

THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND



YOUTH EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE



Support to Youth Employment: 2014-2018

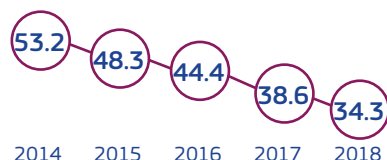
SPAIN

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 Spain spent a combined total of 1 471 million euro in ESF/YEI investments to achieve this objective. As a result, 757 182 participations in youth employment activities have taken place in Spain. 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 especially of unemployment were **high and above the EU averages**, when every second active young person was unemployed. This shows that in Spain, **young people found it disproportionately difficult to access the labour market** as a consequence of the economic and financial crisis.

► In 2018, one in eight (12.4%) young people aged 15-24 in Spain were **not in employment, education or training (NEET)**. This represents an improvement since the beginning of the programming period in 2014 (17.1%), but the NEET rate is still above that observed at the EU level (10.5%).

NEET RATE (15-24 YEARS)



► The **youth unemployment rate decreased** considerably since 2014, but it is still among the highest in the EU. It ranges from 26% in Pais Vasco to more than 60% in the autonomous regions of Ceuta and Melilla. The strongest decrease was reported in Aragon, where the rate dropped by 24 percentage points.

► The **labour market situation of women** aged 15-24 seems to be better than that of men, as women had lower NEET (11.9% vs. 13.0%) and unemployment rates (33.3% vs 35.2%), but the situation is reversed for women aged 25-29.

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 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 589

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

YEI 2 964

Million Euro

ESF 420

Million Euro

The EU contributes a large share of this funding

YEI 2 723

Million Euro



Spain has one single ESF Operational Programme (OP) for Youth Employment covering all Spanish regions for the 2014-2020 programming period. It includes both ESF and YEI funding.

- The investment of the OP focuses on creating coherent pathways into the workforce, e.g. by ensuring that young people have the relevant skills and qualifications, entrepreneurial competences and work experience.

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 5 478

YEI 751 704

- The expected number of participations is largely reached for the YEI, but not for the ESF, as YEI funding was primarily used to fund interventions at the beginning of this programming period. The implementation of the ESF strand will take place mostly after 2021.
- There are significant differences between the Autonomous Communities in the financial and operational implementation. Andalusia, Catalunya and the Valencian Community have performed especially well. These differences may be explained by initial deficiencies in the strategic design of the OP.

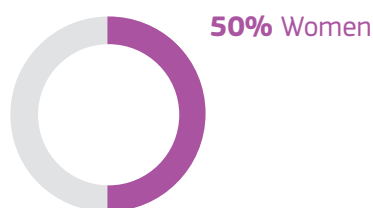
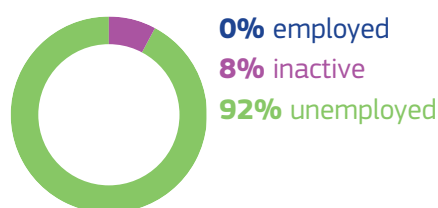
ESF 1%

Achievements of targets for participation

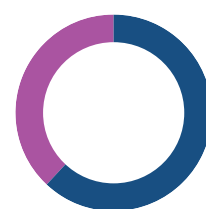
83% YEI

* 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



62% <25 years
38% ≥25 years

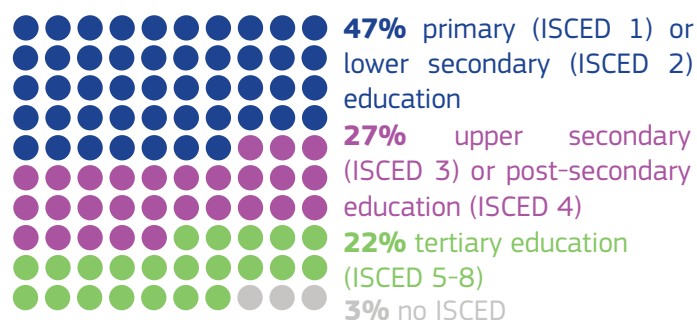


Migrants | **74 014**

Other disadvantaged | **102 873***

Participants with disabilities | **79 419**

Homeless | **605**



► Variations in educational level: Both the high share of low-skilled participants and the relatively high share of participants with tertiary education show that many different groups face problems with (re-)entering the labour market.

► Extended age group of eligible persons up to 29: Share of participants above 25 years: ⇨ 38%.

Overall, **267 008 young people achieved a positive result upon leaving**, 4 826 under the ESF and 262 182 under the YEI.

ESF 1 083 Participants in employment **148 711 YEI**

3 139 Participants gaining a qualification **59 335**

462 Participants in education **28 976**

142 Inactive participants engaged in job searching **25 160**

► The rates of insertion of participants in the labour market and the number of days registered with the Social Security are above the average of the Spanish labour market.

► 55.5% of participations in the OP activities were in employment and registered with the Social Security 12 months after the end of their activities; this rate amounts to 53.1% after six months of finishing the activities.

ESF 2% Achievement of targets for results **30% YEI**

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

LESSONS LEARNED SO FAR

YEI

Reach out

There is a difficulty of reaching young people with the greatest need (such as people living in jobless households, single-parent families, unaccompanied minors).

Sustainability

Almost 75% of those receiving 'employment' support (e.g. deduction of social contribution, support for hiring etc.) were in employment after 12 months.

Positive impact

97% of participants in training and apprenticeship contracts were in employment 18 months after participation as compared with 60% of young people who did not participate in the YEI measure. After two years, the gap has narrowed but remains significant: 72% of YEI participants were in employment as against 47% of those who did not participate in a YEI measure.

Added Value

In Spain, one of the main elements of the added value of the YEI is the injection of funds that has given a definite boost to youth employment policies.

Relevance

ESF and YEI have led to the implementation of activities that could not have been developed otherwise, and which have had high returns in terms of activation of the beneficiaries.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The ESF in Spain <https://ec.europa.eu/esf/main.jsp?catId=378>

Website of the ESF Spain <https://www.educacionyfp.gob.es/educacion/mc/fse/fse.html>

- European Commission, Study for the Evaluation of ESF Support to Youth Employment
- 2nd evaluation of the YEI

