



European Commission

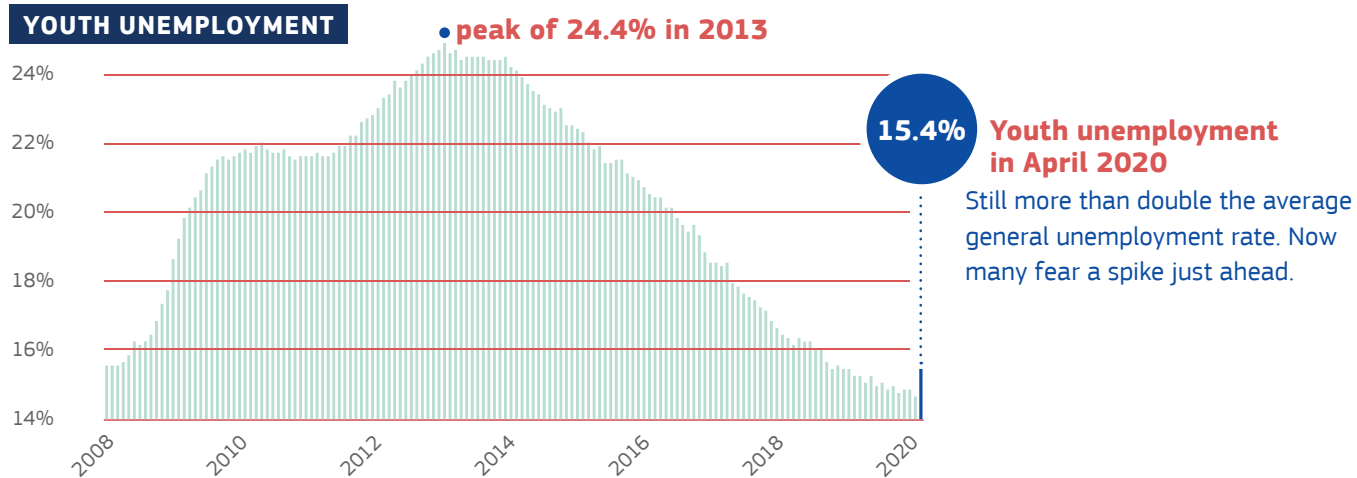


YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT

A Bridge to Jobs for the Next Generation

July 2020
#EUBridgetoJobs

Young people deserve all possible opportunities to develop their full potential to shape the future of the EU and to thrive in the green and digital transitions. Young people often face a difficult start in the labour market, and this has been emphasised by the coronavirus pandemic.



The EU is helping Member States tackle this challenge head-on by proposing:



A Bridge to Jobs – reinforcing the Youth Guarantee

Future-proofing the EU's vocational education and training policy

A renewed impetus for apprenticeships

Additional measures supporting youth employment



Tens of billions of euros powering the recovery plan for young people

Member States to prioritise investments that can help young people in the short and medium term



A BRIDGE TO JOBS: REINFORCING THE YOUTH GUARANTEE

If you sign up to the Youth Guarantee, you will receive an offer of employment, education, apprenticeship or traineeship within four months.

The EU created the Youth Guarantee in 2013 and has since built bridges to the labour market for more than **24 million young people**.



The new and improved Bridge to Jobs will:



Cover young people aged between 15 and 29



Be **more inclusive**, with a wider outreach focusing especially on disadvantaged groups



Link in with the **needs of companies**, especially SMEs, providing the skills required - in particular those for the green and digital transitions



Provide **tailored counselling**, guidance and mentoring

FUTURE-PROOFING THE EU'S VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING POLICY

Vocational education and training helps **young people** get ready for their first job and allows adults to learn new skills and develop their careers. It will be an **essential part** of helping young people enter the workforce during the recovery. With its proposed Recommendation, the Commission is taking a fresh approach to vocational education and training, making it more modern, attractive, flexible and fit for the digital age and green transition.

[See more](#)

A RENEWED IMPETUS FOR APPRENTICESHIPS

Apprenticeships are a win-win:



Companies get the skilled labour force they need for the future

Young people develop their skills and find work



EU action will help boost apprenticeship offers, for example by incentivising support to SMEs and mobilising local and regional authorities. The **European Alliance for Apprenticeships** has been instrumental in creating **more than 900,000 apprenticeship opportunities** for young people since its launch in 2013. The Commission will renew it to trigger fresh commitments for digital and green apprenticeships.

The Commission also urges Member States to step up youth employment support through NextGenerationEU and the future EU budget. The overall ambition is that Member States invest EU funding of at least €22 billion in youth employment:

For example, the EU can help fund:



Start-up grants and loans for young entrepreneurs, mentoring schemes and business incubators



Bonuses for SMEs hiring apprentices



Training sessions to acquire new skills needed on the labour market



Capacity-building of public employment services



Career management training in formal education



Investments in digital learning infrastructure and technology

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