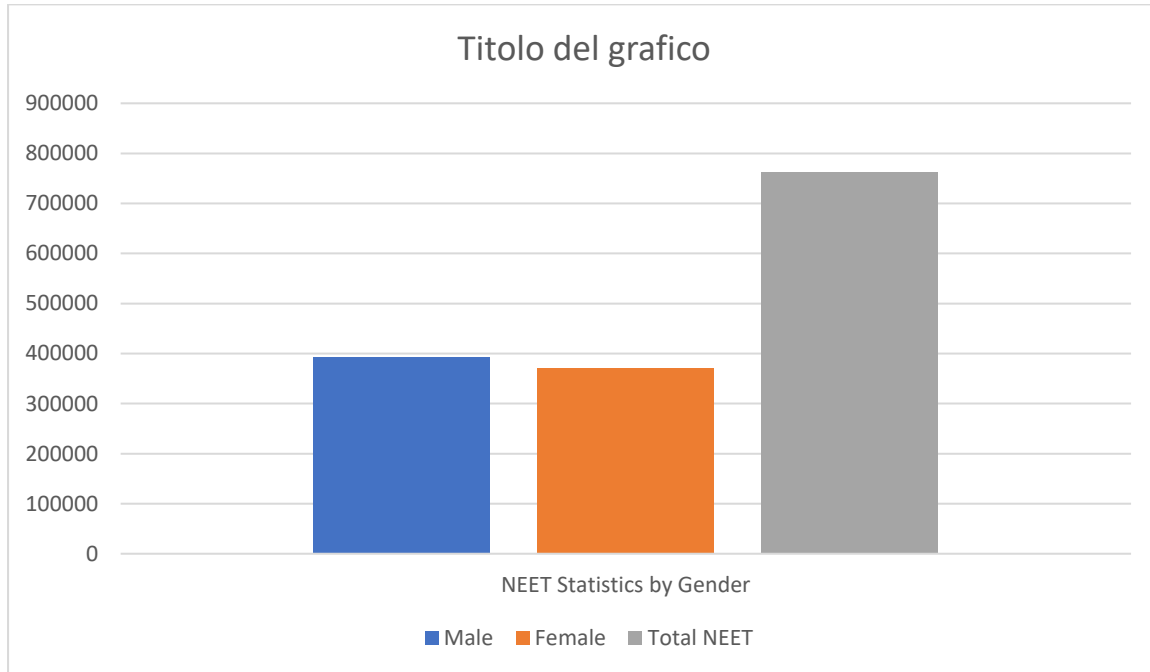
People aged 16 to 24 years NEET as a percentage of all people aged 16 to 24 years, seasonally adjusted, UK, October to December 2009 to October to December 2019





### Classification of NEETS by Gender

Of the 763,000 people aged 16 to 24 years who were NEET in October to December 2019, 392,000 were men and 371,000 were women. The annual decrease for women, of 43,000, was the largest since July to September 2017 and the level reached a record low.



### Classification of NEETS by Age

Unemployment	UK	Wales	Scotland	N. Ireland
16-64	4.5	3.7	4.1	2.4
16-24	11.9	12.0	12.0	

NEET	UK	Wales	Scotland	N. Ireland
16-24	11.2	13.1	8.4	8.1



## Classification of NEETS by Education: No Info

## Classification of NEETS by local region

Unemployment	UK	Wales	Scotland	N. Ireland
16-64	4.5	3.7	4.1	2.4
16-24	11.9	12.0	12.0	

NEET	UK	Wales	Scotland	N. Ireland
16-24	11.2	13.1	8.4	8.1

## Strength & limitation of the statistic provided

It is difficult to provide specific data about NEETs, because they are not always traceable and always are referred to general data (for example there aren't specific statistics per gender, level of education, family conditions, family income etc.).

The situation concerning women, sometimes is even worse, especially in the South of Italy, for the cultural background that has not larger expectations on them to be employed or in education or training.

As for the data we have though, they are updated and consistent.

## Reference/related links

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peoplenotinwork/unemployment/bulletins/youngpeoplenotineducationemploymentortrainingneet/february2020>

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/statistics-and-research/2019-08/young-people-not-in-education-employment-or-training-neet-2018-to-2019-649.pdf>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-neet>



# Statistics for Portugal

## Introduction/explanation of NEETs in Portugal and compared to Europe

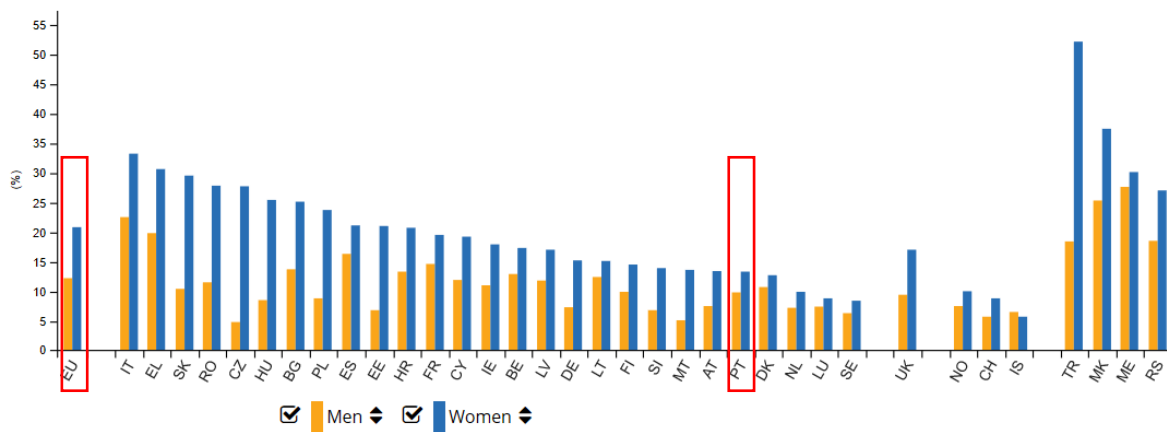
The indicator young people neither in employment nor in education and training, abbreviated as NEET, corresponds to the percentage of the population of a given age group and sex who is not employed and not involved in further education or training.

The numerator of the indicator refers to persons meeting these two conditions:

- they are not employed (i.e. unemployed or inactive according to the International Labour Organisation definition);
- they have not received any formal or non-formal education or training in the four weeks preceding the survey.

The following graphic presents an overview of European Union (EU) statistics related to young people neither in employment nor in education or training (NEET). It provides information on the transition from education to work and focuses on the number of young people who find themselves disengaged from both education and the labour market.

Fig.1 Young people (aged 20-34) neither in employment nor education and training, 2019



Source: Eurostat (online data code: edat\_ifse\_20)

euostat

One of the most important decisions in life concerns the choice of when to make the move from education to the world of work. Given that the vast majority (90.7 %) of young people in the EU between the ages of 15 and 19 continued to participate in some form of education and training (either formal or non-formal), the following analysis mainly focuses on the population aged 20 to 34.

The analysis is complicated somewhat by the emergence of new patterns of transition from education to work. Traditionally, most young people only started work once they had completed their highest level of education or training, and they rarely combined education with a job. The transition has, in recent years, become more prolonged and increasingly unpredictable, with young people switching jobs more frequently and taking longer to become established in the labour market, either by choice or necessity. It has also become increasingly common to find tertiary education students taking part-time or seasonal work to supplement their income, or for young people already in employment to seek a return to education and training in order to improve their qualifications (for example, through evening classes or distance learning). As a result, the transition between education and work has become less clear, with a growing share of students also working and a rising proportion of people in employment also studying (for example, apprentices are

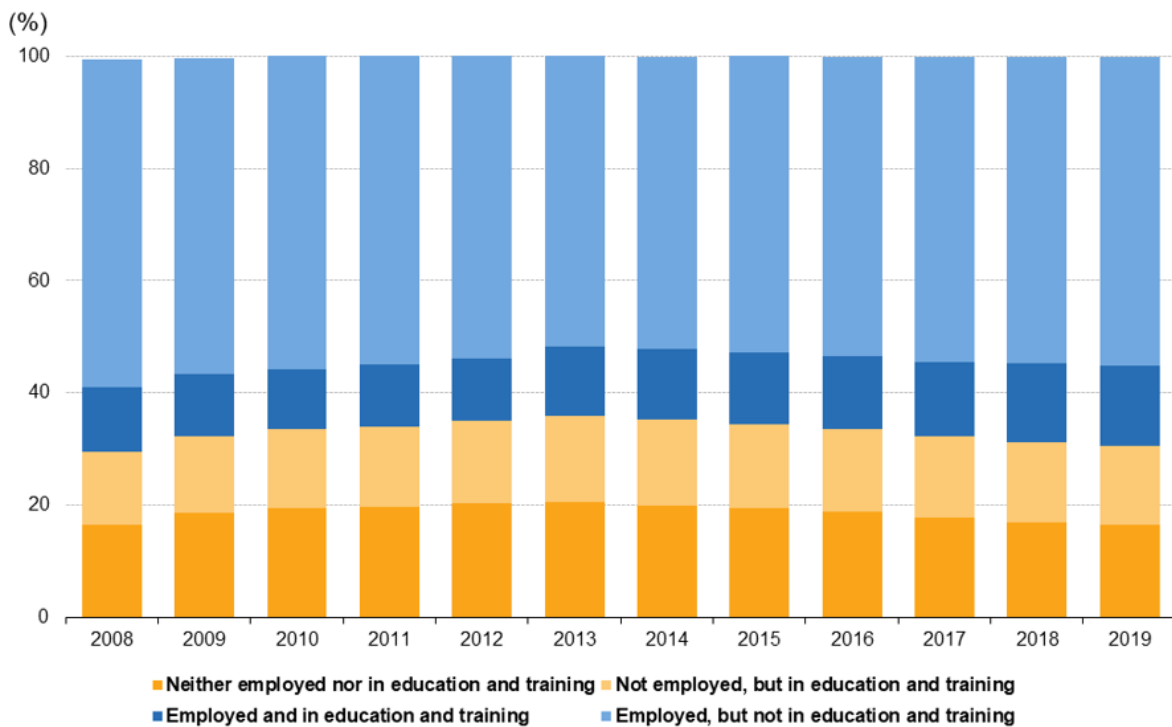


generally considered to be employed and in formal education). In 2019, some 11.1 % of young people aged 15–19 in the EU made use of this more flexible transition from education to work, a share that rose to 18.7 % among those aged 20–24, before falling somewhat for older age groups — 14.3 % among those aged 25–29 and 10.6 % for those aged 30–34.

The NEET rate for young people is closely linked to economic performance and the business cycle. Figure 2 provides an analysis over time for young people aged 20–34 and shows that the share of NEETs in the EU jumped from 16.6 % in 2008 to 18.7 % the following year, after the onset of the global financial and economic crisis. The rate then rose at a more modest pace through to 2013, when it reached its peak at 20.5 %. After that the rate decreased continuously and was below its 2008 level in 2019, at 16.4 %.

With a record number of NEETs following the financial and economic crisis in the late 2000s, there have been concerns among policymakers that a whole generation of young people in the EU could remain out of the labour market for years to come. The implications of this are two-fold: on a personal level, these individuals are more likely to become disenfranchised and to suffer from poverty and social exclusion, while at a macro-economic level they represent a considerable loss in terms of unused productive capacity and a considerable cost in terms of welfare payments.

**Fig.2 Employment, education and training status of young people (aged 20-34), EU, 2008-19**



Note: the shares do not quite add up to 100 % due to the category of young people for which the employment and/or education and training status is not known.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: edat\_lfse\_18)

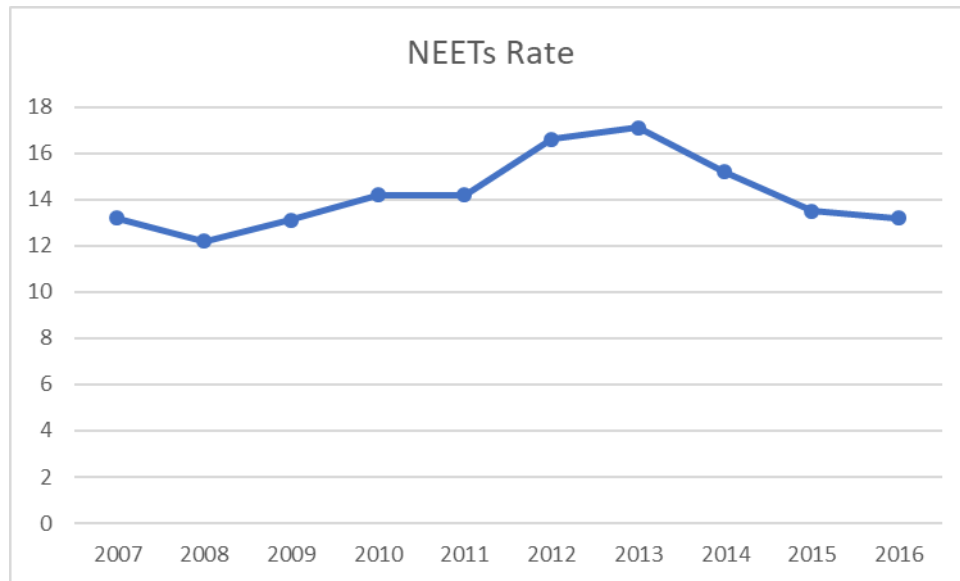


### Statistic/s of NEETs in Portugal and compared other European Countries

During the last ten years the number of NEET has increased as a reflection of the crisis period since 2010. However, since 2013 we have seen a reduction of the number of NEETs.

Below a description of the situation and characteristics of NEETs in Portugal is displayed, being considered as NEETs all the young people between the ages of 15 and 34 years old who is not in education, employment or training.

**Fig.3 The NEET rate evolution between 2007 and 2016**



As can be seen the NEET rate was 13.2% in 2007, reaching 17.1 in 2013. From that year onwards, there was a significant reduction of NEETs, reaching in 2016 the same value as in 2007, according to EUROSTAT.

However, this does not mean that men and women have behaved identically. In fact, the rate of women in a NEET situation was always higher than in the men group. Analyzing their behavior in the years 2007, 2013 and 2016, it was found that the rate in 2016 was lower for women than in 2007, while for men it was higher.

According to statistic the behavior of the age groups 18-24 years, 25-29 years and 30-34 years, it was showed that in 2016 and in previous years, the group age 25-29 years has the NEET rate higher for men (15.7%) and women (18.8%).

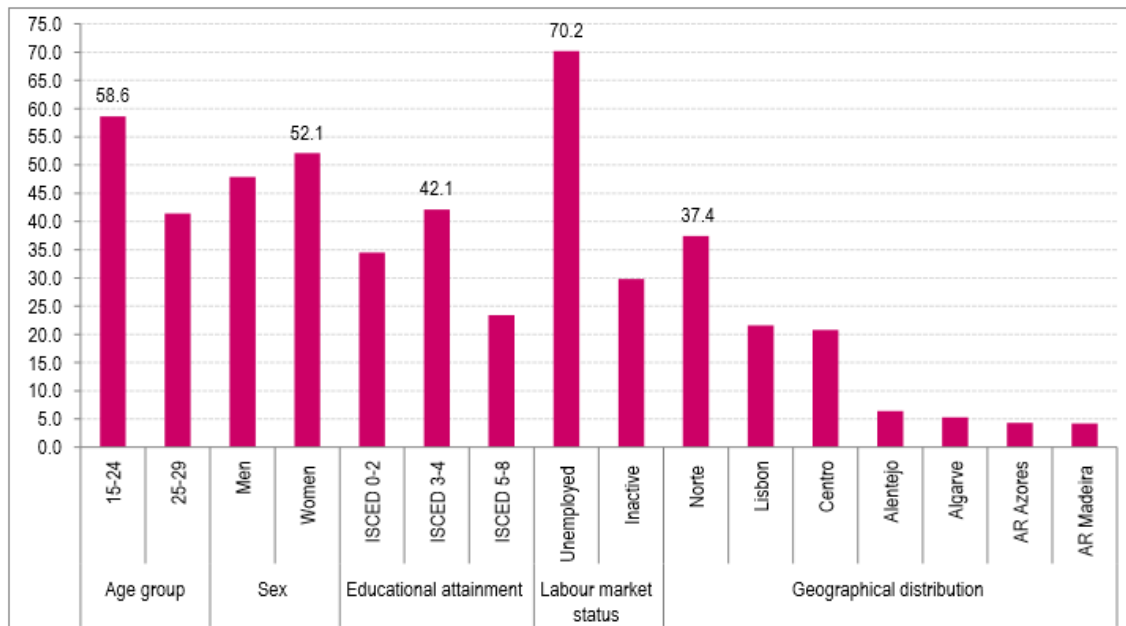
In the end of 2016, 58% of the NEETs were unemployed and 42% were inactive (170,9 thousand and 123,8 thousand respectively). This corresponds to a tendency that is verified, with increasing weight of the inactive, that only in the last year increased from 36.7% to 42%.

On the other hand, NEET rates according to the age group versus labor status presented the following evolution between 2007 and 2016.





**Fig.4 Key characteristics of Young NEETS in Portugal, 2015 (% within category)**



Source: ILO calculations based on the microdata of the 2015 Labour Force Survey of Portugal.



## Classification of NEETS by Gender

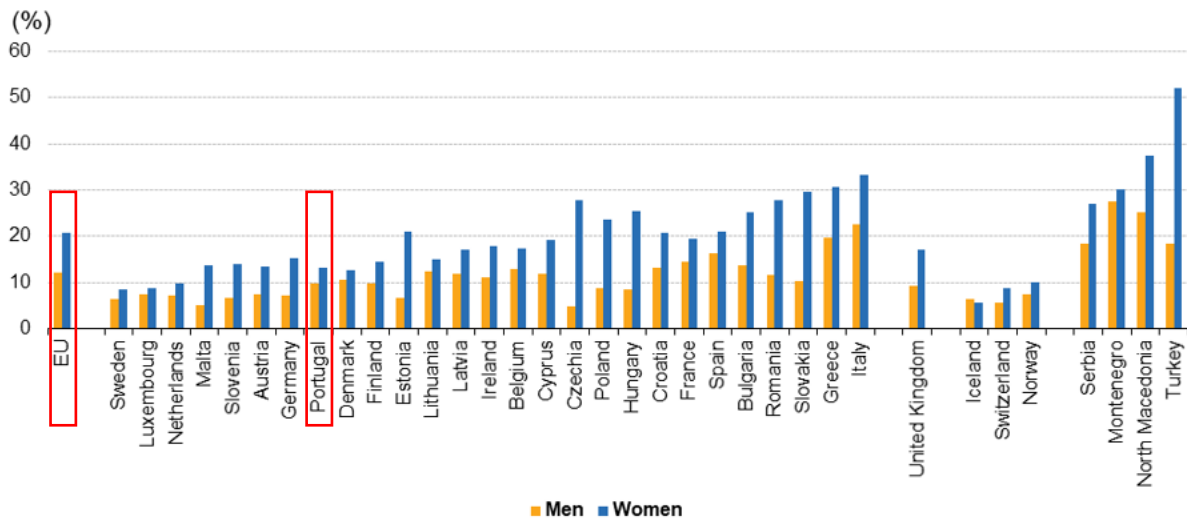
Figure 5 shows that there is a considerable difference between the sexes in relation to the proportion of young people who were neither in employment nor in education and training. In 2019, more than one fifth (20.8 %) of young women (aged 20–34) in the EU were NEETs, while the corresponding share among young men was 8.6 percentage points lower, at 12.2 %.

There are a range of factors that may explain this gender gap, among which:

- social conventions or pressures, which tend to place a higher importance on women’s role within the family and on men’s role in the workplace;
- careers advice, which may reinforce gender segregation and direct women into a relatively narrow range of occupations;
- labour market issues, such as: employers preferring to hire young men over young women; young women facing assimilation difficulties when returning to work after childbirth; young women being more likely to have low-paid jobs or precarious employment.

In 2019, there were nine EU Member States where the proportion of young female NEETs was at least 10.0 percentage points higher than the corresponding share for young men. Among these, the difference between the sexes was within the range of 10–11 percentage points in Italy, Greece and Bulgaria, rising to 14–17 points in Estonia, Poland, Romania and Hungary, before peaking at 19.1 in Slovakia and 22.9 points in Czechia; an even wider gender gap was recorded in Turkey (33.7 points).

**Fig.5 Young people (aged 20-34) neither in employment nor in education and training, by sex, 2019**



Note: ranked on the average share for men and women (aged 20–34).

Source: Eurostat (online data code: edat\_ifse\_20)

eurostat



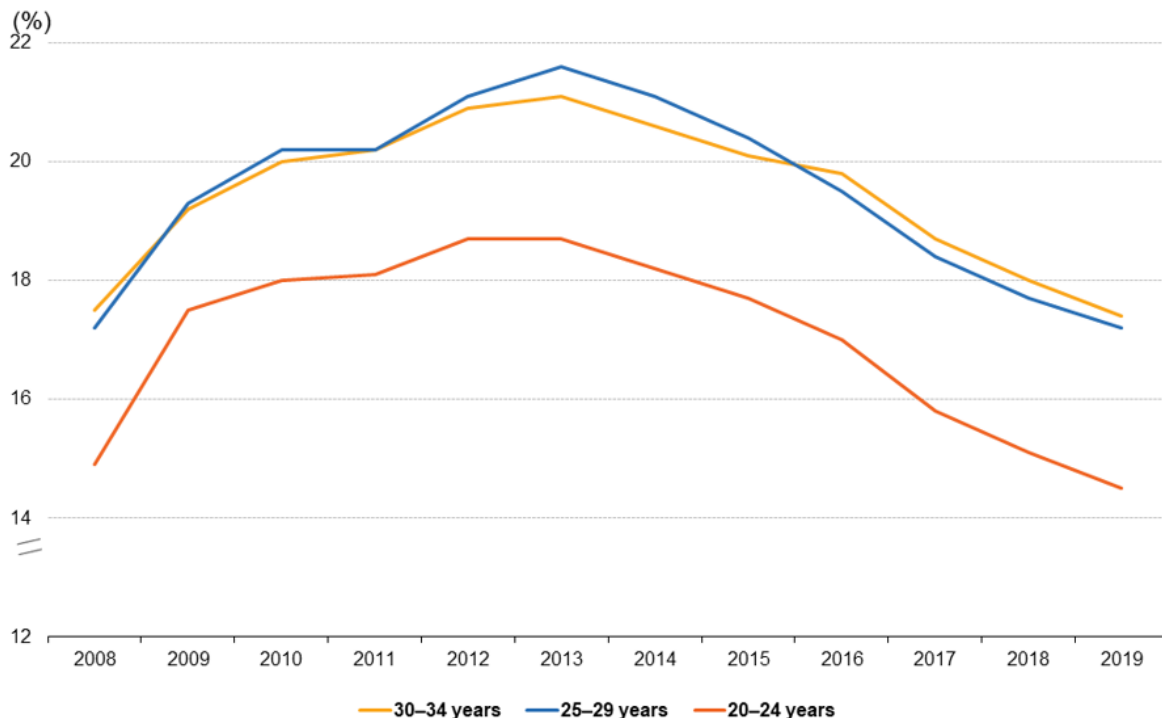
## Classification of NEETS by Age

An analysis for different age groups of young people (aged 20–24; aged 25–29; aged 30–34) shows that the EU gender gap for NEETs increased as a function of age in 2019. For people aged 20–24, NEET rates for young women were 1.8 percentage points higher than those for young men. The gap between the sexes widened to 9.3 points among people aged 25–29, and peaked at 13.5 points for those aged 30–34. This pattern may be linked, at least in part, to the growing number of women who postpone childbirth, the low share of men who interrupt their careers to help raise a family, and a range of difficulties faced by women who wish to integrate a professional career with their maternal role.

In 2019, the NEET rate for young people aged 20–24 was lower for women than it was for men in nine of the EU Member States. Female rates were 0.3–0.9 percentage points lower than male rates in Malta, Spain, the Netherlands, Finland, Denmark and France, with the gap between the sexes rising to 2.3 points in Latvia and 2.6 points in both Lithuania and Belgium.

Among people aged 25–29 and those aged 30–34, female NEET rates were consistently higher than male NEET rates in almost all of the EU Member States. The only exception is Luxembourg where the NEET rate for women aged 25–29 was 2.6 percentage points lower than the one for men. For the first of these two age groups, the biggest gender gaps of more than 20.0 points were recorded in Slovakia and Czechia, where NEET rates for women were respectively 20.5 and 22.2 percentage points higher than those for men. The differences between the sexes were generally more pronounced among people aged 30–34, as gender gaps of 20.0 percentage points or more were recorded in Greece, Hungary and Slovakia, while the gap in Czechia rose to 33.2 percentage points.

**Fig.6 Young people neither in employment nor in education and training by age, EU, 2008-19**



Source: Eurostat (online data code: edat\_lfse\_20)

eurostat



**Fig.7 Young people (aged 20-34) neither in employment nor in education and training, by sex and age, 2019**  
(%)

	Total				Men				Women			
	20-34 years	20-24 years	25-29 years	30-34 years	20-34 years	20-24 years	25-29 years	30-34 years	20-34 years	20-24 years	25-29 years	30-34 years
<b>EU</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>17.2</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>13.6</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>10.7</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>15.4</b>	<b>21.9</b>	<b>24.2</b>
Belgium	15.1	13.4	16.3	15.4	12.9	14.7	13.1	11.1	17.3	12.1	19.6	19.7
Bulgaria	19.2	16.8	21.1	19.2	13.7	14.9	13.9	12.8	25.1	18.8	28.6	26.0
Czechia	16.0	9.0	15.8	20.8	4.8	4.7	5.0	4.7	27.7	13.5	27.2	37.9
Denmark	11.7	10.7	12.9	11.4	10.7	11.0	12.3	8.7	12.7	10.4	13.5	14.2
Germany	11.1	8.3	11.0	13.6	7.3	7.3	7.0	7.7	15.2	9.4	15.2	19.8
Estonia (*)	13.6	10.4	13.8	15.5	6.8	9.5	5.2	6.5	21.0	11.3	23.2	25.4
Ireland	14.5	13.2	14.3	15.8	11.0	12.7	11.0	9.3	17.9	13.6	17.6	21.9
Greece	25.1	18.5	27.3	28.3	19.8	18.1	22.8	18.2	30.6	19.0	32.2	38.2
Spain	18.7	17.1	20.0	18.8	16.3	17.2	18.0	14.0	21.1	16.9	22.1	23.5
France	17.1	16.5	17.9	16.9	14.6	17.0	14.9	12.2	19.5	16.1	20.8	21.4
Croatia	17.0	14.8	18.8	17.2	13.3	13.7	13.7	12.7	20.7	16.1	24.1	21.7
Italy	27.8	25.3	29.7	28.1	22.5	24.8	24.0	19.0	33.2	25.7	35.7	37.3
Cyprus	15.7	17.2	14.7	15.7	11.9	15.9	9.6	10.8	19.2	17.5	19.4	20.4
Latvia	14.3	12.9	13.8	15.7	11.8	14.0	11.7	10.7	17.0	11.7	15.9	21.1
Lithuania	13.7	13.4	15.1	12.9	12.4	14.7	12.9	10.2	15.1	12.1	17.5	15.7
Luxembourg	8.1	8.6	7.9	8.0	7.4	8.4	9.1	5.0	8.8	8.9	6.5	10.9
Hungary	16.7	14.9	16.7	18.4	8.5	11.2	8.3	6.3	25.4	18.8	25.6	31.0
Malta	9.0	7.1	6.7	12.9	5.1	7.2	4.0	4.6	13.6	6.9	9.8	22.6
Netherlands	8.5	6.1	8.4	11.1	7.2	6.3	7.4	7.7	9.9	5.8	9.3	14.5
Austria	10.4	9.3	10.1	11.7	7.5	8.9	6.6	7.4	13.4	9.7	13.7	16.1
Poland	16.1	13.3	17.7	16.5	8.8	10.8	8.7	7.4	23.7	16.0	27.1	26.0
Portugal	11.6	12.7	11.5	10.6	9.8	11.4	9.9	8.2	13.3	14.0	13.1	12.8
Romania	19.4	18.9	20.8	18.6	11.5	13.5	12.3	9.5	27.8	24.6	30.0	28.5
Slovenia (*)	10.1	9.3	11.9	9.3	6.8	7.2	7.7	5.7	13.9	11.8	16.4	13.4
Slovakia	19.7	13.5	20.7	23.3	10.4	10.9	10.7	9.8	29.5	16.3	31.2	37.4
Finland	12.1	12.2	11.8	12.4	9.9	12.5	8.8	8.8	14.5	11.9	14.9	16.3
Sweden	7.3	7.9	7.5	6.6	6.3	7.9	6.7	4.6	8.4	8.0	8.4	8.7
United Kingdom	13.2	14.2	12.9	12.6	9.4	13.5	8.8	6.5	17.0	15.0	17.2	18.6
Iceland	6.2	5.5	7.3	5.8	6.5	7.1	7.5	5.0	5.7	.	7.0	6.3
Norway	8.7	6.9	9.2	9.9	7.5	6.8	7.7	7.9	10.0	7.0	10.8	12.0
Switzerland	7.2	7.7	6.3	7.8	5.7	9.9	4.3	3.9	8.8	5.4	8.6	11.8
Montenegro	28.8	25.1	28.6	32.7	27.6	27.6	25.1	30.4	30.1	22.3	32.5	34.8
North Macedonia	31.2	25.8	34.9	32.1	25.3	24.3	27.1	24.4	37.4	27.4	43.1	40.2
Serbia	22.7	20.5	25.2	22.1	18.5	19.0	21.0	15.9	27.0	22.1	29.7	28.6
Turkey	35.3	34.7	36.1	35.0	18.4	22.6	18.4	14.6	52.1	46.5	53.7	55.6

(\*) Men 20-24: low reliability.

(\*) Men 25-29: low reliability.

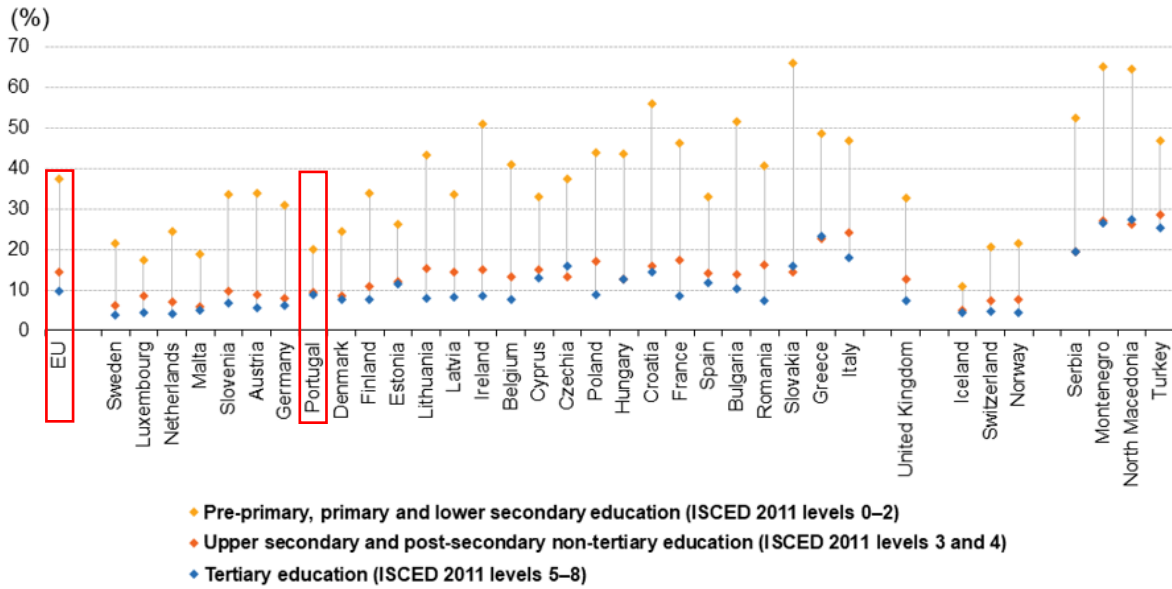
Source: Eurostat (online data code: edst\_ifse\_20)



### Classification of NEETS by Education

The NEET population have generally low education level. According to 2016 the NEET rate was 6% for young people who had less than the secondary education, whereas for young people with higher levels of education the NEET rate was always less than 3%.

**Fig.8 Young people (aged 20-34) neither in employment nor in education and training, by educational attainment level, 2019**



Note: Ranked on the overall NEET rate.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: edat\_lfse\_21)





## Classification of NEET's by local region

It is usually considered that the behavior of the urban population is different from the rural one. The rural areas are not homogeneous in the national territory assuming different characteristics according to the geographic area in which they are integrated. These zones integrate age population with lower levels of education and with economic activity still centered on a little technologically advanced agriculture.

Most of the studies carried out usually focus on large metropolitan areas, forgetting that good practice may exist in non-urban areas.

When analyzing the NEET rate according to urbanity, as it can be seen in the graph below, the "Cities" areas, which in 2016 had a higher rate (14.1%), nevertheless, during the crisis period the highest rates were in the "towns and suburbs" and "rural" areas (about 17.7%). However, lower NEET rates for these were much faster than for "cities".

## Strength & limitation of the statistic provided

Although being an extremely relevant topic, is hard to find updated data about NEET in Portugal. One of the major challenges may be to identify and trace this young people. Besides that, the use of this indicator is not pacific, with some institutions highlighting as being unreliable to account for the phenomenon of increasing job precariousness. Said that, we will base this research in the most updated and reliable data that we could found.

## Reference/related links

<https://www.ine.pt>

[https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\\_emp/documents/publication/wcms\\_546273.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_emp/documents/publication/wcms_546273.pdf)

[https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Statistics\\_on\\_young\\_people\\_neither\\_in\\_employment\\_nor\\_in\\_education\\_or\\_training#NEETs:\\_analysis\\_by\\_sex\\_and\\_age](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Statistics_on_young_people_neither_in_employment_nor_in_education_or_training#NEETs:_analysis_by_sex_and_age)

[https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\\_emp/documents/publication/wcms\\_735164.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_emp/documents/publication/wcms_735164.pdf)





## Statistics for Italy

### Introduction/explanation of NEETs in your country and compared to Europe

The term NEET (acronym for Not in Education, nor in Employment or Training) was used for the first time in UK in 1999 and refers to a person who is unemployed, not in school or vocational training. In Italy it includes people aged 15-34 years.

### Statistic/s of NEETs in your country and compared other European Countries

Youth unemployment rates are generally much higher than the respective ones at other ages.

The EUROSTAT and the ISTAT websites contain many statistics relative to different factors that can affect the NEET rates.

In relation to the degree of urbanisation (Fig. 6), while in Europe we can observe larger values of NEET rates in rural areas in comparison with cities, in Italy we witness a different trend. The rate looks almost uncorrelated to the urbanisation, actually showing a reverse trend: cities seem to show the highest NEET rate.

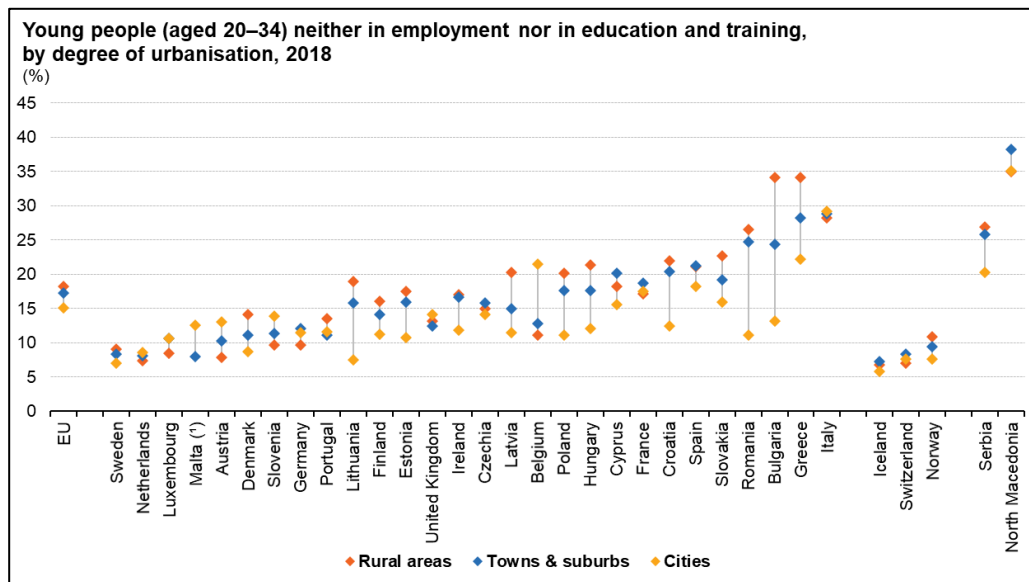


Fig. 1 Source Eurostat (online data code: edat\_ifse\_29)

Italy is one of the EU nations with the apical rate of NEETs (28,9%). Comparing the highest and the lowest NEET rates (respectively belonging to Italy and Sweden), the resultant ratio is 3,6:1.

### Classification of NEETS by Gender

Unemployment rate of female (Fig. 1) among NEET is much greater than the male's one both in Italy and Europe. In both contexts the male's unemployment rate reaches a peak in the age range of 20-24 years, while the female's rate is highest in the band 30-34 years. This gender gap might be explained by several reasons, not only connected to economic factors, but mostly related to cultural and social conventions and backgrounds.

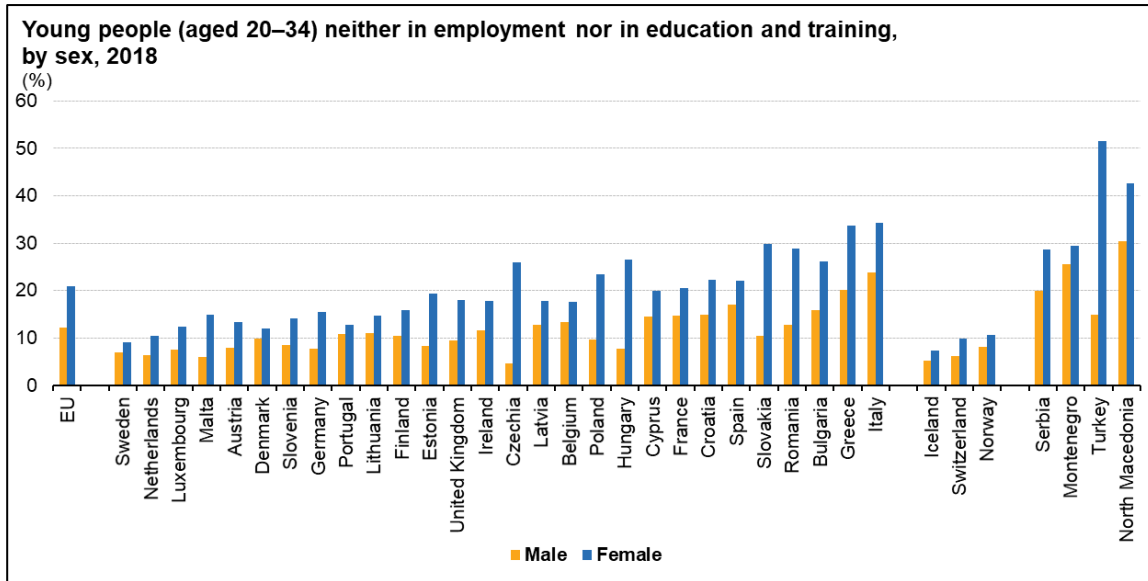


Fig. 2 Source Eurostat (online data code: edat\_ifse\_20)

### Classification of NEETS by Age

Between 2008 and 2018 the European situation concerning NEET has shown two different trends. The NEET rate has initially grown till reaching a peak of 21% in 2013, After that, the rate has decreased getting to the actual (2018) low of 17,3, not too far from the value of 2008 (at the beginning of the economic crisis).

At a European level, the unemployment rate reaches its highest value among people aged 30-34 years, while in Italy the peak is within the range of 25-29 years.

Overall, the number of inactive people is bigger than the unemployed one.

### Classification of NEETS by Education

In 2004, NEETs with a higher educational level (Fig. 2) were in a greater amount compared to the ones with only high school diploma. From 2013 the trend started to reverse until it reached his lowest value in 2018. Actually, on a European scale, the NEET rate is predominantly linked to the less educated segment of the population, while in Italy (Tab. 1, Fig 3-4-5) there isn't a very wide difference between people with various degrees of education.



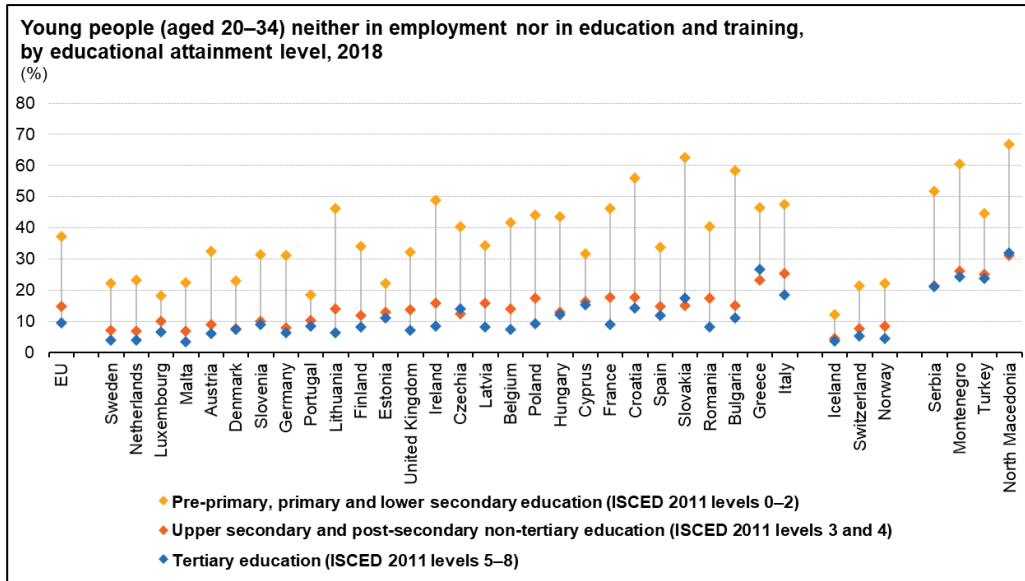


Fig. 3 Source Eurostat (online data code: edat\_ifse\_21)

<b>ITALIA- % OF NEETs BY LEVEL OF EDUCATION</b>			
<u>HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2018</u>
TOT	16,2	27,7	24,8
MALE	13,1	26,9	22,8
FEMALE	18,9	28,6	27,0
<u>GRAD AND POST GRAD</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2018</u>
TOT	24,3	24,0	20,2
MALE	21,0	21,0	17,6
FEMALE	26,5	25,9	21,9

Tab. 1 % of italian NEET by sex and level of education (Source ISTAT 2019)

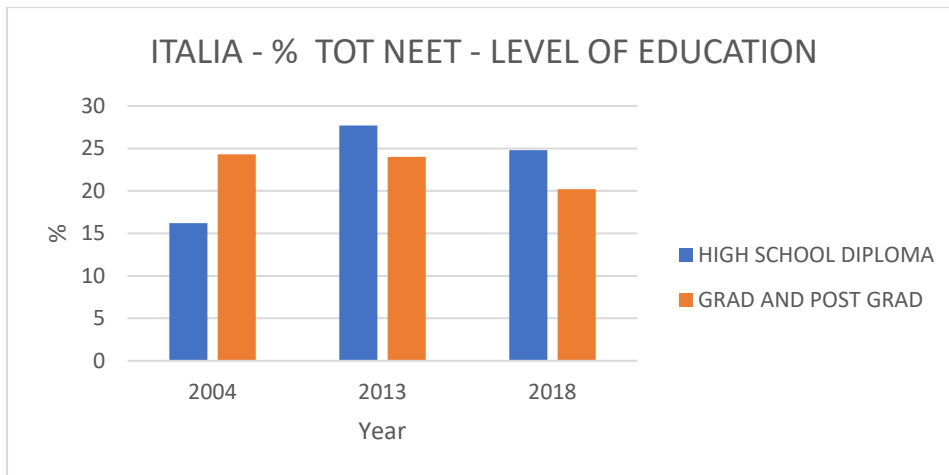


Fig. 4 % of italian NEET by level of education

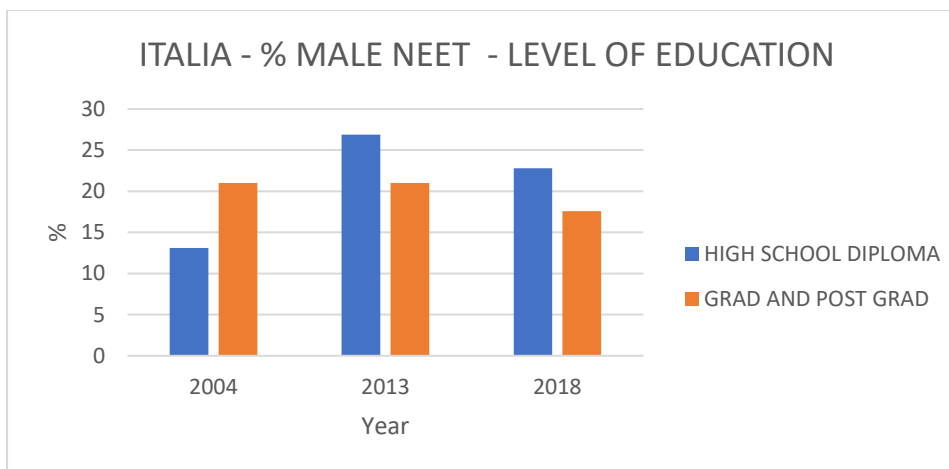


Fig. 5 % of male italian NEET by level of education

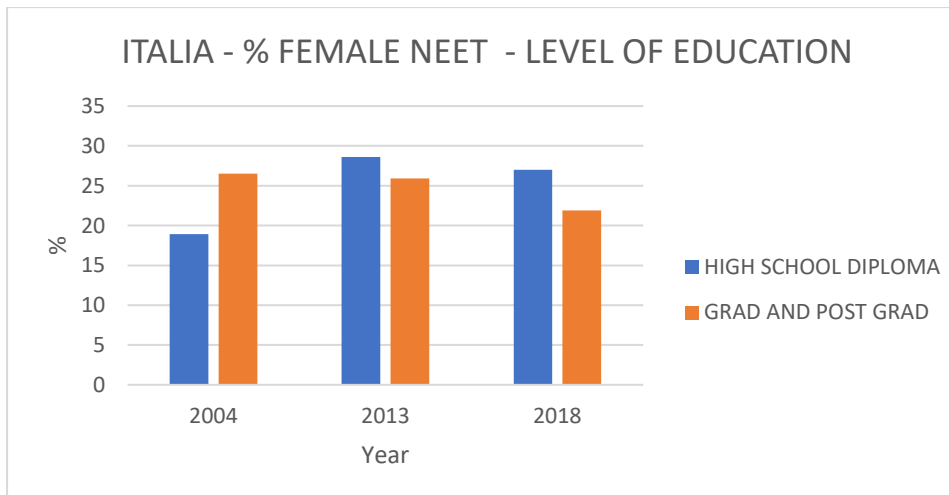


Fig. 6 % of female italian NEET by level of education.



### Classification of NEETS by local region

NEET'S situation in the so-called Mezzogiorno (South of Italy) is definitely critical (Tab.2-3, Fig.7-8), significantly worse than the one in the North of Italy.

Nevertheless, Puglia seems to show slightly better rates compared to the other southern regions.

The female's condition within the NEET remains yet highly problematic.

<b>% OF NEETs – REGIONAL AND NATIONAL LEVELS</b>			
<u>PUGLIA</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2018</u>
TOT	32,2	36,4	33,4
MALE	21,5	33,5	28,9
FEMALE	42,6	39,7	38,2
<u>ITALIA</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2018</u>
TOT	20,6	27,2	24,8
MALE	13,6	23,6	20,9
FEMALE	27,6	30,9	28,9

Tab. 2 % of NEETs at a regional and national level (ISTAT DATA 2019)

<b>% TRIMESTERS (AGED 15-34 YEARS)</b>					
	<u>YEAR</u>	<u>T1</u>	<u>T2</u>	<u>T3</u>	<u>T4</u>
MEZZOGIORNO	2013	36,8	38,4	39,7	39,1
	2019	37,2	34,7	35,8	-
CENTRE	2013	21,7	21,5	24,0	21,7
	2019	20,0	19,6	20,4	-
NORTH	2013	18,0	18,2	20,3	19,5
	2019	15,1	14,6	15,9	-

Tab. 3 % of NEETs in different parts of Italy, divided into trimesters, (ISTAT DATA 2019)



Fig. 7 % of NEETs in different parts of Italy, divided into trimesters (Year 2013), (ISTAT DATA 2019)

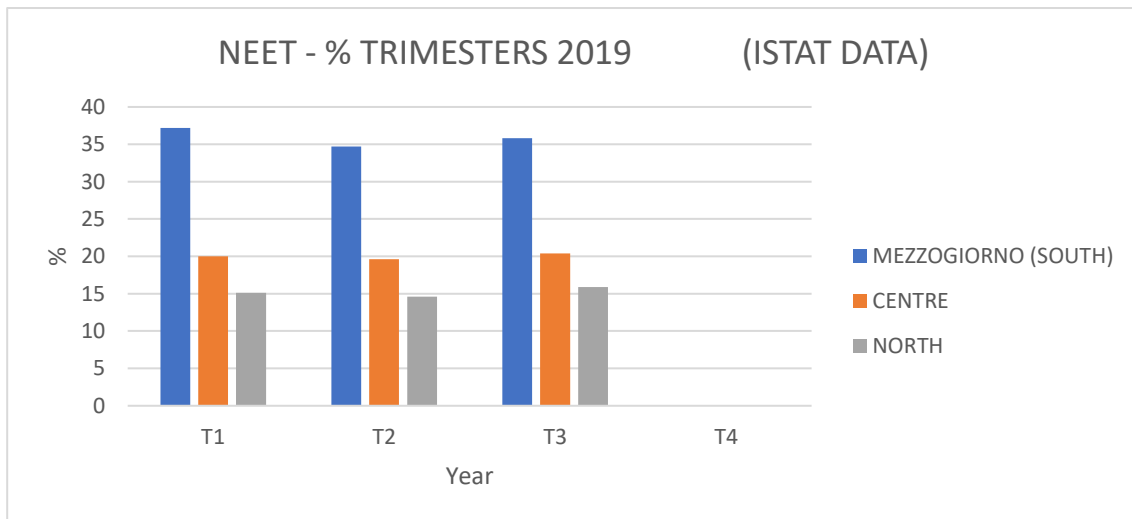


Fig. 8 % of NEETs in different parts of Italy, divided into trimesters (Year 2019), (ISTAT DATA 2019)

### Strength & limitation of the statistic provided

It is difficult to provide specific data about NEETs, because they are not always traceable and always are referred to general data (for example there aren't specific statistics per gender, level of education, family conditions, family income etc.).

The situation concerning women, sometimes is even worse, especially in the South of Italy, for the cultural background that has not larger expectations on them to be employed or in education or training.

As for the data we have though, they are updated and consistent.

### Reference/related links

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/home?>

<https://www.istat.it/>



## Statistics for Sweden

### Introduction/explanation of NEETs in your country and compared to Europe

NEET in Sweden are defined as young people, between 16 and 29 years old, who are not employed or participating in studies and that under a whole year:

- Didn't have income over a base amount (SEK 47300)
- Has not been registered for any education or studied at SFI (Swedish For Immigrant) for more than 60 hours and didn't received any study funding.

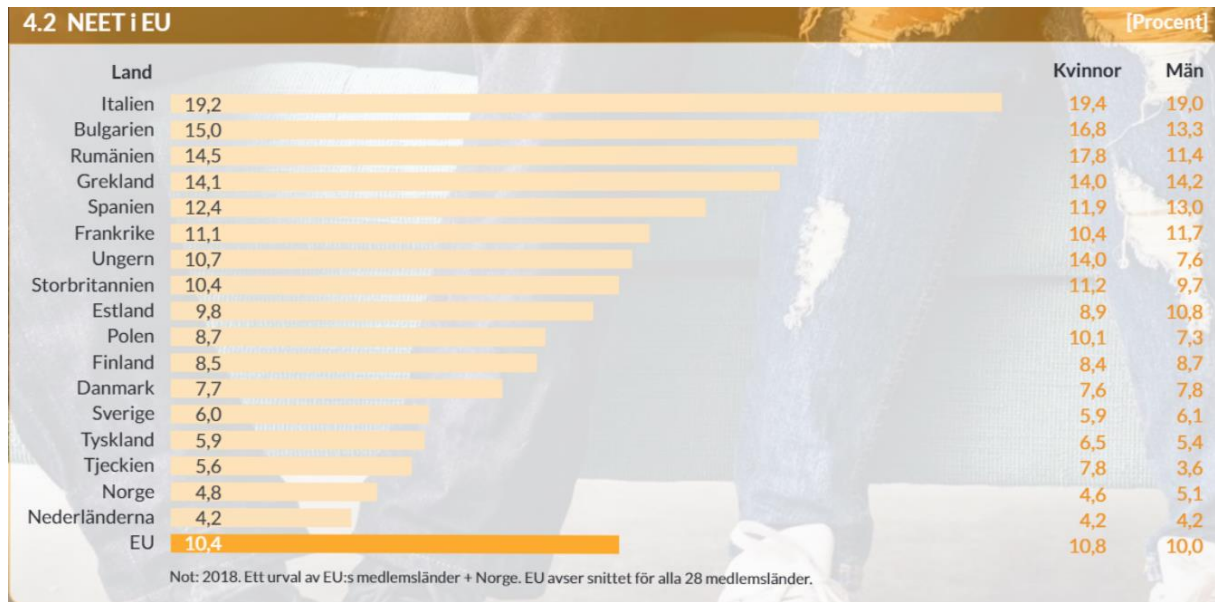
Young people who neither work nor study are a particularly vulnerable group as they run the risk of finding it difficult to enter the labour market because they lack knowledge and experience needed to get a job in the future. Unemployment increases the risk of negative health outcomes, and the relationship between unemployment and mental health problems is particularly clear. For example, a Swedish study shows weak mental health in the group of 20-24 year olds who are economically inactive. Young people who neither work nor study are a heterogeneous group, with a particularly high proportion of young foreign-born women and also an over-representation of young people with disabilities. The risk of long-term exclusion increases over time as a young person neither works nor studies.

### Statistic/s of NEETs in your country and compared other European Countries

The amount of young people who neither work nor study was between 6 and 8 percent during the period 2007–2018, with the exception of 2009, when the proportion of 15-24 year-olds who neither study nor work was over 9 percent. The proportion of young people who neither work nor study during the entire period 2007–2018 has been highest in the age group 20-24 with between 8.5 and 12 per cent, with a peak of about 14 per cent in 2009. Almost one tenth of youth aged 20-24 stood outside the labour market and studies in 2018.

The NEET measure provides an opportunity to see what these young people did during the year. They may have support from the Employment Office, their municipality or the Social Insurance Office, or several actors at the same time. A large group, just over 35 percent of 16-24 year-olds, had no known activity, and the differences in the regions were large. In Stockholm County almost half could not be tracked in any register, while in Västernorrlands was it a quarter.

In 2018, 10.4 per cent of young people (15-24 years) in the 28 EU countries did not work or study. Italy had the largest share of NEET with 19.2 percent. The Netherlands had the lowest share of 4.2 per cent. Several of the countries that have a higher proportion who neither work nor study also have higher youth unemployment overall. Sweden is among the countries that have a relatively low proportion of young people who neither work nor study.



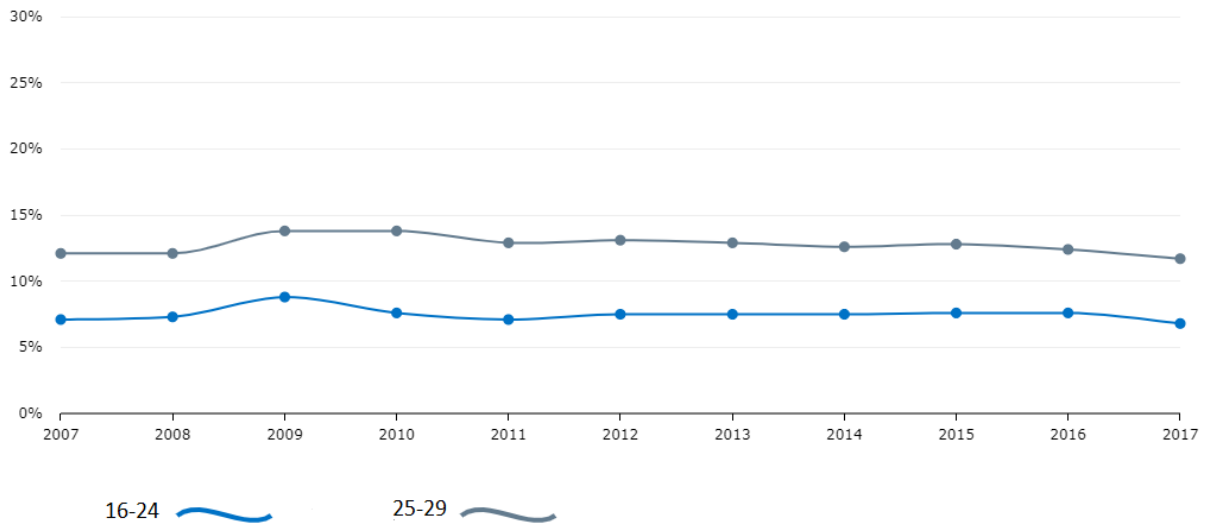
### Classification of NEETS by Gender

Statistics Unemployment NEETS 2017 by gender and origin:

	16-24 years	25-29 years
<b>Female - domestic born</b>	4,9 %	9,0%
<b>Female - foreign born</b>	14,4 %	24,3 %
<b>Male - domestic born</b>	5,9 %	9,0%
<b>Male - foreign born</b>	11,3 %	17,8%

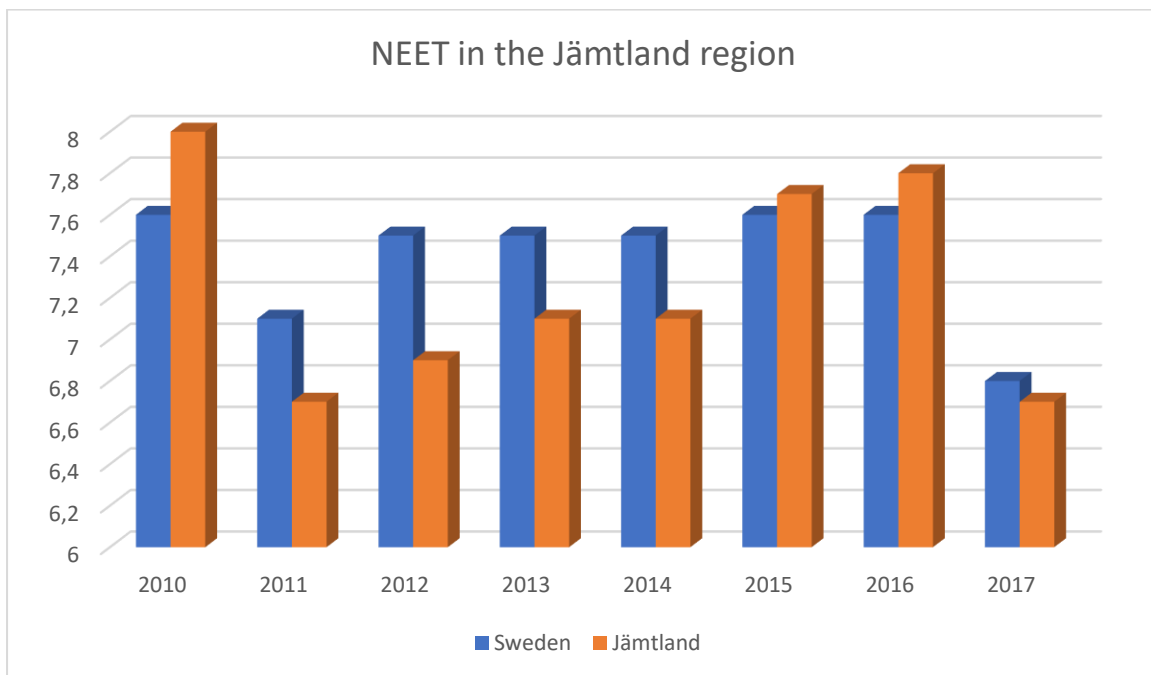


### Classification of NEETS by Age



### Classification of NEETS by Education: No Info

### Classification of NEETS by local region



### Strength & limitation of the statistic provided

The NEET group is described as young people neither in Employment nor in Education or Training and if this youth are not registered in any kind of activity/institution it is difficult to track them and collect the necessary information to have a complete statistic.



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



YES: Youth Engagement in Society  
ERASMUS + KA2 PROJECT

### Reference/related links

<https://www.mucf.se/uvas-statistik>

<https://www.scb.se/>

<http://www.ungidag.se/>

<https://arbetsloshetsrapporten.se/ungdomsarbetslosheten/>







## Statistics for Cyprus

### Introduction/explanation of NEETs in your country and compared to Europe

At present, 5 million Europeans under the age of 25 are in the labour market but cannot find a job. Unemployment among youngsters with low level of education is higher. Studies showed that by 2020, 35% of new jobs will require high-level qualifications and 50% will require medium-level qualifications. More than 7.5 million under the age of 25 years old are NEET.

Apart from the frustration of joblessness to the young themselves, a generation without hope for decent employment, is a problem for families, the economy and society at large.

Cyprus is facing the same challenge in youth unemployment like many other European countries.

The unemployment rate between 2009 and 2011 rose from 5,3% to 7,7% (yearly average) according to the Labour Force Survey. Based on the EUROSTAT latest forecast statistics, in April 2012 the unemployment rate stood at 10.1% while the Euro area (EU 27) unemployment rate was at 10.3%.

Youth unemployment followed the European trend and increased significantly, from 16,7% in 2010 to 22,% in 2011 (yearly averages for the age group 15-24 years). The respective employment rate for the above age group went down from 33,8% in 2010 to 29,3% in 2011.

The EU through various initiatives and policies give guide lines to the member states in the key area of employment. I would like to specially underline the Commission's two flagship initiatives: Youth on the Move – to tackle specific problems related to the education, training as well as employment – and New Skills and Jobs – to help EU countries to reform labour markets, upgrade skills and match them with market demand to boost employability.

Furthermore, programmes to help young people are in place such as the EURES (Your first Eures job abroad) to bridge the gap between training and jobs; the European Vacancy Monitor, with information on recent developments in the European job market; and financial support under the European Progress Microfinance Facility, to help young entrepreneurs set up or develop their businesses.

At the end of 2011 the European Commission presented the Youth Opportunities Initiative which calls Member States to work on preventing Early School Leaving, helping young people develop skills relevant to the labour market; ensuring the acquisition of work experience and on – the – job training and helping young people find a first good quality job. More recently the Employment Package was announced by the Commission with an explicit accompanying document on Implementing the Youth Opportunities Initiative: First steps taken.

Capitalising on the Youth Opportunities Initiative and the Commissions Employment Package, the Cyprus Presidency will discuss with the other Member States and the Commission how they can facilitate youth activation and adaptation, the upgrading of their skills through apprentices and traineeships, how to improve working conditions for attracting the youth in the labour market and how to match better their qualifications and expectations with the needs of the employers and the economy in general.

As regard the national level the efforts promoted by the Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance to minimise the effects of the economic recession and the high unemployment rates in Cyprus, were policy measures on job creation, the prevention or restriction of redundancies and layoffs and the facilitation of the unemployed integration in the labour market giving particular emphasis on the most vulnerable groups including youth.



More specifically the measures taken to minimize youth unemployment in Cyprus were the following:

- Job placement and training of young unemployed tertiary education graduates: An existed scheme being implemented on an ongoing basis, which has been modified to respond to the current situation in the labour market and has been identified as a best practise. The scheme facilitated the placement in 2011 of 544 young graduates with a total expenditure of 4.6 million euros.
- Accelerated initial training of newcomers and other unemployed people, targeting mainly the young. During 2011, 392 persons had participated in the scheme with a total expenditure of 1.1 million euros.
- New modern Apprenticeship scheme with a total budget of 16.4 million euros to be co - funded by ESF. The preparatory work has been concluded and the 1st year of the core Apprenticeship will be launched in September/ October 2012.
- Subsidy scheme for the promotion of employment and in company training of Apprenticeship System Students with a total budget of 4.5 million euros of which 85% will be co-funded by ESF. The scheme was launched in July 2010 and subsequent calls for application are foreseen every year.
- Scheme for the enhancement of Youth Entrepreneurship with a total budget of 6.0 million euros, allocated already to 153 new enterprises which are all at the stage of implementation. The scheme is co-funded by ESF (85%).
- New subsidized employment scheme, targeting the young and the long term unemployed launched in May 2012 with a total budget of 8.0 million euros.
- Attract people in the labour market through the promotion of flexible forms of employment. The total budget of 3.0 million euros allocated to the scheme has been allocated to projects funded under the scheme facilitating the employment of 270 people.
- New Scheme for the Enhancement of Entrepreneurial Innovation with a total budget of 4 million co-financed by European Regional Development Fund (80%) which will be allocated to 40-50 enterprises. The aim of the scheme is to introduce to the market and/or to the public sector innovative products and services. These SMEs can be developed either by themselves or by cooperating with other SMEs (especially innovative R&D SMEs) or Applied Research Centers.
- Post secondary institutes for occupational education and training. A new two years education system that will start in October this year with the aim to provide high level training an education to young people will not continue tertiary education.

Youth unemployment is not just a problem for the young people. It is the problem for our societies and our economies. We are losing a generation and the economy is losing the knowledge and the dynamism of the young people. Employment friendly growth is the key in order to change things and give hope to the young generation. The Government of Cyprus is committed to take all necessary measures to bring our economy back to growth and boost employment.

### Statistic/s of NEETs in your country and compared other European Countries

The NEETs phenomenon has been exacerbated by the economic crisis, but it presents considerable persistence in the countries in focus (Greece, Cyprus, Italy, Spain) throughout the recession. What is more interesting, though, is the quantitative differences between age spans. Although, NEETs between 15 and 19 years old tend to decrease or at least stabilise from 2008 to 2018, their rate to the general population for ages 25 to 29 years old, present more violent fluctuations, especially in Greece and Italy. The rate has, indeed, picked in 2013 and 2014 but the diagram on the right reveals its slow reduction, compared to the beginning of the crisis in 2008. Still, the volume of NEETs in Italy and



Cyprus is currently 50% higher than it used to be! The NEET phenomenon remains in an alarming condition in Mediterranean EEA countries.

According to Eurostat, in 2013, some 23.5% of young people (aged 15–24 years) across the EU were unemployed, the highest level ever recorded in the history of the EU. During the crisis, 17 Member States recorded their highest-ever levels of youth employment (Eurofound, 2014). The youth unemployment rate decreased markedly in 2014 and 2015 in comparison with 2013. In 2015, the EU youth unemployment rate was 20.3%. This decrease was consolidated over the course of 2016. In February 2016, the youth unemployment rate was 19.4%, the lowest level since April 2009. And in 2014, for the first time since 2007, youth employment rose slightly by 0.3% to 32.4%. However, the youth employment rate of 32.2%, recorded a year previously in 2013, was the lowest in the history of the EU. Again, the increase in the employment rate consolidated over 2015 when it reached 33%, the highest level recorded since 2011. Despite the signs of overall improvement, youth unemployment remains high in many Mediterranean Member States: in Cyprus and Portugal, for instance, it is higher than 30%, and in Croatia, Greece, Italy and Spain it is above 40%

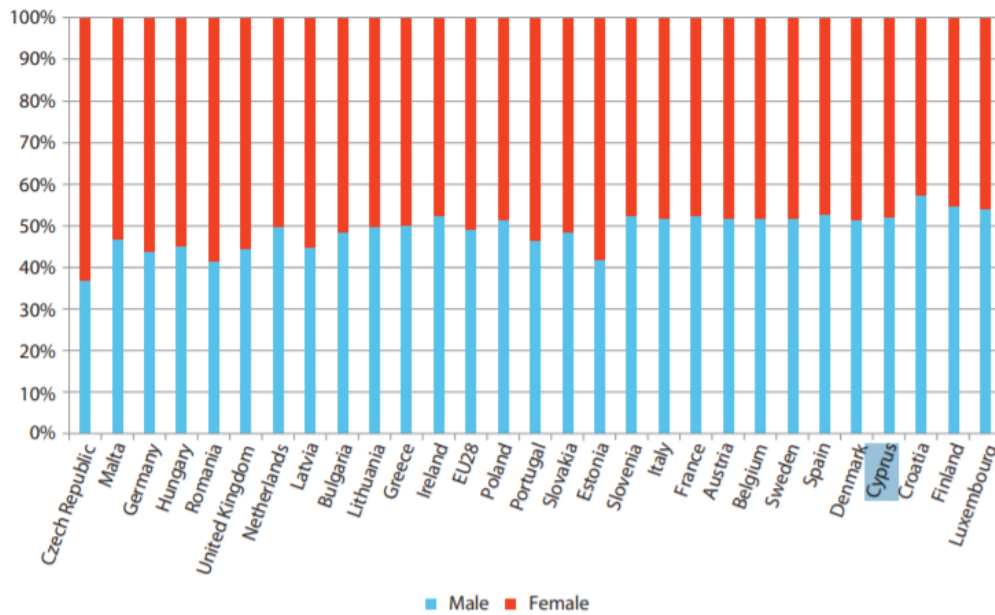
**Table 1: Unemployment rate and NEET rate, 15–24 years, EU28 (2015)**

Country	NEETs		Unemployed	
	Rate (%)	Number (thousands)	Rate (%)	Number (thousands)
EU28	12	6,604	20.3	4,641
Belgium	12.2	161	22.1	87
Bulgaria	19.3	136	21.6	40
Czech Republic	7.5	80	12.6	44
Denmark	6.2	45	10.8	49
Germany	6.2	520	7.2	296
Estonia	10.8	15	13.1	7
Ireland	14.3	74	20.9	39
Greece	17.2	185	49.8	139
Spain	15.6	698	48.3	751
France	11.9	889	24.7	681
Croatia	18.5	90	43	70
Italy	21.4	1,270	40.3	626
Cyprus	15.2	16	32.8	13
Latvia	10.5	21	16.3	14
Lithuania	9.2	34	16.3	20
Luxembourg	6.2	4	16.3	4
Hungary	11.6	127	17.3	59
Malta	10.4	5	11.8	3
Netherlands	4.7	96	11.3	158
Austria	7.5	73	10.6	59
Poland	11	460	20.8	285
Portugal	11.3	125	32	118
Romania	18.1	396	21.7	148
Slovenia	9.5	19	16.3	12
Slovakia	13.7	90	26.5	55
Finland	10.6	66	22.4	73
Sweden	6.7	80	20.4	133
UK	11.1	852	14.6	658

Source: Eurostat, EU Labour Force Survey.

**Classification of NEETS by Gender : no info**

**Figure 4: Gender composition of NEETs aged 15–24 years, EU28 (2015)**



### Classification of NEETS by Age

A statistical snapshot of young NEETs in Cyprus: The paradox of a gender gap reversal

The NEET population in the Cypriot social formation mainly follows a stable pattern of development for the age group of 15-19. On the contrary, the development for the age groups of 20-24 and 25-29 presents some fluctuations. Their population increases during the crisis (from 2006 to 2013) and then it falls (from 2013 up to to 2018). The maximum NEET rate is observed in 2013 (approx. 28% and 23% for 20-24 and 25-29, respectively) which underlies that the relatively older NEETs are the most affected ones.

Our analysis shows that in the post- crisis period, both the male and female NEET rates increased. Female NEETs, however, are currently slightly higher than male ones, especially in the 25-29 age group, even though males had higher rates between 2012 and 2014. A possible explanation for this ‘gender gap reversal’ paradox can be found in the higher job losses faced by women amid the turbulent years of the crisis.

Furthermore, available national data across all age groups (note that no regional data are analyzed for Cyprus since the whole country is a NUTS-II level region) demonstrate that the rise in NEET rates during the crisis is primarily driven by a high increase of the relative share of unemployed NEETs, while the relative share of inactive NEETs declines. This finding suggests that inactive NEETs and unemployed NEETs should be commonly treated as two separate groups that call for distinct and specialized policy interventions.

Considering all the above, our main conclusions for youth in Cyprus are the following: i) NEETs of the 20-24 and 25-29 age groups are strongly affected by the economic crisis in the country, ii) female NEETs face higher barriers when trying to find a job or entering any form of education, and iii) the relative share of unemployed NEETs within the total NEET population is increasing at a high pace, whereas the relative share of inactive NEETs is decreasing.

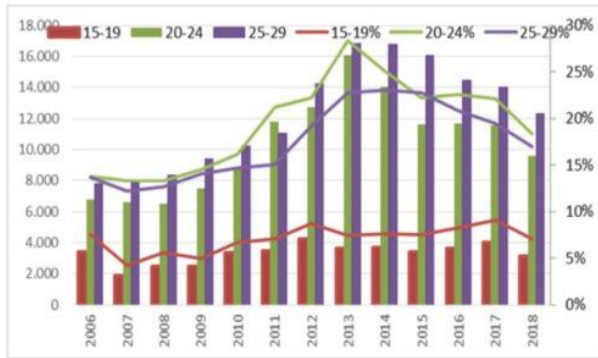


Fig. CY1: Temporal evolution of NEETs (right vertical axis and vertical bars) and of NEET rates (left vertical axis and horizontal lines) per age group, Cyprus, 2006-2018

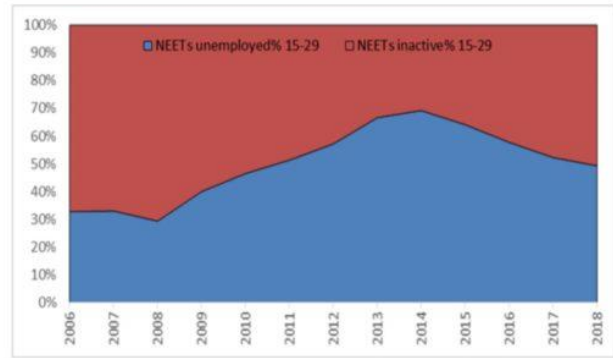


Fig. CY2 Division of NEETs into unemployed and inactive, 15-29, Cyprus, 2006-2018

NEETS 25-29		
Country	2018	% change 2018-2008
Cyprus	12.310	47%

**NEETS 25-29 Country 2018 % change 2018-2008**

**Cyprus 12.310 47%**

### Bibliography

[http://www.cssda.gov.cy/cssda/cssda02.nsf/All/5BD9B96319ACB554C225846C005AAE59/\\$file/YOUTHShare\\_Newsletter%20%CE%9D%CE%BF%202\\_EN.pdf](http://www.cssda.gov.cy/cssda/cssda02.nsf/All/5BD9B96319ACB554C225846C005AAE59/$file/YOUTHShare_Newsletter%20%CE%9D%CE%BF%202_EN.pdf)

<http://www.youthshare-project.org/2019/11/08/neets-in-mediterranean-eea-2008-2018/>

<https://cyc.org.cy/en/neets-in-mediterranean-eea-2008-2018-a-baseline-study/>

<https://www.tiaformazione.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Eurofound2016ExploringthediversityofNEETS.pdf>