### Highlights

- The teaching profession is highly attractive. Reforms to upgrade it are promising but need to be sustained and expanded.
- Reforms are implemented to foster high-quality public early childhood education and care. However, provision is insufficient for the early years.
- Tertiary education attainment has risen further but under-utilisation of skills remains a challenge given the specific features of the Cypriot labour market.
- Measures have been taken to upgrade vocational education and training and adult learning, but the attractiveness of both sectors and participation in them remain low.

### Key indicators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Education and training 2020 benchmarks</th>
<th>Cyprus 2009</th>
<th>EU average 2009</th>
<th>Cyprus 2018</th>
<th>EU average 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early leavers from education and training (age 18-24)</td>
<td>11.7%</td>
<td>14.2%</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
<td>10.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tertiary educational attainment (age 30-34)</td>
<td>45.0%</td>
<td>32.3%</td>
<td>57.1%</td>
<td>40.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early childhood education and care (from age 4 to starting age of compulsory primary education)</td>
<td>84.7%</td>
<td>90.8%</td>
<td>92.0%</td>
<td>95.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of 15 year-olds underachieving in:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>32.8%</td>
<td>19.5%</td>
<td>35.6%</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maths</td>
<td>42.0%</td>
<td>22.3%</td>
<td>42.6%</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>38.0%</td>
<td>17.7%</td>
<td>42.1%</td>
<td>20.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment rate of recent graduates by educational attainment (age 20-34 having left education 1-3 years before reference year)</td>
<td>ISCED 3-8 (total)</td>
<td>81.1%</td>
<td>81.6%</td>
<td>78.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult participation in learning (age 25-64)</td>
<td>ISCED 0-8 (total)</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
<td>9.5%</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning mobility</td>
<td>Degree-mobile graduates</td>
<td>35.1%</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit-mobile graduates</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>8.0%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes: 1 = latest data 2017; 2 = latest data 2015.
Early leavers from education and training (age 18-24)

Cyprus 7.8%

- Men: 9.9%
- Women: 6.0%
- Foreign-born: 13.9%
- Native-born: 6.2%

EU 10.6%

Source: Eurostat (EU LFS, 2018)
Data extracted in 08/2019
Illustrations: © European Commission

Tertiary education attainment (age 30-34)

Cyprus 57.1%

- Men: 49.2%
- Women: 64.4%
- Foreign-born: 43.8%
- Native-born: 64.1%

EU 40.7%

Source: Eurostat (EU LFS, 2018)
Data extracted in 08/2019
Illustrations: © European Commission

Supporting teachers’ professional development

Cyprus

Teachers say they need training in:

1. Teaching special needs students
2. Teaching in a multicultural or multilingual setting
3. ICT skills for teaching

Source: OECD (TALIS, 2018)
Illustrations: © European Commission