

Factsheet

Young People Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET)

(England, 26 February 2015)



Amongst 16-17 year olds there are more young men who are NEET ⁱ

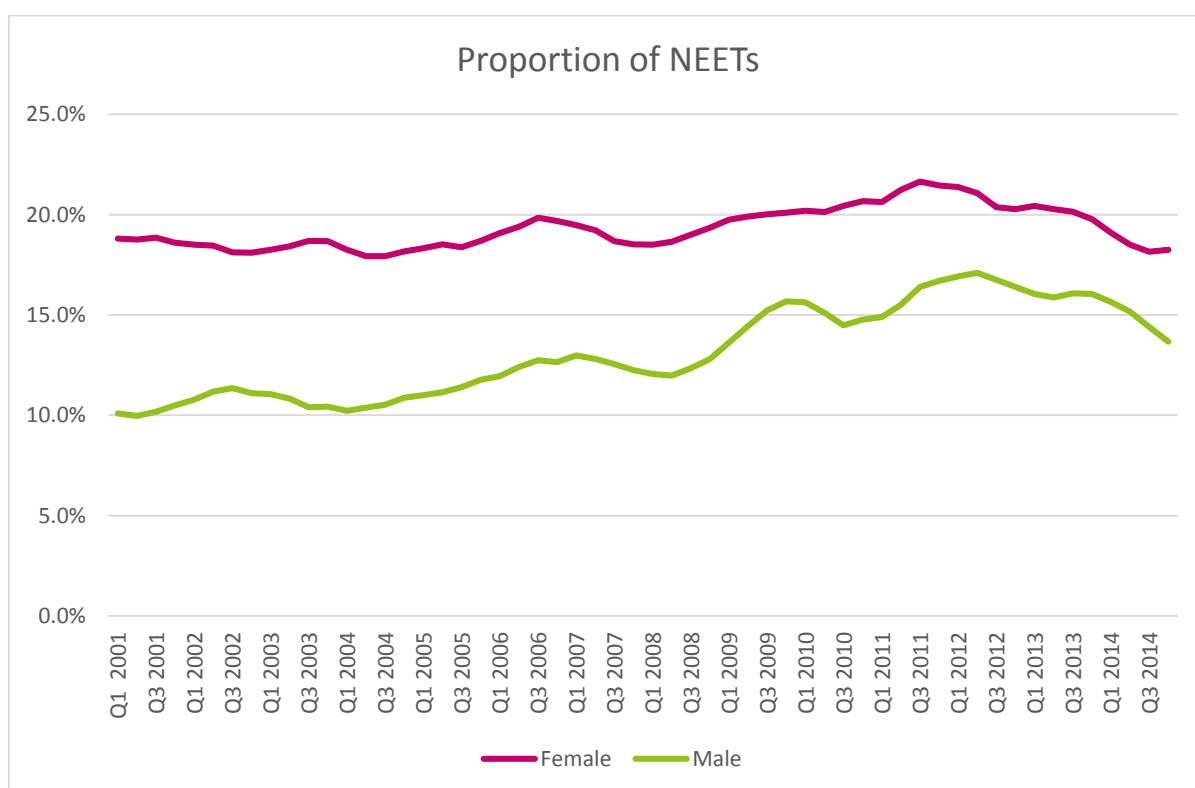
- 29,000 young women
- 20,000 young men

Amongst 18-24 year olds there are more young women NEET ⁱ

- 428,000 young women
- 310,000 young men

Number of 18-24 year old NEETs has remained high for over a decade ⁱ

- The proportion of NEETs has not dropped below 13% since the year 2000
- The female rate has averaged 19.3% in that time
- The male rate has averaged 13.1% in that time



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Young Women's Trust is the operating name for YWCA England and Wales
Registered charity number 217868. Company number 137113

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There is a geographical pattern

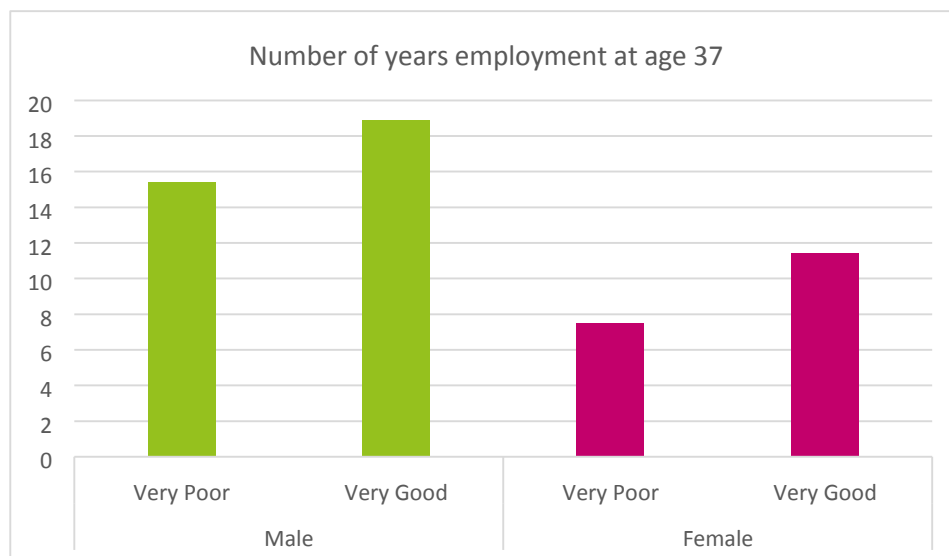
- Most cities with high levels of NEETs are situated in the North, primarily in a band from Merseyside to Humberside ⁱⁱ
- There are further pockets of high NEET levels in the West Midlands ⁱⁱⁱ
- The local authorities with the highest female NEET levels are Hartlepool, Walsall, North East Lincolnshire, Wolverhampton and Barking and Dagenham ⁱⁱⁱ

Several factors are associated with being NEET

- People from poorer backgrounds are more likely to be NEET ^{iv}
 - 75% of NEETs come from the lowest socio-economic groups
 - 6% come from the highest groups
- Young people who did not achieve 5 A*-C at GCSE were six times more likely to be NEET than those who did ^v
- Young people whose parents have low qualifications are 13 times more likely to have poor outcomes than those whose parents have good qualifications ^v
- Being NEET once makes young people almost 8 times more likely to be NEET again than someone who has never been NEET ^{vi}

The impact is personal and social

- The estimated costs to the public purse of youth unemployment were £10.7 billion in 2012 ^{vii}
- A combination of the gender pay gap and the long-term impact of youth unemployment means that, at the age of 30:
 - women who spent time unemployed before they are 25 can expect to earn £1,800 less than other women ^{vii}
 - men who have been in a similar situation can expect to earn £3,400 less than other men ^{vii}
 - a woman who has spent time unemployed before she is 25 will earn on average £12,500 less than a man who has spent no time in youth unemployment ^{vii}
- At the age of 37 women can expect to have worked fewer years than men, regardless of literacy levels ^{viii}
 - Women with poor literacy levels can expect to work on average 7.5 years by the time they turn 37, compared to 11.4 years for those with good literacy ^{vii}
 - Men with poor literacy levels can expect to work 15.4 years by the time they are 37, compared to 18.9 years for those with good literacy ^{vii}



For further information about these statistics please contact:

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References

- i Department for Education, NEET statistics quarterly briefing
- ii Lee and Wright (2011), *Off the map? The geography of NEETs*, Lancaster: Work Foundation
- iii Based on analysis of 2011 Census Data
- iv Thompson (2011), Individualisation and social exclusion: the case of young people not in education, employment or training, the case of young people not in education, employment or training, *Oxford Review of Education*, 37:6, 785-802
- v Dorsett and Lucchino (2012), Beyond school-leaving age: the first five years in ACEVO (2012), Youth unemployment: the crisis we cannot afford. ACEVO: London
- vi National Audit Office (2008), *Young people not in education, employment or training*, Memorandum for the Schools and Family Commission
- vii Macmillan (2012), *The cost of youth unemployment* in ACEVO (2012), Youth unemployment: the crisis we cannot afford. ACEVO: London
- viii Bridwell, Grist and Margo (2011), *The Forgotten Half*, London: Demos