

## Risk of Social Exclusion and Resources of Young NEETs – *Claire Bonnard, Jean-Francois Giret and Yann Kossi*

[Link to the article](#)

### The article on one page

#### o Key Question

The category of young people not in employment, education or training, known as NEET, has become a target of public policies to combat the integration difficulties faced by young adults in different countries. In 2017, according to Eurostat, 17.2% of young people aged 20 to 34 in the European Union fall into the NEET category; this proportion varies from 7.8% in Sweden to 29.5% in Italy, with France in the middle with a NEET rate of 18.2%. Various studies stress the need to mobilising a multidimensional approach to social exclusion for the study of young people. This article discuss this definition by examining the links between NEETs, social exclusion and poverty.

#### o Methodology

The data used are taken from the *Enquête nationale sur les ressources des jeunes* (National survey on the resources of young adults, ENRJ) carried out in 2014 by DREES and Insee; 5,800 young French people aged 18 to 24 were surveyed. Among these young people, 19.7% meet the usual definition of NEET. A fuzzy set approach is implemented, allowing to go beyond a dichotomous vision (NEET or not NEET) and to have a multidimensional and gradual measurement of the risk of social exclusion. Four dimensions are retained: isolation from the labour market, isolation from education and training, social integration and the state of health. Each item of the risk of social exclusion is characterised by a membership function contained within a range from 0 (not excluded) to 1 (excluded). The function becomes a measurement of the risk of social exclusion with an intensity ranging from 0 to 1.

#### o Main Results

- The social exclusion risk indicator of young NEETs is 0.281, with large disparities within the sample, with a standard deviation of 0.157.
- The two dimensions that contribute most to the social exclusion risk indicator are isolation from education (28.4%) and isolation from employment (27.7%). State of health contributes 24.1% and social integration contributes 19.8%.
- The risk of social exclusion affects young adults across all age brackets in a relatively similar manner. Young women appear to be more vulnerable than young men, as well as school leavers with no secondary school qualifications.
- The level of social exclusion risk also depends on young adults' social background. Those whose father is an executive have a social exclusion risk indicator of around 0.249.
- Young adults who partly live in the parental home or who have moved out have a higher indicator than those living in the parental home.
- The social exclusion risk for young NEETs living in the Paris region seems to depend more on isolation from work.
- The multidimensional social exclusion risk indicator does not seem to be significantly associated with monetary resources when all socio-economic characteristics are taken into account.

#### o Message

The results underline the plurality of vulnerability factors, even though those without qualifications are generally the most disadvantaged across all dimensions of social exclusion. The specific needs of young NEETs are often multiple and evolving, creating specific trajectories that systems must take into account.