



Recent developments in the EU-27 labour market for young people aged 15-29¹

1	Recent developments in the labour market for youth.....	2
1.1	Youth unemployment during the recent downturn	2
1.2	Youth activity and employment.....	6
1.3	Unemployment ratio.....	10
1.4	Long-term unemployment	12
2	Patterns of youth employment	15
2.1	Temporary employment	15
2.2	Part-time employment.....	18
3	Education and its role in the labour market for youth.....	20
4	Youth at risk of exclusion from the labour market (NEET)	25
5	Annex.....	28

Main messages:

- The effect of the recession on young people (aged 15-24) has remained dramatic, despite recent stabilisation. In the second quarter of 2010 there were 5.2 million youth unemployed, or 20.4% of the youth labour force. By comparison, before the onset of the economic crisis, total youth unemployment in the EU stood at 4 million or 14.7% of the active youth population (beginning 2008).
- While it is the low-skilled that continue to show by far the highest unemployment rates among all youth, there has also been a marked increase in the unemployment rates for medium and high-skilled youth between the end of 2008 and the end of 2009.
- The EU average rate of involuntary part time employment in 2009, stands at 27.6% of all young part-time workers and exceeds 40% in nine Member States.
- In the EU in 2009, 40% of young employees held a temporary contract. This can be cause of vulnerability for the workers, as the temporary ones were the first to be laid off during the crisis.
- In 2009, 12.4% of youth aged 15-24 were neither in employment nor in any education or training (NEET). Young women are more likely to be NEET than young men, but with differences across age groups. At 15-19, female teenagers tend to have lower average NEET rates than their male counterparts, but the opposite is true for the age group 20-24.

September 15th, 2010

¹ A statistical overview prepared by DG EMPL as a background document for the Youth on the Move Communication. Contact person: Dr. Misa Labarile (Unit D1), misa.labarile@ec.europa.eu, tel +32.(0)2.2998210.

1 Recent developments in the labour market for youth

1.1 Youth unemployment during the recent downturn

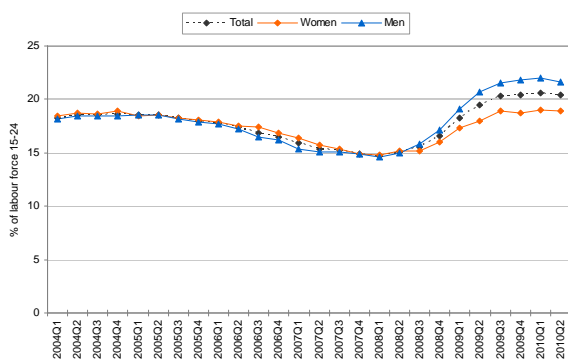
At the European level, in the second quarter of 2010 there were 5.2 million youth unemployed (5.1 million non-seasonally adjusted), unchanged compared to the previous year, but still by almost a third higher (1.3 million) compared to the low in the beginning of 2008.

After the situation of young people in the labour market had been consistently improving since 2005, youth unemployment started to rise in spring 2008 in reaction to the economic recession, increased steeply between autumn 2008 and spring 2009, and subsequently started to moderate. From autumn 2009 the labour market for youth has shown clear signs of stabilising, as youth unemployment has actually declined by 115 000 on third quarter of 2009, with unemployment contracting stronger among young men than young women.

Overall, young people account for almost one-fifth (17.8%) of the total increase in unemployment since the beginning of 2008, although youth share in total unemployment decreased slightly from around 25% in 2008 to just below 23% by mid-2010. The marked increase in youth unemployment since spring 2008 has been driven mainly by a very sharp rise in unemployment for young men, who have accounted for two-third of the increase.

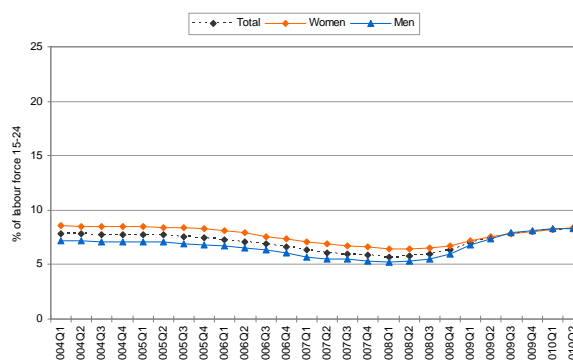
Due to structural reasons youth unemployment is higher than adult unemployment, but in addition to that there has been a marked increase of the unemployment rate for youth in the EU27 from before to after the recession. Indeed, the unemployment rate for young people picked up sharply (by around 6 pps from 14.7 % in the beginning of 2008 to 20.6% in the first quarter of 2010), while the rate for adults rose by a more limited 2.5 pps from its low of 5.7 % in the beginning of 2008 to 8.3 % the second quarter of 2010. However, the labour market for youth has started to stabilised earlier than for adults; youth unemployment rate declined in the second quarter of 2010, while that for adult continued to increase.

Chart 1. Unemployment rates for youth (15-24), EU-27



Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Data seasonally adjusted.

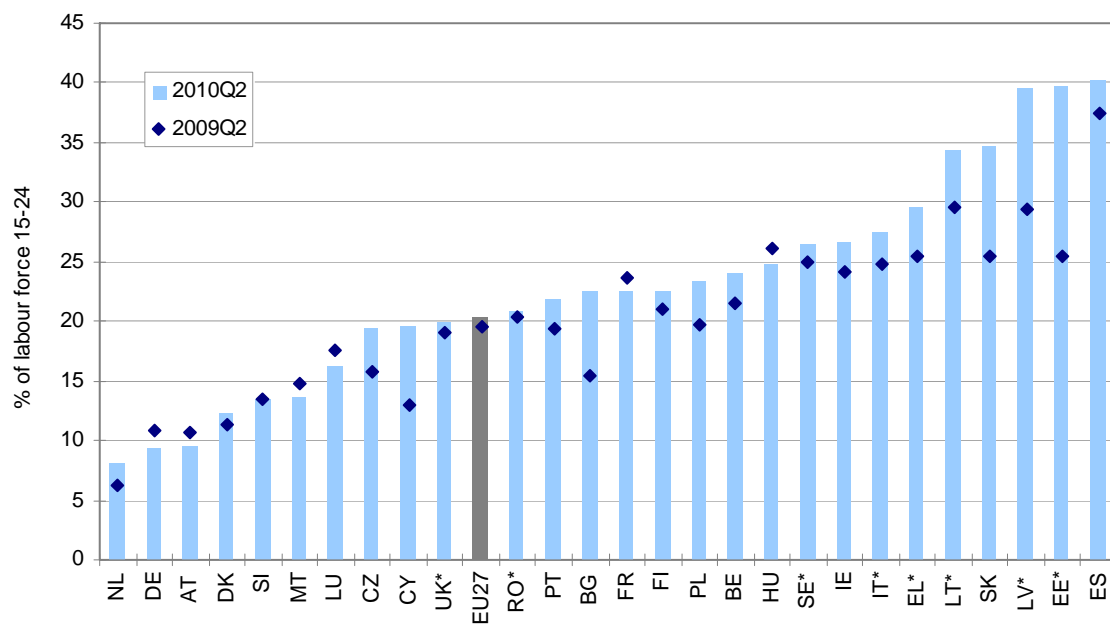
Chart 2. Unemployment rates for adults (aged over 25), EU-27



Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Data seasonally adjusted.

Labour markets have deteriorated in all Member States in reaction to the economic crisis, most notably in the Baltic States, Spain and Ireland. However deterioration had started to ease by the end of last year in all Member States. Nevertheless, compared to the situation a year ago, the youth unemployment rate is still higher in most Member States. Between the first/ second quarters of 2009 and 2010 the youth unemployment rate rose most steeply in Estonia and Latvia (by more than 10 pps), while the rates declined in Austria, France, Germany, Hungary, Luxembourg and Malta. As a result of the strong deterioration in their labour market situation, the unemployment rate among young people now exceeds 30% in Lithuania and Slovakia, and reaches 40% in Estonia, Latvia and Spain (Chart 3).

Chart 3. Youth (15-24) unemployment rate across EU Member States, changes May 2009 – May 2010

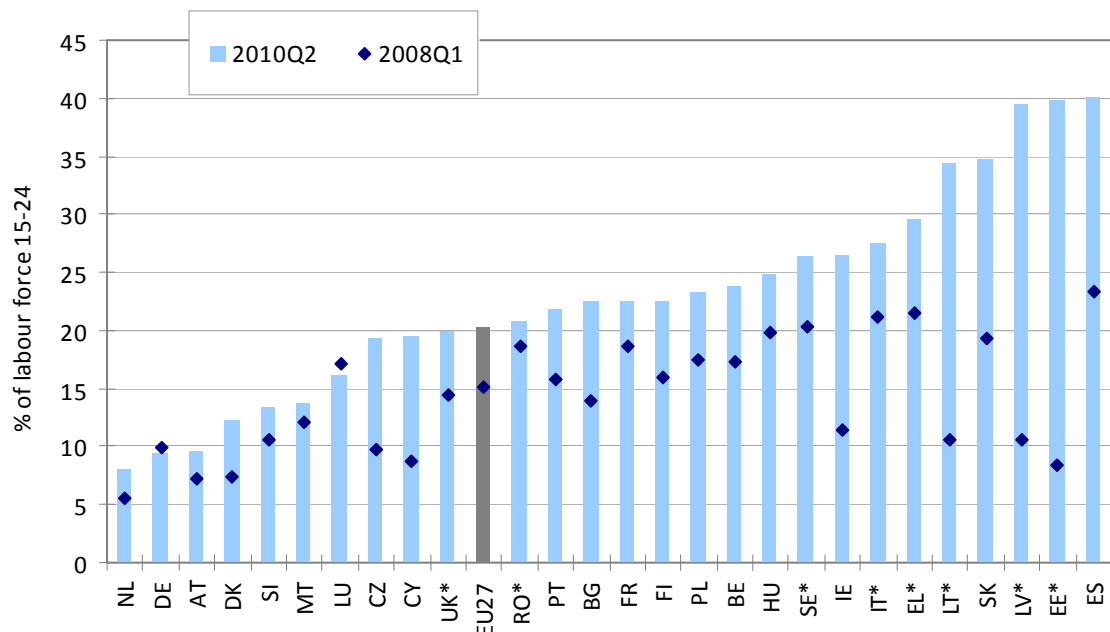


Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Data seasonally adjusted.

* Data for EE, IT, LV, LT, RO, SE and UK 2009q1 and 2010q1.

To gain a better understanding of the impact of the crisis on youth unemployment rates, the levels per Member States before and after the crisis can be compared (chart 4 to 7). Chart 4 shows how the unemployment rate of youth 15-24 has increased between the first quarter of 2008 and the second quarter of 2010 in all Member States with the exception of Germany and Luxembourg, by an average of 5.3 pps. The biggest increases have been registered in the Baltic States, followed by Spain and Ireland.

Chart 4. Youth (15-24) unemployment rates across EU Member States, before and after the crisis

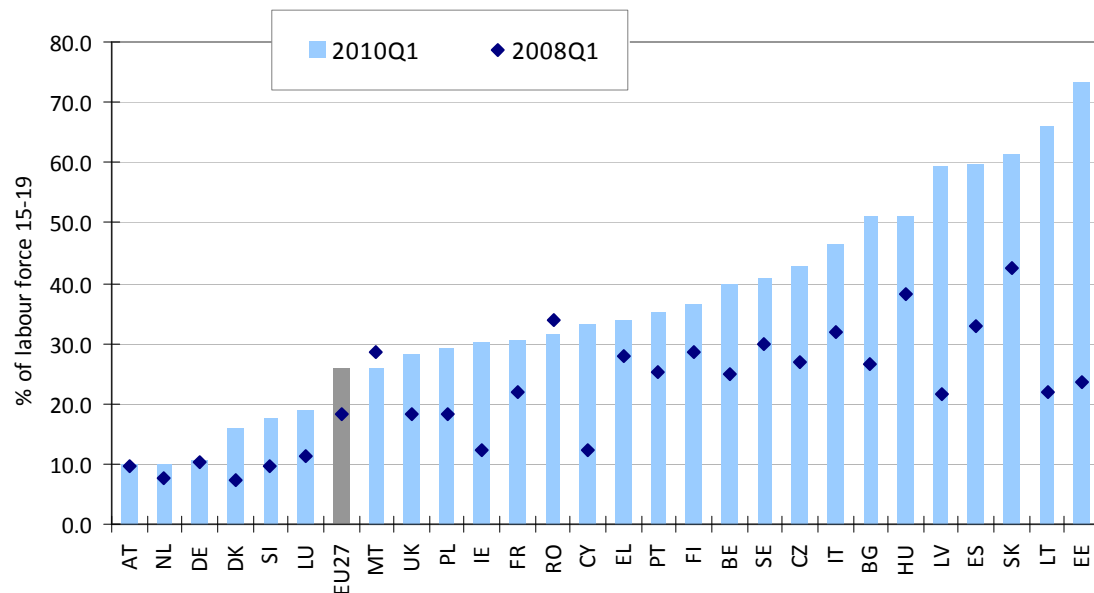


Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Data seasonally adjusted.

* Data for EE, IT, LV, LT, RO, SE and UK 2009q1 and 2010q1.

Chart 5 shows the changes for the age group 15-19. The unemployment rate increased in all Member States, except for Malta and Romania, where it slightly decreased. The highest increases have been for the Baltic States followed by Spain, Bulgaria and Ireland. The average increase at the EU level has been of 7.6 pps.

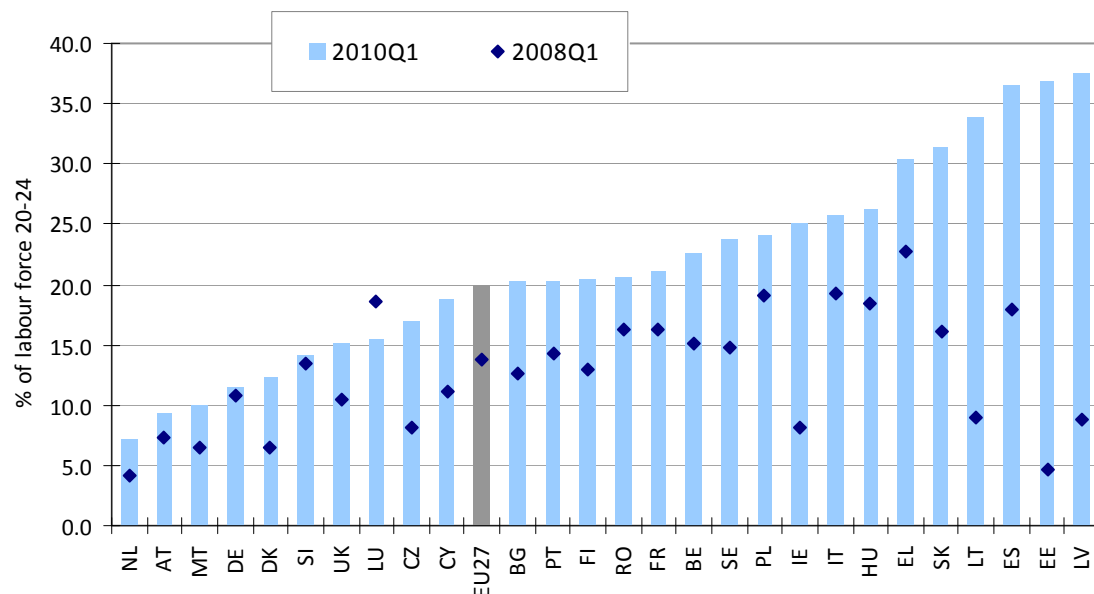
Chart 5. Youth (15-19) unemployment rates across Member States before and after the crisis



Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Data non-seasonally adjusted

Among all age groups, the 20-24 have registered the highest increases in the unemployment rates – the average at the EU level increased by 20 pps. Sharp increases were registered for the Baltic States: in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania the crisis triggered increases by 32.2, 28.6 and 24.8 pps respectively. Spain, Slovakia and Ireland also registered high increases, while the rate actually decreased in Luxembourg, and increased by a mere 0.6 pps in Germany and 0.7 pps in Slovenia.

Chart 6. Youth (20-24) unemployment rates across Member States before and after the crisis

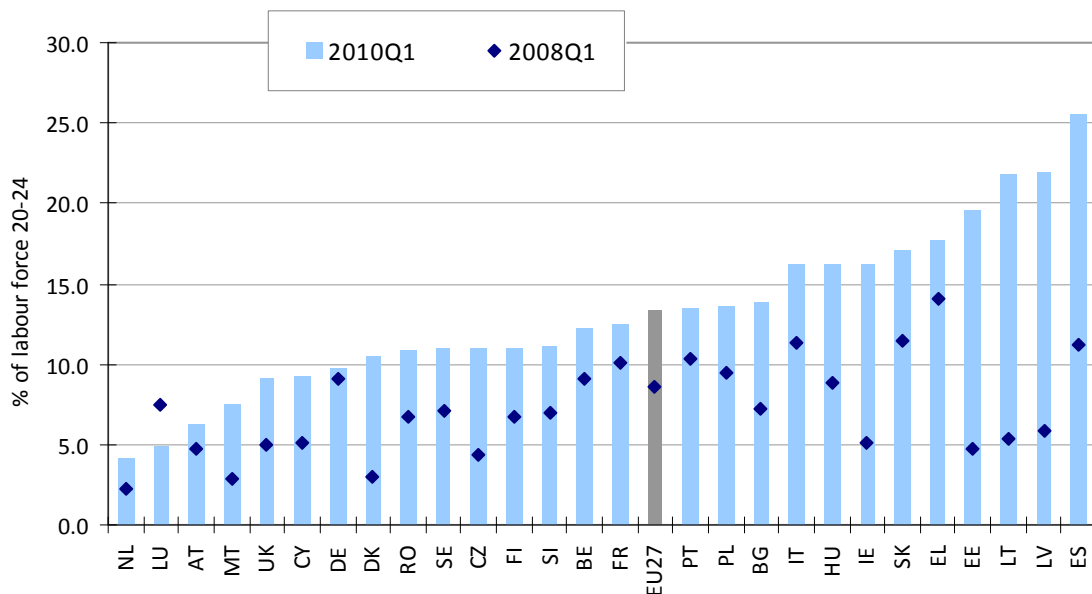


Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Data non-seasonally adjusted

Chart 7 confirms that youth unemployment has been particularly affected by the crisis in the Baltic States as well as in Spain and Ireland with increases for the young adults (25-29) of 16 pps and more

in Latvia and Lithuania. The rate decreased in Luxembourg, and the EU average increased by 13.4 pps.

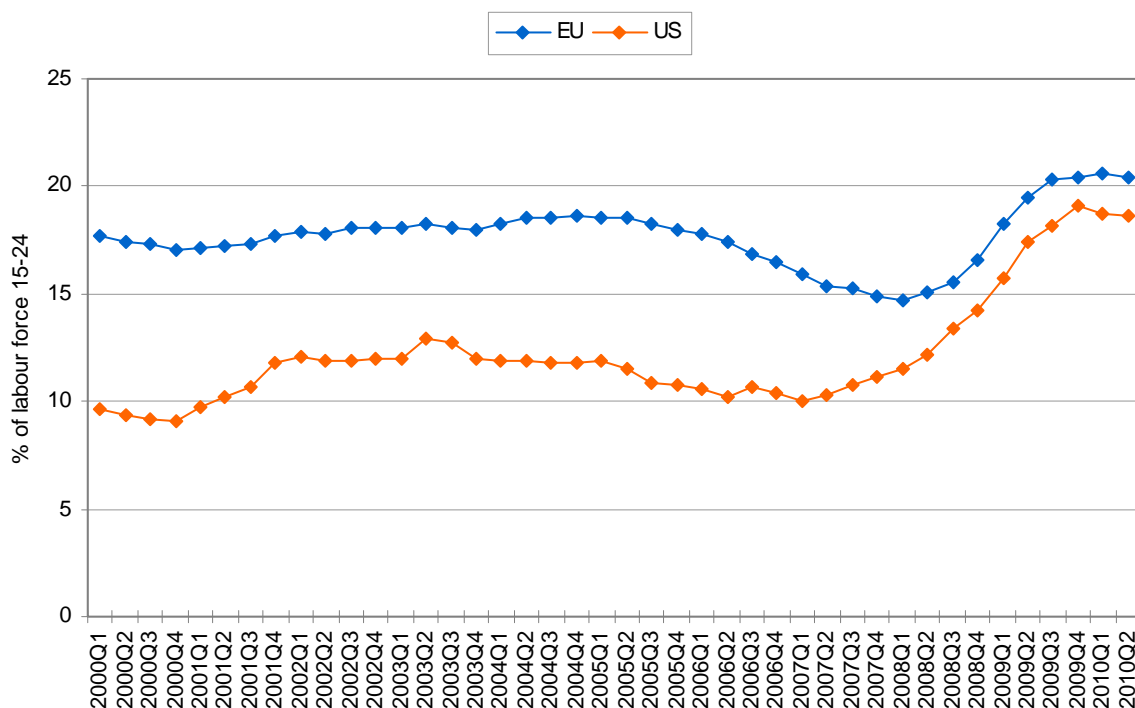
Chart 7. Youth (25-29) unemployment rates across Member States before and after the crisis



Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Data non-seasonally adjusted

On an international level, the youth unemployment rate has been always higher for the EU27 than for the US, as the most recent data confirm (20.4% in the EU27 and 18.6% in the US in the second quarter of 2010). Indeed, by the second quarter of 2010 the rate in the EU27 has reached the high levels of the mid-1990s, though it increased steeper from the first quarter of 2008 in the US (by 7.1 pps (8.6 pps on its low in 2007q1) as opposed to 5.7 pps in the EU narrowing the gap in favour of the US from as high as 7 pps in 2006 to less than 2 pps by mid 2010 (chart 8).

Chart 8. Unemployment rates for youth (15-24) for the EU and the US

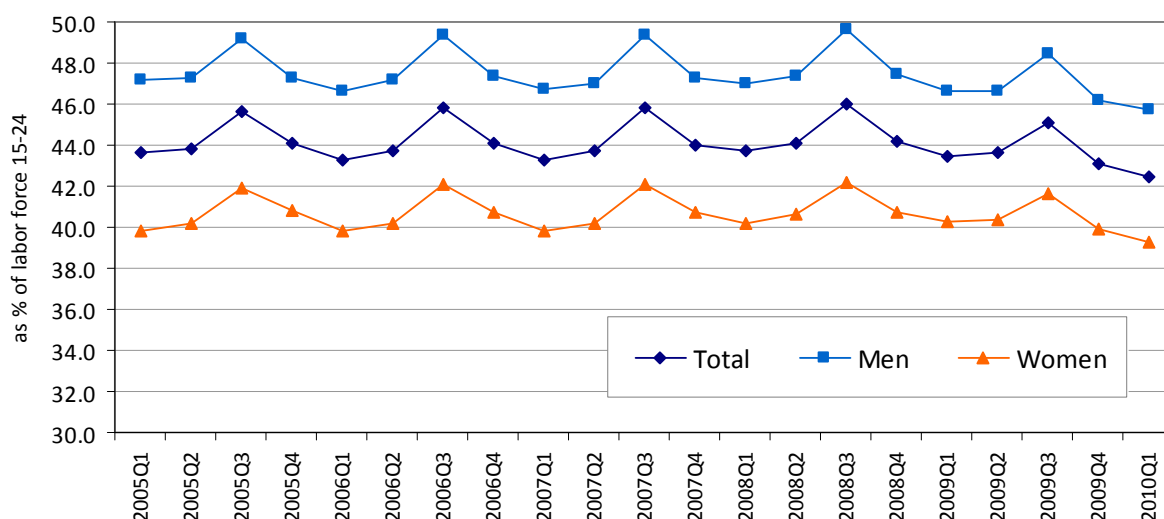


Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Data seasonally adjusted.

1.2 Youth activity and employment

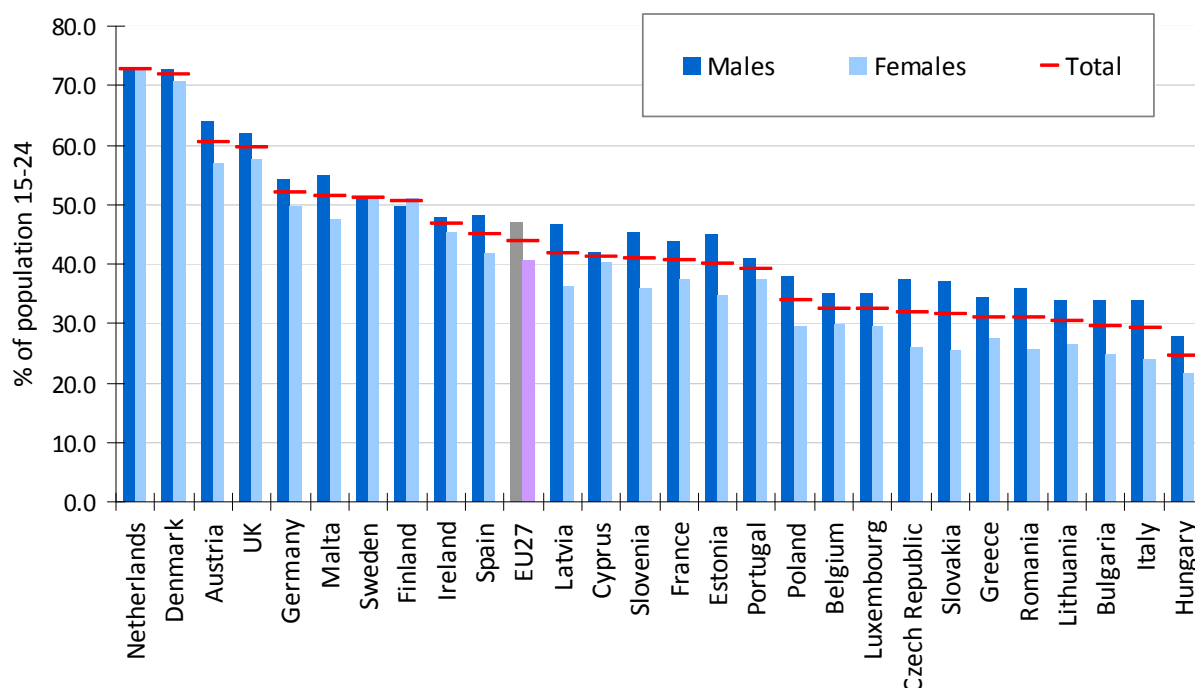
Non-seasonally adjusted data indicate that the trend of the youth activity rate at the EU level has remained stable since 2005, with only a slight decrease (by 1 pps) in the first quarter of 2010 compared to the first quarter of 2009 (from 43.5% to 42.5%). The decline has been driven mainly by a decline in the activity rate of young women (chart 9). However, youth activity rates vary considerably among countries (chart 10): indeed, the differences in the unemployment rate across Member States may be partially explained by differences in activity levels and involvement in employment. For most countries the youth activity rate is positively related to the employment rate, with the exception of Spain where the former is above the European average, and the latter below it (see chart 11).

Chart 9. Youth (15-24) activity rates, EU27



Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Data non-seasonally adjusted

Chart 10. Youth (15-24) activity rates by sex across EU Member States, 2009

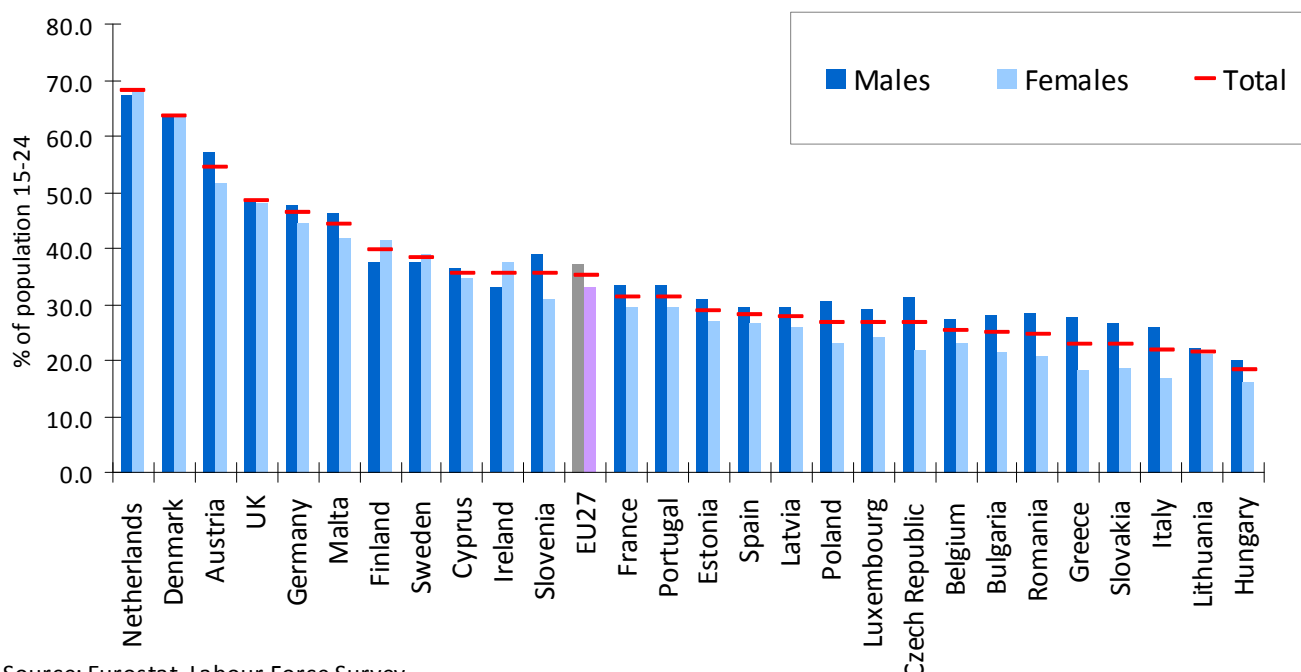


Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey

In 2009, the Netherlands and Denmark showed the highest levels of youth activity (72.8% and 72.7% of total population in the same age group) and Hungary the lowest (24.6%). This is also true for the youth employment levels. Roughly 2/3 of the Member States registered levels of activity below the

EU27 average (43.8%), but in practically all of them the rate was higher for men than for women (with the exception of the Netherlands and Sweden where the gap was barely perceivable, between 0.1 and 0.2 pps).

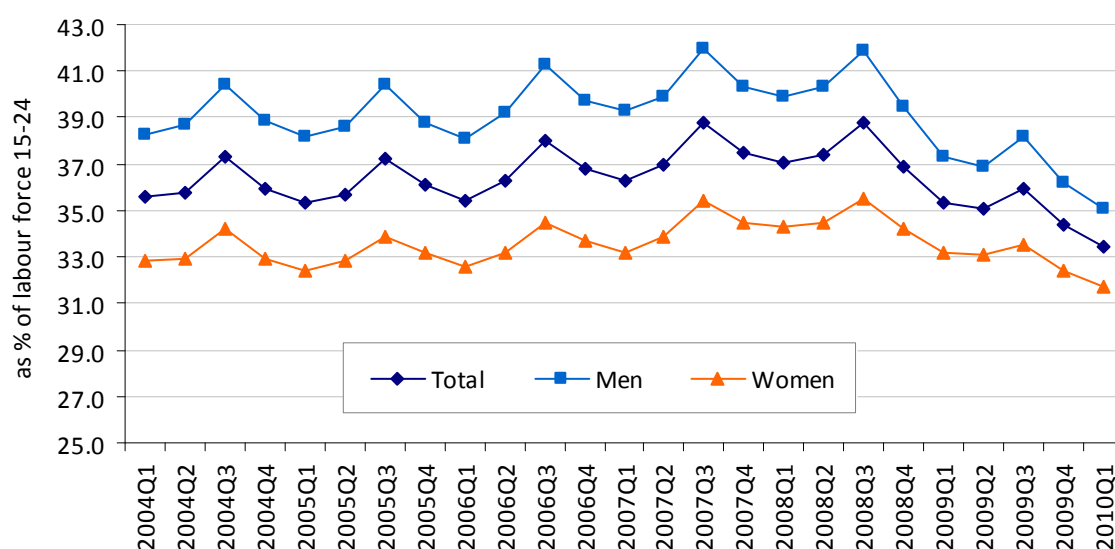
Chart 11. Youth (15-24) employment rates by sex across EU Member States, 2009



Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey

The gender gap in the youth employment rate is fairly marked across the EU27, particularly in those countries registering rates below the EU27 average (with the exception of Slovenia). For the EU27, the youth employment rate in the first quarter of 2010 was 33.4%: 35.1% for young men and 31.7% for young women. Non-seasonally adjusted data show a consistent decrease from before the recession to the first quarter of 2010: in the same period of 2008, the employment rate for the 15-24 at the European level was 37.1%, and maintained a slightly wider gender gap (39.9% for men, 34.3% for women) (chart 12).

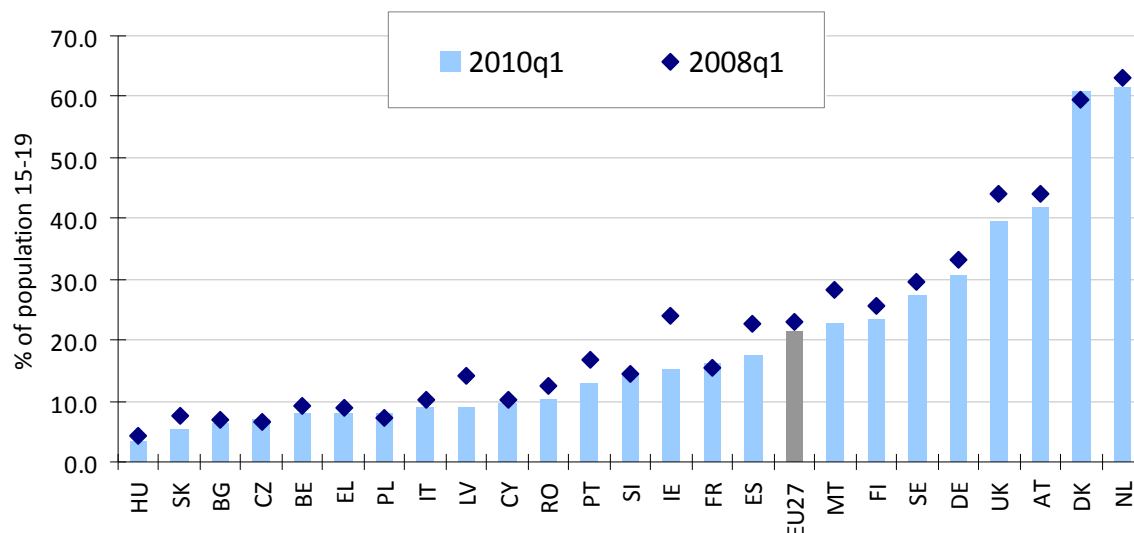
Chart 12. Youth (15-24) employment rates, EU27



Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Data non-seasonally adjusted

The crisis has affected participation levels for youth more than for adults². Activity rates for the age group 15-19 have declined for the EU (by 1.7 pps) and almost all Member States since the outset of the crisis, with the exception of the Czech Republic, Poland, France and Denmark (where, however, it dropped in the first quarter of 2009). The biggest decline has been registered in Ireland (- 9 pps), as well as in Spain, Latvia, Malta and the UK (chart 13).

Chart 13. Youth (15-19) activity rates across EU Member States, before and after the crisis



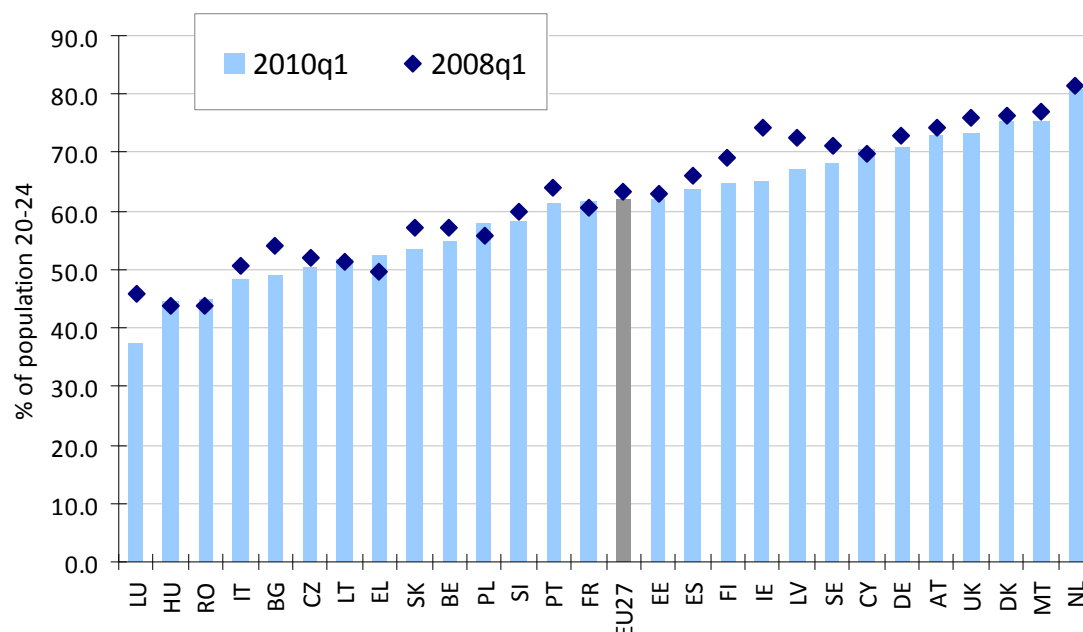
Source: Eurostat, LFS. Data non seasonally adjusted

*EE, LT, LU: data not reliable

While activity of teenagers started to decline in the course of 2008 across most Member States, activity of youth (20-24) still had increased by the first quarter of 2009 in several Member States. At EU level, the activity rate declined by 1.2 pps, less than for teenagers, between the first quarter of 2008 and 2010. One fourth of the countries registered an increase in the activity rate of youth 20-24, though a slight one (Poland, Romania and Hungary, and Cyprus, France, Greece and Lithuania – even though in the latter four countries the rate declined compared to the second quarter of 2009). For all others, the rate decreased, and sharply so for Ireland and Luxembourg as well as Bulgaria, Finland and Latvia.

² The participation rate of adults 30+ in fact increased slightly (0.2 pps) between the first quarter of 2008 and 2010.

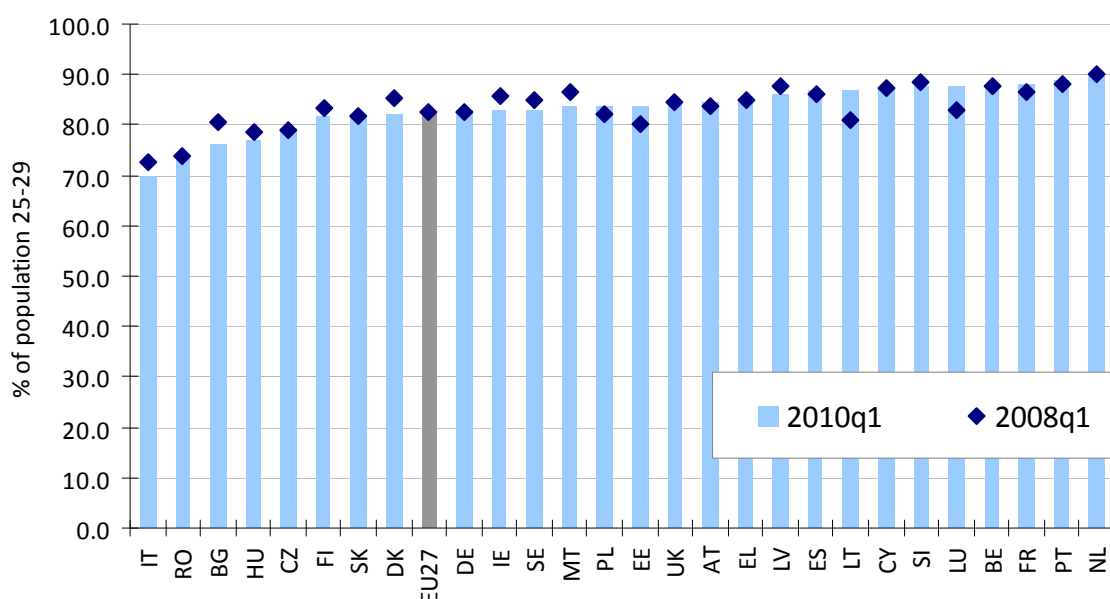
Chart 14. Youth (20-24) activity rates across EU Member States, before and after the crisis



Source: Eurostat, LFS. Data non seasonally adjusted

As opposed to the case of the younger groups, the labour market participation of young adults has not been affected at the EU level, with the rate remaining the same in the first quarter of 2010 as it was two years before (82.6%). The increasing and decreasing trends affect approximately the same number of Member States, although the peak in the activity rate occurred in some countries only by the first quarter of 2009 (and the rate in the first quarter of 2010 was lower than a year before in the EU, Austria, Belgium, Germany, Lithuania and Portugal). The highest increase was in Lithuania and Luxembourg (up by 6 pps and 4 pps) and the strongest decrease in Bulgaria (down by 4.4 pps) (chart 15).

Chart 15. Youth (25-29) activity rates across EU Member States, before and after the crisis



Source: Eurostat, LFS. Data non seasonally adjusted

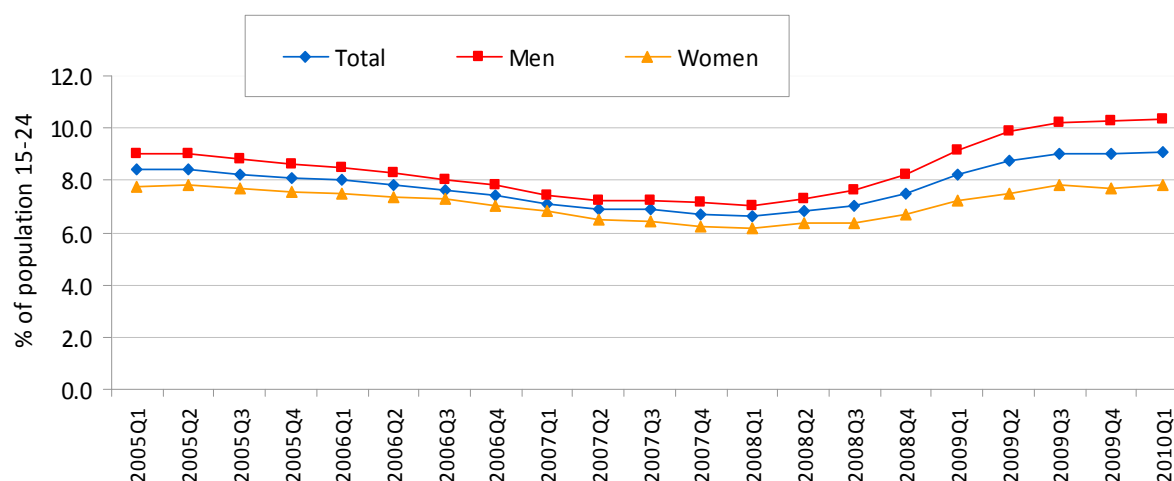
1.3 Unemployment ratio

The rate of youth unemployment is usually relatively high compared to adults partially as a result of the fact that is calculated on the labour force (those only employed and unemployed). Since a large proportion of young people are in education, they therefore mostly do not belong to the labour force, and consequently youth employment is relatively low. Furthermore, the labour market behaviour of persons in education differs considerably from country to country, which makes it difficult to compare youth unemployment rates across Member States.³

A more complete picture of the size of the unemployment problem can be gained by taking the youth unemployment ratio (unemployment of persons aged 15-24 relative to the total population of the same age, which includes a large inactive group due to mainly a large number of people in education) alongside its rate.

In the EU27, the impact of the crisis on the youth unemployment ratio was perceived in 2009, as the year 2008 mostly put a halt to the declines registered since the autumn of 2006. As in the case of the rate, the increase in the unemployment ratio was driven by young men, which rose by 3.3 pps in the first quarter of 2010 since its lowest value in the first quarter of 2008, while the ratio for women only increased by 1.6 pp. The total ratio in the first quarter of 2010 for youth was 9.1% of all population aged 15-24 (chart 16).

Chart 16. Youth (15-24) unemployment to population ratio, EU27

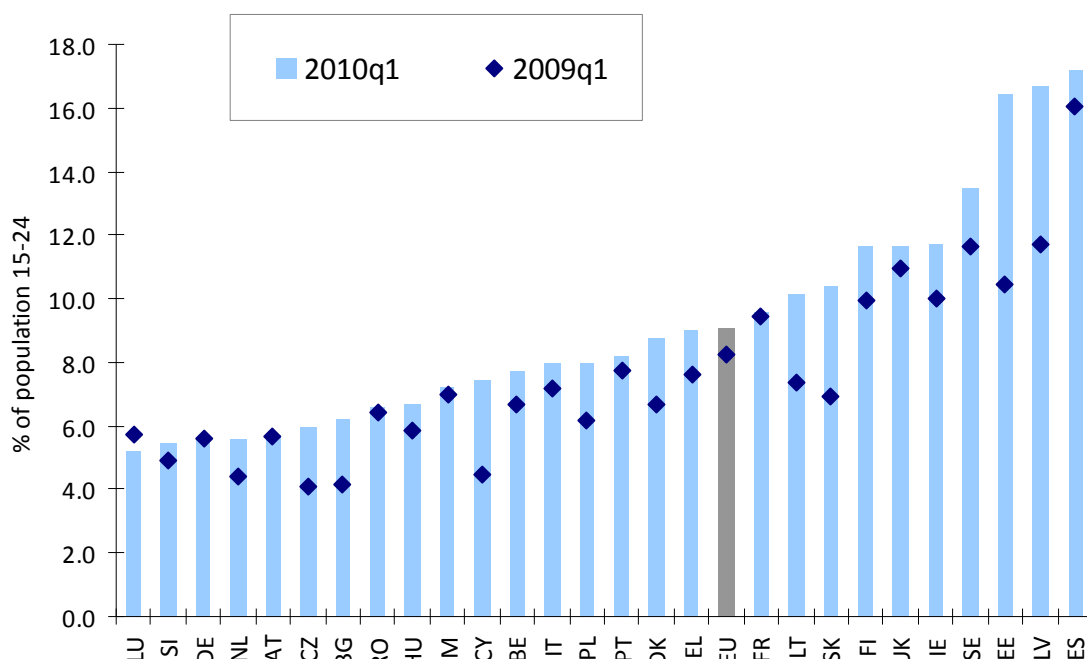


Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Data non-seasonally adjusted

In the first quarter of 2010 in the EU on average 9.1% of all persons aged 15-24 were unemployed, an increase of 2.5 pps from the same period in 2009. Only a minority of Member States displayed a ratio consistent to the previous year's. Increases have been sharpest in Latvia and Slovakia, and relatively high also in Estonia, Lithuania, Czech Republic, Spain and Ireland (chart 17). In Spain and Latvia, particularly, around 1 out of 6 young persons is unemployed.

³ Employment in Europe 2009, Chapter 1. As explained in the Employment in Europe 2007, Chapter 1, par. 4.2, Standard measures of youth employment and unemployment: "[t]he reason for looking at both youth unemployment rates and ratios is that a use of only the unemployment rate can produce a distorted picture when comparing the youth labour markets of different countries. More precisely, one difficulty with using the unemployment rate as an indicator of the labour market performance, especially of young people, is that it shows the number of unemployed youth as a percentage of the youth labour force, i.e. those who are either employed or unemployed but actively looking for work. Using the youth labour force as a denominator can lead to distortions when comparing countries with great differences in youth activity rates or when activity rates change significantly over time. For instance, youth unemployment rates for two countries with identical numbers of youth and unemployed youth will differ if one country has a higher share of youth not available to the labour market because of, for example, a higher number of youth in education. More concretely, the country with a higher share of youth in education (or otherwise inactive) will display a higher youth unemployment rate", p. 31.

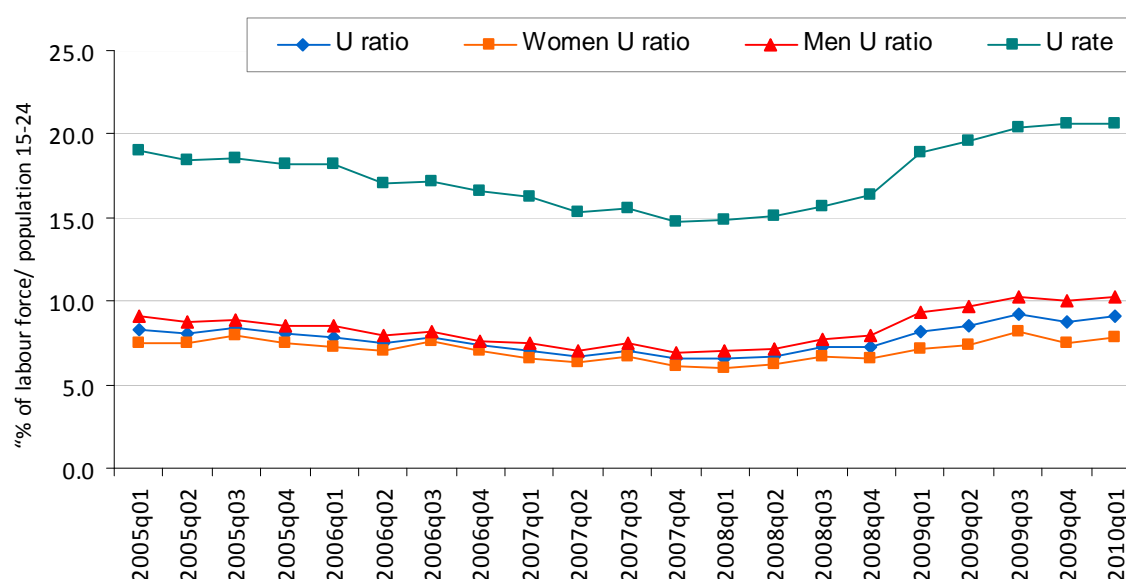
Chart 17. Youth (15-24) unemployment to population ratio across Member States, changes 2009q1 – 2010q1



Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Data non-seasonally adjusted

Descriptive data might suggest that a reason behind the difference in unemployment rates between young men and women could be found in women's higher inactivity, including higher participation in education and training. The unemployment rate is therefore biased with this aspect as it gives a measure of unemployment of youth relative to the labour force of the same age. It is useful to also consider the unemployment ratio, which is independent from inactivity, relating unemployment of youth to the population of the same age. Indeed, for the EU-27, the unemployment rate and ratio of young people differ substantially (chart 18), and the rate remains lowest for young women, reflecting that unemployment ratio among young women is lowest (which is not always apparent from the unemployment rate).

Chart 18. Youth unemployment ratio and youth unemployment rate (15-24), EU-27

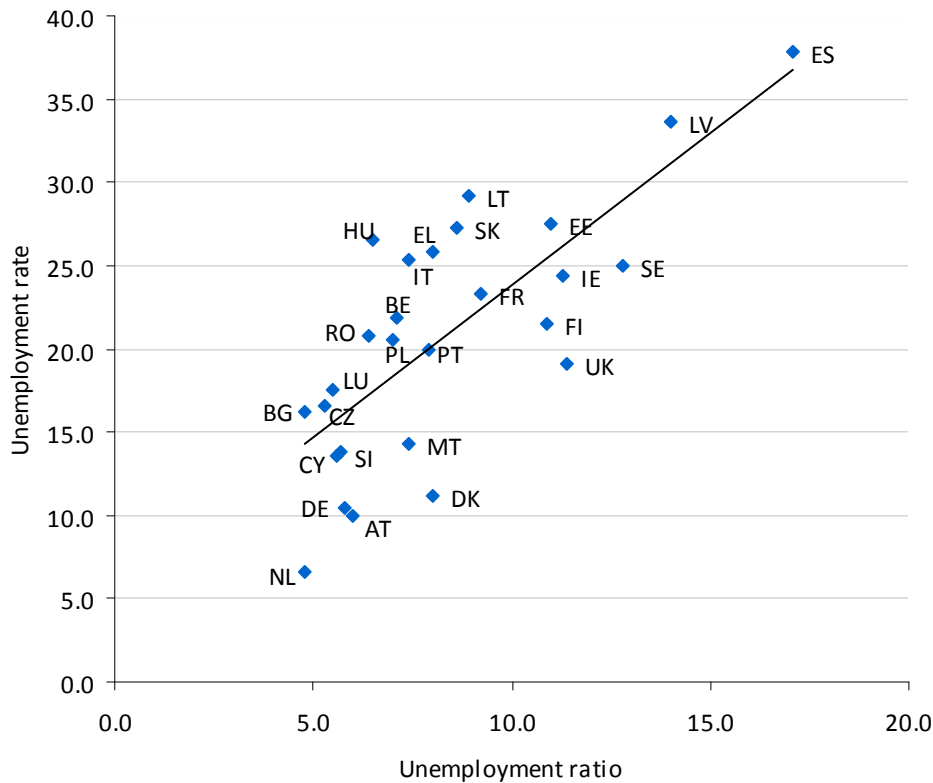


Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Data non-seasonally adjusted

Chart 19 shows that there is a correlation between unemployment rates and ratios across the EU27 Member States. To a high rate, a high ratio usually corresponds, and deviation from the general

correlation line reflects the activity levels (far above the line in the chart for low activity countries and far below the line for high activity countries). As previously shown, low activity countries are Hungary, Italy, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Romania, Greece, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Luxembourg, Belgium and Poland, whereas the Netherlands, Denmark, Austria, the UK, Germany, Finland and Sweden result as the highest activity countries (see Chart 10).

Chart 19. Youth (15-24) unemployment rates vs. unemployment ratios across Member States, 2009



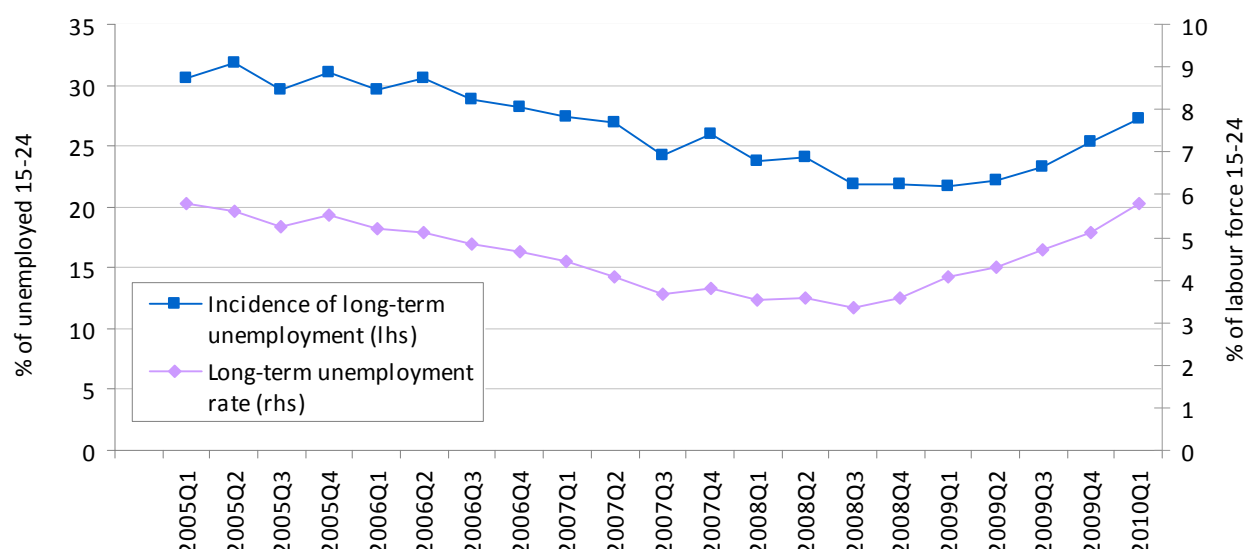
Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey

1.4 Long-term unemployment

Structural problems in the EU, determining worse performances in the labour markets for youth, also have a long-term component. The incidence of long-term unemployment (12 months or more) for youth must remain a concern for the EU27, as 1 out of 4 unemployed youth in 2009 was unemployed for 12 months and longer. The rate of long term unemployment as a percentage of the young unemployed started to increase in the course of 2009 only, though remaining lower than in the years prior to 2008⁴, and it is expected to increase further as the inflows of youth unemployment, together with declining rates of outflows of youth from unemployment, will add up to the stock on long term unemployed. The crisis manifested earlier through increases in long-term unemployment rate (as a share of the young active population), which grew by 2.2 pps between the first quarter of 2008 and 2010 (chart 20).

⁴ The share of long-term unemployed is also lower for youth than for adults.

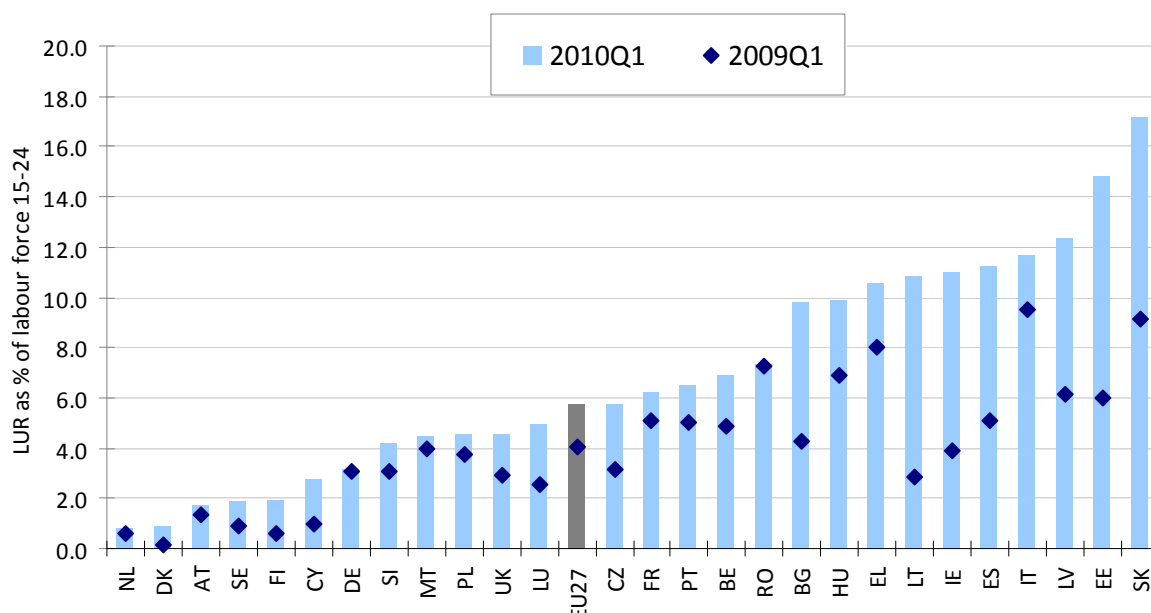
Chart 20. Incidence of long-term unemployed for youth (15-24), EU27



Source: Eurostat, series on unemployment. Data non-seasonally adjusted

There are considerable differences among EU countries as regards the rate of long-term unemployment, both as a share of the 15-24 labour force and of the 15-24 unemployed. The first is described in chart 21, which shows how the share increased in one year in all Member States, even though only very slightly in the Netherlands, Germany, Austria and Romania. The highest increases have been registered in Estonia, Slovakia and Ireland, followed by Spain and Latvia.

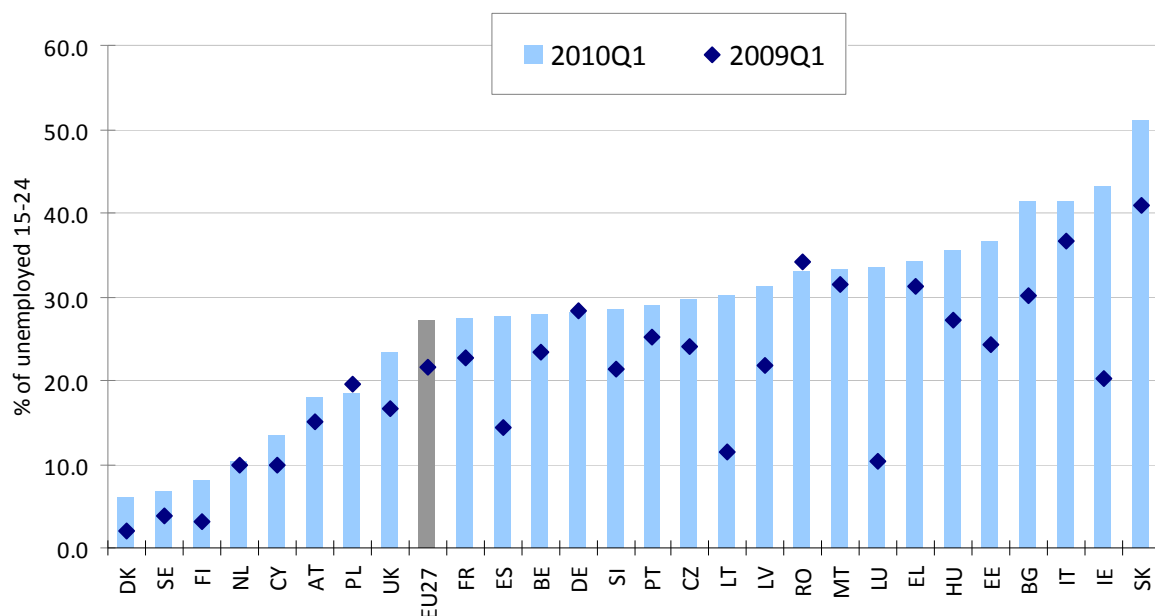
Chart 21. Long-term unemployment rate for youth (15-24) across Member States, as % of the labour force



Source: Eurostat, LFS. Data non-seasonally adjusted.

Data indicate that long-term unemployed as a share of the unemployed has increased over a year in almost all Member States, with the exception of the Netherlands, Poland, Germany and Romania (chart 22). The highest increases has been registered in Ireland, where long-term unemployment increased by 22.8 pps in a year reaching 41.4% of the young unemployed, and in Luxembourg (33.4%, up by 23 pps). Similar increases, though milder, are those for Slovakia, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Spain and Hungary. In the first quarter of 2010, the youth unemployed for 12 months or longer accounted for 51% in Slovakia, and it was above 40% in Bulgaria, Italy and Ireland.

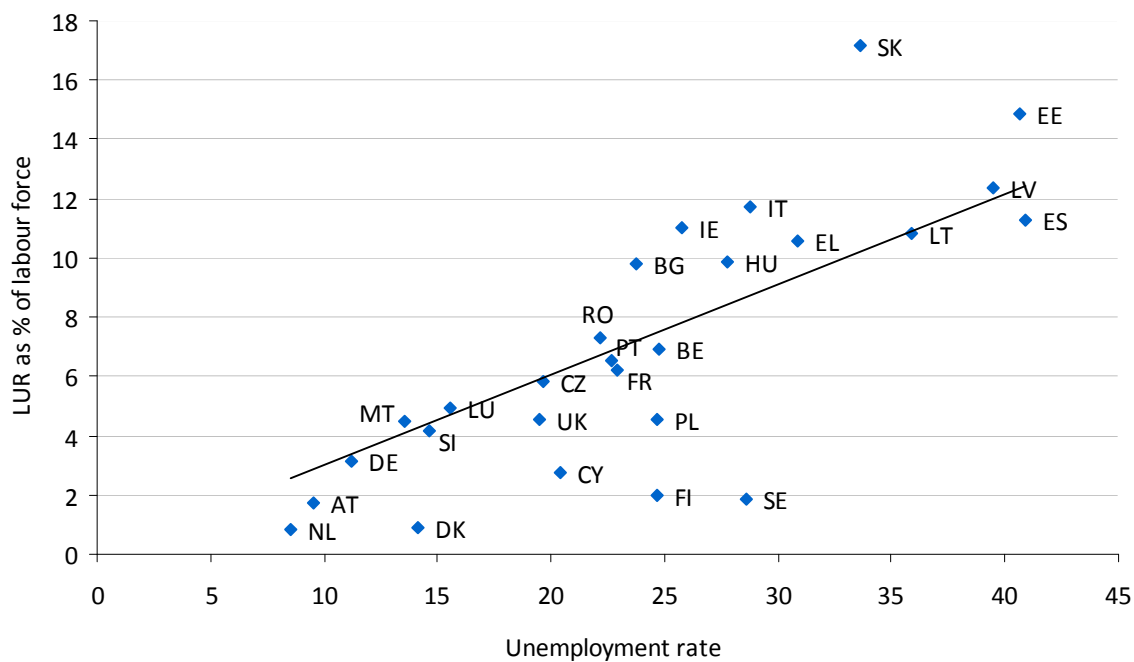
Chart 22. Long-term unemployment share for youth (15-24) across Member States, as % of the unemployed



Source: Eurostat, LFS. Data non-seasonally adjusted.

There is a correlation between long-term unemployment rates and unemployment across the EU27 Member States: a higher long-term unemployment rate corresponds to a high unemployment rate, while deviation from the correlation line reflect incidence of the long-term unemployment (far above the line in the chart there are countries with a high share of long-term unemployed, while far below the line there are countries with the lowest share of long-term unemployed – possibly affected last year by larger influx of young unemployed).

Chart 23. Long-term unemployment (% of labour force) vs unemployment rate for youth 15-24 across Member States, 2010q1

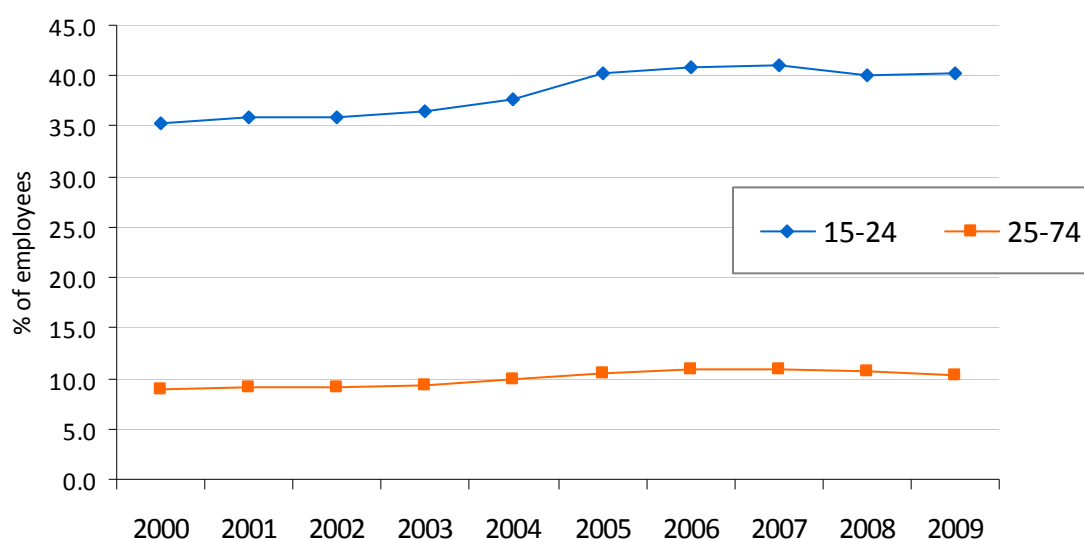


2 Patterns of youth employment

2.1 Temporary employment

Youth is also affected by a much higher incidence of temporary contracts as opposed to adult workers (25-64). The percentage of young temporary workers over the total of the same-age workers is consistently much higher than for adult workers (and the trend is broadly similar for men and women): in 2009 it accounted for 40.2% of total youth employed, while temporary adult workers accounted for 10.3%. The trend for youth reached its peak in the decade in 2007, to then decrease slightly to the values of since 2005 (40.2%): however, it has grown constantly since the year 2000. Differences between young men and women are barely notable, making the average line informative of both trends.

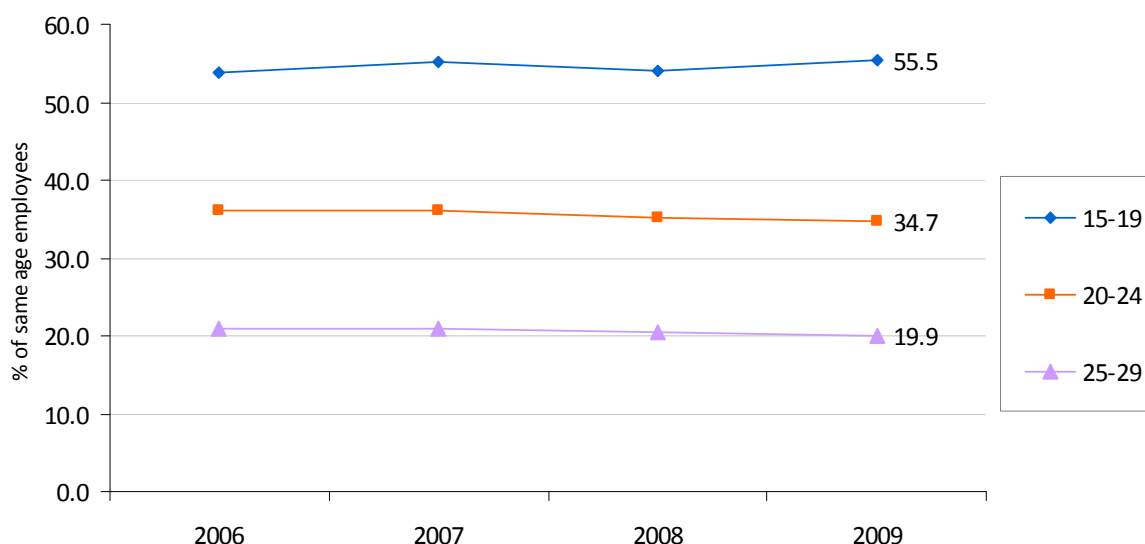
Chart 24. Temporary employment (employees) as % of the total number of employees, for youth (15-24) and adults (25-74), EU27



Source: Eurostat, LFS

A more detailed look to age breakdowns for young people shows that the highest rate of temporary contracts are held by the youngest in employment (15-19), probably due to their participation to education and training. Almost one third of the employed aged 20-24 has a temporary contract, whereas the age group 25-29 raises the average for adults as shown in chart 24.

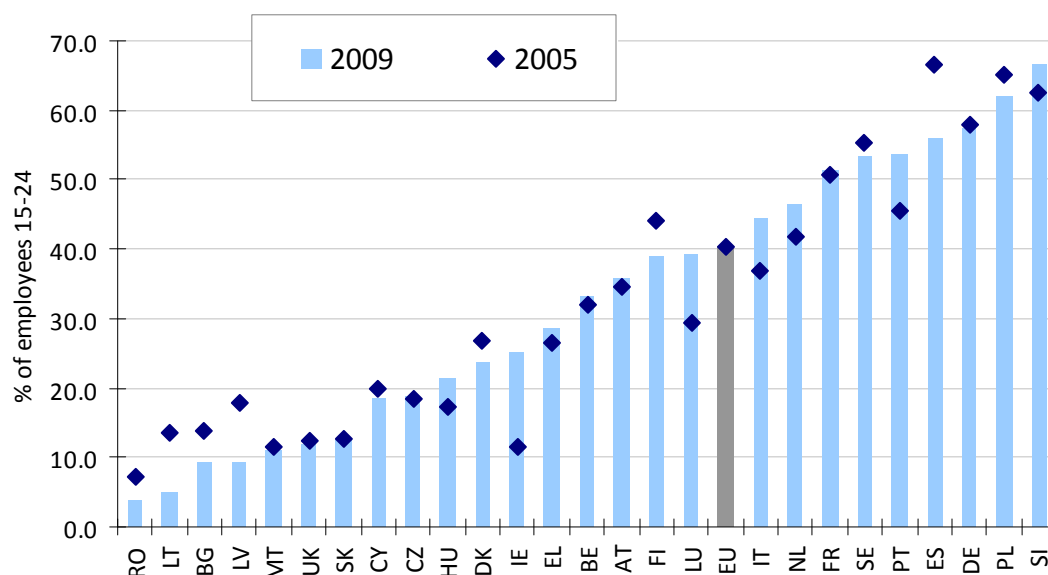
Chart 25. Temporary employment (employees) as % of the total number of employees, youth age groups breakdown, EU27



Source: Eurostat, EU LFS

The situation varies greatly across countries, due to different policy measures and labour market structures (chart 26). In 2009, the rate of youth employed on fixed-term contracts exceeded 60% in Slovenia and Poland, and was over 50% in Germany, Spain, Portugal, Sweden and France. It exceeded 40% in the Netherlands and Italy, and the EU27 average, as said, was at 40.2%. The rate, however, had decreased in Poland, Spain, Sweden, France, Finland, Denmark, Cyprus, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Latvia, Bulgaria, and Romania, but at very different levels. The highest decrease was registered in Lithuania (-8.5 pp), the sharpest increase in Ireland (13.4 pp).

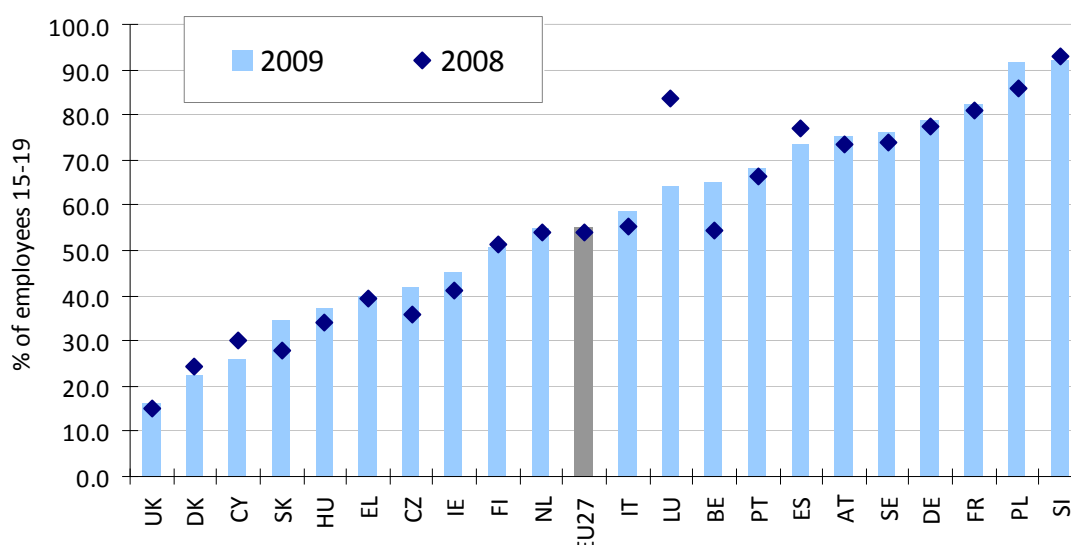
Chart 26. Temporary employment (employees) of youth (15-24) across Member States, as % of the employees 15-24



Source: Eurostat, LFS. *EE: data not available

The variation across countries is confirmed when further breaking down the 15-24 youth group. When available, data for the 15-19 show a mix of increases and decreases in the share of temporary contracts among same-age employees. The highest increase has been registered in Belgium (up by 10 pps between 2008 and 2009), and the most notable decrease in Luxembourg (down by almost 20 pp). The rates vary from over 90% in Poland and Slovakia in 2009 to as little as 16% in the UK (2009). The majority of Member States remain above the EU27 average of 55.5% (chart 27).

Chart 27. Temporary employment (employees) of youth (15-19) across Member States, as % of the employees 15-19

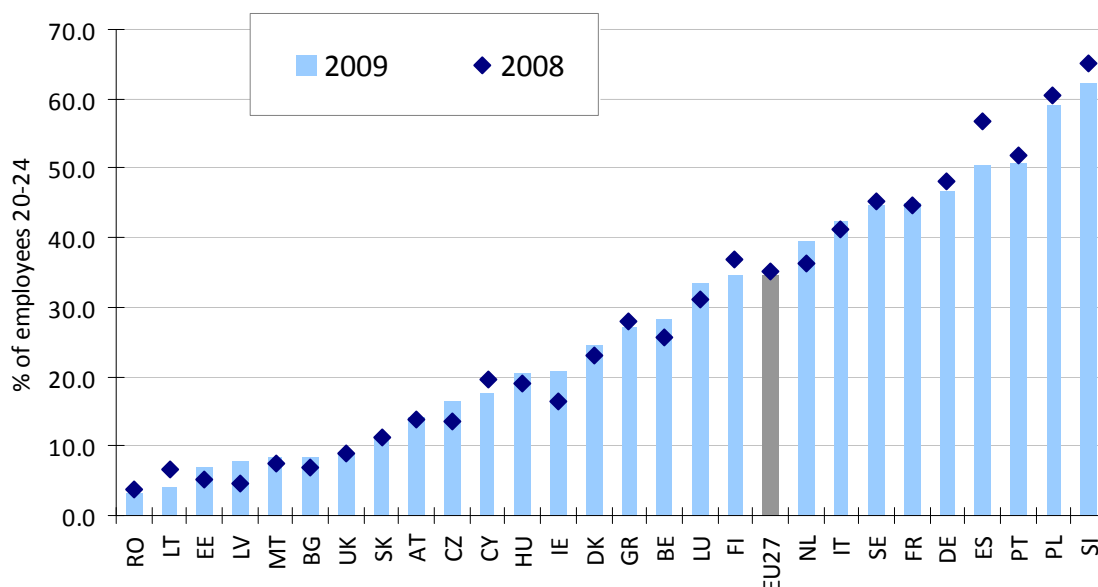


Source: Eurostat, LFS. Data non seasonally adjusted

*BG, EE, LV, LT, MT, RO data not available

The EU average for the share of fixed-term contracts among employees between 20 and 24 years old is 34.7%, with the majority of Member States falling below this value, but maintaining fairly similar levels. Changes over a year for those countries were not particularly striking. Some countries, however, registered rates well above the European average, with Spain, Portugal, Slovenia and Poland over 50%, and the latter two reaching 60% or above.

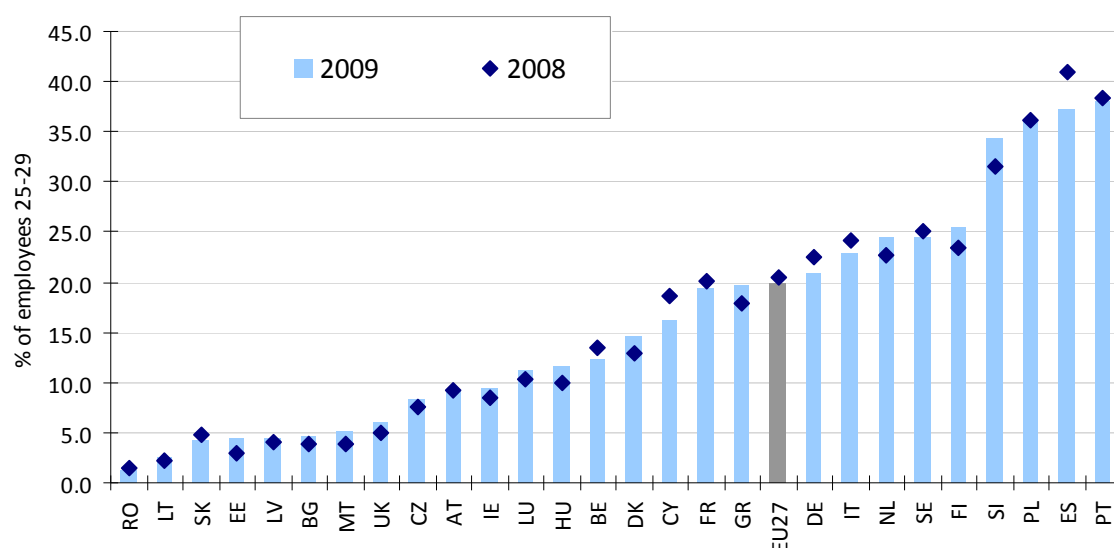
Chart 28. Temporary employment (employees) of youth (20-24) across Member States, as % of the employees 20-24



Source: Eurostat, LFS

A similar situation is shown for the age group 25-29 (chart 29), although at lower levels overall but with peaks over 30% in Slovenia, Poland, Spain and Portugal. The EU average has remained relatively stable between 2008 and 2009 with a small decrease of 0.6 pps to 19.9% in 2009. With levels at 1.6% and 2.6% in 2009, Romania and Lithuania remain at the lowest end of the scale as they do for the age group 20-24.

Chart 29. Temporary employment (employees) of youth (25-29) across Member States, as % of the employees 25-29

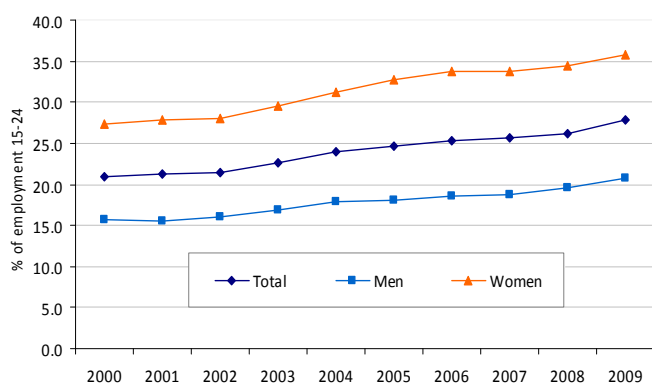


Source: Eurostat, LFS

2.2 Part-time employment

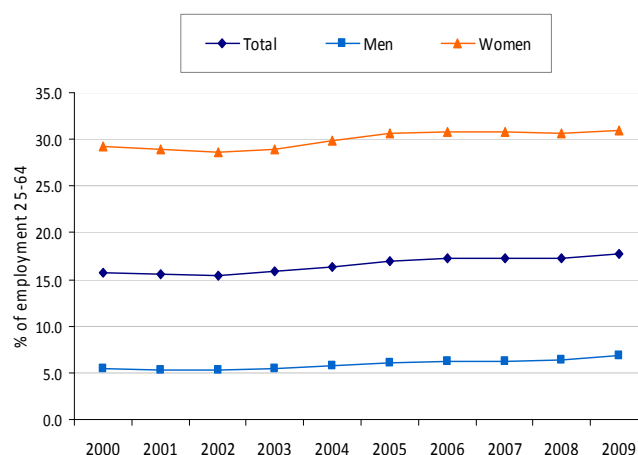
Part-time employment for youth in 2009 (27.8%) was 10.1 pps higher than for adult workers (17.7%). The trends are similar for both age groups, with women consistently accounting for the highest rates of part-time employment, and reaching similar rates across age groups, but the trend tends to be more homogeneous for young workers, where the difference between genders is less pronounced, though still evident.

Chart 30. Part time employment of young people (15-24), EU27



Source: Eurostat LFS

Chart 31. Part-time employment of adults (25-74), EU27

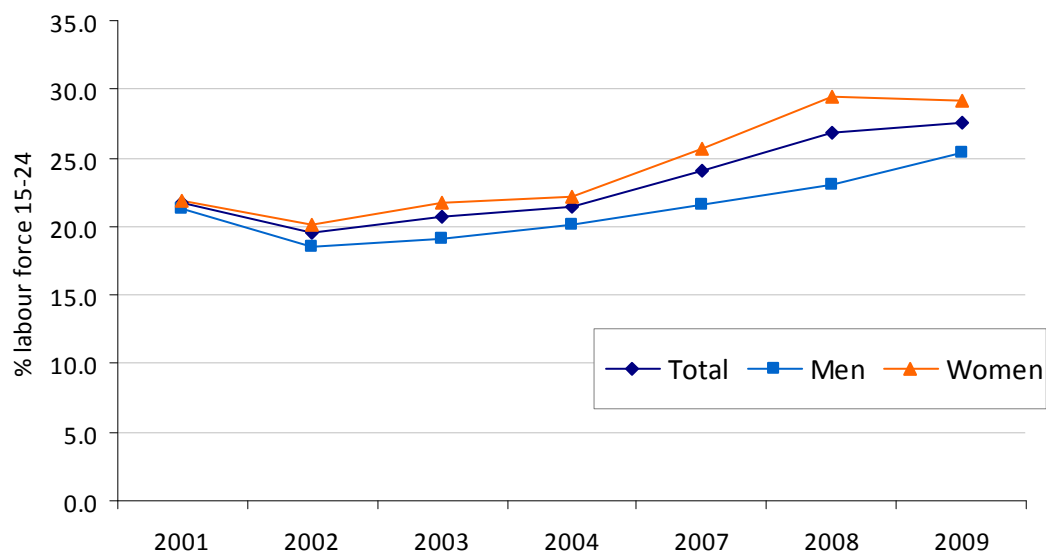


Source: Eurostat LFS

Involuntary part time employment is an indicator of instability. In 2009, 29.2% of young women were involuntarily on part-time employment, a higher share than for young men (25.4%). The total, at the EU level, was 27.6% of the young part-time employed (chart 32).

In 2009, 57% of young people were in part-time employment because they were also in education; 27.6% declared they were because they had been unable to find a full-time job – a rate that equals the share of those declaring to be in involuntary part-time employment.

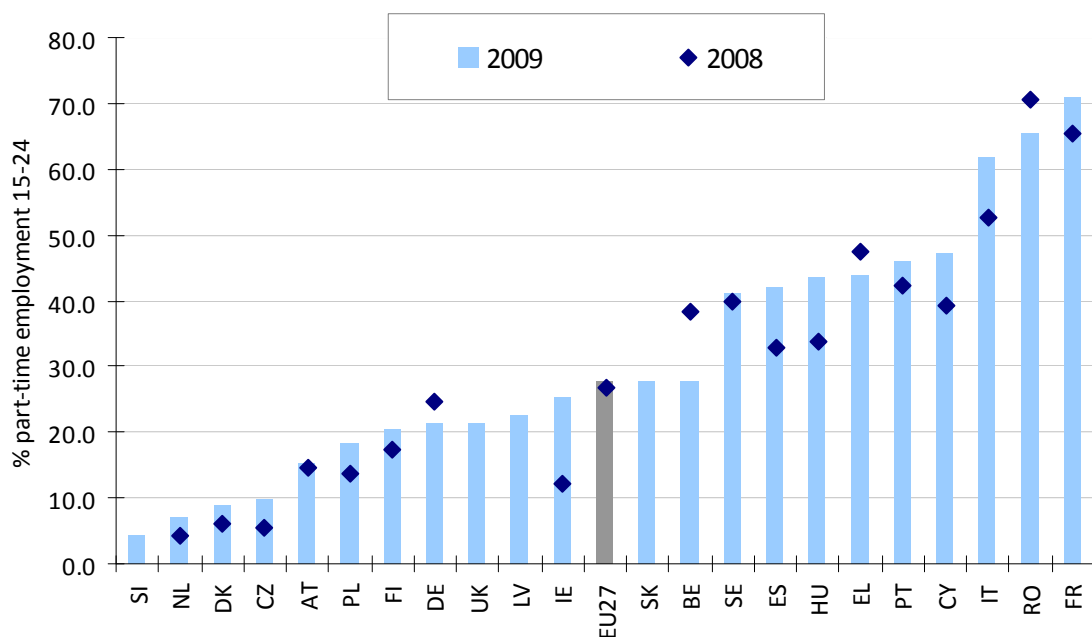
Chart 32. Involuntary part time employment (15-24), EU27



Source: Eurostat, LFS (data for 2005 and 2006 not available)

The situation varies greatly across Member States, for those countries for which average annual figures are available. From 2008 to 2009, involuntary part-time employment has increased in almost all countries, but particularly so in Ireland. Italy, Romania and France register a share well higher than 50% of all young part time workers, who exceed 30% in Sweden, Spain, Hungary, Greece, Portugal, Cyprus, Italy, Romania and France.

Chart 33. Involuntary youth part-time employment across Member States, changes 2008-2009



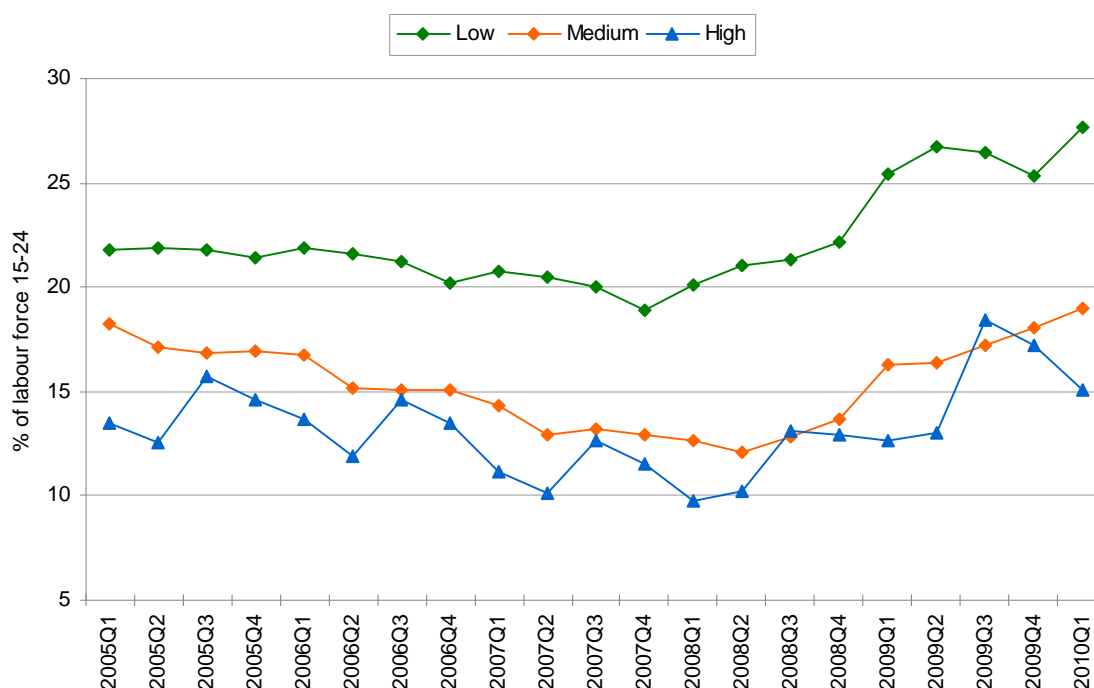
Source: Eurostat, LFS

3 Education and its role in the labour market for youth

Some figures on education attainment and school drop outs of youth (updated to 2009) are also useful to gain a fuller understanding of youth vulnerability on the labour market.

The crisis has had an impact on all skill groups among youth, with unemployment rates increasing for all and remaining highest for the low skilled and lowest for the high skilled: the total increase in the unemployment rate from before to after the crisis (from 2008q1 to 2010q1) for the low-skilled has been of 7.6 pps (from 20.1% to 27.7%); for the medium skilled, of 6.3 pps (from 12.7% to 19%); and for the high skilled, of 5.4 pps (from 9.7% to 15.1%). Nonetheless, non-seasonally adjusted data show that the increase in the unemployment rate compared to a year before was highest for high skilled youth in the second half of 2009; beforehand, low skilled youth was registering the strongest increases (chart 34).

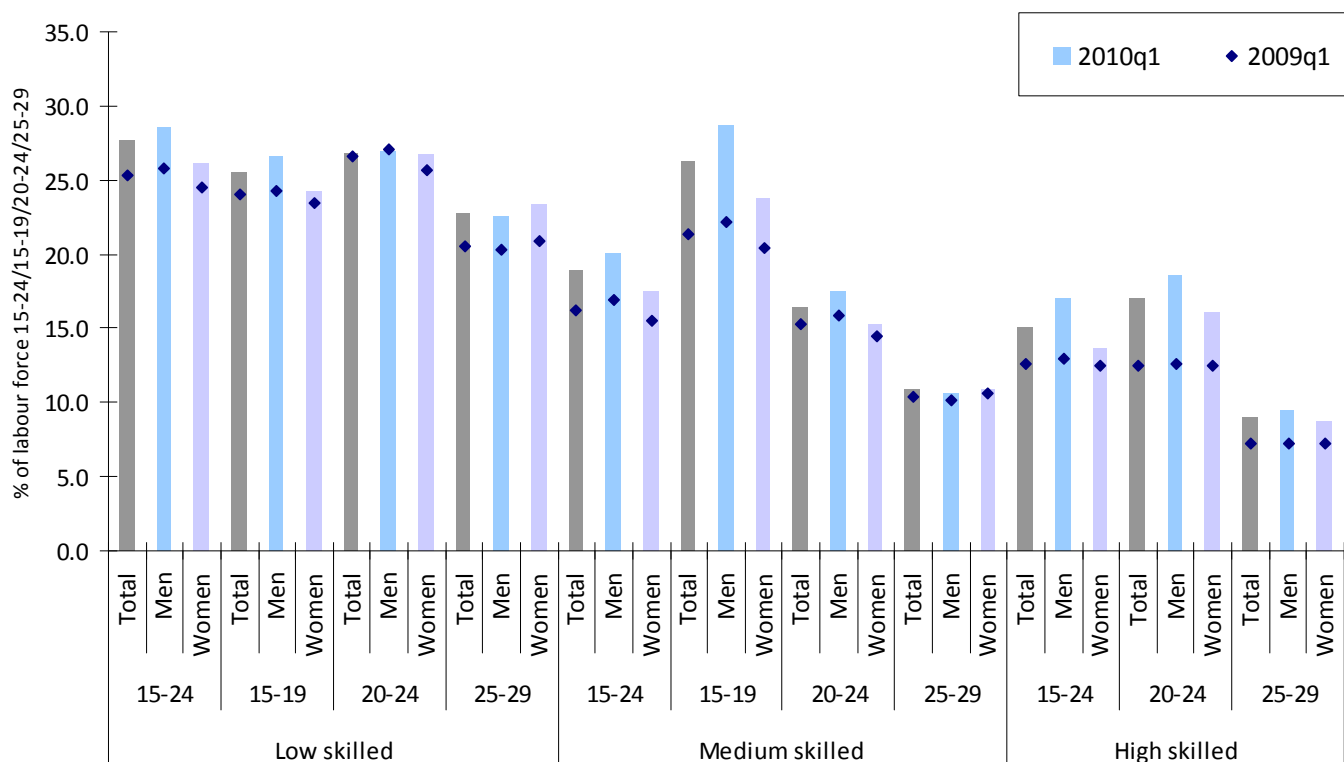
Chart 34. Trend in unemployment rate for youth (15-24) per education attainment, EU27



Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Data non-seasonally adjusted.

Chart 35 shows that the highest increases in unemployment rates have been registered for medium skilled men aged 15-19 (up by 6.5 pp) and for highly skilled men aged 20-24 (up by 5.9 pp, reaching 18.5% in the first quarter of 2010). The unemployment rate of highly skilled women aged 20-24 increased by 3.6 pps (16.1% in the first quarter of 2010). Unemployment decrease slightly for low skilled men aged 20-24 (by 0.1 pps, down to 27%). Detailed graphs per age group per country are in the annex.

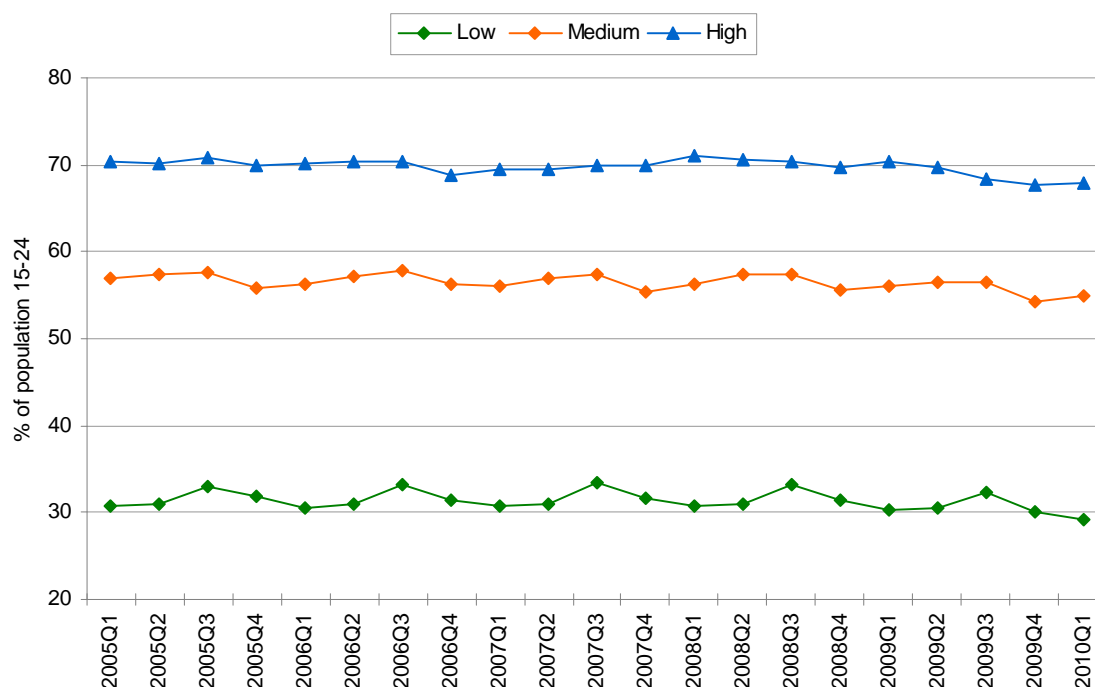
Chart 35. Changes in youth unemployment rates per sex, per skill, per age group (15-24, 15-19, 20-24, 25-29), EU27, 2009q1-2010q1



Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Data non-seasonally adjusted

*20-24 and 25-29: 2009q1-2009q4

Chart 36. Trend in youth (15-24) activity rate per educational attainment, EU27

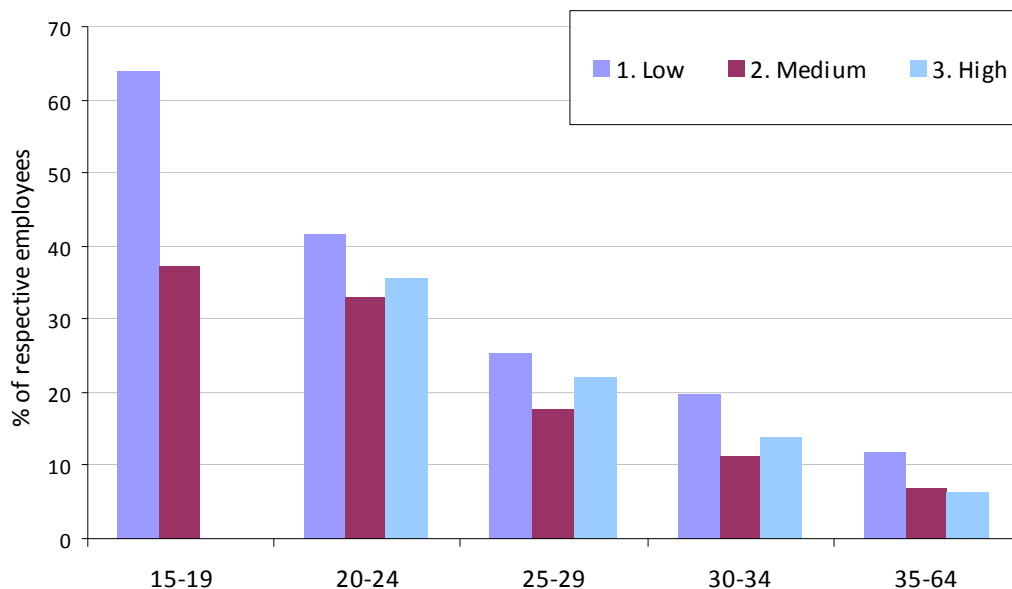


Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Data non-seasonally adjusted.

Chart 37 shows the correlations between the share of temporary employment and of skill levels for the age groups 20-24, 25-29, 30-34 and 35-64. The share of temporary contracts is highest for the 20-24 years olds, and always highest for the low skilled. Except for adult workers, young workers tend to be employed on a temporary basis more often when highly skilled than when medium skilled. As annexes 9-14 show for the age groups 20-24 and 25-29 and per Member State, there are no clear correlations,

although the trend lines seem to suggest negative correlations between fixed-term contracts and medium-to-higher skills, and positive ones with low skilled workers.

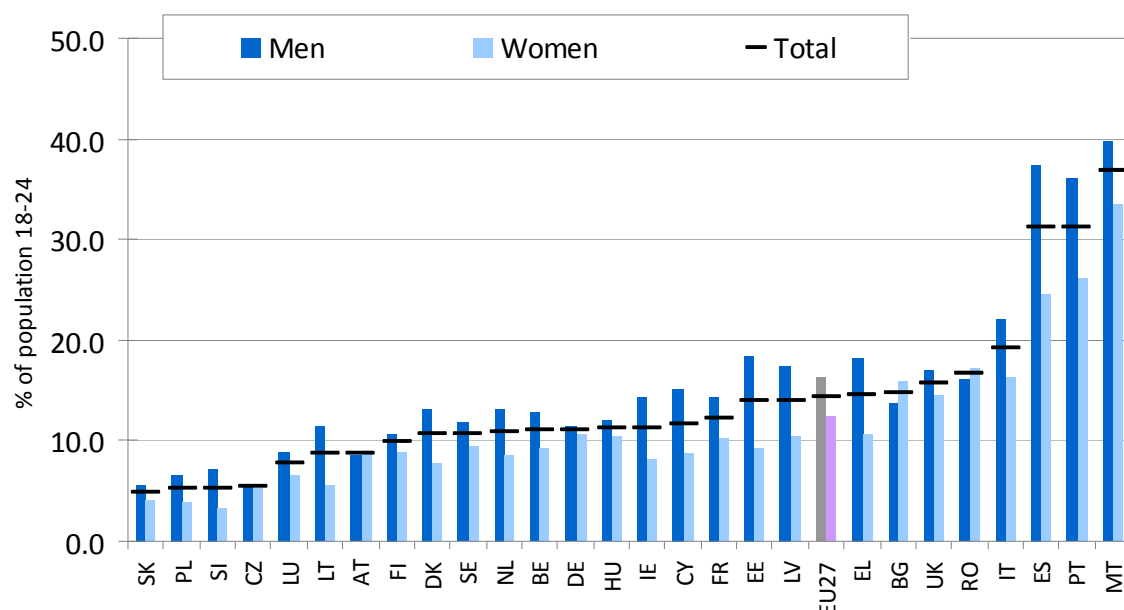
Chart 37. Temporary employees (% of employees) by skill level (% of employees), 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-64, EU27 2009



Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey.

As regards the early leavers from education and training, the situation is diversified across EU countries, and only few Member States have met the benchmark set for 2010 (*"policies should contribute to achieving an EU average rate of no more than 10% early school leavers"*) – which has been updated by the May 2009 Education Council to *"less than 10%"*, and incorporated in the EU2020 strategy as one of the 5 headline targets.

Chart 38. Early leavers from education and training (18-24), across EU Member States, 2009

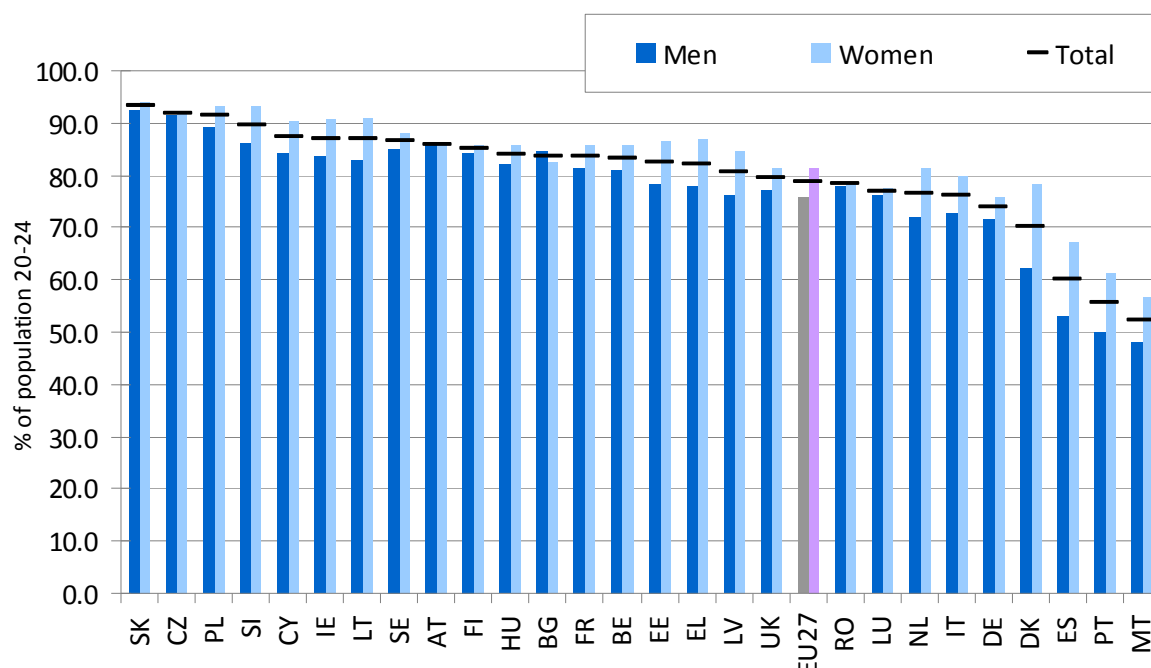


Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Early leavers from education and training - share of the population aged 18-24 with only lower secondary education or less and no longer in education or training

Educational attainment is a determinant of successful integration in the labour market. Therefore, the education and training benchmarks 2010 addressed this issue by setting a target of 85% for 22 year-

olds having completed at least upper secondary education. This benchmark has not been re-proposed for 2020. The figures in 2009 showed that 18 Member States out of 27 (66%) had not reached this target (chart 39).

Chart 39. Youth education attainment levels (20-24) across EU Member States, 2009

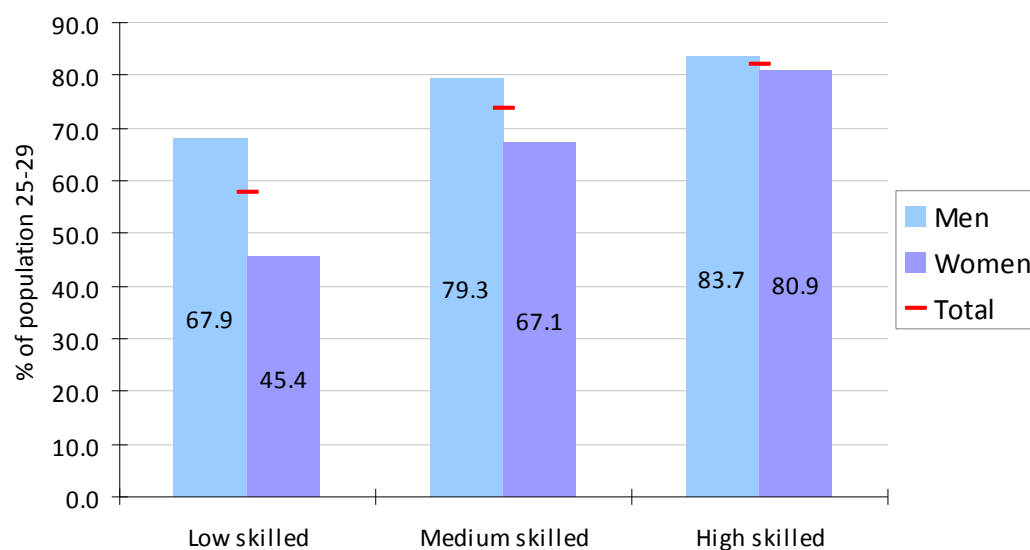


Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Youth education attainment level - share of the population aged 20 to 24 having completed at least upper secondary education.

Employment rates for those with higher levels of education are substantially higher than for those with only lower secondary schooling, and those with tertiary education have the highest employment rates. (Chart 40). The figures are taken for the 25-29 age group so as to gain a picture of the current situation for young people having recently entered the labour market. Gender differences are constantly showed: educational attainment affects young women in the labour market more intensely than men. The gender gap is inconsistent with the fact that young women have a better education level: in 2009, the share of the 20-24 having completed at least upper secondary education was on average 81.4% for women and 75.9% for men (with the EU average at 78.6%).

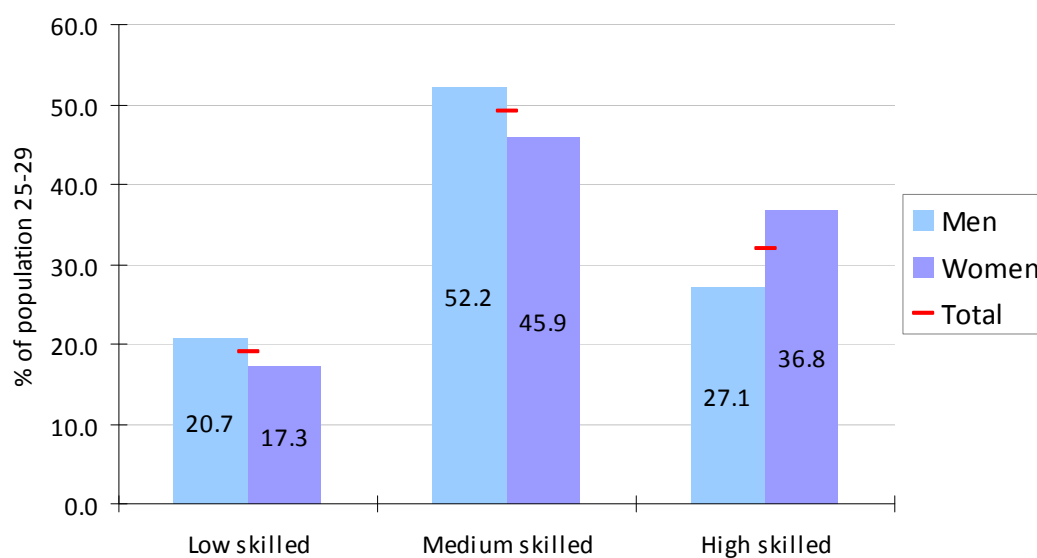
The employment rate is 45.4% for women with low educational attainment, 67.1% for medium-skilled women, and 80.9% for high-skilled women. There are smaller differences in the rates for men across the low, medium and high-skilled. The employment rate for highly skilled men is 4.4 ppt higher than for highly skilled women in spite of the fact that more women hold an ISCED 5-6 level qualification in the same year and age group (chart 41).

Chart 40. Employment rate per education attainment (25-29), 2009, EU27



Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey

Chart 41. Population 25-29, per sex per educational attainment, EU27, 2009



Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey

4 Youth at risk of exclusion from the labour market (NEET)

Unemployment rate and ratio are conventional measures used to describe the labour market situation of youth. However, these traditional indicators for youth labour market participation are frequently criticized for their limited relevance, given the high number of youth who are not in the labour force because they are still in school, training or university. Moreover, indicators on youth employment and unemployment do not cover those youth who are neither active nor in education.⁵

In this sense, it is useful to quantify and monitor youth *not in employment nor in any education and training* (NEET)⁶, which in 2009 accounted for 12.4% of the EU27 age group 15-24 (around 7.4 million people). NEET youth can be at risk of exclusion from the labour market if they gain no working experience, nor skills useful to pass from inactivity and unemployment to employment.

A few conceptual issues are attached to the definition of NEET. Both joblessness and participation to education and training are complex categories themselves, involving the will to actually transit from inactivity to activity (the effort to look for a job) and the nature of the learning activities excluded by the education and training label (formal vs non-formal). A breakdown by age is also an interesting aspect to consider, as the 15-24 or 15-29 ranges can be broken down into different age groups with distinct patterns of inactivity, due to the vast majority of the younger (15-17) being in compulsory education, and usually participating to the labour market in education-related programmes like apprenticeships and traineeships⁷ (charts 42 to 44).

For similar reasons, the indicator on early school leavers, renamed "early leavers from education and training" by the Education Council of May 2009,⁸ targets the age group 18-24 (and sets the benchmark of less than 10% for 2020). It includes unemployed, inactive and also employed persons while an NEET indicator excludes employed, focusing only on the "challenging" group of unemployed and inactive. Early school leavers are defined as those with low educational attainment while NEET cover all levels of educational attainment. In practice, there are few, if any, NEET with upper secondary or higher attainment in the 15-19 age group, but for the 20-24 year olds this becomes relevant and will make for a significant difference between early leavers NEET and overall NEET.

Another interesting background to consider in the NEET is gender. Chart 42 shows overall NEET rates by gender for the age group 15 to 24. In practically all Member States for which data is available young women are more likely to be NEET than young men, with the EU27 NEET average for female youth at 12.9% in 2009 and for their male counterparts at 11.9%.

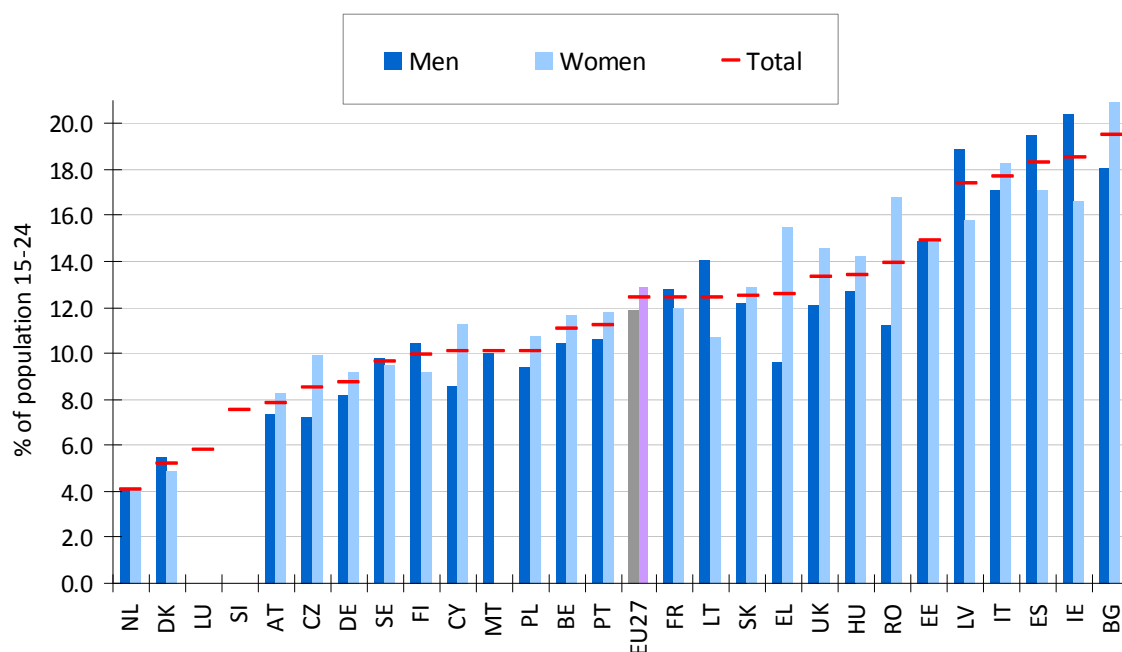
⁵ Paper prepared for the EMCO Indicators Group, 26 Jan.2010.

⁶ As defined by the EMCO Indicators Group in April 2010.

⁷ The Task Force on Educational Variables in the LFS and other Households Surveys set up by the Eurostat aims to improve the LFS explanatory issue on apprenticeships and traineeships in terms of definition and labour status of apprentices and trainees. A proposal by the Task Force identifies new variables on apprenticeships and on the involvement of Public Employment Service in education and training activities to describe better the situation of persons being inactive or holding temporary jobs identified as being "due to education and training" in the LFS. The two new variables on apprentices and trainees and on the involvement of Public Employment Services in education proposed would increase the possibilities for using LFS in the analysis of links between education and training and performance on the labour market.

⁸ As the share of the population aged 18-24 with only lower secondary education or less and no longer in education or training (EUROSTAT/Labour Force Survey) (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2009:119:0002:0010:en:PDF> - footnote 5, p C119/7).

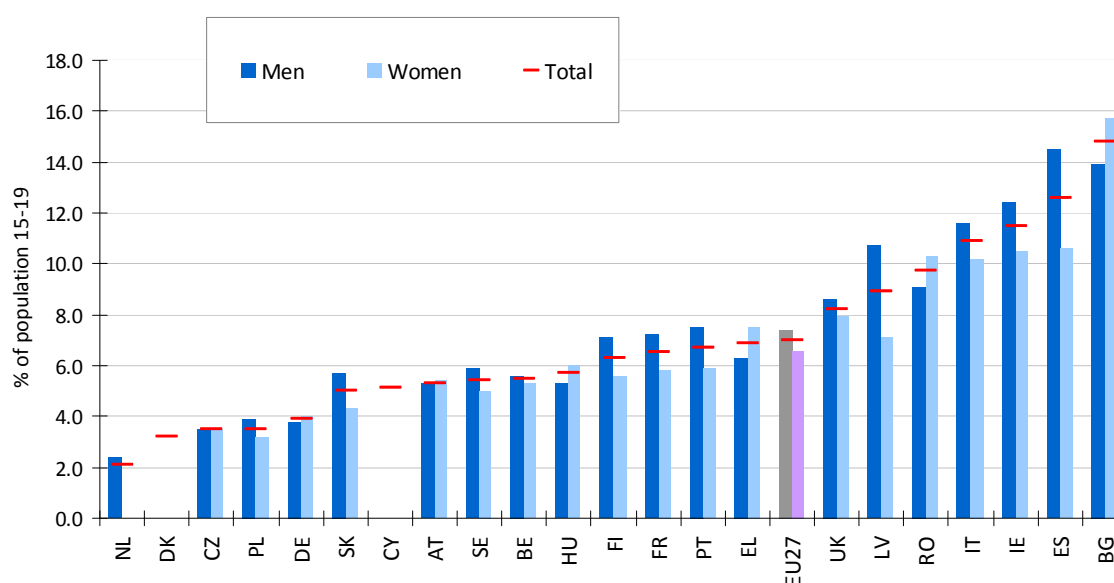
Chart 42. Young persons (15-24) neither in employment nor in education or training (NEET) across EU Member States, 2009



Source: Eurostat Labour Force Survey. Partial lack of data for LU, SI, MT due to missing data or lack of reliability due to very small sample sizes.

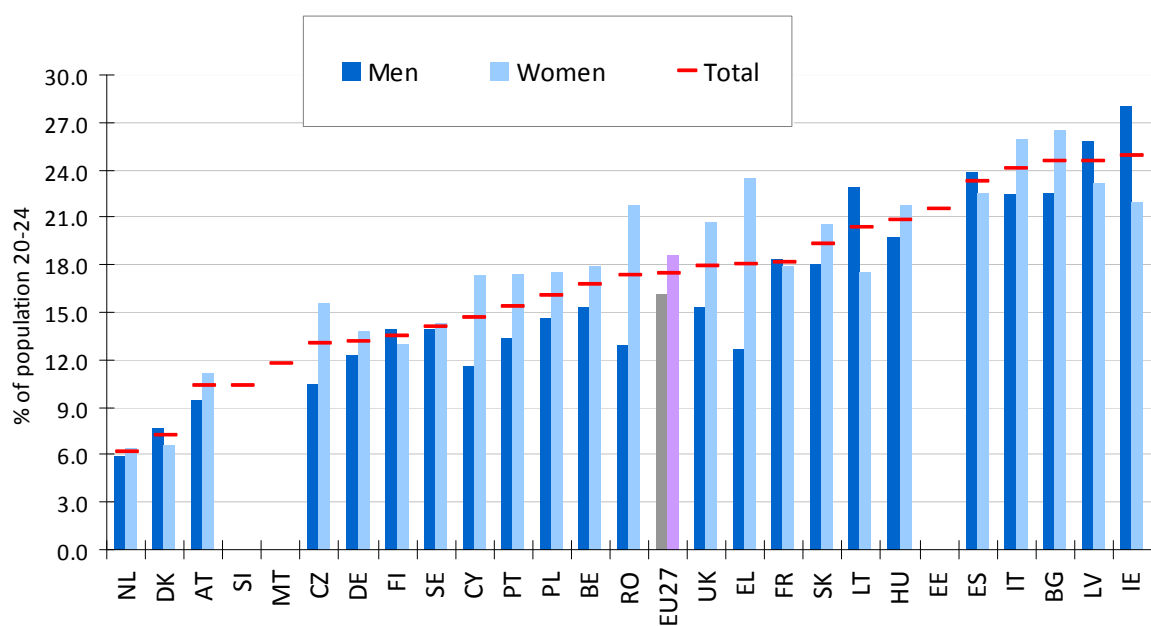
However, the gender distribution of youth NEET rates changes substantially along the age profile within the overall 15-24 age range for youth. In fact, female teenagers aged 15 to 19 tend to have lower average NEET rates than their male counterparts, with some exceptions most notably in Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary and Greece (chart 43). At the EU27 level, the average is 7% NEETs as a share of the same age population: 7.4% for boys and 6.6% for girls. In the 20 to 24 age group young women are substantially more likely to be NEET than young men (chart 44). For this group, the EU27 rate is 17.4%, higher for young women (18.6%) than for young men (16.2%).

Chart 43. Young persons (15-19) neither in employment nor in education or training (NEET) across EU Member States, 2009



Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Partial lack of data for EE, LT, LU, SI, MT, CY, DK, NL due to missing data or lack of reliability due to very small sample sizes

Chart 44. Young persons (20-24) neither in employment nor in education or training (NEET) across EU Member States, 2009



Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Partial lack of data for MT, LU, EE and SI due to missing data or lack of reliability due to very small sample sizes

5 Annex

1. Youth activity rates, before and after the crisis (2008q1 and 2010q1)

	15-24			15-19			20-24			25-29		
	2008	2009	2010	2008	2009	2010	2008	2009	2010	2008	2009	2010
EU27	43.7	43.5	42.5	23.1	22.4	21.4	63.2	63.2	62.0	82.6	82.8	82.6
BE	32.9	31.0	31.6	9.2	8.5	7.9	57.1	53.7	54.7	87.8	88.3	87.8
BG	29.1	30.0	27.2	7.0	6.9	6.1	54.1	54.8	49.1	80.4	77.0	76.0
CZ	30.3	30.9	30.1	6.7	6.9	6.9	51.9	52.4	50.3	79.1	78.7	79.5
DK	67.6	72.6	67.6	59.5	66.1	60.7	76.3	79.3	75.3	85.4	88.9	82.3
DE	53.1	52.0	51.5	33.2	31.1	30.5	72.9	71.9	70.7	82.7	83.0	82.9
EE	38.4	41.2	38.9	(12.0)	(10.7)	(9.2)	62.8	67.3	62.0	80.2	81.5	83.8
IE	51.6	46.4	40.6	24.1	19.6	15.1	74.3	70.4	65.0	85.6	83.9	82.9
EL	29.7	31.2	30.5	9.0	8.6	7.9	49.6	52.4	52.3	84.9	84.1	84.8
ES	46.4	45.5	42.2	22.6	20.6	17.3	66.1	66.5	63.6	86.1	87.1	87.1
FR	38.0	39.7	39.3	15.3	15.2	16.0	60.7	63.6	61.6	86.4	87.5	87.9
IT	30.8	29.4	29.1	10.2	9.3	8.8	50.6	48.8	48.4	72.8	71.0	70.0
CY	41.6	42.4	41.3	10.3	9.3	9.5	69.7	72.8	70.4	87.2	84.8	87.3
LV	45.0	41.2	41.4	14.1	11.5	8.8	72.7	66.2	67.0	87.7	86.5	86.3
LT	28.9	30.4	29.0	(5.3)	(4.9)	(4.0)	51.4	54.1	51.6	81.1	88.9	87.1
LU	26.5	26.9	22.9	(8.8)	12.0	(8.7)	45.8	42.6	37.4	83.0	90.6	87.7
HU	24.5	23.5	24.5	4.4	4.0	3.2	43.7	41.9	44.5	78.4	77.3	77.1
MT	52.3	52.2	49.4	28.2	27.0	22.8	76.9	76.3	75.4	86.6	83.3	83.6
NL	72.1	72.9	71.0	63.0	63.7	61.4	81.4	82.3	80.6	90.2	90.4	89.7
AT	59.4	59.5	57.5	43.9	43.2	41.6	74.2	75.3	72.8	83.8	84.6	84.5
PL	32.8	33.5	34.0	7.2	7.3	8.0	55.8	57.5	57.7	82.1	83.2	83.7
PT	41.7	40.4	37.8	16.8	14.6	12.7	63.9	64.3	61.3	87.9	88.9	88.7
RO	29.0	30.5	30.3	12.5	12.7	10.3	43.8	44.7	45.0	73.9	72.0	73.9
SI	39.4	36.5	39.2	14.5	12.2	14.3	59.8	55.4	58.1	88.5	86.9	87.6
SK	33.7	30.4	30.6	7.7	7.1	5.1	57.2	51.2	53.3	81.7	80.7	82.2
FI	47.4	46.4	43.8	25.7	24.8	23.3	69.0	68.2	64.6	83.5	82.1	81.8
SE	49.1	47.7	47.1	29.7	27.6	27.2	71.3	69.8	68.0	85.0	85.3	82.9
UK	60.4	59.5	57.3	44.1	42.9	39.6	75.9	74.6	73.4	84.5	85.2	84.4

Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey.

Note: "-" Data not available. Data in brackets not reliable due to small sample size.

2. Youth unemployment rates, before and after the crisis (2008q1 and 2010q1)

	15-24			15-19			20-24			25-29		
	2008q1	2009q1	2010q1	2008q1	2009q1	2010q1	2008q1	2009q1	2010q1	2008q1	2009q1	2010q1
EU27	14.9	18.9	21.4	18.3	23.0	25.9	13.8	17.5	20.0	8.6	11.0	13.3
BE	16.5	20.8	24.8	25.0	31.0	39.9	15.1	19.2	22.6	9.1	10.0	12.2
BG	14.4	14.2	23.8	(26.6)	(26.5)	51.0	12.6	12.6	20.2	7.3	7.5	13.8
CZ	10.1	13.0	19.7	26.9	29.0	43.0	8.1	11.1	16.9	4.4	7.1	10.9
DK	6.9	9.5	14.2	7.5	10.4	16.2	6.4	8.7	12.3	3.2	5.1	10.7
DE	10.6	11.0	11.2	10.2	10.9	10.7	10.8	11.1	11.4	9.1	9.3	9.7
EE	:	24.5	40.6	:	:	(73.2)	:	21.5	36.9	:	(14.4)	19.6
IE	9.0	19.3	25.8	12.1	25.7	30.1	8.1	17.8	24.8	5.1	13.4	16.0
EL	23.4	25.5	30.9	27.8	33.2	33.8	22.7	24.3	30.4	14.1	14.7	17.7
ES	21.3	35.7	40.9	32.9	54.5	59.8	18.0	30.7	36.5	11.3	21.3	25.5
FR	17.4	22.5	22.9	21.8	28.1	30.5	16.3	21.2	21.1	10.1	11.3	12.4
IT	21.3	26.3	28.8	31.9	38.4	46.6	19.2	24.1	25.7	11.4	12.7	16.1
CY	11.2	10.0	20.4	(12.1)	:	(33.2)	11.1	9.7	18.8	5.1	6.0	9.2
LV	10.7	28.2	39.5	(21.7)	46.9	59.5	8.8	25.5	37.4	5.9	16.8	21.9
LT	(10.1)	25.0	35.9	:	(46.4)	(66.1)	(9.0)	23.2	33.8	(5.4)	15.5	21.8
LU	(17.3)	24.8	(15.5)	:	(29.9)	:	(18.6)	(23.3)	(14.8)	(7.5)	(7.5)	(4.9)
HU	20.1	25.3	27.7	38.1	53.0	51.2	18.4	22.7	26.2	8.8	11.3	16.2
MT	12.4	12.6	13.5	(28.5)	(28.9)	(25.9)	:	(7.1)	(9.9)	:	:	(7.5)
NL	5.7	6.5	8.5	7.6	8.1	10.2	4.2	5.3	7.2	2.3	3.1	4.2
AT	8.1	9.2	9.5	9.5	10.9	10.0	7.3	8.2	9.2	4.7	6.5	6.2
PL	18.9	19.3	24.7	18.2	23.4	29.3	19.0	18.8	24.1	9.4	9.2	13.5
PT	16.4	20.1	22.7	25.2	30.2	35.0	14.3	18.0	20.3	10.4	11.5	13.5
RO	19.8	21.3	22.2	33.7	38.6	31.6	16.2	17.4	20.6	6.8	8.0	10.8
SI	12.8	14.3	14.7	(9.6)	(10.2)	(17.6)	13.4	15.0	14.1	(7.0)	9.8	11.1
SK	19.0	22.4	33.6	42.5	41.8	61.3	16.1	19.9	31.3	11.4	12.6	17.0
FI	17.1	19.1	24.7	28.4	26.3	36.5	12.9	16.4	20.4	6.7	9.6	11.0
SE	20.5	24.3	28.6	32.3	35.7	40.4	14.8	19.4	23.6	7.1	9.0	10.9
UK	13.3	17.5	19.5	18.4	23.6	28.4	10.5	14.2	15.1	5.0	8.0	9.0

Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey.

Note: ":" Data not available. Data in brackets not reliable due to small sample size.

3. Youth (15-24) unemployment rates, 2008q1 to 2010q2

	2008Q1	2008Q2	2008Q3	2008Q4	2009Q1	2009Q2	2009Q3	2009Q4	2010Q1	2010Q2
EU27	14.7	15.1	15.5	16.6	18.3	19.5	20.3	20.4	20.6	20.4
BE	17.3	17.3	18.9	18.8	21	21.5	22.4	23.1	24.2	23.9
BG	13.7	13.9	11.3	12	13.4	15.4	16.9	19.4	22.3	22.5
CZ	10.1	9.8	9.6	10	13	15.8	17.7	20	19.5	19.3
DK	7.3	7.4	8.2	8.2	9.1	11.4	11.6	12.9	12.9	12.3
DE	10.2	9.9	9.5	9.7	10.1	10.8	10.7	10.2	9.9	9.4
EE	7.5	8.4	14.2	17.4	24.2	25.5	28.7	32.2	39.8	:
IE	10	11.5	14.7	17.5	20.4	24.2	25.4	27.6	27.1	26.6
EL	22.3	21.5	22.2	22.3	24.3	25.5	25.8	27.7	29.5	:
ES	20.7	23.3	25.2	29.5	34.6	37.4	40.1	39.5	39.7	40.2
FR	17.8	18.7	19.3	20.5	22.6	23.6	23.7	23.4	23.1	22.5
IT	20.7	21.1	21.6	22.8	24.3	24.8	25.7	26.8	27.5	:
CY	9.1	8.7	8.7	9.4	10.9	12.9	15.1	17.1	18.4	19.5
LV	10.9	10.6	12.8	19.6	28	29.4	36	40.6	39.5	:
LT	9.3	10.5	14.7	19	23.6	29.5	32.8	31.1	34.4	:
LU	15.4	17.2	18.1	18.7	18.5	17.5	16.4	16.8	16.8	16.2
HU	19.5	19.8	20.2	20	24.4	26.1	27.2	28.2	26.7	24.8
MT	11.7	12.1	11.9	11.8	13.1	14.8	14.7	14.7	14.3	13.7
NL	5.1	5.5	5.2	5.2	6	6.3	6.9	7.3	7.8	8
AT	8.3	7.2	7.5	9.2	9.4	10.6	10.5	9.5	9.7	9.5
PL	17.9	17.5	16.4	17.3	18.3	19.7	22	22.6	23.4	23.3
PT	15.7	15.8	17.3	17.5	19.1	19.4	20.3	21.2	21.5	21.8
RO	18.5	18.6	18.7	18.1	20.1	20.3	21.4	20.5	20.9	:
SI	11.1	10.6	10.2	10	12.4	13.5	14.4	14.1	12.9	13.5
SK	19.2	19.3	18.7	19.4	22.5	25.5	28.3	31.9	33.5	34.7
FI	15.9	15.9	16.7	17.4	18.9	21.1	22.5	23.1	23.5	22.5
SE	18.9	20.4	20	20.9	22.5	25	26.7	25.7	26.4	:
UK	13.8	14.4	15.3	16.5	18	19	19.7	19.7	19.9	:

Source: Eurostat, series on unemployment. The data from this table may differ from data in table 2 as they are calculated based on monthly unemployment

4. Youth unemployment ratios, before and after the crisis (2008q1 and 2010q1)

	15-24			15-19			20-24			25-29		
	2008q1	2009q1	2010q1	2008q1	2009q1	2010q1	2008q1	2009q1	2010q1	2008q1	2009q1	2010q1
EU27	6.5	8.2	9.1	4.2	5.2	5.5	8.7	11.1	12.4	7.1	9.1	11.0
BE	5.4	6.5	7.8	2.3	2.6	3.2	8.6	10.3	12.4	8.0	8.8	10.7
BG	4.2	4.3	6.5	(1.9)	(1.8)	3.1	6.8	6.9	9.9	5.8	5.8	10.5
CZ	3.1	4.0	5.9	1.8	2.0	3.0	4.2	5.8	8.5	3.5	5.6	8.7
DK	4.7	6.9	9.6	4.5	6.9	9.8	4.9	6.9	9.3	2.7	4.6	8.8
DE	5.6	5.8	5.8	3.4	3.4	3.3	7.9	8.0	8.1	7.5	7.7	8.0
EE	:	10.1	15.8	:	:	(6.7)	:	14.5	22.9	:	(11.7)	16.4
IE	4.6	9.0	10.5	2.9	5.0	4.6	6.0	12.5	16.1	4.4	11.2	13.3
EL	7.0	7.9	9.4	2.5	2.8	2.7	11.3	12.7	15.9	12.0	12.4	15.0
ES	9.9	16.2	17.3	7.4	11.2	10.4	11.9	20.4	23.2	9.7	18.5	22.2
FR	6.6	8.9	9.0	3.3	4.3	4.9	9.9	13.5	13.0	8.7	9.9	10.9
IT	6.5	7.7	8.4	3.2	3.6	4.1	9.7	11.7	12.4	8.3	9.0	11.3
CY	4.7	4.2	8.4	(1.2)	:	(3.1)	7.7	7.1	13.2	4.5	5.1	8.0
LV	4.8	11.6	16.3	(3.1)	5.4	5.2	6.4	16.9	25.1	5.2	14.5	18.9
LT	(2.9)	7.6	10.4	:	(2.3)	(2.6)	(4.6)	12.5	17.4	(4.3)	13.8	19.0
LU	(4.6)	6.7	(3.6)	:	(3.6)	:	(8.5)	(9.9)	(5.5)	(6.2)	(6.8)	(4.3)
HU	4.9	5.9	6.8	1.7	2.1	1.6	8.0	9.5	11.6	6.9	8.7	12.5
MT	6.5	6.6	6.7	(8.0)	(7.8)	(5.9)	:	(5.4)	(7.5)	:	:	(6.3)
NL	4.1	4.8	6.0	4.8	5.1	6.3	3.4	4.4	5.8	2.0	2.8	3.8
AT	4.8	5.5	5.5	4.2	4.7	4.2	5.4	6.2	6.7	3.9	5.5	5.2
PL	6.2	6.4	8.4	1.3	1.7	2.4	10.6	10.8	13.9	7.7	7.6	11.3
PT	6.8	8.1	8.6	4.2	4.4	4.5	9.2	11.6	12.4	9.1	10.2	12.0
RO	5.7	6.5	6.7	4.2	4.9	3.2	7.1	7.8	9.3	5.0	5.8	8.0
SI	5.0	5.2	5.8	(1.4)	(1.2)	(2.5)	8.0	8.3	8.2	(6.2)	8.5	9.7
SK	6.4	6.8	10.3	3.3	3.0	3.1	9.2	10.2	16.7	9.3	10.1	14.0
FI	8.1	8.9	10.8	7.3	6.5	8.5	8.9	11.2	13.2	5.6	7.9	9.0
SE	10.0	11.6	13.5	9.6	9.9	11.0	10.6	13.5	16.1	6.0	7.7	9.1
UK	8.0	10.4	11.2	8.1	10.1	11.2	7.9	10.6	11.1	4.3	6.8	7.6

Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey.

Note: ":" Data not available. Data in brackets not reliable due to small sample size.

5. Youth employment rates, before and after the crisis (2008q1 and 2010q1)

	15-24			15-19			20-24			25-29		
	2008q1	2009q1	2010q1	2008q1	2009q1	2010q1	2008q1	2009q1	2010q1	2008q1	2009q1	2010q1
EU27	37.1	35.3	33.4	18.9	17.2	15.8	54.5	52.1	49.6	75.5	73.7	71.6
BE	27.5	24.6	23.7	6.9	5.8	4.8	48.5	43.4	42.3	79.8	79.5	77.1
BG	24.9	25.8	20.7	5.1	5.1	(3.0)	47.3	47.9	39.2	74.6	71.3	65.5
CZ	27.2	26.9	24.1	4.9	4.9	3.9	47.7	46.6	41.8	75.6	73.1	70.8
DK	62.9	65.7	58.0	55.0	59.2	50.8	71.3	72.4	66.0	82.7	84.4	73.5
DE	47.5	46.3	45.7	29.8	27.7	27.2	65.0	63.9	62.6	75.2	75.3	74.9
EE	35.5	31.1	23.1	(9.2)	:	:	59.9	52.8	39.1	76.4	69.8	67.4
IE	47.0	37.4	30.1	21.2	14.6	10.6	68.3	57.9	48.9	81.2	72.6	69.6
EL	22.8	23.2	21.1	6.5	5.7	5.2	38.4	39.7	36.4	73.0	71.7	69.8
ES	36.5	29.3	24.9	15.1	9.4	7.0	54.2	46.1	40.4	76.4	68.6	64.9
FR	31.3	30.8	30.3	12.0	10.9	11.1	50.8	50.1	48.7	77.7	77.6	77.0
IT	24.2	21.7	20.7	6.9	5.7	4.7	40.8	37.1	36.0	64.6	62.0	58.7
CY	36.9	38.1	32.9	9.0	8.2	6.3	61.9	65.7	57.2	82.7	79.7	79.3
LV	40.1	29.6	25.0	11.1	6.1	3.6	66.3	49.4	41.9	82.5	72.0	67.4
LT	26.0	22.8	18.6	(4.2)	(2.6)	:	46.8	41.6	34.1	76.8	75.1	68.1
LU	21.9	20.2	19.4	(7.8)	(8.4)	(7.1)	37.3	32.7	31.8	76.8	83.9	83.4
HU	19.6	17.5	17.7	2.7	1.9	1.6	35.7	32.4	32.9	71.5	68.5	64.6
MT	45.8	45.6	42.7	20.1	19.2	16.9	71.9	70.8	67.9	84.1	78.9	77.3
NL	68.0	68.1	65.0	58.2	58.5	55.2	77.9	77.9	74.8	88.1	87.7	85.9
AT	54.6	54.1	52.0	39.8	38.5	37.4	68.8	69.1	66.1	79.9	79.1	79.3
PL	26.6	27.0	25.6	5.9	5.6	5.7	45.2	46.7	43.8	74.4	75.6	72.4
PT	34.9	32.3	29.3	12.6	10.2	8.3	54.7	52.7	48.8	78.8	78.6	76.7
RO	23.3	24.0	23.6	8.3	7.8	7.0	36.7	36.9	35.7	68.9	66.2	65.9
SI	34.4	31.3	33.5	13.1	10.9	11.8	51.8	47.1	49.9	82.3	78.4	77.9
SK	27.3	23.6	20.3	4.5	4.1	2.0	48.0	41.0	36.6	72.4	70.6	68.2
FI	39.3	37.6	33.0	18.4	18.3	14.8	60.1	57.0	51.5	77.9	74.2	72.8
SE	39.0	36.1	33.6	20.1	17.8	16.2	60.8	56.3	51.9	79.0	77.6	73.8
UK	52.4	49.1	46.2	35.9	32.8	28.4	67.9	64.0	62.3	80.3	78.4	76.7

Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey.

Note: ":" Data not available. Data in brackets not reliable due to small sample size.

6. Youth (15-24) long term unemployment (% of labour force), before and after the crisis

	15-24			15-19			20-24			25-29		
	2008q1	2009q1	2010q1	2008q1	2009q1	2010q1	2008q1	2009q1	2010q1	2008q1	2009q1	2010q1
EU27	3.5	4.1	5.8	2.8	3.7	5.2	3.8	4.2	5.9	2.8	2.7	4.3
BE	4.5	4.9	6.9	:	:	(4.9)	4.9	5.1	7.2	4.2	3.7	5.2
BG	4.8	(4.3)	9.8	:	:	:	(3.9)	(4.5)	9.1	4.2	(2.9)	(4.6)
CZ	3.2	3.1	5.8	(7.3)	(7.4)	13.6	2.7	2.6	4.9	1.6	1.9	3.2
DK	:	:	(0.9)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	(1.6)
DE	2.9	3.1	3.1	2.3	2.9	2.6	3.1	3.1	3.3	3.5	2.9	3.3
EE	:	:	(14.8)	:	:	:	:	:	(13.9)	:	:	(7.1)
IE	1.9	3.9	11.0	:	:	(8.9)	2.0	3.9	11.5	(1.2)	2.7	7.0
EL	8.2	8.0	10.5	9.1	(9.1)	(11.3)	8.0	7.8	10.4	6.3	5.6	7.6
ES	2.3	5.1	11.3	2.9	8.6	14.3	2.1	4.2	10.6	1.4	3.0	6.5
FR	4.4	5.1	6.2	(3.4)	(3.7)	6.4	4.7	5.4	6.2	3.2	2.4	4.3
IT	7.9	9.5	11.7	8.3	10.1	13.2	7.8	9.4	11.4	5.1	4.8	7.2
CY	(1.7)	:	(2.8)	:	:	:	(1.9)	:	(2.9)	:	:	(1.3)
LV	:	6.1	12.4	:	(15.0)	:	:	4.8	12.7	:	3.4	7.5
LT	:	:	(10.8)	:	:	:	:	:	(10.8)	:	:	(5.1)
LU	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
HU	6.1	6.9	9.9	:	(11.3)	(17.3)	6.2	6.5	9.3	3.4	4.4	6.9
MT	(5.0)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	(0.6)	(0.6)	0.8	:	(0.8)	(0.9)	:	:	(0.8)	:	:	(0.6)
AT	(1.1)	1.4	1.7	:	(2.1)	:	:	:	(1.7)	(1.0)	(1.1)	(0.9)
PL	4.5	3.8	4.5	:	:	(3.7)	4.8	4.0	4.7	2.6	1.9	3.2
PT	4.1	5.0	6.5	:	:	:	3.6	5.0	6.9	3.5	4.2	4.6
RO	8.7	7.3	7.3	9.1	8.2	(7.7)	8.6	7.1	7.3	3.5	3.1	3.4
SI	(2.9)	(3.1)	(4.2)	:	:	:	(3.5)	(3.3)	(4.2)	(2.8)	(3.3)	(3.9)
SK	11.1	9.2	17.1	20.1	(15.2)	(20.2)	10.0	8.4	16.9	6.9	6.4	9.7
FI	(1.1)	:	2.0	:	:	:	(0.9)	:	2.4	(0.7)	:	1.6
SE	(0.8)	0.9	1.9	:	:	:	(1.1)	(1.1)	2.2	:	(0.7)	1.5
UK	2.3	2.9	4.6	2.2	3.3	6.0	2.3	2.7	3.9	1.2	1.6	2.7

Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey.

Note: ":" Data not available. Data in brackets not reliable due to small sample size.

7. Youth (15-24) long term unemployment (% of unemployed), before and after the crisis

	15-24			15-19			20-24			25-29		
	2008q1	2009q1	2010q1	2008q1	2009q1	2010q1	2008q1	2009q1	2010q1	2008q1	2009q1	2010q1
EU27	23.8	21.6	27.2	15.7	16.3	20.4	27.5	24.0	30.0	32.3	24.9	32.2
BE	27.0	23.5	28.0	:	:	(12.4)	32.2	26.8	31.8	46.3	37.1	43.0
BG	33.5	(30.1)	41.3	:	:	:	(31.2)	(35.8)	45.1	57.4	(38.4)	(33.1)
CZ	31.3	24.0	29.6	(27.0)	(25.5)	31.6	33.0	23.6	28.9	37.5	27.7	29.7
DK	:	:	(6.2)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	(15.3)
DE	27.8	28.3	28.1	23.7	27.4	24.3	29.5	28.6	29.6	39.2	31.9	34.5
EE	:	:	(36.5)	:	:	:	:	:	(37.6)	:	:	(36.1)
IE	21.8	20.3	43.1	:	:	(29.8)	24.5	22.2	46.6	(23.5)	20.1	43.9
EL	34.8	31.3	34.2	32.7	(27.3)	(33.6)	35.2	32.2	34.3	44.6	38.2	42.8
ES	10.8	14.3	27.5	8.8	15.8	23.9	11.8	13.6	28.9	12.1	13.9	25.5
FR	25.6	22.8	27.4	(15.9)	(13.4)	21.1	28.8	25.7	29.6	31.2	21.7	34.5
IT	38.0	36.7	41.4	26.9	26.6	28.6	41.5	39.7	45.4	45.3	38.4	45.3
CY	(14.9)	:	(13.6)	:	:	:	(17.1)	:	(15.4)	:	:	(14.6)
LV	:	21.7	31.3	:	(32.0)	:	:	18.9	33.9	:	20.0	34.3
LT	:	:	(30.2)	:	:	:	:	:	(32.1)	:	:	(23.6)
LU	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
HU	30.4	27.2	35.5	:	(21.4)	(33.9)	33.6	28.5	35.7	39.0	38.6	42.6
MT	(40.5)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
NL	(11.3)	(9.8)	10.4	:	(10.1)	(9.0)	:	:	(11.8)	:	:	(13.9)
AT	(13.9)	15.0	17.9	:	(19.3)	:	:	:	(18.1)	(21.0)	(17.5)	(14.2)
PL	23.6	19.6	18.4	:	:	(12.5)	25.4	21.2	19.3	27.6	21.0	23.5
PT	25.2	25.1	28.9	:	:	:	25.2	28.1	34.3	34.4	36.2	35.2
RO	44.0	34.1	33.0	27.0	21.3	(24.3)	53.1	40.6	35.3	52.5	38.4	31.6
SI	(23.0)	(21.3)	(28.6)	:	:	:	(26.3)	(22.2)	(29.5)	(40.0)	(33.4)	(35.0)
SK	58.6	40.9	51.0	47.4	(36.2)	(33.0)	62.3	42.1	53.9	60.4	50.7	57.0
FI	(6.3)	:	8.1	:	:	:	(7.3)	:	12.1	(11.2)	:	15.3
SE	(4.2)	3.8	6.7	:	:	:	(7.8)	(5.8)	9.5	:	(8.3)	14.3
UK	17.0	16.7	23.5	12.1	14.1	21.1	21.8	18.9	25.6	23.0	19.7	30.2

Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey.

Note: ":" Data not available. Data in brackets not reliable due to small sample size.

8. Change in unemployment rates for youth aged 15-24, 20-24, 25-29 per educational attainment across Member States, 2009q1-2010q1

15-24				20-24				25-29			
		2010Q1	2009Q1			2010Q1	2009Q1			2010Q1	2009Q1
BE	low	28.5	39.6	BE	low	35.0	35.0	BE	low	26.0	29.3
	medium	22.1	23.7		medium	19.8	21.4		medium	10.7	9.3
	high	10.3	11.6		high	17.8	10.4		high	5.1	5.0
BG	low	0.0	41.4	BG	low	39.0	26.7	BG	low	33.3	18.0
	medium	11.6	21.6		medium	18.4	10.3		medium	12.2	6.9
	high	0.0	0.0		high	4.2	4.9		high	8.5	3.9
CZ	low	38.6	43.7	CZ	low	37.6	37.7	CZ	low	43.4	29.4
	medium	10.1	16.7		medium	15.0	9.2		medium	9.8	6.7
	high	0.0	0.0		high	15.0	8.4		high	7.6	3.6
DK	low	9.9	15.7	DK	low	14.8	13.3	DK	low	17.2	10.2
	medium	9.2	11.4		medium	10.7	8.8		medium	8.6	4.6
	high	0.0	0.0		high	15.6	7.2		high	10.3	3.0
DE	low	13.7	13.9	DE	low	18.6	15.3	DE	low	25.3	23.7
	medium	9.0	9.1		medium	9.0	9.1		medium	8.8	8.5
	high	0.0	0.0		high	5.9	4.8		high	4.4	3.8
EE	low	0.0	0.0	EE	low	35.3	33.8	EE	low	46.9	28.2
	medium	23.8	43.8		medium	41.8	22.5		medium	22.4	20.9
	high	0.0	0.0		high	15.1	6.0		high	4.5	0.6
IE	low	32.8	42.6	IE	low	49.1	43.7	IE	low	38.9	27.9
	medium	18.8	25.0		medium	24.2	17.6		medium	19.3	16.2
	high	11.8	16.3		high	16.3	11.8		high	9.4	7.8
EL	low	22.3	27.6	EL	low	27.1	21.6	EL	low	16.5	13.8
	medium	27.0	29.9		medium	28.9	25.5		medium	18.0	14.8
	high	25.9	41.8		high	41.9	25.9		high	18.0	15.3
ES	low	42.7	49.0	ES	low	43.9	41.7	ES	low	34.9	29.6
	medium	0.0	32.6		medium	30.4	27.7		medium	23.5	20.4
	high	21.3	27.4		high	27.1	21.0		high	17.8	14.0
FR	low	37.4	34.5	FR	low	36.6	38.3	FR	low	28.5	20.9
	medium	20.3	21.5		medium	19.9	19.0		medium	11.6	12.5
	high	10.1	12.4		high	12.4	10.2		high	8.2	7.2
IT	low	27.0	32.2	IT	low	28.0	25.0	IT	low	18.2	12.9
	medium	25.5	27.3		medium	25.0	23.6		medium	14.1	11.1
	high	32.1	20.4		high	20.4	32.1		high	18.8	16.3
CY	low	0.0	0.0	CY	low	12.3	10.3	CY	low	13.4	7.6
	medium	9.3	21.8		medium	19.9	8.9		medium	7.9	7.8
	high	0.0	20.4		high	20.4	11.9		high	8.8	4.4
LV	low	53.7	51.7	LV	low	50.4	44.3	LV	low	24.0	31.7
	medium	18.7	37.3		medium	35.6	18.5		medium	24.0	20.2
	high	0.0	24.9		high	24.9	14.2		high	18.4	7.1
LT	low	0.0	0.0	LT	low	61.6	46.4	LT	low	42.7	29.4
	medium	23.8	33.7		medium	32.3	23.4		medium	32.6	22.2
	high	0.0	0.0		high	24.4	8.9		high	11.5	7.8
LU	low	0.0	0.0	LU	low	28.3	25.6	LU	low	5.5	0.0
	medium	0.0	0.0		medium	11.3	20.0		medium	5.7	9.2
	high	0.0	0.0		high	11.2	33.1		high	3.7	7.5
HU	low	45.5	46.1	HU	low	43.0	44.2	HU	low	40.5	33.0
	medium	21.3	24.2		medium	23.6	20.1		medium	16.1	10.7
	high	16.4	18.2		high	18.2	16.4		high	8.6	5.6
MT	low	17.6	17.3	MT	low	13.3	13.3	MT	low	6.5	9.0
	medium	0.0	0.0		medium	6.7	3.1		medium	7.3	2.6
	high	0.0	0.0		high	15.0	6.4		high	2.1	1.1
NL	low	8.5	11.1	NL	low	13.2	8.4	NL	low	10.0	6.0
	medium	4.9	6.6		medium	5.7	4.9		medium	3.8	2.6
	high	0.0	0.0		high	4.5	3.7		high	2.5	2.2
AT	low	13.6	12.0	AT	low	18.7	19.2	AT	low	19.0	19.0
	medium	6.7	8.0		medium	7.6	6.3		medium	5.1	5.0
	high	10.9	7.1		high	10.9	7.1		high	4.1	5.3
PL	low	20.6	34.4	PL	low	43.1	35.8	PL	low	28.9	18.3
	medium	19.3	23.7		medium	22.8	18.4		medium	15.5	10.6
	high	17.9	20.9		high	20.9	17.9		high	9.3	5.9
PT	low	21.0	23.2	PT	low	19.9	20.0	PT	low	16.1	13.8
	medium	16.9	21.0		medium	19.4	16.3		medium	12.2	11.1
	high	24.0	25.3		high	25.3	24.0		high	10.3	7.9
RO	low	24.0	15.7	RO	low	13.7	12.4	RO	low	11.6	13.2
	medium	20.1	25.6		medium	23.3	17.2		medium	10.3	8.0
	high	19.4	21.3		high	21.3	19.4		high	11.3	4.7
SI	low	0.0	0.0	SI	low	28.8	19.0	SI	low	19.4	17.0
	medium	0.0	0.0		medium	12.4	13.4		medium	10.4	9.1
	high	0.0	0.0		high	8.4	14.4		high	11.0	10.0
SK	low	60.1	70.9	SK	low	66.7	62.1	SK	low	76.6	60.3
	medium	20.2	30.6		medium	29.4	18.8		medium	16.1	12.3
	high	0.0	0.0		high	25.1	6.5		high	7.7	6.2
FI	low	26.7	34.0	FI	low	29.5	30.7	FI	low	19.7	19.0
	medium	16.4	20.4		medium	19.3	16.2		medium	12.3	10.5
	high	0.0	0.0		high	4.4	6.9		high	6.3	5.9
SE	low	39.3	44.8	SE	low	40.7	40.7	SE	low	22.9	19.4
	medium	19.6	23.0		medium	17.7	17.8		medium	8.5	9.4
	high	12.8	19.3		high	14.9	12.8		high	7.2	5.9
UK	low	32.6	34.6	UK	low	27.5	22.3	UK	low	19.9	18.0
	medium	13.9	16.6		medium	12.9	11.4		medium	9.8	8.3
	high	9.8	11.2		high	11.0	9.2		high	4.7	3.9

Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Data non-seasonally adjusted.

9. Youth temporary contracts (% of employees), 2009

	15-24	15-19	20-24	25-29
AT	35.6	72.4	13.8	8.7
BE	33.2	61.5	26.7	11.3
BG	9.3	:	8.0	4.4
CY	18.4	22.5	16.2	14.8
CZ	18.7	39.2	15.1	7.4
DE	57.2	77.6	45.6	19.6
DK	23.6	22.4	23.8	13.8
EE	:	:	6.6	4.1
ES	55.9	67.7	47.2	33.9
EU-27	40.2	51.8	32.2	17.9
FI	39.0	48.2	32.8	23.4
FR	51.2	75.2	42.8	18.3
GR	28.4	25.8	21.4	15.4
HU	21.4	35.3	19.7	10.9
IE	25.0	41.7	19.8	8.7
IT	44.4	51.9	36.7	18.5
LT	5.0	:	3.9	2.4
LU	39.1	57.6	32.2	10.7
LV	9.3	:	7.4	4.1
MT	11.0	:	7.8	4.6
NL	46.5	50.4	37.0	22.5
PL	62.0	71.6	52.3	31.1
PT	53.5	62.3	48.6	34.7
RO	3.7	:	2.2	1.0
SE	53.4	73.7	43.5	23.4
SI	66.6	63.0	56.7	31.8
SK	12.5	31.0	9.9	3.6
UK	11.9	14.0	8.4	5.5

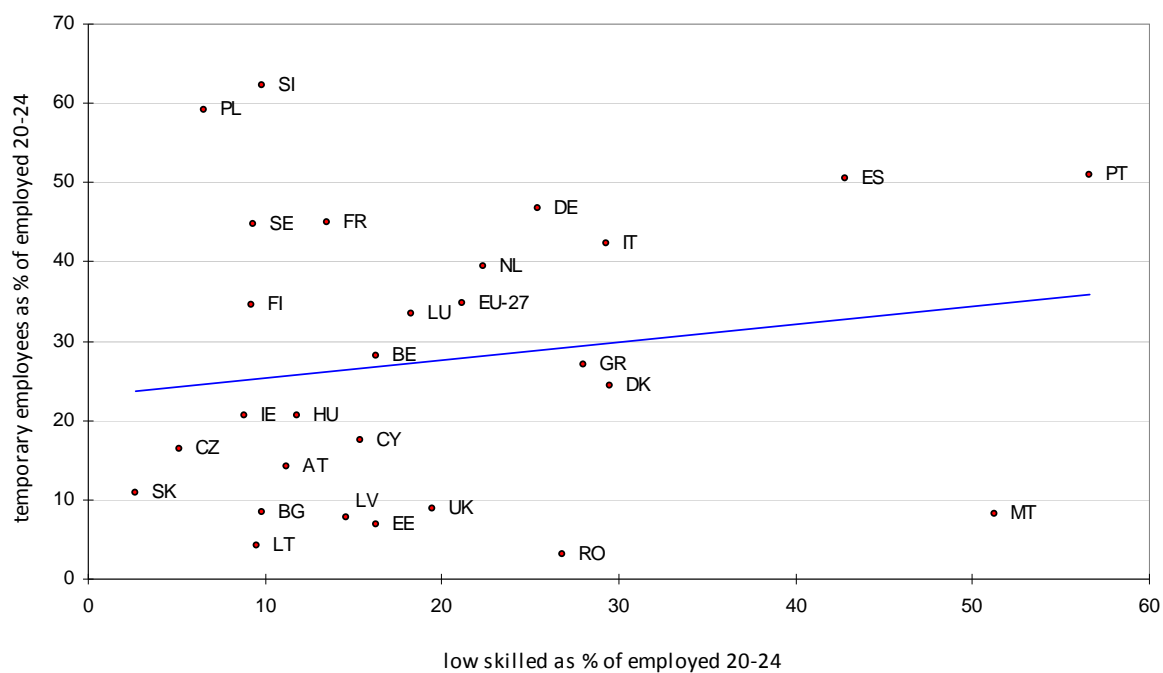
Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey. Data non-seasonally adjusted.

10. Involuntary youth (15-24) part-time employment (as % of part-time employees), 2008 and 2009

	2008	2009
AT	14.6	15.3
BE	38.2	27.8
BG	:	:
CY	39.2	47.2
CZ	5.5	9.7
DE	24.6	21.3
DK	6.0	8.8
EE	:	:
ES	32.9	42.0
EU-27	26.8	27.6
FI	17.3	20.3
FR	65.4	70.9
GR	47.6	43.9
HU	33.9	43.6
IE	12.1	25.1
IT	52.6	61.8
LT	:	:
LU	:	:
LV	:	22.4
MT	:	:
NL	4.4	6.9
PL	13.6	18.4
PT	42.2	46.0
RO	70.6	65.5
SE	39.7	41.0
SI	:	4.4
SK	:	27.7
UK	:	21.3

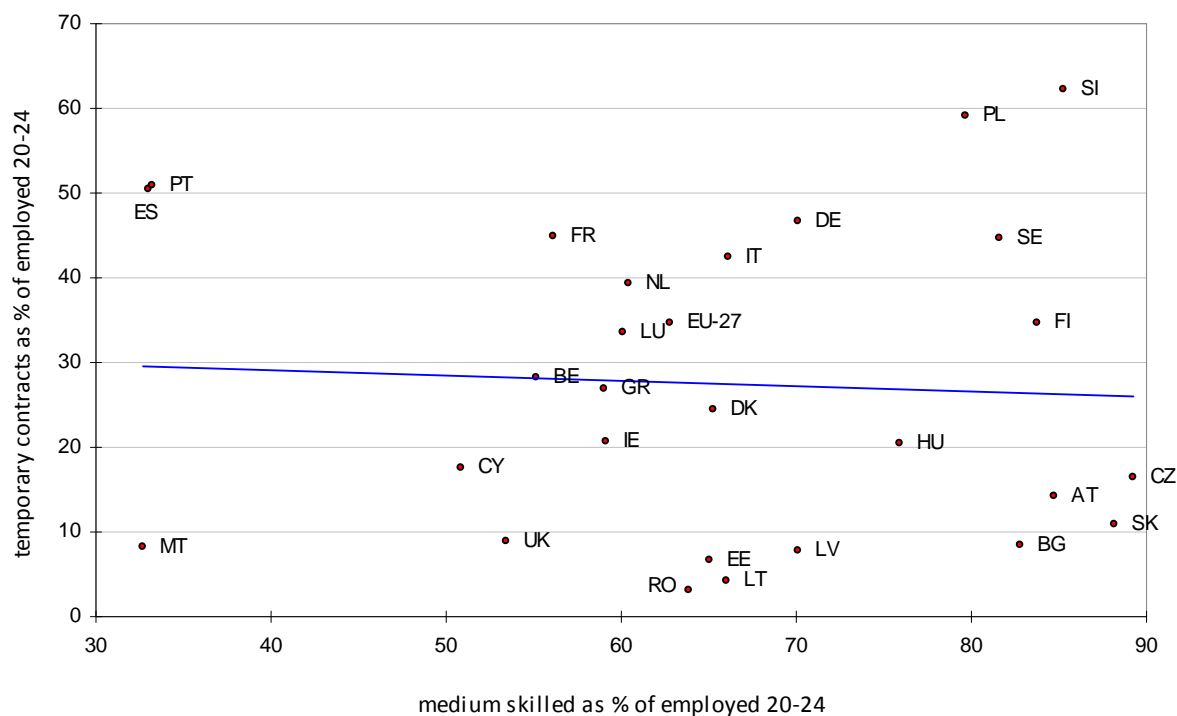
Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey.

11. Temporary employees (% of employed) vs low skilled employees (% of employed), 20-24, EU27, 2009



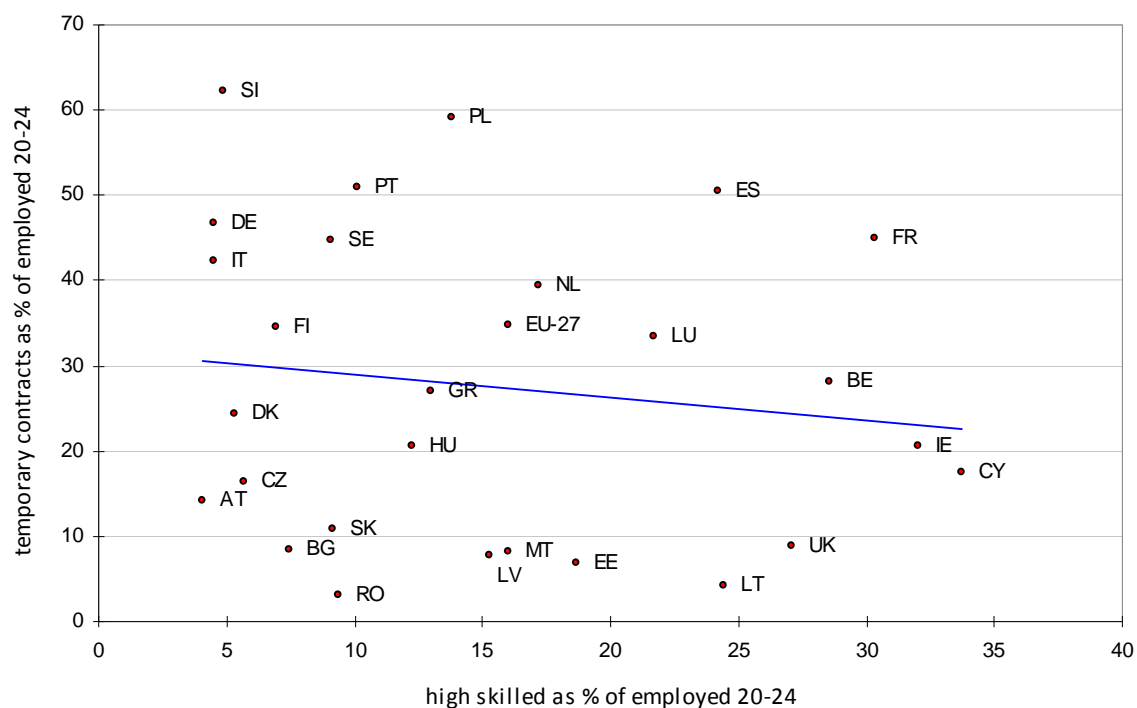
Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey

12. Temporary employees (% of employed) vs medium skilled employees (% of employed), 20-24, EU27, 2009



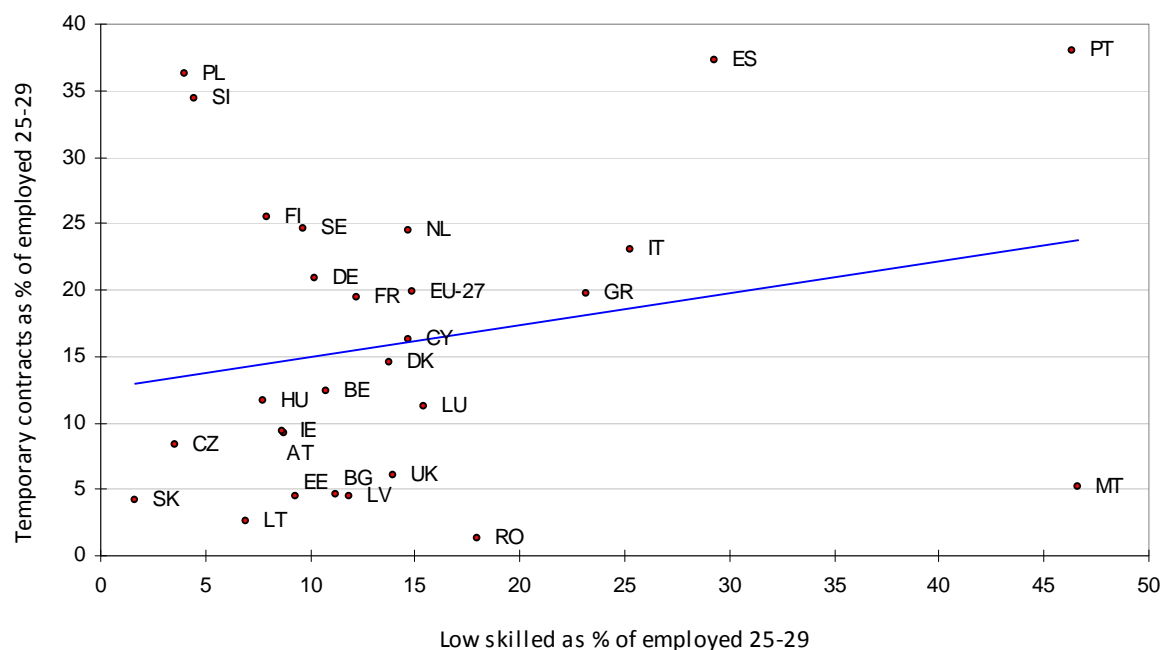
Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey

13. Temporary employees (% of employed) vs highly skilled employees (% of employed), 20-24, EU27, 2009



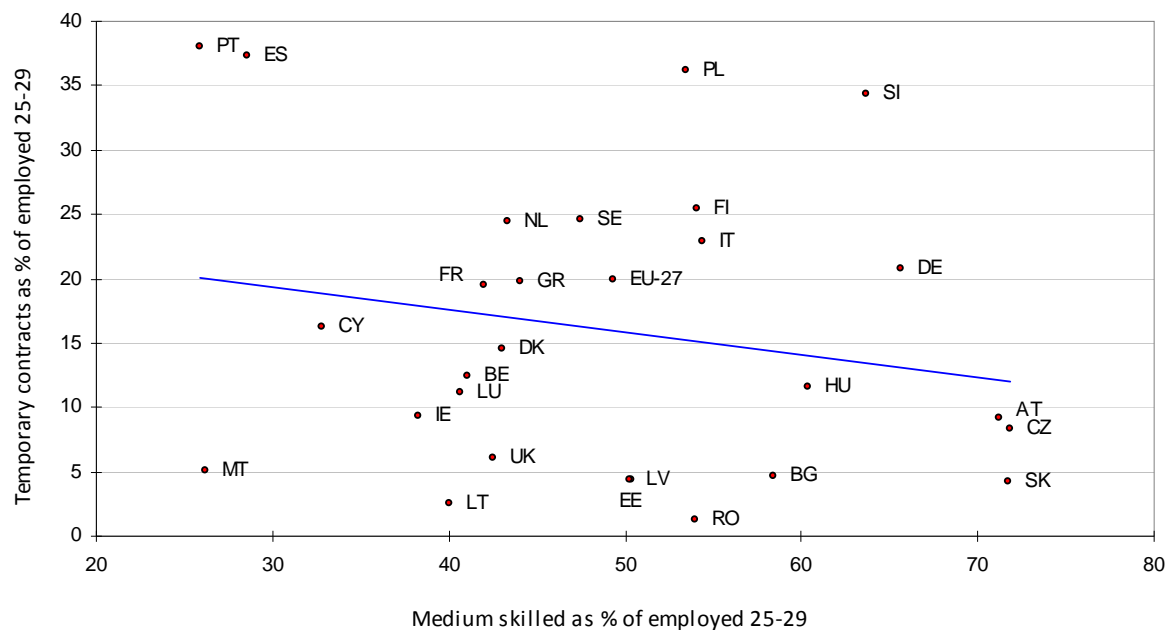
Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey

14. Temporary employees (% of employed) vs low skilled employees (% of employed), 25-29, EU27, 2009



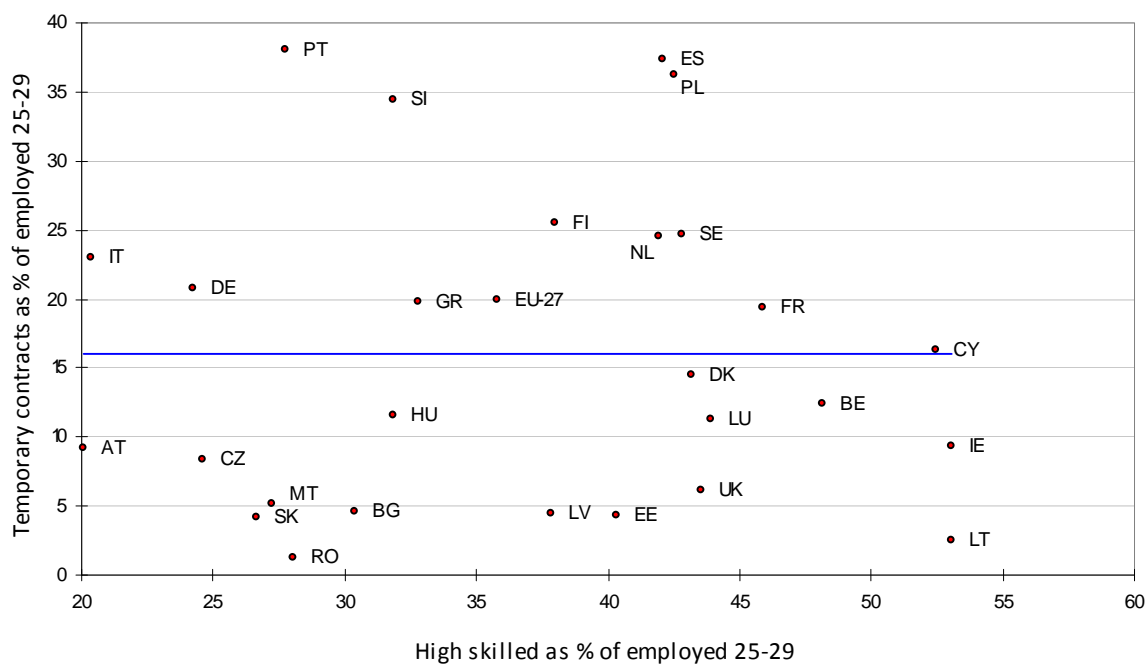
Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey

15. Temporary employees (% of employed) vs medium skilled employees (% of employed), 25-29, EU27, 2009



Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey

16. Temporary employees (% of employed) vs highly skilled employees (% of employed), 25-29, EU27, 2009



Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey