

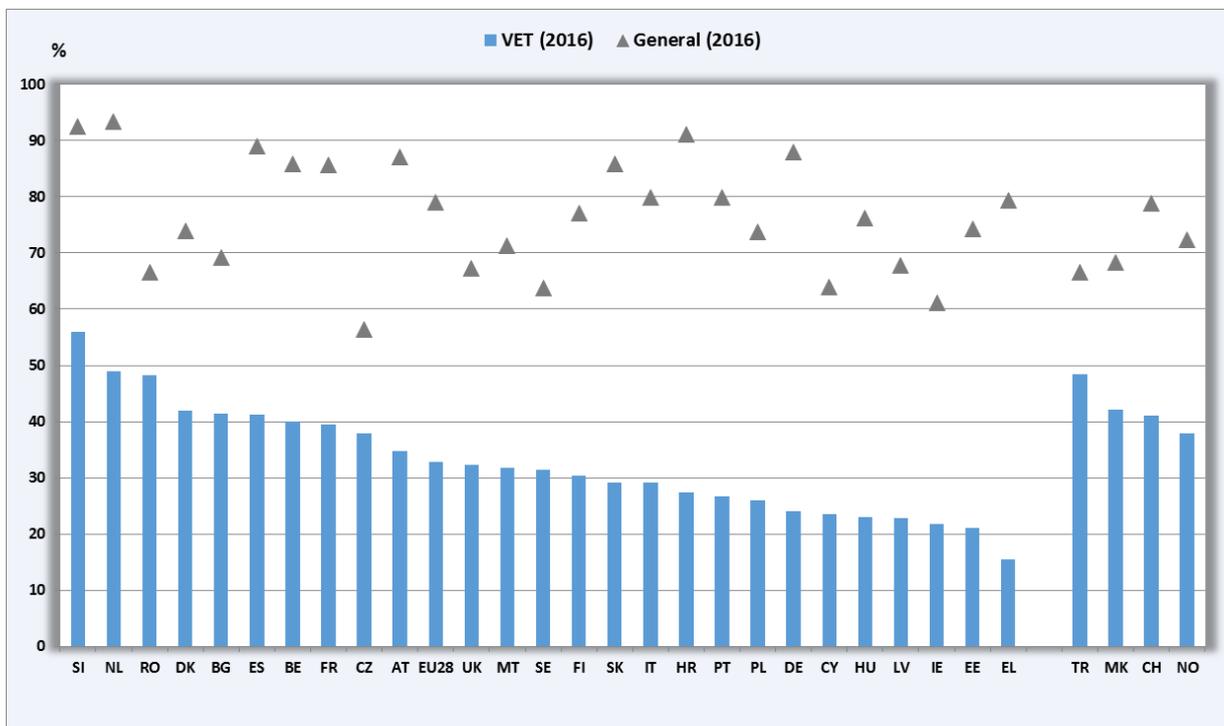
## 10. How many VET graduates continue in further education and training?

Indicator 1080: participation of VET graduates (18-24 year-olds) in further education and training

For VET to be an attractive learning option, young VET graduates should experience smooth transitions not only to the labour market but also, if they wish, to further learning opportunities. This is particularly important in countries where VET suffers from poor parity of esteem with general education.

The indicator below is defined as the share of VET graduates (ISCED 3-4) aged 18-24 who participated in formal or non-formal further education and training in the four weeks prior to the survey.

**Figure 1** Young VET graduates in further education and training (%), including comparison with a similar indicator for graduates from upper secondary general education



Source: Eurostat calculations based on EU labour force survey.

### Key points

In 2016, 32.8% of VET graduates aged 18-24 in the EU participated in further education and training over the four weeks prior to the survey. This share is considerably lower than the participation rate among general education graduates in the same age range (at 79.0% in the EU in 2016). These data reflect structural differences between general and vocational education, with the former mainly preparing people for further studies and the latter mainly preparing people for the world of work. But they also show, with one third of VET graduates continuing in further

education and training, that obtaining a VET qualification does not necessarily bring individual learning to a halt.

Participation rates of VET graduates aged 18-24 in further education and training vary significantly across countries. Among the EU Member States, the highest participation rates in 2016 are found in Slovenia (56.0%), the Netherlands (49.0%), and Romania (48.2%). Greece (15.5%) reports the lowest share. In Turkey (49.0%), the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (42.2%), Switzerland (41.0%), and Norway (37.9%), the participation rates (in 2015) are above the EU average of 33.0%.

On average, in the EU, the share of VET graduates aged 18-24 participating in further education and training dropped slightly between 2014 and 2016 (down 0.6 percentage points). There are larger changes, in both directions, in some Member States. The largest change was in Sweden where participation fell by 5.9 percentage points to 31.4%, dropping below the EU average. Latvia reported the largest increase in participation of young VET graduates in further education and training (by 3.6 percentage points), but at 22.8% in 2016 still remained well below the EU average.

**Table 1 Young VET graduates in further education and training (%), including comparison with a similar indicator for graduates from upper secondary general education**

Country code	Country	VET						General	
		2016		Recent change				2016	
		Value	Flag	Range	Country	EU28	Value	Flag	
EU28	European Union (28)	32.8	b	'14-'16	↘	-0.6		79.0	b
BE	Belgium	40.1	b	'14-'16	↗	2.0	↘ -0.6	85.9	b
BG	Bulgaria	41.5	b	'14-'16	↘	-1.0	↘ -0.6	69.2	b
CZ	Czech Republic	38.0	b	'14-'16	↘	-2.9	↘ -0.6	56.4	b
DK	Denmark	41.9	b					74.0	b
DE	Germany	24.1	b	'14-'16	↘	-0.2	↘ -0.6	88.0	b
EE	Estonia	21.2	b	'14-'16	↗	3.1	↘ -0.6	74.4	b
IE	Ireland	21.7	b	'14-'16	↘	-4.5	↘ -0.6	61.1	b
EL	Greece	15.5	b	'14-'16	↗	0.9	↘ -0.6	79.4	b
ES	Spain	41.3	b	'14-'16	↗	1.2	↘ -0.6	89.0	b
FR	France	39.4	b	'14-'16	↘	-0.4	↘ -0.6	85.6	b
HR	Croatia	27.3	b	'14-'16	↘	-4.3	↘ -0.6	91.1	b
IT	Italy	29.1	b	'14-'16	↗	1.6	↘ -0.6	80.0	b
CY	Cyprus	23.6	b	'14-'16	↗	2.1	↘ -0.6	63.9	b
LV	Latvia	22.8	b	'14-'16	↗	3.6	↘ -0.6	67.9	b
LT	Lithuania	16.9	b u					73.3	b
LU	Luxembourg		b					63.6	b
HU	Hungary	23.1	b	'15-'16	↘	-0.3	↘ -0.3	76.2	b
MT	Malta	31.8	b	'14-'16	↗	1.2	↘ -0.6	71.4	b
NL	Netherlands	49.0	b	'14-'16	↗	0.6	↘ -0.6	93.4	b
AT	Austria	34.7	b	'14-'16	↗	0.4	↘ -0.6	87.1	b
PL	Poland	26.1	b	'14-'16	↘	-0.6	↘ -0.6	73.7	b
PT	Portugal	26.7	b	'14-'16	→	0.0	↘ -0.6	79.9	b
RO	Romania	48.2	b	'14-'16	↗	0.1	↘ -0.6	66.5	b
SI	Slovenia	56.0	b	'14-'16	↘	-2.6	↘ -0.6	92.4	b
SK	Slovakia	29.2	b	'14-'16	↘	-2.6	↘ -0.6	85.8	b
FI	Finland	30.3	b	'14-'16	↘	-1.8	↘ -0.6	77.1	b
SE	Sweden	31.4	b	'14-'16	↘	-5.9	↘ -0.6	63.7	b
UK	United Kingdom	32.2	b	'14-'16	↘	-2.9	↘ -0.6	67.3	b
MK	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	42.2						68.3	
IS	Iceland		b u					64.3	b
NO	Norway	37.9	b	'14-'16	↘	-31.5	↘ -0.6	72.4	b
CH	Switzerland	41.0	b	'14-'16	↗	1.3	↘ -0.6	78.9	b
TR	Turkey	48.4	b	'14-'16	↘	-0.5	↘ -0.6	66.5	b

Arrows ↗ or ↘ signal a positive or negative change. Arrow → indicates: no change.

(b) Break after 2010. Therefore baseline data not included. (u) Eurostat: "low reliability".

Source: Eurostat calculations based on EU labour force survey.

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