

## NEETS - Understanding young people who are Not in Education, Employment or Training

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## Introduction

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The term "NEET" has been frequently adopted within the framework of the education policies in some European countries, particularly in the UK, lately.

Some studies were carried out on a local or national scale in the UK, but never on comparison scale, that is facing the phenomenon from other points of view, with an eye on local peculiarities between different European Countries.

The term NEET, also commonly occurring in lower case form as *neet* or *Neet*, is an acronym of *Not in Education, Employment or Training*, and refers to a young person aged between 15 and 19 (in some countries, up to 24) who has left school and/or college but has failed to secure a job or placement in some kind of vocational training. Those people are not just economically, but (they appear to be) completely inactive, occupying an unconstructive (and potentially threatening) position within their social topography. The term "lost generation" is more and more coming into use to classify them.

The *Not in Education, Employment or Training* is a sort of new generation. These young people feel and are often excluded from any social activity; as a result, they withdraw into their home or even into their own room for months, maybe for years, where they remain absorbed in their personal interests such as the internet, or social networking, video games, etc. They are often demotivated, reconciled young people who cannot see any future in their lives.

Is this phenomenon affecting only England? Even though the available studies about NEETs are very few, except for the UK, this phenomenon is silently spreading in many western and westernised countries.

A critical question is trying to understand and evaluate the extent of this phenomenon together with its negative impact on young people as well as on society as a whole. This is necessary in order to inform European policy for the education and training field in a way that will be able to benefit all young people in the European Union and the Member State economies contained therein.

The research called "NEETS - Understanding young people who are Not in Education, Employment or Training" is part of the "Moving Project", it was started on November 2009, and co-financed by the European Commission under the LLP (Leonardo da Vinci Programme).

The main purposes of our study were to:

- 1. Identify the needs of our target group. This report is focused on providing an overview of the difficulties to be faced by people 'not in education, employment or training', i.e. the NEET group.
- 2. Find proper solutions to reduce the number of Neets and to prevent the phenomenon. In order to do that, we need to understand the causes and the origins of it, as well as its consequences, and to improve existing initiatives aimed at facing the issue.

The expected output of our research was the report of the state of art: young unemployment rates in each region, the census of existing surveys about the Neets' behaviour and their expectations for a better understanding of our target group.

This study is focused on the 3EU Member States involved in the project - Italy, United Kingdom, and Spain, and particularly, on 3 specific regional areas of those Countries: Calabria, Merseyside, and Andalusia.

The study includes the following key steps:

1. Identifying concepts: Definition of the Neet Group
2. Definition of the structure and methodology of the study
3. Collecting existing literature and data
4. Conclusions

### **Structure and methodology**

Our purpose was to evaluate the size of the phenomenon in different Countries. In order to do this, our Partners had to collect policy documents, statistical data, existing surveys, and available reports.

The structure had first to provide an overview of the subject matter, then to define the peculiarities of the local Neet Groups in the three different areas affected, with a specific view of the context, economic situation of the region, the statistics and size of each Neet Group in its region (people aged between 15 and 19 who are not in education, employment or training), and the percentage/proportion of young people not in employment (unemployment rate of 16-to-24 years old people). The causes, characteristics of the Neet Group, risks, barriers, and existing initiatives/policy, best practices for the re-engagement of Neets in the 3 Countries were the last aspect.

Several problems emerged during this first step:

1. The definition of the term "NEET" is not consistent. The term is unknown within the general systems of statistical survey or in existing reports, except for the UK area;
2. It was not possible to find out the required data. The only available data often concerned (except for the UK) youth unemployment and withdrawal from school. The Neets' phenomenon has not yet been considered in Andalusia or in Calabria.

Each of the three Partners involved in our research had to deal with their local available data. This is why the three Regional Sections are so different between them.

3. Different methods of national statistics systems. Compared analysis is very different between different countries as they do not adopt the same methods for their statistics analysis and term definitions.

Those problems do not necessarily affect the outcome of our study, as there is a chance, here, to collect documents and identify critical gaps in the existing studies which would be an interesting starting point for future research in Europe.

It would be useful and advisable, for the EU, to impose to EU countries a common definition of NEETs and a common methodology for collecting data for statistics analysis to be used in the next reports on education and training. If so, we could have a better insight of the phenomenon and find out more appropriate measures and initiatives to be taken. We stand in front of a real necessity of a supranational approach: youth unemployment is one of the major concerns for policy-makers at EU, national, and local level.

The NEET group will grow in and generate a recession. It is necessary to develop concrete measures and solutions to reduce the number of Neets and increase the percentage of 16-to-18 years old people (16-24 in other Countries) involved in education, employment or training [Education, Training and Recession - CRELL, Jan. 2009].

An European approach is therefore to be hoped in order to determine a common acceptable definition of the term NEET allowing a deeper and closer compared analysis.

Nevertheless, the content of this study is a precious source of knowledge which was so far unknown, and that might positively influence the decisions and the future initiatives intended to reduce this phenomenon.

## Chapter 1 - The Neets - Main Findings

### *The Neets Generation - A European priority*

The end of compulsory education is a critical time for individuals. "Being NEETS between the ages of 16-18 is a major predictor of later unemployment, low income, teenage motherhood, depression and poor physical health" (*Source: UK Government Department for Children, Schools and Families*). We need to identify a new approach to the NEETS question, to help them in their transition towards employment.

One of the major consequences of the phenomenon is a lack of confidence in learning and teaching. The NEETS groups are unwilling and unmotivated to participate in the educational and training process as well as in social activities. A UK survey of 2008 (2004 16 to 25 year olds, of which 152 respondents were NEETS) shows that a quarter of NEETS thinks that life has no purpose. In their interviews, 41% of NEETS said they were less happy now than when they were a child (compared with 29% of the overall sample)<sup>1</sup>.

The NEETS phenomenon is accepted to be widespread although in most of the European Union countries is [quantitatively](#) still unknown. It is extremely difficult to collect data about this subject matter. Collecting data on youth unemployment in Europe is an extremely different operation which varies from a Member State to another; the term NEET is not consistently defined and the studies relevant to this phenomenon are not in agreement. The result is that comparing data on a European scale is quite impossible. The UK is at the moment the only Member State in the European Union which was able to identify and analyse the NEET phenomenon.

According to the British Government, the term NEET refers to people aged between 16 and 19 who - owing to their NEET status - are at risk of not making a successful and sustainable future transition towards education, employment or training. There is a common assumption in the UK, particular in policy arenas, that while NEETS come from diverse backgrounds, what they do have in common is "low levels of aspiration and little motivation" (Popham 2003:8) . However, Bynner and Parsons (2002) have identified several 'risk' factors of becoming NEET in the UK. Using data from two British birth cohorts (the National Child Development Study of 1958 and the British Cohort Study of 1970), they have found that family socioeconomic background (i.e. class), parental education, parental interest in the child's education, area of residence, and children's educational attainment were all strong predictors of later-life NEET status. Additionally, research undertaken by the UK

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<sup>1</sup> The Prince's Trust YouGov Youth Index, 2009  
*LLP-Leonardo da Vinci Program, Moving Project, Study "Understanding NEETS"*

Department for Education and Skills (now Department for Children, Schools, and Families) found 'ten factors' associated with being NEET: no educational qualifications, school exclusion, previous truancy, low skill occupation of parents, living in a household where neither parent worked full-time, having children at an early age, living outside the family home, having a health problem or disability, or having parents living in rented accommodation. Clearly these 'ten factors' point to young people who have had negative experiences in their early education experiences and come from lower socioeconomic backgrounds<sup>2</sup>.

In England, the Department for Children Schools and Families provides the **Statistics and size of the NEET Group**. The DCFs quarterly brief for Quarter 4 - 2007 reported that 21.6% of 16-18 years olds were not in education, employment or training (NEET). At 16 the figure is 10.8%, at 17 it is 17.8 and rises significantly for 18 year olds to 36.7%. Despite increased participation in training and education, reduced youth unemployment, the proportion of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) has remained stable at around 9-10% since 1994. According to The Department for Children Schools and Families (2007) the NEET group is a rapidly changing group and most young people do not spend long periods NEET and at any one time over half of the NEET group is actively seeking education, employment or training.<sup>3</sup>

In Italy, according to the outcomes of a survey carried out by TV7 on 19 March 2010 the term NEETs refers to a generation of young people aged between 15 and 35 years, who are neither studying nor working. They are young and this is a journey through the expectations to the disillusionment of a generation: some stay with their family and some instead plan a future somewhere else.

This generation is referred to as 'NEET' (not education employment or training) and amounts to approximately 1,200,000 people, most of them graduated in communication studies and are still family dependent.

In Japan, the problem is very widespread so, in 2005, the Japanese government declared that some 640,000 young Japanese people belonged to the NEET category; they are disproportionately likely to have experienced problems due to a range of issues including special educational needs, poor attainment at school, health problems, disabilities or parents who are themselves unemployed.

The NEET phenomenon has not appeared all of a sudden, without a cause. If we go through the probable social and family-related causes, we realise how big the problem is.

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<sup>2</sup> Dr. Karen Robson, *Becoming NEET in Europe: A Comparison of Predictors and Later-Life Outcomes*, 2008

<sup>3</sup> DCSF, *Reducing the number of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) by 2013*  
*LLP-Leonardo da Vinci Program, Moving Project, Study "Understanding NEETs"*

A critical factor to reduce the NEET phenomenon and therefore identify valuable alternative solutions on a European scale is a deeper understanding of the causes of it in the affected countries.

This is a social pathology that could result in serious consequences at an economic level, especially in times of economic crisis such as we are currently experiencing.

Understanding the phenomenon means to recognize and comprehend the differences among the affected regions.

Together with the numerous causes and facets of the phenomenon, we should focus on how the NEETs numbers vary from place to place (Liverpool, Andalusia, Calabria).

Different peculiarities of the NEET groups are also essential in the identification of their key elements, which are likely to influence what will work well in terms of a NEET reduction. Young people who are NEET are seen as a heterogeneous group with multiple needs. However, they appear to fall into two distinct groups:

- Core NEETs - more likely to have social and behavioural problems. This group also comprises the 'Generational NEETs'- young people who come from families where the accepted norm for adults is to be unemployed.
  
- Floating NEETs -young people who are experiencing a lack of directions and motivation, tending to move in and out of the NEET group, engaging in low paid or temporary work, as well as in short education courses. This group contributes to the "Neets' Churn".<sup>4</sup>

Too many young people aged between 16 and 19 (16 and 25 in other Countries like Italy and Spain) fall in the category usually referred to as NEET (not in employment, education or training). Data concerning youth unemployment is dramatic; the survey "Youth - Investing and Empowering", European Commission April 2009, reports that at the EU level, more than 65% of young people with at most lower secondary education are economically inactive; the figure is only 16% among higher educated young people.

Among young inactive people, two categories can be distinguished: those who do not want to work and those who would like to work but do not look for a job for specific reasons, such as own illness or disability, education or training, family responsibilities.

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<sup>4</sup> Darshan Sachdev, Bethan Harries, Thomas Roberts, Regional and sub-regional variation in NEETs –reasons, remedies and impact, March 2006



On average, around 80% of young inactive people aged 15-29 do not seek employment, many of them still being in the formal education system. At the EU level, 65% of young inactive people aged 15-24 do not seek an employment because of education or training (at Member State level, the percentages reached a minimum of 76.8% for Sweden and a maximum of 97% for Luxembourg). This is not surprising as the majority of young people aged 15-24 are still in education.

More than 60% of young inactive people who do not seek any employment are women. Furthermore, young, inactive people not looking for a job are more widespread among the youngest class with an only lower secondary education. This percentage decreases together with the level of education, until it reaches a one digit percentage for those having attained the tertiary level. Since inactivity is partly due to the growing trend of young people to remain in school beyond their age for compulsory education, the following indicators consider all those who, voluntarily or involuntarily, are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET), so we will have a better evaluation of the youngsters who are most at risk in the labour market. This group of either unemployed or inactive youth that do not follow any education may find it very hard to find a job or may drop out of the labour force altogether because they have been discouraged from working or for other undetermined reasons (unlike those who are inactive because of family commitments, military service, travel or leisure).

In Europe, more than 1/3 of young people between 15 and 24 are NEET. The EU average sometimes hides significant differences between the Member States. Indeed, this value exceeded 50% in Bulgaria and Hungary, and is around 20% in Denmark and the Netherlands.

By the age of 25, NEETs percentage is lower compared to the younger age class: one might suppose that this is mainly due to those who have already found a job or went back into education. Nevertheless, in many countries there are still more than 20% of young people aged between 25 and 29 who are considered to be NEETs.

The NEETs category was formally created in 1999, though the phenomenon existed before. However, that category, lately called "Lost Generation", does not have the same term or definition in most of the EU statistics systems; definitions and collecting methods also vary between Countries. The British national statistics accurately analyse the phenomenon. It is therefore difficult and almost impossible to make comparisons because of diverse national collections of data and diverse definitions of the term.

To understand the differentiated nature of the NEETs in different Countries, it is imperative to elaborate a valid alternative to reduce the rate of disengaged young people. Local factors mainly

influence the circumstances to become NEETs and require flexibility and innovative approaches as well as more sensitive strategies to be locally developed.

Different researches show that disengagement at this age is disastrous in personal terms; this is the cause of some problems inside the community, such as nuisance and criminal activities; in the long-term, this phenomenon leads to significant costs in terms of increased criminality, welfare dependency, housing, and a wide range of social and economic questions.

A research called "Tackling Neets" was presented in the UK last July 2009, which strengthens the understanding that the NEET problem is complex, rooted in a rich mix of social networking, alternative life-styles and shadow economic activities available in a locality and the increasingly complicated and hidden lives that young people lead. The range of issues associated with young people in the NEET category comprises low educational attainment, homelessness, gang membership, early criminalisation, drug culture and dependency, care needs, teenage pregnancy, prostitution and, in many or even most cases, multiple and overlapping disadvantage, for example, pregnancy, drug dependency and crime.

To fight this growing problem, which is likely to be exacerbated by the recession, we need a comprehensive research activity focused on disengagement in a local area, in order to tease out the specific demands of that area.

As the Council of the European Union perfectly remark, "Resolution of the council and of the representatives of the governments of the member states, meeting within the council, on the active inclusion of young people: combating unemployment and poverty", April 2010, the negative effects of the economic and financial crisis on growth and employment are particularly affecting groups in vulnerable situations or at risk of exclusion such as the young people, with a consequent increase in poverty amongst them. Youth unemployment has reached extremely troubling levels: in the European Union, one out of every five young people under the age of 25 is unemployed. Furthermore, one out of every five young people aged between 18 and 24 is at risk of poverty. Investing in young people as an essential resource for growth and employment and facilitating their social inclusion would consolidate a more cohesive society, with all young people having equal opportunities to participate. The effects of the recession, however, may be dramatically changing the landscape and how we see the issue. How to save "the lost generation" is one of the most important challenges of the future.

## Chapter 2. The Neets in three different Countries

### 2.1. UK - Merseyside (Liverpool Chamber)

#### 2.1.1. The NEETS in the UK

Most of the 16-18 years old people are engaged in education, employment or training activities. The figures given by the UK Governments Department for Schools and Families in October 2009 are as follows:

-1,293,000 in full time education

-127,000 in work based learning

-187,000 in training.

-209,000 are NEET

-201,000 are in jobs without training and therefore most at risk of becoming NEET.

Figures from across 16-24 age groups indicate that 935,000 young people are NEET, and rising unemployment rates are affecting this group particularly badly: in the last quarter of 2008 72,000 young people entered the NEET category.

Over half of NEET young people are seeking education, employment or training, and more than half of NEET 18-year-olds have a level 2 qualification and a third have a level 3 qualification. In local area agreements, 115 out of 150 LAs have already agreed reducing the number of 16-18-year-old NEETs as a key target in their Local Area Agreements; this is the most popular indicator. The proportion of NEETs varies per LA and per region.

Being NEET can have a lasting impact including a greater likelihood at age 21 of: unemployment or underemployment, lower income, a criminal record and poor health and depression. The additional cost to the state over a lifetime of a person who has been NEET aged 16-18 is estimated at £97,000.

#### How do young people become part of the NEET group?

Recent research has identified a variety of reasons for this.

- Some young NEETs have "barriers" which prevent them from accessing a job, such as a disability or a lack of access to childcare. We found the 17% of the total sample is under these circumstances, with around 37,000 people falling in this category.

-Around 13% of the NEETs we assessed are students who took a gap year, do voluntary and aid work, unpaid apprenticeship, or under custodial sentences.

-Almost 10% of the group does some unknown/undeclared activities.

-2/3 of the NEETs have no specific barrier or circumstance preventing them from working or training.

Some of them are at a higher risk of becoming NEET. Causal factors often start before their sixteenth birthday. High-risk youngsters include:

- Youngsters engaged in jobs without a training

- Victims of bullying, young people with learning difficulties and disabilities (LDD) and teenage mothers

- Young people with a family history of unemployment or poor qualifications (38 percent of young NEETs live in households where everyone is unemployed)

- Young people with poor qualifications and a history of truancy and exclusion (1/3 of those who have no qualifications at the end of year 11 are likely to be NEET at 18)

- Young women (more likely to be NEET than young men, despite more young women staying on at school) due to less access to jobs or training

- Young white people (as they are less likely to stay in education at the age of 16 and 17)

- Care-leavers, young offenders, and young people with mental health difficulties (they are overrepresented in the NEET group).

The NEET group is not homogenous or static - there is a strong "churn" within the group. Many youngsters move in and out of the NEETs category, but 1% of them will be NEET at 16, 17 and 18.

The largest group includes those who are Open to Learning. This accounts for 41 percent of the young NEETs. They are positive about learning and their experiences of school and are likely to re-engage soon. Often they are only NEET due to dropping out of a course. These young people could often be prevented from becoming NEET if they received a better Information Advice and Guidance (IAG) while at school, and if providers offered more flexible start dates for courses.

Thirty-eight percent of young NEETs can be classed as sustained NEETs. They are unlikely to know what they want to do, but they have also been excluded from school, or had a low educational achievement. Young people in this category are more likely to have parents who are unemployed, or some kind of disability or childcare issues. Young people in this category need support to reengage, but also to stay engaged and overcome serious personal issues. An increase in work-based provision below level 2 could also be helpful to them.

Twenty-two percent of young neets are Undecided and NEET. They are quite likely to return to education, employment or training in the medium term. They often did not really know what they wanted to do, or have taken courses which were not successful for them. Young people in this category need to be offered opportunities to try different vocational options and to take part in taster courses, which allow them to try things out without starting and then dropping out of courses.

Some progress has been made in reducing the number of young NEET. Post-16 participation is at the highest level ever, with 79.7 percent of young people staying on. The numbers of NEET at 16 and 17 has fallen for the third year in a row. The economic downturn has had a positive effect on participation, as young people are staying at school to gain more qualifications so they will be better able to compete in the market place. However, the number of NEET at age 18 rose in 2009. While the economic impact affects all three age groups, those aged 18 are most likely to be exposed to the work place and therefore more likely to be affected by this.

The economic impact has led to increased unemployment, fewer apprenticeships being offered, lower incomes and reduced hours, and added pressure on family incomes. There is also a lag effect when young people move between different options. Young people can become disheartened about their options for the future.

Despite the strong performance of the economy over the last decade, the UK ranks fifth from bottom in a league table of 28 western countries for the proportion of 15-19 year-olds not in education, employment or training. This means a cost to the taxpayer as a result of more people accessing public services and fewer contributing to the economy and tax income. Government figures suggest that each new entrant into the NEET group aged 16 will cost the public £97,000 over their lifetime, with those who never re-engage with the world of work costing as much as £300,000. A single 157,000-strong cohort of 16-18 year-old NEETs would cost the country a total of £15bn over their lifetime in terms of opportunity costs and the effect on public finances.

Even if the government reach its target of reducing the percentage of young NEETs from 10% to 8% by 2010, the UK will still lag behind major OECD competitors. Which results in significant costs for taxpayers.

### 2.1.2. Liverpool City Region

While the number of young people entering education and achieving good grades is moving in the right direction, there is still a worrying number not in education, employment or training (NEET). In

2007 the share of 16 to 18-year-olds in Liverpool City Region in the NEET category stood at 10.1%, a slight drop from 10.9% the previous year. This is higher than the national average and in comparative urban areas. In hard numbers, there are 5,550 young people not engaged with the world of work or being trained or in education. It is worth pointing out that there is a clear variation within Liverpool City Region; NEET levels were highest in Knowsley was 15%, and 11.5% in each of Halton and Liverpool but 9% in Wirral and 7% in Sefton, closer to the national average.

### **2.1.3. Facing the Neets phenomenon - Possible solutions**

Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) cost the UK millions of pounds every year. The NEET condition is harmful to a young person, but has also some bad consequences on society and the economy. Various initiatives over the past ten years have had some success in getting young people to stay on in education or get a job, but a significant proportion of them still need help. Business and society benefit when young people are able to leave school or college with the qualifications they need to succeed in the world of work. The fact that nearly one in ten of all 16-18 year-olds are not in education, employment or training is therefore a major concern. Reducing the number of NEETs can help save money, reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and improve life chances for young people. But doing so is not easy - poor performance at school, health problems and a lack of social support continue to disadvantage the most vulnerable. Business has a clear interest in addressing this issue, not just as future employers, but as users, funders and providers of public services. This report identifies where public services are not giving disadvantaged young people the support they need and where business can help. UK employers' organisations believe that closer collaboration between government and business is critical for further progress:

**There is a clear need to tackle the NEET problem:** despite a strong economy over the last decade, the UK does badly compared with other western countries in terms of the proportion of young people NEET. The subsequent cost to the taxpayer is high - halving the number of young people on benefits and getting them into work could save the exchequer over £5m a week - more than a quarter of a billion pounds a year. There are social and personal costs too: NEETs are three times more likely to get involved in crime and often suffer from poor health

#### **Underlying causes - and solutions - are many and varied:**

These young people are disproportionately likely to have experienced problems owing to a range of issues including special educational needs, poor attainment at school, health problems, disabilities or parents who are themselves unemployed. This means an effective strategy needs to join up different parts of public services to provide the variety of support needed by young people

**Business has a key role to play in helping young people succeed:**

Addressing the root causes requires a consistent strategy aiming at educational improvement, regeneration and a joined-up approach to public services. Businesses have an important role to play in this - not just as future employers of young people and as a key player in regeneration, but also as potential providers of the kind of tailored support and guidance that NEETs often need.

Improving educational outcomes and service provision for young people requires practical and innovative solutions. Action is being taken at local level, not least because funding for schools and youth services is now controlled and commissioned by local authorities. An effective commissioning framework must bring together the expert local knowledge of councils and the professional experience of service providers. Recognising the value of private and voluntary sector expertise in providing tailored services for the hardest to reach is an indispensable part of this. While there is some good practice, much existing local authority provision is not aligned to the needs of those with multiple disadvantage. This means all partners have a role to play in an effective strategic commissioning cycle, from initial scoping to ongoing monitoring of service performance, including:

**Better strategic commissioning at local level:** good commissioning is much more than just procuring services. It is about identifying needs and delivering outcomes for client groups like young people NEET, and encouraging providers to create innovative service solutions. It also means creating contracts that can evolve over time

**More integrated commissioning to encourage efficiencies and innovation:** an effective strategy to get disaffected young people into education, employment or training and address the root causes of disengagement requires a joined-up approach across services. It also requires scaleable delivery models which match local needs

**A level playing field for all service providers:** the commissioning process must be fair to all potential providers. Healthy competition has helped deliver innovation, better quality services and better value for taxpayers across public services. But there remain obstacles to achieving a truly level playing field between providers from all sectors, particularly at local level

**Regular inspections, monitoring and benchmarking:** regular quality assurance is needed to ensure services for young people are of high quality. This requires a combination of Ofsted inspections, feedback from young people themselves, and measurement against agreed outcomes. Disadvantaged young people need services that respond to their specific needs. The real issue for the NEET group is participation, as the most disengaged young people are failing to take up what is

available to them. Support services must be tailored to effectively engage young people and should be part of a wider package that integrates Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG), youth services and employment programmes. This means treating young people as individuals and encouraging them to become intelligent consumers who can make their own decisions. UK employers organizations believe that in order to reduce the proportion of NEETs in a sustainable way, the government should base its strategy on the following principles:

**Recognising individual needs and providing tailored services:**

giving young people a greater say in shaping the services they use can help improve levels of engagement and effectiveness. The budget-holding leading professional model is one way to do this

**Joining up support services for young people:** an integrated one-stop-shop support strategy for young people could help make spending on youth services more efficient by including multiple services as part of a joined-up package - children's and adult services must not operate in isolation if the cycle of disadvantage is to be broken. This should include careers guidance, health information and advice, legal and housing support, access to internet and other essential tools at 16 needs a range of high-quality career and personal development options, including further services

**Expanding apprenticeships with success:** young people leaving education (FE), apprenticeships, employment and work-based training. This requires employers, schools, colleges and private and voluntary sector training providers to work together giving young people employment options: young people gain valuable skills in work which provides a very different learning environment to school or college. Employment options for young people should therefore be improved, including youth enterprise schemes for young people who want to become self-employed.

Two possible solutions to help young people get back into education, employment or training are **apprenticeships** and **informal learning**. This section summarises the key points on these two approaches, drawing on a presentation given at the Capita conference and on the NFER report *Nonformal learning- good practice in re-engaging young people who are NEET*.

**Apprenticeships**

Apprenticeships play their part in reducing the numbers of young people who are NEET. One key advantage is that they take place throughout the whole year and can start at any time. Apprenticeships also give young people jobs with training.

More apprenticeships have to be offered in areas where they are needed. At the moment apprenticeships on offer don't always reflect the wider economy. For example, in London the top



four apprenticeships taken up are childcare, business administration, customer service and hairdressing.

This is not representative of the overall market. In other areas there is a demand for workers but no available apprenticeships, for example there is also a massive demand for double glazing but London had no apprenticeships in this market.

The **benefits to young people** include positive career benefits and a general feeling of having a positive experience. They also increase current and future earning power and can lead to future learning.

**Benefits to employers** are that apprentices often show more loyalty to a company than other employees and the cost of their training is recouped within a relatively short space of time. Apprenticeships provide employers with staff members who have the skills they require. It can also be more expensive to recruit experienced people from the external labour market, and the supply of people with the required skills may be limited. Apprentices can also bring new ideas to an organisation.

### **Informal Learning**

Young people who are NEET can also benefit from taking part in informal learning. These are structured programmes held in informal settings, which can lead to accredited qualifications or certificates and incentives. They can allow young people to develop the skills and behaviours they need for education, employment or training. They may also change their attitudes towards future participation and lead them to choose to access some form of education, employment or training.

### **Strategies for successful informal learning programmes**

- Successful informal learning involves partnership in working with other agencies and local providers.
- Recruiting young people through face-to-face approaches or phone calls followed by visits and outreach work.
- Leaflets and posters in strategic places are more successful than formal letters.
- Motivation to participate, like spurring to join an attractive setting such as a football club, or economic incentives.
- Flexible start times and dates also encourage young people to join in.
- Offering a relaxed environment helps young people to feel welcome and not shy or scared.
- Project staff should have appropriate skills, and be motivated to help the young people.
- Young people's needs should be assessed and the activities tailored to meet their requirements.
- Innovative approaches should be used for activities, for example using new technology or group work.

- Provision should be monitored and regularly evaluated, and planned considering young people's views.
- Informal learning should recognise achievement through qualifications and certificates or informally through awards and praise.
- Offering support to young people in their transition into work or college.

It is this informal learning approach that has been adopted by the MoVing project with a view to reengaging young people into mainstream provision.

## 2.2. Italy - Calabria (Province of Crotona)

### 2.2.1 Framework

In Italy, according to the outcomes of a survey carried out by TV7 on 19 March 2010 the term NEETs refers to a generation of young people aged between 15 and 35 years, who are not either studying or working. They are young and this is a journey through the expectations and the disillusion of a generation: some stay with their family and some instead plan a future somewhere else.

The Italian National Statistics Institute (ISTAT) portrays a dramatic situation. The young are heavily penalized in the Italian job market; their unemployment rate is 3 times higher than the general one. In March, the youth (15 -24) unemployment rate was 27.7%, much higher than the EU-27 rate (20.6%). In some regions, the rate was over 30%. The complex phenomenon of NEETS is growing in a time of economic crisis in Europe.

According to the 2009 ISTAT report young people entering the NEET condition are likely to remain so for a longer time, since no alternatives are available.

In 2009 the NEETs in Italy were over 2 millions, (21, 2% of people aged between 15 and 29)

The term NEET does not appear in the statistics made by the Region or Provincia so far. The Provincia di Crotona survey has been carried out on a provincial level adopting a wider range of parameters than required by the MOVING project, since we do not have specific data concerning the NEETS phenomenon on a local, regional or national scale

### 2.2.2. Youth condition in Crotona provincial area, Calabria

In Italy, we have no statistics or specific studies on NEETs available. The Province of Crotona carried out this study on youth condition in Crotona area on its own. The survey is very useful to understand the causes, the extent and the consequences of youth unemployment, young people behaviour and their difficulty in personal development and in finding their own place within society.

The survey on the youth condition in the Province of Crotona was carried out by the Centro Informagiovani (Youth Information Center) of Caritas Diocesana Crotona Santa Severina, under the aegis of the Municipality and the Province of Crotona.

Within our local social research scenario, this kind of study is nearly unique as it gives a portrait of young people opinions and behaviours in a territory which is strongly marked by migration towards other Italian regions, more attractive in terms of opportunities and social welfare.

We extended the upper age limit to 34 in order to have a higher perception of the transition from youth into mature age. It is of common knowledge that such a transition takes place quite later

compared to past generations. Not surprisingly, a significant minority of 34 years old people have not accomplished their passage to mature age yet.

This survey investigates on crucial matters in young people life, such as family relationships, school experiences, working experiences, participation in political and social activities, religion, use of their free time, consumption models, and tendency to fall into deviant behaviour.

Furthermore, we decided to pay special attention to matters related to territorial identity, attitude towards foreigners and immigrants, opinions about European Union, and, finally, the tendency to incur into bad behaviours.

The survey includes schemes and consequent suggestions from young people regarding their own territory. These suggestions shall be taken into consideration in the planning and promotion of youth policies.

Young people shall be asked to represent their territory in workshop activities, during which they shall discuss specific local problems and peculiarities, and try to find a future policy line.

The whole process aims to activate a local strategical plan for the youth in the area of Crotona, in line with the guidelines from the Ministero delle Politiche Giovanili (Youth Policy Ministry) with its Secretary, Mrs. Giovanna Melandri.

Young people were not the only target of this survey. Most of the young interviewees declared that adults should have a better knowledge of their condition. Therefore, the outcomes of this study are especially addressed to adults, particularly those (parents, teachers, trainers) who must deal every day with the young, and may find it hard to understand their behaviour and lifestyle. This survey may represent a mirror where you can observe your own image and that of your children.

Methodology chosen by the Crotona Province to carry out the survey

The survey carried out in the area of the Crotona Province represents a benchmark for people working in social policies as well as for those who, dealing with different aspects of their lives, face and deal with the needs of young people.

The survey should be made on a regular basis, every three years, as its recurrence allows the researchers to check and assess the evolution of all the phenomena associated to the youth condition by means of a vertical comparison of the data collected in different times.

It is important to note how the survey takes into account a wider range of age:

Age

30-34

24-29

19-23

16-18

13-15

#### HOW WE BUILT OUR SAMPLE

To make the sample representative of the youth at our provincial level, the sampling plan was built according to the following stratification variables:

- > sex
- > age (15-34 years old);
- > Municipality;
- > Educational qualification;

People were chosen randomly to be interviewed. Youths were interviewed in Schools, Parishes, Sport centers, Youth Information Points and Youth Associations in the Crotona Province.

The survey questionnaire

The survey was carried out by means of a structured questionnaire. The questionnaires were made up of closed questions with one possible answer, closed questions with multiple possible answers and open questions.

The interviewer would present the questionnaire to the person, each interview would last about 30 minutes. Accurate checks were made in order to guarantee the reliability of the findings.

#### The survey data

- Sample: 474 young people (aged between 13 and 34) from the Province of Crotona
- Municipalities involved: Crotona, Cotronei, Isola Capo Rizzuto, Strongoli, Rocca di Neto, Ciro' Marina, Caccuri

## Features of the sample

Class Age	Total	Gender		Territory		School			
		M	F	KR	PROV.	Media	Diploma	Univ. Deg	Liceo ree
30-35	60	30	30	30	30	0	24	36	0
24-29	75	33	42	51	24	9	24	39	3
19-23	111	57	54	63	48	42	69	0	0
16-18	144	87	57	81	63	135	6	0	3
13-15	84	51	33	51	33	84	0	0	0
Totale	474	258	216	276	198	270	123	75	6
	100%	54%	46%	58%	42%	57%	26%	16%	1%

## II. VALUES

Family is still one of the major values in young people lives. 19% of the respondents think it is very important. Interpersonal relationships are increasingly relevant. In particular, sentimental relationship and friendship are at the second and third place respectively, together with the family.

Work is an important item for 13% of the respondents. This data is connected with the last years' deep change in the labour market and consequent increasing uncertainties about one's professional future.

The unbundled data per age bracket reveals that work is directly proportional to the respondent's age (from 12% in the 13-15 bracket, to 19% in the 30-34 bracket)

The system of values is clearly evolving towards items like leisure (4.55%), career (4.29%), at the expense of engagement in religious (2.99%) and social (3.64%) activities.

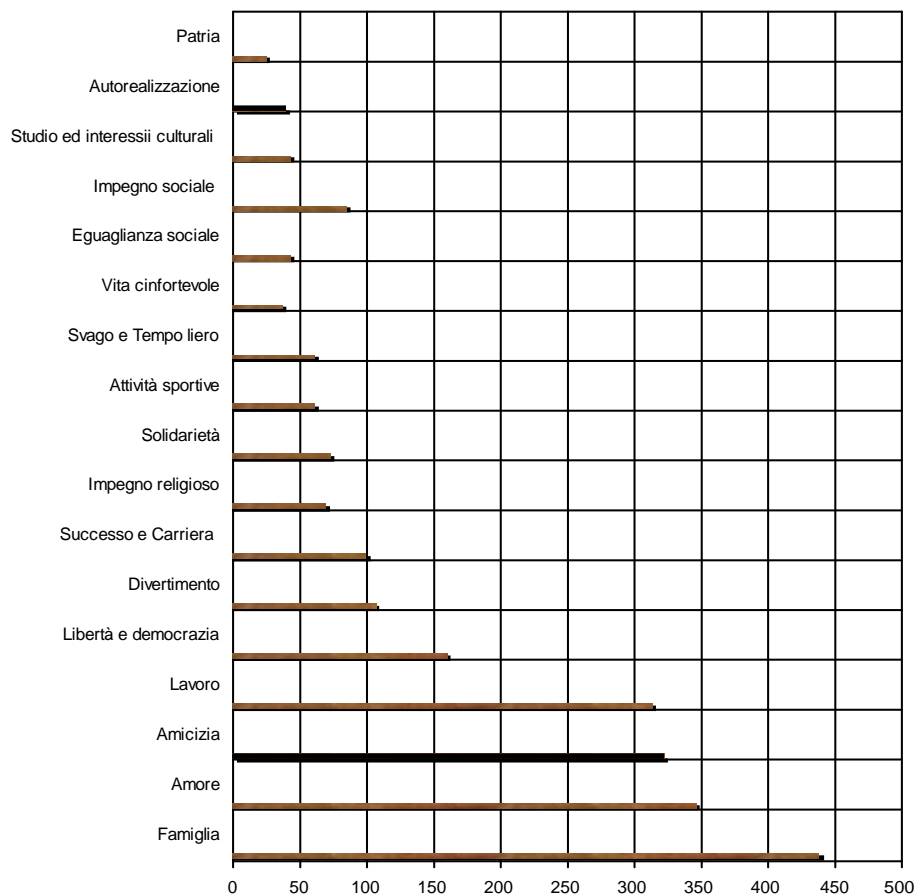
The unbundled data per age bracket is quite interesting. The following table shows all the data divided per age bracket.

TABLE 1- System of values "What is important in your life"(%)

System of values	Age					Average
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15	
Family	19,00	19,49	19,65	19,17	17,39	18,99
Love	15,00	12,71	15,61	15,83	14,49	14,95
Friendship	13,00	13,56	15,61	13,75	13,04	13,91
Job	19,00	16,10	10,98	12,50	12,32	13,52
Freedom and democracy	7,00	8,47	6,36	5,83	7,97	6,89

Fun	2,00	2,54	5,20	5,00	6,52	4,55
Success and Career	3,00	2,54	5,20	4,58	5,07	4,29
Engagement in religious activities	2,00	2,54	4,62	2,08	3,62	2,99
Solidarity	4,00	5,93	2,31	2,50	2,17	3,12
Sport	1,00	0,85	3,47	3,75	2,17	2,60
Leisure	5,00	0,00	1,73	3,75	2,17	2,60
Comfort	1,00	1,69	1,73	1,67	1,45	1,56
Social equality	1,00	4,24	0,58	1,67	2,17	1,82
Social engagement	3,00	3,39	2,89	1,67	8,70	3,64
Culture and study	1,00	1,69	1,73	3,33	0,00	1,82
Self-fulfilment	4,00	3,39	1,73	0,42	0,72	1,69
Homeland	0,00	0,85	0,58	2,50	0,00	1,04
Other	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
	100,00	100,00	100,00	100,00	100,00	100,00

**CHART 1. System of values "What is important in your life-"-(unity)**



## 2- Perception of oneself

How do young people in the Province of Crotona describe themselves? What are their ideas and feelings? What are the beliefs they feel supported by when facing life's challenges?

According to the self-portraits emerging from our survey, we can distinguish four different profiles:

1. Young people describing themselves as serene (33.97%), happy (19.23%), and satisfied (8.97%).

They have strong emotional values, high responsibility and self-esteem.

2. Young people describing themselves as worried (12.18%) and unsatisfied (10.26%).

They are worried about their future and not confident about their real capability of fulfilling their aims

3. Young people describing themselves as troubled (8.97%).

They have low self-esteem and do not feel they have real power over their lives

3. Young people describing themselves as alone and unhappy (1.28%)

They do not rely on opportunities given by the environment, they do not believe in interpersonal relationships. They feel alone in facing responsibilities and do not rely on other people's help.

Youngest people (16-29) belong to this last group (see Unbundled Data)

Note that the respondents distribute to the different profiles according to their age. In particular, we want to underline that the majority people describing themselves as serene are in their teen (41%) while this percentage lowers progressively with growing age.

The majority of young adults belong to the group defining itself worried and unsatisfied. (25%) (See table 2)

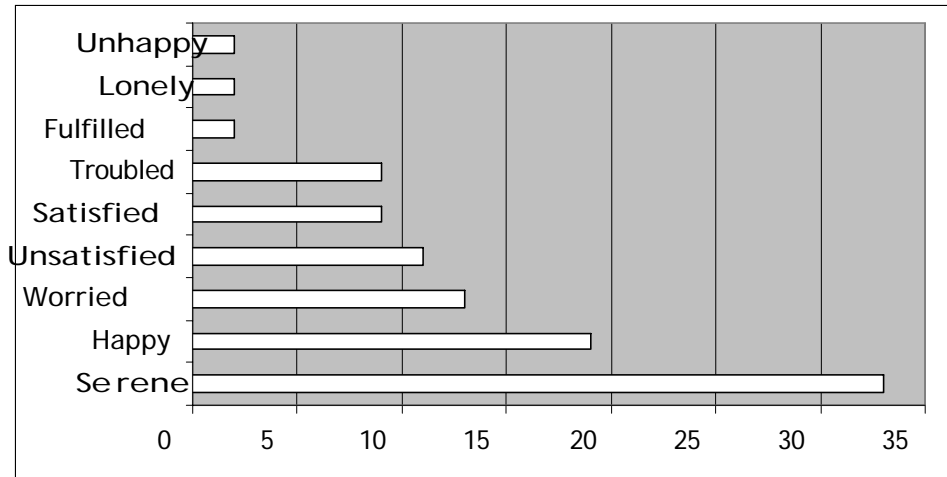
TABLE 2.1 Perception of oneself (by age bracket)

Perception of oneself	Age bracket					Total
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15	
Serene	25,00%	26,92%	36,11%	41,30%	32,14%	33,97
Happy	5,00%	7,69%	27,78%	19,57%	28,57%	19,23
Worried	25,00%	3,85%	13,89%	10,87%	10,71%	12,18
Unsatisfied	25,00%	19,23%	2,78%	4,35%	10,71%	10,26
Satisfied	10,00%	11,54%	8,33%	6,52%	10,71%	8,97
Troubled	10,00%	15,38%	8,33%	10,87%	0,00%	8,97



Fulfilled	0,00%	7,69%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	1,28
Alone	0,00%	0,00%	2,78%	2,17%	0,00%	1,28
unhappy	0,00%	7,69%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	1,28
o	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	4,35%	7,14%	2,56
	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00

CHART 2. Perception of oneself (%)



The main part of the young people interviewed declares they are not satisfied with their study or job. (39.85%)

Once again, answers vary according to age bracket. (see unbundled data)

The number of people unsatisfied with their job or study reaches up to 73.68% in the 30-34 age bracket. People aged between 16 and 18 feel unsecure (37%), while those between 19 and 23 are unhappy with their physical appearance. Most of the young people aged between 30 and 34 feel responsible for making decisions.

TABLE 2.2 What are you unsatisfied with (&)

Age bracket	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15	Total
What are you unsatisfied with						
Physical appearance	0.00	9.09	29.03	5.26	14.29	12.31
Ability to make decision	5.26	22.73	22.58	23.68	28.57	21.73
Peace of mind	10.53	18.18	6.45	36.84	14.29	18.84
Study or job	73.68	50.00	35.48	21.05	39.29	39.85
Nothing	10.53	0.00	6.45	13.16	3.57	7.24
	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100

What are you satisfied with?	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15	Totali
Physical appearance	31.58	25.00	20.00	40.54	17.86	27.03
Ability to make decisions	42.11	37.50	32.50	21.62	35.71	32.43
Peace of mind	21.05	29.17	25.00	13.51	17.86	20.95
Study or job	5.26	8.33	22.50	24.32	28.57	19.59
	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

As far as perception of outside environment is concerned, young people aged between 24 and 29 feel anxious (40%), those between 13 and 15 are worried about other people judgement (22%), while those between 16 and 18 declare that in some circumstances they feel they are losing their head (21%). Please, note that most of the respondents (40%) declared they do not feel as being classified in any of the proposed conditions.

TABLE 2.3 Perception of outside environment (%)

	Age bracket					
Outside perception,	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15	TOT
I am always afraid of others' judgement	0.00	8.00	10.81	7.89	22.58	10.60
In some circumstances, I feel I am losing my head	5.00	8.00	8.11	21.05	12.90	11.92
I often feel confused and anxious	25.00	40.00	18.92	21.05	16.13	23.18
I am often afraid	5.00	4.00	8.11	0.00	3.23	3.97
I am often sad	5.00	8.00	10.81	13.16	12.90	10.60
None of the answers available	60.00	32.00	43.24	36.84	32.26	39.74
	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	1

### 3. Family

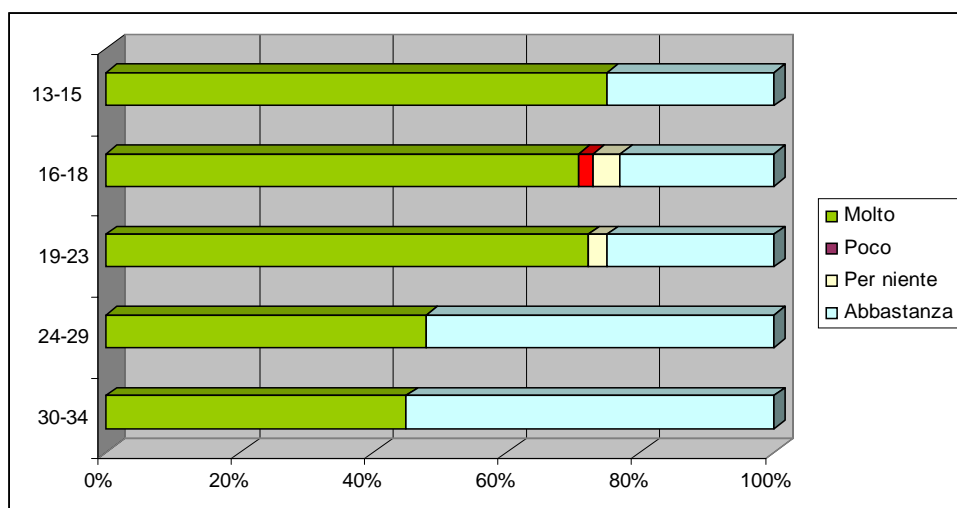
As far as the relationship with the family unit is concerned, the data point out how the family still represents a very important element in the life of the young people, even if they admit with a percentage of about 71%<sup>1</sup> the possibility to live together without being married.

This data is linked more to the work precariousness (the 65 % of the interviewees declare that they have only an occasional job, a collaboration or to be involved in underground activities ) than to the lack of confidence in the marriage.

Tab. 3.1 Importance of the family for the young people - (%)

Importance of the family	age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
high	45%	48%	72%	71%	75%
low	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%
At all	0%	0%	3%	4%	0%
enough	55%	52%	25%	23%	25%
Total %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Chart 3.1. Importance of the family for young people in %



Furthermore, as far as the dialogue with the family members is concerned, the family model in Crotona is characterized by a high level of communication that witnesses strong bonds relating to the family. Young people aged between 19 and 23 are those who have a better dialogue with the parents, on the contrary, young people aged between 16 and 18 are more reserved and introverted.

Table 3.2. Level of dialogue and communication in the family - (%)

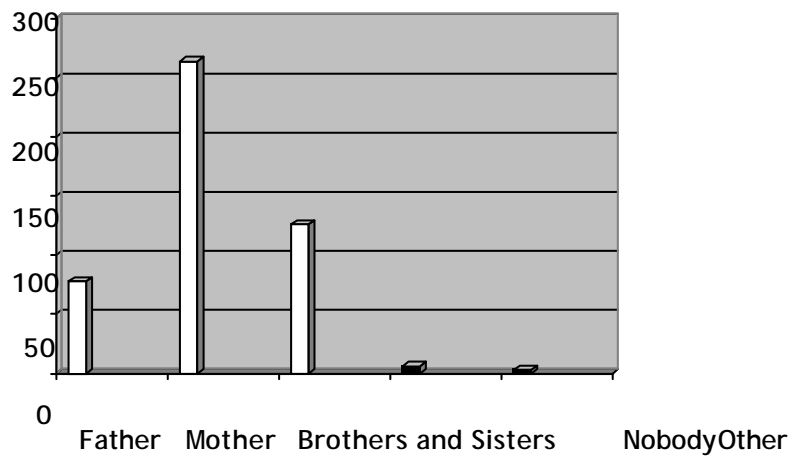
Dialogue 1	Age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
High	20%	38%	47%	19%	36%
Low	20%	26%	19%	40%	11%
At all	0%	0%	0%	6%	7%
enough	60%	35%	33%	35%	46%
Total %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

At the question with whom the communication is better, in the totality of the interviewed young people seem to prevail a strong confidence in the Mother, this because women are generally known as more sensible to problems and in particular mothers. Then follows the father, while the dialogue with brothers and sisters is less frequent; the father represents still today the dictatorial person of the family and often also the tougher one but, even standing in awe of him, it seems that the father is more open minded than in comparison with the past generations.

Tab. 3.3 Level of dialogue and communication - (%)

Dialogue 2	Classes				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
father	15%	5%	14%	13%	33%
Mother	69%	64%	63%	46%	43%
Brothers and sisters	15%	32%	23%	39%	17%
Nobody	0%	0%	0%	0%	7%
other				2%	
Total %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Chart 3.3. Level of dialogue and communication - (unit)



The data point out that about 91% of young people live in united families, while the remaining 10% live in separated families.

Table 3.4. Is your family united or split up - (%)

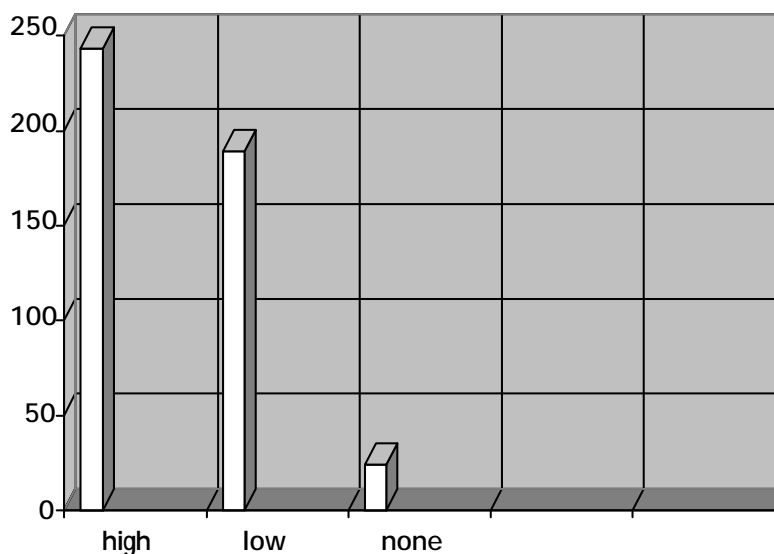
Family situation	Age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
United	95%	92%	92%	91%	86%
Split up	5%	8%	8%	9%	14%
Total %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

As far as the involvement of the young people in the family unit is concerned, the data point out that an average of 53% show a high level of cooperation in the family while the 41% show a low cooperation level and the residual 5% a cooperation level equal to 0.

Table 3.5. Cooperation level in the family - (%)

Cooperation 1	Classi di				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
high	61%	43%	53%	51%	61%
low	39%	52%	39%	45%	32%
none	0%	4%	8%	4%	7%
Total %					

Chart 3.5. Cooperation level in the family (Unit)

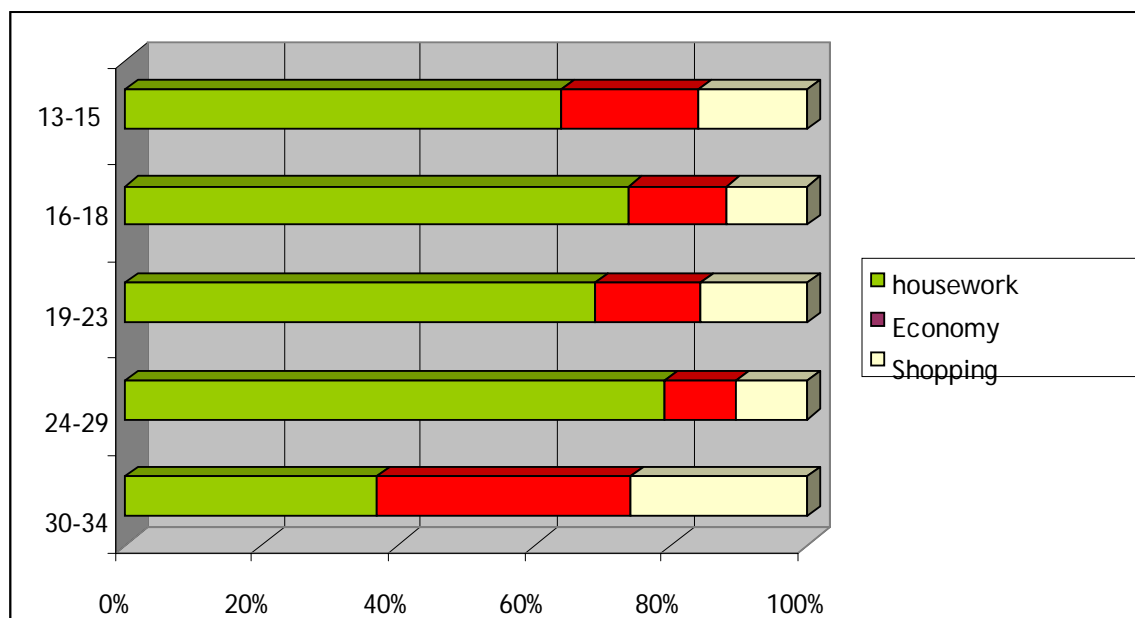


Young people aged from 13 to 29 cooperate more in the housework, while the data is reversed for young people aged between 30 and 34, who cooperate as far as shopping and home economy is concerned and a little bit less in the housework. This latter data shows the tendency of the new generation to protract more and more its stay in their family and increase the number of young people living permanently with their parents. This typology of young people contributes to their family budget with their own income.

Table 3.6. Kind of cooperation in your family - (%)

Cooperation 2	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Housework	37%	75%	69%	70%	62%
Economy	37%	10%	16%	14%	19%
shopping	26%	10%	16%	11%	15%
other		5%		5%	4%
Total %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Chart 3.6. Kind of cooperation in your family - (%)



At the question about the problems in the family, most of the interviewed answered that there were none, while the problems that more distress the families of the young people of the Province of Crotona are first of all unemployment, then quarrels, followed by emigration and illness. Only few of them showed problems associated to drug-addiction.

Table 3.7. Problems inside the family - (%)

Problems inside the family in	age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Alcohol	0%	0%	0%	11%	0%
Violence	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Drugs	0%	0%	0%	2%	7%
Illness	10%	9%	3%	4%	4%
unemployment	40%	22%	9%	2%	0%
Emigration	10%	0%	9%	9%	0%
Quarrels	5%	22%	18%	2%	11%
None	35%	48%	61%	70%	78%
Total %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%



#### 4. School

With the term school we mean an institution with educational purposes which helps young people to fetch out something they have hidden inside, through a programme of meticulously organized studies or activities.

The school can have different functions or purposes:

- The cognitive function based on the teaching of basic knowledge
- The professionalizing function based on the transmission of specific competences
- The socializing function based on the development of relational abilities
- The political-cultural function based on the transmission of the values of the community

In our survey we asked our sample of youth from the Province of Crotona about their opinion on school, their confidence in teachers and if their teachers do their job well.

The survey showed the interviewees believe that school has first of all the cognitive function of giving a basic knowledge (33,2%). Young people who think that school has a professionalizing function are 28.2%, a socializing function 27.6%, while 11.2 % believe that school has a political-cultural function.

Chart 4.1. School's Function - (%)

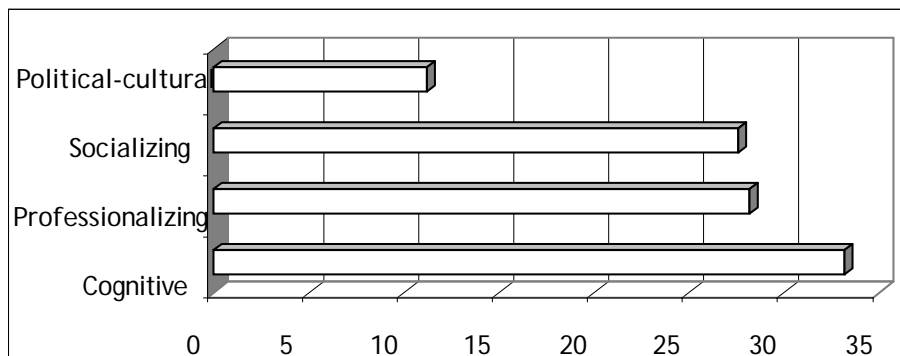


Table 4.1. School's Function- (%)

Functions	age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Cognitive	44%	28%	28%	22%	44%
Professionalizing	28%	28%	28%	35%	22%
Socializing	16%	31%	35%	30%	26%
Political-cultural Culturale	12%	14%	10%	13%	7%
Total %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

The school experience is prevalingly based on relations with the teachers. The teachers represent the school. It is meaningful how the teachers' confidence increases with the age of the young people; it seems that more one is far from the experience and more one becomes aware of the contribution of the teachers to their school maturation.

Young people aged between 30 and 34 are rather confident compared to others, but this confidence tends to decrease until the age of 16-18 and then decreases up to 36% for the young people of age between 13-1

Chart 4.1. School's Function - (%)

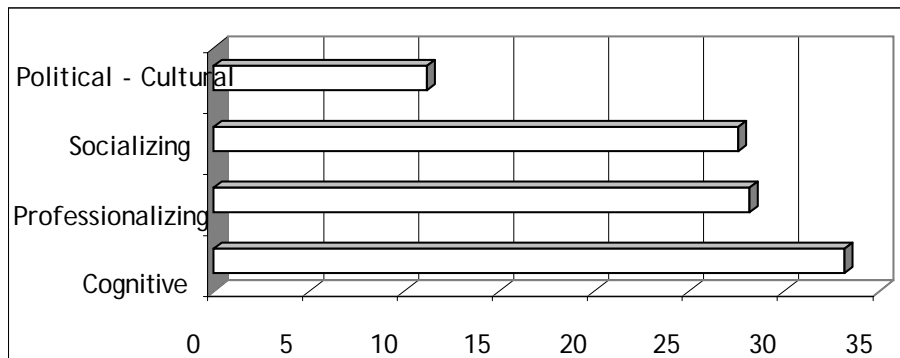


Table 4.1. School's Function- (%)

Functions	age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Cognitive	44%	28%	28%	22%	44%
Professionalizing	28%	28%	28%	35%	22%
Socializing	16%	31%	35%	30%	26%
Political-cultural	12%	14%	10%	13%	7%
Total %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

The more sceptical are the young people aged 16-18 who have only little confidence in their teachers.

Table 4.2. Confidence in teachers - (%)

Confidence in teachers	age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
High	0%	12%	22%	17%	46%
low	37%	36%	33%	54%	11%
none	11%	12%	6%	6%	7%
enough	53%	40%	39%	23%	36%
Total %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

As far as the teachers' training is concerned, 60% is satisfied, 32% believes that they are not well - trained and only 9% thinks that they don't have any adequate preparation.

Chart 4.3. Teachers' preparation

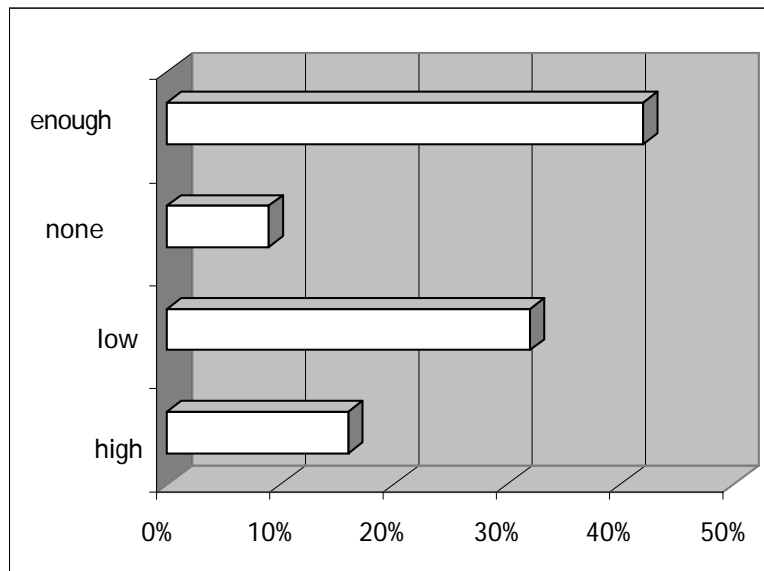


Table 4.3. Teachers' preparation - (%)

Teachers' training	age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
high	0%	4%	11%	29%	39%
low	42%	56%	33%	25%	7%
none	16%	0%	17%	6%	7%
Enough	42%	40%	39%	40%	46%
Total %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

## 5. Training

Post-school education and training, learning a foreign language and new technologies are crucial items in the processes of the socio-economical phenomena globalization, European integration, and particularly integration in the labour market.

Almost 70% of young people from the Province of Crotona admitted they do not attend any extra training apart from school time.

TABLE 5.1 Attendance of post-school education and training - (%)  
Age

Post-school courses	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Yes	30%	28%	31%	19%	39%
NO	70%	72%	69%	81%	61%
Total%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

TABLE 5.2. Attendance of vocational training - (%)

Age bracket

FP Courses	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Yes	30%	28%	36%	8%	14%
NO	70%	72%	64%	92%	86%
Total%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

One of the most outstanding innovations in young people behaviour is connected with new multimedia technologies, mainly personal computer. A high percentage of the interviewees (90% of all age brackets) declared they can use a PC.

TABLE 5.3. Use of PC (%)

Age bracket										
Use of PC	30-34		24-29		19-23		16-18		13-15	
Yes	90%	84%			94%			92%	96%	
NO	10%	16%			6%		8%		4%	
Total%	100%		100%		100%		100%		100%	

The most common software is Internet Explorer, (surfing and research) and Word (text writing) with about 30%. Other software is scarcely used.

TABLE 5.4. Multimedia software - (%)

Age bracket										
Software	30-34		24-29		19-23		16-18		13-15	
Word	32%		27%		31%		28%		28%	
Excel	16%		23%		19%		17%		19%	
Power Point	18%		15%		19%		21%		16%	
Access	5%		12%	4%		5%		8%		
Internet	30%		23%		28%		29%		29%	
Total%	100%		100%		100%		100%		100%	

Tab. 5.5 Where did you attend your training - (%)

Age bracket										
Where	30-34		24-29		19-23		16-18		13-15	
School	17%		30%		26%		11%	7%		
Private schools	6%		13%	6%		9%				15%
Home	78%		57%		69%		80%		78%	
Total%	100%		100%		100%		100%		100%	

CHART. 5.1 Where did you learn to use a computer - (unity?)

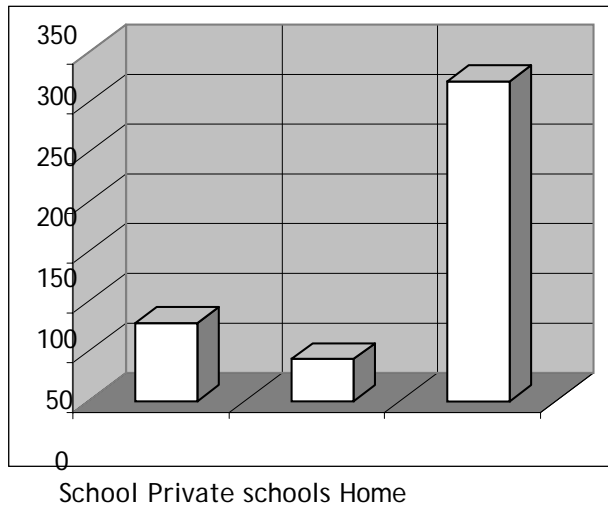


TABLE. 5.6 PC knowledge level - (%)

Age bracket

Knowledge level	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
High	28%	29%	38%	7%	22%
Medium	72%	62%	56%	70%	70%
Low	0%	10%	6%	23%	7%
Total%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 5.5 and 5.6 show that most of the interviewees have a basic competence (75%), but they do not attain a higher competence since they prefer to be self-taught.

As far as linguistic competence is concerned, the survey shows encouraging results. Only 15% of the interviewees admitted they do not speak any foreign language. 85% declared they can speak at least one foreign language.

TABLE 5.7. Foreign Languages - (%)

Age

Foreign Language	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Yes	90%	88%	94%	75%	86%
NO	10%	12%	6%	25%	14%
Total%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

If we examine the knowledge level, we discover that the interviewees have quite a superficial competence of the foreign language they declare to know.

TABLE 5.8 Knowledge level of foreign language - (%)

Level	Age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
High	22%	9%	9%	6%	14%
Average	28%	50%	71%	55%	81%
Low	50%	41%	21%	39%	5%
Total%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

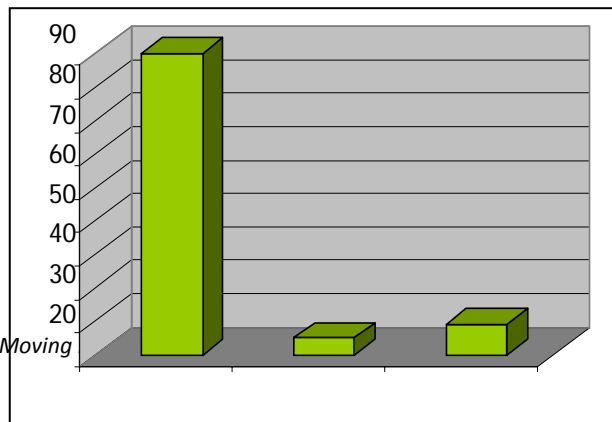
88% of our sample learnt a foreign language at school. A very low percentage learnt languages by travelling abroad (8.6%) or attending post-school courses in private schools (3.6%).

The unbundled data shows that young people with a better knowledge of a foreign language are those who studied abroad or in private schools.

TABLE 5.9 Where did you learn a foreign language - (%)

Age bracket	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Where					
School	89%	88%	86%	89%	88%
Private schools	0%	4%	6%	0%	8%
Travelling	11%	8%	9%	11%	4%
Total%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

CHART 5.2. Where did you learn a foreign language (%)





10  
0  
school ist privati home

English is the most common foreign language (65%), followed by French (25%), Spanish (7%), and German (2.5%)

TABLE 5.10 Which Foreign Language do you speak (%)

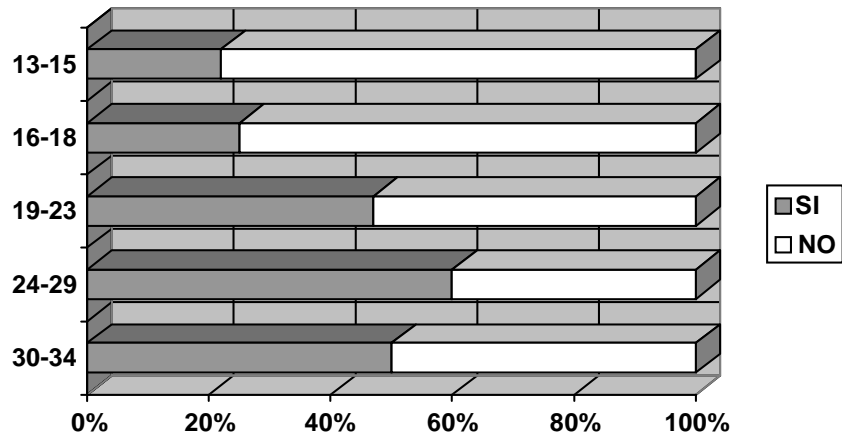
Lingue	Classi di età				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Inglese	56%	71%	64%	66%	71%
Francese	32%	25%	23%	19%	24%
Spagnolo	12%	4%	4%	4%	6%
Tedesco	0%	0%	6%	4%	0%
Altro	0%	0%	2%	6%	0%
Totale %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

The outcomes of our survey reflect some significant changes within the labour market and the spreading of new modes and trends in working relationships. First of all we need to underline that 50% of young people aged between 30 and 34, 40% between 24 and 29 and 53% between 19 and 23 are unemployed.

TABLE 6.1 Young people under employment- (%)

Employment	Age bracket				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Yes	50%	60%	47%	25%	22%
NO	50%	40%	53%	75%	78%
Total%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

CHART 6.1 Young people under employment - (%)



47% of young people are temporary employees or on short-term contracts (odd jobs), 23% has a fixed-term job, 18% has illegal (off-the-book) jobs. Only 5% has a steady job.

TABLE 6.2 Type of employment (%)

Type of employment	Age					Average
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15	
Fixed	30%	40%	18%	17%	0%	23%
Steady	0%	0%	6%	17%	0%	5%
Occasional	30%	20%	24%	33%	17%	25%
Freelance	30%	13%	41%	0%	17%	22%
Illegal	0%	7%	12%	33%	67%	18%
Other	10%	20%	0%	0%	0%	7%
Total%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Data concerning the importance of employment are coherent with the present conditions of labour market and working life. Most of the young people interviewed declared they are willing to move, in order to find a job suitable to their expectations and wishes (80%)

TABLE 6.3. Are you willing to move - (%)

Moving	Age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Yes	65%	80%	61%	91%	96%
NO	35%	20%	39%	9%	4%
Total%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Working is important because it is an opportunity to learn new things for the 8.8% of the interviewees. Second place goes to safety at work. This data increases for the 30-34 and 24-29 brackets (43% and 31% respectively). Safety at work is very important for interviewees aged between 13 and 15 as well (about 31%). This data - quite anomalous compared with the other young age brackets- can be due to unemployment problems in young families.

TABLE 6.4 Importance of employment (%)

Importance	Age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
S	43%	31%	14%	17%	31%
Learning new things	48%	35%	51%	52%	58%
Improve income	9%	35%	34%	31%	12%
Total%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

All the young people interviewed (55% between 30 and 34 and about 30% in the other age brackets) declared it is difficult to find a job in the Province of Crotona area, since there are little opportunities.

TABLE 6.5. Are there opportunities to find a job (%)

Age bracket					
Opportunity to find a job	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Yes, many. It is easy to find other	10%	4%	6%	6%	7%
A few	15%	42%	28%	14%	31%
Yes, but not suitable for my wishes	10%	12%	17%	16%	17%
Yes but they are not interesting ma	0%	4%	6%	0%	7%
No	55%	38%	33%	33%	14%
I don't know	10%	0%	11%	31%	24%
Total%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Young people interviewed about possible solutions ask for better training opportunities, customized support and guidance in looking for a job, tax concessions for employers willing to recruit young people, better opportunities to make experiences abroad, improved relationship between school and business enterprises. Their advice on working experience/careers and information on job offers are less precise.

Table 6.5 Measures to be taken - (%)

	Age bracket					
Measures to be taken	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15	Media
Better opportunities for training	16%	26%	18%	14%	11%	17%
Customized support and guidance in	16%	5%	6%	20%	15%	13%
Tax concessions for youth employers	11%	19%	14%	20%	15%	16%
Better opportunities to make experience abroad	16%	5%	9%	13%	22%	13%
More information on job offers	3%	14%	11%	2%	4%	7%
More advice about working careers	5%	2%	3%	7%	4%	5%
Improve join between enterprise and school	11%	12%	23%	8%	9%	13%
More tax concessions and reductions for new, young entrepreneurs	16%	12%	12%	11%	9%	12%
I don't know	0%	5%	3%	2%	9%	4%
Other	5%	0%	0%	0%	2%	1%
Total%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

In order to support the unemployed, most young people interviewed ask for an adequate unemployment benefit, an economic help for families, and the covering of the education and training expenses.

TABLE 6.6 Support to the unemployed (%)

Age bracket	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Support to unemployed					
Unemployment benefit	39%	36%	31%	13%	21%
Economic help for renting a house	8%	0%	10%	6%	10%
Utilities payment (gas, water, light)	5%	7%	7%	19%	8%
support to families	24%	29%	21%	16%	17%
Covering the costs for school/training	16%	13%	20%	20%	19%
Free Medical costs	5%	16%	5%	20%	15%
Free public transportation	3%	0%	3%	5%	2%
I don't know	0%	0%	3%	2%	8%
Totale%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

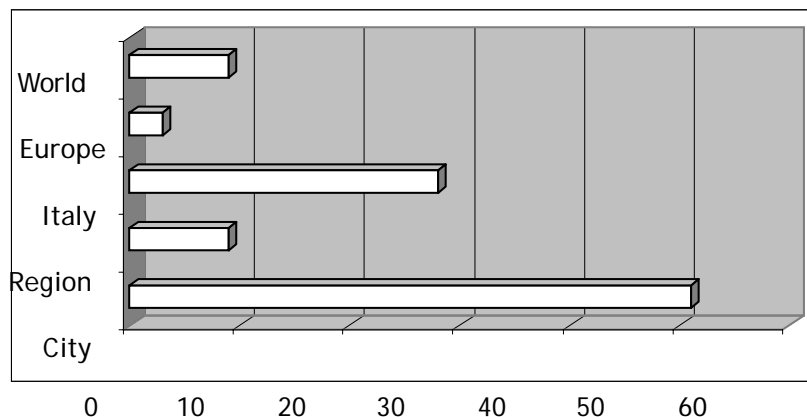
## 7.Territory

How do the young feel their territory?

The sense of territorial belonging has diverse references: cities, regions, nation, Europe and the world.

They mostly refer to their city (51%), very little to their region (9%). Nation is a prime reference for the young (28%), 9% select the world. Europe is still far, though the monetary and institutional integration in the recent years. only 3% refer to Europe.

Graf. 7.1 Territorial Belonging Degree - (%)



As far as the territory is concerned with relevant socio-economic aspects, the young have diverse opinions on a class round. 30-34-year olds think that the city implies youth policies and issues (38%); Europe implies environmental issues being entitled to decide about ecofriendly development; again, the city deals with social issues and Europe and Italy with employment (38%). This outlines how the young feel poorly represented in Europe and at the same time they trust Europe for employment and labor matters.

The young trust the national health system (56%), whereas they trust their region 25%.

They believe in the Italian defence, security and justice system.

Tab. 7.2 - Territorial Context relevant to socio-economic aspects- (%)

	Class 30-34					
	City	Region	Italy	Europe	World	
Young People	38%	6%	25%	25%	6%	100%
Environment	19%	13%	19%	38%	13%	100%
Social	50%	0%	38%	6%	6%	100%
Labor	0%	19%	38%	38%	6%	100%
Health System	0%	25%	56%	13%	6%	100%
Defence	0%	0%	56%	31%	13%	100%
Security	25%	0%	38%	31%	6%	100%
Justice	6%	0%	56%	19%	19%	100%
Legislation	0%	0%	56%	31%	13%	100%

24-29-year olds reckon the city appointed to youth policies and matters (30%), to environmental issues (39%), social questions (41%); they trust Italy for labor matters (30%). Comparing this with the rate of the group of 30-34-year olds, there is a shift from Europe to Italy. This group trust the national health system (43%) and do not really their region (17%). They also trust the Government's Department of Justice and Defense; 62% support the national legislation.

Tab. 7.3 - Territorial Context relevant to socio-economic aspects- (%)

	Class 24-29						
	City	Region	Italy	Europe	World		
Young People	30%	0%	17%	26%	26%	100%	
Environment	39%	9%	22%	9%	22%	100%	
Social	41%	5%	18%	14%	23%	100%	
Labor	17%	13%	30%	22%	17%	100%	
Health System	13%	17%	43%	9%	17%	100%	
Defense	14%	10%	33%	10%	33%	100%	
Security	26%	13%	35%	13%	13%	100%	
Justice	23%	0%	45%	18%	14%	100%	
Legislation	0%	5%	62%	19%	14%	100%	

18-23 year olds appoint the national government to youth policies and matters (48%), the city and the region to environmental topics (24%), the national Government to social and labor matters (33%). Again a shift from Europe to Italy like the group of 30-34 year olds. They also trust the national health system (45%) - their region rank 21% and the national Department of Defense and Justice. 44% trust the national Legislation.

Tab. 7.4 - Territorial Context relevant to socio-economic aspects- (%)

	Class 19-23						
	City	Region	Italy	Europe	World		
Young People	24%	12%	48%	9%	6%	100%	
Environment	24%	24%	21%	15%	15%	100%	
Social	27%	18%	33%	6%	15%	100%	
Labor	15%	12%	33%	27%	12%	100%	
Health System	9%	21%	45%	12%	12%	100%	
Defense	6%	12%	61%	12%	9%	100%	
Security	15%	6%	39%	30%	9%	100%	



Justice	14%	9%	43%	20%	14%	100%
Legislation	3%	6%	44%	34%	13%	100%

16-18-year olds appoint the national Government and their city for youth policies and matters (38%), environmental issues (29%) both being able to carry out environmentally-friendly policies; their city for social problems (36%) and the national Government for labor matters (30%).

Unlike the previous age groups, this one trusts the regional health system (the city and the world too) with a slight confusion on health competences.

The same with regards to defense, security and justice . 43% totally trust the national legislation system.

Tab. 7.5 - Territorial Context relevant to socio-economic aspects- (%)

Class 16-18						
	City	Region	Italy	Europe	World	
Young People	38%	4%	38%	4%	16%	100%
Environment	29%	9%	29%	18%	16%	100%
Social	36%	17%	17%	15%	15%	100%
Labor	27%	5%	30%	23%	16%	100%
Health System	25%	25%	9%	16%	25%	100%
Defense	16%	16%	31%	24%	13%	100%
Security	30%	11%	25%	14%	20%	100%
Justice	18%	7%	34%	18%	23%	100%
Legislation	18%	7%	43%	16%	16%	100%

54% in the 13-15-year olds appoint the city to youth matters and policies, 50% appoint the region to environmental matters, 28% the city and the national Government to social issues and 28% Europe to labor policies. This echoes the group of 30-34-year olds.

Unlike the previous group, this one trust a possible world health system, with some slight confusion about health competences. 27% trust the national legislation system.

Tab. 7.6 - Territorial Context relevant to socio-economic aspects- (%)

Class 13-15						
	City	Region	Italy	Europe	World	
Young People	54%	15%	12%	12%	8%	100%
Environment	8%	50%	15%	12%	15%	100%
Social	28%	16%	28%	20%	8%	100%
Labor	20%	0%	24%	28%	28%	100%
Health System	19%	23%	23%	8%	27%	100%
Defense	35%	12%	15%	19%	19%	100%
Security	15%	15%	46%	4%	19%	100%
Justice	0%	48%	16%	4%	32%	100%
Legislation	12%	23%	27%	15%	23%	100%

## 8. Ethnic Prejudice

Immigration and ethnic relations is a very important aspect in the society of our area. Our survey aims at understanding the tolerance and hostility degree towards migrants.

Data say that 45% welcome the presence of migrants, 35% do not. Such a diversity outlines that young people are less tolerant towards migrants.

Tab. 8.1 Tolerance degree on Migrants (%)

Presence of Migrants	Ages				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
agree	60%	48%	50%	29%	36%
Little agree	20%	40%	33%	46%	36%
disagree	0%	4%	11%	25%	7%
Do not know	20%	8%	6%	0%	21%
Total %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

As far as prejudice in young people is concerned:

37% think that migrants have criminal activities; the percentage increases and the age decreases.

Tab. 8.2 Do migrants have criminal activities? - (%)

Criminality	Ages				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
True	15%	32%	39%	63%	32%
False	70%	32%	31%	15%	29%
Do not know	15%	36%	31%	23%	39%
Total %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

To the question “ Do migrants take the jobs of the young?”, 24-34- year olds firmly state the question is false. On the contrary, younger groups confirm the question.

Tab.8.3 Competition and Labor - (%)

	Ages				
Labor	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
true	15%	28%	39%	65%	39%
false	75%	44%	36%	31%	36%
Do not know	10%	28%	25%	4%	25%
Total %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

To the question whether migrants can enrich the culture of the Country, the trend above is confirmed, older groups are more tollerant and open.

Tab.8.4 Cultural Enrichment - (%)

	Ages				
Cultural Enrichment	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
true	70%	48%	53%	29%	39%
false	10%	16%	25%	52%	25%
Do not know	20%	36%	22%	19%	36%
Total %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

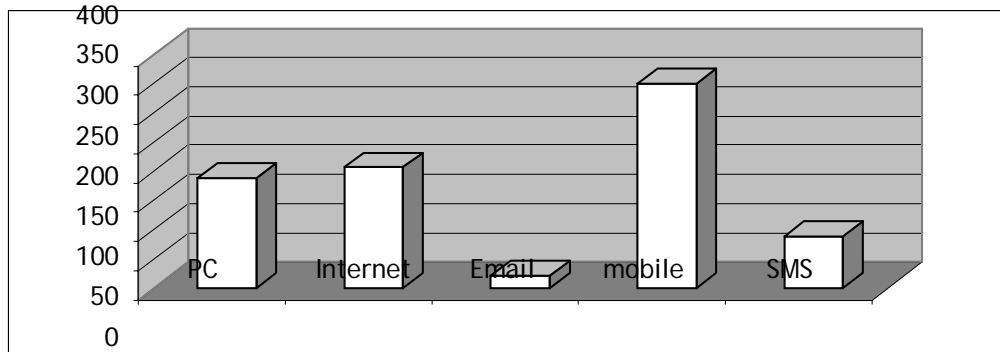
The data portray that older young people are more tollerant and responsible towards the diverse ethnic groups in our territory; younger groups show a kind of mistrust.

## 9. New Technologies

The affinity between young people and new technologies in the communication era deserves some deep reflection.

25% of young people use the computer and the Internet every day. Only 2% use the e-mail to communicate, they prefer their mobile phone (41%) and the sms (10%).

Graf. 9.1 technologies of daily use - (unit)



30-34-year olds seemingly prefer the internet and the e-mail;13-15-year olds prefer their mobile phone 47%.

tab. 9.1 technology of daily use - (%)

technology	age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
PC	21%	23%	18%	22%	27%
Internet	31%	26%	26%	23%	16%
Email	10%	0%	3%	0%	2%
Mobile phone	31%	42%	44%	39%	47%
SMS	8%	9%	8%	15%	8%
Total %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

As far as the latest technology is concerned, young people love and use the IPOD (55%), which is now a status symbol to listen to music; WI-FI and Wireless is little used.

tab. 9.2 latest technology - (%)

Latest technology	age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Wireless	25%	48%	17%	16%	33%
WI - FI	13%	4%	17%	14%	26%
IPOD	56%	39%	67%	70%	41%
none	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
other	6%	9%	0%	0%	0%
Total %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

We have also considered the knowlege of softwares within the latest technologies. Almost 100% of the young people we talked to are familiar with Windows; small percentages know different softwares too. These are very small numbers and in some ages. In older groups, there are groups that do not know any software. This analysis is coherent to the table 5.5, where about 70% learn how to use the PC at home, as an autodidact.

tab. 9.3 Familiar Kinds of Software- (%)

Known software	age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Windows	90%	92%	100%	94%	100%
DOS	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
none	10%	4%	0%	4%	0%
Other	0%	4%	0%	2%	0%
Total %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

#### 10. recreation, holidays and free time

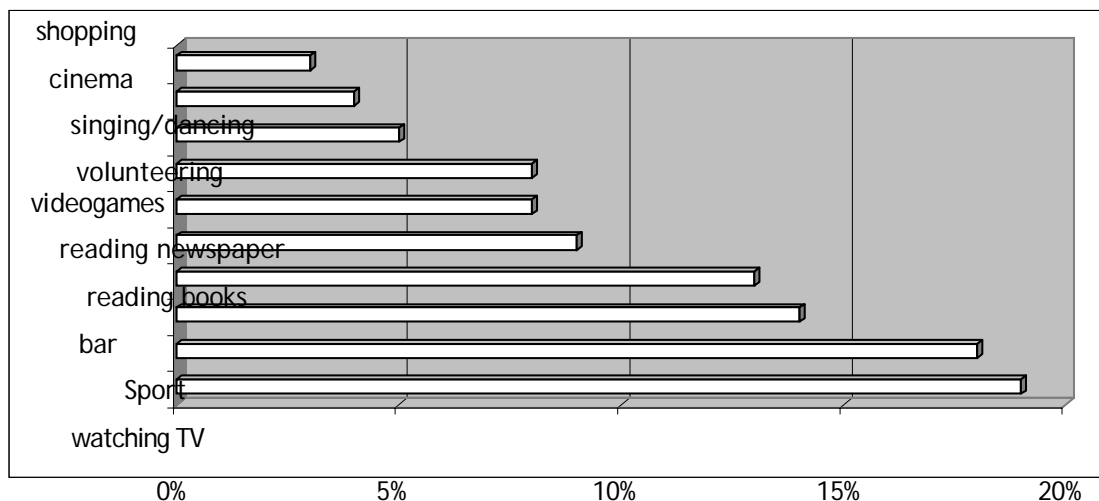
Recreation and sport in the free time, the possibility to relax rank high in the scale of the values of young people.

In the activities young people particularly do in the week, sport ranks at the top (19%), then TV, reading and video games. Little time is dedicated to volunteering and arts.

Tab.10.1 frequent activities - ( unit)

Watching TV	204
Sport	201
PUB	147
Reading books	123
videogames	99
Reading newspapers	84
Volunteering	63
Singing/dancing	60
cinema	42
shopping	33

Graf.10.1 frequent activities - (%)



24-29-year olds read more; 30-34-year olds watch TV more frequently; 13-15-year olds play with videogames.

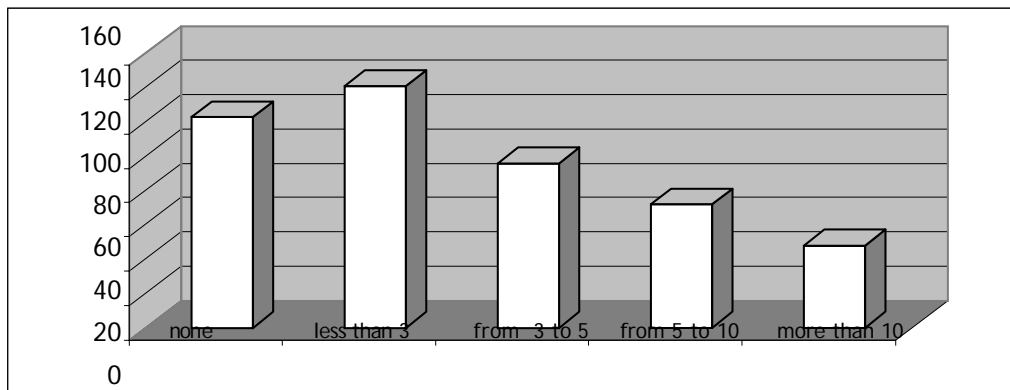
Tab. 10.2 frequent activities - (%)

Frequent activities	age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
volunteering	10%	13%	11%	0%	3%
Sport	15%	9%	20%	22%	24%
Reading books	15%	25%	3%	12%	9%
Reading newspapers	13%	11%	13%	5%	1%
Singing/dancing	3%	5%	5%	5%	9%
Watching TV	21%	20%	18%	19%	19%
Playing with videogames	3%	0%	7%	14%	16%
Shopping	5%	2%	4%	4%	1%
Bar	13%	14%	16%	14%	12%
Cinema	3%	2%	4%	4%	6%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

As far as reading is concerned, most of young people read less than 3 books (30%), 22% do not read and only 10% read more than 10 books.



Graf.10.2 how many books do you read in a year - (unit)



young people aged 24-29 read most, than those of 30-34 and finally 13-15. 16-18-year olds read the least with a percentage of 45%.

Tab.10.4 how many books do you read in a year - (%)

	age				
reading	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
none	5%	12%	22%	45%	25%
Less than 3	29%	28%	47%	18%	29%
From to 5	24%	36%	19%	10%	21%
from 5 to 10	29%	8%	8%	20%	11%
More than 10	14%	16%	3%	6%	14%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

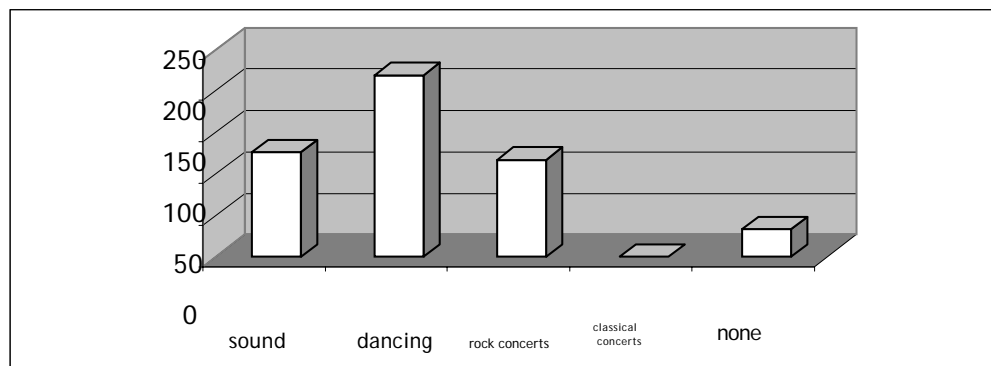
most of young people listen to music in the day, also thanks to the latest technologies such as IPOD. Only 11% of the sample never do. Younger generations listen the most (35%).

Tab.10.5 how much music do you listen - (%)

	age				
Music in the day	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
never	20%	12%	0%	13%	11%
1 hour	55%	40%	38%	42%	36%
2 hours	15%	32%	21%	10%	21%
More than 2 hours	10%	16%	41%	35%	32%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Dancing is the activity connected with music young people particularly love (49%); there are only a small amount of activities connected with the sound and concerts.

Graf.10.3 activities connected with music - (unit)



Tab.10.6 activities connected with music - (%)

Activities connected with music	age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Sound	5%	22%	22%	35%	23%
dancing	50%	44%	57%	38%	55%
Rock concerts	35%	34%	22%	13%	19%
Classical Concerts	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
none	10%	0%	0%	15%	3%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

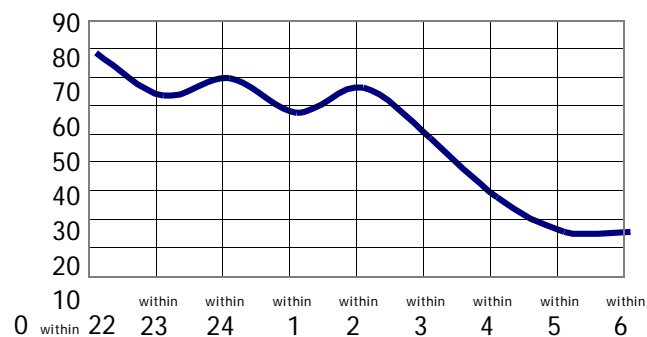
Most of young people go out in the evening at the weekends only (51%); 36% go out almost every evening and a small amount (8%) go out during the holidays.

Tab.10.7 Going out in the evening - (%)

Evening going-out	age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Never or almost never	5%	15%	0%	2%	0%
On holiday only	5%	4%	8%	4%	19%
At the weekend only	53%	46%	51%	44%	63%
During the week too	37%	35%	41%	50%	19%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

At night, most young people go back home between midnight and 02:00 am (43%), a very small portion and only 13-18-year olds go back home between 05 - 06.00 am (4%).

Graf.10.4 what time you go back home - (unit)



Tab.10.8 when you go back home - (%)

Time you go back home	age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Within 10 pm	11%	16%	6%	21%	33%
11 pm	11%	12%	11%	15%	22%
midnight	26%	12%	19%	8%	19%
01 am	11%	8%	11%	19%	11%
02 am	37%	20%	22%	2%	7%
03 am	5%	28%	11%	10%	0%
04 am	0%	4%	11%	10%	0%
05 am	0%	0%	8%	6%	0%
06 am	0%	0%	0%	8%	7%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

## 11. Drugs, smoking and alcohol

In the years, drug abuse has significantly changed, so have the addicted and the abuse itself. Abuse of ecstasy and cocaine is closely connected with the world of the night entertainment; the number is increasing of teens aged 14 getting familiar with the white dust. At this age there several new freak-outs: sniffing, cheaper and more accessible, new drugs such as ketamine (a powder anaesthetic for children and animals), KHAT, similar with cannabis, depressing appetite and with the same effects of cocaine. Hashish is largely used and it implies being together, especially younger people.

The data of our survey report that 16-18-year olds (31%) and 13-15-year olds (18%) are the biggest drug abusers.

Tab.11.1 Do you use any drugs -  
(%)

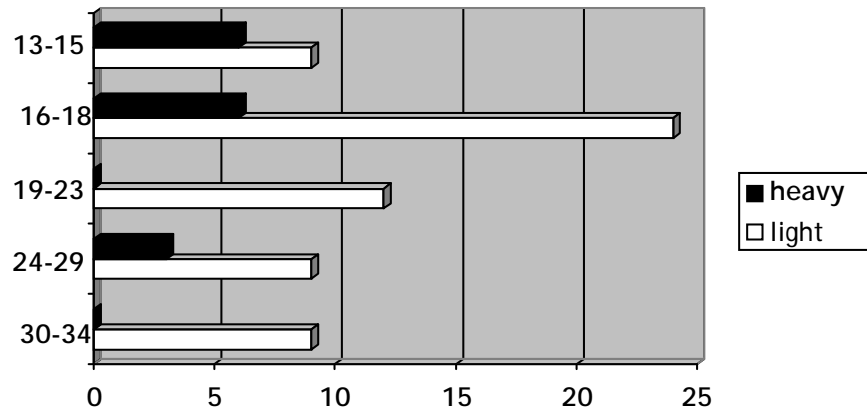
	age				
drugs	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
NO	85%	84%	89%	69%	82%
yes	15%	16%	11%	31%	18%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Among drug abusers, you should mention the datum reporting that 40% of 13-15-year olds abuse of heavy drugs, in comparison with the 10% overage in the other age groups.

Tab.11.2 what kind of drug -  
(%)

	age				
what	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
light	100%	75%	100%	86%	60%
heavy	0%	25%	0%	14%	40%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Graf. 11.1 what kind of drug (unit)



Young people of older age abuse of drugs occasionally (67% those aged 30-34 and 75% those aged 24-29). 13-15-year olds always (50%) or often (25%) do. Among the young, those aged 13-15 know very little about the effects of drugs (35%).

Tab.11.3 Frequency - (%)

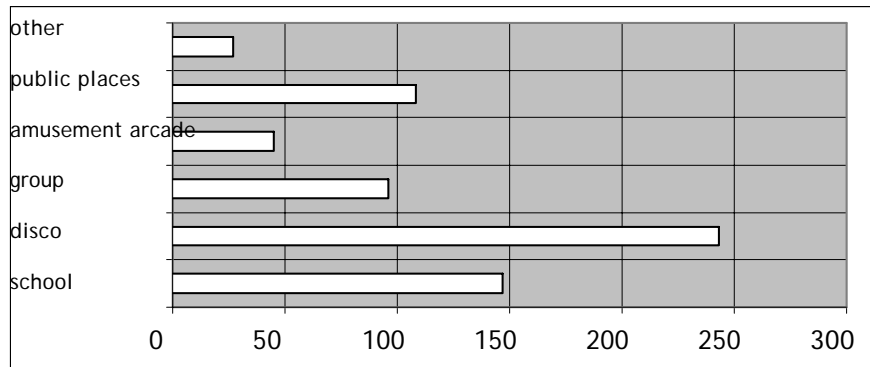
frequency	age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
always	0%	0%	25%	23%	50%
sometimes	33%	25%	0%	38%	25%
often	0%	0%	25%	23%	25%
occasionally	67%	75%	50%	15%	0%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Tab.11.4 awareness of effects - (%)

Awareness of the effects	age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
NO	10%	21%	19%	13%	35%
yes	90%	79%	81%	88%	65%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Drug is common in the disco, at school and the public places near the meeting points.

Graf.11.2 where drugs are generally (unit)

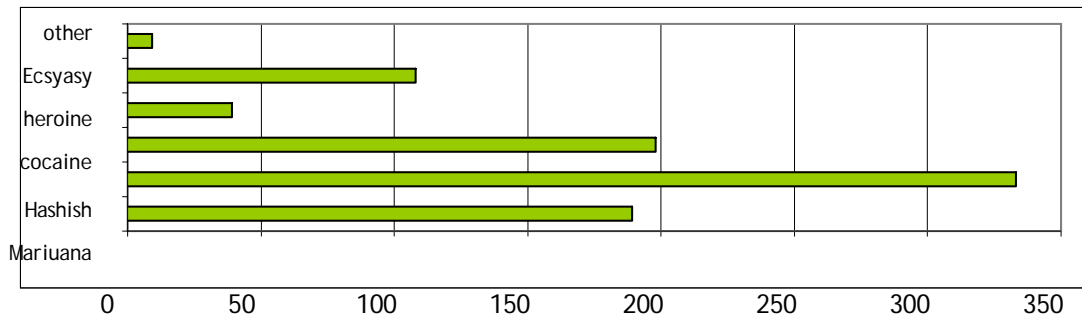


Tab.11.5 where drugs generally pass - (%)

Places	age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
school	20%	21%	25%	22%	21%
disco	32%	21%	37%	42%	39%
group	16%	31%	13%	11%	9%
Amusement arcade	0%	3%	6%	11%	6%
Public places	28%	21%	19%	10%	15%
other	4%	3%	0%	5%	9%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Hashish 37%, cocaine 23% and marijuana 21% are the most common drugs in the places above.

Graf.11.3 most common drugs - (unit)



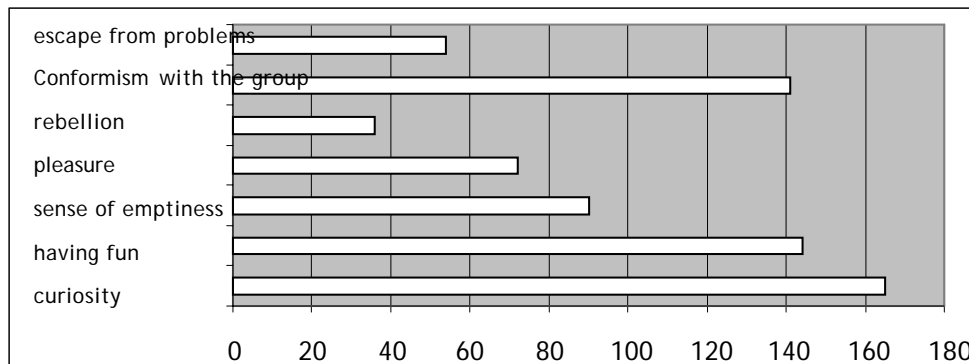
On the base of a subdivision per age of the the most common drugs, marijuana, hashish and cocaine rank top as in the previous table. Data concerning young people report a spreading of new drugs, such as ecstasy and more (ketamine, MD MA, ecc.) with 20% in the groups 19-23 and 13-15.

Tab.11.6 Major drugs - (%)

sort	age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Marijuana	26%	21%	24%	22%	14%
Hashish	34%	46%	32%	42%	34%
Cocaine	24%	21%	22%	22%	25%
Heroine	8%	0%	1%	6%	7%
Ecstasy	8%	13%	21%	7%	14%
other	0%	0%	0%	0%	7%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

To the question why they use drugs, young people first say for curiosity (28.6%), having fun (19.6%) and to be part of the group (21.2%). Escape from problems and rebellion are the weakest reasons.

Graf.11.4 why they use drugs - (unit)





Tab.11.7 why they use drugs - (%)

Why they use drugs	age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Curiosity	34%	18%	15%	35%	14%
Having fun	19%	15%	23%	23%	18%
emptiness	13%	15%	17%	5%	18%
pleasure	9%	9%	2%	14%	18%
rebellion	3%	6%	7%	5%	5%
Conformism with the group	22%	30%	27%	9%	18%
Escape from problems	0%	6%	10%	9%	9%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

With regards to cigarettees and tobacco, most of young people delcare they do not smoke.

The percentages raises to 70% in the older groups, it decreases to 50% in the intermediate levels and then up again to 68% in the younger groups.

Only 5% of the sample smokes more than one packet per day.

Tab.11.8 Tobacco Consumption - (%)

Do you smoke?	Age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Yes, more than 1 packet	0%	4%	6%	6%	4%
From 10 to 20	5%	16%	11%	4%	4%
Less than 10	10%	16%	11%	33%	4%
occasionally	15%	12%	17%	4%	21%
NO	70%	52%	56%	52%	68%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

As far as alkohol is concerned, all the people we interviewed of any age, except the youngest, declare they drink alkohol in remarkable quantities. The least percentage is in the 13-15-year olds (29%).

Most of young people also say they sometimes drink; the daily consumption is very low. Beer is widely drunk, the younger groups seem to be fond of liquors.

Tab.11.9 Alcohol consumption - (%)

		age				
Do you drink	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15	
yes	65%	60%	53%	62%	29%	
NO	35%	40%	47%	38%	71%	
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	

Tab.11.10 frequency - (%)

		age				
Do you drink	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15	
Every day	15%	20%	0%	13%	13%	
Every week	8%	7%	17%	27%	13%	
occasionally	77%	73%	83%	60%	75%	
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	

Tab.11.11 sort of alcohol - (%)

		age				
Do you drink	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15	
beer	63%	48%	47%	43%	45%	
wine	31%	26%	16%	25%	0%	
liquors	6%	26%	38%	32%	55%	
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	

## 12. Bullying

Bullying is an issue that has been emerging in the last few years in the students' relations of any school level. For a clear and concise definition of the term, we should refer to the expressions in the survey questionnaire of the phenomenon.

The data collected confirm that the younger groups periodically see bullying actions. The percentage is very high in the group of 13-18, almost absent in the age 30-34.

The phenomenon largely develops in the schools, as 70% of the sample say, and in groups 30%.

Tab. 12.1 have you ever seen any bullying action - (%)

	age				
Bullying	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
NO	90%	64%	42%	23%	26%
SI	10%	36%	58%	77%	74%
	100%	100%	130%	100%	100%

Tab. 12.2 where were they- (%)

	age				
where	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
school	50%	75%	62%	72%	67%
group	50%	17%	38%	28%	17%
other	0%	8%	0%	0%	17%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

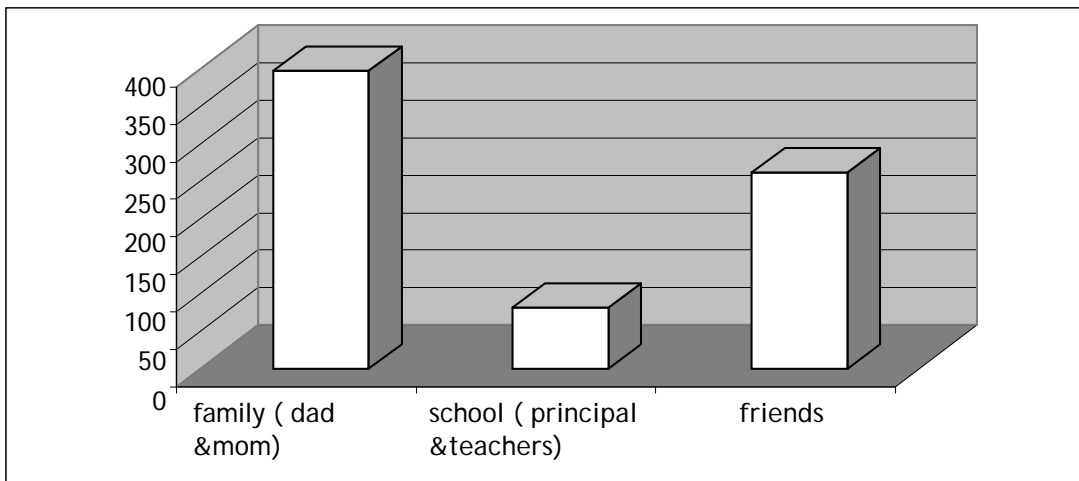
to the question "why to become a bully", young people answer "to get the group's admiration" (43%), "to be the leader (14%) and to be great (26%).

Tab. 12.3 why to become a bully - (%)

why	age				
	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Group's admiration	45%	13%	64%	41%	52%
Be a leader	10%	8%	18%	22%	12%
Appeal the other gender	5%	4%	4%	2%	12%
Prove one's courage	20%	13%	11%	8%	3%
Feel mighty	20%	63%	4%	27%	18%
other	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

In cases of bullying, young people report to their parents (50%), to their friends and also to their teachers.

Graf. 12.2 who do you report to - (unit)



Tab. 12.4 who do you report to  
- (%)

	age				
Who do you report to	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Family (father & mother)	55%	61%	57%	47%	49%
School (principal & teachers)	6%	5%	8%	15%	16%
friends	36%	34%	33%	36%	35%
none	3%	0%	0%	3%	0%
others	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

### 13. youth associations

Youth associationism is not a predominant aspect in the life of the young in the Province of Crotona compared to other situations of a stronger tradition. About 68.4% of the young are not in any associations. Data are directly proportional with the age: they raise parallel to the age. There is a sort of skepticism with the age and in fact, they assert:

- they have never joined any initiatives of active citizenship 40%
- they ignore the meaning of the participation 20%

Tab.13.1 are you a member of any youth associations -  
(%)

	age				
Youth Organization	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Yes	20%	33%	22%	38%	46%
NO	80%	67%	78%	63%	54%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Tab.13.2 level of youth participation - (%)

	age				
Level of participation	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
high	0%	0%	3%	0%	13%
satisfactory	11%	0%	8%	31%	13%
As in the other Countries I know	0%	0%	3%	10%	17%

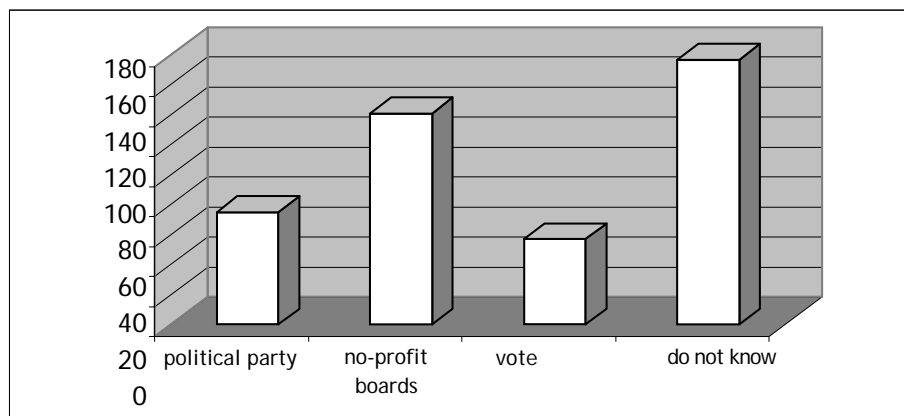
Below the average	21%	30%	14%	13%	17%
Too low	42%	57%	53%	27%	23%
I do not know	26%	13%	19%	19%	17%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Tab.13.3 have you ever joined any active citizenship events - (%)

age		30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
have you ever joined any active citizenship events						
Yes, I have		29%	23%	19%	25%	15%
I could not join any		59%	36%	47%	23%	30%
Not interested		0%	14%	14%	29%	37%
I do not know what "active citizenship" means		12%	27%	19%	23%	19%
		100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Young people in Crotona think that being a member of a youth organization is the best way to be active in the development of the city (32%); 37% do not what the best way can be. 17% rely on a political party and the remaining 14% the vote.

Graf. 13.1the best way to be an active citizen- (unit)



Tab. 13.4 the best way to take part in the active citizenship- (%)

age	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
<b>The best way to participate</b>					
Be member of a political party	21%	13%	14%	17%	19%
Be member of an organization (no profit, associations)	26%	52%	37%	26%	19%
vote	26%	9%	17%	7%	11%
Do not know	26%	26%	31%	50%	52%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

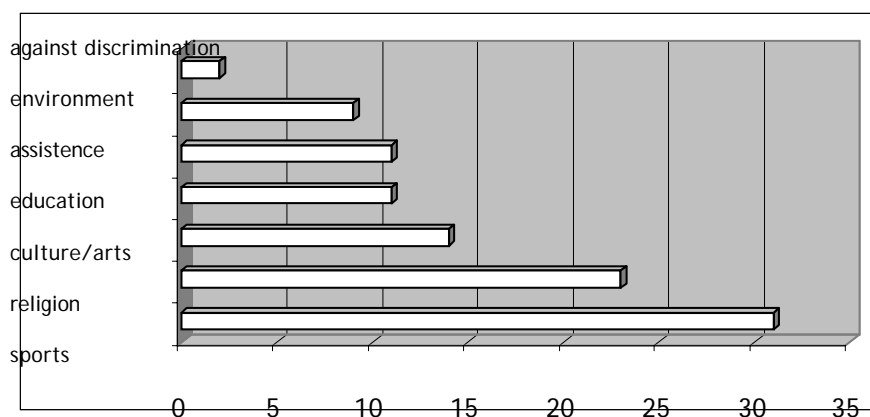
Tab. 13.5 how would you like to be informed - (%)

age	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
<b>How would you like to be informed</b>					
Press, magazines	21%	22%	9%	12%	6%
TV, radio	18%	35%	34%	36%	63%
internet	14%	14%	26%	20%	9%
Information centers	36%	27%	19%	2%	3%
school	4%	3%	9%	18%	19%
Do not know	7%	0%	2%	12%	0%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Young people that are members of voluntary organizations or youth associations are mostly active in sport, culture/arts and religion.

There is less interest in the environment, and it should be fundamental, and in the fight against discrimination.

Graf. 13.2 what association are you active in?- (%)



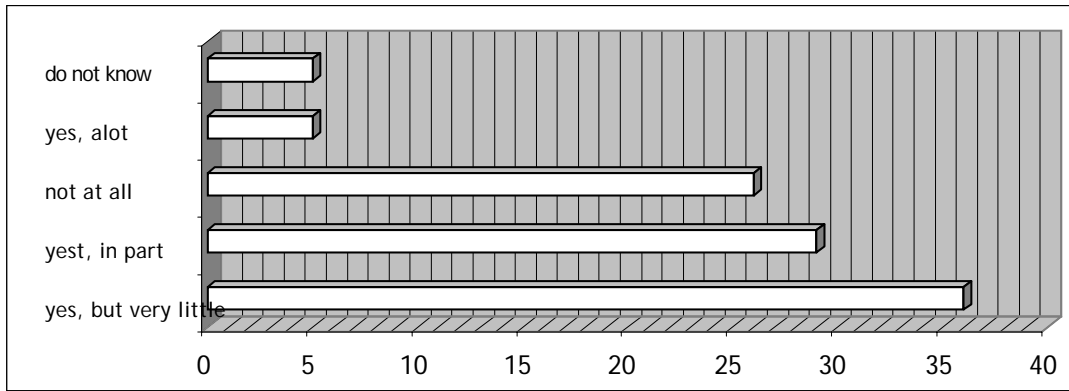
Tab. 13.6 what association are you active in - (%)

age					
sort	34-30	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
sports	13%	0%	8%	43%	11%
Culture/arts	40%	11%	8%	13%	5%
religion	13%	39%	38%	30%	37%
environment	7%	6%	0%	0%	26%
education	7%	11%	15%	4%	11%
assistance	13%	33%	23%	9%	0%
Anti-discrimination	7%	0%	8%	0%	11%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

With reference to the Institutions and the world of the young, the people we interviewed conclude the former are completely far (36%), fairly far (29%) totally absent (26%).

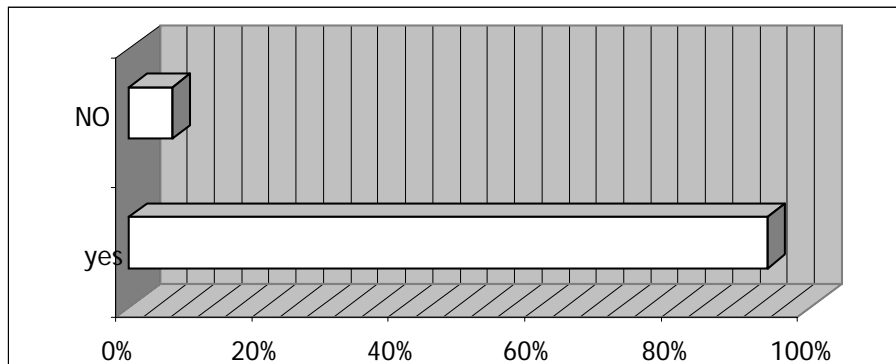


Graf. 13.3 do the institutions know the world of the young? - (%)



The young people we interviewed claim a prime role and more opportunities.

Graf. 13.4 more opportunities for young people - (%)



2.2.3 Good practice to reduce the young unemployment rate in Crotona

Informagiovani - the center was open in December 2006; mostly 24- 29-year olds go there, then 30-34-year olds (60%).

Tab.14.1 do you know the center

	age				
Do you know the center in Crotona	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
yes	60%	90%	41%	17%	7%
NO	40%	10%	71%	83%	93%

60 % of the people we interviewed have visited the center; 57% (24-29) have visited the Church in Crotona to know about their services.

Tab.14.2 do you know the center

	age				
Have you been there	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
yes	60%	57%	30%	13%	7%
NO	40%	43%	77%	88%	93%

In the center, people mostly wanted information about a job (30%), schools and training. 15% came to use the Internet free and to see job vacancies.

Tab. 14.3 what did you ask for in the center of Crotone

	age				
What did you ask for	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Labor information	38%	33%	38%	29%	0%
School/training information	23%	40%	25%	43%	100%
Free time/culture	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Job vacancies	15%	13%	25%	14%	0%
Use of the internet	15%	13%	13%	14%	0%

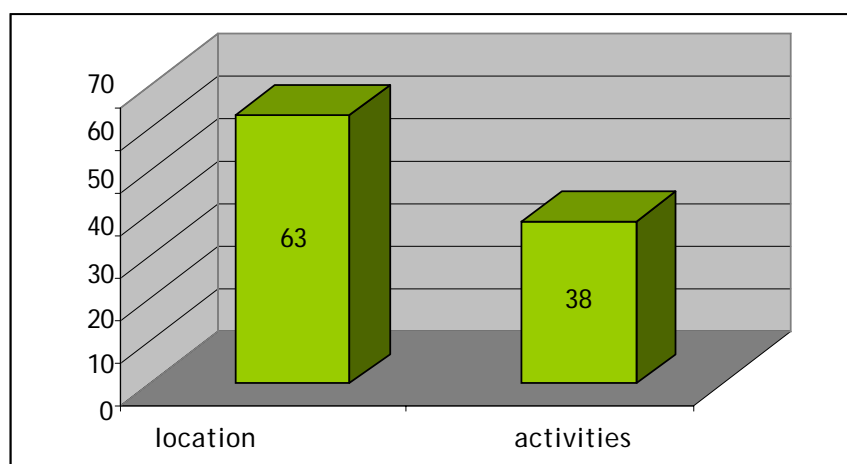
About 90% of the young people were satisfied with the center and its services. They think the services are essential and innovative. Teens of 16-18 were not totally satisfied.

Tab. 14.4 Level of Satisfaction

	age				
opinion	30-34	24-29	19-23	16-18	13-15
Not at all	0%	0%	11%	0%	0%
poor	0%	0%	0%	50%	0%
enough	75%	85%	78%	33%	100%
much	25%	15%	11%	17%	0%

63% would like to improve the location and 38% the activities.

Graf. 14.1 what would you improve in the center in Crotone



At present, there are no data concerning the phenomenon of Neets in Calabria. The project and particularly this survey encouraged the local boards, policy-makers and people active in juvenile policies to understand the issue and to identify possible solutions to reduce the juvenile discomfort.

## 2.3. Spain - Andalucía (Junta de Andalucía)

### 2.3.1 Context

It is the most populous (8,285,692 inhabitants in 2009: 4.113.383 men, 4.189.540 women) and the second largest, in terms of land area, of the seventeen [autonomous communities](#) of the Kingdom of Spain. Its capital and largest city is [Seville](#). The region is divided into eight [provinces](#): [Huelva](#), [Seville](#), [Cádiz](#), [Córdoba](#), [Málaga](#), [Jaén](#), [Granada](#) and [Almería](#) and 771 municipalities. It has a total area of 87.268 km<sup>2</sup>, its density of population is 102,07 inh/km<sup>2</sup>.

The population is concentrated, above all, in the provincial capitals and along the coasts, so that the level of urbanization is quite high; half the population is concentrated in the 28 cities of more than 50,000 inhabitants. The population is aging, although the process of immigration is countering the inversion of the [population pyramid](#). There is around 8.1% immigrant population.

Andalusia is in the south of the Iberian peninsula, immediately south of the autonomous communities of Extremadura and Castile-La Mancha; west of the autonomous community of Murcia and the Mediterranean Sea; east of Portugal and the Atlantic Ocean; and north of the Mediterranean Sea and the Strait of Gibraltar, which separates Spain from Morocco, and the Atlantic Ocean. The small British overseas territory of Gibraltar shares a three-quarter-mile land border with the Andalusian province of Cádiz at the eastern end of the Strait of Gibraltar.

### 2.3.2. ECONOMIC SITUATION OF THE REGION

Since the Industrial Revolution, Andalusia has been an economically poor region in comparison with the rest of Spain and the European Union at large. Agriculture and the service sectors predominate in the economy. Andalusia is traditionally an agricultural area, but the service sector (particularly tourism, retail sales, and transportation) now predominates. The once booming construction sector, hit hard by the 2009 recession, was also important to the region's economy. The industrial sector is less developed than most other regions in Spain. During the period for the 2000-2006 period was 3.72%, one of the highest in the country. Still, according to the Spanish Instituto Nacional de Estadística (INE), the GDP per capita of Andalusia (€17,401; 2006) remains the second lowest in Spain, with only Extremadura lagging behind.

The region has, however, a rich culture and a strong cultural identity. Many cultural phenomena that are seen internationally as distinctively Spanish are largely or entirely Andalusian in origin. These include flamenco, bullfighting, and certain Moorish-influenced architectural styles.

### 2.3.3. STATISTICS - DATA OF YOUNG POPULATION FROM 16-29 YEARS OLD

Absolute numbers in thousands of people and percentages in hundred per cents	Cifras 1 <sup>er</sup> . Trim. 2010	Variación sobre 4 <sup>o</sup> Trim. 2009		Variación sobre 1 <sup>er</sup> . Trim. 2009	
		Dif.	%	Dif.	%
<b>YOUNGSTERS BETWEEN 16 AND 29 YEARS</b>	7.755,6	-76,3	-0,97%	-303,9	-3,77%
- Men	3.960,4	-42,0	-1,05%	-171,6	-4,15%
- Women	3.795,2	-34,3	-0,89%	-132,2	-3,37%
<b>Youngsters in education (official and unofficial)</b>	3.559,9	82,9	2,38%	122,2	3,55%
- Men	1.724,5	49,6	2,96%	81,7	4,97%
- Women	1.835,4	33,3	1,85%	40,5	2,25%
<b>ACTIVE YOUNGSTERS (looking for employment)</b>	4.959,1	-77,4	-1,54%	-379,0	-7,10%
- Men	2.636,2	-61,9	-2,29%	-251,6	-8,71%
- Women	2.323,0	-15,5	-0,66%	-127,4	-5,20%
<b>Active youngsters in education (official and unofficial)</b>	1.203,2	20,0	1,69%	-9,5	-0,78%
- Men	574,7	11,3	2,00%	14,2	2,54%
- Women	628,5	8,7	1,41%	-23,7	-3,64%
<b>Employed Youngsters</b>	3.379,7	-138,0	-3,92%	-497,0	-12,82%
- Men	1.736,4	-102,8	-5,59%	-323,3	-15,70%
- Women	1.643,2	-35,1	-2,09%	-173,7	-9,56%
<b>Employed youngsters under official education (11,65%)</b>	393,6	-15,1	-3,69%	-35,4	-8,26%
- Men	181,2	-13,3	-6,84%	-20,0	-9,96%
- Women	212,4	-1,8	-0,83%	-15,4	-6,76%
<b>Unemployed Youngsters</b>	1.579,5	60,6	3,99%	117,9	8,07%
- Men	899,8	40,9	4,76%	71,7	8,66%
- Women	679,7	19,6	2,98%	46,2	7,30%
<b>Unemployed youngsters under education (official and unofficial) (26,88%)</b>	424,5	31,6	8,05%	72,2	20,49%
- Men	214,3	20,5	10,57%	47,6	28,59%
- Women	210,2	11,1	5,60%	24,5	13,21%
<b>Unemployed youngsters with high education</b>	287,0	8,8	3,18%	49,4	20,77%

- Men	129,3	10,7	9,00%	19,3	17,59%
- Women	157,6	-1,8	-1,15%	30,0	23,52%
<b>Non-active youngsters</b>	<b>2.796,4</b>	<b>1,1</b>	<b>0,04%</b>	<b>117,5</b>	<b>4,20%</b>
- Men	1.324,2	19,9	1,52%	92,0	6,94%
- Women	1.472,2	-18,8	-1,27%	25,5	1,73%
<b>Non-active youngsters in education (oficial and unofficial)</b>	<b>2.356,7</b>	<b>62,9</b>	<b>2,67%</b>	<b>210,7</b>	<b>8,94%</b>
- Men	1.149,8	38,3	3,33%	109,6	9,53%
- Women	1.206,9	24,6	2,03%	101,1	8,38%

#### ANDALUCÍA DATA

YOUNG POPULATION	Cifras 1 <sup>er</sup> Trim. 2010	Variación sobre 4 <sup>o</sup> Trim. 2009		Variación sobre 1 <sup>er</sup> Trim. 2009	
		Dif.	%	Dif.	%
<b>TOTAL</b>	7.755,6	-76,3	-0,97%	-364,1	-4,69%
Andalucía	1.534,3	-11,4	-0,74%	-56,1	-3,65%
<b>ACTIVE YOUNGSTERS</b>					
<b>TOTAL</b>	4.959,1	-77,4	-1,54%	-379,0	-7,10%
Andalucía	969,4	4,8	0,50%	-79,3	-8,18%
<b>EMPLOYED YOUNGSTERS</b>					
<b>TOTAL</b>	3.379,7	-138,0	-3,92%	-497,0	-12,82%
Andalucía	588,6	-21,4	-3,51%	-136,7	-23,22%
<b>UNEMPLOYED YOUNGSTERS</b>					
<b>TOTAL</b>	1.579,5	60,6	3,99%	117,9	8,07%
Andalucía	380,8	26,2	7,38%	57,4	15,07%
<b>NON-ACTIVE YOUNGSTERS</b>					
<b>TOTAL</b>	2.796,4	1,1	0,04%	117,5	4,20%
Andalucía	564,9	-16,2	-2,79%	23,2	4,10%

During last decades the educational level of Spanish youngsters has increased notably. Nowadays, education is compulsory for all population between 6-16, and schooling rate at 17 is nearly 80%. Even though it is not compulsory, schooling is universal for children between 4 and 6 years old.

Despite this evolution, there are worrying aspects that generate deficits in terms of equity. Firstly, the training level of young population is lower than the rest of European countries -the proportion of youngsters that have finished post-compulsory education is low, according to standards of OECD countries.

Secondly, there is a group of young people that is at risk, because they have dropped out the educational system, they have not joined the labour market and they have abandoned job seeking. According to OECD data, a 2.7% of youngsters between 15 and 19 years old is outside the educative system and is not seeking a job; this percentage rises up to a 5.2% in the group of 20-24 years old. At the same time, if we add those youngsters not in education but seeking a job, we could conclude that a 22% of youngsters 15-24 are not neither in education nor in employment.

As a consequence of the ageing of the population and the lowering of fecundity in the last decades, active youngsters under 30 have lost weight with respect to total active population. They have passed from a 30% of active population in 1999 to a 23% in 2009. This situation is more noticeable in the 16-19 group that represents a 2% from the total in 2009. The reduction had been even more manifest without the immigration phenomenon, as immigrants are contributing to an increase of active population in Spain.

Activity rate of youngsters under 30 is 66%, whereas the rest of the population has a rate of 60% in 2009. Both rates have had an increasing evolution, due to incorporation of women to the labour market and the arrival of immigrants, whose activity rate is higher than that of native population.

On the other side, the increase of activity is conditioned by economic growth of Spain in the last years that allowed the incorporation of youngsters to labour market in the building sector and in the hotel and tourism sector. This situation has favoured that some youngsters drop out school without having completed their compulsory education. Nonetheless, economic crisis has maintained activity rates with the level of 2006, what makes us infer that some youngsters are coming back to their studies.

In the same way activity rates have gender gaps in the whole population (69% men, 52% women in 2009), that have a replica between youngsters, although with a different nuance: despite male youngsters have an activity rate (70%) higher than female youngsters (62%), the lowering in the gap is due to a higher educational level of female youngsters.



We find the lowest activity rates between youngsters 16-19. In turn, the group 25-29 presents the highest rates, overcoming in 36 percentage points the national average in 2009. The low activity rates in the youngest group confirms that these are still studying, while as they are growing, they complete their studies or they drop out and they come into the labour market.

#### **2.3.4. CAUSES**

Objective causes by which youngsters become NEETS are very difficult to assess, because of the impossibility of obtaining reliable data. In any case, it seems clear that there exist a series of 'generic' factors that may cause youngsters being unemployed or educationally inactive. These factors are:

- truancy and early school drop-out
- precarious social and economic family situation
- parent's demotivation and/or lack of qualification
- degraded social and economic environments
- serious health problems/disabilities

#### **2.3.5. Existing policy to reduce the Neet phenomenon**

##### **NATIONAL AND REGIONAL POLICIES ANDALUSIAN EMPLOYMENT SERVICE (REGIONAL GOVERNMENT)**

MEASURES IN FORCE FOR 2010:

- Elaboration of an action plan to foster juvenile employment, DUO programme, addressed to youngsters 18-22 with low educational attainments
- Incentives for unemployed youngsters to retake training
- Programmes for making compatible training and professional practices
- Promotion of 'professional certificates'
- Budget 2010: 23.000.000 €

##### **LEARNING AND TRAINING INITIATIVES**

##### **REGIONAL MINISTRY FOR EDUCATION**

##### **JES · YOUTH ENTREPRENEUR SOLIDARITY**

It is a programme to promote entrepreneurship and solidarity among students of Primary, Secondary and Tertiary School and Vocational Training, also fostering their motivation and interests.

##### **ESFUERZA PROJECT**

This is a project launched in 2010 by the regional government of Andalusia to improve the quality of education in our region.

Half of the measures included in 'Esfuerza' project aim to universalise school success, increasing the rate of graduated pupils and reducing school failure and drop-out. Up to 40 initiatives are focused to

these objectives, including more places in first cycle of Primary Education, monitoring Primary students with difficulties in literacy and numeracy, school reinforcement afternoon classes, extending Initial Qualifying Vocational Programmes.

Andalusian Government will reinforce programmes addressed to attendance after compulsory education with the objective of increasing the number of youngsters with university degrees. Programmes like 'Beca 6000' or free school transport will continue. Training courses for access to Vocational Training Cycles and independent tests to get Secondary, Vocational Training or Baccalaureate Degree.

#### **MORE YOUNGSTERS IN EDUCATIVE SYSTEM AFTER COMPULSORY EDUCATION.**

- Reinforcing academic and vocational counselling to encourage students' stay in educative system.
- Promoting training courses for access to medium and high degrees in Vocational Training
- Focusing vocational training cycles towards professional activity, with less emphasis in academic knowledge.
- New call for proposals of 'Beca 6000', for graduates in secondary education with economic difficulties to continue studying.
- Free school transport in post-compulsory education.
- Fostering mobility of students from university to no-university degrees, and mutual recognition of training.

#### **EXTENDING EXTRACURRICULAR SERVICES AND ECONOMIC SUPPORT TO FAMILIES.**

- Maintenance of current economic support lines to families with grants programmes, free textbooks, free transport, free laptops and bonuses for complementary services.
- Fostering social and educational services for reconciling family and professional life and counselling for using extra-curricular time for the improvement of school performance

#### **FAMILY, KEY ASPECT FOR SCHOOL SUCCESS.**

- Supporting parent's training in their educational role, especially in those families with more difficulties.
- Fostering schools for parents to develop activities to fight against early drop-outs.

#### **MORE GRADUATES, MORE EMPLOYMENT.**

- Increasing the number of people receiving lifelong education, facilitating the (re)incorporation of unemployed youngsters and of those who need improve their qualification.
- Making easier the obtaining the basic qualification through the network of public centres, as a means of having new opportunities, particularly for people at risk of social exclusion or failure and drop out youngsters.
- Increasing the offer of vocational training courses addressed to young workers or unemployed with little qualifications.
- Launching annual call for proposals to obtain basic qualification for those who have dropped out in the two previous years with subjects waiting for a 'pass' mark.
- Extending initial professional qualification programmes to facilitate a professional qualification for labour insertion.
- Fostering blended courses and distance learning through virtual educational platforms.
- Developing tests to obtain different qualifications of educative system

#### WITH A NEW IMPULSE TO PROFESSIONAL TRAINING.

- Approving the II Andalusian Plan of Professional Training that will include more collaboration from companies, the development of integrated centres, the development of evaluation procedures and crediting of new professional competences, a bet for training cycles related to new economy and the progressive incorporation of secondary schools to the network of collaborators for training for employment.
- Fostering the functioning of Andalusian Council for Professional Training and the Andalusian Institute for Professional Qualifications.
- Establishing coordination mechanisms between Andalusian Employment Service and the Regional Ministry of Education to facilitate professional orientation and counselling the population.
- Providing access to vocational training courses for those people that are out of the system and wish to improve their qualification, through agreements with companies, giving counselling and support for the acquisition of basic competences, and adapting the offer of professional training to the rhythms of job demands.
- Developing training programmes in companies in Andalusia and in the EU for students of professional training.

#### **AWAKENING SCIENTIFIC VOCATIONS.**

- Counselling at academic and professional level the students of compulsory secondary education to awake scientific vocations.

#### **TEACHING ENTREPRENEURSHIP.**

- Encouraging entrepreneur abilities of students at every level of educative system, training citizens able to generate new projects and initiatives.
- Developing working tools addressed to baccalaureate and professional training levels to simulate working environments to materialise business ideas.
- Call for prizes to contribute to materialisation of business ideas in the last years of professional training.
- Developing cooperation programmes with the business world, to make students know more about companies.
- Organising raising awareness campaigns, addressed to the society, about the value of education and training.

### 3. Conclusions and recommendations

The NEETS phenomenon is surely a priority of the European policies, both on a learning and educational prospective and juvenile employment. Data, in particular in UK, portray a dangerous situation, tending to get worse with the present economic crisis.

The phenomenon affects all the EU Countries, even unconsciously because the term NEET is not yet in the vocabulary of many Countries. England and few other Countries have only perfectly identified the dimensions, the causes and the consequences of the issue.

The diverse existing studies do not lead to a real transnational comparison because it is difficult to collect data and especially comparable data. England has inserted the study of the phenomenon in its national statistics and data are really many. It is however the only Country in Europe.

We cope with extremely different methodologies to collect regional and national statistics that are incomparable as a consequence. Absence of harmonization in Europe of analysis of the phenomenon; lack of reliable data. It is necessary for the Boards in Europe and therefore their chance to agree on a definition and on the age of NEETs in the Countries, on the methodology of data collection.

It is a complex problem with diverse sides. In times of economic crisis, it is necessary to support solutions to include young unemployed on a local stage, particularly through innovation and creativity. Partners share Mr. Flores' conclusions from his study in Andalusia, which are an important aspect of our project to bear in mind and to transmit to the European Boards to fill in current gaps.

The Difficulty to obtain reliable data; the disparity in the definitions of the NEET Group in the different Countries and in the different regions; complexity of the problem and multiple situations faced by youngsters; very bleak picture offered by the global economic situation; necessity of creative and innovative solutions; multidisciplinary approach needed.

Across the UK the number of young people classified as NEET (not in education, employment or training) remains stubbornly high. In the first quarter of 2010 17.6% of 18-24 year olds were NEET, with the number of unemployed 16-24 year olds nearing a million. The former UK government set a Public Service Agreement to cut the number of NEETs to 7.6% for the whole of 2010. Although, final figures will not be published until June 2011, current statistics suggest this target is likely to be missed.

In June 2009, Jon Coles of the Department for Education cited a study in the North East of England, which found that 15% of long-term NEETs die within 10 years. The social cost of NEETs is far reaching, with research undertaken by the London School of Economics showing that each NEET costs the taxpayer £97,000 over the course of their lifetime, with a total annual cost of £3.65 billion.

While the number of young people in the Liverpool City Region entering education and achieving good exam grades is moving in the right direction, there is still a worrying number not in education, employment or training (NEET). In 2007 the share of 16 to 18-year-olds in Liverpool City Region in the NEET category stood at 10.1%, a slight drop from 10.9% the previous year. This is higher than the national average and in comparative urban areas. In hard numbers, there are 5,550 young people not engaged with the world of work or being trained or in education.

The former UK government initiated several strategies to combat the NEET problem. The September Guarantee introduced in 2007, later extended to January, guaranteed a suitable place in education or training for all 16-17 year olds. Further strategies included the creation of 35,000 additional apprenticeships and the investment of £650 million in financial support to 16-18 year olds. The question is how should Governments seek to tackle the NEET problem?

In May 2010, the UK government announced plans to introduce a National Citizen Service, the project aims to provide all 16 year olds an opportunity to develop skills and give them experience of the work place. The government also announced plans to scrap other training initiatives reinvesting some savings into alternative schemes thus demonstrating in a time of extreme financial austerity the priority that the UK gives to eliminating, or at the very least drastically reducing, the NEETs group.

The tough economic climate and public service spending cuts pose many challenges in the effort to reengage young people into education, employment and training. On-going investment is vital in both preventative and interventionist strategies to ensure young people do not become permanently disengaged.

NEET young people are not a homogenous group and the group can be divided into several categories with different issues. Different geographical areas can also have localised problems.

In the UK programmes and incentives have been put in place to try to re-engage young people who have become NEET and tackle their specific problems (but this is not the case in most other EU Member States), and many examples of successful practice have emerged. However, despite the efforts of those working with NEET young people, the current economic situation is increasing the level of disadvantage these young people face and is making their transition back to education employment and training more difficult.

The UK is to be applauded for the extensive research that it has conducted into the NEETs group and the programmes that it has put in place to combat the problem. It has identified that the larger the NEETs group is the greater the cost to the economy further down the line in additional crime, policing, incarceration facilities, social services, health care and benefits payments. As stated above 15% of long term NEETs actually die within ten years which is a staggering statistic. Other Member States have not

identified these problems associated with NEETS. This does not mean that they are not experiencing similar problems and that this is largely a UK problem. It is far more likely that the problem is merely hidden due to an absence of research and available statistical data and as a result no measures have been put in place to combat it.

So what will be the result if the EU and its Member States take no action to combat the NEETS problem? The evidence emerging from the UK indicates that the NEETS problem arose, or was at least identified, between 1999 and the present day ie in a time of unparalleled economic prosperity. How much worse is it likely to get during the next few years during a time of economic recession and public sector cutbacks? The UK has put in place measures to reduce the NEETS group and demonstrated that these programmes actually save money in the long run as the money spent on them is far exceeded by the savings that are made in crime reduction, benefits payments, health care, policing and social services further down the line. The situation in other EU Member States is unlikely to be very different. In fact it is likely to be worse since, unlike the UK, most Member States have not had measures in place to combat the NEETS phenomenon for over a decade.

So the question posed by the project is not “can the EU and its Member States afford in a time of economic austerity implement innovative programmes aimed at reducing the NEETS group” but “can they afford not to given the social costs that the UK has identified result from inaction?”

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