Regional focus: Youth unemployment in Western Europe

[Type the document subtitle]

Statistical overview on Youth unemployment in Western Europe

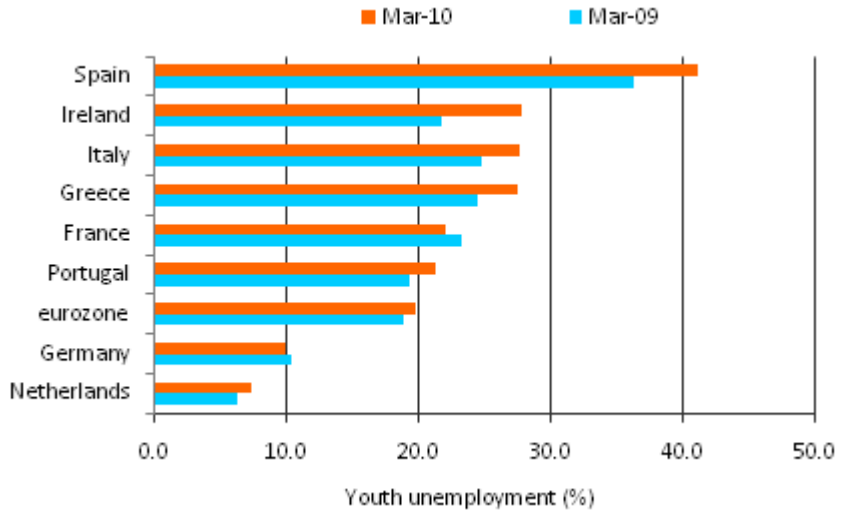
Bhagavat educational Trust
1/1/2011

Regional focus: Youth unemployment in Western Europe

The economic downtown in Western Europe raises unemployment across the board, but is particularly severe among young people between 18- 25 who lack the experience and expertise to complete successfully for job vacancies.

Spain, Italy and Ireland are the worst affected countries in the region, with the impact affecting consumers and companies.

Youth unemployment in selected countries: March 2009 versus March 2010 % of labour force aged 15- 25



Source: EurostatNote: Greece latest data refers to December 2009.

According to an article published in Euromonitor Global Market Research May 2010[1] the youth unemployment is likely to remain high in 2010 and 2011.

> *"However, youth unemployment (defined as a percentage of the economically active population aged 15-24) is much higher than the average. EU statistics report that it was 19.9% in March 2010 in the eurozone and 20.6% across the EU-27;*

[1] (http://blog.euromonitor.com/2010/05/regional-focus-youth-unemployment-remains-high-in-western-europe.html

The highest rate of youth unemployment in Western Europe was in Spain, at 41.2% in March 2010, where industries such as construction have undergone a severe downturn. The Netherlands had the lowest rate of youth unemployment, at 7.4% in March 2010, due to a more shallow economic recession and government policies on youth education and training;''[2]

According to the same research made in 2010 the situation in Spain is currently out of control and desperate.

"*Spain has the highest unemployment rate amongst youths in Western Europe, at 41.2% in March 2010 compared to 36.3% in March 2009. The country's real GDP contracted by 3.6% in 2009 and is expected to shrink by 0.4% in 2010, causing job layoffs, company failures and recruitment freezes. The situation is particularly bad because of the sharp downturn in the construction and services sectors, but also because of Spain's two-tier labour system whereby a large proportion of workers were on temporary contracts that were not renewed during the economic downturn;*" [3]

Spain

In January 25th 2010 Marcus Morgan publishes a very shocking article where he claims that approximately 4 million young people are out of work,. 40% of the young people are unemployed:

"In Spain's worst recession for more than 50 years, official figures for the end of 2009 show nearly 4 million people out of work. The official unemployment figure of 19.4 percent marks an increase of nearly 25 percent in a year. The recession has hit young workers hardest, with the unemployment rate increasing from 17.5 percent three years ago to over 40 percent today. An OECD economist estimates that 85 percent of the jobs lost were temporary contracts, affecting some of the lowest-paid and most vulnerable sections of workers."[4]

According to the researches in the Euro zone, and the yearly statistical data the percentage of the youth unemployment is growing every year. Ana Pozuelo post an article where she says that

"The 61,083 new unemployed or 1.56 per cent increase brings the total number of unemployed to 3,969,661. The rise has been a dent in the positive four-month trend of falling unemployment that began in April after 8 months of explosive unemployment growth.

[2] (http://blog.euromonitor.com/2010/05/regional-focus-youth-unemployment-remains-high-in-western-europe.html
[3] http://blog.euromonitor.com/2010/05/regional-focus-youth-unemployment-remains-high-in-western-europe.html
[4] *http://www.wsws.org/articles/2010/jan2010/spai-j25.shtml*

The Labour Ministry does not calculate a rate of unemployment but figures from the National Institute of Statistics show Spanish unemployment at 20.09%, the highest rate of unemployment in the euro area."[5]

Spain holds the record of having the highest unemployment rate among its youth -- those between 16 and 24 years old and the situation is getting worst

Italy

According to Italy's National Institute of Statistics (Istat), unemployment rate among Italian youth is at a record high since 1999. According to the reports in the first part of 2010 almost 30% of the young people aged between 16 and 24 are unemployed. [6]

The specialist in the field are warning that the Italian unemployment rate is expected to continue rising :

"it could even approach a double-digit figure in 2010" [7]

The situation in Italy has never been worst that it is now. All sources and statistical data shows that:

"Unemployment in Italy could rise above 10 percent in 2010 warned the OECD's Employment Outlook for 2009. The labour market for young people was poor even before the crisis hit and it has become worse. There are 20 percent fewer Italian youths in employment than in the OECD area as a whole. Latest monthly figures suggest Italy's youth unemployment is getting close to 30 percent, and it is expected to rise" [8]

The Italian newspaper **Corriere Della Sera** announced in January 2011 that youth unemployment has hit a record of 28.9%: "Youth unemployment, however, did rise as the rate climbed to 28.9%, up 0.9 percentage points on October and 2.4 points higher than in November 2009. This, too, is the highest level since time series were introduced in January 2004."

Ireland

[5] ***http://www.spanishnews.es/20100902-unemployment-in-spain-soars-by-61000-in-august/id=3263/***

[6] http://www.presstv.ir/detail/143765.html

[7] Source: http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/62/32/43707110.pdf

[8] Source: http://nordiclabourjournal.org/i-fokus/theme-youth-outsiders../oecd-urgent-measures-needed-to-fight-youth-unemployment

The situation in Ireland is not better that Spain and Italy. The young people under 25 are most affected of the recession.

> *"As of June 2010 there are 91,646 young people on the Live Register which equates to one fifth of all those on the Live Register. Youth unemployment has trebled since 2008 with 1 in 3 young men under 25 being out of work. The scale of the problem is masked by a big increase in numbers re-entering or staying in education and the numbers emigrating. The numbers of young people under 25 emigrating increased from 15,600 in 2004 to 30,000 in 2009. Sectors such as construction, retail and services where young people were heavily employed shed thousands of jobs. Between Q1 2008 and Q3 2009 youth employment in construction and manufacturing slumped by 63.6% and 47.4%. "*[9]

One in every 3 man under 25 is unemployed. File Gael Finance Spokesman and Deputy Leader Richard Bruton warns that unemployment is running 3 times higher around young people with one in 3 men under 25 unemployed [10]

According to the table 1 (see page 1) Ireland has the second highest youth unemployment rate in western Europe up to 1 in 4 young people between 17 and 25 years jobless and 1 in 3 young men unemployed [11]. The numbers are really shocking and Ireland is the country that registered the highest increase in youth unemployment going from a very low level in the early 2000s to 28% today. According NIAES[12] Youth unemployment until the last quarter doubled within the last three years.[13]

[9] http://www.youth.ie/advocacy/youth_unemployment
[10] http://www.paschaldonohoe.ie/?p=2418
[11] For more information on youth unemployment in Ireland, please read http://www.rte.ie/news/2011/0125/forgottengeneration.pdf
[12] National Ireland Adviser on Employment and skills
[13] http://www.niaes.co.uk/News/Advice-on-Action-Needed-on-Youth-Unemployment-Tabl.aspx