



Employment and Social Development in Europe: Quarterly Review - March 2019

04/2019  [European Skills Index](#), [People and Skills](#), [Future Jobs](#), [Labour Market Context](#), [EU](#), [Reports & publications](#)



Hours worked have risen further to the peak of 2008 while most created jobs are full time and permanent. However, the growth is not equal across Member States while labour shortages have a

permanent. However, the growth is not equal across member states while labour shortages have a strong presence. At the same time, the financial situation of households seems overall to be improving.

Marianne Thyssen, Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility, said: *"The European Union keeps breaking the record for the number of people in employment: 240 million people have now a job in the European Union, with permanent jobs on the rise. At the same time, unemployment is the lowest it has ever been this century, at 6.5% in January 2019. This positive trend has improved the wellbeing of many people. However, growth is still not benefitting all citizens in the same way. Our main task for the years ahead is to continue improving the living and working conditions all over Europe. The [European Pillar of Social Rights](#) is driving this agenda forward. And with the [Skills Agenda for Europe](#), we are investing in people to equip them to make the best of the opportunities on the labour market."*

ESDE report reveals skills shortages at times of jobs creation. Understanding skills systems is essential for implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights. Cedefop has built the European Skills Index towards that end through the development of the [European Skills Index](#) which aims at monitoring the performance of Member States skills systems in terms of skills development, activation and matching, and identifying the performance over time. Such a tool can aid the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights starting by explaining EU skills systems. Read Skills Panorama latest blog [here](#)

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