

Young people on the labour market in 2016

Half of unemployed young people in the EU ready to relocate for a job

Less than 1% of young employed moved to another EU Member State for their current job

50% of unemployed people aged 20-34 in the **European Union** (EU) are reluctant to change their place of residence for a job, 21% are ready to move for a job but only in the same country, whereas 12% would consider moving to another EU Member State. 17% would even be ready to move for a job outside EU.

The education level of the young people plays a role. The young unemployed with a high level of education are more ready to move for work (23% ready to move in the same country and 16% ready to relocate inside the EU) than young unemployed with a medium education level (20% and 11% respectively) or young unemployed with a low level of education (21% and 10%).

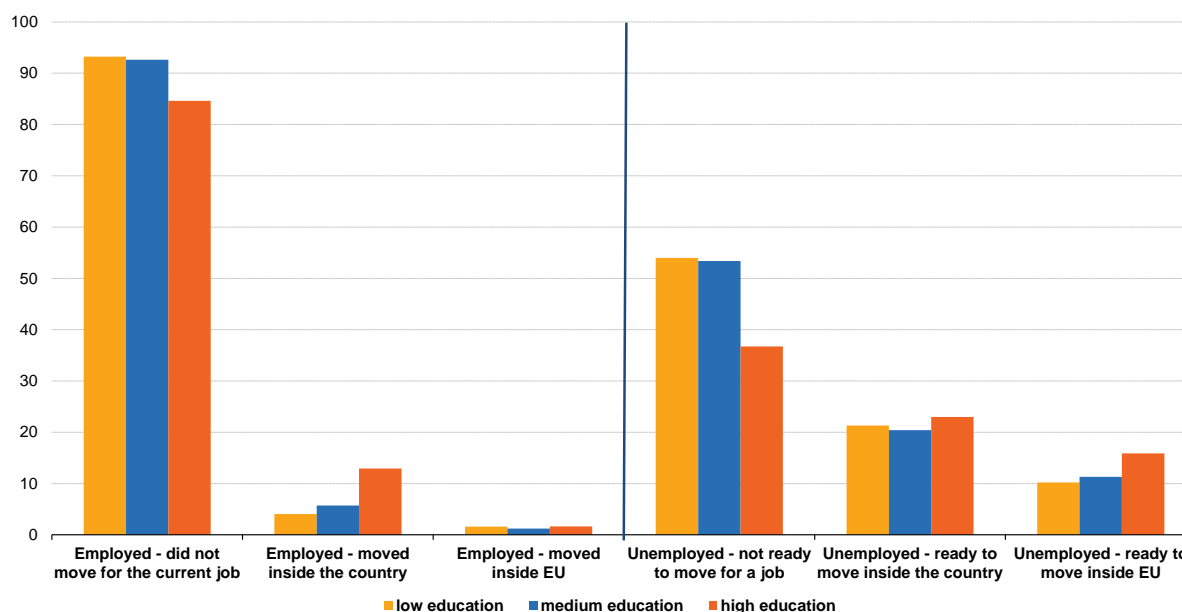
The majority of employed people aged 20-34 in the EU did not relocate for their current job (90%). The share of those who actually did move to another EU Member State was only 1% of the young employed, while 8% moved inside the country for their current job.

Job mobility within the country rises among young employed with a higher level of education (13% have moved) compared with people with a medium education (6%) and those with a low level of education (4%). However, educational differences are not so significant for young employed who moved within the EU: 2% of those with high level of education and 2% of those with low education changed Member State for work reasons compared with 1% of young people with a medium education level.

These selected findings, issued by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**, come from a special data collection from the 2016 European Labour Force Survey ad hoc module on young people on the labour market. This module provides information showing how differences in education translate into employment opportunities. It also examines how young people look for jobs, shows their readiness to commute, and gives their reasons for discontinuing their education.

Job mobility of young people, 2016

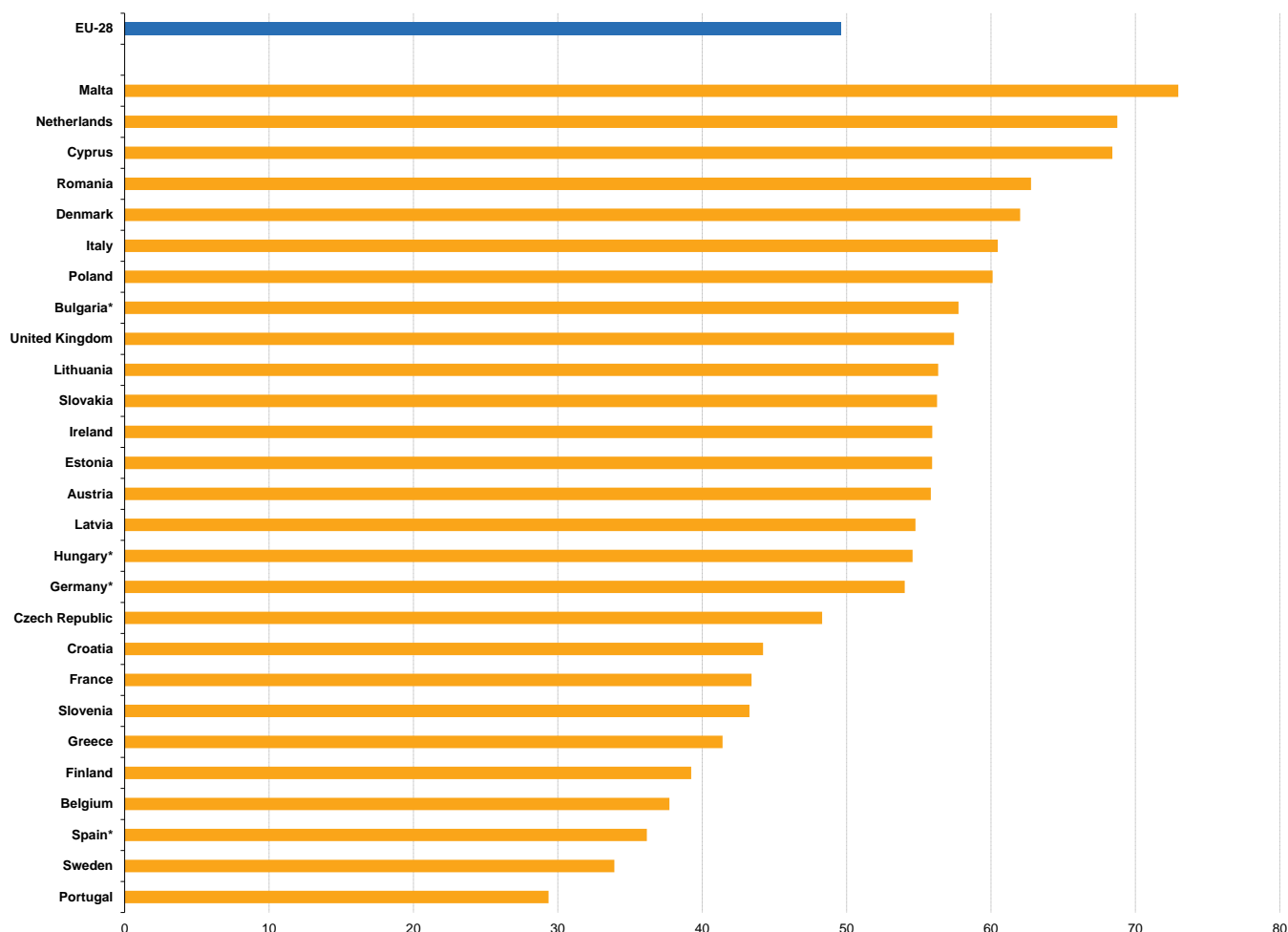
(% of people aged 20-34, by education level and employment status, in the EU)



Young unemployed people most reluctant to move for a job in Malta, the Netherlands and Cyprus

More than two-thirds of the unemployed aged 20-34 are not ready to move for a job in **Malta** (73%), the **Netherlands** (69%) and **Cyprus** (68%). In seventeen EU Member States, more than half of the young unemployed are not ready to relocate to find work.

Unemployed young people in the EU not ready to relocate to find work, 2016
(% of unemployed people aged 20-34)



* low reliability data due to high nonresponse rate
Data for Luxembourg not available due to low sample size

For the countries where we have sufficient sample sizes to draw conclusions, we know that the highest shares of young unemployed in the EU who are ready to change their place of residence inside the same country are in **Romania** and **Germany** (both 37%), the **Czech Republic** and **Ireland** (both 35%). The highest shares of those ready to relocate to another EU country are recorded in **Estonia** and **Croatia** (both 26%) and **Slovenia** (25%). The share of young unemployed ready to move outside the EU is highest in **Sweden** (34%), followed by **Spain** and **Finland** (28%) and **France** (27%).

In most Member States, the share of those ready to relocate inside the country is larger than the share of those ready to move to another EU Member State. However, in eight Member States, the preference is to move within the EU. This is most apparent in **Bulgaria** where the share of those ready to move to another EU Member State is double that of those ready to move inside Bulgaria (12% ready to move within Bulgaria and 23% ready to relocate to another Member State). **Slovakia** also stands out with 14% ready to relocate within Slovakia and 23% to another EU Member State.

Lowest percentage of relocations for work in Italy, highest in Ireland

In fifteen EU Member States, 90% or more employed young people aged 20-34 did not move for a job. The highest share was registered in **Italy** (98%), the lowest in **Ireland** (60%). 12% of employed young people in **Luxembourg**, 9% in **Malta** and 7% in **Ireland** moved there from another country for their current job. The highest shares of those who moved inside the country for work are in **Ireland** (26%), **France** (16%), **Finland** (14%) and **Sweden** (13%).

Job mobility of young people, 2016

(% of people employed and unemployed aged 20-34 by status in employment, in the EU and EFTA)

	Employed			Unemployed			
	moved for the current job		did not move for the current job	ready to move to get a job			would not be ready to move to get a job
	inside the country	from another EU country		inside the country	to another EU country	outside the EU	
EU	8	1	90	21	12	17	50
Belgium	4	2	93	34	17	11	38
Bulgaria*	7	2	91	12	23	:	58
Czech Republic	10	2	87	35	12	5	48
Denmark	6	1	92	22	11	6	62
Germany*	10	2	88	37	:	:	54
Estonia	8	1	91	:	26	:	56
Ireland	26	7	60	35	5	4	56
Greece	4	1	94	31	17	11	41
Spain*	9	1	88	21	15	28	36
France	16	:	83	12	17	27	43
Croatia	6	3	91	19	26	11	44
Italy	1	0	98	20	7	13	60
Cyprus	2	5	87	16	13	2	68
Latvia	7	1	91	24	:	:	55
Lithuania	4	:	95	15	22	:	56
Luxembourg*	6	12	80	:	:	:	:
Hungary*	6	2	91	16	20	9	55
Malta	5	9	80	:	:	:	73
Netherlands	4	0	95	14	6	12	69
Austria	5	3	91	14	19	11	56
Poland	4	1	94	19	16	5	60
Portugal	9	:	89	29	16	25	29
Romania	2	1	96	37	0	:	63
Slovenia	3	:	95	23	25	9	43
Slovakia	6	5	89	14	23	4	56
Finland	14	1	85	24	9	28	39
Sweden	13	1	86	19	10	34	34
United Kingdom	9	2	88	16	5	21	57
Iceland	5	3	92	0	0	53	0
Norway*	10	2	88	19	7	22	52
Switzerland	11	0	81	52	3	27	17

The source dataset can be found [here](#).

* Low reliability data due to high non-response rate

: Data not available

Geographical information

The **European Union (EU)** includes Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Methods and definitions

The European Labour Force Survey (LFS) is a large sample survey among private households in Europe and an important source for European statistics about the situation and trends in the EU labour market. The topic of the 2016 ad hoc module was young people on the labour market.

The European Labour Force Survey (LFS) samples from the usual resident population. This means that newly arrived migrants and migrants who stay less than one year are normally not captured by the survey.

For more information

Eurostat [database](#) on LFS ad hoc module on young people on the labour market

Eurostat [Statistics Explained](#) article on labour market

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