Table of contents

Summary General information	7 12
Chapter 1: Demography	15
You are young only once but when do you stop being 'young'?	17
Growing old	19
still staying young	20
Multinational youth	23
Chapter 2: Family and living conditions	27
Founding a family: young women leave the parental home earlier than men	29
Marriage: there's no hurry	32
A slight rebound in fertility rates?	34
Living conditions: one in five young persons threatened by poverty	42
Are young households living on a shoestring?	45
Chapter 3: Health	49
A healthy mind in a healthy body	51
Young people can expect to live longer than ever before	54
But death keeps no fixed timetable	55
Kicking the habit: attitudes toward smoking, drinking and drugs	62
Chapter 4: Education	69
Does living longer lead to higher school expectancy?	71
Preparing for the future rather than fulfilling a legal obligation	72
More boys than girls are in vocational programmes	76
Foreign languages open doors to the world, but not all pupils have the same number of keys	81
An increasing number of students in tertiary education	83
'Old tertiary students' are getting older	84
A gender gap by field of tertiary studies	86
Graduates in social sciences, business and law are the most numerous	89
Increasing mobilitybut not yet for everyone	90
Younger generations have a higher level of education than their elders	91
But some young people are still left aside	93
The level of education of parents remains a factor of academic success for their children	95
Youth participation in lifelong learning: increasing initial inequalities rather than bridging the gap?	98

eurostat ■ Youth in Europe ______ 5

Chapter 5: Employment	101
From school benches to working life	103
Many roads lead to the labour market	107
Young people and unemployment	111
The long road to a steady job	115
Working patterns: how long, when and where do young people work?	120
Young entrepreneurs: well-prepared to meet life's challenges?	130
Chapter 6: Youth and ICT	135
A new way of interacting with the world	137
The digital generation: discovering the world without leaving home	139
E-skills	147
New tools for old jobs: from messages in bottles to electronic mail	152
Chapter 7: Cultural and social involvement	159
Life is not all hard work	161
Broadening young people's horizons	170
Culture: what's in a word?	173
Culture and multiculturalism	174
Active citizenship: today's choices, tomorrow's community life	176
In institutions we trust?	180
Looking to the future	183

6 ______ Youth in Europe **eurostat**