



THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND



YOUTH EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE



Support to Youth Employment: 2014-2018

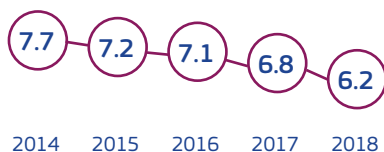
GERMANY

SUMMARY

Youth Employment measures funded by the YEI and the ESF aim at improving access to employment for young people. During the period 2014-2018, the EU and Germany spent a combined total of 341.2 million euro in ESF investments to achieve this objective. As a result, 83 675 participations in youth employment activities have taken place in Germany. This factsheet summarises the main actions, outputs, results and lessons learned so far of the implementation of youth employment measures funded by the EU.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONTEXT AND CHALLENGES

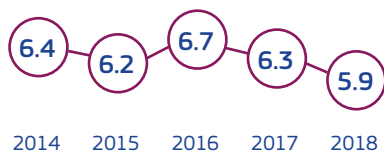
YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



► In 2014, the rates of **young people not in employment, education or training (NEET)** and of unemployment were **comparatively low and far less than the EU average**.

► The **NEET rate** in 2018 is **one of the lowest rates in the EU (10.5%)**. Nevertheless, there are **persistent variations between the different Länder**, with Bavaria reporting significantly lower NEET rates for young people than the capital Berlin. However, **the gaps between the Länder are narrowing**.

NEET RATE (15-24 YEARS)



► The **youth unemployment rate** is less than half of that seen across the EU (15.2%). It ranges **from 3.8% in Bavaria to 12% in Berlin**.

► The **labour market situation of young women** is slightly better than that of young men regarding the unemployment rates. For both age groups (15-24 years and 25-29 years), the rates are slightly lower than those of young men. However, NEET rates are higher, particularly for those aged 25-29 (7.4% vs. 15.4%).

EXPLANATORY NOTES

ESF European Social Fund

OP Operational Programme

YEI Youth Employment Initiative

NEET Young people not in employment, education or training

- This factsheet was prepared before the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Figures present the situation for youth employment operations under Investment Priority 8.ii for the programming period 2014-2020 implemented up to 2018, as reported by 6th September 2019. In many instances, operations are not yet complete at this stage. They are provided only as an indication of progress.
- Target achievements are calculated dividing the outputs and the results by the targets set in the Operational Programmes. Targets set should to be reached by 2023.
- Participants' data are collected on starting an operation. Data on results are collected at the end of an operation or even later. Because of this time lag, the two sets of data (participations and results) should not be directly compared.

ESF PRIORITIES AND ACTIONS

ESF 828 Million Euro are budgeted to the support of young people, including national funding

ESF 467 Million Euro
The EU contributes a large share of this funding

ESF Five of the 17 Operational Programmes (OPs) implement specific actions supporting young people's integration into the labour market through ESF only: Baden-Württemberg, Bavaria, Hamburg, North Rhine-Westphalia and Saxony-Anhalt.

► In the regional OPs, a specific focus is put on regional needs, especially preliminary support measures for disadvantaged young people and people with a foreign background through language courses. Another emphasis is the coordination of regional labour market policy interventions.

STATE OF PLAY

► **Number of participations** of young people reported in specific actions promoting the sustainable integration of young people into the labour market by the end of 2018.*

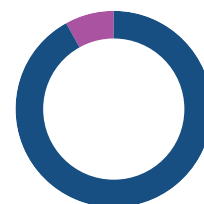
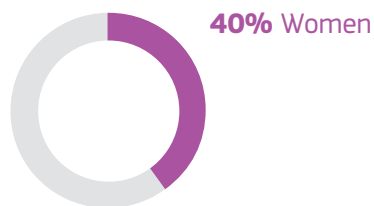
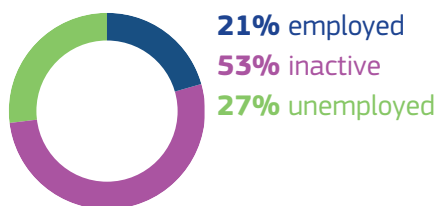
ESF 83 675

► The achievement of the expected number of participations differs across the OPs, as e.g. in the OP Saxony-Anhalt, the rate is 55%, while in the OP North Rhine-Westphalia targets are largely exceeded.

ESF 67% Achievements of targets for participation

* As one person could participate more than once in ESF operations over time, the number of participations is reported, not the number of participants. These figures exclude Technical Assistance.

PARTICIPANT PROFILES WHEN RECEIVING SUPPORT

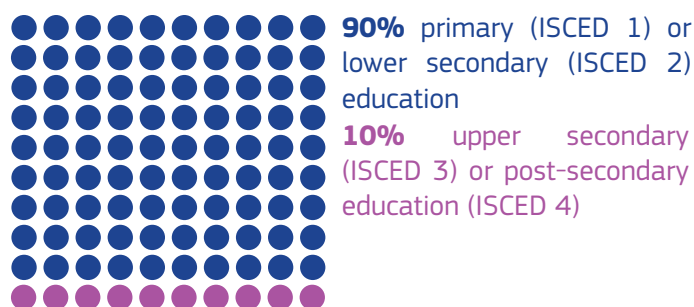


Migrants | 17 850

Other disadvantaged | 5 424*

Participants with disabilities | 1 381

Homeless | 416



- ▶ Variations in labour market status: Share of unemployed participants in the OP North Rhine-Westphalia: 55% ↔ Share of inactive participants in the OP Saxony-Anhalt 64%. The OPs also have a sizeable share of self-employed, which are targeted by a number of operations promoting entrepreneurship.
- ▶ Extended age group of eligible persons up to 29 years ⇨ Share of participants above 25 years: 20% in the OP Baden-Württemberg.
- ▶ Variations in participant profiles: Share of migrants: 54% in OP Baden-Württemberg.
- ▶ Differences in terms of the educational level of participants: Participants in OP Saxony-Anhalt with primary or lower secondary education: 92% ↔ Participants in OP Hamburg with secondary or post-secondary education: 24%.
- ▶ The share of men is at 60%, which is exceptionally high across the EU-28 due to the focus on young people with disadvantages. This actually mirrors the high numbers of young men in the target population.

Overall, **56 232 young people achieved a positive result upon leaving**, all of them under the ESF.

ESF 7 814 Participants in employment

35 832 Participants gaining a qualification

9 306 Participants in education

3 280 Inactive participants engaged in job searching

- ▶ The targeted number of positive results differs across the OPs. Three of the OPs (Bavaria, Hamburg and Saxony-Anhalt) have already achieved 50% of the targeted number of positive results.
- ▶ In the OP Bavaria, 44% of the participants in Action 2 are employed to social insurance six months following a course project. The same rate is reported for participants being in vocational education six months after their participation in projects related to youth social work.

ESF 44% Achievement of targets for results

* Participants may refuse to give this information. Consequently, disadvantages are likely to be underreported.

LESSONS LEARNED SO FAR

ESF

Addressing social exclusion

Although support for young people with disadvantages has been very effective, greater efforts are required to reach young people with strong problems of social exclusion, e.g. through calls for proposals with organisations working in the field of social exclusion.

Focus on partnerships

Partnership is important in Germany, where local and regional partnership coordination provides much to the relevance and needs-focussed implementation of ESF – and to its well-functioning.

Individualised support

The socio-economic context, prior educational achievements and personal attitudes of participants are considered key factors for success in Germany. Individualised support combined with a good stakeholder cooperation and coordination can provide leverage.

Gap-plugging

The ESF has a gap-plugging function by supporting very specific target groups and their needs, which makes the measures complementary to the national system, e.g. the support of refugees in North Rhine-Westphalia.

Increased visibility

An effective tool to promoting ESF in particular to enterprises was the coordination and cooperation networks of stakeholders as well as the role of social workers and chambers as multipliers of information on ESF support.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The ESF in Germany <https://ec.europa.eu/esf/main.jsp?catId=375>

Website of the ESF Germany <https://www.esf.de/portal/EN/Home/home.html>

- European Commission, Study for the Evaluation of ESF Support to Youth Employment
- Evaluation of vocational measures in North Rhine-Westphalia
- Thematic Evaluation: Effectiveness and success factors of individual support programmes
- Evaluation of projects on vocational training

