


# Education, employment, both or neither? What are young people doing in the EU?

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The European Union (EU) totals almost 90 million people aged 15-29, representing 17% of its population. These young people are in very different situations, with education and employment patterns varying considerably between Member States and by age group.

Between the ages of 15 and 29, a clear and significant shift occurs from the world of education to the world of employment. While in the 15-19 age group the vast majority of people in the EU were in education in 2015, the opposite is true for those aged 25-29: most of them were in employment. In-between, young people aged 20-24 were relatively evenly distributed between education and employment. Moreover, the proportion of young people neither in employment nor in education or training (NEET) increases considerably with age.

The NEET rate, which stood at 6.3% for the age group 15-19 in 2015, almost tripled to 17.3% for the age group 20-24 and reached almost 1 young person in 5 aged 25-29 (19.7%). This information is issued by Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union, on the eve of the International Youth Day. This News Release shows only a small selection of the wide range of data related to young people in the EU available at Eurostat.

**Education and employment patterns of young people in the EU, by five-year age groups, 2015 (%)**





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