

As young people get older, their percentage in education decreases and their labor force participation increases. Those remaining in education beyond compulsory education are increasingly combining work experience and education, either through vocational education programs that result in occupational qualification, or part-time and holiday work experience unrelated to the school system. This combination of education and work has become a common characteristic of the transition process in many European countries.

**Table 4.44. Education and work status of the youth population (1999)**

*Percentage of the youth population in education and not in education, by age group and work status*

	Age Group	In education					Not in education				Total in education and not in education
		Students in work-study program <sup>1</sup>	Other employed	Un-employed	Not in the Labor Force	Sub-total	Employed	Un-employed	Not in the labor force	Sub-total	
Australia	15 – 19	5.9	26.9	6.3	39.2	78.2	14.4	4.4	3.0	21.8	100
	20 – 24	3.9	19.0	2.2	9.8	34.9	50.6	6.7	7.8	65.1	100
Belgium	15 – 19	1.4	2.2	1.6	84.1	89.3	3.7	1.8	5.2	10.7	100
	20 – 24	0.8	6.5	2.7	37.2	47.1	37.0	9.5	6.4	52.9	100
Canada	15 – 19	a	26.1	5.4	51.3	82.9	10.2	2.9	4.0	17.1	100
	20 – 24	a	18.5	1.6	20.7	40.9	47.4	4.2	7.5	59.1	100
Czech Republic	15 – 19	a	0.8	n	63.5	64.3	14.8	6.7	14.2	35.7	100
	20 – 24	a	0.6	n	18.9	19.6	59.8	8.8	11.8	80.4	100
Denmark	15 – 19	10.7	38.5	4.4	32.2	85.8	10.8	1.4	2.0	14.2	100
	20 – 24	12.7	22.1	3.9	17.0	55.8	36.6	4.7	2.9	44.2	100
Finland	15 – 19	a	9.8	5.2	71.6	86.6	4.7	2.8	5.9	13.4	100
	20 – 24	a	15.1	2.6	32.5	50.2	32.9	8.4	8.5	49.8	100
France	15 – 19	4.8	0.3	n	90.4	95.7	1.0	2.0	1.3	4.3	100
	20 – 24	4.1	3.2	0.9	44.9	53.1	29.4	12.4	5.1	46.9	100
Germany	15 – 19	20.3	3.2	0.7	65.2	89.5	6.0	1.4	3.1	10.5	100
	20 – 24	12.3	5.1	0.4	16.5	34.3	49.0	6.3	10.4	65.7	100
Greece	15 – 19	a	2.1	0.9	79.4	82.4	7.5	5.3	4.8	17.6	100
	20 – 24	a	2.3	1.7	27.4	31.4	42.8	17.2	8.6	68.6	100
Hungary	15 – 19	n	n	n	79.7	80.9	8.9	2.6	7.7	19.1	100
	20 – 24	n	5.1	n	23.7	29.7	48.9	5.7	15.6	70.3	100
Italy	15 – 19	0.2	0.7	0.7	75.2	76.9	8.3	5.8	9.0	23.1	100
	20 – 24	0.4	2.8	2.0	30.3	35.6	34.6	14.9	14.9	64.4	100
Luxembourg	15 – 19	4.2	n	n	84.4	89.2	5.8	1.3	3.7	10.8	100
	20 – 24	2.9	4.0	n	40.2	47.2	43.2	2.9	6.8	52.8	100
Mexico	15 – 19	a	9.0	0.2	39.8	49.1	33.1	1.4	16.5	50.9	100
	20 – 24	a	5.9	0.2	12.7	18.8	55.0	1.7	24.5	81.2	100
Netherlands	15 – 19	m	38.9	4.9	37.4	81.3	14.9	1.5	2.3	18.7	100
	20 – 24	m	21.2	1.2	13.3	35.7	56.3	2.3	5.7	64.3	100
Poland	15 – 19	a	1.4	n	91.5	93.1	2.3	2.5	2.0	6.9	100
	20 – 24	a	2.6	1.0	29.5	33.1	39.7	16.1	11.1	66.9	100

<sup>1</sup> Students in work-study programmes are considered to be both in education and employed, irrespective of their status according to the International Labor Organization definition. Consequently categories “other employed”, “unemployed” and “not in the labor force” exclude students enrolled in work-study programmes.

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Portugal	15 – 19	a	3.2	n	68.2	71.9	19.8	2.8	5.6	28.1	100
	20 – 24	a	7.2	1.0	25.4	33.6	54.1	4.8	7.4	66.4	100
Spain	15 – 19	n	1.7	2.1	69.6	73.6	12.6	7.8	6.1	26.4	100
	20 – 24	n	4.8	4.7	34.7	44.2	36.9	12.7	6.1	55.8	100
Sweden	15 – 19	a	14.3	n	74.4	88.9	6.2	1.5	3.3	11.1	100
	20 – 24	a	10.2	n	32.9	43.6	45.0	6.4	5.0	56.4	100
Switzerland	15 – 19	31.7	12.6	n	38.7	84.4	8.0	n	6.0	15.6	100
	20 – 24	11.2	10.4	n	13.4	35.8	55.8	4.4	4.0	64.2	100
United States	15 – 19	a	26.4	4.4	51.4	82.2	10.5	2.3	5.0	17.8	100
	20 – 24	a	19.7	1.2	12.1	33.0	52.6	3.9	10.5	67.0	100
<b>Country mean</b>	<b>15 – 19</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>64.4</b>	<b>81.3</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>18.7</b>	<b>100</b>
	<b>20 – 24</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>37.9</b>	<b>45.4</b>	<b>7.7</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>62.1</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: OECD (2001). *Education at a Glance*, Paris: OECD Publications Services.