

Glossary: Youth unemployment

Statistics Explained

Youth unemployment refers to people aged 15 to 24 years or 15 to 29 years who are [unemployed](#) .

The **youth unemployment rate** is the percentage of the unemployed in the age group 15 to 24 years or 15 to 29 years, compared to the total [labour force](#) (the sum of employed and unemployed) of the same age. However, it should be noted that a large share of people of these ages are outside the labour market, such as youths who are studying full-time and are not available for work. This explains why youth unemployment rates are generally higher than the overall unemployment rates of people aged 15-74 years. To address this, an alternative indicator is calculated for analytical purposes: **youth unemployment ratio** . This *ratio* represents the proportion of unemployed young people within the total population of the same age, including [people outside the labour force](#) .

Further information

- [Participation of young people in education and the labour market](#)

Related concepts

- [Unemployment](#)

Statistical data

- [Unemployment statistics](#)