



Youth Guarantee country by country

Lithuania
October 2020

Table of contents

Introduction and context	3
Commission's assessment	4
EMCO's assessment	5
Youth Guarantee monitoring – Key data	6
Previous year	8
Links 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 Lithuania. It contains extracts from:

- The country report drawn by the Commission for Lithuania 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 assessment made by the Commission the previous year.

Lithuania presented a [Youth Guarantee Implementation Plan](#) on 18 December 2013, updated in November 2014.

Lithuania is eligible for the Youth Employment Initiative.

Commission's assessment

From the 2020 country report ([EN](#) - [LT](#)):

“Employment has recovered steadily since the crisis and unemployment is low. Total employment in absolute terms has continued its upward trend but has not reached its pre-crisis level. The employment rate declined in the third quarter of 2019 for the first time in a decade. Unemployment has been declining steadily (see Graph 1.2 in Chapter 1). From 2010 to 2018, the number of unemployed falls to a third. However, unemployment of older people (50-59), although on a downward trend, is higher than in the EU (6.7% vs. 5.2% in 2018). The steady decline in unemployment was also reflected in the decreasing number of long-term unemployed people and the improved labour market situation of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET).”

“Lithuania’s performance remains mixed on the indicators of the Social Scoreboard, which supports the European Pillar of Social Rights. Lithuania’s relatively good labour market is reflected in the indicators of the Social Scoreboard: the employment rate is high for both men and women, unemployment is relatively low and there are few young people not in employment, education or training.”

“The labour market has recovered steadily from the 2009 contraction. Since 2010, employment and unemployment rates have improved continuously (Graph 1.2): in 2019 unemployment was 6.4% while the activity rate was 82.9% in the third quarter. Long-term unemployment remained below 2% in the third quarter of 2019 (2.4% in the EU). Also below the EU average in this quarter were youth unemployment (at 11.7%) and the rate of young people not in employment, education or training (at 7.8%).”

“Early school-leaving remains among the lowest in the EU but other challenges in education remain. The very good performance on early school-leaving helps to keep the share of young people neither in employment, nor in education or training (NEET) close to the EU average. However, the latest results of the 2018 OECD Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) nonetheless show that, in all tested subjects, Lithuania’s mean performance is below the EU average. The proportion of underachieving pupils in science, reading, and mathematics remains practically unchanged since 2015.”

“Lithuanian enterprises are underinvesting in the enhancement of digital skills. The country’s digital agenda strategy seeks to tackle the shortage of ICT specialists by encouraging more young people to choose ICT as a career, by attracting more women and by improving vocational training for ICT specialists.”

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

EMCO's assessment

Conclusions of the Employment Committee's multilateral surveillance review on youth employment, October 2019:

The implementation of the Youth Guarantee in Lithuania is well advanced and has made further progress thanks to a variety of measures adopted to improve partnerships with stakeholders, implement a one-stop-shop approach, improve the NEET profiling system, step up outreach measures, and expand the offer of services tailored to the needs of different NEET target groups. The strategy's design is underpinned by a solid monitoring and evaluation system.

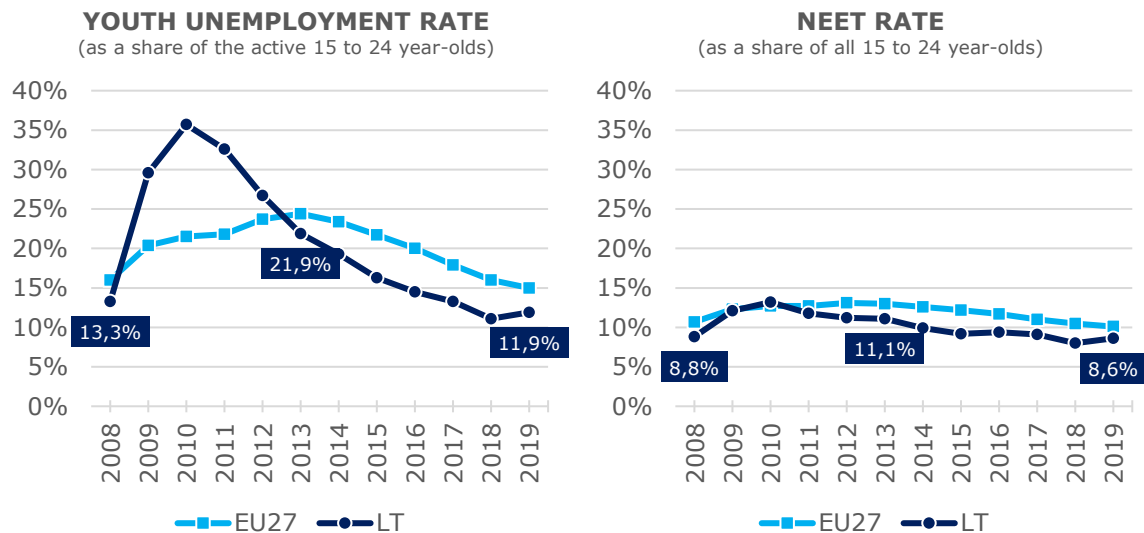
The YG scheme's coverage of NEETs remains well above the EU average, yet reaching out to young NEETs facing multiple barriers, especially those who are mobile, remains a challenge.

Attention should be paid to ensuring the long-term sustainability of the schemes introduced and allocating adequate national resources.

Traineeships in Lithuania are broadly compliant with the Quality Framework for Traineeships, yet there is scope to further increase the quality of those provided under the YG. Further engaging employers could help increase the attractiveness and effectiveness of traineeships.

Youth Guarantee monitoring – Key data¹

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



Source: Eurostat, LFS (une_rt_a, edat_lfse_20)

2. Youth Guarantee delivery

Lithuania presented a Youth Guarantee Implementation Plan (in Lithuanian) on 18 December 2013, updated in May 2014.

Lithuania elected to extend coverage of the YG beyond that specified in the Council Recommendation so that the scheme is available to all young people aged 15-29 not engaged in employment, education or training.

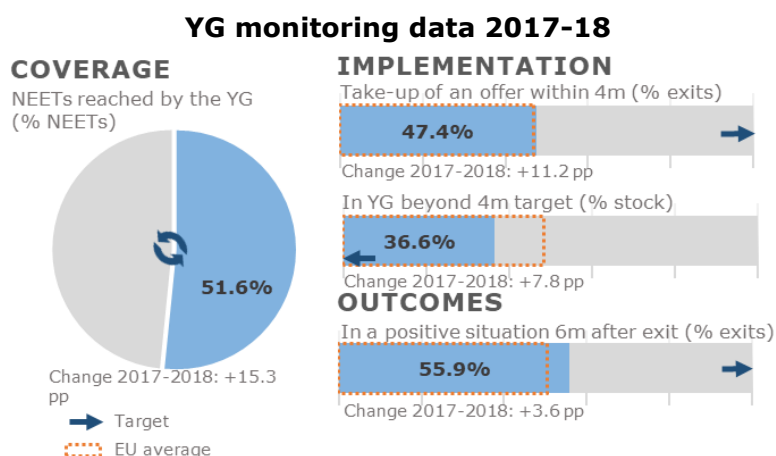
The responsible authority for the Youth Guarantee is the Ministry of Social Security and Labour. Other actors involved include the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Economy, "Enterprise Lithuania" (a non-profit agency under the Ministry of Economy), Municipalities, NGOs and the Centre of Information Technologies in Education. Although young people could initially register for the YG only through the PES (online or in person), since February 2016 inactive NEETs can also register (to the YEI-funded programme "Discover Yourself") via 51 organisations (NGO, budgetary institution) while in August 2016, a YG dedicated website was launched where youngsters can complete an online form and are then contacted by the PES coordinators.

In relation to implementation of the YG (and the YEI), the Commission's 3-year assessment identified two key challenges which relate to identifying and engaging inactive NEETs and to improving assessment of the quality and sustainability of YG outcomes².

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 <http://ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=16299&langId=en>

More information is available in the implementation plan and YG dedicated website (in Lithuanian only).



Source: DG EMPL, YG monitoring database, data extracted 09 December 2019. NEETs data were extracted from Eurostat, Labour Force Survey on 21 June 2019.

On average, just over a third (36.6%) of those registered in the YG at any point during 2018 had been waiting for an offer for more than 4 months, noticeably more than in 2017 (+7.8 pp) but still well below the EU average (48.6%).

Approaching half (47.4%) of those leaving the YG in 2018 took up an offer within 4 months of registration. This represents a notable improvement from 2017 (+11.2 pp), making up for the decline seen between 2016 and 2017 (-9.4 pp), and brings Lithuania back in-line with the EU average (46.7%).

The Lithuanian YG scheme covered 51.6% of NEETs aged under 25 in 2018, a substantial increase from 2017 (+15.3 pp), bringing the coverage rate well above the EU average of 38.9%.

Over half (55.9%) of those leaving the YG scheme in 2018 were known to be in a positive situation 6 months later. Longer term follow-up data provide a mixed picture but tend to suggest that not all outcomes are sustained over longer periods.

Previous year

From the 2019 country report (EN - LT):

"The shrinking population, notably of people of working age, remains a major bottleneck to growth. Lithuania's population has fallen by nearly 25 % since the early 1990s. The main reasons are high emigration and adverse demographic trends. Net emigration continues even though its pace has slowed recently. The shrinking working-age population is one of the reasons for the increasing shortages of skilled labour and is also pushing up wages. Employment stands at over 77 %, above the EU average, while unemployment fell to 6.3 %. Youth unemployment and long-term unemployment are below the EU average."

"The improved conditions on the labour market are well reflected in the indicators of the Social Scoreboard supporting the European Pillar of Social Rights: the employment rate is high for both men and women, unemployment is decreasing and there are fewer young people not in employment, education or training."

"EU funding has helped to address policy challenges identified in the 2018 CSRs. [...] The ESF invested in people and in social inclusion – more than 71 000 unemployed persons (including about 20 000 young people aged under 29) improved their employability."

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

Links to further information

Youth Guarantee Knowledge centre – *Including promising examples from Lithuania*

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

Youth Guarantee Implementation Plan

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/BlobServlet?docId=16477&langId=en>

Where to register for the Youth Guarantee?

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

Youth Wiki Lithuania

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