



Youth Guarantee country by country

Italy
May 2018

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	2
Introduction and context	3
Commission's assessment	4
EMCO's assessment	5
Youth Guarantee monitoring – Key data	6
Previous year	8
Link to further information	9

Introduction and context

The [Youth Guarantee](#) has become a reality across the EU. It has facilitated structural reforms and innovation in policy design across EU Member States.

This document provides extracts from official Commission documents on the implementation of the Youth Guarantee in Italy. It contains extracts from:

- The country report drawn by the Commission for Italy in the context of the [European Semester](#);
- The conclusions of the thematic multilateral surveillance review of the [Employment Committee \(EMCO\)](#).
- Results from the data collection on Youth Guarantee schemes.

A section at the end of the document is devoted to the assessments made by the Commission and EMCO the previous year.

Italy presented a [Youth Guarantee Implementation Plan](#) on 23 December 2013. A progress note was sent in September 2015.

Italy is eligible for the Youth Employment Initiative.

Commission's assessment

From the 2018 country report (EN - IT):

"Italy faces challenges with regard to a number of indicators of the Social Scoreboard supporting the European Pillar of Social Rights. In particular, Italy has a very high gender employment gap, low overall employment rate and high and increasing income inequality. The impact of social transfers is low, but policy action has been taken recently. The share of young people not in employment, education or training is very high, although declining."

"[...]Youth unemployment is still among the highest in Europe despite decreasing from its peak of 43.6 % in 2014 to 32.2 % in December 2017. The number of young people not in employment, education or training (NEET) fell from 22.2 % in 2012 to below 20 % in 2016, but is still the highest in the EU and subject to wide and persistent regional differences. "

"Long-term and youth unemployment pose risks to social cohesion and growth. Although declining, both remain among the highest in the EU, also as a consequence of Italy's protracted recession. The low overall activity rate is constraining potential output growth. At the same time, the high level of youth unemployment can hinder young people's acquisition of skills and future employability."

"Employment has returned to pre-crisis levels thanks to a modest recovery and labour market reforms. Employment grew by 1.0 % in 2017, after 1.4 % in 2016, largely helped by generous hiring incentives. Yet, total hours worked remain below pre-crisis levels. Employment growth is set to continue, but the unemployment rate is forecast to drop only to 10.5 % by 2019, with long-term unemployed and young out of work still numerous."

"Despite difficulties, the Youth Guarantee has delivered some results. The Programme acted as a driver of reform and innovation in policy design, contributing to the establishment of supporting systems at national level. The number of young people registered with the scheme since its launch reached about 1.5 million in January 2018 (ANPAL internal reporting, 2017). More than 1 million have been taken in charge by PES or private operators and more than 520 000 completed an active labour market policy measure. However, the proportion of young people still in the programme who have not received any offer for more than 4 months remains high (75.2 %). The share of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) covered by the Youth Guarantee scheme, while increasing, is still low (14.1 %). Further efforts are needed to ensure that young people, including those facing multiple barriers, receive timely high-quality offers adapted to their needs. Additional resources deriving from EU funds will be available from 2018."

For further youth-related matters please refer to the country report.

EMCO's assessment

Conclusions of the Employment Committee's multilateral surveillance review on the implementation of the Youth Guarantee, December 2017:

The Youth unemployment and NEET rates have been declining in Italy the last two years. However, the levels of these indicators are still high and the situation remains challenging.

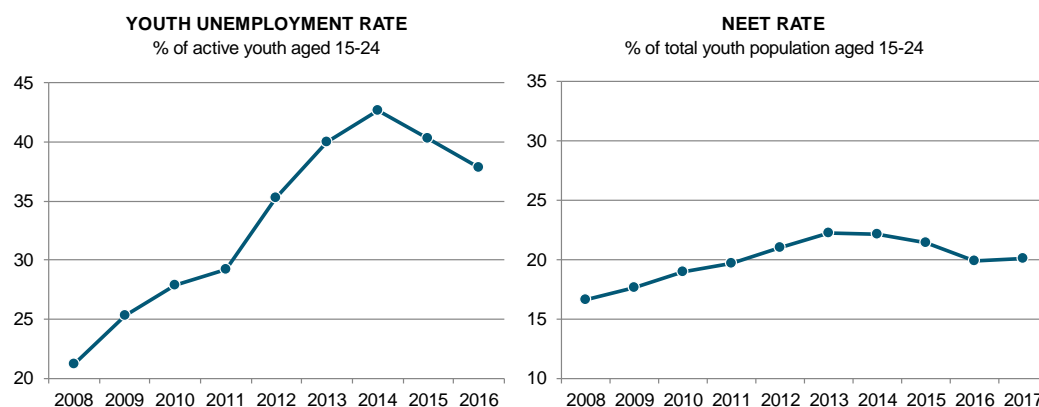
Italy has an ambitious and comprehensive YG plan, based on a partnership strategy and a strong profiling methodology, providing for a personalised approach and individual pathways. The YG has been a driver for reforms in Italy, in the areas of ALMPs, PES and the Education system.

However, more efforts are required to ensure full-scale implementation. Coverage of the NEET population remains low. Further emphasis could be put on apprenticeships and continued education offers, and ensuring young people get a timely, quality offer adapted to their needs. The process of reaching out to those at higher risk of social exclusion should improve. The results of the new measure dedicated to the outreach and activation of disadvantaged young NEETs will have to be further evaluated. There is also a strong heterogeneity across regions as regards the quality of services provided; despite the efforts of the central administration to foster exchanges of good practices. An increase in human resources of PES (1600 operators) has recently been approved by the side of State and Regions.

The implementation in 2018 of the benchlearning processes already activated within the PES Network will focus, inter alia, on the measures and actions of the PES for young NEETs, identification and mutual sharing of good practices and solutions to common problems." This is an interesting development, and EMCO would like to hear more about this in the future.

Youth Guarantee monitoring – Key data¹

1. Main trends in young people's labour market performance



Source: Eurostat, LFS (une_rt_a, lfsi_neet_a)

2. Youth Guarantee delivery

Italy presented a [Youth Guarantee Implementation Plan](#) on 23 December 2013. The scheme started in May 2014.

The Italian YG scheme is from mid-2017 co-ordinated and managed by the national PES, in conjunction with the regions and the PES at provincial level. The national PES is responsible for the national YG database, which brings together data collected by the PES at local level.

A dedicated [website](#) for the YG in Italy allows young people not already registered with the PES to sign up to the YG scheme. The site also has an internal section for YG providers, and facilities for companies to post job opportunities that are published in the portal and to sign up to employment incentive schemes. Reports with YG statistics at national and regional level are published on the website in a weekly newsletter accompanied by relevant data.

Young people registered with the PES but who have not registered in the YG may still receive offers or benefit from national or regional measures, but they are not included in the YG monitoring data.

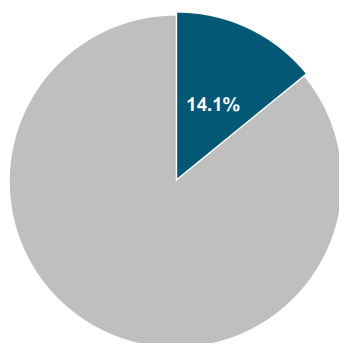
Further information can be found both in the [Youth Guarantee Implementation Plan](#) and the [YG website](#)².

¹ The information below is taken from the country fiche related to the Youth Guarantee Data collection (full results can be found on <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1143&langId=en#YGIF>).

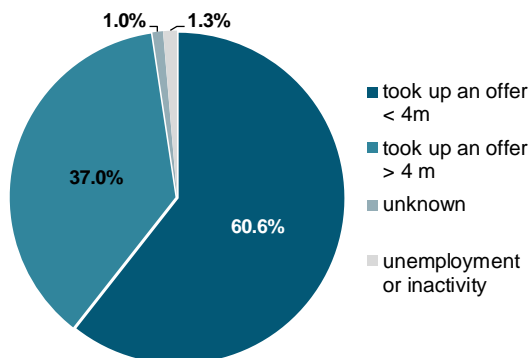
² www.garanziegiovani.gov.it/

YG monitoring data 2016

Proportion of NEETs covered by the YG, 2016
% NEET population aged 15-24



Out of all young people that exited the YG in 2016...



Source: DG EMPL, YG monitoring database2016

Three in five (60.6%) of those leaving the Italian YG scheme in 2016 took up an offer within 4 months of registration. At the same time, on average, more than three quarters (75.2%) of those in the scheme at any time during the year had been waiting for an offer for more than 4 months, suggesting a progressive accumulation of young people that are not being treated on time.

Coverage of the NEET population has improved compared to 2014, but still remains low (14.1%). Registration is voluntary through an online portal. Young people registered with the PES but not in the YG may still receive an offer or benefit from national or regional measures but are not covered by the data.

Additional information

Nearly three-fifths (58.0%) of those leaving the scheme in 2016 were known to be in a positive situation 6 months afterwards. The proportion is understated because certain positive situations (e.g. non-subsidised education and self-employment measures) cannot be monitored after exit.

Previous year

2017

From the 2017 country report (EN - IT):

"[...] Despite the gradual improvement of the labour market, long-term and youth unemployment remain high. The long-term unemployment rate was around 7 % in 2016. The youth unemployment rate is around 40 % and more than 1.2 million young people are not in education, employment or training."

"[...] After a slow start in 2014, the implementation of the Youth Guarantee has progressed significantly since 2015. In Italy, the Youth Guarantee is funded mainly through the national Iniziativa Occupazione Giovani operational programme (EUR 1.5 billion). In December 2016, more than 1.1 million young people were registered and almost 800 000 signed an 'activation pact'. Over 400 000 measures have been delivered to the participants, almost half consisting of traineeships (Ministry of Labour, 2017)³. Nearly 35 % of those who completed a Youth Employment Initiative operation were employed four weeks later and the percentage increases to nearly 43 % after six months (INAPP, 2016). In 2015, two new measures were introduced: the 'Superbonus' (for employers hiring young people who participated in a relevant traineeship) and the 'Selfiemployment' (micro-credit and subsidised loans to support self-employment). In the first four months of the former, 5 412 job contracts were signed (2 020 permanent contracts and 3 392 apprenticeship contracts) (Ministry of Labour, 2016a). Further improvements are the outreach to non-registered young people neither in employment nor in education or training, the use of standardised profiling, individual support for young people and the take-up of key measures such as traineeships and specialised training courses."

"[...] Some challenges remain to ensure the full implementation of the Youth Guarantee scheme. The number and quality of offers remain low and regional differences in the delivery of the guarantee remain high. The quality of vocational education, including apprenticeships, is still limited. Regional and national monitoring systems on the implementation of the scheme are still to be further integrated and harmonised. Engaging the most vulnerable and disengaged young people not registered for the programme remains a challenge."

"[...] Apprenticeships and work-based learning are being strengthened to improve the labour-market relevance of education. Measures are being taken to increase the learning and qualifications component of apprenticeships, and to attract more youngsters to these paths. An ongoing national pilot initiative for 15-25 year-old students involves 300 vocational training centres throughout Italy. Learning standards have been agreed at national level and funding has been set aside. To strengthen work-based learning, all students in the last three years of upper secondary education are now required to do a traineeship or apprenticeship. This is an ambitious measure to help to equip a new generation with relevant skills. The quality of work-based learning, the engagement of private enterprises and the monitoring of progress and effects are crucial."

For further youth-related matters please refer to the country report.

³ Under Italy's Youth Guarantee implementation scheme, a participant can benefit from more than one measure.

Conclusions of the Employment Committee's multilateral surveillance review on youth employment, January 2017:

In Italy labour market conditions are improving. However, the situation of youth remains challenging with high unemployment and NEETs rates, many of them inactive. The implementation plan of the Youth Guarantee was ambitious and actions are showing encouraging results, with high numbers of young people registered, profiled and getting offers. The implementation of the Youth Guarantee has been a lever for structural change in ALMPs, PES reorganisation and improvements in the Education system in a context of broader reform, all of which is likely to have a positive impact on youth labour situation.

The targeted reduction of social security contributions, linked to the use of a voucher for placement services (assegno di ricollocazione), has the potential to facilitate smooth transitions into employment.

A key challenge is to make all these measures effective and ensure full-scale implementation in a coherent way exploiting synergies with existing measures. Given the number of reforms monitoring and evaluation of effects will be crucial. The use of a pilot to test the voucher is particularly welcomed.

Link to further information

Youth Guarantee Database - Promising examples

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1327&langId=en>

Youth Guarantee Implementation Plan

http://www.lavoro.gov.it/Notizie/Documents/01_08_2014 Piano di attuazione italiano della Garanzia per i Giovani.pdf

Where to register for the Youth Guarantee?

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1218&langId=en>

National Youth Guarantee Website

www.garanziaiovanini.gov.it/

Youth Wiki Italy

<https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/en/youthwiki>