



**Youth**Partnership

# FACTSHEET ON EMPLOYMENT IN UNITED KINGDOM



**Youth**Partnership  
Council of Europe  
European Commission



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# 1) Employment/ Unemployment

## 1.1 Employment Rate of Young People

	Sources	Year	%
Total rate of employment, age specific rate for 15-24 years old	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	53,20
Total rate of employment, age specific rate for 25-29 years old	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	79,80
Total rate of employment for men 15-24 years old	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	54,10
Total rate of employment for men 25-29 years old	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	86,80
Total rate of employment for women 15-24 years old	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	52,20
Total rate of employment for women 25-29 years old	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	73,10
Employment rate of under 25 years olds: year 2000	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2006	56,60
Employment rate of under 25 years olds: year 2001	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2006	56,60
Employment rate of under 25 years olds: year 2002	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2006	56,10
Employment rate of 15-24 years olds: year 2003	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2006	54,10
Employment rate of 15-24 years olds: year 2004	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2006	54,70
Employment rate of 15-24 years olds: year 2005	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2006	54,70
Employment rate of 15-24 years olds: year 2006	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2006	54,00
Employment rate of 15-24 years olds: year 2007	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2006	53,20
Activity rate, age range 15-24  (Activity rate = The economically active proportion of the working age population (aged 15-64) – i.e. that part of the population in employment or actively looking for a job.)	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	52,10
Activity rates by time (12 months) since leaving continuous education for the first time	Eurostat (Data- Education & Training-Education-Youth transitions from education to working life in Europe)	2000	61,90

## 1.2 Sector of Employment, for age range 15-24

	Sources	Year	%
Sector of Employment, for age range 15-24: Legislators, senior officials and managers	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007 (1.quarter)	93,60 (1000 of persons)
Sector of Employment, for age range 15-24: Professionals	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007 (1.quarter)	40444,20 (1000 of persons)
Sector of Employment, for age range 15-24: Technicians and associate professionals	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007 (1.quarter)	3605,60 (1000 of persons)
Sector of Employment, for age range 15-24: Clerks	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007 (1.quarter)	3201,20 (1000 of persons)
Sector of Employment, for age range 15-24: Service workers and shop or market sale workers	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007 (1.quarter)	4744,00 (1000 of persons)
Sector of Employment, for age range 15-24: Skilled agricultural and fishery workers	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007 (1.quarter)	303,40 (1000 of persons)
Sector of Employment, for age range 15-24: Craft and related trades workers	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007 (1.quarter)	2646,20 (1000 of persons)

Sector of Employment, for age range 15-24: Plant and machines	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007 (1.quarter)	1838,40 (1000 of persons)
Sector of Employment, for age range 15-24: Elementary occupations	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007 (1.quarter)	3030,40 (1000 of persons)
Sector of Employment, for age range 15-24: Armed forces	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007 (1.quarter)	77,90 (1000 of persons)

### 1.3 Unemployment Rate of Young People

	Sources	Year	%
Total rate of unemployment of young people, age 15-24	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	14,10
Total rate of unemployment of young people, age 25-29	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	5,50
Total rate of unemployment, for men 15-24 years old	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	15,90
Total rate of unemployment, for men 25-29 years old	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	5,90
Total rate of unemployment, for women 15-24 years old	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	12,10
Total rate of unemployment, for women 25-29 years old	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	5,00
Unemployment rate of under 25 years olds: year 2000	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	12,20
Unemployment rate of under 25 years olds: year 2001	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	11,70
Unemployment rate of under 25 years olds: year 2002	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	12,00
Unemployment rate of under 25 years olds: year 2003	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	12,20
Unemployment rate of under 25 years olds: year 2004	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	12,10
Unemployment rate of under 25 years olds: year 2005	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	12,80
Unemployment rate of under 25 years olds: year 2006	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	14,00
Unemployment rate of under 25 years olds: year 2007	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	14,30
Long-term unemployment of young people, age range 15-24	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	13,50
Long term unemployment of young people, age range 25-29	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	17,50
Share of youth not in education, employment or training, age range 20-24, low education, total (1)	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	38,50
Share of youth not in education, employment or training, age range 20-24, low education, men	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	29,30
Share of youth not in education, employment or training, age range 20-24, low education, women	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	49,60
Share of youth not in education, employment or training, age range 20-24, medium education, total	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	12,60
Share of youth not in education, employment or training, age range 20-24, medium education, men	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	9,00
Share of youth not in education, employment or training, age range 20-24, medium education, women	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	16,20
Share of youth not in education, employment or training, age range 20-24, high education, total	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	10,30
Share of youth not in education, employment or training, age range 20-24, high education, men	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	12,30

Share of youth not in education, employment or training, age range 20-24, high education, women	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	8,70
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(1) : ("Around 43% of 15–29 year olds who are inactive and not in education do not participate in the labour market because of taking care of children or other family members or because of other family responsibilities, the vast majority of them women. Another 43% of those inactive and not in education – most of them young males – are either discouraged by the labour market or name other reasons, with the rest being ill or suffering from a disability.") p. 37

## 2) Types and Quality of Employment

### 2.1 Type of Employment

	Sources	Year	%
Temporary Work, age range 15-24	<a href="#">Employment in Europe 2007</a>	2006	12,90
Main reason for the temporary employment by age group 15-24: Could not find permanent job	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007 (1. quarter)	-
Main reason for the temporary employment by age group 15-24: Did not want permanent job	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007 (1. quarter)	46,50 of those who did not want permanent job
Main reason for the temporary employment by age group 15-24: In education or training	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007 (1. quarter)	13,00 of those who are in education or training
Main reason for the temporary employment by age group 15-24: probationary period	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007 (1. quarter)	5,80 of those who are in probationary period
Full-time work, age range 15-24	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007 (1. quarter)	2526,50 (1000 of persons)
Part-Time Work, age range 15-24	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007 (1. quarter)	1338,50 (1000 of persons)
Main reason for part-time employment by age group 15-24: Other reasons	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007	4,40 of those who could have other reasons
Main reason for part-time employment by age group 15-24: Could not find a full-time work	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007	15,40 of those who could not find a full-time work
Main reason for part-time employment by age group 15-24: Own disability or illness	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007	1,20 of those whose reason is own disability or illness
Main reason for part-time employment by age group 15-24: Other personal or family responsibilities	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007	5,40 of those whose reason is other personal or family responsibilities
Main reason for part-time employment by age group 15-24: Looking for children or incapacitated adults	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007	73,00 of those whose reason is looking for children or incapacitated adults
Main reason for part-time employment by age group 15-24: In education or training	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007	2,30 of those who are in education or training
Proportion of self-employed by time (12 months) since leaving continuous education for the first time	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007	11,20
Self-employment by men, age groups 15 -24 and highest level of education attained	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007	23,40 upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education (Levels 3-4)
Self-employment by women, age groups 15-24 and highest level of education attained	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2007	5,60 upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education (Levels 3-4)
Apprenticeship			<b>Annex 1</b>

### 3) Education

#### 3.1 Educational Level

	Sources	Year	%
Percentages of the population aged 20 to 24 having completed at least secondary education	<a href="#">(Eurostat)</a>	2007	78,10

#### 3.2 Early School-Leavers

	Sources	Year	%
Percentages of the population aged 18-24 with at most lower secondary education and not in further education	<a href="#">Gender inequalities in the risks of poverty and social exclusion for disadvantaged groups in thirty European countries, 2006 (Eurostat)</a>	2004	16,80

#### 3.3 Formal and non-formal learning

	Sources	Year	%
Percentage of people aged 25-34 who takes part of formal education	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2005	13,30
Percentage of people aged 25-34 who takes part of non formal education	<a href="#">Eurostat</a>	2005	38,90

#### 3.4 Support structures

Guidance and counselling for learning, career and employment	<b>Annex 2</b>
Support for entrepreneurship	<b>Annex 3</b>

### ANNEX 1 : APPRENTICESHIP

Originating with the medieval craft guilds, apprenticeships are the oldest system of formalised vocational training in Britain. There are no statutory laws governing apprenticeship in the UK, although there are recommendations from the government about the Modern Apprenticeship structure (*Modern Apprenticeships, Employment Department, 1994*). Many apprentices take up their apprenticeships after leaving school at 16. The New Labour Government has introduced a training initiative, *Target 2000*, which gives persons aged 16–19 the right to paid time-off for training or education and has expanded the Modern Apprenticeship scheme substantially as part of its overall strategy to improve the UK's competitiveness. The usual duration of a traditional craft apprenticeship is between two and four years, depending upon the occupation.

Traditional apprenticeships have been in a long term decline in the UK. In the 30 years from 1964–1995 the numbers in manufacturing fell from 250 000 to 47 000 (Training Statistics, 1995). At spring 1997 there were 2,8 million people aged 16–19 in the UK of whom 19 754 (0,7 %) were participating in or had completed a trade apprenticeship. There were 3,6 million people aged 20–24 of whom 175 616 (4,9 %) were participating in or had completed a trade apprenticeship. Although traditional apprenticeships have been evident in most occupational groups, over half of the total number were concentrated in the following trades: construction; metal machining; fitting and instrument making; electrical and electronic industries; welding; woodworking; hairdressing; beautician and related trades. The highest number of trainee starts in England up to end April 1999: business administration (35 257), engineering manufacture (26 887), retailing (24 531) and motor industry (18 496). In 1995, 44 % of apprenticeships were in the service sector, 10 % in construction and 20 % in manufacturing industries.

Source: <http://www2.trainingvillage.gr/etv/library/apprenticeship/country.asp>

## **ANNEX 2 : GUIDANCE AND COUNSELLING FOR LEARNING, CAREER AND EMPLOYMENT**

The aim of government policy is to develop careers services available to all and to provide an easily accessible source of *information, advice and guidance (IAG)* to both young people and adults. All providers of IAG services that are funded through Connexions partnerships require accreditation against the National Quality Standards for Learning & Work. This applies to both public and private sector organisations. *The Guidance Council (GC)* has developed the standards. The GC promotes and advises on the provision of good quality guidance and the *Guidance Accreditation Board (GAB)* handles the accreditation process. The Common Inspection Framework through inspections by *the Adult Learning Inspectorate (ALI)* (not Scotland) provides a quality assurance for standards and provision of guidance services.

([http://www.trainingvillage.gr/etv/Information\\_resources/NationalVet/Thematic/.](http://www.trainingvillage.gr/etv/Information_resources/NationalVet/Thematic/))

The government funds University for industry (Ufi) Ltd to develop and maintain *the learndirect* <http://www.learndirect.co.uk/> national information and advice service. This is mainly targeted to adults. *The Connexions service*, <http://www.connexions.gov.uk/> an amalgamation of local careers services, is geared to providing a more unified approach to meeting the advice and guidance needs of young people in the years of transition between schooling and the labour market. The Connexions service is an integrated support service for all 13–19 year olds in England. The aim of this initiative is to improve advice and support to young people in transition. In addition, all secondary schools must provide a careers programme for all their pupils as part of the national curriculum, and further education colleges and universities have advice centres and careers programmes available for their students. In Scotland, the UK's first all age guidance organisation *Careers Scotland (CS)* was established in 2002. CS provides a range of important information, advice and guidance on education, training and employment opportunities. The service is available to people of all ages and is delivered through a network of local Careers Centres or through the interactive website at <http://www.careers-scotland.org.uk/home/home.asp>. Guidance and counselling can also be provided in the workplace, by Trade Unions or through Learndirect Scotland who act as brokers between learners and learning providers.

([http://www.trainingvillage.gr/etv/Information\\_resources/NationalVet/Thematic/.](http://www.trainingvillage.gr/etv/Information_resources/NationalVet/Thematic/))

The intention is that all adults and young people should have easy access to career guidance and counselling at times of greatest need. Young people in transition are all expected to receive advice and guidance through facilities made available at the place of learning. While a variety of sources of advice and guidance are available, we can summarize the *main sources of advice and guidance for different target groups* as follows: 1.) young people in Education - Connexions/school or college, 2.) young people at risk of exclusion - Connexions/New Deal, 3.) young people at work - Connexions/Human Resources provision, 4.) adults at work - Human Resources, etc. / University for Industry, 5.) adults not in employment - University for Industry (Ufi), 6.) Jobcentre Plus, 7.) Careers Scotland 8.) Learndirect and 9.) employment agencies. The Jobcentre Plus provides jobseekers with access to any vacancy held by Jobcentre Plus, anywhere in Britain (currently around 300,000 at any one time) and to vacancies held by others, including private employment agencies and other European Employment Services. It also provides personalised advice to jobseekers. This service has made progress in delivering a modern e-business service to jobseekers and employers, service delivery partners and Jobcentre Plus staff.

([http://www.trainingvillage.gr/etv/Information\\_resources/NationalVet/Thematic/.](http://www.trainingvillage.gr/etv/Information_resources/NationalVet/Thematic/))

Guidance and counselling personnel ranges from teachers in schools, most of whom will specialise and undergo in-service training and trained careers advisers at school, college or HE, to Jobcentre Plus personnel, and to advisers in small agencies whose training and credentials may vary. The sectoral body with responsibility for

standards and qualifications in this field, is the former Employment NTO, has developed professional development packages and competence frameworks. These are now operational. All providers of IAG services funded through Connexions partnerships require accreditation against the National Quality Standards for Learning & Work. This applies to both public and private sector organisations.

([http://www.trainingvillage.gr/etv/Information\\_resources/NationalVet/Thematic/](http://www.trainingvillage.gr/etv/Information_resources/NationalVet/Thematic/) .)

**Sources:**

[http://www.trainingvillage.gr/etv/Information\\_resources/NationalVet/Thematic/](http://www.trainingvillage.gr/etv/Information_resources/NationalVet/Thematic/)

<http://www.learndirect.co.uk/>

<http://www.connexions.gov.uk/>

<http://www.careers-scotland.org.uk/home/home.asp>

## **ANNEX 3**

No data available