

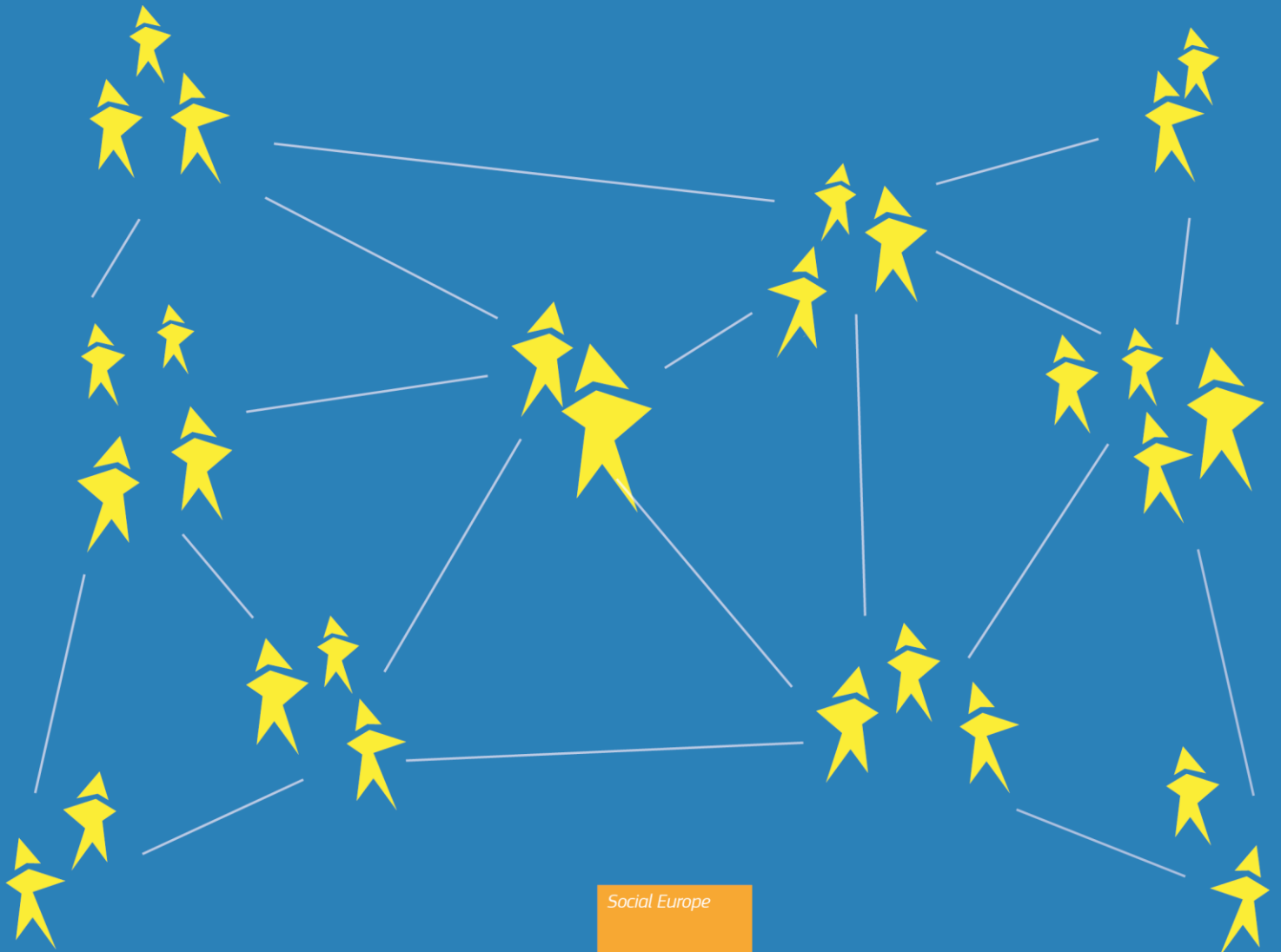


EUROPEAN SOCIAL POLICY NETWORK (ESPN)

Access to social protection for young people

An analysis of policies in 35 countries

Dalila Ghailani, Ramón Peña-Casas, Stéphanie Coster and Pietro Regazzoni



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2021

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The European Social Policy Network (ESPN) was established in July 2014 on the initiative of the European Commission to provide high-quality and timely independent information, advice, analysis and expertise on social policy issues in the European Union and neighbouring countries.

The ESPN brings together into a single network the work that used to be carried out by the European Network of Independent Experts on Social Inclusion, the Network for Analytical Support on the Socio-Economic Impact of Social Protection Reforms (ASISP) and the MISSOC (Mutual Information Systems on Social Protection) secretariat.

The ESPN is managed by the Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research (LISER), APPLICA and the European Social Observatory (OSE).

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OFFICIAL COUNTRY ABBREVIATIONS

A. European Union (EU) countries

EU countries			
Austria	AT	Italy	IT
Belgium	BE	Latvia	LV
Bulgaria	BG	Lithuania	LT
Croatia	HR	Luxembourg	LU
Cyprus	CY	Malta	MT
Czechia	CZ	Netherlands	NL
Denmark	DK	Poland	PL
Estonia	EE	Portugal	PT
Finland	FI	Romania	RO
France	FR	Slovakia	SK
Germany	DE	Slovenia	SI
Greece	EL	Spain	ES
Hungary	HU	Sweden	SE
Ireland	IE	EU average *	EU-27

(*) In the EU-27 averages, the 27 EU Member States are weighted by their population sizes.

B. UK and other non-EU countries covered by the ESPN

UK and other non-EU countries	
United Kingdom	UK
Albania	AL
Bosnia and Herzegovina	BA
Kosovo*	XK *
Montenegro	ME
North Macedonia	MK
Serbia	RS
Turkey	TR

(*) This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

PREFACE

European policy context

Access to social protection is at the heart of European social policy. Principle 3 of the European Pillar of Social Rights guarantees the right to social protection for all Europeans, and Principles 5 and 12 focus specifically on the right to adequate social protection for workers and the self-employed. In addition, Principles 13 and 14 refer to the right to adequate unemployment benefits, minimum income benefits and access to enabling services; for those in working age and capable to work, they also highlight the need for adequate activation support and the fact that minimum income benefits should be combined with incentives to (re)integrate into the labour market.

In the 2019 Council Recommendation on *Access to Social Protection for workers and the self-employed* Member States are recommended to ensure that all workers and the self-employed can have access to various social protection schemes, and can build-up and take-up entitlements that can be preserved, accumulated or transferred across schemes as well as across types of employment status/contracts, receive sufficient and timely benefits, contribute in a balanced manner and are informed about their rights and obligations.

Social protection systems are designed to provide protection against the risks and needs associated with, for example, unemployment, sickness, parenthood and social exclusion. These risks and needs can occur throughout the life cycle. However, full social protection may not be available for young people who have not yet been economically active or who have only recently made the jump into the world of work (due to conditionality). Although few social protection schemes formally exclude young people, most of the programmes require contributory payments. Because of their age, longer school-to-work transitions, their stronger presence in certain types of employment where access to social protection is not always fully guaranteed, or because they have accumulated several traineeships, young people may have shorter formal work histories than required or their start of contribution payments may be delayed. In addition, (unpaid) waiting periods or accumulation of contributions can be required before accessing the benefit. All this may have an impact on their entitlements.

In addition, non-standard forms of employment, such as platform work, have become increasingly prevalent among young people. Quite often, these forms of employment do not provide young people with adequate social protection (unemployment, sickness benefits, maternity/paternity/parental leave benefits, etc.) or full rights in the future (old-age pensions, etc.). Young people find themselves often also in temporary or part-time positions, with similar consequence in terms of social security coverage.

Apart from contributory schemes, young people may have access to tax-financed (non-contributory) schemes where available, including unemployment assistance, maternity/paternity/parental leave benefits, Guaranteed Minimum Income schemes or housing allowances. However, cash transfer programmes can exclude young people for a number of reasons: their age, the fact that they live with their parents, are in education and/or are in (very) limited working-time jobs. This, in turn, depending on the country, can delay the start of young people's independent living and their integration into the labour market. For instance, when they themselves are not the benefit recipient, they do not necessarily have access to activation services and support.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the unfavourable situation of young people and revealed structural gaps/obstacles in their access to social protection. Many countries have taken measures to extend social protection, benefitting in particular young people (e.g. in the form of income replacement or income top-up such as unemployment benefits, lump sums or sickness benefits to young workers who were previously excluded and/or had limited access to social protection due to strict eligibility criteria or their activity status).

Some stakeholders, such as the European Youth Forum, as well as the European Parliament (in its Resolution of 8 October 2020 on the Youth Guarantee), have made a call for better access to social protection for young people. The European Commission's Communication on Youth Employment Support from July 2020 announced a study on young people's access to social protection in order to 'chart the qualifying conditions of various benefits across different forms of employment, enabling a much-needed exchange of good practice'. This ESPN Thematic Report is the response to the announcement made in the aforementioned communication.

A Synthesis Report from the European Social Policy Network (ESPN)

With the aim of contributing to the ongoing policy dialogue between the European Commission, Member States and (potential) candidate countries, the European Commission asked the 35 country teams of the European Social Policy Network (ESPN)¹ to look at how the eligibility conditions and benefit entitlements of social protection influence the capacity of young people to access the schemes and to highlight the main gaps and obstacles faced by young people in accessing these schemes.

This Synthesis Report provides a factual overview of the access for young people to social protection schemes for five categories of cash benefits in the ESPN countries, including an overview of the main gaps/obstacles²: unemployment benefits, maternity/paternity/parental benefits, sickness and healthcare benefits, Guaranteed Minimum Income (GMI) benefits and housing benefits. The Synthesis Report focuses on the current situation, as well as describes the major reforms since 2015 and the main debates that are taking place at national level. Countries which have developed measures along similar lines are listed in brackets (e.g. AT, BE, BG)³ so that the reader interested in knowing more about these can examine the 35 reports of the ESPN national experts. In producing their reports, national ESPN experts cite many different sources in support of their analysis. References to these are not included in the present report. Readers wishing to follow up the original sources should consult the national experts' reports.

This report was written by Dalila Ghailani, Ramón Peña-Casas, Stéphanie Coster and Pietro Regazzoni (European Social Observatory [OSE]). Helpful comments and suggestions from the colleagues of the ESPN Network Core Team (Eric Marlier, Bart Vanhercke and Slavina Spasova), the Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research (Anne-Catherine Guio), the OSE (Rita Baeten) and the 35 ESPN country teams are gratefully acknowledged. The authors would also like to thank Rachel Cowler for her editorial support as well as Françoise Verri and Liesbeth Haagdorens for fine-tuning the layout of the report. All errors remain strictly the authors' responsibility.

The report is structured as follows: Section 1 contextualises the analysis presented in the subsequent sections by presenting some key figures on the socio-economic situation of young people and the differences between the 15–29 and 30–64 age groups. The report focuses on the age group 15–29, in line with the age group of the 'Reinforced Youth Guarantee', which targets young people aged 15 to 29. The following Sections review the eligibility conditions and benefit entitlements that apply to the access to unemployment benefits (Section 2), sickness and healthcare benefits (Section 3), maternity, paternity, and parental cash benefits (Section 4), guaranteed minimum income schemes (Section 5) and housing benefits (Section 6) as far as the 15–29 age group is directly or indirectly concerned. Based on the description of the eligibility conditions and benefit entitlements, Section 7

¹ The 35 countries covered by the ESPN are the 27 EU countries, the United Kingdom and the seven (potential) candidate countries – i.e. Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey. For a presentation of the ESPN Network Core Team and the 35 ESPN country teams, see Annex A.

² 'Gaps' should be understood as any exclusion according to activity status or age. 'Obstacles' should be understood as factors that may hinder take-up of a scheme, such as strictness of eligibility requirements, cumbersome administrative procedures, lack of information, attitudinal aspects, stigmatisation, etc.

³ Here and throughout the report, the countries in brackets are provided as examples and the lists are not necessarily exhaustive. The 35 ESPN national experts' reports can be viewed here (ESPN page on the European Commission website).

summarises the main gaps faced by young people in accessing the schemes, and any exclusions according to activity status and age as well the main obstacles to claim the social protection benefits. Section 8 looks at the main policy debates and reforms carried out since 2015 in the ESPN countries, which have contributed to improving or deteriorating young people's access to social protection.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A. Overview of the labour market situation and well-being of age groups

The lessons learned from a systematic comparison of the 15–29 and 30–64 age groups on a number of indicators are presented below in the form of stylised facts, illustrated, where possible and appropriate, by the most recent figures (EU-27 averages) available:

- Young people are less frequently in employment than those aged 30–64. In 2020, on average for the EU-27, the employment rate of young people aged 15–29 was 46.1%, well below the 74.9% observed for 30–64-year-olds. This reflects both lower participation rate due to education and higher unemployment rate.
- Almost all young people, but also those above 29 years old, who work do so in waged dependent employment. In 2020, on average in the EU-27, 92.5% of employed 15–29-year-olds and 84.2% of the 30–64-year-olds are in dependent paid employment.
- Unlike for other non-standard forms of employment, 15–29-year-olds are less frequently self-employed than 30–64-year-olds. In 2020 in the EU-27, only 5.4% of young people are self-employed, while this proportion rises to 14.1% for 30–64-year-olds.
- Young people are more often in part-time jobs than those above 29 years old. In 2020, on average in the EU-27, 22.6% of 15–29-year-olds and 17.3% of 30–64-year-olds were working part time.
- Young people are also much more often employed in temporary work, on a fixed-term contract, than 30–64-year-olds. In 2020, on average for the EU-27, one in three young people (33.6%) were in temporary paid employment, but only 9% of 30–64-year-olds.
- Unemployment rates for young people are higher than for those above 29 years old in all Member States. In 2020 in the EU, 13.3% of 15–29-year-olds were unemployed, compared to only 5.8% of 30–64-year-olds.
- The economic inactivity rates of young people are clearly higher than those of older people in all Member States. In 2020, on average 46.8% of 15–29-year-olds were inactive and not looking for a job, while this was the case for only 20.5% of 30–64-year-olds. The greater economic inactivity of young people (15–29) is largely attributable to the high participation of younger people (15–24) in education.
- The percentage of young people not employed and not in formal or non-formal education or training (NEET) has raised as a consequence of the economic crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. After several years of constant reduction until 2019, the EU-27 NEET rate was 13.7% for 15–29-year-olds in 2020.
- The risk of poverty and social exclusion is generally higher for 15–29-year-olds than for 30–64-year-olds. In 2019, the EU-27 average at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion (AROPE) rates were 24.7% for young people and 20.3% for the 30–64-year-olds.
- The rates of material and social deprivation for 15–29-year-olds and 30–64-year-olds are relatively close, slightly higher for one age group or the other depending on the country. In 2019 the EU-27 average was 10.7% for the youngest and 12.7% for the oldest age groups.

B. Access to social protection for young people

The contributory history requirement makes it difficult for young unemployed people with very little or no work experience to gain access to unemployment benefits

All ESPN countries, except for Kosovo, have an insurance-based unemployment scheme, but only 15 countries (including 14 Member States) set an explicit minimum age of 16 or 18 for receiving unemployment benefits, which de facto excludes 15–17-year-olds. Eligibility conditions related to activity status, and the contributory history requirement, apply equally to both age groups considered in this report, with exceptions in only three Member States (AT, BE, SI) in which the periods required are shorter for young people. The same applies to the method of calculation of the unemployment benefit and the duration of payment.

However, the description of the eligibility conditions and benefit entitlements reveals major gaps and obstacles in access to unemployment benefits for young people. One major gap results from the activity status-based exclusions identified in 25 countries (including 19 Member States). Trainees, students and apprentices are excluded from receiving unemployment benefits after their period of traineeship, study or apprenticeship in a significant number of countries. The same is true of some categories of non-standard workers, who are excluded in eight Member States. As young people are overrepresented in non-standard work, this type of gap is of particular importance for the 15–29 age group. In addition to gaps in formal access, some further obstacles are found. A first obstacle to access identified in most countries is the contributory history requirement: the minimum qualifying period and the restrictions on the minimum contributions made or hours worked may hinder access of young non-standard workers, who are less likely to fulfil these criteria. The link between the contributions paid and the duration of benefits is a second obstacle highlighted by ESPN national experts. Younger people eligible for benefits tend to receive them for a shorter period than older workers, because they have not been in employment long enough to build up lengthy contribution records. A third major obstacle is the method used to calculate benefits, based on previous earnings in most countries. This could be detrimental to young people as they are more frequently in low-paid occupations.

Young unemployed people who have no employment record or an insufficient work history are entitled to unemployment assistance in eight Member States and two non-EU countries

The majority of ESPN countries do not have a separate unemployment assistance scheme in place, but mostly rely on general means-tested social assistance made available to low-income households. Ten ESPN national experts reported on the availability of unemployment assistance in their country. In these countries, access to unemployment assistance is not age-specific, except in Sweden where the *Basic unemployment benefit* is reserved for young people from 20 years of age. Non-standard and self-employed workers generally have access to unemployment assistance, as do trainees and apprentices. Young people may be subject to specific eligibility conditions, such as the requirement to participate in training or to be the head of the household and live separately from their parents.

Most of the schemes are non-contributory and means-tested. Young unemployed receive the full unemployment assistance allowance, except in Finland where the *Labour market subsidy* is reduced by parents' income in the case of a young applicant living with their parents. The duration of receipt of the benefit is the same as for older groups, except in Portugal, where it is shorter for younger people.

Most ESPN countries provide non-age-related access to sickness benefits, but some gaps and obstacles to access are more significant for young people

In most countries, ESPN national experts report that age is not a criterion for accessing the scheme, and that the 15–29 age group has the same access as the group aged 30–64. Eligibility conditions and benefit entitlements are not age-specific.

ESPN national experts in 17 countries (including 12 Member States) identify some gaps not dependent on age but perhaps more significant for young people. The main gap to access to sickness benefit is the activity status-based exclusions. Young people are more likely to be excluded from the scheme, as either all non-standard workers or some specific non-standard workers (such as marginal part-timers in Austria, workers on non-standard DPP and DPČ work contracts in Czechia, or workers with labour contracts lasting up to 15 days in Portugal) are ineligible in several countries. Access is denied as well for trainees and for apprentices in a number of countries. In addition to gaps in formal access, some further obstacles are identified in 14 ESPN countries (including 12 Member States). They mainly concern the required contribution periods (highlighted in nine countries including seven Member States) - an issue because of the large numbers of young people in non-standard work - and lack of information.

Health systems in the ESPN countries provide nearly universal population coverage for a defined basket of healthcare benefits, but a few age-specific gaps in access to healthcare remain

According to most ESPN national experts, there is no difference in the coverage of healthcare costs between young people aged 18 or over and older people. For the age range 15–18 years old, the situation differs: in at least 11 ESPN countries (including ten Member States), they are exempted from user charges for healthcare.

A few age-specific gaps in access to healthcare services have been identified by ESPN national experts in four Member States. Other gaps are observed in eight ESPN countries (including five Member States), not referring to age but perhaps more significantly affecting young people. They relate to the activity status-based exclusion of some groups (non-standard workers, specific categories of non-standard workers, self-employed, economically inactive). A few obstacles are identified in ten ESPN countries (including seven Member States) and relate to the non-payment of social contributions, waiting times and waiting lists, the high rate of out-of-pocket expenditure, or difficulties in accessing healthcare services for some specific minorities.

Young people engaged in non-standard work are more likely to be excluded from contributory maternity, paternity and parental leave benefits

In most of the ESPN countries, access to contributory maternity, paternity and parental cash benefits is not age-specific; only three ESPN national experts referred to age as an eligibility condition to access the schemes. The contributory history requirement for maternity and paternity benefits is not age-specific, except in Spain. The level of the benefits is not age-specific, but young people in low-paid occupations may be disadvantaged if the benefits are paid at an earnings-related rate.

The exclusion of certain categories of claimants, including specific non-standard workers, trainees, and apprentices on the basis of their activity status has been reported in 19 ESPN countries (including 14 Member States). Obstacles due to strict eligibility conditions, the disadvantageous situation of the self-employed, the inadequacy of benefits, the lack of information and the risk of stigmatisation for young fathers using their right to parental leave are identified in 17 ESPN countries (including 14 Member States).

Young parents have access to non-contributory maternity and parental leave cash benefits in a limited number of ESPN countries

13 ESPN countries (including 12 Member States) provide non-contributory maternity and/or parental leave cash benefits to those who fail to fulfil the employment or contributory history eligibility requirement for contributory benefits. In none of these countries, except in Lithuania, is the access to these benefits age-specific. These benefits are available to employed people (except in HR) as well as to the unemployed and economically inactive. No contributory history is required but other conditions may apply in some countries (such as being in registered unemployment [in Bosnia and Herzegovina], receiving contributory unemployment benefit [in Spain], etc.). The benefit level is not calculated with reference to age, but some ESPN national experts reported low levels of benefits as an obstacle to access for young people.

Guaranteed minimum income schemes (GMI) are universal last resort safety nets for the population of working age. Minors of age cannot claim the benefit and in five Member States, minimum age thresholds higher than 18 apply to people claiming the benefit

All the 35 ESPN countries except for Turkey have a GMI scheme accessible to people aged 18 and above. However, access to the GMI is also granted to minors 15–17 years of age living on their own under specific circumstances in eleven ESPN countries (including nine Member States). In eight ESPN countries including six Member States, the GMI level differs according to the age of the beneficiaries, and is lower for young people.

A major condition found in all countries is the requirement to actively seek employment for those who are able to work, including young people. Availability for work encompasses various forms of activation of young people, ranging from an obligation to participate in specific activities (community work for instance), to an obligation to register with the local employment office as a jobseeker, in order to take part in job search support programmes. This obligation applies in the same way to young people, but some ESPN national experts point to a modulation of the objectives and channels for the young. For example, employment support plans often include a higher prevalence of return to education for young people with low or incomplete qualifications. Other cross-cutting obligations also set conditions for access to and receipt of the GMI benefit, but are common to all beneficiaries, without distinction of age. In order to be eligible for the GMI, a person must have exhausted all possible recourse to other social protection schemes or sources of income from persons outside the household, or must cooperate with the social services and comply with their requirements.

Some gaps, related to age-based exclusion and age differentiated amounts, have been identified in 17 ESPN countries (including 14 Member States). The inadequate level of the GMI benefit, which does not protect (young) people from falling into poverty and give them a decent lifestyle, has been reported as a major obstacle in 16 ESPN countries (including 12 Member States). Other deterrents are unawareness of the scheme, restrictive eligibility rules including means-testing, and the complexity of administrative procedures.

Housing benefit is a widely-used instrument in the ESPN countries, but is mostly accessible to people aged 18 years or older

Housing benefits are accessible to people aged 18 years or older, automatically excluding the 15–17 age group, in 18 ESPN countries (including 15 Member States). However, seven Member States have specific exceptions for minors. In three Member States, housing support specifically benefits young households up to a certain age. Other eligibility requirements apply equally to the 15–29 and 30–64 age groups and differ across the ESPN countries. The level of housing allowances does not vary according to the age of applicants except in two ESPN countries: in Denmark, a special rule for the benefit calculation favours young people under 30 years of age, while in the United Kingdom, young people under the age of 35 receive a lower rate than those aged 35 or above.

Gaps identified relate to the exclusion of some groups from access to housing benefits based on eligibility conditions other than age or activity status (such as means-testing, household size and composition, housing costs etc.). The obstacles identified by ESPN national experts are not specific to young people, but the latter could be more affected than the 30–64 age group. These obstacles relate to the affordability of housing, the eligibility requirements for housing benefits, and the administrative burden and complexity of the schemes.

C. Reforms and policy debate

With a few exceptions, the reforms adopted in the different segments of social protection since 2015 were not targeted specifically young people

In six ESPN countries including five Member States, national experts reported reforms targeted directly at improving access to social protection for young people (e.g. access for students to social benefits in Estonia and to health care in Turkey; right to maternity benefits for pupils and students in Germany; pregnancy scholarship introduced in Slovakia; abolition of the specific student housing allowance scheme in Finland).

Since 2015, most countries have carried out reforms that have indirectly impacted young people. These reforms have included the relaxation or strengthening of certain eligibility conditions for unemployment benefits (e.g. BE, HR, SE), or the extension of benefit entitlements to atypical workers and the self-employed (e.g. DK, EL, PT); introduction of new schemes for parents (e.g. CY, LU, SK); tightening of access conditions for minimum income guarantee schemes (e.g. LT) or housing benefits (e.g. SI, UK); and reforms improving employability (e.g. FR, HU).

COVID-19-related reforms introduced following the crisis were reported by 16 national teams. These changes mainly affected access to unemployment benefits, GMI and housing benefits. Like the reforms described above, these COVID-19 changes did not specifically target young people.

Access to social protection for young people is not a central topic addressed in the national debate

In most ESPN countries, policy debates focus, rather, on access to social protection for people in non-standard work, young people's labour market participation, minimum wages, or education. When the issue of access to social protection is discussed, it is discussed indirectly in relation to youth unemployment and the specific situation of NEETs. In only three Member States (FR, DE, LU), ESPN experts mention debates on the access to minimum income schemes for young people.

RECOMMENDATIONS

This Synthesis Report highlights gaps and obstacles in young people's access to social protection across and within countries. Tackling these gaps and obstacles, and the subsequent inequalities, requires sustained and continued efforts to pursue reform agendas, and to strengthen social protection systems and social inclusion policies in the longer term. From the launch of the Lisbon Strategy in 2000 to the European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR) Action Plan in 2021, the creation of more and better jobs has been a stated overarching objective of employment and social policies in European governance processes. The EPSR is about improved delivery on social rights for citizens, building on 20 key principles. In it, the various dimensions of what constitutes job quality are captured, in essence, in terms of rights; the Action Plan for monitoring EPSR implementation in the Member States plays a central role in benchmarking and learning by exchange of good practices.

This section proposes a series of actions that could usefully be considered either at the national level (i.e. targeted at the 35 countries covered in this study) or at EU level. These actions build on the content and main conclusions of the comparative analysis of the national reports prepared by the 35 ESPN country teams.

A. Recommendations for countries

A.1 It is important that countries ensure that all young people, regardless of employment status, have equal access to social protection and income support schemes.

This could include the following actions:

- reviewing the appropriateness of age-based eligibility conditions that exclude young people from accessing benefits;
- adopting an integrated approach to helping young people towards autonomy, with a focus on promoting youth employment, especially standard forms of employment, along with ensuring access to social protection rights for those in non-standard forms of employment;
- investing in universal youth services to ensure that young people receive holistic qualitative support;
- improving the take-up of benefits in different population groups, by designing monitoring instruments and policy measures to tackle the reasons for non-take-up. Countries should ensure that there are effective mechanisms in place to support young people.

A.2 It is important that countries tackle high youth unemployment and underemployment to improve their access to social protection.

Targeted policy measures should be considered; these could include both short-term and long-term measures to produce better employment outcomes for young people, by improving their employability and opportunities on the labour markets through quality jobs.

A.3 Countries could gainfully strengthen the provision of income support to unemployed young people, and reform contributory unemployment benefits to adapt them to the situation of new entrants and to the spread of non-standard forms of employment.

More specifically, countries could consider:

- reducing the minimum period of contributions needed to access unemployment benefits, and consider adapting employment reference periods for young workers to take into account their shorter participation in the labour market, as recent entrants;
- reviewing the method used to calculate benefits to make it less detrimental to young people, who are often overrepresented in low-paid occupations.

A.4 It is essential that countries ensure equal access to social protection for trainees, apprentices and students in line with the spirit of the Council Recommendation on access to social protection for all.

Countries could consider:

- introducing traineeship and apprenticeship contracts that enable the young person to start contributing to the unemployment benefit system;
- reforming welfare systems to ensure students have access to adequate income support in case of loss of student jobs.

A.5 It is important to improve the access of young people to healthcare services.

The costs of health care services and availability of the right services at the right time determine access to quality healthcare. Countries could consider, where relevant:

- developing integrated youth-friendly strategies combining preventive (health education, outreach activities) and curative (affordable and accessible services) measures;
- taking measures to remove as far as possible the barriers to access related to excessive share of costs and extra costs in health systems, and to resolve issues affecting the quality of services (for instance long waiting lists).

A.6 It is crucial that countries ensure the social inclusion of young people by providing them with adequate (minimum) income support.

This could include the following actions:

- extension of the eligibility criteria for minimum income schemes to young people aged 18-29, in those few countries⁴ where some of this age group is not yet eligible. Total reliance on family support in these countries is a significant obstacle to young people accessing housing and independence;
- ensuring an adequate means-tested minimum income, as a key pillar of an active inclusion strategy for youth. This should be done in the framework of integrated approaches that also support pathways to quality jobs and inclusive labour markets, as well as comprehensive access to good-quality and affordable services.

A.7 It is important that countries enable access to decent, adequate and affordable housing for young people.

They could consider:

- adopting an approach to housing support that recognises the difficulties young people face in making their transition to independent living, notably regarding access to property, rental or social housing;
- ensuring housing support for young people in line with market prices, and improving housing opportunities in the private market for all young people, including the most disadvantaged;
- adopting measures to address the shortage of housing stock and the consequent increase in property and in rental prices such as appropriate rental regulation to ensure affordable rent and subsidised housing;
- improving the take-up of housing support measures, addressing complex administrative procedures and systemic inefficiencies which inhibit the access of young people to existing support.

⁴ Cyprus, Denmark, France, Luxembourg and Spain.

B. Recommendations for the EU level

B.1 It is important to ensure that the EU financial mechanisms supporting young people are anchored in a long-term perspective.

The Reinforced Youth Guarantee promotes stable labour market integration with a focus on quality employment. Its implementation can be co-funded through EU structural funds under the Multiannual Financial Framework (European Social Fund Plus) and from temporary large-scale financing lines such as *NextGenerationEU (Recovery and Resilience Facility)*, aimed at relaunching growth in European economies.

B.2 The EPSR Revised Social Scoreboard could better reflect youth issues.

The EPSR highlights the special attention that must be devoted to young people and the low-skilled, who are more vulnerable to fluctuations in the labour market. The indicators included in the EPSR Revised Social Scoreboard play a key role in identifying, in a comparative EU perspective and particularly for vulnerable groups of people, problematic situations which require targeted or longer-term structural reforms.

- Further indicators covering those aged 15-29 could be introduced in the EPSR scoreboard, especially indicators relating to gaps in employment, unemployment, economic inactivity and involuntary part-time and/or temporary work.
- The extension of the upper age limit to 29 is justified in the Reinforced Youth Guarantee Recommendation by the recognition that school-to-work transitions and sustainable labour market integration are now taking longer, because of the changing nature of work, extended periods spent in education and the skills in demand. Consequently, the 15-29 boundaries of the definition of youth could be harmonised, for consistency's sake. Furthermore, this extension would contribute to the statistical robustness of these indicators.
- There is also a need to develop comparative studies and indicators on the dynamics of young people's disadvantages and in particular the persistence of these disadvantages over time.

B.3 It is essential to tackle discrimination against young people, notably regarding their access to social protection.

In this respect, the Horizontal Directive on Equal Treatment, implementing the principle of equal treatment between persons irrespective of religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation, and currently under discussion, is of crucial importance.

B.4 It would be useful to explore how the issue of young people could be deepened in the European Social Dialogue.

Within the European social dialogue, at both cross-industry and sectoral levels, the European social partners could develop or renew dialogue on the issue of young people as a particularly vulnerable group in the labour market. This dialogue could focus on income, acquisition of professional skills, prolonged periods in atypical jobs that do not allow (vulnerable) young people to progress during their working life cycle, and more generally lack of opportunities.

1 QUANTITATIVE OVERVIEW OF THE ACTIVITY STATUS AND WELL-BEING OF YOUNGER AND OLDER AGE GROUPS

The age category commonly used at European level to define ‘young people’ is 15-24 years old. This definition was earlier used for the Youth Guarantee⁵ (launched in 2013). It is also the one most widely used by Eurostat. In this Synthesis Report, the upper limit of this age group is extended from 24 to 29 years. This is in line with the Council Recommendation of 30 October 2020 which reinforces the Youth Guarantee⁶ - a commitment by all Member States to ensure that all young people under the age of 30 receive, within a period of four months of becoming unemployed or leaving education, a good quality offer of employment, continued education, an apprenticeship or traineeship. The extension of the upper age limit to 29 is justified in the 2020 Recommendation by the need to take into account that school-to-work transitions and sustainable labour market integration are now taking longer, because of the changing nature of work, extended periods spent in education and changes in the skills demand. Furthermore, it may also be expected that the economic downturn resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic will mean that a larger proportion of 25-29-year-olds become unemployed and require support. The 29-age limit is also consistent with Member States’ youth-related measures and programmes, which are generally available to young people between the ages of 15 and 29 (Council 2020).

This section reviews, for the ESPN countries, a number of indicators relating to employment and activity statuses (Section 1.1), unemployment and economic inactivity (Section 1.2) but also to the risk of poverty or social exclusion as well as of material and social deprivation (Section 1.3).

One objective of this section is to compare the situation of 15–29-year-olds with that of 30–64-year-olds, in order to establish the relative disadvantage of young people. For this purpose, a simple ratio of the rate observed for 15–29-year-olds to that observed for 30–64-year-olds is used. If the ratio is equal to one, the two age groups face a similar risk. The closer this ratio is to zero, the lower the rate observed among the young, compared to the older population, i.e. the lower the relative risk for the young. Conversely, ratio values greater than one indicate a higher prevalence of the risk among 15–29-year-olds than among 30–64-year-olds.

In this Section 1 of the report only, the country acronyms within brackets are listed in ascending order so that the difference between countries within a group can be observed. In the other sections of the report countries are listed in alphabetical order.

1.1 Employment and activity statuses

Young people are less frequently in employment than their elders

In 2020, on average for the EU-27, the employment rate of young people aged 15-29 was 46.1%, well below the 74.9% for 30–64-year-olds (see Table B1.1 in Annex B). There is considerable variation between Member States in the employment rate of young people, ranging from 29.5% in Greece to 70.2% in the Netherlands. Youth employment rates are particularly low, at around 30-35%, in one group of countries (EL, IT, ES). Bulgaria is also close to this group (38.5%). In contrast, youth employment rates exceed 60% in another group of countries (DK, AT, MT, NL) and to a lesser extent in Germany (59.9%). Among the 30-64 years old the scale of the difference is smaller than that observed for young people, ranging from 64.7% in Greece to 83.1% in Czechia.

⁵ Council Recommendation of 22 April 2013 on establishing a Youth Guarantee OJ C 120, 26.4.2013, pp. 1–6. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2013:120:0001:0006:EN:PDF>

⁶ Council Recommendation of 30 October 2020 on A Bridge to Jobs – Reinforcing the Youth Guarantee and replacing the Council Recommendation of 22 April 2013 on establishing a Youth Guarantee 2020/C 372/01. [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32020H1104\(01\)&from=EN](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32020H1104(01)&from=EN)

An analysis of the ratios of youth employment rates to employment rates of older people shows that the relative disadvantage of young people is strongest in the three countries where youth employment rates are the lowest (IT, EL, ES). In these countries, the employment rate is more than twice as low for young people. Young people are also at a marked disadvantage in the rest of the EU countries. Among the non-EU countries, young people are at less of a disadvantage in the United Kingdom and Turkey than in Serbia or Macedonia.

In terms of trends, youth employment rates increased slightly, on average in the EU, between 2015 and 2020. However, the EU average masks differing trends within the EU. Youth employment rates increased by 2.1 to 3.2 percentage points (pps) in a group of countries (NL, LT, DE, FI, PL, HU), and even more significantly in a few others, where increases of more than 5 pps have been observed (HR, MT, CY). In a non-negligible number of countries, youth employment rates fell or stagnated during the same period (AT, BG, CZ, EE, ES, FR, IE, LV, LU, RO and SE). Among the non-EU countries, the youth employment rate increased in Serbia, Macedonia, and to a lesser extent in the UK, but fell in Montenegro and Turkey. Employment rates of 30–64-year-olds have increased in all EU countries, but to different extents. The increase is particularly pronounced (5 pps and more) in half of the EU countries (LV, CZ, RO, SK, HR, PL, BG, PT, HU, EL, SI, CY, MT). In the group of non-EU countries, there is a marked increase in the employment rate of older people in North Macedonia and Serbia and to a lesser extent in the United Kingdom, but a decline in employment rates can be observed for Turkey, and stagnation in Montenegro.

The relative disadvantage of younger people compared to older people, as expressed through the comparative ratios, has changed very little between 2015 and 2020. The upward or downward movements are very small, less than 0.05 of a ratio point. Only Latvia shows a slightly larger downward trend than the other countries, by one tenth of a ratio point. In the group of non-EU countries, the changes observed are also very small.

Almost all young people, but also older people, who work, do so in dependent paid employment

In 2020, on average in the EU-27, 92.5% of employed 15–29-year-olds were in dependent paid employment (see Table B2.1 in Annex B). The European average is lower for 30–64-year-olds (84.2%). This clear predominance of dependent employment is observed in all EU countries, for both age groups. In the 15-29 age group, dependent employment accounts for more than 80% of total youth employment almost everywhere in the EU, with Romania slightly below (74.3%). Among workers aged 30-64 the situation is similar, but to a lesser extent than for younger workers. With the exception of Greece, where dependent employment is less important (67.4%), in all EU countries more than three out of four jobs are in dependent employment. In the group of non-EU countries, dependent employment is strongly predominant for both younger and older people. In almost all EU countries, the ratios are slightly above 1, illustrating that the proportion of people in dependent employment tends to be slightly higher among young people than among older people.

Between 2015 and 2020, the share of labour in dependent employment of 15–29-year-olds remained relatively stable, with variations of less than 2 pps observed over the period, both upwards (HR, CY, DE, BG, AT, SE, IE, NL) and downwards (LU, PT, PL, FI, DK, BE, EE, LT, FR, LV, HU). However, youth dependent employment grew more significantly in one group of countries (ES, EL, RO, IT, SI), with increases of more than 2 pps. In contrast, it decreased more in another group of countries (SK, CZ, MT). For older workers, a limited increase can be seen in 2020 compared to 2015 in most EU countries, but it is somewhat more marked in one group of countries (IE, HR, SI, EL, RO). Moderate declines in paid dependent employment also appear in a group of countries (NL, FR, HU, EE, MT). The very limited magnitude (in hundredths of a ratio point) of the variations in the ratios over time shows that the situation of young people has changed very little.

Young people are more often in part-time jobs than their elders

In 2020, on average in the EU-27, 22.6% of 15–29-year-olds and 17.3% of 30–64-year-olds were working part time (see Table B3.1 in Annex B). The European average masks a polarised situation within the EU. Part-time work rates for young people are low (below 10%) in a group of countries (BG, HR, SK, HU, CZ, PL, RO, LT). In contrast, these rates are above 20% in another group of countries: between 23% and 29% in seven countries (AT, IT, BE, DE, ES, IE, FI) and (well) above 30% in three countries - Sweden (34%), Denmark (46%) and the Netherlands (64%). For the 30-64 age group, there is also a polarisation within the EU, but less marked than for the younger age group. The group of countries with rates below 10% is larger (BG, SK, HR, HU, CZ, RO, PL, LT, PT, SI, EL, LV, CY). At the other end of the spectrum is a small group of countries where more than 20% of older people are working part time (BE, AT, DE). The Netherlands is still an outlier, but less so than for young people (46.1%). In all the non-EU countries, the extent of part-time work is limited for both young and older people, except in the United Kingdom, where rates are significantly higher.

In the majority of EU countries, the ratios reflect a stronger prevalence of part-time employment among young people than among older people. In some countries, the proportion of part-time employment is at least 1.3 times higher for 15-29-year-olds than for 30-64-year-olds (PL, CZ, IT, RO, NL, CY, LV, LT, EE, IE, PT, SE, BG), or even more than twice as high (ES, SI, FI, EL, DK). Only a few countries have ratios close to 1 or even lower, reflecting similar part-time employment rates in the two age groups (LU, AT, DE, BE, FR, HR, MT, SK, HU). Among the non-EU countries there is little difference between the two groups, with ratios close to parity everywhere.

Over time, diverse trends can be observed. In a first group of countries, part-time work for young people is less frequent in 2020 than it was in 2015. This is particularly the case in Slovenia (-7.9 pps), Cyprus (-4 pps) and Denmark (-4.8 pps) and in a group of countries (FR, ES, PT, HR, RO, IE, MT) where the rates have fallen significantly (-2.2 pps - -4.8 pps). Only in Belgium (+2.7 pps) and Latvia (+5.4 pps) has part-time work for young people increased significantly over time. For workers aged 30-64, part-time work has been declining since 2015 in 19 EU countries, but most significantly (by more than 2 pps) in a small group of countries (PT, CY, RO, MT) as well as in Ireland in particular (-3.9 pps). In some countries (EE, LV, DE, FI, NL), a small upward trend in part-time employment for 30-64-year-olds can be observed, which is however only substantial in the case of Estonia (+3.3 pps).

Young people's situation in terms of part-time work, as expressed by the comparative ratios, has evolved differently in the various countries since 2015. The ratios have fallen most markedly since 2015 in Slovenia (-1 ratio point), Croatia and Estonia and Denmark (from -0.4 to -0.45 ratio points) and to a lesser extent in Finland (-0.31 ratio points). They have also fallen, but less strongly, in another group of countries (IT, SK, PL). On the other hand, they have increased since 2015 (from +0.36 to +0.54 ratio points) in some countries (EL, LT, LV) and to a lesser extent (from +0.10 to +0.19 ratio points) in other countries (PT, BE, IE, BG, HU). Among the non-EU countries, the ratios have decreased mainly in Northern Macedonia (-0.53 ratio points) and Serbia (-0.51 ratio points).

Young people are also much more frequently employed in temporary work, i.e. on fixed-term contracts, than their elders

In 2020, on average in the EU-27, one in three young people (33.6%) were in temporary paid employment, but only 9% of 30–64-year-olds (see Table B3.2 in Annex B). This large proportion is particularly noticeable in one group of countries, where more than 40% of youth dependent employment is in temporary work (PT, IT, ES). In contrast, in another group of countries, fewer than 10% of young employees are in temporary work (RO, LV, LT, EE, BG, HU). Among the non-EU countries, temporary work is most common for young people in Montenegro (60.3%) and Serbia and Northern Macedonia (42.1% and 30.3% respectively).

In the 30-64 age group, temporary employment is much less frequent than among young people. In almost all EU-27 countries, temporary employment ranges from 0.8% (in Lithuania) to 13.9% (in Poland). Only Spain stands out (19.5%). Among the non-EU countries, the three countries mentioned above (MK, RS, ME) have higher rates of temporary work, ranging from 15% to 22.4%.

The comparative ratios clearly illustrate the extent of the imbalance in temporary employment between young and older workers. The ratios are above 1 in all EU countries and differ a lot between countries. Only in Hungary, Malta and Latvia, is temporary employment low and comparable between young and older workers. Temporary employment is two to three times more frequent for young people than for their elders in one group of countries (BG, EL, SK, CY, ES, PL, CZ, HR), three to four times more in another group (EE, FI, RO, PT, LU, FR), four to five times more in another group (NL, IT, LT, SE, IE) and more than five times more frequent in a last set of countries (BE, SI, DK, AT, DE). In the group of non-EU countries, temporary dependent employment is generally two to three times more frequent for 15-29-year-olds than for 30-64-year-olds.

The less favourable situation of young people with regard to temporary employment has increased since 2015 at EU level and in some countries (DE, RO, AT, IE, BE, CY, DK, LT).

Contrary to other non-standard forms of employment, 15–29-year-olds are less frequently self-employed than 30–64-year-olds

In 2020 in the EU-27, only 5.4% of young people were self-employed, while this proportion rises to 14.1% for 30–64-year-olds (see Table B4.1 in Annex B). Among 15–29-year-olds, the self-employment rate is relatively low throughout the EU. In a small group of countries, rates vary from 9.1% to 10.3% (RO, IT, PL, CZ, SK), but the rates in the rest of the EU are lower. Among 30–64-year-olds, self-employment is more widespread. The highest values are observed in a group of countries (RO, CZ, MT, NL, PL, IT) where they vary between 15.4% and 19.8%, but most notably in Greece (25.8%). However, there is a small group of countries (LU, DK, DE, SE) where self-employment is less frequent for older people, and rates are below 10%.

In all EU countries the ratios of youth self-employment rates to older self-employment rates are therefore lower than 1 and are the lowest (< 0.25) in Ireland, Austria and Croatia. At the other end of the distribution are Lithuania and Slovakia, where the ratios are around 0.7.

The self-employment rates of young people have changed little since 2015. In one group of countries, however, increases of more than 2% have been observed (HU, SK, MT, CZ). For the 30-64 age group, trends are varied and not strong. The largest decrease is observed in Romania (-2 pps) and the largest increase in Malta (+1.8 pps).

These ratios have hardly changed since 2015. Only Estonia stands out slightly, with a small decrease in the ratio (-0.13 ratio points), while increases in ratios are observed in a small group of countries (HU, LT, SK, CZ) but remain very small (from 0.15 to 0.18 ratio points).

In the non-EU countries, the situation and evolution of self-employment among young and older people is similar to the figures for the EU-27. Between 3.6% (North Macedonia) and 8.4% (Montenegro) of young people are self-employed. Among 30–64-year-olds, this proportion ranges between 13% in North Macedonia and 21.8% in Turkey.

1.2 Unemployment and economic inactivity

Unemployment rates for young people are higher than for older people in all the ESPN countries

In 2020 in the EU, 13.3% of 15–29-year-olds were unemployed, compared to only 5.8% of 30–64-year-olds (see Table B6.1 in Annex B). While youth unemployment rates below 10% can be observed in a group of countries (CZ, DE, NL, PL, MT, AT, HU, BG, SI), they reach 22.1% in Italy and exceed 29%

in Spain and Greece. Among 30–64-year-olds, unemployment rates are lower and there is less variation within the EU - from 2.2% in Czechia to 7.9% in Lithuania, with Spain and Greece showing higher rates than the rest of the EU (13.2% and 14.2% respectively). In non-EU countries, the situation is similar to that observed for the EU-27.

The comparative ratios illustrate that in all ESPN countries, unemployment rates for the 15-29 age group are significantly higher than for the 30-64 age group. The lowest ratio is observed in Lithuania (1.7) and the highest (above 3) in Romania, Croatia and Italy.

Since 2015, and until 2020, youth unemployment rates fell in 21 EU countries. The largest declines were seen in Croatia (-13.1 pps), Greece (-11.5 pps) and Cyprus (-11.3 pps). Unemployment also fell by between 5 and 8 pps in a number of countries (BE, IE, SK, BG, SI, PT, PL, ES, IT). The only country showing a significant rise in youth unemployment between 2015 and 2020 is Estonia (+3.3 pps). Unemployment among 30–64-year-olds also fell in almost all EU countries, but to a lesser extent than for younger people. The falls in the 30-64 unemployment rate exceeded 2 pps in 15 EU countries, and particularly in a group of countries where they ranged from -5.5 to -7.6 pps (PT, CY, ES, HR, EL). Among the non-EU countries, significant decreases in youth unemployment were observed in Serbia and Northern Macedonia (-14 pps and -13 pps respectively). The 30-64 unemployment rates in these countries also fell sharply (by -7.2 pps and -8.1 pps respectively). However, it is worth mentioning that this general decreasing trend over the period 2015-2020 was reversed in 2020 by the onset of the economic crisis generated by the COVID-19 pandemic, but curtailed the policy measures taken to contain it in the EU and elsewhere. In fact, between 2015 and 2019, also the unemployment rates of older age groups followed a decreasing trend in all EU-27 countries, and in particular in five countries (PT, ES, EL, CY, HR). But between 2019 and 2020 the trend was totally reversed and unemployment rates started to rise again, except in Italy.

The economic inactivity rates of young people are far higher than those of older people in all ESPN countries

In 2020, at EU level 46.8% of 15–29-year-olds were inactive and not looking for a job, whereas only 20.5% of 30–64-year-olds were in this situation (see Table B7.1 in Annex B). But the European average masks strong differentiation within the EU, with the lowest youth inactivity rates observed in the Netherlands (24.5%) and Malta (28.8%) and the highest in Bulgaria (57.8%), Greece (58.1%) and particularly Italy (61.7%). The greater economic inactivity of young people (15-29) is largely attributable to the strong difference within this age group between the 15-24-year-olds and the 25-29-year-olds (respectively 62.2% and 18.8%), mainly explained by the high participation of the younger group (15-24) in education. Inactivity rates are significantly lower, although still substantial, for those aged 30-64, ranging from 10.2% in Sweden to 28% in Italy. In non-EU countries, inactivity rates are high for both young and old.

An analysis of the comparative ratios clearly reflects the predominance of economic inactivity for young people. The ratios range from 1.4 in Malta to more than 3 in Bulgaria, Czechia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Sweden, while they are below 2 in Croatia, Austria, Malta and the Netherlands. In the group of non-EU countries, the ratios are low: they vary from 1.23 in Turkey to 2.21 in Serbia.

Between 2015 and 2020, inactivity among 15–29-year-olds increased in 18 EU countries. This increase was especially strong in Latvia (+4.9 pps), Spain (+5.3 pps) and Greece (+5.8 pps) and in a group of countries where it varied from 2.2 to 3.6 pps (PT, FR, IT, SK, CZ, RO, SI, IE, BG). In contrast, inactivity rates for 30–64-year-olds followed a downward trend everywhere in the EU except in Spain (+0.9 pp). In 15 countries, these reductions in the inactivity rate were greater than 2 pps, and exceeded 4 pps in Slovenia, Romania, Hungary and Malta (-9.3 pps). The ratios increased everywhere between 2015 and 2020, particularly in Czechia and Latvia (+0.81 and +0.89 ratio points respectively), but also in a group of countries with increases of above 0.5 ratio point (SE, SI, BG). The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic had a major impact on the trend in inactivity rates of both age groups in most

countries. Between 2015 and 2019, inactivity rates among 15-29-year-olds remained stable (i.e. they increased or decreased by maximum 0.3 pp) or decreased in most Member States; they only increased in nine Member States (BG, HR, FR, CZ, SK, ES, LV, RO, EL). But between 2019 and 2020 this downward trend was largely reversed: inactivity rates started to rise again or remained stable in all countries, except in Germany where they decreased slightly (-0.5 pp). Among 30-64-year-olds, the evolutions are quite different. Between 2015 and 2019, inactivity rates declined in all but one Member States (Croatia: +0.7 pp). Between 2019 and 2020, they continued to decrease in nine Member States (MT, LV, PL, LU, HR, EE, LT, RO, HU [decrease between 0.5 and 2.1 pps]) but increased in seven (AT, PT, IE, BG, EL, ES, IT [increase between 0.5 and 1.4 pps]); in the remaining 11 Member States they remained stable.

Young people not employed and not in formal or non-formal education or training (NEET) are a particularly vulnerable group, whose status oscillates between unemployment, especially long-term unemployment, and economic inactivity

Since the Europe 2010 flagship initiative 'Youth on the move', the NEET rate has become a key indicator in European policy discussions to monitor and analyse the prevalence of labour market vulnerability and disengagement among young people.

In 2020 in the EU-27, the NEET rate was 13.7% among 15–29-year-olds (see Table B13.1 in Annex B). The European average masks the diversity of national situations, with rates ranging from 5.7% in the Netherlands to 23.3% in Italy. In addition to Italy, the NEET rate is high in a number of countries with rates ranging from 15.2% to 18.7% (SK, CY, RO, ES, BG, EL). In addition to the Netherlands, as mentioned above, NEET rates are below 10% in a small group of countries (SE, LU, DE, SI). Among the non-EU countries, the NEET rate is lower in the United Kingdom (11.4%) than in the rest of the group, where it ranges from 20% in Serbia to 32% in Turkey.

From 2015 to 2019, NEET rates for 15–29-year-olds fell in most ESPN countries, but rather modestly, except in a small group of countries where the fall was greater than 4 pps (BG, RO, HR, EL). For a few countries, an increase in the NEET rate could be observed over the period (AT, LT, DK). However, here again the general decreasing trend was curtailed by the onset, in 2020, of the economic crisis generated by the COVID-19 pandemic, and by the policy measures taken to contain it in the EU and elsewhere. This marked the end of a historic downward trend beginning after the financial crisis of 2008-2013, which had seen the number of NEETs increase significantly (European Commission 2021b). Looking at the pre-COVID-19 period (2015-2019), there was a decrease in the NEET rate in all EU countries, with the exception of Denmark which showed a small increase over the period (+1.7 pps). But between 2019 and 2020, the trend was reversed in all EU countries, except in Romania where the fall of the NEET rate continued, albeit very gently. The evolutionary pattern in non-EU countries was the same except in Turkey, where the NEET rate increased steadily between 2015 and 2020.

Reducing the number of NEETs is a policy objective of the 'Reinforced Youth Guarantee'. The 'European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan', proposed by the European Commission in March 2021 and followed by a declaration at the Porto Social Summit in May 2021, set a quantified target to reduce the rate of NEETs (15-29 years old) from 12.6% (2019) to 9% by 2030 (European Commission 2021a). Meanwhile, the EU-27 NEET rate grew to 13.7% in 2020, pushing the 2030 target further away. Drawing a lesson from the previous economic crisis, the Joint Employment Report 2021 foresees that the share of unemployed NEETs is likely to increase quite rapidly, and that after the recovery, inactivity rates are likely to again become the predominant challenge related to this group. (European Commission 2021b).

1.3 Poverty and well-being

The risk of poverty and social exclusion (AROPE) is generally higher for 16–29-year-olds⁷ than for 30–64-year-olds

In 2019, the EU average AROPE rates were 24.7% for young people and 20.3% for older people (see Table B8.1 in Annex B). AROPE rates for 16–29-year-olds are particularly high in a group of countries where they exceed 30% (BG, ES, DK, EL, RO). These same countries, with the notable exception of Denmark, and the addition of Italy, form the group of countries with the highest AROPE rates for 30–64-year-olds. In contrast, the lowest AROPE rates are observed in Czechia and Slovenia, both for young people (10.2% and 12% respectively) and for those aged 30–64 (10.3% and 12.6% respectively).

In all EU countries but 4 (Latvia, Malta, Lithuania, Croatia), the AROPE rates of young people are either close (in most cases) or higher than those of older people, as illustrated by the comparative ratios. The relative situation of young people is particularly problematic in the Nordic countries, where the ratios are the highest in the EU (ranging from 1.72 in Sweden to 2.29 in Denmark), and, to a lesser extent, in a group of countries where the ratios range from 1.26 to 1.49 (FR, DE, AT, LU, NL).

Since 2015, AROPE rates for 16–29-year-olds have fallen almost everywhere, except in France and Austria where they have stagnated, and in Luxembourg where AROPE has increased (+4.7 pps). The largest decreases occurred in a group of countries where the rates fell by more than 10 pps (BG, RO, IE, HU). These same countries are also those where the largest reductions in AROPE for the over-30s have been observed. The comparative ratios have therefore changed little since 2015 in EU countries, except in Sweden and Ireland where they have decreased more significantly (-0.22 and -0.20 ratio points respectively) or in Luxembourg, where they have increased.

Using AROPE to measure the relative position of young people as compared to older people is not easy, as people living in the same household (for example young people and their parents) have, by definition, the same AROPE status - due to the fact that the three AROPE components are based on information collected/computed at the household level. The differences between age groups presented above therefore only capture the differences in the AROPE status of young and older people living in different households.

This is one of the reasons why it is enlightening to flesh out the above analysis with information on the newly agreed EU indicator on material and social deprivation (MSD), which combines both household and personal information. People living in the same household may therefore have different MSD status.

The MSD rates of 16–29-year-olds and 30–64-year-olds are relatively close but higher for the 30–64-year-olds in most countries

In 2019 the EU-27 average was 10.7% for the youngest and 12.7% for the oldest age groups (see Table B12.1 in Annex B).

In 24 EU countries, the comparative ratios indicate that the MSD rates of 16–29-year-olds are lower than or very close to those of 30–64-year-olds. The exceptions are Denmark, Finland and Sweden where the ratios are 1.1–1.3. The relative situation of young people is better than that of 30–64-year-olds particularly in Slovenia and to a lesser extent Croatia, which have the lowest ratios (0.52 and 0.58 respectively).

⁷ The data analysed in this section are from the *EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC)*. Unlike those presented in the previous section (Section 1.2), which come from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), the lower age limit of the youth age group in EU-SILC is 16 rather than 15.

With the exception of Finland and Sweden, MSD rates for 16–29-year-olds have fallen everywhere in the EU since 2015. As regards the ratios over time, the situation has remained relatively stable since 2015. The incidence of MSD has increased more among young people than among the 30–64 age group: the ratio is +0.38 ratio points higher in 2019 than in 2015.

In the group of non-EU countries, the incidence of MSD is lower in the UK (11.6%) and Serbia (20%) than in the other countries of the group. Albania appears to be an outlier with regard to MSD, with rates significantly higher than in all other ESPN countries (57.1% for 16–29-year-olds and 61.3% for older people respectively). The comparative ratios of both age groups are close in all the non-EU countries. Since 2015, MSD has been declining everywhere for both 16–29- and 30–64-year-olds, notably in Serbia and Albania.

1.4 Summary overview of youth disadvantage

Table 1.1A presents a visual overview of the situation of 15–29-year-olds in the ESPN countries, for the range of indicators discussed in this section. The colour green indicates that the situation is relatively favourable for young people as compared to the other countries, e.g. a high employment rate or low rates of non-standard work or inactivity. The colour palette gradually changes to red if the situation is less favourable for young people, for example a low employment rate or high rates of non-standard work or inactivity. The countries are ordered by the level of the youth employment rate.

At the top of the table are a cluster of countries where the red colour predominates, where not only are youth employment rates low, but where there are particularly acute challenges in almost all dimensions important to the situation of young people. This is particularly the case in Greece, Italy and Spain, with nuances between the three countries. In Greece, the extent of temporary work for young people is less problematic, as is the rate of self-employment of young people in Spain. There is less material and social deprivation among young people in Spain and Italy than in Greece. In contrast, the bottom of the table is mainly dominated by the green colour, indicating a more favourable situation for young people in these countries, with some nuances here too, pointing to areas where the situation of young people could be improved. For example, in Denmark the situation of young people appears to be better than in other EU countries, except for the large proportion of young people in part-time work and on fixed-term contracts, and their higher AROPE. The Netherlands is the EU country with the highest youth employment rate, but young people are more frequently employed in non-standard jobs than elsewhere, especially in part-time work. The AROPE of young people is also relatively high in this country.

In the group of non-EU countries, the situation of young people is better in the United Kingdom than in the other countries in the group, except for the extent of part-time work, which is the highest. In Montenegro, the situation of young people is worse than in the other countries of the group in almost all areas, except for the extent of part-time work.

Table 1.1B shows the comparative ratios of the situation of 15–29-year-olds to 30–64-year-olds. As mentioned earlier, these ratios highlight differences between the age groups. It highlights some common challenges for all countries, such as increasing the employment rates of 15–29-year-olds and lowering their unemployment and economic inactivity rates. Action is also needed to tackle the overuse of temporary work for young people in all Member States, and of part-time work in 18 of them. With regard to poverty and deprivation indicators, a more mixed picture emerges. The AROPE rates for the two age groups are relatively close in 20 Member States, but higher for young people in the other EU countries. For material and social deprivation, the rates are relatively close but lower for 15–29-year-olds in 21 Member States.

Table 1.1A: Summary overview of relevant key indicators in ESPN countries – population 15–29 - % - 2020^{(*)(**)}

	Employment	Paid employment	Part-time	Temporary	Self-employment	Unemployment	Inactivity	NEET	AROPE	MSD
EU-27	46.1	92.5	22.6	33.6	5.4	13.3	46.8	13.7	24.2	10.7
Greece	29.5	81.8	18.5	18.4	8.9	29.8	58.1	18.7	36.0	31.4
Italy	29.8	86.4	23.8	45.0	9.3	22.1	61.7	23.3	28.2	11.1
Spain	33.9	93.0	25.0	52.0	4.3	29.2	52.1	17.3	31.4	11.9
Bulgaria	38.5	94.5	3.1	6.4	4.0	8.8	57.8	18.1	30.3	30.6
Portugal	41.3	93.6	12.0	44.2	5.0	15.8	51.0	11.0	22.4	11.7
Croatia	41.4	95.6	4.6	33.0	2.9	16.6	50.4	14.6	16.3	6.0
Romania	41.8	74.3	7.6	3.1	9.1	11.6	52.7	16.6	36.4	33.1
Belgium	42.7	90.5	23.9	29.1	7.8	10.7	52.2	12.0	19.9	9.0
Slovakia	42.7	88.2	4.8	12.2	10.3	12.3	51.3	15.2	14.4	11.0
France	43.1	94.1	17.0	37.8	4.9	15.5	49.0	14.0	22.7	10.8
Czechia	45.8	88.9	7.2	15.3	10.1	5.3	51.7	11.0	10.2	4.5
Hungary	45.8	94.2	5.2	8.8	5.2	8.6	49.8	14.7	19.7	18.3
Slovenia	46.6	93.2	15.6	34.5	4.4	9.7	48.4	9.2	12.0	3.3
Luxembourg	47.2	91.4	14.8	18.6	4.8	13.3	45.7	7.7	27.1	3.1
Lithuania	47.6	91.0	8.9	3.5	7.5	13.4	45.0	13.0	18.6	13.7
Latvia	47.8	92.1	12.9	3.3	6.2	13.1	44.9	11.9	17.5	10.1
Poland	48.0	86.9	7.3	38.3	9.4	7.1	48.4	12.9	19.1	6.2
Ireland	49.2	95.9	27.7	22.6	2.6	11.8	44.2	14.2	20.7	10.5
Cyprus	51.6	93.6	13.3	25.7	5.4	13.2	40.5	15.3	16.8	14.0
Estonia	52.3	95.1	17.8	6.4	4.2	12.2	40.3	11.2	18.2	5.0
Finland	53.9	93.5	28.5	31.8	4.9	15.1	36.4	10.3	23.9	6.0
Sweden	54.0	96.7	34.4	37.6	2.5	16.6	35.2	7.2	25.8	4.6
Germany	59.9	97.8	24.0	33.2	2.3	6.3	36.0	8.5	21.4	4.9
Denmark	60.1	97.0	45.8	28.0	2.4	11.0	32.4	10.2	34.2	9.8
Austria	61.7	96.2	23.4	22.6	2.7	8.5	32.5	9.5	20.1	5.1
Malta	66.1	92.0	11.3	10.8	7.6	7.3	28.8	9.4	14.6	9.0
Netherlands	70.2	93.1	64.0	38.8	6.2	7.1	24.5	5.7	22.7	4.2
Albania	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	47.7	57.1
United Kingdom	63.1	92.7	25.7	9.3	6.3	7.6	31.8	11.4	24.7	11.6
Turkey	37.9	79.8	12.5	15.5	5.3	21.7	51.6	32.0	33.1	29.8
Serbia	36.0	85.2	8.9	42.1	7.8	20.5	54.7	20.0	30.5	19.9
North Macedonia	33.5	89.2	3.7	30.3	3.6	29.5	52.4	26.2	33.4	37.6
Montenegro	31.3	89.7	4.2	60.3	8.4	30.7	54.9	26.6	37.8	29.5

(*): For BA and XK there are no data. For AL, only AROPE and MSD are available. For AROPE and MSD the latest data are for 2019 (except for the UK: 2018) and the age group is 16-29. For the other indicators the latest year are for 2020 except for the UK (2019) and Montenegro (2019 for part-time work). Source: Tables in Annex B.

(**) Key: For employment and paid employment, the highest rates are in dark green and the lowest in dark red as high participation of young people in employment and paid employment is considered 'positive' for them. It is the reverse for the colours used for the other indicators.

Table 1.1B: Overview of the ratios of 15-29 to 30-64-year-olds in ESPN countries

	Employment	Paid employment	Part-time	Temporary	Self-employment	Unemployment	Inactivity	AROPE	MSD
EU-27	0.62	1.10	1.31	3.74	0.38	2.29	2.29	1.19	0.84
Italy	0.45	1.11	1.37	4.24	0.47	3.03	2.21	1.11	0.89
Greece	0.46	1.22	2.57	2.11	0.34	2.10	2.35	1.18	0.99
Spain	0.49	1.12	2.05	2.67	0.30	2.22	2.57	1.20	0.83
Bulgaria	0.50	1.07	1.92	2.08	0.38	1.89	3.03	1.11	1.05
Portugal	0.53	1.10	1.79	3.48	0.36	2.94	2.94	1.06	0.89
Czechia	0.55	1.07	1.33	2.81	0.62	2.44	3.44	0.98	0.88
Slovakia	0.56	1.04	1.08	2.27	0.72	2.18	2.61	1.04	1.02
Romania	0.57	0.94	1.38	3.47	0.59	2.99	2.22	1.12	0.89
Belgium	0.58	1.07	0.98	5.19	0.57	2.42	2.23	1.01	0.73
France	0.58	1.08	1.00	3.86	0.40	2.50	2.30	1.26	0.82
Hungary	0.59	1.08	1.10	1.66	0.43	2.57	2.56	0.97	0.94
Slovenia	0.60	1.07	2.21	5.45	0.39	2.33	2.61	0.96	0.52
Croatia	0.60	1.10	1.01	2.96	0.24	3.02	1.87	0.89	0.58
Lithuania	0.60	1.03	1.59	4.37	0.70	1.70	3.23	0.81	0.67
Latvia	0.61	1.07	1.58	1.21	0.51	1.76	3.05	0.79	0.63
Luxembourg	0.63	1.01	0.79	3.75	0.62	2.59	2.16	1.44	0.79
Poland	0.64	1.11	1.31	2.76	0.49	2.96	2.12	1.07	0.70
Sweden	0.64	1.08	1.80	4.53	0.27	2.72	3.46	1.72	1.11
Estonia	0.65	1.08	1.61	3.23	0.38	2.11	2.80	0.98	0.67
Ireland	0.66	1.13	1.75	4.65	0.18	2.88	2.03	1.07	0.78
Cyprus	0.67	1.09	1.45	2.61	0.42	2.15	2.29	1.01	1.00
Finland	0.68	1.08	2.53	3.28	0.39	2.59	2.27	1.79	1.20
Germany	0.74	1.09	0.83	6.13	0.25	1.90	2.28	1.35	0.69
Denmark	0.75	1.07	2.83	5.59	0.28	2.78	2.01	2.29	1.28
Austria	0.81	1.11	0.83	6.09	0.22	1.87	1.60	1.35	0.87
Malta	0.86	1.12	1.02	1.55	0.44	2.23	1.40	0.80	0.92
Netherlands	0.87	1.16	1.39	4.21	0.33	2.63	1.45	1.49	0.84

Albania	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	0.59	0.93
United Kingdom	0.79	1.12	1.10	2.60	0.39	2.90	1.77	1.22	1.26
Montenegro	0.53	1.17	0.90	2.69	0.40	2.10	1.77	1.09	0.89
North Macedonia	0.53	1.10	1.01	2.02	0.28	2.22	1.90	0.98	0.99
Serbia	0.52	1.13	1.00	2.60	0.41	2.81	2.21	0.99	0.83
Turkey	0.73	1.17	1.07	1.75	0.24	2.16	1.23	1.11	1.09

Notes and Source: See (*) below Table 1.1A.

Key: If a cell is not coloured, the situation of 15–29-year-olds is close to that of 30–64-year-olds: the comparative ratios lie between 0.75 and 1.24. For the coloured cells, the logic followed for the choice of colours is the same as in Table 1.1a – from dark green (better situation for young people than for older people) to red (reverse). For employment and paid employment, all ratios lie between 0.26 and 1.25; the colours are as follows: orange (comparative ratios between 0.26 and 0.49) and yellow (0.50–0.74). For the other indicators, the range of the ratios is much broader; colours: dark green (≤ 0.25), medium green (0.26–0.49), light green (0.50–0.74), yellow (1.25–1.49), orange (1.50–1.74) and red (≥ 1.75).

2 ACCESS TO UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The access of young people to financial support when they are not in employment or are, for various reasons, outside the labour market, is of critical importance for their well-being, their future life opportunities, and their ability to find a job or re-enter the labour market. More generally, it may determine whether they can afford to move out of the parental home and live independently. As shown in Section 1, the EU-27 average in 2020 of the unemployment rate for the 15–29 is 13.3% versus 5.8% for the 30–64 (Table B6.1 in Annex B).

Income support for the unemployed mainly consists of unemployment benefits. These benefits can take the form of either unemployment insurance or unemployment assistance. Eligibility for unemployment insurance benefits tends to depend on workers, including young people, being part of the social insurance scheme and accumulating a minimum number of contributions – or being in employment for a certain amount of time – within a given period. The conditions for eligibility and the length of time over which benefits are payable vary across countries.

Unemployment assistance is primarily aimed at preventing unemployment-related poverty: it is normally means-tested and made available to unemployed individuals who are ineligible or no longer entitled to unemployment insurance benefits. The level of unemployment assistance benefits is generally lower than that of unemployment insurance (European Youth Forum 2016). The majority of ESPN countries do not have a separate unemployment assistance scheme in place (exceptions include AT, EE, ES, FI, IE, MT, PT, SE; BA, UK) but mostly rely on general means-tested social assistance made available to low-income households.

2.1 Access to contributory unemployment benefits

Unemployment insurance benefits are characterised by a clear contributory logic. Therefore, they can only be claimed after a certain minimum period in employment with paid contributions; their level is often established in proportion to the level of earnings received in the previous job and their duration often depends on the length of the person's contribution record. All ESPN countries except for Kosovo have an insurance-based unemployment scheme.

The main eligibility conditions and benefit entitlements that apply to the scheme in the ESPN countries as far as young people are concerned are described in Subsections 2.1.1-2.1.6.

2.1.1 Age

In most ESPN countries, the same conditions of eligibility for unemployment benefits apply to all age groups. There are, however, some exceptions made for young people.

In 19 ESPN countries including 13 Member States (AT⁸, BG⁹, CZ, DE, EL, HR, HU, IT, LV, NL, RO, SE, SI) and six non-EU countries (AL, BA, ME, MK, RS, TR) there is no explicit minimum age for receiving unemployment benefits. The entire 15–29 age group therefore has access to unemployment benefits in the same way as the 30–64 age group. In a second group of nine Member States (CY, EE, ES, FR, LT, LU, MT, PT, SK), young people must be at least 16 years old to be eligible, and this age is raised to 18 years in five Member States and the United Kingdom (BE, DK, FI, IE, PL), de facto excluding 15–17 year-olds. However, there are exceptions in four Member States (DK, EL, FI, LV) and in the UK:

- In Denmark, people have to be between 18 years of age and two years below the pensionable age in the public pension scheme to join an unemployment insurance fund. However, people

⁸ In Austria, young people are excluded from statutory unemployment insurance until they have completed compulsory schooling, which takes nine years and is usually completed at the age of 15. Persons not subject to compulsory schooling or exempted from compulsory schooling are not eligible for statutory unemployment insurance until their 15th birthday.

⁹ The age from which a person is allowed to work in Bulgaria is 16. Persons aged 15 can be employed in a limited number of activities considered 'light'.

who have taken a vocational training course of at least 18 months are exempt from the lower limit of 18 years.

- In Greece, the long-term unemployment benefit is available only to young people aged 20 or over.
- In Finland, there is no minimum age for joining an unemployment insurance fund. However, unemployment benefits can only be paid to those over 17 years of age. In addition, only work done after the age of 17 contributes to weeks in employment. Thus, fund membership is virtually useless to persons under 17 years of age.
- In Latvia, people over the age of 15 are, in theory, allowed to work unless they are pursuing full-time primary or secondary education. However, in practice, as the unemployment benefit is contributory and the social insurance contributions have to have been paid in 12 out of the last 16 months, a person cannot be eligible for unemployment benefit before the age of 16.
- In the United Kingdom, young people under the age of 18 are not eligible either for the 'New Style' Jobseekers Allowance or for the 'New Style' Employment and Support Allowance unless they are responsible for a child or estranged from their family/parents.

2.1.2 Activity status requirement

Activity status requirements do not differ according to age across ESPN countries

In all ESPN countries providing the unemployed with unemployment benefits, standard workers¹⁰ are covered by unemployment insurance and are entitled to unemployment benefits once unemployed. In Slovakia, all people above the age of 16 can contribute voluntarily to the unemployment insurance regardless of their work situation. In Finland, young people above 17 can join the unemployment insurance fund during the summer or while in part-time work, on paid university internships, or in self-employment. However, oftentimes, they do not join.

In general, non-standard workers have the same access to unemployment benefits as standard workers in all 34 countries, provided that they have completed the required qualifying period. In practice, however, they have more difficulties to meet the eligibility criteria, their access and protection level may be considerably different and, in some cases, inadequate. This is particularly the case in contributory systems, which require conditions to be met concerning minimum time in employment, hours worked and/or earnings received. As young people are overrepresented in some forms of non-standard work, the gaps in access for non-standard workers may be more significant for the 15–29 age group¹¹. Several national teams highlight that some categories of non-standard workers do not have access to the scheme, such as platform workers and paid voluntary workers and community workers in Belgium; domestic employees in Spain, and at-home workers in Portugal. In some countries, specific categories may also not have access to unemployment benefits: persons in copyright contracts¹² in Slovenia and Lithuania, for example, and marginal part-timers in Austria.

As reported by ESPN experts, the self-employed are required to be insured against unemployment in ten Member States (CZ, DE, EL, ES, HR, HU, IE, LU, MT, SI) and three non-EU countries (BA, ME, RS), while they can join unemployment insurance schemes on a voluntary basis in some others (AT, BG, DE, DK, RO, SE, SK). In six ESPN countries (CY, LV, NL; AL, MK, TR), the self-employed do not have any access to unemployment protection. In Italy, *ISCRO* – the only unemployment scheme existing in Italy

¹⁰ Standard workers are defined as full-time, permanent and directly employed workers.

¹¹ On average for the EU-27 in 2020, the temporary work was much more frequent for young people (33.6%) than for the 30–64 group (9%). The same happens to a lower extent regarding part-time work: 22.6% versus 17.3% respectively. See Tables B3.1 and B3.2 in Annex B.

¹² Copyright contracts are contracts entered into by creators/authors with producers, publishers or other first exploiters of their works.

designed to cover a (limited group of) self-employed workers – protects those employed as para-subordinate professionals¹³ whose labour income drops by a predefined amount. In Belgium, self-employed people do not have access to the unemployment scheme¹⁴ but do have access to the so-called ‘bridging right’¹⁵. In Portugal, most types of former self-employed have access to the benefit for termination of activity. These include sole proprietors (i.e. individual employers), members of statutory bodies (e.g. Board of administrators, Board of trustees, etc.) of foundations, associations or cooperatives and those considered to be economically dependent self-employed, i.e. self-employed with at least 50% of their income originating from a sole entity.

Apprentices have access to the unemployment schemes in at least 12 Member States (AT, BE, CY, DE, DK, ES, FR, IE, IT, LU, MT, RO). The situation is similar for trainees in at least eight Member States (AT¹⁶, BE, CY, DE, DK, FI, LU, MT) (see Box 2.1).

Box 2.1: Access to contributory unemployment benefits for trainees and apprentices

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, only apprentices employed on a contract, which stipulates payment of payroll contributions, will be entitled to unemployment benefits.

In Germany, apprentices are generally subject to compulsory insurance. If no training allowance is paid, a fictitious minimum salary is used to calculate the benefit entitlement. Young individuals undergoing free training are subject to unemployment insurance. In contrast, pupils/students completing an internship as part of their studies are considered to be in education and are therefore not subject to unemployment insurance.

In France, apprentices are considered to be active when employed on a contract and can therefore claim unemployment benefits.

In Luxembourg, full-time trainees and apprentices who remain unemployed at the end of their training have access to the scheme under special conditions. For trainees and apprentices whose training comes to a premature end, if the contract is terminated through no fault of their own, the public employment agency will either try to find them a new apprenticeship or trainee post, or, depending on the situation, may allow them access to the unemployment benefit scheme under certain conditions. They are not eligible for the scheme if they leave their job or their apprenticeship contract for no justifiable reason, if their apprenticeship or their internship contract is terminated for serious misconduct, or if they are dismissed for serious reasons.

In Spain, trainees under 30 years of age and apprentices between 16 and 25 years of age or people above this age with disabilities or from a socially excluded group are entitled to unemployment benefits under the same conditions as in the general scheme.

Source: ESPN national reports.

Some countries (e.g. AT, CZ, DE, EE, MT, PT) have part-time unemployment benefit schemes, which enable claimants to keep part of their unemployment benefits while earning low wages from a job¹⁷. These schemes are targeted at people who have lost full-time work and found a part-time job or have a secondary job and are seeking a new job in order to work more hours. Typically, jobs must be temporary or subject to specific limits regarding working hours and/or earnings (OECD 2020).

¹³ Para-subordinate professionals are those professional and freelance workers who – unlike professionals with an association, e.g. lawyers, architects, etc. who are covered by the private social security funds managed by their professional association – are not members of a specific professional association and, thus, pay social security contributions to the special fund named *Gestione Separata*, managed by the Italian Social Security Institute (INPS).

¹⁴ In addition, if a self-employed person worked as an employee before becoming self-employed, and received unemployment benefits at least 1 day before working as a self-employed person, he/she can ‘reopen’ his/her unemployment rights, subject to certain conditions. https://www.onem.be/fr/documentation/feuille-info/t87#h2_5

¹⁵ These flat-rate benefits can be granted for a period of 12 months in case of insolvency, collective debt arrangement, forced termination of activities for reasons outside the control of the self-employed person, or cessation of activities due to economic problems.

¹⁶ In Austria, all apprentices are covered, but only certain other trainees, depending on details of their specific agreement/contract with the company where the training takes place.

¹⁷ In Czechia, claimants can keep the total amount of the benefit, not just part of the benefit, when working part time, up to a certain earnings limit.

2.1.3 Contributory history requirement

Contributory history requirement is not age-specific in ESPN countries except for Austria, Belgium and Slovenia

In all ESPN countries except for Belgium, Austria and Slovenia, the contributory history requirement is the same for all insured people including young unemployed people. In order to be entitled to unemployment benefit, an insured person must have paid insurance contributions for a given period of time prior to registration as a job seeker.

Minimum contribution periods vary between countries, the typical qualifying period being 12 months within a reference period (e.g. BG, CZ, DE, EE, ES, HU, LT¹⁸, LV, MT, PL, PT, RO, SE¹⁹; AL, BA, RS). In other countries it varies between three months (IT), six months (e.g. CY, EL, FR, FI, LU, NL), nine months (ME, MK) and 24 months (SK; UK). The reference period is on average 24 months (e.g. AT, CZ, FR, HR, PT, RO, SI), and varies between nine months in the Netherlands to four years in Italy and Slovakia.

Some countries have restrictions on the minimum amount of contributions or hours worked, which may hinder access of part-time employees who are less likely to fulfil those criteria. In Denmark, to become eligible for unemployment insurance, a person must have had an income of €32,800 within the last three years, i.e. €2,734 per month over 12 months. The latter is also the maximum amount that can be included per month. However, recent graduates who are unemployed have access to unemployment insurance benefits even though they have not fulfilled the hours worked requirement. In Finland, contributions must be based on at least 18 hours of work per week for 26 weeks before becoming unemployed. The Irish unemployment benefit scheme requires a minimum amount of earnings paid in the two tax years preceding the year of claim. In the United Kingdom, eligibility is dependent upon a person having paid enough Class 1 National Insurance contributions within the last 2 tax years. In Germany, persons who are mainly employed for short periods have easier access to unemployment benefits, with a qualifying period of six months instead of 12, under a special regulation that will expire on 31 December 2022.

Some countries have modified the eligibility criteria to shorten the minimum contribution periods for young people:

- In Belgium, applicants have to prove a certain number of working days in a reference period that differs according to age category, prior to application for unemployment benefits. For people younger than 36, the qualifying conditions relate to the employment record over the previous 21 months, rather than 42 months for people older than 36.
- In Austria generally, at least 52 weeks of work subject to compulsory unemployment insurance is required within the preceding 24 months. For young people aged below 25, 26 weeks of insured employment within the last 12 months are sufficient, also for a first-time application.
- In Slovenia, for persons aged 30 and over, the minimum contribution required is 10 months of insurance in the last 24 months; this period, however, is shorter for persons aged below 30: only 6 months of insurance in the last 24 months.

¹⁸ Except for the Jobseeker's allowance, introduced during the COVID-19 pandemic from 12 June 2020 for six months until the end of the year, and extended to 2021 for the period of the state of emergency or lockdown plus one month. No contribution record is required.

¹⁹ Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, each month of membership between March and December 2020 counts as four months of membership. It should be noted that there is also a requirement of past work history, which does not vary by age. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, relaxed work requirements are in force until 1 January 2023 (either at least 60 hours of work per month during six of the last twelve months, or at least 40 hours of work per month and 420 hours of work during a consistent six-month period).

2.1.4 Waiting period

A waiting period applies in a few countries, with no distinction by age group

Of the 34 ESPN countries with an unemployment insurance scheme, only six Member States (AT, EE, EL, FI, FR, SE) and the United Kingdom impose a waiting period before receiving benefits. It varies from five days in Finland to four weeks in Austria (under specific circumstances²⁰). It is six days in Greece (only for the first application) and Sweden and seven days in Estonia, France and the UK. No distinction is made in these countries by age group. In Denmark, there is no waiting period at the start of the unemployment benefit period. However, there is a one day waiting period every fourth month which is cancelled if the claimant has had a few days of work in the period. In Luxembourg, a waiting period of mostly 6 months applies only for trainees, apprentices, pupils and students, who leave the education system and are unemployed.

2.1.5 Replacement rate

The level of benefits is usually not age-specific, but there are some exceptions

The level of unemployment benefit is established in different ways. In most countries, it is calculated as a percentage of previous earnings for a set period of time (e.g. AT, BE, BG, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI²¹, FR, HR, HU, IT, LT, LU, LV, PT, RO²², SE, SI, SK; BA (only in the Republic Srpska entity), RS). In six countries, the unemployment benefit is not based on previous earnings (FI, IE, MT, PL; BA (only in Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina entity (FBiH), UK). Insurable earnings of the previous year are calculated in Cyprus. In Albania, unemployment benefits are set at 50% of the minimum wage. In Finland, the unemployment protection system is two-layered. It is divided into contributory income-related benefits and two basic social security benefits (basic unemployment allowance and labour market subsidy, €726 per month) for those who have not joined an unemployment fund. The basic unemployment allowance is paid to persons who are not unemployment fund members, but who meet the same work requirements. The labour market subsidy targets those unemployed people who have not fulfilled the work requirement or whose earnings-related unemployment allowance or basic unemployment benefit has expired because the maximum number of days have been used up. In Ireland, while the core benefit system is a flat rate, there is a system of tiered benefit levels for those on lower earnings. The core personal rate applies to those whose earnings in the relevant tax year (RTY) were ≤ €300 weekly. There are three other, lower weekly rates: €159, €131 and €91, with the rates descending according to earnings (in the RTY). The Irish expert underlines the fact that these lower rates may affect younger workers, because of their higher incidence of low pay.

Specific rules apply to some categories of young people in the following countries, although these are generally not based strictly on age criteria:

- In Denmark, generally, the replacement rate is 90% of previous earnings, up to a benefit ceiling of €2,600 per month. People in education are paid a benefit at a so-called graduate level of 71.5% of the maximum benefit, equal to €1,860 per month. Benefits to graduates

²⁰ In Austria, the waiting period applies in case of dismissal by the employer (*Entlassung*), in cases where the employer terminates the employment contract due to persistent neglect of duties or related reasons concerning the employee. The waiting period also applies if the employee terminates the employment contract without 'good reason'. A 'good reason' would normally be gross neglect of duty by an employer. No waiting period applies when an employee and an employer end an employment relationship by 'mutual consent' (*einvernehmliche Auflösung*). The same holds in a case of unilateral redundancy decided by the employer, e.g. for economic or organisational reasons (*arbeitgeberseitige Kündigung*).

²¹ Finland has a flat-rate basic benefit for those who for various reasons do not have access to income-related benefits. Thus, the Finnish unemployment protection system is a dual system for all residents and for all age categories older than 17 years of age.

²² It is a mixed system, with a very small part related to previous income and length of contribution. It is clearly not calculated as a percentage of previous earnings, but makes up a small percentage (up to 10% of the previous earnings, depending on the length of the contributory period).

providing for a family are set at a level of 82% of the maximum benefit, equal to €2,030 per month.

- In Poland, unemployment benefits are flat-rate. If a graduate is referred to training by the Public employment service, she/he is entitled to a scholarship amounting to 60% of the unemployment benefit. At her/his request (or with consent), she/he may be referred to an internship with an employer (no longer than 12 months). The graduate is then entitled to a scholarship amounting to the full unemployment benefit.
- In Luxembourg, if they are eligible and after a waiting period of 26–39 weeks, young people without a prior employment record (trainees, apprentices, pupils and students who leave the education system and are unemployed) receive a flat rate calculated at 70% of the minimum wage (40% for those under the age of 17 who have dropped out of education).
- In the United Kingdom, the amount of the ‘New Style’ Job Seekers Allowance is dependent upon age. Under 25s receive a lower benefit rate than the wider working age population.

2.1.6 Duration

Duration is linked to the amount of time over which contributions have been paid but is not age-specific, except in Portugal, Slovenia and Austria

In terms of maximum duration of the coverage, in many ESPN countries, the period for which it is possible to claim unemployment benefit is linked to the amount of time over which contributions have been paid. Accordingly, in these cases, younger people eligible for benefits tend to receive them for a shorter period than older workers because they have not been in employment long enough to build up lengthy contribution records (Social Protection Committee 2013). In a majority of countries, one year of work entitles a person to benefits for less than one year: the maximum duration of benefit receipt is three months in Hungary, the Netherlands and Slovenia, four months in Bulgaria²³, five months in Austria and in Czechia, and six months in EE, DE, RO, SK, and UK. In Belgium, the duration of unemployment benefits is unlimited.

In three countries, ESPN experts reported specific rules based on age:

- In Portugal, the entitlement period depends on the age of the beneficiary and the number of months with registered earnings for social security purposes since the beneficiary’s last period of unemployment. The duration of the benefit is different for the 15–29 and for the 30+ age groups, being less favourable for young people than for older groups²⁴.
- In Slovenia, for young people with at least ten months of insurance, the duration of the benefit is the same as for older groups (at least three months). However, for persons below 30 years of age, there is an additional possibility to receive unemployment benefit with six–nine months of insurance, in which case the duration is two months.
- In Austria, unemployment benefit (UB) is usually granted for a maximum of 20 weeks. However, the maximum duration may be expanded to 39 weeks if the beneficiary is at least 40 years old and shows 312 weeks of employment subject to unemployment insurance within the last 10 years and to 52 weeks if the beneficiary is at least 50 years old and shows 468 weeks of employment subject to unemployment insurance within the last 15 years.

²³ If a person has worked 3 years or less.

²⁴ Two different situations may apply depending on whether or not the applicant met the minimum qualifying period requirement for accessing unemployment benefits on 31 March 2012.

2.2 Main gaps and obstacles in access to contributory unemployment benefits

Based on the description of the eligibility conditions and benefit entitlements, this subsection highlights, on one hand, the main gaps faced by young people in accessing the scheme (exclusions according to activity status and age) and, on the other hand, the main obstacles. Even when they formally have access to the system, the eligibility requirements can be so strict that for some categories of young people it is de facto very difficult to access the benefits. Other factors, such as cumbersome administrative procedures, lack of information, attitudinal aspects, stigmatisation, etc. may also hinder take-up of schemes.

2.2.1 Main gaps

All the 35 ESPN national teams reported on gaps in access to contributory unemployment benefits in their respective country. In Kosovo, the lack of an unemployment insurance system is a gap. In the remaining countries, experts identified mainly two types of gaps: the first concerns exclusions of certain young people on the basis of age (e.g. BE, DK, EL (for the long-term unemployment benefit), IE, LU, PL, RO; UK), the second on the basis of activity status (e.g. AT, BE, CZ, DE, EE, EL, ES, FR, HR, IT, LT, LV, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK; AL, BA, MK, RS, TR, UK).

Age-based exclusion from the compulsory unemployment scheme can be found in Greece where young people aged 15–19 do not have access to the long-term unemployment benefit, as this is available only to people aged 20 or over. In Belgium, young people under 18 cannot access the unemployment benefit system. In Luxembourg this age limit is 16 years. In Romania, the self-employed can, in principle, acquire unemployment insurance, on a voluntary basis, yet this is restricted to people aged 18 or over.

In several ESPN countries (e.g. CY, CZ, FR, HR, IT, LT, LU, NL, RO, SE, SI²⁵, SK; RS, TR), trainees are not considered to be in employment and are therefore excluded from the unemployment scheme. The same is true for apprentices in a set of countries (e.g. CZ, HR, LU, NL, SE, SI, SK; RS, TR). In Finland, only apprentices and trainees who do not affiliate to an unemployment insurance fund are excluded.

Exclusion of students has been reported in a few countries (e.g. BE, DE, DK, EE (except those on academic leave), IE, LU, SI, RO; BA, UK). As reported by the Danish expert, the main coverage gap for people in education concerns educational programmes which do not count towards eligibility (e.g. training courses to become a masseur or acupuncture therapist are not covered). However, only a few courses are not covered, and this does not constitute a major coverage problem for young people. In Slovenia, students performing temporary and occasional agency work through student brokerage services are considered inactive (while in education) and thus do not have access to unemployment insurance. In Belgium, young people working under a student contract do not have access to unemployment benefits.

In 21 countries including 16 Member States (AT, BE, CY, CZ, DE, EE, EL, ES, FR, IT, LT, LV, NL, PL, PT, SI; AL, BA, MK, TR, UK), either all non-standard workers, specific categories of non-standard workers or the self-employed are not covered by the statutory unemployment scheme. These include:

- Some categories of non-standard workers: mini-jobbers (DE), people in marginal part-time employment (AT), platform workers (BE), paid voluntary workers and community workers (BE), workers on an Agreement to complete a job (DPP) or an Agreement to perform work (DPČ) if they earn less than the specified limit (CZ); consumer contract²⁶ workers (LT), those contracted

²⁵ However, paid trainees doing an internship have an employment contract and are thus covered by the mandatory unemployment insurance.

²⁶ The Lithuanian Civil Code refers to consumer contracts (*vartojimo sutartys*), through which a natural (or legal) person undertakes to provide goods or services to a client and the client undertakes to accept them and pay the agreed price.

for a specific task (PL); at-home workers²⁷ (PT); persons in copyright contracts (SI), domestic workers (ES), informal workers (MK). This exclusion is not age-specific but it is more likely to affect younger workers, because of their significant representation in some of these categories.

- Non-standard workers are excluded in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- Self-employed people are excluded in 12 Member States (AT²⁸, BE, CY, EE, EL (but only farmers), FR, IT (except for para-subordinate professionals), LT, LV, NL, PL, PT²⁹) and four non-EU countries (AL (no opt-in possible), MK, TR, UK).

2.2.2 Main obstacles

The insurance-based nature of unemployment benefits, linking them to previous work history, makes it difficult if not impossible for young people with very little or no work experience to gain access. In the majority of ESPN countries, 12 months of employment/contributions are needed to be eligible for unemployment benefits. The issue has been raised in 19 ESPN countries including 17 Member States (AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, EL, FR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, LV, NL, PT, SE; BA, MK).

Experts from 12 Member States (CZ, DE, EL, FR, IT, HR, HU, LT, LU, PL, PT, SE) and North Macedonia highlighted the situation of newcomers to the labour market (school or university graduates): the transition from education to work is a challenging period for young people, who often have difficulties finding their first job. Yet unemployment benefits tend to be unavailable for young people looking for their first job (OECD 2015). Some experts (e.g. AT, BE, CY, CZ, FR, HU, IE, IT) mention that conditions concerning required minimum employment duration, working hours or earnings are harder to meet for those in unstable (e.g. AT, BE, HU) or part-time employment (e.g. BE, CY, CZ, FR, HU, IE, IT).

A further issue is the link between the duration of the benefit and the amount of time over which contributions have been paid. In a majority of ESPN countries, one year of work entitles the individual to benefits for less than one year: one month in the Republic Srpska entity (BA), three months in Hungary, the Netherlands, Slovenia and in the FBiH entity (BA) for instance, five months in Austria and Czechia and six months in Estonia, Germany, Slovakia and the UK. This maximum duration of payments is not specific to young people, but a short duration of benefit receipt can be detrimental to young people, as reported by national teams (CZ, EE, EL, IT, NL). After this period, the young unemployed will be moved onto unemployment assistance or social assistance depending on the eligibility conditions of these programmes. Such programmes typically provide less generous support than unemployment insurance programmes.

Some experts (e.g. CY, EE, IT, NL, RO; BA, UK) also underlined the issue relating to benefits being calculated on previous earnings, young people being concentrated in low-paid jobs. In countries without unemployment assistance benefits and restrictive GMI, they will be left without any income support benefits (the case in Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Another difficulty arises when eligibility for and receipt of unemployment benefits is subject to very strict conditions, often coupled with negative sanctions (e.g. UK). Activation measures in most countries are marred by punitive trends, where refusal to accept any job offered (regardless of its quality or sustainability) often means a reduction or a total loss of benefits (e.g. AL).

Those providing goods or services under such contracts can also be employed and/or self-employed, but this is not an obligation.

²⁷ Workers with service agreements similar to labour contracts, but without a relationship of subordination, working from their homes.

²⁸ But they can opt in to unemployment insurance, although they very rarely do so.

²⁹ As for self-employed who are neither individual employers nor members of statutory bodies and who are not considered to be economically dependent are excluded from access.

Other barriers highlighted by national experts include complexity of applicable rules (e.g. DK), stricter rules for the self-employed (e.g. DE, EL, RO), and difficulties accessing information (e.g. FI, PL; AL, RS, UK). In Finland, young low-income workers and workers on temporary contracts are less likely to belong to unemployment funds. In order to be insured, the person must actively join the fund him/herself. However, due to ignorance about how the system works, the youth participation rate is low.

2.3 Access to unemployment assistance

Young unemployed who have no employment record (for instance those who have just completed education or dropped out of school) or have an insufficient work history can in some countries claim unemployment assistance. The level of unemployment assistance benefits is generally lower than that of unemployment insurance. The majority of ESPN countries do not have a separate unemployment assistance scheme in place, but mostly rely on general means-tested social assistance made available to low-income households (see Section 5). Ten national experts (AT, EE, ES, FI, IE, MT, PT, SE; BA, UK³⁰) reported on the availability of unemployment assistance in their country³¹.

The schemes described by the national experts are geared towards unemployed people with insufficient contributory history (e.g. FI³², EE, ES³³, IE), or unemployed people who have exhausted their entitlement to regular unemployment benefits (AT, FR³⁴, ES³⁵, MT). In Finland and Sweden, a basic unemployment allowance is provided to unemployed people who meet the work requirements but are not members of an unemployment insurance fund, or have not been insured for long enough to qualify for income-related benefits.

The main eligibility conditions and benefit entitlements that apply to the scheme in the ESPN countries as far as young people are concerned are described in Subsections 2.2.1-2.2.6.

2.3.1 Age

Generally, age is not a criterion for eligibility for unemployment assistance. A clear exception in Sweden, where the basic unemployment benefit is only paid to unemployed people above 20 years of age. However, for those aged 16–24, there is a special scheme linked to participation in the Job guarantee for youth (see further below).

2.3.2 Activity status

Applicants must be registered as unemployed actively seeking a job (e.g. AT, EE, ES, FI, FR, MT, PT, RO, SE). Standard and non-standard workers usually have access to an unemployment allowance (e.g.

³⁰ Since its introduction in 2013, the Universal Credit is gradually replacing various non-contributory benefits (housing benefit, the income-related Employment and Support Allowance, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Child Tax Credit, Working Tax Credit, Income Support). According to the British ESPN expert, the merging of these six in- and out-of-work benefits into a single Universal Credit is a radical reform of the social security system. UC is now the main working age benefit in the UK. It is expected that all legacy benefits will be migrated to UC by 2023.

³¹ In Lithuania, a temporary flat-rate Jobseeker's allowance was introduced during the COVID-19 pandemic. It ran from 12 June 2020 for six months until the end of the year, extended to 2021 for the period of the state of emergency or lockdown plus one month. In Poland, a lockdown allowance was payable to people working under a civil law contract or self-employed. The lockdown allowances received by the self-employed are exempt from personal income tax.

³² For the labour market subsidy.

³³ Subsidy due to insufficient contributions to the contributory unemployment benefit (*Subsidio por cotización insuficiente*)

³⁴ *Allocation de solidarité spécifique*.

³⁵ Allowance available to people with family responsibilities who have exhausted their unemployment benefit.

AT³⁶, EE, FR, IE, PT (except for at-home workers), SE) as do the self-employed (e.g. AT³⁷, EE, FR, IE, SE). While in some countries, trainees (e.g. AT, ES, IE, PT [with mandatory contributions]) and apprentices (e.g. EE, ES, IE) have access, they are excluded in Sweden. Those in full time education are excluded in Ireland.

Young people may be subject to specific conditions in order to be eligible. This is the case in two countries:

- In Finland, to be entitled to the labour market subsidy, young unemployed people below 17 years of age with no vocational qualifications must participate in employment-promoting measures. Claimants between 18 to 24 years of age are obliged to apply for a study place. If the claimant does not apply for a study place or does not accept the study place offered, they may lose their entitlement to unemployment benefits.
- In Malta, young unemployed people under 23 years old are required to enrol in the Youth Guarantee Scheme (YTS) in order to be entitled to the unemployment allowance. The YTS provides training to young persons to acquire the necessary skills to become gainfully employed. Failure to enrol in YTS automatically disqualifies a young person from receiving the allowance³⁸.

2.3.3 Contributory history requirement

Most of the schemes reported by the ESPN experts under this section are non-contributory (e.g. EE, FI, IE, MT, SE) and means-tested (e.g. EE, ES³⁹, FR, FI – Labour market subsidy). In Estonia and Sweden, no contributory history is required but claimants must meet the same work history requirement (SE) as for the unemployment insurance benefits, or a shorter one (EE), to be eligible. In Austria, unemployment assistance may be granted once the maximum period for unemployment benefit has been reached; therefore, for unemployment assistance the same work history requirements apply as for unemployment benefit. The situation is different in three countries: in Spain and in Portugal, a shorter contribution period is required than that needed for the regular unemployment benefit. In France, to be eligible for the *Allocation de solidarité*, claimants must have been in paid employment for 5 out of the 10 years preceding the end of the employment contract on the basis of which their rights to unemployment insurance benefit were acquired.

2.3.4 The level of the benefit

In some countries (e.g. AT, EE, ES⁴⁰, FI, FR, PT, SE), young unemployed receive the full unemployment allowance since benefit amounts are set irrespective of age. In Finland, the labour market subsidy is reduced by parents' income in the case of a young applicant living with their parents.

³⁶ In Austria, as with unemployment benefits, a person has no access to unemployment assistance if they have previously been in marginal part-time employment (*geringfügige Beschäftigung*), i.e. when income from one employment relationship is below the marginal earnings threshold (*Geringfügigkeitsgrenze*), currently (2021) €475.86 per month. This also applies if their total income from several jobs with marginal part-time employment is higher than the marginal earnings threshold.

³⁷ Only if the person has previously opted into an insurance scheme.

³⁸ It is worth mentioning that in Malta young persons who live with their parents do not qualify for unemployment assistance. They qualify only if they are the 'head of a separate household' and live in a separate residence. A similar eligibility condition is found in France where applicants wishing to receive the *Garantie Jeunes* allowance must also be independent from their parents and not receive any financial help from them. Young claimants must provide evidence of their situation: if they are no longer living with their parents and constitute an independent tax unit, they must provide a tax declaration in their own name.

³⁹ Subsidy due to insufficient contributory history for the contributory unemployment benefits.

⁴⁰ Ibid.

2.3.5 Waiting period

No waiting period applies in France, Ireland and Malta. A non-age-specific waiting period applies in Spain, Finland (Basic Allowance) and Sweden (Basic allowance). In Estonia, those who apply for the unemployment allowance based on earlier, full-time studies (activity equal to work) have a waiting period of 60 days. In Finland, special regulations apply for applicants to the Labour market subsidy younger than 25 years of age. If the claimant has not completed vocational training, the waiting period is 5 months (instead of 5 days).

2.3.6 Duration

The duration of the benefit is the same as for older groups except in Portugal, where it is shorter for younger people.

2.4 Main gaps and obstacles in access to unemployment assistance

2.4.1 Main gaps

A few gaps have been reported by the national teams, related to age-based exclusions (e.g. IE, SE), lower rates of benefits (e.g. IE), activity status-based exclusions (e.g. AT, IE, PT) and the obligation to first exhaust contributory unemployment benefits (e.g. ES, FR, MT). Examples include the following:

- In Ireland, young people under 18 are not eligible for the Jobseeker Allowance (JA). In addition, the rate of the Jobseeker Allowance for 18–24-year-old adults is lower than the full adult (≥ 25 years) rate. The means-test for young people residing in the parental home may reduce their entitlement below the already lower rate of JA for 18–24-year-olds.
- Still in Ireland, full-time students in higher education are not eligible for the Jobseeker Allowance until they have completed their course.
- In Portugal, former self-employed people, members of the voluntary insurance scheme (including trainees in traineeships without mandatory contributions) and (former) at-home workers do not have access to unemployment assistance.
- In Sweden, people below 20 are not eligible for the basic allowance.

2.4.2 Main obstacles

Few obstacles have been reported in access to unemployment assistance for young people. Some which have been reported are the following:

- In Estonia, it is more difficult for young people who were previously on academic leave to receive unemployment benefit, as academic leave is not counted as studying.
- In Finland, the majority of young unemployed do not have access to unemployment assistance for two reasons: on one hand, the long waiting period in the labour market subsidy scheme for those without vocational education, and on the other hand the risk of exclusion if they refuse to work, participate in activation schemes or if they have interrupted their studies. They then have to apply for the basic income support.
- In Portugal, means-testing conditions are deemed to hamper the access of young people to the benefit.

2.5 Schemes targeted at young people

Four ESPN countries have set up specific schemes targeted at young people:

- In Belgium, young people below 25 who are no longer in compulsory education and who finish their studies have access to professional integration benefits (*Allocation d'insertion professionnelle*) during 36 months. Young people under 21 only have to prove they have successfully finished their education. Before receiving the benefit, they must follow a 310-day professional integration programme.
- Still in Belgium, young people aged from 15 (provided they have completed two years of secondary school) or 16 to 25, after the period of full-time compulsory education, can opt for dual learning, combining part-time education with an apprenticeship (*Start Bonus and bridging unemployment benefits for young people in dual learning*). For three years, they can receive a starting bonus, provided they successfully finish school. This fee is neither considered as a wage, nor as a social protection benefit. When they are temporarily unemployed, they can access so-called bridging unemployment benefits without having to fulfil the qualifying period required to access temporary unemployment benefits.
- In France, young people neither in employment, nor in education or training (NEETs) aged between 16 and 25 may receive a Youth Guarantee (*Garantie Jeunes*) allowance for one year. To be eligible, beneficiaries must take part in a labour market programme, have income of less than €497.50 per month and be independent from their parents.
- In Romania, a specific unemployment benefit is available for school (lower secondary/upper secondary, professional) or university graduates if they apply within 60 days of graduation.
- In Sweden, young people aged 16–24 taking part in the Job guarantee for Youth scheme receive a Development Allowance. They must be registered as jobseekers with the Public Employment Service for at least three months over a four-month period. The benefit is earnings-related if eligibility for the contributory unemployment benefit is established, otherwise flat-rate. The flat-rate benefit is higher for those aged 20–24.

Age is a criterion for eligibility for the specific schemes described above except in Romania. The eligible age groups range from 16–25 (BE, FR) and 16–24 (SE).

The economically inactive have access to the schemes in Belgium and France. In Sweden, the development allowance is available to unemployed people registered as jobseekers with the Public Employment Service for at least three months over a four-month period. Self-employed people are excluded. In Romania, the unemployment benefit is restricted to inactive young people who are school (lower secondary/upper secondary, professional) or university graduates applying for the benefit within 60 days of graduation and who are registered with the local Labour Force Office.

Regarding the level of the benefit, in Belgium, the *allocation d'insertion professionnelle* is a lump-sum payment, the level of which depends on age and family situation. In Romania, after a waiting period of two months, graduates without a contribution record can receive an allowance of 50% of the value of the reference social indicator (used to set social benefits) for a period of six months. In Sweden, the flat-rate development allowance is higher for those aged 20–24.

No waiting period applies in France and in Sweden. In Belgium, claimants must follow a 310-day professional integration programme before receiving the professional integration benefit. In Romania, recent graduates must complete a waiting period of 60 days before receiving unemployment benefit.

2.6 Main gaps and obstacles in access to unemployment schemes targeted at young people

2.6.1 Main gaps

Some gaps have been identified by the national experts, as follows:

- In Belgium, only young people up to 25 may apply for the Professional integration benefit for school leavers⁴¹.
- In Romania, graduates who have been admitted to another educational programme and graduates of medical, dental or pharmacy school who have passed the residency exam and have been assigned a post are not eligible.
- In Sweden, the self-employed are not eligible for the Development allowance.

2.6.2 Main obstacles

Obstacles have been reported in two out of the four countries offering targeted schemes for young people:

- In Belgium, for recipients of the *Start Bonus and bridging unemployment benefits for young people in dual learning*, work experience in companies is not seen as work covered by a labour contract and gives only limited social security rights. If they cannot find an apprenticeship place in a company, these young people cannot claim income from unemployment benefits.
- In France, the duration of the *Garantie Jeunes* allowance is deemed to be rather rigid, committing young people for at least a year. The government has recently decided that the scheme can run from 9 to 18 months depending on the young person's situation.

⁴¹ The Belgian Court of Cassation ruled that the limitation in duration of integration benefits, which replaced the so-called 'waiting benefits' (unlimited in duration), can be considered a breach of the standstill principle contained in Article 23 of the Belgian Constitution. Article 23 refers to social rights and contains a non-regression clause, except when public interest is at stake. The Court judged that this was not the case when the government decided to limit the duration of integration benefits.

3 ACCESS TO SICKNESS AND HEALTHCARE BENEFITS

This section describes access to sickness benefits (Section 3.1.) and to healthcare benefits/services (Section 3.2.) for young people.

3.1 Sickness benefits

Eligibility for sickness benefits depends on two main criteria: the employment status of the person (salaried worker, self-employed, unemployed etc.), and the period of social security contributions and employment. Entitlement to sickness benefit schemes varies considerably from country to country, and within a single country scheme may vary with regard to duration, eligibility conditions and benefit levels between different types of workers.

The main eligibility conditions and benefit entitlements that apply to the scheme in the ESPN countries as far as young people are concerned are described in Subsection 3.1.1. The main gaps and obstacles are described in Subsection 3.1.2.

3.1.1 Eligibility conditions and benefit entitlements

Age

All ESPN countries provide a right to benefits compensating income loss during absence from work due to sickness⁴². In most countries, ESPN experts report that age is not a criterion for accessing the scheme in their country, and that the 15–29 age group has the same access as the group aged 30–64. In a few countries, however, a minimum age is set: 16 years old (e.g. CY, FI, FR, IE (for the disability allowance), RO; UK (for the personal independence payment) or 18 years old – e.g. NL, RO (for the self-employed who have opted into insurance), UK (for the New Style' Employment and Support Allowance). In Bulgaria, the general conditions for receiving sickness benefits apply to all workers, regardless of their age, although very young workers up to the age of 18 are exempt from the requirement for 6 months of contributory history. In Germany, age is not a criterion, but young people up to the age of 18, depending on their activity status, are exempt from co-payments for benefits from the Statutory Health Insurance.

Activity status

Regarding employment status, standard and non-standard workers (part-time workers, temporary workers, temporary agency workers) are entitled to sickness benefits in all ESPN countries but in Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Specific categories of non-standard workers are excluded in some countries, such as marginal part-timers (AT⁴³), workers on non-standard DPP and DPČ work contracts⁴⁴ (CZ), contracts for the supply of services (EE), workers with labour contracts lasting up to 15 days (PT⁴⁵), and seasonal workers (RS).

⁴² In Kosovo there is no typical sickness insurance programme. After 20 days (for general sickness) and a maximum of 90 days (for work-related sickness), paid by employers, all sick leave and related expenditure is borne implicitly by the employees themselves.

⁴³ However, unlike for unemployment insurance, if an employee is engaged in more than one employment relationship of this type, and if his/her total income surpasses the marginal earnings threshold, statutory health insurance applies. Furthermore, people in marginal part-time employment may opt into statutory health (and pension) insurance; the monthly insurance contribution currently amounts to €67.18. Employees working in marginal part-time employment, who took the chance to opt into the health insurance, also have access to sickness benefits.

⁴⁴ DPP stands for Agreement to complete a job and DPČ for Agreement to perform work.

⁴⁵ Only admissible for seasonal agricultural activity or a tourist event.

Moreover, conditions vary widely for self-employed and unemployed. The self-employed are compulsorily insured in at least 20 Member States (AT, BE, CY, DK, EL, EE, ES⁴⁶, FI, FR, HR, HU, LU, LT, LV, MT, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK) and four non-EU countries (BA, ME, MK⁴⁷, RS). In others, the self-employed can subscribe to voluntary insurance schemes which may be public or private (e.g. BG, CZ, EE, LT, PL; AL). In Germany, for instance, the self-employed can choose between public and private health insurance. In both cases, they pay higher social contribution rates than salaried workers.

In eight Member States (BE, DK, ES, FR, NL, RO, SE, SI), national experts reported that unemployed persons have access to sickness benefits, sometimes subject to specific conditions: that they have not received unemployment benefit or have received it only for less than a year (FR), that they receive contributory unemployment benefits (ES, RO) or agree to take part in a labour market programme (SE).

In four Member States (BE, CZ, LT, PT) and two non-EU countries (BA, RS), trainees and/or apprentices are excluded from access to sickness and healthcare benefits, either because these categories are considered to be inactive (CZ) or because they are not contributing to social security or to the voluntary insurance scheme (PT). Greece has differentiated between trainees and apprentices by making the scheme available to those who have an apprenticeship contract⁴⁸. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, trainees and apprentices who are not employed under a contract which stipulates payment of full payroll contributions are excluded from sickness and healthcare benefits.

Students (e.g. CY, DK, FI, HU) and young graduates (e.g. DK) have access in some countries. Students are also covered by the scheme in Cyprus, provided they are insured. In Hungary, those with a student contract are eligible for 10 days of sick pay and then sickness benefit. In Denmark, new graduates can only be considered to be attached to the labour market, and hence eligible for sickness benefits, if they have received vocational training for at least 18 months, finalised within the last month prior to illness.

Contributory history requirement

The qualifying period does not vary with age in any ESPN countries, with a slight exception in Bulgaria

Another set of eligibility conditions relates to the period during which social security contributions have been paid. No specific contribution period is required for eligibility for sickness benefits in ten ESPN countries (AT, CZ⁴⁹, DE, EE⁵⁰, FI, HU, LU, NL, SE⁵¹; AL). In the other countries, the required contribution period is typically between three (e.g. IT, LT, LV; RS, TR) and six months (BE, BG, CY, ES, PT, RO; MK) but with variations: from two months in North Macedonia to nine months in Croatia. This period can be spread over a certain time span. For instance, in Croatia the minimum period is nine months of consecutive contributions, or 12 months with interruptions during the two years preceding the sickness. Likewise, in Lithuania, the contribution period should be at least three months during

⁴⁶ Since January 2019, insurance against temporary incapacity (*Incapacidad temporal*) due to an accident at work or an occupational disease is mandatory for the self-employed (except for self-employed agricultural workers).

⁴⁷ MISSCEO.

⁴⁸ Apprenticeship contracts are signed between the apprentice and the employer, co-signed by the head of the relevant educational structure in the case of OAED Vocational Schools or approved by the head of the relevant educational structure in the case of Vocational Senior High Schools (EPAL/IEK). According to the relevant Ministerial Decision, apprentices are insured at e-EFKA for the whole period of their apprenticeship.

⁴⁹ As for standard work contracts that constitutes sickness insurance. In the case of the self-employed, there is a minimum 3-month insurance period before full protection is acquired.

⁵⁰ Except for people who were not insured and start working with an employment contract of at least one month.

⁵¹ But the person must have received income from employment for at least 6 consecutive months or once a year in two consecutive years.

the 12 months or at least six months during the 24 months preceding the sickness. In the United Kingdom, entitlement to the ‘New Style Employment and Support Allowance’ requires sufficient National Insurance contributions to have been paid within the last 24 months. In Bulgaria, young workers up to 18 years of age are exempt from the required 6 months of contributions.

Waiting period

Slightly less than half of the ESPN countries (BE, BG, CZ, DE, DK, EL, HU, HR, LT, LU, RO, SI, SK; AL, ME, MK, RS, TR), generally do not apply waiting periods for any activity statuses. Still, in some of these countries, the self-employed are subject to waiting periods (e.g. AT, DK, HR, PL [in case of sickness benefits]). In the other countries, general waiting periods last on average 3 days (e.g. AT⁵², CY, EE, ES, FR, IT, MT, PT). Again, self-employed people are subject to different conditions with longer waiting periods (e.g. CY, DK, EE, SE). In Poland, no qualifying period is required for graduates who have paid contributions for at least 90 calendar days after obtaining their diploma.

The waiting period is the same for all age groups in all ESPN countries.

Level of the benefit

The sickness benefit replacement rate varies most often according to the period of social contributions, the worker’s status (white versus blue collar), the arrangements in collective agreements, and/or the type of sickness (e.g. ES, IT, PL, PT, RO, SI; BA, UK) (Spasova *et al.* 2017). The sickness benefit is paid as a fixed rate of previous earnings (e.g. AT, BG, CY, CZ, EE; AL, BA) or a flat-rate amount. In many countries, there are also differences in the period of entitlement to sickness benefits between employed and self-employed persons (e.g. BE, HR, PT).

The calculation of sickness benefit is not age-specific. The same rules apply to the 15–29 and 30–64 age groups.

Duration

The maximum legal duration of cash sickness benefits for work absence varies widely between countries: from 22 weeks within 9 months in Denmark, to 3 years in Portugal (1,095 days). In Slovenia, sickness benefit can be provided for an unlimited period. The sickness benefit duration can depend on the period of social contributions paid (e.g. EL, IE), and type of sickness (UK). In Hungary, those covered by a student contract are eligible for 10 days of sick pay and then sickness benefit.

The duration of receipt of sickness benefits is the same for all age groups in all ESPN countries.

3.1.2 Main gaps and obstacles in access to sickness benefits

Main gaps

The analysis of the national reports showed that almost half of the countries (CZ, DE, DK, FI, HR, IT, LT, LU, NL, PL, RO, SI, SK; ME) have no specific gaps in access to sickness benefits for young people.

In the remaining countries, national experts identified some gaps not dependent on age but perhaps more significant for young people. Those gaps mainly relate to the exclusion of certain categories of people, such as non-standard workers (SE; AL, BA, RS, XK), specific non-standard workers (AT, CZ, EE, HU, LT, PT; BA), self-employed (e.g. AT, HU, PT, SE; RS, UK, XK), trainees (e.g. BE, BG, EL, LT, PT, RO; AL, BA) and apprentices (BG, DK, EL; XK).

⁵² The waiting period of the first three days of illness is irrelevant for the vast majority of employees in Austria, as they are usually covered by continued payment of wages during this time.

Examples include the following:

- In Austria, the self-employed are often excluded, as only a small number of them decide to opt into the voluntary supplementary insurance for short-term sickness benefit.
- In Belgium, young people with student contracts and trainees in dual learning have no access to sickness benefits.
- In Greece, unemployed and inactive young people are not covered for cash sickness benefits.
- In Hungary, young people are more likely to be employed on simplified employment contracts (HU) covering seasonal and casual work which do not ensure access to sickness benefits.
- In Portugal, young workers with labour contracts of extremely short duration, i.e. contracts lasting up to 15 days and only permitted for seasonal agricultural activity or a tourist event, are excluded from the scheme. Trainees not contributing to the social security system are excluded.
- In Sweden, young people are more likely to be employed on non-standard or short-term work contracts (SE) which do not ensure access to sickness benefits.
- In Albania, only trainees in regulated professions for whom payment of social insurance contributions is compulsory are eligible for sickness benefits. Trainees in other sectors, unless registered as employees, remain outside the scheme.

In Denmark, people in apprenticeships do not have access to sickness benefits but remain entitled to their wage during periods of illness. Similarly, people receiving the State study grant remain entitled to this benefit during periods of illness. Since these two groups have no reduction in income during illness, they are not adversely affected by their lack of access to sickness benefits. In Kosovo, the main gap relates to the absence of a typical sickness insurance programme. After 20 days (for general sickness) and a maximum of 90 days (for work-related sickness), all sick leave and related expenditure is implicitly borne by the employees themselves.

Main obstacles

In at least 11 Member States (CZ, DK, ES, FI, HR, HU, LU, MT, PT, SI, SK) as well as Montenegro and Serbia, national ESPN teams concluded that there were no specific obstacles for young people in their respective country. In some other countries, the obstacles identified mainly concern the required contribution periods (e.g. AT, BE, BG, CY, EL, FR, IE, IT, LV, NL, PL; AL, BA, MK), the prevalence of young people in non-standard work and its potential negative impact on their access to sickness benefits (e.g. BE, BG, CY, EL, IE, NL; AL, BA, MK), and access to information (e.g. AT). Examples include the following:

- According to the Austrian ESPN expert, the main obstacles to access to health insurance and the sickness benefit may be knowledge gaps about the possibility of opting into insurance (for people in marginal part-time employment and new self-employed with low income), and about supplementary insurance for the self-employed.
- The Irish ESPN expert underlines that the contribution rules will ex-post render it more difficult for younger than for older workers to qualify, and the tiered structure of payments combined with the higher incidence of low pay among younger workers means the latter are more likely to receive lower-tier payments.
- The Italian ESPN team highlights the fact that young people are at greater risk of being unemployed, and unemployment is less well covered than employment.
- In the Netherlands, younger self-employed workers (15–24) are less often insured against sickness than those aged 25–45 and 45–65. This may be because they have lower earnings

on average, making it more difficult for them to afford private insurance against incapacity to work.

- In Poland, the self-employed often choose not to pay sickness insurance contributions as these are non-mandatory and reduce the monthly income.

3.2 Access to healthcare

3.2.1 Healthcare coverage

With regard to the coverage of the healthcare systems, ‘a large majority of European health systems provide nearly universal population coverage for a defined basket of healthcare benefits (Baeten *et al.* 2018:16). More precisely, coverage in those systems, which are funded mainly through general taxation, is not related to employment status, and these systems therefore cover the whole population based on a residency principle (e.g. DK, ES, FI, IT, MT, PT, SE; UK).

In Social Health Insurance (SHI) systems, all people contributing to the system are – in principle – covered, which means that both people in employment and the self-employed are covered. The insurance coverage, in practice, also extends to other categories who do not contribute to the scheme, as the State supports those who are unable to pay (e.g. the unemployed, children or students who are family members of a contributing person, recipients of social assistance benefits, caregivers and personal assistants to severely disabled citizens). This results in nearly universal coverage in many of these countries (See Baeten *et al.* 2018, for more detailed information).

In Austria, the different pathways for coverage result in a very high coverage rate, including for the self-employed, those in most forms of non-standard employment (e.g. part-time employment, freelance contracts, fixed-term employment and temporary agency work), and also trainees and apprentices. In France, young people who have reached the age of civil majority (18) can claim the ‘universal health protection’ (*Protection universelle maladie*). Young people under 18 can be covered by the basic health insurance scheme as family members or as an individually insured party if they are sufficiently active on the labour market. In Croatia, the healthcare system is based on compulsory health insurance financed through contributions covering de facto the whole population; while young people up to the age of 18 are insured by their working parents; students are insured by the State. In Poland, young people up to the age of 18, or 26, if they continue education, are covered by their parents’ health insurance, via their educational institution in case of vocational training, or by the State (in case of unemployment or maternity/paternity).

3.2.2 Reimbursement of healthcare costs

In most countries under scrutiny, patient charges are incurred for some health services and products (Baeten *et al.* 2018). But two distinct approaches can be identified with regard to the general policies on user charges in Europe. While in many countries, healthcare services covered by the statutory health system are free at the point of use (e.g. AT, CZ, CY, DK, EL, ES, HU, LI, LT, MT, PL, RO, SK; UK), in others, cost-sharing applies for most inpatient and/or outpatient care services (Baeten *et al.*, 2018:21) though the amounts involved are in some cases symbolic.

According to most ESPN experts, there is no difference between the treatment of young people aged 18 or over and older people insured in the same category for the reimbursement of healthcare costs. However, for the age range 15–18 years old, the situation differs. In several countries, children up to 18 years old are exempted from user charges for healthcare (e.g. DE, EE⁵³, FI, HR, HU, LU, LV, SE; RS).

⁵³ In Estonia, all children under the age of 19 have health insurance and all services (including dental care) that are provided by contracting partners of the Estonian Health Insurance Fund are free of charge.

For example:

- In Croatia, patients under the age of 18 are exempt from co-payment fees. This also sometimes applies to other categories, such as young people in education (e.g. HR, HU), persons suffering from certain diseases, or persons with disabilities (e.g. HR, LV).
- In Czechia, the annual protective limit on out-of-pocket expenditure on prescribed drugs and supplements is CZK 1,000/€40 per calendar year for children under 18, which is five times less than for an adult insured person.
- In Finland, the Social Insurance Institution (Kela) reimburses the costs of prescribed medicines, and children and adolescents do not have to pay the initial annual deductible fee of €50.
- In Hungary, healthcare is free for patients under 18 and patients studying at secondary school or in training school.

About dental care, in many countries, children are exempted from user charges. The age limit for this exemption varies across countries. For instance, the costs for dental care are covered for children aged up to 16 in Malta, 18 in many other countries (e.g. BE, DK, EE, HU, LV, LU, NL, RO, SI; RS, UK) and up to 23 years old in Sweden (MISSOC database). Some examples are provided in Box 3.1.

Box 3.1: Country examples of free dental care for children

In Belgium, the costs of dental care are fully covered for young people aged 0–17, except for orthodontic treatment and non-reimbursable care.

In Hungary, dental care treatment is free of charge for children under 18 years of age, patients studying at secondary school or training school. Patients aged 18 years or over are covered for emergency treatment, dental surgery, plaque removal and treatment of gum deformity. The costs for dental surgical treatment relating to a basic medical problem and for diagnosis of the origin of dental infection are covered for patients of all ages. Co-payments are, however, charged for orthodontic braces (under 18 years of age) and dental prosthesis.

In Latvia, dental treatment and dental hygiene is covered by the State for children under 18. The State also pays for the first consultation with an orthodontist for people under 18. For young people aged up to 22 with orofacial clefts, orthodontic treatment is free of charge.

In Portugal, dentist-cheques are issued for follow-up treatment to children with caries in permanent teeth (children in state schools and also in private not-for-profit schools). The value of each cheque is €35. Young people are partly covered as the two target age groups are those aged 13 to 15 and those aged 16 to 18. Children aged 13–15 are entitled to up to three dentist-cheques. Children aged 16–17 are entitled to one dentist-cheque. Treatment covered by the cheques may include, according to the plan of treatment issued by the dentist, the sealing of fissures in molar and pre-molars and the treatment of all cavities in permanent teeth. Young people aged 18 are also entitled to one dentist-cheque as long as they have used the cheque issued when they were 16.

In Sweden, the financial regulations for dental care differ from health care, as a large part of the costs are borne by patients. Dental care is free of charge for people aged 0 to 23. The pricing of dental care is at the discretion of the provider, and prices therefore differ substantially between providers and types of treatments. The out-of-pocket payments in dental care are high from 24 years of age. However, between 24–29 years of age, there is a higher annual reduction of the costs for dental care compared to those aged 30–64.

Source: ESPN national reports.

3.2.3 Main gaps and obstacles in access to healthcare

Main gaps

Few age-specific gaps in access to healthcare services have been identified by national experts (AT, IE, LU). The Austrian ESPN expert has underlined that some gaps may occur for young people reaching the age-limit for coverage through a family member or after completing school or tertiary education, if they decide not to take up the voluntary self-insurance option. In Estonia, young people are usually covered by the health insurance up until three months after graduation (or one month after their name is removed from the student list); this may lead to a gap in protection if a person does not enter the labour market immediately after graduation. In Luxembourg, two gaps are hindering young people from access: for those who are economically inactive and are not entitled to the GMI because of the age limit of 25 years; and for those aged less than 18 years and wanting to subscribe a continued voluntary insurance. The Irish experts note two obstacles: those aged 16–25 dependent on their family are not entitled to full eligibility unless the parent/head of the household also has full eligibility. For those in the age category 16–25 with an income and living in the parental home, the income cut-off is lower (€164 weekly) than for single people living alone (€184).

Some gaps have been identified which are not age dependent but perhaps more significantly affecting young people. The description of the health systems highlights the exclusion of some specific categories of people. Although a large majority of European countries provide nearly universal population coverage, in some countries certain specific groups of people may fall through the cracks and remain without health insurance coverage based on their activity status: non-standard workers (AL, BA), some specific categories of non-standard workers (e.g. AT, EE, PL, RO; AL, BA), self-employed (AT,) economically inactive people and NEETs (e.g. RO) or trainees (BA). Examples include the following:

- In Austria, employees in ‘marginal part-time employment’ and ‘new self-employed’ on a low income are generally not covered by the statutory health insurance⁵⁴.
- In Poland, there is no health insurance coverage of individuals working on civil law contracts for specific tasks, a situation particularly frequent among young people (e.g. young people in precarious employment such as freelancers).
- In Romania, people who are not on the list of at-risk groups, NEET youth or those who are either inactive or employed in the informal sector are not covered by the scheme⁵⁵.
- In Albania, some categories of young people in non-standard employment as well as trainees in sectors other than regulated professions are excluded from the scheme.

In a few countries migrants in irregular situations/undocumented migrants (e.g. LU; BA, MK) are excluded from the scheme. In Luxembourg, people with no regular address (e.g. migrants in an irregular situation and rough sleepers) are not allowed to apply for social protection and therefore are not covered by health insurance, although living in the country.

⁵⁴ Although they may decide to join the scheme through ‘voluntary self-insurance’.

⁵⁵ However, uninsured persons who need to have access to health services can decide to pay the corresponding mandatory 6-months contribution retroactively. In addition, these categories can be insured as dependents of an insured person in the family (parents, if legal guardians or spouses).

Main obstacles

In general, there are very limited obstacles to access to healthcare in the ESPN countries. Few obstacles have been identified and relate to waiting times (e.g. SE), geographical inequalities and waiting lists (e.g. HU), the high rate of out-of-pocket expenditure (e.g. HU, LV; BA), or difficulties in accessing healthcare services for some specific minorities, such as the Roma community (e.g. SK). In Slovakia, the take-up of healthcare services is significantly lower for the Roma communities, notably for young people. Factors such as information barriers, language barriers, related costs, but also discrimination are sometimes raised to explain this situation. According to the Estonian experts, factors that influence access to healthcare are the relatively low coverage of compulsory health insurance and the overrepresentation of young people aged 15–29 in part-time and temporary work.

Some ESPN experts also mention that some people remain uninsured, when they are not paying their contributions (e.g. BG, DE, EE, HU, LT, RO; BA, TR). In Hungary, the self-employed, sole entrepreneurs and owners of small companies, as well as those not insured mandatorily, who should pay healthcare contributions themselves, may choose not to do so. In other countries, people in certain situations cannot afford to pay healthcare contributions. In Bulgaria, unemployed persons are insured by the State only for the time they are entitled to receive unemployment benefits (4–12 months depending on the previous contributory history). After that period, they must pay their health contributions (even if they do not earn any income) or they will lose their coverage and will thus have to pay for health services. In Poland, the expert considers that healthcare contributions are too high for NEETs over 18 years of age and not registered as unemployed; this may result in them lacking healthcare coverage.

4 ACCESS TO MATERNITY, PATERNITY AND PARENTAL LEAVE BENEFITS

All ESPN countries have a statutory paid maternity leave entitlement. As shown in Table 4.1, many ESPN countries⁵⁶ have statutory paternity leave and provide a paid paternity benefit, for the duration of the leave. The duration of paternity leave can vary from just a couple of days to around a month (four months in Spain). All EU Member States must provide at least four months' parental leave per parent, under the terms of Directive 2010/18/EU, but it is not necessarily paid. National experts from 22 Member States and 2 non-EU countries reported paid parental leave in their respective country.

In the vast majority of countries, maternity, paternity and parental leave benefits are contributory. In only a few countries, non-contributory maternity benefits (e.g. BG, HR, HU, LT, PL, SI) and parental leave benefits (e.g. CZ, HR, LT, PT, SE, SI) are available for those who fail to fulfil the employment or contributory history requirement⁵⁷.

Table 4.1: ESPN countries providing maternity, paternity and parental leave benefits, either contributory or non-contributory

Benefits	Countries
Contributory maternity cash benefits	AT BE BG CY CZ DK EE EL ES FI FR HR HU IE IT LT LU LV MT NL PL PT RO SI SK AL BA (Republic Srpska entity) ME MK RS TR UK XK
Non-contributory maternity cash benefits	BG DE ES HR HU LT MT PL PT SI ⁵⁸ BA (FBIH entity and Republic Srpska entity)
Contributory paternity cash benefits	AT BE CY CZ DK EE EL ES FI FR HU IE IT LT LU LV MT NL PL PT RO SI SK AL BA (Republic Srpska entity) UK XK
Contributory parental cash benefits	AT BE BG DK EE FI FR HR HU IE LT LU LV MT PL PT SE ^(a) SI SK ME RS
Non-contributory parental cash benefits	CZ DE HR LT ^(b) PT RO SI

Notes: (a) In Sweden, there is no maternity cash benefit it is all under the umbrella of the parental cash benefit; (b) for eligible students during the period of studies and 12 months after completion or graduation.

Source: Authors' own elaboration based on ESPN national reports.

The scope of this section is limited to cash benefits related to maternity, paternity and parental leave. Childcare allowances and family allowances are therefore not included.

⁵⁶ It should be noted that In April 2019, the European Parliament adopted a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on work-life balance for parents and carers and repealing Council Directive 2010/18/EU. After the Council formally approved the Directive, EU countries have three years to comply. The Directive will provide, among other things, ten working days of paternity leave, paid at no less than the level of sick pay and parental leave.

⁵⁷ In Romania, parental leave is conditional on formal employment; indemnities are proportional to former incomes, but are considered by the legislation as non-contributory social assistance benefits. It is rather a mixed system.

⁵⁸ The non-contributory benefit (named parental benefit) is received for 12 months, the sum of the maternity and the parental leave.

4.1 Access to contributory maternity, paternity and parental leave benefits

The main eligibility conditions and benefit entitlements that apply to the scheme in the 35 ESPN countries as far as young people are concerned are described in Subsections 4.1.1-4.1.6.

4.1.1 Age

In most of the ESPN countries, access to contributory maternity, paternity and parental cash benefits is not age-specific, meaning that the 15–29 age group has the same access as the 30–64 group. Only three national experts raised the issue of age as an eligibility condition to access the schemes:

- In Romania, young people under 16 or 18 if self-employed are not eligible for maternity leave.
- In Slovenia, if the mother who gives birth to the child is younger than 18 and has the status of an apprentice, a pupil or a student, the father or one of the grandparents may take maternity and/or parental leave with the mother's (and father's) consent.
- In Slovakia, minors under 16 years old are not eligible for the parental allowance if they become parents.

4.1.2 Activity status

The status of employee is an essential but not age-specific gateway to eligibility for the schemes

Employment status is the main factor contributing to variability of eligibility for maternity, paternity and parental leave across the ESPN countries (Table 4.2). The employment-related conditions for accessing these forms of leave vary widely across the countries. For the majority of countries, being an employee is an essential gateway to eligibility for the leave and the benefit, though certain employment-related criteria can vary. There may be a condition related to length of service, i.e. access to the maternity, paternity and parental leave is dependent on time spent in employment or the related social-insurance record (European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) 2020).

Non-standard workers (part-time, fixed-term, temporary agency) usually have access to the same leave and associated benefits as standard workers, except in countries such as Albania and Kosovo (with regard to maternity and paternity leave benefit), Czechia, Italy, Malta (regarding parental leave benefit) and Kosovo (paternity leave). Some specific categories of non-standard workers are excluded from the schemes. These include the following: workers on a civil law contract for a specific task in Poland (not covered by the maternity insurance); workers on very short contracts in Portugal (contracts lasting up to 15 days and only admissible for purposes of seasonal agricultural activity or a tourist event); persons in copyright contracts in Slovenia (excluded from parental leave) unless they pay insurance contributions on a voluntary basis; those employed in simplified employment in Hungary (excluded from the maternity leave scheme).

Some ESPN countries allow mothers/fathers/parents who are economically inactive (e.g. AT, BG, DK, EE, FI, LV, SE, SK) or unemployed (e.g. AT, BE, BG, DK, EL (as for unemployed women with more than 200 days of work), FI, ES, IT, PT, RO, SE, SK; AL, ME, RS, UK) to access maternity/paternity/parental leave benefits, but may still apply additional conditions linked to insurance payments, which typically need to have been ongoing for at least 12 months. While people who are out of the labour market do not need job protection, they also do not benefit from this significant State-provided work – life balance measure, which in most countries offers significant financial support (EIGE 2020).

Table 4.2: Access for young people to maternity, paternity and parental leave benefits based on activity status

Activity status	Maternity benefits	Paternity benefits	Parental benefits
Young non-standard workers	AT BE BG CY DK EE EL ES FI FR HR HU IE LT LU LV MT NL PL PT RO SI SK ME MK RS TR UK	AT BE CY DK EE ES FI FR IE LT LU LV NL PL PT RO SI SK ME UK	AT DK EE FI FR HR HU IE LT LU PL PT RO SE SI SK ME RS TR
Young self-employed	AT(b) BE BG(b) CY CZ(b) DK EE EL(e) ES FI FR HR HU IE IT LT LV MT NL PL(b) PT RO SI SK AL BA ME MK RS TR	BE CY DK FI EE ES CZ(b) FR IE IT(f) LT LV PT RO SI SK AL ME	AT FI EE HR HU IE IT(f) LT LU LV PT RO SE SI SK ME RS
Young unemployed	AT(c) BE DK EL ES FI IT LT(g) LV(h) MT PL PT(c) RO SE SI(l) AL(a) ME	BE DK ES FI PT(c) RO SI(l) AL(a) ME	AT DK FI EE PT(c) RO SE SI(l) SK
Apprentices	AT BG(d) CY DK ES FI FR IE IT LT(g) LU LV(i) MT NL(j) PL(k) RO AL MK(j) RS UK	CY DK ES FI FR IE IT LT LU LV(i) NL(j) RO AL UK	AT EE FI IE IT LT LU LV(i) RO SE SK RS
Trainees	BG(d) CY DK ES FI HR LT(g) LV(i) MT NL(j) PL(k) RO MK(j) XK(h)	CY DK ES FI LV(g) NL(j)	AT EE FI HR LV(i) RO SK SE
Students	DK(m) LT(g) FI MT RO SK(b) ME UK(n)	DK(m) FI ME	AT EE FI HU LT(g) RO SE SK

Notes: (a) Unemployed and returning migrants who pay social insurance contributions on a voluntary basis; (b) if insured on a voluntary basis; (c) if they receive unemployment benefits; (d) if they meet the contributory requirement; (e) self-employed, freelancers and farmers must be eligible to receive benefits in kind (healthcare insurance capacity) in order to be entitled to a maternity allowance; (f) insured self-employed; (g) anyone not receiving contributory benefit can receive non-contributory maternity benefit; (h) if removed from employment (lost self-employed status) not earlier than 60 days prior to maternity leave, or was released from work due to the liquidation of an undertaking not earlier than 210 days prior to maternity leave; (i) if they have a work contract with an employer and social contributions are paid for them, also provided that they have a sufficient contributory history; (j) only if they receive a wage from their employer; (k) if covered by the sickness and maternity insurance; (l) if the person was insured for at least 12 months during the last three years; (m) students with supplementary work have access to maternity/paternity benefit and, if insufficient work, to extra study grants; (n) if they have been in employment.

Source: Authors' own elaboration based on ESPN national reports.

The situation of trainees, apprentices and students varies across countries:

- In Belgium, young people with student contracts and young trainees in dual learning do not have access to maternity, paternity and parental leave benefits.
- In Czechia, Turkey and Kosovo (when trainees are unpaid), both trainees and apprentices are considered to be inactive and not eligible for maternity/paternity/parental leave, while in Lithuania, Portugal and Serbia only trainees are excluded. In Croatia, only apprentices are excluded⁵⁹.

⁵⁹ In Romania, trainees are not excluded: they are not considered as employees, but as in education. As such, they enjoy the same rights as employees, but payable through the health care insurance.

- In Denmark, people on guaranteed minimum income schemes are also excluded. They are not eligible for benefits from these schemes, but can continue to receive GMI benefits in case of maternity or paternity.
- In Albania, trainees do not have access to maternity and paternity leave unless they are trainees in a regulated profession: physicians, dentists, pharmacists, nurses, physiotherapists, social workers, psychologists, teachers, accountants, architects, engineers and vets.

4.1.3 Contributory history requirement

In most ESPN countries, to qualify for maternity benefit a woman must have worked for a certain amount of time or paid social security contributions. The required length of time worked within a reference period⁶⁰ or payment of social security contributions varies from one country to another and can be less than six months (e.g. BE, CY, IT; ME, TR, UK), at least six months (e.g. FI, ES, LU, LV, PT; MK), between 6 and 12 months (e.g. CZ, EL, FR, HR, IE, SK) and at least 12 months (e.g. BG, HU, LT, RO; AL, BA, RS). In other countries (e.g. AT, EE), no such limitations apply, and the eligibility for maternity leave allowance is based on being in employment at the time when maternity starts, or on being insured, while in other countries, no contributory history at all is required (e.g. PL, SE).

In a number of Member States (e.g. BG⁶¹, CY, DK, ES, FI, FR, IE, IT, LT, PT, SE) and in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the same rules as for maternity benefit apply for the paternity benefit, when this is provided. In Czechia⁶² and Romania, fathers need to be insured without a minimum period while in Belgium, working fathers are entitled and no contributory history is required. In Austria, in order to have access to the parental leave bonus for fathers, fathers have to prove actual and uninterrupted work with payment of compulsory sickness and pension insurance during the 182 calendar days immediately preceding the start of the parental leave for fathers.

In all ESPN countries except for Spain, the contributory history requirement for maternity and paternity benefits is not age-specific. In Spain, to be eligible for the maternity and paternity leave benefits, female and male workers over 26 years of age must have 180 contribution days in the 7 years immediately preceding the birth of the child or 360 contribution days over the whole working life. Special rules apply for workers between 21 and 26 years of age: they only need 90 contribution days in the last seven years or 180 contribution days over the whole working life. No minimum contribution period is required for workers under 21 years of age. In Denmark, a special rule applies to recent graduates: they must have finished their education within the month before the maternity period starts.

Seven Member States (BG, DK, FI, HR, LT, PT, SE) allow parents who are inactive or unemployed to be eligible for parental leave benefits, but may still apply additional conditions linked to insurance payments, which typically need to have been ongoing for at least 12 months. Across the remaining countries, all individuals who have employee status are eligible for parental leave, though certain employment-related criteria can vary. In 11 countries there is no condition related to length of service, implying that access to parental leave is not dependent on time spent in employment or a related social-insurance record (e.g. AT⁶³, CZ, DE, EE, ES, FI, HR, IT, LV, PL, SE). In the countries that do have such constraints, there is typically a requirement that the employee needs to have been employed

⁶⁰ Ranging between six months (e.g. BE, UK) and a year (e.g. CY, IE, IT, LU, RO), whereas some countries stretch the period during which previous employment is counted over two years (e.g. EL, LT, LV).

⁶¹ The specific paternity leave is for up to 15 days. The father can take care of the child and use the 'maternity' benefit instead of the mother starting from the 6th month after child birth.

⁶² As for standard working contracts. For self-employed, there is a 3-month waiting period.

⁶³ This holds for the flat-rate childcare allowance. The income-related childcare allowance is subject to compulsory sickness and pension insurance during the 182 calendar days before the birth of the child (interruptions of up to 14 days in total are not counted; maternity leave counts as employment).

for 1 year (e.g. BE, LT, LU, RO⁶⁴), and in some cases in the same job without interruption (e.g. LU). In several Member States, the reference period for the length of service is quite flexible (EIGE 2020). In Slovakia, the required 270 days of employment can be accumulated over a two-year period. Similarly, Hungary requires a work record of 365 days within two years, but also allows for 180 days to be spent in education.

In all ESPN countries with an employment/contributory history requirement for paid parental leave, this requirement is not age-specific: the same rules apply to the 15–29 age group as to the 30–64 age group.

4.1.4 Benefit level

In all ESPN countries, the level of the maternity, paternity and parental leave benefits is not age-specific.

The calculation of the maternity allowance is the same for all age groups. Some countries (e.g. AT, EE, ES, HR⁶⁵, LU, NL, PL, SI; BA (in the Republic Srpska entity), ME) grant full compensation for the entire duration of the maternity leave. In other countries, the link to previous earnings is based on some kind of average over differing past periods; some countries offer a compensation rate of 80% – 90% over the full duration (or major parts thereof) (e.g. BE, BG, IT, LV, RO; UK). Compensation lower than previous pay is provided in others (e.g. CY, CZ, HU, SK; XK). In Belgium, different rules apply to self-employed people, who are entitled to a flat-rate of €499.54/week (gross terms) for full-time leave. In the Netherlands, the self-employed receive a benefit up to minimum wage level. In Greece, the amount of the maternity benefit provided to self-employed workers, freelancers and farmers is significantly lower than the respective allowance provided to employees. In Denmark, graduates are entitled to a weekly maximum of €490 in maternity pay.

Paternity leave is generally paid for the duration of the leave. It is fully paid (100% of previous earnings) (e.g. EE, EL, ES, FR, HU, LT, LU, MT, PL, PT, RO, SI; BA (in the Republic Srpska entity and some cantons), XK), at a flat-rate (e.g. AT, IE; UK) or at a compensatory rate (e.g. AT, BE, BG, DK, FI, IT, NL, LV, SE). The calculation of the benefit is the same for all age groups.

Regarding parental leave benefit, payment policy varies considerably across countries. Parental leave is paid at 100% of previous earnings (e.g. DK, EE, HR, LT⁶⁶, SI) but up to a ceiling, at a flat-rate (e.g. AT⁶⁷, BE, BG, CZ, FR, LU, SK) or at an earnings-related rate (e.g. AT⁶⁸, FI, HU, IT, LT, LV, PL, PT, RO, SE). The calculation of the benefit is the same for all age groups.

4.1.5 Waiting period

No waiting period applies in the majority of ESPN countries providing maternity and/or paternity and/or parental leave benefits. These rules are the same for people in the 15–29 age group as for older age groups.

⁶⁴ 12 months of employment during the last 24 months before claiming.

⁶⁵ In order to obtain the right to the benefit at 100% of the basis for the salary compensation, all employees or self-employed irrespective of age must meet the condition regarding years of service (they have to have worked for 9 months without interruptions or 12 months with interruptions in the last two years). If this condition has not been met, beneficiaries are still entitled to the maternity benefit, but the benefit during the maternity leave amounts to 70% of the budgetary basis.

⁶⁶ Only if the parent opts to receive a benefit until the child turns one year old. If a person opts to receive it until a child turns two years old, the replacement rate is lower, but is received for two years.

⁶⁷ Flat-rate childcare allowance.

⁶⁸ Earnings-related childcare allowance.

4.1.6 Duration

The duration of payment of the maternity, paternity and parental leave benefits is not age-specific.

4.2 Main gaps and obstacles in access to contributory maternity, paternity and parental leave benefits

4.2.1 Main gaps

In 12 ESPN countries (EE, ES, FI, FR, HR, IE, LV, MT, RO, SE, SK; ME, RS), the experts noted no particular gap for young people in accessing the benefits. In the other countries, the gaps identified concern on the one hand the exclusion of certain groups of young people on the basis of age (CY), and on the other hand the exclusion of certain categories of claimants on the basis of activity status (AT, BE, BG, CZ, EL, HU, IT, LT, LU, NL, PL, RO, SI; AL, BA, MK, TR, UK, XK).

Only the Cypriot expert referred to the age of applicants, indicating that although age is not a criterion for receiving these cash benefits, young people up to and including 15 are excluded since real and assimilated contributions begin at the age of 16.

In some countries (e.g. AT, CZ, IT, LT, NL, PL, PT; BA, UK, XK), specific types of employment that might be significant for young people are not covered by the contributory scheme. These include:

- Some categories of non-standard workers: people in marginal part-time employment (AT, unless they opt into healthcare insurance); workers with contracts lasting up to 15 days (PT); individuals working on civil law contracts for a particular task (PL); people working on non-standard contracts, whose contract does not envisage payment of full payroll contributions (BA); agency workers (UK); non-standard workers except for domestic workers (XK).
- The self-employed: the newly self-employed with a low income in Austria are excluded from the maternity scheme unless they opt into healthcare insurance. In Czechia, the self-employed are excluded unless they opt into the sickness insurance scheme. In the Netherlands and in the United Kingdom, the self-employed are not covered for paternity leave.

In several ESPN countries (e.g. BE, LT, PT; AL, BA, XK [as for unpaid trainees]) certain trainees are not considered to be in employment and are therefore excluded from the scheme: in Albania, only trainees in regulated professions for whom the payment of contributions is compulsory are included in the scheme. In Belgium, young trainees in dual learning are excluded. In Portugal, trainees not contributing to social security or to the voluntary insurance scheme are excluded. Trainees are excluded in Kosovo if they are unpaid and in Slovenia if they do not have an employment contract.

The same is true for apprentices in a set of countries (e.g. SI; AL, XK). In Albania, apprentices are considered as being in education even though they have to be paid, and have regular working contracts which include them in the scheme.

Exclusion of students has been reported in three Member States (DK, LT, SI) as well as in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In Denmark, students receiving a study grant, with no supplementary work and access to maternity benefit, can claim extra study grants. In Lithuania, full-time students or pupils are excluded from the contributory scheme but they have access to a non-contributory maternity benefit, lasting until the first year after their graduation. In Slovenia, students performing temporary and occasional agency work through student brokerage services are considered to be in education and are excluded. In Slovenia, students cannot take parental leave but if the mother is younger than 18 years and has the status of an apprentice, a pupil or a student, the father or one of the grandparents may take maternity and/or parental leave with the mother's (and father's) consent.

The exclusion of NEETs has been reported by only three national experts (HU, PL; BA) while the exclusion of unemployed people has been mentioned in three countries (EL; BA, XK). In Greece, unemployed women with less than 200 days of work are not entitled to the maternity benefit. In BA,

young people who have lost unemployment status, because of non-compliance with PES job search requirements and regular reporting, have no right to maternity allowance.

4.2.2 Main obstacles

In 14 ESPN countries (BE, DE, DK, CZ, FI, HR, IT, MT, RO, SI, SK (as for parental allowance); BA (as for parental allowance), ME, TR, UK), the experts noted no particular obstacle for young people in accessing the benefits discussed in this section. In the remaining countries, national experts reported obstacles due to strict eligibility conditions, the disadvantageous situation of the self-employed, inadequacy of benefits, a lack of information and the risk of stigmatisation.

When contributory, the entitlement to maternity, paternity and parental cash benefits is conditional on meeting an employment and/or minimum insurance requirement. These strict conditions are found to constitute an obstacle to young people's access in several ESPN countries (e.g. EL, ES, HU, LT, LV, PL, PT, RO, SK; AL, BA) because of their short work history and their overrepresentation in non-standard work.

Some experts also noted the disadvantage suffered by the self-employed in their countries (e.g. EL, HU, IT, RO; BA). In Greece, self-employed women are disadvantaged compared to salaried women as their maternity leave is shorter and their maternity benefit significantly lower. As pointed out by the Hungarian and Bosnia and Herzegovina ESPN teams, while equal treatment is guaranteed in theory, the disadvantaged position of self-employed women is ignored. In the case of childbirth, although self-employed women are formally entitled to the same benefits as employed women in employment relationships, in reality they rarely enjoy these benefits because they cannot stay away from their business for such a long period, and usually no supportive childcare services are available.

Other experts mentioned the inadequacy of the benefits received. Since the level of benefits depends mostly on previous earnings, young people receive lower benefits (e.g. CY, CZ, EE, NL; BA [in some canton in the FBiH entity]). The experts from Cyprus highlight the fact that both the duration of maternity and paternity leave and the corresponding benefits are insufficient to meet the current situation and social needs of modern young couples and to achieve the desired effect of work/family balance. In the Netherlands, although the recent extension of paternity leave has been very welcomed critics have argued that the replacement rate of 70% is not sufficient for young parents to maintain their livelihood, especially since new-born children involve high costs. This is especially true for lower income households. This issue is likely to impact young people more than people aged over 29, because younger people generally have lower incomes.

The issue of information and stigmatisation has been raised by a few experts (e.g. PT; RS). In Portugal, the national ESPN expert underlines the risk of stigmatisation for young working fathers, who may be faced with explicit or implicit pressure not to make use of the parental leave and associated benefit. This risk may be even higher for the most vulnerable in the labour market such as those on temporary contracts and trainees. In Serbia, workers who are not registered as employees (with permanent or fixed contracts) face some difficulties applying for the benefits, due to a lack of information about their rights and the required procedures to exercise them. This may result in a lower take-up of benefits among this population group.

4.3 Access to non-contributory maternity and parental leave benefits

Some countries provide non-contributory maternity benefits (BG, DE⁶⁹, ES, HR, HU, LT, MT, PL, PT, SI, SK; BA [Republic Srpska and some FBiH cantons]) and parental leave benefits (AT, CZ, DE, HR, LT, PT, RO, SI⁷⁰) to those who cannot access to the contributory schemes. In Croatia, non-contributory benefits are available to all unemployed or economically inactive persons (apprentices, students, pensioners, stay-at-home parents...) irrespective of age. In Portugal, young people in unemployment and young economically inactive have access to the non-contributory benefits as well as young people in employment if they fail to comply with the requirements for the access to the contributory benefits. In Slovakia, a pregnancy scholarship (a non-contributory benefit) is granted to students at universities and students aged over 18 at secondary schools after the 12th week of pregnancy (until birth). In the Republic Srpska (one of BA's entities), the Child Protection fund provides maternity allowance to unemployed mothers; this entity's fund is mainly financed from payroll contributions, but the entitlement to the maternity allowance is not based on previous contributions (and the costs are covered by the entity's budget). In the FBiH, non-contributory maternity allowances for unemployed mothers are also available in some cantons; they are financed from cantonal budgets.

The main eligibility conditions and benefit entitlements that apply to the scheme in the ESPN countries as far as young people are concerned are described in Subsections 4.2.1-4.2.6.

4.3.1 Age

In none of the ESPN countries under scrutiny in this subsection, except in Lithuania is the access to non-contributory maternity and parental cash benefits age-specific, meaning that the 15–29 age group has the same access as the 30–64 group. In Lithuania, the non-contributory parental benefit for students is payable to one of the parents who is studying (studied) in full-time formal vocational training or higher education programmes, until he/she reaches the age of 26, or is (was) in doctoral studies or medical residency until the age of 30.

4.3.2 Activity status

The access to non-contributory benefits is opened to employed people who fail to fulfil the eligibility conditions for contributory benefits (except in HR), the unemployed and economically inactive. In Germany, pupils or students can only receive maternity benefits if they are employed while attending school/studying. Pupils and students without a part-time job as well as apprentices can apply for a parental allowance (*BAföG*⁷¹), but only receive the minimum rate of €300 per month. For pupils and students with a part-time job, the parental allowance increases. If pupils/students receive *BAföG* and do not interrupt their studies, they receive the parental allowance in addition to the *BAföG* amount. If they interrupt their studies, *BAföG* does not apply for this period. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, a person must be in registered unemployment to receive the maternity allowance, which is paid in the Republic Srpska and in some FBiH cantons (see above).

4.3.3 Contributory history requirement

No contributory history is required to be entitled to non-contributory benefits. In Hungary, claimants of the maternity allowance (*anyasági támogatás*) must attend at least four prenatal medical examinations or present, within 180 days of the confinement, the *res iudicata* judgement on adoption or guardianship. In Spain, to access the maternity benefit a person must be registered with the social security system or be receiving contributory unemployment benefit.

⁶⁹ It should be mentioned that in Germany all the benefits are non-contributory.

⁷⁰ In Slovenia, the benefit, though named 'parental benefit' covers the entire period of the maternity and the parental leave.

⁷¹ *BAföG* stands for *Bundesausbildungsförderungsgesetz*, i.e. Federal Education and Training Assistance Act.

4.3.4 Waiting period

No waiting period applies.

4.3.5 Level of benefit

The calculation of the benefit is the same for young people as for older groups.

4.3.6 Duration

The duration of receipt of the benefit does not depend on age.

4.4 Main gaps and obstacles in access to non-contributory maternity and parental leave benefits

4.4.1 Main gaps

A gap has been reported by the experts from Bosnia and Herzegovina, related to the obligation for unemployed people to be registered. This excludes young people in education who cannot be registered as unemployed and therefore cannot receive the maternity allowance. The eligibility conditions for salary compensation during maternity leave and for the maternity allowance disqualify many young parents from receiving these benefits. Those are primarily persons who work as freelancers, those on special service or temporary contracts, whose contracts do not include payment of payroll social insurance contributions, as well as unemployed youth that have lost their unemployment status because of non-compliance with job-search requirements and regular reporting. Another gap has been reported in Germany where pupils and students who are not employed while studying do not have access to maternity benefit.

4.4.2 Main obstacles

Some obstacles have been reported by national experts relating to the low level of benefits (BG, CZ, LT; BA [in some cantons in the FBiH entity]) and to the administrative burden, especially for young low-educated parents (BG). The Portuguese ESPN expert mentions that means-testing conditions may hamper the access of young people to the benefit, especially the fact that the monthly equivalised household income cannot be higher than 80% of the social support index (i.e. €351.05 in 2021). Therefore, young people with a short or even no contribution history, such as recent graduates, may find it particularly difficult to gain independence from their families. In Czechia, the benefit formula reduces the flexibility in terms of the amount and duration of the benefit for families without previous income; hence, younger parents are more often pushed into longer benefit duration and, consequently, longer periods out of the labour market.

5 ACCESS TO GUARANTEED MINIMUM INCOME SCHEMES

For the purposes of this report, and in line with the definition adopted in a previous ESPN report on minimum income (Frazer and Marlier 2016), Guaranteed Minimum Income schemes (GMI) are understood as being essentially *income support schemes for people of working age (whether in or out of work) which provide a means-tested safety net for those not eligible for social insurance payments or those whose entitlement to these payments has expired. They are in effect last resort schemes, which are intended to prevent destitution and to ensure a decent minimum standard of living for individuals and their dependants when they have no other or insufficient means of financial support.* GMIs should be understood as universal (i.e. comprehensive) non-contributory income support schemes which include cash benefits, combined with access to enabling services to help people integrate into society and (re)join the labour market (for those who can work). Access is determined by eligibility, which is subject to conditions such as means-testing, household composition and age. In-kind benefits are not covered here.

This section presents the findings on young people's access to GMI schemes in the 35 ESPN countries. It starts with an analysis of eligibility conditions for entitlement to benefits (e.g. age constraints, activity status requirements and benefit levels). It highlights the differences between countries, in terms of the specificities and coverage of young people in GMI schemes, including those who have just entered the labour market and those who are trainees or apprentices.

Firstly, all the 35 ESPN countries except for Turkey have a GMI scheme. Some countries even have more than one GMI scheme accessible to young people (e.g. DK, FR, IE).

The main eligibility conditions and benefit entitlements that apply to the scheme in the 35 ESPN countries as far as young people are concerned are described in Subsections 5.1-5.4.

5.1 Age

A first differentiating factor in access to GMIs for young people aged 15 to 29, compared to their elders, is the existence of a minimum age threshold for claiming the benefit. As parents are legally required to maintain their children up to the age of their majority⁷², which is currently 18 years old in the ESPN countries, minors cannot apply to GMI schemes as individuals; they are only covered if their parents apply, and if the household resources are below a certain amount. The level of the GMI benefit paid may also vary, depending on whether the 15-17-year-old is considered as a dependent child or as a full adult. This generates a first divide within the group of young people considered in this report (15–29), between those who are still considered the responsibility of their parents (15–17) and those with the individual legal capacity to access social protection schemes (18+).

In several countries, however, access to the GMI is also granted to minors of age when they are living on their own (orphans, young persons with disability, those living independently as part of a (married) couple, parents or pregnant minors, carers of dependent persons, students in full-time education) (e.g. AT, BE, BG, CY, ES, LU, MT, PT, RO; AL, UK). For instance, Portugal provides access to young people aged 15–17 if they have their own income higher than 70% of the reference value of the GMI benefit and providing that they fulfil one of three criteria (being pregnant; being married or living in a non-marital partnership for over two years or having dependent children or persons with

⁷² The age of majority is the age at which a child becomes an adult and acquires full legal capacity. It means that a person can engage in legal activities and is liable for any contractual obligations. The age of majority is 18 years in all EU Member States except for Scotland, where children are considered to have full legal capacity from the age of 16 years. If a child becomes a parent or gets married before reaching the age of majority, in some Member States the child gains full legal capacity. In other Member States, married children will only gain partial legal capacity. For example, they are no longer subject to parental control and can act with regard to their personal needs, but may not be allowed to dispose of immovable property or borrow money. Some Member States also provide for a guardian for children who become parents. (European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights web site).

disability in their household). In Austria, varying age limits are applied in the Social Assistance schemes run by the federal provinces, not all of which have implemented the national Basic Social Assistance Act⁷³. In the United Kingdom, whilst young people under the age of 18 cannot access the GMI scheme, there are some exceptions for 16- and 17-year-olds (i.e. if a young person is responsible for a child or estranged from their family/parents). Some countries also grant access to GMI to underage victims of domestic violence (e.g. ES, SE, SI; AL) or gender-based violence (ES), or of human trafficking and sexual exploitation (ES; AL).

In most of the countries analysed in this report, the GMI schemes are accessible to people 18 and above. However, in some countries age thresholds higher than 18 apply to young people claiming the benefit:

- In Cyprus, applicants must be at least 28 years old, although this age restriction does not apply to married persons, single parents, orphans, disabled persons and persons who are under the legal care of the Director of Social Welfare.
- In Denmark, the main GMI scheme is accessible to people aged 30 years or above and to young people (below 30 years old) who have completed vocational education. Young people below the age of 30 are entitled to other minimum income benefits (*Education Help – uddannelseshjælp*) if they do not fulfil the eligibility conditions regarding completed education or residence.
- In France, young people below the age of 25 cannot access the GMI scheme, unless they are single parents or live in a couple with a GMI recipient aged over 25. However, in 2010 France extended access to the GMI by introducing a specific GMI scheme for young people aged 18–25. The aim was to end the existing age discrimination and to provide support to young people already engaged in a professional career, as well as to those temporarily out of work who have already used up their rights to claim unemployment benefit.
- In Greece, young people aged up to 25 who are enrolled in universities, colleges or vocational training institutes, and live alone are not eligible to receive the single-person household GMI benefit, regardless of their place of residence.
- In Luxembourg, young people below 25 years old cannot claim the GMI benefit. Exceptions are made if the young person below 25 years old is a parent, a mother in the last 8 weeks of her pregnancy, a person incapable of working or an informal carer.
- In Spain, in order to claim the benefit on behalf of the household (including one-person households) a person must be at least 23 years old and must prove (until the age of 30) that they have been living independently⁷⁴ in Spain for at least the previous three years. Young people under 23 years of age (including emancipated minors under 18) can claim the GMI if they have children, are in foster care, or are victims of gender-based violence, human trafficking or sexual exploitation.

⁷³ For example, the Vienna Minimum Income Act explicitly limits this right to adults (applicants must be at least 18 years old). However, in the federal province of Tyrol, under-18s living independently from their family can also apply for the minimum income in their own name.

⁷⁴ Independent living is defined as residence in a domicile other than that of one's parents or guardians for the previous three years, during which time the person has contributed to social security (social contributions) for at least 12 months.

5.2 Activity status requirement

All GMI schemes, whether for young or older people, are aimed exclusively at people of working age living in households whose own financial resources are considered, after a means-testing procedure, to be insufficient to live decently. GMIs, as universal last-resort schemes, are mostly, in principle, equally accessible to all workers, whether they are employees, in standard or non-standard jobs, trainees or apprentices, self-employed, unemployed or economically inactive.

In several countries, no specific activity status is required in order to claim the GMI (BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, EL, ES, FI, IT, LU, LV, PT, SE, SI; AL, MK, RS, UK, XK). For instance, in Greece, the scheme is open to eligible households, irrespective of whether their members are in employment or are out of work. In Portugal, young economically inactive people are covered by the scheme, as well as all young people in employment, including the self-employed, non-standard workers and also trainees. Germany provides coverage to all persons of working age (15 years and older) who are eligible for Unemployment benefit II, regardless of their actual employment status; for example, economically inactive people are covered while taking care of their child up to the age of 3 or looking after a relative in need of care. In Belgium, the scheme is open to both young people who are economically inactive, and people who are in employment but have an income below the minimum income threshold.

In a number of countries, access of young people to the GMI is conditioned by the activity status of the applicant (AT, EE⁷⁵, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, NL, RO; ME). In order to be eligible, all claimants, including the younger, either have to be employed or 'willing to work'. For instance, in Croatia, the GMI is available to employees, self-employed, unemployed and economically inactive persons aged 65 or above. In France, the main GMI scheme (*Revenu de Solidarité Active, RSA*) is accessible to economically inactive people above 25 years old, but not to younger people, unless they meet a family-related criterion (i.e., have one or more children and live alone, or have a partner who is a beneficiary). Young people under 25 can apply to a specific scheme, the *RSA Jeunes*, but must, in that case, have a proven period of work equivalent to at least two years of full-time work in the last three years. The length of the reference period can be extended to three and a half years if the young person has had periods of unemployment.

Specific categories of workers may also be excluded from access to the GMI, such as full-time workers in Ireland or workers on temporary part-time contracts in Luxembourg. Unemployed people may also be denied access to the GMI, or have this access postponed, if they have left their job on their own initiative (e.g. CY, PT, SI) or have been dismissed for serious misconduct (SI).

In the case of the economically inactive population, there is a fundamental dividing line concerning access to GMIs according to whether or not they are able to work. For instance, in Hungary, the GMI benefit is available to those of working age who are not in work. There are two categories of beneficiaries: those who are able to work (who fall under a GMI scheme with a strong activation programme) and those who are not able to work (who have access to another specific scheme)⁷⁶. Economically inactive claimants who are able to work, and particularly younger claimants, are directed to GMI schemes with dedicated activation programmes. In some countries, the GMI scheme is accessible only to people who are inactive and not able to work, and workers are excluded, regardless of the nature of their occupations (PL; BA, ME, XK). In Poland for instance, one of the following conditions must be fulfilled in order to access the GMI scheme: a person must be registered with the public employment services, or be certified as incapacitated for work or be registered as a farmer or

⁷⁵ In Estonia the enforcement of the activity requirement varies according to the local governments responsible of the administration of GMI.

⁷⁶ The Employment replacement subsidy (*foglalkoztatást helyettesítő támogatás*) targets those of active age able to work, while those unable to work are eligible for another GMI benefit, the Support for the health impaired and for child supervision (*egészségkárosodotti és gyermekfelügyeleti támogatás*). To receive the Employment replacement subsidy a person must now be a registered job-seeker, whereas the Support for the health impaired and for child supervision is rights-based.

a student. Nevertheless, persons who do not satisfy these conditions can receive benefits as these are always granted based on a discretionary decision of the Social Assistance Centres (*Cantra Pomocy Społecznej*).

Traineeships and apprenticeships are a gateway for young people to enter the labour market and thus of particular interest to this report. In most of the countries (AT, BE, CY, CZ, EE, EL, ES, FI, IT, LU, LV, NL, PL, PT, RO; AL, MK, UK, XK), the GMI schemes are open to apprentices and trainees, while in others (DE, DK, HR, LT; BA, ME), one or both of these categories are excluded. For instance, in Croatia, trainees are considered as employees (they have the status of an insured person under the mandatory health and pension insurance) while apprentices are considered to be in education and cannot claim the GMI. Conversely, in Lithuania trainees cannot access the GMI, but apprentices can. In other countries, trainees and apprentices are not eligible for GMIs but may be waged (e.g. DK) or they are eligible to other benefits, such as in Germany for instance, where they have access to the means-tested Federal Training Assistance. In Romania, trainees are considered to be in education, and are eligible for educational support, i.e. social fellowships.

5.3 Other eligibility conditions

In all countries, the main condition for access to the GMI is legal long-term or permanent residency. Some countries also impose a minimum period of permanent residence before accessing the GMI, ranging from one year (e.g. ES, PT) to five years (e.g. AT, BG, LU) or more (e.g. DK, IT)⁷⁷. Nationality is generally not a condition in itself, but there are differences in the terms of access depending on the nationality of the claimant. In EU countries, GMIs are open to citizens of other EU countries as well as third-country nationals as long as they are long-term (at least 3 months) or permanent legal residents.

Other cross-cutting obligations also set conditions for access to and receipt of the GMI benefit, but are common to all beneficiaries without distinction of age. In order to benefit from the GMI, it is necessary to have exhausted all possible recourse to other social protection schemes or sources of income from persons outside the household (parental obligation, alimony, etc.) or to cooperate with the social services and respect their requirements.

5.4 Benefit level

In eight ESPN countries (DE, DK, FI, HR, IE, NL; BA, UK) the benefit level differs according to the age of the beneficiaries. For example:

- In Denmark, two different GMI schemes cover young people and both differ according to age group. The first one, the social assistance scheme (*kontanthjælp*), provides a level of benefit that depends on different factors: whether the person has turned 30, is living in his/her own home or at his/her parents, is providing for children, or is receiving a special supplement due to pregnancy or suffer from certain types of mental illness. Benefits are paid out at six levels, ranging from €490 for people living in their parents' home to €2,090 for people who are providers for children, with a pregnancy or activity supplement. The second scheme, the Education Help (*uddannelseshjælp*), depends on whether the person has turned 25 years of age, is living with parents, his/her civil status, eligibility for a pregnancy or activity supplement. As a result, there are 16 different categories of educational help, with eight levels of benefits.

⁷⁷ In Italy, access to the GMI requires a minimum period of legal residence of 10 years, of which at least two must be prior to application. In Denmark, people must prove 9 years of legal residence in the country (or another EU country) and a period of work of at least two and a half years in the last 10 years to access the social assistance scheme and people who do not qualify get another GMI, the integration benefit, on a considerably lower benefit level. In Austria, third-country nationals must have been resident for at least 5 years to have access to the GMI.

- In Finland, the GMI can be reduced for young people under 25 years of age who are not at work or in education.
- In Ireland, claimants aged 24 and under living in the parental home may receive less than the standard payment as parents' incomes are included in the means test.
- The United Kingdom too provides different levels of benefit, depending on whether or not the claimant is above or below 25 years of age.

5.5 Main gaps and obstacles in access to GMI

5.5.1 Main gaps

One of the key criteria for understanding the actual effectiveness of a GMI scheme in providing minimal assistance for young people regards whether, and how, they have access to the benefit.

As a universal non-contributory system, the GMI is available to the entire working-age population, which generally means the population aged 18 to 64. A first exclusion from access to the GMI because of age is for minors (aged 15–17) who therefore cannot claim the GMI individually. They can nevertheless be covered as dependent children of a household that is eligible for the grant because of its low overall disposable income, established after a means-testing procedure. In some countries, specific groups of minors living independently from their parents (orphans, children who have left home, married persons, underage parents or pregnant minors, persons with a disability, carers, students in full-time education, abused minors) may nevertheless have direct access to the GMI (e.g. AT, BE, BG, CY, ES, LU, MT, PT, RO; AL, UK).

While young people over 18 are generally included in the working age population, a second age-related gap in access to the GMI is reported in a small group of countries which have set minimum age limits above 18 for accessing the scheme (CY, DK, and ES 23 years; EL and LU 25 years; CY 28 years; DK 30 years).

In addition to GMI entitlement, young people may also be disadvantaged in terms of the amounts paid to younger beneficiaries. Several countries include a minimum age limit among the criteria modulating the amount of GMI to be paid (DE, DK, FI, HR, NL; BA, UK).

5.5.2 Main obstacles

The obstacles mentioned by the experts are not directly related to age but rather reflect disincentives to claim the right to GMI, which is not awarded automatically but discretionarily after an individual application on behalf of a household.

Among the deterrent obstacles the ESPN experts have first pointed out the inadequate level of the GMI benefit, which is not sufficient to protect (young) people from falling below the poverty line and live decently (BE, BG, DK, EE, FR, IE, HU, LU, LV, NL, PT, RO; UK, AL, BA, XK).

Other highlighted obstacles are related to factors impeding the take-up of GMI, whether unawareness of the scheme (AT), social stigmatisation attached to it (LT, RO, SE), restrictive eligibility rules (BG, FR, LU; BA, XK), including means-testing (EL, HR, LT; AL, BA), complexity of administrative procedures (AT, CY; AL, BA) or distrust/fear of possible sanctions (BE, DE, LT; UK), notably when not complying with active job-search requirements (DE, HU, IT, LT, PL). Restrictions on cumulating the GMI with other social benefits are also mentioned as a potential barrier to claiming the GMI (IT). Finally, some experts also pointed out that these obstacles may be even more difficult to overcome for particular groups of vulnerable young people, such as the homeless (PT) or the Roma (AL, MK).

6 ACCESS TO HOUSING BENEFITS

A stable housing situation is crucial for a decent life and is often a precondition for successful take of employment opportunities. However, access to affordable housing is often declined to young people seeking to live independently.⁷⁸ They are being priced out of the city housing market and are increasingly distanced from home ownership. Longer periods of higher education, high student costs, increased labour market insecurity and tighter access to credit, mean that many young people are turning to rental solutions – leading to even more increases in rental prices (European Youth Forum 2016).

Housing benefit – defined as a subject-oriented subsidy, steadily paid to reduce housing costs of households – is a widely-used instrument in the Member States (Krapp *et al.* 2020). As reported by the national experts, all the ESPN countries except for Estonia⁷⁹, Hungary⁸⁰, Montenegro and Turkey provide housing benefits. Often there are even two or more benefits systems side by side, that fulfil different functions or are aimed at different target groups (e.g. CY, ES, FR, IE, SE). Basically, all programmes are aimed at low-income households but a few ESPN countries have support programmes that specifically benefit young households, supporting them to rent their dwelling (see Box 6.1 below)⁸¹.

6.1 Age

In most ESPN countries, housing benefits are accessible to people above 18 years old (e.g. AT, BE, CZ, DE, ES, FI, FR, IT, LT, MT, NL, PL, PT, SE, SI; AL, MK, UK). This generates a first gap in the group of young people considered in this report (15–29), as the 15–17 age group is automatically excluded. However, some countries provide housing benefits to young people below 18 by recognising specific exemptions for minors emancipated by the courts (e.g. BE (Wallonia), LT) or marriage (e.g. CZ, PL) or minor parents (SE). In Germany, a juvenile authorised to enter into an employment relationship outside his/her place of residence is also authorised to independently rent an apartment at his/her place of work and may apply for the housing allowance. In Malta, Semi-Independent Living Concept is intended to help among others youths at risk. This scheme is open to all Maltese and EU nationals. It provides rent subsidies to young people aged 16–28 years out of care or rehabilitation programmes.

In other countries (BG, CY⁸², DK, FI, FR, HR, IE, LU, LV, RO, SK; RS, XK), age is not a criterion for accessing housing benefits. In Denmark, the scheme applies to the age group 15–29 as long as they live in a rental situation with its own kitchen. In Romania, the minimum age for which the benefit is granted is 16 years, with the condition that the young person 16 to 18 years old lives independently and is not supported by their family.

⁷⁸ On average for EU-27 in 2019, 69% of young people aged 16–29 are living at their parents' home, and 31% are living independently (see Table B15.1 in Annex B).

⁷⁹ There are no specific housing benefits in Estonia. Housing costs are considered when calculating subsistence benefit, but this scheme is described in the previous section (guaranteed minimum income scheme).

⁸⁰ No general housing scheme exists currently in Hungary. Local governments can provide financial aid to support housing costs in the form of the local benefit (*települési támogatás*). The forms, eligibility criteria, and amounts of allowances provided as part of the local benefit are determined by the municipalities.

⁸¹ In addition to housing benefits meant to partly cover housing costs, some countries (e.g. CY, FI, LT; BA) have also developed specific schemes helping young households to acquire a dwelling. For instance, in Finland, the *Asuntosäästöpaikkio* (ASP) scheme is a state-supported system that supports young people aged 15–39 years in purchasing their first owner-occupied apartment. In Lithuania, a financial incentive is available to young families acquiring their first dwelling. Qualifying families include families where each of the spouses is under 36 years of age, as well as a family where a mother/father or guardian, under 36, is raising alone one or more children and/or one or more children who are placed under permanent guardianship. Support is provided for the purchase of the first dwelling in a region only, not for the purchase of a dwelling in a city.

⁸² Except for the housing allowance for GMI beneficiaries.

In some countries, further differences between age groups exist for accessing the housing benefits. In Belgium, housing benefits in Flanders and Brussels can be granted to all people on a very low income, with no age limit, who have been on the waiting list for social housing for four years, or who have to move out of a house that is declared uninhabitable. In Flanders, young people under the age of 25 have to prove that they are able to pay the difference between the rent and the housing benefit. While there is no legal age limit, there is a *de facto* one of 22 years of age as the applicant must be on a waiting list for at least four years and the housing is only accessible from 18 years of age. In Bulgaria, orphans up to the age of 25 who received training at a social vocational training centre have access to the housing allowance but only if they are residents of municipal housing. In North Macedonia, the age limit for the housing allowance provided to young people with the status of children without parents or parental care is 26 years old.

Seven ESPN countries (CY, FI, ES, LT, PT, SE; BA) have support programmes that specifically benefit young households, supporting them to rent their dwelling. Examples are provided in Box 6.1.

Box 6.1: Housing benefits targeting young households

In Portugal, Porta 65 Jovem is a nation-wide programme for supporting housing rent of people aged 18 to 35. The maximum age is 35 but if the application is made by a couple, one member of the couple may be aged 36 as long as the other is no older than 34. The benefit level varies according to the type of dwelling, the municipality where it is located and the rating of the application. There are three cohorts, according to the number of points achieved by the application. According to this, support is to the tune of 30%, 40% or 50% of the amount of the rent. Overall, the rent cannot be higher than 60% of the household's mean average gross income.

In Spain, the Aid programme for young people to rent or buy a home aims at supporting access to rental housing only for young people, although it reaches people up to the age of 35. At the same time, this programme supports the purchase of housing for young people in rural municipalities of less than 5,000 inhabitants. The benefit finances up to 50% of the rent for a maximum of three years and €10,800 per property, and up to a limit of 20% of the purchase price of the property.

In Sweden, young people below 29 years of age without children are eligible for a specific housing benefit (Bostadsbidrag). No age restrictions apply to the housing allowance for families with children. Eligibility for the housing allowance for young people depends on household income, housing costs, as well as the type and size of the dwelling. Eligibility for the housing allowance for families with children is slightly different and depends on household income, the number of children, housing costs and the size of the dwelling.

Source: ESPN national reports.

6.2 Activity status

None of the ESPN countries granting housing benefits require recipients to have a particular activity status except in Bosnia and Herzegovina. These allowances benefit low-income households regardless of the activity status of the household members. Therefore, employed young people, unemployed young people and economically inactive young people have access to the scheme. However, some clarifications have been given by some national experts:

- In Germany, pupils, students, trainees and apprentices who are in principle entitled to *BAföG* or the vocational training grant under Social Code III cannot apply for housing benefit. They are therefore only entitled to a housing allowance in exceptional cases. If, for example, a student lives in a household with a partner who is not a trainee or student, housing allowance can be claimed for the entire household community.
- In Ireland, eligibility for the housing assistance payment is based on the ratio between income and rent and there are no activity status conditions. Historically, those working full-time (30 or more hours weekly) were not eligible, but since March 2020 this exclusion no longer applies.
- In Italy, at the national level there are no activity status requirements. Also at the local level, as a general rule, there are no activity status requirements, but in certain municipalities, having lost a job in the year preceding the application may constitute a condition that facilitates access to the fund. The latter provision is generally targeted exclusively at dependent workers, though the situation varies very widely.

6.3 Other eligibility conditions

The eligibility requirements for applicants for housing allowances differ across the ESPN countries. The level of household income is one of the most common criteria (e.g. AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DK, EL, ES, FR, IE, IT, LT, LU, LV, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI; AL, MK, RS, XK), as housing benefit is means-tested. Other additional criteria include household size and composition (e.g. BG, CY, LU, SE⁸³; XK), amount of housing costs (e.g. BE (Flanders), CZ, ES, LU, LV, PT, SE), residence or nationality (CY, CZ, EL, ES, FR, HR, IT, LU, NL, PL, RO, SI) housing conditions (e.g. AT, BE (Wallonia), CY, FR, IE, PL, SE; AL, UK), residence in municipal housing (BG). In Germany, a person who receives basic jobseeker income support or social assistance or basic support under the Asylum Seekers Benefits Act is not eligible for housing benefit, since housing costs are already covered in these minimum income benefits. In Finland, applicants for housing allowance must be covered by the Finnish social security system. Besides, students living with their parents are part of their parental household. In France and Portugal, the recipients cannot be relatives of the landlord.

National experts report that when eligibility conditions other than age apply, they apply equally to all age groups.

6.4 Benefit level

The amount of housing allowances is usually determined based on the household income and size and the level of housing costs. It does not vary according to the age of applicants. However, two exceptions are in Denmark and the United Kingdom. In Denmark, a special rule in the housing benefit scheme favours young people. In general, the benefit is calculated as the difference between a share of the housing costs and a share of the household income. In the case of more than one child, the household income used is increased, resulting in higher housing benefit. The special rule gives young people under 30 years of age an increased household income from the birth of their first child. This benefits young parents on low incomes, e.g. young people on a GMI scheme or State Study Grant (SU). In the United Kingdom, young people under the age of 35 receive a lower rate than those aged 35 or over if they are renting privately and not covered by certain exemptions. Exemptions most relevant to young people include: being responsible for a child; being a care leaver under the age of 25; aged between 16 and 24 and having spent at least three months in a shelter for the homeless; having been in prison and aged between 25 and 34; being in receipt of a Personal Independence Payment.

6.5 Distinctions between different groups of young people

A few national teams (e.g. AT, CY, EL, FR, PL, PT, RO; UK) reported distinctions between different groups of young people. Examples include the following:

- In Austria, in the federal province of Carinthia, an additional housing benefit exists for young people aged 18–25 who for the first time move into their own dwelling. This additional housing benefit amounts to €50 per month and can be granted for a maximum of two years.
- In Cyprus, young people aged below 28 cannot apply for the GMI benefit and therefore are not eligible for the housing allowance. Exceptions to this rule are orphans, married persons, disabled persons and persons under the legal care of the Director of Social Welfare Services. These latter groups can apply for the GMI benefit and consequently are covered by the housing allowance.
- In Greece, young people aged up to 25 who live alone in rented premises and attend university, college or a vocational education and training institution (either in Greece or abroad) are not eligible to receive the ‘Rent Subsidy’.

⁸³ Housing allowance for families with children.

6.6 Main gaps and obstacles in access to housing benefits

6.6.1 Main gaps

In most ESPN countries, housing benefits are accessible to people above 18 years old (e.g. AT, BE, CZ, DE, ES, FI, FR, IT, LT, MT, NL, PL, PT, SE, SI; AL, MK, UK); this generates a first gap in the group of young people considered in this report (15–29), as the 15–17 age group is automatically excluded. None of the ESPN countries which provide housing benefits require recipients to have a particular activity status, except BA, where non-standard workers, trainees and students are excluded. Other gaps identified relate to the exclusion of some groups from access to housing benefits based on eligibility conditions other than age or activity status (BG, CY, HR, EL, LT; AL, MK). These groups vary from country to country, and are as follows:

- In Belgium (Flanders), as housing benefits in Flanders and Brussels are only granted to people who have been on the waiting list for social housing for four years, all young people under 22 are de facto excluded.
- In Bulgaria, housing benefits can only be provided to households resident in municipal housing. Young people who rent a dwelling on the private market are not eligible.
- In Croatia, access to housing benefits is limited to GMI recipients or recipients of the personal disability allowance. Households outside the social welfare system are not entitled to these benefits, even if their housing costs make up a very high share of the household income.
- Access to rent subsidies in Cyprus is only provided to specific groups, including GMI recipients and refugees of the 1974 Turkish invasion and their descendants and higher education students, but excluding other population groups. Gaps in protection related to housing for young asylum seekers and refugees have also been identified by national experts.
- In Greece, those aged up to 25 who are enrolled in universities, colleges or vocational training institutes, and live alone in rented premises are not eligible to receive the single-person household Rent Subsidy.
- A similar exclusion can be found in Lithuania, where the support⁸⁴ is provided only to families, not to young individuals below 18 years of age living independently.
- In Luxembourg, households whose accommodation is rented from a public body are not eligible.
- In North Macedonia, ESPN experts mention that apart from the housing benefits targeted at young people with the status of children without parents or parental care, as well as low-income households, young people in general do not have access to housing benefits.

6.6.2 Main obstacles

No obstacle to access to housing benefits for young people has been identified by the national experts from Croatia, Latvia, Slovakia and North Macedonia. The obstacles identified in the countries providing housing benefits are general and not specific to young people. However, young people could in some cases be more affected than the 30–64 age group. These obstacles are of three types and relate to the affordability of housing, the eligibility requirements for housing benefits, and the administrative burden and complexity of the scheme.

Rather than obstacles in access to housing benefits, young people face significant affordability challenges accessing the housing market in several ESPN countries (e.g. CY, CZ, FR, ES; AL, BA, UK), especially in urban areas. In Czechia, the high price of accommodation leads young people to opt for subletting in groups. The national team points out the potential risks of this type of tenancy: the

⁸⁴ Scheme specifically targeted at young people.

absence of a written lease, the lack of notice in case of termination, the impossibility for the subtenant to establish residence, the difficulty of obtaining information on the income of the occupants. It is therefore impossible for any subtenant to claim housing benefit. Although the problem is not limited to young people, it is likely to affect students more. In France, young people with low income have great difficulties in finding affordable housing, mainly in large cities and in the overseas territories. The Dutch experts underline the severe shortage of housing (especially in cities) and the rapid increase in rent levels while wages have hardly increased. This has made housing unaffordable for a lot of people.

As for housing allowances, some experts mention eligibility conditions relating to income or the nature of the dwelling (e.g. BE, BG, ES, EL, NL, PT, SE; RS); these, they say, are too strict because of their potential impact on the 15–29 age group. In Greece, the *Rent Subsidy* is subject to very strict income criteria, which in practice makes it inaccessible even to people on the minimum wage. In the Netherlands, the condition for rent allowance is that the rent should be below the *liberalisatiegrens*. In Portugal, the fact that the *Porta 65 Jovem* programme establishes the same ceiling for dwellings with different numbers of rooms is an additional obstacle as it is difficult to find a smaller dwelling with an eligible rent, but even more difficult if you need to find a larger dwelling with the same maximum admissible rent. In Bulgaria, only people living in municipal housing are eligible for housing benefits. Social housing is, however, managed by municipalities following different practices and procedures. In some municipalities, a means test is combined with the requirement to prove that the dweller will be able to cover the utility bills, i.e. he/she must prove a stable source of income. This could put non-standard workers and younger person at a relative disadvantage. In Sweden, the benefit level for the housing allowance for young people does not vary by age. Nor does the benefit level for the housing allowance for families with children. However, the national experts note that the eligibility rules, in terms of e.g. income, and benefit levels are less generous for the housing allowance for young people than for the housing allowance for families with children⁸⁵.

Administrative barriers and a lack of accessible information have also been identified as obstacles to access housing benefits for young people in a number of countries (e.g. BG, DE, DK, IE, LU). In Bulgaria, the lack of support to overcome administrative obstacles in the complex application process, long waiting lists due to shortages, and lack of transparency in the prioritisation of applicants are all factors that create mistrust in the system. The complexity of the system was also raised by the Irish expert, as Rent Supplement and Housing Assistance Payment co-exist with housing services and claimants have to refer to both local authority social housing services and income or rent tested benefits. In Germany, poor public transparency and the lack of coordination with other social benefits have been singled out.

⁸⁵ If, during 2019, we compare a young single person with a single parent with one child, the maximum benefit levels per month are SEK 1,300 (€130) and SEK 3,400 (€340), respectively, and if their annual income exceeds SEK 41,000 (€4,100) and SEK 142,000 (€14,200), respectively, the benefit level is gradually decreased.

7 MAIN GAPS AND OBSTACLES IN ACCESS TO SOCIAL PROTECTION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

7.1 Main gaps in access to social protection for young people

Based on the descriptions of the eligibility conditions and benefit entitlements, this subsection summarises the main gaps, as reported by ESPN experts, faced by young people in accessing the five social protection benefits under scrutiny.

This screening revealed two major types of gaps related to age-based and activity status-based exclusions. While the first directly impacts young people, the second does so indirectly. Indeed, exclusions based on the activity status criterion are not linked to age, but concern the whole population. However, where young people are over-represented in one or other type of activity status, they could de facto be more frequently affected by these exclusions. As shown in Section 1, young people are over-represented in non-standard employment, unemployment and inactivity and are therefore more affected by these exclusions.

Table 7.1 summarises the gaps in access to social protection for young people in the 35 ESPN countries. It shows that for access to contributory benefits, the activity status-based criterion is more problematic than age-based criteria. Exclusions on the basis of activity status were found in 25 ESPN countries for unemployment benefits, 17 for access to sickness benefits, and 18 for access to maternity, paternity, and parental leave benefits. Self-employed workers, non-standard workers (including specific categories), trainees and apprentices are most often de facto excluded because of their activity status. However, there are differences between types of benefit. According to the national reports, non-standard workers are more often excluded from sickness and unemployment benefits than from maternity, paternity, and parental leave benefits. Trainees are also more often excluded than apprentices from access to these three benefits.

To access these contributory benefits, the age of the claimant is only of minor importance, and mainly only affects access to unemployment benefits. However, it is more relevant for access to non-contributory benefits such as GMI and housing benefits, in view of the number of countries in which exclusion on the basis of age has been recorded. Indeed, a minimum age is required for access to these benefits, often set at 18 years (as for GMI in 29 ESPN countries), thus de facto excluding minors, and above 18 in four other countries. It is also clear that for these two benefits, activity status is less relevant.

Table 7.1: Gaps in access to social protection for young people in the 35 ESPN countries

		Unemployment		Sickness	Healthcare	Maternity, paternity, parental leaves		GMI	Housing
		Contributory	Unemployment assistance / Specific schemes	General	General	Contributory	Non-contributory	Non-contributory	Non-contributory
Age-based exclusion	No access for minors	BE DK FI IE LU PL RO(p) UK	IE(m) SE(m)			CY(r)		All countries (s)	AT BE CZ DE ES FI FR IT LT(f) MT NL PL PT SE SI AL MK UK
	No access for 18+	EL(q)	BE(n) SE(m)		AT EE IE LU			CY DK EL(e) ES FR LU	BE(d) EL(e)
	Lower amount	UK	BE(m) IE(m)					DE DK FI HR IE NL BA UK	
Status-based exclusion	Self-employed	AT BE(l) CY EE EL(b) FR IT LT LV NL PL PT AL MK TR UK	AT(m) PT(m)	AT BE HU PT SE RS UK XK	AT(k) BE(l)	AT BE(l) CZ NL(c) UK(c)		BA	
	Non-standard (a)	AL BA		SE AL BA RS XK	AL BA	BA	BA	LU BA	BA
	Specific non-standard (a)	AT BE CZ DE ES LT(i) PL PT SI BA MK	AT(m) PT(m)	AT CZ EE HU LT(j) PT BA	AT EE PL RO AL BA	AT LT(i) PL PT BA UK XK	BA	BA	BA
	Trainees	CZ FR HR IT LT LU NL RO SE SI(h) SK RS TR	PT(j)	BE BG EL LT PT RO AL BA	BE AL BA	BE LT PT SI(h) AL BA XK		FR HR BA	BA
	Apprentices	BE(g) CZ HR LU NL SE SI(h) SK RS TR		BG DK EL XK		SI AL XK		LT BA	

		Unemployment		Sickness	Healthcare	Maternity, paternity, parental leaves		GMI	Housing
		Contributory	Unemployment assistance / Specific schemes	General	General	Contributory	Non-contributory	Non-contributory	Non-contributory
	Students	BE DE EE IE LU RO SI BA UK	IE(m)	BE RO BA	BE	BE DK LT SI BA	DE(o) BA	EL FR IE LU BA	EL BA
	Inactive/ NEET	BA		EL PT	RO	HU PL BA	BA	BA	BA
	Unemployed			EL PT		EL BA XK		BA	BA
Specific groups	Illegals	BA	BA	BA	LU BA MK	BA	BA	LU BA	LU BA

Notes: (a) 'Non-standard workers' include part-time, fixed-term and temporary agency workers. 'Specific non-standard workers' include some country-specific and job-specific categories of non-standard workers such as workers on consumer contracts, zero-hours workers and domestic workers; (b) Only farmers; (c) Only for paternity leave; (d) Social housing Flanders; (e) Students less 25y living alone; (f) Underaged young living alone; (g) Young people in dual learning; (h) The gap does not include paid trainees doing an internship (they have an employment contract); (i) Workers in consumer contracts; (j) Access to unemployment assistance is denied to trainees in traineeships without mandatory contributions; (k) As for the new self-employed on a low income (l) Including young helpers to self-employed; (m) As for access to unemployment assistance; (n) As for access to specific schemes; (o) Pupils or students who are not employed while studying do not have access to the maternity benefit; (p) Young self-employed under 18 are excluded; (q) Young unemployed under 20 are excluded from long term unemployment benefits; (r) Only minors under 16; (s) Minors cannot apply to GMI schemes as individuals; they are only covered if their parents apply. In several countries, however, access to the GMI is also granted to minors of age under specific conditions when they are living on their own (see Section 5.1).

Source: Authors' own elaboration based on ESPN national reports.

7.2 Main obstacles in access to social protection for young people

This subsection summarises the main obstacles faced by young people in accessing various social protection schemes. Even when they formally have access to the system, the eligibility requirements can be so strict that for some categories of young people it is de facto very difficult to access the benefits. Other factors, such as cumbersome administrative procedures, lack of information, attitudinal aspects, stigmatisation, etc. may also hinder take-up of schemes.

Even if the barriers identified by the national experts are rarely age-related and affect all age groups, they can be particularly significant for young people. Table 7.2 summarises the gaps in access to social protection for young people in the 35 ESPN countries. As shown, three types of barriers can be identified: procedural barriers, barriers related to activity status and barriers affecting particular groups. They vary greatly between countries but some trends can be highlighted.

A first obstacle to accessing the contributory benefits identified in most countries relates to the contributory history requirement: the minimum qualification period and restrictions on minimum contributions paid or hours worked may hamper access for young non-standard workers, who are less likely to meet these criteria. A second obstacle highlighted by ESPN experts is the link between the duration of benefits and contributions paid. Young people entitled to benefits tend to receive them for a shorter period than older workers, as they have not been in employment long enough to accumulate long periods of contributions. A third major obstacle is the method used to calculate benefits, which is based on past earnings in most countries. This method could be detrimental to young people, as they are more likely to be in low-paid jobs.

For non-contributory benefits such as the GMI and housing benefits, the obstacles highlighted by the experts are mainly factors hampering the take-up of these benefits: stringent eligibility requirements, the administrative burden, activation constraints, or fear of stigmatisation. Some experts also underline the low level of benefits (GMI) and the lack of affordable housing.

Table 7.2: Main obstacles in access to social protection for young people in the 35 ESPN countries (*)

		Unemployment		Sickness	Healthcare	Maternity, paternity, parental leaves		GMI	Housing
		Contributory	Unemployment assistance/Specific schemes	General	General	Contributory	Non-contributory	Non-contributory	Non-contributory
Procedural	Strict eligibility rules		BE				BA	BG EL FR LU BA XK	BE BG EL ES NL PT SE RS UK
	Administrative burden	DK					BG	AT CY AL BA	BG DK IE
	Contributing history requirement	AT BE BG CY CZ DE EL FR HU IE IT LT LU LV NL RO PT SE BA MK	FI(c) EE(d)	AT BE BG CY EL FR IE IT LV NL PT RO AL BA MK		EL ES HU LT LV PL PT RO SK AL BA	BA		
	Benefits vs. contributing periods	CZ EE EL IT NL							
	Low level benefits	CY EE IT NL RO BA UK				CY EE NL BA (in some cantons of FBiH entity)	BG LT BA (in some cantons of FBiH entity)	BE BG DK EE FR IE HU LU LV NL PT RO AL BA UK XK	
	Non-payment of contributions	BA		PL BA	BG DE EE HU LT RO BA TR	BA	BA (in some cantons of FBiH entity)	N/A	
	Means-testing	RO	PT				PT	EL HR LT RO BA	EL
	Activation constraint	AL	FI					DE HU IT LT PL	
	Sanctions		FI UK					BE DE LT UK	

		Unemployment		Sickness	Healthcare	Maternity, paternity, parental leaves		GMI	Housing
		Contributory	Unemployment assistance/Specific schemes	General	General	Contributory	Non-contributory	Non-contributory	Non-contributory
	Affordability				HU LV BA				CY CZ FR ES NL AL BA UK
	Lack of information	FI PL AL RS UK	FI	AT	BA	AT RS			DE
	Stigma					PT(g)		LT RO SE	
	Self-employed	DE(f) EL(f) RO(f)		NL PL		EL HU IT RO			
	Non-standard classic	BE CY CZ FR HU IE IT BA	FI	BE BG CY EL IE NL AL BA MK	AT EE PL AL BA	BA	BA		
	Non-standard specific	BA		BA	EE BA	BA	BA		
	Trainees			BA	BA	BA	BA		
	Apprentices		BE						
	Students	BA		BA		BA	BA		
	Inactive			BA	LT BA	BA	CZ(h)		
	Unemployed			IT BA		BA			
Groups	Unstable trajectories	AT BE HU				BA	BA		
	New entrants in the labour market	CZ DE EL FR HR HU LT LU PL PT SE BA MK				BA	BA		
	Roma				SK			MK	

		Unemployment		Sickness	Healthcare	Maternity, paternity, parental leaves		GMI	Housing
		Contributory	Unemployment assistance/Specific schemes	General	General	Contributory	Non-contributory	Non-contributory	Non-contributory
	Illegals	BA		BA	LU BA	BA	BA	LU	LU
	Homeless	BA			BA	BA	BA	PT	

(* It should be noted that this summary table is based on the assessment of ESPN national experts.

Notes: (a) Parental allowance; (b) Pregnancy and parental allowance; (c) Waiting period; (d) In case of academic leave; (e) For young fathers; (f) Stricter eligibility rules; (g) Especially for fathers and those most vulnerable in the labour market; (h) The benefit formula reduces the flexibility for families without previous income to choose the amount and duration of the benefit.

Source: Authors' own elaboration based on ESPN national reports.

8 REFORMS AND POLICY DEBATES

8.1 Reforms carried out since 2015

This section looks at the main reforms carried out since 2015 in the 35 countries, which have contributed to improving or deteriorating young people's access to social protection. It should be noted that the experts have mentioned very few reforms aimed directly at young people. With rare exceptions, the reforms adopted in the various segments of social protection over the last six years have affected all age groups – people aged 15–29 and 30–64 – equally. The experts have reported the most significant reforms linked to social protection, in terms of their potential indirect impact on the age group studied in this report. It should be noted that the COVID-19 pandemic has brought about reforms/measures, some of which aimed at improving access of young people to social protection.

8.1.1 Reforms in specific areas of social protection directly affecting young people

A few reforms reported by ESPN experts have had a direct impact on young people.

Regarding access of students to social benefits, in Estonia, since 2015, under the Social Tax Act, the State pays social contributions for persons receiving a doctoral allowance. Previously, doctoral allowances were not subject to social contributions, and therefore did not guarantee access to benefits based on these contributions.

With regard to access to healthcare, students in Turkey have been covered from 2016 onwards as dependents for an additional two years following their graduation, provided that their parents have health insurance coverage, and that the students are younger than 20 years old, for high school students, or 25, for university students.

Concerning access to maternity benefits, pupils and students in Germany were included in maternity protection in 2018 with entitlement to maternity benefits under certain conditions. In Slovakia, a pregnancy scholarship was introduced in 2020; it is granted to students at universities and those aged over 18 at secondary schools, after the 12th week of pregnancy (until birth).

With regard to access to housing benefits, Finland abolished the separate housing allowance scheme for students in 2017. Students were transferred to the general housing allowance scheme, to simplify the system and ease the transfer process in certain situations, e.g. when graduating. According to the Finnish ESPN experts, the reform has affected students' situation both positively and negatively. On the one hand, one single unified system provides stability and more generous benefits. On the other hand, the general housing benefit takes into account the income of the whole household. The reform improved the situation of those living alone but worsened that of couples or roommates. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, in 2019 the Republic Srpska passed the Law on social housing, envisaging provision of social housing in local communities, with priority given to young married couples up to 35 years of age. In Albania the special categories such as orphans (up to 30 years old) and young couples are prioritised in the social housing law adopted in 2018.

8.1.2 Reforms in specific areas of social protection affecting all age groups

As mentioned above, since 2015 the vast majority of countries have carried out reforms that have indirectly impacted young people.

The unemployment insurance-related changes reported by the national teams (e.g. BE, DK, EL, HR, IE, IT, LT, LV, PT, SE, SK; UK) involve mainly the relaxation or tightening of certain eligibility conditions (e.g. BE, HR, IE, LV, SI, SK; UK) and the inclusion of atypical workers and the self-employed (e.g. DK, EL, IT, LT, PT). Examples are provided in Box 8.1.

Some countries have carried out reforms in healthcare and sickness benefit scheme coverage (e.g. CY, EE, FR, IT, LT, PT; AL). In France, since 2016, with the introduction of the *Protection universelle maladie*, anyone working or residing in the country on a stable, regular basis is entitled to coverage of their health care expenditure. In Portugal, in mid-2018, the period of absence during which the self-employed are entitled to sickness benefits was reduced from 31 to 11 days.

Some ESPN countries have carried out reforms with regard to maternity, paternity and parental benefits (CY, EE, EL, HR, IE, IT, LT, LU, PL, PT, SI; BA, RS), introducing new schemes for parents (e.g. CY, EE, EL, IE, LU, SK), increasing the amount of benefits (e.g. SI, SK; BA) or the length of the leave (CY, EE, EL, ES), or facilitating access to benefits (RS), especially for the self-employed (e.g. HR, IT, LT).

Several countries have also made changes to guaranteed minimum income schemes (e.g. AT, EE, ES, HR, IT, LT, LU, PT, SI; AL): facilitating the access to the scheme (PT), increasing the subsistence level (SI), changing the scale determining the level of subsistence (e.g. EE, SI), introducing new minimum income schemes (e.g. ES, IT, LU; UK), improving the equity and efficiency of the programme (AL), reducing the benefit (e.g. AT) or tightening certain eligibility conditions regarding activation and increasing financial incentives to work for GMI recipients (e.g. LT) (see Box 8.1).

Access to housing has also been the subject of reforms since 2015 (e.g. FI, HR, IT, LT, LU, PT, SI; AL, BA). These reforms have involved introduction of new benefits (e.g. IT, LU), tightening of access conditions (e.g. SI; UK) or an increase of housing support (e.g. LT, PT) (see Box 8.1).

Box 8.1: Examples of reforms carried out in the fields of unemployment, guaranteed minimum income and housing benefits

With regard to unemployment benefits

In Ireland since 2019, the self-employed of all ages are now included in the social insurance/assistance system and are eligible for unemployment payments.

In Latvia, the contribution period required for unemployment benefit was increased in 2016 from 9 months during the last 12 months to 12 months during the last 16 months. This, to a certain extent, made access to the unemployment benefit more difficult for young people, as they may have shorter contribution records. In 2019, the duration of receipt of the benefit was reduced from nine to eight months and the replacement rates lowered.

With regard to guaranteed minimum income schemes

In Austria, reforms of minimum income in the federal provinces pursuant to the 2019 Social Assistance Act, implementing the maximum benefit levels, often implied a reduction of benefit levels.

In Italy the introduction of the Inclusion Income (REI) in 2017, replaced by the Citizenship Income in 2019, marked an important step forward, not only for poor households but also for young workers and new entrants to the labour market.

In May 2020, the Spanish government introduced a minimum guarantee scheme, the Minimum Living Income (Ingreso Mínimo Vital) as a national non-contributory Social Security benefit. Persons receiving the benefit on behalf of the household (including one-person households) must be at least 23 years of age.

With regard to housing benefits

In 2017, Slovenia tightened the conditions for receiving housing subsidies for those renting at market prices. It is no longer enough to apply for the subsidy at the time of the public tender for the allocation of non-profit rental housing; the tenant must now be on the priority list.

In the United Kingdom, since 2015, levels and access to housing benefit have deteriorated over time for young people. Young people receive a lower rate of housing support than those aged 35 or over. Calculations are based upon the cost of shared accommodation in their local area.

Source: ESPN national reports.

Access to social protection is closely linked to employment, and reforms enhancing employability of a particular age group indirectly affect their access to social protection. Such reforms have been reported in France, Hungary, Romania and the United Kingdom.

8.1.3 COVID-19 related changes in specific areas of social protection affecting all age groups

Some ESPN experts reported changes in access to social protection as a consequence of the COVID-19 crisis (e.g. AT, BE, CZ, IE, LT, LU, LV, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI; AL, MK, UK). These changes affected mainly access to unemployment benefit, GMIs and housing benefits. Like the reforms described above, these COVID-19 changes did not target young people specifically (Baptista *et al*, 2021). Examples include the following:

- In Austria, the level of Unemployment Assistance was temporarily increased to that of Unemployment Benefit, in response to the COVID-19 crisis. However, this improvement is temporary: it was due to expire by the end of June 2021 but was then prolonged until the end of September 2021.
- In Belgium, people living on minimum income benefits, irrespective of age, received an extra monthly allowance of €50 during the period May 2020 – September 2021.
- In Denmark, young people with stable jobs prior to the restrictions may have benefited from new wage compensation schemes introduced as part of the response to COVID-19. All recipients of social security and study grants received a lump sum of €135. Students receiving State Grant were granted access to higher student loans.
- The Netherlands intervened during the COVID-19 pandemic to help households who can no longer pay their fixed costs (mainly referring to housing), through the ‘Temporary Support for Necessary Costs’ (TONK).
- In Sweden, as a consequence of the COVID-19 crisis, the level of the housing allowance for families with children, also including young people with children, was increased by 25% in the second half of 2020; this increase is now being reintroduced in the second half of 2021.
- In the United Kingdom, in response to the impact of COVID-19, the government introduced a number of reforms to social security. These included: a temporary £20 (€23.20) per week uplift to Universal Credit. This was granted from 6 April 2020 and is due to end in September 2021. There are no intentions for this to be a permanent fixture of UC. There were also amendments made to the work-related requirements for benefit claimants.

8.2 National debates

In almost half of the ESPN countries (e.g. AT, BE, CY, CZ, DE, EE, EL, ES, HU, LU, MT, PT, RO, SE; BA, ME, MK, RS, TR), national experts reported that access to social protection for young people was not a central topic addressed in the national debate. In these countries, policy debates rather focus on access to social protection for people in non-standard work (e.g. BE, PT; RS), young people’s labour market participation (e.g. CY, EL, ES, RO, SE; UK), minimum wages (e.g. ME), or education (RO; MK).

When the issue of access to social protection is discussed, it is only indirectly, in the context of debate on youth unemployment (e.g. AT, CY, EL, ES, FR, FR, HR, IE, IT, PL; BA, UK) and NEETs (e.g. FI, FR, IT, LT, PL, RO; UK).

There were also discussions in some countries regarding minimum income schemes (e.g. AT, DE, FR, LU) (see Box 8.2). In France, the idea of extending the *Revenu de solidarité active* to young people aged 18 to 25 has been repeatedly debated since the scheme was set up, and even before the establishment of the *Revenu minimum d’insertion* in 1988. The debate has nevertheless been strongly revived since the start of the pandemic, with innumerable opinion pieces, reports and comments calling for the extension to be implemented. In Luxembourg, the minimum age of eligibility for the GMI (Revis), currently 25, is regularly challenged by opinion leaders.

Box 8.2: The debate on minimum income in Germany

Broadly speaking, there is currently no discussion about the social protection of young people (aged 15–29), whether in the context of the social policy or the youth policy debate. As far as young people and social protection are concerned, the focus is mostly on educational and social services. The main reason for this is that, as the inventories in the individual fields of social protection have shown, no serious age-specific gaps in provision of or barriers to access to cash benefits in the areas can be identified. The only exceptions to this are the minimum income benefit schemes. For years, experts, trade unions and social associations have been calling for the relaxation of the very restrictive benefit conditions for the under 25s relating to the basic income support for job seekers. In a 2019 ruling, the Federal Constitutional Court endorsed this criticism and ordered the legislature to partially revise the regulations. The Federal Employment Agency has already temporarily suspended the sanctions for infringements of the conditions, following the Constitutional Court ruling.

On 17 January 2021, the Federal Minister of Labour and Social Affairs presented a draft bill which, among other things, proposed abolition of this provision. This would be an important step toward equality for all age groups in basic income support for job seekers. But it remains to be seen whether the bill will be passed in the cabinet and adopted by the legislature in the remainder of the legislative period, which only runs until October 2021. At the same time, there has for years been criticism that the standard minimum income benefits under Social Code II and XII, both in general and for children and adolescents in particular, are in no way sufficient to guarantee a sociocultural subsistence level that enables participation in normal social life. The adoption of the Standard Needs Assessment Act in December 2019 has not significantly changed this problematic situation. However, changes are not expected before the beginning of the next legislative period; it all depends, in particular, on which parties will form the next government coalition.

The failure of child- and family-related transfers, combined with minimum income benefits, to improve the situation of families with children at risk of poverty has been debated for years. The call to combine all child and family-related benefits, including minimum income benefits, in a so-called basic child allowance has attracted growing support during the current legislative period. Such a reform should improve transparency, facilitate access to these benefits, strengthen targeting and above all improve the situation of low-income families with children. Experts, social associations and the Green and Left parliamentary groups in the Bundestag have so far made proposals to this effect, and the Bundesrat – with the support of the Social Democrat and Green-governed states – has also spoken out in favour of such a reform.

Source: ESPN National report.

Access to affordable housing has been mentioned by experts from AT, BE, HR, IE, IT, LT, LU, NL, PL, SE, SI, AL, BA and UK. In Albania, access to housing and affordable housing are significant challenges, especially for young people; also, about 98% of returnees need support to secure housing for their family upon their return. In Austria, young people are rarely dealt with as a distinct group in debates on access to social protection. This has changed somewhat more recently against the backdrop of rising housing costs, which make affordable housing an issue especially for young people. In Ireland, in popular debate there is no overarching focus on, or concerted policies or campaigns about young people's social protection, and housing is the only policy area with a widespread public debate in which 'young people' are specifically invoked. In Luxembourg, the debate is focused more on how to address the lack of social housing, rather than on the need to increase housing benefits. In Poland, the government programme includes a proposal related to support for the repayment of housing loans for young people, which can support access to housing.

ANNEX A: PRESENTATION OF THE ESPN NETWORK MANAGEMENT TEAM AND THE 35 ESPN COUNTRY TEAMS (July 2021)

A1. ESPN Network Management Team

The European Social Policy Network (ESPN) is managed jointly by the Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research (LISER), the independent research company APPLICA and the European Social Observatory (OSE).

The ESPN Network Management Team is responsible for the overall supervision and coordination of the ESPN. It consists of six members:

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ANNEX B:

Table B1.1: Employment rates in age groups 15–29, 30–64, 15–24 and 25–29 - Total - % and ratios 15–29/30–64 (2015–2020)

Source:	Eurostat LFS - ESPN Network Core Team calculations for all age groups based on indicator [Ifsa_pganws] (thousands of people in population by sex, age, citizenship and labour status)
Downloaded:	24 May 2021, except Montenegro (17 July 2021)
Measurement:	The employment rate is calculated by dividing the number of persons in employment (whether dependent employment or self-employment) by the total population in the respective age group
Comments:	No data for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	15–29						30–64						Ratios 15–29 to 30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	45.0	45.9	46.9	47.7	48.2	46.1	71.4	72.4	73.5	74.5	75.3	74.9	0.63	0.63	0.64	0.64	0.64	0.62
Austria	62.0	62.2	61.9	62.7	63.4	61.7	74.5	75.0	75.9	76.7	77.1	76.1	0.83	0.83	0.82	0.82	0.82	0.81
Belgium	41.3	41.4	41.6	43.4	45.1	42.7	69.7	70.4	71.4	72.6	73.0	73.2	0.59	0.59	0.58	0.60	0.62	0.58
Bulgaria	39.2	38.3	42.0	40.8	42.1	38.5	70.9	71.6	74.8	76.0	78.4	77.1	0.55	0.53	0.56	0.54	0.54	0.50
Croatia	35.6	39.8	40.9	41.3	43.5	41.4	63.4	63.1	65.4	67.4	68.5	69.1	0.56	0.63	0.63	0.61	0.63	0.60
Cyprus	44.6	45.7	47.3	50.5	53.7	51.6	70.5	71.3	73.3	76.2	77.5	77.2	0.63	0.64	0.64	0.66	0.69	0.67
Czechia	46.8	47.7	49.0	49.0	48.8	45.8	78.0	79.9	81.5	82.9	83.3	83.1	0.60	0.60	0.60	0.59	0.59	0.55
Denmark	58.3	58.8	59.1	60.4	61.2	60.1	77.7	78.6	79.3	80.1	81.0	80.5	0.75	0.75	0.74	0.75	0.76	0.75
Estonia	54.4	54.0	57.9	58.3	56.6	52.3	78.5	78.8	80.0	80.5	81.6	80.7	0.69	0.68	0.72	0.72	0.69	0.65
Finland	51.7	52.8	53.8	55.5	56.5	53.9	75.1	75.4	76.2	78.5	79.3	79.0	0.69	0.70	0.71	0.71	0.71	0.68
France	43.2	43.5	44.0	44.7	44.6	43.1	71.7	72.1	72.7	73.3	73.7	73.8	0.60	0.60	0.61	0.61	0.61	0.58
Germany	57.7	58.2	58.7	59.4	60.4	59.9	79.5	80.3	81.0	81.5	82.1	81.4	0.73	0.73	0.72	0.73	0.74	0.74
Greece	28.0	28.6	29.3	30.0	31.3	29.5	58.1	59.4	61.0	62.6	64.3	64.7	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.49	0.46
Hungary	42.6	45.2	46.8	47.1	47.1	45.8	71.4	74.0	75.6	76.9	78.0	77.9	0.60	0.61	0.62	0.61	0.60	0.59

	15–29						30–64						Ratios 15–29 to 30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Ireland	49.4	52.9	52.2	52.6	53.4	49.2	70.8	71.7	73.7	74.9	75.9	75.0	0.70	0.74	0.71	0.70	0.70	0.66
Italy	28.6	29.7	30.3	30.8	31.8	29.8	64.8	65.7	66.5	67.1	67.4	66.8	0.44	0.45	0.46	0.46	0.47	0.45
Latvia	52.2	51.9	53.4	52.1	51.9	47.8	73.9	74.7	75.7	78.2	78.7	78.9	0.71	0.70	0.70	0.67	0.66	0.61
Lithuania	45.5	47.7	48.9	50.7	50.4	47.6	75.8	77.5	78.2	79.8	80.4	79.3	0.60	0.61	0.63	0.64	0.63	0.60
Luxembourg	48.5	46.7	46.7	48.1	50.5	47.2	72.8	72.7	73.7	74.3	74.5	74.8	0.67	0.64	0.63	0.65	0.68	0.63
Malta	60.2	62.2	64.1	68.0	67.9	66.1	67.1	69.3	71.4	73.5	75.2	76.8	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.93	0.90	0.86
Netherlands	68.0	68.3	69.3	70.9	72.2	70.2	76.5	77.4	78.5	79.7	80.6	80.9	0.89	0.88	0.88	0.89	0.89	0.87
Poland	45.0	47.7	49.0	50.2	50.8	48.0	69.5	70.6	72.2	73.2	74.0	75.4	0.65	0.68	0.68	0.69	0.69	0.64
Portugal	39.5	40.3	43.3	44.7	45.7	41.3	71.9	73.4	75.8	77.8	78.6	78.2	0.55	0.55	0.57	0.57	0.58	0.53
Romania	43.1	41.5	43.3	43.0	42.4	41.8	68.2	68.8	71.1	72.3	73.5	73.3	0.63	0.60	0.61	0.60	0.58	0.57
Slovakia	42.3	44.1	45.1	45.9	45.0	42.7	70.6	72.6	73.8	75.2	76.4	75.8	0.60	0.61	0.61	0.61	0.59	0.56
Slovenia	45.9	45.6	51.1	51.8	51.1	46.6	71.3	72.1	74.8	76.9	78.0	78.0	0.64	0.63	0.68	0.67	0.66	0.60
Spain	33.7	34.6	36.5	37.7	38.2	33.9	65.0	67.0	68.4	69.8	70.9	69.2	0.52	0.52	0.53	0.54	0.54	0.49
Sweden	56.4	57.3	58.1	58.1	57.4	54.0	83.8	84.3	84.9	85.6	85.4	84.3	0.67	0.68	0.68	0.68	0.67	0.64
United Kingdom	60.9	62.1	62.8	62.6	63.1	:	77.6	78.1	78.7	79.5	79.9	:	0.78	0.79	0.80	0.79	0.79	:
Montenegro	33.2	35.2	35.7	35.9	39.7	31.3	59.8	59.7	61.2	63.2	63.4	59.0	0.56	0.59	0.58	0.57	0.63	0.53
North Macedonia	28.3	28.6	30.2	30.9	34.3	33.5	56.4	57.8	59.0	60.1	62.7	62.8	0.50	0.49	0.51	0.51	0.55	0.53
Serbia	30.4	33.2	34.9	36.4	36.9	36.0	59.7	62.7	65.0	66.4	68.7	69.7	0.51	0.53	0.54	0.55	0.54	0.52
Turkey	42.5	42.5	43.0	43.3	41.5	37.9	54.2	54.9	55.9	56.3	54.6	52.1	0.78	0.77	0.77	0.77	0.76	0.73

	15–24						25–29					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	30.3	31.0	32.0	32.8	33.4	31.4	70.7	71.8	72.8	73.7	74.6	72.9
Austria	51.3	51.0	50.6	51.3	51.6	50.2	80.2	80.9	80.4	80.7	81.8	79.4
Belgium	23.4	22.7	22.7	25.0	26.6	24.1	74.3	74.9	75.1	75.6	77.7	75.7
Bulgaria	20.3	19.8	22.9	20.7	21.8	18.8	66.6	64.7	69.0	69.9	72.9	70.4
Croatia	19.1	25.6	25.9	25.6	27.7	25.6	66.0	66.2	68.7	70.9	73.3	71.3
Cyprus	25.5	26.4	27.6	31.3	32.4	31.3	71.3	72.2	73.8	76.1	81.0	76.7
Czechia	28.4	28.6	29.1	28.4	28.0	25.1	75.2	76.3	78.3	79.1	79.0	77.0
Denmark	51.3	52.3	52.9	53.7	55.0	53.2	72.5	71.6	71.0	72.8	72.6	72.4
Estonia	36.3	37.5	40.5	41.7	39.7	35.3	79.5	75.9	80.9	80.5	80.3	78.1
Finland	40.5	41.7	42.5	44.0	44.6	41.1	72.1	72.8	73.6	74.9	76.4	75.3
France	28.0	28.0	28.7	29.7	29.6	28.5	72.9	74.1	74.5	75.0	75.8	74.5
Germany	45.3	45.7	46.5	47.2	48.5	48.1	78.1	78.2	78.3	79.7	80.7	80.8
Greece	13.0	13.0	14.1	14.0	14.6	13.8	54.0	56.1	56.6	59.4	62.2	58.3
Hungary	25.7	28.1	29.0	29.0	28.5	27.2	73.6	75.5	77.5	77.6	77.8	76.3
Ireland	37.8	42.0	40.0	40.3	41.2	37.0	71.4	74.1	76.7	78.4	79.5	75.7
Italy	15.6	16.6	17.1	17.7	18.5	16.8	52.2	53.7	54.2	54.6	56.3	54.2
Latvia	34.5	32.8	33.0	33.1	31.8	29.6	77.5	78.3	81.3	78.6	81.4	76.5
Lithuania	28.3	30.2	30.4	32.4	32.9	29.4	80.7	83.3	84.3	84.7	82.3	80.0
Luxembourg	29.1	24.9	25.8	28.4	28.7	24.9	80.7	81.8	81.4	79.2	83.9	80.6
Malta	45.6	46.2	47.3	50.9	50.7	48.3	83.4	86.2	87.5	90.0	88.7	87.0
Netherlands	60.8	60.8	62.3	63.9	65.3	62.5	82.2	82.9	82.8	84.1	85.1	84.8
Poland	26.0	28.4	29.6	31.0	31.7	28.4	75.8	77.7	78.5	79.3	79.5	77.8
Portugal	22.8	23.9	25.9	27.2	28.0	23.4	72.4	73.0	78.2	79.8	81.0	77.2
Romania	24.5	22.3	24.5	24.7	24.7	24.6	72.1	72.1	74.8	75.3	75.7	75.7
Slovakia	23.3	25.2	26.9	27.5	24.9	22.7	72.7	74.0	73.1	73.7	75.0	72.9
Slovenia	29.6	28.6	34.7	35.2	33.3	27.0	71.7	73.1	78.1	79.8	81.8	80.7
Spain	17.9	18.4	20.5	21.7	22.3	18.5	60.9	63.3	65.4	67.0	67.7	63.2
Sweden	43.9	44.5	44.9	44.7	43.9	39.6	78.7	78.9	79.4	79.2	78.4	77.0
United Kingdom	50.0	50.7	50.5	50.6	50.3	:	80.0	81.4	83.3	82.4	84.0	:
Montenegro	18.8	21.0	21.3	23.2	27.3	19.8	59.8	61.5	61.1	59.7	62.5	52.0
North Macedonia	17.3	16.2	17.5	17.4	20.7	19.8	47.3	49.6	51.5	53.4	56.7	55.7
Serbia	16.7	19.8	20.9	21.1	21.5	20.8	53.6	56.2	58.9	62.5	63.5	62.4
Turkey	34.1	34.1	34.4	35.0	33.1	29.2	58.8	58.8	60.0	59.6	57.6	54.6

Table B1.2: Employment rates in age groups 15–29 and 30–64 - By sex - % (2015–2020)

Source:	Eurostat LFS - ESPN Network Core Team calculations for all age groups based on indicator [lfsa_pganws] (thousands people in population by sex, age, citizenship and labour status)
Downloaded:	24 May 2021, except Montenegro (17 July 2021)
Measurement:	The employment rate is calculated by dividing the number of persons in employment (whether dependent employment or self-employment) by the total population in the respective age group
Comments:	No data for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	Males											
	15–29						30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	47.8	48.9	49.9	50.7	51.3	49.0	77.8	78.8	80.0	80.9	81.6	81.1
Austria	64.2	63.8	63.4	65.6	66.8	64.2	79.2	79.8	80.9	81.7	81.9	80.7
Belgium	43.1	43.0	43.7	45.4	46.7	44.2	74.3	75.6	76.8	77.1	77.4	77.8
Bulgaria	43.4	43.2	47.6	46.0	47.2	43.3	73.7	74.6	78.0	79.5	82.2	81.1
Croatia	39.5	43.3	44.9	46.9	48.9	47.7	68.1	68.1	70.8	72.1	73.5	74.0
Cyprus	44.3	46.3	46.4	49.8	55.3	52.4	76.4	77.9	80.1	83.2	84.5	85.0
Czechia	54.0	55.3	56.1	55.9	55.4	54.3	86.0	87.3	88.9	90.0	90.2	89.8
Denmark	58.7	58.9	59.6	60.6	61.9	61.0	82.2	82.7	83.1	84.1	85.0	84.5
Estonia	60.4	59.3	63.4	63.7	62.3	57.2	81.3	82.1	82.7	83.4	84.3	82.8
Finland	52.2	53.4	54.8	56.4	57.7	55.8	76.0	77.1	77.9	80.1	80.4	80.3
France	46.0	46.1	46.8	47.3	46.6	45.3	75.5	76.0	76.9	77.4	77.6	77.7
Germany	59.2	59.9	60.2	61.5	63.0	61.1	84.5	85.1	85.6	86.1	86.5	85.2
Greece	31.5	33.0	33.6	34.1	34.6	31.9	68.5	70.2	72.0	74.4	76.0	76.1

	Females											
	15–29						30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	42.1	42.8	43.8	44.5	44.9	43.0	65.1	66.1	67.2	68.2	69.0	68.8
Austria	59.7	60.5	60.5	59.7	60.0	59.2	69.8	70.3	70.9	71.7	72.3	71.4
Belgium	39.5	39.8	39.5	41.3	43.5	41.1	65.2	65.1	66.1	68.1	68.6	68.5
Bulgaria	34.8	33.2	36.0	35.3	36.7	33.4	68.0	68.6	71.5	72.5	74.6	73.1
Croatia	31.6	36.2	36.7	35.5	37.8	34.7	58.7	58.1	60.0	62.8	63.6	64.2
Cyprus	44.8	45.2	47.9	51.1	52.3	51.1	65.1	65.2	67.1	69.7	70.6	69.8
Czechia	39.4	39.7	41.6	41.8	41.7	36.8	70.0	72.4	74.0	75.7	76.1	76.2
Denmark	57.8	58.7	58.5	60.2	60.5	59.2	73.2	74.5	75.5	76.0	76.9	76.5
Estonia	48.2	48.4	52.2	52.6	50.7	47.3	75.8	75.7	77.4	77.8	78.9	78.5
Finland	51.2	52.2	52.8	54.5	55.4	52.0	74.2	73.6	74.6	76.9	78.1	77.8
France	40.5	41.0	41.2	42.0	42.5	40.9	68.2	68.4	68.7	69.4	70.0	70.2
Germany	56.0	56.5	57.0	57.2	57.6	58.6	74.5	75.6	76.3	76.9	77.7	77.6
Greece	24.5	23.9	24.8	25.9	27.9	26.9	48.1	49.2	50.4	51.1	53.1	53.7

	Males											
	15–29						30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Hungary	47.6	50.6	52.8	53.4	52.8	51.5	78.6	81.2	83.4	84.6	86.1	86.1
Ireland	49.6	53.1	53.1	54.0	54.6	50.5	78.5	79.3	81.0	82.3	83.2	82.4
Italy	32.6	34.0	34.4	35.0	35.9	34.5	76.0	76.8	77.5	78.1	78.4	77.8
Latvia	55.0	53.9	56.6	54.8	54.2	50.6	75.8	76.1	77.5	80.2	80.6	80.5
Lithuania	48.4	50.5	51.7	53.2	52.1	49.5	76.4	78.0	78.2	80.7	81.0	80.1
Luxembourg	50.2	47.2	47.6	49.1	51.7	46.8	79.2	79.4	78.2	78.9	79.8	79.3
Malta	62.6	65.1	66.2	68.7	69.9	68.4	83.3	84.6	86.0	86.8	87.6	87.1
Netherlands	67.9	68.1	69.3	70.6	71.9	69.9	83.4	84.2	84.9	86.1	86.5	86.5
Poland	49.9	53.3	55.0	55.9	56.7	54.1	76.7	77.7	79.3	80.4	81.7	83.2
Portugal	40.1	41.1	44.4	46.1	47.0	42.2	76.2	77.7	80.4	82.0	82.9	82.0
Romania	49.2	47.8	48.4	49.0	48.9	48.2	77.2	78.0	80.2	81.7	83.3	83.1
Slovakia	49.5	52.4	52.9	53.5	53.3	51.1	77.4	78.6	79.1	81.2	81.7	80.8
Slovenia	50.1	49.3	55.1	55.5	54.7	49.3	75.3	75.0	77.9	80.3	80.9	81.1
Spain	34.3	35.8	37.5	39.1	40.1	35.5	71.6	73.5	75.2	76.7	77.6	75.8
Sweden	56.3	57.1	58.1	57.8	57.6	54.4	86.0	86.4	87.1	87.9	87.9	87.0
United Kingdom	63.0	64.1	64.5	64.9	64.4	:	83.7	84.2	84.4	85.0	85.3	:
Montenegro	34.4	37.3	37.9	39.2	44.2	34.9	66.2	66.9	70.1	71.3	71.0	66.3
North Macedonia	32.4	33.8	37.0	36.8	40.4	39.3	67.3	69.4	70.4	71.5	74.0	73.2
Serbia	35.4	38.5	40.3	41.9	42.5	42.4	67.9	70.3	72.2	74.0	75.8	76.5
Turkey	57.5	56.8	57.3	57.7	54.5	50.3	76.4	77.0	77.6	77.5	75.0	72.4

	Females											
	15–29						30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	37.4	39.6	40.5	40.5	41.1	39.9	64.6	67.1	68.1	69.5	70.2	69.8
	49.1	52.7	51.2	51.2	52.2	47.9	63.3	64.4	66.7	67.9	68.8	68.0
	24.4	25.3	25.9	26.3	27.3	24.9	53.9	54.8	55.7	56.3	56.8	56.1
	49.3	49.8	50.1	49.4	49.5	44.9	72.2	73.4	74.2	76.4	77.0	77.4
	42.4	44.6	45.9	48.1	48.5	45.5	75.3	77.1	78.2	79.0	79.8	78.5
	46.7	46.0	45.8	47.1	49.1	47.4	66.1	65.9	69.0	69.6	69.1	70.2
	57.4	59.0	62.1	67.3	66.2	63.5	50.5	53.3	55.8	59.3	61.6	65.2
	68.1	68.6	69.4	71.2	72.4	70.5	69.6	70.7	72.0	73.4	74.7	75.3
	39.8	41.8	42.7	44.3	44.7	41.6	62.6	63.8	65.2	66.2	66.4	67.7
	39.0	39.5	42.3	43.3	44.2	40.3	68.0	69.5	71.7	74.1	74.8	74.8
	36.7	34.9	37.9	36.7	35.6	35.0	59.1	59.7	61.9	62.8	63.7	63.3
	34.8	35.6	36.9	37.9	36.3	33.9	64.0	66.6	68.6	69.3	71.1	70.7
	41.5	41.6	46.9	47.9	47.1	43.5	67.2	69.1	71.5	73.3	74.9	74.8
	33.0	33.3	35.4	36.2	36.1	32.3	58.5	60.4	61.6	62.9	64.3	62.7
	56.5	57.5	58.1	58.4	57.2	53.6	81.4	82.1	82.7	83.2	82.9	81.5
	58.7	60.0	61.0	60.2	61.6	:	71.7	72.3	73.1	74.2	74.7	:
	32.0	33.0	33.3	32.5	34.8	27.4	53.5	52.8	52.8	55.3	56.0	51.8
	23.9	23.0	23.0	24.7	28.0	27.4	45.2	45.9	47.3	48.5	51.1	52.1
	25.1	27.6	29.2	30.5	31.1	29.2	51.7	55.3	57.9	59.0	61.7	63.1
	27.5	28.0	28.5	28.7	28.3	25.2	32.0	32.8	34.1	35.0	34.1	31.8

Table B2.1: Paid employment rates in age groups 15–29, 30–64, 15–24 and 25–29 - Total - % and ratios 15–29/30–64 (2015–2020)

Source:	Eurostat LFS - ESPN Network Core Team calculations for all age groups based on indicators [lfsa_eegais] (thousands of people employees by sex, age and occupation) and [lfsa_egaps] (thousands of people in employment by sex, age and professional status)
Downloaded:	24 May 2021, except Montenegro (17 July 2021)
Measurement:	People working as employees as a % of the respective age group in employment
Comments:	No data for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	15–29						30–64						Ratios 15–29 to 30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	91.8	92.2	92.4	92.6	92.8	92.5	83.0	83.3	83.7	84.0	84.1	84.2	1.11	1.11	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10
Austria	95.9	95.9	96.3	96.4	96.3	96.2	85.7	85.9	86.3	86.7	86.5	86.6	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.11	1.11	1.11
Belgium	91.3	92.1	92.0	91.4	91.3	90.5	84.2	84.3	85.0	85.5	85.3	84.9	1.08	1.09	1.08	1.07	1.07	1.07
Bulgaria	94.1	93.6	93.1	94.2	94.2	94.5	87.2	87.7	87.7	87.8	88.8	88.5	1.08	1.07	1.06	1.07	1.06	1.07
Croatia	93.8	95.1	95.7	95.7	95.4	95.6	83.6	85.1	86.7	87.2	87.0	86.6	1.12	1.12	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10
Cyprus	92.3	91.5	93.2	92.4	92.5	93.6	84.5	85.7	86.6	86.7	86.2	86.1	1.09	1.07	1.08	1.07	1.07	1.09
Czechia	91.2	90.8	90.8	90.2	90.1	88.9	81.5	81.9	82.0	82.3	82.7	82.8	1.12	1.11	1.11	1.10	1.09	1.07
Denmark	97.5	97.4	97.0	97.0	97.1	97.0	90.0	90.1	90.8	91.1	90.8	90.7	1.08	1.08	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.07
Estonia	95.9	94.2	94.5	94.9	95.5	95.1	89.2	89.5	88.6	88.1	87.7	88.2	1.07	1.05	1.07	1.08	1.09	1.08
Finland	94.0	93.7	94.6	94.7	94.3	93.5	85.2	85.5	86.3	86.4	86.2	86.6	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.10	1.09	1.08
France	95.2	95.2	95.0	94.8	95.1	94.1	87.4	87.1	87.4	87.4	86.9	86.8	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.08
Germany	97.0	97.1	97.2	97.4	97.4	97.8	88.4	88.7	89.0	89.4	89.8	90.0	1.10	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.09	1.09
Greece	78.7	79.4	79.6	81.0	82.2	81.8	63.9	64.8	64.9	65.4	67.1	67.4	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.24	1.23	1.22
Hungary	95.8	95.8	95.7	95.7	95.2	94.2	88.0	88.3	88.9	88.9	88.6	87.4	1.09	1.09	1.08	1.08	1.07	1.08
Ireland	95.6	95.6	96.3	96.6	96.5	95.9	82.1	82.4	83.3	83.9	84.6	85.0	1.16	1.16	1.16	1.15	1.14	1.13
Italy	82.6	83.3	84.9	85.7	86.4	86.4	76.0	76.4	77.0	77.2	77.3	77.6	1.09	1.09	1.10	1.11	1.12	1.11

	15–29						30–64						Ratios 15–29 to 30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Latvia	93.3	93.7	92.2	92.9	93.3	92.1	86.1	85.8	86.3	87.6	87.4	86.3	1.08	1.09	1.07	1.06	1.07	1.07
Lithuania	92.0	92.2	92.3	92.6	92.0	91.0	87.1	87.0	87.5	87.6	87.8	88.0	1.06	1.06	1.05	1.06	1.05	1.03
Luxembourg	91.6	90.9	93.3	92.3	93.0	91.4	90.0	89.7	89.3	91.2	90.9	90.3	1.02	1.01	1.04	1.01	1.02	1.01
Malta	94.2	95.2	95.4	94.3	92.8	92.0	83.8	83.1	81.8	83.2	82.1	81.9	1.12	1.15	1.17	1.13	1.13	1.12
Netherlands	92.9	92.8	93.3	93.1	93.3	93.1	81.1	80.9	80.9	81.1	80.9	80.5	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.15	1.16
Poland	87.4	87.7	88.4	88.2	88.5	86.9	77.3	77.8	78.1	78.4	78.7	78.5	1.13	1.13	1.13	1.12	1.13	1.11
Portugal	94.0	93.9	95.0	93.6	93.7	93.6	83.5	84.1	84.5	85.3	84.7	85.1	1.13	1.12	1.12	1.10	1.11	1.10
Romania	71.1	72.7	73.1	73.8	74.4	74.3	74.0	76.3	76.8	77.9	78.6	78.9	0.96	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.94
Slovakia	90.1	89.3	89.5	89.9	89.4	88.2	83.8	83.7	83.9	84.4	84.2	84.7	1.08	1.07	1.07	1.07	1.06	1.04
Slovenia	87.3	92.3	90.9	92.0	91.8	93.2	84.1	85.5	85.4	84.8	86.1	87.2	1.04	1.08	1.06	1.09	1.07	1.07
Spain	90.7	91.7	91.8	92.6	93.2	93.0	81.8	82.1	82.6	83.1	83.3	83.0	1.11	1.12	1.11	1.11	1.12	1.12
Sweden	96.4	96.7	96.7	96.6	96.5	96.7	89.4	89.6	89.7	89.8	89.7	89.8	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08	1.08
United Kingdom	92.5	92.6	92.5	92.8	92.7	:	83.7	83.1	83.3	83.7	83.1	:	1.11	1.11	1.11	1.11	1.12	:
Montenegro	89.8	88.4	89.0	90.9	89.7	89.7	77.3	76.7	76.1	76.3	77.8	76.8	1.16	1.15	1.17	1.19	1.15	1.17
North Macedonia	79.8	82.4	82.8	85.4	86.2	89.2	73.6	75.4	75.6	75.6	78.2	81.4	1.08	1.09	1.09	1.13	1.10	1.10
Serbia	78.0	78.9	81.3	84.5	85.4	85.2	71.6	70.4	71.3	73.5	74.4	75.6	1.09	1.12	1.14	1.15	1.15	1.13
Turkey	79.5	79.9	79.3	80.0	79.9	79.8	64.1	64.6	64.7	65.6	66.4	68.4	1.24	1.24	1.23	1.22	1.20	1.17

	15–24						25–29					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	93.4	93.6	94.1	94.4	94.6	94.5	90.7	91.1	91.2	91.2	91.4	91.0
Austria	96.6	96.9	97.3	97.5	96.6	96.9	95.1	94.9	95.3	95.3	96.0	95.6
Belgium	93.2	94.1	93.8	94.2	94.5	92.9	90.2	91.0	91.0	89.8	89.4	89.2
Bulgaria	95.0	95.1	94.1	94.9	94.6	95.4	93.7	93.0	92.7	93.9	94.1	94.2
Croatia	93.8	95.8	95.9	96.1	95.4	94.9	93.8	94.6	95.5	95.5	95.4	96.1
Cyprus	93.6	92.8	95.1	95.7	95.0	95.1	91.7	90.9	92.3	90.6	91.2	92.8
Czechia	94.4	92.5	92.7	92.6	93.2	91.7	89.3	89.8	89.8	88.9	88.4	87.6
Denmark	98.4	97.8	98.1	98.2	98.3	98.1	96.3	96.9	95.4	95.4	95.5	95.5
Estonia	98.2	97.4	96.5	96.4	96.7	96.6	94.5	92.1	93.2	93.9	94.6	94.0
Finland	95.5	95.2	95.5	95.9	96.1	94.7	92.5	92.2	93.6	93.4	92.6	92.4
France	97.7	97.3	97.7	97.5	97.3	96.8	93.4	93.7	93.0	92.6	93.3	91.9
Germany	98.3	98.4	98.2	98.3	98.4	99.1	95.9	96.0	96.2	96.5	96.4	96.4
Greece	76.7	80.2	79.1	81.2	83.8	82.8	79.6	79.1	79.7	80.9	81.5	81.4
Hungary	96.5	96.9	97.1	97.2	96.4	96.1	95.3	95.1	94.8	94.7	94.5	93.1
Ireland	96.5	96.0	96.7	97.2	97.2	95.9	94.7	95.1	95.8	95.9	95.7	95.9
Italy	85.1	85.8	88.2	89.2	89.8	89.7	81.3	81.9	83.0	83.7	84.4	84.4
Latvia	92.8	93.9	94.9	92.7	92.7	92.7	93.6	93.6	90.7	93.0	93.6	91.8
Lithuania	93.3	92.9	93.7	95.0	94.6	90.9	91.0	91.7	91.3	90.8	90.1	91.1
Luxembourg	88.5	86.8	88.9	89.9	90.0	85.2	93.5	92.9	95.6	93.7	94.5	94.2
Malta	96.4	96.8	97.6	96.7	96.7	94.1	92.3	93.9	93.8	92.6	90.2	90.6
Netherlands	94.3	94.3	95.2	95.3	95.0	94.5	90.8	90.7	90.5	89.9	91.0	91.1
Poland	88.6	88.4	89.4	90.3	91.2	90.7	86.7	87.3	87.8	87.0	86.9	84.7
Portugal	94.6	94.8	96.0	94.7	95.6	95.6	93.5	93.2	94.3	92.8	92.4	92.4
Romania	56.1	56.1	59.3	61.5	63.1	63.1	79.0	80.9	80.6	81.0	81.2	81.5
Slovakia	92.0	92.0	90.6	91.5	90.9	87.3	89.2	87.8	88.9	89.0	88.7	88.6
Slovenia	83.9	91.3	88.8	92.2	92.5	93.4	89.5	92.9	92.5	91.9	91.3	93.1
Spain	91.7	92.9	94.0	94.2	94.4	93.6	90.2	91.0	90.6	91.6	92.5	92.6
Sweden	97.3	97.4	97.5	97.6	97.4	97.8	95.5	95.9	96.0	95.7	95.6	95.8
United Kingdom	94.3	94.4	94.1	94.3	94.2	:	90.6	90.6	90.9	91.3	91.3	:
Montenegro	88.3	89.4	89.1	89.4	91.5	87.6	90.7	87.8	89.0	92.0	88.3	91.1
North Macedonia	70.8	72.8	76.3	81.8	84.3	86.5	85.5	87.7	86.5	87.4	87.3	90.8
Serbia	71.7	72.9	79.9	82.8	83.6	82.7	81.4	82.4	82.1	85.6	86.4	86.6
Turkey	77.4	77.5	76.9	78.4	78.0	76.0	81.8	82.6	82.0	81.8	82.0	83.6

Table B2.2: Paid employment rates in age groups 15–29 and 30–64 - By sex - % (2015–2020)

Source:	Eurostat LFS - ESPN Network Core Team calculations for all age groups based on indicators [Ifsa_eegais] (thousands of people employees by sex, age and occupation) and [Ifsa_egaps] (thousands of people in employment by sex, age and professional status)
Downloaded:	24 May 2021, except Montenegro (17 July 2021)
Measurement:	People working as employees as a % of the respective age group in employment
Comments:	No data for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	Males											
	15–29						30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	90.2	90.7	91.0	91.2	91.3	91.1	79.4	79.8	80.2	80.6	80.7	80.9
Austria	95.0	95.1	95.9	95.6	95.7	95.9	83.3	83.3	83.8	84.3	83.9	84.0
Belgium	90.1	91.0	91.2	90.6	90.4	89.7	80.3	80.4	81.6	82.3	81.9	81.2
Bulgaria	92.5	92.5	91.8	93.2	93.0	93.1	84.1	84.9	84.9	84.8	86.1	85.9
Croatia	92.9	93.2	95.1	95.5	94.2	94.7	80.3	82.1	84.3	85.0	83.9	82.8
Cyprus	93.0	89.9	93.4	91.9	91.3	93.6	80.9	82.1	83.9	84.0	83.9	82.8
Czechia	89.7	89.3	88.7	88.3	87.2	86.4	77.5	78.4	78.3	78.4	79.0	79.3
Denmark	96.5	96.5	95.8	95.7	96.0	95.8	86.8	87.2	87.9	88.3	88.1	87.9
Estonia	95.1	92.8	93.5	94.1	95.4	94.4	85.9	86.4	84.4	83.6	82.9	83.4
Finland	92.4	92.1	93.3	93.5	93.3	92.0	80.4	80.9	82.3	82.5	82.5	82.7
France	94.3	94.4	94.7	94.4	94.3	93.0	83.8	83.5	84.0	83.8	83.3	83.6
Germany	96.4	96.6	96.7	97.0	96.9	98.2	85.6	86.2	86.6	87.0	87.3	88.5
Greece	72.7	73.8	74.4	75.1	76.1	76.9	60.3	61.7	61.6	62.2	63.6	63.7
Hungary	95.4	95.2	96.0	95.4	94.7	93.6	85.1	85.8	86.7	86.5	86.1	85.0
Ireland	93.8	93.6	94.4	95.6	95.3	94.7	75.0	75.6	76.8	77.6	78.7	79.9
Italy	81.4	82.9	83.8	84.2	85.2	85.1	71.6	72.0	72.4	72.9	73.2	73.4
Latvia	91.7	92.7	90.7	91.1	91.7	91.2	82.2	81.9	83.5	85.5	85.4	84.1

	Females											
	15–29						30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	93.7	93.9	94.1	94.3	94.7	94.2	87.2	87.5	87.8	88.0	88.1	87.9
Austria	96.9	96.9	96.7	97.3	97.0	96.6	88.3	88.8	89.1	89.4	89.5	89.5
Belgium	92.6	93.3	92.9	92.2	92.4	91.4	88.6	88.9	89.0	89.2	89.1	89.1
Bulgaria	96.2	95.1	94.9	95.6	95.9	96.5	90.7	90.8	90.8	91.2	91.8	91.5
Croatia	95.0	97.4	96.4	96.0	96.9	96.9	87.4	88.7	89.4	89.7	90.5	90.8
Cyprus	91.6	92.8		92.8	93.4	93.3	88.3	89.8	89.7	89.6	88.9	89.8
Czechia	93.3	92.8	93.8	92.9	94.1	92.8	86.6	86.2	86.5	87.2	87.1	87.1
Denmark	98.6	98.4	98.3	98.4	98.3	98.2	93.6	93.4	94.0	94.2	93.9	93.7
Estonia	96.9	95.8	95.8	95.7	95.4	96.0	92.6	92.7	93.0	92.8	92.8	93.2
Finland	95.7	95.3	95.9	96.0	95.4	95.1	90.1	90.5	90.5	90.4	90.0	90.6
France	96.2	96.1	95.5	95.3	95.9	95.3	91.2	91.0	91.0	91.1	90.6	90.1
Germany	97.7	97.7	97.8	97.9	98.0	97.3	91.5	91.7	91.8	92.2	92.5	91.7
Greece	86.7	87.4	86.6	88.9	90.1	88.0	68.8	69.1	69.5	70.0	71.8	72.4
Hungary	96.3	96.7	95.4	95.9	95.9	95.0	91.4	91.1	91.5	91.6	91.6	90.3
Ireland	97.4	97.6	98.3	97.6	97.9	97.3	90.6	90.4	91.0	91.3	91.5	90.9
Italy	84.3	83.8	86.3	88.0	88.3	88.2	82.1	82.4	83.2	83.0	82.8	83.4
Latvia	95.3	94.7	94.0	94.7	95.1	93.3	89.8	89.5	89.0	89.7	89.3	88.4

	Males												Females											
	15–29						30–64						15–29						30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Lithuania	89.3	89.4	90.8	91.0	89.6	89.4	84.8	83.8	84.4	84.8	84.4	84.5	95.2	95.8	94.1	94.3	94.8	93.1	89.2	89.9	90.3	90.2	91.0	91.4
Luxembourg	92.2	88.5	91.8	93.0	93.1	90.7	89.3	89.1	88.8	90.1	90.2	89.3	90.6	93.5	94.5	91.7	92.8	92.3	91.1	90.5	90.1	92.5	91.7	91.4
Malta	93.1	93.4	93.4	92.4	90.7	89.0	79.1	77.5	77.3	79.0	77.8	77.4	95.9	97.7	97.5	96.7	95.1	95.5	91.7	92.3	89.1	89.5	88.7	88.7
Netherlands	91.6	91.4	92.0	91.3	91.9	91.4	78.2	77.9	77.9	78.1	77.8	77.4	94.2	94.1	94.7	94.9	94.8	94.7	84.6	84.6	84.5	84.6	84.6	84.2
Poland	84.7	85.3	85.4	84.9	85.1	83.3	74.2	74.4	74.4	74.9	75.2	74.6	91.0	91.0	92.4	92.6	93.1	91.8	81.0	81.9	82.5	82.6	82.9	83.2
Portugal	93.1	92.8	94.4	92.5	92.9	93.5	79.7	80.4	80.8	81.6	81.2	81.7	94.9	95.0	95.5	94.7	94.6	93.7	87.3	87.7	88.3	88.9	88.2	88.4
Romania	68.2	69.5	69.9	71.7	71.9	72.2	73.0	75.1	75.2	76.6	77.0	77.1	75.3	77.6	77.3	76.9	77.9	77.5	75.4	78.0	78.9	79.7	80.7	81.3
Slovakia	87.4	86.0	86.0	85.9	85.5	84.4	79.6	79.6	79.7	80.2	79.8	80.1	94.3	94.3	94.8	95.8	95.5	94.0	88.8	88.5	88.7	89.3	89.4	90.0
Slovenia	86.2	90.5	89.6	91.2	89.1	91.2	81.3	82.1	82.7	81.6	82.6	84.8	88.8	94.8	92.4	93.3	95.4	95.6	87.5	89.4	88.5	88.5	90.0	89.9
Spain	88.9	90.2	90.5	91.4	91.8	91.2	78.0	78.4	78.8	79.4	79.8	79.6	92.6	93.3	93.2	93.8	94.8	95.0	86.6	86.6	87.2	87.5	87.5	87.1
Sweden	95.3	95.4	95.4	95.5	95.4	95.5	85.6	85.9	85.9	85.9	85.6	86.0	97.5	98.0	98.0	97.7	97.6	98.1	93.5	93.6	93.8	94.1	94.2	94.1
United Kingdom	90.4	90.4	90.1	90.5	90.3	:	79.5	78.9	79.4	79.7	79.0	:	94.8	95.0	95.1	95.4	95.3	:	88.5	87.9	87.7	88.0	87.7	:
Montenegro	86.3	85.1	86.8	88.4	84.6	84.2	72.5	71.5	70.0	69.2	71.9	71.6	93.8	92.5	92.1	94.7	96.8	96.6	83.1	83.0	83.6	85.0	85.2	83.5
North Macedonia	76.8	79.5	80.1	83.1	82.6	86.3	70.4	72.6	72.8	72.7	75.8	79.3	84.1	86.8	87.4	89.2	91.5	93.6	78.4	79.8	79.9	79.9	81.8	84.5
Serbia	72.9	75.6	77.1	81.4	82.1	81.6	67.8	66.9	68.5	70.3	71.2	72.7	85.6	83.7	87.4	89.2	89.9	90.6	76.3	74.7	74.7	77.4	78.2	79.0
Turkey	81.0	80.8	80.4	80.5	80.2	79.3	67.1	67.2	67.1	67.4	67.9	69.4	76.3	78.1	77.1	78.9	79.4	80.7	56.9	58.6	59.3	61.5	63.2	66.1

Table B3.1: Part-time employment as a % of the total employment in age groups 15–29 and 30–64 Total % and ratios 15–29 to 30–64 (2015–2020)

Source:	Eurostat LFS - ESPN Network Core Team calculations for both age groups based on indicators [lfsa_epgn62] (thousands of people in full-time and part-time employment by sex, age and economic activity) and [lfsa_egaps] (thousands of people in employment by sex, age and activity status)
Downloaded:	24 May 2021, except Montenegro (17 July 2021)
Measurement:	People with a part-time contract as a % of the respective age group in employment
Comments:	No data for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	15–29						30–64						Ratios 15–29 to 30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	22.9	22.8	22.9	22.8	23.0	22.6	17.7	17.6	17.5	17.3	17.3	17.3	1.29	1.29	1.31	1.32	1.33	1.31
Austria	23.6	24.7	26.1	23.9	24.1	23.4	28.4	28.7	28.4	28.3	28.1	28.3	0.83	0.86	0.92	0.84	0.86	0.83
Belgium	21.2	21.3	23.0	23.5	25.0	23.9	25.0	25.4	24.9	24.8	24.8	24.5	0.85	0.84	0.93	0.95	1.01	0.98
Bulgaria	3.4	3.5	3.9	2.6	3.7	3.1	2.0	1.7	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.6	1.75	2.07	2.09	1.53	2.31	1.92
Croatia	7.9	7.1	5.7	7.8	5.2	4.6	5.6	5.3	4.6	4.6	4.7	4.5	1.41	1.34	1.24	1.70	1.10	1.01
Cyprus	17.3	19.9	17.2	13.6	13.1	13.3	11.8	11.7	10.9	10.1	9.4	9.2	1.46	1.70	1.58	1.35	1.39	1.45
Czechia	6.9	7.8	8.3	8.9	8.9	7.2	5.0	5.2	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.5	1.38	1.50	1.44	1.54	1.55	1.33
Denmark	50.6	49.8	48.4	47.3	46.8	45.8	15.4	17.2	17.1	16.3	16.8	16.2	3.29	2.90	2.84	2.90	2.79	2.83
Estonia	16.1	14.8	13.0	16.4	17.4	17.8	7.8	8.7	8.6	9.7	9.9	11.1	2.05	1.71	1.50	1.68	1.76	1.61
Finland	28.9	29.9	30.7	29.6	30.2	28.5	10.2	10.9	10.7	11.2	11.4	11.2	2.84	2.76	2.86	2.65	2.64	2.53
France	19.2	18.8	18.7	18.9	17.9	17.0	18.2	18.2	18.1	17.8	17.4	17.0	1.06	1.03	1.03	1.06	1.03	1.00
Germany	22.4	22.5	22.8	23.1	23.6	24.0	27.9	27.8	27.9	27.7	28.0	28.8	0.81	0.81	0.82	0.83	0.84	0.83
Greece	17.9	18.7	19.9	19.3	18.7	18.5	8.1	8.4	8.2	7.6	7.7	7.2	2.22	2.21	2.41	2.54	2.44	2.57
Hungary	5.2	5.5	4.6	4.8	4.8	5.2	5.8	4.6	4.2	4.1	4.3	4.8	0.90	1.19	1.09	1.15	1.12	1.10
Ireland	31.3	31.3	28.7	28.8	29.7	27.7	19.7	19.2	17.7	17.0	16.9	15.8	1.59	1.63	1.62	1.69	1.76	1.75

	15–29						30–64						Ratios 15–29 to 30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Italy	25.7	26.1	26.1	24.6	25.2	23.8	17.3	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.8	17.4	1.49	1.49	1.49	1.41	1.42	1.37
Latvia	7.5	9.2	8.8	8.8	11.9	12.9	7.2	8.3	7.5	6.9	7.6	8.2	1.04	1.11	1.17	1.28	1.56	1.58
Lithuania	8.1	7.3	8.6	10.2	8.8	8.9	7.5	7.1	7.3	6.4	5.9	5.6	1.07	1.03	1.18	1.60	1.50	1.59
Luxembourg	16.2	17.0	14.9	13.5	14.1	14.8	18.9	19.7	20.7	18.8	17.6	18.8	0.85	0.86	0.72	0.72	0.80	0.79
Malta	15.0	14.1	12.7	13.7	11.4	11.3	14.0	13.9	14.1	13.0	12.5	11.1	1.07	1.02	0.90	1.06	0.91	1.02
Netherlands	64.6	64.1	63.9	63.8	64.1	64.0	44.8	44.6	44.8	45.2	45.1	46.1	1.44	1.44	1.43	1.41	1.42	1.39
Poland	9.0	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.0	7.3	6.2	5.9	6.1	6.0	5.7	5.6	1.45	1.41	1.39	1.42	1.41	1.31
Portugal	15.0	14.9	13.4	12.9	13.7	12.0	8.9	8.5	8.0	7.2	7.1	6.7	1.70	1.75	1.68	1.81	1.94	1.79
Romania	11.2	9.2	9.3	9.0	7.9	7.6	8.2	7.1	6.3	6.0	5.8	5.5	1.36	1.30	1.48	1.50	1.36	1.38
Slovakia	6.8	6.4	6.5	5.2	4.6	4.8	5.6	5.6	5.7	4.9	4.5	4.5	1.22	1.13	1.14	1.07	1.02	1.08
Slovenia	23.5	20.5	22.3	20.5	17.7	15.6	7.3	7.1	7.8	7.6	6.6	7.0	3.21	2.89	2.86	2.70	2.67	2.21
Spain	27.8	27.5	27.3	26.0	25.9	25.0	13.8	13.2	12.9	12.6	12.6	12.2	2.02	2.08	2.11	2.06	2.05	2.05
Sweden	36.1	35.5	34.5	34.0	34.6	34.4	20.9	20.4	20.0	19.3	19.1	19.1	1.73	1.74	1.73	1.76	1.81	1.80
United Kingdom	27.9	27.9	26.7	26.2	25.7	:	24.3	24.3	24.3	24.1	23.9	:	1.15	1.15	1.10	1.08	1.07	1.07
Montenegro	4.8	3.9	5.4	4.2	4.2	:	6.0	4.7	5.4	5.0	4.5	:	0.79	0.82	1.00	0.85	0.92	0.92
North Macedonia	5.9	7.0	6.1	4.1	5.7	3.7	3.8	4.2	3.7	3.2	3.8	3.7	1.54	1.68	1.67	1.28	1.50	1.01
Serbia	14.5	14.7	12.0	10.3	9.4	8.9	9.6	10.4	10.2	9.0	9.7	8.9	1.51	1.42	1.18	1.14	0.97	1.00
Turkey	10.4	10.8	11.1	11.6	11.5	12.5	10.3	9.5	9.5	9.9	9.3	11.6	1.01	1.14	1.17	1.17	1.23	1.07

Table B3.2: Temporary employment as a % of the total dependent employment in age groups 15–29 and 30–64 - Total - % and ratios 15–29 to 30–64 (2015–2020)

Source:	Eurostat LFS - ESPN Network Core Team calculations for both age groups based on indicators [Ifsa_etgan2] (temporary employees by sex, age and economic activity) and [Ifsa_egaps] (thousands of people in employment by sex, age and activity status)
Downloaded:	24 May 2021, except Montenegro (17 July 2021)
Measurement:	People with a temporary contract as a % of the respective age group in dependent employment
Comments:	No data for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	15–29						30–64						Ratios 15–29 to 30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	36.8	37.0	37.2	36.7	35.9	33.6	10.2	10.3	10.4	10.4	9.9	9.0	3.61	3.60	3.57	3.54	3.61	3.74
Austria	23.8	23.0	23.9	22.9	22.3	22.6	4.1	4.2	4.3	4.6	4.3	3.7	5.86	5.54	5.53	4.94	5.14	6.09
Belgium	24.1	24.4	28.9	29.9	30.1	29.1	5.2	5.4	5.9	5.9	5.9	5.6	4.63	4.55	4.94	5.02	5.10	5.19
Bulgaria	7.6	8.0	7.8	6.7	7.1	6.4	3.7	3.3	3.8	3.6	3.8	3.1	2.03	2.41	2.09	1.85	1.85	2.08
Croatia	47.2	51.9	47.6	45.4	40.6	33.0	14.0	14.6	14.0	13.8	12.6	11.1	3.38	3.56	3.41	3.29	3.22	2.96
Cyprus	27.1	28.4	27.2	23.1	22.5	25.7	15.8	13.1	11.8	11.1	11.0	9.8	1.71	2.17	2.31	2.09	2.04	2.61
Czechia	21.8	21.6	20.7	18.3	16.8	15.3	7.4	7.1	7.2	6.4	6.0	5.5	2.97	3.03	2.87	2.86	2.80	2.81
Denmark	20.4	30.8	30.7	27.4	27.3	28.0	4.4	6.7	6.0	4.8	5.0	5.0	4.66	4.60	5.11	5.65	5.42	5.59
Estonia	8.0	7.7	6.8	7.7	7.1	6.4	2.1	2.7	2.1	2.3	2.1	2.0	3.71	2.90	3.27	3.31	3.32	3.23
Finland	33.9	34.8	35.1	35.7	32.9	31.8	9.6	9.8	10.0	10.3	10.2	9.7	3.55	3.54	3.53	3.47	3.24	3.28
France	39.4	39.3	39.3	39.4	38.7	37.8	10.1	10.3	11.1	10.8	10.5	9.8	3.90	3.82	3.54	3.64	3.68	3.86
Germany	38.0	37.3	36.9	36.4	35.7	33.2	6.4	6.6	6.4	6.2	5.7	5.4	5.95	5.68	5.80	5.88	6.22	6.13
Greece	23.3	22.2	20.8	20.7	23.5	18.4	9.8	9.2	9.7	9.6	10.5	8.7	2.39	2.42	2.13	2.16	2.23	2.11
Hungary	17.7	15.4	12.8	10.8	9.3	8.8	9.9	8.4	7.9	6.5	6.0	5.3	1.79	1.83	1.63	1.67	1.55	1.66
Ireland	22.6	20.0	20.5	22.8	23.5	22.6	5.3	5.2	5.4	5.8	5.2	4.9	4.24	3.89	3.80	3.94	4.48	4.65
Italy	41.1	41.5	46.3	49.5	48.1	45.0	10.1	9.9	10.7	12.1	12.1	10.6	4.08	4.20	4.32	4.10	3.98	4.24

	15–29						30–64						Ratios 15–29 to 30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Latvia	5.9	5.6	4.2	3.4	5.4	3.3	3.1	3.2	2.7	2.5	2.7	2.7	1.89	1.77	1.55	1.34	2.00	1.21
Lithuania	3.7	4.3	3.9	4.1	3.8	3.5	1.7	1.4	1.2	1.0	1.0	0.8	2.26	3.13	3.31	3.99	3.91	4.37
Luxembourg	26.4	22.6	24.4	25.9	20.3	18.6	5.9	5.5	5.1	5.7	6.2	5.0	4.44	4.14	4.75	4.51	3.30	3.75
Malta	11.5	11.8	9.2	11.9	12.1	10.8	5.8	5.8	4.6	6.2	7.9	7.0	1.98	2.03	1.99	1.93	1.53	1.55
Netherlands	43.4	44.1	45.4	44.0	41.8	38.8	10.4	10.9	11.6	11.7	10.8	9.2	4.19	4.06	3.90	3.76	3.89	4.21
Poland	54.3	53.3	50.7	46.3	42.9	38.3	20.9	20.3	19.5	18.4	16.2	13.9	2.59	2.62	2.60	2.51	2.65	2.76
Portugal	52.3	53.1	52.1	52.0	49.5	44.2	15.8	16.1	15.7	15.8	14.8	12.7	3.30	3.30	3.32	3.28	3.35	3.48
Romania	3.2	3.1	2.5	2.7	3.7	3.1	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.9	3.20	3.06	2.76	3.34	3.75	3.47
Slovakia	19.4	16.7	15.3	14.0	13.1	12.2	8.3	8.3	8.0	6.7	6.7	5.4	2.35	2.01	1.91	2.09	1.96	2.27
Slovenia	52.8	50.8	50.8	46.2	40.6	34.5	10.4	9.7	10.2	9.0	7.5	6.3	5.10	5.24	4.96	5.11	5.41	5.45
Spain	54.3	56.5	57.5	56.3	55.4	52.0	20.2	20.9	21.4	21.6	21.0	19.5	2.69	2.70	2.69	2.61	2.64	2.67
Sweden	41.0	38.9	38.8	38.1	38.2	37.6	8.9	8.9	9.0	9.0	8.8	8.3	4.59	4.37	4.34	4.21	4.33	4.53
United Kingdom	11.2	10.7	10.1	10.0	9.3	:	4.2	4.2	4.0	3.9	3.6	:	2.66	2.54	2.52	2.57	2.57	2.57
Montenegro	59.9	64.6	57.9	63.5	66.2	60.3	21.6	24.4	21.6	23.5	22.9	22.4	2.77	2.65	2.68	2.70	2.89	2.69
North Macedonia	23.5	23.4	22.8	26.7	29.8	30.3	10.0	11.3	12.0	12.3	13.6	15.0	2.35	2.07	1.91	2.17	2.18	2.02
Serbia	46.7	50.7	47.0	46.3	44.2	42.1	16.8	18.1	17.6	18.0	18.1	16.2	2.77	2.80	2.67	2.58	2.43	2.60
Turkey	16.7	17.2	18.1	17.3	16.7	15.5	11.3	11.2	10.9	10.3	9.2	8.9	1.48	1.54	1.66	1.68	1.80	1.75

Table B4.1: Self-employment rates in age groups 15–29, 30–64, 15–24 and 25–29 - Total - % and ratios 15–29/30–64 (2015–2020)

Source:	Eurostat LFS - ESPN Network Core Team calculations for all age groups based on indicator [lfsa_egaps] (thousands of people in employment by sex, age and professional status)
Downloaded:	24 May 2021, except Montenegro (17 July 2021)
Measurement:	People in self-employment as a % of the respective age group in employment
Comments:	No data for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	15–29						30–64						Ratios 15–29 to 30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	5.3	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.1	5.4	14.6	14.5	14.3	14.2	14.2	14.1	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.38
Austria	2.8	2.9	2.6	2.8	2.8	2.7	12.7	12.5	12.2	12.0	12.3	12.0	0.22	0.24	0.21	0.23	0.23	0.22
Belgium	6.9	6.4	6.3	6.7	7.1	7.8	14.0	14.0	13.6	13.2	13.5	13.8	0.49	0.45	0.47	0.51	0.53	0.57
Bulgaria	4.2	4.9	5.3	4.4	4.4	4.0	11.2	10.9	11.0	11.0	10.3	10.4	0.37	0.44	0.48	0.40	0.42	0.38
Croatia	2.5	2.9	2.4	2.4	3.0	2.9	12.9	12.2	11.1	11.0	11.4	11.9	0.19	0.23	0.22	0.22	0.26	0.24
Cyprus	4.8	5.5	5.0	5.9	6.1	5.4	12.9	12.1	11.6	12.2	12.6	12.9	0.37	0.45	0.43	0.48	0.48	0.42
Czechia	7.6	8.0	8.5	9.1	9.2	10.1	17.2	17.1	17.1	16.9	16.6	16.3	0.44	0.47	0.49	0.54	0.55	0.62
Denmark	1.9	1.8	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	9.3	9.2	8.5	8.3	8.6	8.7	0.21	0.19	0.27	0.28	0.27	0.28
Estonia	:	5.1	4.8	4.6	4.2	4.2	10.1	9.8	10.5	11.2	11.8	11.0	:	0.52	0.45	0.41	0.35	0.38
Finland	4.2	4.6	3.9	4.0	4.4	4.9	13.6	13.3	12.6	12.7	13.0	12.5	0.31	0.35	0.31	0.32	0.34	0.39
France	3.8	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.1	4.9	11.2	11.4	11.3	11.4	12.0	12.2	0.34	0.33	0.35	0.37	0.34	0.40
Germany	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.3	10.9	10.6	10.3	10.0	9.7	9.1	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.23	0.24	0.25
Greece	7.9	8.2	8.5	8.3	8.9	8.9	25.4	25.2	25.7	26.1	25.6	25.8	0.31	0.33	0.33	0.32	0.35	0.34
Hungary	3.1	3.4	3.8	3.9	4.2	5.2	11.0	10.9	10.5	10.6	10.9	12.0	0.28	0.31	0.36	0.37	0.38	0.43
Ireland	2.5	2.6	2.4	2.3	:	2.6	16.0	15.9	15.4	15.1	14.6	14.1	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.15	:	0.18
Italy	10.6	10.4	9.6	9.2	9.1	9.3	20.8	20.4	20.0	19.9	19.9	19.8	0.51	0.51	0.48	0.46	0.46	0.47

	15–29						30–64						Ratios 15–29 to 30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Latvia	5.1	4.8	6.3	5.9	5.4	6.2	11.9	12.2	11.9	11.1	11.3	12.2	0.43	0.40	0.53	0.53	0.48	0.51
Lithuania	5.8	6.5	6.7	6.2	6.8	7.5	10.8	11.1	10.8	11.0	11.0	10.6	0.54	0.59	0.62	0.56	0.62	0.70
Luxembourg	5.0	6.0	4.0	4.1	4.3	4.8	8.8	9.1	9.5	7.9	7.8	7.8	0.57	0.66	0.42	0.52	0.55	0.62
Malta	5.1	4.5	4.4	5.2	6.7	7.6	15.6	16.3	17.6	16.2	17.4	17.4	0.33	0.28	0.25	0.32	0.39	0.44
Netherlands	6.1	6.3	6.1	6.3	6.1	6.2	17.2	17.6	17.9	18.0	18.2	18.6	0.35	0.36	0.34	0.35	0.34	0.33
Poland	7.5	7.8	7.5	8.0	7.8	9.4	18.9	18.9	18.8	18.9	19.0	19.1	0.40	0.42	0.40	0.42	0.41	0.49
Portugal	4.0	4.0	3.7	4.9	5.1	5.0	14.4	14.0	14.0	13.6	14.2	13.9	0.28	0.29	0.26	0.36	0.36	0.36
Romania	10.4	9.9	10.1	9.7	9.5	9.1	17.9	16.8	16.8	16.0	15.7	15.4	0.58	0.59	0.60	0.61	0.60	0.59
Slovakia	7.9	9.0	9.0	9.0	9.5	10.3	14.5	14.9	14.9	14.7	14.9	14.4	0.54	0.61	0.60	0.61	0.63	0.72
Slovenia	5.1	3.7	4.2	4.7	5.8	4.4	12.4	12.1	12.1	12.9	12.4	11.3	0.41	0.31	0.35	0.36	0.47	0.39
Spain	5.0	4.7	5.0	4.8	4.3	4.3	14.3	14.5	14.5	14.4	14.4	14.5	0.35	0.33	0.35	0.33	0.30	0.30
Sweden	2.9	2.6	2.7	2.8	2.9	2.5	9.9	9.8	9.7	9.6	9.8	9.4	0.29	0.27	0.28	0.29	0.29	0.27
United Kingdom	6.1	6.1	6.3	6.1	6.3	:	15.3	16.0	15.8	15.6	16.2	:	0.40	0.38	0.40	0.39	0.39	:
Montenegro	:	:	6.2	:	5.9	8.4	17.7	18.2	18.4	19.0	17.4	21.0	:	:	0.34	:	0.34	0.40
North Macedonia	3.2	3.8	4.4	3.8	4.4	3.6	16.0	15.7	15.8	16.2	14.9	13.0	0.20	0.24	0.28	0.23	0.30	0.28
Serbia	7.0	7.3	8.7	7.2	7.5	7.8	18.7	20.2	21.1	19.4	19.9	19.3	0.37	0.36	0.41	0.37	0.38	0.41
Turkey	5.5	5.1	5.3	5.5	5.2	5.3	23.6	23.5	23.7	23.4	22.2	21.8	0.23	0.22	0.22	0.23	0.24	0.24

	15-24						25-29					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	3.2	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.0	3.3	7.0	6.9	6.9	7.0	6.9	7.1
Austria	1.6	1.6	1.4	1.5	2.0	1.6	4.3	4.4	3.9	4.1	3.6	3.8
Belgium	4.6	4.1	4.1	3.4	3.6	4.8	8.4	7.7	7.7	8.7	9.3	9.7
Bulgaria	2.8	3.0	3.6	3.0	3.8	2.5	4.9	5.7	6.1	5.0	4.6	4.7
Croatia	0.8	1.8	1.6	1.6	2.7	3.0	3.8	3.7	3.1	3.0	3.2	2.7
Cyprus	3.0	3.4	3.1	2.4	2.8	3.7	5.9	6.7	6.1	8.0	7.9	6.3
Czechia	4.4	5.8	6.3	6.5	5.9	7.1	9.5	9.3	9.7	10.5	10.9	11.7
Denmark	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	3.1	2.6	3.8	3.8	3.9	4.0
Estonia	:	2.1	2.6	3.0	2.9	2.6	5.1	7.2	6.3	5.8	5.1	5.5
Finland	2.5	2.8	2.4	2.3	2.2	3.2	6.4	6.7	5.7	5.9	6.9	6.8
France	1.6	1.9	1.6	1.8	2.1	2.5	5.6	5.4	6.0	6.4	5.9	7.0
Germany	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.6	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.3	3.4	3.0
Greece	4.1	3.6	5.6	5.0	5.0	5.2	9.8	10.6	10.1	10.1	10.9	10.7
Hungary	2.1	2.2	2.4	2.3	2.9	3.3	3.8	4.3	4.7	5.0	5.0	6.4
Ireland	1.0	1.5	1.4	1.2	:	1.6	4.2	3.9	3.5	3.6	3.8	3.6
Italy	7.2	7.1	6.1	5.7	5.6	5.6	13.0	12.7	12.0	11.7	11.5	11.8
Latvia	4.9	4.3	3.8	5.4	5.1	5.2	5.2	5.2	7.8	6.2	5.6	6.9
Lithuania	4.4	5.4	4.9	3.5	4.5	6.9	6.9	7.5	8.1	8.2	8.6	7.9
Luxembourg	5.2	6.3	4.7	3.0	4.1	6.1	4.9	5.8	3.6	4.7	4.4	4.1
Malta	3.2	2.9	2.1	3.0	3.0	5.6	7.0	5.9	6.2	7.0	9.4	9.0
Netherlands	4.6	4.7	4.1	4.2	4.4	4.8	8.4	8.6	9.0	9.5	8.6	8.3
Poland	4.3	4.9	4.6	4.5	4.3	5.1	9.5	9.7	9.3	10.3	10.0	11.9
Portugal	2.5	2.4	2.2	3.2	2.8	2.6	5.2	5.2	4.8	6.2	6.9	6.7
Romania	10.3	10.5	10.4	10.1	9.1	8.5	10.5	9.6	9.8	9.5	9.7	9.5
Slovakia	5.6	6.2	7.6	7.2	7.5	10.2	9.3	10.8	10.0	10.1	10.5	10.4
Slovenia	2.5	1.6	2.1	2.3	3.5	2.6	6.8	5.0	5.8	6.5	7.5	5.5
Spain	2.9	2.5	2.5	2.8	2.5	2.8	6.5	6.2	6.9	6.2	5.6	5.3
Sweden	1.8	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.3	4.1	3.7	3.7	3.9	4.0	3.7
United Kingdom	4.0	4.0	4.4	4.4	4.6	:	8.6	8.6	8.5	8.1	8.2	:
Montenegro	:	:	5.2	:	4.2	10.1	5.8	8.0	6.9	4.5	7.5	7.3
North Macedonia	2.8	2.8	3.2	2.2	3.0	3.0	3.5	4.5	5.2	4.8	5.4	4.1
Serbia	5.9	7.3	7.0	6.3	6.2	6.5	7.7	7.4	9.9	7.8	8.3	8.7
Turkey	3.0	2.8	3.0	2.9	2.7	3.0	8.3	7.8	8.2	8.5	8.3	7.8

Table B4.2: Self-employment rates in age groups 15–29 and 30–64 - By sex - % (2015–2020)

Source:	Eurostat LFS - ESPN Network Core Team calculations for all age groups based on indicator [lfsa_egaps] (thousands of people in employment by sex, age and professional status)
Downloaded:	24 May 2021, except Montenegro (17 July 2021)
Measurement:	People in self-employment as a % of the respective age group in employment
Comments:	No data for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	Males											
	15–29						30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	6.3	6.2	6.1	6.2	6.2	6.5	18.5	18.2	18.1	17.9	17.9	17.7
Austria	3.5	3.6	2.9	3.4	3.2	3.0	15.3	15.2	14.9	14.5	15.0	14.7
Belgium	7.8	7.2	6.9	7.3	7.9	8.7	18.0	18.0	17.2	16.6	17.0	17.6
Bulgaria	5.3	:	6.3	5.0	5.4	:	14.4	13.8	13.9	14.1	13.1	13.2
Croatia	2.8	4.0	2.7	2.5	4.1	3.6	16.7	15.6	13.6	13.5	14.6	15.6
Cyprus	:	5.9	:	:	7.1	5.0	16.3	15.6	14.4	14.9	15.3	16.1
Czechia	9.1	9.5	10.6	11.0	11.8	12.5	21.6	20.9	21.1	21.2	20.6	20.2
Denmark	2.8	2.5	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.4	12.4	12.2	11.4	11.2	11.4	11.4
Estonia	:	:	:	5.1	:	:	13.3	12.6	14.5	15.6	16.5	15.5
Finland	5.2	5.6	4.7	4.8	5.2	6.0	17.9	17.6	16.3	16.3	16.4	16.2
France	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.5	4.6	5.8	14.7	15.1	14.7	15.0	15.5	15.3
Germany	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.8	2.7	13.7	13.2	12.8	12.5	12.2	11.4
Greece	10.6	11.5	11.7	11.6	12.2	11.3	30.9	30.5	31.2	31.7	31.1	31.3
Hungary	3.2	3.9	3.6	4.1	4.6	5.6	13.8	13.3	12.8	12.9	13.5	14.4

	Females											
	15–29						30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.9	3.8	3.9	10.1	10.1	9.9	9.9	10.0	9.9
Austria	:	2.2	2.2	:	2.3	:	9.8	9.4	9.2	9.2	9.3	9.0
Belgium	5.8	5.4	5.6	6.0	6.2	6.9	9.5	9.2	9.4	9.3	9.4	9.4
Bulgaria	:	:	:	:	:	:	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.5	7.1	7.4
Croatia	:	:	:	:	:	:	8.7	8.4	8.2	8.2	7.8	7.6
Cyprus	5.8	:	5.7	5.9	:	:	9.3	8.2	8.7	9.1	9.6	9.2
Czechia	5.4	5.9	5.5	6.5	5.5	6.4	11.7	12.4	12.2	11.6	11.7	11.5
Denmark	:	:	:	:	:	:	5.8	5.8	5.3	5.2	5.5	5.7
Estonia	:	:	:	:	:	:	6.9	6.9	6.4	6.7	6.9	6.3
Finland	3.2	3.5	3.0	3.2	3.7	3.8	9.1	8.7	8.7	8.9	9.3	8.7
France	3.0	3.1	3.6	3.8	3.5	3.9	7.5	7.6	7.8	7.7	8.3	8.9
Germany	2.0	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.7	:	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.2	7.0	6.5
Greece	4.8	4.3	4.8	4.6	5.0	6.1	18.4	18.8	18.8	19.0	18.6	19.0
Hungary	2.8	2.7	4.0	:	3.7	4.5	7.7	8.0	7.8	7.8	7.9	9.0

	Males												Females											
	15–29						30–64						15–29						30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Ireland	:	3.6	3.4	2.8	:	:	22.5	22.3	21.7	21.3	20.4	19.2	:	:	:	:	:	:	7.9	8.2	8.0	7.8	7.8	8.3
Italy	11.2	10.5	10.2	10.2	9.7	10.0	25.3	24.9	24.7	24.4	24.3	24.3	9.8	10.3	8.8	8.0	8.2	8.3	14.6	14.4	13.8	14.0	14.1	13.8
Latvia	6.1	5.2	7.2	7.0	6.5	:	15.1	15.4	14.1	12.9	13.0	13.9	4.0	:	:	:	:	:	8.7	9.1	9.8	9.3	9.6	10.5
Lithuania	8.1	8.8	7.8	7.1	8.6	8.7	13.1	14.2	13.8	13.8	14.3	14.0	:	3.9	5.3	5.0	4.6	5.9	8.7	8.3	8.1	8.4	7.8	7.3
Luxembourg	4.6	8.6	4.3	:	:	5.1	9.9	9.9	10.3	9.0	8.9	9.2	5.4	:	:	:	4.5	:	7.3	8.1	8.6	6.4	6.5	6.3
Malta	6.0	6.4	5.8	7.3	8.7	10.1	19.9	21.7	22.0	20.4	21.6	21.8	:	:	:	3.1	:	4.2	7.9	7.2	10.3	9.9	10.7	10.8
Netherlands	7.1	7.5	7.3	8.0	7.4	7.7	20.4	21.0	21.1	21.2	21.6	21.9	5.0	5.1	4.8	4.6	4.8	4.7	13.5	13.7	14.2	14.2	14.3	14.7
Poland	9.2	9.5	9.5	10.5	10.4	12.1	23.3	23.4	23.7	23.4	23.5	24.0	5.3	5.6	4.7	4.8	4.4	5.7	13.8	13.5	13.0	13.5	13.5	13.1
Portugal	4.4	4.5	4.1	5.5	5.7	:	17.9	17.4	17.5	17.2	17.7	17.2	:	:	:	4.2	4.5	:	10.9	10.6	10.4	10.1	10.8	10.6
Romania	13.3	12.7	12.6	12.1	11.9	11.4	22.8	21.5	21.6	20.4	20.2	19.8	6.2	5.7	6.5	6.3	5.9	5.6	11.5	10.5	10.4	10.1	9.7	9.5
Slovakia	10.3	12.0	12.1	12.6	13.0	13.7	18.6	18.9	18.9	18.8	19.2	18.8	4.3	:	4.5	3.7	:	:	9.7	10.3	10.4	9.9	10.0	9.4
Slovenia	6.5	5.0	5.3	5.2	8.3	6.3	16.3	15.9	15.3	16.7	15.9	14.1	3.3	:	:	3.9	:	:	7.9	7.8	8.4	8.6	8.3	8.1
Spain	5.8	5.5	5.7	5.5	5.2	5.3	17.9	18.0	18.2	18.1	17.9	17.9	4.1	3.8	4.3	4.1	3.3	3.2	10.1	10.4	10.1	10.2	10.4	10.6
Sweden	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.4	13.5	13.2	13.3	13.4	13.7	13.0	2.0	1.6	1.6	1.9	:	:	6.0	6.0	5.8	5.5	5.5	5.4
United Kingdom	7.9	8.1	8.4	8.2	8.4	:	19.4	20.1	19.8	19.5	20.2	:	4.0	3.9	4.1	3.8	4.1	:	10.6	11.3	11.4	11.3	11.6	:
Montenegro	:	:	:	:	:	13.3	22.7	23.5	24.7	26.1	23.7	27.2	:	:	:	:	:	:	10.7	9.3	9.5	10.1	9.8	:
North Macedonia	4.3	4.7	6.2	5.0	6.2	5.0	21.1	20.1	20.6	20.9	19.1	16.4	1.5	:	:	:	1.8	:	8.2	8.8	8.2	8.9	8.7	7.9
Serbia	9.0	9.2	11.6	9.7	9.8	10.0	25.8	27.0	26.6	25.0	25.2	24.1	4.3	4.8	4.7	3.8	4.2	4.4	9.7	11.9	14.6	12.7	13.6	13.5
Turkey	6.8	6.3	6.6	6.7	6.4	6.4	28.7	28.7	29.0	28.6	27.4	26.3	2.9	2.7	3.0	3.2	3.1	3.2	11.4	11.5	11.9	12.1	11.0	11.6

Table B5.1: Contributing family workers in age groups 15–29, 30–64, 15–24 and 25–29 - Total - % and ratios 15–29/30–64 (2015–2020)

Source:	Eurostat LFS - ESPN Network Core Team calculations for all age groups based on indicator [lfsa_egaps] (thousands of people in employment by sex, age and professional status)
Downloaded:	24 May 2021, except Montenegro (17 July 2021)
Measurement:	Contributing family workers as a % of the respective age group in employment
Comments:	No data for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	15–29						30–64						Ratios 15–29 to 30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	2.9	2.6	2.4	2.2	2.1	2.1	2.4	2.2	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
Austria	1.3	1.1	1.1	0.8	0.9	1.1	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.4	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.8
Belgium	1.8	1.5	1.7	1.9	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.0	0.9	1.2	1.5	1.3	1.3
Bulgaria	1.7	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.5	1.5
Croatia	3.7	2.1	1.9	1.9	1.6	1.5	3.5	2.6	2.2	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.1	0.8	0.8	1.1	1.0	1.0
Cyprus	2.9	3.0	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.1	2.6	2.1	1.7	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.0	1.5	1.2	1.0
Czechia	1.3	1.2	0.7	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.3	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.2	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1
Denmark	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0
Estonia	:	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.8	:	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.9
Finland	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.6	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.8
France	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.1	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.9
Germany	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.0
Greece	13.4	12.4	11.9	10.6	8.9	9.3	10.7	9.9	9.3	8.4	7.3	6.8	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.4
Hungary	1.2	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.6	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.6	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.7	1.3	1.0
Ireland	1.9	1.8	1.3	1.1	:	1.5	1.9	1.7	1.3	1.0	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	:	1.7
Italy	6.8	6.3	5.6	5.0	4.5	4.3	3.2	3.2	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.6	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.7

	15–29						30–64						Ratios 15–29 to 30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Latvia	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.2	1.3	1.6	2.0	2.0	1.8	1.3	1.3	1.5	0.8	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.0	1.1
Lithuania	2.2	1.2	1.0	1.3	1.2	1.5	2.1	1.8	1.6	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.1	0.7	0.6	0.9	1.0	1.1
Luxembourg	3.4	3.1	2.7	3.6	2.7	3.8	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.9	1.3	1.9	2.8	2.5	2.3	3.9	2.0	2.0
Malta	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.7	1.1	0.5	0.3	0.9	0.9	0.6
Netherlands	1.0	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	1.7	1.4	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.8
Poland	5.1	4.5	4.2	3.8	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.3	3.1	2.7	2.3	2.4	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.5
Portugal	2.0	2.1	1.3	1.6	1.2	1.4	2.1	1.9	1.5	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.4	1.1	1.3
Romania	18.5	17.4	16.9	16.5	16.1	16.6	8.0	6.9	6.4	6.1	5.7	5.7	2.3	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.8	2.9
Slovakia	2.0	1.7	1.5	1.1	1.1	1.5	1.7	1.5	1.2	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.7
Slovenia	7.6	4.0	4.8	3.3	2.4	2.4	3.5	2.5	2.5	2.3	1.6	1.5	2.2	1.6	1.9	1.4	1.5	1.6
Spain	4.3	3.6	3.1	2.6	2.5	2.7	3.9	3.4	2.9	2.5	2.3	2.5	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.1
Sweden	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.2	1.0
United Kingdom	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.0	0.9	:	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7	:	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3	:
Montenegro	:	:	4.8	:	4.4	:	5.0	5.1	5.5	4.7	4.8	:	:	:	0.9	:	0.9	:
North Macedonia	17.0	13.8	12.8	10.8	9.4	7.2	10.4	8.8	8.6	8.2	6.9	5.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.4	1.3
Serbia	15.0	13.8	10.0	8.2	7.2	7.0	9.8	9.4	7.6	7.1	5.7	5.2	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.4
Turkey	15.0	15.0	15.4	14.6	14.8	14.9	12.3	11.9	11.6	11.1	11.4	9.8	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.5

	15–24						25–29					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	3.5	3.2	2.9	2.5	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.7	1.9
Austria	1.9	1.5	1.3	1.0	1.4	1.6	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.6
Belgium	2.1	1.8	2.1	2.4	1.9	2.3	1.5	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.2	1.1
Bulgaria	2.2	1.9	2.3	2.1	1.6	2.1	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.2
Croatia	5.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	1.9	2.0	2.5	1.7	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.1
Cyprus	3.4	3.8	1.8	1.9	2.2	1.2	2.4	2.4	1.7	1.4	0.9	0.9
Czechia	1.2	1.7	1.1	0.9	0.8	1.2	1.2	0.9	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8
Denmark	0.5	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.6
Estonia	:	0.5	0.9	0.6	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.5
Finland	2.1	2.0	2.2	1.8	1.7	2.1	1.1	1.1	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.8
France	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.7	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.9	1.1
Germany	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	-0.7	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.6
Greece	19.2	16.2	15.3	13.8	11.2	12.0	10.6	10.3	10.2	9.0	7.7	7.9
Hungary	1.5	0.9	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.5
Ireland	2.4	2.5	1.9	1.6	:	2.4	1.1	1.0	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.4
Italy	7.7	7.1	5.8	5.1	4.6	4.7	5.8	5.4	5.0	4.6	4.1	3.7
Latvia	2.3	1.9	1.3	2.0	2.2	2.1	1.2	1.3	1.5	0.8	0.8	1.3
Lithuania	2.3	1.8	1.5	1.5	0.9	2.2	2.1	0.8	0.6	1.0	1.3	1.1
Luxembourg	6.3	6.9	6.4	7.1	5.8	8.7	1.7	1.2	0.8	1.5	1.1	1.7
Malta	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.8	0.3	0.0	0.5	0.4	0.5
Netherlands	1.1	1.0	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.6
Poland	7.1	6.7	6.0	5.2	4.5	4.2	3.8	3.0	2.9	2.8	3.1	3.3
Portugal	2.9	2.8	1.8	2.2	1.6	1.7	1.3	1.5	0.9	1.0	0.7	0.9
Romania	33.7	33.4	30.3	28.4	27.8	28.4	10.5	9.6	9.6	9.5	9.0	9.1
Slovakia	2.4	1.9	1.9	1.3	1.6	2.5	1.6	1.4	1.1	1.0	0.8	1.0
Slovenia	13.6	7.1	9.2	5.5	4.0	4.0	3.7	2.0	s	1.6	1.2	1.4
Spain	5.4	4.5	3.5	3.0	3.0	3.6	3.3	2.8	2.6	2.2	1.9	2.0
Sweden	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.9	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.5
United Kingdom	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.2	:	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5	:
Montenegro	:	:	5.7	:	4.4	:	3.5	4.2	4.1	3.5	4.2	:
North Macedonia	26.3	24.4	20.4	16.0	12.7	10.5	11.0	7.8	8.4	7.7	7.3	5.2
Serbia	22.4	19.8	13.1	10.9	10.2	10.8	10.9	10.2	8.1	6.6	5.3	4.7
Turkey	19.5	19.7	20.1	18.6	19.3	21.0	9.8	9.5	9.9	9.7	9.6	8.6

Table B5.2: Contributing family workers in age groups 15–29, 30–64 - By sex - % (2015–2020)

Source:	Eurostat LFS - ESPN Network Core Team calculations for all age groups based on indicator [lfsa_egaps] (thousands of people in employment by sex, age and professional status)
Downloaded:	24 May 2021, except Montenegro (17 July 2021)
Measurement:	Contributing family workers as a % of the respective age group in employment
Comments:	No data for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	Males											
	15–29						30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	3.5	3.1	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.2	1.9	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.3
Austria	1.6	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.3
Belgium	2.1	1.8	1.9	2.1	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.2
Bulgaria	2.2	:	1.8	1.9	1.6	:	1.6	1.4	1.2	1.1	0.8	0.9
Croatia	4.3	2.8	2.1	1.9	1.7	1.6	3.0	2.3	2.1	1.5	1.5	1.6
Cyprus	:	4.3	:	:	1.6	1.4	2.8	2.2	1.7	1.0	0.8	1.1
Czechia	1.3	1.2	0.7	0.7	1.0	1.1	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.5
Denmark	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6
Estonia	:	:	:	0.8	:	:	0.8	1.0	1.1	0.8	0.6	1.1
Finland	2.4	2.2	1.9	1.7	1.5	2.0	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.1
France	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.1
Germany	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	-0.9	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.1
Greece	16.7	14.7	13.8	13.3	11.7	11.8	8.8	7.8	7.2	6.1	5.3	5.1
Hungary	1.4	0.9	0.4	0.5	0.8	0.7	1.1	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.6
Ireland	:	2.8	2.2	1.6	:	:	2.5	2.0	1.5	1.1	0.9	0.9

	Females											
	15–29						30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	2.3	2.1	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.8	2.7	2.5	2.3	2.1	1.9	2.2
Austria	:	1.0	1.0	:	0.7	:	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.2	1.5
Belgium	1.6	1.3	1.5	1.8	1.4	1.7	2.0	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.5
Bulgaria	:	:	:	:	:	:	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.1	1.1
Croatia	:	:	:	:	:	:	3.9	2.9	2.4	2.1	1.7	1.5
Cyprus	2.6	:	1.1	1.3	:	:	2.4	2.0	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.0
Czechia	1.2	1.3	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.7	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.3
Denmark	:	:	:	:	:	:	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.6
Estonia	:	:	:	:	:	:	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.5
Finland	1.1	1.1	1.1	0.8	1.0	1.1	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
France	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.8	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.0
Germany	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	:	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5	1.8
Greece	8.6	8.3	8.6	6.6	4.9	5.9	12.8	12.1	11.6	11.0	9.5	8.7
Hungary	0.9	0.6	0.7	:	0.5	0.6	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.7
Ireland	:	:	:	:	:	:	1.5	1.4	1.0	0.9	0.7	0.8

	Males											
	15–29						30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Italy	7.4	6.6	6.0	5.7	5.1	4.9	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.3
Latvia	2.2	2.1	2.1	1.8	1.9	:	2.7	2.7	2.4	1.6	1.6	2.0
Lithuania	2.5	1.9	1.4	1.8	1.8	2.0	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.5	1.3	1.5
Luxembourg	3.2	2.9	3.9	:	:	4.1	0.8	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.5
Malta	1.0	0.2	0.8	0.2	0.6	0.9	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.9
Netherlands	1.2	1.1	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.9	1.4	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7
Poland	6.2	5.2	5.1	4.6	4.5	4.7	2.5	2.2	1.9	1.7	1.3	1.3
Portugal	2.5	2.7	1.5	2.0	1.4	:	2.4	2.2	1.7	1.2	1.1	1.0
Romania	18.5	17.8	17.4	16.2	16.1	16.4	4.3	3.4	3.2	3.0	2.8	3.1
Slovakia	2.3	2.0	1.8	1.5	1.5	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.4	1.0	1.0	1.1
Slovenia	7.3	4.5	5.1	3.6	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.0	2.0	1.7	1.5	1.1
Spain	5.3	4.3	3.8	3.1	3.0	3.4	4.1	3.6	3.0	2.6	2.3	2.5
Sweden	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.9	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.9
United Kingdom	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.3	:	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8	:
Montenegro	:	:	:	:	:	:	4.8	5.0	5.3	4.7	4.5	:
North Macedonia	18.9	15.7	13.7	11.9	11.2	8.7	8.5	7.3	6.5	6.4	5.1	4.3
Serbia	18.1	15.3	11.3	9.0	8.1	8.3	6.3	6.1	5.0	4.7	3.6	3.2
Turkey	12.2	12.8	13.1	12.8	13.4	14.3	4.1	4.1	3.9	4.0	4.7	4.3

	Females											
	15–29						30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Italy	6.0	6.0	4.9	4.0	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.1	3.0	3.1	2.8
Latvia	0.8	:	:	:	:	:	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.0	1.1	1.1
Lithuania	:	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.5	1.0	2.1	1.8	1.6	1.4	1.1	1.3
Luxembourg	4.0	:	:	:	2.7	:	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.7	2.3
Malta	:	:	:	0.1	:	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5
Netherlands	0.8	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.6	2.0	1.7	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.1
Poland	3.8	3.5	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.5	5.3	4.7	4.5	3.9	3.6	3.7
Portugal	:	:	:	1.1	0.9	:	1.8	1.6	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.0
Romania	18.6	16.7	16.2	16.8	16.2	16.9	13.1	11.4	10.7	10.2	9.7	9.2
Slovakia	1.4	:	0.8	0.5	:	:	1.5	1.2	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.6
Slovenia	7.9	:	:	2.8	:	:	4.6	2.9	3.1	2.9	1.6	1.9
Spain	3.3	2.9	2.4	2.1	1.9	1.9	3.4	3.0	2.7	2.3	2.1	2.3
Sweden	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	:	:	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5
United Kingdom	1.1	1.1	0.8	0.7	0.6	:	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7	:
Montenegro	:	:	:	:	:	:	6.2	7.7	6.9	4.9	5.0	:
North Macedonia	14.4	:	:	:	6.7	:	13.4	11.4	12.0	11.2	9.5	7.6
Serbia	10.1	11.6	8.0	7.0	5.9	5.0	14.0	13.4	10.6	9.8	8.2	7.5
Turkey	20.7	19.2	19.9	17.9	17.4	16.1	31.7	29.9	28.8	26.4	25.7	22.3

Table B6.1: Unemployment rates of age groups 15–29, 30–64, 15–24 and 25–29 - Total - % and ratios 15–29/30–64 (2015–2020)

Source:	Eurostat LFS - ESPN Network Core Team calculations for all age groups based on indicator [lfsa_pganws] (thousands of people in population by sex, age, citizenship and labour status)
Downloaded:	24 May 2021, except Montenegro (17 July 2021)
Measurement:	People in unemployment as a % of the respective age group in the active population
Comments:	No data for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	15–29						30–64						Ratios 15–29 to 30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	17.3	15.8	14.2	12.8	11.9	13.3	8.5	7.7	6.9	6.1	5.6	5.8	2.04	2.06	2.06	2.09	2.10	2.29
Austria	8.6	9.2	8.2	7.5	6.8	8.5	4.9	5.1	4.8	4.2	3.9	4.6	1.75	1.80	1.71	1.80	1.74	1.87
Belgium	15.6	14.3	13.5	10.9	9.8	10.7	6.8	6.3	5.6	4.8	4.3	4.4	2.31	2.27	2.41	2.27	2.28	2.42
Bulgaria	14.4	12.2	9.9	8.3	6.9	8.8	8.2	6.8	5.5	4.8	3.8	4.7	1.76	1.80	1.79	1.74	1.78	1.89
Croatia	29.7	24.6	21.8	17.6	13.2	16.6	13.0	10.2	8.6	6.3	5.1	5.5	2.29	2.41	2.54	2.78	2.57	3.02
Cyprus	24.5	21.8	18.7	14.7	11.3	13.2	12.2	10.5	9.0	6.7	6.0	6.2	2.01	2.06	2.08	2.19	1.88	2.15
Czechia	9.0	7.4	5.1	4.4	3.7	5.3	4.3	3.3	2.5	1.9	1.8	2.2	2.07	2.20	2.03	2.34	2.08	2.44
Denmark	11.0	11.1	11.3	9.9	9.7	11.0	4.9	4.5	4.2	3.7	3.5	4.0	2.21	2.48	2.72	2.70	2.75	2.78
Estonia	8.9	10.0	8.1	7.4	7.4	12.2	5.6	6.2	5.4	4.9	3.9	5.8	1.59	1.62	1.51	1.49	1.91	2.11
Finland	17.3	15.6	15.1	12.9	12.3	15.1	7.3	7.0	7.0	5.9	5.2	5.9	2.38	2.23	2.17	2.19	2.38	2.59
France	18.9	18.4	16.9	16.4	15.2	15.5	8.2	8.0	7.6	7.2	6.8	6.2	2.31	2.31	2.24	2.27	2.25	2.50
Germany	6.5	6.2	5.8	5.4	4.9	6.3	4.3	3.7	3.3	3.0	2.8	3.3	1.53	1.66	1.77	1.80	1.78	1.90
Greece	41.3	38.4	35.6	32.3	28.9	29.8	21.8	20.8	19.0	17.1	15.4	14.2	1.89	1.84	1.87	1.89	1.88	2.10
Hungary	12.1	9.1	7.2	6.7	7.3	8.6	5.7	4.3	3.5	3.1	2.6	3.4	2.14	2.13	2.06	2.16	2.80	2.57
Ireland	16.7	13.9	11.5	10.6	9.6	11.8	8.2	6.9	5.5	4.5	3.8	4.1	2.04	2.02	2.08	2.34	2.55	2.88
Italy	29.9	28.4	26.7	24.8	22.4	22.1	9.0	9.0	8.8	8.4	8.1	7.3	3.33	3.18	3.05	2.95	2.78	3.03

	15–29						30–64						Ratios 15–29 to 30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Latvia	12.9	13.3	11.6	10.6	9.3	13.1	9.3	9.0	8.3	6.9	5.9	7.5	1.38	1.47	1.40	1.53	1.56	1.76
Lithuania	12.7	10.4	8.6	7.5	8.7	13.4	8.5	7.5	7.0	6.1	6.0	7.9	1.49	1.39	1.22	1.24	1.44	1.70
Luxembourg	11.9	10.6	9.5	10.2	10.7	13.3	5.3	5.2	4.6	4.4	4.2	5.1	2.24	2.03	2.09	2.29	2.54	2.59
Malta	8.6	7.5	7.4	5.4	6.3	7.3	4.2	3.7	2.8	3.0	2.7	3.3	2.03	2.02	2.66	1.78	2.31	2.23
Netherlands	9.4	8.6	7.1	5.6	5.4	7.1	6.0	5.1	4.0	3.2	2.6	2.7	1.55	1.68	1.75	1.77	2.07	2.63
Poland	14.2	11.8	9.4	7.6	6.6	7.1	5.9	4.8	3.8	3.0	2.6	2.4	2.42	2.47	2.44	2.54	2.55	2.96
Portugal	22.8	20.8	16.7	14.1	12.6	15.8	10.9	9.6	7.6	5.8	5.5	5.4	2.09	2.18	2.20	2.42	2.31	2.94
Romania	14.5	13.1	11.7	10.1	10.2	11.6	5.1	4.4	3.5	3.1	2.8	3.9	2.83	2.99	3.30	3.28	3.70	2.99
Slovakia	17.6	15.5	13.3	11.1	9.6	12.3	10.0	8.3	7.0	5.6	5.0	5.7	1.76	1.87	1.91	1.98	1.92	2.18
Slovenia	16.2	14.7	10.8	8.9	7.5	9.7	7.5	6.7	5.8	4.4	3.9	4.2	2.15	2.19	1.88	2.02	1.92	2.33
Spain	36.7	33.3	29.4	26.2	24.7	29.2	19.3	17.2	15.0	13.3	12.2	13.2	1.90	1.94	1.96	1.97	2.03	2.22
Sweden	14.9	13.6	12.9	12.3	13.8	16.6	5.2	5.1	4.9	4.7	4.9	6.1	2.84	2.67	2.62	2.63	2.84	2.72
United Kingdom	10.7	9.3	8.4	8.0	7.6	:	3.6	3.4	3.1	2.8	2.6	:	2.98	2.74	2.72	2.87	2.90	:
Montenegro	29.2	28.8	26.5	26.0	22.2	30.7	14.3	14.4	13.1	12.3	13.2	14.6	2.04	1.99	2.03	2.12	1.68	2.10
North Macedonia	42.5	40.6	39.2	37.1	30.5	29.5	21.4	19.2	17.8	16.5	13.9	13.3	1.98	2.11	2.21	2.24	2.19	2.22
Serbia	34.4	29.8	26.7	24.5	21.5	20.5	14.4	12.8	11.3	10.8	8.7	7.3	2.38	2.33	2.37	2.26	2.47	2.81
Turkey	16.0	17.2	17.7	17.8	22.0	21.7	7.9	8.3	8.1	8.3	10.6	10.0	2.02	2.08	2.18	2.15	2.08	2.16

	15–24						25–29					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	21.8	20.1	18.0	16.1	15.1	16.9	13.5	12.3	11.0	10.0	9.1	10.3
Austria	10.6	11.2	9.8	9.4	8.5	10.5	6.3	7.0	6.4	5.5	5.0	6.5
Belgium	22.1	20.1	19.3	15.8	14.2	15.3	11.4	10.8	10.1	7.8	6.9	7.8
Bulgaria	21.6	17.2	12.9	12.7	8.9	14.2	10.7	9.9	8.4	6.2	5.9	6.2
Croatia	42.3	31.3	27.4	23.7	16.6	21.1	20.5	19.0	17.3	12.9	10.6	13.2
Cyprus	32.8	29.1	24.7	20.2	16.6	18.2	19.6	17.6	15.4	11.4	8.3	10.6
Czechia	12.6	10.5	7.9	6.7	5.6	8.0	6.7	5.5	3.5	3.1	2.6	3.9
Denmark	12.2	12.2	12.4	10.5	10.1	11.6	9.1	9.4	9.6	8.9	9.3	10.2
Estonia	13.1	13.4	12.1	11.8	11.1	17.9	6.0	7.6	5.2	4.0	4.7	8.0
Finland	22.4	20.1	20.1	17.0	17.2	21.4	11.3	10.4	9.3	8.4	7.0	8.6
France	24.7	24.5	22.1	20.8	19.5	20.2	14.0	13.3	12.4	12.5	11.4	11.4
Germany	7.2	7.1	6.8	6.2	5.8	7.2	5.8	5.3	5.0	4.6	4.1	5.3
Greece	49.8	47.3	43.6	39.9	35.2	35.0	36.7	33.8	31.2	28.5	25.8	27.2
Hungary	17.3	12.9	10.7	10.2	11.4	12.8	8.4	6.3	4.8	4.4	4.6	6.1
Ireland	20.2	16.8	14.4	13.8	12.5	15.3	12.7	10.6	8.1	6.9	6.1	7.8
Italy	40.3	37.8	34.7	32.2	29.2	29.4	22.4	21.9	21.2	19.7	17.6	17.1
Latvia	16.3	17.3	17.0	12.2	12.4	14.9	10.6	10.8	8.2	9.6	7.4	12.1
Lithuania	16.3	14.5	13.3	11.1	11.9	19.6	9.8	7.2	5.0	4.7	6.2	8.8
Luxembourg	17.3	18.9	15.4	14.2	17.0	23.2	8.2	5.9	6.0	7.7	7.1	7.8
Malta	11.6	10.7	10.6	9.1	9.3	10.7	5.7	4.5	4.7	2.7	4.0	4.9
Netherlands	11.3	10.8	8.9	7.2	6.7	9.1	6.5	5.3	4.4	3.3	3.4	4.0
Poland	20.8	17.7	14.8	11.7	9.9	10.8	10.1	8.1	5.9	5.0	4.4	4.8
Portugal	32.0	28.0	23.9	20.3	18.3	22.6	15.8	15.4	11.3	9.3	8.3	11.0
Romania	21.7	20.6	18.3	16.2	16.8	17.3	10.2	9.0	7.6	6.1	5.7	7.5
Slovakia	26.5	22.2	18.9	14.9	16.1	19.3	12.2	11.4	9.8	8.7	6.1	8.6
Slovenia	16.3	15.2	11.2	8.8	8.1	14.2	16.1	14.3	10.4	9.0	7.0	6.8
Spain	48.3	44.4	38.6	34.3	32.5	38.3	28.5	25.6	23.0	20.4	19.0	22.9
Sweden	20.4	18.9	17.9	17.4	20.1	23.9	8.7	7.8	7.8	7.2	7.4	9.5
United Kingdom	14.6	13.0	12.1	11.3	11.2	:	6.0	5.1	4.3	4.4	3.7	:
Montenegro	37.6	35.9	31.7	29.4	25.2	36.0	23.2	23.4	22.9	23.3	19.7	26.5
North Macedonia	47.3	48.2	46.7	45.4	35.6	35.7	39.0	35.2	33.9	31.4	27.0	25.5
Serbia	43.2	34.9	31.9	29.7	27.5	26.6	28.6	26.2	23.1	21.1	17.5	16.4
Turkey	18.5	19.5	20.5	20.2	25.2	25.1	13.0	14.5	14.3	14.9	18.0	17.9

B6.2: Unemployment rates in age groups 15–29 and 30–64 - By sex - % (2015–2020)

Source:	Eurostat LFS - ESPN Network Core Team calculations for all age groups based on indicator [lfsa_pganws] (thousands of people in population by sex, age, citizenship and labour status)
Downloaded:	24 May 2021, except Montenegro (17 July 2021)
Measurement:	People in unemployment as a % of the respective age group in the active population
Comments:	No data for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	Males												Females											
	15–29						30–64						15–29						30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	17.5	15.8	14.2	12.9	12.0	13.3	8.2	7.4	6.5	5.8	5.3	5.5	17.0	15.8	14.1	12.7	11.8	13.3	8.7	8.0	7.3	6.5	6.1	6.2
Austria	9.4	10.5	9.2	7.7	7.1	9.2	5.2	5.3	5.0	4.3	4.0	4.5	7.8	7.8	7.0	7.2	6.4	7.7	4.6	4.9	4.5	4.0	3.8	4.6
Belgium	17.2	15.3	14.2	11.1	10.8	11.0	7.2	6.4	5.5	5.2	4.5	4.6	13.9	13.2	12.7	10.7	8.7	10.3	6.3	6.2	5.7	4.3	4.0	4.2
Bulgaria	14.9	13.3	10.2	9.2	7.5	9.2	8.8	7.2	5.6	5.1	4.1	4.9	13.7	10.8	9.4	7.0	6.0	8.2	7.5	6.4	5.4	4.4	3.6	4.4
Croatia	28.6	23.9	20.9	14.8	10.5	14.4	12.3	9.6	7.9	6.0	5.2	5.8	31.2	25.5	22.9	21.3	16.7	19.6	13.8	10.9	9.3	6.8	5.1	5.1
Cyprus	24.7	20.8	18.8	16.2	11.0	15.5	12.8	10.7	9.0	6.1	5.1	5.8	24.4	22.6	18.7	13.3	11.4	11.3	11.7	10.3	9.0	7.4	7.0	6.6
Czechia	8.2	6.3	4.5	3.9	3.3	4.5	3.4	2.8	1.9	1.4	1.5	1.9	10.1	8.9	5.9	5.1	4.1	6.3	5.4	4.0	3.2	2.4	2.1	2.5
Denmark	11.2	11.3	11.4	10.4	9.8	11.2	4.7	4.0	3.9	3.3	3.3	3.6	10.6	10.9	11.2	9.3	9.7	10.8	5.3	5.0	4.4	4.1	3.8	4.4
Estonia	8.5	11.1	8.3	7.0	6.1	11.2	5.7	6.5	5.8	4.9	3.6	6.0	9.2	8.6	7.8	7.9	8.9	13.5	5.5	5.8	4.9	4.9	4.2	5.6
Finland	18.5	16.4	15.4	13.0	13.2	15.7	7.7	7.1	7.2	6.0	5.6	6.0	16.2	14.8	14.8	12.9	11.4	14.5	6.9	6.9	6.6	5.8	4.7	5.7
France	19.7	18.8	17.4	16.9	16.2	15.9	8.5	8.0	7.4	7.0	6.6	6.2	18.0	18.0	16.4	15.8	14.2	15.1	7.9	7.9	7.7	7.5	7.0	6.3
Germany	7.2	6.9	6.6	6.2	5.6	7.0	4.6	4.0	3.6	3.3	3.1	3.6	5.7	5.3	4.9	4.4	4.1	5.4	3.9	3.4	3.0	2.6	2.5	2.9
Greece	37.4	33.9	30.3	28.0	26.2	27.6	18.8	17.3	15.7	13.3	12.0	11.3	45.7	43.9	41.6	37.4	32.1	32.3	25.5	25.3	23.3	22.0	19.7	17.7
Hungary	12.1	8.9	6.3	6.3	7.6	8.2	5.3	4.3	3.3	2.9	2.4	3.2	12.0	9.2	8.5	7.3	6.9	9.3	6.1	4.3	3.8	3.4	2.8	3.6
Ireland	19.5	16.2	12.7	11.4	10.9	12.2	8.7	7.2	5.8	4.4	3.8	4.0	13.6	11.5	10.1	9.6	8.1	11.3	7.6	6.5	5.2	4.6	3.8	4.1

	Males												Females											
	15–29						30–64						15–29						30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Italy	28.8	26.9	25.3	23.5	21.2	21.0	8.5	8.4	8.0	7.6	7.2	6.5	31.4	30.6	28.6	26.6	23.9	23.6	9.5	9.8	9.7	9.4	9.1	8.3
Latvia	14.0	14.8	11.7	11.3	10.1	13.5	10.6	10.2	9.4	7.9	6.7	8.6	11.6	11.6	11.3	9.8	8.2	12.7	8.1	8.0	7.2	6.0	5.2	6.4
Lithuania	12.3	11.5	9.7	8.5	10.2	15.1	9.8	8.7	8.5	6.7	6.5	8.4	13.1	9.0	7.1	6.2	6.7	11.2	7.3	6.4	5.6	5.5	5.5	7.4
Luxembourg	11.5	10.3	10.9	10.2	11.8	14.8	4.8	4.9	4.2	4.1	4.1	4.6	12.2	10.9	8.0	10.2	9.4	11.7	5.9	5.5	4.9	4.7	4.4	5.8
Malta	9.1	7.6	8.2	6.3	6.9	8.0	4.3	3.0	2.6	3.0	2.0	3.1	8.2	6.9	6.4	4.4	5.5	6.1	3.7	4.5	3.2	3.0	3.4	3.0
Netherlands	9.4	8.9	7.0	6.0	6.0	7.2	5.6	4.5	3.7	2.9	2.4	2.5	9.3	8.3	7.2	5.2	4.8	6.9	6.6	5.8	4.5	3.5	2.8	2.9
Poland	14.5	11.7	9.3	7.3	6.0	6.9	5.5	4.7	3.8	3.0	2.3	2.3	13.8	11.9	9.5	8.0	7.2	7.3	6.3	4.9	3.9	2.9	2.8	2.5
Portugal	21.9	20.5	16.1	14.0	11.4	15.6	10.9	9.7	7.2	5.4	4.9	5.1	23.7	21.2	17.4	14.3	13.9	15.9	10.9	9.5	8.0	6.3	6.0	5.6
Romania	14.9	13.5	12.6	10.8	10.7	11.9	5.8	5.1	4.1	3.5	3.1	4.0	13.9	12.6	10.4	9.1	9.4	11.1	4.2	3.5	2.8	2.5	2.3	3.7
Slovakia	16.9	13.9	12.4	10.9	9.7	11.5	8.6	7.4	6.8	5.0	4.7	5.3	18.6	17.9	14.6	11.3	9.7	13.7	11.7	9.3	7.2	6.3	5.4	6.0
Slovenia	14.7	13.5	8.3	8.1	6.3	8.7	6.7	6.3	5.3	4.0	3.6	3.7	17.8	16.2	13.6	9.8	9.1	10.9	8.5	7.2	6.3	4.9	4.2	4.8
Spain	37.3	32.9	29.5	26.2	24.1	28.5	17.8	15.5	13.2	11.5	10.3	11.3	36.1	33.8	29.4	26.2	25.4	29.9	21.1	19.1	17.1	15.4	14.3	15.2
Sweden	15.3	14.5	13.4	12.8	13.7	17.3	5.4	5.4	5.2	4.7	4.8	6.0	14.5	12.6	12.3	11.8	14.0	15.9	5.1	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.9	6.3
United Kingdom	11.7	10.1	9.0	8.5	8.6	:	3.5	3.4	3.0	2.7	2.5	:	9.6	8.5	7.7	7.5	6.4	:	3.7	3.5	3.2	2.9	2.7	:
Montenegro	30.8	29.9	25.8	27.5	22.5	29.5	14.2	14.7	12.3	11.9	12.4	14.2	27.2	27.4	27.3	24.0	21.8	32.2	14.5	14.1	13.9	12.8	14.2	15.0
North Macedonia	44.4	41.1	37.6	36.8	28.7	28.1	21.7	19.9	18.7	17.3	13.4	14.2	39.7	39.6	41.8	37.5	33.0	31.8	21.0	18.2	16.4	15.3	14.7	12.1
Serbia	32.3	27.5	24.8	23.0	20.8	19.4	13.8	12.4	10.8	10.1	8.1	6.9	37.4	32.8	29.3	26.6	22.5	22.1	15.2	13.2	11.8	11.7	9.4	7.7
Turkey	13.9	14.9	15.1	15.2	19.4	19.7	7.4	7.5	7.3	7.5	9.9	9.8	20.1	21.5	22.7	22.7	26.5	25.4	9.1	10.0	10.0	9.9	12.0	10.5

Table B7.1: Inactivity rates in age groups 15–29, 30–64, 15–24 and 25–29 - Total - % and ratios 15–29/30–64 (2015–2020)

Source:	Eurostat LFS - ESPN Network Core Team calculations for all age groups based on indicators [lfsa_igan] (thousands of people inactive and not wanting to work by sex, age and citizenship) and [lfsa_pganws] (thousands of people in population by sex, age, citizenship and labour status)
Downloaded:	24 May 2021, except Montenegro (17 July 2021)
Measurement:	Inactive people not wanting to work as a % of the respective age group in the total population
Comments:	No data for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	15–29						30–64						Ratios 15–29 to 30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	45.6	45.4	45.3	45.3	45.3	46.8	22.0	21.6	21.0	20.6	20.2	20.5	2.07	2.11	2.16	2.20	2.24	2.29
Austria	32.2	31.5	32.5	32.2	31.9	32.5	21.7	20.9	20.3	20.0	19.8	20.3	1.49	1.51	1.60	1.61	1.61	1.60
Belgium	51.0	51.7	51.9	51.3	49.9	52.2	25.2	24.9	24.3	23.7	23.7	23.5	2.02	2.08	2.13	2.16	2.11	2.23
Bulgaria	54.2	56.3	53.4	55.6	54.8	57.8	22.8	23.1	20.8	20.2	18.4	19.1	2.38	2.44	2.56	2.75	2.97	3.03
Croatia	49.3	47.2	47.7	49.8	49.9	50.4	27.1	29.8	28.5	28.0	27.8	26.9	1.82	1.58	1.67	1.78	1.80	1.87
Cyprus	40.9	41.5	41.7	40.9	39.4	40.5	19.7	20.3	19.4	18.3	17.6	17.7	2.07	2.05	2.15	2.23	2.24	2.29
Czechia	48.6	48.5	48.3	48.7	49.4	51.7	18.4	17.3	16.4	15.5	15.2	15.0	2.63	2.80	2.96	3.15	3.25	3.44
Denmark	34.6	33.9	33.4	33.0	32.2	32.4	18.2	17.7	17.2	16.9	16.1	16.2	1.89	1.92	1.94	1.95	2.00	2.01
Estonia	40.3	40.1	37.0	37.1	38.9	40.3	16.9	16.0	15.5	15.3	15.1	14.4	2.38	2.51	2.39	2.42	2.58	2.80
Finland	37.5	37.4	36.6	36.3	35.5	36.4	19.0	18.9	18.1	16.6	16.4	16.1	1.97	1.98	2.02	2.19	2.17	2.27
France	46.7	46.6	47.0	46.6	47.4	49.0	21.9	21.6	21.4	21.0	21.0	21.3	2.14	2.15	2.20	2.22	2.26	2.30
Germany	38.3	37.9	37.7	37.2	36.5	36.0	16.9	16.6s	16.3	16.0	15.5	15.8	2.26	2.29	2.31	2.33	2.35	2.28
Greece	52.3	53.6	54.6	55.6	55.9	58.1	25.7	24.9	24.7	24.5	24.0	24.7	2.03	2.15	2.21	2.27	2.33	2.35
Hungary	51.5	50.3	49.5	49.5	49.2	49.8	24.3	22.7	21.7	20.6	19.9	19.4	2.12	2.21	2.29	2.40	2.47	2.56
Ireland	40.8	38.5	41.1	41.2	41.0	44.2	22.9	22.9	22.0	21.5	21.1	21.8	1.78	1.68	1.87	1.91	1.94	2.03
Italy	59.2	58.4	58.7	59.0	59.1	61.7	28.8	27.9	27.1	26.8	26.6	28.0	2.06	2.10	2.16	2.21	2.22	2.21

	15–29						30–64						Ratios 15–29 to 30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Latvia	40.0	40.1	39.6	41.7	42.8	44.9	18.5	17.9	17.4	16.0	16.3	14.7	2.16	2.24	2.27	2.60	2.62	3.05
Lithuania	48.0	46.8	46.5	45.2	44.8	45.0	17.1	16.2	15.9	15.0	14.5	13.9	2.80	2.89	2.92	3.01	3.09	3.23
Luxembourg	45.1	47.8	48.5	46.4	43.5	45.7	23.1	23.3	22.8	22.3	22.3	21.2	1.95	2.05	2.13	2.08	1.95	2.16
Malta	34.2	32.9	30.7	28.1	27.5	28.8	29.9	28.0	26.6	24.2	22.7	20.6	1.14	1.17	1.15	1.16	1.21	1.40
Netherlands	25.0	25.2	25.4	24.9	23.7	24.5	18.6	18.4	18.2	17.7	17.2	16.9	1.34	1.37	1.39	1.41	1.38	1.45
Poland	47.6	45.9	45.9	45.6	45.6	48.4	26.1	25.8	25.0	24.5	24.1	22.8	1.82	1.78	1.84	1.86	1.90	2.12
Portugal	48.8	49.0	47.9	47.9	47.7	51.0	19.3	18.8	17.9	17.3	16.8	17.4	2.52	2.60	2.67	2.76	2.84	2.94
Romania	49.5	52.2	51.0	52.2	52.8	52.7	28.2	28.0	26.3	25.4	24.4	23.8	1.76	1.86	1.94	2.05	2.16	2.22
Slovakia	48.6	47.7	48.0	48.4	50.2	51.3	21.5	20.8	20.6	20.3	19.5	19.7	2.26	2.30	2.33	2.38	2.57	2.61
Slovenia	45.2	46.6	42.7	43.0	44.7	48.4	22.9	22.7	20.7	19.5	18.8	18.6	1.98	2.05	2.07	2.20	2.38	2.61
Spain	46.8	48.2	48.3	48.9	49.3	52.1	19.4	19.2	19.5	19.5	19.2	20.3	2.41	2.52	2.47	2.51	2.56	2.57
Sweden	33.7	33.7	33.3	33.7	33.4	35.2	11.6	11.2	10.7	10.2	10.2	10.2	2.90	3.02	3.11	3.30	3.28	3.46
United Kingdom	31.8	31.5	31.5	31.9	31.8	:	19.5	19.1	18.8	18.2	17.9	:	1.63	1.65	1.67	1.75	1.77	:
Montenegro	53.1	50.5	51.4	51.5	48.9	54.9	30.2	30.2	29.5	27.9	27.0	31.0	1.76	1.68	1.74	1.85	1.81	1.77
North Macedonia	50.8	52.0	50.3	50.8	50.6	52.4	28.2	28.5	28.3	28.0	27.1	27.6	1.80	1.82	1.78	1.82	1.86	1.90
Serbia	53.6	52.8	52.4	51.8	53.0	54.7	30.2	28.1	26.8	25.5	24.8	24.8	1.77	1.88	1.96	2.03	2.14	2.21
Turkey	49.4	48.7	47.7	47.3	46.8	51.6	41.1	40.1	39.2	38.7	39.0	42.0	1.20	1.21	1.22	1.22	1.20	1.23

	15–24						25–29					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	61.2	61.2	60.9	60.9	60.7	62.2	18.2	18.1	18.2	18.2	17.9	18.8
Austria	42.6	42.5	43.9	43.3	43.6	43.9	14.4	13.0	14.1	14.6	13.9	15.1
Belgium	70.0	71.5	71.9	70.4	69.0	71.6	16.1	16.0	16.5	18.0	16.5	17.9
Bulgaria	74.0	76.1	73.7	76.3	76.1	78.1	25.4	28.2	24.6	25.5	22.5	24.9
Croatia	66.8	62.8	64.3	66.5	66.8	67.5	17.0	18.3	16.8	18.6	18.0	17.9
Cyprus	62.1	62.8	63.4	60.8	61.2	61.7	11.4	12.4	12.7	14.2	11.7	14.2
Czechia	67.5	68.0	68.3	69.6	70.3	72.7	19.4	19.2	18.9	18.3	18.8	19.9
Denmark	41.5	40.5	39.6	39.9	38.9	39.8	20.2	20.9	21.5	20.1	20.0	19.3
Estonia	58.2	56.7	53.9	52.7	55.4	57.0	15.4	17.8	14.6	16.1	15.7	15.1
Finland	47.8	47.8	46.8	46.9	46.1	47.8	18.6	18.8	18.8	18.2	17.8	17.6
France	62.8	63.0	63.1	62.5	63.2	64.4	15.3	14.6	14.9	14.3	14.5	15.9
Germany	51.2	50.8	50.1	49.7	48.6	48.1	17.1	17.5	17.7	16.5	15.9	14.7
Greece	74.0	75.4	75.0	76.7	77.5	78.8	14.6	15.3	17.8	17.0	16.2	19.9
Hungary	69.0	67.7	67.6	67.7	67.8	68.8	19.6	19.4	18.6	18.9	18.4	18.8
Ireland	52.6	49.5	53.3	53.3	52.9	56.3	18.2	17.1	16.5	15.9	15.3	18.0
Italy	73.8	73.4	73.8	73.9	73.9	76.2	32.7	31.2	31.2	32.0	31.7	34.7
Latvia	58.7	60.3	60.3	62.3	63.7	65.2	13.3	12.3	11.5	13.0	12.2	13.0
Lithuania	66.2	64.7	65.0	63.5	62.7	63.4	10.5	10.3	11.2	11.1	12.3	12.3
Luxembourg	64.8	69.3	69.5	66.9	65.4	67.6	12.0	13.0	13.5	14.2	9.7	12.6
Malta	48.4	48.2	47.1	44.0	44.1	45.9	11.5	9.8	8.1	7.5	7.6	8.5
Netherlands	31.5	31.8	31.7	31.1	30.0	31.3	12.1	12.5	13.4	13.0	11.8	11.6
Poland	67.2	65.5	65.2	64.9	64.8	68.2	15.7	15.5	16.5	16.5	16.8	18.2
Portugal	66.5	66.8	66.0	65.8	65.7	69.8	14.0	13.7	11.9	12.0	11.7	13.2
Romania	68.7	72.0	70.0	70.5	70.4	70.3	19.8	20.8	19.0	19.8	19.8	18.2
Slovakia	68.3	67.6	66.8	67.7	70.3	71.9	17.2	16.5	19.0	19.3	20.2	20.2
Slovenia	64.7	66.3	60.9	61.4	63.8	68.5	14.5	14.7	12.8	12.3	12.0	13.3
Spain	65.3	67.0	66.7	67.0	67.0	70.1	14.7	14.9	15.1	15.9	16.5	18.0
Sweden	44.9	45.2	45.3	45.9	45.0	47.9	13.8	14.4	13.9	14.6	15.4	14.9
United Kingdom	41.5	41.7	42.5	42.9	43.4	:	14.9	14.3	13.0	13.8	12.7	:
Montenegro	69.8	67.3	68.8	67.1	63.5	69.1	22.1	19.7	20.8	22.1	22.1	29.3
North Macedonia	67.2	68.7	67.2	68.2	67.8	69.1	22.4	23.4	22.1	22.2	22.4	25.2
Serbia	70.6	69.7	69.3	70.0	70.3	71.7	24.9	23.8	23.4	20.8	23.0	25.4
Turkey	58.2	57.7	56.8	56.2	55.7	61.0	32.4	31.3	30.0	30.0	29.7	33.5

Table B7.2: Inactivity rates in age groups 15–29 and 30–64 - By sex - % (2015–2020)

Source:	Eurostat LFS - ESPN Network Core Team calculations for all age groups based on indicators [lfsa_igan] (thousands of people inactive and not wanting to work by sex, age and citizenship) and [lfsa_pganws] (thousands of people in population by sex, age, citizenship and labour status)
Downloaded:	24 May 2021, except Montenegro (17 July 2021)
Measurement:	Inactive people not wanting to work as a % of the respective age group in the total population
Comments:	No data for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	Males												Females											
	15–29						30–64						15–29						30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	42.0	41.9	41.9	41.8	41.7	43.4	15.2	14.9	14.4	14.1	13.9	14.2	49.3	49.1	49.0	49.1	49.1	50.4	28.7	28.1	27.5	27.0	26.5	26.6
Austria	29.2	28.8	30.2	28.9	28.0	29.3	16.4	15.7	14.8	14.6	14.7	15.5	35.2	34.4	35.0	35.7	35.9	35.8	26.9	26.1	25.7	25.3	24.8	25.1
Belgium	48.0	49.2	49.1	48.9	47.6	50.4	20.0	19.2	18.7	18.7	18.9	18.5	54.1	54.2	54.7	53.7	52.3	54.1	30.5	30.6	29.9	28.8	28.5	28.4
Bulgaria	49.0	50.2	46.9	49.4	48.9	52.4	19.2	19.6	17.3	16.2	14.3	14.7	59.7	62.8	60.3	62.1	60.9	63.5	26.4	26.7	24.4	24.2	22.6	23.6
Croatia	44.7	43.1	43.2	45.1	45.4	44.3	22.3	24.7	23.2	23.4	22.5	21.4	54.2	51.4	52.4	54.9	54.6	56.8	31.9	34.8	33.8	32.6	33.0	32.3
Cyprus	41.2	41.5	42.6	40.4	37.9	38.3	12.4	12.7	12.0	11.4	10.8	9.8	40.7	41.5	40.9	41.1	40.9	42.5	26.4	27.3	26.3	24.8	24.1	25.3
Czechia	41.2	40.9	41.2	41.8	42.6	43.2	11.0	10.2	9.3	8.7	8.4	8.5	56.2	56.4	55.8	56.0	56.5	60.7	26.0	24.6	23.6	22.4	22.2	21.8
Denmark	33.8	33.6	32.8	32.3	31.4	31.3	13.8	13.8	13.5	13.0	12.1	12.4	35.3	34.2	34.1	33.6	32.9	33.6	22.7	21.6	21.0	20.8	20.1	19.9
Estonia	34.0	33.4	31.0	31.6	33.5	35.7	13.8	12.2	12.2	12.2	12.5	11.8	47.0	47.1	43.3	42.8	44.5	45.3	19.8	19.6	18.6	18.2	17.7	17.0
Finland	36.1	36.1	35.2	35.1	33.6	33.8	17.7	16.9	16.1	14.8	14.8	14.6	38.9	38.8	38.0	37.5	37.5	39.2	20.4	20.9	20.1	18.4	18.0	17.6
France	42.8	43.2	43.3	43.1	44.4	46.1	17.6	17.3	17.0	16.8	16.9	17.2	50.5	50.0	50.8	50.1	50.4	51.8	25.9	25.7	25.5	25.0	24.8	25.0
Germany	36.1	35.7	35.5	34.5	33.3	34.3	11.4	11.4	11.2	11.0	10.7	11.6	40.6	40.4	40.0	40.1	39.9	38.0	22.4	21.8	21.4	21.0	20.4	20.0
Greece	49.7	50.1	51.8	52.7	53.1	55.9	15.7	15.2	14.6	14.2	13.7	14.2	55.0	57.3	57.4	58.6	58.8	60.3	35.5	34.2	34.4	34.5	33.9	34.7
Hungary	45.8	44.4	43.7	43.0	42.8	43.9	16.9	15.2	13.8	12.9	11.7	11.0	57.5	56.4	55.7	56.3	55.8	56.1	31.2	29.9	29.2	28.1	27.7	27.6
Ireland	38.4	36.6	39.2	39.1	38.7	42.4	14.0	14.5	14.0	13.9	13.5	14.1	43.2	40.5	43.0	43.3	43.3	46.0	31.5	31.2	29.7	28.9	28.5	29.1

	Males												Females											
	15–29						30–64						15–29						30–64					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Italy	54.2	53.6	53.9	54.3	54.4	56.3	16.9	16.2	15.7	15.4	15.5	16.8	64.5	63.5	63.7	64.1	64.0	67.4	40.4	39.3	38.3	37.8	37.5	38.8
Latvia	36.0	36.8	36.0	38.3	39.6	41.5	15.3	15.3	14.5	13.0	13.7	11.9	44.2	43.6	43.5	45.2	46.2	48.5	21.4	20.3	20.1	18.8	18.8	17.3
Lithuania	44.8	42.9	42.7	41.8	41.9	41.6	15.3	14.6	14.6	13.4	13.4	12.6	51.2	51.0	50.7	48.8	47.9	48.7	18.8	17.6	17.2	16.4	15.5	15.2
Luxembourg	43.5	47.4	46.5	45.6	41.5	44.9	16.7	16.5	18.3	17.7	16.9	16.9	46.7	48.2	50.5	47.5	45.8	46.4	29.8	30.4	27.5	27.1	27.8	25.6
Malta	31.1	29.3	28.1	26.3	25.1	25.8	12.9	12.1	11.8	10.5	10.4	10.2	37.5	36.6	33.6	29.9	30.0	32.1	47.4	44.2	42.4	38.8	36.2	32.4
Netherlands	25.0	25.3	25.5	24.9	23.5	24.7	11.6	11.8	11.8	11.3	11.3	11.2	24.9	25.2	25.2	24.9	23.9	24.3	25.5	25.0	24.6	24.0	23.1	22.5
Poland	41.7	39.6	39.4	39.7	39.7	41.9	18.9	18.5	17.6	17.1	16.3	14.9	53.8	52.6	52.8	51.9	51.8	55.1	33.2	32.9	32.2	31.7	31.7	30.5
Portugal	48.7	48.2	47.1	46.4	46.9	50.0	14.5	14.0	13.4	13.4	12.8	13.6	48.9	49.8	48.8	49.5	48.6	52.1	23.7	23.2	22.1	20.9	20.4	20.7
Romania	42.2	44.8	44.6	45.1	45.3	45.3	18.0	17.9	16.3	15.3	14.1	13.4	57.4	60.1	57.7	59.7	60.7	60.6	38.4	38.1	36.3	35.6	34.8	34.3
Slovakia	40.4	39.2	39.6	39.9	41.1	42.4	15.4	15.0	15.2	14.5	14.2	14.6	57.2	56.7	56.8	57.3	59.8	60.6	27.6	26.5	26.1	26.1	24.9	24.7
Slovenia	41.2	43.0	39.9	39.5	41.6	46.0	19.4	20.0	17.7	16.4	16.1	15.9	49.5	50.4	45.8	46.8	48.2	51.1	26.6	25.6	23.7	22.8	21.8	21.5
Spain	45.3	46.7	46.8	46.9	47.2	50.4	12.9	13.0	13.3	13.3	13.5	14.5	48.3	49.8	49.9	51.0	51.6	53.9	25.9	25.3	25.7	25.6	24.9	26.0
Sweden	33.5	33.2	32.9	33.7	33.3	34.2	9.1	8.7	8.2	7.7	7.7	7.4	33.9	34.2	33.7	33.8	33.6	36.3	14.2	13.7	13.3	12.8	12.8	13.0
United Kingdom	28.7	28.7	29.1	29.1	29.5	:	13.2	12.9	13.0	12.7	12.5	:	35.0	34.5	33.9	34.9	34.1	:	25.6	25.1	24.5	23.6	23.2	:
Montenegro	50.3	46.8	48.8	46.1	42.9	50.3	22.9	21.6	20.0	19.0	18.9	22.8	56.0	54.5	54.2	57.3	55.5	59.7	37.3	38.5	38.7	36.6	34.7	39.0
North Macedonia	41.8	42.6	40.7	41.8	43.4	45.5	14.0	13.4	13.5	13.5	14.4	14.7	60.4	61.9	60.6	60.5	58.3	59.8	42.7	43.9	43.4	42.8	40.1	40.8
Serbia	47.7	46.9	46.4	45.6	46.4	47.4	21.2	19.7	19.0	17.7	17.6	17.8	59.9	58.9	58.7	58.4	59.9	62.5	39.0	36.2	34.3	33.2	31.8	31.7
Turkey	33.2	33.2	32.6	32.0	32.4	37.3	17.5	16.8	16.3	16.2	16.7	19.7	65.6	64.3	63.1	62.9	61.5	66.2	64.8	63.6	62.1	61.2	61.3	64.4

Table B8.1: At-risk-of poverty-or-social-exclusion rates for age groups 16–29 and 30–64 - Total - % and ratios 16–29/30–64 (2015–2019)

Source:	Eurostat, EU-SILC ad hoc extraction - indicator [ilc_peps02]
Downloaded:	25 June 2021
Measurement:	At risk of poverty or social exclusion, abbreviated as AROPE, is the sum of persons who live in a household that is at risk of poverty and/or severely materially and socially deprived and/or (quasi-)jobless. Persons are only counted once even if they are present in several sub-indicators
Comments:	No data for Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	16–29					30–64					Ratios 16–29 to 30–64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
EU-27	27.9	28.1	26.5	25.3	24.2	24.0	23.2	21.8	20.9	20.3	1.17	1.21	1.21	1.21	1.19
Austria	19.8	22.5	20.7	19.7	20.1	15.2	15.4	15.0	15.1	14.9	1.30	1.46	1.38	1.31	1.35
Belgium	24.0	24.4	24.0	22.2	19.9	21.6	22.7	22.2	20.0	19.8	1.11	1.07	1.08	1.11	1.01
Bulgaria	40.6	40.6	36.6	31.6	30.3	38.5	37.0	32.9	28.2	27.2	1.05	1.10	1.11	1.12	1.11
Croatia	22.4	22.2	21.0	17.4	16.3	23.2	21.8	21.6	20.5	18.4	0.97	1.02	0.97	0.85	0.89
Cyprus	25.2	23.0	21.1	18.2	16.8	22.6	22.5	21.0	18.2	16.6	1.11	1.02	1.01	1.00	1.01
Czechia	13.4	11.8	11.5	10.7	10.2	12.4	12.1	11.4	10.5	10.3	1.09	0.98	1.01	1.02	0.98
Denmark	35.8	38.2	36.3	35.4	34.2	16.7	14.5	15.2	14.7	14.9	2.14	2.64	2.39	2.42	2.29
Estonia	19.3	17.9	19.1	19.1	18.2	20.7	19.2	18.7	17.9	18.6	0.93	0.93	1.02	1.06	0.98
Finland	25.9	24.9	23.9	24.7	23.9	15.6	15.9	14.7	15.2	13.4	1.66	1.57	1.62	1.62	1.79
France	22.4	25.2	22.6	21.2	22.7	18.2	17.2	16.7	17.2	18.0	1.23	1.46	1.35	1.24	1.26
Germany	24.3	24.2	24.0	23.7	21.4	19.8	18.8	17.7	17.1	15.9	1.22	1.29	1.36	1.39	1.35
Greece	41.0	43.2	41.5	36.4	36.0	34.6	35.1	34.3	32.4	30.5	1.18	1.23	1.21	1.12	1.18
Hungary	32.3	29.8	25.4	21.0	19.7	31.1	28.8	26.3	20.9	20.3	1.04	1.04	0.97	1.01	0.97
Ireland	31.3	27.3	27.0	19.0	20.7	24.5	22.8	21.4	19.6	19.3	1.28	1.20	1.26	0.97	1.07
Italy	32.9	32.5	30.8	31.1	28.2	28.9	28.3	26.6	26.1	25.3	1.14	1.15	1.16	1.19	1.11
Latvia	25.0	20.3	19.9	20.9	17.5	27.2	25.7	25.5	24.0	22.3	0.92	0.79	0.78	0.87	0.79

	16–29					30–64					Ratios 16–29 to 30–64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Lithuania	25.4	27.4	28.4	23.6	18.6	27.7	27.5	25.2	24.4	22.9	0.92	1.00	1.13	0.97	0.81
Luxembourg	22.4	25.4	23.6	25.2	27.1	18.1	18.3	19.5	20.2	18.8	1.24	1.39	1.21	1.25	1.44
Malta	16.9	15.7	15.3	12.4	14.6	21.9	18.4	17.1	17.4	18.3	0.77	0.85	0.90	0.71	0.80
Netherlands	25.4	24.6	25.5	23.9	22.7	16.6	15.3	15.7	15.2	15.2	1.54	1.61	1.62	1.57	1.49
Poland	23.9	22.7	19.1	19.8	19.1	22.8	20.8	19.7	18.5	17.9	1.05	1.09	0.97	1.07	1.07
Portugal	27.8	25.9	26.4	22.8	22.4	26.6	25.2	23.5	21.2	21.2	1.05	1.03	1.12	1.07	1.06
Romania	46.9	47.7	45.1	38.6	36.4	40.6	41.9	38.7	34.7	32.4	1.16	1.14	1.17	1.11	1.12
Slovakia	15.6	16.8	15.9	15.4	14.4	17.0	16.3	14.8	14.0	13.9	0.92	1.03	1.08	1.10	1.04
Slovenia	18.9	18.6	15.2	14.1	12.0	17.1	16.4	16.5	14.8	12.6	1.10	1.13	0.92	0.95	0.96
Spain	36.1	36.3	33.8	33.2	31.4	30.2	30.1	27.5	27.2	26.2	1.20	1.21	1.23	1.22	1.20
Sweden	28.2	27.1	27.0	26.5	25.8	14.5	13.7	13.2	14.3	15.0	1.95	1.98	2.05	1.86	1.72
United Kingdom	27.6	24.0	24.5	24.7	:	20.7	20.5	20.0	20.3	:	1.34	1.17	1.22	1.22	:
Albania	:	64.0	53.9	50.2	47.7	:	68.9	58.0	53.1	50.0	:	0.93	0.93	0.95	0.95
Montenegro	43.1	43.6	43.2	41.5	37.8	42.5	42.1	40.3	39.1	34.6	1.02	1.04	1.07	1.06	1.09
North Macedonia	37.6	36.5	35.3	35.1	33.4	41.8	40.0	36.6	34.6	34.1	0.90	0.91	0.97	1.01	0.98
Serbia	39.9	34.8	38.3	33.2	30.5	42.0	30.8	39.5	34.4	30.8	0.95	1.13	0.97	0.96	0.99
Turkey	27.5	27.8	32.3	32.3	33.1	22.7	22.9	28.7	28.9	29.9	1.21	1.22	1.12	1.12	1.11

Table B8.2: At-risk-of-poverty-or-social-exclusion for age groups 16–29 and 30–64 - By sex - % (2015–2019)

Source:	Eurostat, EU-SILC ad hoc extraction - indicator [ilc_peps02]
Downloaded:	25 June 2021
Measurement:	At risk of poverty or social exclusion, abbreviated as AROPE, is the sum of persons who live in a household that is at risk of poverty and/or severely materially and socially deprived and/or (quasi-)jobless. Persons are only counted once even if they are present in several sub-indicators
Comments:	No data for Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	Males										Females									
	16–29					30–64					16–29					30–64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
EU-27	27.5	27.1	25.8	24.1	23.3	23.0	22.2	20.9	20.0	19.4	28.3	29.1	27.3	26.5	25.1	24.9	24.1	22.7	21.8	21.2
Austria	19.4	21.7	19.1	18.0	17.7	14.8	15.0	14.4	15.3	14.5	20.1	23.4	22.4	21.6	22.6	15.5	15.8	15.6	14.9	15.2
Belgium	22.9	23.0	22.3	21.2	18.7	19.6	20.4	20.0	17.9	18.2	25.0	25.8	25.6	23.1	21.1	23.5	24.9	24.4	22.2	21.4
Bulgaria	40.3	40.5	37.7	32.9	30.6	38.1	36.6	32.3	28.1	27.2	40.9	40.7	35.3	30.3	29.9	39.0	37.3	33.4	28.3	27.3
Croatia	22.6	22.3	20.3	17.1	17.2	22.8	21.8	21.6	19.9	18.2	22.2	22.2	21.8	17.9	15.3	23.5	21.8	21.6	21.0	18.6
Cyprus	25.0	22.6	20.8	16.6	14.7	21.5	20.9	19.5	17.0	15.4	25.4	23.3	21.5	19.8	18.9	23.7	23.9	22.3	19.4	17.7
Czechia	12.0	11.0	10.2	9.4	9.1	11.6	11.4	10.5	9.5	9.2	14.9	12.6	12.9	12.1	11.4	13.1	12.7	12.3	11.4	11.5
Denmark	36.0	34.9	35.7	34.0	33.6	16.0	14.7	15.1	14.0	15.6	35.6	41.7	37.0	36.9	34.8	17.5	14.3	15.3	15.3	14.3
Estonia	18.7	16.7	17.4	19.6	17.6	22.2	20.3	19.9	18.8	20.5	19.9	19.2	20.9	18.6	18.8	19.4	18.2	17.5	17.1	16.8
Finland	27.7	26.0	23.5	24.0	23.1	16.4	16.9	15.9	16.7	14.5	23.9	23.7	24.3	25.5	24.7	14.8	14.8	13.5	13.8	12.2
France	22.1	24.3	23.0	22.0	22.5	16.0	15.1	14.9	15.3	15.7	22.8	26.0	22.2	20.4	22.9	20.4	19.2	18.5	18.9	20.2
Germany	22.7	22.1	22.6	21.0	19.5	18.5	17.5	16.5	16.3	15.3	25.9	26.4	25.6	26.3	23.4	21.1	19.9	18.8	17.8	16.6
Greece	41.8	43.2	41.9	36.2	36.0	32.6	33.2	32.8	30.6	28.5	40.2	43.2	41.1	36.5	35.9	36.6	37.0	35.8	34.2	32.4
Hungary	30.6	28.2	23.4	19.0	18.6	30.7	28.0	26.3	21.0	19.9	34.0	31.5	27.6	23.2	20.8	31.5	29.6	26.3	20.8	20.6
Ireland	32.3	24.8	23.2	17.8	20.3	23.3	21.2	19.8	17.4	16.7	30.2	29.9	31.1	20.4	21.2	25.7	24.3	22.9	21.7	21.8

	Males										Females									
	16–29					30–64					16–29					30–64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Italy	32.0	31.3	29.5	29.4	27.5	27.6	27.2	25.6	24.8	23.9	33.9	33.8	32.2	33.0	28.9	30.1	29.3	27.6	27.4	26.7
Latvia	24.7	20.3	19.0	21.1	17.1	26.1	24.9	24.9	23.2	21.7	25.2	20.3	21.0	20.7	18.0	28.1	26.4	26.0	24.7	22.9
Lithuania	24.7	26.4	28.6	22.3	16.6	28.0	27.3	24.5	23.5	23.5	26.2	28.5	28.3	24.9	20.7	27.5	27.6	25.8	25.2	22.3
Luxembourg	22.1	27.2	24.7	26.7	27.2	16.1	15.8	16.8	17.4	17.0	22.8	23.6	22.5	23.7	27.0	20.0	20.8	22.3	22.9	20.6
Malta	18.2	17.8	16.7	13.2	14.1	19.9	16.8	14.9	14.6	15.9	15.5	13.5	13.8	11.6	15.2	24.0	20.2	19.3	20.3	20.9
Netherlands	24.1	24.3	26.4	22.7	22.3	15.6	13.9	14.5	14.5	14.4	26.8	24.8	24.6	25.1	23.1	17.5	16.7	17.0	15.9	16.1
Poland	23.1	21.6	19.5	19.5	18.7	23.1	20.7	19.7	18.7	18.4	24.7	23.9	18.7	20.2	19.6	22.5	21.0	19.8	18.2	17.4
Portugal	28.5	26.4	26.3	23.1	21.9	24.9	23.7	22.2	20.0	20.0	27.1	25.3	26.4	22.4	23.0	28.1	26.6	24.7	22.3	22.2
Romania	48.4	47.4	44.5	38.2	36.8	40.0	40.3	37.5	34.1	31.7	45.3	48.1	45.8	39.0	35.9	41.2	43.6	39.9	35.4	33.1
Slovakia	15.1	15.1	14.2	13.9	13.8	17.5	16.8	15.5	14.1	13.5	16.1	18.6	17.6	16.9	15.1	16.5	15.7	14.1	13.9	14.3
Slovenia	17.2	16.6	13.3	12.9	11.0	17.1	16.6	16.5	15.3	12.9	20.6	20.8	17.3	15.3	13.1	17.1	16.3	16.5	14.3	12.2
Spain	37.6	36.0	31.8	30.0	29.4	29.9	29.5	26.9	26.3	25.0	34.6	36.5	36.0	36.5	33.4	30.5	30.7	28.2	28.1	27.4
Sweden	28.0	27.4	28.0	27.0	25.9	14.8	13.9	13.6	13.8	15.1	28.5	26.8	25.9	25.9	25.6	14.1	13.5	12.8	14.8	14.9
United Kingdom	27.5	21.6	23.0	22.7	:	19.8	19.8	18.8	19.3	:	27.8	26.4	26.1	26.8	:	21.5	21.0	21.3	21.3	:
Albania		64.2	53.4	49.6	45.6		67.1	55.6	51.1	47.4		63.8	54.5	50.9	49.9		70.6	60.4	55.1	52.5
Montenegro	42.8	44.9	45.1	41.6	38.5	41.2	41.1	40.0	38.1	33.4	43.5	42.1	41.0	41.4	37.0	43.8	43.0	40.6	40.0	35.7
North Macedonia	37.8	36.9	35.0	35.4	33.0	40.8	39.7	35.7	34.0	33.0	37.3	36.1	35.7	34.7	33.7	42.9	40.3	37.5	35.2	35.3
Serbia	41.2	36.2	38.5	33.9	28.7	43.6	33.0	39.6	35.0	30.8	38.5	33.3	38.0	32.5	32.4	40.4	28.6	39.5	33.9	30.7
Turkey	26.8	26.7	31.4	30.6	32.0	18.8	19.1	24.9	25.5	26.7	28.3	29.0	33.2	34.0	34.2	26.7	26.7	32.5	32.3	33.2

Table B9.1: At-risk-of-poverty rates for age groups 16–29 and 30–64 -Total - % and ratios 16–29/30–64 (2015–2019)

Source:	Eurostat, EU-SILC ad hoc extraction - indicator [(ilc_li02]
Downloaded:	25 June 2021
Measurement:	The at-risk-of-poverty rate is the share of people living in a household with an equivalised disposable income (after social transfers) below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold, which is set at 60% of the national median equivalised disposable income after social transfers (the income reference year is the year prior to the survey, except in the UK [current income] and Ireland [last 12 months])
Comments:	No data for Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	16–29					30–64					Ratios 16–29 to 30–64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
EU-27	21.6	22.0	21.0	20.5	20.0	16.3	16.2	15.6	15.4	15.0	1.33	1.36	1.35	1.33	1.33
Austria	16.3	17.7	17.4	16.6	15.2	11.9	12.0	12.1	12.1	12.0	1.37	1.48	1.43	1.38	1.27
Belgium	17.1	18.4	19.5	18.3	14.7	13.0	14.1	14.0	14.3	12.8	1.32	1.31	1.39	1.28	1.15
Bulgaria	21.9	25.0	24.0	23.1	19.7	17.2	18.8	17.8	17.1	16.9	1.28	1.33	1.34	1.35	1.17
Croatia	18.3	18.5	16.5	15.0	13.7	18.1	17.3	17.3	17.1	15.4	1.01	1.07	0.96	0.88	0.89
Cyprus	18.3	17.2	16.3	14.1	12.2	14.6	14.2	13.5	13.4	11.9	1.26	1.21	1.21	1.05	1.03
Czechia	10.6	9.4	9.1	8.9	8.3	8.7	8.8	7.8	7.6	7.8	1.23	1.07	1.18	1.17	1.06
Denmark	29.0	30.2	30.3	29.8	27.1	7.9	6.9	7.8	8.1	8.8	3.65	4.39	3.91	3.70	3.07
Estonia	17.9	16.7	17.5	17.4	15.9	18.3	17.5	16.0	16.1	16.4	0.98	0.96	1.09	1.08	0.97
Finland	22.5	20.9	19.8	20.3	19.5	9.0	8.8	8.6	8.9	8.1	2.49	2.37	2.31	2.27	2.40
France	17.1	19.4	17.5	16.9	18.5	12.4	11.6	11.5	11.9	12.1	1.38	1.67	1.52	1.42	1.53
Germany	20.6	20.4	20.2	20.1	18.3	16.1	15.2	14.7	14.3	13.3	1.27	1.34	1.38	1.40	1.37
Greece	26.7	27.3	27.0	24.8	23.6	21.6	21.8	20.5	18.9	18.0	1.24	1.25	1.32	1.31	1.31
Hungary	20.3	17.2	13.6	14.3	13.9	14.5	14.6	14.6	13.4	12.9	1.40	1.18	0.93	1.07	1.08
Ireland	21.8	19.9	20.8	14.8	12.4	14.6	15.2	14.1	13.5	11.3	1.50	1.31	1.48	1.10	1.10

	16–29					30–64					Ratios 16–29 to 30–64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Italy	24.2	25.1	24.1	24.6	24.1	18.9	20.0	19.6	19.6	19.5	1.28	1.25	1.23	1.26	1.24
Latvia	18.6	15.2	14.0	16.3	14.3	19.0	18.8	18.8	18.7	18.2	0.98	0.80	0.75	0.87	0.79
Lithuania	21.1	20.4	22.1	18.2	16.1	19.6	18.9	18.1	18.1	16.8	1.08	1.08	1.22	1.00	0.96
Luxembourg	18.6	19.2	19.8	20.3	22.5	14.0	14.6	15.6	15.6	15.7	1.33	1.32	1.27	1.30	1.44
Malta	11.5	12.6	12.2	10.8	11.0	14.9	14.0	14.0	14.6	14.2	0.77	0.90	0.87	0.74	0.77
Netherlands	20.4	21.0	21.5	20.6	19.6	9.7	10.4	11.1	11.6	11.3	2.11	2.02	1.94	1.78	1.73
Poland	20.4	20.3	16.7	16.6	17.5	17.1	16.7	15.5	14.8	15.0	1.19	1.21	1.08	1.12	1.17
Portugal	21.7	21.1	21.9	19.0	19.3	18.3	17.8	17.5	16.2	16.5	1.18	1.19	1.25	1.17	1.17
Romania	31.6	30.6	29.2	26.1	27.7	21.6	21.8	20.4	20.2	20.2	1.47	1.41	1.43	1.29	1.37
Slovakia	11.3	13.5	13.6	13.4	12.9	11.7	11.7	11.2	11.1	10.5	0.96	1.16	1.22	1.21	1.23
Slovenia	14.4	15.0	11.9	11.6	10.2	13.5	13.1	12.7	12.4	10.5	1.07	1.14	0.94	0.94	0.98
Spain	29.2	29.6	28.5	28.3	26.5	21.6	21.7	20.2	20.4	19.3	1.36	1.36	1.41	1.38	1.37
Sweden	26.0	24.9	24.1	24.0	23.8	11.9	11.7	11.7	12.9	13.5	2.18	2.13	2.06	1.87	1.76
United Kingdom	20.8	17.4	18.1	20.0	:	13.9	13.8	15.0	15.5	:	1.49	1.26	1.20	1.29	:
Albania	:	29.3	25.0	25.6	25.4	:	27.0	23.4	22.6	22.3	:	1.09	1.07	1.13	1.14
Montenegro	26.8	27.4	25.7	25.0	27.3	22.8	22.2	21.7	21.3	21.9	1.18	1.23	1.18	1.17	1.24
North Macedonia	22.5	23.9	25.0	25.2	24.6	20.5	20.9	20.4	20.4	20.4	1.10	1.14	1.23	1.23	1.21
Serbia	29.5	29.6	27.2	26.0	24.4	26.8	25.6	25.4	23.7	22.0	1.10	1.15	1.07	1.10	1.11
Turkey	21.8	23.1	21.9	21.7	22.1	17.3	17.7	17.1	17.1	17.6	1.26	1.30	1.28	1.27	1.26

Table B9.2: At-risk-of-poverty rates for age groups 16–29 and 30–64 - By sex - % (2015–2019)

Source:	Eurostat, EU-SILC ad hoc extraction - indicator [(ilc_li02]
Downloaded:	25 June 2021
Measurement:	The at-risk-of-poverty rate is the share of people living in a household with an equivalised disposable income (after social transfers) below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold, which is set at 60% of the national median equivalised disposable income after social transfers (the income reference year is the year prior to the survey, except in the UK [current income] and Ireland [last 12 months])
Comments:	No data for Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	Males										Females									
	16–29					30–64					16–29					30–64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
EU-27	21.3	21.1	20.4	19.4	19.2	16.2	15.9	15.2	15.2	14.7	22.0	22.9	21.6	21.6	20.7	16.3	16.4	15.9	15.7	15.3
Austria	15.9	17.0	15.7	14.6	13.1	11.9	12.1	12.0	12.3	12.2	16.8	18.6	19.1	18.7	17.5	11.8	11.9	12.2	11.9	11.9
Belgium	16.4	17.6	18.3	17.3	13.1	11.7	12.9	12.8	13.4	12.4	17.8	19.2	20.7	19.4	16.3	14.3	15.2	15.1	15.2	13.1
Bulgaria	21.1	24.6	24.1	24.2	20.4	17.6	19.4	18.6	17.8	17.0	22.8	25.5	23.8	21.8	19.0	16.7	18.1	17.1	16.4	16.8
Croatia	18.8	18.3	15.8	14.7	14.8	18.2	17.9	17.5	16.9	15.4	17.7	18.7	17.3	15.4	12.6	18.0	16.6	17.1	17.3	15.4
Cyprus	17.5	16.3	15.2	12.7	9.9	14.3	13.2	12.9	13.2	11.6	19.1	18.1	17.5	15.5	14.4	14.8	15.1	14.0	13.6	12.1
Czechia	9.0	8.1	7.8	7.8	7.5	8.0	8.0	6.9	6.8	6.7	12.4	10.6	10.6	10.2	9.2	9.3	9.5	8.7	8.4	8.9
Denmark	28.2	27.5	29.4	27.3	25.6	9.0	8.5	8.6	8.0	10.0	29.8	33.0	31.3	32.4	28.7	6.9	5.3	7.0	8.1	7.7
Estonia	17.6	15.6	15.7	17.3	15.4	19.7	18.7	17.3	17.4	18.2	18.3	17.9	19.4	17.5	16.4	16.9	16.3	14.7	14.8	14.6
Finland	24.3	22.3	20.1	20.0	18.6	10.0	10.1	9.9	10.5	9.2	20.6	19.5	19.6	20.6	20.4	8.1	7.5	7.2	7.3	7.0
France	16.5	18.3	17.8	17.9	18.1	11.9	10.7	10.8	11.3	11.1	17.7	20.5	17.2	15.8	18.8	13.0	12.4	12.1	12.4	13.0
Germany	20.0	18.8	19.1	18.0	16.5	15.6	14.4	14.0	13.9	13.2	21.1	22.1	21.5	22.2	20.0	16.6	15.9	15.3	14.7	13.5
Greece	28.0	27.7	27.7	24.0	23.7	21.8	21.9	20.5	19.0	17.7	25.5	26.9	26.4	25.5	23.4	21.4	21.8	20.6	18.8	18.3
Hungary	20.1	15.9	13.3	12.0	13.5	15.0	14.8	14.5	13.1	13.0	20.5	18.5	13.9	16.7	14.5	14.0	14.4	14.7	13.6	12.8
Ireland	22.8	18.1	17.0	13.0	11.6	14.6	14.4	13.8	12.7	10.1	20.9	21.9	24.8	16.8	13.3	14.6	16.0	14.3	14.3	12.5

	Males										Females									
	16–29					30–64					16–29					30–64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Italy	23.2	24.6	23.1	22.9	24.0	18.1	19.3	18.7	18.5	18.6	25.2	25.6	25.2	26.5	24.2	19.6	20.7	20.5	20.6	20.3
Latvia	18.1	14.8	13.9	16.5	14.2	18.8	18.9	19.0	18.5	18.2	19.1	15.5	14.2	16.0	14.4	19.2	18.8	18.6	19.0	18.1
Lithuania	22.0	20.0	22.3	16.5	13.6	20.5	19.3	18.2	18.5	17.4	20.3	20.8	21.9	20.0	18.7	18.9	18.5	18.0	17.8	16.2
Luxembourg	17.5	19.2	20.7	20.4	22.9	13.8	13.5	14.2	14.3	15.3	19.7	19.2	19.0	20.2	22.2	14.2	15.6	17.0	16.9	16.0
Malta	12.5	14.6	13.7	12.1	10.6	14.0	13.2	12.5	12.8	13.0	10.4	10.4	10.6	9.5	11.5	15.8	14.8	15.6	16.5	15.6
Netherlands	19.5	20.9	22.5	19.4	19.7	10.0	10.4	10.4	11.2	10.8	21.2	21.2	20.5	21.7	19.4	9.3	10.5	11.7	12.0	11.8
Poland	20.1	19.2	17.0	16.4	17.2	18.0	17.2	16.1	15.8	15.7	20.7	21.4	16.3	16.8	17.9	16.2	16.2	14.9	13.9	14.3
Portugal	21.4	21.4	21.9	19.2	19.1	18.2	17.5	17.2	15.9	16.1	22.0	20.9	21.8	18.7	19.5	18.4	18.1	17.8	16.4	16.8
Romania	31.8	30.2	29.2	24.7	27.6	22.4	22.6	20.9	20.7	20.1	31.5	31.0	29.2	27.7	27.8	20.7	20.9	19.9	19.7	20.2
Slovakia	10.7	11.7	11.8	11.8	12.7	12.4	12.3	11.7	11.1	10.3	11.9	15.4	15.6	15.1	13.1	11.1	11.0	10.7	11.0	10.6
Slovenia	12.5	12.8	9.9	10.8	9.5	13.4	13.4	12.7	13.1	10.7	16.4	17.2	14.0	12.5	11.0	13.5	12.8	12.7	11.8	10.2
Spain	29.6	29.1	26.5	25.5	24.6	22.0	21.7	19.7	20.1	18.9	28.9	30.0	30.5	31.2	28.6	21.2	21.6	20.6	20.8	19.7
Sweden	26.1	24.9	24.5	24.3	23.7	13.0	12.2	12.4	12.6	13.9	25.9	25.0	23.5	23.7	23.8	10.8	11.2	10.9	13.1	13.1
United Kingdom	20.7	15.8	16.7	18.1	:	13.7	14.0	14.3	14.6	:	20.8	19.0	19.4	22.0	:	14.1	13.7	15.6	16.3	:
Albania	:	28.9	26.2	25.3	23.6		27.4	23.3	22.7	22.3		29.7	23.6	25.9	27.3		26.5	23.6	22.6	22.2
Montenegro	26.3	27.6	27.0	24.0	27.4	23.2	22.4	22.0	22.2	22.5	27.4	27.2	24.2	26.0	27.2	22.3	22.0	21.4	20.5	21.4
North Macedonia	23.0	23.7	25.6	25.5	23.7	20.2	21.1	20.3	20.1	20.1	21.9	24.0	24.3	24.8	25.5	20.8	20.7	20.5	20.8	20.7
Serbia	30.3	30.2	26.7	26.7	22.0	28.7	27.1	26.2	24.8	22.6	28.7	28.9	27.8	25.2	26.8	24.9	24.2	24.6	22.5	21.5
Turkey	20.6	21.3	20.4	19.5	20.4	17.3	17.8	17.0	17.3	17.8	23.0	24.9	23.5	23.9	23.8	17.3	17.7	17.2	17.0	17.4

Table B10.1: Severe material and social deprivation rates for age groups 16–29 and 30–64 - Total - % and ratios 16–29/30–64 (2015–2019)

Source:	Eurostat, EU-SILC ad hoc extraction - indicator [(ilc_mddd11]
Downloaded:	25 June 2021
Measurement:	The severe material and social deprivation rate (SMSD) is the proportion of people living in a household lacking at least seven items out of a list of 13 items. Seven household items: Face unexpected expenses; afford one week annual holiday away from home; avoid arrears (in mortgage or rent, utility bills or hire purchase instalments); afford a meal with meat, chicken or fish every second day; afford to keep the home adequately warm; have access to a car/van for personal use; and replace worn-out furniture. Six personal items: Replace worn-out clothes; have two pairs of properly fitting shoes; spend a small amount of money each week on oneself; have regular leisure activities; get together with friends/family for a drink/meal at least monthly; have an internet connection
Comments:	No data for Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	16–29				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
EU-27	8.0	7.8	6.7	5.8	5.1
Austria	2.0	3.5	3.6	1.8	2.7
Belgium	6.6	8.3	5.8	5.6	5.5
Bulgaria	34.1	31.9	28.3	20.5	20.6
Croatia	5.1	4.5	3.6	2.3	2.0
Cyprus	6.9	5.2	5.1	3.2	2.3
Czechia	3.4	2.8	3.0	1.8	1.9
Denmark	4.7	4.0	4.0	3.9	4.6
Estonia	1.0	0.8	1.7	1.8	1.8
Finland	0.7	1.3	1.9	2.5	3.2
France	5.4	5.5	5.3	5.3	4.4
Germany	3.5	3.5	3.0	2.2	1.8
Greece	18.7	19.8	18.9	14.1	16.2

	30–64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
EU-27	10.1	9.1	8.0	7.2	6.7
Austria	3.3	3.5	3.3	3.0	2.7
Belgium	7.4	8.6	7.7	6.9	6.8
Bulgaria	33.9	30.5	26.4	19.4	18.8
Croatia	8.8	7.7	7.2	6.4	4.6
Cyprus	8.6	7.1	7.0	4.1	3.2
Czechia	4.6	3.7	3.4	2.3	1.9
Denmark	3.8	3.2	4.1	4.0	4.2
Estonia	3.9	2.7	4.2	3.1	2.5
Finland	1.2	1.6	2.0	2.6	1.9
France	7.2	6.6	6.5	6.9	7.7
Germany	6.7	4.9	4.0	3.7	3.2
Greece	19.4	20.4	19.7	17.6	16.6

	Ratios 16–29 to 30–64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
EU-27	0.79	0.85	0.84	0.81	0.76
Austria	0.60	0.99	1.09	0.60	1.02
Belgium	0.89	0.97	0.76	0.81	0.82
Bulgaria	1.01	1.05	1.07	1.06	1.09
Croatia	0.59	0.59	0.50	0.36	0.43
Cyprus	0.79	0.73	0.73	0.79	0.72
Czechia	0.73	0.75	0.89	0.77	1.00
Denmark	1.23	1.24	0.98	0.98	1.09
Estonia	0.24	0.30	0.41	0.57	0.71
Finland	0.59	0.78	0.93	0.94	1.74
France	0.76	0.82	0.82	0.77	0.57
Germany	0.52	0.71	0.76	0.59	0.57
Greece	0.96	0.97	0.96	0.80	0.98

	16–29					30–64					Ratios 16–29 to 30–64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Hungary	23.5	20.2	14.7	10.1	7.8	24.3	20.5	16.0	11.8	10.8	0.97	0.99	0.92	0.85	0.72
Ireland	6.8	8.3	5.6	6.0	4.5	9.5	7.5	7.2	6.0	7.2	0.72	1.10	0.78	1.00	0.63
Italy	10.1	9.0	5.5	6.2	5.8	12.7	10.2	7.0	6.8	6.8	0.80	0.88	0.79	0.92	0.85
Latvia	12.1	8.4	8.0	6.1	4.5	16.0	13.3	13.8	10.5	7.9	0.76	0.63	0.58	0.58	0.58
Lithuania	13.0	12.8	11.5	9.4	5.4	14.0	15.7	13.2	12.1	10.7	0.93	0.82	0.87	0.78	0.51
Luxembourg	2.2	1.9	1.1	1.0	1.2	2.5	2.2	2.1	1.8	1.6	0.89	0.88	0.53	0.56	0.75
Malta	6.7	3.7	3.3	2.5	4.2	8.6	5.1	4.1	4.4	4.8	0.78	0.73	0.81	0.56	0.88
Netherlands	2.4	1.7	2.0	0.7	1.2	4.2	3.3	3.3	1.0	1.2	0.57	0.53	0.60	0.67	0.98
Poland	5.8	4.0	3.3	3.2	2.0	8.4	6.2	6.2	5.0	4.1	0.69	0.65	0.54	0.65	0.50
Portugal	9.0	7.2	6.7	6.3	4.0	11.3	9.4	8.1	6.4	5.9	0.80	0.77	0.83	0.98	0.68
Romania	31.9	33.8	29.8	24.6	19.9	31.5	32.9	30.0	26.2	22.6	1.01	1.03	0.99	0.94	0.88
Slovakia	7.1	6.9	5.0	4.9	5.9	7.8	7.1	5.8	4.9	5.6	0.92	0.97	0.86	0.99	1.05
Slovenia	3.9	3.7	2.7	1.8	0.8	5.2	4.3	5.1	3.4	2.3	0.76	0.85	0.52	0.54	0.33
Spain	5.9	7.2	7.7	7.0	6.0	7.9	9.0	8.3	8.9	7.7	0.74	0.80	0.93	0.78	0.78
Sweden	0.8	0.9	1.3	1.9	1.2	1.2	0.9	1.1	1.5	1.7	0.66	1.00	1.27	1.31	0.71
United Kingdom	8.3	8.2	5.0	5.2	:	6.8	6.6	4.7	4.2	:	1.22	1.24	1.07	1.24	:
Albania	:	58.0	44.6	39.5	35.3	0.0	64.3	51.1	46.2	42.2	:	0.90	0.87	0.86	0.84
Montenegro	27.2	24.3	25.1	23.8	17.8	31.3	29.1	27.3	26.2	20.0	0.87	0.84	0.92	0.91	0.89
North Macedonia	21.3	21.6	18.7	18.8	18.7	30.2	28.0	24.8	22.2	22.3	0.70	0.77	0.76	0.85	0.84
Serbia	16.9	:	16.9	10.9	10.5	26.3	:	22.6	18.0	13.9	0.64	:	0.75	0.61	0.75
Turkey	:	:	13.9	14.1	14.4	:	:	13.7	13.5	14.3	:	:	1.02	1.04	1.01

Table B10.2: Severe material deprivation rates for age groups 16–29 and 30–64 - By sex - % (2015–2019)

Source:	Eurostat, EU-SILC ad hoc extraction - indicator [(ilc_mddd11]
Downloaded:	25 June 2021
Measurement:	The severe material and social deprivation rate (SMSD) is the proportion of people living in a household lacking at least seven items out of a list of 13 items. Seven household items: Face unexpected expenses; afford one week annual holiday away from home; avoid arrears (in mortgage or rent, utility bills or hire purchase instalments); afford a meal with meat, chicken or fish every second day; afford to keep the home adequately warm; have access to a car/van for personal use; and replace worn-out furniture. Six personal items: Replace worn-out clothes; have two pairs of properly fitting shoes; spend a small amount of money each week on oneself; have regular leisure activities; get together with friends/family for a drink/meal at least monthly; have an internet connection
Comments:	No data for Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	Males										Females									
	16–29					30–64					16–29					30–64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
EU-27	7.8	7.3	6.5	5.7	5.0	9.5	8.6	7.6	6.8	6.3	8.2	8.3	7.0	5.9	5.3	10.7	9.7	8.4	7.7	7.2
Austria	2.3	3.4	3.0	1.2	2.2	3.0	3.3	3.1	2.8	2.3	1.6	3.5	4.3	2.5	3.3	3.7	3.7	3.5	3.3	3.1
Belgium	5.7	8.1	5.6	5.5	5.6	6.7	7.3	5.8	5.6	6.0	7.5	8.7	6.0	5.7	5.5	8.1	10.0	9.5	8.1	7.5
Bulgaria	34.5	31.6	28.8	21.4	20.5	33.2	29.6	25.5	18.9	18.9	33.7	32.4	27.8	19.5	20.7	34.6	31.4	27.3	19.9	18.7
Croatia	6.0	4.8	3.8	2.7	1.8	9.1	7.8	7.2	6.3	4.7	4.3	4.3	3.4	2.0	2.2	8.4	7.5	7.2	6.5	4.4
Cyprus	7.5	5.5	4.4	2.7	1.9	8.5	7.0	6.8	4.1	3.7	6.2	5.0	5.8	3.7	2.7	8.8	7.3	7.1	4.2	2.6
Czechia	2.7	2.2	2.6	1.7	1.3	4.2	3.2	3.2	1.9	1.6	4.1	3.3	3.6	2.0	2.6	5.0	4.1	3.7	2.8	2.2
Denmark	4.1	4.6	5.1	3.3	4.6	3.6	3.4	4.0	3.5	4.2	5.2	3.4	2.8	4.5	4.5	4.0	3.1	4.2	4.4	4.2
Estonia	0.8	0.8	1.4	2.4	2.0	3.7	2.5	4.0	2.9	2.4	1.1	0.8	2.1	1.1	1.6	4.1	2.8	4.4	3.4	2.6
Finland	0.9	1.2	2.2	3.1	3.5	1.2	1.3	1.7	2.3	1.5	0.6	1.4	1.5	1.8	3.0	1.3	1.9	2.3	3.0	2.2
France	4.9	5.1	5.2	5.0	4.1	5.5	5.2	5.0	5.3	6.4	6.0	5.8	5.5	5.6	4.6	8.8	8.0	7.8	8.4	8.9
Germany	2.7	3.0	2.8	1.9	1.7	5.9	4.4	3.9	3.5	2.9	4.3	4.0	3.4	2.5	2.0	7.4	5.4	4.2	3.9	3.5

	Males										Females									
	16–29					30–64					16–29					30–64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Greece	19.0	19.0	19.5	13.8	15.7	18.6	19.8	19.1	16.9	15.9	18.4	20.6	18.3	14.4	16.7	20.2	21.0	20.4	18.2	17.2
Hungary	21.3	18.7	13.9	9.5	6.5	23.4	19.1	15.8	11.8	10.4	25.7	21.9	15.7	10.8	9.2	25.2	21.8	16.2	11.9	11.3
Ireland	5.8	6.6	4.4	6.4	1.6	8.1	6.3	5.6	4.6	5.1	7.6	9.6	6.6	5.6	7.0	10.5	8.5	8.5	7.0	8.7
Italy	9.8	7.7	5.6	6.4	5.4	12.4	10.2	7.3	7.0	6.6	10.5	10.4	5.4	6.0	6.2	13.0	10.3	6.8	6.6	7.1
Latvia	12.7	9.2	8.2	6.0	4.6	14.5	12.2	13.4	10.3	7.7	11.5	7.5	7.7	6.1	4.5	17.3	14.2	14.2	10.7	8.0
Lithuania	11.9	13.5	12.5	9.7	5.7	13.4	15.0	12.4	11.0	10.8	14.1	12.2	10.5	9.1	5.2	14.5	16.4	13.9	13.2	10.6
Luxembourg	2.0	1.9	0.7	0.5	1.3	2.3	1.7	1.5	1.1	1.4	2.4	1.9	1.5	1.5	1.2	2.8	2.6	2.7	2.5	1.9
Malta	6.8	3.6	3.2	2.3	3.3	8.3	4.7	3.5	3.4	3.7	6.5	3.9	3.4	2.6	5.2	8.9	5.6	4.7	5.5	6.1
Netherlands	2.5	1.4	1.7	0.8	1.1	3.6	2.7	3.0	1.1	1.1	2.3	2.1	2.3	0.5	1.2	4.8	3.8	3.6	1.0	1.3
Poland	5.4	3.9	3.0	3.4	1.9	8.4	6.2	6.1	4.9	4.4	6.2	4.2	3.6	3.1	2.2	8.4	6.2	6.2	5.1	3.7
Portugal	9.5	7.3	7.5	6.2	3.2	10.1	8.0	7.0	5.2	5.3	8.4	7.1	5.9	6.4	4.9	12.3	10.6	9.0	7.5	6.5
Romania	34.9	33.9	28.5	23.9	21.0	30.7	31.1	28.9	25.6	21.9	28.7	33.6	31.2	25.3	18.7	32.2	34.8	31.0	26.8	23.3
Slovakia	6.7	6.3	4.3	4.9	6.0	7.7	7.2	6.0	5.1	5.3	7.5	7.6	5.8	4.9	5.8	7.8	7.1	5.6	4.7	5.9
Slovenia	3.2	3.0	2.7	1.5	0.4	5.0	4.2	5.0	3.3	2.3	4.7	4.4	2.7	2.2	1.2	5.4	4.5	5.2	3.4	2.4
Spain	5.9	6.5	7.2	7.2	6.0	7.4	8.6	8.1	8.2	6.9	5.8	7.9	8.3	6.8	6.0	8.4	9.4	8.5	9.6	8.5
Sweden	1.0	1.3	1.1	1.4	1.4	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.3	0.6	0.6	1.6	2.5	1.0	1.5	1.0	1.1	1.7	2.1
UK	7.8	7.5	4.5	4.7	:	6.0	5.6	3.9	3.5	:	8.7	8.9	5.5	5.8	:	7.6	7.6	5.5	4.9	:
Albania	:	58.1	42.1	37.3	34.5	:	62.0	48.3	43.7	39.0	:	57.8	47.3	41.9	36.2	:	66.5	53.7	48.7	45.3
Montenegro	26.4	25.5	25.4	23.3	17.9	30.1	27.5	26.6	24.8	18.5	28.0	23.0	24.8	24.4	17.7	32.5	30.7	28.0	27.5	21.6
North Macedonia	20.4	21.4	18.2	19.3	19.6	29.8	28.5	24.6	21.9	21.2	22.2	21.9	19.3	18.3	17.7	30.7	27.6	25.0	22.5	23.3
Serbia	17.3	:	17.4	10.9	10.1	26.2	:	21.4	17.4	13.3	16.6	:	16.4	10.9	10.8	26.4	:	23.8	18.6	14.4
Turkey	:	:	13.3	13.9	14.3	:	:	13.2	13.3	14.1	:	:	14.5	14.2	14.5	:	:	14.1	13.8	14.6

Table B11.1: People living in (quasi-)jobless households for age groups 16–29 and 30–64 - Total - % and ratios 16–29/30–64 (2015–2019)

Source:	Eurostat, EU-SILC ad hoc extraction - indicator [(ilc_mddd11)]
Downloaded:	25 June 2021
Measurement:	Share of people living in households with a very low work intensity, i.e. households where on average working-age adults (aged 16–64) work 20% or less of their total work potential during the year prior to the survey
Comments:	No data for Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	16–29				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
EU-27	10.5	10.9	9.7	9.2	8.6
Austria	6.5	8.7	8.5	7.3	7.1
Belgium	14.7	14.8	13.8	12.3	12.7
Bulgaria	12.8	12.1	12.4	9.7	10.4
Croatia	11.6	11.4	9.9	8.7	7.4
Cyprus	11.3	10.5	9.7	8.0	7.1
Czechia	5.5	5.5	4.8	3.4	3.8
Denmark	16.5	20.9	17.4	16.5	16.6
Estonia	5.2	4.2	4.9	5.0	4.7
Finland	13.3	13.9	13.0	13.1	12.9
France	9.2	10.2	8.3	7.9	7.7
Germany	9.4	9.8	9.2	9.3	8.4
Greece	20.0	21.3	19.7	17.3	16.2
Hungary	7.8	5.9	4.5	4.4	3.8
Ireland	21.3	18.7	17.4	10.9	14.8
Italy	12.3	13.6	11.5	12.5	11.2

	30–64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
EU-27	10.6	10.2	9.5	8.9	8.5
Austria	5.8	6.5	6.3	6.1	5.9
Belgium	15.8	16.3	15.5	14.0	13.9
Bulgaria	10.1	9.9	9.5	8.1	8.0
Croatia	12.5	11.3	10.6	9.9	8.0
Cyprus	10.3	10.3	8.9	8.0	6.9
Czechia	6.6	6.5	5.7	4.9	4.7
Denmark	12.2	9.8	9.8	9.1	8.9
Estonia	7.1	6.7	6.2	6.0	6.2
Finland	12.6	12.9	12.1	11.7	10.5
France	8.2	7.0	7.5	7.3	7.0
Germany	10.2	9.6	9.1	8.2	8.1
Greece	15.8	16.0	14.5	14.3	13.5
Hungary	8.5	7.7	6.5	6.2	5.4
Ireland	18.0	16.9	15.4	13.0	13.1
Italy	11.7	12.6	11.6	11.3	10.3

	Ratios 16–29 to 30–64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
EU-27	0.99	1.06	1.02	1.03	1.02
Austria	1.12	1.34	1.35	1.20	1.20
Belgium	0.93	0.90	0.89	0.88	0.91
Bulgaria	1.27	1.22	1.30	1.20	1.29
Croatia	0.93	1.01	0.93	0.88	0.92
Cyprus	1.09	1.02	1.09	1.00	1.03
Czechia	0.83	0.84	0.83	0.69	0.82
Denmark	1.36	2.14	1.77	1.82	1.86
Estonia	0.72	0.62	0.79	0.84	0.77
Finland	1.06	1.08	1.08	1.13	1.23
France	1.11	1.46	1.11	1.08	1.11
Germany	0.93	1.02	1.02	1.14	1.03
Greece	1.27	1.33	1.36	1.21	1.20
Hungary	0.92	0.77	0.69	0.71	0.70
Ireland	1.18	1.11	1.13	0.84	1.13
Italy	1.05	1.07	0.99	1.11	1.09

	16–29					30–64					Ratios 16–29 to 30–64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Latvia	6.3	5.7	5.5	6.5	6.2	8.3	7.8	8.3	8.2	8.5	0.75	0.74	0.66	0.79	0.73
Lithuania	5.9	8.6	8.9	7.5	5.9	10.8	11.1	9.5	9.5	8.2	0.55	0.77	0.94	0.80	0.72
Luxembourg	6.0	8.8	7.4	10.0	8.3	6.4	6.8	7.4	8.6	7.1	0.94	1.28	0.99	1.16	1.18
Malta	7.4	5.2	5.0	3.6	4.1	9.7	7.3	6.8	5.6	5.1	0.76	0.72	0.74	0.63	0.80
Netherlands	12.1	10.9	11.9	9.8	10.1	11.0	9.8	9.7	9.1	9.4	1.10	1.11	1.22	1.08	1.08
Poland	5.2	5.3	4.4	4.6	4.1	8.3	7.8	7.1	6.7	5.9	0.63	0.68	0.62	0.69	0.70
Portugal	10.3	7.9	7.9	6.4	5.3	10.7	9.5	8.3	7.7	6.8	0.96	0.83	0.95	0.84	0.78
Romania	7.1	7.4	6.6	7.2	5.9	5.3	5.3	4.7	5.3	4.2	1.34	1.41	1.40	1.36	1.39
Slovakia	6.5	5.8	4.8	4.4	5.8	6.8	5.8	4.8	5.1	6.2	0.96	1.00	1.01	0.87	0.92
Slovenia	6.8	7.1	5.3	4.3	4.1	6.4	6.8	6.0	5.3	5.2	1.07	1.04	0.89	0.81	0.79
Spain	17.5	17.0	14.0	11.1	10.7	16.1	15.6	13.5	12.0	11.9	1.09	1.09	1.03	0.93	0.89
Sweden	9.5	9.4	12.5	11.7	9.5	6.8	7.1	6.6	6.5	7.2	1.39	1.32	1.89	1.79	1.33
United Kingdom	11.8	11.1	10.9	8.7	:	10.1	9.8	8.8	7.9	:	1.16	1.13	1.24	1.10	:
Albania	:	19.8	13.5	13.4	12.2	:	18.7	13.7	12.8	11.8	:	1.05	0.99	1.04	1.03
Montenegro	22.1	25.4	23.7	23.5	18.9	21.7	22.2	22.1	20.8	16.8	1.02	1.15	1.07	1.13	1.12
North Macedonia	17.8	15.8	17.3	16.4	13.8	17.1	15.9	15.7	15.5	13.5	1.04	1.00	1.10	1.06	1.02
Serbia	19.3	19.6	19.4	16.8	15.6	20.6	21.2	21.1	18.0	16.6	0.93	0.92	0.92	0.93	0.94
Turkey	11.5	10.3	9.6	9.5	10.0	10.6	10.0	10.0	10.2	10.6	1.08	1.03	0.97	0.93	0.95

Table B11.2: People living in (quasi-)jobless households for age groups 16–29 and 30–64 - By sex - % (2015–2019)

Source:	Eurostat, EU-SILC ad hoc extraction - indicator [(ilc_mddd11)]
Downloaded:	25 June 2021
Measurement:	Share of people living in households with a very low work intensity, i.e. households where on average working-age adults (aged 16–64) work 20% or less of their total work potential during the year prior to the survey
Comments:	No data for Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	Males										Females									
	16–29					30–64					16–29					30–64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
EU-27	10.7	10.7	9.8	8.9	8.4	10.0	9.6	9.0	8.3	7.8	10.3	11.0	9.6	9.5	8.8	11.2	10.9	10.0	9.4	9.2
Austria	6.4	9.1	8.6	6.3	6.6	5.2	5.9	5.8	6.6	6.0	6.6	8.4	8.4	8.4	7.6	6.5	7.1	6.9	5.6	5.8
Belgium	14.2	14.3	13.6	11.6	12.1	13.9	13.8	13.7	12.2	12.8	15.3	15.3	13.9	13.1	13.2	17.6	18.9	17.3	15.8	15.1
Bulgaria	12.6	10.4	12.5	10.2	9.9	10.8	10.5	10.4	8.7	8.4	13.0	13.9	12.4	9.3	10.8	9.3	9.3	8.7	7.5	7.6
Croatia	11.4	11.6	9.6	8.8	8.1	12.6	11.3	11.1	10.3	8.5	11.9	11.2	10.2	8.6	6.7	12.4	11.2	10.2	9.5	7.5
Cyprus	11.7	10.5	9.3	7.7	6.8	9.7	9.3	7.7	7.3	6.0	10.8	10.5	10.0	8.2	7.3	10.9	11.3	9.9	8.6	7.7
Czechia	4.6	4.9	4.3	2.7	3.3	6.2	6.2	5.3	4.8	4.4	6.4	6.1	5.3	4.1	4.4	7.0	6.8	6.2	5.0	5.0
Denmark	18.0	21.3	19.8	15.4	15.2	11.2	9.4	9.4	7.9	9.1	14.8	20.4	14.5	17.7	18.1	13.2	10.1	10.2	10.2	8.7
Estonia	4.9	4.0	5.5	6.0	5.6	8.7	8.3	7.9	6.8	7.3	5.4	4.4	4.3	4.0	3.8	5.7	5.2	4.6	5.2	5.1
Finland	15.2	15.1	12.8	13.5	12.7	13.1	14.0	13.5	13.3	11.9	11.4	12.7	13.2	12.8	13.1	12.0	11.8	10.6	10.1	9.0
France	10.0	10.2	9.1	8.6	8.1	6.8	5.9	6.6	6.4	5.7	8.4	10.2	7.6	7.1	7.3	9.6	8.0	8.3	8.1	8.2
Germany	9.2	9.2	9.0	8.5	7.8	9.9	9.0	8.8	7.9	7.8	9.6	10.4	9.5	10.1	9.0	10.4	10.1	9.4	8.4	8.4
Greece	21.1	21.8	20.2	17.4	16.6	13.2	13.6	12.4	11.9	11.3	19.0	20.8	19.3	17.2	15.7	18.4	18.4	16.7	16.6	15.6
Hungary	6.9	6.0	3.7	4.7	4.3	9.1	8.5	7.0	6.8	5.8	8.7	5.8	5.3	4.2	3.2	7.8	6.8	6.0	5.7	5.1
Ireland	21.9	17.5	15.3	11.8	14.5	17.1	15.7	14.2	10.9	11.5	20.8	20.0	19.7	10.0	15.2	18.9	18.0	16.4	14.9	14.6
Italy	11.8	13.7	11.1	12.2	11.3	10.6	11.5	10.8	10.1	9.0	12.8	13.4	11.9	12.9	11.2	12.9	13.7	12.3	12.4	11.6
Latvia	6.4	5.5	5.8	6.5	6.1	8.9	8.1	9.2	8.6	9.4	6.2	6.0	5.2	6.6	6.3	7.8	7.5	7.6	7.9	7.7

	Males										Females									
	16–29					30–64					16–29					30–64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Lithuania	5.7	9.7	8.8	6.4	5.3	11.3	11.8	9.8	10.3	9.9	6.0	7.4	9.0	8.7	6.6	10.2	10.4	9.1	8.6	6.6
Luxembourg	6.9	11.6	7.8	12.6	8.6	4.7	5.0	5.3	6.3	5.2	5.1	5.7	6.9	7.3	8.0	8.1	8.7	9.4	10.9	8.8
Malta	7.8	6.2	5.5	4.4	4.5	8.1	5.8	4.9	3.2	3.1	6.9	4.1	4.5	2.7	3.6	11.3	8.7	8.7	8.2	7.2
Netherlands	11.8	10.8	12.9	9.2	9.7	9.9	8.2	8.9	9.0	8.6	12.4	11.0	10.8	10.5	10.6	12.2	11.4	10.5	9.3	10.2
Poland	5.0	4.4	4.6	4.0	3.9	8.4	7.8	7.2	7.1	6.2	5.5	6.2	4.3	5.3	4.3	8.1	7.7	7.0	6.3	5.5
Portugal	11.1	8.3	8.2	7.0	5.9	10.0	9.3	7.8	7.4	6.6	9.3	7.5	7.6	5.9	4.7	11.4	9.7	8.8	7.9	7.0
Romania	6.8	7.3	7.0	7.2	5.8	4.4	4.4	3.6	4.0	2.8	7.4	7.6	6.2	7.2	5.9	6.2	6.2	5.9	6.7	5.7
Slovakia	6.3	5.2	4.1	4.2	5.6	7.8	6.8	5.2	5.2	6.4	6.7	6.5	5.6	4.7	5.9	5.7	4.9	4.3	4.9	6.1
Slovenia	6.2	6.1	4.1	3.4	2.9	6.0	6.9	6.4	5.9	5.8	7.4	8.2	6.6	5.3	5.3	6.8	6.7	5.6	4.7	4.4
Spain	19.9	17.8	14.1	10.1	9.9	16.1	15.2	13.1	11.4	10.9	15.0	16.2	13.8	12.2	11.4	16.1	16.0	14.0	12.6	12.9
Sweden	8.8	9.6	12.9	12.1	9.5	6.5	7.0	6.3	5.9	6.7	10.2	9.1	12.1	11.3	9.6	7.2	7.2	7.0	7.2	7.7
United Kingdom	10.9	10.5	10.2	8.2	:	9.9	9.1	8.5	7.7	:	12.6	11.8	11.7	9.2	:	10.4	10.6	9.2	8.1	:
Albania	:	19.6	13.6	13.1	11.6	:	18.6	13.1	12.7	11.1	:	19.9	13.4	13.7	12.9	:	18.9	14.2	13.0	12.6
Montenegro	23.3	26.9	25.3	24.2	18.6	21.0	22.1	22.4	20.7	16.2	20.8	23.8	21.7	22.8	19.1	22.4	22.2	21.9	20.8	17.3
North Macedonia	19.0	16.2	17.4	16.3	14.2	16.5	15.5	14.6	14.6	12.9	16.5	15.4	17.2	16.5	13.3	17.8	16.2	16.8	16.3	14.1
Serbia	20.8	20.8	20.6	17.7	15.0	22.3	22.7	22.0	18.8	17.1	17.6	18.3	18.1	15.8	16.3	18.9	19.6	20.2	17.2	16.2
Turkey	11.7	10.7	9.8	9.6	9.7	5.4	4.7	4.6	5.1	5.6	11.3	10.0	9.5	9.4	10.4	15.0	14.5	14.4	14.4	14.7

Table B12.1: Material and social deprivation rates for age groups 16–29 and 30–64 - Total - % and ratios 16–29/30–64 (2015–2019)

Source:	Eurostat, EU-SILC ad hoc extraction - indicator [ilc_mdspd]
Downloaded:	25 June 2021
Measurement:	The material and social deprivation rate (MSD) is the proportion of people living in a household lacking at least five items out of a list of 13 items. Seven household items: Face unexpected expenses; afford one week annual holiday away from home; avoid arrears (in mortgage or rent, utility bills or hire purchase instalments); afford a meal with meat, chicken or fish every second day; afford to keep the home adequately warm; have access to a car/van for personal use; and replace worn-out furniture. Six personal items: Replace worn-out clothes; have two pairs of properly fitting shoes; spend a small amount of money each week on oneself; have regular leisure activities; get together with friends/family for a drink/meal at least monthly; have an internet connection
Comments:	No data for Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	16–29				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
EU-27	16.4	15.6	13.4	12.0	10.7
Austria	6.5	7.5	7.1	5.1	5.1
Belgium	11.7	14.8	10.8	9.8	9.0
Bulgaria	47.8	46.2	42.2	31.4	30.6
Croatia	15.6	13.3	10.7	8.0	6.0
Cyprus	25.2	21.2	17.8	16.1	14.0
Czechia	9.5	8.8	6.4	5.0	4.5
Denmark	11.3	8.2	9.4	11.4	9.8
Estonia	6.3	4.2	5.6	5.7	5.0
Finland	4.2	5.2	6.7	7.0	6.0
France	11.7	13.1	11.5	11.2	10.8
Germany	8.7	8.2	7.1	6.3	4.9
Greece	41.2	41.1	39.6	34.0	31.4

	30–64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
EU-27	18.3	16.3	14.5	13.4	12.7
Austria	7.4	7.1	7.0	5.9	5.8
Belgium	12.5	13.8	12.8	12.3	12.2
Bulgaria	47.5	44.2	40.4	30.5	29.2
Croatia	19.4	16.5	14.7	12.3	10.4
Cyprus	22.7	21.9	18.6	16.5	13.9
Czechia	10.0	8.5	7.9	5.9	5.2
Denmark	7.9	6.8	8.0	7.9	7.7
Estonia	9.9	8.2	9.9	8.3	7.4
Finland	3.8	4.4	5.7	6.0	5.0
France	12.7	12.1	12.0	12.6	13.3
Germany	12.5	9.8	8.5	8.1	7.2
Greece	39.7	37.5	36.4	35.2	31.7

	Ratios 16–29 to 30–64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
EU-27	0.90	0.95	0.92	0.90	0.84
Austria	0.88	1.05	1.02	0.87	0.87
Belgium	0.94	1.07	0.84	0.80	0.73
Bulgaria	1.01	1.05	1.05	1.03	1.05
Croatia	0.81	0.81	0.73	0.65	0.58
Cyprus	1.11	0.97	0.95	0.98	1.00
Czechia	0.95	1.03	0.81	0.85	0.88
Denmark	1.43	1.20	1.18	1.44	1.28
Estonia	0.63	0.51	0.57	0.69	0.67
Finland	1.09	1.18	1.17	1.18	1.20
France	0.93	1.09	0.96	0.89	0.82
Germany	0.69	0.83	0.84	0.77	0.69
Greece	1.04	1.10	1.09	0.97	0.99

	16–29					30–64					Ratios 16–29 to 30–64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Hungary	37.8	33.5	24.5	19.1	18.3	36.7	31.5	25.1	19.8	19.5	1.03	1.07	0.98	0.96	0.94
Ireland	21.3	16.4	12.1	9.9	10.5	19.4	16.2	14.8	12.7	13.4	1.10	1.01	0.82	0.78	0.78
Italy	20.6	16.9	13.3	12.9	11.1	22.4	17.6	13.0	13.0	12.5	0.92	0.96	1.02	0.99	0.89
Latvia	24.2	18.9	18.8	14.2	10.1	28.5	24.9	25.7	20.4	16.0	0.85	0.76	0.73	0.70	0.63
Lithuania	26.4	26.2	20.9	18.9	13.7	26.0	27.7	24.4	23.3	20.3	1.02	0.95	0.86	0.81	0.67
Luxembourg	5.5	4.7	3.0	4.4	3.1	6.1	5.0	4.4	4.9	3.9	0.90	0.93	0.68	0.89	0.79
Malta	14.9	8.7	6.5	7.4	9.0	16.5	11.0	7.9	8.5	9.8	0.91	0.79	0.82	0.86	0.92
Netherlands	6.2	6.2	6.4	3.7	4.2	8.9	7.4	7.3	5.1	5.0	0.70	0.83	0.88	0.73	0.84
Poland	14.8	10.5	9.2	7.2	6.2	16.5	12.8	12.4	10.3	8.8	0.90	0.82	0.74	0.70	0.70
Portugal	19.3	18.0	14.9	13.9	11.7	22.6	19.0	16.7	14.2	13.1	0.86	0.95	0.89	0.98	0.89
Romania	48.3	47.8	44.4	38.6	33.1	47.7	48.2	45.4	40.7	37.2	1.01	0.99	0.98	0.95	0.89
Slovakia	15.2	14.2	12.0	11.7	11.0	15.3	14.1	12.3	11.0	10.7	1.00	1.01	0.97	1.06	1.02
Slovenia	10.8	8.8	7.3	6.1	3.3	12.8	10.9	11.2	9.1	6.4	0.84	0.81	0.65	0.67	0.52
Spain	15.8	17.9	13.6	14.3	11.9	16.9	17.9	15.0	15.0	14.4	0.93	1.00	0.91	0.95	0.83
Sweden	2.4	3.0	3.4	3.6	4.6	3.3	3.1	2.9	3.5	4.1	0.73	0.96	1.14	1.01	1.11
United Kingdom	18.7	16.5	11.7	11.6	:	13.7	13.0	10.4	9.2	:	1.37	1.27	1.12	1.26	:
Albania	:	71.8	60.8	59.7	57.1	:	76.6	64.6	62.3	61.3	:	0.94	0.94	0.96	0.93
Montenegro	40.6	40.3	41.4	36.8	29.5	43.6	42.8	40.0	37.8	33.2	0.93	0.94	1.03	0.97	0.89
North Macedonia	40.7	39.0	37.3	36.7	37.6	47.9	43.6	39.9	37.8	37.8	0.85	0.89	0.94	0.97	0.99
Serbia	34.2	:	30.1	22.9	19.9	41.1	:	35.1	30.2	24.1	0.83	:	0.86	0.76	0.83
Turkey	:	:	30.4	28.9	29.8	:	:	27.8	25.9	27.4	:	:	1.09	1.12	1.09

Table B12.2: Material and social deprivation rates for age groups 16–29 and 30–64 - By sex - % (2015–2019)

Source:	Eurostat, EU-SILC ad hoc extraction - indicator [ilc_mdsc]
Downloaded:	25 June 2021
Measurement:	The material and social deprivation rate (MSD) is the proportion of people living in a household lacking at least five items out of a list of 13 items. Seven household items: Face unexpected expenses; afford one week annual holiday away from home; avoid arrears (in mortgage or rent, utility bills or hire purchase instalments); afford a meal with meat, chicken or fish every second day; afford to keep the home adequately warm; have access to a car/van for personal use; and replace worn-out furniture. Six personal items: Replace worn-out clothes; have two pairs of properly fitting shoes; spend a small amount of money each week on oneself; have regular leisure activities; get together with friends/family for a drink/meal at least monthly; have an internet connection
Comments:	No data for Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	Males										Females									
	16–29					30–64					16–29					30–64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
EU-27	16.1	15.0	13.3	11.8	10.3	17.3	15.4	13.6	12.5	11.8	16.6	16.2	13.4	12.3	11.1	19.2	17.2	15.3	14.3	13.5
Austria	7.5	6.8	6.9	4.6	4.7	6.6	6.5	6.4	5.4	5.3	5.5	8.2	7.3	5.6	5.5	8.2	7.7	7.5	6.3	6.4
Belgium	10.9	13.8	10.2	9.9	8.0	11.4	12.3	11.1	11.3	11.4	12.6	15.8	11.4	9.7	9.9	13.7	15.4	14.5	13.3	13.1
Bulgaria	47.5	45.8	43.4	32.9	30.2	46.7	42.8	39.1	29.1	28.5	48.1	46.6	41.0	29.8	30.9	48.3	45.6	41.8	32.0	29.9
Croatia	15.4	12.6	10.2	7.6	6.1	19.4	16.9	14.7	12.3	10.5	15.9	14.1	11.3	8.4	5.9	19.3	16.0	14.8	12.4	10.2
Cyprus	26.0	20.4	17.6	17.7	14.0	23.5	21.5	18.6	16.5	13.4	24.4	22.0	18.0	14.5	13.9	22.1	22.2	18.7	16.4	14.4
Czechia	8.4	8.0	6.1	4.8	4.1	8.7	7.6	6.6	4.7	4.1	10.6	9.6	6.6	5.2	5.0	11.3	9.4	9.1	6.9	6.2
Denmark	10.7	8.9	10.1	9.8	9.1	7.1	6.7	7.4	6.4	7.8	11.9	7.5	8.7	13.0	10.4	8.7	6.9	8.5	9.3	7.5
Estonia	6.5	3.9	5.6	6.1	5.4	9.5	7.7	9.2	7.3	6.8	6.0	4.5	5.7	5.2	4.5	10.3	8.7	10.7	9.3	8.1
Finland	4.1	4.7	6.7	7.2	6.1	3.5	3.9	5.3	5.5	4.4	4.3	5.6	6.7	6.8	5.9	4.2	4.9	6.1	6.4	5.6
France	10.7	13.0	11.8	11.0	9.7	10.2	10.0	9.8	10.1	10.7	12.8	13.3	11.3	11.4	12.0	15.1	14.0	14.2	14.9	15.7
Germany	7.5	7.0	6.5	6.0	4.8	11.4	8.8	7.5	7.3	6.5	9.8	9.4	7.7	6.6	5.0	13.5	10.8	9.3	8.9	7.9

	Males										Females									
	16-29					30-64					16-29					30-64				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Greece	40.2	40.3	39.5	33.1	30.3	39.2	36.7	35.2	34.4	30.4	42.1	42.0	39.8	35.0	32.5	40.3	38.2	37.6	36.0	32.9
Hungary	37.1	32.0	23.9	17.6	15.5	35.4	29.8	24.4	18.7	18.4	38.6	35.2	25.2	20.7	21.2	37.9	33.1	25.8	20.9	20.6
Ireland	21.5	9.7	11.0	9.7	8.2	16.9	14.3	12.0	10.8	11.6	21.1	21.5	13.0	10.1	12.4	21.3	17.6	16.9	14.2	14.7
Italy	21.6	16.5	13.4	12.6	11.4	22.1	17.6	13.1	12.8	11.8	19.7	17.4	13.2	13.1	10.8	22.7	17.7	13.0	13.2	13.1
Latvia	23.8	19.0	19.0	13.5	10.7	26.6	23.3	24.2	18.8	14.8	24.6	18.9	18.6	15.0	9.4	30.3	26.4	26.9	21.8	17.0
Lithuania	26.0	27.5	21.7	20.2	13.6	23.7	26.6	22.7	21.4	20.7	26.9	24.9	20.0	17.6	13.7	27.9	28.7	25.8	25.1	20.0
Luxembourg	5.0	5.3	3.3	4.9	3.4	5.2	4.1	3.6	4.1	3.5	6.0	3.9	2.7	3.8	2.7	7.0	5.9	5.2	5.7	4.3
Malta	15.7	9.1	6.9	7.9	8.1	15.6	10.1	6.5	6.9	8.6	14.1	8.2	5.9	6.8	10.0	17.4	12.0	9.4	10.2	11.1
Netherlands	5.4	5.6	7.2	3.9	4.3	8.4	6.6	6.6	5.0	4.7	7.0	6.8	5.6	3.5	4.0	9.4	8.3	8.1	5.1	5.3
Poland	14.7	10.4	8.2	8.2	5.6	16.2	12.2	11.9	9.8	9.2	14.9	10.7	10.1	6.2	6.7	16.7	13.3	12.9	10.7	8.4
Portugal	19.5	17.0	15.3	14.4	11.5	20.6	17.3	15.2	13.3	11.8	19.1	19.1	14.5	13.4	11.9	24.4	20.5	18.2	15.1	14.3
Romania	49.9	48.0	44.8	37.6	32.7	46.7	46.5	43.2	39.0	36.6	46.6	47.7	44.0	39.6	33.5	48.7	49.9	47.7	42.3	37.8
Slovakia	14.5	13.8	10.6	11.7	11.2	14.3	13.6	11.8	10.7	10.2	15.9	14.7	13.4	11.6	10.8	16.3	14.6	12.7	11.3	11.3
Slovenia	9.5	8.4	7.2	5.6	3.0	12.3	10.1	10.8	8.9	6.2	12.1	9.3	7.4	6.6	3.7	13.3	11.7	11.7	9.4	6.7
Spain	15.8	16.6	13.9	12.7	11.2	16.6	16.9	14.8	14.2	13.2	15.7	19.3	13.3	16.0	12.6	17.3	18.9	15.2	15.8	15.6
Sweden	2.7	3.7	3.3	2.9	4.6	2.9	2.6	2.4	3.0	3.5	2.1	2.2	3.4	4.4	4.5	3.6	3.6	3.5	4.1	4.7
UK	18.0	14.3	10.5	9.7	:	12.1	12.0	8.5	7.7	:	19.4	18.4	12.8	13.4	:	15.3	13.9	12.3	10.6	:
Albania	:	72.2	59.2	58.2	56.3	:	74.8	62.2	60.3	58.5	:	71.4	62.5	61.2	57.9	:	78.4	66.9	64.3	63.9
Montenegro	40.2	42.0	43.2	37.7	29.0	42.8	41.3	39.0	36.8	30.6	41.1	38.4	39.2	36.0	30.0	44.4	44.2	41.1	38.9	35.8
North Macedonia	39.4	39.1	37.2	37.9	38.5	47.4	43.5	40.2	37.4	37.2	42.0	38.9	37.4	35.6	36.6	48.3	43.7	39.5	38.2	38.5
Serbia	34.1	:	30.0	23.2	18.9	40.6	:	34.0	29.7	22.9	34.3	:	30.2	22.6	21.0	41.5	:	36.1	30.8	25.3
Turkey	:	:	29.8	29.0	29.7	:	:	27.4	25.7	27.1	:	:	31.0	28.9	29.8	:	:	28.2	26.1	27.6

Table B13.1: Young people neither in employment nor in education and training (NEETs) rates for age groups 15–29, 15–24 and 25–29 - Total - % (2015–2020)

Source:	Eurostat LFS - indicator [lfse_20]
Downloaded:	24 May 2021, except Montenegro (17 July 2021)
Measurement:	Young people not employed and not in formal or non-formal education or training as a % of the total population in the respective age group
Comments:	No data for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	15–29						15–24						25–29					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	15.2	14.5	13.7	13.1	12.6	13.7	12.2	11.7	11.0	10.5	10.1	11.1	20.4	19.5	18.4	17.7	17.2	18.6
Austria	8.7	8.9	8.4	8.4	8.3	9.5	7.5	7.7	6.5	6.8	7.1	8.0	10.7	11.0	11.4	10.9	10.1	11.9
Belgium	14.4	13.0	12.6	12.0	11.8	12.0	12.2	9.9	9.3	9.2	9.3	9.2	18.6	18.5	18.2	17.0	16.3	17.1
Bulgaria	22.2	22.4	18.9	18.1	16.7	18.1	19.3	18.2	15.3	15.0	13.7	14.4	26.5	28.3	24.0	22.6	21.1	24.1
Croatia	19.9	19.5	17.9	15.6	14.2	14.6	18.1	16.9	15.4	13.6	11.8	12.2	23.2	24.3	22.5	19.4	18.8	19.2
Cyprus	18.5	18.0	17.6	14.9	14.1	15.3	15.3	16.0	16.1	13.2	13.7	14.4	22.9	20.8	19.6	17.1	14.7	16.4
Czechia	11.8	11.1	10.0	9.5	9.8	11.0	7.5	7.0	6.3	5.6	5.7	6.6	18.5	17.2	15.3	15.2	15.8	17.5
Denmark	8.5	8.4	9.8	9.6	9.6	10.2	7.0	6.7	7.6	7.7	7.7	7.4	11.5	11.9	14.1	13.1	12.9	15.0
Estonia	12.5	13.8	11.0	11.7	9.8	11.2	10.8	9.1	9.4	9.8	6.9	8.9	14.8	20.0	13.1	14.1	13.8	14.9
Finland	12.4	11.7	10.9	10.1	9.5	10.3	10.6	9.9	9.4	8.5	8.2	9.3	15.7	14.9	13.6	12.7	11.8	11.9
France	14.7	14.3	13.8	13.6	13.0	14.0	12.0	11.9	11.4	11.1	10.6	11.4	19.9	19.1	18.7	18.6	17.9	19.7
Germany	8.5	8.9	8.5	7.9	7.6	8.5	6.2	6.7	6.3	5.9	5.7	7.4	12.3	12.3	12.0	11.2	11.0	10.5
Greece	24.1	22.2	21.3	19.5	17.7	18.7	17.2	15.8	15.3	14.1	12.5	13.2	36.2	33.5	32.2	29.5	27.3	28.9
Hungary	15.1	14.1	13.3	12.9	13.2	14.7	11.6	11.0	11.0	10.7	11.0	11.7	21.4	19.5	17.2	16.5	16.7	19.6
Ireland	16.5	14.5	12.8	11.6	11.4	14.2	14.3	12.6	10.9	10.1	10.1	12.0	20.8	18.3	16.7	14.7	14.3	18.7
Italy	25.7	24.3	24.1	23.4	22.2	23.3	21.4	19.9	20.1	19.2	18.1	19.0	33.5	32.4	31.5	30.9	29.7	31.5

	15–29						15–24						25–29					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Latvia	13.8	13.3	12.3	11.6	10.3	11.9	10.5	11.2	10.3	7.8	7.9	7.1	18.4	16.1	15.1	16.8	13.8	19.5
Lithuania	11.8	10.7	10.2	9.3	10.9	13.0	9.2	9.4	9.1	8.0	8.6	10.8	17.2	13.4	12.3	11.6	15.1	17.1
Luxembourg	7.6	6.8	6.6	7.5	6.5	7.7	6.2	5.4	5.9	5.3	5.6	6.6	9.9	9.2	7.9	11.1	7.9	9.4
Malta	11.8	9.4	8.8	7.3	7.9	9.4	10.5	8.8	8.6	7.3	8.6	9.2	13.8	10.3	9.0	7.4	7.0	9.6
Netherlands	6.7	6.3	5.9	5.7	5.7	5.7	4.7	4.6	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.5	10.6	9.6	9.6	8.5	8.4	8.0
Poland	14.6	13.8	12.9	12.1	12.0	12.9	11.0	10.5	9.5	8.7	8.1	8.6	20.5	18.9	18.0	17.2	17.7	19.4
Portugal	13.2	12.8	10.6	9.6	9.2	11.0	11.3	10.6	9.3	8.4	8.0	9.1	17.1	17.2	13.0	12.1	11.5	15.0
Romania	20.9	20.2	17.8	17.0	16.8	16.6	18.1	17.4	15.2	14.5	14.7	14.8	25.3	24.7	22.2	21.5	20.8	20.2
Slovakia	17.2	15.9	16.0	14.6	14.5	15.2	13.7	12.3	12.1	10.2	10.3	10.7	22.8	21.7	22.1	21.3	20.7	22.0
Slovenia	12.3	10.9	9.3	8.8	8.8	9.2	9.5	8.0	6.5	6.6	7.0	7.7	16.7	15.7	13.9	12.5	11.9	12.0
Spain	19.4	18.1	16.4	15.3	14.9	17.3	15.6	14.6	13.3	12.4	12.1	13.9	26.0	24.2	22.1	20.6	20.0	23.7
Sweden	7.4	7.1	6.8	6.9	6.3	7.2	6.7	6.5	6.2	6.0	5.5	6.5	8.6	8.0	7.8	8.2	7.5	8.5
United Kingdom	12.7	12.3	11.4	11.7	11.4	:	11.1	10.9	10.3	10.4	10.5	:	15.5	14.7	13.1	13.7	12.9	:
Montenegro	23.4	22.3	21.4	21.0	21.3	26.6	19.1	18.4	16.7	16.2	17.3	21.1	31.4	29.6	29.7	30.0	28.6	36.4
North Macedonia	32.5	31.3	31.1	29.8	24.5	26.2	24.7	24.3	24.9	24.1	18.1	19.6	46.1	43.1	41.6	39.2	34.9	37.0
Serbia	24.6	22.3	21.7	20.1	19.0	20.0	20.1	17.7	17.2	16.5	15.3	15.9	32.2	30.3	29.5	26.3	25.2	27.0
Turkey	27.9	27.8	27.5	27.6	29.5	32.0	23.9	23.9	24.2	24.4	26.0	28.3	35.5	35.3	34.0	33.9	36.1	38.9

Table B13.2: Young people neither in employment nor in education and training (NEETs) rates for age group 15–29 - By sex - % (2015–2020)

Source:	Eurostat LFS - indicator [lfse_20]
Downloaded:	24 May 2021, except Montenegro (17 July 2021)
Measurement:	Young people not employed and not in formal or non-formal education or training as a % of the total population in the respective age group
Comments:	No data for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo

	15–29											
	Males						Females					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	13.6	12.7	11.8	11.1	10.8	12.2	16.9	16.5	15.8	15.1	14.6	15.3
Austria	8.2	8.4	7.8	7.0	6.8	9.4	9.2	9.4	9.1	9.9	9.8	9.6
Belgium	13.9	12.0	11.9	11.0	11.2	11.7	15.0	14.0	13.2	13.1	12.5	12.4
Bulgaria	19.8	19.1	14.8	14.6	13.2	14.9	24.7	25.8	23.2	21.8	20.3	21.6
Croatia	20.5	19.5	16.7	13.6	12.2	13.3	19.3	19.4	19.1	17.7	16.3	16.0
Cyprus	17.7	16.4	15.7	14.2	12.2	14.2	19.2	19.5	19.3	15.5	15.9	16.3
Czechia	6.6	5.6	4.6	4.0	4.0	4.7	17.2	16.8	15.5	15.3	15.9	17.6
Denmark	8.2	8.2	9.1	9.5	9.5	9.9	8.9	8.7	10.5	9.7	9.6	10.5
Estonia	7.9	8.6	7.7	9.1	6.0	8.6	17.3	19.2	14.5	14.4	13.8	14.0
Finland	11.6	11.2	10.3	9.0	8.6	10.0	13.1	12.3	11.6	11.2	10.4	10.5
France	13.5	13.1	12.8	12.7	12.1	13.2	15.8	15.6	14.9	14.5	13.8	14.9
Germany	6.6	7.0	6.7	6.1	5.9	7.8	10.5	10.9	10.5	9.8	9.5	9.3
Greece	22.2	19.8	18.1	17.2	16.4	17.8	26.1	24.8	24.6	21.9	19.1	19.7
Hungary	11.1	9.6	7.9	7.5	8.7	10.0	19.2	18.8	19.0	18.6	17.9	19.7
Ireland	16.4	14.4	11.8	10.7	10.5	13.8	16.6	14.7	13.8	12.5	12.4	14.5
Italy	24.2	22.4	22.4	21.5	20.2	21.4	27.1	26.3	26.0	25.4	24.3	25.4
Latvia	12.2	12.9	11.1	10.8	10.0	11.3	15.4	13.6	13.5	12.4	10.6	12.6
Lithuania	10.7	10.8	9.8	8.8	10.9	13.6	13.0	10.7	10.8	9.9	11.0	12.4
Luxembourg	6.5	5.4	6.4	5.5	7.1	8.8	8.7	8.3	6.9	9.7	5.9	6.6
Malta	8.8	6.9	7.8	5.9	6.3	8.5	15.0	12.1	9.8	8.9	9.6	10.4
Netherlands	5.8	5.7	5.2	5.1	5.6	5.4	7.6	6.9	6.7	6.2	5.8	6.0
Poland	12.6	10.7	8.9	7.9	7.6	8.7	16.7	17.1	17.0	16.4	16.6	17.3
Portugal	12.1	12.4	10.4	9.2	8.3	11.0	14.4	13.2	10.7	10.0	10.1	11.1
Romania	16.1	15.2	13.2	12.0	11.8	11.4	26.1	25.5	22.6	22.4	22.1	22.1
Slovakia	13.2	11.1	10.7	9.5	9.7	10.4	21.4	20.9	21.7	19.9	19.5	20.2
Slovenia	11.7	10.6	8.0	7.5	6.6	7.8	13.0	11.3	10.7	10.3	11.2	10.9
Spain	19.2	17.4	15.7	14.7	14.4	17.3	19.7	18.7	17.1	16.0	15.4	17.3
Sweden	7.2	6.8	6.3	6.5	6.0	6.9	7.6	7.3	7.3	7.3	6.6	7.6

	15–29											
	Males						Females					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
United Kingdom	9.8	9.8	9.6	9.5	9.8	:	15.5	14.9	13.2	14.0	13.1	:
Montenegro	22.8	21.6	20.3	21.2	21.0	26.2	24.1	23.1	22.6	20.8	21.5	26.9
North Macedonia	29.9	28.7	26.7	25.9	20.9	23.6	35.3	34.0	35.7	33.9	28.3	29.0
Serbia	23.0	20.3	19.9	17.8	17.1	18.4	26.2	24.5	23.7	22.5	20.9	21.6
Turkey	14.2	14.8	14.6	15.3	18.3	21.3	41.6	40.9	40.7	40.2	40.8	42.8

Table B14.1: Early leavers from education and training for age group 18–24 - Total - % (2015–2020)

Source:	Eurostat LFS - indicator [edat_ifse_14]
Downloaded:	24 May 2021, except Montenegro (17 July 2021)
Measurement:	Young people who have completed at most lower secondary education and are not involved in further education or training as a % of the total population aged 18–24
Comments:	No data for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo Unreliable data for Croatia in 2015, 2016, 2019 and 2020

	18–24					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	11.0	10.6	10.5	10.5	10.2	9.9
Austria	7.3	6.9	7.4	7.3	7.8	8.1
Belgium	10.1	8.8	8.9	8.6	8.4	8.1
Bulgaria	13.4	13.8	12.7	12.7	13.9	12.8
Croatia	2.8	2.8	3.1	3.3	3.0	2.2
Cyprus	5.2	7.6	8.5	7.8	9.2	11.5
Czechia	6.2	6.6	6.7	6.2	6.7	7.6
Denmark	8.1	7.5	8.8	10.4	9.9	9.3
Estonia	12.2	10.9	10.8	11.3	9.8	7.5
Finland	9.2	7.9	8.2	8.3	7.3	8.2
France	9.2	8.8	8.8	8.7	8.2	8.0
Germany	10.1	10.3	10.1	10.3	10.3	10.1
Greece	7.9	6.2	6.0	4.7	4.1	3.8
Hungary	11.6	12.4	12.5	12.5	11.8	12.1
Ireland	6.8	6.0	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.0
Italy	14.7	13.8	14.0	14.5	13.5	13.1
Latvia	9.9	10.0	8.6	8.3	8.7	7.2
Lithuania	5.5	4.8	5.4	4.6	4.0	5.6
Luxembourg	9.3	5.5	7.3	6.3	7.2	8.2
Malta	20.2	19.2	17.7	17.4	17.2	16.7
Netherlands	8.2	8.0	7.1	7.3	7.5	7.0
Poland	5.3	5.2	5.0	4.8	5.2	5.4
Portugal	13.7	14.0	12.6	11.8	10.6	8.9
Romania	19.1	18.5	18.1	16.4	15.3	15.6
Slovakia	6.9	7.4	9.3	8.6	8.3	7.6
Slovenia	5.0	4.9	4.3	4.2	4.6	4.1
Spain	20.0	19.0	18.3	17.9	17.3	16.0

	18-24					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Sweden	7.0	7.4	7.7	7.5	6.5	7.7
United Kingdom	10.8	11.2	10.6	10.7	10.9	:
Montenegro	5.7	5.5	5.4	4.6	5.0	3.6
North Macedonia	11.4	9.9	8.5	7.1	7.1	5.7
Serbia	7.5	7.0	6.2	6.8	6.6	5.6
Turkey	36.4	34.3	32.5	31.0	28.7	26.7

Table B14.2: Early leavers from education and training for age group 18–24 - By sex - % (2015–2020)

Source:	Eurostat LFS - indicator [edat_ifse_14]
Downloaded:	24 May 2021, except Montenegro (17 July 2021)
Measurement:	Young people who have completed at most lower secondary education and are not involved in further education or training as a % of the total population aged 18–24
Comments:	No data for Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo Unreliable data for Croatia in 2015, 2016, 2019 and 2020

	18–24											
	Males						Females					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EU-27	12.5	12.1	12.1	12.1	11.8	11.8	9.4	9.1	8.9	8.8	8.4	8.0
Austria	7.8	7.7	9.0	8.9	9.5	10.0	6.8	6.0	5.8	5.7	6.1	6.3
Belgium	11.6	10.2	10.4	10.6	10.5	10.2	8.6	7.4	7.3	6.5	6.2	5.9
Bulgaria	13.3	13.7	12.0	12.6	14.5	13.4	13.4	13.9	13.5	12.8	13.3	12.1
Croatia	3.5	3.5	3.8	3.5	3.1	2.4	2.0	2.0	2.2	3.1	3.0	2.0
Cyprus	7.7	11.4	9.4	9.9	11.1	15.0	3.1	4.3	7.7	6.0	7.5	8.4
Czechia	6.4	6.6	6.8	6.4	6.6	7.5	6.0	6.6	6.7	6.1	6.8	7.6
Denmark	9.9	8.6	11.2	12.7	12.1	11.7	6.2	6.3	6.3	8.0	7.6	6.8
Estonia	14.2	14.3	14.2	16.1	12.7	9.2	10.0	7.4	7.3	6.4	6.9	5.8
Finland	10.6	9.0	9.5	9.2	8.5	9.4	7.9	6.9	6.9	7.4	6.0	7.0
France	10.0	10.1	10.4	10.6	9.6	9.7	8.4	7.5	7.1	6.8	6.9	6.3
Germany	10.4	11.0	11.1	11.5	11.8	11.8	9.8	9.5	9.0	9.1	8.7	8.3
Greece	9.4	7.1	7.1	5.7	4.9	4.4	6.4	5.3	4.9	3.6	3.2	3.1
Hungary	12.0	12.9	12.0	12.6	12.7	12.9	11.2	11.8	13.0	12.3	10.9	11.3
Ireland	8.6	7.7	6.1	6.1	5.9	5.4	4.9	4.3	3.9	3.9	4.3	4.7
Italy	17.5	16.1	16.6	16.5	15.4	15.6	11.8	11.3	11.2	12.3	11.5	10.4
Latvia	13.4	13.7	12.0	11.4	10.5	9.5	6.2	6.2	5.0	5.0	6.8	4.7
Lithuania	6.9	6.0	7.0	6.1	5.1	7.7	4.0	3.6	3.8	3.0	2.8	3.4
Luxembourg	10.5	6.8	9.8	6.8	8.9	10.7	8.1	4.2	4.6	5.9	5.5	5.7
Malta	23.3	23.1	20.9	18.8	18.7	19.3	16.9	15.0	14.3	15.7	15.6	13.9
Netherlands	9.9	10.1	9.4	9.3	9.5	8.7	6.4	5.8	4.6	5.3	5.5	5.3
Poland	7.2	6.4	6.0	5.8	6.7	7.0	3.2	3.9	3.9	3.7	3.6	3.7
Portugal	16.4	17.4	15.3	14.7	13.7	12.6	11.0	10.5	9.7	8.7	7.4	5.1
Romania	19.5	18.4	18.0	16.7	14.9	14.7	18.5	18.7	18.1	16.1	15.8	16.6
Slovakia	6.9	7.6	8.5	8.3	8.8	7.7	6.8	7.2	10.3	8.8	7.9	7.4
Slovenia	6.4	6.7	5.8	5.3	5.2	4.6	3.4	3.1	2.5	3.0	3.8	3.4
Spain	24.0	22.7	21.8	21.7	21.4	20.2	15.8	15.1	14.5	14.0	13.0	11.6

	18–24											
	Males						Females					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Sweden	7.6	8.2	8.2	8.8	7.4	9.0	6.4	6.4	7.2	6.0	5.5	6.3
United Kingdom	11.7	12.8	12.2	12.2	12.3	:	9.9	9.6	9.0	9.1	9.4	:
Montenegro	4.9	4.3	5.6	4.4	5.2	:	6.6	6.8	5.2	4.9	4.9	:
North Macedonia	10.0	8.9	8.3	5.6	5.9	5.7	12.9	10.9	8.7	8.5	8.4	5.8
Serbia	7.7	7.3	6.3	6.8	6.5	5.4	7.2	6.7	6.1	6.8	6.7	5.8
Turkey	35.0	32.7	31.0	30.4	28.9	27.5	37.6	35.8	34.0	31.6	28.6	25.8

Table B15.1: Young people living with their parents for age groups 16–29, 16–24 and 25–29 - Total - % (2015–2019)

Source:	Eurostat EU-SILC – indicator [ilc_lvps08]
Downloaded:	24 May 2021
Measurement:	Share of young adults living with their parents as a % of the total population in the respective age group
Comments:	No data for Bosnia and Herzegovina

	16–29					16–24					25–29				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
EU-27	68.4	68.4	68.3	68.7	69.0	85.1	85.2	84.9	85.3	85.8	42.3	42.0	42.1	42.4	42.3
Austria	61.8	61.4	61.0	61.6	62.4	78.3	78.2	79.8	84.8	87.0	30.8	27.9	26.0	27.5	27.1
Belgium	65.4	69.0	68.8	69.3	67.8	85.5	90.3	91.6	91.7	90.1	30.4	32.7	31.0	33.9	34.2
Bulgaria	70.2	73.3	73.1	75.1	73.6	81.0	85.2	86.0	86.5	84.0	56.3	58.1	57.3	60.3	60.4
Croatia	85.4	87.1	87.8	88.1	87.7	94.7	94.9	95.5	95.0	93.9	71.1	74.5	75.4	76.7	77.6
Cyprus	70.9	74.6	76.7	77.2	75.2	89.8	91.9	91.9	89.7	89.3	41.1	48.8	54.3	58.5	56.2
Czechia	72.0	69.8	69.0	67.7	67.4	88.5	86.4	86.8	87.6	89.1	48.6	46.9	44.3	42.4	40.0
Denmark	36.6	35.9	35.8	34.3	30.5	53.7	54.7	52.8	53.0	46.8	5.3	4.6	4.0	4.3	5.1
Estonia	56.0	56.8	55.0	54.2	52.0	77.5	79.2	78.1	77.5	75.9	29.9	30.6	28.2	25.9	21.7
Finland	37.0	36.9	35.6	36.3	36.7	54.8	55.9	53.7	55.2	56.2	7.0	6.0	6.6	6.9	6.7
France	52.9	55.7	54.9	55.9	55.0	74.9	76.4	74.7	75.3	76.7	15.5	19.9	21.0	22.3	17.3
Germany	64.7	62.6	63.5	64.4	67.4	88.3	86.7	85.8	86.4	88.6	28.7	26.9	28.3	28.8	29.7
Greece	79.0	81.4	82.0	81.9	83.2	85.5	88.4	88.4	88.3	90.5	69.7	70.3	72.3	72.2	71.9
Hungary	73.0	73.2	74.1	78.8	77.3	85.7	85.1	86.7	89.2	88.0	53.0	53.4	52.0	57.1	53.3
Ireland	76.3	79.2	76.5	78.1	78.2	88.5	90.5	87.9	91.3	92.2	43.6	48.1	47.2	40.5	44.8
Italy	84.3	83.2	84.1	83.8	85.4	95.2	94.6	95.1	94.7	95.0	68.7	66.1	66.8	66.5	71.1
Latvia	67.5	65.9	64.3	62.4	60.4	85.0	82.3	82.7	82.6	81.6	44.8	45.8	42.4	38.7	33.8

	16–29					16–24					25–29				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Lithuania	68.9	67.1	65.7	63.9	64.5	81.8	84.3	81.4	80.3	84.9	45.1	39.8	41.0	39.9	36.5
Luxembourg	72.5	75.4	76.7	70.0	71.9	91.3	91.2	91.2	90.8	91.3	44.1	46.0	49.1	38.2	42.3
Malta	83.7	84.9	82.1	78.4	76.8	95.0	94.5	94.5	95.3	94.2	67.8	72.0	66.4	59.6	59.8
Netherlands	54.2	54.3	54.0	53.9	53.5	77.0	76.5	75.9	77.1	76.5	16.5	17.0	18.1	16.5	15.7
Poland	77.4	76.6	75.9	76.2	75.0	90.7	90.6	90.9	89.9	90.0	59.2	58.0	56.0	58.0	55.5
Portugal	80.6	80.7	80.7	81.2	81.2	91.3	90.6	91.5	92.2	93.0	62.5	63.4	61.6	62.0	60.4
Romania	75.6	75.9	75.0	72.9	72.2	89.7	88.0	87.8	85.2	83.9	54.3	55.9	54.2	52.6	51.1
Slovakia	85.2	85.6	84.2	84.4	82.8	95.2	94.7	95.2	94.9	93.3	70.8	72.2	68.8	69.5	69.0
Slovenia	80.4	79.3	79.5	79.0	78.1	93.6	91.9	92.3	90.3	91.5	60.6	59.6	58.7	59.8	56.1
Spain	81.0	81.0	80.9	82.4	82.0	92.9	93.7	93.1	94.5	93.9	61.3	60.5	61.7	63.4	63.7
Sweden	41.2	41.1	42.2	42.2	40.6	62.7	61.7	65.2	64.9	64.1	7.6	8.9	9.0	9.8	8.3
United Kingdom	51.6	51.7	56.6	56.6	:	68.9	71.0	76.8	74.1	:	23.3	20.1	21.2	25.0	:
Albania	:	:	80.7	83.5	80.3	:	:	88.7	90.7	87.5	:	:	67.0	70.0	67.3
Kosovo	:	:	:	83.5	:	:	:	:	91.5	:	:	:	68.6	:	:
Montenegro	83.9	85.4	83.1	86.7	88.5	93.5	94.4	92.2	94.1	94.7	68.2	70.8	68.5	75.0	77.9
North Macedonia	83.8	82.9	84.7	84.8	84.4	92.1	91.7	92.9	93.6	93.5	71.8	70.2	72.5	71.7	71.0
Serbia	80.5	79.5	80.0	81.6	83.1	89.1	88.6	88.5	89.4	91.6	67.8	66.1	67.4	70.0	70.3
Turkey	69.1	69.2	69.2	70.1	70.6	83.3	82.6	83.2	84.1	84.5	46.3	47.1	46.0	46.9	47.5

Table B15.2: Young people living with their parents for age group 16–29 - By sex - % (2015–2019)

Source:	Eurostat EU-SILC - indicator [ilc_lvps08]
Downloaded:	24 May 2021
Measurement:	Share of young adults living with their parents as a % of the total population in the respective age group
Comments:	No data for Bosnia and Herzegovina

	16–29									
	Males					Females				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
EU-27	74.0	73.8	73.3	73.4	73.5	62.5	62.7	63.0	63.7	64.3
Austria	68.7	66.8	65.7	67.4	68.0	54.5	55.3	56.0	55.5	56.6
Belgium	69.7	73.5	72.9	74.9	72.6	60.9	64.4	64.8	63.6	62.8
Bulgaria	81.4	81.9	82.6	85.3	83.3	58.1	64.1	63.3	64.3	63.3
Croatia	91.0	92.3	93.1	92.2	91.7	79.5	81.8	82.3	83.9	83.6
Cyprus	75.8	82.0	84.0	83.5	78.2	65.8	67.2	69.4	71.0	72.3
Czechia	77.5	76.2	76.6	75.8	75.8	66.2	63.1	60.7	58.7	58.1
Denmark	40.4	42.5	39.5	39.5	36.2	32.6	29.2	31.9	29.1	24.9
Estonia	61.4	62.0	61.5	61.0	56.2	50.3	51.2	48.3	47.0	47.5
Finland	43.2	42.0	40.8	41.2	43.1	30.6	31.7	30.1	31.2	30.0
France	57.4	59.0	58.4	58.8	59.7	48.3	52.4	51.2	52.9	50.7
Germany	72.7	70.4	70.7	70.5	73.2	55.4	53.5	55.0	57.7	61.2
Greece	83.6	85.2	85.8	85.8	88.0	74.6	77.6	78.3	78.1	78.5
Hungary	79.7	78.7	80.0	83.3	78.7	66.2	67.4	68.0	73.9	75.8
Ireland	80.5	83.1	81.1	81.9	78.9	72.0	75.1	71.6	74.0	77.4
Italy	88.8	87.7	88.3	86.8	86.8	79.5	78.3	79.7	80.6	83.8
Latvia	72.9	70.7	70.3	69.3	66.6	61.7	60.9	58.0	55.4	54.1
Lithuania	75.8	72.2	70.6	70.8	72.0	61.6	61.7	60.7	56.6	56.6
Luxembourg	78.1	81.4	80.8	74.1	76.6	66.7	69.0	72.9	65.9	66.9
Malta	88.7	87.8	84.8	83.4	82.3	78.4	81.8	79.1	73.0	70.8
Netherlands	60.9	59.1	58.3	59.6	57.8	47.3	49.3	49.5	48.0	49.0
Poland	83.0	82.3	81.8	81.6	79.7	71.5	70.6	69.7	70.5	70.2
Portugal	84.4	83.1	84.1	84.6	84.4	76.6	78.2	77.4	77.7	77.9
Romania	83.4	84.4	83.3	80.7	78.5	67.3	67.0	66.1	64.5	65.3
Slovakia	89.7	90.9	89.2	88.7	87.9	80.4	80.0	78.9	79.6	77.1
Slovenia	84.2	83.6	85.0	84.0	82.5	76.5	74.7	73.7	73.7	73.3
Spain	83.2	85.5	83.7	85.8	85.1	78.7	76.5	78.0	78.9	78.9
Sweden	46.3	43.7	44.4	44.2	41.4	35.9	38.3	39.7	40.0	39.7

	16-29									
	Males					Females				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
United Kingdom	57.3	56.9	61.5	61.1	:	45.8	46.6	51.6	52.0	:
Albania	:	:	96.8	97.0	93.9	:	:	62.7	68.9	66.0
Kosovo	:	:	:	97.0	:	:	:	:	70.0	:
Montenegro	93.5	93.9	92.0	95.3	95.6	73.3	76.0	72.5	77.7	81.0
North Macedonia	96.2	96.6	96.6	97.4	96.6	70.5	68.5	71.8	71.5	71.7
Serbia	90.6	89.7	89.2	90.9	93.3	69.9	69.1	70.3	71.7	72.5
Turkey	81.9	81.4	81.2	81.2	81.3	56.3	57.0	57.1	58.9	59.7

ANNEX C: References

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