

#### Definition and measurement

This indicator records those aged 15-19 not in education and not in employment or training as a proportion of the age group population. The only exception to the 15-19-year-old age band is Japan, where the indicator covers youth population aged 15 to 24 years. Education includes both part-time and full-time education, but not non-formal and very short duration education. Data are gathered through labour force surveys and typically refer to the four weeks preceding the survey. Data may be volatile over time due to sampling error. Rates are reported for the years 1998 to 2006. Data are taken from OECD *Education at a Glance 2008*.

**Youth not in employment, education or training are in a minority.** About 6% of youth were, on average, not in employment, education or training across the OECD in 2006. The average conceals considerable country variation. Rates are nearly twice this average in Italy, New Zealand, Spain, and the United Kingdom. Conversely, not in employment, education or training rates are roughly half the average OECD rate in Norway and Poland.

**Proportions not in employment, education or training are declining across OECD countries.** Not in employment, education or training rates for males fell from around 8% in 1998 to a little above 6% in 2006, and for females the decline was similar. However, the vast majority of the decline took place between 1998 and 2002. Thereafter average OECD rates have been fairly stable. Main drivers behind the decline include falls in the Slovak Republic (a reduction of 15 percentage points for boys and 8 percentage points for girls between 1998 and 2000), and Hungary (6 percentage points less for both boys and girls). Countries where

not in employment, education or training rates have bucked the OECD trend and risen over the period for both boys and girls include Denmark, France, Japan, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

**Not in employment, education or training rates are converging across the OECD.** Male rates are less dispersed across the OECD than female rates.

**The majority of youth not in employment, education or training are not seeking work (SS5.3).** Only in the Slovak and Czech Republics, France, Poland and Austria are more than half of these young people actively seeking work. At the other end of the spectrum, Mexico and Turkey have fewer than 15% of youth not in employment, education or training ready and willing to work.

**Males not in employment, education or training are more likely to be seeking work than inactive females.** In only three countries – Poland, Austria and Denmark – are there more young female than male jobseekers. One explanation for females being less likely to seek work is that they are more likely to be involved in looking after a child. Poland, Austria, and Denmark, where young females are more likely to be seeking work, are all countries with relatively low rates of teen births. Where the male-female gap in terms of seeking work is greatest, as in Mexico and Turkey, teen birth rates are correspondingly high.

#### Figure and table notes

Tables SS5.1 and SS5.2: Only countries with up-to-date results for 2006 have been included in the comparisons. Japanese data is for youth aged 15 to 24. Iceland, Mexico and Turkey are missing.

Figure SS5.3: Japanese data is for youth aged 15 to 24. Iceland, Luxembourg and Norway are missing. Inactive youth available for work refers to those who are actively seeking, or can take up, employment. Figures for males in the Slovak Republic, and females in Finland, Sweden and Greece are estimates based on reported figures for females in the Slovak Republic, and males in Finland, Sweden and Greece, and reported totals.

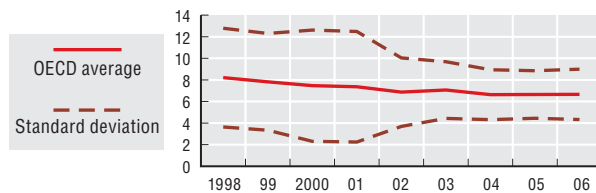
## 5. SELF-SUFFICIENCY INDICATORS

### 5. Not in employment, education or training

#### SS5.1. Young males not in employment, education or training in the OECD is relatively stable

Percentage of young males in education and not in education, 1998-2006

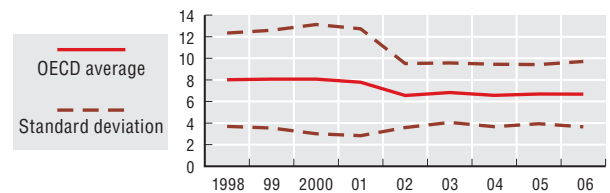
	1998	2000	2002	2004	2006
Australia	9.0	6.4	6.9	7.6	6.7
Austria	..	..	8.1	7.2	7.1
Belgium	10.8	6.7	7.3	5.8	7.5
Canada	9.1	8.7	8.7	9.8	8.0
Czech Republic	6.7	7.3	5.8	5.0	4.7
Denmark	..	1.9	2.4	1.9	4.8
Finland	..	..	..	5.4	4.1
France	3.5	3.4	3.7	5.7	6.7
Germany	..	5.2	4.3	3.5	4.1
Greece	6.9	6.9	5.2	8.7	7.9
Hungary	12.4	8.6	8.3	6.6	6.4
Ireland	..	4.5	5.2	5.2	5.3
Italy	14.5	12.2	10.8	11.1	12.2
Japan	5.5	7.3	8.3	8.1	7.5
Luxembourg	6.4	..	..	..	4.4
Netherlands	2.6	3.8	4.0	3.5	3.3
New Zealand	..	..	..	..	9.9
Norway	..	..	..	..	3.5
Poland	4.7	5.0	3.5	3.0	3.8
Portugal	6.9	6.2	7.7	9.0	7.8
Slovak Republic	21.7	27.8	17.7	8.6	6.5
Spain	10.1	7.7	6.9	7.3	9.6
Sweden	6.4	4.7	5.9	6.4	6.2
Switzerland	4.0	7.3	5.8	7.6	7.7
United Kingdom	..	8.2	8.2	9.0	11.5
United States	6.5	6.8	6.4	6.5	6.0



#### SS5.2. Variation in females not in employment, education or training is greater than for males across the OECD

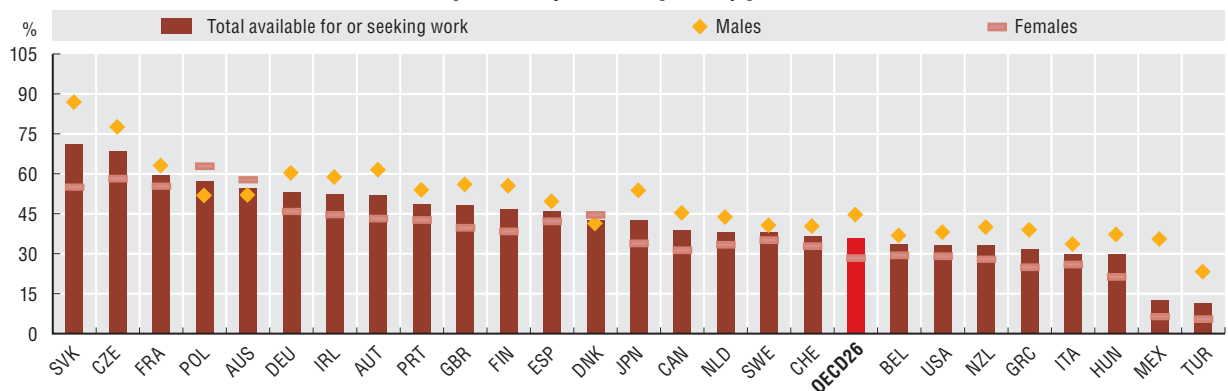
Percentage of young females in education and not in education, 1998-2006

	1998	2000	2002	2004	2006
Australia	8.7	7.3	7.2	7.4	7.4
Austria	..	..	4.4	7.5	6.0
Belgium	10.8	6.3	6.4	3.9	6.7
Canada	7.9	7.7	7.2	7.6	6.7
Czech Republic	7.7	8.5	6.3	6.4	4.3
Denmark	2.1	3.6	2.4	2.3	4.1
Finland	..	..	..	6.4	3.0
France	2.6	3.2	3.2	4.5	6.2
Germany	..	6.3	5.1	3.7	4.3
Greece	12.7	11.2	7.5	11.3	9.8
Hungary	11.1	8.6	7.8	5.8	5.6
Ireland	..	4.3	4.5	4.6	4.7
Italy	15.9	14.1	10.3	10.9	11.4
Japan	9.8	10.3	10.6	10.4	10.5
Netherlands	2.9	3.6	3.7	3.4	2.6
New Zealand	..	..	..	..	12.7
Norway	..	..	..	..	3.4
Poland	4.9	4.0	2.6	2.1	3.7
Portugal	9.7	9.2	6.8	10.6	7.7
Slovak Republic	14.9	24.7	13.5	7.1	6.8
Spain	9.6	8.2	7.5	7.9	10.6
Sweden	2.9	2.4	3.3	3.2	4.3
Switzerland	5.7	8.5	5.8	6.8	7.5
United Kingdom	..	7.9	8.9	9.0	10.3
United States	8.2	7.3	7.5	7.3	6.7



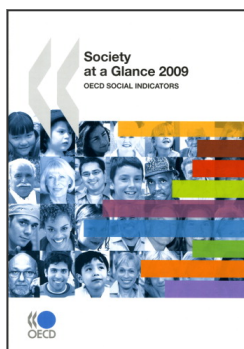
#### SS5.3. The majority of young females not in employment, education or training are typically unavailable for work

Percentage available for or seeking work by gender, 2006



Source: OECD (2008), Education at a Glance, OECD, Paris ([www.oecd.org/edu/EAG2008](http://www.oecd.org/edu/EAG2008)).

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/550204735041>



**From:**  
**Society at a Glance 2009**  
OECD Social Indicators

**Access the complete publication at:**  
[https://doi.org/10.1787/soc\\_glance-2008-en](https://doi.org/10.1787/soc_glance-2008-en)

**Please cite this chapter as:**

OECD (2009), "Not in employment, education or training", in *Society at a Glance 2009: OECD Social Indicators*, OECD Publishing, Paris.

DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1787/soc\\_glance-2008-13-en](https://doi.org/10.1787/soc_glance-2008-13-en)

This work is published under the responsibility of the Secretary-General of the OECD. The opinions expressed and arguments employed herein do not necessarily reflect the official views of OECD member countries.

This document and any map included herein are without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory, to the delimitation of international frontiers and boundaries and to the name of any territory, city or area.

You can copy, download or print OECD content for your own use, and you can include excerpts from OECD publications, databases and multimedia products in your own documents, presentations, blogs, websites and teaching materials, provided that suitable acknowledgment of OECD as source and copyright owner is given. All requests for public or commercial use and translation rights should be submitted to [rights@oecd.org](mailto:rights@oecd.org). Requests for permission to photocopy portions of this material for public or commercial use shall be addressed directly to the Copyright Clearance Center (CCC) at [info@copyright.com](mailto:info@copyright.com) or the Centre français d'exploitation du droit de copie (CFC) at [contact@cfcopies.com](mailto:contact@cfcopies.com).