



United Nations  
Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



UNESCO  
INSTITUTE  
FOR  
STATISTICS



TECHNICAL  
COOPERATION  
GROUP



DRAFT  
December 2017

# TCG4: Measuring progress on SDG target 4.4

## Insights from NEET indicators TCG4/21

16-18 January 2018  
Dusit Thani Dubai  
133, Sheikh Zayed Road, Trade Centre,  
Dubai, United Arab Emirates





## 1. Background

SDG target 4.4 calls for a substantial increase in the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship. Three indicators<sup>1</sup> are currently proposed to monitor the target but additional measures are still needed, especially on skills.

The *proportion of youth (aged 15-24 years) not in employment, education or training* (NEET rate) is an indicator for SDG 8, “promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all”.<sup>2</sup> As such, this indicator provides insights about the proportion of youth who lack skills needed for a first job and could be considered as a valuable measure for target 4.4. In general, the risk for youth of being NEET is likely to be associated with low educational attainment and weak information-processing skills, such as poor literacy and numeracy. Hence, the highest level of education completed by youth should be very informative. Moreover, educational attainment is considered as the main determinant of wage levels - especially for youth - given that people with tertiary education, for example, usually earn higher wages than those with secondary or lower education.

## 2. Youth NEET and educational attainment

This document briefly summarizes options for examination of NEET data in relation to target 4.4, based on a preliminary analysis by the UIS. Two types of analysis are proposed:

- Disaggregation of youth NEET by level of educational attainment
- Calculation of NEET rates by level of educational attainment

### ***Opportunities and challenges***

Opportunities include:

- Relevance and quality
  - Educational attainment is considered as a proxy for literacy and numeracy skills.
  - NEET is a well-established and well-known indicator given that it is SDG indicator 8.6.1.
- Coverage
  - NEET is regularly produced by ILO and data are currently available for nearly 100 countries.

Challenges that require further investigation include:

---

<sup>1</sup> Indicator 4.4.1: proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by type of skill. Indicator 4.4.2: percentage of youth/adults who have achieved at least a minimum level of proficiency in digital literacy skills. Indicator 4.4.3: youth/adult educational attainment rates by age group, economic activity status, levels of education and programme orientation.

<sup>2</sup> Annex 1 presents the technical guidelines on NEET by ILO.



- Standard setting for definition and method of calculation: what mechanisms are used by ILO for agreeing on standards? Could there be a possibility of partnership with the UIS in this regard?
- Expanding data coverage, especially to low- and middle-income countries.<sup>3</sup>
- Refining NEET data to capture specific skills of interest for monitoring of SDG target 4.4.

### ***Data preparation for analysis***

The analytical part of this document is based on NEET data obtained from ILO in October 2017. The data were originally collected by countries through different surveys between 2000 and 2016.<sup>4</sup> The data cover 75 countries and are disaggregated by sex, age group, level of education completed, urban/rural location, and employment status.

ILO produces aggregate NEET counts and NEET rates by sex for the population aged 15-24 years. Based on available raw data, these two indicators (NEET counts and NEET rates) can be disaggregated by educational attainment (no schooling or ISCED 0; completed ISCED 1 or 2; completed ISCED 3 or 4; completed ISCED 5, 6, 7, or 8; completed any level of ISCED from 0 to 8), by age-group (15-24 years, 15-19 years, 20-24 years), by location (urban, rural, total), by employment status (unemployed, inactive, total), and by sex (female, male, both sexes).

This brief presents the two indicators disaggregated by sex and educational attainment level for youth 15-24 years.

### **3. Summary of results**

- It is possible to calculate over 40 indicators on NEET counts and rates by educational attainment and sex, and over 180 indicators if the dimensions of age-group, location and employment status are taken into account (see Annex 2 for examples).
- In addition, parity indices could also be produced.

Table 1 presents the results of the calculation for countries with data, for the latest year available. Figure 1 shows the distribution of youth NEET by level of educational attainment. From that figure:

- The highest proportions (over 50%) of NEETs with educational attainment less than ISCED 1 or no schooling are found in low-income countries. Also in these countries, the proportion of NEETs with educational attainment of ISCED 1 or 2 is higher than the proportion of NEETs with educational attainment higher than ISCED 2.

<sup>3</sup> In general, the calculation of NEETs requires the availability of household surveys collecting regularly data on employment, education and training (e.g. labor force survey), as well as access to micro datasets on the education status of youth (in school/out of school), the labour force status (employed/unemployed or inactive). A lack of data hinders the calculation of NEET in many countries, especially where statistical capacities are not advanced. Currently, the ILO database on NEET includes mostly OECD countries.

<sup>4</sup> Labour force survey, household income/expenditure survey, population census, other household surveys, including core welfare indicators (poverty) surveys, monitoring survey of the modular and integrated survey of household living conditions, integrated household survey, living standards survey, and continuous multi-purpose household survey. ILO data sources on NEET include YouthSTATs ([ILOSTAT](#)), School-to-Work Transition Survey ([ILO SWTS](#)), and Child Labour Survey ([ILO CLS](#)).



- Two thirds of all countries have a proportion of NEETs who completed ISCED 1, 2, 3 or 4 greater than 75%, and these countries include middle- to high-income countries.
- One fifth of all countries have a proportion of NEETs who completed tertiary education.

While it is intuitive that high proportions of NEETs are associated with low levels of education completed, it is not possible from the data available to explain why in nearly 20% of the countries over 10% of NEETs have a tertiary education degree.

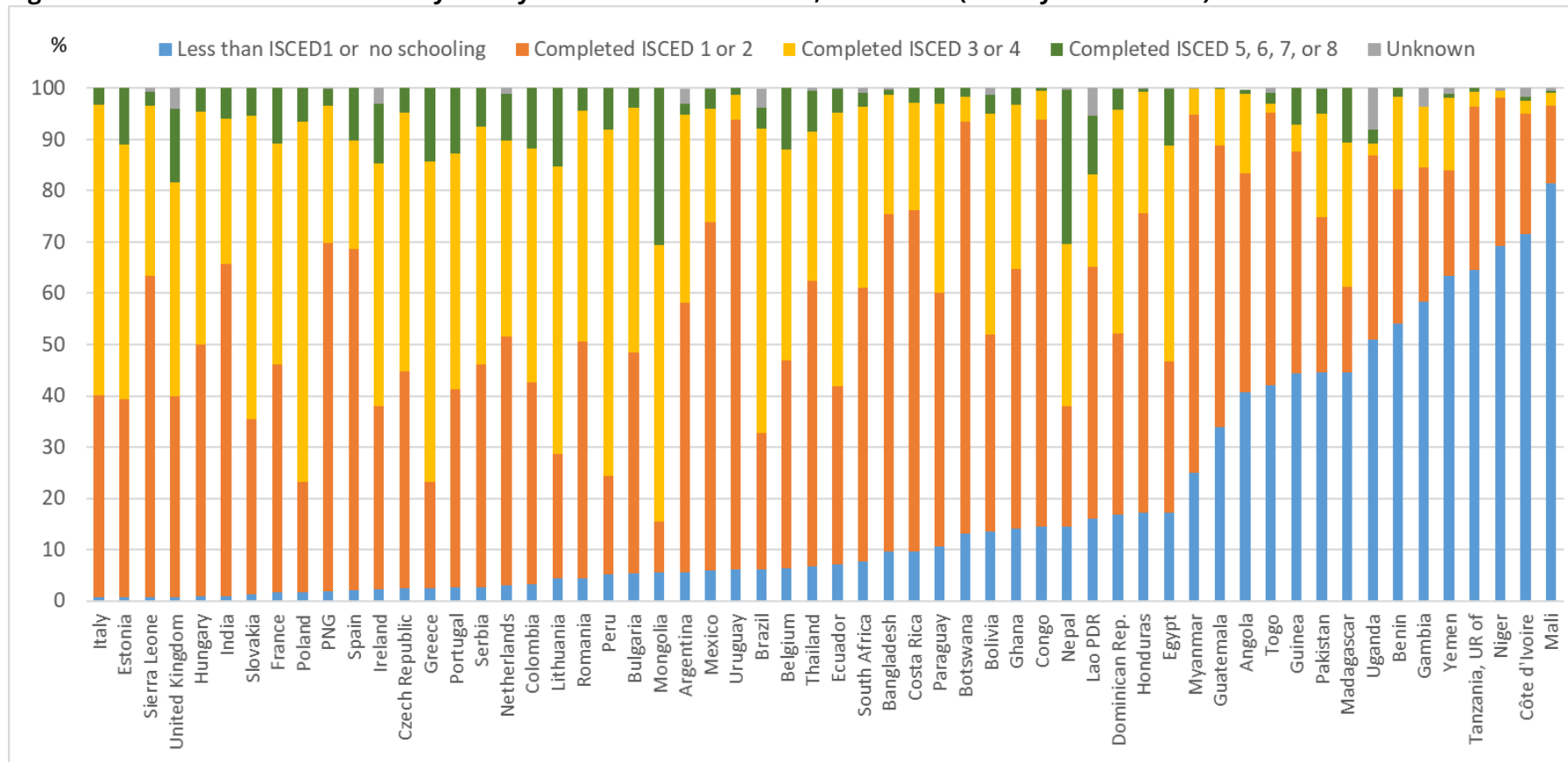
Figure 2 presents NEET rates by educational attainment and sex. From that figure:

- NEET rates by educational attainment are smaller in middle- to high-income countries than in low-income countries (except Madagascar). The range of NEET rates over the levels of education completed also shows the same pattern across income levels.
- Females tend to have higher NEET rates, especially in low-income countries.

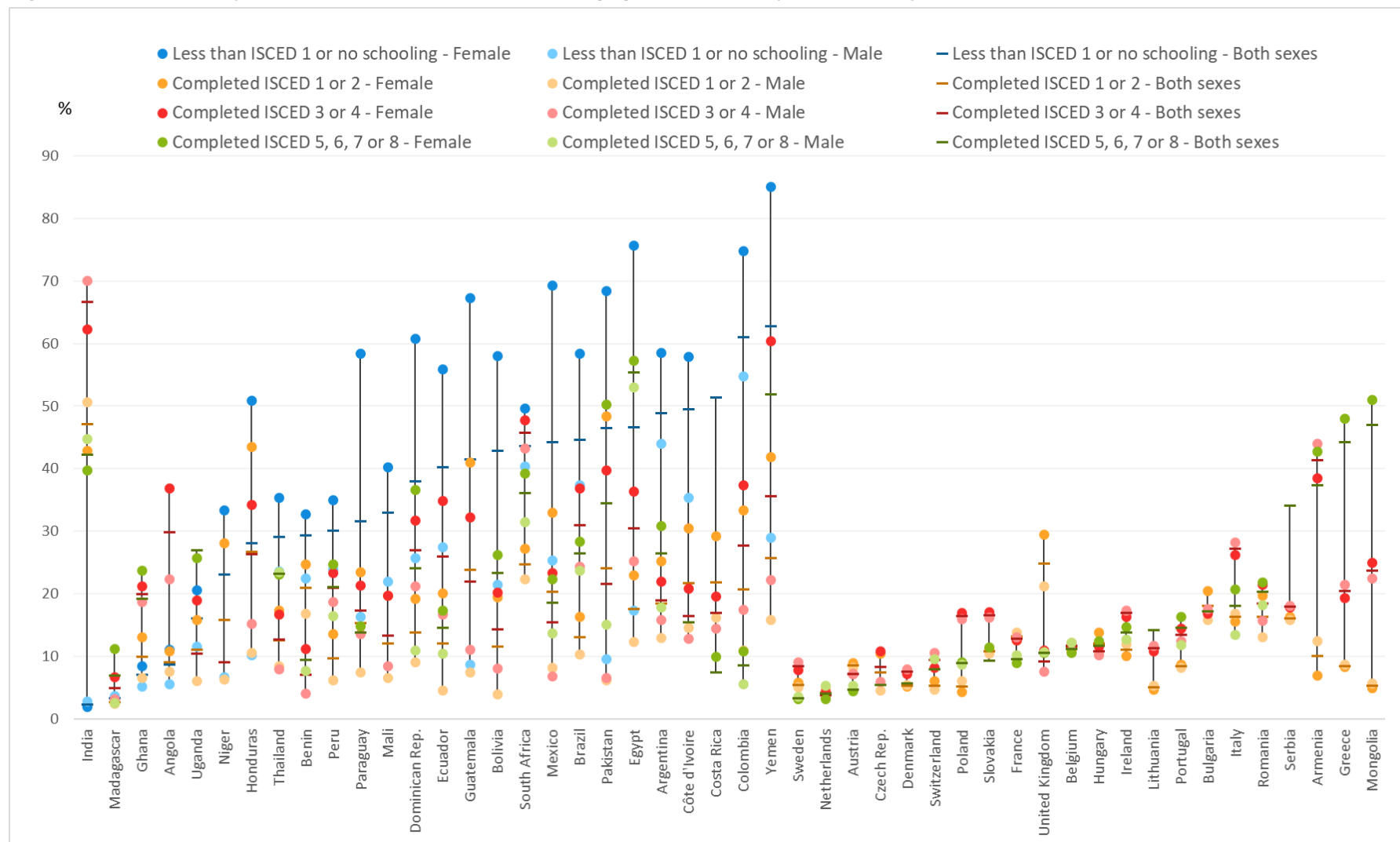
#### 4. Next steps

Analysis of the links between educational attainment level and NEET rates offers insights into the distribution of skills for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship and on the benefits of attaining higher levels of education. This document presents some options for analysis based on a limited number of indicators. Further study is needed to make full use of the data and to explain certain findings, for example with regard to the prevalence of NEET among youth with tertiary education.

**Figure 1: Distribution of NEETs 15-24 years by educational attainment, both sexes (latest year available)**



Note: Countries are sorted by the proportion of NEETs who completed less than ISCED 1 or who have no schooling.

**Figure 2: NEET rates by educational attainment and sex, population 15-24 years, latest year available**

Note: Countries are sorted by the NEET rate among 15- to 24-year-olds who completed less than ISCED 1 or who have no schooling (left half of graph). Countries without data for "Less than ISCED 1 or no schooling" are sorted by the NEET rate among 15- to 24-year-olds who completed ISCED 5, 6, 7 or 8.

**Table 1: NEET rates and proportion of NEETs by educational attainment and sex, 15-24 years (latest year available)**

NEET rates for youth (15-24 years) by educational attainment and by sex														Proportion of youth (15-24 years) NEET by educational attainment and by sex																											
Country	Year	No schooling or Early childhood education			Completed ISCED 1 or 2			Completed ISCED 3 or 4			Completed ISCED 5, 6, 7 or 8			Level unknown			Total NEET (all levels together + unknown)			Country	Year	No schooling or Early childhood education			Completed ISCED 1 or 2			Completed ISCED 3 or 4			Completed ISCED 5, 6, 7 or 8			Level unknown			Total (NEET count)				
		Female	Male	Both sexes	Female	Male	Both sexes	Female	Male	Both sexes	Female	Male	Both sexes	Female	Male	Both sexes	Female	Male	Both sexes			Female	Male	Both sexes	Female	Male	Both sexes	Female	Male	Both sexes	Female	Male	Both sexes	Female	Male	Both sexes					
Angola	2011	11.1	5.6	8.7	10.8	7.7	9.1	36.9	22.3	29.8						12.2	7.6	10.0	Angola	2011	46.5	30.8	40.6	37.6	53.1	42.9	15.5	15.4	15.4	0.4	1.5	0.8				226	130	357			
Argentina	2014	58.6	44.1	48.9	25.2	13	18.5	22.0	15.9	19.1	30.9	17.9	26.5		50.0	38.0	24.5	15.1	19.7	Argentina	2014	3.1	7.2	4.8	52.2	50.1	51.4	39.9	38.4	39.2	3.1	1.4	2.4			2.1	546	359	905		
Armenia	2015				7.0	12.5	10.1	38.6	44.1	41.4	42.8	47.3	37.5			34.8	36.3	35.5	Armenia	2015				2.8	6.9	4.9	75.0	83.3	79.2	20.8	9.7	15.3				72	72	144			
Austria	2015				9.0	8.3	8.6	7.2	7.3	7.2	4.5	5.3	4.8			7.3	7.4	7.4	Austria	2015				48.6	44.7	46.6	40.0	44.7	43.8	11.4	7.9	11.0				35	38	73			
Belgium	2015				11.0	12.2	11.7	11.5	11.9	11.7	10.6	12.3	11.2			11.8	12.5	12.2	Belgium	2015	8.9	12.0	9.6	66.0	64.9	65.8	23.7	21.7	23.3	1.1	1.0	1.0	0.3	0.5	0.3	4738	1258	5995			
Benin	2011	32.7	22.4	29.3	24.7	16.9	21.0	11.3	4.1	7.0						23.2	10.9	17.2	Benin	2011	58.5	44.3	54.1	23.9	32.9	26.2	17.0	20.0	17.9	1.3	2.9	1.7				159	70	229			
Bolivia	2015	58.0	21.5	42.9	19.5	4.0	11.6	20.3	8.1	14.4	26.3					23.2	6.8	14.5	Bolivia	2015	13.9	11.6	13.4	41.3	30.4	38.6	40.4	50.7	43.0	3.0	5.8	3.7	1.3	1.4	1.3	230	69	298			
Brazil	2016	58.4	37.5	44.6	16.4	10.3	13.1	36.9	24.4	31.1	28.4	23.8	26.6	67.7	40.6	50.7	28.5	18.2	23.2	Brazil	2016	10.8	16.7	13.1	82.4	77.1	80.3	5.4	4.2	4.9	1.4	2.1	1.6				74	48	122		
Bulgaria	2015				20.5	15.9	18.1	16.9	17.6	17.2						17.2	17.8	18.5	Bulgaria	2015	4.5	6.3	5.4	45.5	39.1	43.1	45.5	50.0	47.7	4.5	3.1	3.8				66	64	130			
Côte d'Ivoire	2016	57.9	35.4	49.5	30.5	14.6	21.7	20.9	12.9	16.5				15.5	37.6	34.6	36.4	46.4	23.7	36.0	Côte d'Ivoire	2016	75.1	63.1	71.5	21.1	28.6	23.4	2.2	3.7	2.7	0.6	1.3	0.8	1.0	3.0	1.6	1064	461	1524	
Colombia	2016	74.8	54.8	61.0	33.4	11.0	20.8	37.4	17.6	27.8	10.9	5.6	8.6			28.0	12.5	20.2	Colombia	2016	34.2	28.6	31.9	44.6	48.0	46.0	4.6	6.6	5.4	1.2	1.3	1.2	15.3	15.6	15.4	258	176	434			
Costa Rica	2016			51.5	29.2	16.2	21.9	19.6	14.6	16.9	10.0		7.4			26.1	16.0	20.7	Costa Rica	2016	1.7	6.3	3.2	40.0	37.8	39.3	46.1	45.1	45.8	12.2	10.6	11.7				1160	521	1681			
Croatia	2015				4.5	6.5	5.5	23.2	30.6	27.1						15.8	21.0	18.5	Comoros	2004	57.1	53.8	55.9	9.5	7.7	11.8				33.3	30.8	32.4	21	13	34				110	84	194
Cyprus	2015				10.5	4.6	7.4	10.8	6.0	8.3				5.5		10.5	5.5	8.0	Congo	2005	14.5	14.3	14.4	80.9	77.4	79.4	4.5	6.0	5.7	0.9	2.4	1.0				102	75	176			
Czech Republic	2015				10.5	4.6	7.4	10.8	6.0	8.3				5.5		10.5	5.5	8.0	Costa Rica	2016	8.8	10.7	9.7	66.7	65.3	66.5	20.6	21.3	21.0	3.9	1.3	2.8			0.5	0.7	0.6	38	52	90	
Denmark	2015				5.2	5.5	5.4	7.2	8.0	7.5						10.5	5.5	8.0	Croatia	2015				10.5	11.5	11.1	82.5	86.1	84.6	6.6	1.7	3.8				110	84	194			
Dominican Republic	2015	60.8	25.8	38.0	19.3	9.1	13.8	31.7	21.2	27.0	36.6	11.0	24.1			27.5	14.7	20.9	Czech Republic	2015	1.8	6.7	2.4	43.6	40.0	42.4	43.6	40.0	42.4	53.3	50.6	5.5				55	30	85			
Ecuador	2016	55.9	27.5	40.2	20.1	4.7	12.1	34.9	16.7	26.0	17.3	10.5	14.6			26.7	10.2	18.4	Denmark	2015				45.5	52.2	48.9	45.5	43.5	44.4	4.5	4.3	4.4				22	22	45			
Egypt	2016	75.7	17.3	46.7	23.1	12.4	17.6	36.4	25.2	30.6	57.3	53.1	55.4			35.7	19.8	27.6	Dominican Republic	2015	14.7	20.3	16.8	35.7	34.7	35.3	44.4	42.3	43.7	5.1	2.6	4.2			0.1	0.0	0.0	272	155	427	
France	2012				12.6	13.9	13.3	12.6	13.1	12.9	9.0	10.3	9.6			12.2	13.3	12.7	Ecuador	2016	6.1	9.6	7.1	38.5	24.7	34.7	60.7	53.5	45.6	4.9	4.6	4.6	0.0	0.1	0.0	400	154	553			
Ghana	2013	8.5	5.2	7.1	13.1	6.6	10.0	21.3	18.8	20.0	23.8		19.2			35.2	19.8	27.6	Egypt	2016	22.2	8.7	17.2	29.8	29.0	29.5	37.9	49.4	42.1	9.9	12.7	11.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	3576	2079	5655			
Greece	2015				8.3	8.7	8.5	19.3	21.5	20.4	48.0		44.3			12.2	13.3	12.7	Finland	2015	1.1	2.1	1.7	41.6	47.0	44.4	45.4	41.2	43.2	11.8	9.7	10.7				28	37	66			
Guatemala	2016	67.3	8.7	41.5	41.0	7.5	23.9	32.3	11.1	22.0						15.8	11.8	11.8	Gambia	2012	60.3	54.1	58.3	26.5	25.4	26.1	10.0	15.8	11.8						3.2	4.7	3.7	83	39	123	
Honduras	2015	50.9	10.3	28.1	43.6	10.7	26.8	34.2	15.3	26.4						42.0	11.6	27.0	Ghana	2013	15.3	12.0	14.1	55.1	43.6	50.8	26.5	41.1	32.0	3.1	3.3	3.2				352	212	564			
Hungary	2015				13.9	10.4	12.1	11.6	10.2	10.9	12.5		11.7			12.8	10.4	11.6	Greece	2015	2.7	2.3	2.5	20.2	21.0	20.6	56.8	68.6	62.6	20.3	8.1	14.3				93	91	185			
Iceland	2015						5.1									4.5			Guatemala	2016	36.0	21.2	33.8	54.1	60.3	55.0	9.8	18.2	11.0	0.1	0.3	0.1				826	143	969			
India	2012	2.0	2.9	2.4	43.0	50.6	47.2	62.4	70.1	66.7	39.8	44.8	42.3			37.6	48.0	43.1	Guinea	2002	53.5	35.1	44.3	39.0	47.6	43.3	1.9	8.6	5.3	5.6	8.7	7.1				50	49	99			
Ireland	2015				10.1	12.0	11.1	16.4	17.4	16.9	14.8	12.8	13.9			12.8	10.4	11.6	Honduras	2015	17.3	16.6	17.1	59.2	55.9	58.5	22.9	26.5	23.6	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	403	109	512			
Italy	2015				15.6	16.9	16.3	26.2	28.2	27.2	20.7	13.5	18.1			12.8	10.4	11.6	Hungary	2015	0.8	1.0	0.9	50.6	47.5	49.2	42.8	48.2	45.3	5.8	3.3	4.7				69	59	127			
Lithuania	2015				4.8	5.3	5.0	10.9	11.7	11.3			14.2			12.8	10.4	11.6	India	2012	1.1	0.8	0.9	64.1	65.3	64.8	28.2	28.5	28.4	6.5	5.4	5.8				36274	51609	87683			
Luxembourg	2014						3.9									4.5			Ireland	2015	1.7	2.8	2.3	33.4	37.5	35.6	46.4	48.3	47.4	15.0	8.7	11.7	3.5	2.6	3.0	34	40	74			
Madagascar	2012	3.0	3.8	3.4	3.0	2.5	2.8	6.7	3.3	4.9	11.2	2.6	6.9			3.7	4.8	4.5	Italy	2010	0.5	0.8	0.6	36.8	41.9	39.4	57.7	55.7	56.6	5.1	1.7	3.3				600	666	1266			
Mali	2015	40.3	22.0	33.0	19.7	6.6	12.1	19.8	8.5	13.3						3.8	4.8	6.0	Lao PDR	2010	16.5	15.3	16.0	51.5	45.8	49.1	19.2	16.8	18.2	9.9	13.3	11.3	3.0	8.8	5.4	35	25	61			
Malta	2015															11.1	9.6	10.4	Liberia	2010	55.6	42.6	50.8	16.4	12.9	15.1	7.8	11.9	9.4				0.5	0.2	20.2	32.1	24.6	92	54	146	
Mexico	2016	69.4	25.3	44.3	33.0	8.2	20.4	23.4	6.9	15.4	22.4	13.7	18.6			22.3	18.7	20.5	Lithuania	2015	3.3	5.3	4.3	21.7	26.9	24.3	51.2	61.0	56.2	23.8	6.8	15.2				17	17	34			
Mongolia	2016				4.9	5.7	5.3	25.0	22.6	23.7	51.1	47.0				22.3	18.7	20.5	Madagascar	2012	36.4	55.3	44.6	15.9	17.8	16.7	32.5	22.3	28.1	15.2	4.7	10.6				80	61	141			
Netherlands	2015				3.4	4.9	4.2	4.3	3.4	3.9	3.2	5.4	4.1			3.9	4.5	4.2	Mali	2015	82.9	77.5	81.4	14.5	17.3	15.3	2.2	3.3	2.5	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.2	1.3	0.5	502	195	697			
Nicaragua	2014				1.8	1.4	1.6	1.7								4.8	7.2	6.0	Mexico	2016	5.2	8.8	6.0	69.2	63.7	68.0	22.2	21.5	22.0	3.4	5.7	3.9	0.1	0.2	0.1	3280	926				



## **Annex 1: ILO description of share of youth not in employment, education or training (youth NEET rate)<sup>5</sup>**

### **Introduction**

The share of youth not in education, employment or training (also known as "the NEET rate") conveys the number of young persons not in education, employment or training as a percentage of the total youth population. It provides a measure of youth who are outside the educational system, not in training and not in employment, and thus serves as a broader measure of potential youth labour market entrants than youth unemployment, since it also includes young persons outside the labour force not in education or training. This indicator is also a better measure of the current universe of potential youth labour market entrants compared to the youth inactivity rate, as the latter includes those youth who are not in the labour force and are in education, and thus cannot be considered currently available for work.

Given its usefulness in conveying valuable information on the labour market situation of a country's young population, it was included as one of the indicators proposed to measure progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), under Goal 8 (Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all).

ILOSTAT contains statistics from national sources on youth NEET rates by sex.

### **Concepts and definitions**

For the purposes of this indicator, youth is defined as all persons between the ages of 15 and 24 (inclusive).

According to the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED), education is defined as organized and sustained communication designed to bring about learning. Formal education is defined in ISCED as education that is institutionalized, intentional, and planned through public organizations and recognized private bodies and, in their totality, make up the formal education system of a country. Non-formal education, like formal education is defined in ISCED as education that is institutionalized, intentional and planned by an education provider but is considered an addition, alternative and/or a complement to formal education. It may be short in duration and/or low in intensity and it is typically provided in the form of short courses, workshops or seminars. Informal learning is defined in ISCED as forms of learning that are intentional or deliberate, but not institutionalized. It is thus less organized and less structured than either formal or non-formal education. Informal learning may include learning activities that occur in the family, in the work place, in the local community, and in daily life, on a self-directed, family-directed or socially-directed basis. For the purposes of this indicator, persons will be considered in education if they are in formal or non-formal education, as described above, but excluding informal learning.

---

<sup>5</sup> Source: [http://www.ilo.org/ilostat-files/Documents/description\\_NEET\\_EN.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/ilostat-files/Documents/description_NEET_EN.pdf).





Employment comprises all persons of working age who during a specified brief period, such as one week or one day, were in the following categories: a) paid employment (whether at work or with a job but not at work); or b) self-employment (whether at work or with an enterprise but not at work)<sup>6</sup>.

For the purposes of this indicator, persons are considered to be in training if they are in a non-academic learning activity through which they acquire specific skills intended for vocational or technical jobs. Vocational training prepares trainees for jobs that are based on manual or practical activities, and for skilled operative jobs, both blue and white collar related to a specific trade, occupation or vocation. Technical training on the other hand imparts learning that can be applied in intermediate-level jobs, in particular those of technicians and middle managers. The coverage of vocational and technical training includes only programmes that are solely school-based vocational and technical training. Employer-based training is, by definition, excluded from the scope of this indicator.

### Method of computation

The youth NEET rate is calculated as follows:

$$\text{NEET rate (\%)} = (\text{Youth} - \text{Youth in employment} - \text{Youth not in employment but in education or training}) / \text{Youth} * 100$$

It is important to note here that youth both in employment and education or training simultaneously should not be double counted when subtracted from the total number of youth.

The formula can also be expressed as:

$$\text{NEET rate (\%)} = ((\text{Unemployed youth} + \text{Youth outside the labour force}) - (\text{Unemployed youth in education or training} + \text{Youth outside the labour force in education or training})) / \text{Youth} * 100$$

### Recommended sources

Labour force surveys are typically the preferred source of statistics to determine the share of youth not in employment, education or training, since they allow to gather information on both the labour market situation of individuals and their participation in education or training programmes. Such surveys can be designed to cover virtually the entire non-institutional population of a given country, all branches of economic activity, all sectors of the economy and all categories of workers, including the self-employed, contributing family workers, casual workers and multiple jobholders. In addition, such surveys generally provide an opportunity for the simultaneous measurement of the employed, the unemployed and persons outside the labour force (and thus, the working-age population) in a coherent framework.

---

<sup>6</sup> Resolution concerning statistics of work, employment and labour underutilization, adopted by the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians, Geneva, October 2013; [http://www.ilo.org/global/statistics-and-databases/standardsand-guidelines/resolutions-adopted-by-international-conferences-of-labour-statisticians/WCMS\\_230304/lang-en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/global/statistics-and-databases/standardsand-guidelines/resolutions-adopted-by-international-conferences-of-labour-statisticians/WCMS_230304/lang-en/index.htm)

Other types of household surveys and population censuses could also be used as sources of data on the youth NEET. The information obtained from such sources may however be less reliable since they do not typically allow for detailed probing on the labour market activities of the respondents.

### **Interpretation and use of the indicator**

The NEET rate is a broad measure of untapped potential of youth who could contribute to national development through work. Because the NEET group is neither improving their future employability through investment in skills nor gaining experience through employment, this group is particularly at risk of both labour market and social exclusion. In addition, the NEET group is already in a disadvantaged position due to lower levels of education and lower household incomes. In view of the fact that the NEET group includes unemployed youth as well as youth outside the labour force, the NEET rate provides important complementary information to labour force participation rates and unemployment rates. For example, if youth participation rates decrease during an economic downturn due to discouragement, this may be reflected in an upward movement in the NEET rate. More generally, a high NEET rate and a low youth unemployment rate may indicate significant discouragement of young people. A high NEET rate for young women suggests their engagement in household chores, and/or the presence of strong institutional barriers limiting female participation in labour markets.

In terms of the analysis of the indicator, in order to avoid misinterpreting it, it is important to bear in mind that it is composed of two different sub-groups (unemployed youth not in education or training and youth outside the labour force not in education or training). The prevalence and composition of each sub-group would have policy implications, and thus, should also be considered when analyzing the NEET rate.

### **Limitations**

A number of factors can limit the comparability of statistics on the youth NEET rate between countries or over time.

When differing from international standards, the operational criteria used to define employment and the participation in education or training, will naturally affect the comparability of the resulting statistics, as will the coverage of the source of statistics (geographical coverage, population coverage, age coverage, etc.).

As mentioned previously, NEET rates are calculated preferably for youth defined as persons aged 15 to 24, but it is important to keep in mind, when studying these rates, that not all persons complete their education by the age of 24.



## Annex 2: Proposed NEET indicators for UIS analysis

Proposed codes for NEET indicators	Labels
NR.12	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education
NR.12.F	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, female
NR.12.M	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, male
NR.12.URB	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, urban
NR.12.RUR	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, rural
NR.12.unemp	Rate of unemployed youth (15-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education
NR.12.inact	Rate of inactive youth (15-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education
NR.12.15t19	NEET rate for adolescents (15-19 years), completed primary or lower secondary education
NR.12.20t24	NEET rate for young adults (20-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education
NR.12.URB.F	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, urban, female
NR.12.URB.unemp.F	Rate of unemployed youth (15-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, urban, female
NR.12.URB.inact.F	Rate of inactive youth (15-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, urban, female
NR.12.15t19.URB.F	NEET rate for adolescents (15-19 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, urban, female
NR.12.15t19.URB.unemp.F	Rate of unemployed adolescents (15-19 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, urban, female
NR.12.15t19.URB.inact.F	Rate of inactive adolescents (15-19 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, urban, female
NR.12.20t24.URB.F	NEET rate for young adults (20-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, urban, female
NR.12.20t24.URB.unemp.F	Rate of unemployed young adults (20-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, urban, female
NR.12.20t24.URB.inact.F	Rate of inactive young adults (20-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, urban, female
NR.12.RUR.F	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, rural, female
NR.12.RUR.unemp.F	Rate of unemployed youth (15-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, rural, female
NR.12.RUR.inact.F	Rate of inactive youth (15-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, rural, female
NR.12.15t19.RUR.F	NEET rate for adolescents (15-19 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, rural, female
NR.12.15t19.RUR.unemp.F	Rate of unemployed adolescents (15-19 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, rural, female
NR.12.15t19.RUR.inact.F	Rate of inactive adolescents (15-19 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, rural, female
NR.12.20t24.RUR.F	NEET rate for young adults (20-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, rural, female
NR.12.20t24.RUR.unemp.F	Rate of unemployed young adults (20-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, rural, female
NR.12.20t24.RUR.inact.F	Rate of inactive young adults (20-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, rural, female
NR.12.URB.M	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, urban, male
NR.12.URB.unemp.M	Rate of unemployed youth (15-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, urban, male
NR.12.URB.inact.M	Rate of inactive youth (15-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, urban, male



NR.12.15t19.URB.M	NEET rate for adolescents (15-19 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, urban, male
NR.12.15t19.URB.unemp.M	Rate of unemployed adolescents (15-19 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, urban, male
NR.12.15t19.URB.inact.M	Rate of inactive adolescents (15-19 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, urban, male
NR.12.20t24.URB.M	NEET rate for young adults (20-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, urban, male
NR.12.20t24.URB.unemp.M	Rate of unemployed young adults (20-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, urban, male
NR.12.20t24.URB.inact.M	Rate of inactive young adults (20-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, urban, male
NR.12.RUR.M	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, rural, male
NR.12.RUR.unemp.M	Rate of unemployed youth (15-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, rural, male
NR.12.RUR.inact.M	Rate of inactive youth (15-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, rural, male
NR.12.15t19.RUR.M	NEET rate for adolescents (15-19 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, rural, male
NR.12.15t19.RUR.unemp.M	Rate of unemployed adolescents (15-19 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, rural, male
NR.12.15t19.RUR.inact.M	Rate of inactive adolescents (15-19 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, rural, male
NR.12.20t24.RUR.M	NEET rate for young adults (20-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, rural, male
NR.12.20t24.RUR.unemp.M	Rate of unemployed young adults (20-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, rural, male
NR.12.20t24.RUR.inact.M	Rate of inactive young adults (20-24 years), completed primary or lower secondary education, rural, male
NR.34	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education
NR.34.F	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, female
NR.34.M	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, male
NR.34.URB	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, urban
NR.34.RUR	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, rural
NR.34.unemp	Rate of unemployed youth (15-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education
NR.34.inact	Rate of inactive youth (15-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education
NR.34.15t19	NEET rate for adolescents (15-19 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education
NR.34.20t24	NEET rate for young adults (20-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education
NR.34.URB.F	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, urban, female
NR.34.URB.unemp.F	Rate of unemployed youth (15-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, urban, female
NR.34.URB.inact.F	Rate of inactive youth (15-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, urban, female
NR.34.15t19.URB.F	NEET rate for adolescents (15-19 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, urban, female



NR.34.15t19.URB.unemp.F	Rate of unemployed adolescents (15-19 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, urban, female
NR.34.15t19.URB.inact.F	Rate of inactive adolescents (15-19 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, urban, female
NR.34.20t24.URB.F	NEET rate for young adults (20-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, urban, female
NR.34.20t24.URB.unemp.F	Rate of unemployed young adults (20-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, urban, female
NR.34.20t24.URB.inact.F	Rate of inactive young adults (20-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, urban, female
NR.34.RUR.F	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, rural, female
NR.34.RUR.unemp.F	Rate of unemployed youth (15-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, rural, female
NR.34.RUR.inact.F	Rate of inactive youth (15-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, rural, female
NR.34.15t19.RUR.F	NEET rate for adolescents (15-19 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, rural, female
NR.34.15t19.RUR.unemp.F	Rate of unemployed adolescents (15-19 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, rural, female
NR.34.15t19.RUR.inact.F	Rate of inactive adolescents (15-19 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, rural, female
NR.34.20t24.RUR.F	NEET rate for young adults (20-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, rural, female
NR.34.20t24.RUR.unemp.F	Rate of unemployed young adults (20-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, rural, female
NR.34.20t24.RUR.inact.F	Rate of inactive young adults (20-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, rural, female
NR.34.URB.M	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, urban, male
NR.34.URB.unemp.M	Rate of unemployed youth (15-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, urban, male
NR.34.URB.inact.M	Rate of inactive youth (15-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, urban, male
NR.34.15t19.URB.M	NEET rate for adolescents (15-19 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, urban, male
NR.34.15t19.URB.unemp.M	Rate of unemployed adolescents (15-19 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, urban, male
NR.34.15t19.URB.inact.M	Rate of inactive adolescents (15-19 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, urban, male
NR.34.20t24.URB.M	NEET rate for young adults (20-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, urban, male
NR.34.20t24.URB.unemp.M	Rate of unemployed young adults (20-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, urban, male
NR.34.20t24.URB.inact.M	Rate of inactive young adults (20-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, urban, male
NR.34.RUR.M	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, rural, male
NR.34.RUR.unemp.M	Rate of unemployed youth (15-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, rural, male
NR.34.RUR.inact.M	Rate of inactive youth (15-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, rural, male
NR.34.15t19.RUR.M	NEET rate for adolescents (15-19 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, rural, male
NR.34.15t19.RUR.unemp.M	Rate of unemployed adolescents (15-19 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, rural, male



NR.34.15t19.RUR.inact.M	Rate of inactive adolescents (15-19 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, rural, male
NR.34.20t24.RUR.M	NEET rate for young adults (20-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, rural, male
NR.34.20t24.RUR.unemp.M	Rate of unemployed young adults (20-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, rural, male
NR.34.20t24.RUR.inact.M	Rate of inactive young adults (20-24 years), completed upper secondary or post-secondary non-tertiary education, rural, male
NR.58	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education
NR.58.F	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, female
NR.58.M	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, male
NR.58.URB	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, urban
NR.58.RUR	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, rural
NR.58.unemp	Rate of unemployed youth (15-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education
NR.58.inact	Rate of inactive youth (15-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education
NR.58.15t19	NEET rate for adolescents (15-19 years), completed any level of tertiary education
NR.58.20t24	NEET rate for young adults (20-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education
NR.58.URB.F	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, urban, female
NR.58.URB.unemp.F	Rate of unemployed youth (15-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, urban, female
NR.58.URB.inact.F	Rate of inactive youth (15-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, urban, female
NR.58.15t19.URB.F	NEET rate for adolescents (15-19 years), completed any level of tertiary education, urban, female
NR.58.15t19.URB.unemp.F	Rate of unemployed adolescents (15-19 years), completed any level of tertiary education, urban, female
NR.58.15t19.URB.inact.F	Rate of inactive adolescents (15-19 years), completed any level of tertiary education, urban, female
NR.58.20t24.URB.F	NEET rate for young adults (20-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, urban, female
NR.58.20t24.URB.unemp.F	Rate of unemployed young adults (20-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, urban, female
NR.58.20t24.URB.inact.F	Rate of inactive young adults (20-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, urban, female
NR.58.RUR.F	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, rural, female
NR.58.RUR.unemp.F	Rate of unemployed youth (15-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, rural, female
NR.58.RUR.inact.F	Rate of inactive youth (15-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, rural, female
NR.58.15t19.RUR.F	NEET rate for adolescents (15-19 years), completed any level of tertiary education, rural, female
NR.58.15t19.RUR.unemp.F	Rate of unemployed adolescents (15-19 years), completed any level of tertiary education, rural, female
NR.58.15t19.RUR.inact.F	Rate of inactive adolescents (15-19 years), completed any level of tertiary education, rural, female
NR.58.20t24.RUR.F	NEET rate for young adults (20-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, rural, female
NR.58.20t24.RUR.unemp.F	Rate of unemployed young adults (20-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, rural, female
NR.58.20t24.RUR.inact.F	Rate of inactive young adults (20-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, rural, female
NR.58.URB.M	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, urban, male
NR.58.URB.unemp.M	Rate of unemployed youth (15-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, urban, male
NR.58.URB.inact.M	Rate of inactive youth (15-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, urban, male



NR.58.15t19.URB.M	NEET rate for adolescents (15-19 years), completed any level of tertiary education, urban, male
NR.58.15t19.URB.unemp.M	Rate of unemployed adolescents (15-19 years), completed any level of tertiary education, urban, male
NR.58.15t19.URB.inact.M	Rate of inactive adolescents (15-19 years), completed any level of tertiary education, urban, male
NR.58.20t24.URB.M	NEET rate for young adults (20-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, urban, male
NR.58.20t24.URB.unemp.M	Rate of unemployed young adults (20-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, urban, male
NR.58.20t24.URB.inact.M	Rate of inactive young adults (20-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, urban, male
NR.58.RUR.M	NEET rate for youth (15-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, rural, male
NR.58.RUR.unemp.M	Rate of unemployed youth (15-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, rural, male
NR.58.RUR.inact.M	Rate of inactive youth (15-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, rural, male
NR.58.15t19.RUR.M	NEET rate for adolescents (15-19 years), completed any level of tertiary education, rural, male
NR.58.15t19.RUR.unemp.M	Rate of unemployed adolescents (15-19 years), completed any level of tertiary education, rural, male
NR.58.15t19.RUR.inact.M	Rate of inactive adolescents (15-19 years), completed any level of tertiary education, rural, male
NR.58.20t24.RUR.M	NEET rate for young adults (20-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, rural, male
NR.58.20t24.RUR.unemp.M	Rate of unemployed young adults (20-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, rural, male
NR.58.20t24.RUR.inact.M	Rate of inactive young adults (20-24 years), completed any level of tertiary education, rural, male