

Labor Market Situation of Newly Skilled Workers

– Summary in English –

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The study wishes to explore the labor market situation of newly skilled workers, their employment opportunities, as well as their profession, opinions about their work, and the changes that have occurred in this area since 2009. The research is based on data from a questionnaire survey conducted among 1,922 students to examine the labor market careers of young people starting their careers in their acquired profession in the summer of 2012, specifically that in the 19 months since they completed vocational school were they able to or did they want to enter the labor market. Because of methodological changes in the research, data collected in 2013 and 2014 is limited comparable with the previous surveys results: for the surveys between 2009 and 2012, respondents spent nine months in a labor market from the survey date; for the 2013 and 2014 surveys it was 19 months.

Compared to last year's survey results, in 2014 the employment prospects of qualified entrants to the labor market continued to improve. According to the latest data, 19 months after the acquisition of their profession 55% of young skilled workers worked as employees, 0.7% were self-employed, and 3.2% were casual laborers. Unemployment was 23% (previous year: 25%) – it is important to point out that every year the unemployment data from the survey data very significantly exceeds the national unemployment rate for the total population, which draws attention to the difficulties faced by those entering the labor market. At the time of the survey, 17% of respondents went on to further their education, aside from this 2.3% reported another inactive status. Nearly one-third of the respondents (31%) never had a job in their life. The proportion of students furthering their education showed a more significant decline, which may mean that the skilled workers prefer to work at a job instead of continuing their education, which we feel is a bad trend in the long run for it will hurt the position of acquired knowledge convertibility (i.e., the concept of lifelong learning) and the possibility of future labor market adjustment.

Our data in 2014 also supported the association in which family background greatly influences a growing child's schooling, as well as their progress in the labor market.

Qualified school leavers -- similar to the results of previous years – can be said this year to be satisfied with their school and profession; in fact, in 2013, the satisfaction indicators have continued to improve for several reasons.

With regard to practical training locations, compared with the favorable results in recent years, after 2013 the opinions of respondents deteriorated slightly this year.

Opinions about the income available in 2014 improved slightly: somewhat less is the number who sees their income low compared to other professions, and that it is difficult to make ends meet with their profession.

Between 2013 and 2014, the utilization of knowledge acquired at vocational schools in the workplace improved slightly according to respondents.

The results of all six studies of qualified school leavers suggest that the chances of future employment or starting a business or the fact of continuing education is closely related to the results attained at primary school and vocational school.

The data analysis showed that in the last five years the rate of those with skills unable to work in their own field or not at all declined slightly.

Within the framework of a follow-up study, we contacted those again who had acquired their profession in the 2010/2011 academic year and in 2013 we queried them: in the period between the beginning of 2013 and the beginning of 2014, 80% of the young people surveyed worked, 40% of them are looking for a job, 30% are more educated; 21% of them are at their first job, 19% have switched jobs, 11% had quit work; 6% were dismissed from their posts and for 5% their previous workplace no longer exists.

The results of the study show that the vast majority of young skilled people who worked last year (87%) still have a job this year. The then 56% who were unemployed found a job, 3% continued their education, and 36% were unemployed this year. In addition, it can be seen that after vocational school continuing education is a good investment because (1) students having a much greater chance of later finding a job instead of being unemployed and (2) a significant proportion of those who continued their education results in a long-term commitment and is likely to lead to higher wages.