

[www.oecd.org/employment/youth/forum](http://www.oecd.org/employment/youth/forum)

## How to combat youth unemployment

**The Business and Industry Advisory  
Committee to the OECD**

Executive Director Mr. Bach Mortensen



[www.da.dk](http://www.da.dk)

### Jobs for Youth

1. Vital focus on youth
2. Economic crisis – more jobless youth
3. No one size fits all policy
4. Governments need to do more - business is committed to doing its part



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## Business Action

- Partnership with governments and academic institutions
- Training programmes for youth, internships and apprenticeships
- Close cooperation with academic institutions - needs and skills on the labour market
- Support youth in the labour market
- Internships/apprenticeships
- Continued cooperation between all stakeholders is key



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## Areas in need of reform

- Reduce labour market rigidities
- Ensure flexibility in approaches to work
- Ensure minimum wages do not create barriers to youth employment
- Reduce non-wage labour costs
- Focus on youth in ALMPs
- Promote Youth Entrepreneurship
- Education reform



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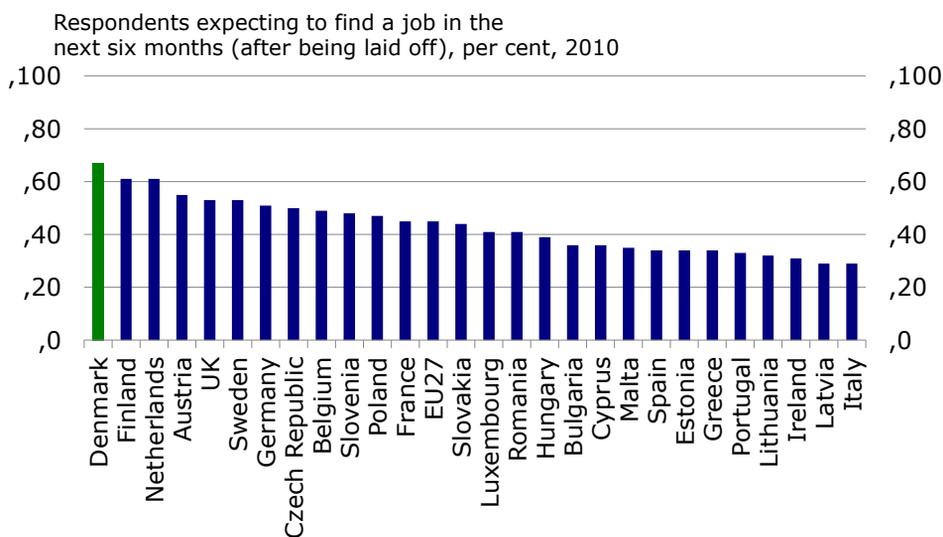
## The impact of the economic downturn

- Lost jobs (never to come back)
- High unemployment among men
- High unemployment among unskilled
- High unemployment among young people



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## Perceived employment security

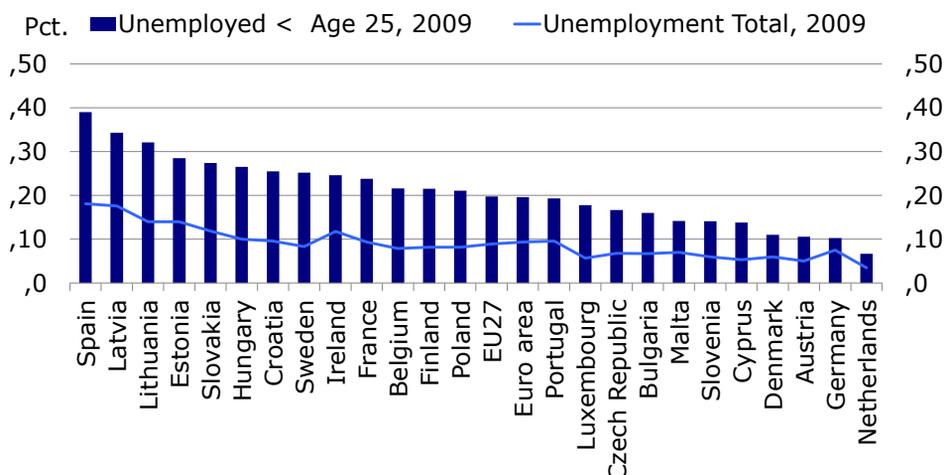


Respondents answering above 5 to the question "If you were to be laid-off, how would you rate on a scale from 1 to 10 the likelihood of you finding a job in the next six month"? 1 meaning it "would not be likely at all" and 10 meaning it "would be very likely".

Source: Eurobarometer, Monitoring the social impact of the crisis (2010)

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## Youth unemployment, EU27



Source: Eurostat LFS (2010)

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## Why is youth unemployment low in Denmark?

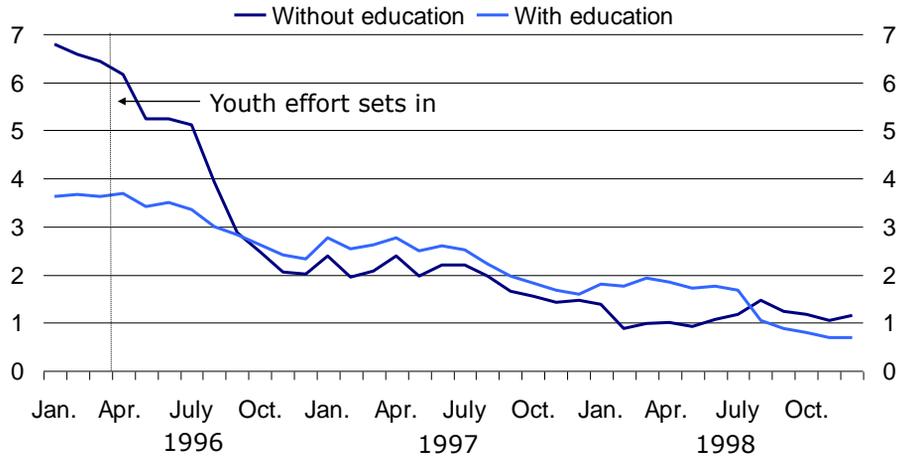
1. Flexible labour market and high job turn over
2. Labour market oriented education systems
3. Youth effort since mid 1990'ties
  - Youth effort, 1996
  - Youth agreement, 2009
  - Project: An early and intensified effort, 2010



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## Big drop in youth unemployment

Aged below 25 with 2/3 unemployment within 9 months, 1.000 persons



SOURCE: Ministry of Employment

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