

**SKILLSNET e-bulletin: June 2016****Highlight of the month****New analytical highlights on occupations just published on the Skills Panorama**

New occupational analytical highlights offer valuable insights on the trends for skills as well as analyses of the drivers of change for a total of over 30 occupations. They provide succinct information about the occupation, its future prospects and key trends in skills based on a thorough analysis of the most pertinent drivers of change as well as potential responses to the key skills challenges identified. Find them all online [here](#).

On top of the new analytical highlights, you can now use improved navigation and layout to explore all indicators, updated with more recent data, and a range of new indicators regarding the skills used at work. Further Skills Intelligence will be coming in the course of the next period. Stay tuned and visit regularly the **Skills Panorama**.

**News from Cedefop and the Skills Panorama****The Commission adopts a new and comprehensive Skills Agenda for Europe**

The aim of the Skills Agenda is to ensure that people develop a broad set of skills from early in life and to make the most of Europe's human capital, which will ultimately boost employability, competitiveness and growth in Europe. 70 million Europeans lack adequate reading and writing

skills, and even more have poor numeracy and digital skills. This puts them at risk of unemployment, poverty and social exclusion. On the other hand, a large number of Europeans, particularly high-qualified young people, work in jobs that do not match their talents and aspirations. At the same time, 40% of European employers report that they cannot find people with the right skills to grow and innovate. Find more [here](#).

**The May 2016 issue of Skillset and match, Cedefop's magazine promoting learning for work, is now available to read and download**

This issue offers an exclusive interview with European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility Marianne Thyssen during her first visit to Cedefop. Other highlights include an eight-page supplement on inspiring ways to tackle skill mismatch, and interviews with Cambridge University Professor Geoff Hayward and Dr Denise Amyot, President & CEO of Colleges and Institutes, Canada on the link between vocational and higher education. The new issue of the magazine is now available to download [here](#).

**OECD: Policy brief on the Future of Work: Automation and independent work in a digital economy**

OECD analyses have begun to understand the relationship between digitalisation, jobs and skills, the magnitude of potential job substitution due to technological change, the relationship between globalisation and wage polarisation, as well as the changes to the organisation of work. Download/read the policy brief on the Future of Work: Automation and independent work in a digital economy [here](#).

**ILO: Decent work key to ending poverty**

To help close the poverty gap, quality jobs along with social protection must play a central role. ILO economists Steven Tobin and Veda Narasimhan discuss this year's ILO World Employment and Social Outlook report "Transforming jobs to end poverty". Read more on decent work key to ending poverty [here](#).

**News from Skillsnet members****Eurostat: Employment rate of people aged 20 to 64 in the EU above 70% in 2015**

In 2015, the employment rate of the population aged 20 to 64 in the European Union (EU) stood at 70.1%, up compared with 2014 (69.2%) although still remaining slightly below its 2008 peak (70.3%). A similar pattern can be observed for men: their employment rate hit 75.9% in 2015, an increase compared with 2014 (75.0%) but still below its 2008 level (77.8%). More information can be found [here](#).

**Eurostat: Euro area unemployment down to 10.2%**

The euro area (EA19) seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 10.2% in March 2016, down from 10.4% in February 2016, and from 11.2% in March 2015. This is the lowest rate recorded in the euro area since August 2011. The EU28 unemployment rate was 8.8% in March 2016, down from 8.9% in February 2016, and from 9.7% in March 2015. This is the lowest rate recorded in the EU28 for seven years, since April 2009. These figures, published by Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union, are available [here](#).

**Environmental taxes made up 6.3% of tax revenues in the EU in 2014**

In the European Union (EU), environmental taxes amounted to €343.6 bn in 2014, compared with €282.0 bn in 2004. However, the share of environment taxes in total revenues from taxes and social contributions has decreased over this 10-year period, from 6.8% in 2004 to 6.3% in 2014. More on Environmental taxes in the EU in 2014 can be found [here](#).

**Eurostat: 18% of unemployed persons in the EU found a job**

Out of all persons in the European Union (EU) who were unemployed in the third quarter 2015, 64.0% (12.5 million persons) remained unemployed in the fourth quarter 2015, while 17.7% (3.5 million) moved into employment and 18.4% (3.6 million) towards economic inactivity in Q4 2015. Read more [here](#).

**Sweden in a strong position to integrate refugees, but support for the low skilled needs to be strengthened**

Sweden should address housing shortages, begin integration activities early, and improve the support for those with low skills to speed up the effective integration of refugees, according to a new OECD report. Working together – Skills and labour market integration of immigrants and their children says that in 2014-2015, Sweden saw the largest per-capita inflow of asylum seekers ever recorded in an OECD country. With a strong economy and well-developed integration infrastructure, Sweden is better equipped than many other OECD countries to integrate refugees, but the large number of arrivals is testing the efficiency of the reception and integration system. Read more [here](#).



### Part-time work: A divided Europe

An increasing number of Europeans are working part-time. This can be a positive development if it means that people can choose more freely the balance between work and other pursuits – and between income and leisure – or if it brings

employment opportunities to people who were previously excluded from the labour market: such as mothers, older workers, and students. More can be found [here](#).

### OECD: Business brief: Jobs in the digital era work differently

Ongoing innovation in technology is changing labour markets worldwide. To understand the future of work in the digital era, we need to move away from the traditional economic classification of manufacturing and non-manufacturing sectors. Find out more [here](#).

## Publications and reports on skills

### How to mainstream local policies addressing early leaving from education and training

In 2014, the rate of early leaving from education and training in the European Union had dropped to 11%, getting closer to the Europe 2020 goal of less than 10%. This encouraging trend is partly owed to the numerous projects and initiatives across Europe which have supported young people at risk of dropping out of education over the past three decades. More information can be found in Cedefop's new briefing note available for download [here](#).

### Social Agenda n°44– Integrating refugees

Ahead of the European Commission adopting an action plan on the integration of third country nationals (i.e. from outside the EU), this new issue of Social Agenda looks at the refugee issue from an employment, social affairs and inclusion angle. It also deals with other very topical issues such as the targeted review of the 1996 posting of workers directive, the on-going public consultation on an outline of the future pillar of social rights for the Euro zone, the new European Commission approach to dialogue with civil society and how the EU Youth Guarantee is working in practice. Read more [here](#).

### The training and employee trajectory surveys: a new look at in-firm training

The first strand of the French training and employee trajectory surveys (dispositif d'enquêtes sur les formations et itinéraires des salariés/Defis), carried out in 2015, provides a more detailed picture of firms' use of continuing vocational training. The data collected on new dimensions, such as the extent of statutory training provision and the use of outside expertise in developing training policies; confirm longstanding findings on the gaps between small and large firms. Read more [here](#).

### Stay connected to Skills Panorama



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### Ireland - new financial services apprenticeships announced

Financial Services Ireland (FSI), and the Irish Business and Employers Confederation (IBEC) that represents the financial services sector, has announced the creation of 1 000 new apprenticeships as part of the international financial services apprenticeship initiative. In September 2016, 220 apprenticeships will be offered and FSI expects to deliver 1 000 placements by 2020. Find more [here](#).

### Harmonised Unemployment Rates (HURs), OECD - Updated: May 2016

OECD unemployment rate was down to 6.4% in March 2016. The OECD unemployment rate fell by 0.1 percentage point to 6.4% in March 2016, 1.7 percentage points below the January 2013 peak. Across the OECD area, 39.7 million people were unemployed, 9.1 million less than in January 2013, but still 7.2 million more than in April 2008, before the crisis. Find more on the harmonised Unemployment Rates (HURs), OECD - Updated: May 2016 [here](#).

### Forthcoming skills related events

#### Skills, jobs and sustainable development: global trends and local challenges: CEDEFOP-UNESCO global skills conference

**Date:** 20-21 October 2016, **Place:** UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France

The conference will discuss the implications of global economic trends and market forces for anticipated skill needs and mismatches and the responses of education and training building on labour market intelligence. It will look at how information on global trends in skills needs is used by countries to review and renew their education and training provisions and how qualifications frameworks (at sector, national, regional and global levels) can facilitate coordination and dialogue between education and training as well as labour market actors across different regions of the world. More information can be found [here](#).

#### Making learning visible: European conference on validation of non-formal and informal learning

**Date:** 28-29 November 2016, **Place:** Cedefop, Thessaloniki, Greece

Validation of non-formal and informal learning is about making visible and giving value to this diverse and often unique learning. One major purpose of validation is to make it possible for individuals to take advantage of the outcomes of their learning experiences and use them to gain access to employment and/or education opportunities. The conference is organised in close cooperation with the European Commission and will explicitly address the challenges involved for EU Member States in meeting the 2018 deadline set by the 2012 Council Recommendation for establishing national validation arrangements. Conference participation is free. Participants will have to cover their own travel and accommodation expenses. More information can be found [here](#).

### The Skillsnet network

Skillsnet members have the opportunity to inform other members of our network about new projects, events, activities or publications related to early identification of skill needs throughout the year. If you are interested to inform other members, please submit your short article / information (max of 100 words) to **Ioannis Katsikis** whenever you have any news to disseminate.

