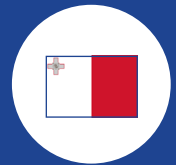


THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND & YOUTH EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE



Support to Youth Employment: 2014-2018

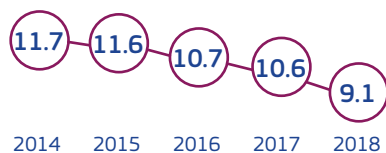
MALTA

SUMMARY

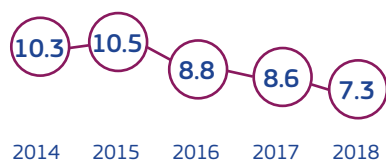
Youth Employment measures funded by the YEI and the ESF aim at improving access to employment for young people. During the period 2014-2018, the EU and Malta spent a combined total of 1.8 million euro in ESF investments to achieve this objective. As a result, 2 632 participations in youth employment activities have taken place in Malta. 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



NEET RATE (15-24 YEARS)



► In 2014, the rates of **young people not in employment, education or training (NEET)** and of unemployment were **below the EU averages**. While young men of both age groups showed higher unemployment rates, the NEET rate of young women aged 25-29 was nearly ten percentage points (pp) higher than that of men of the same age group (18.9% vs. 9.2%).

► The **NEET rate** in 2018 is significantly below the rate observed at the EU level (10.5%) and only about one in 15 (7.3%) young people aged 15-24 in Malta is not in employment, education or training. The NEET rate of young people aged 25-29 is only half as high as it was in 2014 (13.9%).

► The **youth unemployment rates** for both age groups are much lower than the EU average (15.2%). The rate of young people aged 25-29 not in employment is the lowest observed across the EU.

► The **labour market situation of women** seems to be better than that of young men (lower unemployment and early school leaving rates) for both age groups. Nevertheless, the NEET rate remains higher than that of men and especially for those aged 25-29 (10.5% vs. 4.8%) implying the need of measures to further activate women of this age group.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

ESF European Social Fund
YEI Youth Employment Initiative

OP Operational Programme
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 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 6 Million Euro are budgeted to the support of young people, including national funding

ESF 5 Million Euro
The EU contributes a large share of this funding

ESF Malta only has **one Operational Programme (OP)** implementing specific actions to support young people's integration into the labour market. This national OP Investing in human capital to create more opportunities and promote the wellbeing of society covers specific actions through ESF only.

► **The investment in the OP focuses** on improving and better **matching education and training systems and workforce skills** to meet the changing demands of the labour market to improve the sustainable integration into the labour market of young people.

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.*

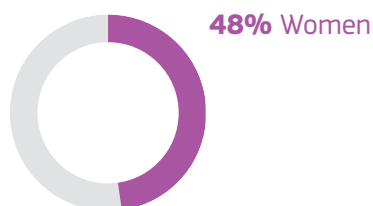
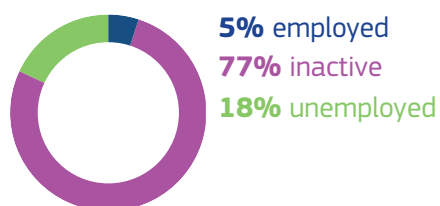
ESF 2 632

► The expected number of participations is almost achieved, as 2 632 participants were reported against a target of 2 700.

ESF 98% 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



100% <25 years
0% ≥25 years

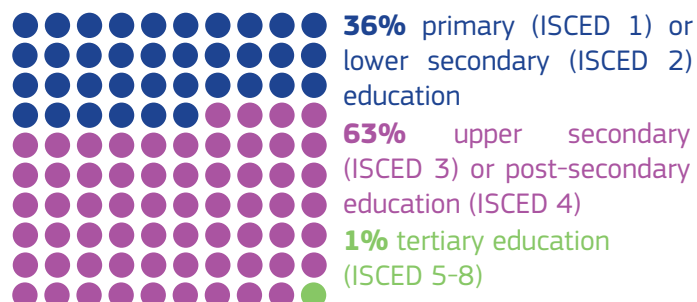


Migrants | 102

Other disadvantaged | 138*

Participants with disabilities | 56

Homeless | 30



Overall, 2 204 young people achieved a positive result upon leaving under the ESF.

ESF 411 Participants in employment

1 543 Participants gaining a qualification

72 Participants in education

178 Inactive participants engaged in job searching

► The targeted number of unemployed participants who are in education/training, gaining a qualification/certification or are in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving exceeds the target by 14%.

ESF 114% Achievement of targets for results

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

LESSONS LEARNED SO FAR

ESF

Youth Guarantee

In the period from 2014-2018, four out of a total of five types of Youth Guarantee initiatives have been implemented in Malta. All four types have been assessed as relevant, as each is being designed to address different needs, e.g. a NEET activation scheme offering personal and professional training to NEETs coupled with work experience with an employer. The implementation of the fifth intervention, the Professionals Up-skilling Course, only began in 2019.

Youth organisations

Youth organisations were included in designing and setting up the „Youth Guarantee Committee“, a consultative body made up of a number of youth organisations including the National Youth Council. It is responsible for reviewing Youth Guarantee policies and coming up with new proposals.

Sustainable measures

Where funds have been allocated to existing measures, the sustainability was more likely. ESF funds have served to strengthen and extend the scope of existing measures.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The ESF in Malta <https://ec.europa.eu/esf/main.jsp?catId=391>

Website of the ESF Malta <https://eufunds.gov.mt/en/Pages/Home.aspx>

• European Commission, Study for the Evaluation of ESF support to Youth Employment

