



Exploring the diversity of NEETs: Country profiles

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Introduction

This annex to the report [*Exploring the diversity of NEETs*](#) presents detailed information on the composition of NEETs in the 28 Member States, based on the most recent data. Special attention was paid to giving information which allows for comparison with the EU average as well as with similarly performing countries.

Each country profile examines:

- the general labour market situation of young people in the country concerned;
- the decomposition of the NEET group in the main sub-groups;
- the risk of social exclusion faced by young people and the proportion registered with public employment services (PES).

The aim is to provide policymakers with greater knowledge and understanding of the current situation and of the particular challenges facing this group of young people in each country, enabling them to make more informed policy choices.

1. Austria

- Both activity and employment rate are considerably higher in Austria than the EU average. Moreover with 9.3% and 8.9% the NEET and youth unemployment rate are notably lower compared to the EU average.
- The group of NEET in Austria is mainly composed of short-term unemployed (31.3%) and NEETs due to family responsibilities (25.1%) which together account for more than 55% of NEETs.
- More than 60% of NEETs were registered with the Austrian public employment services.

Labour market situation of young people in Austria

The youth labour market situation in Austria¹ compares favourably to the EU average (Table 1.1). The activity rate of 15-29 year olds in Austria is more than 10 p.p. higher than the EU average (68% compared to 56.4% at EU level). Similarly, also the employment rate is considerably higher with 61.9% compared to the EU average of 46.5%. In terms of the NEET rate, Austria records 9.3% compared to 15.3% across the EU. Again, in a similar vein, youth unemployment remains at 8.9% compared to the EU average of 17.5%.

Table 1.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Austria compared to EU average (2014)

Characteristics	Austria	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	1,533	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	23.9%	20.2%
Activity rate	68%	56.4%
Employment rate	61.9%	46.5%
NEET rate	9.3%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	8.9%	17.5%

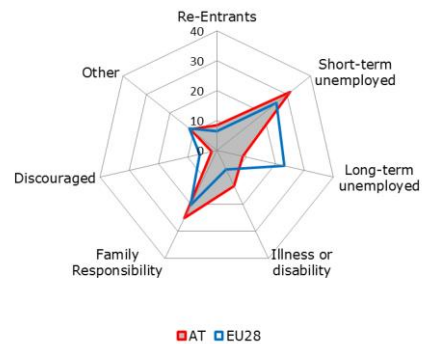
Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in Austria?

Comparing the structure of the NEET group in Austria with the EU averages reveals some interesting discrepancies (Figure 1.2). The largest proportion of NEETs in Austria are the short-term unemployed with 31.3 (compared to the EU average of 25.5%) followed by NEETs due to family responsibilities with 25.1 (compared to 20.3% on average in the EU). These two group together account for more than 55% of NEETs in Austria. The third largest proportion is people belonging to NEETs due to illness or disability: at 13.2%, this is almost double the EU value of 7.1%. With 11.4% the proportion of other NEETs in Austria is almost identical to the EU average of 11.8%. Interestingly, only 8.9% of NEETs in Austria are long-term unemployed (compared to the EU average of 23.1%). The share of re-entrants into education or the labour market remains at 8.4% (compared to 6.4% across the EU) and only 1.8% of NEETs belong to the group of discouraged workers (compared to the EU average of 5.9%).

¹ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

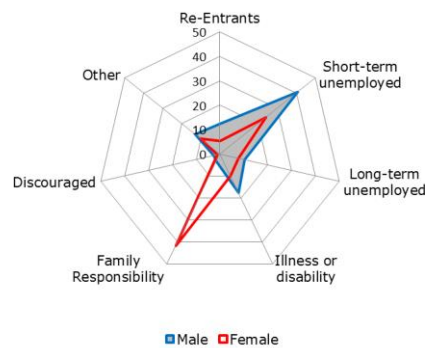
Figure 1.2: Composition of the NEET group in Austria, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: LFS, 2013

In Austria, a total of 57.8% of NEETs are female and the gender composition of the NEET group furthermore reveals some interesting discrepancies (Figure 1.3). A total of 40.7% of male NEETs in Austria belong to the group of short-term unemployed, followed by 17.6% of male NEETs due to illness or disability (only 9.9% among female NEETs). Among females, a total of 41.7% of all NEETs are NEETs due to family responsibilities, followed by 24.1% of female NEETs who are short-term unemployed. In Austria, only 2.7% of male NEETs are discouraged workers and only 1.1% of female NEETs are discouraged. Advanced statistical analysis² further confirms that being married and having kids increased the risk of belonging to the NEET group with the exception of married males. The chance of becoming NEETs was also greater for foreign citizens.

Figure 1.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Austria



Source: LFS, 2013

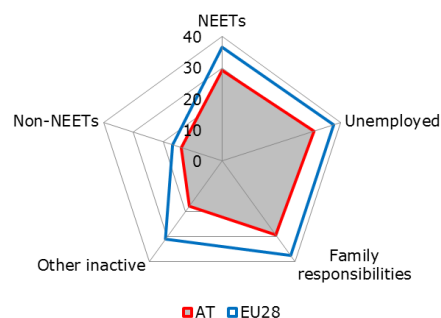
NEETs in Austria: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

The comparison of young people at risk of social exclusion³ with the EU average reveals that young Austrians are less at risk than on average in the EU (Figure 1.4). Nevertheless, the share of young people at risk of social exclusion was more than double of NEETs compared to non-NEETs. Within the NEET group, those who are unemployed or NEET due to family responsibility are at similar risk of social exclusion.

² Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

³ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

Figure 1.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Austria, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs⁴ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, 61.2% of all NEETs below the age of 25 were registered with the Austrian public employment services. The number of registered NEETs has been increasing steadily since 2005.

2. Belgium

- Belgium is characterised by a below average activity rate among young people of 49.6% compared to 56.4% across the EU and also the employment rate of 15-29 year olds remains below the EU average (41.5% compared to 46.5%).
- The NEET rate in Belgium lies at 14.1% NEETs. The largest proportions of NEETs are the short-term unemployed with 28.4%, followed by other NEETs (20%) and the long-term unemployed (18.6%).
- In 2013, a total of 37.2% of NEETs in Belgium financial assistance which features among the highest proportions in Europe. Almost 60% of NEETs are registered with public employment services.

Labour market situation of young people in Belgium

Comparing the labour market situation of young people in Belgium to the EU average reveals some interesting discrepancies⁵ (Table 2.1). To begin with the activity rate of 15-29 year olds in Belgium remains almost 7 p.p. below the EU average (49.6% compared to 56.4%). Both NEET and unemployment rates remained below the EU28 average in 2014 (14.1% and 16.4% compared to 15.3% and 17.5% respectively). Moreover, the youth employment rate remains notably below the average value recorded across the EU (41.5% in Belgium compared to 46.5%). With 20.3% the share of young people among the economically active population however remains very close to the EU average (20.2%). Full-time compulsory education in Belgium ends at the age of 15.

⁴ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

⁵ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

Table 2.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Belgium compared to EU average (2014)

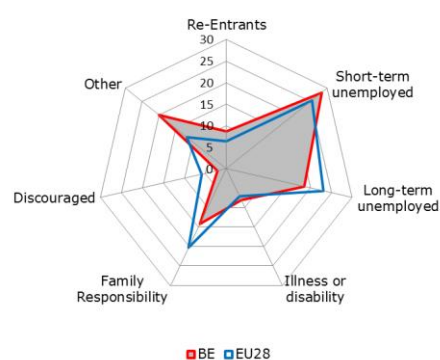
Characteristics	Belgium	EU28
Total number of young people (in 1,000)	2,028	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	20.3%	20.2%
Activity rate	49.6%	56.4%
Employment rate	41.5%	46.5%
NEET rate	14.1%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	16.4%	17.5%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in Belgium?

In terms of the compositions of the NEET group, the Belgian case, with some exceptions, resembles the situation observed on average in the EU28 (see Figure 2.2). With 28.4% the largest group of NEETs constitute the short-term unemployed (compared to 25.5% on average in the EU28). Moreover, there is a greater share of other NEETs who have not further specified the reasons for their status which is almost double the size of the EU average (20.8% compared to 11.8%). Lastly, also NEETs re-entering in employment, education or training are more frequent in Belgium than on average in the EU (8.7% compared to 6.4% respectively) and the same applies to NEETs due to illness or disability (8.1% compared to the EU average of 7.1%). What further distinguishes the Belgian situation from the EU average is the smaller share of people who are NEET due to family responsibilities (14.2% in Belgium compared to 20.3% across the EU). Furthermore, both shares of long-term unemployed with 18.6% and discouraged young workers with 2.1% remained considerably below the European average (compared to 23.1% and 5.9% respectively).

Figure 2.2: Composition of the NEET group in Belgium, 15-29 year olds (2013)

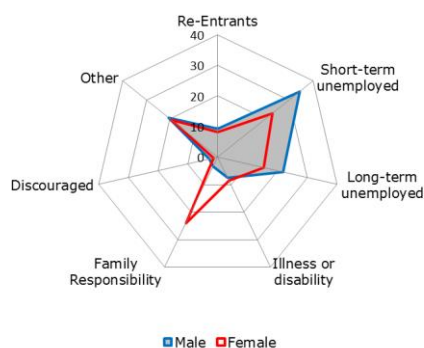


Source: LFS, 2013

Some gender differences in the structure of NEETs in Belgium can be observed which are however not as pronounced as in other Member States (see Figure 2.3). Overall, women constituted 52.3% of NEETs in Belgium, slightly below the EU average of 55%. Among men, the highest proportions of NEETs were recorded among the short-term unemployed (34.3%), followed by long-term unemployed (22%) and other NEETs (20.6%). Females on the other side feature most prominently in the group of NEETs due to family responsibilities with 24% of all female NEETs belonging to this group. The second highest proportion of females was recorded among the short-term unemployed, followed by other NEETs (22.9% of female

NEETs belong to the former, 19.5% to the latter group). The results of further statistical analysis⁶ confirm that being married and male significantly decrease the risk of belonging to the NEET group. Young Belgians who suffer chronic illness are however at greater risk of belonging to the NEET group and more generally the higher the level of education, the lower the risk of becoming NEET.

Figure 2.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Belgium, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: LFS, 2013

NEETs in Belgium: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

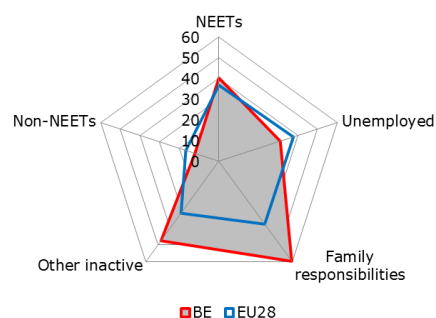
Generally speaking the share of people at risk of social exclusion in Belgium is greater among NEETs than non-NEETs and the results of advanced statistical analysis confirm that belonging to the NEET group increases the risk of social exclusion⁷. Interestingly, in 2013 benefits or other forms of financial assistance were received by 37.2% of all NEETs in Belgium, a proportion which is among the highest observed in Member States the EU⁸. The proportions of young people at risk of social exclusion within the NEET population in Belgium are largely similar to those observed in other EU countries (see Figure 2.4) with the exception of two groups of NEETs, namely NEETs due to family responsibilities where the highest share of people at risk of social exclusion was observed followed by those belonging to the “other NEET” categorisation. Among NEETs with family responsibilities the share of people at risk of social exclusion is almost five times as high as for non-NEETs in Belgium and 1.5 times higher in comparison to the overall NEET population.

⁶ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

⁷ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

⁸ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals’ disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

Figure 2.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Belgium, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs⁹ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). As for Belgium, in 2013, 58.8% of all NEETs were registered with public employment services, which is well above the EU average. The registration rate was even higher among both short- and long-term unemployed with 87.9% and 87.3% respectively.

3. Bulgaria

- Both the activity rate and employment rate of 15-29 year olds in Bulgaria remain considerably below the EU average with 46.2% and 38% compared to 56.4% and 46.5% respectively.
- Bulgaria has a NEET rate of 24%, the third highest rate in the EU after Spain (26.7%) and Italy (26.2%). The NEET group in Bulgaria is composed of 25.5% of NEETs due to family responsibilities, followed by 22.5% long-term unemployed and 21.1% discouraged workers. Only 15.6% of NEETs are short-term unemployed.
- Only every fifth NEET was registered with public employment services, however the registration rate was twice as high among the short-term unemployed. According to LFS data, only 4.2% of all NEETs were receiving financial assistance.

Labour market situation of young people in Bulgaria

The youth labour market situation in Bulgaria is characterised by comparatively low economic activity among young people as well as a high proportion of NEETs¹⁰ (Table 3.1). With 46.2% the activity rate of 15-29 year olds remains more than 10 p.p. below the EU average of 56.4%. The difference in the NEET rate compared to the EU average also lies at almost 10 p.p. with 24% of NEETs in Bulgaria (compared to the EU average of 15.3%). The share of young people among the total active population is the lowest observed across the EU (16.8% compared to 20.2% across the EU). In a similar vein, with 38% the youth employment rate remains notably below the EU average of 46.5%. Youth unemployment however only

⁹ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

¹⁰ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

differs slightly from the EU average (17.7% compared to 17.5% across the EU). Full-time compulsory education in Bulgaria finishes at the age of 16; at the age of 20 half of the population becomes economically active.

Table 3.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Bulgaria compared to EU average (2014)

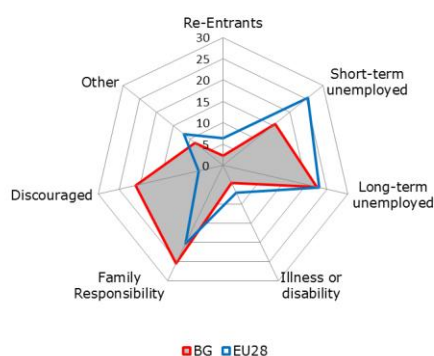
Characteristics	Bulgaria	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	1,222	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	16.8%	20.2%
Activity rate	46.2%	56.4%
Employment rate	38%	46.5%
NEET rate	24%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	17.7%	17.5%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in Bulgaria?

The structure of the NEET group in Bulgaria notably differs in comparison to the EU28 average (Figure 3.2). Most frequently Bulgarians belong to the NEET group due to family responsibilities which is the largest group among NEETs with 25.5%; this proportion also lies considerable above the EU average of 20.3% (2013). The second largest group among NEETs in Bulgaria are the long-term unemployed with 22.5%; the proportion however remains slightly below the EU average of 23.1%. The third largest group of NEETs in Bulgaria are discouraged workers with 21.1% compared to the EU average of 5.6%. In terms of NEETs due to illness or disability as well as re-entrants, Bulgaria performs better than the EU average (4.5% compared to 7.1% and 2.3% compared to 6.4% respectively). In addition, the proportion of short-term unemployed among the NEET group remains more than 10 p.p. below the EU value with 15.6% compared to 25.5%.

Figure 3.2: Composition of the NEET group in Bulgaria, 15-29 year olds (2013)

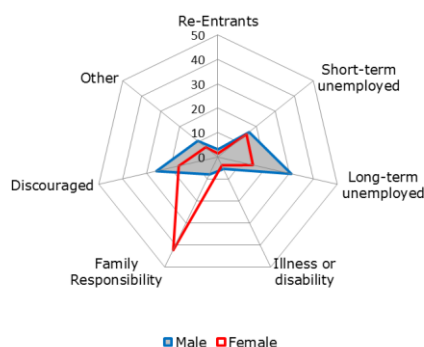


Source: LFS, 2013

Women in Bulgaria constitute 51.2% of all NEETs. A gender imbalance can be observed across all NEET groups (Figure 3.3). The highest proportions of all female NEETs belong to the group of NEETs due to family responsibility with 42.3%. The second largest group are discouraged workers, which 16.5% of female NEETs belong to. This is followed by almost equal proportions of female NEETs in short and long-term unemployment with 14.9% and 14.7% of female NEETs belonging to these two groups. Among male NEETs, the highest proportion features in the group of the long-term unemployed with 30.8%. The second highest proportion of male NEETs can be found in the group of discouraged workers

with 25.9% of all male NEETs belonging to this group. Generally, males have a greater risk of belonging to the NEET group (although less so for married males)¹¹. Good health significantly reduces the risk of becoming NEET as well as living in more densely populated areas. The likelihood of becoming NEET also increases with age. Finally, NEETs were in a worse financial situation than non-NEETs as the majority belonged to the lowest income groups.

Figure 3.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Bulgaria, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: LFS, 2013

NEETs in Bulgaria: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

Some differences in the risk of social exclusion¹² between NEETs and non-NEETs can be observed (Figure 3.4). In Bulgaria the share of people at risk of social exclusion among NEETs is four times higher than among non-NEETs. According to LFS data from 2013, only 4.2% of all NEETs were receiving benefits or other forms of financial assistance; this share is in fact among the lowest observed in the EU¹³. The results of advanced statistical analysis¹⁴ confirm that being NEET in Bulgaria significantly increases the probability of being at risk of social exclusion. The situation of those who are NEETs due to family responsibilities is further alarming as 44% of this group are considered as being at risk of social exclusion.

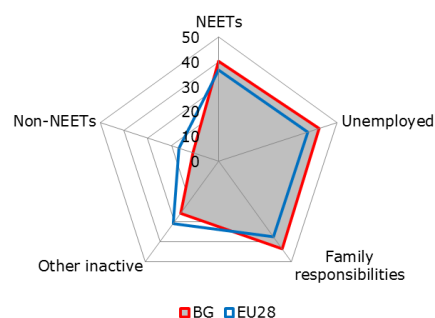
¹¹ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

¹² The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

¹³ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

¹⁴ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

Figure 3.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Bulgaria, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs¹⁵ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, only every fifth NEET in Bulgaria was registered with public employment services, which is among the lowest values observed in the EU. Interestingly, the registration rate was twice as high among short-term unemployed people.

4. Croatia

- The Croatian labour market for 15-29 year olds is characterised by high unemployment and NEET rates as well as an overall low employment rate (34.8% compared to 46.5% across the EU).
- The NEET rate was at 21.8% in Croatia in 2014. This group is mainly composed of short-term and long-term unemployed which together account for almost 70% of all NEETs in Croatia.
- Croatia is the Member State where most NEETs (74.6%) are registered with public employment services.

Labour market situation of young people in Croatia

The labour market situation of young people in Croatia is relatively disadvantageous (Table 4.1). Both activity and employment rates are below the EU28 average level (51.3% and 34.8% in Croatia compared to 56.4% and 46.5% at the EU level). In addition, the NEET and unemployment rate (21.8% and 32.3%) are significantly above the EU28 averages (15.3% and 17.5% respectively). Full-time compulsory education in Croatia ends relatively early at the age of 14. Yet, only around half of the total population is economically active up until the age of 23. Furthermore, among young people aged 25-29 the average activity rate is close to 90%.

Table 4.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Croatia compared to EU average (2014)

Characteristics	Croatia	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	764	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	20.7%	20.2%

¹⁵ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

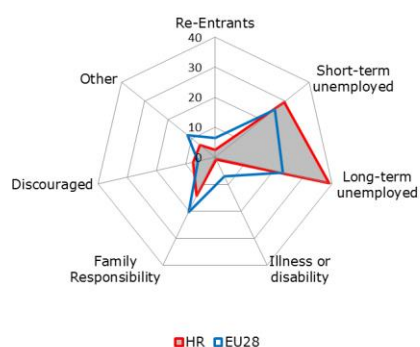
Characteristics	Croatia	EU28
Activity rate	51.3%	56.4%
Employment rate	34.8%	46.5%
NEET rate	21.8%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	32.3%	17.5%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in Croatia?

The structure of the NEET group in Croatia differs from the overall situation in the EU28 (Figure 4.2). The two largest groups of NEETs constitute the short-term (29% compared to the EU average of 25.5%) and long-term unemployed (39% compared to 23.1% respectively) who together make up almost 70% of all NEETs in Croatia (almost identical to the situation in Spain). The third largest group of NEETs are those due to family responsibilities. However, with 14.3% this group lies considerable below the EU average of 20.3%. Discouraged workers make up 7.6% of NEETs, compared to 5.9% at EU level. The three groups of other NEETs, re-entrants and NEETs due to illness or disability are comparatively small in Croatia. Only 6.5% belong to the other NEET group, which is almost half the proportion at EU level (11.8%). Similarly, only 2.5% of NEETs will shortly re-enter education or the labour market (compared to 6.4% across the EU). Lastly, only 0.8% of NEETs are due to illness or disability (compared to the EU average of 7.1%).

Figure 4.2: Composition of the NEET group in Croatia, 15-29 year olds (2013)

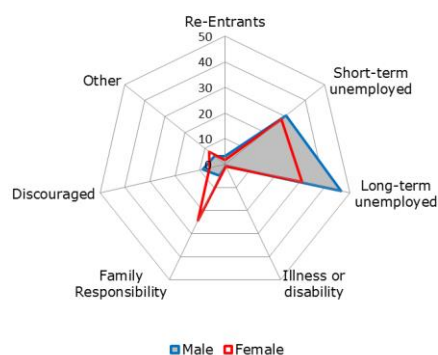


Source: LFS, 2013

In 2013, women constituted 48.4% of all NEETs in Croatia which was in fact the second lowest share of women among NEETs across the EU. Some gender differences across the different NEET groups can be observed (Figure 4.3). In the case of Croatia, similar to the situation in Spain and Greece, the proportions of both female and male NEETs are highest in the group of short and long-term unemployed. In the case of male NEETs, 46.5% belong to the group of long-term unemployed and 30.6% to the short-term unemployed. Together these two shares account for more than three quarters of all male NEETs. For females, 30.9% of NEETs are long-term unemployed, followed by 28.2% who are short-term unemployed. The results of advanced statistical analysis¹⁶ confirmed the importance of gender for the risk of becoming NEET. Males are less at risk than females, with exception of married males. What is remarkable in the Croatian case is that higher education diplomas do not reduce the risk of belonging to the NEET group.

¹⁶ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

Figure 4.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Croatia, 15-29 year olds (2013)

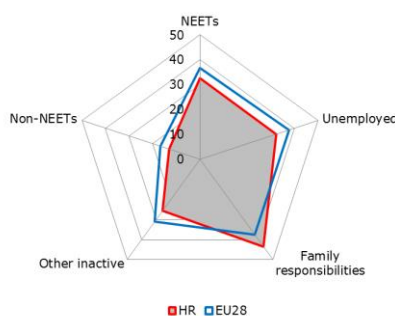


Source: LFS, 2013

NEETs in Croatia: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

The financial situation of young Croats, measured with the indicator of people at risk of social exclusion¹⁷, slightly differs from the EU28 averages. The main difference is that NEETs due to family responsibilities face an increased risk of social exclusion. In two groups of NEETs, namely unemployed and other NEET the shares of people at risk of social exclusion are however smaller in Croatia than on average in other Member States. In 2013, only 7.2% of all NEETs received benefits or other forms of financial assistance.

Figure 4.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Croatia, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs¹⁸ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, 74.6% of all NEETs in Croatia were registered with the PES, the highest observed share among all Member States.

5. Cyprus

¹⁷ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

¹⁸ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

- While the activity rate among 15-29 year old in Cyprus lies above the EU average and the employment rate is only slightly what is recorded across the EU, both NEET and unemployment rate (19.5% and 26.2%) are considerably higher in Cyprus (compared to 15.3% and 17.5%).
- The NEET group in Cyprus predominantly consists of short-term unemployed (36.3%) and long-term unemployed (28.5%) which together make up for almost two thirds of NEETs.
- Only 7.3% of NEETs received financial assistance in 2013. Almost 40% of NEETs were registered with the PES.

Labour market situation of young people in Cyprus

The labour market situation of young people in Cyprus considerably differs in some aspects from the EU average¹⁹ (Table 5.1). On the positive side, the share of young people in the active population lies almost 5 p.p. above the EU average with 25% (compared to 20.2% in the EU). Moreover, also the activity rate in Cyprus remains above the EU average with 60.8% compared to 56.4% and the employment rate is only slightly below (44.9% in Cyprus compared to 46.5% across Europe). On the downside however, the proportions of NEET and unemployed young people are remarkably higher with 19.5% of NEETs compared to 15.3% as well as an unemployment rate of 26.2%, almost 10 p.p. above the EU average of 17.5%. Full-time compulsory education ends at the age of 15 in Cyprus; at the age of 21 half of the population becomes economically active.

Table 5.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Cyprus compared to EU average (2014)

Characteristics	Cyprus	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	179	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	25%	20.2%
Activity rate	60.8%	56.4%
Employment rate	44.9%	46.5%
NEET rate	19.5%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	26.2%	17.5%

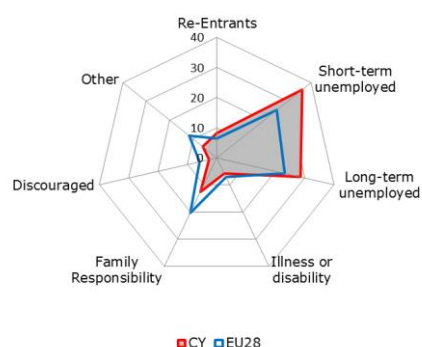
Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in Cyprus?

The structure of the NEET group in Cyprus roughly resembles the EU average, with the important difference that the groups of short and long-term unemployed are comparatively larger (Figure 5.2). Short-term unemployed account for 36.3% of NEETs which is more than 10 p.p. higher than what was observed across the EU (25.4%). The second largest group, the long-term unemployed, account for 28.5% of NEETs (compared to 23.1% at EU level). NEETs due to family responsibilities account for 12.6% of NEETs (compared to 20.3% on average in the EU). The proportion of re-entrants into education or the labour market however lies above the EU average (8.21% compared to 6.4% at EU level). The remainder belongs to the group of other NEETs (6%), NEETs due to illness or disability (5.8%) and discouraged workers (2.7%).

¹⁹ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

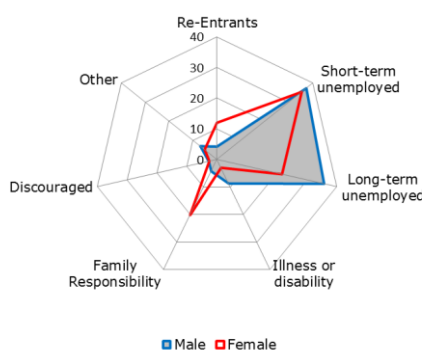
Figure 5.2: Composition of the NEET group in Cyprus. 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: LFS, 2013

In Cyprus women constitute 51.9% of all NEETs and some interesting difference between men and women emerge (Figure 5.3). In the case of Cyprus, similar to Greece and Spain, the highest proportions of both male and females can be found among the short and long-term unemployed. Among women, 35.3% of female NEETs are short-term unemployed and 21.8% are long-term unemployed which together accounts for more than 55% of all female NEETs. For men, a total of 37.3% of male NEETs are short-term unemployed followed by 35.8% who are long-term unemployed, accounting for more than 70% of all male NEETs. According to results of advanced statistical analysis²⁰ gender is not a risk factor for becoming NEET in Cyprus. Yet, the having children significantly increases one's risk of belonging to the NEET group. Young people who suffered chronic illness also more frequently became NEET. Interestingly, educational attainment does not seem to impact on the risk of becoming NEET.

Figure 5.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Cyprus, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: LFS 2013

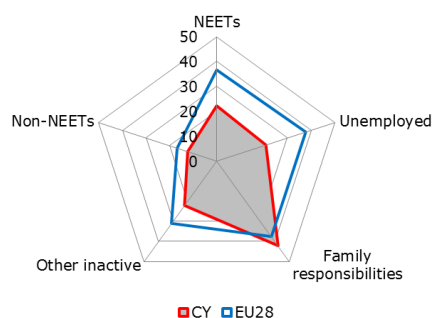
NEET in Cyprus: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

When compared to other Member States one feature distinguishes the financial situation of young people in Cyprus, measured by the indicator of social exclusion²¹: In Cyprus, with the exception of the group of NEET due to family responsibilities, the risk of social exclusion among young people is considerably lower when compared to the EU average. In the group of NEETs due to family responsibility, the share of those at risk of social exclusion is almost three and a half times higher than the risk among non-NEETs. In 2013, only 7.3% of all NEETs in Cyprus were receiving benefits or other forms of financial assistance.

²⁰ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

²¹ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

Figure 5.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Cyprus, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs²² is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, 38.8% of all NEETs in Cyprus were registered with public employment services, which was lower than the EU28 average. Also the registration rates among short and long-term unemployed were lower than what was observed in other Member States.

6. Czech Republic

- In the Czech Republic young people between the age of 15-29 are less economic than on average in the EU (51.1% compared to 56.4%), however the employment rate is very similar to the EU average (45.7% compared to 46.5%) and the unemployment rate is well below the EU average with 10.7% compared to 17.5%.
- In 2014, the NEET rate was 12.1% in the Czech Republic. The NEET group is mainly composed by NEETs due to family responsibilities (44.9%) followed by short-term unemployed (29.3%) and long-term unemployed (12%).
- While only 37.5% of NEETs in the Czech Republic were registered with public employment services (PES) in 2013, the proportion is considerably higher for short and long-term unemployed youth.

Labour market situation of young people in the Czech Republic

The labour market situation of young people in the Czech Republic²³ can generally be considered favourable despite the low activity rate (Table 6.1). While the share of young people in the total active population is among the lowest in the EU28, increased economic activity is observed in the age group of 25 and older. Finally, the NEET rate (12.1%) and unemployment rate (10.7%) both remained below the EU28 average in 2014 (15.3% and 17.5% respectively). Full-time compulsory education lasts until the age of 15; the majority of Czechs become economically active at the age of 22.

²² The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

²³ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

Table 6.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in the Czech Republic compared to EU average (2014)

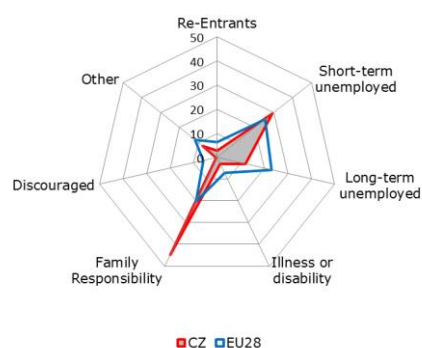
Characteristics	Czech Republic	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	1,806	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	17.4%	20.2%
Activity rate	51.1%	56.4%
Employment rate	45.7%	46.5%
NEET rate	12.1%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	10.7%	17.5%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in the Czech Republic?

The largest NEET group in the Czech Republic constitute young people who became NEET due to family responsibilities (Figure 6.2). With 44.9% his share is more than twice as high as the EU28 average of 20.3% in 2013. The second largest group of NEETs are short-term unemployed with 29.3%, again above the EU average of 25.5% (2013). On the other hand, the Czech Republic performs better in terms of long-term unemployed NEETs (12% compared to 23.1%) and NEETs due to illness or disability (2.9% compared to 7.1%) than the EU28 average. Moreover, the lowest value was observed for discouraged workers with 0.4%, compared to the EU average of 5.9% in 2013.

Figure 6.2: Composition of the NEET group in the Czech Republic, 15-29 year olds (2013)



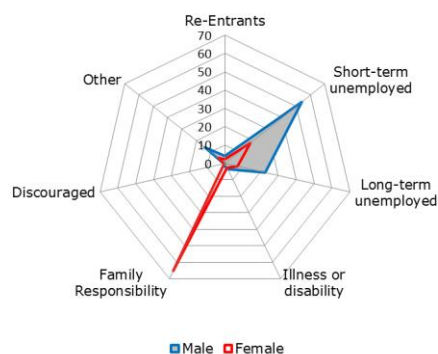
Source: LFS, 2013

In 2013, women constituted 68.2% of all NEETs in the Czech Republic and considerable gender disproportions in the structure of the NEET groups can be observed (Figure 6.3). In the Czech Republic, 65.2% of all female NEETs belong to the group of NEETs due to family responsibilities. The second highest proportion of female NEETs belongs to the short-term unemployed (17.8% of all female NEETs). Among men, 53.8% of male NEETs belong to the short-term unemployed followed by 22.6% of all male NEETs belonging to the long-term unemployed. Interestingly, according to results of further statistical analysis²⁴, gender does not significantly increase the risk of belonging to NEET group. Yet, both being married and having children increases the probability of becoming NEET. Obtaining a diploma in

²⁴ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

secondary or tertiary education decreases the risk of becoming NEET, while young people who lived in less densely populated areas are more likely to belong to the NEET group. Equally, age increased the risk of becoming NEET which is related to the higher shares of graduates in older age cohorts. Finally, NEETs more frequently belonged to lower income groups.

Figure 6.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in the Czech Republic, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: LFS, 2013

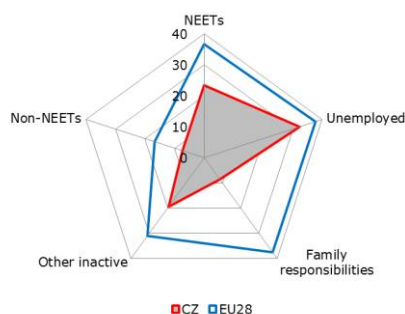
NEETs in the Czech Republic: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

NEETs in the Czech Republic are financially worse off than their non-NEETs counterparts as the share of NEETs who are at risk of social exclusion is three times as high among NEETs. In 2013, only 8.2% of all NEETs were receiving benefits or other forms of financial assistance. The highest share of people at risk of social exclusion²⁵ was observed in the Czech Republic among unemployed NEETs (Figure 6.4). Yet, the risk of social exclusion of members of different NEET groups in the Czech Republic seems comparatively advantageous when compared to the EU average values although unemployed youth face the highest risk. Results of advanced statistical analysis²⁶ confirmed that belonging to the NEET group does not significantly increase the probability of being at risk of social exclusion.

²⁵ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

²⁶ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

Figure 6.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in the Czech Republic, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs^v is that young people are registered with public employment services. In 2013, 37.5% of NEETs in the Czech Republic were registered with public employment services (PES), which is below of what was observed on the EU level. Despite overall low registration, registration rates among the short-term unemployed (78.2%) and the long-term (83.1%) in the Czech Republic were considerably higher than the EU average (64.9% and 67.8% respectively).

7. Denmark

- With 59.8% the employment rate of young people between 15-29 in Denmark is well above the average EU employment rate. Also the activity rate is more than 10 p.p. higher in Denmark and youth unemployment remains more than 7 p.p. below the EU average.
- In 2014, there were 7.3% of NEETs in Denmark, a rate which remains 8 p.p. below the EU average. The NEET group was mainly composed of short-term unemployed (27.8%), followed by those who are NEET due to illness or disability (20.6%) as well as re-entrants (12%) and those who are NEETs due to family responsibilities (10.8%).
- In 2013, only one third of NEETs were registered with public employment services, however this proportion is considerable higher among short-term and long-term unemployed youth.

Labour market situation of young people in Denmark

In comparison to most other Member States, the labour market situation of young people in Denmark remains comparatively advantageous²⁷ (Table 7.1). Activity as well as employment rates score among the highest in the EU28 (67.5% and 59.8% compared to 56.4% and 46.5% respectively), while the NEET rate corresponded to less than half of the EU28 average (7.3% for Denmark compared to 15.3%). Moreover, only 11.4% of young people were unemployed. Compulsory full-time education in Denmark ends at age of 16 and the largest group of young people enters the labour market at the age of 20 after graduating from secondary schools or at the age of 25 after obtaining tertiary education. By the age of 29, more than 90% have become economically active.

²⁷ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

Table 7.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Denmark compared to EU average (2014)

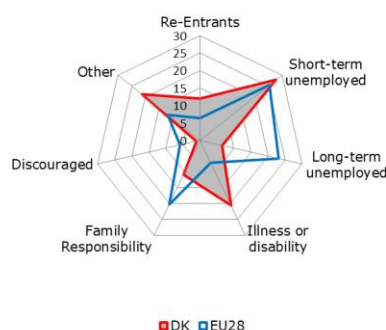
Characteristics	Denmark	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	1,058	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	24.6%	20.2%
Activity rate	67.5%	56.4%
Employment rate	59.8%	46.5%
NEET rate	7.3%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	11.4%	17.5%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in Denmark?

The composition of the NEET group in Denmark considerably differs from the EU average (Figure 7.2). Firstly, Denmark has considerable lower proportions three groups of NEETs compared to the EU average. Namely, the group of long-term unemployed NEETs (6.5% compared to 23.1%) and NEETs due to family responsibilities (10.8 compared to 20.3%). Moreover, the proportion of discouraged workers (1.1% compared to the EU average of 5.9%) in Denmark is very low. Secondly, Denmark scores higher than the EU average for certain groups of NEETs. Most importantly these include the short-term unemployed (27.8% compared to the EU average of 25.5) and other inactive (21.2% compared to 11.8% on average in the EU28). In two cases the proportion of NEETs is almost double compared to the EU value, that is in the case of NEETs due to illness or disability (20.6% compared to 7.1%) as well as for those re-entering education or the labour market (12% compared to 6.4%). In other word, the groups of short-term unemployed and re-entering NEETs together account for almost 40% of NEETs in Denmark.

Figure 7.2: Composition of the NEET group in Denmark, 15-29 year olds (2013)

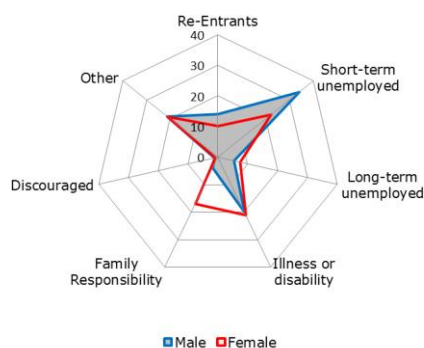


Source: LFS, 2013

In 2013, women constituted 52.6% of all NEETs in Denmark and some interesting gender disproportions emerge when comparing the structure of NEETs in Denmark to the EU average (Figure 7.3). In Denmark, the highest proportion of male NEETs can be observed among the short-term unemployed, more than one third of male NEETs belong to this group (34.1%). This proportion is followed by 21.3% of all male NEETs in the group of other NEETs and another 20.1% in the group of NEETs due to illness or disability. Female NEETs are also most present in the group of short-term unemployed with 22.2% of all female NEETs belonging to this group. Another 21.1% of female NEETs form part of the group of other NEETs, followed by 17% in the group of NEETs due to family responsibilities. Also, the results of

advanced statistical²⁸ analysis show that gender, having a child or being married do not impact on people's risk of becoming NEET in Denmark. Age and education level however increase this risk. Young people with only primary education in Denmark are at greater risk of becoming NEET in comparison to those with secondary or tertiary education.

Figure 7.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Denmark, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: LFS, 2013

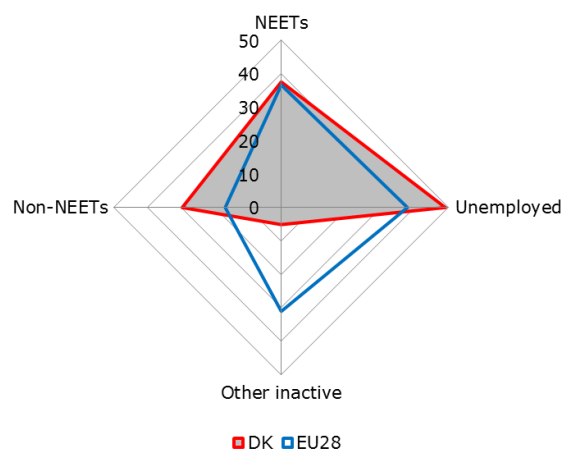
NEETs in Denmark: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

In Denmark there are few differences between the financial situation of NEETs and non-NEETs. As Figure 7.4 shows, the share of young people at risk of social exclusion²⁹ was similar in both groups in 2013. The overall financial situation of NEETs can be considered as advantageous in comparison with NEETs living in other Member States. According to LFS data (2013), a total of 23.5% of all NEETs were receiving benefits or other forms of financial assistance. While the fact of belonging to the NEET group had no impact on the risk of social exclusion, considerable variations in the financial situation of NEETs were observed between the different NEET groups. The highest share of young people at risk of social exclusion was observed among those who are unemployed, almost 10 p.p. above the average for the entire NEET group in Denmark.

²⁸ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

²⁹ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

Figure 7.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Denmark, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Note: The group of inactive NEETs due to family responsibilities was too small to estimate the share of people at risk of social exclusion

Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs³⁰ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, 33.6% of NEETs in Denmark were registered with public employment services which remains considerably below the EU28 average. Yet, the registration rate among the short-term and long-term unemployed (70.7% and 90.7% respectively) were higher than observed EU28 averages for these groups (64.9% and 67.8% respectively).

8. Estonia

- In Estonia, more young people between 15-29 are employed (50.7%) and less are unemployed (11.5%) compared to the EU average.
- In 2014, the NEET rate in Estonia (13.8%) was below the EU average (15.3%). The NEET group was mainly composed of those who are NEET due to family responsibilities (40.5%), followed by the short-term unemployed (24.4%) and the long-term unemployed (17.1%).
- Only every fifth NEET in Estonia is registered with the public employment services, which is among the lowest levels observed in the EU.

Labour market situation of young people in Estonia

The labour market situation of young people in Estonia is characterised by above EU average employment and below average unemployment (50.7% compared to 46.5% as well as 11.5% compared to 17.5%)³¹ (Table 8.1). Also the activity rate (57.3%) lies slightly above the EU average (56.4%). Similarly, the NEET rate is lower in Estonia than in the EU as a whole (13.8% compared to 15.3%). Young people

³⁰ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

³¹ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

constitute one-fifth of all economically active people in Estonia (with 20.5% very close to the EU average of 20.2%). More than half of the population becomes economically active at the age of 22; full-time compulsory education ends at the age of 16.

Table 8.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Estonia compared to EU average (2014)

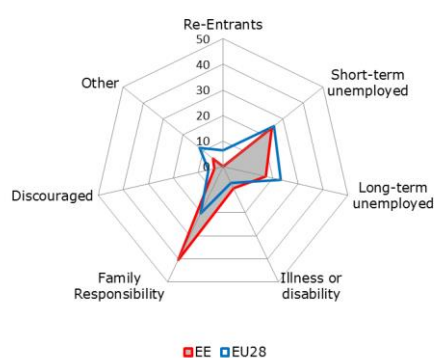
Characteristics	Estonia	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	241	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	20.5%	20.2%
Activity rate	57.3%	56.4%
Employment rate	50.7%	46.5%
NEET rate	13.8%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	11.5%	17.5%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in Estonia?

With the exception of the share of NEET due to family responsibilities, which is larger in Estonia than in other Member States, the structure of the NEET group roughly imitates EU28 averages (Figure 8.2). The largest proportion of NEETs is those with family responsibilities, almost twice as many as on average in the EU (40.5% compared to 20.3%). The second largest group are the short-term unemployed, with 24.4% slightly below the EU average of 25.5%, followed by the long-term unemployed (17.1% compared to the EU average of 23.1%). Lastly, the group of NEETs with illnesses or disability are above the EU average with 9.4% compared to 7.1% respectively. Interestingly, the group of discouraged workers is with 3.5 rather small (compared to 5.9% at EU level) and the group of re-entrants into the labour market or education is with 0.1% almost non-existent (compared to the EU average of 6.4%).

Figure 8.2: Composition of the NEET group in Estonia, 15-29 year olds (2013)



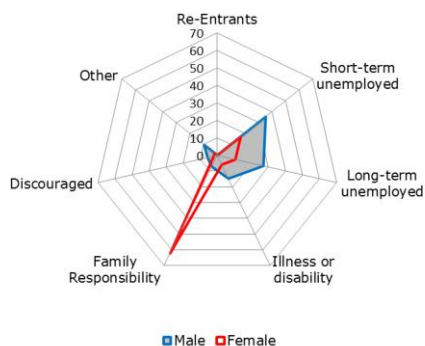
Source: LFS, 2013

In 2013, women constituted 60.5% of all NEETs in Estonia and very strong discrepancies in the gender structure of the NEET group can be observed. Among male NEETs, 35.4% belong to the group of short-term unemployed followed by 27.1% belonging to the group of long-term unemployed. Together, these two groups account for more than 60% of all male NEETs. Among females, a similar proportion can be found in the group of NEETs due to family responsibilities with 62.2% of all female NEETs belonging to this group. Further analysis showed³² that being a married male significantly reduced the risk of

³² Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

belonging to the NEET group. Yet, having kids is a significant factor which increases this risk. Young people who possess secondary or tertiary education are less at risk of becoming NEET. Finally, most NEETs belonged to the lowest income groups. In 2013, only 8% of NEETs in Estonia were receiving financial assistance.

Figure 8.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Estonia, 15-29 year olds (2013)



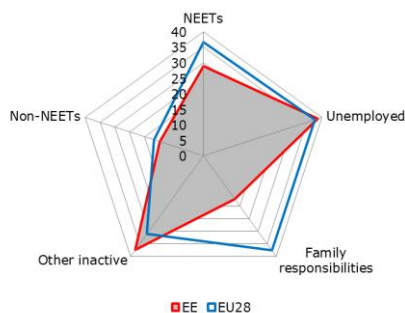
Note: Category 'Disengaged' too small to estimate gender proportions

Source: LFS, 2013

NEETs in Estonia: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

Comparing the risk of social exclusion of young people in Estonia to the EU average reveals some interesting discrepancies (Figure 8.4). Although on average the observed share of people at risk of social exclusion³³ in Estonia is lower than in other Member States, this is not the case for the unemployed and 'other NEETs' which face the highest risks of social exclusion in the country. Interestingly, the group of NEETs is less subject to social exclusion than on average in the EU but most importantly the risk for NEETs due to family responsibilities is much lower than on average across the EU.

Figure 8.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Estonia, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs³⁴ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, only every fifth NEET in Estonia

³³ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

³⁴ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them

was registered with public employment services, which is among the lowest levels observed in all Member States. Even the registration rates among short and term- long unemployed people, 45.6% and 45.8 % respectively, were considerably below EU28 averages.

9. Finland

- The Finish youth labour market situation is relatively advantageous compared to the EU average in terms of activity (62.2%) and employment rate (52.3%). Also the NEET (11.8%) and youth unemployment rate (15.8%) remain notably below EU average.
- In the case of Finland, the short-term unemployed and NEETs due to family responsibilities account for more than 50% of all NEETs. Less than 6% of NEETs are long-term unemployed.
- Almost every second NEET registered with public employment services in Finland and more than one third of all NEETs receive financial assistance.

Labour market situation of young people in Finland

Comparing the labour market situation of young people in Finland to the EU average reveals some interesting discrepancies³⁵ (Table 9.1). The share of young people between 15-29 active among the population is by more than 2 p.p. higher in Finland (22.5% compared to 20.2%). Moreover, both activity and employment rate of young people are well above the EU average values (62.2% and 52.3% compared to 56.4% and 46.5% at EU level). In a similar vein, there are less NEETs and young unemployed in Finland (11.8% and 15.8%) compared to what has been observed across the EU (15.3% and 17.5%). Full-time compulsory education in Finland ends at the age of 16.

leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

³⁵ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

Table 9.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Finland compared to EU average (2014)

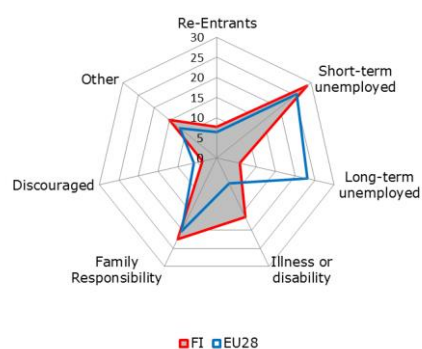
Characteristics	Finland	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	971	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	22.5%	20.2%
Activity rate	62.2%	56.4%
Employment rate	52.3%	46.5%
NEET rate	11.8%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	15.8%	17.5%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in Finland?

Comparing the composition of the NEET group in Finland with the EU averages reveals some interesting discrepancies (Figure 9.2). The short-term unemployed form the largest group of NEETs in Finland with 28.8% compared to the EU average of 25.4%. The second largest group are NEETs due to family responsibilities which with 22.5% is almost four times as high as the EU average of 5.9%. This group is followed by 16.4% of NEETs due to illness or disability, more than twice the EU average of 7.1%. A total of 15.1% belong to the group of other NEETs (compared to 11.8% on average in the EU) and 7.7% belong to re-entrants into the labour market or education (compared to the EU average of 6.4%). Interestingly, only 5.9% of NEETs are long-term unemployed which compares favourably to 23.1% at EU level. Lastly, 3.7% of NEETs in Finland are discouraged workers (compared to 5.9% in the EU).

Figure 9.2: Composition of the NEET group in Finland, 15-29 year olds (2013)



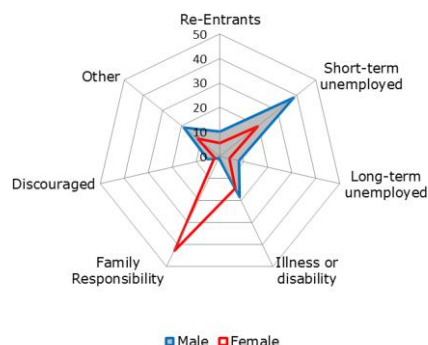
Source: LFS, 2013

The gender composition of NEETs in Finland is almost balanced with women accounting for 51.4% of all NEETs. The decomposition of the NEET group by gender nevertheless reveals some interesting gender differences (Figure 9.3). Similar to other Member States, females account for the majority of NEETs due to family responsibilities (a total of 42.7% of all female NEETs belong to this group). The proportion of males on the other hand is highest in the group of short-term unemployed with 38.5% of all male NEETs belonging to this group. Advanced statistical analysis³⁶ reveals that having children increases the risk of becoming NEET. Married males had a lower risk of belonging to the NEET group than their non-married counterparts or females. Moreover, young people with primary education faced a greater probability of

³⁶ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

belonging to the NEET group. Interestingly, young people who live in rural areas are less likely to become NEET.

Figure 9.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Finland, 15-29 year olds (2013)

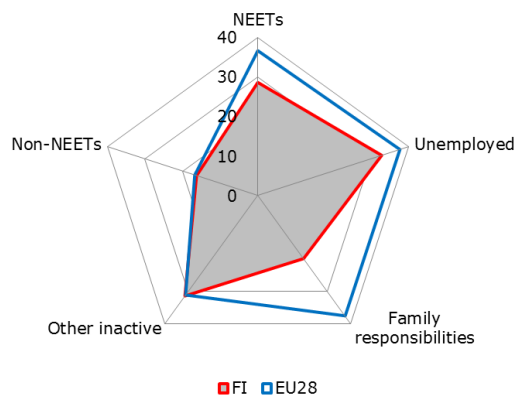


Source: LFS, 2013

NEETs in Finland: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

In terms of the financial situation of young people, the comparison between the risk of social exclusion³⁷ of young people in Finland compared to the EU average reveals some interesting findings (Figure 9.4). Generally speaking, young people in Finland are less at risk of social exclusion, especially when they belong to the NEET group, are unemployed or NEET due to family responsibilities. Interestingly, the share of NEETs at risk of social exclusion is comparatively high for young unemployed in Finland, twice as high as for non-NEETs. In 2013, 36.6% of all NEETs were receiving benefits or other forms of financial assistance in Finland.

Figure 9.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Finland, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs³⁸ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, 47.2% of NEETs in Finland were

³⁷ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

³⁸ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For

registered with the PES, which is above the observed values at the EU28 level. The highest shares of registration were observed among short and long-term unemployed with 88.7% and 95.1% respectively.

10. France

- France's youth labour market performs very similar to the EU average in terms of activity rate (53.4%), employment (43.7%) and unemployment rate (18.2%) compared to the EU averages of 56.4%, 46.5% and 17.5%.
- The NEET group in France is mainly composed of short-term unemployed (29.8%) and long-term unemployed (20.1%), who together make up almost half of all NEETs.
- In 2013, 57.9% of all NEETs in France were registered with the PES.

Labour market situation of young people in France

The labour market situation of young people between 15-29 years of age in France is very close to the overall EU situation³⁹ (Table 10.1). The share of young economically active people is very close to the EU average (20.7% compared to 20.2% across the EU). While slightly more people are unemployed in France (18.2% compared to the EU average of 17.5%), the NEET rate is almost 2 p.p. lower for France (13.5% compared to the EU average of 15.3%). Full-time compulsory education ends at the age of 16 in France.

Table 10.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in France compared to EU average (2014)

Characteristics	France	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	11,056	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	20.7%	20.2%
Activity rate	53.4%	56.4%
Employment rate	43.7%	46.5%
NEET rate	13.5%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	18.2%	17.5%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in France?

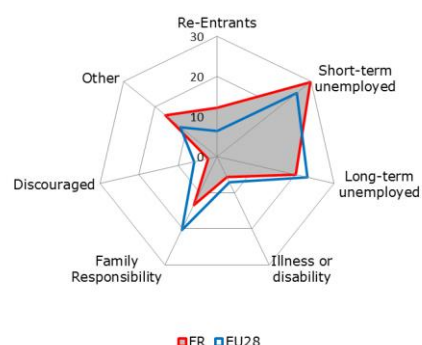
The largest two NEET groups in France constitute short and long-term unemployed who together make up almost 50% of all NEETs in France (Figure 10.2). While the group of long-term unemployed remains below the EU average (20.1% for France compared to 23.1%), the group of short-term unemployed is considerably higher than the EU average (29.8% for France compared to 25.5%). The third largest group of NEETs are those who are NEETs for other reasons (16.5%). The proportion of re-entrants into education or the labour market is almost twice as high as in Europe as a whole (12.2% compared to the EU average of 6.4%). France however performs better in terms of NEETs due to family responsibilities

more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

³⁹ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

with only 13.4% compared to the EU average of 20.3% as well as in the group of discouraged workers with 2.3% compared to 5.9% across the EU.

Figure 10.2: Composition of the NEET group in France, 15-29 year olds (2013)

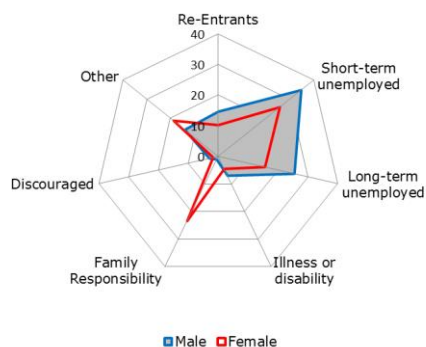


Source: LFS, 2013

In 2013, women constituted 53.7% of all NEETs in France with some discrepancies in the gender structure of the NEET group (Figure 10.3). Slightly more than one third of male NEETs in France belong to the short-term unemployed (34.7%) followed by one fourth belonging to the long-term unemployed (25.6%). Among women, the majority of NEETs belong to the short-term unemployed with slightly more than one fourth of female NEETs (25.7%). The second largest proportion of female NEETs can be found in the group of NEETs due to family responsibilities. Gender was a significant factor, confirmed by the results of advanced statistical analysis⁴⁰, to have an impact on the risk of becoming NEET. In general males were at greater risk of belonging to the NEET group than females. The facts of being married also significantly increase the risk of becoming NEET, yet not for males. Young French with primary education had a higher risk of becoming NEET and this risk was equally greater for young people who suffered from chronic illnesses or disability. Finally, non-NEETs tend to be better-off financially. Similar to other countries the NEET rate increase with age.

⁴⁰ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

Figure 10.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in France, 15-29 year olds (2013)



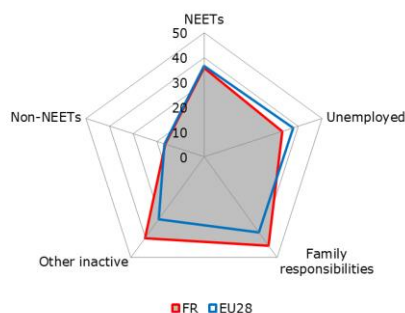
Source: LFS, 2013

NEETs in France: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

Similarly to the EU28 averages, the share of NEETs at risk of social exclusion⁴¹ in France is more than double of the respective share among non-NEETs (Figure 10.4). The most disadvantageous group among different NEET groups is the group of NEET due to family responsibilities.

What is remarkable about the French case is the relatively low share of people at risk of social exclusion who belong to the group of unemployed. This may partly be explained by the fact that 24.7% of all NEETs receive benefits and other forms of financial assistance, which places France among the top five countries within the EU25⁴².

Figure 10.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in France, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs⁴³ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, 57.9% of all NEETs in France

⁴¹ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

⁴² The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

⁴³ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them

were registered with the PES, which is above the EU28 level. The highest levels of registration (above 82%) were observed among short and long-term unemployed NEETs.

11. Germany

- In 2014, both activity and employment rates are considerably above the EU average (in Germany and the NEET rate is among the lowest ones in Europe with 8.7%).
- The group of NEETs in Germany is mainly composed of NEETs due to family responsibilities (28.5%) followed by short-term unemployed (25.9%) and long-term unemployed (13.6%).
- Every second NEET in Germany registers with public employment services and the registration rates among short-term and long-term unemployed NEETs are considerable higher. More than three quarters of NEETs receive financial assistance.

Labour market situation of young people in Germany

The labour market situation of young Germans compares favourably to those in other EU28 countries⁴⁴ (Table 11.1). Although the activity rate of young people in Germany is on average higher than in other Member States (62.1% compared to the EU average of 56.4%), what really distinguishes the German case from other EU countries is the low unemployment rate (6.9% compared to the EU average of 17.5%). Moreover, the NEET rate is considerably lower than on average in the EU with 8.7% (compared to 15.3 across the EU). Full-time compulsory education in Germany ends at the age of either 15 or 16, depending on the region, and more than half of the population becomes economically active at the age of 19.

leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

⁴⁴ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

Table 11.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Germany compared to EU average (2014)

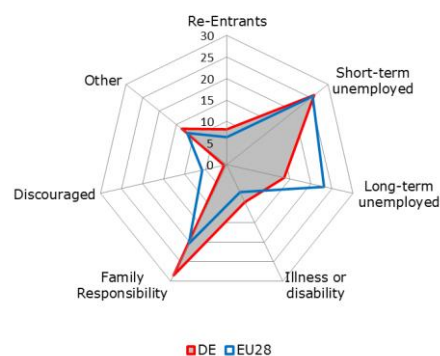
Characteristics	Germany	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	13,445	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	19.9%	20.2%
Activity rate	62.1%	56.4%
Employment rate	57.8%	46.5%
NEET rate	8.7%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	6.9%	17.5%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in Germany?

In some important instances the structure of the NEET group in Germany diverges from the EU average (Figure 11.2). The largest two groups of NEETs are young people who became NEET due to caring responsibilities (28.5% compared to 20.3% on average in the EU) and short-term unemployed which is very close to the EU28 average (25.9% in Germany compared to 25.5% EU-wide). Moreover, the proportion of re-entrants into the labour market and education is higher in Germany (8.2% compared to 6.4% on average in the EU) as well as the number of those who are NEET due to illness or disability remains above the EU average (9.6% compared to 7.1%). Another important difference between the composition of the NEET group is the proportion of long-term unemployed NEETs which, at 13.6%, is almost 10 p.p. lower than the EU average (23.1%). Further, the proportion of discouraged youth within the NEET group is exceptionally small with 0.7% (compared to the EU average of 5.9%).

Figure 11.2: Composition of the NEET group in Germany, 15-29 year olds (2013)



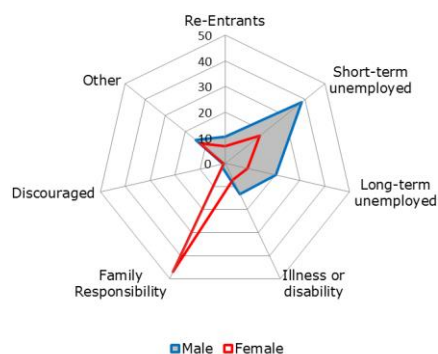
Source: LFS, 2013

In 2013, women constituted 59% of NEETs in Germany and substantial differences in the gender structure of the NEETs group can be observed (Figure 11.3). In the case of Germany, the majority of male NEETs belong to the group of the short-term unemployed (38.3%). The second highest proportion of male NEETs can be found in the group of long-term unemployed with 20.4% of all male NEETs belonging to this group. Among females, the largest proportion of NEETs forms part of the group of NEETs due to family responsibilities with 47%. This is followed by 12.5% of female NEETs belonging to the group of other NEETs. Yet, further statistical analysis⁴⁵ revealed that gender does not significantly

⁴⁵ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

increase the risk of becoming NEET in Germany. Being married and having kids however increases the risk of belonging to this group (except for married males who had a lower risk of belonging to NEET group). Young Germans with only primary education were at greater risk of becoming NEET, so were young people suffering from chronic illnesses.

Figure 11.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Germany, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: LFS, 2013

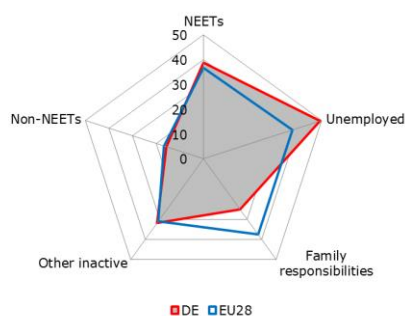
NEETs in Germany: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

In 2013, more than three quarters of all NEETs in Germany (75.9%) received financial assistance, five times more than in other Member States. Generally speaking, the risk of social exclusion⁴⁶ experienced by NEETs in Germany mirrors the EU average with the exception for NEETs due to family responsibilities that seem less at risk in Germany (Figure 11.4). In comparison to the EU average, only unemployed NEETs are more at risk of social exclusion. Yet, what is worth highlighting is the fact that in Germany the share of those who are at risk of social exclusion among NEETs is two and a half times higher than for non-NEETs. The results of advanced statistical analysis⁴⁷ confirm that the risk of social exclusion is significantly higher for NEETs.

⁴⁶ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

⁴⁷ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

Figure 11.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Germany, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs⁴⁸ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, every second NEET in Germany was registered with public employment services, which is considerably above the EU28 level. The registration rates among short-term and long-term unemployed NEETs are even higher with approximately 20 p.p. above the EU average (87% and 89.6% respectively) (2013).

12. Greece

- The youth labour market situation in Greece is one of the most disadvantaged ones in the EU recording 45% of youth unemployment and a NEET rate of 26.7%. Only 27.1% of 15-29 year olds were employed in 2014.
- The composition of NEETs in Greece is dominated by the long-term unemployed (48.5%), followed by the short-term unemployed (28%) and other NEETs (11.4%). The shares of re-entrants and discouraged workers among NEETs are very low in Greece (1.1% and 0.9% respectively).
- In 2013, a total of 54.3% of NEETs were registered with the PES. In 2013, only 7.1% of all NEETs received financial assistance

Labour market situation of young people in Greece

The labour market situation of young people in Greece is one of the most precarious ones in Europe⁴⁹ (Table 12.1). According to data from 2014, only 27.1% of 15-29 year olds were employed in Greece; 26.7% were NEET (compared to 15.3% at EU-level). With 49.3% also the activity rate remains well below the EU average of 56.4%. The most important divergence from the EU average though can be found in the unemployment rate which was 45% for Greece compared to 17.5% for the EU.

⁴⁸ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

⁴⁹ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

Table 12.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Greece compared to EU average (2014)

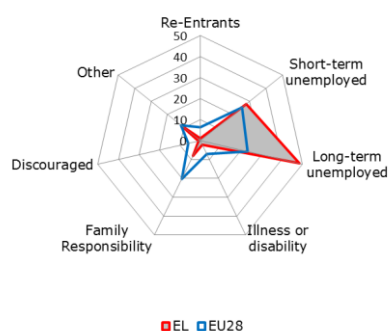
Characteristics	Greece	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	1,730	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	17.7%	20.2%
Activity rate	49.3%	56.4%
Employment rate	27.1%	46.5%
NEET rate	26.7%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	45%	17.5%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in Greece?

The disadvantageous labour market situation in Greece is also reflected in the structure of the NEET group which contains very few discouraged workers and a considerable proportion of short-term and mostly long-term unemployed youth (Figure 12.2). With 48.5% of NEETs, almost every second NEET is long-term unemployed. The proportion of long-term unemployed thus is more than double the EU average of 23.1%. The second largest group of NEETs are the short-term unemployed with 28%, compared to the EU average of 25.5%. This group is followed by ‘other NEETs’ who are very close to the EU average of 11.8% (11.4% in the case Greece). Greece scores much lower in group of NEETs due to family responsibility with 8% compared to 20.3% across the EU. Moreover, only 2.2% of NEETs belong to this group due to illness or disability, almost 5% less than on average in the EU (7.1%). A similar trend holds true for both re-entrants and discouraged workers. In the case of NEETs shortly re-entering the labour market or education, this number lies at 1.1% in Greece only (compared to the EU average of 6.4%). In a similar vein, the number of discouraged workers only lies at 0.9% (compared to 5.9% across the EU).

Figure 12.2: Composition of the NEET group in Greece, 15-29 year olds (2013)



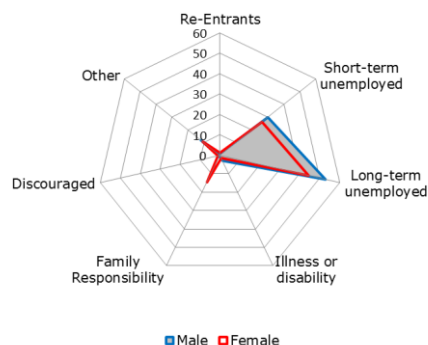
Source: LFS, 2013

There are fewer gender imbalances in the NEET group in Greece than in other Member States, especially in comparison to the EU average (Figure 12.3). In the case of Greece, the highest proportions of NEETs for both males and females can be found among the short and long-term unemployed. A total of 52.9% of male NEETs belong to the group of long-term unemployed and 44.7% of all female NEETs belong to this group. Similarly, 29.9% of male NEETs are short-term unemployed and 26.3% of all female NEETs form part of this group of NEETs. Statistical analysis⁵⁰ showed that married males had a lower risk of

⁵⁰ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

belonging to the NEET group than their non-married counterparts or females. The fact of having a child also increases the likelihood of becoming NEET, so does being a foreign citizen, living in a rural area or suffering from chronic diseases. The risk of belonging to the NEET group also increases with age. Interestingly, in the case of Greece tertiary education was not preventing people from a higher risk of belonging to the NEET group.

Figure 12.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Greece, 15-29 year olds (2013)



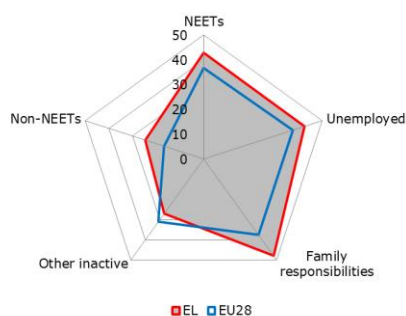
Source: LFS, 2013

NEETs in Greece: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

Generally speaking, the overall financial situation of NEETs groups in Greece is worse than the one observed on average in other EU28 countries (Figure 12.4). In 2013, only 7.1% of all NEETs were receiving benefits or other forms of financial assistance. In comparison to other Member States the share of people at risk of social exclusion⁵¹ is higher not only across all NEET groups but also for non-NEETs. Yet, the fact of belonging to the NEET group significantly increases the risk of social exclusion. The share of people at risk of social exclusion was especially high (almost 50%) among NEETs due to family responsibilities.

⁵¹ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

Figure 12.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Greece, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs⁵² is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, a total of 54.3% of NEETs were registered with the PES, which is above the EU28 average levels. Higher levels of registration (above 65%) were observed among short and long-term unemployed and re-entrants into education or the labour market.

13. Hungary

- Both activity and employment rate of young people in Hungary (47.3% and 40.8% respectively) remain considerably below the EU average (56.4% and 46.5%). The NEET rate is almost 1 p.p. above the EU average while the unemployment rate (13.9%) remains below the EU average of 17.5%
- In Hungary, more than one fourth of NEETs are NEETs due to family responsibilities and another fourth are short-term unemployed. Less than 6% are NEETs to illness or disability.
- A total of 14.5% of NEETs receive financial assistance and more than one third of NEETs registered with the PES.

Labour market situation of young people in Hungary

The labour market situation of young people between the ages of 15-29 in Hungary differs from the EU average in most instances⁵³ (Table 13.1). To begin with, both activity and employment rate remain below the EU average (47.3% and 40.8% compared to 56.4% and 46.5%). With 16.4% the NEET rate is slightly higher than on average in the UE (15.3%). The youth unemployment rate however remains below the EU average with 13.9% compared to 17.5%. Full-time compulsory education in Hungary ends at the age of 16 or 18 depending on the school type.

⁵² The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

⁵³ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

Table 13.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Hungary compared to EU average (2014)

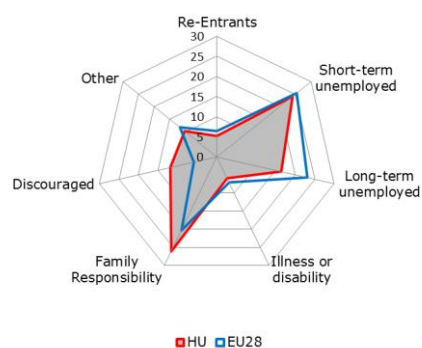
Characteristics	Hungary	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	1,725	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	18.4%	20.2%
Activity rate	47.3%	56.4%
Employment rate	40.8%	46.5%
NEET rate	16.4%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	13.9%	17.5%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in Hungary?

The structure of the NEET group in Hungary differs from the average across the EU (Figure 13.2). The largest group of NEETs in Hungary are NEETs due to family responsibilities with 26.2% (compared to the EU average of 20.3%). The second largest proportion is short-term unemployed youth with 24.1% slightly below the EU average of 25.5%. NEETs due to family responsibilities and the short-term unemployed thus account for almost 50% of NEETs in Hungary. Interestingly, a total of 11.9% are discouraged workers which is more than double the size of the EU average (5.9%). The group of other NEETs is similar in size to what has been observed across EU Member States (10.3% in Hungary compared to the EU average of 11.8). Lastly, 5.9% are NEET due to illness or disability and 5.2% will shortly re-enter into education or the labour market (compare to the EU averages of 7.1% and 6.4% respectively).

Figure 13.2: Composition of the NEET group in Hungary, 15-29 year olds (2013)



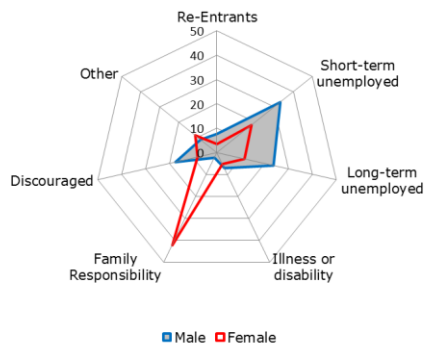
Source: LFS, 2013

Females constitute 59.8% of all NEETs in Hungary and important differences in the gender composition of the NEET group can be observed (Figure 13.3). In Hungary, almost one third of all male NEETs are short-term unemployed (33.2%), followed by 23.7% which are long-term unemployed. Females on the other hand are most often NEET due to family responsibilities. Similar to other Member States, the proportion of females who are NEET due to family responsibilities is notably higher (42.2% of all female NEETs belong to this group compared to 2.3% of males). Advanced statistical analysis⁵⁴ suggests that

⁵⁴ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

being married and male significantly reduces the risk of becoming NEET. Moreover, in comparison with those who possess primary education those with secondary or tertiary education had a lower risk of belonging to the NEET group.

Figure 13.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Hungary, 15-29 year olds (2013)

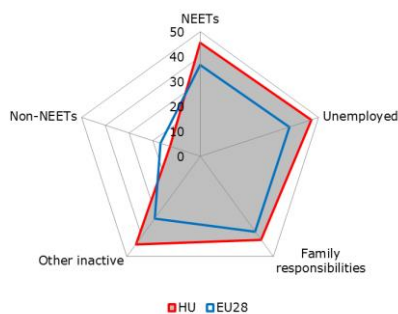


Source: LFS 2013

NEETs in Hungary: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

The financial situation of young people in Hungary seems generally disadvantaged compared to the risks of social exclusion⁵⁵ observed across the EU (Figure 13.4). What is also remarkable in the Hungarian case is that difference between the financial situation of members of different NEET groups are only minor. Overall the share of young people at risk of social exclusion is more than three and half times higher in the group of NEETs in comparison to non-NEETs (compared to the twice as high at the EU level). In 2013, 14.5% of all NEETs were receiving benefits or other assistance.

Figure 13.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Hungary, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs⁵⁶ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, 36.7% of NEETs in Hungary were

⁵⁵ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

⁵⁶ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

registered with the PES, slightly below the EU28 average. The highest shares of registrations were observed among the short and long-term unemployed with 62.9% and 64.8% respectively.

14. Ireland

- In Ireland, the activity and employment rates of young people remain below the EU average (53.2% and 43% compared to 56.4% and 46.5%). With 18.1% also the NEET rate is above the EU average of 15.3%.
- The composition of the NEET group in Ireland is dominated by the long-term unemployed (28.7%), followed by the short-term unemployed (22.2%) and NEETs due to family responsibilities (19.3%). The proportion of re-entrants was more than double the EU average (13.5% compared to 6.4%).
- In 2013, 40% of all NEETs aged 15-19 constituted and 88.8% of all NEETs aged 20-25 were registered with the Irish Live Register.

Labour market situation of young people in Ireland

The labour market situation of young Irish people largely mirrors the EU average Member States. However, the NEET rate in Ireland is among the highest in the EU28 with 18.1%¹ (Table 14.1). Both activity and employment rate remain below the average recorded in the EU28 (53.2% and 43% compared to 56.4% and 46.5%). Moreover, youth unemployment remains at 19.1% in 2014, compared to the EU average of 15.3%. Full-time compulsory education in Ireland ends at the age of 16. A large group of young people become economically active at the age of 22 followed by a second group becoming economically active at the age of 26 after graduating from tertiary education.

Table 14.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Estonia compared to EU average (2014)

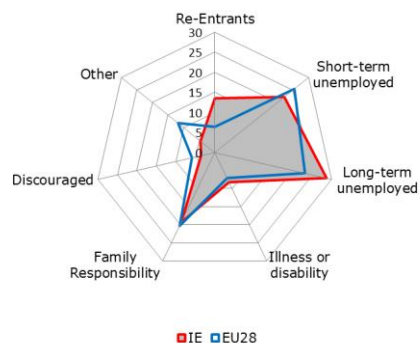
Characteristics	Ireland	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	827	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	20.4%	20.2%
Activity rate	53.2%	56.4%
Employment rate	43%	46.5%
NEET rate	18.1%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	19.1%	17.5%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in Ireland?

The overall structure of Irish NEETs is characterised by higher long-term unemployed as well as higher proportions of young people re-entering into the labour market or education and other NEETs when compared to the EU averages (Figure 14.2). The largest proportion of NEETs in Ireland are the long-term unemployed with 28.7% compared to the EU average of 23.1%, followed by the short-term unemployed with 22.2% compared to the EU average of 25.5% and those who are NEET due to family responsibilities with 19.3% compared to the EU average of 20.3%. Interestingly, the group of re-entrants in to the labour market or education is more than double in size compared to the EU average (13.5% compared to 6.4%). In the case of 'other NEETs', the proportion of young people in this group is half the size of the EU28 average (4.5% in Ireland compared to 11.8% overall). The group of NEETs due to illness or disability is roughly similar to the EU average (8.2% in Ireland compared to 7.1% in the EU28).

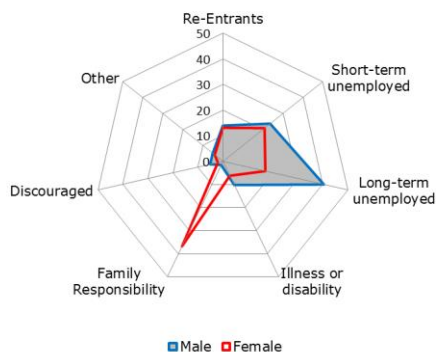
Figure 14.2: Composition of the NEET group in Ireland, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: LFS, 2013

In 2013, with 50.4% women made up slightly more than half of all NEETs in Ireland and some interesting differences among the male and female NEET groups emerge (Figure 14.3). Similar to other countries, the highest proportion of female NEETs can be found in the group of NEETs due to family responsibilities with more than one third of all female NEETs belonging to this group (36.8%). The second and third largest proportion of female NEET belongs to the group of short-term unemployed and re-entrants (20.8% and 13.1% respectively). Among males, the highest proportion of NEETs is the long-term unemployed with 40.5% of all male NEETs belonging to this group. This is followed by 23.6% of short-term unemployed. Further statistical analysis⁵⁷ revealed that having children increases one’s risk of becoming NEET. The largest NEET group in Ireland are the long-term unemployed which was male dominated and results of logistic regression confirm that the risk of becoming NEET is significantly higher among males. At Also young people with primary education are at greater risk of becoming NEET.

Figure 14.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Ireland, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: LFS 2013

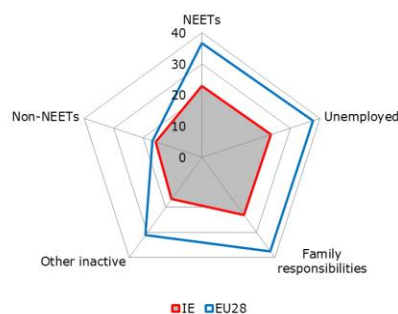
NEETs in Ireland: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

Also in Ireland, NEETs were poorer than non-NEETs and the share of people at risk of social exclusion⁵⁸ was more than one and half times higher for NEETs. While NEETs in Ireland are generally less at risk of social exclusion compared to the EU28 average, within the NEET group those NEETs due to family responsibilities were at highest risk (Figure 14.4).

⁵⁷ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

⁵⁸ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals’ disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

Figure 14.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Ireland, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs⁵⁹ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, the number of recipients registered on the Irish Live Register⁶⁰ among young people aged 15-19 constituted 40% of all NEETs and 88.8% of all NEETs aged 20-25.

15. Italy

- The youth labour market situation in Italy diverges considerably from the EU average. Activity and employment rates remain more than 10 p.p. below the EU average while NEET and unemployment rates are at least 10 p.p. above the EU average.
- The group of NEETs in Italy is mainly composed of long-term unemployed (26.3%), followed by almost equal shares of 'other NEETs (15.1%), NEETs due to family responsibilities (15%), short-term unemployed (14.8%) and discouraged workers (14.1%).
- In 2013, 34.8% of all NEETs in Italy were registered at public employment offices. Only 2.4% of NEETs were receiving financial assistance in 2013.

Labour market situation of young people in Italy

The labour market situation of youth in Italy is comparatively disadvantageous⁶¹ (Table 15.1). Both activity rate (41.5%) and employment rate (28.3%) in Italy are well below the EU averages of 56.7% and 46.5% respectively. With a youth unemployment rate of 31.6% (compared to the EU average of 17.5%) and a NEET rate of 26.2% (compared to the EU average of 15.3%), more than 55% of young people in Italy are not employed, education or training. Moreover, the share of the active population among 15-29 year old remains more than 5 p.p. below the EU average of 20.2%.

⁵⁹ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

⁶⁰ The Irish Live Register records the numbers of people registering for Unemployment Assistance/Benefit or for other statutory entitlements at local offices of the Department of Social and Family Affairs.

⁶¹ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

Table 15.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Italy compared to EU average (2014)

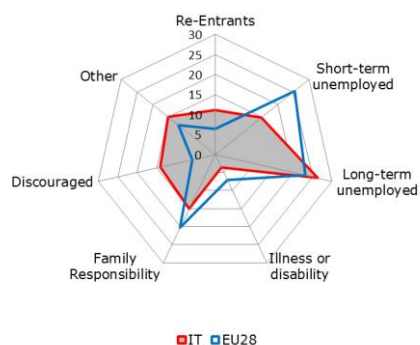
Characteristics	Italy	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	9,246	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	15%	20.2%
Activity rate	41.5%	56.4%
Employment rate	28.3%	46.5%
NEET rate	26.2%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	31.6%	17.5%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in Italy?

In the case of Italy, the largest proportion of NEETs is made up by the long-term unemployed (26.3% compared to the EU average of 23.1%). The second largest group is ‘other NEETs’, with 15.1% considerably above the EU average of 11.8. This group is closely followed by NEETs due to family responsibilities, with 15% considerably below the EU average of 20.3%, and the short-term unemployed. With 14.8% of short-term unemployed NEETs this group is more than 10 p.p. below the EU average of 25.5%. The group of discouraged workers is however more than twice as large in Italy (14.1% compared to 5.9% at EU level). Similarly, with 11.1% Italy has considerably more re-entrants into education or the labour market than the EU average (6.4%). Lastly, the proportion of NEETs due to disability or illness was at only 3.6% (compared to 7.1% on average in the EU).

Figure 15.2: Composition of the NEET group in Italy, 15-29 year olds (2013)

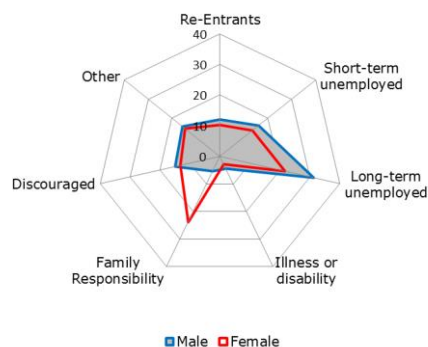


Source: LFS, 2013

In 2013, women constitute 52.5% of all NEETs in Italy and some interesting gender differences emerge (Figure 15.3). As for males, 31.4% of all male NEETs belong to the long-term unemployed, followed by 16.1% who are short-term unemployed. For women, 23.9% of female NEETs belong to this group due to family responsibilities. A total of 21.7% of female NEETs are long-term unemployed. The third largest proportion for both males and females is the group of other NEETs with 15.7% of all male NEETs belonging to this group as well as 14.5% of female NEETs. Advanced statistical analysis⁶² confirmed that in comparison to married women, their male counterparts had a significantly lower probability of becoming NEET. Yet, being a male, married and having a child also significantly increase the risk of belonging to the NEET group. Similarly this risk increases with age and young people with secondary or tertiary education had a significantly lower risk of becoming NEET than those with primary education.

⁶² Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

Figure 15.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Italy, 15-29 year olds (2013)

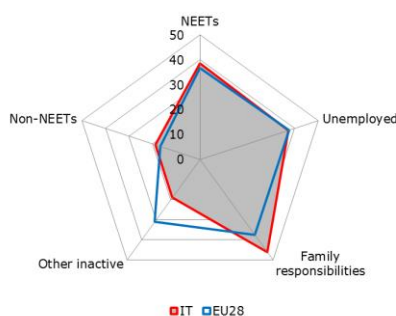


Source: LFS, 2013

NEETs in Italy: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

In Italy important differences in the shares of young people at risk of social exclusion⁶³ can be observed (Figure 15.4). The results of advanced static analysis⁶⁴ confirm the greater risk of social exclusion for young people who belong to the NEET group. The share of the population at risk of social exclusion lies at 38% among NEETs compared to only 18% among non-NEETs. NEETs due to family responsibilities are subject to the highest risk of social exclusion. In 2013, only 2.4% of all NEETs were receiving benefits or other forms of financial assistance.

Figure 15.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Italy, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs⁶⁵ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, 34.8% of all NEETs in Italy were registered at public employment offices, which was below the EU28 average. Moreover, registration rates among short- and long-term unemployed were lower than the values observed in other Member States.

⁶³ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

⁶⁴ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

⁶⁵ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

16. Latvia

- The Latvian youth employment situation closely mirrors the EU averages in terms of activity and employment rate as well as in NEET and unemployment rates (although the latter is almost 3p.p. below the EU average of 17.5%).
- The NEET group in Latvia is mainly composed of three large groups which together account for 80% of NEETs. These are NEETs due to family responsibilities (29.6%), followed by the short (28.8%) and long-term unemployed (18.9%).
- A total of 25.3% of NEETs in Latvia were registered with public employment service in 2013.

Labour market situation of young people in Latvia

The labour market situation of young people in Latvia remains very close to the EU average across the most important indicators⁶⁶ (Table 16.1). Both activity and employment rate of 15-29 year olds in Latvia (58.7% and 50.3% respectively) are slightly above the EU average (56.4% and 46.5%). Youth unemployment remains more than 3 p.p. below the EU average with 14.4% and the NEET rate is almost identical with the EU average (15.2% in Latvia compared to 15.3% EU wide). Full-time compulsory education ends at the age of 16, most young Latvians become economically active at the age of 21.

Table 16.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Latvia compared to EU average (2014)

Characteristics	Latvia	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	356	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	21%	20.2%
Activity rate	58.7%	56.4%
Employment rate	50.3%	46.5%
NEET rate	15.2%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	14.4%	17.5%

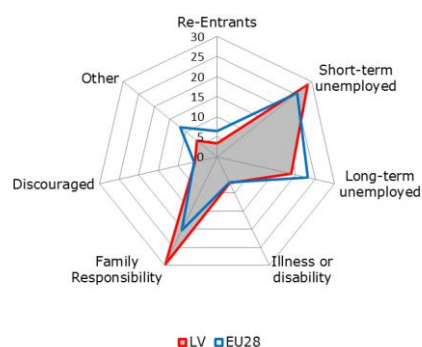
Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in Latvia?

The composition of the NEET group in Latvia overall resembles the EU average (Figure 16.2). In Latvia, three large groups of NEETs dominate the picture. These are the NEETs due to family responsibilities, with 29.6% considerably above the EU average of 20.3%, the short-term unemployed with 28.8% compared to 25.45% at EU level as well as the long-term unemployed. The latter group remains with 18.9% below the EU average of 23.1%. In a similar vein, the group of other NEETs, discouraged workers and re-entrants into the labour market or education remain below the EU level (6.4%, 5.7% and 3.4% compared to 11.8%, 5.9% and 6.4%). The group of NEETs due to illness or disability is very similar in size to the EU average (7.2% in Latvia compared to 7.1%).

⁶⁶ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

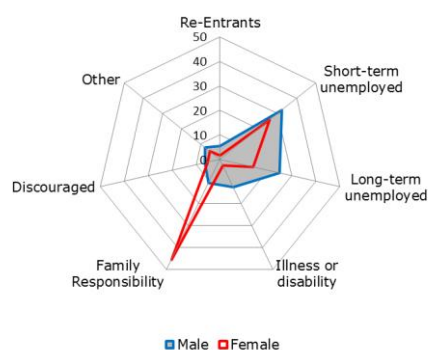
Figure 16.2: Composition of the NEET group in Latvia, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: LFS, 2013

Women constitute 54.4% of all NEETs in Latvia and the comparison of NEETs by gender offers some interesting findings (Figure 16.3). As for female NEETs, a staggering 45.5% belong to the group of NEETs due to family responsibilities. Slightly more than one fourth of all female NEETs are short-term unemployed. For male NEETs this proportion is higher with 32.3% of male NEETs being short-term unemployed followed by slightly less than one quarter who are long-term unemployed (24.9%). Advanced statistical analysis⁶⁷ suggests that only married males were at a considerably lower risk of becoming NEETs compared to all other groups. Having children increased the risk of belonging to the EET group and also educational attainment had a significant impact on the situation of young people in Latvia with people with higher education degrees being less likely to become NEET. Being a foreign citizen equally increased this risk. In 2013, only 5.8% of them were receiving benefits or other forms of financial assistance.

Figure 16.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Latvia, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: LFS, 2013

NEETs in Latvia: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

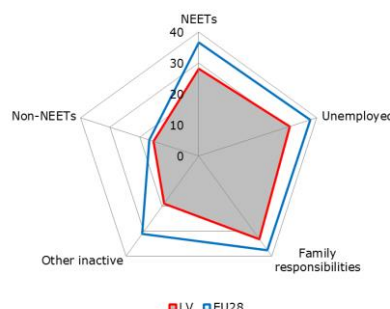
Generally speaking, the situation of young Latvians seems more favourable in terms of risk of social exclusion⁶⁸ compared to their counterparts from other Member States (Figure 16.4). Moreover, also the gap in shares of people at risk of social exclusion between NEETs and non-NEETs is smaller in Latvia

⁶⁷ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

⁶⁸ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

than on average in other EU countries. Within the NEET group, those who are NEET due to family responsibilities remain at the highest risk of social exclusion.

Figure 16.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Latvia, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs⁶⁹ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, 25.3% of all NEETs in Latvia were registered with public employment services, which was considerably below the EU28 average. The highest shares of registration (though still below 50%) were observed among short-term and long-term unemployed NEETs with 40.3% and 33.9% respectively.

17. Lithuania

- In Lithuania, key labour market indicators for youth are slightly below the EU average. The employment rate for example remains at 44.2% (compared to 46.5% at the EU level). Similarly, NEET and youth unemployment (12.9% and 14.7%) are below the average (15.3% and 17.5% respectively).
- In terms of the composition of the NEET group in Lithuania, the largest group are the short-term unemployed (38.8%), followed by NEETs due to family responsibilities (22.6%) and the long-term unemployed (14%). Only 1.2% are re-entering the labour market or education shortly (compared to 6.4% at EU level).
- A total of 14.3% of NEETs were receiving financial assistance in Lithuania and 43.3% of NEETs were registered with public employment services.

Labour market situation of young people in Lithuania

The labour market situation for young people between 15-29 largely resembles the EU averages⁷⁰ (Table 17.1). One exception though is the lower activity rate which remains almost 5 p.p. below the EU average of 56.4% in 2014. However, with 12.9% and 14.7% both the NEET and the youth unemployment rate were above the EU averages of 15.3% and 17.5% respectively. Full-time compulsory education ends at the age of 16 in Lithuania. Yet, most Lithuanians become economically active at the age of 23 or later.

⁶⁹ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

⁷⁰ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

Table 17.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Lithuania compared to EU average (2014)

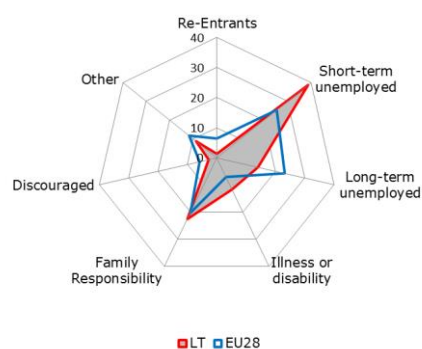
Characteristics	Lithuania	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	570	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	20%	20.2%
Activity rate	51.8%	56.4%
Employment rate	44.2%	46.5%
NEET rate	12.9%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	14.7%	17.5%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in Lithuania?

The structure of NEET group in Lithuania differs from the one observed in other Member States (Figure 17.2). Most importantly, the group of short-term unemployed is with 38.8% remarkably larger than the EU average of 25.5%. The second most prominent group is the NEETs due to family responsibilities with 22.6%, slightly above the EU average of 20.3%. Long-term unemployed form the third largest group; however with only 14% remain almost 10 p.p. below the EU average of 23.1%. The group of other NEETs remains slightly below the EU average with 8.9% compared to 11.8% at EU level. Moreover, only 2.8% of NEETs are discouraged workers, a share which is exactly half the size of the average across the EU28 (5.9%). Lastly, only 1.3% of NEETs belong to the group of re-entrants into the labour market or education (EU average of 6.4%).

Figure 17.2: Composition of the NEET group in Lithuania, 15-29 year olds (2013)

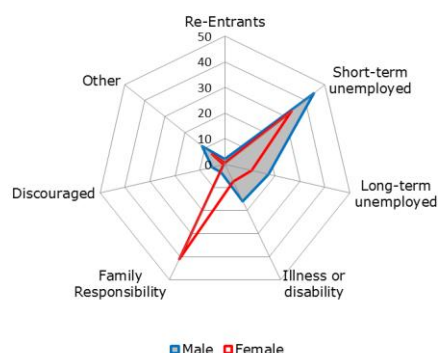


Source: LFS, 2013

The overall gender composition of the NEET group in Lithuania is balanced with 50.9% women out of all NEETs. In Lithuania, 41% of all female NEETs are NEETs due to family responsibilities followed by one third who are short-term unemployed (33.3%). Interestingly, only 0.6% of female NEETs are discouraged workers (compared to 5.13% of male NEETs). For males, 44.5% of NEETs are short-term unemployed and another 17.5% belong to the group of long-term unemployed. Advanced statistical analysis⁷¹ suggests that neither gender nor education have a significant impact on whether someone belongs to the NEET group. Living in rural areas and suffering from chronic diseases however increase the risk of belonging to this group. In 2013, 14.3% of all NEETs in Lithuania received benefits or other forms of financial assistance.

⁷¹ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

Figure 17.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Lithuania, 15-29 year olds (2013)

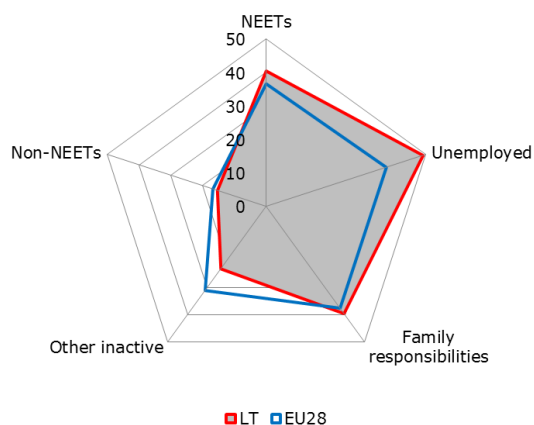


Source: LFS, 2013

NEETS in Lithuania: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

The difference in the shares of people at risk of social exclusion⁷² between NEETs and non-NEETs in Lithuania is quite similar to the situation observed on average in the EU (Figure 17.4). However, a remarkable variation in the financial situation of different NEET groups in Lithuania can be observed. The highest share of people at risk of social exclusion was observed among young unemployed Lithuanians, every second person who belonged to this group was considered at risk of social exclusion. The share of people at risk was also higher than average among NEETs due to family responsibilities.

Figure 17.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Lithuania, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs⁷³ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, 43.3% of all NEETs in Lithuania

⁷² The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

⁷³ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

were registered with public employment services, a value slightly above the EU28 average. The highest shares of registration were observed among short-term and long-term unemployed NEETs, with 68.3% and 84.1% respectively.

18. Luxembourg

- The NEET rate remains at less than half the value at the EU level and also the youth unemployment rate is 5 p.p. lower than the EU average.
- The composition of the NEET group in Luxembourg shows that almost 40% of young NEETs belong to the short-term unemployed, followed by 21.5% re-entrants into education or the labour market. With 9.7%, long-term unemployment remains considerably below the EU average of 23.1%.
- Almost 13% of NEETs in Luxembourg received financial assistance during 2013 and 40% of NEETs were registered with public employment services.

Labour market situation of young people in Luxembourg

The youth labour market situation in Luxembourg is comparatively favourable⁷⁴ (Table 18.1). While both activity rate of 15-29 year olds as well as their employment rate remain below the EU average, the NEET and youth unemployment rates are substantially lower. The total of 49.7% of youth are economically active in Luxembourg, compared to 56.4% on average across the EU. Similarly, 43.3% are in employment, compared to the EU average of 46.5%. In terms of NEETs, the NEET rate in Luxembourg is less than half the rate recorded across the EU with 6.5% (compared to 15.3%). Moreover, youth unemployment is almost 5 p.p. lower in Luxembourg with 12.6% (compared to 17.5%). Full-time compulsory education ends at the age of 16. By the age of 22, however, fewer than 50% of young people in Luxembourg have become economically active.

Table 18.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Luxembourg compared to EU average (2014)

Characteristics	Luxembourg	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	96	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	18.3%	20.2%
Activity rate	49.7%	56.4%
Employment rate	43.3%	46.5%
NEET rate	6.5%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	12.6%	17.5%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

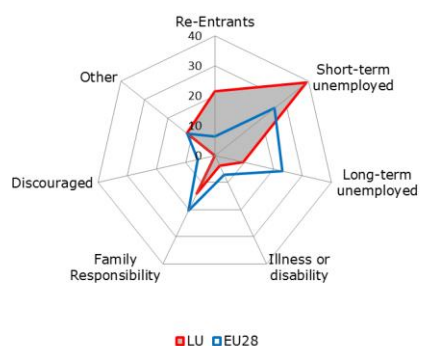
Who are the NEETs in Luxembourg?

In terms of composition of the NEET group in Luxembourg, with 39.1% the largest group are the short-term unemployed (compared to 25.4% on average in the EU). Also the group of re-entrants into education or the labour market remains considerably above the EU average of 6.4% with a total of 21.5%. The third largest group are NEETs due to family responsibilities, however with 14.1% notably below the EU average of 20.3%. The number of 'other NEETs' is almost identical to the EU average (12% in

⁷⁴ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

Luxembourg compared to 11.8% overall). Interestingly, the group of long-term unemployed also remains considerable below EU average with 9.7% for Luxembourg (compared to 23.1%). Similarly, only 3.7% are NEETs due to illness or disability (compared to 7.1%). There are no observations available for the group of discouraged workers among the NEET group in Luxembourg.

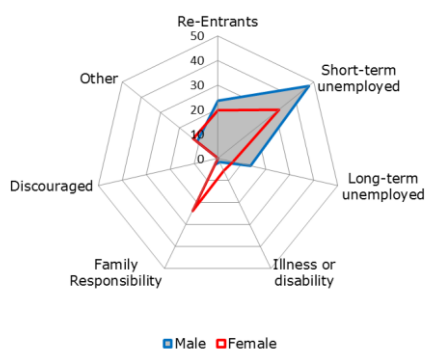
Figure 18.2: Composition of the NEET group in Luxembourg, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: LFS, 2013

A total of 53.5% of NEETs in Luxembourg are female. The decomposition of the NEET group by gender offers an interesting picture of gender distribution (Figure 18.3). In the case of Luxembourg, a total of 47.4% of male NEETs are short-term unemployed and 13.6% of male NEETs are long-term unemployed. Interestingly, for both genders the proportion of re-entrants is considerable, 23.6% of all male NEETs belong to this group and 19.6% of female NEETs do. Among females, the highest proportion of NEETs are the short-term unemployed (31.8%), followed by 23.8% who are NEET due to family responsibilities.

Figure 18.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Luxembourg, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Note: There are no observations for the group of discouraged workers

Source: LFS, 2013

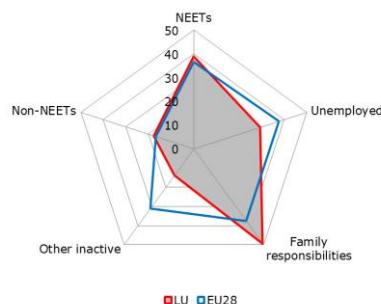
NEETs in Luxembourg: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

The distribution of the risk of social exclusion⁷⁵ among young people in Luxembourg differs from the EU average (Figure 18.4). The highest risk of social exclusion was observed among NEETs due to family responsibilities. However, the group of ‘other NEETs’ as well as unemployed young people were less at risk of social exclusion compared to the EU average. Overall, the share of people at risk of social

⁷⁵ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals’ disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

exclusion is more than two times higher among NEETs compared to the group of non-NEETs. In 2013, 12.7% of all NEETs in Luxembourg were receiving benefits or other forms of financial assistance.

Figure 18.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Luxembourg, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs⁷⁶ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, 40% of all NEETs were registered with the PES, which was very close to the EU28 average. The highest shares of registration were observed among short and long-term unemployed NEETs with 59.5% and 77% respectively.

19. Malta

- Youth unemployment remains at almost half the level of the EU average in Malta (8.9% compared to 17.5% across the EU).
- The group of NEET in Malta is mainly composed of NEETs due to family responsibilities (28.4) and short-term unemployed (24.6) who together account for more than 50% of NEETs in this country. Only 0.7% of NEETs are discouraged workers.
- Around 17% of NEETs in Malta are registered with the PES and 6% of all NEETs receive financial assistance.

Labour market situation of young people in Malta

The youth labour market in Malta differs considerably from the average observed across the EU⁷⁷ (Table 19.1). The share of young people economically active is notably higher with 28.6% compared to the EU average of 20.2% and in a similar vein the activity rate with 65.3% remains noticeable above the EU average of 56.4%. Moreover, the youth employment rate in Malta is more than 10 p.p. higher than the EU average resulting in almost 60% of youth employed (59.6% compared to 46.5%). While youth unemployment is almost half the size of what has been observed at the EU level (8.9% in Malta compared to 17.5%). The NEET rate currently lies at 12.5% (compared to the EU average of 15.3%). Full-time compulsory education ends in Malta at the age of 16.

⁷⁶ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

⁷⁷ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

Table 19.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Malta compared to EU average (2014)

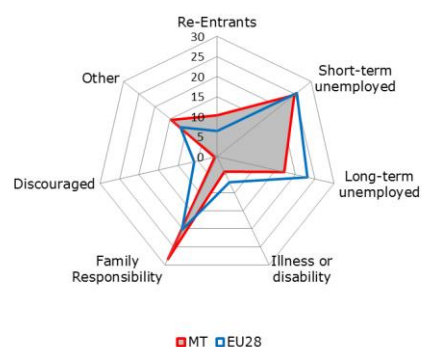
Characteristics	Malta	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	84	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	28.6%	20.2%
Activity rate	65.3%	56.4%
Employment rate	59.6%	46.5%
NEET rate	12.5%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	8.9%	17.5%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in Malta?

Comparing the composition of the NEET group in Malta with the EU averages reveals some interesting discrepancies (Figure 19.2). In the case of Malta, 28.4% are NEETs due to family responsibilities (compared to 20.3% at EU level), followed by 24.6% of short-term employed (slightly below the EU level of 25.5%). Together these two groups account for almost 50% of all NEETs in Malta. The third largest sup-group of NEETs are the long-term unemployed with 17.2%, however well below the EU average of 23.1%. Other NEETs account for 14.7% of NEETs (compared to 11.8% across the EU), followed by 10.3% of those re-entering into education or the labour market (6.4% at EU level). A total of 4.2% are NEETs due to illness or disability (compared to 7.1% at EU level). Lastly, with 0.7% only very few NEETs in Malta are discouraged workers (compared to the EU average of 5.9%).

Figure 19.2: Composition of the NEET group in Malta, 15-29 year olds (2013)

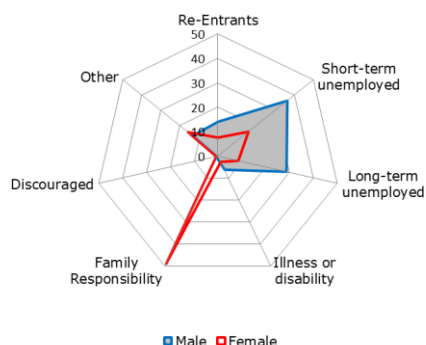


Source: LFS, 2013

In Malta 57.3% of NEETs are female with an interesting distribution across the different NEET groups by gender (Figure 19.3). In the case of Malta, more than one third of male NEETs are short-term unemployed (36.3%), followed by 28.8% who are long-term unemployed. For females, almost half of NEETs are NEET due to family responsibilities (48.9%), followed by 16% who are short-term unemployed. Interestingly, for both genders, the proportions of NEETs who are discouraged workers are very small (0.5% of all male and 0.7% of all female NEETs belong to this group). Advanced statistical analysis⁷⁸ reveals that the main factors that increase the risk of belonging to the NEET group are being married, female and having kids. Furthermore, young people with only primary education were also more likely to become NEET.

⁷⁸ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

Figure 19.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Malta, 15-29 year olds (2013)

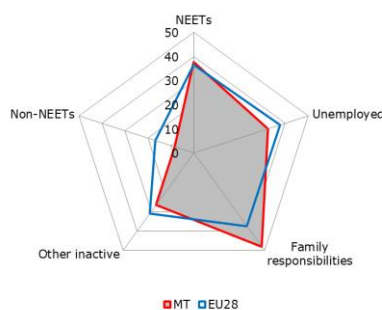


Source: LFS, 2013

NEETS in Malta: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

Analysing the situation of young people at risk of social exclusion⁷⁹ in Malta reveals some interesting findings (Figure 19.4). In Malta the share of young people at risk of social exclusion is highest among NEETs due to family responsibilities when compared to the EU average. Interestingly, the risk of social exclusion among NEETs in Malta is more than five times higher than among non-NEETs. In 2013, only 6% of all NEETs in Malta were receiving benefits or other forms financial assistance.

Figure 19.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Malta, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs⁸⁰ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, only 16.8% of all NEETs in Malta were registered with the PES at public employment offices, the second lowest value observed across all Member States. In Malta, the highest shares of registration were observed among short and long-term unemployed NEETs with 29.4% and 50.3% respectively.

⁷⁹ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

⁸⁰ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

20. Netherlands

- Only 9.1% of young people are unemployed in the Netherlands (compared to the EU average of 17.5% and the NEET rate is less than half of the EU level (7.2% in the Netherlands, 15.3% in the EU).
- In terms of the composition of the NEET group in the Netherlands, the largest share are the short-term unemployed (29.9%) followed by NEETs due to illness or disability which together account for half of all NEETs in the Netherlands.
- Slightly more than 20% of NEETs were registered with the PES.

Labour market situation of young people in the Netherlands

The labour market situation of young people in the Netherlands compares favourably to the EU average (Table 20.1). Both activity and employment rate of 15-29 year olds are (almost) 20 p.p. above the EU average with 74.6% and 67.8% compared to the EU averages of 56.4% and 46.5%. Furthermore, the NEET and youth unemployment rate are (almost) half the value recorded across the EU with 7.2% and 9.1% compared to the EU averages of 15.3% and 17.5%.

Table 20.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in the Netherlands compared to EU average (2014)

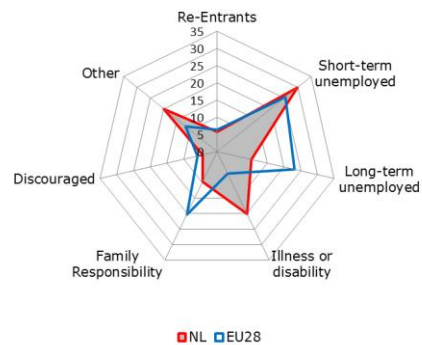
Characteristics	Netherlands	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	3,085	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	25.8%	20.2%
Activity rate	74.6%	56.4%
Employment rate	67.8%	46.5%
NEET rate	7.2%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	9.1%	17.5%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in the Netherlands?

Comparing the composition for the NEET group in the Netherlands to the EU average reveals some interesting differences (Figure 20.2). Firstly, the group of short-term unemployed is the largest groups within the NEETs with 29.9% (higher than the EU average of 25.4%). The second biggest group are NEETs due to illness or disability with 20.1% considerably above the EU average of 7.1%. Similarly, also the group of other NEETs remains above the EU wide value of 11.8% compared to 19.9% in the Netherlands. However, the share of long-term unemployed in among NEETs the Netherlands (10.2%) is less than half the EU average (23.1%). In a similar vein, only 9.7% are NEETs due to family responsibilities (compared to 20.3% at EU level). Both the groups of re-entrants into the labour market or education as well as the group of discouraged workers are only slightly below the EU averages (5.8% and 4.4% compared to 6.4% and 5.9%).

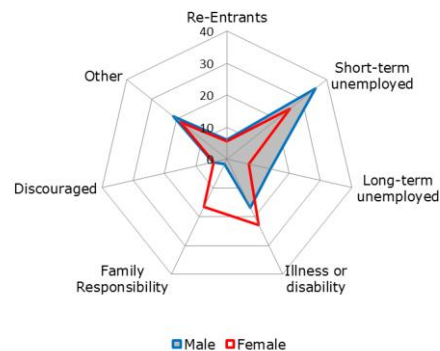
Figure 20.2: Composition of the NEET group in the Netherlands, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: LFS, 2013

Women constitute 55.7% of all NEETs in the Netherlands and some interesting gender differences exist (Figure 20.3). In the Netherlands, the highest proportion of both male and female NEETs are among the group of short-term unemployed (35.4% of all male and 25.2% of all female NEETs belong to this group). Interestingly, the second highest proportion again for both male and females can be found in the group of NEETs due to illness or disability (16.9% of male NEETs and 16.6% of female NEETs belong to this group). According to advanced statistical analysis⁸¹, both gender and marital status have an impact on the risk of becoming NEET. Male married individuals were at lower risk of belonging to NEET the group while having a child increases the probability of becoming NEET.

Figure 20.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in the Netherlands, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: LFS, 2013

NEETs in the Netherlands: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

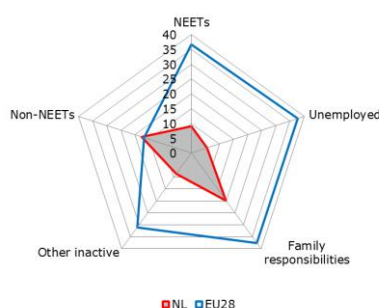
The risk of social exclusion⁸² among young people in the Netherlands differs very considerably from the average recorded across all EU Member States (Figure 20.4). Interestingly, in the Netherlands the share of those at risk of social inclusion is lower among NEETs than among non-NEETs. The highest share of people at risk of social exclusion was however observed among the group of NEETs due to family responsibilities. Also the results of advanced statistical analysis⁸³ confirmed that being NEET does not increase one's risk of social exclusion in the Netherlands.

⁸¹ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

⁸² The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

⁸³ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

Figure 20.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in the Netherland, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs⁸⁴ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, 22.6% of NEETs in the Netherlands were registered with the PES, among the lower values observed across Member States.

21. Poland

- Poland very closely mirrors the EU averages of the main youth employment indicators with 44.4% of young people being employed, 15.5% NEETs and 16.5% unemployed.
- In Poland the group of NEETs is mainly composed of NEETs due to family responsibilities (31.3%) as well as short-term unemployed (30.3%). These two groups together account for more than 60% of NEETs in Poland.
- While every second NEET was registered with public employment services, only 4.3% of all NEETs were receiving financial assistance in 2013.

Labour market situation of young people in Poland

The youth labour market situation in Poland closely mirrors the EU average across all key indicators⁸⁵ (Table 21.1). With 21.2% the share of active 15-29 year olds among the overall population is slightly above the EU average of 20.2%. The activity rate however remains more than 3 p.p. below the EU level value (53.2% in Poland compared to 56.4% across the EU). While the employment rate remains slightly below the EU average (44.4% compared to 46.5%), slightly less young people are unemployed in Poland with 16.5% compared to the EU average of 17.5. The NEET rate in Poland is almost identical with the average recorded across the EU (15.5% compared to 15.3%). Full-time compulsory education in Poland ends at the age of 15.

Table 21.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Poland compared to EU average (2014)

Characteristics	Poland	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	6,945	86,874

⁸⁴ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

⁸⁵ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

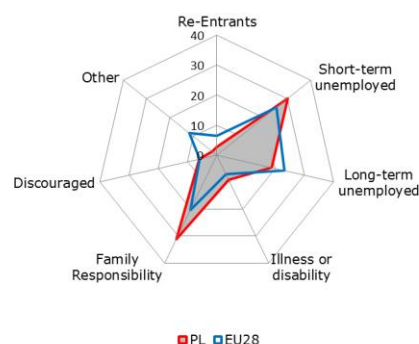
Characteristics	Poland	EU28
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	21.2%	20.2%
Activity rate	53.2%	56.4%
Employment rate	44.4%	46.5%
NEET rate	15.5%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	16.5%	17.5%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in Poland?

The analysis of the composition of NEETs in Poland reveals some interesting differences when compared to the EU average (Figure 21.2). The largest proportion of NEETs in Poland are NEETs due to family responsibility with 31.1%, almost 10 p.p. above the EU average of 20.3%. The second largest group consists of the short-term unemployed with 30.3% (compared to the EU average of 25.4%). With 18.8% the third largest proportion of NEETs are the long-term unemployed, this share however remains below the EU average of 23.1%. A total of 9.2% of NEETs in Poland are NEETs due to illness or disability (compared to 7.1% recorded across the EU). The number of discouraged workers is almost identical to the EU average (6% compared to 5.9% across the EU). The proportion of re-entrants into education or the labour market in Poland is less than half the EU average (2.7% compared to 6.4%). Finally, only 1.2% of NEETs belong to the other NEETs group, considerably fewer than across the EU (11.8%).

Figure 21.2: Composition of the NEET group in Poland, 15-29 year olds (2013)



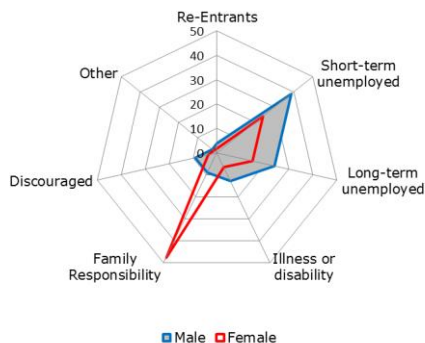
Source: LFS, 2013

The NEET group in Poland is female dominated as 57.4% of all NEETs are women. The decomposition of the NEET group by gender reveals some interesting gender differences (Figure 21.3). Similar to other Member States, the proportion of female NEETs is highest in the group of NEETs due to family responsibilities (a total of 48% of all female NEETs belong to this group). Apart from that, 24% of female NEETs are short-term unemployed followed by 14.9% who are long-term unemployed. Similarly, 38.8% of male NEETs are short-term unemployed, followed by 24.1% who are long-term unemployed. The results of further statistical analysis⁸⁶ confirmed that males, with the exception of married men, are at greater risk of belonging to the NEET group. Yet, having children or being married generally increases

⁸⁶ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

the risk of becoming NEET. Interestingly, foreign citizens are less at risk of becoming NEET compared to their Polish counterparts.

Figure 21.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Poland, 15-29 year olds (2013)

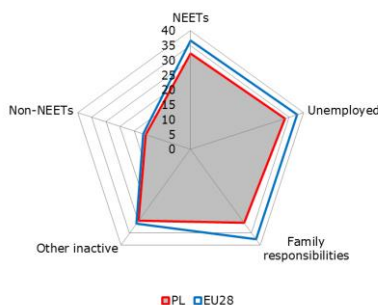


Source: LFS, 2013

NEETs in Poland: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

In comparison to the EU28 average young people in Poland are less at risk of social exclusion⁸⁷ (Figure 21.4). All groups remain below the risk of social exclusion observed at average in the EU, while the group of other NEETs almost reaches the EU average. Interestingly, in the Polish case differences among the different groups of young people in terms of social exclusion are minor. However, NEETs are at double the risk of social exclusion compared to non-NEETs. In 2013, only 4.3% of NEETs were receiving benefits or other forms of financial assistance.

Figure 21.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Poland, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs⁸⁸ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, slightly less than half of all NEETs in Poland (49.5%) were registered with the PES which is above the EU average. The highest

⁸⁷ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

⁸⁸ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

shares of registration were observed among the short and long-term unemployed NEETs with 71.9% and 73.1% respectively.

22. Portugal

- The labour market situation of young people in Portugal is characterised by lower employment (39%) and higher youth unemployment (25.4%) while the NEET rate remains below the EU average (14.6%).
- The largest proportion of NEETs in Portugal are the long-term (36.3%) and the short-term unemployed (31.4%) which together account for more than 65% of NEETs in Portugal.
- Almost 60% of all NEETs in Portugal were registered with the PES. Slightly less than one tenth of NEETs receive financial assistance.

Labour market situation of young people in Portugal

Comparing the labour market situation of young people in Portugal to the EU average reveals some interesting discrepancies⁸⁹ (Table 22.1). The share of young people between 15-29 who are economically active among the overall population in Portugal remains at 16.7% in 2013 (compared to the EU average of 20.2%). Moreover, also the activity rate remains below the EU average with 52.3% compared to 56.4%. Similarly, the employment rate only reaches 39% compared to 46.5% across the EU. While the NEET rate remains slightly below the average EU28 value (15.3%), youth unemployment is considerably higher with 25.4% (compared to 17.5%). Full-time compulsory education ends at the age of 18 and at the age of 20 more than half of young people become economically active.

Table 22.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Portugal compared to EU average (2014)

Characteristics	Portugal	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	1,672	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	16.7%	20.2%
Activity rate	52.3%	56.4%
Employment rate	39%	46.5%
NEET rate	14.6%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	25.4%	17.5%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

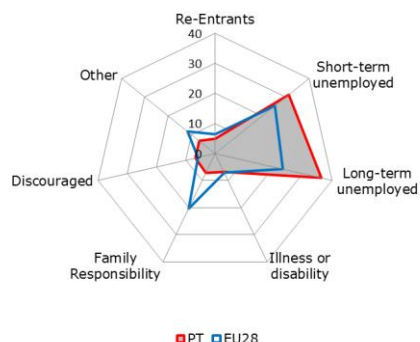
Who are the NEETs in Portugal?

Comparing the composition of the NEET group in Poland with the EU averages reveals some interesting discrepancies (Figure 22.2). The largest proportion of NEETs with 36.3% more than 10 p.p. above the EU average of 23.1% are the long-term unemployed. This group is followed by the short-term unemployed with 31.4% compared to the EU average of 25.5%. Next, 7.2% of young NEETs belong to this group due to family responsibilities (compared to 20.3% recorded across the EU). Three groups are of almost identical size, namely the group of NEETs due to illness or disability with 6.8%, discouraged workers with 6.8% and other NEETs also with 6.8% (compared to the averages of 7.1%, 5.9% and 11.8%

⁸⁹ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

respectively). Finally, 4.9% of ENETs belong to the group of re-entrants into the labour market or education (below the EU average of 6.4%).

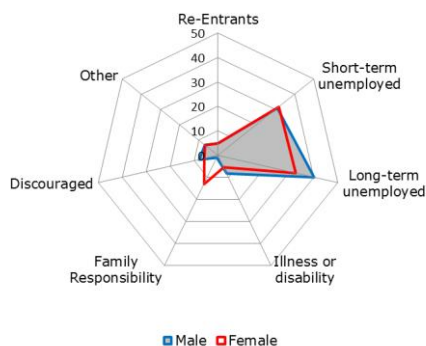
Figure 22.2: Composition of the NEET group in Portugal, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: LFS, 2013

In Portugal, a total of 51% of NEETs are female. Yet, the gender proportions provide some interesting insight into the composition of the NEET group (Figure 22.3). In Portugal, the largest proportion of female NEETs can be found in the group of long-term unemployed NEETs with almost one third of female NEETs in this group (32.5%). Similarly, a total of 40.2% of all male NEETs belong to the long-term unemployed. Moreover, the proportions of short-term unemployed are similar with 30.9% of male NEETs and 31.7% of female NEETs belonging to this group. A comparatively low proportion of females are NEET due to family responsibilities (13%). Advanced statistical analysis⁹⁰ confirms that gender affects the risk of belonging to the NEET group. Moreover, young people with only primary education are at higher risk of becoming NEET; the same applies to young people who live in rural areas.

Figure 22.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Portugal, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: LFS, 2013

NEETs in Portugal: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

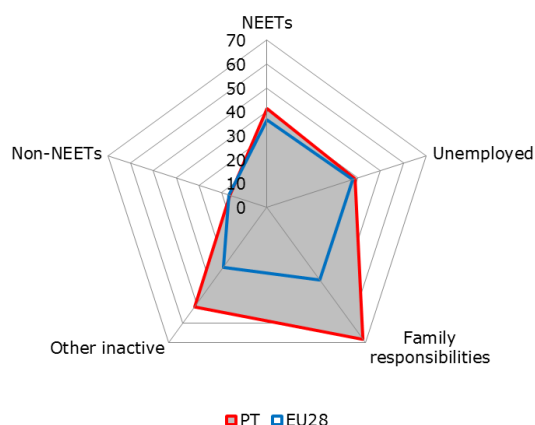
Comparing the risk of social exclusion⁹¹ among young people in Portugal to the EU average reveals some interesting discrepancies (Figure 22.4). Generally speaking, the risk of social exclusion of NEETs is two and a half times higher than for their non-NEET counterparts. In Portugal, the share of young people at

⁹⁰ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

⁹¹ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

risk of social exclusion is highest amongst NEETs due to family responsibilities followed by other NEETs. In 2013, 9.9% of NEETs were receiving benefits or other forms of financial assistance.

Figure 22.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Portugal, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs⁹² is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, a total of 58.5% of all NEETs in Portugal were registered with the PES, which is among the highest observed values at the EU28 level. The highest shares of registration were observed among long- and short-term unemployed NEETs, 78% and 68.1% respectively.

23. Romania

- While the employment rate in Romania remains more than 5 p.p. below the EU average, youth unemployment is about 2 p.p. below the EU average. With almost 20%, the NEET rate in Romania lies above the EU average.
- In terms of the composition of the NEET group in Romania, the largest group is the one of other NEETs (28.5%) followed by NEETs due to family responsibilities (21.8%) and short-term unemployed (17.2%).
- With 8.1% Romania has the lowest share of NEETs registered with public employment services across the EU. In 2013. Less than 5% of NEETs received financial assistance.

Labour market situation of young people in Romania

The Romanian youth labour market situation⁹³ remains below the rates of the EU average except for the higher number of NEETs (Table 23.1). With 48.6% the activity rate of 15-29 year olds in Romania

⁹² The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

⁹³ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

remains considerable below the value observed across the EU (46.5%). In a similar vein, also the youth employment rate with 41% does not reach the EU average of 46.5%. In terms of youth unemployment, 15.6% of young people in Romania are unemployed which compared favourably to the EU average of 17.5%. However, with 19.9% Romania records a higher NEET rate than on average in the EU (15.3%). Full-time compulsory education in Romania ends at the age of 17.

Table 23.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Romania compared to EU average (2014)

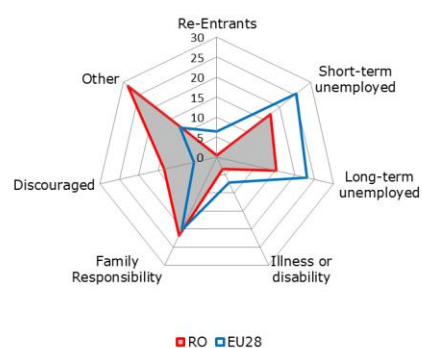
Characteristics	Romania	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	3,660	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	19.2%	20.2%
Activity rate	48.6%	56.4%
Employment rate	41%	46.5%
NEET rate	19.9%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	15.6%	17.5%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in Romania?

In terms of the decomposition of the NEET group the situation in Romania differs considerably from the EU average (Figure 23.2). Interestingly, the largest proportion of NEETs in Romania are other NEETs, with 28.5% more than double the EU average of 11.8%. The second largest group are NEETs due to family responsibilities with 21.8% (close to the EU average of 20.3%). Short-term unemployed NEETs account for 17.2% of all NEETs (compared to 25.5% at EU level), closely followed by 15.3% of long-term unemployed (compared to 23.1% on average in the EU). With 13.5% a considerable proportion of NEETs are discouraged workers (compared to the EU average of 5.9%). A share of 3.3% are NEETs due to illness or disability, less than half the EU average of 7.1%. Lastly, only 0.4% of NEETs in Romania are re-entrants into education or the labour market.

Figure 23.2: Composition of the NEET group in Romania, 15-29 year olds (2013)

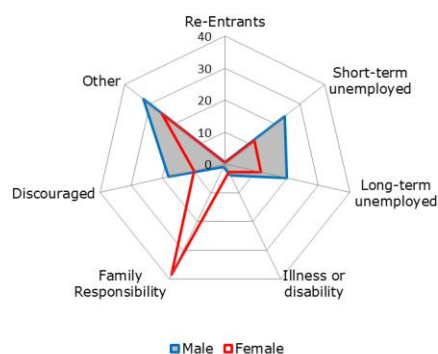


Source: LFS, 2013

The decomposition of the NEET group by gender reveals some interesting gender differences (Figure 23.3). The NEET group in Romania is generally female dominated with women constituting 57.4% of all NEETs. The proportion of female NEETs in Romania is considerably high in the group of NEETs due to family responsibilities with 38.2% of all female NEETs belonging to this group. The second highest proportion of female NEETs belongs to the group of other NEETs (25.2% of all female NEETs), however a total of 32.6% of male NEETs belong to this group. Another 23.9% of male NEETs are short-term

unemployed, followed by 19.9% who are long-term unemployed. Advanced statistical analysis⁹⁴ also confirmed that the risk of becoming NEET is higher for females than for males. Education on the other did not affect one's risk of belonging to the NEET group.

Figure 23.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Romania, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: LFS, 2013

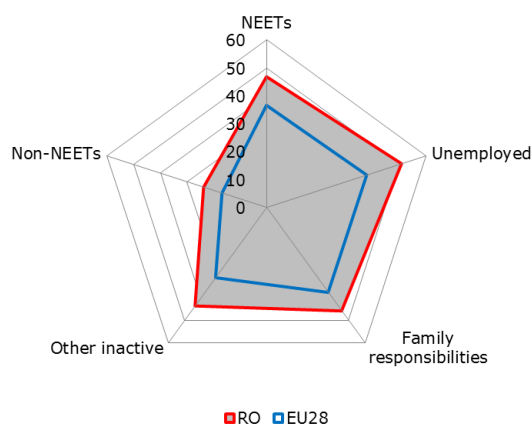
NEETs in Romania: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

The risk of social exclusion⁹⁵ among young people in Romania follows a similar pattern to the overall EU average, is however considerably larger across all groups (Figure 23.4). What is remarkable about the Romanian case is the unfavourable situation of all groups of young people. Furthermore, there are only minor variations in the risk of financial exclusion between different NEET groups although unemployed experienced the highest risk. In 2013, 4.8% of all NEETs were receiving benefits of assistance.

⁹⁴ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

⁹⁵ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

Figure 23.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Romania, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs⁹⁶ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, 8.1% of all NEETs in Romania were registered with the PES, the lowest observed value at the EU28 level. Even the highest shares of registration in Romania, observed among short and long-term unemployed NEETs were considerably below the EU average with 27.9% and 19.8% respectively.

24. Slovakia

- With 39.4% of young people employed in Slovakia as well as 21.3% unemployed, Slovakia remains considerable below the EU average values (46.5% and 15.3% respectively). With 18.2% the NEET rate was only slightly above the EU average.
- The NEET group in Slovakia is mainly composed of long-term unemployed (40.8), NEETs due to family reasons (30.2%) and short-term unemployed (20.9). Only 0.3% belong to the 'other NEETs' category.
- Only 2.5% of NEETs were receiving financial assistance in 2013 while more 60% of all NEETs in Slovakia were registered with the PES.

Labour market situation of young people in Slovakia

The labour market situation of young people in Slovakia compared to the EU average reveals some interesting differences⁹⁷ (Table 24.1). Firstly, the employment rate among 15-29 year olds in Slovakia remains noticeably below the EU average with 39.4% compared to 46.5%. While the NEET rate is only slightly higher than the EU average (18.2% compared to 17.5%), considerably more young people are unemployed in Slovakia compared to the EU overall (21.3% compared to 15.3%). Full-time compulsory education in Slovakia ends at the age of 16.

⁹⁶ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

⁹⁷ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

Table 24.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Slovakia compared to EU average (2014)

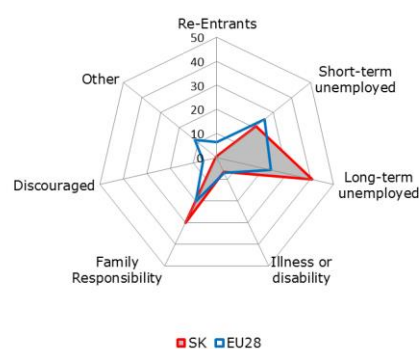
Characteristics	Slovakia	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	1,103	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	20.3%	20.2%
Activity rate	50.1%	56.4%
Employment rate	39.4%	46.5%
NEET rate	18.2%	17.5%
Unemployment rate	21.3%	15.3%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in Slovakia?

In terms of the decomposition of the NEET group the situation in Slovakia differs considerably from the EU average (Figure 24.2). The largest group of NEETs in Slovakia are the long-term unemployed with 40.8% (compared to 23.1% across the EU). The second largest group are NEETs due to family responsibilities which with 30.2% lie more than 10 p.p. above the EU average of 20.3%. A total of 20.9% of NEETs are short-term unemployed, considerably fewer than on average in the EU (25.5%). The proportion of NEETs due to sickness or disability is however very similar to the value observed across the EU (6.6% in Slovakia compared to 7.1% across the EU). Lastly, the groups of discouraged workers, re-entrants into education or the labour market as well as other NEETs are marginal (0.6%, 0.6% and 0.3% compared to the EU averages of 5.9%, 6.4% and 11.8%).

Figure 24.2: Composition of the NEET group in Slovakia, 15-29 year olds (2013)



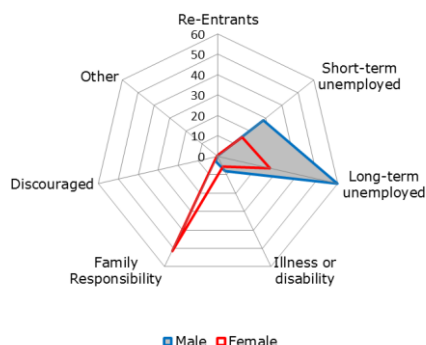
Source: LFS, 2013

The NEET group is female dominated with share of women equal to 56.4%. Yet, the gender proportions provide some interesting insight into the composition of the NEET group (Figure 24.3). Females were most numerous in the group of NEETs due to family responsibilities with 51.5% of all female NEETs belonging to this group (compared to 2.6% of male NEETs). Moreover, the proportions of females were slightly higher in the small proportions of other NEETs (0.4%), re-entrants into the labour market or education (0.7%) and discouraged workers (0.7%). The proportion of males on the other hand was highest in the group of long-term unemployed with 59.9% of all male NEETs belonging to this group. Generally speaking, the risk for married men to become NEET was lower as advanced statistical analysis⁹⁸ revealed.

⁹⁸ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

Interestingly, in terms of educational attainment, only tertiary level education decreased the risk of belonging to the NEET group. Finally, NEETs more frequently belong to lower income quartiles.

Figure 24.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Slovakia, 15-29 year olds (2013)

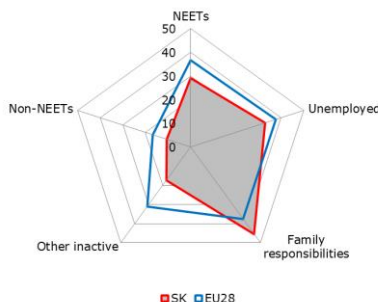


Source: LFS, 2013

NEETs in Slovakia: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

In terms of the financial situation of young people in Slovakia, the comparison between their risk of social exclusion⁹⁹ and the EU average reveals some interesting findings (Figure 24.4). In the case of Slovakia, young people are generally less at risk of social exclusion when compared to the EU average with the only exception of NEETs due to family responsibilities. Moreover, the difference in the shares of people at risk of social exclusion between NEETs and non-NEETs is almost three times as high.

Figure 24.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Slovakia, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs¹⁰⁰ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, 60.2% of all NEETs in Slovakia were registered with the PES, which is above the observed values at the EU28 level. The highest shares of registration were observed among short and long-term unemployed NEETs with 89.5% and 90.9% respectively.

⁹⁹ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

¹⁰⁰ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

25. Slovenia

- Almost 43% of youth are employed in Slovenia, almost 20% are unemployed and 13% are NEETs (compared to the EU averages of 46.5%, 17.5% and 15.3%).
- The composition of the NEET group in Slovenia shows that close to 60% of NEETs are either short or long-term unemployed. Only 2% of NEETs in Slovenia are discouraged workers.
- About 8% of NEETs were receiving benefits or other forms of financial assistance in Slovenia. More than 55% of NEETs were registered with the PES.

Labour market situation of young people in Slovenia

Comparing the labour market situation of young people in Slovenia¹⁰¹ to the EU average reveals some interesting discrepancies (Table 25.1). The Slovenian youth labour market is characterised by an activity rate below the EU average (52.9% compared to 56.4%). Similarly, also the youth employment rate remains below the EU average (42.9% compared to 46.5%). While the NEET rate remains below the average observed across the EU (13% compared to 15.3%), the youth unemployment rate with 18.9% is slightly above the EU28 average of 17.5%. Full-time compulsory education ends in Slovenia at the age of 15, however the majority of young people in Slovenia become economically active at the age of 25 or later.

Table 25.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Slovenia compared to EU average (2014)

Characteristics	Slovenia	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	342	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	17.9%	20.2%
Activity rate	52.9%	56.4%
Employment rate	42.9%	46.5%
NEET rate	13%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	18.9%	17.5%

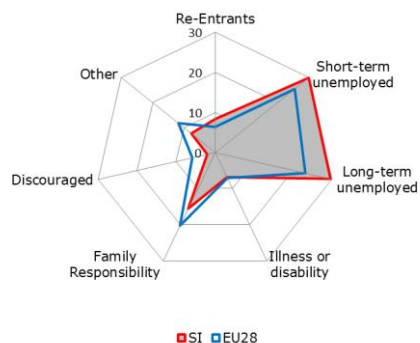
Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in Slovenia?

Decomposing the NEET group in Slovenia reveals an interesting picture (Figure 25.2). The two largest groups of NEETs in Slovenia are short and long-term unemployed young people with 29.9% and 29.6% respectively (compared to the EU averages of 25.5% and 23.1%). The third largest group are NEETs due to family responsibilities, with 15.6% however considerably below the EU average of 20.3%. The group is followed by 8.4% of re-entrants into the labour market or education, 2 p.p. above the EU average of 6.4%. Other NEETs account for 7.7% of the total NEET group in Slovenia (compared to 11.8% across the EU), followed by 5.8% of NEETs due to illness or disability (slightly below the EU average of 7.1%). Finally, only 3% of NEETs in Slovenia are discouraged workers.

¹⁰¹ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

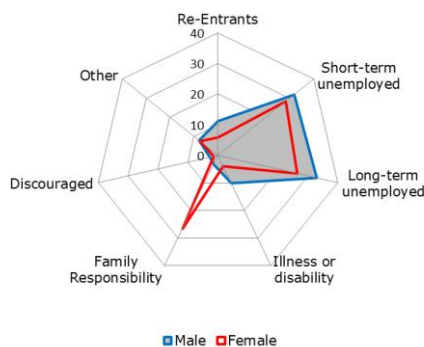
Figure 25.2: Composition of the NEET group in Slovenia, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: LFS, 2013

A total of 52.9% of NEETs in Slovenia are female. The gender composition of the NEET group furthermore reveals some interesting discrepancies (Figure 25.3). The largest proportion of female NEETs can be found in the group of short-term unemployed (28.3% of all female NEETs belong to this group), followed by almost equal proportions of NEETs due to family responsibilities (26.6%) and long-term unemployed (26.5%). The proportion of male NEETs is highest among the short-term unemployed with 31.8% of male NEETs belonging to this group, followed by almost one third of long-term unemployed (33%). Interestingly, only 2.7% of all male and 1.4% of all female NEETs in Slovenia are discouraged workers. According to advanced statistical analysis¹⁰², gender plays an important role in the risk of becoming NEET. Males for instance were more prone to becoming NEET in comparison with their female counterparts, yet this does not apply to married men. Finally, young people with secondary or tertiary education had lower chance of belonging to the NEET group compared to their counterparts with primary education.

Figure 25.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Slovenia, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: LFS, 2013

NEETs in Slovenia: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

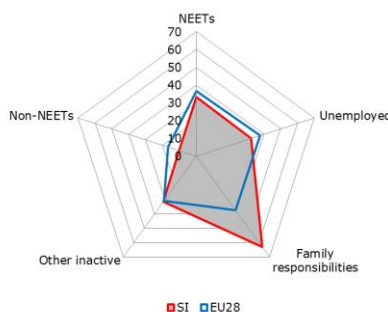
Comparing the risk of social exclusion¹⁰³ among young people in Slovenia to the EU average reveals some interesting discrepancies (Figure 25.4). What is remarkable about the Slovenian case is that except for the group of NEETs due to family responsibilities the risk of social exclusion of young Slovenians

¹⁰² Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

¹⁰³ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

remains below the EU average (for other NEETs the risk is almost identical). Generally speaking, a considerable variation of the risk of social exclusion among different groups of young people can be noted. In Slovenia, the share of people at risk of social exclusion is three and a half times higher among NEETs than among non-NEETs. In 2013, 8.2% of all NEETs were receiving benefits or other forms of financial assistance.

Figure 25.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Slovenia, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs¹⁰⁴ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, 55.4% of all NEETs in Slovenia were registered with the PES, which is above the EU average. The highest shares of registration were observed among short and long-term unemployed NEETs with 71.3% and 69.7% respectively.

26. Spain

- The youth labour market situation in Spain is comparatively disadvantageous. While the activity rate is close to the EU average (54.8% compared to 56.4%), only one third of young people (33.1%) are employed and 20.7% are NEET.
- The NEET group in Spain is mainly composed of long-term (39.9%) and short-term unemployed (29.3%) which together make up for almost 70% of NEETs.
- Two thirds of NEETs in Spain (66.3%) are currently registered with public employment services.

Labour market situation of young people in Spain

The overall labour market situation for young people in Spain remains disadvantageous¹⁰⁵ (Table 26.1). Apart from the activity rate which is similar to the EU28 average level (54.8% compared to 56.4%), other indicators describe a more negative picture. In Spain, only about one third of young people between 15-29 are employed (31.1%) while 39.7% are unemployed and 20.7% are NEET. Further, the low activity rate translated into the small share of young people in all active population (17%). Full-time compulsory education ends in Spain at the age of 16.

¹⁰⁴ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

¹⁰⁵ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

Table 26.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Spain compared to EU average (2014)

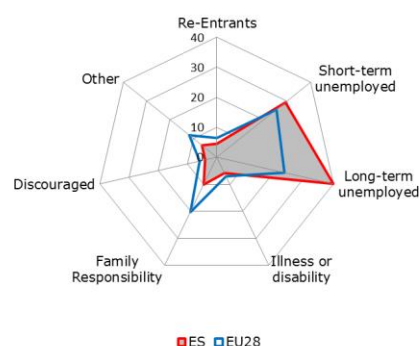
Characteristics	Spain	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	7,152	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	17.1%	20.2%
Activity rate	54.8%	56.4%
Employment rate	33.1%	46.5%
NEET rate	20.7%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	39.7%	17.5%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in Spain?

The largest two groups of NEETs in Spain constitute short and long-term unemployed people which together account for almost 70% of NEETs (Figure 26.2). A total of 39.9% are long-term unemployed (compared to 23.1% on average in the EU), followed by 29.3% who are short-term unemployed (compared to 25.5% in the EU). The share of NEETs due to family responsibilities is however almost half the proportion of the EU average (10.1% in Spain compared to the EU average of 20.3%). Similarly, also the proportions of other NEETs (6.4%), discouraged workers (4%) and re-entrants into education or the labour market (4.9%) remain below the EU average (compared to 11.7%, 5.9% and 6.5% respectively).

Figure 26.2: Composition of the NEET group in Spain, 15-29 year olds (2013)



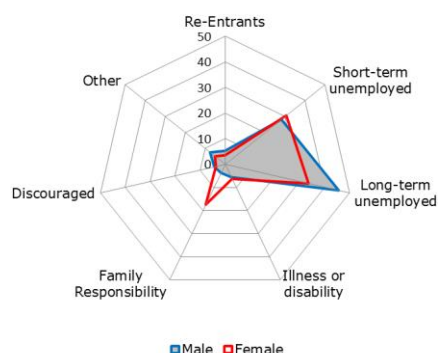
Source: LFS, 2013

In 2013, women constituted 47.1% of all NEETs in Spain. This is the lowest share of women among NEETs observed across all Member States. However, some interesting gender differences can be observed (Figure 26.3). Similarly to the situation in Greece, the proportion of both male and female NEETs is highest in the groups of short and long-term unemployed. In Spain, 45.5% of male NEETs are long-term unemployed and the same applies to one third of all female NEETs (33.4%). A total of 28.1% of all male NEETs belong to the short-term unemployed, while 30.6% of female NEETs belong to this group. Results from advanced statistical analysis¹⁰⁶ confirm that gender was found as a risk factor for becoming NEET. Yet, married males are at lower risk of belonging to the NEET group in comparison to their non-married counterparts or females. Having children further increases the risk of becoming NEET as does being a foreign citizen, which includes EU28 citizens as well as third country nationals. Young

¹⁰⁶ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

people who suffered from chronic illnesses were also more likely to form part of the NEET group. However, the risk of becoming NEET was cushioned by higher education degrees.

Figure 26.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Spain, 15-29 year olds (2013)

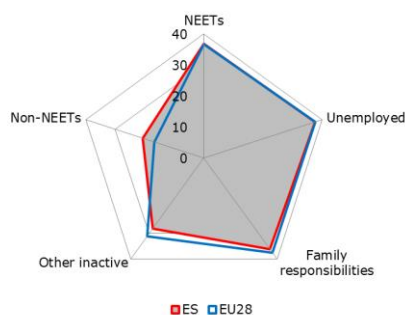


Source: LFS, 2013

NEETs in Spain: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

The risk of social exclusion¹⁰⁷ among NEETs in Spain is very similar to the average risks observed across the EU (Figure 26.4). Among all groups the highest observed share of people at risk of social exclusion are unemployed young people and NEET due to family responsibilities. In 2013, only 13.4% of all NEETs in Spain were receiving benefits or other forms of financial assistance. Still, the financial situation of different groups of NEETs varies greatly.

Figure 26.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Spain, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs¹⁰⁸ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, two thirds of NEETs in Spain (66.3%) were registered with public employment services, which is among the highest rates in Europe.

¹⁰⁷ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

¹⁰⁸ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

Within the NEET group, the highest levels of registration (above 80%) were observed among the short and long-term unemployed.

27. Sweden

- Two thirds of young people in Sweden are economically active. However, Sweden's youth unemployment rate only remains slightly below the EU average (16.7% compared to 17.5%).
- The group of NEETs in Sweden is mainly composed of more than one third of short-term unemployed. Only 8.5% are long-term unemployed and only 2.3% are discouraged workers.
- Almost 40% of NEETs are registered with the PES and more than 13% of NEETs receive financial assistance in Sweden.

Labour market situation of young people in Sweden

The labour market situation of young people in Sweden is generally more favourable than the EU average¹⁰⁹ (Table 27.1). In Sweden, the share of 15-29 among the active population accounts for 23.6% (compared to the EU average of 20.2%). Both activity and youth employment rate are almost 10 p.p. above the EU averages with 66% and 55.5% (compared to 56.4% and 46.5%). Moreover, the NEET rate in Sweden with 7.8% is almost half of the value recorded across the EU (15.3%). Only the youth unemployment rate remains close to the EU average with 16.7% compared to 17.5%.

Table 27.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in Sweden compared to EU average (2014)

Characteristics	Sweden	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	1,852	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	23.6%	20.2%
Activity rate	66%	56.4%
Employment rate	55.5%	46.5%
NEET rate	7.8%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	16.7%	17.5%

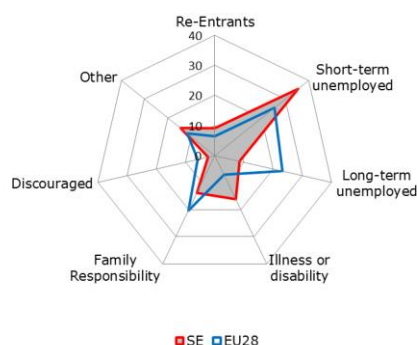
Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in Sweden?

In terms of the decomposition of the NEET group the situation in Sweden differs considerably from the EU average (Figure 27.2). The largest group of NEETs in Sweden constitute the short-term unemployed with 35.5% more than one third of NEETs belong to this group (compared to 25.5 on average in the EU). This group is followed by NEETs due to illness or disability with 16.1% more than double the EU average of 7.1%. Moreover, 14.6% belong to the group of other NEETs (compared to 11.8% across the EU) and 9.1% are re-entering into the labour market or education. Interestingly, only 13.8% are NEET due to family responsibilities, compared to more than one fifth on average in the EU. Furthermore, only 8.5% of NEETs in Sweden are long-term unemployed which compared favourable to the EU average of 23.1%. Finally, 2.3% of NEETs are discouraged workers (compared to 5.9% across the EU).

¹⁰⁹ All data is based on the Labour Force Survey (LFS, 2013) unless otherwise stated.

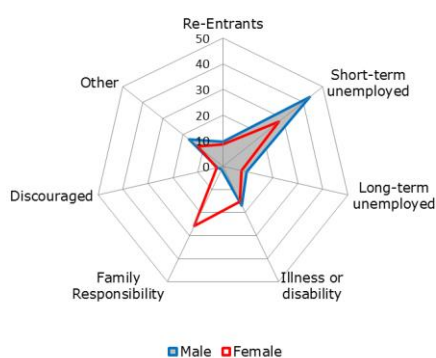
Figure 27.2: Composition of the NEET group in Sweden. 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: LFS, 2013

The gender composition of the NEET group is almost balanced with women accounting for 51.2% of all NEET in Sweden. Yet, the gender proportions provide some interesting insight into the composition of the NEET group (Figure 27.3). For both males and females, the largest shares are observed in the group of short-term unemployed with 28% of all female NEETs and 43.4% of all male NEETs belonging to this group. The second largest proportion of male NEETs can be found in the group of NEETs due to illness or disability with 17% of all male NEETs belonging to this group (compared to 7.4% of all female NEETs). For females, with 25.8% the group of NEETs due to family responsibilities accounts for the second highest proportion. Advanced statistical analysis¹¹⁰ confirmed that gender plays a decisive role for the risk of becoming NEET. Interestingly, being a female decrease the risk of belonging to the NEET group. Moreover, the educational level does not have an impact on the probability of becoming NEET. Finally, NEETs more frequently belonged to lowest income groups.

Figure 27.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in Sweden, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: LFS, 2013

NEETs in Sweden: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

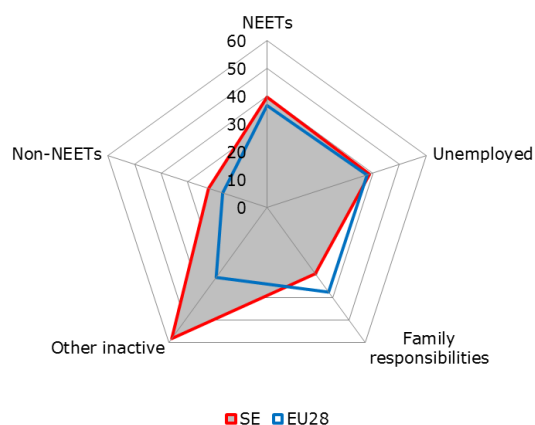
Comparing the risk of social exclusion¹¹¹ among young people in Sweden to the EU average reveals some interesting discrepancies (Figure 27.4). In some instances the risk of social exclusion, especially the case for NEETs and unemployed, this risk remained close to the EU average. However, non-NEETs as well as other inactive young people face a considerable higher risk of social exclusion in Sweden when compared

¹¹⁰ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

¹¹¹ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

to the overall EU average. Interestingly, every third person belonging to the group of other NEETs belongs to the group of people at risk of social exclusion. In 2013, 13.2% of NEETs were receiving benefits or other forms of financial assistance.

Figure 27.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion in Sweden, 15-29 year olds (2013)



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs¹¹² is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, 38.2% of all NEETs in Sweden were registered with the PES, which remains below the observed EU average. The highest shares of registration, higher than across the EU28, were observed among short and long-term unemployed NEETs with 71.4% and 77.4% respectively.

28. United Kingdom

- Both activity and employment rates (67.5% and 59.2%) in the UK are more than 10 p.p. above the EU average. NEET and the youth unemployment rate also remain below the EU level value.
- The NEET group in the UK is mainly composed of two large groups which are NEETs due to family responsibilities (30.2%) and the short-term unemployed (30.1%). Only 0.2% are discouraged workers.
- A total of 24.6% of all NEETs in the UK were registered with public employment services in 2013, although more than 60% of short-term unemployed were registered.

Labour market situation of young people in the UK

The youth labour market situation in the UK is overall advantageous compared to the situation in other EU countries. With 67.5% the activity rate of 15-29 year olds in the UK is well above the EU average of 56.4%. Similarly, the employment rate almost reaches 60% in the EU (compared to 46.5 across the EU). Moreover, both NEET and youth unemployment rate (13.4% and 12.4%) remain below the respective EU

¹¹² The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

averages (15.3% and 17.5%). The majority of young people in the UK become economically active at the age of 20.

Table 28.1: Key characteristics of 15-29 year olds in the United Kingdom compared to EU average (2014)

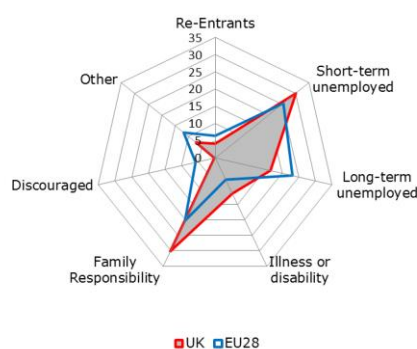
Characteristics	UK	EU28
Total number of young people (1,000)	12,126	86,874
Share of people aged 15-29 in active population	25.1%	20.2%
Activity rate	67.5%	56.4%
Employment rate	59.2%	46.5%
NEET rate	13.4%	15.3%
Unemployment rate	12.4%	17.5%

Source: Eurostat, 2015

Who are the NEETs in the United Kingdom?

The NEET group in the UK is mainly composed of young people or short-term unemployed or NEETs due to family responsibilities. Both groups are of almost equal size (30.2% of NEETs due to family responsibilities and 30.1% of short-term unemployed) and are well above the EU average values (20.3% and 25.5% respectively). The third largest group or the long-term unemployed with 16.6% (compared to the EU average of 23.1%) followed by NEETs due to illness or disability with 11.6% (compared to 7.1% at EU level). Only 4.1% of NEETs are re-entering education or the labour market shortly. The smallest group within the NEETs in the UK is that of discourage workers with only 0.2% (compared to the EU average of 5.9%).

Figure 28.2: Composition of the NEET group in the UK, 15-29 year olds (2013)



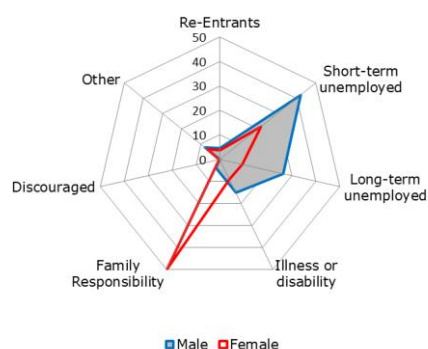
Source: LFS, 2013

The gender distribution within the NEET group offers an interesting picture (Figure 28.3). Overall, a total of 58% of NEETs in the United Kingdom are women. Almost every second female NEET is NEET due to family responsibilities (49.6%) followed by 21.4% of female NEETs who are short-term unemployed. Among males, 42.1% are short-term unemployed and 26.4% of all male NEETs are long-term unemployed. Interestingly for both genders the proportion of discouraged workers is very small (0.1% of male and 0.3% of female NEETs belong to this group. Although advanced statistical analysis¹¹³ reveals

¹¹³ Please see Annex for results of logistical regression analysis.

that gender is not a factor increasing the risk of becoming NEET, having a child indeed increases this risk and young people with children more frequently belong to the NEET group than their childless counterparts. Also, married males faced a lower probability of belonging to the NEET group than their non-married counterparts or females. Equally, foreigners (including EU citizens and third country nationals) are less likely to belong to the NEET group in the UK.

Figure 28.3: Structure of NEETs by gender in the UK, 15-29 year olds (2013)



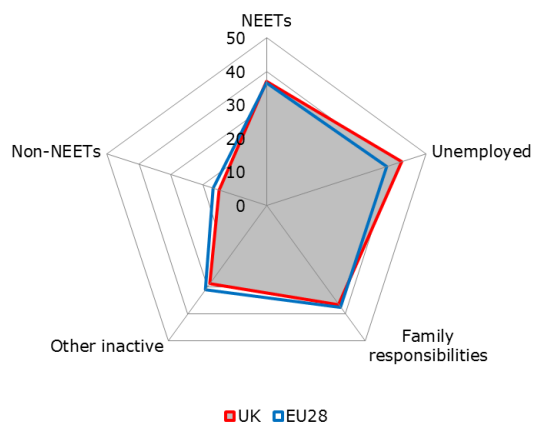
Source: LFS, 2013

NEETs in the UK: Risk of social exclusion and PES registration

The risk of social exclusion¹¹⁴ among young people in the UK largely mirrors the EU level situation (Figure 28.4). In comparison to non-NEETs, the share of people at risk of social exclusion in the NEET group is two and a half times higher. Moreover, compared to the EU average, young unemployed are slightly more at risk of social exclusion in the UK. In 2013, 24.6% of NEETs were receiving benefits or other forms of financial assistance.

¹¹⁴ The indicator of risk of social exclusion is based on the level of individuals' disposable income defining people at risk as those with an income below 60% of national median income.

Figure 28.4: Young people at risk of social exclusion



Source: EU-SILC, 2013

An important prerequisite for the effective deployment of policies targeted at NEETs¹¹⁵ is that young people are registered with public employment services (PES). In 2013, 24.6% of all NEETs in the UK were registered with public employment services, well below the average EU28 level. The highest shares of registration, yet lower than the EU average, were observed among short and long-term unemployed NEETs with 60.8% and 38.6% respectively.

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¹¹⁵ The Youth Guarantee for example, which was developed to support the labour market inclusion of young people by aiming to offer all young people under 25 a good-quality offer of employment, further education or training within 4 months of them leaving formal education or becoming unemployed, can be considered as a milestone in NEET target policy in the EU. For more information on the early implementation of the Youth Guarantee please see: Eurofound (2015), Social inclusion of young people, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.