



THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND



YOUTH EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE

Support to Youth Employment: 2014-2018



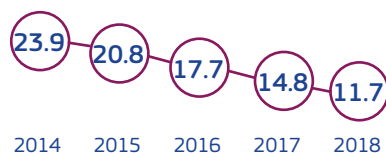
POLAND

SUMMARY

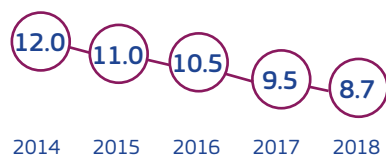
Youth Employment measures funded by the YEI and the ESF aim at improving access to employment for young people. During the period 2014-2018, the EU and Poland spent a combined total of 910.3 million euro in ESF/YEI investments to achieve this objective. As a result, 457 256 participations in youth employment activities have taken place in Poland. 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 rate of **young people not in employment, education or training (NEET)** was **high and at about the EU average (12.5%)**, while the **youth unemployment rate** was **slightly above the level observed across the EU (22.2%)**.

► The **NEET rate** in 2018 is considerably lower than the EU average (10.5%). There are **persisting important variations by region**, with the capital region Mazowieckie having considerably lower NEET rates for young people than Podkarpackie.

► The **youth unemployment rates** for young people aged 15-24 and 25-29 are below the averages observed across the EU. The rates for both age groups are less than half the proportion they were at the beginning of the programming period.

► The **labour market situation of women** of both age groups seems to be far less favourable than that of men (higher NEET and unemployment rates). A huge gap between young women and men aged 25-29 persists, as the NEET rate for women of that age group is more than three times as high as that of men of the same age (26.0% vs. 8.8%).

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 YEI One national OP implements specific actions supporting young people's integration into the labour market, receiving both ESF and YEI funding.

- **The investments of the national OP focuses** on NEETs and in particular on those that are not registered in the public employment services, by providing labour market services and instruments.

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.*

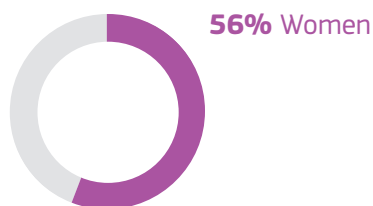
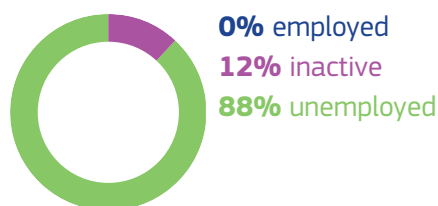


- The expected number of participations is already exceeded for the YEI for all sub-groups (unemployed and inactive NEET).
- For the ESF strand, while the overall achievement of targets for participation has yet to be reached, the targeted number of participations of unemployed persons has nearly been achieved with 88% at the end of 2018. This equals 161 295 participations of unemployed persons under the ESF, indicating the high targets set for Poland and the respective expected impact.



* 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



61% <25 years
39% ≥25 years

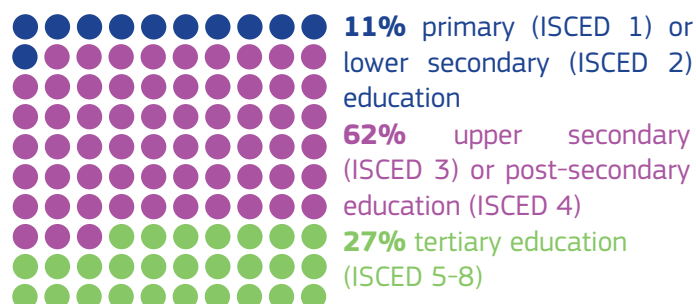


Migrants | 1 745

Other disadvantaged | 211 822*

Participants with disabilities | 17 454

Homeless | 1 239



► The participant profiles of the ESF and the YEI are very similar. There are almost no differences in terms of labour market status, gender, age groups or educational level between the two funds.

Overall, **364 288** young people achieved a positive result upon leaving, 144 525 under the ESF and 219 763 under the YEI.

ESF 108 118 Participants in employment **181 053 YEI**

31 879 Participants gaining a qualification **32 252**

2 958 Participants in education **3 782**

1 570 Inactive participants engaged in job searching **2 676**

► The targeted number of positive results under YEI support has already been exceeded in case of participants in education/training, gaining a qualification, or in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving the action. However, the expected number of participations who receive an offer of employment, continued education, apprenticeship or traineeship upon leaving has not been reached yet. Targets should be met until 2023.

► Long-term results of the ESF and YEI show positive results, as the target has already been exceeded for participants being in employment six months after completing the action.

► Under the ESF, targets have already been met for young people obtaining a qualification.

ESF 37% Achievement of targets for results

95% YEI

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

LESSONS LEARNED SO FAR

ESF

Tailor-made support

The support received by young people was tailored to their needs, especially those whose needs were taken into account in advance in order to match them with the type of support most suitable to them. Little measures can achieve so much, simply by improving the self-perception of participants.

Vocational schools

ESF support granted to graduates of vocational schools in Podkarpackie brought about significant changes. Six months after participation, 59% of graduates from vocational schools experienced significant changes in their situation on the labour market.

YEI

Grants for SMEs

The link to the labour market is highlighted where operations that actually achieve labour market integration, such as grants for starting up a business are considered more cost-efficient.

High employment

Employment rates are high for those completing education and/or training measures, or receive support for entrepreneurship and recruitment incentives for employers, with nine participants out of ten being in employment after participating in a training course or receiving entrepreneurship support.

Sustainable results

Most participants of projects, completed in 2016-2017 and in the first quarter of 2018, were working (79%), and the results suggest that project participants do not usually return to the NEET group.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The ESF in Poland <https://ec.europa.eu/esf/main.jsp?catId=393>

Website of the ESF Poland <http://www.power.gov.pl/>

- European Commission, Study for the Evaluation of ESF support to Youth Employment
- Evaluation of the effects of the YEI - 2nd thematic report

