

Quarterly report National Youth Monitor

Young people in a European perspective

2009



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National Youth Monitor

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Explanation of symbols

.	= data not available
*	= provisional figure
x	= publication prohibited (confidential figure)
–	= nil or less than half of unit concerned
–	= (between two figures) inclusive
0 (0.0)	= less than half of unit concerned.
blank	= not applicable
2007–2008	= 2007 to 2008 inclusive
2007/2008	= average of 2007 up to and including 2008
2007/'08	= crop year, financial year, school year etc. beginning in 2007 and ending in 2008
2005/'06–2007/'08	= crop year, financial year, etc. 2005/'06 to 2007/'08 inclusive

Due to rounding, some totals may not correspond with the sum of the separate figures.

The National Youth Monitor is compiled at the request of the Ministry for Youth and Families. Statistics Netherlands is responsible for carrying out the project.

The data are taken from the following sources:

- Statistics Netherlands (CBS)
- Centre for Work and Income (CWI)
- Department for Youth Custodial Institutions (DJI)
- Municipal population registration (GBA)
- Intomart GfK
- National Police Services Agency (KLPD)
- Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations
- Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of Education, Culture and Science
- Ministry Health, Welfare and Sport
- Ministry for Youth and Families
- National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM)
- Foundation for a smoke-free future STIVORO
- TNO Research
- Netherlands Institute of Mental Health and Addiction (Trimbos)
- Research and Documentation Centre (WO DG)

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Statistics Netherlands

Young people in a European perspective

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Youngsters should be able to grow up in a healthy and safe environment and be given opportunities to develop themselves. This is not only important for young people themselves, but also for the society in which they live. This is one of the reasons that policy-makers and researchers across the world are studying the development of young people and factors which may influence this development positively or negatively. More and more of these studies comprise an international aspect. To find out in which respects Dutch youngsters are doing well and where improvement is possible, it is helpful for the Netherlands to look at the development of young people in a European perspective. Four percent of the European Union's young people (aged 0–24 years) live in the Netherlands. Compared with other European youngsters, the Dutch are on average more positive about their own health, although they have a slightly less healthy lifestyle. Dutch youngsters do well at school and on the labour market. Their level of education is relatively high and within the EU they have the highest rates of employment and the lowest rates of unemployment. The number of underage crime suspects is relatively high, though.

Introduction

In all areas of society, a lot of consideration is given to the youngest age groups. As they hold the future in their hands, it is important to establish how they develop. In 2007, for example, Unicef published a report that examines the wellbeing of young people in richer countries. In this report the organisation states that the true measure of a nation's standing is how well it attends to its children (Unicef 2007). The European Commission, too, is looking at the situation of children and young people. In preparation for the Youth and Health Congress, the World Health Organization has published the report 'A snapshot of the health of young people in Europe' (WHO, 2009^a).

This prompted the Netherlands to look at the situation of its children and young people in a European perspective. It has conducted an international comparison based on the topics included in the Netherlands National Youth Monitor. These topics are divided into five domains, i.e. population, health, education, labour and justice. First of all we look at the numbers of children and young people and the families they grow up in. Then we examine how young people judge their own health, their lifestyles (alcohol, smoking and cannabis use), how many of them are still in education and how many leave education prematurely, and their position on the labour market. Lastly, we look at the number of young people interviewed by the police in connection with criminal offences. Where possible, this overview includes information from the 27 countries of the European Union¹⁾, supplemented with figures for Norway, Iceland and Switzerland.

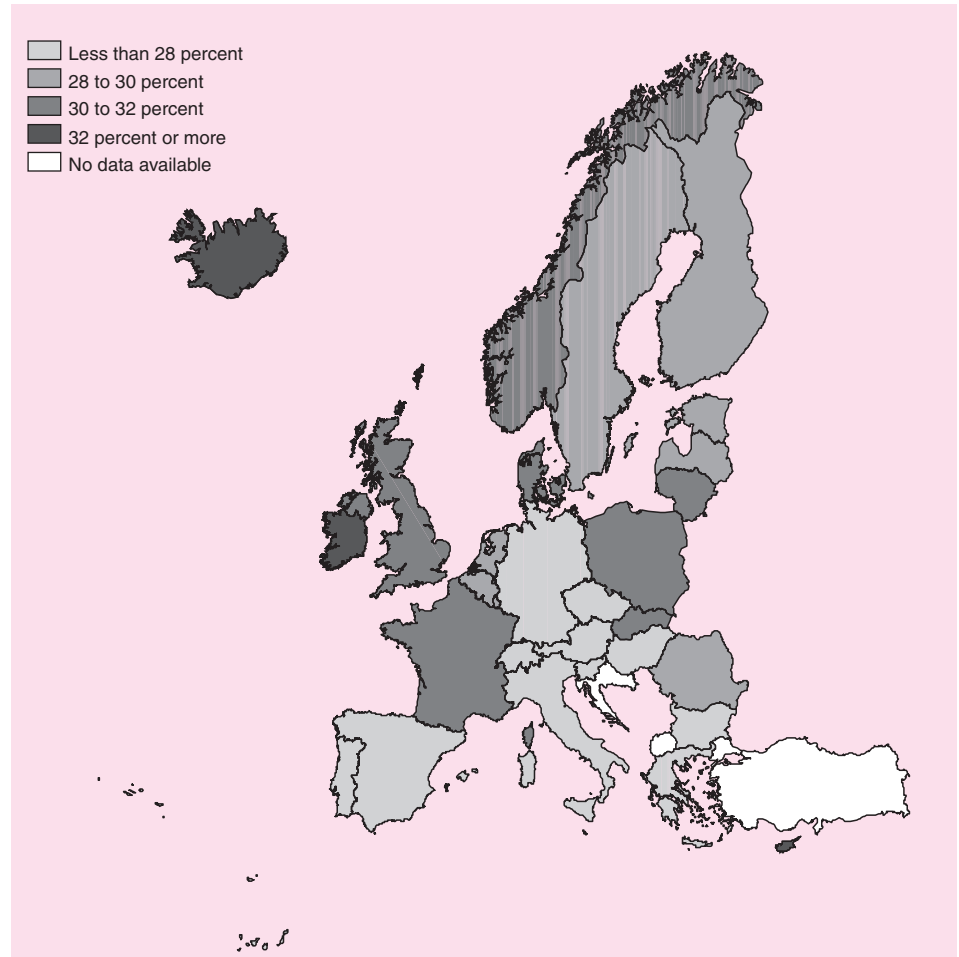
Relatively most young inhabitants in Iceland and Ireland

Nearly 140 million young people (aged 0 up to and including 24 years) lived in the 27 countries of the European Union (EU-27) in 2008. Most of them lived in Germany (14.8 percent), followed by France (14.2 percent) and the United Kingdom (13.5 percent). Just under 4 percent of young people lived in the Netherlands. The smallest number lived in Malta, 125 thousand, followed by Luxembourg with 145 thousand.

¹⁾ On 1 January 2007 the European Union consisted of 27 member states, namely Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the Czech Republic, the United Kingdom and Sweden.

Obviously, the number of young people in a country's population depends on the size of the total population. For example, although most EU youngsters live in Germany, this country has a relatively low percentage of young inhabitants. In 2008 one quarter of Germans were younger than 25 years, while overall in the EU this was 28 percent. Only in Italy was this proportion smaller, at 24 percent. In countries like Greece and Spain, too, the percentage of young inhabitants is low. Iceland and Ireland on the other hand, have a relatively high percentage of young people. In Iceland, nearly 36 percent of the total population were under 25 in 2008. For Ireland this was nearly 35 percent. At 30 percent, the percentage of young people in the Netherlands was slightly above that of the whole EU.

1. Percentage of 0–24 year-olds in total national populations (Eurostat NUTS classification), 2008



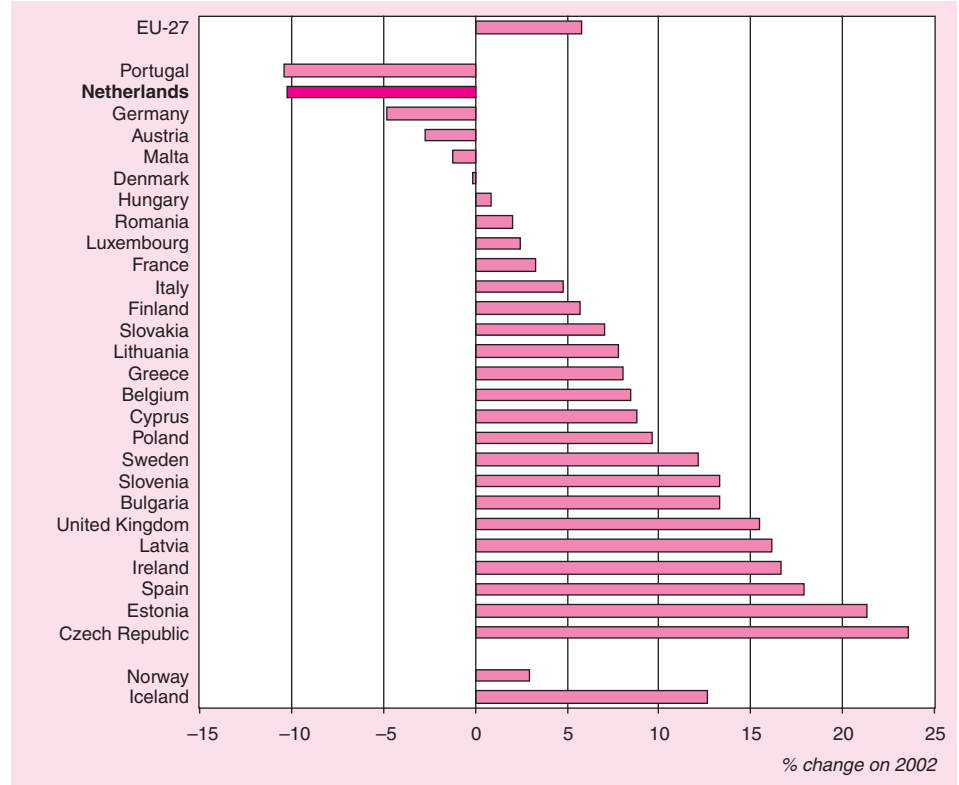
Bron: Eurostat.

More babies born in the EU, decrease in the Netherlands and Portugal

In 2007, 5.3 million babies were born in the EU, nearly 300 thousand more than in 2002. In that year fewer than 5 million babies were born, the lowest number since the 1960s. The increase in the number of births was mainly caused by higher numbers in the United Kingdom and Spain, where 103 thousand and 75 thousand more babies respectively were born than in 2002. The largest relative increase in the number of babies was in the Czech Republic: in 2007 nearly one quarter more babies were born than in 2002. The number of births rose relatively strongly in Estonia, Spain, Ireland and Latvia. In a few EU countries the number of births fell: by 10 percent in Portugal and the Netherlands, by 5 percent in Germany, 3 percent in Austria and 1 percent in Malta. The decrease in the number of births in the Netherlands seems to be temporary. In both 2006 and 2008 it was around 185 thousand.

In the countries where fewer babies were born the number of children per mother remained about the same in the period 2002–2007. Only in Portugal did this number also decrease.

2. Number of births in Europe¹⁾, 2007



¹⁾ No figures available for Switzerland.
Source: Eurostat.

Particularly high percentage of teenage mothers in Bulgaria

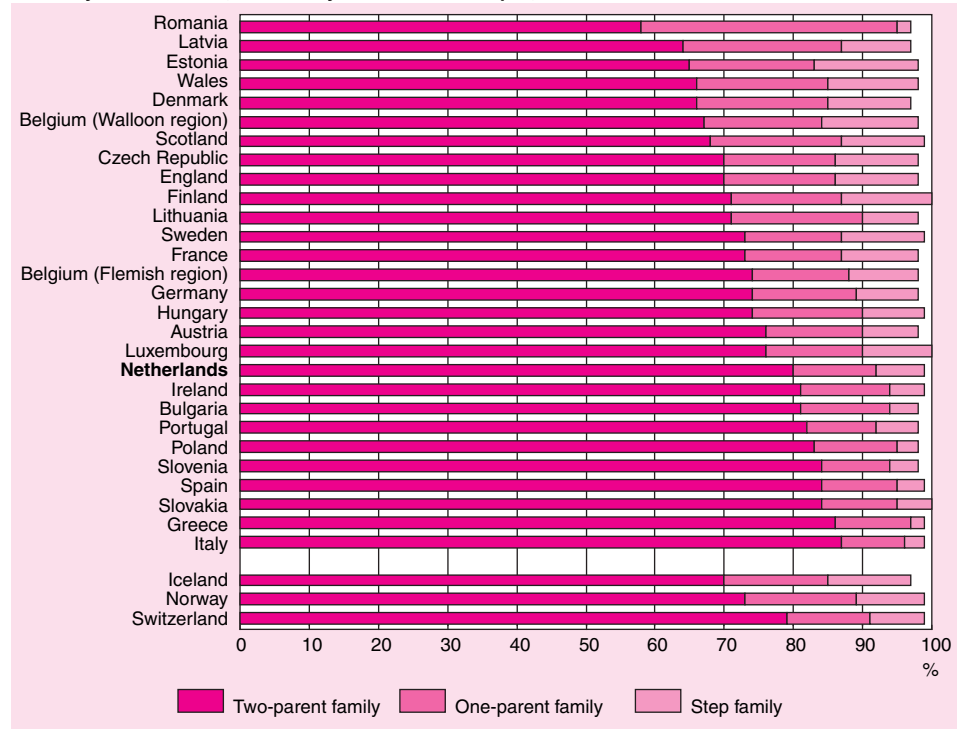
Although women are becoming mothers at increasingly older ages, in many countries a large share of women already have a baby before the age of 20. These teenage mothers are especially numerous in Bulgaria, where 40 per thousand 15–20 year-olds in 2005 had a baby. The United Kingdom, too, has relatively many teenage mothers: just over 25 per thousand women under 20 had a baby in 2005. In the Netherlands and also in Sweden, Denmark and Switzerland this was less than 6 per thousand. For some young women pregnancy is a positive choice, and many teenage pregnancies occur within marriage. However, teenage pregnancies are generally not considered advantageous for the health of the mothers and the babies. Teenage mothers run a greater risk of dropping out of school, becoming unemployed or - if they do have a job - earning low wages (Unicef, 2007; Tripp and Viner, 2005).

One in three Romanian children grow up with one parent

Most children²⁾ grow up in a family with two parents. However, many children also grow up in one-parent families, with a step-parent, or in an institutional household, for example. The number of children living in a one-parent family differs from country to country. In Romania, 37 percent of children grew up in a one-parent family in 2005/2006, while in Italy this was less than 10 percent. In the Netherlands the share of children in one-parent families was

²⁾ This section refers to the family situation of 11, 13 and 15 year-olds.

3. Family situation of 11, 13 and 15 year-olds in in Europe¹⁾, 2005/2006

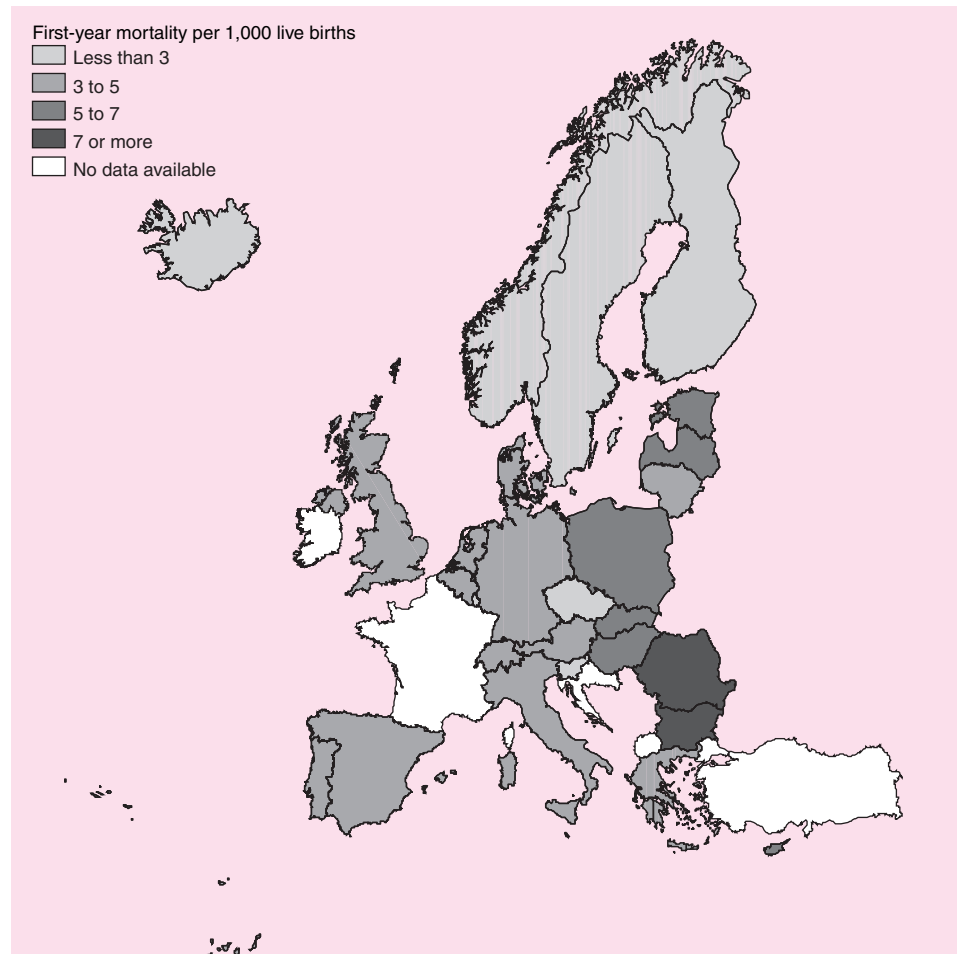


¹⁾ No data available for Malta.

Cyprus does not participate in this survey.

Source: Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC), 2005/2006.

4. Infant mortality in Europe (Eurostat NUTS classification), 2007



Source: Eurostat.

relatively low compared with other European countries, 12 percent. Although young people who grow up in a one-parent family run a greater risk of dropping out of school, having poor health, or earning a low income, many children growing up with one parent live happy lives (Unicef, 2007).

Low infant mortality in Scandinavia

Some 40 percent of all children and young people (0–24 years) who die in Europe do so before their first birthday. First-year mortality (infant mortality) often even takes place in the first 28 days following birth and correlates with a low birth weight (Troe, 2008). The infant mortality rate in Europe is decreasing gradually. In the European Union, for example, the rate fell from 5.9 per 1,000 live births in 2000 to 4.6 in 2007.

It is mainly countries in eastern Europe, such as Romania, Malta and Bulgaria, where infant mortality rates are high (11, 9.9 and 8.6 respectively per 1,000 live births). In the Scandinavian countries - with the exception of Denmark - on the other hand infant mortality is particularly low. Within the European Union, Luxembourg had the lowest rate of infant mortality in 2007, less than two infants per 1,000 live births. Dutch infant mortality is relatively high, at 3.8, certainly when compared with the Scandinavian countries. The situation in neighbouring countries Germany and Belgium is also slightly better than in the Netherlands with 3.5 and 3.4 infants per 1,000 live births respectively.

European youngsters feel healthy

Young people aged 15 to 24 years in European Union are generally satisfied with their health. Nearly 92 percent said their health was good to very good in 2007. Young people in Greece are most satisfied, while in Latvia and Portugal young people report poorer health. In the Netherlands, around 90 percent of young people say their health is good to very good. This is slightly lower than the EU average. The differences between EU countries are very small.

5. Young people (15–24) years in Europe¹⁾ who judge their health as good to very good, 2007



¹⁾ No figures available for Bulgaria and Switzerland.

No reliable figures available for Finland, Czech Republic and United Kingdom.

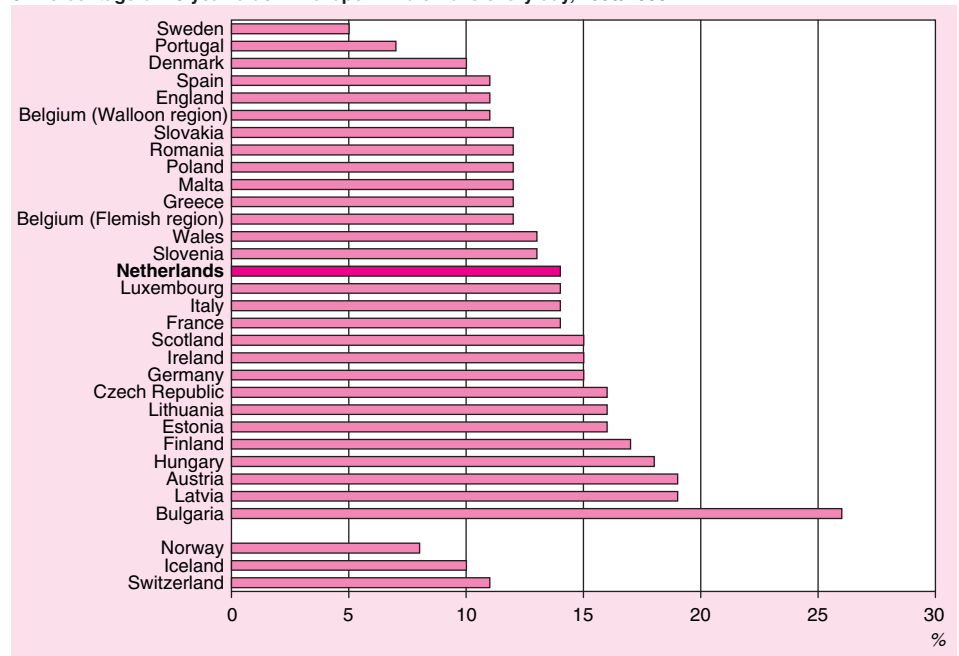
Source: Eurostat, EU-SILC.

Half of 15 year-olds in the Netherlands have ever smoked

The battle against smoking is high on the agenda of the European Union. It initiated the HELP anti-smoking campaign, for example. In the Netherlands, too, there is a strong government-backed anti-smoking campaign, aimed at preventing youngsters from starting to smoke, and to change the attitude of young people towards smoking. For this reason, since 2003 it has been illegal in the Netherlands to sell cigarettes or other tobacco products to children younger than 16 years. In spite of this, in 2005/2006 49 percent of Dutch 15 year-olds had ever smoked a cigarette or a roll-up. Compared with the rest of Europe, the Netherlands is in the middle group in this respect. Latvia and Lithuania lead the field. In both countries 77 percent of 15 year-olds have ever smoked. In Iceland on the other hand this is relatively low, at 38 percent.

Some youngsters only smoke a few times just to try it out, others smoke every day. The highest proportion of daily smokers is reported in Bulgaria: one in four 15 year-olds there smoked every day in 2005/2006. In Sweden, with the smallest percentage of 15 year-old daily smokers this was one in twenty. Here, too, the Netherlands is in the middle region. One in seven 15 year-olds smoked every day in 2005/2006. This is the same proportion as in Luxembourg, Italy and France.

6. Percentage of 15 year-olds in Europe¹⁾ who smoke every day, 2005/2006



¹⁾ Cyprus does not participate in this survey.

Source: Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC), 2005/2006.

Alcohol consumption by Scandinavian youngsters relatively low

Drinking alcohol is popular in Europe. Eighteen of the twenty countries with the highest per capita alcohol consumption are in Europe (WHO, 2009^b). In many European countries young people drink alcohol from an early age. In 2005/2006, for example, nearly 70 percent of 15 year-olds in the Czech Republic said they had drunk alcohol when they were 13 or younger. In the Netherlands, too, this percentage is high: 62 percent. In Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Italy less than 30 percent of young people had drunk alcohol at before there reached 14. The relatively low percentages in the Scandinavian countries may be related to the high prices of alcoholic beverages in there.

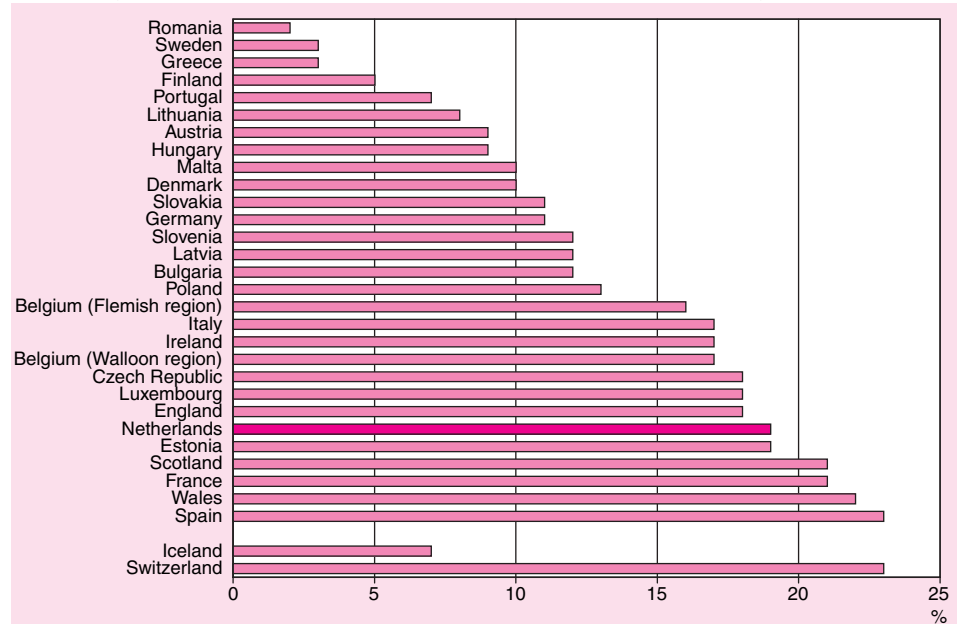
The weekly amount of alcohol consumed by 15 year-olds is also relatively limited in the Scandinavian countries. Less than ten percent of them reported having a beer at least

once a week in 2005/2006. For less than five percent this was a glass of wine or spirits or an alcopop. In the Czech Republic and Bulgaria on the other hand nearly 30 percent of the 15 year-olds said they drank beer at least once a week. On Malta one quarter of 15 year-olds drank wine every week in 2005/2006. One quarter of Maltese youngsters also reported that they drink spirits every week. Alcopops are most popular in Austria. One in five youngsters drank these every week. Dutch 15 year-olds favour beer and alcopops, 24 and 18 percent respectively in 2005/2006 said they drank these at least once a week.

Cannabis most popular among Spanish and Swiss youngsters

In addition to tobacco and alcohol young people also experiment with cannabis. How many and how often varies considerably per country. More than 20 percent of 15 year-olds in Spain, Switzerland, Wales, France and Scotland say they had ever used cannabis in the 12 months preceding the survey in 2005/2006. The Netherlands, too, had a relatively high rate of 15 year-old cannabis users at 19 percent. This is in contrast with Sweden, Greece and Romania, where less than 5 percent of 15 year-olds had used cannabis in the 12 months preceding the survey in 2005/2006.

7. Percentage of 15 year-olds in Europe¹⁾ who had used cannabis in the year preceding the survey, 2005/2006



¹⁾ No figures available for Norway.
Cyprus does not participate in this survey.
Source: Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC), 2005/2006.

The differences between countries may be caused by different national drug policies. In the Netherlands cannabis is considered to be a soft drug of which use is tolerated to a certain extent. In addition to soft drugs there are also hard drugs - ecstasy and cocaine, for example. The legal distinction between soft and hard drugs was introduced in the Netherlands but has now also been adopted by some other European countries, including Belgium, Switzerland and Spain.

Finland has highest share of young people still in education

Education is an important factor for young people in their development. A good education is essential for older teenagers and young adults to take a successful step to the labour market.

Many young people are indeed still in school. Around 60 percent of 15–24 year-olds on average in the EU in 2007. In the Netherlands this percentage was slightly higher, at 68. In neighbouring countries Belgium and Germany, too, relatively many youngsters are still in education. Finland is the leader though: 71 percent of Finnish 15–24 year-olds were still at school in 2007. Finland has had the highest percentage of young people in education for many years now..

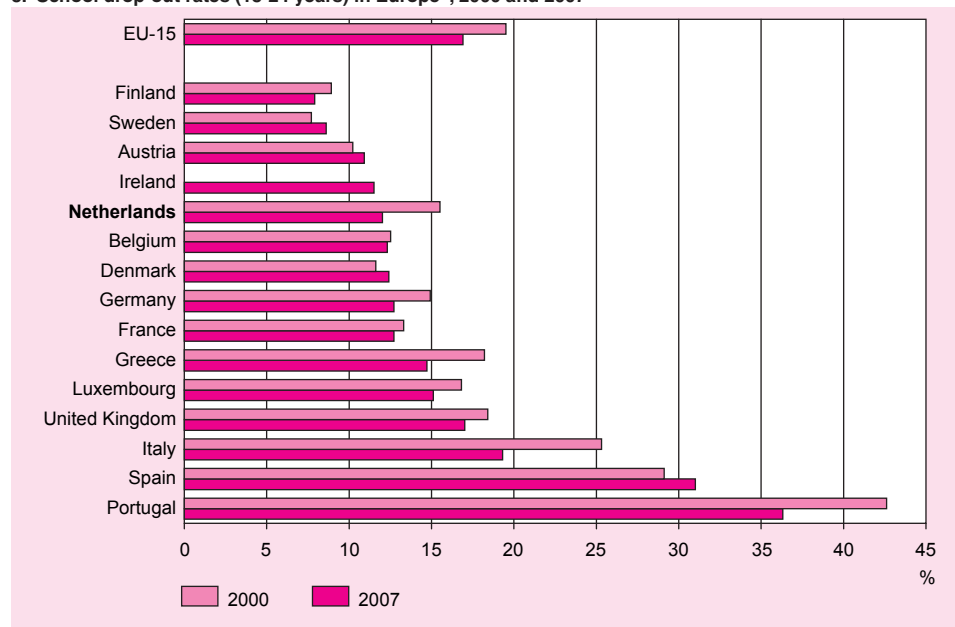
The former Eastern bloc countries in particular have done a lot of catching up in the period 2000–2007. The percentage of young people in education in Slovenia, Hungary and the Czech Republic has risen by more than 10 percent points, and in Romania even by more than 15 percent points.

Too many youngsters still drop out of school

The meeting of the European Council in Lisbon in 2000 agreed that a competitive and socially cohesive European knowledge society is to be realised by 2010 (Ministry of Education, Culture and Science). Education is an important theme in this respect, and one of the goals formulated was a 50 percent reduction in the school drop-out rate among 18–24 year-olds. Drop-outs are young people who leave the education system without a basic qualification. The reduction is to take place between 2000 and 2010. In 2000 around 20 percent of 18–24 year-olds not in education in the EU³⁾ did not have a basic qualification. In 2007 this proportion was just under 17 percent. The number of drop-outs is therefore decreasing, but it will have to fall a lot faster to reach 10 percent in 2010.

In the Netherlands the share of young people who drop out of education prematurely is lower than the average in the European Union. This was also the case for 11 of the 15 countries in 2007. In 2000, 16 percent of Dutch 18–24 year-olds who were not in education did not have a basic qualification, in 2007 this was 12 percent. For the Netherlands, too, the reduction of the number of drop-outs will have to speed up.

8. School drop-out rates (18-24 years) in Europe¹⁾, 2000 and 2007



¹⁾ The 2007 figure for Portugal is provisional.
No figure available for Ireland in 2000.
Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey.

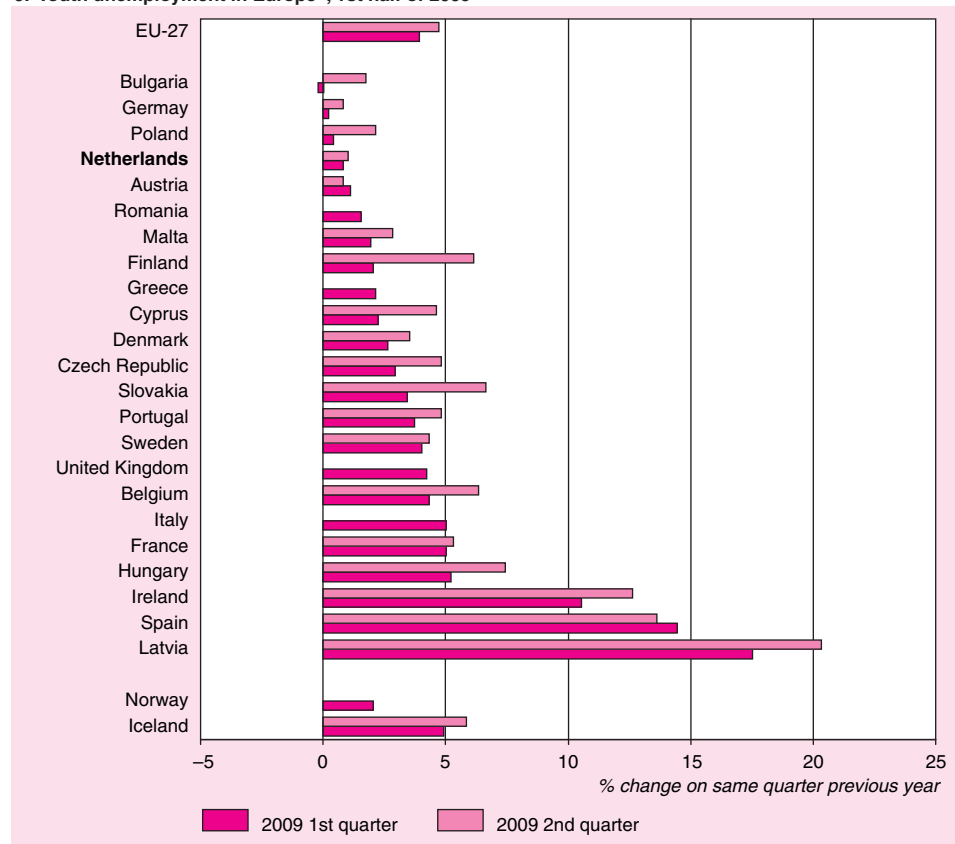
³⁾ In 2000 the EU consisted of 15 countries. To make the comparison valid, the EU-15 was also used for the situation in 2007.

Finland has a relatively low drop-out rate, at 8 percent. This is connected with the high percentage of young people still in education and the high share of people with a high level of education (Elbers and De Vries, 2009). Sweden, too, has relatively few youngsters who leave school without a qualification. The education level in Sweden is traditionally also high, but the percentage of youngsters still in education is similar to that in the Netherlands, for example.

Young Dutch workers mostly have part-time jobs

Nearly four in ten 15–24 year-olds in the European Union had a job in 2008. This includes all people who work for at least one hour a week. The share of working young people was significantly higher in the Netherlands in 2008, at 69 percent, and in Denmark, at 67 percent. This is because many young people in these countries have a part-time job of less than twelve hours a week. These are often youngsters who work alongside school, for example by waiting table for a few hours a week.

9. Youth unemployment in Europe¹⁾, 1st half of 2009



¹⁾ No reliable figures available for Estonia, Lithuania, Luxembourg and Slovenia.
 No figures available for Switzerland.
 No figures available for 2nd quarter 2009 for Rumania, Norway, Greece, United Kingdom and Italy.
 Source: Eurostat, Labour Force Survey.

Lowest youth unemployment in the Netherlands

Young people are around two to three times as likely to be unemployed as the over-25s. This can partly be explained by the time young people need to find a job once they have

completed their studies. Generally speaking, they are not unemployed for long, however (De Vries, 2006). In 2008 just over 15 percent of 15–24 year-olds in all EU countries together were unemployed⁴⁾. The Dutch situation is more favourable; at 5.3 percent it had the lowest level of unemployment in this age group. Denmark and Austria also had low youth unemployment rates in 2008.

Young people are usually affected first in times of economic crisis (Kösters and Den Boer, 2009). As they have no or only little work experience, they often lose out to more experienced jobseekers. In the first and second quarters of 2009, unemployment among young people rose strongly in various countries, especially in Latvia, Spain and Ireland. In Latvia youth unemployment was more than 20 percent points higher in the second quarter of 2009 than in the same quarter in 2008. In Spain and Ireland it rose by more than 10 percent points in the same period. Overall in the EU, youth unemployment was around 4 percent points higher in the second quarter of 2009 than twelve months previously.

Relatively large share of underage⁵⁾ crime suspects in Sweden

Young people still have to learn to think and act for themselves, and discover their own norms and values. Testing limits is part of this process. Some youngsters overstep these limits and come into contact with the police. In 2006 Finland had a relatively high number of underage crime suspects: 623 per 100 thousand inhabitants. Austria and the Netherlands follow Finland, with 444 and 430 per 100 thousand inhabitants respectively in 2006.

The share of underage suspects as a percentage of total crime suspects also differs strongly between countries. In Sweden nearly one quarter of crime suspects⁶⁾ were underage in 2006. In Switzerland and the Netherlands, too, the share was high: one in five suspects in both countries in 2006 were underage. In Italy the share of underage crime suspects was very low: 3.9 percent.

10. Underage¹⁾ suspects in some European countries, 2006

	Per 100 thousand inhabitants	Percentage of total number of suspects
Sweden	293.6	24.5
Switzerland	170.2	19.8
Netherlands	429.8	19.6
Austria	444.2	15.5
Norway ²⁾	117.7	15.1
Denmark	133.5	14.1
Ireland	310.2	13.2
Germany	336.9	12.8
Finland	623.2	8.6
Spain	49.5	7.2
Italy	53.6	3.9

¹⁾ Not all countries have the same age limits for underage children. This table includes only countries where children are underage up to and including 17 years.

²⁾ 2005.

Source: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, tenth Criminal Justice Systems (CTS).

⁴⁾ According to the international definition.

⁵⁾ Not all countries have the same age limits for underage children. The lower age limit varies considerably. In the Netherlands the lower age limit is 12 years, in other countries it may be 0, or for example 10 years. The upper age limit also differs. For this report, only countries where children are underage up to and including 17 years of age are presented.

⁶⁾ The definition of a suspect differs between countries. These Dutch figures refer to suspects interviewed by the police for whom a report is drawn up.

Method

The sources used for the Dutch figures in the international comparisons are not always the same ones used for the indicators of the National Youth Monitor. This means some differences may occur in the Dutch figures. The age limits used may also differ from those in the Youth Monitor. Where these differences occur is described below. Subjects which do not differ from the figures in the Youth Monitor are not mentioned. The data in the Youth Monitor may be more recent.

Teenage mothers

The number of teenage mothers can be defined in different ways. The National Youth Monitor defines it as mothers aged 19 years or younger on 31 December of the year under review. In this publication teenage mothers are defined as women aged 19 years or younger giving birth to a baby in the year under review. As all mothers aged 15–19 years on 31 December of the year under review are included in the National Youth Monitor, the number of teenage mothers in the National Youth Monitor is higher than the number in this report.

One-parent families

This report uses a different source for figures on one-parent families than the National Youth Monitor. The age limits also differ. The National Youth Monitor contains figures on the number of 0–24 year-olds who grow up in one-parent families, which are compiled on the basis of the municipal population registers. In this publication data from the study on Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) are used, concerning 11, 13 and 15 year-olds. In the National Youth Monitor data on separate ages are also included. These percentages are higher than the percentages from the HBSC study.

Perceived health

For perceived health status this report uses a different source than in the National Youth Monitor, which is based on the Permanent Life Situation Survey (POLS). In this publication data from the European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC) are used. The questions underlying the information are identical, but there are some small differences between the surveys. These may be partly explained by the survey methods: for POLS only face-to-face interviews, and for EU-SILC telephone interviews. Moreover, a separate sample is drawn for POLS, while for EU-SILC the sample is drawn from persons who have already participated in the Labour Force Survey (LFS).

Lifestyle (smoking, alcohol consumption and cannabis use)

This report uses a different source for lifestyle indicators than the National Youth Monitor. It also uses different definitions and different age categories. The National Youth Monitor includes figures on the number of 10–19 year-olds who had smoked in the four weeks preceding the survey from the Foundation for a smoke-free future (STIVORO). This publication includes figures on people who smoke every day from the HBSC study.

For alcohol consumption the National Youth Monitor contains figures on 12–18 year-olds who have ever drunk alcohol and so-called binge drinkers. These are youngsters who drank five or more units of alcohol in one session in the month preceding the survey. The

data are taken from the pupil surveys of the Netherlands Institute of Mental health and Addiction (Trimbos). In this publication the figures refer to 15 year-olds who had ever drunk alcohol aged 13 or younger from the HBSC study.

For cannabis use the definition is also slightly different. The National Youth Monitor includes 12–18 year-olds who have ever used cannabis, while this publication counts 15 year-olds who had used cannabis in the twelve months preceding the survey. Here, too, the data in the National Youth Monitor are from the Netherlands Institute of Mental health and Addiction (Trimbos) and those in this publication from the HBSC study.

Although the sources used for alcohol consumption and cannabis use are not identical, the questions in the surveys are the same. For the Netherlands the two surveys are conducted alternately by Trimbos once a year. This means that every two years there are representative national data on alcohol use by youngsters (Trimbos).

School drop-outs

The number of youngsters leaving school prematurely is the same as the indicator education and/or basic qualification in the National Youth Monitor, except that the indicator in the National Youth Monitor is formulated positively, i.e. it refers to the number of young people still in education or who have left education with a basic qualification. The source for both indicators is the same, namely the Labour Force Survey (LFS). The figures differ slightly, however, among other things because of a differing weighing factor. The number of school drop-outs in this publication is slightly lower than in the National Youth Monitor.

Employment and unemployment

For employed and unemployed young people the same applies as for school drop-outs. The source for both indicators is the same, but the figures differ because of a different weighing factor. Moreover, in the National Youth Monitor the age limit is up to and including 22 years, while in this publication it is up to and including 24 years.

Crime suspects

For the number of suspects interviewed by the police this report uses a different source than the National Youth Monitor. In the National Youth Monitor figures from the HKS system of the National Police Services Agency (KLPD) are used. The HKS contains figures on young suspects for whom a report is drawn up following a police interview. In this publication the figures from the Police statistics are used. They include data on the number of suspects interviewed. As reports are not drawn up following all interviews, the number of suspects in the police statistics is higher than in the HKS.

Tables

Table 1
Number of young people (0-24 years) in 2008, number of births in 2007 and number of teenage mothers (15-19 years) in 2005 in Europe

	Number of young people (2008)	Births (2007)	Teenage mothers (2005)
	<i>x 1,000</i>		<i>Absolute</i>
EU-27	139,968	5,282	.
Austria	2,299	76	3,059
Belgium	3,093	121	.
Bulgaria	2,022	75	9,679
Cyprus	259	9	180
Czech Republic	2,823	115	3,483
Denmark	1,648	64	839
Estonia	402	16	1,113
Finland	1,554	59	1,605
France	19,893	820	23,506
Germany	20,780	685	24,769
Greece	2,854	112	3,031
Hungary	2,782	98	6,165
Ireland	1,527	71	2,420
Italy	14,447	564	.
Latvia	666	23	1,876
Lithuania	1,052	32	2,488
Luxembourg	145	5	158
Malta	125	4	303
Netherlands	4,918	181	2,782
Poland	11,809	388	19,249
Portugal	2,865	102	5,443
Romania	6,430	215	28,356
Slovakia	1,678	54	4,080
Slovenia	531	20	368
Spain	11,690	494	12,878
Sweden	2,736	107	1,681
United Kingdom	18,939	772	50,160
Other European countries			
Iceland	112	5	151
Norway	1,508	58	1,152
Switzerland	2,083	74	1,084

Source: Eurostat.

Table 2
Family situation of 11, 13 and 15 year-olds in Europe¹⁾, 2005/2006

	Two-parent family	One-parent family	Step family
	%		
EU-27			
Austria	76	14	8
Belgium (Flemish region)	74	14	10
Belgium (Walloon region)	67	17	14
Bulgaria	81	13	4
Czech Republic	70	16	12
Denmark	66	19	12
England	70	16	12
Estonia	65	18	15
Finland	71	16	13
France	73	14	11
Germany	74	15	9
Greece	86	11	2
Hungary	74	16	9
Ireland	81	13	5
Italy	87	9	3
Latvia	64	23	10
Lithuania	71	19	8
Luxembourg	76	14	10
Malta	.	.	.
Netherlands	80	12	7
Poland	83	12	3
Portugal	82	10	6
Romania	58	37	2
Scotland	68	19	12
Slovakia	84	11	5
Slovenia	84	10	4
Spain	84	11	4
Sweden	73	14	12
Wales	66	19	13
Other European countries			
Iceland	70	15	12
Norway	73	16	10
Switzerland	79	12	8

¹⁾ No figures available for Malta. Cyprus does not participate in this survey.

Source: Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC) 2005/2006.

Table 3
Infant mortality in 2008 and positive perception of own health of young people (15–24 yrs) in 2007 in Europe

	Infant mortality (2008)	Positive perception of health (15-24 years) (2007)
	<i>per 100 thousand live births</i>	%
EU-27	.	91.9
Austria	3.7	95.0
Belgium	3.4	92.8
Bulgaria	8.6	.
Cyprus	5.3	95.9
Czech Republic	2.8	.
Denmark	4.0	90.4
Estonia	5.0	88.2
Finland	2.6	.
France	.	92.9
Germany	3.5	89.0
Greece	3.5	98.0
Hungary	5.6	88.1
Ireland	.	95.4
Italy	3.7	93.4
Latvia	6.7	82.2
Lithuania	4.9	86.8
Luxembourg	1.8	94.4
Malta	9.9	95.2
Netherlands	3.8	90.2
Poland	5.6	92.0
Portugal	3.3	83.1
Romania	11.0	96.8
Slovakia	5.9	91.3
Slovenia	2.1	85.6
Spain	3.5	93.3
Sweden	2.5	91.2
United Kingdom	4.7	.
Other European countries		
Iceland	2.5	89.1
Norway	2.7	89.5
Switzerland	4.0	.

Source: Eurostat.

Table 4
Smoking, drinking alcohol and cannabis use by 15 year-olds in Europe¹⁾, 2005/2006

	Smokes every day	Drank alcohol aged 13 years or younger	Used cannabis in the 12 months preceding the survey
	%		
EU-27			
Austria	19	60	9
Belgium (Flemish region)	12	53	16
Belgium (Walloon region)	11	59	17
Bulgaria	26	44	12
Czech republic	16	69	18
Denmark	10	48	10
England	11	50	18
Estonia	16	58	19
Finland	17	32	5
France	14	31	21
Germany	15	48	11
Greece	12	47	3
Hungary	18	52	9
Ireland	15	38	17
Italy	14	27	17
Latvia	19	49	12
Lithuania	16	54	8
Luxembourg	14	48	18
Malta	12	40	10
Netherlands	14	62	19
Poland	12	54	13
Portugal	7	45	7
Romania	12	34	2
Scotland	15	48	21
Slovakia	12	52	11
Slovenia	13	41	12
Spain	11	34	23
Sweden	5	24	3
Wales	13	44	22
Other European countries			
Iceland	10	14	7
Norway	8	23	.
Switzerland	11	45	23

¹⁾ Cyprus does not participate in this survey.

Source: Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC), 2005/2006.

Table 5
Participation in education (15-24 years) and school drop-outs (18-24 years) in Europe, 2007

	Participation in education (15-24 years)	School drop-outs (18-24 years)
	<i>% of the age group concerned</i>	
EU-27	59.5	15.2
Austria	53.8	10.9
Belgium	68.6	12.3
Bulgaria	52.4	16.6
Cyprus	41.2	12.6
Czech republic	62.1	.
Denmark	66.9	12.4
Estonia	62.1	14.3
Finland	70.9	7.9
France	59.2	12.7
Germany	65.4	12.7
Greece	60.1	14.7
Hungary	63.7	10.9
Ireland	58.1	11.5
Italy	56.3	19.3
Latvia ¹⁾	62.5	16.0
Lithuania	68.7	8.7
Luxembourg	41.8	15.1
Malta	44.5	37.3
Netherlands	67.5	12.0
Poland	70.3	5.0
Portugal ¹⁾	53.0	36.3
Romania	53.6	19.2
Slovakia	56.3	7.2
Slovenia	70.1	4.3
Spain	55.4	31.0
Sweden	66.6	8.6
United Kingdom	47.3	17.0
Other European countries		
Iceland	66.6	24.5
Norway	66.1	21.4
Switzerland	58.2	7.6

¹⁾ Figures on drop-outs provisional.

Table 6
Labour market participation of young people (15–24 years) in Europe, 2008

	Employed young people	Unemployed young people
	<i>% of the age group concerned</i>	
EU-27	37.6	15.4
Austria	55.9	8.0
Belgium	27.4	18.0
Bulgaria	26.3	12.7
Cyprus	38.0	9.0
Czech republic	28.1	9.9
Denmark	67.0	7.6
Estonia	36.4	12.0
Finland	44.7	16.5
France	32.2	19.1
Germany	46.9	9.9
Greece	23.5	22.1
Hungary	20.0	19.9
Ireland	46.0	12.6
Italy	24.4	21.3
Latvia	37.2	13.1
Lithuania	26.7	13.4
Luxembourg	23.8	16.9
Malta	45.8	11.9
Netherlands	69.3	5.3
Poland	27.3	17.3
Portugal	34.7	16.4
Romania	24.8	18.6
Slovakia	26.2	19.0
Slovenia	38.4	10.4
Spain	36.0	24.6
Sweden	42.2	20.0
United Kingdom	52.4	15.0
Other European countries		
Iceland	71.7	.
Norway	57.3	7.2
Switzerland	62.4	.

Source: Eurostat.

Definitions

Perceived health

Young people aged 15 up to and including 24 years who describe their health as good or very good. The figures refer to answers to the question 'How would you describe your general state of health?' The answer categories vary from very good to very poor. Perceived health, also called subjective health or experienced health, reflects a person's personal assessment of his or her own health. Experienced health is a summary measure of all health aspects relevant for the person concerned.

Live birth

Baby that shows vital signs after birth, regardless of pregnancy duration.

Basic qualification

Students who have completed an advanced vocational course of at least two years (*mbo 2*). Senior secondary general education (*havo*) and pre-university education (*vwo*) diplomas are also considered to be basic qualifications.

Teenage mother

Total number of girls aged 19 years or younger on 31 December of the year concerned who had a baby in that year.

School drop-outs

Persons who leave school without a basic qualification.

Employed young people (international definition)

Young people aged 15-24 years who work for at least one hour a week.

Unemployed young people (international definition)

Young people aged 15-24 years who do not have a job, who are looking for a job of at least one hour a week and are available to start work immediately. Looking for a job implies they have undertaken activities to find a paid job in the four weeks preceding the survey..

Infant mortality

Number of live born babies who die in the first year, per thousand live births.

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