

Education – Labour Office – Employment

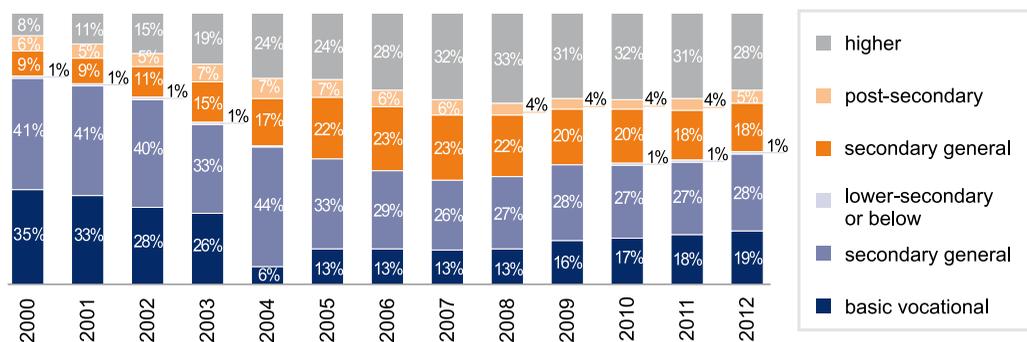
Between 1999 and mid-2013, the local labour offices (PUPs) in Małopolska registered nearly 280,000 school leavers and graduates. Who are they and what is their situation in the labour market'?

Educational choices have changed and so have PUPs' clients

The profile of a typical local labour office client is changing noticeably. More and more of those registered with the PUPs have secondary general and higher education, and there are relatively fewer and fewer registrants with secondary and basic vocational background. It does not mean of course that the market situation of vocational school leavers is improving

year after year. The changes in the profile of a typical PUP client are rather a consequence of the overall tendencies in the educational market (orientation at general education and continuation of education at higher schools), and hence the changes in the school leavers' structure.

Changes in the percentages of youth completing education in the different school types and registered with the PUPs of Małopolska in their total number registered in the system



The analysis by Magdalena Jelonek (assistant professor at the Chair of Sociology, Krakow University of Economics) and Beata Mazur (sociology graduate of the Kraków University of Economics) is based on data from 21 local labour offices in Małopolska, concerning all those who registered in 1999–2013 (first half of the year) as unemployed school leavers and graduates. The analysis shows the situation of leavers of schools other than schools of higher education (i.e. with at most lower-secondary, basic vocational, secondary general, secondary vocational, post-secondary education) and graduates of higher schools.

The path to employment for vocational school leavers is through the labour office

There has been a marked increase in the percentage of people who need help finding jobs amongst basic vocational school leavers and amongst those with secondary vocational background. In 2006, only 32% basic vocational school leavers used labour office services. In 2012, this percentage was already 56%. The growth in registrations amongst vocational school leavers may point, on the one hand, to a worsening in their market situation and, on the other hand, to the fact that increasingly frequently treat PUPs as institutions offering professional placement services or assistance in taking up employment (in the form of internships, training or subsidies), as well as a formal path to getting support from other institutions.

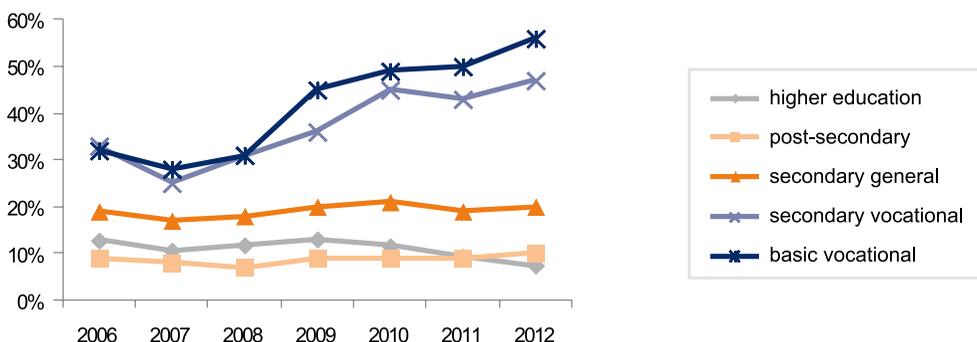
For secondary general school leavers, the percentage of those registered with local labour offices of Małopolska was stable during the years under analysis, oscillating around 20%. The lowest figure is noted for post-secondary schools – only about 9% of their leavers had any contact with PUPs. At the same time, the relatively low percentage of secondary general school leavers who register with local labour of-

fices comes as no surprise. Most of them – and at least those who managed to pass the secondary final examination – are planning to continue their education at a higher level.

The relationship between the number of higher school graduates and the corresponding number of registrants is not linear. Similarly, no linearity can be found in market trends.

- During the time of good economic situation and a general drop in unemployment (2004–2007), the proportion of unemployed school leavers and graduates was systematically decreasing.
- During the first wave of economic slowdown (2008–2009) it was growing steadily.
- Beginning from 2009, a systematic drop in the percentage of school leavers and graduates registered with labour offices was noted, despite the continued economic slowdown. This is probably due to the fact that chances of getting a job are higher for higher school graduates, even in the conditions of higher competition (bigger number of graduates) for jobs as limited resources.

Youth registered with Małopolska PUPs as a proportion of the total figure of Małopolska school leavers and graduates



Unemployed occupations the same for years

Over the past years, no considerable changes in the profile of education of a typical unemployed leaver of basic and secondary vocational schools were noted.

The highest surplus of specialists having difficulty finding jobs is noted amongst people with education in physics, mathematics, technical, social sciences, economics and law. These groups are not internally homogenous though

professionals. In this group, the markedly highest percentage of unemployed people is constituted by physiotherapists, which demonstrates an oversaturation of the market with people acquiring this sort of education. Problems with finding jobs are also encountered by nurses without specialisation or ones who are in the process of qualifying as nursing professionals. Veterinary doctors and optometrists, as well as

Occupations with the highest numbers of registered leavers of basic vocational schools

- shop sales assistants
- cooks
- motor vehicle mechanics and repairers
- bakers, pastry-cooks and confectionery makers
- hairdressers

Occupations with the highest numbers of registered leavers of secondary vocational schools

- economic/agribusiness technicians
- mechanical engineering technicians
- dieticians and nutritionists
- shop sales assistants
- civil engineering technicians

Occupations with the highest numbers of registered graduates of schools of higher education

- economists
- environmental engineers
- farming, forestry and related professionals
- other legal professionals (including law graduates without having completed post-graduate legal training)
- administration and management professionals
- physiotherapists.

– graduates there include both those doing well in the labour market and people having problems finding employment. Most of the unemployed graduates of physics, mathematics and technical sciences seek jobs as environmental engineers, farming professionals and related jobs. A considerable percentage is also formed by graduates with education in mechanical, mining, metallurgical and related industries.

The highest percentage of the currently unemployed economic and management professionals have qualified in these areas of study and are looking for jobs in administration and management. The situation of marketing and public relations professionals is much better in the labour market, and that of property market professionals is decisively the best. The group of registered legal, social and cultural professionals is dominated by economists and other legal professionals.

Differentiation in the market situations is also characteristic of unemployed health pro-

dentists, midwifery professionals and laboratory diagnostic professionals, on the other hand, do not need to be concerned with shortages of employment opportunities.

The least numerous group of unemployed school leavers and graduates in Małopolska is that of ICT professionals. The situation of most people within this category can be termed very favourable. The only exception are computer network professionals and computer analysts and computer application development professionals not elsewhere classified (including primarily computer software testers and IT application professionals). Problems with finding a job for ICT professionals relates to the type of higher school they graduated from. Most of the unemployed in this category are graduates from schools from outside of the region and other smaller schools of Małopolska which are clearly not prepared to truly educate their students in this area.

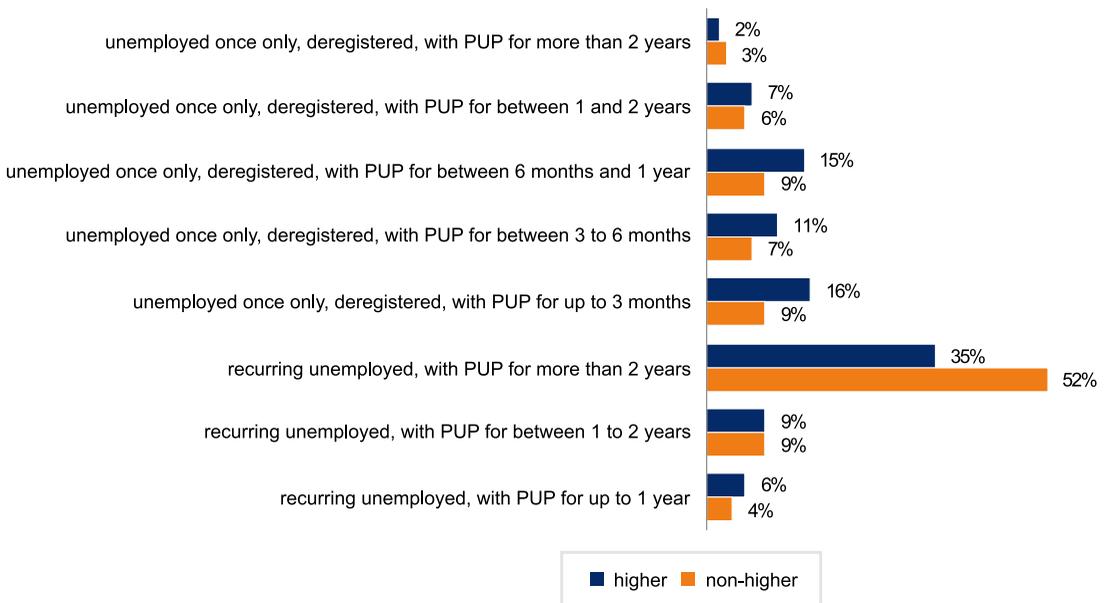
Shorter unemployment with higher education

In 2012/2013, 43% of the employers ran courses or training for their employees in addition to the mandatory ones (work safety or fire-prevention) and the figure was lower than in 2011/2012. Furthermore, there was an increase in the percentage of businesses which organised in-house training (i.e. delivered by the company's own staff – 19%) only, and of those who supplemented external courses (offered by third-party providers) with in-house training (39%). In 2013, 42% of the employers organised external courses only. This related directly to the training costs which for many company owners were too high. Use of state aid for training was not very popular

(16%). Employers were primarily concerned about the difficult procedures for obtaining the funds and settling the accounts.

However, employers who had run training were in most cases satisfied with their quality. If they were to choose again, more than three quarters of the employers active in terms of training would do the same training events or courses. 14% of them declared they would choose different ones and every tenth of them would invest the resources differently because the quality of the trainees' work did not improve significantly.

Belonging to the segment vs level of education of the unemployed registered with Małopolska PUPs (higher – non-higher)



Full results of the study can be found in the publication entitled "Education – Labour Office – Employment. Analysis of the situation of school leavers and graduates who register with Małopolska Labour Offices", available from the project website at www.obserwatorium.malopolska.pl.

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