

T A S K F O R C E  
H U M A N R E S O U R C E S  
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T R A I N I N G  
Y O U T H

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**YOUNG EUROPEANS**  
**IN 1990**

Commission of the European Communities



# **EUROBAROMETER 34.2**

## **YOUNG EUROPEANS**

**IN 1990**

**Report undertaken on behalf of the**

**TASK FORCE**

**for**

**"Human Resources, Education,  
Training and Youth"**

**by**

**INRA (EUROPE)**

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## Introduction

The opinion poll covered in the present report was undertaken in December 1990 simultaneously in the twelve countries of the European Community at the request of the Commission of the European Communities (Task Force for Human Resources, Education, Training and Youth).

In each country, the same series of questions was asked of a representative sample of the national population aged between 15 and 24 years, that is to say born between 1966 and 1975.

This study continues a series of two other studies undertaken among the 15 to 24 year age group:

- the first was undertaken in 1982 in the ten countries which then comprised the European Community. It was carried out among approximately 3,900 individuals. Its objective was to take stock of the situation of young people; their living conditions, their morale, their values, their vision of the future, their attitudes with regard to society and, an important consideration in the case of a European study, their opinions on the integration of Europe ("The Young Europeans", Commission of the European Communities, December 1982).
- the second was undertaken in 1987, among the twelve. It covered a sample of approximately 7,000 individuals. This second study covered the same themes covered in the first (permitting a comparison of the 1982 results with those of 1987), but investigated a much larger range of issues (such as knowledge of foreign languages, computing, foreign travel, etc.). Except for certain modifications, the study undertook essentially the same survey as that analysed in this report ("Young Europeans in 1987", Commission of the European Communities, September 1988).

Among the 55 million young people aged between 15 and 24 in the European Community, 7,600 were questioned, in other words some 600 per country, except in Germany (1,200 interviews comprising 600 in ex-GDR and 600 in the ex-Federal Republic), in Luxembourg (200) and in the United Kingdom (800, comprising 200 in Northern Ireland and 600 in Great Britain).

The "Community results" (ie those concerning the twelve) discussed here include young people from ex-GDR, and this for two reasons. First of all, because their country is

already integrated within the European Community. Secondly, because this only has a small impact on the comparison of the results of 1987 and 1990: the 2.21 million young people in ex-GDR constitute only 4% of the all young people within the Community.

In the context of the Eurobarometer poll of October/November 1990 (Eurobarometer N°34), certain questions from this study were also asked of a sample within each country of the population aged 15 years above<sup>1</sup>. This permits a comparison on several points of opinions and attitudes of young people (throughout this report "young people" is used to designate the population aged between 15 and 24 years) with those of adults.

This is consistent with the two previous studies of young people which were also organised jointly with a standard Eurobarometer (in 1982: Eurobarometer N°17; in 1987: Eurobarometer N°28).

It should be said that any divergence of attitudes or of opinions between young people and adults highlighted by comparison between these surveys should always be considered carefully. It is in fact difficult to separate differences occurring purely as a result of age (the young on one side, adults on the other) and those which reflect an evolution of attitudes.

Finally, it is important to note that results relating to the Community as a whole shown in this report are a weighted mean of national figures. For each country, the weighting used is the proportion of the national population between 15 and 24 years in the total Community population aged 15 to 24 years ("Young Europeans" survey) or the proportion of the national population above 15 years in the entire Community population above 15 years (standard Eurobarometer surveys).

The tables in this report present results systematically as percentages. The total of these percentages can exceed 100% in cases where the respondent has the possibility of giving several answers to the same question. It is also possible that the total of the percentages does not equal 100% exactly but a number very close (for example: 99% or 101%) due to rounding errors.

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<sup>1</sup> Eurobarometer polls ("standard Eurobarometer poll") have been undertaken each Spring and Autumn since September 1973 (Eurobarometer N°0), on behalf of the DG of Audiovisual, Information, Communication and Culture of the Commission of the European Communities. They include Greece since Autumn 1980, Portugal and Spain since Autumn 1985, as well as the ex-GDR since Autumn 1990.

**Chapter 1: Young Europeans in  
their everyday life**

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# Chapter 1: Young Europeans in their everyday life

## 1.1 Their living conditions

In a sociological study such as this it is important to pay particular attention to the living conditions of 15 to 24 year olds. This requires that sex, age and nationality are taken into consideration as well as their religious attitudes.

From the of statistical point of view, the lifestyle of 15 to 24 year olds has changed very little during the last three years (cf. table 1.1). The proportion of young people living with their parents, as well as the proportion of young people living alone or sharing their accommodation with one or several people has remained identical. On the other hand, one trend, already seen in 1987, has been reinforced: the reduction (-3 points) of the percentage of those living with their wife or husband; this reduction has been accompanied by an equivalent rise in the percentage of those living with a girlfriend or boyfriend.

**Table 1.1: Living conditions of young people  
(trends 1982 to 1990)**

Question: Do you live? . . . . .

	'82	'87	'90
with your parents?	70%	75%	75%
by yourself?	5	8	8
with your girlfriend or boyfriend?	5	4	7
with your wife or husband?	13	9	6
share accommodation with another person or persons?	3	4	4
Don't know/no reply	4	0	0
TOTAL	100	100	100

**Table 1.2. : Living conditions of young people (by age, sex and religious attitudes - in %)**

Question : Do you ...

	SEX - AGE								RELIGIOUS ATTITUDES		
	Men 15-17	Men 18-20	Men 21-24	Total Men	Women 15-17	Women 18-20	Women 21-24	Total Women	Religious	Non-religious	Agnostic or atheist
...live with your parents	96	86	62	79	94	78	49	71	80	69	70
...live by yourself	2	5	13	7	2	7	13	8	6	9	10
...live with your girlfriend or boyfriend	1	3	11	6	1	7	13	8	4	10	10
...live with your wife or husband	0	1	8	4	1	4	19	9	7	7	5
...share accomodation with another person or persons	1	5	4	4	1	5	5	4	3	4	4
DK/NA	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

As in the two previous surveys, sex and age are of course determinant factors in the results relative to this question (cf. table 1.2).

- Proportionally more women leave the family home than men, above all in order to marry, but also, to a lesser extent, to go and live with their partner. This difference, identical to that seen in 1987 (21% among men, 29% among women, in other words 8 points difference), increases dramatically with age.
- On the other hand, as in 1987, there is less of a difference between men and women when it comes to living alone: in 1987 and in 1990 there was only 1 point difference (8% among men, 7% among women in 1987: the inverse in 1990).
- The differences in behaviour between women and men with regard to marriage have diminished since 1987 (-2 points); among both women (-3 points) and men (-1 point), marriage has fewer supporters. These differences remain nonetheless very important. As in 1987, but to a lesser degree, these differences in behaviour between men and women increase strongly with age.
- On the other hand, living with one's boyfriend or girlfriend is becoming a slightly more common practice among both sexes: there has been an increase in 3 points among women (from 5% to 8%) and an increase of 2% among men (from 4% to 6%).
- There is virtually no difference between men and women with regard to sharing accommodation with other people. This was already the case in 1987.

Religious attitudes also play an important role in these results (cf. table 1.2):

- People who consider themselves "religious" (regardless of whether they are actually practising) are very much more likely to live with their parents than those who consider themselves non-religious, agnostic or atheist.
- On the other hand, they are far less likely to live alone and, above all, to live with a boyfriend or girlfriend.
- Nonetheless, they are little different from other people as far as sharing accommodation is concerned.
- Marriage is as popular amongst those considering themselves "religious" as among those considering themselves "not religious", that is a little more (2 points) than among agnostics or atheists.
- We should also note that, for this question, the behaviour of "non-religious" people is, on the whole, very close to both agnostics and atheists.

Table 1.3. : Living conditions of young people (by country - in %)

Question : Do you ...

	B	DK	ex-FRG	ex-GDR	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	P	UK	EC12
...live with your parents	80	55	70	67	69	79	86	62	83	94	91	74	80	67	75
...live by yourself	6	21	15	6	13	6	1	16	2	1	2	5	2	6	8
...live with your girlfriend or boyfriend	5	18	8	9	8	2	1	14	1	0	4	9	2	9	7
...live with your wife or husband	7	1	5	15	7	8	7	5	7	3	1	6	11	10	6
...share accomodation with another person or persons	2	5	2	3	2	5	6	3	6	2	0	5	4	7	4
DK/NA	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	2	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>100</b>

Nationality is also an important factor in this characteristic of individuals (cf. table 1.3):

- Except in Ireland, where there has also been a slight fall (-1 point), France is the only other Community country where there has been a fall in the percentage of young people living with their parents when compared with 1987 (a fall of 13 points!). This reduction is offset by a strong increase in the percentage of people living alone (up 10 points) or with their boyfriend or girlfriend (up 10 points).
- Everywhere else, this percentage has not changed (or only increased very slightly) or increased. Considering all twelve countries, it has remained at 75%. This increase occurs above all in the Netherlands (up 10 points in comparison with 1987) and in Denmark (up 8 points). In the Netherlands, this has been offset by a reduction of the percentage of people living alone, living with their husband or wife or sharing their accommodation with one or several people; in Denmark, this is offset by a reduction in the percentage of people living alone, living with their husband or wife or living with a boyfriend or girlfriend.
- As in 1987, four countries have a particularly high proportion of young people living with their parents: Italy, Luxembourg, Spain and Ireland. At the other extreme, we find Denmark (as in 1987), and France (which is new).
- Except in Ireland (up 1 point), Luxembourg (up 1 point) and, above all, France (up 10 points), the percentage of young people living alone has reduced (especially in Denmark) or has remained stationary with respect to 1987. This figure is particularly high in Denmark and in Germany (where we note a strong difference between ex-FRG with 15% and ex-GDR with 6%) - this was already the case in 1987 - as well as in France, which is a new phenomenon. As in 1987, the percentage is very low in Italy and Spain.
- In the Community as a whole, the proportion of young people living with their boyfriend or girlfriend has increased (especially in France) or has remained pretty much the same (the only decrease, albeit a slight one, is Denmark (down 1 point). It is particularly high in Denmark - this was already the case in 1987 - as well as in France, which again is new. As in 1987, it is very low in Italy, Spain, Ireland, Greece and Portugal.
- Except in Ireland and in Greece (slight increase of 1 point), the percentage of young people living with their husband or spouse has reduced (especially in the Netherlands and in France) or has remained very much the same. After ex-GDR (15% against 5% in ex-FRG) we note the highest percentages, as in 1987, in Portugal (where we see nonetheless a slight fall of 3 points with respect to 1987) and the United Kingdom (where we also see a 3 point decrease since 1987).
- With respect to the percentage of young people sharing accommodation with another person or persons, this has increased in half the countries - elsewhere it has either decreased or remained static with respect to 1987. Among those



showing a decrease we see the Netherlands (a reduction from 9%, the highest percentage in 1987, to 5%) as well as Greece (a reduction from 8%, the second highest in 1987, to 5%). Countries which have remained fairly constant include Luxembourg (in 1990 and in 1987, none of the young people interviewed stated they shared accommodation with other people!) and the United Kingdom (which, in maintaining 7%, is the highest percentage of all countries in 1990).

On the whole, young people are satisfied with their accommodation (i.e. their accommodation comes up to their expectations, which themselves correspond to certain norms, these being a function of several socio-demographic factors which change over time). On a scale of satisfaction from 1 (very bad) to 5 (very well), the average figure is 4. This level of satisfaction, virtually identical to 1987 (3.9) ranges greatly from one country to another: in Portugal (3.2) and Spain (3.5) it is lowest; in Ireland (4.4), the Netherlands (4.4) and the United Kingdom (4.3) it is highest.

This measure of satisfaction also changes with the living conditions of the individual:

- 4.0 for those living with their parents;
- 3.9 among those who are married or living with their boyfriend or girlfriend;
- 3.8 for those living alone;
- 3.4 among those who share accommodation with another person or persons.

This measure also changes, but only very slightly, according to age (irrespective of sex, the younger one is, the more satisfied one tends to be with one's accommodation) and according to one's "religious attitudes" (those considering themselves "religious" (4.0) are a little more satisfied than the "non-religious" (3.9), a little higher than for the agnostics or atheists (3.7)). Satisfaction hardly changes at all by sex.

## **1.2 Their personal relationships: love, friends and parents**

Given that three quarters of 15 to 24 year olds live with their parents, it is quite important to ask them to evaluate their relationship with their parents. As in 1987, young people consider that their relationships are very good: the overall level of satisfaction among all twelve countries is 4.3 (4.2 in 1987), that is to say more or less the same as the level of satisfaction with their relationship with their friends (4.4, an identical result to that in 1987).

As in 1987, this level of satisfaction is above 4 in all countries of the Community; it even reaches 4.6 in the Netherlands and 4.5 in Denmark!

This measure of satisfaction hardly changes at all between the sexes, by age or by religious persuasion. On the other hand, it does change according to living conditions:

- 4.3 among those living with their parents or those who are married;
- 4.2 among those who live with their boyfriend or girlfriend;
- 4.1 among those who share accommodation with another person or persons;
- 4.0 for those living alone.

Since 1987, as we have already noticed, the percentage of young people living with their boyfriend or girlfriend has increased slightly to the detriment of the percentage of young people married. It seems that this trend should not be perceived as indicating any reduction in the level of "confidence" in love.

This is accompanied in fact with a fairly stable situation with regard to satisfaction in love (average satisfaction: between 3.8 and 3.9 in 1982, 1987 and 1990) and of optimism in one's future plans for marriage, family, etc. (average optimism: 3.7 in 1982, 1987 and 1990).

Logically, satisfaction in love and optimism with regard to one's personal future (which hardly changes by sex, but which increases significantly with age) are a function of family situation:

- in love, satisfaction increases as follows: young people sharing accommodation with another person or persons (3.5), those living alone or with their parents (3.7), those living with a boyfriend or girlfriend (4.5) and those who are married (4.6).
- Serenity with regards to one's personal future increases in a similar way: young people sharing accommodation with another person or persons (3.4), those living alone (3.5), those living with their parents (3.6), those living with their boyfriend or girlfriend (4.1) and those married (4.4).

### 1.3 Their satisfaction with life in general

If in eight years the optimism of young people with regard to love, marriage, family, etc.. has not changed (in this respect, they remain "quite optimistic"), what is their attitude with respect to life in general?

On the whole, their lives seem, if not to be completely fulfilling, at least to satisfy them (i.e. they meet their expectations, these reflecting norms in this area), and this more than in the past: In 1990, 88% of young men and young women (there is no difference between the sexes) are, in general, "very satisfied" or "quite satisfied" with life in general (against 82% in 1987 and 83% in 1982). Among men and women aged more than 25 years (among whom there is also no difference between the sexes), this figure is 79%, that is 9 points less.

In every country in the Community, this level of satisfaction has increased since 1987 (cf. table 1.4). The increases are particularly strong in Greece (+14 points), Italy (+13 points), Spain (+9 points), Belgium, France and Ireland (all +7 points).

This trend tends to reduce differences between countries that existed in the 1987 survey: the maximum difference has fallen from 31 points (between Denmark with 97% and Greece with 66%) to 19 points (between Denmark with 98% and Portugal with 79%)! Nonetheless, as in 1987, the three countries at the top of the list are Denmark (where 68% of young people say that they are very satisfied with life in general!), the Netherlands and Luxembourg; Portugal, Greece and Italy are the three worst (a group to which we could now add ex-GDR, but for which we have no data available for 1987).

**Table 1.4: Satisfaction with the life they lead**  
(sum of percentages of young people "very" and "quite" satisfied)  
(evolution 1987-1990 - results by country).

Question: On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the life you lead?

	87'	90'
Belgium	86%	93%
Denmark	97	98
Ex-FRG	86	89
Ex-GDR	-	83
Germany	-	88
Greece	66	80
Spain	78	87
France	81	88
Ireland	81	88
Italy	73	86
Luxembourg	92	95
Netherlands	94	98
Portugal	78	79
United Kingdom	87	90
European Community	82	88

## 1.4 Their financial resources

If we ask young people "how would you describe your financial situation?", we obtain the following answers, without distinction between sexes (the maximum deviation between masculine and feminine responses is 1 point):

It's fine	31%
I have to be careful, but I get by	50
I have trouble making ends meet	12
Things are very difficult	6
Don't know/no reply	2
Total	101

After having decreased slightly between 1982 and 1987, things have generally improved: slightly more young people "get by" - i.e. they say "it's fine" (in 1987: "I manage more or less comfortably"), or "I have to be careful but I get by" - (81% in 1990, against 78% in 1982 and 76% in 1987); and those who admit to difficulties - i.e. giving responses "I have trouble making ends meet", or "things are very difficult", (in 1987: "I am driven to get money any way I can")-a little less common (18% in 1990, against 16% in 1982 and 21% in 1987) (cf. table 1.5).

With the exception of ex-FRG (down 4 points, maybe following uncertainties over the results of reunification), this feeling of being "better-off" financially is witnessed throughout the Community and in particular in Italy (+17 points, which has pushed Italy from the bottom of the list up to the top), Luxembourg (+9 points) and Spain (+8 points).

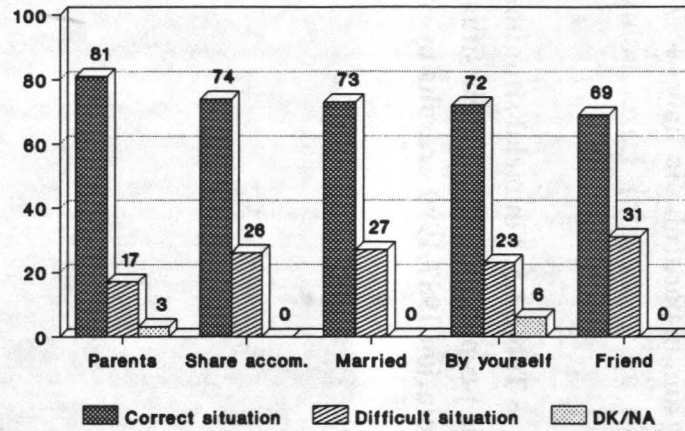
**Table 1.5: Financial situation**  
(percentage of young people considering their situation to be "acceptable")  
(evolution 1987-1990 - results by country)

	87'	90'
Belgium	83%	87%
Denmark	81	85
ex-FRG	79	75
ex-GDR	-	81
Germany	-	76
Greece	81	82
Spain	72	80
France	74	78
Ireland	70	77
Italy	69	86
Luxembourg	78	87
Netherlands	86	92
Portugal	70	75
United Kingdom	80	82
European Community	76	81

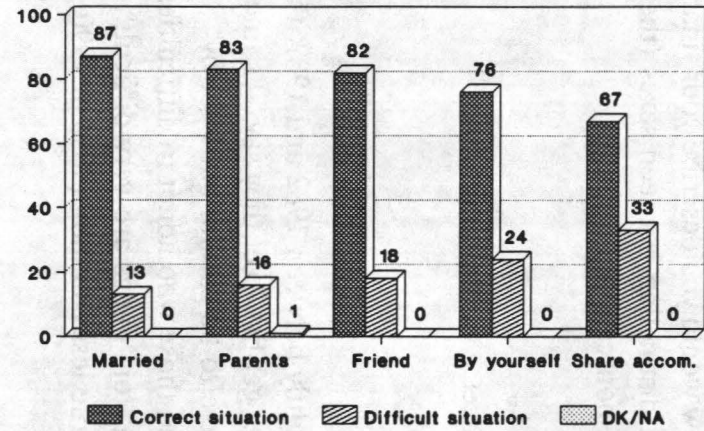
## Graph 1.1. : The financial situation of young people

(by age and living conditions - in %)

The opinion of young people  
between 15 and 19 years



The opinion of young people  
between 20 and 24 years



Living conditions strongly influence the judgment of young people with regard to the financial resources that they have. We should not forget, however, that living conditions and age are strongly related, therefore it is useful to separate the respective influences of these two factors on this opinion. For this reason, graph 1.1 presents results relative to two roughly equal halves of the sample: on one side 15 to 19 year olds (3,671) and, on the other, 20 to 24 year olds (3,929).

From this graph, we see that:

- Age has a strong influence on the judgment of young people with regard to their financial resources. This result is not clear from the first analysis. In fact, 80% of 15 to 19 year olds judge that their financial situation is OK, and 17% consider it in a poor state: among 20 to 24 year olds these figures are respectively 82% and 18%, in other words a virtually identical situation! This is due to the fact that in the global sample, the overwhelming majority (83%) of young people live with their parents or live alone. For this group, it appears that age is not a very strong factor. This influence is even less strong if we limit results to people who express themselves clearly on the question. So to take the case of young people living alone (it would be interesting to see who are the 6% of young people living alone and who refused to answer!), we see that 77% of 15 to 19 year olds get by financially (against 76% of 20 to 24 year olds) and the 24% of them are experiencing difficulties (an identical figure among 20 to 24 year olds).
- The group of young people experiencing the most financial difficulties are those that share their accommodation with another person or persons and which are in the age group 20 to 24 years. This is probably explained by the fact that, as age increases, the situation becomes less a case of personal choice and more a question of financial necessity. In this case it is financial difficulties which are the root of living conditions and not the inverse!
- On the other hand, the groups of young people who get by best financially are: for the 15 to 19 year age group, those living with their parents; and for the 20 to 24 year age group, those who are married.
- As far as young people who live together are concerned (married or otherwise), it is interesting to note the determinant influence of age on the level of satisfaction with regard to their financial situation: 20 to 24 years old are much more satisfied with their situation (a difference of more than 10 points).
- There is nonetheless an important difference between young people living with husband or wife and those living with their boyfriend or girlfriend: in the two age groups considered, the first group (married couples) are more likely to find themselves in a satisfactory financial situation.

**Table 1.6: sources of revenue for young people (several answers possible)  
(by sex, age, occupation and living conditions - in %)**

Question: Where does your income normally come from?

		Parents or Family	Regular Work	Casual Work	Grant/Training Allowance	Partner's Work	Social Security
All 15 to 24 years		44	44	18	5	5	4
15 to 19 years	Total	66	24	21	5	1	2
	Women	68	21	20	5	2	3
	Men	64	27	21	5	0	2
20 to 24 years	Total	23	62	15	5	9	6
	Women	25	56	15	5	16	8
	Men	21	67	15	5	2	5
<b>Breakdown by occupation</b>							
Active	15 to 24 years	7	94	4	0	6	2
	15 to 19 years	14	92	5	1	1	2
	20 to 24 years	5	95	4	0	7	2
Studying	15 to 24 years	78	8	30	11	1	0
	15 to 19 years	81	7	25	7	1	0
	20 to 24 years	67	11	42	23	2	0
Unemployed	15 to 24 years	45	0	22	0	9	46
	15 to 19 years	57	0	23	0	4	36
	20 to 24 years	39	0	21	0	11	50
<b>Breakdown by living conditions</b>							
Living with parents	15 to 24 years	53	38	19	5	0	3
	15 to 19 years	69	22	21	5	0	2
	20 to 24 years	30	60	17	4	1	5
Living alone	15 to 24 years	26	58	17	9	1	8
	15 to 19 years	42	38	17	7	3	7
	20 to 24 years	22	63	16	10	0	8
Unmarried couple	15 to 24 years	6	72	10	5	20	11
	15 to 19 years	13	57	14	2	19	19
	20 to 24 years	5	74	9	5	21	9
Married couple	15 to 24 years	3	61	5	1	50	7
	15 to 19 years	14	42	11	0	58	2
	20 to 24 years	2	62	5	1	50	8
Sharing accomo- -dation	15 to 24 years	32	47	24	13	2	6
	15 to 19 years	36	41	31	7	1	5
	20 to 24 years	30	49	21	16	3	7

This is probably explained by the different structure of their revenues. We note in effect that young unmarried couples are more likely to depend on their own income (72% for non-married couples against 61% for married couples), and correspondingly less on income of their partner (20% for non-married couples against 50% for married couples). The "un-married" group is also marked by far more uncertainty in their revenues, as witnessed by the proportion of total revenue derived from casual jobs (10%, against 5% for married couples) (cf table 1.6).

Another factor capable of influencing people's judgments with regards to their financial resources is, of course, their occupation:

- 86% of working young people say that they are capable of getting by, 13% saying they have difficulties.
- 81% of young people who are studying say that they manage to get by, 17% saying that they have difficulties and 3% not giving a reply.
- 54% of young people out of work claim to be able to get by, 45% saying that they have difficulties, 2% aren't willing to reply. The reason these results are not even more alarming is probably because 45% of unemployed young people are helped by their family or their parents and because 22% resort to casual jobs as a means of supplementing their income (cf. table 1.6).

Having analysed the financial "well-being" of young people, it is interesting to look at the normal source of income (cf. table 1.7) and to analyse the extent to which this is dependent on sex, age, occupation and living conditions (cf. table 1.6).

**Table 1.7: Sources of revenue for young people  
(several answers possible, evolution 1987-1990)**

Question: Where does your income normally come from?	87	90
Parents or family	46%	44%
Work	38	44
Casual jobs	17	18
Grant or training allowance	7	5
Husband/wife/companion working	6	5
Social security, unemployment benefits	7	4
Others	3	3
Don't know/no reply	2	1

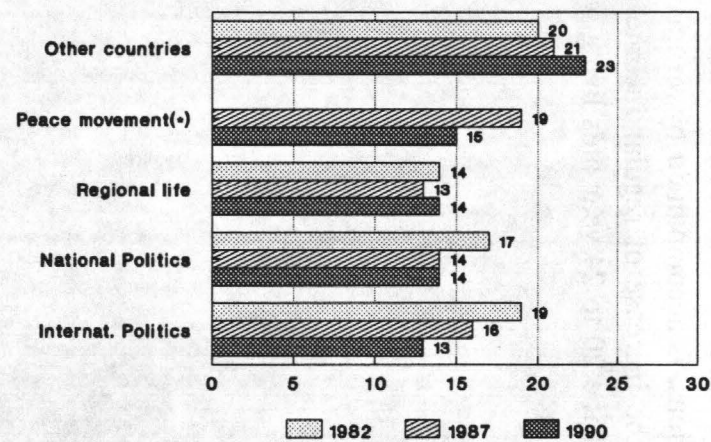
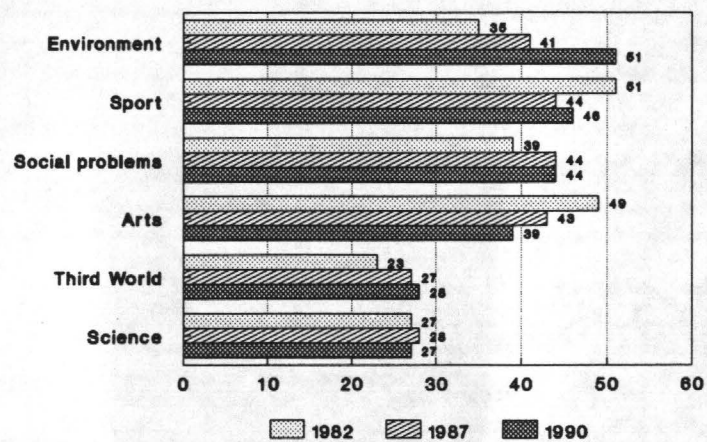


The principal results which fall out from this table are the following:

- In comparison with 1987, there has been a fairly strong increase in the percentage of young people having "regular" work (+6 points) principally at the expense of young people living off social security, from support from their family or from grants or other training allowances. This increases the importance of income from work in young peoples' budgets to the same level as that of support from parents or family.
- Sex has a non-negligible influence on the structure of young peoples' incomes. In particular, the proportion of revenue coming from work is considerably higher among men than among women, particularly in the 20 to 24 year old category (although there is virtually no difference with regard to casual jobs). On the contrary, the proportion of women deriving their revenue from their partners is considerably higher than among men, and this increasingly so with age. Family support is also more common among women than among men.
- As one might expect, age has a strong influence on income structure: as age increases, certain sources of income represent a more important part in the budget (regular work, a working partner, income from social security or unemployment benefit), to the cost of other sources (income from parents and family, casual jobs). Once again, the influence of age should not mask other important factors which are also directly related to age: occupation and living conditions.
- The reduction in the proportion of income coming from parents and family with age is equally strong among the active young population as it is among those still studying or out of work. On the other hand, the way in which this reduction is offset from other sources differs. Among those who are active, income coming from a working partner or from regular work is the most important alternative source. Among those studying, casual work and grants or training allowances (which has increased spectacularly), as well as regular work are the principal alternative sources; on the other hand support from parents or family remains by far the most important source of income for this group. Among young people out of work, income from a working partner and funds coming from social security or unemployment benefit (in the 15 to 19 year old, this last source is far less important than family support!). As far as casual jobs are concerned, this reduces slightly, signifying a reversal of the trend noted in 1987 in which casual jobs taken by those "out of work" provided 13% of the budget of 15 to 19 year olds and 22% of those between 20 and 24.
- Support from parents and family is an essential element of young people's budgets, as important for 15 to 19 year olds as for 20 to 24 year olds, for those young people sharing accommodation with another person or persons. Among young people from 20 to 24 years old, the importance of family support is as important to those sharing accommodation as for those who are living with their parents! Nonetheless, regardless of living conditions, the proportion of support from a parent or family in

young peoples' budgets diminishes as age increases. This is the same as the importance of income from casual jobs. These reductions, the importance of which changes with living conditions, is accompanied by an increase in regular income. Particularly important is the increase of regular income for young people living with their parents: 60% of the 20 to 24 year olds living with their parents have a regular job!

**Graph 1.2. : Young people's life interests**  
**(evolution 1982-1990 - in %)**



(-) Item not introduced in 1982

## 1.5 Their life interests

In response to the question " what sort of things in life interest you a lot? Which of these really interest you?", 15 to 24 year olds gave the following answers:

Environment, nature protection, ecology	51%
Sport	46
Major social problems (human rights, poverty, sexual equality, etc.	44
Arts and entertainment (theatre, music, cinema)	39
The Third-World, problems of under-development	28
Science and technology	27
How people live in other countries in Europe	23
The peace movement	15
Regional life, language and culture	14
International politics	14
National politics	13
Non of these	3

Subject areas which interest young people the most are therefore as in the surveys of 1982 and 1987 (cf. graph 1.2 which shows the evolution of these life interests among young people between 1982 and 1990):

- the **environment** in general, which has a growing level of interest since 1982. In 1982, only 35% of young people stated environmental issues as being of great importance, fourth in their list of issues which interested them. In 1990, on the other hand, it has become their principal life interest: 51% of them cited it, 16% more than eight years ago. Among the different interests proposed in the question, only two others have showed a continuing increase in interest since 1982, and these far less spectacularly: the Third World and development problems, and life styles in other European countries;
- **sport**, which in 1990 interested more young people than in 1987, but less than in 1982;
- **social problems**, which in 1990 was of interest to as many young people as in 1987, that is more than in 1982;
- **arts and entertainment** which has nonetheless become less and less interesting to young people: in 1982, 49% of them stated a strong interest in arts and entertainment; in 1990 this has dropped to 39%. The only other life interest which has decreased in importance in both surveys since 1982 is national politics (-6 points).

As far as pacifism and the peace movement is concerned, a comparison is not possible since this question was not asked in 1982.

**Table 1.8: Life interests of young people and of adults (several answers possible)  
(by country, age and sex - in % - maximum level of don't knows: 2.5%)**

Question: What sort of things in life interest you a lot? Which of these things interest you?

- |    |  |    |  |
|----|--|----|--|
| A. | The environment, nature protection, ecology                              | G. | How people live in other countries in Europe |
| B. | Sports   | H. | The peace movement                           |
| C. | Major social problems(e.g. human rights, poverty, sexual equality, etc.) | I. | Regional life, language and culture          |
| D. | Arts & entertainment (theatre, music, cinema)                            | J. | International politics                       |
| E. | The Third World, problems of underdevelopment                            | K. | National politics                            |
| F. | Science and technology   | L. | None of these                                |

		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
Breakdown by age and sex													
15 to 19 years	Total	50	52	42	41	28	27	23	16	13	11	10	2
	Women	53	37	54	46	34	16	27	17	16	8	8	2
	Men	47	66	31	35	22	38	18	15	10	14	12	2
20 to 24 years	Total	53	40	46	38	27	27	24	14	15	17	16	3
	Women	56	25	56	41	33	15	27	16	18	14	14	5
	Men	50	55	36	35	22	38	20	13	13	19	19	2
25 to 39 years	Total	61	37	51	35	27	28	25	17	17	22	25	4
	Women	62	22	59	36	31	17	27	18	18	16	18	5
	Men	59	51	42	34	22	38	23	17	17	28	32	3
40 to 54 years	Total	59	32	49	31	27	25	26	18	19	23	29	4
	Women	63	19	55	36	33	15	26	22	20	18	23	5
	Men	55	45	43	26	22	35	25	15	18	27	35	3
over 55 years	Total	54	26	46	28	23	17	26	20	18	20	24	8
	Women	54	14	49	31	25	13	27	21	18	15	20	9
	Men	54	41	42	23	21	23	23	17	17	27	30	6

Breakdown by country (15 to 24 years)

Belgium	55	51	43	43	28	33	29	21	20	12	8	2
Denmark	48	51	42	49	21	31	24	11	11	25	22	2
ex-FRG	57	48	37	36	19	28	27	20	16	18	19	6
ex-GDR	53	43	36	43	12	30	18	21	9	20	30	2
Germany	56	47	37	37	18	28	26	20	15	18	21	5
Greece	52	47	53	43	23	27	26	43	17	13	13	0
Spain	58	31	58	22	39	26	15	14	13	8	9	1
France	44	46	46	48	30	27	24	7	16	14	10	3
Ireland	38	50	29	41	27	17	20	17	8	7	10	4
Italy	56	47	54	36	35	31	25	16	13	14	12	0
Luxembourg	61	55	42	58	25	33	28	25	11	23	15	0
Netherlands	53	51	33	47	22	32	19	16	12	17	11	1
Portugal	57	44	67	34	36	33	40	17	31	17	18	2
United Kingdom	42	50	32	46	24	19	19	10	10	9	10	4
EEC 12	51	46	44	39	28	27	23	15	14	14	13	3

These four life interests are in fact cited as the most important for young people in all parts of the European Community, with the exception of Spain and Portugal, where arts and entertainment is only considered to be the sixth choice - in Spain behind Third World issues (which is in third place after environmental issues and social problems, but before sport), as well as science and technology; in Portugal behind Third World issues and life in other European countries.

Even if the structure of responses to this question do not differ fundamentally from one country to another, there are however, non-negligible differences depending upon nationality (cf. table 1.8):

- social problems are cited as issues of great interest to 67% of young Portuguese, whereas only 29% of young Irish profess to having the same interest;
- arts and entertainment interest 58% of young Luxembourgers, but only 22% of young Spaniards;
- pacifism and the peace movement interest 43% of young Greeks, but only 7% of young French;
- Third World issues and under-development problems are a preoccupation of 39% of young Spaniards, against just 12% of young ex-East Germans (19% of young ex-West Germans);
- protection of the environment is a matter of interest for 61% of young people in Luxembourg, against 38% of young Irish;
- national politics attract 30% of young ex-East Germans (19% in ex-FRG), against only 8% of young Belgians.

Life interests also vary with age (cf. table 1.8):

- As age increases, interest in arts and entertainment, as well as in sports, tends to decrease. This is as strong among women as among men;
- 15 to 19 year olds are less interested in politics (national or international), by social problems, by the environment and by regional issues than are 20 to 24 year olds. This latter group is also less interested in these issues than people over 24 years old;
- interest in science and technology is more or less the same among 15 to 19 year olds, 20 to 24 year olds and 25 to 39 year olds. Interest in this issue tends to decrease above 39 years old;
- The peace movement has far less of a following among 15 to 24 year olds (particularly among the 20 to 24 year old age group) than among previous

generations. The highest degree of interest in the peace movement is in actual fact recorded among adults aged 55 and above (i.e. among people born before 1936).

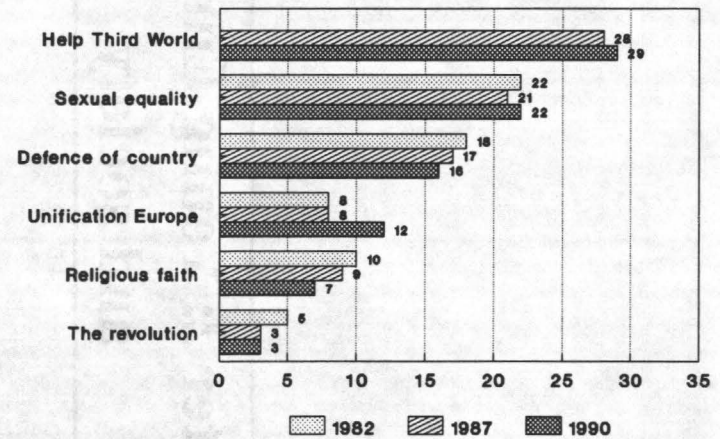
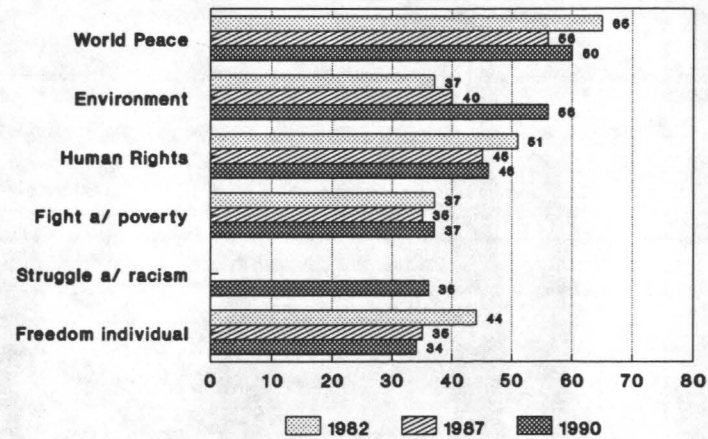
These issues also show some variation by sex (cf. table 1.8):

- Men are far more interested in science and technology, politics (national and international) and sports than women, regardless of age;
- On the other hand, among all age groups, women profess far greater interest in social problems, in the lifestyle of people in other countries, regional issues, Third World and development issues, the peace movement, the environment (where men and women over 55 tend to show identical results) and in arts and entertainment.

## **Chapter 2: Young Europeans and society**



**Graph 2.1. : The "greatest causes" of young people  
(evolution 1982-1990 - in %)**



Notes: "struggle against racism" not introduced in 1982-1987

"Help to the Third World" not introduced in 1982

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## Chapter 2: Young Europeans and society

### 2.1 Their "greatest causes"

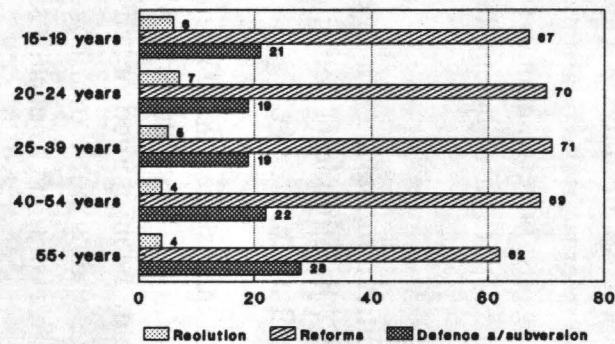
In 1982 and 1987, both young people (15 to 24 year olds) and adults were asked to review a predefined list of "greatest causes" with the question: "In your opinion, in this list, which are the greatest causes which nowadays are worth the trouble of taking risks and making sacrifices for?".

In graph 2.1. we see that:

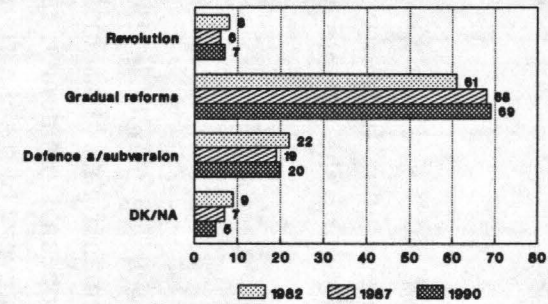
- The three most important issues supported by young people in 1990 are world peace, protection of the environment and human rights. This massive level of support can be observed throughout the European Community: in 1990, these causes were the three most frequently cited in every European country, with the exception of Greece, France, Italy and Portugal, where they were nonetheless cited among the four leading issues - the fourth being, in Greece, freedom of the individual (52%); in France and in Portugal, the fight against poverty (respectively 48% and 64%); and in Italy, the struggle against racism (52%).
- After a strong reduction in support between 1982 and 1987 (down 9 points), world peace has seen a net increase in interest (+4 points) among young people (whereas as the same time interest in the peace movement has fallen by four points (cf. graph 1.2). The fight against poverty, human rights and sexual equality are also issues that have regained support, after having lost some of this support between 1982 and 1987.
- Support for European unification, having remained static between 1982 and 1987, has leaped by four points (the attitude of young people in general with regard to Europe is analysed in detail in Chapter 4).
- Some trends have become clear since 1982. The most spectacular of these concerns the interest in protection of the environment, which has increased by 19 points since 1982 (this has already been pointed out in point 1.5 of Chapter 1). On the other hand, interest in defending one's own country, fighting for freedom of the individual and religious faith continue to decline slightly in importance.

## Graph 2.2.: Revolution, gradual reforms or fight subversion

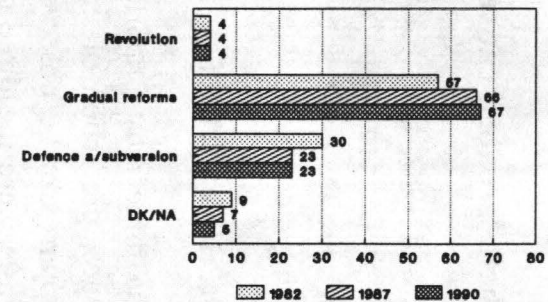
### Breakdown by Age (results 1990 - %)



### Evolution 1982-1990 among 15 to 24 year olds(%)



### Evolution 1982-1990 among more than 24 year olds (%)



- Interest in the revolution continues to decline: having fallen by 2 points between 1982 and 1987, support for this has stabilised at 3%.

This is confirmed by the results of another question which asked: "There are three basic kinds of attitudes towards the society in which we live in, choose the attitude which best describes your opinion? 1) the entire way of how society is organised must be radically changed by revolutionary action; 2) our society must be gradually improved by reforms; 3) our present society must be strongly defended against all subversive forces." These results are analysed in graph 2.2. This shows that:

- response to this question have remained fairly stable between 1987 and 1990, among both young people and older people;
- revolutionary action is no longer subscribed to by a large number of people (between 1982 and 1990, the proportion of 15 to 24 year olds supporting revolution has not changed greatly: from 6 to 8%) and even less among adults (since 1982: stable at 4%). This does not imply that youth is opposed to change: in 1990, 69% of them (67% of 15 to 19 year olds versus 70% of 20 to 24 year olds) preferred progressive reform of society (against 62% of people over 55); in 1982, only 61% proposed progressive reform.

Table 2.1. takes this analysis further. It shows that:

- World peace, protection of the environment and human rights are the three "greatest causes" that solicit the most support among both men and women of all ages. There is, however, one exception: men and women of 55 years and above seem to be more capable of "taking risks" and of "accepting sacrifices" to fight poverty and to defend human rights.
- As age increases, the fight against racism finds fewer and fewer adherents (among both sexes): the difference between young people and people aged 55 years and above is enormous. At all ages, however, this cause is more strongly defended by women than by men.
- Help to the Third World is also a cause which finds more support among women than among men (this confirming a result already discussed in point 1.5 of Chapter 1) and of which the degree of support tends to decrease with age, especially among women.

**Table 2.1: The "greatest causes" of young people and adults (several answers possible)  
(by age and sex - in % - maximum level of don't knows: 2.7%)**

Question: In your opinion, in this list which are the greatest causes which nowadays are worth the trouble of taking risks and making sacrifices for?

- A. World peace
- B. Protection of the environment
- C. Human rights
- D. Fight against poverty
- E. Struggle against racism
- F. Freedom of the individual
- G. Help to the Third World

- H. Sexual equality
- I. Defence of (YOUR COUNTRY)
- J. The unification of Europe
- K. My religious faith
- L. The revolution
- M. None of these

		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
15-19 years	Total	60	55	43	35	37	31	30	22	16	12	7	3	2
	Women	60	53	45	38	41	32	34	30	13	9	8	2	1
	Men	59	56	41	33	33	30	25	14	19	15	6	4	2
20-24 years	Total	60	57	48	38	35	36	27	21	17	11	7	3	2
	Women	60	58	50	42	39	35	30	31	14	9	8	3	2
	Men	60	56	47	34	31	37	24	13	19	13	7	2	2
25-39 years	Total	65	62	49	40	31	39	28	19	18	13	9	3	2
	Women	65	61	50	41	33	37	29	23	15	11	10	2	2
	Men	64	63	47	39	29	42	27	15	22	15	8	3	2
40-54 years	Total	70	57	48	43	26	39	25	17	21	17	13	3	2
	Women	72	57	48	45	28	35	28	19	20	15	15	2	2
	Men	68	58	48	40	25	43	21	14	23	18	11	3	2
55 years +	Total	68	50	41	46	20	33	22	13	26	15	22	2	3
	Women	71	49	40	47	22	31	24	12	25	12	24	1	3
	Men	64	52	42	44	18	37	19	13	28	21	18	2	4

- On the other hand, world peace, the fight against poverty, defense of one's country, European unification and religious faith are causes less strongly defended by young people than by older people. World peace, the fight against poverty and religious faith tend to find stronger support among women than among men of all ages (above all among over 25 year olds as far as peace is concerned, responses from women and men not differing significantly among 15 to 24 year olds). On the other hand, many more men than women are ready to "take risks" and to "accept sacrifices" in order to unify Europe and to defend their country.
  
- Equality of the sexes is an issue which is of little concern to men (and with reason!), and this does not change significantly with age. Among women, on the other hand, this is a cause exciting a considerable degree of interest from the 15 to 24 year olds; the level of interest decreases as age increases. The divergence between men and women is 16 points among the 15 to 19 year old age group and 18 point among 20 to 24 year olds; it is less significant among individuals aged from 55 and above (women: 12.4%; men: 12.7%!).

**Table 2.2: Qualities to encourage in their children - opinions of young people and adults  
(by age and sex - in %) (several answers possible)**

Question: Here is a list of qualities which parents can try to encourage in their children. Which do you consider to be especially important? Please choose three.

- |    |                                    |    |  |
|----|------------------------------------|----|--|
| A. | A sense of responsibility          | G. | Conscientiousness at work                  |
| B. | Good manners and politeness        | H. | Thrift, not wasting money and other things |
| C. | Tolerance and respect for others   | I. | Imagination                                |
| D. | Ability to communicate with others | J. | Obedience                                  |
| E. | Independence                       | K. | Religious faith                            |
| F. | Loyalty                            | L. | Don't know/no reply                        |

		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
15 to 19 years	Total	56	51	40	33	25	20	20	14	10	12	6	2
	Women	58	50	43	36	26	21	16	12	10	12	6	2
	Men	54	52	38	30	25	18	24	16	10	13	6	2
20 to 24 years	Total	54	46	45	36	28	21	18	12	14	10	6	1
	Women	52	47	47	36	28	22	16	12	13	9	6	1
	Men	55	45	43	36	28	20	19	12	14	10	5	1
25 to 39 years	Total	64	38	54	37	24	17	21	14	11	7	7	1
	Women	64	37	56	36	23	18	21	16	9	7	8	1
	Men	64	38	52	39	24	16	22	13	13	6	5	1
40 to 54 years	Total	64	42	52	32	19	18	28	17	7	7	8	1
	Women	65	43	52	32	19	16	28	17	5	7	10	1
	Men	63	42	52	31	19	19	27	16	9	7	6	1
Over 55 years	Total	57	55	44	22	11	15	35	22	3	12	15	2
	Women	58	55	42	21	10	14	34	22	3	12	17	2
	Men	54	55	45	24	13	15	36	22	3	11	13	1

## **2.2 The qualities they wish to encourage in their children**

As in 1987, people in the 15 to 24 age group (in other words, future parents), as well as adults, were asked about qualities to encourage in their children.

The response given tended to depend upon age (this influence being the most erratic, they were very few strong trends), as well as to a lesser extent on sex (cf. table 2.2):

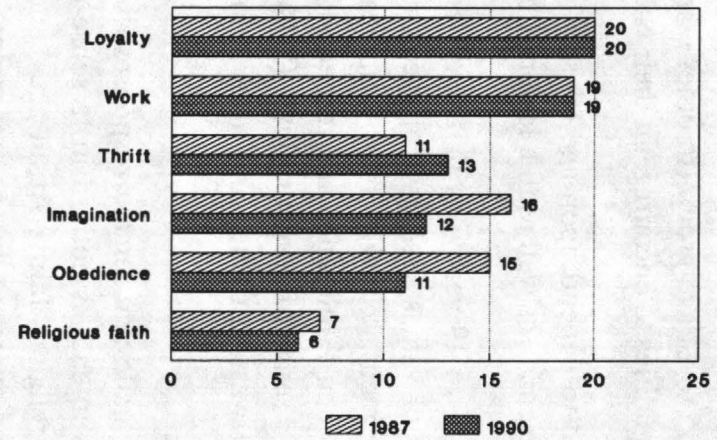
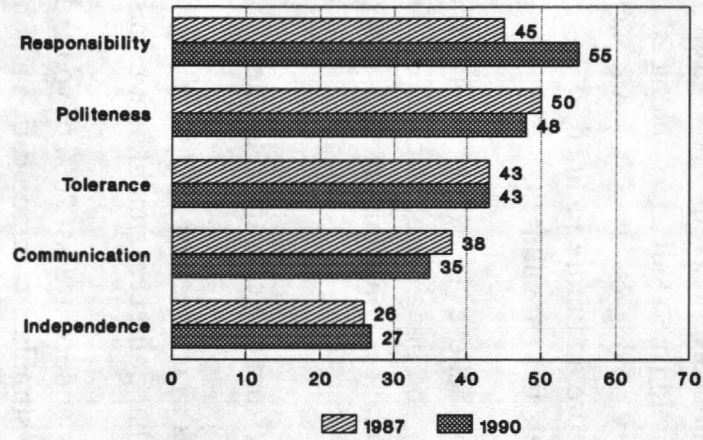
- It is, by far, among 15 to 19 year olds that sex exercises the strongest influence, particularly in terms of values such as "conscientiousness at work" (16% among women, 24% among men), "capacity to communicate with others" (36% among women, 30% among men), "tolerance and respect of others" (43% among women, 38% among men), "a sense of responsibility" (58% among women, 54% among men), and "thrift not wasting money and other things" (12% among women and 16% among men).
- In other age groups, male and female responses do not diverge by more than 4 points. Maximum divergence is noticed in "a sense of responsibility", "tolerance", "imagination", and "religious faith". At all ages, encouraging imagination among children seems more important (or as important) for men as for women: the reverse is true of religious faith. Values such as "a sense of responsibility" and "tolerance" in education are generally more strongly supported by women. This does not necessarily hold true at all ages: among 20 and 24 year olds, developing a sense of responsibility among children is more highly valued by men; about 55 years old, men are more and more inclined to want to develop a sense of respect and tolerance of others in their children.
- 15 to 24 year olds believe to some extent that adults should encourage independence, loyalty and imagination in children. The opposite is true for a sense of responsibility, tolerance, conscientiousness at work, a spirit of economy and religious faith.

These answers also change from one country to the next:

- 61% of young Italians as opposed of 27% of young West Germans (60% of young East Germans) find that politeness should be emphasised in education;
- 45% of young Netherlanders, against 25% of young Portuguese and Britons, think that it is important to stimulate communication among children;
- 61% of young Danes, against less than 20% of young French and Portuguese consider that education must focus on independence;
- 39% of young Italians and 36% of young Luxembourgers judge that a sense of loyalty must be developed in children, however, only 5% of young Greeks and 6% of young East Germans (13% in the West) are of this opinion;



**Graph 2.3. : Qualities to encourage in children**  
**(evolution 1987-1990 in the opinion of Young People - in %)**



- 35% of young East Germans (21% of young West Germans) find that it is important to encourage a sense of conscientiousness of work in education; in Luxembourg, Holland and the United Kingdom less than 10% of the young people think this way.
- 23% of young West Germans (13% of young East Germans), versus 4% of young Italians think that it is necessary to think imaginatively;
- 14% of young Irish and 11% of young Greeks find that it is important to look at religious faith; in Denmark hardly 1% of young people share this opinion.

Despite these divergencies, a sense of responsibility, politeness, tolerance and communication are for all young people in the Community, except for Britons, among the five values which are considered most important in children (but in differing orders).

In the United Kingdom, these values are nonetheless among the six most important (communication being emphasised rather than independence or loyalty).

The comparison of answers to this question in 1987 and 1990 (cf. graph 2.3) shows that:

- a sense of responsibility, politeness, tolerance and communication remain the values considered the most important to the development of children by 15 to 24 year olds;
- popularity of values such as "a sense of responsibilities" (+ 10 points!), "a spirit of economy" and "independence" have increased since 1987. The importance of the values "imagination", "obedience", "communication", "politeness" and "religious faith" has decreased.

**Table 2.3: Major problems facing young people**  
**(by country, age and sex - in % - maximum number of don't know's: 1.8%)**  
**(several answers possible)**

Question: In your opinion, what are the three major problems facing young people today ? Please choose up to three.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| A. Unemployment   | E. Lack of suitable accommodation                            |
| B. Drugs  | F. Racism and discrimination                                 |
| C. A.I.D.S.   | G. Problems with the authorities (police, civil service ...) |
| D. Education doesn't prepare young people properly for life | H. Others  |

		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
<b>Breakdown by age and sex</b>									
15 to 19 years	Total	70	70	42	35	24	23	12	3
	Women	72	71	44	35	26	23	9	3
	Men	69	69	39	35	23	22	15	4
20 to 24 years	Total	71	62	38	41	35	18	11	4
	Women	73	63	41	41	36	18	8	3
	Men	69	61	35	41	35	18	14	5
25 to 39 years	Total	77	63	30	47	38	19	10	4
	Women	77	65	32	47	36	19	8	3
	Men	77	61	27	46	40	19	13	4
40 to 54 years	Total	79	66	31	45	34	17	11	4
	Women	78	68	35	45	33	17	10	5
	Men	79	63	27	45	36	16	12	4
Over 55 years	Total	80	69	29	40	36	13	11	3
	Women	81	70	32	38	36	13	10	2
	Men	79	67	25	43	36	14	13	4

**Breakdown by country (15 to 24 years)**

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Belgium	69	64	49	34	12	37	15	5
Denmark	84	37	31	29	48	26	13	2
ex-FRG	65	59	32	32	53	18	10	4
ex-GDR	81	73	34	26	48	12	9	3
Germany	68	61	32	31	52	17	10	4
Greece	82	80	49	45	12	7	8	0
Spain	48	80	37	38	37	15	13	6
France	79	59	43	46	19	29	9	4
Ireland	90	57	50	39	21	14	11	4
Italy	81	75	37	49	8	20	10	2
Luxembourg	47	73	39	28	21	26	14	13
Netherlands	60	51	48	35	13	33	12	6
Portugal	71	65	29	36	59	10	6	2
United Kingdom	70	63	50	30	30	20	17	3
EEC 12	70	66	40	38	30	20	12	4

## 2.3 The major problems facing them

If we ask young people which are the main problems facing them in everyday life we find very similar responses among both men and women, irrespective of which age group they belong to (cf. table 2.3):

### All 15 to 19 year olds

1. Unemployment and drugs
3. AIDS
4. Education does not prepare young people properly for life
5. Lack of suitable housing
6. Racism and discrimination
7. Problems with the authorities

### All 20 to 24 year olds

1. Unemployment
2. Drugs
3. Education does not prepare young people properly for life
4. AIDS
5. Lack of suitable housing
6. Racism and discrimination
7. Problems with the authorities

If we ask adults what they see as the main problems facing young people today, we obtain the following list, regardless of sex or age group (with the exception of women aged 40 to 54 years, which give the same response as women in the 20 to 24 year old age group) (cf. table 2.3):

### All Adults

1. Unemployment
2. Drugs
3. Education does not prepare young people properly for life
4. Lack of suitable housing
5. AIDS
6. Racism and discrimination
7. Problems with the authorities

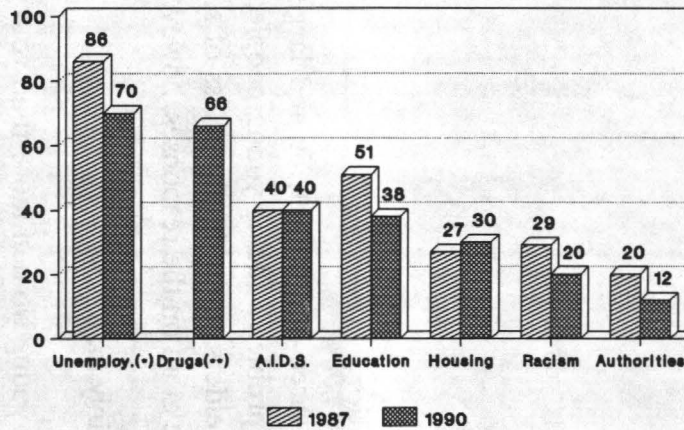
What is obvious from these three lists is that, by and large, there is a high degree of consensus on the subject of problems facing young people, both among young people themselves and among their elders, and this regardless of sex. This does not mean that sex and age have no influence at all on the responses, however (cf. table 2.3).

Analysing by sex, we note mainly that:

- Unemployment worries young women more than young men. Among adults there are virtually as many women as men thinking that unemployment constitutes a problem for young people.
- Drugs and, above all, A.I.D.S. are more of a preoccupation for young women than for young men. Among adults, women are also more likely than men to consider these issues as being of major importance to young people.

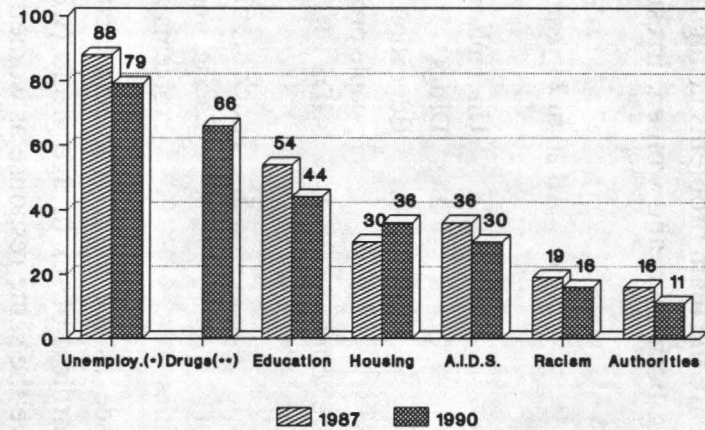
**Graph 2.4. : The major problems facing young people today  
(evolution 1987-1990 - in %)**

**THE OPINION OF 15-24 YEAR OLDS**



(-) 1987: "Lack of jobs"  
1990: "Unemployment"  
(\*\*) Item not introduced in 1987

**THE OPINION OF MORE THAN 24 YEAR OLDS**



(-) 1987: "Lack of jobs"  
1990: "Unemployment"  
(\*\*) Item not introduced in 1987

- Young women are more preoccupied by the lack of suitable accommodation than young men. On the other hand, among 25 to 54 year olds, men are more concerned than women with the lack of suitable accommodation for young people. From 55 years on, men and women agree on this issue.
- It is mainly young men who profess to having problems with the authorities such as the police and administration (or to be more precise, young women who complain less). Among adults too, it is men rather than women who believe that problems with the authorities are a major concern for young people.

By age we note above all the difference in concern with issues such as A.I.D.S., lack of suitable accommodation and education, not preparing young people sufficiently for life (cf. the three lists above).

Looking at national differences to these answers (cf. table 2.3), we note that:

- all young people in the Community, with the exception of Denmark, see unemployment and drugs as their two main problems. On the other hand, all of them without exception see that problems with the authorities are a relative minor issue (classified as the least or next to least important issue).
- In Denmark, young people see drugs as only third in their list of problems behind: 1) unemployment and 2) the lack of suitable accommodation.
- The problem of accommodation is by far the issue with the least degree of unanimity among the Twelve. It is serious (i.e; constituting the second or third most serious issue facing young people) in Denmark, in Germany (both East and West) and in Portugal. It is a secondary issue (i.e. it is the least or second least important preoccupation of young people) in Belgium, France, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

Over the last three years, it seems that young peoples' problems seem to have decreased, and this is the impression of both young people themselves and of their elders. If we compare the results of the same question in 1987 and 1990, we note that, in fact (cf. graph 2.4):

- Among 15 to 24 year olds: there has been a slight increase (3 points) in terms of the question of accommodation, no change with regard to A.I.D.S. and a reduction in terms of all other problems. We note in particular a reduction in concern over unemployment (-16 points) and that concerning the unsuitability of education (-13 points).
- Among people above 24 years old there has been an increase (6 points) with regard to problems of accommodation and a reduction for all other issues. Here, too, the reduction is most strong with respect to unemployment (down 9 points) and suitability of education (down 10 points).

**Table 2.4: Membership of groups and associations by young people and adults  
(figures 1987 and 1990 by age; figures 1990 by age, sex and country - in %)  
(Maximum level of don't knows: 1.3%)**

Question: Which, if any, of the following groups or associations do you belong to?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| A. Sports clubs or associations                          | G. Other specific groups or associations (e.g. stamp collecting, etc.)                             |
| B. Church or religious organisations                     | H. Charities and social action groups  |
| C. Trade unions or professional associations             | I. Political parties or movements  |
| D. Youth organisations (e.g. scouts, youth clubs, etc.)  | J. Organisations concerned with any abuse of human rights taking place in (YOUR COUNTRY) or abroad |
| E. Cultural or arts groups                               | K. Consumer groups   |
| F. Nature conservation, animal welfare or ecology groups | L. Do not belong to any group or associations  |

		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
Breakdown by age; figures 1987 and 1990													
1987	15 to 24 years	28	8	5	7	6	3	6	3	3	1	1	52
	25 years +	15	11	14	2	6	5	7	8	6	2	2	56
1990	15 to 24 years	28	9	8	7	5	4	3	3	2	1	0	50
	25 years +	16	14	16	3	6	6	5	8	6	2	2	51
Breakdown by age and sex; figures 1990													
15 to 19 years	Total	32	10	3	10	5	5	4	2	1	1	0	47
	Women	22	11	3	10	6	6	4	2	1	1	0	53
	Men	41	9	3	10	4	3	3	3	1	1	0	42
20 to 24 years	Total	24	8	12	5	5	4	3	3	2	1	1	52
	Women	16	10	10	4	6	4	2	4	2	2	0	57
	Men	33	6	13	6	5	3	4	3	3	1	1	47
Over 25 years	Total	16	14	16	3	6	6	5	8	6	2	2	51
	Women	11	16	10	3	6	6	4	9	3	2	2	57
	Men	23	11	23	2	7	6	7	7	8	2	3	44
Breakdown by country (15 to 24 years); figures 1990													
	Belgium	34	4	6	18	8	6	4	3	2	2	1	41
	Denmark	56	14	36	16	4	9	8	2	4	3	1	15
	ex-FRG	37	9	11	8	3	6	5	5	1	1	0	41
	ex-GDR	21	11	39	4	3	1	2	1	2	1	0	37
	Germany	34	9	16	7	3	5	5	4	2	1	0	41
	Greece	16	2	1	2	5	1	2	1	5	1	0	74
	Spain	13	9	1	5	7	1	2	2	2	1	0	67
	France	26	3	2	7	7	1	5	2	1	0	0	59
	Ireland	35	9	7	19	6	3	3	5	3	2	0	41
	Italy	21	15	2	5	5	6	2	2	3	1	0	54
	Luxembourg	45	6	12	26	12	9	26	5	5	3	3	24
	Netherlands	50	16	7	9	9	7	4	5	2	1	1	26
	Portugal	11	6	1	2	4	1	1	2	1	1	1	76
	United Kingdom	34	10	12	11	4	6	2	4	2	1	1	41
	EEC 12	28	9	8	7	5	4	3	3	2	1	0	50



## 2.4 Their membership of groups and associations

As shown in table 2.4, one European in two, both young and old, belongs to some organisation or association. This proportion, a little higher than in 1987, varies a great deal by country and, more precisely, by whether the country is situated in the North or South of Europe:

- It is high in Denmark (85% among young people, 86% among adults), in Luxembourg (76% among young people, 74% among adults), and in the Netherlands (74% among young people and adults);
- It is fairly high (around 60% for both young people and elder people) in Belgium, in Germany (except among adults in ex-GDR where it is much higher at 69% against 63% among young people), in Ireland and in the United Kingdom;
- It is low in Portugal (24% of both young people and adults), in Greece (26% among young people, 24% among adults), in Spain (33% among young people, 28% among adults), in France (41% among young people and adults) and in Italy (46% among young people, 40% among adults).

This division between the Southern countries (among whom we should include for the time being France) and the North of Europe, which is true for both young people and older people (we note with interest that the strong similarity between both young and old age groups was already evident in 1987) (cf. map 2.1).

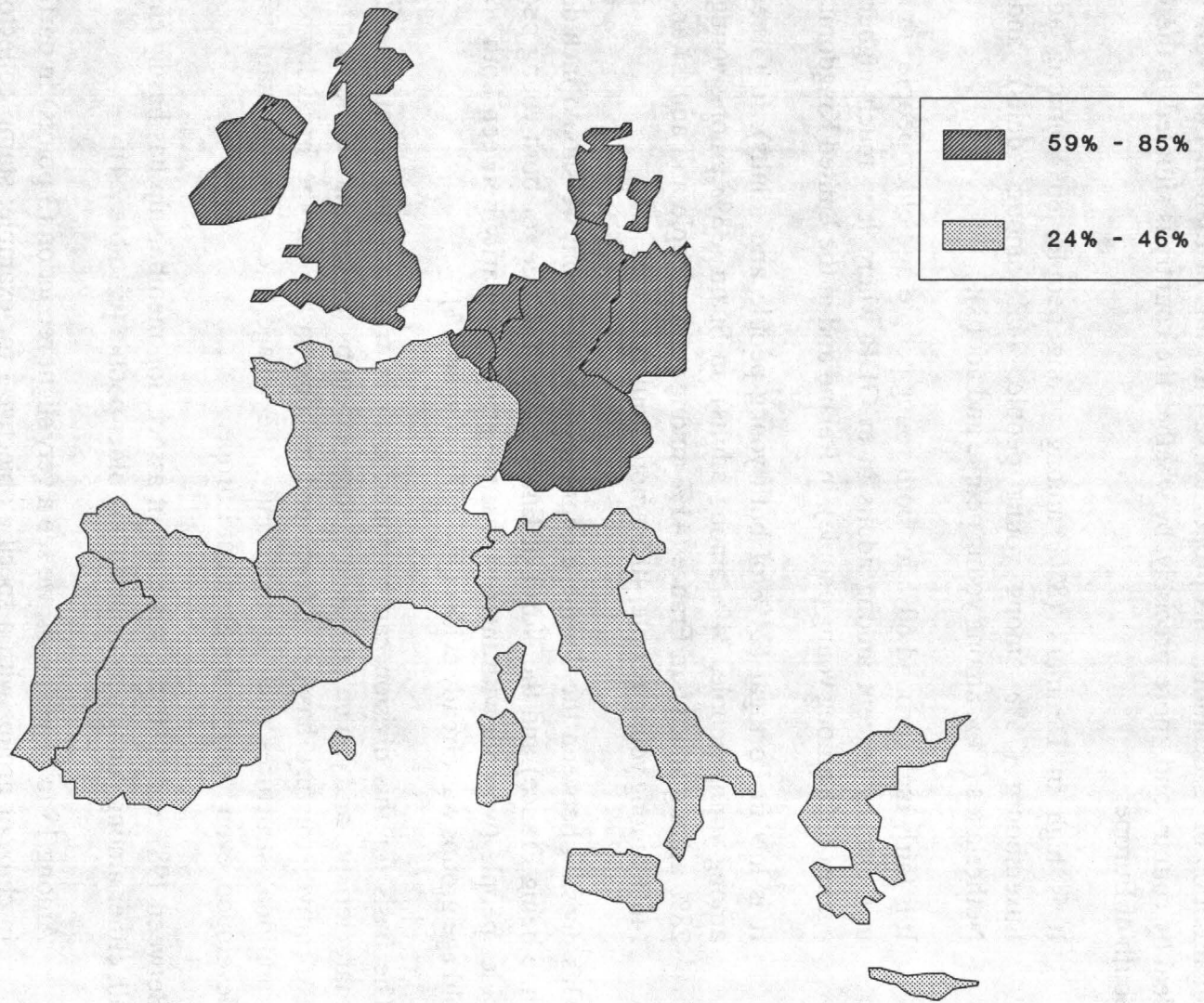
The basis for this division can be found both in tradition and in other sociological characteristics and can be explained to some extent by the fact that in the North a strong associative structure has been developed to compensate for the breakdown of more traditional structures such as the family, the village, etc., which remain fairly well developed, even today, in the South of Europe.

Between 1987 and 1990, the structure of association membership has hardly changed at all, either among young people or among older people (cf. table 2.4):

- Among 15 to 24 year olds, we see a very slight reduction (3 points) in participation in clubs or groups with a specific objective - for example: stamp collectors, etc. - and an equivalent increase (3 points) in membership of trade unions or other professional associations.
- Among the over 24 year olds, we also see a slight decrease (2 points) in membership of groups or associations with a specific objective, but a slightly higher increase in membership of church or religious organisations (3 points) and participation in unions or other professional associations (2 points).



**Map 2.1. : Membership of young people in associations  
or organisations (by country)**



Among both young people and their elders, it is the same three types of associations which attract the most individuals (cf. table 2.4):

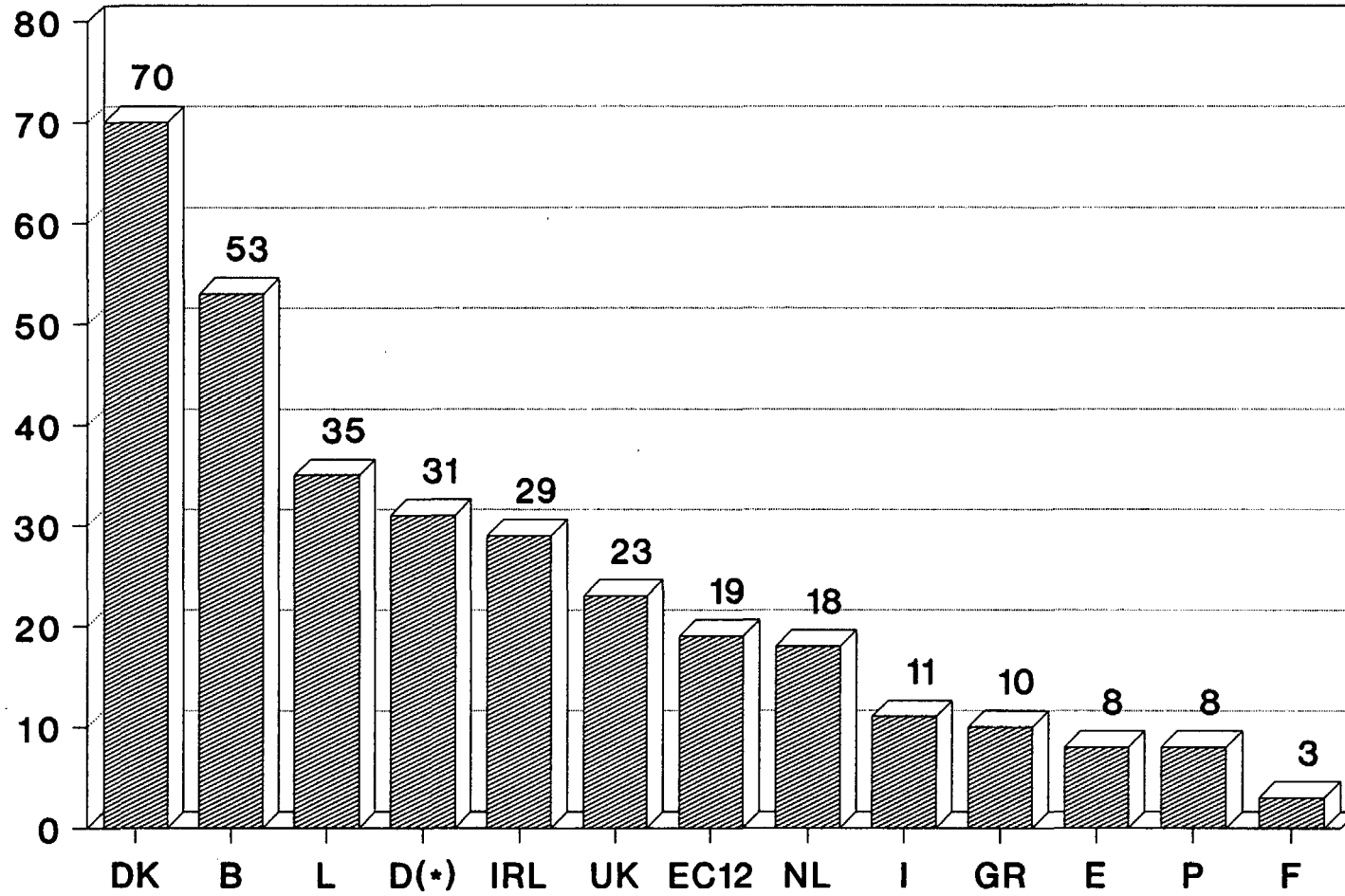
- sports clubs and associations (28% of 15 to 24 year olds versus 16% of people over 24 years);
- religious and church organisations (9% of 15 to 24 year olds versus 14% of the over 24 year olds);
- trade unions and professional associations (8% of 15 to 24 year olds versus 16% of people over 24 years).

Among young people we should also note that 15 to 19 year olds have a slightly stronger tendency to join groups or associations than the 20 to 24 year old age group (in fact, it is only in the work area - trade unions, professional associations, etc. - that 20 to 24 year olds have a stronger tendency to join an association than the 15 to 19 year old age group). This is explained mainly by the stronger participation in activities related to schools, such as scouts, youth clubs and sport clubs, by the younger age group.

Young or old, women are less likely to join an association than men:

- Among the 15 to 24 year olds, this is driven strongly by the far lower level of their participation in sports clubs: 37% against 19%. Their stronger participation in environmental groups, religious organisations, and in cultural or artistic groups (which confirms certain results already discussed in point 1.5 of Chapter 1 and in point 2.1 of the present chapter), is not sufficient to overcome a lower level of participation in sport clubs. We note with interest that young women are almost as likely to participate in trade unions or professional associations as young men (among the 15 to 24 year old age group: 8% of men, 7% of women), and are also fairly likely to participate in political movements or parties (again among the 15 to 24 year olds: 2% of men versus 1% of women!).
- Among the elder population, the lower level of participation of women in general is explained by their far lower presence in trade unions and professional associations (23% of men versus 10% of women), in sport clubs and associations (23% versus 11%), as well as membership of political movements or parties (8% versus 3%). A higher level of interest in religious organisations or in charity or social action groups is not sufficient to compensate for these other differences.

**Graph 2.5. : Membership of Young People in Trade Unions**  
**(distribution by country - in %)**



(\*) ex-GDR: 57%; ex-FRG: 24%

### 2.4.1 Their membership of a union

From table 2.4, it appears as we have already indicated that the membership of 15 to 24 year olds of trade unions or professional organisations has increased slightly (up 3 points) between 1987 and 1990. If we only consider young people working full-time or part-time (even if these aren't the only people to belong to an union!), this difference disappears with the same level on membership in both 1987 and 1990.

In fact, answers to the question: "are you member of a trade union?", are virtually identical in 1987 and 1990:

- yes: 20% in 1987; 19% in 1990;
- no: 79% in 1987; 80% in 1990;
- Don't know/no reply: 1% in 1987; 1% in 1990.

The remark made in the introduction to point 2.4 suggesting that among 15 to 24 year old women are almost as strongly represented among unions and professional associations is more than confirmed: 18% of young men are members of a union, 81% are not and 1% are not prepared give an answer; among women the figures are respectively 20%, 80% and 1%.

The strongest reason given by 15 to 24 year olds (by 39% of women and 33% of men) for explaining non-membership for union is logistical: the absence of a trade union at their place of work. Failure to believe in unions is also frequently cited (19% among women; 23% among men).

In response to the question: "which is the main reason from this list why you are not a member of a trade union?", the following answers were given:

There is no union where I work	36%
I don't believe in unions	21
I am going to join, but I haven't done so yet	8
Where I work, the unions don't look after the interests of people like me:	5
My employer does not like unions	3
Other reasons	16
Don't know/no reply	11

Membership of unions by young people varies considerably by country. It exceeds 50% in Denmark, in ex-GDR and in Belgium; it varies between 3% and 11% in Greece, Spain, France, Italy and Portugal (cf. graph 2.5).

**Table 2.5: Usage of youth organisations**  
(figures 1987 and 1990 by sex; figures 1990 by age and by sex - in %)

Question 1990: Are there places such as clubs or community centres in your neighbourhood for people like you? (IF YES) How often do you use them?

Question 1987: Are there services such as clubs, meeting centres, youth or community centres in your neighbourhood for people like you? (IF YES) How often do you use them?

- |    |              |    |   |
|----|--------------|----|---|
| A. | Never        | D. | No places of this kind in the neighbourhood |
| B. | Occasionally | E. | Don't know/no reply                         |
| C. | Regularly    |    |   |

		A	B	C	D	E
Breakdown by sex (15 to 24 years); figures 1987 and 1990						
1987	Total	32	17	10	30	11
	Women	34	14	8	32	12
	Men	30	20	12	29	9
1990	Total	27	17	11	33	12
	Women	29	16	9	34	12
	Men	26	18	13	31	12

Breakdown by age and  
sex; figures 1990

15 to 19 years	Total	25	18	14	32	11
	Women	28	17	11	34	10
	Men	22	20	16	30	11
20 to 24 years	Total	30	15	9	33	13
	Women	29	14	8	34	14
	Men	30	16	10	32	13

Even if the level of membership in unions has not changed greatly at community level, it has changed considerably from country to country, however. Very strong increases have been seen in Belgium (11 points) and the Netherlands (6 points) and strong decreases have also been seen in Greece (10 points), Luxembourg and the United Kingdom (7 points).

#### **2.4.2 Their usage of youth organisations**

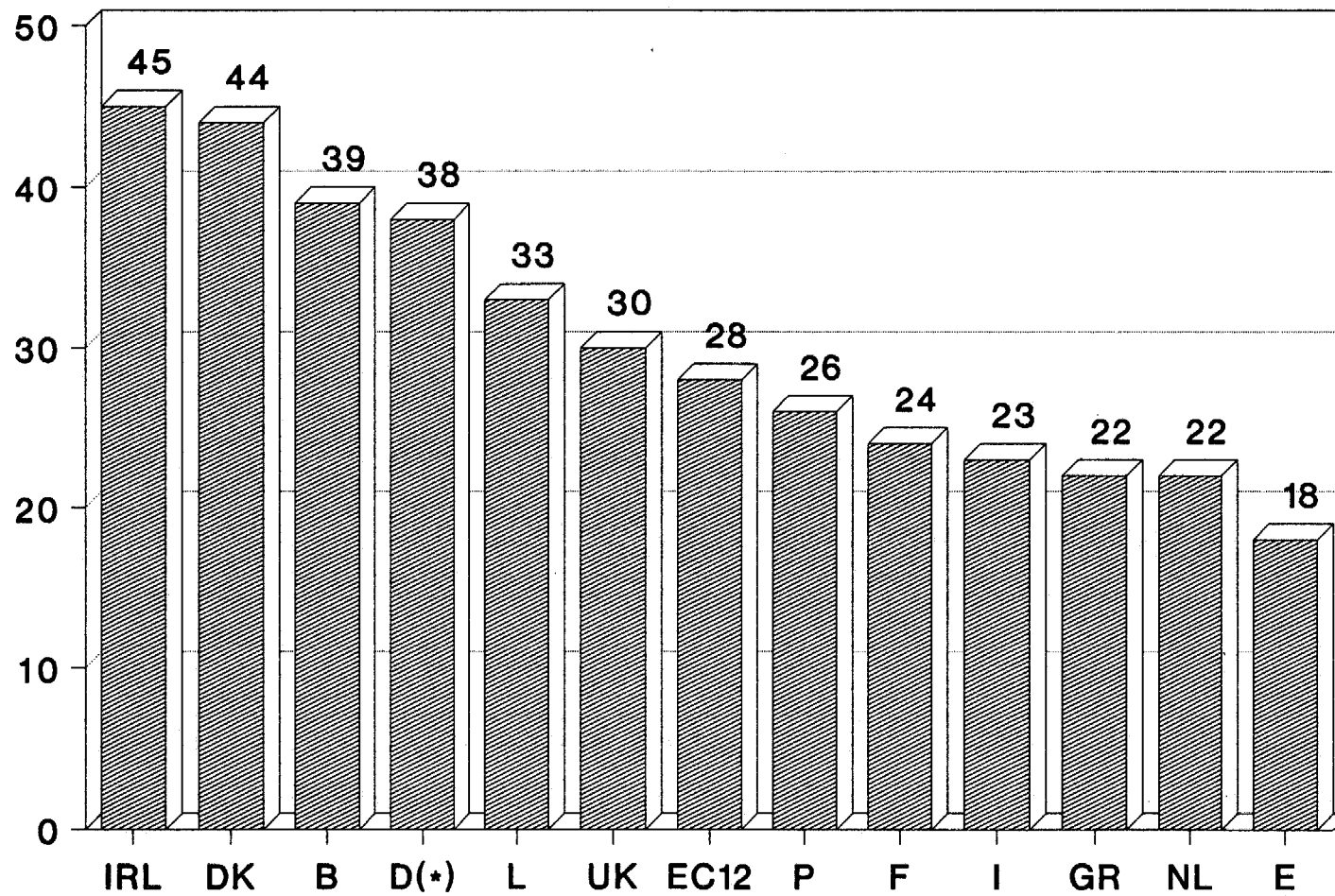
Since 1987, the level of participation in youth organisations such as youth clubs by 15 to 24 year olds has hardly changed at all. Of every three young European (cf. table 2.5):

- one participates regularly or from time to time (27% in 1987, 28% in 1990);
- one claims never to go (32% in 1987, 27% in 1990); and
- one believes that such organisations do not exist where they live (30% in 1987, 33% in 1990).

Even if differences between the sexes are gradually being eroded, young women remain far less likely to participate in these associations than young men. This is above all true in the 15 to 19 year old age group, where we see among other things a higher level of participation than among 20 to 24 year olds, both among men and women.

As graph 2.6 indicates, participation in these associations also varies very strongly from one country to another. It exceeds 40% in Denmark and Ireland. On the other hand, it doesn't even reach 25% in Greece, Spain, France, Italy or the Netherlands.

**Graph 2.6.: Occasional and Regular Participation in Youth Associations by 15-24 year olds (national percentages)**



(\*) ex-GDR: 39%; ex-FRG: 37%

## 2.5 Their feelings about discrimination to people of their own age

In both 1990 and 1987, 15 to 24 year olds were asked whether they thought that "some types of people of your age experienced discrimination in education, training, getting a job, or at work?" (in 1987 the question was: "certain groups of people"). Several responses were possible.

The order in which answers were given to this question is (cf. table 2.6 and graph 2.7):

1. the disabled;
2. non-whites;
3. children of immigrants;
4. unemployed;
5. young women;
6. none;
7. others.

In 1987, the range of answers were very similar, the only difference being an inversion of categories "3" (in 1987, this was slightly more restrictive: "children of immigrant workers") and "4"; categories which are ranked very close together, as in 1987.

This general stability masks certain non-negligible trends in the choices that young people make among the range of proposed responses. We note in fact:

- that young people, both men and women, are more aware of discrimination against disabled people (+4 points) and above all non-whites (+8 points). This is partly explained by a change in values with regards to coloured people: in 1987 the English version of the questionnaire (which serves as the basis for all national language versions of the questionnaire) talk of "people of colour" and not, more correctly, as in 1990, of "non-whites";
- that on the other hand, young people, both men and women, are less aware (-4 points) of discrimination against unemployed people.

As in 1987, young women are generally more sensitive to discrimination than young men:

- they agree with young men with regards to the children of immigrants and the unemployed (already the case in 1987);
- they are more aware, however, of discrimination against themselves as well as discrimination against coloured people and against disabled people (also the case in 1987). This divergence of opinion is as strong among 15 to 19 year olds as in the 20 to 24 year old age group.

On the whole 20 to 24 year olds are more aware of discrimination against other members of their own age group than are younger people. The only group where this age difference is not obvious (difference of less than 0.7 points) is with regards to racial discrimination.



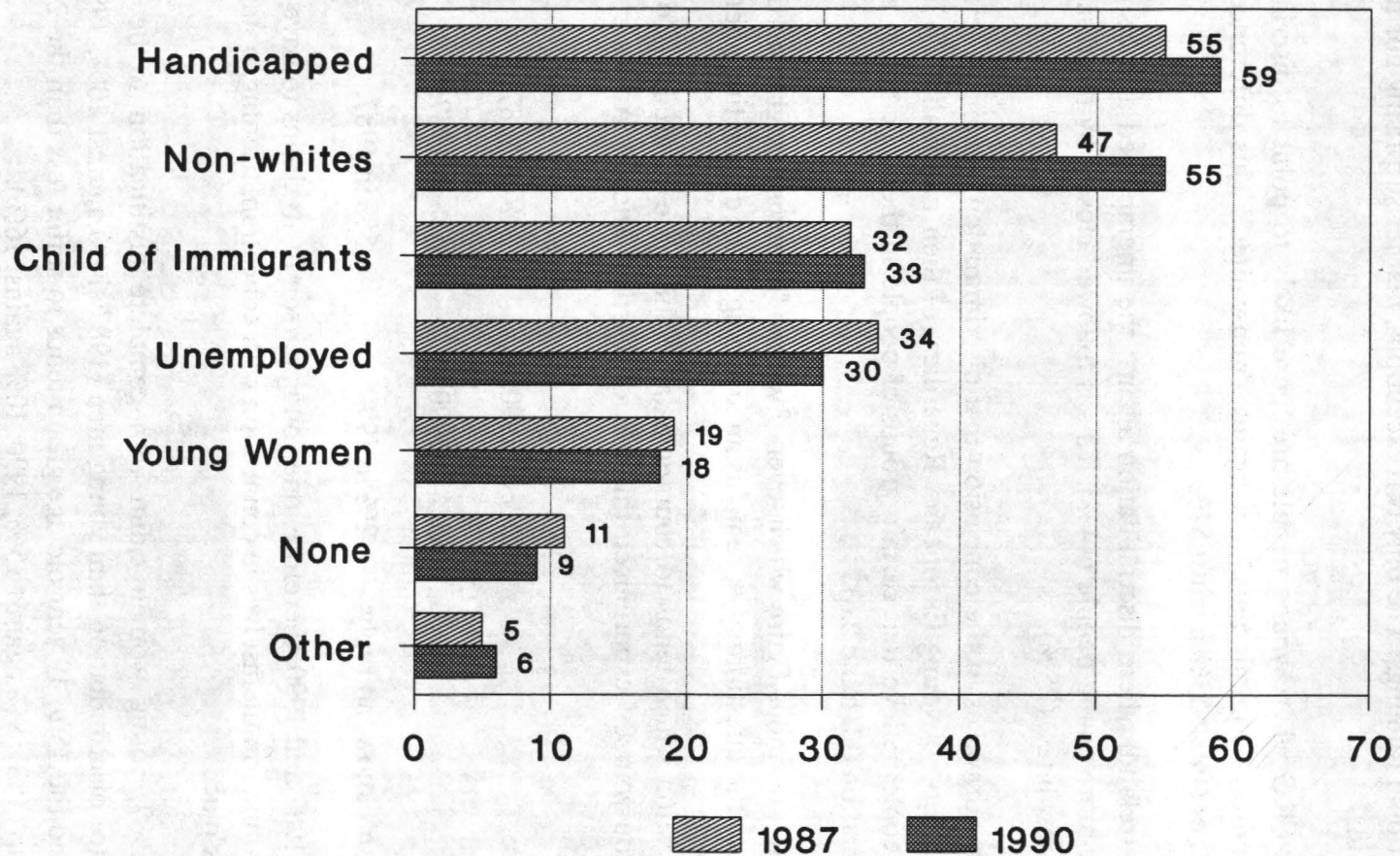
**Table 2.6: Which types of young people experience discrimination?**  
**(several answers possible)**  
**(figures 1987 and 1990 by sex; figures 1990 by age, sex and country - in %)**

Question: Do you think that some types of people of your age experience discrimination in education, training, getting a job or at work? (IF YES) Which types are you thinking of?

- |                           |                        |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| A. Handicapped            | E. Young women         |
| B. Non-whites             | F. Others              |
| C. Children of immigrants | G. None                |
| D. Unemployed             | H. Don't know/no reply |

		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Breakdown by sex (15 to 24 years); figures 1987 and 1990									
1987	Total	55	47	32	34	19	5	11	5
	women	57	50	33	33	22	3	8	5
	men	54	44	32	34	15	5	13	6
1990	Total	59	55	33	30	18	6	9	5
	women	62	56	33	29	23	6	7	5
	men	57	53	33	30	13	6	10	5
Breakdown by age and sex; figures 1990									
15 to 19 years	Total	57	55	32	25	15	5	10	5
	women	61	58	32	25	19	5	8	5
	men	55	53	32	24	10	4	11	5
20 to 24 years	Total	61	54	34	34	21	7	8	4
	women	63	55	33	33	26	7	7	5
	men	59	54	34	35	16	8	9	4
Breakdown by country (15 to 24 years); figures 1990									
	Belgium	52	54	45	23	13	4	10	7
	Denmark	54	75	46	31	23	3	8	3
	ex-FRG	63	51	53	36	22	8	9	7
	ex-GDR	60	42	39	29	27	3	9	8
	Germany	62	50	50	35	23	8	9	7
	Greece	69	51	23	34	23	2	4	1
	Spain	47	51	17	27	19	10	14	5
	France	56	51	45	35	13	6	7	4
	Ireland	42	25	11	44	21	8	14	11
	Italy	70	70	27	23	12	2	4	3
	Luxembourg	50	44	32	19	12	7	14	8
	Netherlands	60	64	35	15	8	8	10	2
	Portugal	52	45	9	21	24	5	12	13
	United Kingdom	58	53	20	31	21	5	9	4
	EEC 12	59	55	33	30	18	6	9	5

**Graph 2.7.: Which groups of Young People suffer from Discrimination (several answers possible)**  
**(evolution 1987-1990 in the opinion of Young People - in%)**



At the national level, we see strong differences of opinion. One strong trend does come out, however: the categories "handicapped" and "non-whites" take first or second place in most national rankings. The only two exceptions, neither surprising nor fundamental, are noticed in:

- Ex-FRG where young people are more likely to point to discrimination against children of immigrants than against "non-whites". This difference is nonetheless rather small: 53% against 51%.
- In Ireland, where discrimination against the unemployed attracts the attention of far more young people (44%). This is followed closely by the disabled (42%) and "non-whites" (25%).

All of this draws us to the conclusion that discrimination remains a serious problem in the perception of young Europeans. Regardless of their nationality, no less than 86% of young people believe that certain groups of people in their age group are penalised by discrimination (cf. table 2.6).

This is an enormous figure which, even if we can "relativise" slightly in the face of other answers to the questionnaire, remains an alarming if not disquieting phenomenon.

One question which tends to counter balance this state of affairs is one which asked "Have you yourself experienced this sort of discrimination?". Answers to this question were:

- |                        |              |              |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| - yes:                 | 13% in 1990; | 12% en 1987; |
| - no:                  | 85% in 1990; | 85% in 1987; |
| - Don't know/no reply: | 2% in 1990;  | 3% in 1987.  |

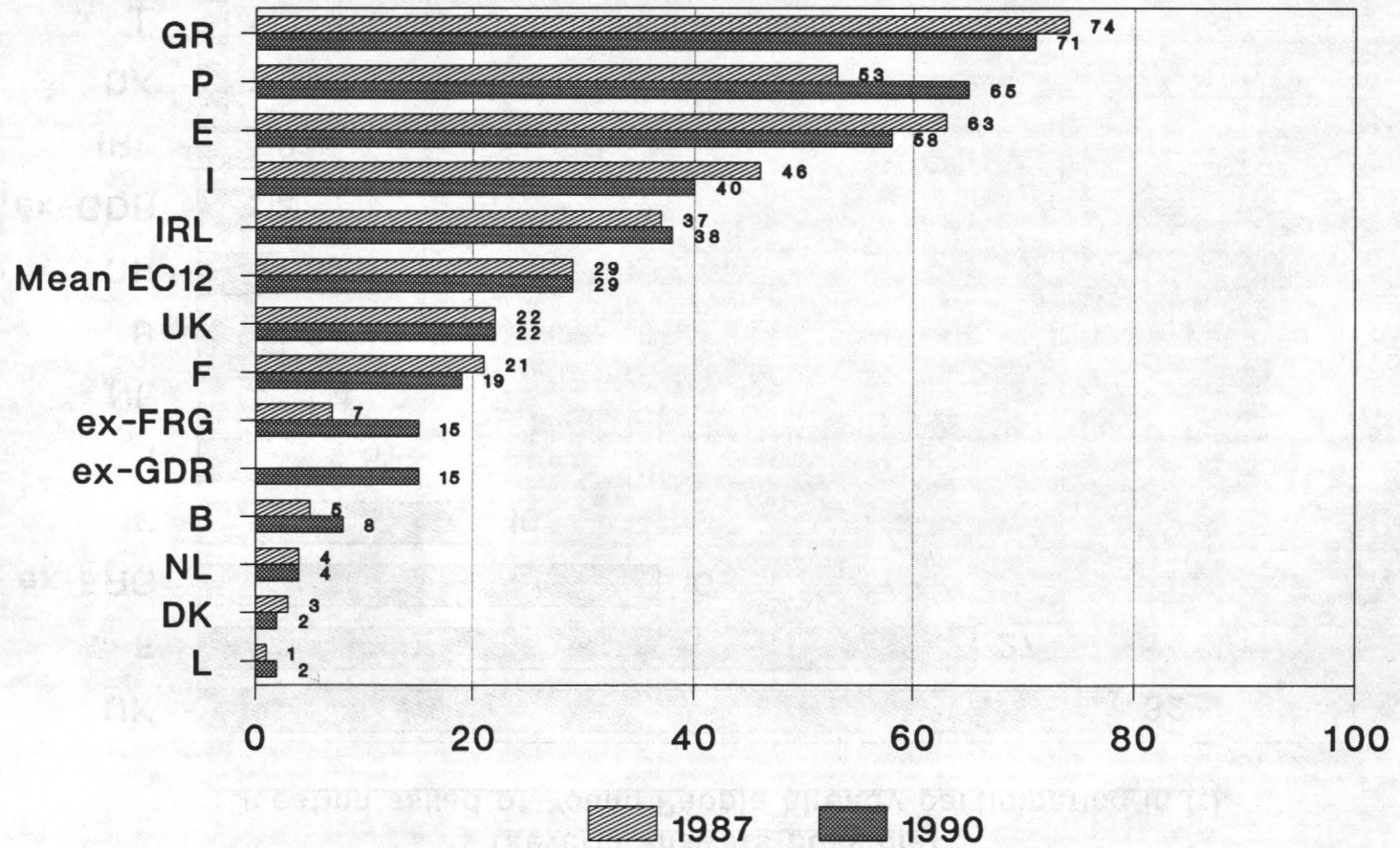
In both 1987 and 1990, therefore, one young person in 10 claims to have been the victim of discrimination themselves in connection with education, training, obtaining work or in the work place.

As in 1987, young women claim with complete justification to be more likely to experience discrimination than young men (1987: 14% against 10%; 1990: 18% against 12%); and the 15 to 19 year old age group tends to suffer less than the 20 to 24 year old age group (1987: 9% against 15%; 1990: 10% against 16%).

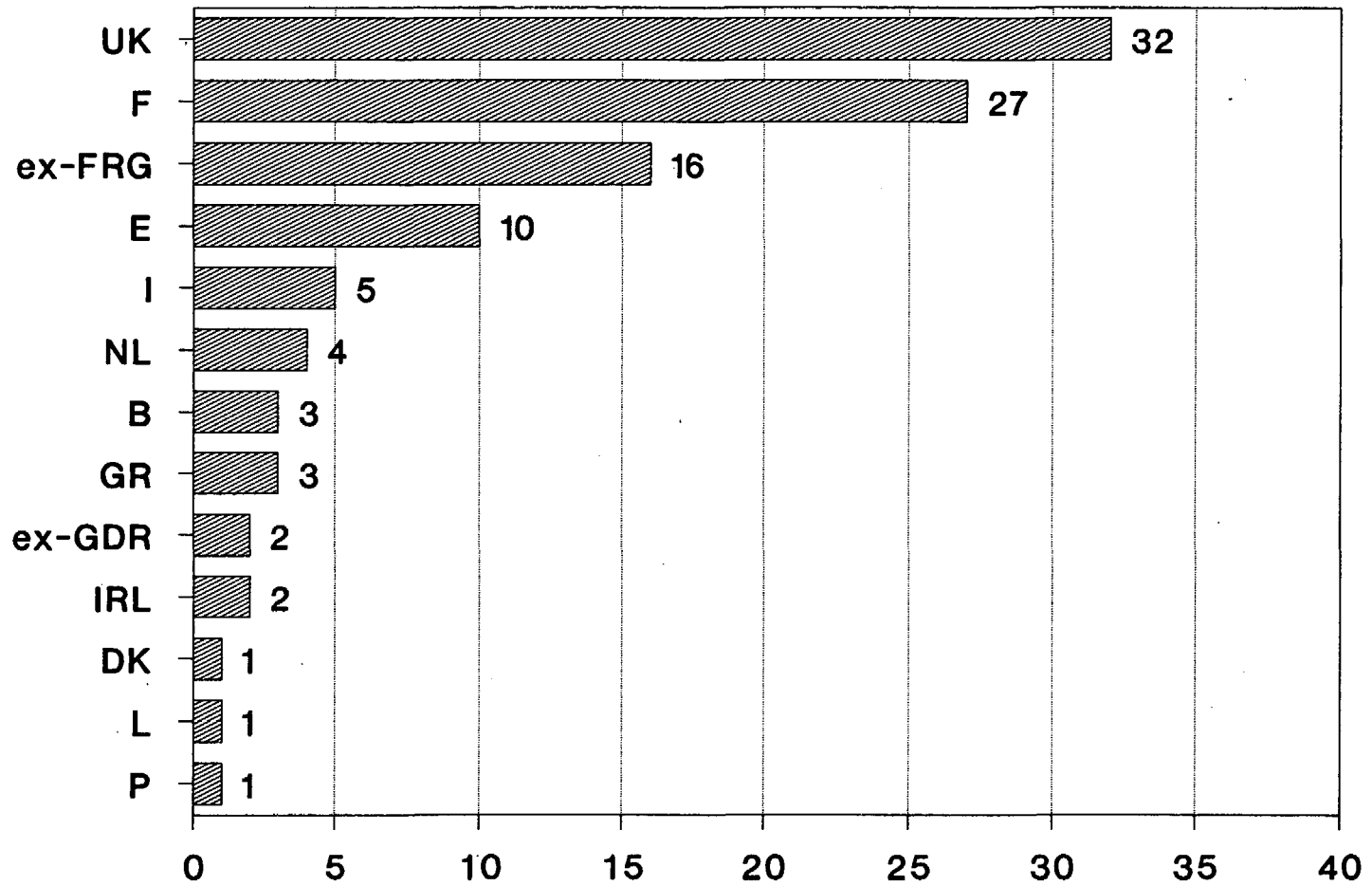
The feeling of having suffered from discrimination personally varies strongly from one country to another. In Germany (22%: 23% in ex-FRG and 18% in ex-GDR), the United Kingdom (17%), Ireland (16%) and the Netherlands (15%), young people are far more aware of having been discriminated against than young people in Denmark, Spain, Luxembourg (all with 8%), and Italy (6%).

**Chapter 3: Openness of Young  
Europeans to foreign countries -  
their travel, training and  
knowledge of foreign languages**

**Graph 3.1.: Percentages of Young Europeans never having  
been abroad  
(evolution 1987-1990 by country)**



**Graph 3.2.: Countries of the EC in which Young People have  
been abroad on a youth exchange  
(several answers possible)  
(Question asked of Young People already participating in it)**



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### **Chapter 3: Openness of Young Europeans to foreign countries - their travel, training and knowledge of foreign languages**

To begin this chapter it is perhaps useful to point out that three young Europeans in ten have never left their own country, and this is true for both men and women.

As in 1987, this average is nonetheless subject to significant differences from one country to another as shown in graph 3.1. In effect it ranges from 1 to 2% in Luxembourg and Denmark to more than 70% in Greece!

Looking at the way different countries are arranged around this mean, we note an important split between countries: Ireland as well as many countries in the South of Europe which are characterised by a high percentage of young people never having been abroad (38% to 71%) on the one side, and on the other most of the other member countries of the Community in which at least one young person in 4 (from 2% to 22%) has never left their own country.

**Table 3.1: Experience of young people of foreign countries - number of months spent abroad**  
**(figures 1987 and 1990 by sex; figures 1990 by age, occupation, educational level and financial situation - in %)**

Question: Have you ever been abroad? (IF YES) Counting all holidays and other trips you made abroad, how much time you say it amounts to, altogether?

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| A. Never been abroad   | E. 7 to 12 months      |
| B. Less than one month | F. More than 12 months |
| C. 1 to 2 months       | G. Don't know/no reply |
| D. 3 to 6 months       |                        |

		A	B	C	D	E	F	G
<b>Breakdown by sex (15 to 24 years)</b> figures 1987 and 1990								
1987	Total	29	23	17	15	5	10	1
	women	30	23	16	16	5	9	1
	men	28	22	17	15	6	11	1
1990	Total	29	24	17	15	5	10	1
	women	29	24	18	14	5	10	1
	men	28	24	16	15	5	10	1
<b>Breakdown by age, occupation, educational level and financial situation</b>								
<b>Age</b>								
	15 to 19 years	34	26	15	13	4	7	1
	20 to 24 years	23	22	19	16	6	13	1
<b>Occupation</b>								
	Active	26	23	19	15	5	10	1
	Studying	27	25	16	15	6	11	1
	Unemployed	47	24	12	7	3	7	1
<b>Educational level</b>								
	- 17 years	39	23	16	12	3	7	1
	17-18 years	26	26	18	15	6	10	1
	+ 18 years	16	23	18	19	9	16	1
<b>Financial situation</b>								
	Adequate	27	24	18	15	6	10	0
	Difficult	36	23	15	12	4	9	1



### **3.1 Their experience of foreign countries**

#### **3.1.1 The number of months they have spent abroad**

Looking at table 3.1 one of the first things that we notice is the relative stability of results between 1987 and 1990: the number of months that young people have spent abroad has not changed greatly.

As in 1987, the breakdown by sex does not suggest any important differences between the number of months that men or women spend abroad. Logically, age seems to be a more important factor.

In other words, whereas 60% of 15 to 19 year olds have never been abroad or have spent less than 1 month abroad, less than 45% of the 20 to 24 year old age group fall into this category. On the other hand, periods abroad of more than twelve months have been undertaken by at least 13% of 20 to 24 year olds, but less than 7% of 15 to 19 year olds.

Comparing the travel habits of young people from the point of view of education level, we do notice a clear trend: the greater the degree of educational training the longer tends to be the amount of time passed abroad. Young people with an educational level of less than 17 years (i.e. students aged less than 17 and young people having terminated their studies at 17 years) are much less likely to go abroad than those who have a level of educational training of 17 to 18 years or more, and this tendency increases with education level.

Occupation is also a strong influencing factor in determining the number of months that young people spend out of their country: economically active people and students are likely to spend twice as much time abroad than unemployed young people and nearly twice as many young people in this category spend more than two months abroad. This is without doubt a reflection of the fact that young people with financial difficulties find it much more difficult to travel.

**Table 3.2: Experience of young people of foreign countries - countries of the Community they have visited**  
**(question asked to 5.382 people (1987: 4.968) having been abroad)**  
**(evolution 1987-1990 by country)**

Question: Which of these countries have you ever visited for any reason at all?

A. Decreasing ranking of Community countries by the percentage of young Europeans who have been there (figures for 1987 and 1990; ranking by 1990 figures)

	1987	1990
France	47	48
Spain	44	43
Italy	31	30
ex-FRG	25	29
United Kingdom	23	24
Belgium	24	23
Netherlands	22	19
Greece	14	15
Luxembourg	15	13
Portugal	9	10
ex-GDR	-	9
Denmark	10	8
Ireland	10	6

B. Decreasing ranking of Community countries by the average number of Community countries that young Europeans of that nationality have visited (figures for 1990)

	1990
Luxembourg	4.8
Denmark	4.6
Belgium	4.2
Netherlands	4.2
ex-FRG	3.4
Germany	3.0
United Kingdom	2.8
Average EEC12	2.8
France	2.7
Ireland	2.0
Italy	1.9
Spain	1.8
Portugal	1.5
Greece	1.2
ex-GDR	1.1

### **3.1.2 The countries which they have visited - their principal destinations**

The travel objectives of young people have hardly changed at all in the last three years (cf. table 3.2). In 1990, young Europeans travelling abroad preferred to travel to France (47% in 1987; 48% in 1990), to Spain (44% in 1987; 43% in 1990) and to Italy (31% in 1987 and 30% in 1990).

As before, young Europeans from Luxembourg, Denmark, Belgium and the Netherlands have visited the most different countries in the European Community: they have visited on average more than 4 Community countries (between 4.2 and 4.8), whereas the youth of ex-GDR, Ireland and various other Southern European countries (as suggested in point 3.1) have only visited on average 2 countries or less (between 1.1. and 2.0).

It is important to emphasise that in most member countries more than 90% of the young people who have been abroad have been to at least one country in the Community (EC average: 94%). The only two "countries" which are exceptions to this rule are, unsurprisingly, Greece and ex-GDR.

- 65% of the young Greeks who have already left their country have never been to a Community country. The reasons for this must be largely geographical and have as a result that, even if they have only visited 1.2 Community countries on average, 48% of them (versus 34% in the EC as a whole) have nonetheless visited countries outside the European Community.
- 81% of young East Germans who have already left their country have never been to a European Community country. The principal reason for this is, of course, political and has as a result that even if they have only visited on average 1.1 European Community countries, 78% of them have nonetheless visited non-EC countries (again versus 34% for the EC as a whole).

**Table 3.3: Experience of young people of foreign countries - their periods abroad on youth exchanges**

(Question asked of 5,382 young people (1987: 4,968) who have been abroad)  
 (Global figures for 1987 and 1990; 1990 figures by age, sex, educational level, membership of "a club, an organisation, an association or a movement for young people" - several answers possible - in %)

Question: Have you ever been abroad on a youth exchange? (IF YES) Was it ...

- |    |  |    |  |
|----|--|----|--|
| A. | In a group, organised by school or university        | B. | In a group, arranged by an organisation          |
| C. | For a stay with a family arranged by an organisation | D. | For a stay with a family, by private arrangement |
| E. | Other  | F. | Never been abroad on a youth exchange            |

		A	B	C	D	E	F
All 15 to 24 years; figures 1987 and 1990							
1987	Total	18	7	4	6	3	69
1990	Total	20	9	7	8	5	66
Breakdown by age, sex and educational level							
Age	15 to 19 years	23	10	8	8	4	64
	20 to 24 years	17	8	7	8	5	69
15 to 24 years	Total	20	9	7	8	5	66
	Women	22	9	8	9	4	64
	Men	18	9	7	7	5	69
Educational level	- 17 years	14	6	4	5	4	75
	17-18 years	22	9	8	7	4	65
	+ 18 years	24	12	10	11	6	59
Breakdown by membership of a youth organisation							
Member	Yes	23	15	11	11	4	61
	No	18	6	6	6	5	69

### 3.1.3 Their travel abroad on a youth exchange

The split between different kinds of foreign visits has remained similar between 1987 and 1990 (cf. table 3.3). Proportions are generally somewhat higher, however, regardless of the type of organisation chosen.

Even if in 1987, 69% of 15 to 24 year olds had been abroad in the context of a youth exchange, this has fallen to 66% in 1990.

The figure will probably decrease further in coming years especially since more and more 15 to 19 year olds are going abroad. These visits are more often than not undertaken in the context of groups organised by a school or university: after these particular types of organisation they have recourse to several other types of exchange without any particular preference for the type. 20 to 24 year olds going abroad tend to use the same means.

Overseas stays with families have seen a far more limited success, particularly among the 20 to 24 year olds, and this regardless of whether the trip has been arranged by an organisation or privately. This trend was already visible in 1987.

As in 1987, young women are more likely to travel abroad in the context of a youth exchange than young men. We note that young people in general are more likely to travel abroad the higher is their educational level.

As 28% of young people are members of a club, organisation or a youth movement, it would seem interesting to see whether this has any influence on the way that young people travel abroad in the context of an exchange. The breakdown of data seems to support this, since 39% of members of these clubs or organisations have travelled abroad, versus 31% of non-members.

Preference for organised travel as described above is particularly strong among younger people. One supposes that these exchanges either take place in the context of a group in which young people are members, or as a result of a network of local relations abroad. It is also in this subgroup that we note a higher percentage of people staying with a family (either a private arrangement or through an organisation).

The principal destinations chosen by young people in the context of these exchanges (cf. graph 3.2) are the United Kingdom, France, ex-FRG and Spain.

**Table 3.4: Experience of young people of foreign countries - their mobility in work  
(question asked to 3.382 people (1987: 4.968) having been abroad)  
(figures 1987 and 1990 by sex; figures 1990 by age and educational level - in %)**

Question: Have you ever worked abroad? (IF YES) Counting all the periods you have spent working abroad, how much time would you say it amounts, altogether?

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| A. Never worked abroad | B. Less than one month |
| C. One to 6 months     | D. 7 to 12 months      |
| E. More than 12 months | F. Don't know/no reply |

		A	B	C	D	E	F
Breakdown by sex (15 to 24 years); figures 1987 and 1990							
1987	Total	93	1	2	1	1	2
	Women	94	1	2	0	1	2
	Men	93	1	2	1	1	2
1990	Total	92	2	3	1	1	2
	Women	92	2	3	0	1	2
	Men	91	2	4	1	1	1

Breakdown by age and  
educational level; figures 1990

Age	15 to 19 years	95	1	1	0	0	2
	20 to 24 years	89	3	5	1	2	1
Educational level	- 16 years	94	0	2	1	2	0
	16-19 years	91	2	3	1	2	0
	+ 19 years	86	3	7	1	1	1
	Still studying	93	2	3	1	0	1

### **3.1.4 Their mobility in work, studies and training**

Among the young people interviewed, only 8% (or 364 individuals) who had been abroad have worked abroad (7% in 1987) (cf. table 3.4). Unfortunately it is not possible to analyse this information to any great extent. Note, however, that young Danes and Irish number among the highest number of young people with overseas experience who have worked abroad.

15 to 19 year olds, who are already less likely to travel abroad (cf. table 3.1) than 20 to 24 year olds, are also less likely to have worked abroad, for obvious reasons.

The higher their educational level, the more common it is to have overseas work experience, above all for periods from 1 to 6 months.

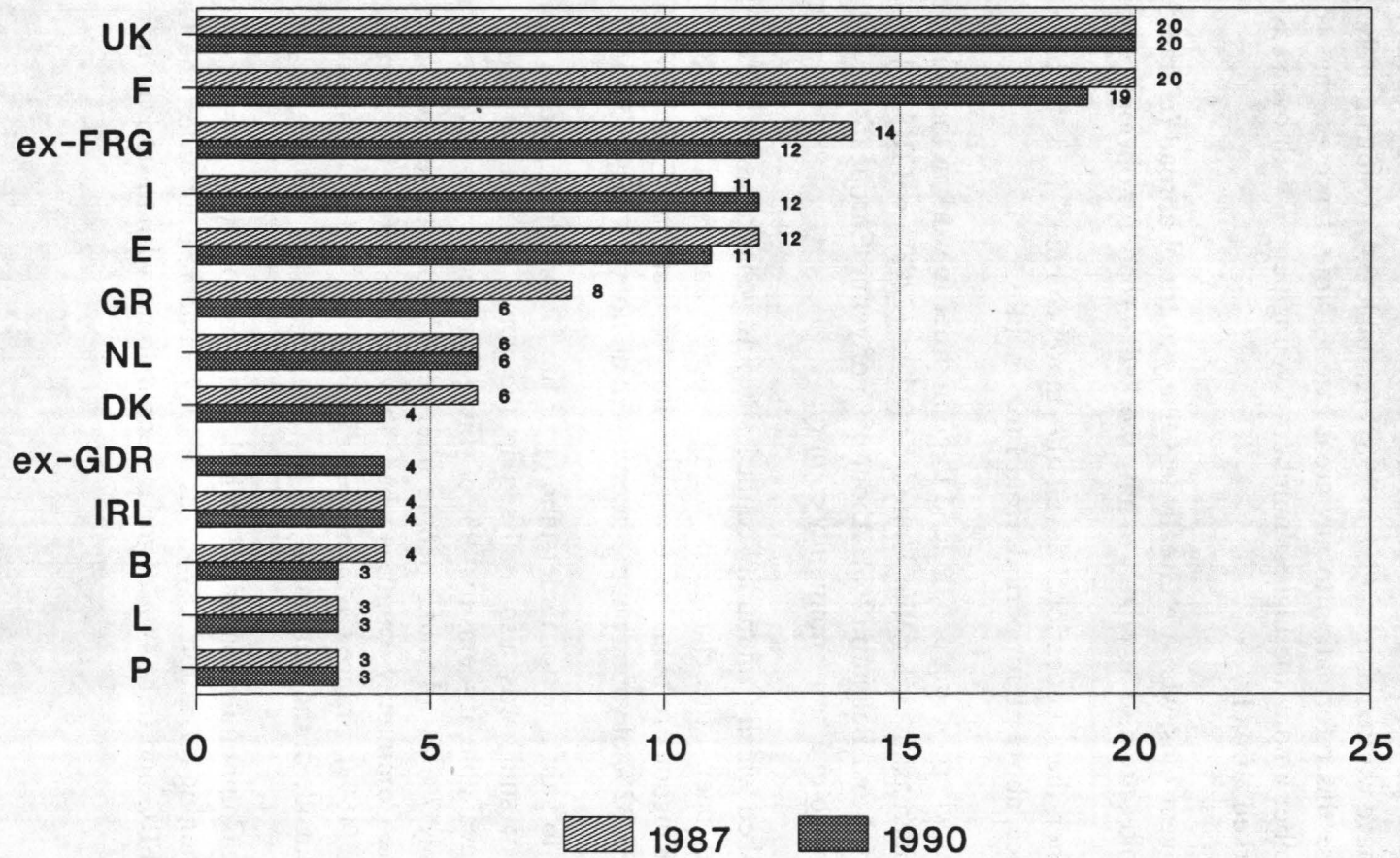
Countries where young people tend to go in order to work in the European Community are, in decreasing order: the United Kingdom (22%), ex-FRG (14%), France (13%), Spain (9%) and Belgium (7%). About 35% of young Europeans having worked abroad have done so in a non-Community country.

When asked which Community countries "would you like to go and work for a while?", there has been little change in young peoples' answers since 1987: France and the United Kingdom remain the two favourite destinations chosen by young people (cf. graph 3.3). 32% of young people interviewed do not wish to go abroad.

In order to gain a better understanding of the factors driving youth mobility, travel for reasons of study was also analysed in the young Europeans questionnaire. Of the answers available, it seems that 9% of young Europeans who have been abroad, in other words only 7% of all young people interviewed, have travelled abroad to study or to train. The Community countries where they go most often for training are the United Kingdom (46%), France (20%) and ex-FRG (11%). 21% of them have undertaken their studies outside of the Community.

The four Community countries in which young people would prefer to go and study or attend training (cf. graph 3.4) are, as in 1987, in decreasing order: the United Kingdom, France, FRG and Italy. 44% of young people do not wish to study or train abroad.

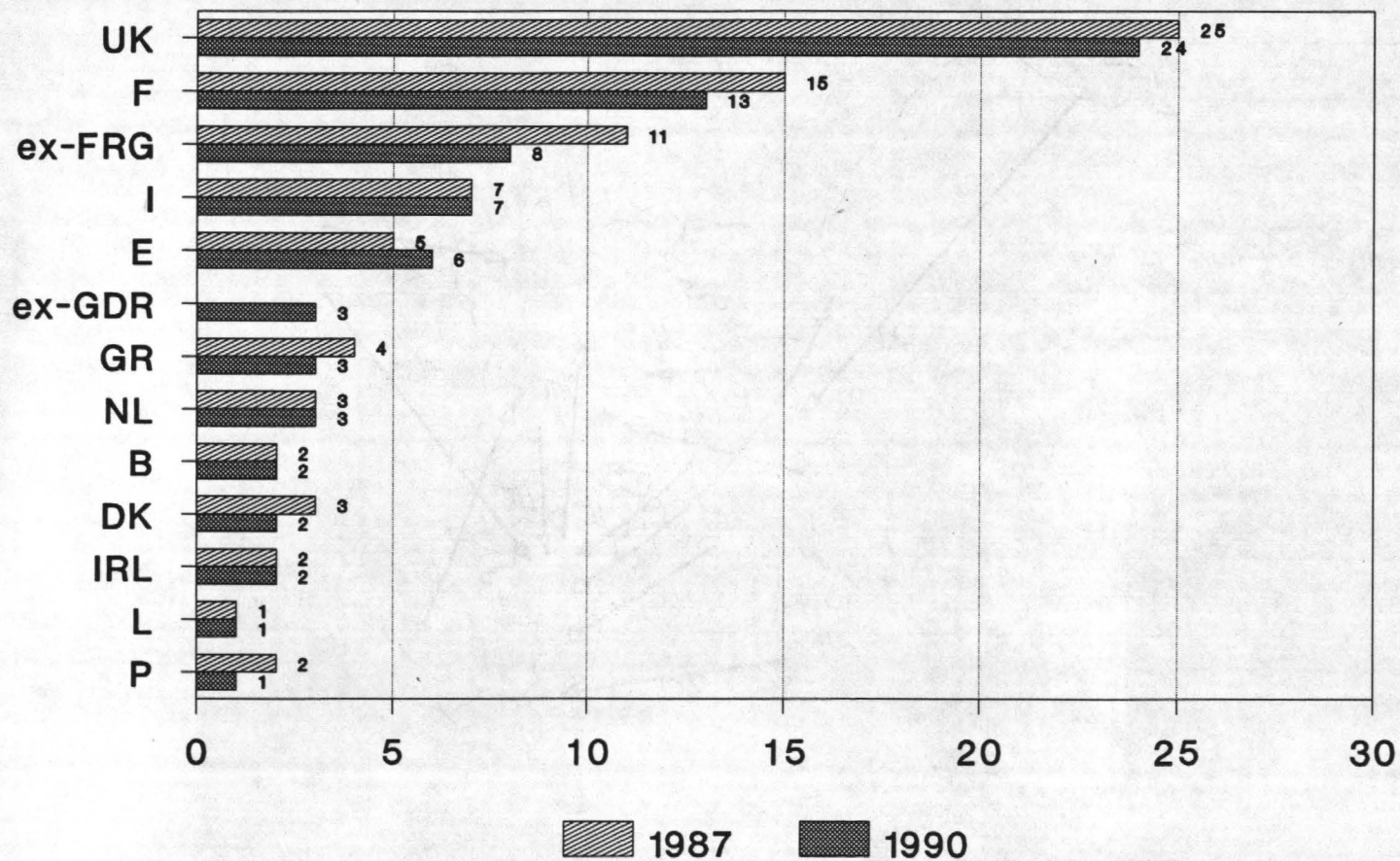
**Graph 3.3.: EC-countries in which Young People would like to work for some time**  
**(evolution 1987-1990 - several answers possible - in %)**



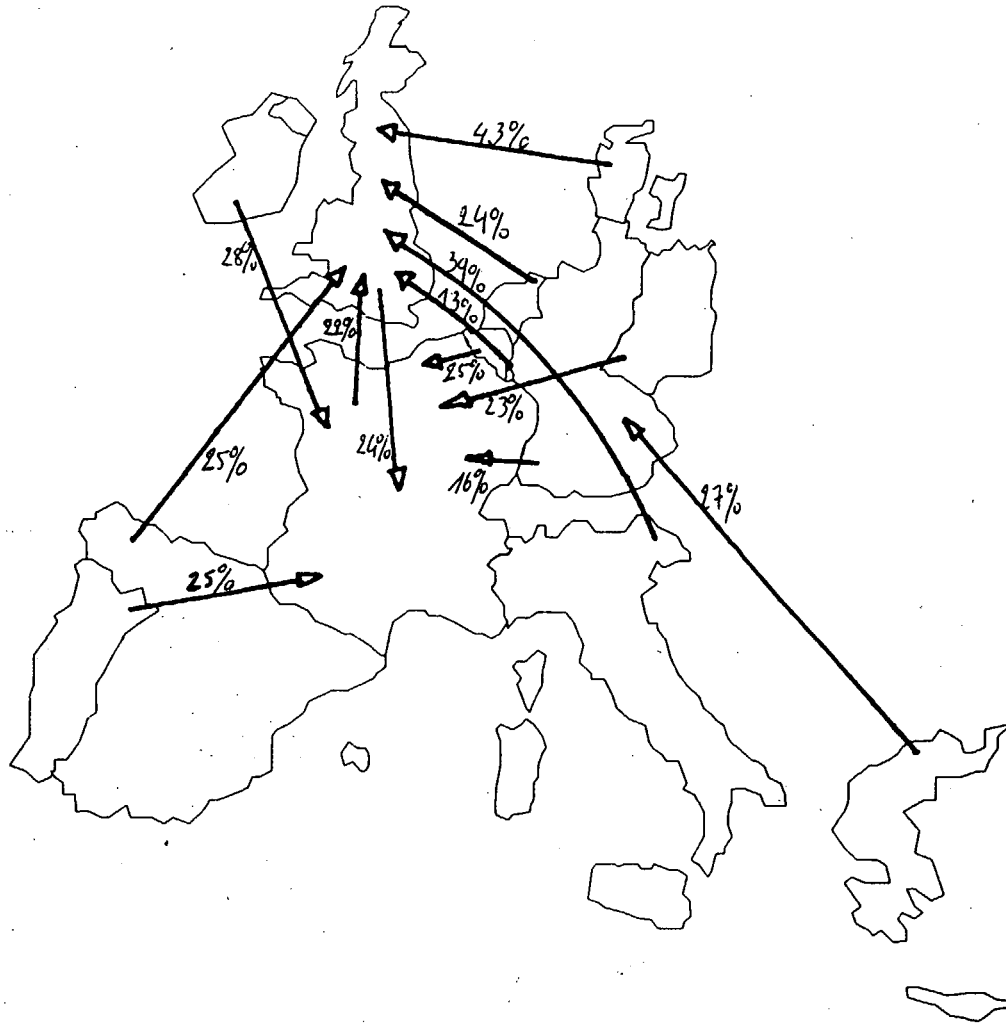


**Graph 3.4.: EC-countries in which Young People would like  
to study or train**

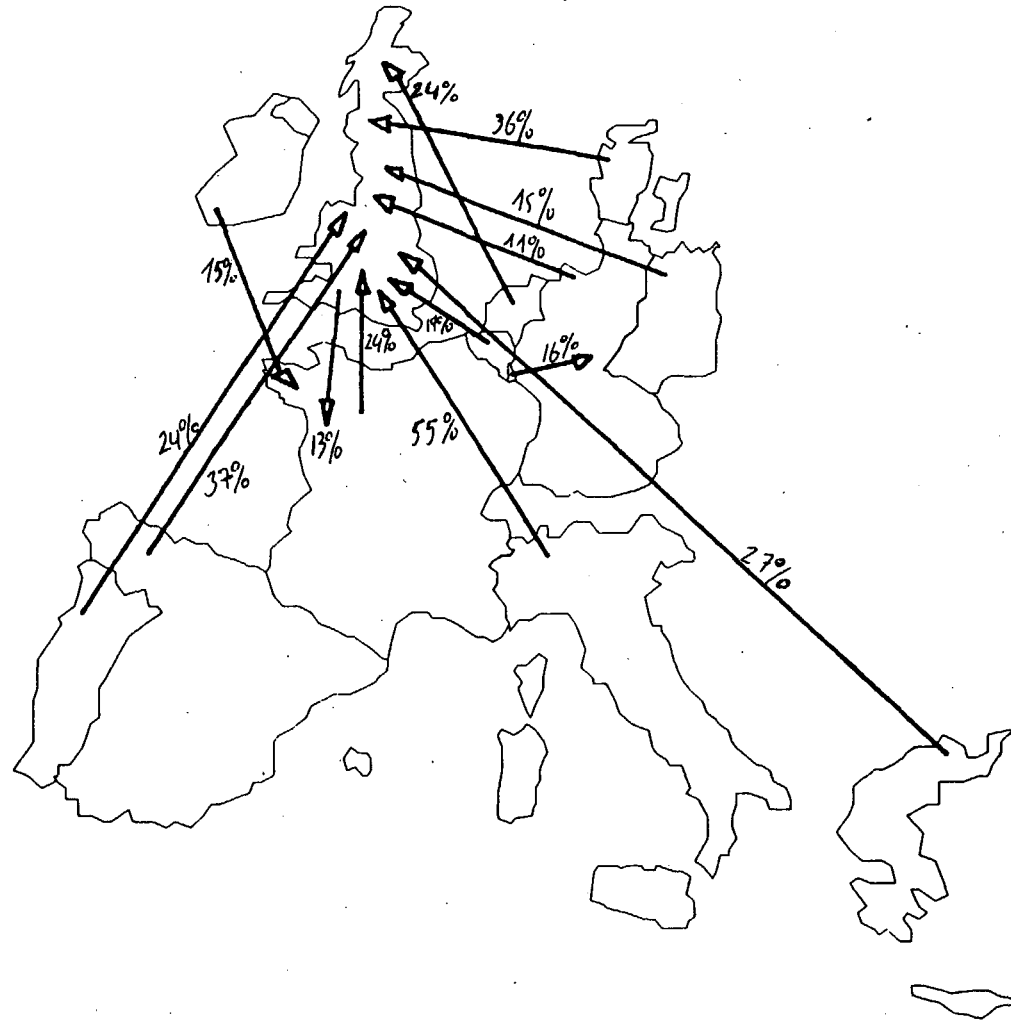
**(evolution 1987-1990 - several answers possible - in %)**



Map 3.1. : EC countries in which young people would like to work (for each country, first choice of destination)



Map 3.2. : EC countries in which young people would like to study (for each country, first choice of destination)



**Table 3.5: Experience of young people of foreign countries - principal reasons cited for not going abroad for work or for study or professional training)**  
**(question asked to all young people)**  
**(global figures for 1987 and 1990; 1990 figures by age, sex, educational level and country - in %)**

Question: If you were interested in going abroad for work or for study or professional training, what do you think would be your main problem? (ONE ANSWER ONLY)

- |    |   |    |                                   |
|----|---|----|-----------------------------------|
| A. | I would have problems with the language               | E. | My family would not want me to go |
| B. | I could not afford it                                 | F. | Other                             |
| C. | I would not know how to find a place to work or study | G. | Not interested                    |
| D. | I am afraid I would be homesick                       | H. | Don't know/No reply               |

		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
All 15 to 24 years; figures 1987 and 1990									
1987	Total	35	14	12	6	5	7	13	8
1990	Total	32	17	16	8	7	4	10	5

Breakdown by age, sex and educational level; figures 1990

15 to 19	Total	32	18	18	9	8	3	8	5
20 to 24	Total	33	17	14	8	7	5	12	6
15 to 24 years	Total	32	17	16	8	7	4	10	5
	Women	28	18	17	9	10	4	10	5
	Men	37	16	15	7	5	3	10	6
Educational level	-17 years	35	15	15	8	8	3	12	5
	17-18 years	32	18	16	8	7	4	10	6
	+ 18 years	28	20	18	9	7	5	8	6

Breakdown by country (15 to 24 years); figures 1990

Belgium	25	17	14	10	7	4	11	13
Denmark	19	29	19	9	3	5	3	12
ex-FRG	23	19	13	5	5	5	22	7
ex-GDR	34	23	12	4	5	1	18	7
Germany	25	20	13	5	5	5	21	3
Greece	32	26	21	10	5	1	2	4
Spain	44	13	16	8	7	4	8	1
France	30	20	19	8	4	3	10	6
Ireland	36	19	17	7	6	2	10	3
Italy	34	11	22	12	14	1	3	3
Luxembourg	13	13	18	9	4	13	17	13
Netherlands	20	15	13	12	7	8	15	9
Portugal	33	17	19	8	8	2	7	6
United Kingdom	39	18	11	9	8	5	4	6
EEC 12	32	17	16	8	7	4	10	5

### **3.1.5 Their main reasons for not working, studying or training abroad**

In 1990 as in 1987, the four major reasons given by young people for not working, studying or training abroad are, among both 15 to 19 year olds and 20 to 24 year olds: fear of problems with the language, money, difficulties in finding a place to work or study and lack of interest (cf. table 3.5. and graph 3.5).

Men are more likely to think of difficulties with the language than women, whereas they have less of a problem with going abroad than women in general.

The higher their educational level, less is language cited as an obstacle for travel and higher is the general level of interest in foreign travel, but on the other hand, lack of funds and fear concerning ability to find a place of work or study is cited more frequently.

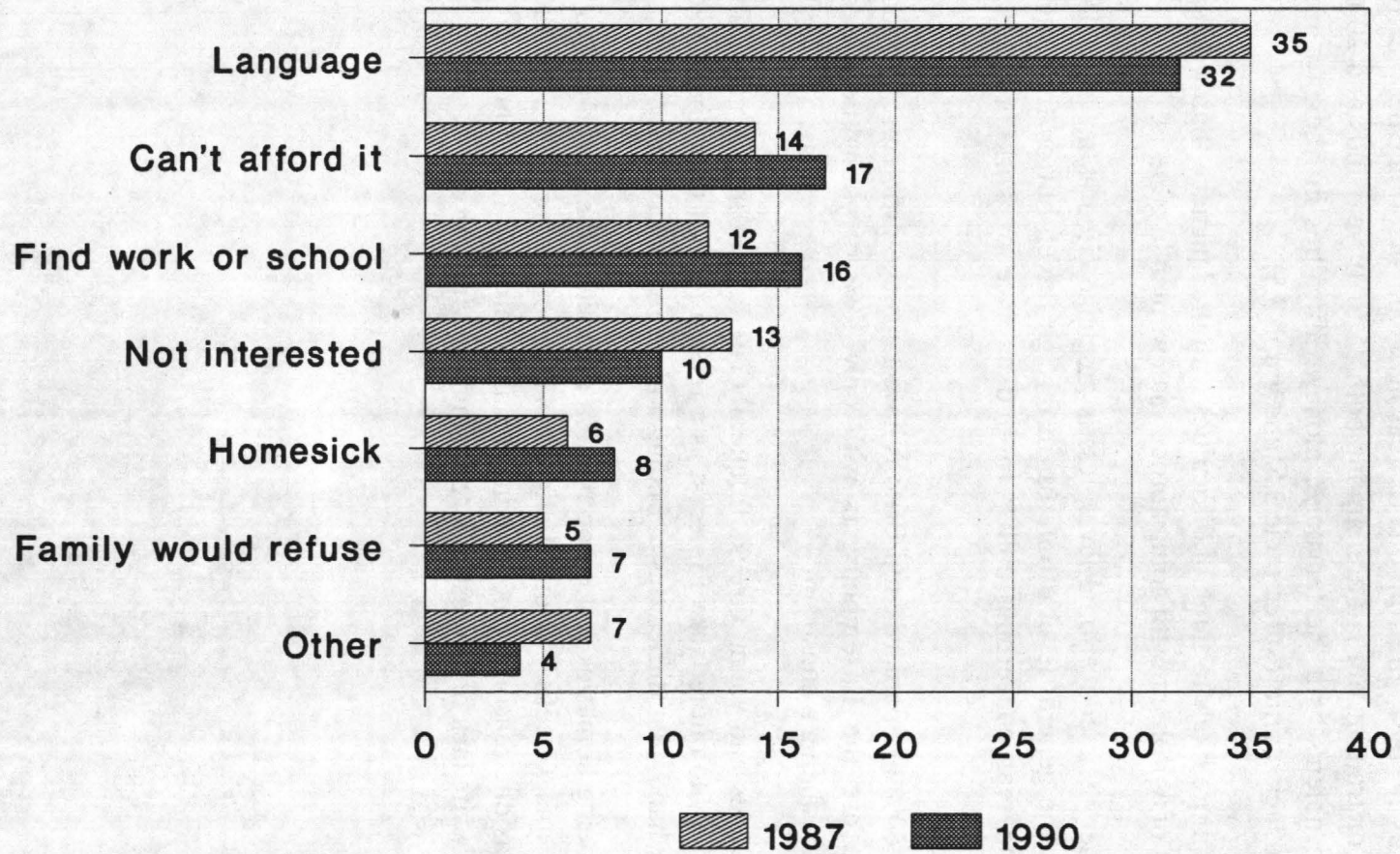
Roughly 40% of Spaniards and Britons have language problems. The most confident in this area are the Luxembourgers with only 13% of young people citing language problems as being a constraint.

Young Danes and young Greeks frequently cite lack of money as an obstacle, and are very unlikely to quote lack of interest as a reason for not travelling. Luxembourgers, on the other hand, fear difficulties in finding a place to work or study.

Fear of being homesick is a preoccupation of Italians, the Dutch and to a lesser extent, Belgians and Greeks. Among Italians, 14% also cite reticence on the part of their families as one reason for not leaving. Finally Germans, Luxembourgers and the Dutch frequently cite lack of interest as a reason not moving abroad.

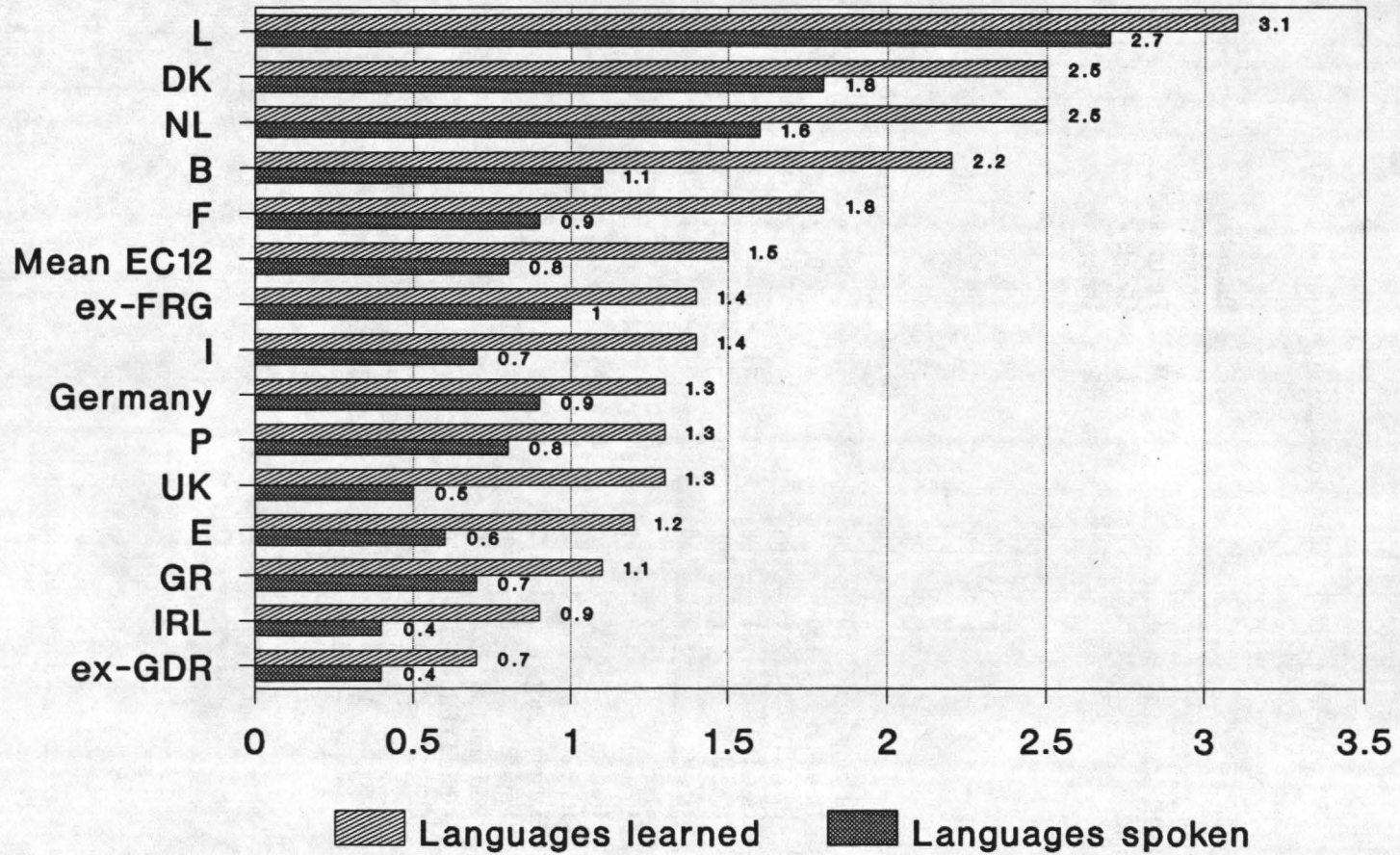
**Graph 3.5.: Main reason for not working, studying or training abroad**

**(evolution 1987-1990 - one answer only - in %)**





**Graph 3.6.:Average Number of Foreign Languages  
known or spoken by Young People  
(National averages)**



**Table 3.6: Languages that young people use at home  
(by country - in %)**

Question: Which (one or more) of these languages do you use at home?

- |    |         |    |            |
|----|---------|----|------------|
| A. | Danish  | F. | English    |
| B. | German  | G. | Spanish    |
| C. | French  | H. | Portuguese |
| D. | Italian | I. | Greek      |
| E. | Dutch   | J. | Other      |

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
Belgique	0	0	39	1	58	1	0	0	0	1
Denmark	100	1	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
ex-FRG	1	98	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
ex-GDR	1	98	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Germany	1	98	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Greece	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	99	1
Spain	0	0	1	0	0	1	88	0	0	18
France	0	1	94	2	0	2	1	1	0	2
Ireland	0	0	1	0	0	97	0	0	0	2
Italy	0	0	1	100	0	1	0	0	0	1
Luxembourg	0	2	4	3	1	1	0	1	3	87
Pays-Bas	0	0	0	0	95	2	0	0	0	5
Portugal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0
United-Uni	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	2
CE 12	2	23	16	17	6	19	11	3	3	3



### **3.2 Their knowledge of foreign languages and how they learned them**

The objective of this section is to look the extent to which young Europeans have mastered other Community languages. The question only covers knowledge of the nine official languages of the Community: Danish, German, French, Italian, Dutch, English, Portuguese and Greek.

The analysis distinguishes between foreign languages "learned" and foreign languages "spoken well enough to take in a conversation". The objective is to understand the way in which languages are acquired, as well as the motivation and the will of young Europeans to learn other languages.

#### **3.2.1 Language or languages they speak at home**

In most countries of the Community, peoples' mother tongue corresponds to the national language of the country (cf. table 3.6). Belgium, where there are three national languages (French, Dutch and, even if it is only spoken by a small proportion of the population in the East of the country, German), is no exception to this rule.

Two exceptions should be pointed out:

- Spain, where 88% of young people speak Spanish at home, but 18% also speak another language. This country is of course characterised by a strong regional culture, unofficial languages such as Catalan still being spoken strongly at home.
- Luxembourg, where 87% of young people speak a non-official but national language, Luxembourgish, at home.

**Table 3.7: Foreign languages that young people have learned, except for their mother tongue**

(figures 1987 and 1990 by age; figures 1990 by age, sex and education level - in %)

Question: Which of the following languages have you learned (except your mother tongue)? (Several answers possible)

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| A. Danish  | G. Spanish                                       |
| B. German  | H. Portuguese                                    |
| C. French  | I. Greek   |
| D. Italian | J. Other   |
| E. Dutch   | K. None (choice not proposed in 1987)            |
| F. English | L. Don't know/no reply (included "None" in 1987) |

		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
<b>Breakdown by age; figures 1987 and 1990</b>													
1987	15 to 24 years	0	19	42	3	2	60	10	1	1	9	-	14
	25 years +	0	12	23	4	1	29	6	1	1	7	-	49
1990	15 to 24 years	1	18	42	4	2	66	12	1	1	10	10	0
	25 years +	1	13	24	3	1	33	8	1	1	6	44	1
<b>Breakdown by age and sex</b>													
15 to 19	Total	1	19	43	3	2	69	13	1	1	10	8	0
20 to 24	Total	0	18	40	4	2	63	11	1	1	9	13	0
15 to 24 years	Total	1	18	42	4	2	66	12	1	1	10	10	0
	Women	1	19	46	4	2	67	14	1	1	11	9	0
	Men	0	17	38	3	2	64	10	1	1	9	12	0
25 years +	Total	1	13	24	3	1	33	8	1	1	6	44	1
	Women	1	12	23	3	1	31	8	0	1	6	46	1
	Men	1	15	24	3	2	36	8	1	1	6	42	1
<b>Breakdown by educational level</b>													
Educational level	- 17 years	0	13	40	2	1	52	9	0	1	10	17	0
	17-18 years	1	20	43	4	2	69	13	1	1	10	7	0
	+ 18 years	0	24	44	5	3	83	16	1	2	10	4	0

### **3.2.2 Foreign languages they have learned**

Among both young people and adults, the proportions and choices of foreign languages learned have changed very little between 1987 and 1990. The strongest trends are also the same as before, with one notable exception among both 15 to 24 year olds (+6 points) and among those over 24 years old (+4 points): studies of English. The percentage of those having learned Spanish has also increased but to a less significant degree (+2 points among both young and old people).

It is still among the under 25s that we find the highest levels of studies of a foreign language (42% of young people have learned French against only 24% of adults, 66% of young people have learned English against 33% of adults, etc.). This fact is even more striking if we note that only 10% of 15 to 24 year olds have not learned a foreign language, whereas 44% of the over 25s fall into this category!

A more detailed analysis of the 15 to 24 category underlines yet again that it is the younger sub-group (15 to 19 years old) who learn foreign languages more. This can be attributed principally to the ways that languages are taught.

**Table 3.8: Foreign languages that young people have learned and "speak well enough to take part in a conversation" (several answers possible) - (in %)**

Questions 1: Which of the following languages have you learned (except your mother tongue)? (Several answers possible)

Question 2: And which of these languages can you speak well enough to take part in a conversation (except your mother tongue)? (Several answers possible)

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| A. Danish  | G. Spanish                                       |
| B. German  | H. Portuguese                                    |
| C. French  | I. Greek   |
| D. Italian | J. Other   |
| E. Dutch   | K. None (choice not proposed in 1987)            |
| F. English | L. Don't know/no reply (included "None" in 1987) |

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
1) Foreign languages learned												
Belgium	0	33	56	6	31	80	8	0	3	4	6	0
Denmark	0	96	40	2	1	100	10	1	1	3	0	0
ex-FRG	1	1	36	4	1	87	4	1	1	11	11	0
ex-GDR	1	0	6	0	0	66	1	0	1	77	10	0
Germany	1	1	31	3	1	84	3	0	1	23	11	0
Greece	0	3	22	7	0	76	1	0	0	4	18	1
Spain	1	3	29	3	1	65	15	1	1	9	17	0
France	0	29	3	10	1	90	39	2	1	7	6	1
Ireland	0	15	69	2	0	3	5	0	0	21	22	0
Italy	0	11	54	0	2	72	4	1	0	2	4	0
Luxembourg	2	95	97	13	3	91	6	2	1	0	1	2
Netherlands	0	84	59	2	5	95	7	0	2	6	2	1
Portugal	0	3	62	2	1	55	4	0	0	1	29	1
United Kingdom	1	28	80	2	0	3	11	0	1	8	13	0
EEC 12	1	18	42	4	2	66	12	1	1	10	10	0
2) Foreign languages spoken												
Belgium	0	14	33	4	10	51	3	0	0	1	31	1
Denmark	0	67	9	1	0	95	3	0	0	1	2	1
ex-FRG	1	1	20	2	1	68	3	0	1	4	28	1
ex-GDR	1	0	2	0	0	35	0	0	0	15	57	0
Germany	1	1	17	2	1	62	2	0	0	6	33	1
Greece	0	2	9	3	0	52	1	0	0	3	43	1
Spain	0	1	11	1	0	27	15	1	0	8	50	1
France	0	13	3	4	0	53	19	1	0	1	33	2
Ireland	0	6	26	1	0	3	2	0	0	8	61	4
Italy	0	3	27	0	1	37	2	0	0	0	39	1
Luxembourg	3	91	92	11	2	67	3	1	0	0	0	1
Netherlands	0	58	14	0	5	85	1	0	0	0	6	2
Portugal	0	1	35	2	1	34	4	0	0	0	52	1
United Kingdom	0	8	31	1	0	3	3	0	0	1	61	0
EEC 12	0	9	19	2	1	42	6	0	0	3	40	1

As far as the languages learned are concerned (cf. table 3.8), English is the most widely learned language in every country of the European Community, except in Luxembourg and in Portugal where it is French, and in ex-GDR where it is a non-Community language that comes in first place. We should also underline the fact that in ex-GDR some 77% of young people have learned a non-official Community language. Despite the relatively small size of this group within the total sample (4%), this high percentage nonetheless has a significant influence on other results in this area: the community mean for this particular question would be 7% (instead of 10%) if we excluded young people in ex-GDR from the results.

Immediately following English is French (which is listed by most young people in Denmark and Netherlands) and then, less frequently, German. Spanish is generally the fourth language learned by young Europeans.

We also note with interest that among young people many more young women learn the four most learned languages in the Community, whereas this trend reverses among adults: it is men above 24 years old who speak these four languages the most (for Spanish it is the same).

By the same token, women between 15 to 24 years old are more likely than men not to have learned any foreign languages, whereas the reverse is true of the 25 and over.

Looking at educational level, there is a regular trend: the higher their educational level, the higher is the number of languages learned: it goes from 1.2 (for those terminating education under 17) to 1.5 (studies terminating between 17 and 18 years), to 1.8 (education ended over 18 years).

At community level, the average number of languages learned is 1.5. This average varies greatly from one country to another (cf. graph 3.6): it is less than 1 in Ireland and in ex-GDR: it is at least 2.5 in Luxembourg, Denmark, the Netherlands, and in the Flemish region of Belgium (whereas the average number of languages learned in Flanders is 2.5, native French-speakers in Belgium have only learned 1.8 on average).

**Table 3.9: Foreign languages that young people "speak well enough to take part in a conversation", except for their mother tongue (figures 1987 and 1990 by age; figures 1990 by age, sex and educational level - several answers possible - in %)**

Question: And which of these languages can you speak well enough to take part in a conversation (except your mother tongue)? (Several answers possible)

- A. Danish
- B. German
- C. French
- D. Italian
- E. Dutch
- F. English

- G. Spanish
- H. Portuguese
- I. Greek
- J. Other
- K. None (choice not proposed in 1987)
- L. Don't know/no reply (included "None" in 1987)

		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
<b>Breakdown by age; figures 1987 and 1990</b>													
1987	15 to 24 years	0	8	16	2	1	34	4	0	0	4	-	48
	25 years +	0	6	9	2	1	15	3	0	0	4	-	70
1990	15 to 24 years	0	9	19	2	1	42	6	0	0	3	40	1
	25 years +	0	7	10	2	1	19	5	0	0	2	64	2
<b>Breakdown by age and sex</b>													
15 to 19	Total	0	9	20	2	1	43	7	0	0	3	37	1
20 to 24	Total	0	8	18	2	1	40	6	0	0	3	43	1
15 to 24 years	Total	0	9	19	2	1	42	6	0	0	3	40	1
	Women	0	9	23	2	1	43	7	0	0	3	37	1
	Men	0	8	15	1	1	40	6	1	0	3	43	1
25 years +	Total	0	7	10	2	1	19	5	0	0	2	64	2
	Women	0	6	10	2	1	17	5	0	0	2	67	2
	Men	0	8	11	2	1	22	5	1	0	3	61	1
<b>Breakdown by educational level</b>													
Educational level	- 17 years	0	5	14	1	0	29	5	0	0	3	55	1
	17-18 years	0	10	21	2	1	44	7	0	0	4	36	1
	+ 18 years	0	12	25	3	1	59	8	1	0	3	24	1

### 3.2.3 Foreign languages they speak well enough to take part in a conversation

If we ask young Europeans not only which languages they have learned but also those that they "speak well enough to take part in a conversation", we note once again, similar trends to those observed in 1987, with however, a fairly strong increase in the percentage of both young people and adults capable of conversing in English (cf. table 3.9).

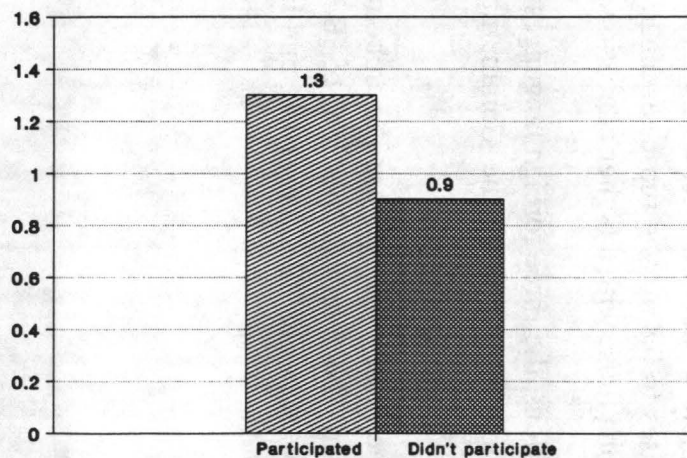
Once more, as in 1987, it is among the 15 to 24 year old age group that we see the highest percentage of people capable of conversing freely in one or more foreign languages: 40% of young people versus 64% of adults do not speak any foreign languages (even if this is enormous, the difference is less than that shown for languages simply learned: respectively 10% and 44%; cf. point 3.2.2).

As for languages spoken:

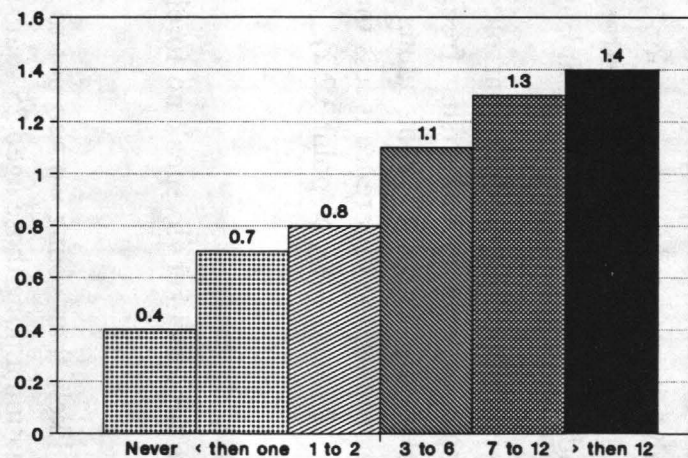
- 15 to 19 year olds are far less likely to speak no foreign languages than 20 to 24 year olds;
- young men are more likely than young women not to speak any foreign language but with an inverse situation among those aged 25 years or more;
- the tendency to speak foreign languages decreases with educational level: those having terminated their education below 17 speak on average 0.5 foreign languages; this increases to 0.8 among those terminating their studies between 17 and 18 and to 1.1 among those with a higher educational level;
- with a few rare exceptions, the three foreign languages the most commonly spoken in the different member countries of the Community are, in decreasing order, English, French and German;
- Countries speaking the most languages are Luxembourg (2.7), Denmark (1.8), the Netherlands (1.6) and the Flemish portion of Belgium (1.5 against 0.7 in Wallonia); it is the lowest in East-Germany (0.4), and Ireland (0.4).

**Graph 3.7.: Average number of foreign languages spoken conversationally by Young People**  
**(by experience of foreign countries)**

**By participation in Youth Exchange Programmes**



**By number of months spent Abroad**



Average for Young People already travelled abroad (71%):1.0  
 Average for all Young People (100%) : 0.8



As graph 3.7 shows, the number of foreign languages in which young people can carry on a conversation does bear some relationship to the number of months which they have spent abroad: ability to speak foreign languages is also high among those who have participated in youth exchanges.

**Table 3.10: Relationship between foreign languages which young people have learned or "speak well enough to take part in a conversation" and Community countries which they have visited (in %)**

Question: Which of these countries have you ever visited for any reason at all? (Several answers possible)

- |            |                   |
|------------|-------------------|
| A. Belgium | H. Ireland        |
| B. Denmark | I. Italy          |
| C. ex-FRG  | J. Luxembourg     |
| D. ex-GDR  | K. Netherlands    |
| E. Greece  | L. Portugal       |
| F. Spain   | M. United Kingdom |
| G. France  |                   |

A B C D E F G H I J K L M

Breakdown by foreign languages learned

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
Danish	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0
German	43	24	51	27	28	25	24	34	27	43	22	23	29
French	51	54	42	48	60	49	65	57	45	53	50	47	38
Italian	6	8	4	6	5	5	4	5	11	7	5	4	7
Dutch	2	2	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	9	6	2	3
English	74	80	73	87	66	69	65	53	79	87	76	70	93
Spanish	16	11	12	10	13	21	11	18	16	15	12	18	23
Portuguese	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	3	1	0	1	5	1
Greek	1	1	2	4	4	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	2

Breakdown by foreign languages spoken

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
Danish	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
German	24	14	31	19	15	13	12	14	15	26	10	13	15
French	24	31	20	22	30	24	35	29	25	26	27	28	20
Italian	3	6	2	4	3	3	2	3	6	4	3	3	3
Dutch	1	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	4	3	1	2
English	60	72	54	73	56	53	50	46	62	72	62	49	77
Spanish	18	5	5	7	6	11	6	8	8	8	8	13	10
Portuguese	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	2	1	0	1	3	1
Greek	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0

### **3.2.4 The relationship between languages they have learned or speak and countries they have visited**

Regardless of the countries that they have visited, and of the level of their knowledge of foreign languages, the first foreign language known is usually English (cf. table 3.10). The only exception is Ireland: 57% of young people having visited Ireland have learned French, against 53% English; nonetheless more of these same young people speak English than French.

Nonetheless, French is the second most common language (except in ex-FRG, German is the second language spoken by young people who have visited Germany) and then German, Spanish and finally Italian. No clear correlation seems to exist between the countries visited by young people and the linguistic prowess that they have.

One theory which these data does not permit us to verify is that it is not the fact that one has visited the country that brings knowledge of a language (or the inverse) but the fact that one visits it regularly.

**Table 3.11: The ways that foreign languages are learned**  
**(question asked to young people knowing at least one foreign language)**  
**(global figures for 1987 and 1990; figures 1990 by sex, age and educational level -**  
**several answers possible - in %)**

Question: If you know other languages than your mother tongue, how did you learn them? (several answers possible)

- |    |  |    |                      |
|----|--|----|----------------------|
| A. | At school, university or college, etc... as part of my education | D. | From parents, family |
| B. | Travelling abroad or living abroad                               | E. | Other                |
| C. | Taking other courses, at my own initiative                       | F. | Don't know/no reply  |

		A	B	C	D	E	F
All 15 to 24 years; figures 1987 and 1990							
1987	15 to 24 years	89	11	6	7	2	6
1990	15 to 24 years	92	12	9	6	2	3
Breakdown by sex and age; figures 1990							
15 to 19	Total	93	9	7	6	2	3
20 to 24	Total	91	15	10	6	3	3
15 to 24 years	Total	92	12	9	6	2	3
	Women	93	12	9	7	2	3
	Men	92	12	8	6	2	3
25 years +	Total	79	17	14	8	5	5
Breakdown by educational level; figures 1990							
Educational level	- 17 years	92	6	5	6	1	4
	17-18 years	93	10	8	7	2	3
	+ 18 years	92	21	13	6	3	3

### 3.2.5 The ways they have learned foreign languages

The ways in which young Europeans have learned foreign languages have hardly changed at all since 1987 (cf. table 3.11): it is above all during school or university that they learn languages (89% in 1987; 92% in 1990) or, to a far lesser degree, whilst travelling or living abroad (11% in 1987; 12% in 1990).

Regardless of their age (15 to 19, 20 to 24 or 25 and above) or sex, the way in which young people have learned languages follow in the same order:

- 1) at school, university or college;
- 2) travelling abroad;
- 3) taking courses at own initiative;
- 4) parents or family.

The order remains the same among young people finishing their education between 17 and 18 years or after 18 years. On the other hand, those having terminated their education below 17 years tend to have learned their foreign languages:

- during studies (92%);
- travel abroad, courses taken at their own initiative, parents or family (5-6%)

There are nonetheless important differences even if the general trends point to a convergence in responses:

- 92% of young people versus 79% of adults have learned foreign languages during their studies. This percentage is very high in 11 member States: it varies from 87% (ex-FRG) to 99% (Denmark). The only notable exception is Greece, where only 49% of young people have learned a foreign language whilst at school or university. Greeks are more likely to have recourse to courses outside school or university taken at their own initiative: 70% against 9% at community level. This phenomenon, already seen in 1987, is also noted among Greek adults.
- Travelling or living abroad have given 15% of 20 to 24 year olds, but only 9% of 15 to 19 year olds, the opportunity to learn a language (this being a logical result of the results in table 3.1); 17% of adults fall into this category.
- As their level of education increases, so does the importance of foreign travel as a means of learning a foreign language, this again being a direct implication of the results of table 3.1.
- The higher the level of education of a young person, the higher is the tendency to follow language courses at their own initiative.

### 3.2.6 Their opinion of the importance given to language training in education

The preceding point underlines the importance of the educational system in general as a means of stimulating interest in the study of foreign languages, among both young people and adults.

Given the key role that school plays, in both 1987 and 1990 15 to 24 year olds and over 24 year olds were asked "do you think enough attention is paid to teaching languages at school, university and in other training courses?"

The answers obtained to this question are:

1987	15 to 24 25 years	
	years	above
Sufficient	46%	40%
Insufficient	47	43
Don't know/no reply	7	17

1990	15 to 24 25 years	
	years	above
Sufficient	37%	33%
Insufficient	58	54
Don't know/no reply	5	13

Since 1987, both young people and adults have expressed an increasing requirement for language training, even if the demand is somewhat stronger among younger people than old. In parallel with this, there is a reduction in the number of people believing that the attention paid to language education in schools is adequate.

### 3.2.7 Their opinion on the importance of foreign languages

When young Europeans are asked: "do you think learning foreign languages is very important, useful, or not important?"), we obtain the following results:

1987	15 to 24 25 years	
	years	above
Very important	49%	53%
Important	45	41
Not important	5	4
Don't know/no reply	1	2

1990	15 to 24 25 years	
	years	above
Very important	61%	67%
Important	36	29
Not important	3	3
Don't know/no reply	1	1

The trends that these figures describe are clear:

- Among both young people and adults, knowledge of foreign languages is considered considerably more important now than it was three years ago;
- the number of people who believe that knowledge of foreign languages is simply useful is, however, in decline.

It is also important to underline the fact that the number of young people considering knowledge of foreign languages as "very important" does vary considerably from one country to the next: whereas less than 40% of young people in the United Kingdom and ex-GDR consider this important, more than 80% of young people in Denmark, Spain and Luxembourg consider languages extremely important.

### 3.2.8 Languages they would like to learn and the reasons for this

When asked which language or languages young Europeans would like to learn ("Would you like to learn any of these languages? Which ones?") the following interesting facts emerge:

#### Languages considered desirable to learn (decreasing order by 1990 figures)

	1987	1990
German	22%	24%
Italian	19	23
Spanish	22	22
French	22	20
English	23	20
Greek	7	6
Dutch	3	5
Danish	3	3
Portuguese	3	3
Other languages	4	7
No language (not proposed in 1987)	-	18
Don't know/no reply (in 1987 includes "none")	24	3

Putting aside the fact that English has dropped from first to fourth place between 1987 and 1990, and that Italian has jumped from fourth to second place, the principal trends remain the same. We notice, for example, that in 1990 almost one young person in five does not wish to learn another language!

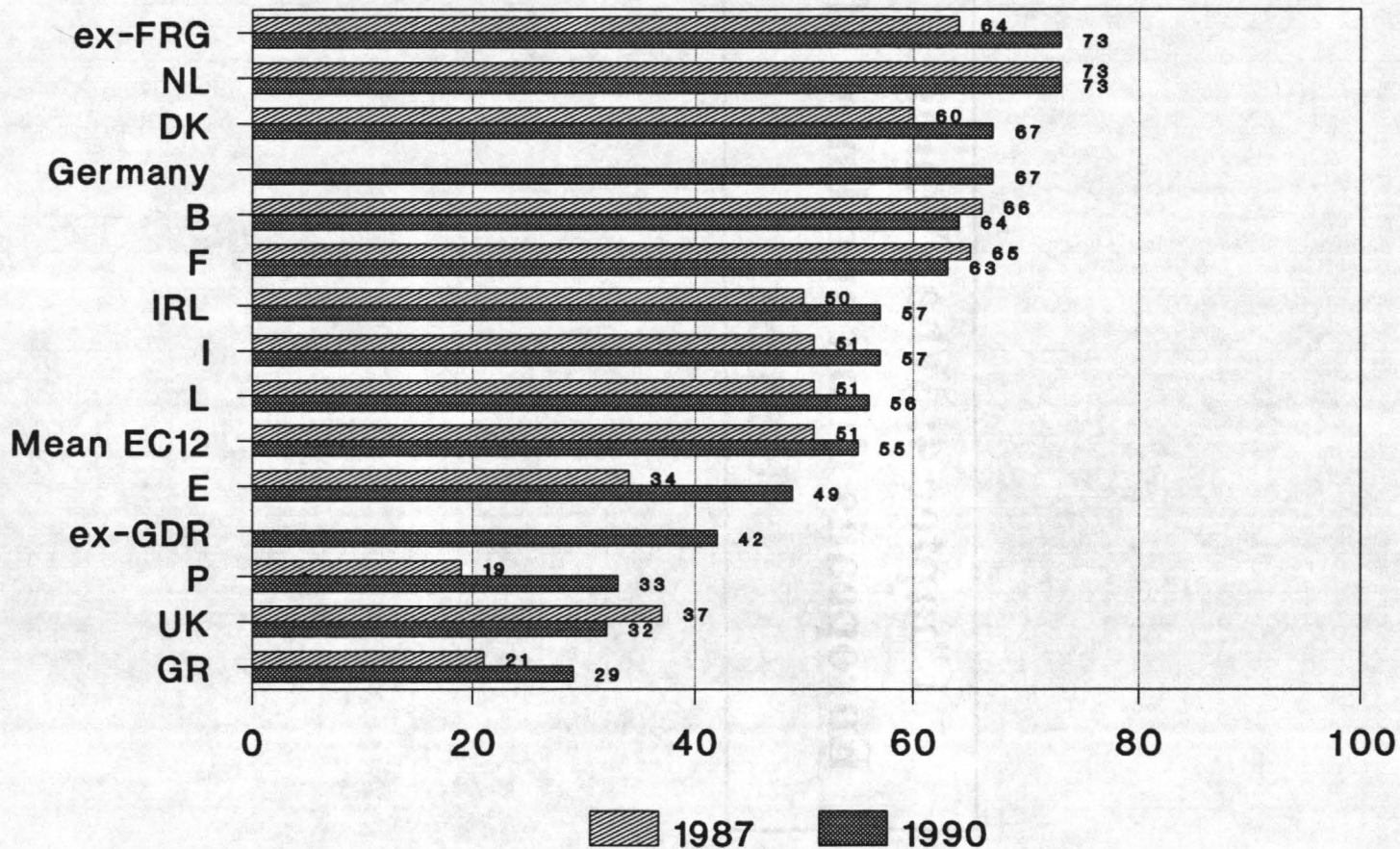
Asked for the reasons behind this choice (several answers possible) the following answers were given (this question is of course only posed to young people wishing to learn other languages):

	1987	1990
Cultural interest	51%	61%
To improve my job prospects	29	43
I would like to live, work or study in a country where the language is spoken	14	22
Members of my family speak that language	3	3
It is close to my own language	2	2
Other reasons	8	11
Don't know/no reply	25	1



**Chapter 4: What Young  
Europeans think and know of  
Europe**

**Graph 4.1.: Percentages of Young People having been taught something about the European Community  
(evolution 1987-1990 by country)**



## Chapter 4: What Young Europeans think and know of Europe

### 4.1 The education they have received about the European Community

More and more young Europeans have received the benefit of teaching on the European Community. With regard to the question: "Have you ever been taught anything about the European Community, for instance, at school, university or during a course?", the answers given were:

	1987			1990		
	15 to 19 years	20 to 24 years	15 to 24 years	15 to 19 years	20 to 24 years	15 to 24 years
Yes	56%	47%	51%	59%	51%	55%
No	42	49	46	36	45	41
Don't know/no reply	2	4	3	5	5	5
Total	100	100	100	100	101	101

Therefore, not only have more people responded in the affirmative than three years ago, but also among 15 to 24 year olds, as in 1987, it is the younger age group (15 to 19 year olds) who have received such education the most frequently.

As graph 4.1. shows, this progression - particularly spectacular in Spain (+ 15 points) and in Portugal (+ 14 points) - is also observed in the great majority of member States: only the United Kingdom (-5 points), and to a much lesser extent, Belgium and France (-2 points) show a tendency to reduce: Netherlands at a consistent score of 73% remains the country with the highest level of such education.

Even though they have reduced, divergences between member States remain very strong: the maximum variation has reduced from 52 points (between Greece and the Netherlands) to 44 points (between Greece and the Netherlands and Greece and ex-FRG).

Quite logically, as educational level increases, the probability of having received specific training on the European Community increases. Therefore only 34% of young people having terminated full-time education at 16 years or less (877 of the 7,600 young people questioned in this particular survey) have had the advantage of such a course. Among young people having spent longer in full-time education, this proportion varies from

47% from those having finished between 16 and 19 years to 65% among those who ended full time education after 19 years.

We should finally note that 65% of young students in all age groups have received training on the European Community. This confirms, once again, that the frequency of this kind of education is increasing.

## **4.2 Their general knowledge of the European Community**

Having asked the question as to how this knowledge has been obtained, it is necessary to ask how much young Europeans actually know about the Community: their **subjective knowledge**, that is to say what they feel they know about the subject, as well as their **objective knowledge**, that is to say their ability to state specifically which are the member States of the European Community.

### **4.2.1 Their subjective knowledge of the European Community**

Nearly three quarters of young Europeans say that they would like to learn more about the European Community and its activities. This desire is slightly more pronounced (+2 points) among 15 to 19 years old than among 20 to 24 year olds (cf. table 4.1).

More young women than young men would like to "know more" on the subject. No doubt they would like to overcome certain deficiencies in these areas since, as we shall see in point 4.3, their actual knowledge of the Community is certainly less strong than among young men.

The influence of educational level on knowledge of the European Community is not necessarily direct and, in fact, there are two groups of opinion. Only 67% of young people having an educational level of less than 17 years (in other words young people having ended full-time education before 17 years of age or students aged less than 17) would like to know more. Among young people having an educational level between 17 and 18 years, this figure is 75% and it increases to 76% among those who have an educational level of more than 18 years.

We notice a very high level "don't knows", particularly among the under 17s. This of course places some limitations on our ability to understand the real opinion of the respondent.

Keeping this in mind, when we look at the question from another point of view, the kind of answers given by educational level, we can focus in exclusively on the attitudes of those who state a particular position.

Excluding all "don't knows", these divergences disappear: among those giving an opinion, 82% of those less than 17 and 81% of those with an educational level above 18 years would like to know more about the Community.

Only 71% of those working and 70% of those unemployed say that they would like to know more about the Community, whereas students, who are, of course, those that have received the most information so far on the subject, state a wish to know more about the Community in 75% of cases.

**Table 4.1: Global knowledge of young people of the European Community**  
**Their subjective knowledge**  
**(breakdown by age, sex, educational level, occupation, exposure to specific teaching**  
**about the Community and the number of languages learned or spoken "well enough to**  
**take part in a conversation" - in %)**

Question: Do you feel you know enough about the European Community and what it does or would you like to know more?

		Know enough	Would like to know more	Don't know/ no reply
Breakdown by age, sex, educational level and occupation				
15 to 19	Total	14	73	13
20 to 24	Total	18	71	11
15 to 24 years	Total	16	72	12
	Women	14	74	12
	Men	19	70	11
Educational level	-17 years	15	67	18
	17-18 years	16	75	9
	+18 years	19	76	6
Occupation	Working	17	71	12
	Unemployed	14	70	16
	Studying	16	75	9
Breakdown by teaching received on the Community				
	Taught	21	71	8
	Not taught	11	76	13
Breakdown by the number of foreign languages learned or spoken				
Foreign languages learned	0	17	59	24
	1	16	71	13
	2 or +	17	75	8
Foreign languages spoken	0	15	68	17
	1	15	76	9
	2 or +	22	71	7

The breakdown by exposure to specific training on the European Community shows that young people having received such training estimate that they "know enough" on the subject (10 points more than those not having received this training). Furthermore, those not receiving such training have a higher tendency not to give a response to this question: 13% versus 8% among those who have received that training.

Analysing this information from the point of view of the number of foreign languages known or spoken, two clear groups emerge: those who do not speak and have not studied any languages other than their mother tongue, and those who speak or have learned at least one foreign languages.

Those with a passive knowledge of foreign languages demonstrate a clear separation between the two groups, and a proportion of those wishing to know more about the Community increases with the number of languages known.

For languages spoken, however, there is a discontinuity in the results: those speaking just one foreign language are more likely to say that they would like to know more about the subject than those that speak no foreign languages or those that speak more than one foreign language.

Analysing by educational level shows that the fact that they have or have not received specific training on the Community, as well as the fact they have learned or can speak foreign languages, does influence the level of curiosity that young people have with regard to the Community.

However, knowledge of foreign languages also has a correlation with the level of education (cf. chapter 3) which, of course, influences the correlation with education specifically orientated towards the European Community.

These three factors work in the same dimension and only a more profound analysis than that within the scope of this particular report would allow us to review

**Table 4.2. a: Global knowledge of young people of the European Community  
Their objective knowledge (in %)**

**Question:** Here is a map and a list of the countries in Europe as a whole. Could you please tell me the countries which are members of the European Community? Please give me the numbers or the names of the member countries.

**A.** European countries ranked in decreasing order by the percentage of young people who believe that the country is a member of the Community

1.	France	92%	15.	Austria	25%
2.	Spain	83%	16.	Sweden	21%
	Italy	83%	17.	Norway	20%
4.	United Kingdom	78%	18.	Finland	11%
5.	ex-FRG	73%	19.	Yugoslavia	10%
6.	Belgium	71%	20.	Turkey	8%
7.	Netherlands	63%	21.	Iceland	7%
8.	Portugal	62%	22.	Hungary	6%
9.	Luxembourg	60%	23.	Czechoslovakia	6%
10.	Greece	56%	24.	Poland	5%
11.	Denmark	44%		USSR	5%
12.	Ireland	41%	26.	Albania	3%
13.	ex-GDR	31%		Bulgaria	3%
14.	Switzerland	28%		Rumania	3%

**B.** European Community countries (ex-FRG and ex-GDR separated) ranked in decreasing order by the percentage of young people from that country correctly indicating all the member of the Community, ex-FRG and ex-GDR.

1.	Luxembourg	10%
2.	ex-FRG	9%
3.	Denmark	8%
	Germany	8%
5.	Belgium	5%
6.	ex-GDR	4%
	Spain	4%
	Netherlands	4%
	(Mean EEC 12	4%)
9.	France	3%
	Ireland	3%
11.	Greece	2%
	Italy	2%
	Portugal	2%
	United Kingdom	2%



#### 4.2.2 Their objective knowledge of the Community

In order to measure the objective knowledge of young Europeans interviewed in the context of this study, a map and list of European countries was presented to them and they were asked to identify which countries were in fact members of the European Community.

From table 4.2.a, we see that they have identified all member countries (including ex-GDR) among the first "13" countries (unification being a recent phenomenon, ex-GDR and ex-FRG were presented as two separate countries).

If this result is at first sight quite satisfactory, we should nonetheless put it in perspective. For example, even if 92% of young people correctly identified France as a member of the European Community, only 31% of them identified ex-GDR.

Switzerland (28%) and Austria (25%) are among others often cited as members of the European Community. Between 3% and 6% of young people identified other Eastern block countries as making up part of the European Community.

We should also take into consideration the fact that the ranking in table 4.2.a (point a) in fact uses weighted averages: the weight of any one country in the Community average is proportional to the size of its own population in relation to the rest of the Community (cf. Introduction).

Citizens of any one country being, *a priori*, more aware of the membership of their own country within the Community, and, furthermore, the size of the population of any one country having a direct influence on the weight of that country's score in the Community average, the higher the population of a country the better the chance that country has to appear higher in the overall ranking.

If education concerning the Community is scattered across Europe (cf. table 4.1), knowledge of the Community remains only mediocre: at Community level, only 4% of young people interviewed correctly identified all 13 countries: this percentage fluctuates between 10% (Luxembourg) and 2% (Greece, Italy, Portugal and the United Kingdom).

We should, however, qualify this by saying that 12% of young people interviewed correctly identified the 12 member countries prior to unification. This figure would rise to 14% if we only considered the 10 (excluding Spain and Portugal) and the 37% if we only consider the original 6 members.

**Table 4.2.b: Global knowledge of young people of the European Community**  
**Their objective knowledge**  
**(Mean number of member countries (ex-FRG and ex-GDR separated) that young**  
**nationals correctly identified; average score out of 13 by age, sex, age at termination of**  
**studies, exposure to specific teaching on the Community, the number or foreign**  
**languages spoken "well enough to take part in a conversation" and country)**

Question: Here is a map and a list of the countries in Europe as a whole. Could you please tell me the countries which are members of the European Community? Please give me the numbers or the names of the member countries.

Breakdown by age, sex, and age studies ended

15 to 19	Total	8.2
20 to 24	Total	8.6
15 to 24	Total	8.4
years	Women	7.9
	Men	8.8
Age at end	-17 years	6.9
of studies	17-18 years	8.3
	+18 years	9.3
	Still studying	8.9

Breakdown by teaching received on the Community

Taught	9.1
Not taught	7.4

Breakdown by number of foreign languages spoken

0	7.4
1	8.8
2	9.4
3	10.0

Breakdown by country

Belgium	9.8
Denmark	9.4
ex-FRG	9.6
ex-GDR	8.2
Germany	9.4
Greece	7.9
Spain	7.9
France	9.2
Ireland	8.2
Italy	8.0
Luxembourg	10.4
Netherlands	9.2
Portugal	7.7
United Kingdom	6.6
EEC 12	8.4

Considering the European Community as a whole, the number of member countries correctly identified by young people (cf. tables 4.2.a. and 4.2.b) is 8.4% out of "13". The average increases with age and is much higher among men than among women; regardless of the category of age or sex, the percentage of those giving completely correct answers remains very low, being just 3 to 5% of all answers.

Responses also very strongly according to the age in which people end full-time education: from 6.9 for those having full-time education up to the age of 16 to 9.3 for those continuing education beyond 18 years old. Note that those in the 15 to 24 year old age group that are still studying obtain a score of 8.9

Even if the average among the 55% of young people having received specific training on the European Community is 9.1, only 5% of them, however, are correctly able to identify all member States. The average result is 7.4 among the 41% of young people stating that they have not received such training, 2% of these obtaining full marks.

Average scores also increase with one's knowledge of foreign languages. The average of those not speaking any foreign languages is 7.4, versus 10 for those speaking three foreign languages.

There is also a strong variation from one country to another. As before, we find that Luxembourg is at the top of the list with 10.4 as national average, versus 6.6 in the United Kingdom. Seven countries lie below the average for the Community (8.4). Furthermore, ex-FRG with 9.6 is considerably higher than their colleagues in ex-GDR with only 8.2.

**Table 4.3: Knowledge of young people of the Commission of the European Community and the impression it gives**  
(figures 1987 and 1990 by age; figures 1990 by age, sex, educational level and country - in %)

Question 1 Have you recently seen or heard, in the papers, on the radio, or on television, anything about the European Commission in Brussels, that is the Commission of the European Communities?

A. Yes    B. No    C. Don't know/no reply

Question 2: (IF YES IN QUESTION 1) Has what you read or heard given you a generally favourable or unfavourable impression of the European Commission?

A. Generally favourable (3 points)    D. Don't know/no reply  
B. Neither favourable nor unfavourable (spontaneous) (2 points)    E. Average score (out of 3 points)  
C. Generally unfavourable (1 point)

		Question 1			Question 2				
		A	B	C	A	B	C	D	E
Breakdown by age; figures 1987 and 1990									
1987	15 to 24 years	35	60	5	41	30	21	8	2.3/3
	25 years +	45	49	6	40	24	32	5	2.1
1990	15 to 24 years	44	50	6	49	31	13	8	2.4
	25 years +	46	48	7	51	24	17	7	2.4
Breakdown by age, sex and educational level; figures 1990									
15 to 19	Total	37	56	6	51	29	13	7	2.4
20 to 24	Total	50	44	6	47	32	13	8	2.4
15 to 24 years	Total	44	50	6	49	31	13	8	2.4
	Women	40	54	6	46	34	10	10	2.4
	Men	48	46	6	50	28	15	6	2.4
Educational level	-17 years	32	61	7	52	28	12	8	2.4
	17-18 years	45	48	7	48	32	14	7	2.4
	+18 years	60	36	4	47	33	13	7	2.4
Breakdown by country (15 to 24 years); figures 1990									
	Belgium	48	46	6	48	33	10	9	2.4
	Denmark	52	44	3	38	32	24	6	2.1
	ex-FRG	54	32	14	41	34	15	10	2.3
	ex-GDR	42	47	12	46	30	9	16	2.4
	Germany	52	35	14	42	34	14	11	2.3
	Greece	48	50	2	61	30	5	4	2.6
	Spain	37	60	3	49	44	2	5	2.5
	France	46	50	4	44	38	12	6	2.3
	Ireland	39	56	4	56	21	15	8	2.4
	Italy	43	51	6	59	25	8	8	2.6
	Luxembourg	46	46	9	33	48	12	8	2.2
	Netherlands	41	57	1	34	21	32	13	2.0
	Portugal	48	48	4	64	29	3	4	2.6
	United Kingdom	35	62	3	53	19	23	6	2.3
	EEC 12	44	50	6	49	31	13	8	2.4

### **4.3 The awareness of the European Commission among young people and the impression it gives**

In 1987, the number of young people having "recently seen, or heard, in the papers, on the radio or on television, anything about the European Commission in Brussels" was considerably lower than adults (35% versus 45%).

By 1990, however, awareness of this institution among both young people and adults was virtually identical, this following an increase of 9 points among young people combined with stability (+1 point) among adults (cf. table 4.3). We do note, however, that knowledge of the Commission among 20 to 24 year olds remains higher than those in the 25 and above age group.

We should nonetheless underline that despite this information on the Community, the Commission itself remains relatively unknown. On the other hand, knowledge of one of its most important projects, the creation of a single European market in 1993, is very strong: 65% of young people have read, seen or heard something about this.

In 1990, the impression of the Commission among those having been informed about it is better than before, both among young people and among adults (a score of 2.4 out of a possible 3 among both 15 to 24 year olds and those 25 and above, versus 2.3 and 2.1 respectively among young people and adults in 1987).

Those saying that they had a "general favourable" impression are much more numerous in 1990 than in 1987, in both age categories. The percentage of those having a "generally unfavourable" impression has fallen spectacularly: down 8 points among young people and down 15 points among adults.

Among 15 to 19 year olds, 56% claimed never to have read, seen or heard anything in connection with the European Commission, 37% stating the opposite. This proportion is the reverse among 20 to 24 year olds, of whom a considerably higher number (+6 points) had read, seen or heard something. Among both subgroups, the general impression is "generally favourable".

48% of men versus 40% of women had recently heard something about the European Commission. This impression is generally "better" among men with 50% saying that what they had heard was generally favourable versus only 46% of women, with most women believing that what they heard was "neither favourable, nor unfavourable".

The level of information that people receive does bear some relationship to their educational level. 61% of young people having an educational level of 17 or less had read, heard or seen nothing recently on the subject, whereas only 36% of young people with an educational level above 18 fell into this category.

The impression given was "generally favourable" among 52% of young people who had the lowest level of education (12% "generally unfavourable") and 47% of young people having the highest level of education (13% "generally unfavourable").

Among the different member countries of the Community, the two extremes are evident: young people living in the ex-Federal Republic of Germany (54%) and the Danes (52%) have recently read, seen or heard something concerning the European Commission; on the other hand, only 35% of young Britons had noticed information on the Community.

The average score concerning the impression left by this information in all countries is above 2.0, that is to say, "neither favourable, nor unfavourable". The best impression was among young Portuguese, Greeks and Italians with an average score of 2.6.

#### **4.4 What they think about the European Community - some general trends**

We consider four indicators when making an analysis of the general opinion young people have of the European Community (cf. table 4.4.a):

- 1 Attitudes with regard to West European unification: "In general, are you for or against efforts being made to unify Western Europe? Are you strongly for, quite for, quite against or strongly against this?"
- 2 A judgment on the membership of their own country to the European Community: "Generally speaking, do you think that (your country's) membership of the European Community (Common Market) is a good thing, a bad thing, or neither good nor bad?"
- 3 Their attitude with regards to leaving the Community: "If you were told tomorrow that the European Community (Common Market) had been scrapped, would you be very sorry about it, indifferent or very relieved?"
- 4 Their feelings on whether their country had benefited or not from membership of the European Community: "Taking everything into consideration, would you say that (your country) has benefited or not for being a member of the European Community (Common Market)?"

These four questions allow us to trace certain general indicators throughout the different member States of the Community, and these are checked every 6 months or so, in the context of the standard Eurobarometer surveys (cf. Introduction). The first three questions have been asked since September 1973; the last since March-April 1983<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>2</sup> The reader interested in obtaining further information should contact the "Surveys, Research, Analyses" Unit of the DG for Audiovisual, Information, Communication, Culture of the Commission of the European Communities, rue de la Loi, 200 - B-1049 Brussels.

**Table 4.4.a. : What young people think about the European Community**  
**Evolution 1982-1990 of four indicators of support (in %)**

Questions :

1. In general, are you for or against efforts being made to unify Western Europe ?
2. Generally speaking, do you think that (your country's) membership of the European Community (Common Market) is a good thing, a bad thing or neither good nor bad ?
3. If you were told tomorrow that the European Community (Common Market) had been scrapped, would you be very sorry about it, indifferent or very relieved ?
4. Taking everything into consideration, would you say that (your country) has on balance benefited or not from being a member of the European Community (Common Market) ?

	1982		1987		1990			
	15-24 yrs	25 yrs and +	15-24 yrs	25 yrs and +	15-19 yrs	20-24 yrs	15-24 yrs	25 yrs and +
<b>Unification</b>								
For - very much	23	27	28	33	33	34	34	34
For - to some extent	49	44	46	44	48	49	48	47
Against - to some extent	10	10	7	7	7	7	7	8
Against - very much	3	5	2	3	2	2	2	3
DK/NA	15	14	17	13	10	9	10	9
<b>Membership</b>								
Good thing	52	51	65	65	71	71	71	68
Neither good nor bad	27	26	21	20	20	21	20	18
Bad thing	11	15	6	9	3	4	4	8
DK/NA	10	8	8	6	7	5	3	6
<b>Dissolution</b>								
Very sorry	36	42	39	45	44	49	47	50
Indifferent	44	33	45	36	42	38	40	33
Very relieved	7	13	4	8	3	4	3	7
DK/NA	13	12	12	11	11	10	10	11
<b>Benefit</b>								
Benefited	-	-	58	55	67	67	67	58
Not benefited	-	-	22	29	13	15	14	24
DK/NA	-	-	20	16	20	18	19	18



As table 4.4. a. shows, these indicators do point to the same general trend: an increasing level of support for the Community since 1982, both among young people and among adults:

- **Unification of West Europe:** the level of support ("strongly for" and "generally for") has tended to increase since 1982 to reach 82% among 15 to 24 year olds in 1990, and 81% among the 25s and above. The opinions of young people and adults tend to converge; only very slight differences remain.
- **Membership of the European Community:** it is generally perceived by young people as "a good thing". The strong increase observed in 1987 continues, but as slowed slightly. Opinions of young people and adults, already fairly close in 1987, remain very close together in 1990 (3 points difference).
- **Scrapping of the European Community:** since 1982 there has been a general increase in the number of people who would be sorry to see the Community scrapped. Young people do show some differences when compared with adults: on one side, as in 1982 and 1987, young people are far less likely to have strong regrets (47% against 50%) and on the other side, as in 1982 and 1987, they show more indifference than adults (40% versus 33%). This last figure has fallen since 1982.
- **Benefits of membership:** many more young people nowadays when compared to 1987 (there are no figures available for 1982) believe that their country has benefited from membership of the European Community (67% in 1990 and 58% in 1987). There are only minor difference when compared with adults, with only a slight increase (3 points).

If young people are asked to score the European Community on its efforts towards achieving European unification ("Question: in your opinion how is the European Community, European unification advancing nowadays?") we obtain a wide series of answers (scale ranging from 1 = "not moving" to 7 "moving as quickly as possible"). On average young Europeans give a score of 4.0 (3.5 in 1987) and adults 3.9 (3.3 in 1987).

Asked on the ways in which they would like the Community to advance (in order words: "which corresponds best to what you would like?"), young people give an average score of 5.3 (5.6 in 1987) and adults 5.0 (5.4 in 1987).

In both 1987 and 1990, young people therefore had a more optimistic and progressive perception on the advance of unification than adults. When compared with adults, they prefer far more rapid approach to integration. The desired pace of integration, as in 1987, is much higher among young people than adults.

**Table 4.4.b: What young people think about the European Community  
Typologies of European attitudes**

A typology of European attitudes established on the basis of the two following questions:

1. Generally speaking, do you think that (YOUR COUNTRY'S) membership of the European Community (Common Market) is a good thing, a bad thing, or neither good nor bad? (MEMBERSHIP)
2. In general, are you for or against efforts being made to unify Western Europe? Are you very much for, to some extent for, to some extent against or very much against these efforts? (UNIFICATION)

<b>Attitude</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>Unification</b>
<b>Positive</b>	Good thing	Very much for <i>or</i> To some extent for
	Neither good nor bad <i>or</i> Bad thing <i>or</i> Don't know/no reply	Very much for <i>or</i> To some extent for
<b>Ambivalent</b>	Good thing <i>or</i> Neither good nor bad <i>or</i> Don't know/no reply	To some extent against <i>or</i> Very much against
	Don't know/no reply	Don't know/no reply
<b>Negative</b>	Bad thing	To some extent against <i>or</i> Very much against

**Table 4.4.c: What young people think about the European Community  
(Breakdown of typologies of European attitudes by age, sex, educational level and  
country -in %)**

Refer to typology definitions in Table 4.4.b)

		<b>Positive Attitude</b>	<b>Ambivalent Attitude</b>	<b>Negative Attitude</b>
<b>Breakdown by age, sex, age at end of studies</b>				
15 to 19	Total	64	35	1
20 to 24	Total	64	34	2
15 to 24 years	Total	64	35	2
	Women	61	38	1
	Men	67	31	2
End of studies at	- 16 years	55	45	1
	16-19 years	60	38	2
	+ 19 years	70	28	2
	Still studying	69	30	1
<b>Breakdown by country (15 to 24 years); figures 1990</b>				
	Belgium	67	32	1
	Denmark	47	46	8
	ex-FRG	67	31	2
	ex-GDR	69	30	0
	Germany	68	31	2
	Greece	69	30	2
	Spain	65	34	2
	France	66	33	1
	Ireland	65	35	1
	Italy	71	28	1
	Luxembourg	59	38	3
	Netherlands	73	27	0
	Portugal	69	30	1
	United Kingdom	46	52	2
	EEC 12	64	35	2

Compared with 1987, the speed with which unification is perceived to be proceeding has increased, both among young people and adults. On the other hand, the speed with which people feel that they would like unification to proceed has diminished, considerably reducing the discrepancy between what is seen and what is desired. The reduction in the score of the desired pace unification is probably the result of a better perception of the difficulties raised by European unification: passion is being replaced by a "realistic desire".

To complete this brief survey of opinions and understanding of young European with regard to Europe, it is interesting to introduce the notion of "typologies of European attitudes" (cf. table 4.4.b).

Table 4.4.c. shows us that in general the level of positive attitudes has increased. The average for the whole Community is 64%.

Looking at this in more detail, it appears that 64% of 15 to 19 year olds and 20 to 24 year olds have positive attitudes, these percentages showing stronger differences when we break them down by sex. Women are generally less positive than men with regard to Europe, and have a stronger tendency to express an ambivalent attitude.

We see a strong increase in the percentage of positive attitudes as educational level increases. Young students, of all ages, express similar opinions to those who have terminated their studies after 19 years (respectively 69% and 70%).

Only in the United Kingdom is the number of generally ambivalent attitudes (52%) higher than those with a positive impression (46%). Positive attitudes vary from 46% in the United Kingdom to 73% in the Netherlands.

The lowest level of ambivalent attitudes is seen in the Netherlands (27%), but the highest after the United Kingdom is Denmark (47%).

In conclusion, we should focus in on one very positive result for the Community: 48% of young people and 47% of adults believe that during the course of the last 12 months, "the level of agreement between the countries of the European Community" has in general increased. This figure was only 27% and 28% respectively in 1987.

In parallel with this, the percentage of those believing that this agreement had "generally decreased" has fallen from 8% to 7% among young people, and from 10% to 6% among adults.

Those who believe "that it has stayed about the same" represent 31% among young people versus 46% in 1987, and 34% among adults compared to 48% in 1987. As in 1987, the number of people preferring not to express an opinion remains fairly high (young people: 1987: 19%; 1990: 15%, adults: 1987: 14%; 1990: 12%).

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**Chapter 5: Young Europeans  
and their Studies**

## Chapter 5: Young Europeans and their studies

60% of young Europeans interviewed during this study had already finished full-time education, most of them (78%; in 1987: 71%) had a diploma or some other form of qualification. Of these 60%, some of them (42%; in 1987: 35%) had gone on to complete some form of higher education or professional training.

Those who had ended full-time education had done so for a variety of reasons:

	1987	1990
I wanted to work	32%	37%
I has got as far as I could	24	27
I saw no point in going on	19	22
I did not like it	23	18
I needed money	10	12
My family needed the money	3	3
We could not afford to pay for the course	2	2
I have young children to bring up	1	1
Other reasons	9	9
Don't know/no reply	7	1

Of those who had finished full time education, 70% were in paid full-time or part-time employment, but others were unemployed and looking for work (10%), undertaking some form of professional training (9%), or at home looking after family or dependants (6%). Chapter 6 looks in more detail at the entry of young people into the professional world.

In this chapter we look more closely at the 40% of young people between 15 and 24 years that are still studying. Two major issues will be considered.

The first issue that we shall try to understand in more detail is the knowledge that young people have of information technology: their evaluation of the need for such knowledge; how they have acquired it in the cases where they have special expertise; the knowledge they would like to have and their motivations in this area. After this we will look exclusively at young students to analyse their satisfaction with regard to the studies that they have achieved and their desires and motivation for training in general.

**Table 5.1: Knowledge of young people of information technology  
Their appreciation of this knowledge  
(global figures 1987 and 1990; figures 1990, by age, sex, educational level, occupation  
and country - in %)**

Question: Do you know how to use any sort of computer or word processor? Would you say you can use it very well, fairly well, a little or not at all?

		Very well	Fairly well	A little	Not at all	Don't know/ no reply
All 15 to 24 years; figures 1987 and 1990						
1987	Total	6	15	26	52	1
1990	Total	10	21	29	40	0
Breakdown by age, age at end of studies and occupation; figures 1990						
15 to 19	Total	8	22	34	37	0
20 to 24	Total	11	20	25	44	0
15 to 24 years	Total	10	21	29	40	0
	Women	9	19	28	44	0
	Men	11	22	31	37	0
End of studies at	- 17 years	6	14	22	58	0
	17-18 years	10	20	27	43	0
	+ 18 years	19	27	26	28	0
	Still studying	9	23	36	33	0
Occupation	Working	12	20	24	44	0
	Unemployed	4	13	24	59	0
Breakdown by country (15 to 24 years); figures 1990						
	Belgium	9	23	31	37	0
	Denmark	21	26	38	15	0
	ex-FRG	12	23	29	36	0
	ex-GDR	3	14	35	48	0
	Germany	10	21	30	38	0
	Greece	6	9	14	71	0
	Spain	2	9	31	58	0
	France	13	23	33	31	0
	Ireland	10	22	28	40	0
	Italy	4	15	31	51	0
	Luxembourg	17	24	36	23	0
	Netherlands	15	29	34	22	0
	Portugal	2	6	15	77	0
	United Kingdom	17	33	25	25	0
	EEC 12	10	21	29	40	0

## 5.1 Their knowledge of information technology

In 1990 there was a significant reduction in the proportion of 15 to 24 year olds stating that they had no knowledge of information technology: 52% in 1987, this figure has reduced to 40% in 1990 (cf. table 5.1). This difference is distributed between those claiming that they can use the computer or word-processor "very well", "fairly well", or "a little". There has been a slight improvement in young people's knowledge of information technology.

Women (with 44%) are above the average for young people having no knowledge of EDP (40%); men are below (37%).

20 to 24 year olds are slightly less likely to know how to use a computer or word-processor, but 11% of them (as against 8% of 15 to 19 year olds) claim to be able to use this technology "very well". Maybe this is a result of experience gained while working.

The higher the educational level, the less likely it is that young persons had no contact with information technology: 58% of young people having finished their studies at the age of 17 have had no contact with information technology; however, only 28% of those having terminated their studies after 18 fall into this category.

We note with interest that among all categories 33% of students still have no contact with information technology, 5% higher than young people having terminated their studies after 18 years, but 10% less than those having terminated their studies between 17 and 18 years of age. This clearly shows that training in information technology is becoming more and more common at school at university.

6 out of 10 unemployed young people have no knowledge of information technology or, in the cases where they do have such knowledge, it is to a very low degree.

If, on average, 4 young Europeans out of 10 claim to know how to use a computer, we also know, however, that national averages are either significantly above this mean, as in the case in Portugal (77%), Greece (71%) and Spain (58%), or significantly below this mean as in Denmark (15%), the Netherlands (22%), Luxembourg (23%) and the United Kingdom (25%).

Nearly one Briton in 3 claims to be able to use a computer or word-processor "fairly well" or better (European average: 21%) and one Dane in 5 claims to be able to do so "very well" (European average: 10%).



**Table 5.2.: Knowledge of young people of information technology**  
**The ways in which they have acquired this**  
**(question asked to those able to use a computer "very well", "fairly well" or "a little")**  
**(global figures 1987 and 1990; figures 1990 by age, sex, and educational level - in %)**

Question: Where did you learn how to use it? (Several answers possible)

- |  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| A. At school or university               | E. At a club or in an association |
| B. At home or with friends               | F. Other                          |
| C. At work                               | G. Don't know/no reply            |
| D. In a job placement or training course |                                   |

		A	B	C	D	E	F	G
All 15 to 24 years; figures 1987 and 1990								
1987	Total	52	33	17	15	1	2	2
1990	Total	56	33	19	18	1	2	0
Breakdown by age and age at end of studies; figures 1990								
15 to 19	Total	66	38	6	13	2	2	0
20 to 24	Total	46	27	32	23	1	3	0
15 to 24 years	Total	56	33	19	18	1	2	0
	Women	60	20	22	21	1	1	0
	Men	53	44	16	16	2	3	0
End of studies at	- 17 years	57	35	14	16	1	2	0
	17-18 years	55	32	19	18	2	2	0
	+ 18 years	57	31	25	21	1	3	0
Breakdown by country (15 to 24 years) figures 1990								
	Belgium	68	40	11	8	2	3	0
	Denmark	74	41	20	12	3	3	1
	ex-FRG	47	48	18	24	1	5	0
	ex-GDR	49	24	14	40	3	2	0
	Germany	47	45	18	26	1	4	0
	Greece	31	38	11	22	6	4	0
	Spain	40	27	15	32	1	3	0
	France	71	29	13	14	3	1	0
	Ireland	68	19	5	22	2	2	0
	Italy	45	36	15	16	1	1	0
	Luxembourg	73	46	22	10	1	1	0
	Netherlands	72	37	21	13	1	3	0
	Portugal	26	37	25	26	8	3	0
	United Kingdom	62	21	30	12	0	1	0
	EEC 12	56	33	19	18	1	2	0

In 1990 as in 1987, young Europeans tended to acquire their knowledge of information technology at school or at university. After this, their first experience of computing has been acquired either at home or with friends (cf. table 5.2).

We note that among the 20 to 24 year old age group the second most common point of contact with information technology after school or university is quite logically at work or in a training course (32%); among 15 to 19 year olds, this source of experience comes in fourth place (with 6%).

The majority of the 56% of women able to use a computer or word-processor at all ("a little" to "very well") have acquired their knowledge at school or university (like men), but they are also more likely to cite usage of computers at home or with friends as a source of experience.

Breakdown by educational level confirms the predominance of training and of usage of computers with friends in the initiation of young people into information technology. Clubs or associations seem to be less successful in getting young people interested in the usage of computers. This will be analysed in more detail by country later.

Young people with an educational level above 18 years are also quite likely to cite usage of computers at work as a source of knowledge. For obvious reasons, this leads us to suppose that in addition to providing initial contact with information technology, usage of computers in the place of work is becoming more and more commonplace among young Europeans leaving higher education.

Once again, variations from country to country are quite clear. We note that in all countries, usage of computers in education remains the principal point of contact of young people regardless of the number of young people claiming to have some knowledge of information technology (cf. table 5.1.: Luxembourg, Netherlands, Denmark and the United Kingdom). We note three exceptions, however: ex-FRG, Greece and Portugal.

Of the 23% of young Portuguese having a knowledge of information technology, 37% of them acquired their first experience of computers at home or among friends. Usage of computers in education with 26% is in joint second place with usage of computers in professional training (place of work or training course). In ex-FRG and in Greece, education is also in second place after usage of computers at home or with friends.

The highest percentage of young Europeans citing job placement or training courses as first point of contact with information technology is the United Kingdom (30%), the European Community average being 19%.

In Spain and ex-GDR, usage of computers in job placements or training courses is a particularly important source of knowledge. In other parts of the Community, professional training tends to be cited in third or fourth place.

**Table 5.3.: Knowledge of young people of information technology  
Their desires and motivation  
(global figures for 1987 and 1990; 1990 figures by age, sex, educational level, ability to  
use a computer or word-processor and by country - several answers possible - in %)**

Question: Would you like to know more about using computers? (IF YES) Why?

- A. Would not like to know more  
B. Yes, to improve my qualifications and job prospects  
C. Yes, for fun/I enjoy using them  
D. Other reason  
E. Don't know/no reply

	A	B	C	D	E
<b>All 15 to 24 years; figures 1987 and 1990</b>					
1987 Total	26	49	24	3	6
1990 Total	25	54	24	3	4
<b>Breakdown by age, sex and educational level; figures 1990</b>					
15 to 19 Total	23	55	27	3	3
20 to 24 Total	27	53	21	4	4
15 to 24 years Total	25	54	24	3	4
Women	26	56	19	3	4
Men	25	52	28	3	3
Educational level -17 years	28	48	25	3	5
17-18 years	25	55	23	3	3
+18 years	21	62	24	4	2
<b>Breakdown by ability to use a computer or a word processor; figures 1990</b>					
Know how Very/fairly well	22	59	29	3	1
to use A little/not at all	27	52	22	3	5
<b>Breakdown by country (15 to 24 years); figures 1990</b>					
Belgium	23	50	31	4	3
Denmark	21	64	21	5	4
ex-FRG	32	41	25	0	10
ex-GDR	24	53	30	1	4
Germany	31	43	26	1	9
Greece	22	63	25	2	3
Spain	17	69	15	6	2
France	23	51	36	3	1
Ireland	32	52	21	5	4
Italy	19	64	19	4	2
Luxembourg	24	48	40	7	4
Netherlands	27	53	27	5	1
Portugal	11	60	39	2	9
United Kingdom	35	50	18	3	3
EEC 12	25	54	24	3	4

We should also note that clubs and associations seem to have had relatively little success in the South of Europe (which follows to some extent the logic of chapter 2, point 2.4): in Greece (6%) and in Portugal (8%).

We also note that in ex-FRG, 5% of young people claim to have acquired their knowledge of computers elsewhere. This is maybe a function of the question with certain choices absent from the list of options (such as individual training tools - possibly included in "usage of computers at home"?).

Before closing it seems opportune to look a little more closely at the desires and motivations of young people in the area of computer technology (cf. table 5.3). We should remember that among the different choices proposed, several answers were possible.

More than in 1987, the principal reason for young people wishing to increase their level of knowledge of information technology is professional: this proportion has passed from 49% to 54%. The number of those not wishing to increase their level of knowledge remains pretty much the same as before (-1 point).

15 to 19 year olds are more likely than 20 to 24 year olds to wish to increase their knowledge of information technology for professional reasons, and they are also less likely to say that they have no desire to learn more.

Women also are more likely to want to increase their knowledge of information technology in the professional context. As in 1987, however, many more men would like to increase their knowledge of information technology for fun.

The higher the level of education, the more likely is the person to want to increase their level of knowledge and for to do so professional reasons.

Breakdown by ability to use a computer shows that the more one knows of or about information technology, the more one wants to know.

Among the different member countries, at least two thirds (the minimum is the United Kingdom with 65%) of young Europeans would like to increase their knowledge. The reasons given are generally professional. In Portugal (39%), Luxembourg (40%) and France (36%) young people learning information technology do so more for personal reasons.

**Table 5.4.: Young Europeans and their studies**  
**Are they studying what they want to?**  
**(global figures for 1987 and 1990; 1990 figures by age, sex and country - in %)**

QUESTION: Are you studying what you wanted to or not?

		Yes	No	Don't know/no reply
<b>All 15 to 24 years; figures 1987 and 1990</b>				
1987	Total	85	11	4
1990	Total	88	10	3
<b>Breakdown by age et sex; figures 1990</b>				
15 to 19 years	Total	87	10	3
	Women	86	12	2
	Men	88	8	4
20 to 24 years	Total	90	9	2
	Women	88	10	2
	Men	91	7	2
15 to 24 years	Total	88	10	3
	Women	86	11	2
	Men	89	8	3
<b>Breakdown by country (15 to 24 years); figures 1990</b>				
	Belgium	92	5	3
	Denmark	81	14	5
	ex-FRG	84	10	7
	ex-GDR	81	8	11
	Germany	84	9	7
	Greece	90	8	3
	Spain	91	8	1
	France	84	14	2
	Ireland	91	8	1
	Italy	91	8	1
	Luxembourg	92	7	2
	Netherlands	91	7	2
	Portugal	93	5	3
	United Kingdom	87	12	1
	EEC 12	88	10	3

## **5.2 Their studies**

### **5.2.1 Are they studying what they wanted to?**

The proportion of young people claiming to follow the type of studies that they wish to is very high, varying from 81% (in Denmark and in ex-GDR) to 93% (in Portugal). The average is 88%. This average is slightly higher than in 1987 (cf. table 5.4).

Young Danes, French and Britons are more likely to say that they are not studying the courses that they wish to (these three percentages all higher than the Community average, which is 10%).

With the exception of France and Germany, where the percentage of young people studying what they wish to remains at 84%, the percentage has increased since 1987 in every country, quite spectacularly in Greece (+11 points) and in Portugal (+7 points).

We should also note that among both 15 to 19 year olds and 20 to 24 year olds, the proportion is higher among men than among women.

**Table 5.5.: Young people and their studies**  
**The way in which they explain their choice of studies**  
**(global figures 1987 and 1990; 1990 figures by age, sex and country - several answers**  
**possible - in %)**

Question: Why did you choose the studies you are doing now?

- |    |  |    |                                |
|----|--|----|--------------------------------|
| A. | It leads to the sort of job I want to do     | E. | My parents/family wanted me to |
| B. | I am particularly interested in them         | F. | Other                          |
| C. | It gives me a better chance of finding a job | G. | Don't know/no reply            |
| D. | It leads to a better paid job                |    |                                |

		A	B	C	D	E	F	G
All 15 to 24 years; figures 1987 and 1990								
1987	Total	46	42	33	18	9	4	4
1990	Total	49	44	30	19	10	6	2

Breakdown by age and sex;  
figures 1990

		A	B	C	D	E	F	G
15 to 19 years	Total	47	40	30	18	12	6	3
	Women	49	40	26	14	11	7	2
	Men	44	40	33	21	12	5	4
20 to 24 years	Total	58	55	30	25	3	5	1
	Women	60	57	30	24	5	5	1
	Men	56	54	29	27	1	5	1
15 to 24 years	Total	49	44	30	19	10	6	2
	Women	52	44	27	17	10	7	2
	Men	47	43	32	22	10	5	3

Breakdown by country (15 to 24 years);  
figures 1990

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Belgium	50	54	29	21	8	5	3
Denmark	53	40	31	14	6	7	13
ex-FRG	54	40	29	27	18	7	5
ex-GDR	47	17	32	17	8	9	9
Germany	53	38	29	26	17	7	5
Greece	49	44	25	21	6	2	2
Spain	38	43	23	10	6	7	2
France	47	41	37	20	8	6	3
Ireland	43	33	34	16	21	9	1
Italy	52	44	28	18	10	3	1
Luxembourg	49	43	31	26	9	1	4
Netherlands	46	41	31	18	4	14	2
Portugal	60	51	41	23	22	11	3
United Kingdom	55	58	28	20	4	3	0
EEC 12	49	44	30	19	10	6	2

### **5.2.2 The ways in which they explain their choice of studies**

In 1990, 49% of young Europeans chose their studies in function of the sort of job they wanted to do (cf. table 5.5). In 1987, this was 46%.

Interest in the particular area under study came in second place, after which came issues such as having a better chance of finding a job, then the salary that certain jobs attract or family constraints. There has also been a slight increase in the number of people citing other reasons (not specified).

In Belgium, the United Kingdom and Spain, young people are more likely to have chosen a particular study area through interest than through professional reasons. In other member countries, desire of finding the kind of job that they wanted has slightly more influence in the choice of study area.

In ex-FRG, Ireland and Portugal, family influences are more important in influencing the choice of study area. In Luxembourg and ex-FRG, 1 person in 4 is influenced by the prospects of a well-paid job.

The third most common reason cited is that of increasing the chances of finding a job. In this category, we see three countries particularly strongly represented, considerably higher than the community average of 30%: Portugal (41%), France (37%) and Ireland (34%).

We should also point out the high proportion of young Portuguese (11%) and Dutch (14%) having chosen their studies for other reasons than those proposed on the list. 13% of Danes preferred not to state their reasons for choosing their study area (Community average: 3%).



**Table 5.6.: Young people and their studies - the reasons they give for having continued their studies beyond minimum school leaving age (global figures for 1987 and 1990; 1990 figures by age, sex and country - several answers possible - in %)**

Question: If you are over minimum school leaving age, what were the main reasons why you chose to continue your studies? (Several answers possible)

- |    |   |    |  |
|----|---|----|--|
| A. | I thought it would be better for me to carry on studying            | F. | There were no training courses where I was |
| B. | I enjoy my studies  | G. | There were no jobs at all in the area      |
| C. | My parents or family wanted me to                                   | H. | Other                                      |
| D. | There were no jobs available that suited me                         | I. | Don't know/no reply                        |
| E. | I did not really know what other opportunities were available to me |    |  |

		A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
All 15 to 24 years; figures 1987 and 1990										
1987	Total	62	34	18	5	5	2	2	7	10
1990	Total	63	39	19	4	3	1	1	6	11
Breakdown by age and sex; figures 1990										
15 to 19 years	Total	62	33	20	3	3	2	1	6	14
	Women	58	38	18	3	3	2	1	8	15
	Men	65	29	22	3	3	2	2	5	13
20 to 24 years	Total	67	57	17	5	4	1	1	4	2
	Women	69	62	15	7	4	1	1	4	2
	Men	66	52	19	4	4	1	2	5	1
15 to 24 years	Total	63	39	19	4	3	1	1	6	11
	Women	61	44	17	4	3	2	1	7	12
	Men	65	34	22	3	3	1	2	5	11
Breakdown by country (15 to 24 years); figures 1990										
	Belgium	42	31	13	2	2	0	0	5	37
	Denmark	71	13	12	1	4	2	1	5	19
	ex-FRG	63	46	29	4	3	2	0	8	3
	ex-GDR	57	24	11	4	2	2	0	15	14
	Germany	62	44	27	4	3	2	0	8	4
	Greece	70	49	21	8	7	5	2	2	2
	Spain	69	37	17	1	3	1	0	7	2
	France	59	30	19	3	5	2	1	4	18
	Ireland	63	21	27	7	5	2	2	6	15
	Italy	73	55	19	5	2	2	4	1	0
	Luxembourg	73	45	29	14	4	0	0	3	1
	Netherlands	59	24	10	3	2	0	1	12	22
	Portugal	67	45	41	4	6	5	2	5	17
	United Kingdom	46	23	12	6	2	1	1	12	37
	EEC 12	63	39	19	4	3	1	1	6	11

### **5.2.3 Their reasons for continuing studies beyond minimum school leaving age**

Young men and women of all ages are driven to continue their studies beyond minimum school leaving age for the following reasons: personal advantage, enjoyment of their studies and finally family pressures (cf. table 5.6). In 1987, this order was identical.

Young women more frequently cited enjoyment of their studies as a reason for continuing studies beyond minimum school leaving age. Among 15 to 19 year olds, more men than women considered that it would be better for them to carry on studying; this is reversed among the 20 to 24 year olds.

We should also note that among both men and women, 15 to 19 year olds are more likely not to cite a reason (don't know) when they could have chosen "other".

Straightaway we note that nearly 4 Belgians and Britons out of 10 do not give an answer to this question. Despite strong national variations, 4 to 7 young Europeans out of 10 consider that it is better for them to carry on studying: more than 7 Danes, Italians and Luxembourgers in 10 fall into this category. In Portugal, parents or family wanting them to continue studies influenced 41% of people between 15 to 24 years old to continue their studies.

**Chapter 6: The entry of young  
Europeans into the working  
world**

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## **Chapter 6: The entry of young Europeans into the working world**

The objective of this chapter is to follow the first steps that young Europeans take into the working world. It is broken down into four sections:

- 6.1 Their requirements for professional guidance and counselling;
- 6.2 Their experience of professional training;
- 6.3 Their professional activity;
- 6.4 Their experience of unemployment.

### **6.1 The professional guidance that they seek**

#### **6.1.1 The different types of guidance sought**

When young Europeans are asked how they make choices about their future, for instance which career to follow, which job to apply for, etc., we note that, taking all member countries together, the importance of parents, family and friends of their age (i.e. those who know them and their personality well) is preponderant and has tended to increase since 1987: 79% (75% in 1987) of young Europeans cited parents and family and 47% (45% in 1987) cited friends of their age (cf. table 6.1).

All in all, these trends persist and, considering all possible sources of guidance, young Europeans are just as likely now as in 1987 to ask other people for help in this area: in 1990, only 7% of them claimed never to have asked for advice; in 1987, this figure was roughly 8%.

We note, however, that job centres and employment agencies are resorted to less often (9% in 1990 versus 11% in 1987) and, more significantly, they are less likely to seek the advice of teachers and lecturers (16% in 1990; 20% in 1987). By decreasing order of importance, however, these last two sources of information remain in third place alongside specialised guidance services at school or university (16% in 1990 versus 17% in 1987).

**Table 6.1: Types of guidance sought by young people in terms of career choices**  
**(several answers possible - maximum level of don't knows: 2.3%)**  
**(figures 1987 and 1990 by sex; 1990 figures by age, educational level and country - in %)**

Question: At different times in life, we have to make choices that affect our future; for instance, which direction to follow, which jobs to apply for, etc.. When you personally have had to make such a decision, who have you talked to?

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| A. Parents, family                           | F. Information and guidance services outside school or university |
| B. Friends of my age                         | G. Firms and companies  |
| C. Teachers and lecturers                    | H. Information centre run by young people                         |
| D. Guidance services at school or university | I. Others   |
| E. Job centre, employment agency             | J. I have never asked for advice                                  |

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	
<b>Breakdown by sex (15 to 24 years); figures 1987 and 1990</b>											
1987	Total	75	45	20	17	11	6	5	1	3	8
	Women	77	46	20	18	11	6	3	1	4	6
	Men	73	44	20	16	10	6	6	2	3	9
1990	Total	79	47	16	16	9	6	5	2	4	7
	Women	82	49	17	16	10	7	4	1	4	5
	Men	77	45	16	16	9	6	6	2	4	8
<b>Breakdown by age, and age at end of studies; figures 1990</b>											
Age	15 to 19 years	83	45	20	19	7	7	3	2	3	5
	20 to 24 years	76	48	13	13	12	6	7	1	5	8
End of studies at	- 16 years	72	41	5	7	8	4	5	1	4	10
	16-19 years	77	45	9	11	13	6	7	1	5	7
	+ 19 years	75	51	17	17	15	8	12	1	5	8
	Still studying	84	48	25	23	5	7	2	2	3	4
<b>Breakdown by country (15 to 24 years); figures 1990</b>											
	Belgium	76	43	33	24	3	7	3	3	3	8
	Denmark	86	56	22	41	6	3	5	1	5	5
	ex-FRG	82	60	16	21	30	12	13	3	6	3
	ex-GDR	94	61	13	14	8	14	9	2	3	2
	Germany	84	61	16	20	26	13	13	3	5	3
	Greece	79	38	11	4	1	3	2	1	1	9
	Spain	71	46	3	1	1	0	0	0	4	10
	France	74	33	27	28	6	10	4	2	3	8
	Ireland	78	36	13	19	6	3	3	1	3	6
	Italy	83	43	16	5	1	1	2	0	2	6
	Luxembourg	84	69	15	17	4	5	4	0	2	2
	Netherlands	85	51	26	44	11	5	6	1	6	4
	Portugal	70	31	5	4	3	1	1	1	2	16
	United Kingdom	79	49	15	15	8	6	4	1	5	6
	EEC 12	79	47	16	16	9	6	5	2	4	7

Information centres run by young people are the least consulted, as in 1987, regardless of age or sex. The reason for this is simple: they are by and large unknown.

If we ask young people specifically of these centres ("do you know if there are any information services in your area for young people") we note that in fact 75% of young people do not know of the existence of any such centres (15% have never used them; 7% know of them and have used them, and 3% cannot offer a response).

From the beginning, therefore, this is a less popular item and when placed alongside other sources of guidance cannot help but have a very weak level of response.

The importance ascribed to these different sources of guidance varies in function of age. Below 20 years of age, there is a stronger tendency to turn to parents and family, teachers and lecturers or guidance services at school or university. Between 20 and 24 years, on the other hand, there is a stronger tendency to ask friends of their age and less importance is attached to family and to other services at school.

Job centres and employment agencies and firms and companies are more often consulted by 20 to 24 year olds than by 15 to 19 year olds. This is explained by the fact that more than 60% of 20 to 24 year olds are in a work environment, whereas only 20% of 15 to 19 year olds fall into this category.

This trend is reinforced if we look at the responses offered by young people who are still studying. This group tends to continue to take advice from the same sources that are characteristic of the 15 to 19 year old age group (family, teachers, guidance services within schools and universities).

If we analyse guidance sought by sex, we note that women are more likely to have recourse to their family or to their friends than men. This trend has deepened since 1987. Along the same lines, men continue to be far more likely than women not to ask for advice.

The higher the educational level, the more likely are people to have recourse to external guidance of all types. There is, however, one exception: young people having stopped full-time education between 16 and 19 years are the group the most likely to ask for guidance from parents and family.

Regardless of the level of education, the two sources most frequently consulted remain family and friends.

Analysing by country, we note two significant trends:

- Germany (especially ex-FRG) as well as, to a lesser extent, France and the Netherlands are characterised by great diversity in the types of guidance sought;
- young people in ex-FRG are the most likely to have recourse to job centres and employment agencies;

- the most intensive usage of guidance services at school or university is to be found in the Netherlands;
- finally, East Germans are the most likely to have recourse to their parents and in Portugal not to seek external advice at all.

### **6.1.2 Their attitudes towards official services**

Considered to be the privileged source of information for young people, we should ask whether "official" sources (job centres, employment agencies, information and guidance service both at school or at university or outside) do in fact satisfy the 26% of young people that use them. Do young people contact these services themselves or is it the reverse? How often do young people contact them?

As we have seen above, young Europeans are less likely to consult official services than they are their immediate friends and relations - and this is a trend which has deepened since 1987. We should however also note that those who have had recourse to these services tend to rate them higher than they did in 1987 (cf. table 6.2).

In 1987, 32% of young people rated these services with a score of less than 3 (the mean), whereas this figure has now fallen to only 24%. Now 42% of young people gave them a score of 3 or more (compared to 31% in 1987). Furthermore, whereas the sample was split into three equal groups in 1987, we now see a strong positive shift: the average given in 1990 is 3.3 out of 5 versus 2.9 in 1987.

Official services also seem to have been more active in seeking to contact young people than in 1987. In 1987, only 17% had been contacted by these services, but now 19% said that they had already been contacted by such services. In parallel with this, fewer young people have themselves taken the initiative to contact these services (58% in 1990 versus 61% in 1987). This does mean, however, that two thirds of young Europeans have been in contact with these services.

There is also a tendency to contact these services less frequently than in 1987: in 1990, 55% of young people (50% in 1987) contacted such services two times or more; 42% have contacted them three times or more (48% in 1987).

Whether this is, in fact, a measure of greater efficiency cannot be tested. The general increase in satisfaction ratings would lead us to suppose so, however.

When asked: "what were the main problems you had when talking to these guidance services?", it is remarkable to note that 35% of young Europeans were unable to identify any specific problem compared with 28% in 1987 (although we should, strictly speaking, point out that in 1987 the question did not prompt for "no problems" but "none of these problems").

Given the number of people complaining that "they did not seem interested in me" has fallen from 20% in 1987 to 14% in 1990, it seems that young people find these services are more attentive than before. However, they are not always convinced that these services understand the problem facing young people and this situation has not improved since 1987 (cf. table 6.2).



**Table 6.2: Contact that 15 to 24 year olds have with "official" sources of professional guidance**  
**(question asked to 1,987 young people (1,906 in 1987) having replied "D", "E" or "F" in Table 6.1)**  
**(evolution 1987-1990 - in %)**

Question: Did you contact these guidance services or did they contact you?

	1987	1990
I contacted them	61	58
They contacted me	17	19
Both	19	20
Don't know/no reply	3	3
TOTAL	100	100

Question: How many times have you been in contact with these guidance services?

	1987	1990
Once	21	22
Twice	29	33
Three to five times	33	31
Six or more times	15	11
Don't know/no reply	3	3
TOTAL	101	100

Question: Generally speaking, how would you rate the help you have received from official sources?  
Please use this scale going from 1 = useless to 5 = very useful.

	1987	1990
1 = useless	11	10
2	21	14
3	34	31
4	21	27
5 = very useful	10	15
Don't know/no reply	3	4
TOTAL	100	101
Average	2.9/5	3.3/5

Question: What were the main problems you had, when talking to these guidance services? (Several answers possible)

	1987	1990
I did not like the suggestions they made	20	21
There were no jobs in the fields in which I wanted to work	23	16
They did not seem interested in me	20	14
I had to go to several places to get advice	11	12
I could not make them understand what I wanted	11	12
Their advice was too complicated		
(in 1987 " .. and they did not make it simple enough")	8	6
What they suggested looked too difficult	4	4
Other (not proposed in 1987)	-	9
No problems (in 1987 : "None of these problems")	28	35
Don't know/no reply	5	4

The principal source of dissatisfaction nowadays are the suggestions actually made by the official services, whereas in 1987 it was above all the absence of jobs in the field in which they wanted to work which was the principal source of dissatisfaction (16% in 1990 versus 23% in 1987).

This last result is particularly significant when we look at general changes in the circumstances of young people. We shall see later (cf. table 6.11.b) that the general level of optimism for young people with regard to their professional future has improved since 1982.

**Table 6.3: Number of training courses completed by young people no longer studying at school or university**  
**(figures 1987 and 1990 by sex; 1990 figures by age, educational level, occupation, possession of a school diploma or certificate and country - in %)**

Question: After your formal education, did you start any training course? (IF YES) How many different course?

		None	One	Two or more	Don't know/no reply
<b>Breakdown by sex (15 to 24 years); figures 1987 and 1990</b>					
1987	Total	51	37	7	5
	Women	55	34	6	5
	Men	47	40	8	5
1990	Total	51	40	8	1
	Women	53	39	7	1
	Men	49	42	9	1
<b>Breakdown by age, age at end of studies, occupation and possession of a diploma/certificate; figures 1990</b>					
Age	15 to 19 years	54	39	6	2
	20 to 24 years	50	41	9	0
End of studies at	- 17 years	49	43	7	1
	17-18 years	50	41	9	1
	+ 18 years	56	35	9	1
Occupation	Working	52	39	9	1
	Unemployed	67	26	6	1
Possess a qualification	Yes	48	44	9	0
	No	63	29	6	2
<b>Breakdown by country (15 to 24 years); figures 1990</b>					
	Belgium	71	17	11	0
	Denmark	51	35	13	2
	ex-FRG	15	80	4	0
	ex-GDR	6	87	7	0
	Germany	13	82	5	0
	Greece	83	14	3	0
	Spain	71	18	11	0
	France	61	33	6	1
	Ireland	56	36	7	1
	Italy	80	13	7	0
	Luxembourg	45	45	3	7
	Netherlands	55	29	16	0
	Portugal	83	14	2	0
	United Kingdom	47	39	12	2
	EEC 12	51	40	8	1

## **6.2 Their experience of professional training**

Even though only 1 young European in 20 in 1990 is undergoing professional training at present (5% of young Europeans claim to have professional training or an apprenticeship; in 1987 this was 6%), professional training outside of full-time education does, in fact, concern a much higher number of people than that.

In fact, close to 50% of working young Europeans and roughly 30% of young unemployed Europeans state that they have followed or are following a professional training course since finishing their school or university studies (cf. table 6.3).

Paradoxically, close to two thirds of those who have not obtained a diploma or qualification (21% of the 4,460 young "non-students" in the sample) had not followed any professional training course, whereas less than half of "qualified" young people are in this situation.

Among those with a diploma or certificate of some kind, 44% have followed or are following professional training and 9% have had at least two such courses; among the "non-qualified", these figures are respectively 29% and 6%.

On the other hand, it is among those who have continued their full-time studies the longest (after 18 years) that we find most young people who have not had any professional training. Those who have finished their studies before 17 years are the most likely to have had some form of complementary training, but are the least likely to have followed more than one.

Finally, even if 50% of 20 to 24 year olds have followed or are following some form of supplementary training, only 45% of 15 to 19 year olds are in this situation.

Comparison with 1987 reveals, among other things, an increase in professional training among women (46% in 1990 versus 40% in 1987). This has been much more pronounced than among men (51% in 1990 versus 48% in 1987).

It is by far, in the ex-GDR that young people are the most likely to follow a training course at work (94%). In Italy (20%), Greece (17%), Portugal (16%) they are far more less likely to undergo this form of training.

**Table 6.4.: Experience of training courses**  
**(question asked of 2,182 young people (1,944 in 1987) who have finished studying AND**  
**who have followed (or are following) a training course)**  
**(evolution 1987-1990 - in %)**

Question:	How many of these training course did you complete?		
		<b>1987</b>	<b>1990</b>
	None	32	23
	One	58	76
	Two	6	0
	Three	2	0
	More	1	1
	Don't know/no reply	1	1
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>101</b>
Question:	Counting all the training courses you have done, how much time would you say it amounts to altogether?		
		<b>1987</b>	<b>1990</b>
	Less than 6 months	13	15
	6 to 12 months	20	21
	13 to 18 months	7	10
	19 to 24 months	14	19
	Longer	41	35
	Don't know/no reply	5	1
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>101</b>
Question:	Overall, do you think the standard of training you have received has been ... ?		
		<b>1987</b>	<b>1990</b>
	Good	49	52
	Acceptable	31	36
	Poor	17	11
	Don't know/no reply	3	2
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>101</b>
Question:	Overall, how much do you think you have gained from the training courses you have done?		
		<b>1987</b>	<b>1990</b>
	A great deal	32	33
	Enough	41	46
	Not much	17	17
	Nothing	6	4
	Don't know/no reply	4	1
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>101</b>
Question:	Have these courses ever helped you directly to get a job?		
		<b>1987</b>	<b>1990</b>
	Yes	46	55
	No	41	34
	Don't know/no reply	13	11
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

Whereas only 23% of young people starting a training course fail to finish it (itself an important improvement with respect to 1987, where 32% failed to finish courses), less than 1% in 1990 finished more than 1 training course (this was 9% in 1987) (cf. table 6.4).

Training courses of 1 to 2 years are far more frequent than in 1987 (29% versus 21%) but those of more than 2 years are less common (35% versus 41%).

Young Europeans are, in general, more satisfied with the level of their training now than previously: only 11% find that their training is "poor" (against 17% in 1987) and 88% consider it "good" or "quite acceptable" (80% in 1987).

79% of young people consider that these training courses have bought them a "great deal", or "enough" (versus 73% in 1987) and only 4% consider that this training has bought them nothing. Furthermore, 55% believe that these courses have helped them directly to get a job compared to 46% in 1987.

**Table 6.5: Experience of job placement or apprenticeship  
(question asked to 405 young people (448 in 1987) in job placement or apprenticeship)  
(evolution 1987-1990 - in %)**

Question: How many months have you been doing in this job placement or training course?

	1987	1990
Less than 6 months	39	37
6 months to 12 months	10	13
13 to 24 months	27	33
25 months or more	21	16
Don't know/no reply	4	3
TOTAL	100	102

Question: Did you start your job placement or training course straight after school? (IF NO) Did you have a job in between, did you look for a job but not find one, or neither of these?

	1987	1990
Straight from school to course	73	73
Had a job in between	13	16
Looked for a job but did not find one	6	2
Neither of these	4	5
Don't know/no reply	4	3
TOTAL	100	99

Question: Think about this job placement or training course, could you answer yes or no to the following?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| A. Do you intend to complete it?                                | D. Will the course you are doing give you the necessary skills for a job?             |
| B. Is it the training you wanted?                               | E. Are you getting paid (e.g. allowance, wage, benefit) while you are on this course? |
| C. Does your current course lead to a recognised qualification? | F. Does your training course include a period of work experience?                     |

		A	B	C	D	E	F
1987	Yes	93	78	89	89	71	48
	No	4	18	7	7	26	48
	Don't know	3	4	4	4	3	4
	TOTAL	100	100	100	100	100	100
1990	Yes	92	70	89	87	89	65
	No	3	20	5	6	8	26
	Don't know	5	10	6	8	4	9
	TOTAL	100	100	100	101	101	100

In 1990 as in 1987, young people who were interviewed whilst still in the process of undertaking professional training or an apprenticeship have been doing so for some length of time (nearly 50% for at least 1 year and one third for at least 2 years) (cf. table 6.5).

As in 1987, 73% of them began this training directly after school. More of them, however, have already had a job in the meantime (16% versus 13% in 1987).

Even if more than 90% of them have the intention of completing this training, they are on the whole more sceptical than in 1987 with regards to the choice of this training (10% did not answer the question whether they wanted to follow this course versus 4% in 1987) and as to whether this training would lead to a recognised qualification (6% "don't know" versus 4% in 1987).

More people undergoing training are getting paid whilst doing so than in 1987 (89% versus 71% in 1987). Furthermore, in two thirds of cases these courses include a period of work experience whilst in 1987 this figure was only 48%.



**Table 6.6: The professional life of young people - ways that they found their job**  
**(question asked of all working young people, i.e. undertaking full-time or part-time**  
**employment, or working in the context of a local or national job placement scheme)**  
**(figures 1987 and 1990 by sex; 1990 figures by age, age at end of studies and country - in**  
**%)**

Question: How did you find your present job?

- |                                       |                                       |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| A. Through parents, friends of family | E. Through school or training centres |
| B. By contacting employers directly   | F. Other                              |
| C. Advertisements                     | G. Don't know/no reply                |
| D. Job centre or employment agencies  |                                       |

		A	B	C	D	E	F	G
<b>Breakdown by sex (15 to 24 years);</b>								
<b>figures 1987 and 1990</b>								
1987	Total	36	26	12	12	4	9	1
	Women	35	25	15	12	4	9	0
	Men	38	27	10	11	5	8	1
1990	Total	37	22	13	12	7	8	1
	Women	35	23	13	13	7	8	0
	Men	39	22	13	11	7	8	1
<b>Breakdown by age and age at</b>								
<b>end of studies; figures 1990</b>								
Age	15 to 19 years	44	19	12	12	8	5	0
	20 to 24 years	35	23	14	12	7	9	1
End of	- 17 years	40	22	11	14	7	6	0
studies at	17-18 years	33	22	18	13	5	8	0
	+ 18 years	38	23	11	8	8	10	1
<b>Breakdown by country (15 to 24 years);</b>								
<b>figures 1990</b>								
	Belgium	28	32	15	10	5	9	2
	Denmark	19	37	22	6	5	10	0
	ex-FRG	21	33	20	19	3	5	0
	ex-GDR	34	32	2	6	24	3	0
	Germany	24	33	16	16	8	5	0
	Greece	69	9	6	2	2	12	0
	Spain	61	15	6	8	2	8	0
	France	35	25	12	9	10	10	1
	Ireland	33	23	24	4	7	7	2
	Italy	65	14	4	4	3	11	0
	Luxembourg	27	28	21	8	6	9	1
	Netherlands	18	24	17	20	9	10	2
	Portugal	58	25	6	3	2	5	1
	United Kingdom	28	18	19	18	10	7	1
	EEC 12	37	22	13	12	7	8	1

## **6.3 Their professional activities**

### **6.3.1 The ways that they have found their jobs**

If we look at the ways that young people find their jobs, we note that, as in 1987, it is more often than not through parents, friends or family (cf. table 6.6).

The influence of school or training centres has increased (7% in 1990, 4% in 1987).

Direct contact with employers is, however, in sharp decline (22% versus 26% in 1987) and most particularly among men (22% versus 27% in 1987).

The number of jobs found through consulting advertisements has increased among men (13% versus 10% in 1987) but has diminished among women (13% versus 15% in 1987). This remains, however, the third most important source of work (13%), after direct contact (22%) and personal relations (37%).

It is no surprise that the tendency to have recourse to personal contact (family, friends, etc.) is more marked among 15 to 19 year olds (with 44%) than among 20 to 24 year olds (35%) and among those who finished their studies before 17 years old (40%).

Furthermore, 20 to 24 year olds are more likely to contact employers directly than 15 to 19 year olds (respectively 23% and 19%), or to use job advertisements (respectively 14% and 12%), which is not at all surprising.

Among those who finished their studies between 17 and 18, we find those who are most likely to read advertisements as a way of finding jobs (18% versus 11% in those categories having either lower or higher educational levels).

When looking at the importance of personal relations, we note that it is in Greece (69%), Italy (65%), Spain (61%) and Portugal (58%) that the importance of personal relations are the most pronounced. It is also in these countries, that they have the least recourse to advertisements (between 6% and 4%), as well as in ex-GDR where only 2% of young people consult advertisements.

Direct contact with employers is more common in the North of Europe than in the South, particularly, in Denmark (37%), Germany (33%), Belgium (32%) and Luxembourg (28%) and, to a lesser extent, the Netherlands (24%), where it nonetheless represents the most important method for obtaining work. In France and Portugal it represents 25%, a significant proportion but nonetheless less important than personal relationships.

The usage of job centres or employment agencies is particularly common in the Netherlands (20%), ex-FRG (19%) and the United Kingdom (18%).

We should note finally that in ex-GDR, roughly one person in four found a job through school or training centres, more than three times the European average.

**Table 6.7.a: The professional life of young people - job changes since starting work (question asked of all working young people, i.e. undertaking full-time or part-time employment, or working in the context of a local or national job placement scheme) (evolution 1987-1990 - in %)**

Question: Altogether, including your present job, how many jobs, lasting one month or more, have you had since you started working?

	1987	1990
1	43	45
2	24	23
3	14	13
4	8	7
5 or more	9	10
Don't know/no reply	2	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>101</b>

Question: Altogether, including your present job, how many of these jobs were for six months or more?

	1987	1990
None	12	23
1	50	44
2	21	17
3	9	7
4	2	3
5 or plus	2	2
Don't know/no reply	4	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

Question: Since you left school, how many times have you been unemployed and looking for a job for a month or more?

	1987	1990
1 time	27	25
2 times	11	9
3 times	5	3
4 times	2	1
5 times or more	4	3
Never	49	56
Don't know/no reply	2	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>99</b>

Question: For how long have you had your present job?

	1987	1990
Less than 6 months	26	24
6 to 12 months	15	22
1 to 3 years	37	41
4 years or more	21	12
Don't know/no reply	1	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>101</b>

### **6.3.2 Changes of job since their starting work**

As in 1987, more than 4 working young people out of 10 are still in their first job. If, among other things, only 43% (against 46% in 1987) have already worked in 2, 3 or 4 other jobs, 10% (9% in 1987) are currently in their fifth job since starting work (cf. table 6.7.a).

If we only consider jobs in which they have remained at least 6 months, 12% (13% in 1987) had already had 3 or more jobs.

56% of young people have never been without work since the end of their full-time education, this representing a considerable increase since 1987, where only 49% of young people have never been unemployed.

In 1987, 22% of young people had found themselves out of work at least once, a figure somewhat higher than 1990 where only 16% had found themselves in this position.

Young people interviewed during this survey had also been in work slightly less long than those in 1987: 46% having worked for less than one year (41% in 1987) and 12% more than 4 years (compared with 21% in 1987). The majority of them had been in work for between 1 and 3 years.

**Table 6.7.b: The professional life of young people - instability at the start of working life**  
**(question asked of all working young people, i.e. undertaking full-time or part-time**  
**employment, or working in the context of a local or national job placement scheme)**  
**(figures 1987 and 1990 by sex; 1990 figures by age, educational level and country - in %)**

Altogether, including your present job, how many jobs, lasting one month or more, have you had since you started working? **A. Have had at least 3 jobs lasting one month or more**

Altogether, including your present job, how many of these jobs were for six months or more? **B. Have had at least 2 jobs lasting six months or more**

Since you left school, how many times have you been unemployed and looking for a job for a month or more? **C. Have been unemployed at least 2 times**

For how long have you had your present job? **D. Have had present job for less than 6 months**

		<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>Breakdown by sex (15 to 24 years); figures 1987 and 1990</b>					
1987	Total	31	34	22	26
	Women	29	33	18	28
	Men	33	35	25	25
1990	Total	30	29	16	24
	Women	29	30	15	24
	Men	31	28	18	24
<b>Breakdown by age and age at end of studies; figures 1990</b>					
Age	15 to 19 years	17	13	10	36
	20 to 24 years	34	34	18	20
End of studies at	- 17 years	29	31	17	22
	17-18 years	31	32	17	24
	+ 18 years	29	21	15	27
<b>Breakdown by country (15 to 24 years); figures 1990</b>					
	Belgium	21	15	13	24
	Denmark	45	41	15	34
	ex-FRG	22	34	10	12
	ex-GDR	11	29	1	18
	Germany	19	33	8	13
	Greece	21	13	23	24
	Spain	28	14	25	28
	France	39	21	23	35
	Ireland	23	22	18	25
	Italy	18	10	15	24
	Luxembourg	15	14	1	23
	Netherlands	36	38	11	30
	Portugal	9	12	14	16
	United Kingdom	43	47	18	24
	EEC 12	30	29	16	24

Among those active, men had by and large more experience of unemployment than women: 18% of them had been out of work at least twice, versus only 15% among women. These differences are, however, much less, than in 1987, where repeated unemployment had affected 25% of men and only 18% of women (cf. table 6.7.b).

Furthermore, more men than women have had at least three jobs of at least a month. On the other hand, more women than men have already had at least two jobs of at least six months.

We also note among the 20 to 24 year olds a fairly high degree of instability in work: 18% of them have been out of work at least twice and 68% have already had two different jobs of only six months or three jobs of at least six months. This instability is also particularly high among those who have terminated full-time education between 17 and 18 years.

This is particularly strong in the United Kingdom, Denmark and in the Netherlands, where respectively 90%, 86% and 74% of active young people have already had at least two jobs of six months or more, or three jobs of at least one month. Roughly a quarter of young Spaniards, Greeks and French have been out of work at least twice (European Community average: 16%). In ex-GDR and in Luxembourg only 1% of young people fall into this category.

**Table 6.8.a: The professional life of young people - characteristics of present job  
(question asked of all working young people, i.e. undertaking full-time or part-time  
employment, or working in the context of a local or national job placement scheme)  
(evolution 1987-1990 - in %)**

Question: Do you have a permanent job, a contract for a fixed period of time, or a purely temporary job?

	1987	1990
A permanent job	70	72
Contract for a fixed period of time	5	17
A purely temporary job	4	11
Don't know/no reply	1	1
TOTAL	100	101

Question: How many hours a week do you usually spend working at your job?

	1987	1990
Less than 10 hours	2	2
Between 10 and 19 hours	3	4
Between 20 and 29 hours	8	7
Between 30 and 39 hours	34	35
40 hours and more	52	51
Don't know/no reply	1	1
TOTAL	100	100

Question: (IF LESS THAN 20 HOURS) You are working less than 20 hours per week. Is this because... ?

	1987	1990
That was the only job you could get	45	44
You are also studying or following a training course at the same time	14	33
From personal choice	17	14
For family reasons	12	6
Don't know/no reply	12	3
TOTAL	100	100

### **6.3.3 Characteristics of the job they have**

Fewer young people have purely casual work than in 1987 (11% versus 14%). Furthermore, even if the number of young people with a fixed period contract is higher (17% in place of 15% in 1987), a similar increase is also been seen in a number of those in permanent employment (up to 72%) (cf. table 6.8.a).

As in 1987, at least half of young people have full-time work of 40 hours or more per week. Of the rest most have, as in 1987, jobs ranging from 30 to 39 hours per week.

In most cases (44% in 1990; 45% in 1987), young people working less than 20 hours per week do so because they have not found anything else. We should note, however, that 33% (double that of 1987) do it because they are also undertaking a part-time training course in parallel. Finally, less than 20% (versus 29% in 1987) work less than 20 hours per week as a result of personal choice or for family reasons.



**Table 6.8.b: The professional life of young people - characteristics of present job (question asked of all working young people, i.e. undertaking full-time or part-time employment, or working in the context of a local or national job placement scheme) (figures 1987 and 1990 by sex; 1990 figures by age, educational level and country)**

Questions:

- 1) Do you have a permanent job, a contract for a fixed period of time, or a purely temporary job?
- 2) How many hours a week do you usually spend working at your job?

		Permanent job	Less than 30 hours	From 30 to 39 hours	More than 39 hours
<b>Breakdown by sex (15 to 24 years); figures 1987 and 1990</b>					
1987	Total	70	13	34	52
	Women	69	18	38	43
	Men	70	9	32	58
1990	Total	72	13	35	51
	Women	72	18	40	42
	Men	71	8	32	59

**Breakdown by age and age at end of studies; figures 1990**

Age					
Age	15 to 19 years	61	13	34	52
	20 to 24 years	75	13	36	51
End of studies at	- 17 years	74	11	32	57
	17-18 years	74	11	38	51
	+ 18 years	66	17	38	43

**Breakdown by country (15 to 24 years); figures 1990**

Belgium	68	18	49	32
Denmark	73	13	66	21
ex-FRG	87	7	54	39
ex-GDR	92	5	11	84
Germany	88	6	44	50
Greece	57	20	18	61
Spain	38	16	15	69
France	61	15	46	37
Ireland	81	12	24	62
Italy	70	23	16	60
Luxembourg	87	7	15	77
Netherlands	70	13	42	45
Portugal	56	10	23	67
United Kingdom	85	10	40	49
EEC 12	72	13	35	51

As in 1987, it is women, in particular, who work less than 30 hours per week; 19% of them fall into this category versus only 8% of men (cf. table 6.8. b).

On the other hand, when we look at permanent work, these proportions are reversed: 72% of women have full-time work (versus 69% in 1987) and 71% of men (versus 70% in 1987).

Three quarters of young people between 20 and 24 years of age and of those having stopped full-time education between 17 and 18 years or earlier have full-time work. Only 61% of 15 to 19 year olds and 66% of those having continued their education beyond the age of 18 years have full-time work. In this last category, one also finds the largest grouping of people working less than 30 hours per week (17% versus 11% for other groups).

It is in Germany (with 88%), above all ex-GDR (92%), Luxembourg (87%), the United Kingdom (85%) and Ireland (81%) that we find the highest proportion of young people in full-time employment; the proportion is lowest in Spain (38%). In all the other cases, at least one young person in two, and often two out of three, have full-time jobs.

It is also in ex-GDR and in Luxembourg that the working week is the longest with respectively 84% and 77% of young people in these countries working more than 39 hours per week. In Greece and in Italy, on the other hand, at least one young person in five works less than 30 hours per week.

**Table 6.9.a: The professional life of young people - qualifications for present job  
(question asked of all working young people, i.e. undertaking full-time or part-time  
employment, or working in the context of a local or national job placement scheme)  
(evolution 1987-1990 - in %)**

Question: In your job, do you use skills directly related to your studies or to training courses that you have done?

	1987	1990
Yes	47	54
No	51	45
Don't know/no reply	2	1
TOTAL	100	100

Question: Are you paid the going rate for the sort of job you do?

	1987	1990
Yes	69	69
No	24	25
Don't know/no reply	7	6
TOTAL	100	100

Question: Are there any chances of promotion?

	1987	1990
Yes	48	53
No	45	39
Don't know/no reply	7	8
TOTAL	100	100

Question: Are you getting training as part of your job?

	1987	1990
Yes	43	41
No	54	56
Don't know/no reply	3	3
TOTAL	100	100

#### **6.3.4 Qualifications for the job they do**

The great majority of young workers in 1990 use skills in their jobs that are directly related to their studies. Whereas, only 47% did so in 1987, 54% do so in 1990 (cf. table 6.9.a).

As in 1987, a quarter of young people interviewed do not think that they are paid the going rate for the sort of job they do.

Furthermore, 39% do not see any opportunity for promotion, which is nonetheless an improvement with respect to 1987, when 45% of young people considered themselves to be "stagnating".

We should note, finally, that 41% (43% in 1987) benefit from training as part of their job.

**Table 6.9.b: The professional life of young people - qualifications for present job (question asked of all working young people, i.e. undertaking full-time or part-time employment, or working in the context of a local or national job placement scheme) (figures 1987 and 1990 by sex; 1990 figures by age, educational level, ability to use a computer or word-processor and country - in %)**

- A. In my job, I use skills directly related to my studies or to training courses that I have done.  
 B. I am paid the going rate for the sort of job I do.  
 C. There are chances of promotion.  
 D. I am getting training as part of my job.

		A	B	C	D
Breakdown by sex (15 to 24 years); figures 1987 and 1990					
1987	Total	47	69	48	43
	Women	48	72	41	39
	Men	46	68	52	45
1990	Total	54	69	53	41
	Women	55	70	47	39
	Men	54	69	58	43

Breakdown by age and age at end of studies; figures 1990

Age		A	B	C	D
15 to 19 years		48	69	52	52
	20 to 24 years	56	69	54	38
End of studies at	- 17 years	47	69	51	39
	17-18 years	52	71	56	43
	+ 18 years	68	68	55	42

Breakdown by ability to use a computer or word processor

Can use		A	B	C	D
Very/fairly well		68	73	66	53
	A little/not at all	48	67	48	35

Breakdown by country (15 to 24 years); figures 1990

Country	A	B	C	D
Belgium	53	71	54	38
Denmark	65	85	45	37
ex-FRG	71	81	62	25
ex-GDR	80	53	48	20
Germany	73	75	59	24
Greece	46	64	23	42
Spain	36	70	50	33
France	54	62	50	38
Ireland	51	76	47	48
Italy	38	57	39	50
Luxembourg	56	75	60	41
Netherlands	64	82	60	45
Portugal	33	49	39	20
United Kingdom	55	74	63	61
EEC 12	54	69	53	41

Job satisfaction in terms of the ability to use their skills and in terms of salary is split fairly evenly by sex. 47% of women believe that they have chances of promotion (41% in 1987), but this remains below the level of confidence shown by men; 58% in 1990 (52% in 1987). Fewer women have the benefit of training as part of their job as well, as was the case in 1987, with only 39% having this particular advantage compared to 43% of men (45% in 1987) (cf. table 6.9.b).

Those with a higher educational level believe that they have more of a chance to apply skills related to their studies in the context of their work. They are, however, a little more reserved when it comes to their salary. As far as training on the job is concerned, it is above all the younger age group (15 to 19 years old) who have this particular advantage (52% against 38%).

Knowledge of information technology has a strong relationship to the level of satisfaction that young workers have, certainly those claiming to be able to use modern technology "very well" or "quite well". Those having the ability to use a computer or word-processor "quite well" or "very well" are certainly more satisfied with regard to their salary, believe they have better opportunities for promotion and above all have more opportunities for vocational training than those who only have limited or no knowledge of computer technology.

When we look at the opportunity to use skills directly related to their studies, it is above all Germany, Denmark and the Netherlands. In these three countries too, as well as Luxembourg and Ireland, at least three quarters of the young people believe that they are getting the going "rate" for the sort of job they do.

**Table 6.10: Relationship between occupation of young people, their educational level, knowledge of languages and of computers  
(breakdown by educational level, number of foreign languages spoken sufficiently well to take part in a conversation and ability to use a computer or a word-processor)**

Question: What is your present main occupation? (One answer only)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| A. Paid full or part time employment         | E. Unemployed and looking for work           |
| B. Government or local authority work scheme | F. Military/national service                 |
| G. At home, looking after family/dependents  | C. Still studying - school, higher education |
| D. Job placement or apprenticeship           | H. None of these                             |

	Active (=A+B)	Unemployed (=E)	Studying (=C)
<b>Breakdown by age at end of studies</b>			
End of studies at			
- 16 years	65	14	0
16-19 years	73	10	0
+ 19 years	80	9	0
Still studying	0	0	100

**Breakdown by the number of foreign languages spoken**

None	53	9	26
1 language	37	4	49
2 languages	30	4	59
3 languages or more	29	2	61

**Breakdown by ability to use a computer or word processor**

Can use	Very/fairly well	45	3	43
	A little/not at all	41	7	41

### **6.3.5 Relationship between occupation, educational level, knowledge of languages and of information technology**

If, as a general rule, we note that the percentage of unemployed people reduces considerably with the level of education achieved, this decrease is even more marked among those who have a knowledge of foreign languages (cf. table 6.10).

In fact, whereas young Europeans with no knowledge of foreign languages comprise 9% of unemployed, those having knowledge of 1 or 2 foreign languages in addition to their mother tongue only comprise 4% of the unemployed. Among those claiming to be able to speak 3 languages, the figure is only 2%.

We also note that this last group only comprise 29% of those economically active (whereas those only speaking one language comprise 53%) - but this is because 61% of them are still students.

We can draw the same conclusions with respect to knowledge of information technology, where the ability to use a computer reduces the number of unemployed from 7% to 3%.



**Table 6.11.a: The professional life of young people - their satisfaction at work**  
**(question asked of all working young people, i.e. undertaking full-time or part-time**  
**employment, or working in the context of a local or national job placement scheme)**  
**(breakdown by sex, age, educational level, number of foreign languages "spoken**  
**sufficiently well to participate in a conversation", ability to use a computer or word-**  
**processor and country)**

Question: Are you completely satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with your current job?

- |    |                      |              |    |                      |                   |
|----|----------------------|--------------|----|----------------------|-------------------|
| A. | Completely satisfied | (= 4 points) | D. | Not at all satisfied | (= 1 point)       |
| B. | Fairly satisfied     | (= 3 points) | E. | Don't know/no reply  |                   |
| C. | Not very satisfied   | (= 2 points) | F. | Average satisfaction | (out of 4 points) |

		A	B	C	D	E	F
<b>Breakdown by sex</b>							
15 to 24 years	Total	27%	54%	14%	5%	1%	3.0 /4
	Women	27	54	15	5	1	3.0
	Men	27	54	13	5	1	3.0
<b>Breakdown by age, age at end of studies and the number of foreign languages spoken</b>							
Age	15 to 19 years	29	52	15	4	1	3.1
	20 to 24 years	26	55	14	5	1	3.0
End of studies at	- 17 years	25	54	16	5	0	3.0
	17-18 years	28	54	13	4	1	3.1
	+ 18 years	28	53	12	6	1	3.0
Number of languages spoken	0	24	53	16	6	1	3.0
	1	30	54	13	3	0	3.1
	2	29	55	10	5	1	3.1
	3 +	37	51	7	1	1	3.2
<b>Breakdown by ability to use a computer or word processor</b>							
Can use	Very/fairly well	33	55	8	3	0	3.2
	A little/not at all	24	53	17	6	1	3.0
<b>Breakdown by country (15 to 24 years)</b>							
	Belgium	35	55	8	1	1	3.2
	Denmark	50	43	7	0	0	3.4
	ex-FRG	36	51	12	2	0	3.2
	ex-GDR	14	60	21	5	0	2.8
	Germany	30	53	14	3	0	3.1
	Greece	22	46	20	11	1	2.8
	Spain	20	50	24	6	0	2.8
	France	30	52	9	7	2	3.1
	Ireland	31	50	13	5	1	3.1
	Italy	17	60	18	5	0	2.9
	Luxembourg	31	62	5	2	0	3.2
	Netherlands	41	48	10	1	0	3.3
	Portugal	10	61	22	6	1	2.8
	United Kingdom	29	55	10	5	1	3.1
	EEC 12	27	54	14	5	1	3.0

### **6.3.6 Their satisfaction with their current job**

Active young Europeans are generally satisfied with their current job (cf. table 6.11.a). 81% of them, regardless whether they fall in the 15 to 19 year old age group or the 20 to 24 year old age group, say that they are "fairly satisfied" or "completely satisfied", and this regardless of sex. There are only slight differences with educational level: job satisfaction is never lower than 79%.

Finally, the phenomenon already pointed out above with regard to mastery of foreign languages and computing is reiterated here: both of these factors tend to increase the number of young people expressing satisfaction (from 77% to 88%).

As far as the geographical split of these responses is concerned, satisfaction is highest in Denmark (3.4 of a possible 4), as well as the Netherlands (3.3), Belgium (3.2), Luxembourg and ex-FRG (also with 3.2). It is lowest in ex-GDR, Greece, Spain and Portugal, but in no case does the number of dissatisfied young people exceed one third of the population.

**Table 6.11.b: The professional life of young people - their assessment of their career prospects**  
**(question asked of all young people)**  
**(evolution 1982 to 1990 by country)**

Question: Can you tell me if your career prospects are going very well, quite well, so-so, quite badly or very badly?

	1982	1987	Error!	1990	Error!
Assessment of their career prospects: EEC 12 percentages					
Very good (= 5 points)	12	14	117	15	125
Quite well (= 4 points)	27	34	126	39	144
So-so (= 3 points)	27	27	100	30	111
Quite badly (= 2 points)	11	11	100	8	73
Very badly (= 1 point)	6	6	100	3	50
Don't know/no reply	17	8	47	5	29
TOTAL	100	100		100	
Average	3.3/5	3.4/5		3.6/5	

Assessment of their career prospects:  
Average by country, ranked in  
decreasing order by 1990 results

Netherlands	3.6	3.9	108	4.1	114
Luxembourg	3.7	3.9	105	3.9	105
Belgium	3.5	3.6	103	3.8	109
Denmark	3.4	3.8	112	3.8	112
ex-FRG	3.4	3.5	103	3.7	109
United Kingdom	3.3	3.6	109	3.7	112
Germany	-	-	-	3.6	-
France	3.3	3.4	103	3.6	109
Greece	3.6	3.6	100	3.5	97
Spain	-	3.2	-	3.4	-
Ireland	3.4	3.2	94	3.4	100
Italy	3.2	3.3	103	3.4	106
Portugal	-	3.3	-	3.3	-
ex-GDR	-	-	-	3.2	-

Young Europeans are more and more confident about their career prospects (cf. table 6.11.b). The trend already seen in 1987 has been confirmed, and today 54% of them consider their prospects "quite good" or even "very good". In 1982, only 39% were of this opinion, and in 1987, only 48%.

Furthermore, the most pessimistic of them, which accounted for 17% of young people in 1982 and 1987, only accounted for 11% of answers in 1990.

This trend is marked in all countries except Greece, where the average measure of satisfaction has fallen from 3.6 out of 5 in 1982 and 1987 to 3.5 in 1990. In Ireland, where confidence fell to 3.2 in 1987, there has been a recovery to the same level as 1982 (3.4).

We also note that the most optimistic young people are to be found in the Netherlands and Luxembourg, as in both the previous surveys.

**Table 6.12: Experience of unemployment among young people - length of time looking for a job**

(question asked only to 465 (859 in 1987) young unemployed)

(figures 1987 and 1990 by sex; 1990 figures by age, educational level, possession of a school diploma or certificate, ability to use a computer or word processor and the number of languages spoken "well enough to take part in a conversation" - in %)

Question: For how many months have you been looking for a job?

- |    |                        |    |                     |
|----|------------------------|----|---------------------|
| A. | Less than three months | D. | 13 to 24 months     |
| B. | 3 to 6 months          | E. | 25 months or more   |
| C. | 7 to 12 months         | F. | Don't know/no reply |

		A	B	C	D	E	F
Breakdown by sex (15 to 24 years); figures 1987 and 1990							
1987	Total	22	22	17	14	20	5
	Women	22	20	16	16	22	4
	Men	23	25	16	13	18	5
1990	Total	30	27	19	10	12	3
	Women	31	22	19	11	14	4
	Men	30	32	18	8	9	2

Breakdown by age, age at end of studies, possession of a school diploma or certificate and the number of foreign languages spoken

Age	15 to 19 years	32	26	23	10	7	3
	20 to 24 years	30	27	16	10	14	3
End of studies at	- 17 years	31	23	18	11	12	5
	17-18 years	23	29	22	11	14	1
	+ 18 years	35	30	17	7	9	2
Possess qualification	yes	31	29	17	9	10	3
	no	30	20	22	10	18	1
Number of languages spoken	0	27	23	21	12	14	4
	1	33	32	14	8	11	1
	2 +	46	34	16	2	2	2

Breakdown by ability to use a computer or word processor

Can use	Very/fairly well	38	31	15	6	8	3
	A little/not at all	29	26	19	10	13	4

## **6.4 Their experience of unemployment**

### **6.4.1 The length of their job search**

In parallel with the reduction in the frequency of periods of unemployment noted above (cf. tables 6.7.a and 6.7.b), we note a reduction in the average length of time spent looking for a job (cf. table 6.12).

There are in fact more young people that have been unemployed for less than three months (30% as compared with 22% in 1987), but far fewer who have spent more than one year looking for work (22% versus 34%). The number that have been out of work for more than two years has almost halved.

We note, nonetheless, as in 1987, that long term unemployment (more than one year) remains an essentially feminine phenomenon: 25% (1987: 38%) of young unemployed women have been out of a job for more than one year, versus only 17% (31% in 1987) of young men.

Cases of prolonged unemployment are much less common among those who have continued their education, who have some school qualifications, who speak several languages and who have some understanding of information technology.

In this respect we note that, once again, knowledge of foreign languages seems to be the most determinant factor. Among those speaking two or more foreign languages we find only 4% unemployed for more than one year, as opposed to 26% of those speaking no foreign languages.

**Table 6.13: Experience of unemployment among young people - length of time looking for a job**

(question asked only to 465 (859 in 1987) young unemployed)  
(figures 1987 and 1990 by sex; 1990 figures by age and educational level - in %)

Question: How have you been looking for a job? (Several answers possible)

- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| A. In the newspapers and advertisements | D. By contacting employers directly   |
| B. Job centre/employment agency         | E. Through school or training centres |
| C. Through friends or family            | F. Other                              |

		A	B	C	D	E	F
Breakdown by sex (15 to 24 years); figures 1987 and 1990							
1987	Total	53	58	45	34	4	11
	Women	57	58	48	32	5	13
	Men	49	57	43	34	4	10
1990	Total	55	55	50	30	4	6
	Women	55	56	48	34	4	7
	Men	54	53	52	25	4	4

Breakdown by age and age at end of studies; figures 1990

Age	15 to 19 years	52	52	49	21	7	3
	20 to 24 years	56	56	50	34	2	7
End of studies at	- 17 years	53	61	54	25	6	6
	17-18 years	51	52	48	29	2	5
	+ 18 years	60	46	44	39	2	7

#### **6.4.2 The ways that they look for work**

When compared with 1987, the methods used to look for a job have become a little more homogeneous (cf. table 6.13). At least one young unemployed person in two use the newspapers, an agency or friends and relations.

Whereas scanning of advertisements was more common among women in 1987, men preferring to use employment agencies and job centres, this is no longer the case. On the other hand, women are far more likely to contact employers directly (34% versus 25%), which was not the case in 1987.

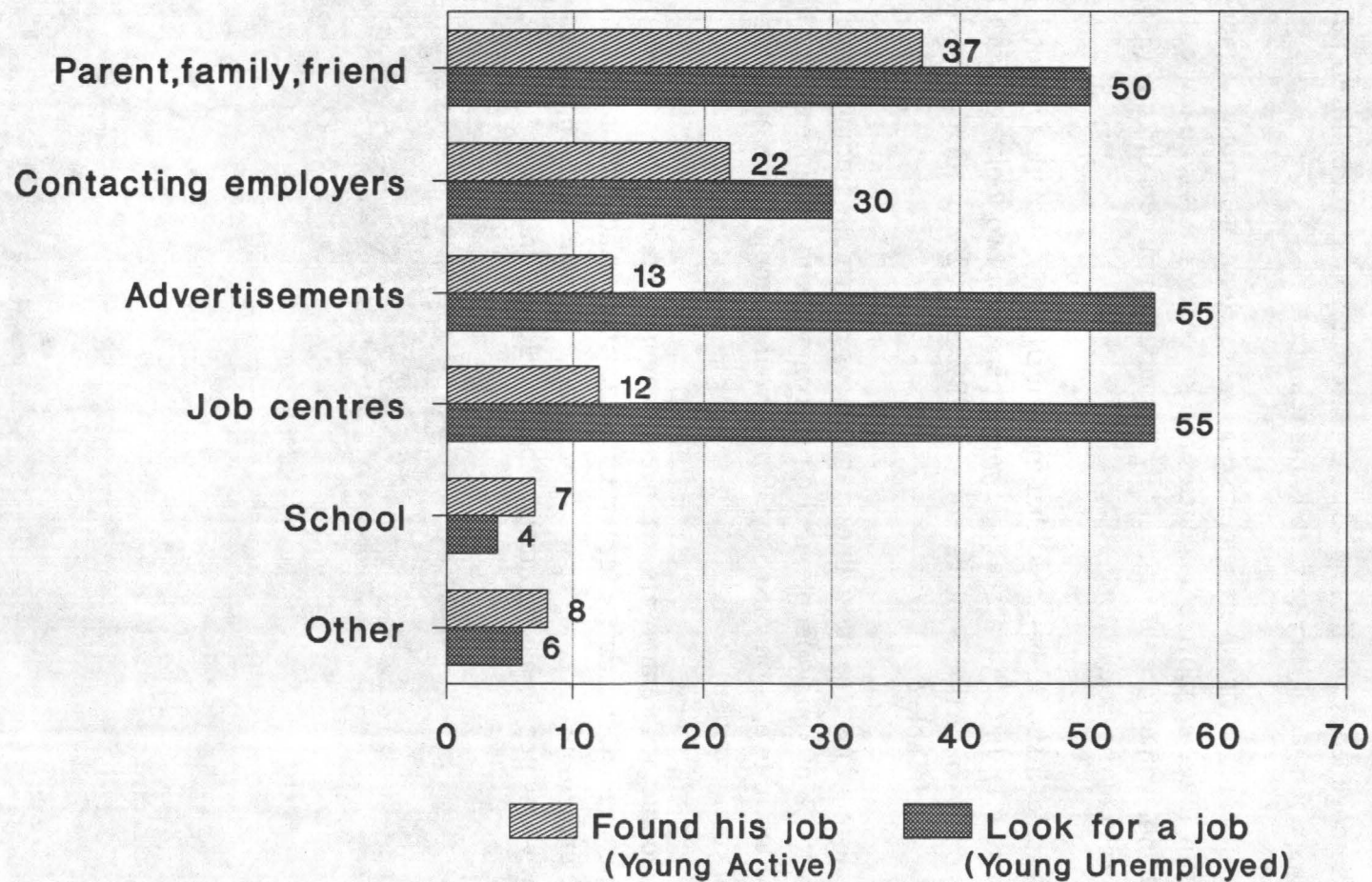
At this stage, it should be noted that many methods of looking for work are inadequate (cf Graph 6.1). In fact, whereas one young person in two looks for work by reading the papers or by contacting a job centre, only 13% and 12% of them respectively find a job in this way (cf Table 6.6).

Personal relations (the most important means of actually finding work: 37%) are only used by 50% of young people, and direct contact with employers, which is responsible for one job in five, is only used by 30% of young people (25% of young men as against 34% of young women).

Direct contact with employers is above all common among 20 to 24 year olds and those having continued full time education. On the other hand, 60% of this latter group also use advertisements in newspapers. Employment agencies and job centres are most often used by young people having finished their studies before turning 17.



**Graph 6.1. : The ways in which young active people found their job (one answer only) and young unemployed people look for a job (several answers possible) - (in %)**



**Table 6.14: Experience of unemployment among young people - the main reason for their being unemployed**  
**(question asked only to 465 (859 in 1987) young unemployed)**  
**(figures 1987 and 1990 by sex; 1990 figures by age and educational level - in %)**

Question: What is the main reason why you are unemployed? (One answer only)

- |    |  |    |  |
|----|--|----|--|
| A. | There are no jobs available that suit my training and qualifications | E. | I can get at least as much money on the dole as I could in a job |
| B. | There are absolutely no jobs at all in this area                     | F. | Other reason   |
| C. | The jobs I have been offered did not really appeal to me             | G. | Don't know/no reply  |
| D. | Personal or family reasons (e.g. looking after children)             |    |  |

		A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Breakdown by sex (15 to 24 years); figures 1987 and 1990								
1987	Total	26	34	11	5	1	17	6
	Women	27	35	9	6	2	16	5
	Men	26	33	13	3	1	18	6
1990	Total	31	20	16	5	2	25	1
	Women	35	20	16	5	1	21	1
	Men	25	20	17	5	4	29	1

Breakdown by age, age at end of studies

Age	15 to 19 years	32	20	15	2	1	29	2
	20 to 24 years	30	20	17	7	3	22	1
End of studies at	- 17 years	24	24	19	4	2	25	1
	17-18 years	34	21	22	6	4	13	1
	+ 18 years	39	13	8	6	1	33	1

### **6.4.3 The main cause of unemployment**

When we ask young people how they explain no having a job, almost one third of them (and more among women than men) cite the absence of work corresponding to their qualifications (cf. table 6.14).

One young person in five complain of a total lack of jobs in their area. Only 2% (1% among women, but 4% of men) pretend to be able to earn as much money on the dole as working; on the other hand this is up on the 1% recorded in 1987.

15 to 19 year olds cite under qualification more frequently than 20 to 24 year olds. The latter group, on the other hand, more often complain of family obligations (such as looking after children), which is hardly surprising.

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## **Synthesis**

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## Synthesis

### Chapter 1: Young Europeans in their everyday life

At the beginning of this study, the first thing analysed is the everyday life of young Europeans. Thereafter we look at their living conditions, their personal relations (love, friends, parents), their satisfaction with life in general, their financial resources and, finally, their personal interests. Here are a few of the main trends.

#### 1.1 Their living conditions

The proportion of young people living with their parents (75%) and living alone or sharing their accommodation with one person or persons (12%) has not changed these last three years. On the other hand, we see a **reduction in the proportion living with their husband or wife**, (confirming a trend already seen in 1987) and a **proportional increase in the number cohabiting with a boyfriend or girlfriend**.

Sex, age, nationality and religious attitudes have a determinant influence on the living conditions of young Europeans:

- among young people of both sexes, it is becoming more common to live with a girlfriend or boyfriend, and less common to marry;
- even in Greece and Ireland, the only countries where the proportion of married couples has increased, these increases are not significant;
- Denmark is the only Community country where we see a reduction in the proportion of young couples living together; this reduction is only slight, however;
- difference in behaviour between women and men with regard to marriage cancel each other out;
- young people considering themselves to be "religious" are less likely to live alone or with a boyfriend or girlfriend, and are correspondingly more likely to live with their parents.

## **1.2 Their personal relationships: love, friends and parents**

As in 1987, 15 to 24 year olds say they are **very satisfied** in the relations they have with **their parents** (average score: 4.3 out of 5): their judgement of these relations is virtually identical to that of their relations with **their friends**. This judgement reflects the expectations of young people in this area, which themselves correspond to certain norms, these being a function of several socio-demographic factors which change over time.

We note that the situation with regard to **love** has remained stable since 1982 (average satisfaction around 3.8 out of 5), as has the degree of optimism with regard to their **personal future** (prospects for marriage, having a family, etc.) (average score around 3.7 out of 5).

## **1.3 Their satisfaction with life in general**

Satisfaction has **increased** in all countries, but reduces with age.

## **1.4 Their financial resources**

Young people tend to be **better off financially** in 1990 than in 1987: only in the ex-FRG are there fewer young people considering their financial situation to be "acceptable". The proportion of **income from a regular job** has increased considerably with respect to 1987, to reach a comparable level to that of parental contributions.

## **1.5 Their life interests**

Since 1982, young Europeans' principal life interests are, in an order which varies, the **environment, sport, major social problems and arts and entertainment**. Interest in environmental issues has increased consistently since these surveys have been undertaken (up 16 points in 8 years!). On the other hand, arts and entertainment and national politics are cited by many fewer young people as interests.

Even if the structure of answers from young people do not vary fundamentally, there are non-negligible variations by nationality. Age is also a determinant factor in interests cited.

In terms of the influence of sex, we note that women of all ages are generally more interested in social problems, in under development, pacifism, the environment and in arts and entertainment, whereas men express stronger interest in sport, science and technology and in politics.

## **Chapter 2: Young Europeans and Society**

Having studied the everyday life of young people, we then focus our attention on their relations with society. To do this, they were asked what were their "greatest causes", the qualities that they wish to encourage in their children, the main problems that they face and the extent to which they feel that persons of their age suffer from discrimination.

### **2.1 Their "greatest causes"**

**World peace, protection of the environment and human rights** are still among the four main preoccupations of young people in the Community, regardless of their nationality. Protection of the environment is an issue that has grown spectacularly in importance: 19 points more than in 1982!

After having stagnated between 1982 and 1987, support for Europe has seen an increase in 1990.

Women are more likely than men to support the struggle against racism, but this cause has fewer and fewer supporters, and its support diminishes with age. Aid to the Third World, also more strongly supported by women than men, has seen a similar evolution. Advocates of sexual equality are also mainly women, their support levelling off with age, however.

### **2.2 The qualities they wish to encourage in their children**

Despite some divergence by age, sex and nationality, a **sense of responsibility, politeness, tolerance and communication** are for most Young Europeans among the qualities they would most like to encourage among their children. This was already the case in 1987.

### **2.3 The major problems facing them**

Compared to 1987, it seems that as a general rule, the problems confronting young people are perceived as being **significantly less important**, and this in the opinion of both young people themselves and of adults.

The main problems facing 15 to 24 year olds are unemployment, drugs, A.I.D.S. and the deficiency of education with regard to preparing them for life.

Among the problems cited, only a lack of suitable accommodation has become more of an issue than in 1987, by both young people themselves (+3 points) and their elders (+6 points). This is also the issue that has the most unanimous support throughout the Community.

## **2.4 The membership of groups and associations**

**One European in two, both young and adult, belongs to a group or association.** Nonetheless this proportion varies by country and, more specifically, by region: **Northern Europeans are more often members of groups or associations than Southern Europeans.**

One possible explanation of this result is that associations are developed as a counter balance for the erosion of more traditional structures (family, village, etc.) that persist more strongly in the South.

The three types of associations which attract most young people and adults are **sports clubs, religious and church organisations and trade unions and professional associations.**

At all ages, women are less likely to develop an intense social life than men. On the other hand, among young working people, membership of unions is slightly higher among women than men.

## **2.5 Their feelings about discrimination to people of their own age**

As in 1987, the two groups that young people feel to be most at risk of discrimination are the **handicapped and non-whites.**

Young people in general, and in particular women and 20 to 24 year olds, are particularly sensitive to the question of **discrimination.**

Even if **86%** of young Europeans consider that their peers are likely to be victims of discrimination, as in 1987 "only" **one person in ten** claims to have been a victim of discrimination themselves - a result that is certainly less alarming but surely not less worrying.



## **Chapter 3: Openness of Young Europeans to foreign countries - their travel, training and knowledge of foreign languages**

Seven young Europeans in ten having already left their own country, it is interesting to explore their experience of foreign countries (length of stay, chosen destinations, etc.) and, from this, to test their knowledge of other official languages of the Community (and to compare this knowledge to that of adults).

### **3.1 Their experience of foreign countries**

#### **3.1.1 The number of months they have spent abroad**

As in 1987, **three young Europeans in ten have never been outside their own country**, and the average length of their stays abroad has not changed greatly.

Even though sex has no great influence, age is a determinant factor in travel habits. **60%** of 15 to 19 year olds have never been abroad for longer than one month, whereas only **45%** of 20 to 24 year olds fall into this category.

Young people with a higher level of education tend to spend longer abroad. Similarly young people who are working or studying tend to spend longer abroad than those who are unemployed.

#### **3.1.2 The countries which they have visited - their principal destinations**

**France, Spain and Italy** are the most popular destinations chosen by young people having travel experience.

Of these, **more than 90%** have visited at least one other Community country.

#### **3.1.3 Their travel abroad on a youth exchange**

Some **66%** of young European who have already been abroad have **never participated in a youth exchange**; this proportion is much lower among 15 to 19 year olds than 20 to 24 year olds.

The formula chosen is above all **organised groups**, and this most commonly those organised by schools or university.

Membership of a youth club, youth organisation or youth movement seems to increase the chance of participating in the exchanges.

Women are more likely than men to take advantage of an exchange in order to travel abroad. When doing so, young people are most likely to choose to go to the United Kingdom, France, the ex-FRG or Spain.

### **3.1.4 Their mobility in work, studies and training**

Despite the rapid approach of 1993, only 364 young people in the sample studied, in other words **only 8% of those having already travelled** outside their country, have worked abroad.

Once again the most common destinations chosen by these people were the United Kingdom, the ex-FRG, France and Spain. When considering countries where people would like to go we should include Italy in this list.

For obvious socio-economic reasons (finance, studies, courses, etc.) 20 to 24 year olds are the sub-group having most often worked abroad. Some 35% of young people who have worked abroad have done so outside the European Community.

Only 9% of young Europeans who have been abroad, in other words 7% of our sample, have studied abroad.

The destinations most often chosen for studies are the same as those chosen for work abroad. In roughly one case in five of cases they choose a non-Community country.

### **3.1.5 Their main reasons for not working, studying or training abroad**

Languages remain the major obstacle for those not leaving their country. After this come money, difficulties in finding a job or a training establishment and lack of interest. More men than women think that language would be a barrier for them.

## **3.2 Their knowledge of foreign languages and how they learned them**

### **3.2.1 Language or languages they speak at home**

Putting aside two unsurprising exceptions, Spain and Luxembourg, in the majority of Community countries the mother tongue of young Europeans is the national language(s) of their country.

### **3.2.2 Foreign languages they have learned**

The same principal trends observed in 1987 remain in evidence in 1990. We note, however, an increase in the number of people learning Spanish and, above all, English (among both young people and adults).

15 to 19 year olds learn the most foreign languages. The main reason is to be found in changing teaching practices.

The longer a person remains in full time education, the higher the number of languages learned.

We cannot neglect the strong influence of educational level on the different issues covered in this report.

### **3.2.3 Foreign languages they speak well enough to take part in a conversation**

Here too the trends are the same as in 1987: English is at the top of the list, followed by French and German. **English** is in fact **increasing** in strength.

Whereas more young women than young men do not speak any foreign languages, the opposite is true among adults.

The average number of foreign languages spoken increases with educational level.

### **3.2.4 The relationship between languages they have learned or speak and countries they have visited**

Whether spoken fluently or simply learned, the first foreign language studied is **English**, regardless of the Community countries that have been visited. In the majority of cases this is followed by French, then German, Spanish and, less commonly, Italian.

**No correlation exists** between countries visited and the linguistic abilities of young people.

### **3.2.5 The ways they have learned foreign languages**

Most people learn foreign languages they know whilst at school. This is followed by **stays abroad, courses undertaken on their own initiative** and, finally, **family**. This holds true regardless of age or sex.

### **3.2.6 Their opinion of the importance given to language training in education**

By far the majority of people, both **young and old**, believe that the **emphasis given to language training** in schools is **inadequate**.

### **3.2.7 Their opinion on the importance of foreign languages**

The idea that it is **very important** to know foreign languages emerges more clearly than in 1987 among both young and old.

### **3.2.8 Languages they would like to learn and the reasons for this**

In 1987, **English** was the predominant language cited, but this **has fallen to fourth place** in 1990; **Italian**, fifth in 1987, is **now in second place**, behind **German** which has emerged as **the most popular language** among young Europeans.

The three reasons most often cited as being behind this choice are, in 1990, cultural interest, professional perspectives and plans to move to a country where a particular language is spoken.

## **Chapter 4: What young Europeans think and know of Europe**

To understand what young Europeans think of Europe, we begin by looking at training received about Europe.

Looking first at the global knowledge they have on this theme a distinction has been made between subjective knowledge on the one hand (the feeling that they "know enough") and on the other hand objective knowledge (their ability to identify the members of the European Community).

After this, the awareness and image of the European Commission have been analysed. To end this section, certain trends in the attitudes of young Europeans with respect to Europe have been identified by means of four indicators of support and a "typology of European attitudes".

### **4.1 The education they have received about the European Community**

In the vast majority of member countries of the Community, more young people received specific teaching on the Community than they did three years ago, even if the differences between countries in the Community are very large.

As in 1987, more 15 to 19 year olds claim to have had such teaching, showing that it is becoming more generalised. Logically this measure increases with educational level.

### **4.2 Their general knowledge of the European Community**

#### **4.2.1 Their subjective knowledge of the European Community**

The European Community and its activities evokes the curiosity of **more than three quarters** of young Europeans. This feeling is even more marked among 15 to 19 year olds and among women.

Educational level, the fact that specific teaching on the topic has been received and knowledge of foreign languages influence the level of interest in the Community. These three factors are, of course, intercorrelated and it is not possible, in the context of this report at least, to perform a deeper analysis of this issue to understand which are the dependent and independent variables.

#### **4.2.2 Their objective knowledge of the Community**

Even if teaching on the subject is becoming more common, the actual **knowledge** of the Community remains **mediocre**: at Community level, only 4% of young People can correctly identify the "thirteen" member countries of the Community (in view of the recent integration of Germany, the ex-FRG and ex-GDR were presented as separate countries). This score varies from 10% (in Luxembourg) to 2% (in Greece, Italy, Portugal and the United Kingdom).

For the Community as a whole, the average number of countries correctly identified is **8.4 out of 13**. This score increases with age, educational level and the number of languages spoken. It is markedly higher among men than among women.

#### **4.3 The awareness of the European Commission among young people and the impression it gives**

The awareness of the Commission among young people and adults is virtually the same following a **marked increase in the awareness of younger people** since 1987 and stability among adults. We also note that even if the institution itself **remains relatively unknown**, the **reputation of one of its major projects, the creation of a single market, is very strong**.

More people, both young and old, have a "generally favourable" impression of the Commission from the information they have received. The percentage of those having received a "generally unfavourable" impression has fallen spectacularly among both young and old.

#### **4.4 What they think about the European Community - some general trends**

On the whole, the four general indicators of support for the European Community show that:

- the level of support for unification has tended to increase since 1982;
- membership of the European Community is more and more considered "a good thing";
- more people than in 1982 would feel "very sorry" if their country abandoned membership of the European Community;
- many more young people than in 1987 believe that their country has benefited from membership of the Community.

In 1990, as in 1987, young people have a slightly more optimistic perception of the progress towards unification than adults. Both young people and adults express a desire for a slower pace of unification than in the past.

In reading the typology of European attitudes, it is clear that the percentage of positive European attitudes has increased all round.

It is higher among men than among women, and it increases with age and educational level. It varies from 46% in the United Kingdom to 73% in the Netherlands.

To wind up this chapter, we should underline one very positive result for the Community: 48% of young people and 47% of adults believe that in the course of the last 12 months the "level of agreement between the countries of the European Community" has in general increased. These percentages were 27% and 28% respectively in 1987.

## **Chapter 5: Young Europeans and their studies**

The entire 15 to 24 year old age group was analysed to understand their knowledge, motivations and desires in the world of information technology. Having done this, we looked more closely at the 40% of them who are still studying in order to determine their satisfaction, wishes and motivation in the study area.

### **5.1 Their knowledge of information technology**

The percentage of 15 to 24 year olds having **no knowledge of information technology** has **decreased** since 1987.

More women than men fall into this category.

Training in information technology is increasing in both schools and universities, and the higher their educational level the higher the percentage of young people having some knowledge and understanding of Information Technology (IT), which is hardly surprising.

National percentages are scattered widely around the Community mean.

Initiation into information technology usually takes place at school or university, with contact at home or with friends following. The importance of the relationship between educational level and knowledge of IT is therefore evident.

Use at work and professional training come in third and fourth places respectively as means of acquiring skills in this area.

The **most important reason** given for wanting to know more about computers is **professional**. Some background knowledge and experience of computers is also an **important driving force** behind individuals wanting to learn more.

We should note that in **all countries**, at least **two thirds** of young people **want to learn more** about computing.

### **5.2 Their studies**

#### **5.2.1 Are they studying what they wanted to?**

The percentage of young Europeans studying the subjects that they wanted too is **very high: 88%**. The proportion in the different member countries varies closely around this mean (from 7 points below to 5 points above).



More men than women in both 15 to 19 and 20 to 24 year old age groups claim to be following the courses that they wanted.

### **5.2.2 The ways in which they explain their choice of studies**

The sort of job that they want to have influences one young person in two to make a specific choice of studies. This is followed by interest in the subject area itself, increasing the chances of getting a job, better salaries and, finally, wishes of parents and family.

### **5.2.3 Their reasons for continuing studies beyond minimum school leaving age**

In 1990, 15 to 24 year olds make the same choices as in 1987. The principal reasons behind continuing studies are **personal advantage**, followed by **enjoyment** of the study area.

## **Chapter 6: The entry of young Europeans into the working world**

When looking at the entry of young Europeans into the working world, four themes were analysed:

- careers guidance and counselling sought;
- their experience of professional training courses;
- their professional activity;
- their experience of unemployment.

### **6.1 The professional guidance that they seek**

#### **6.1.1 The different types of guidance sought**

When making careers decisions, young people tend to turn to their **family and friends** for advice; the degree of trust that they have in their peers and family has increased since 1987. Only 7% of them claim never to have asked for advice.

Job centres and employment agencies and, to a lesser extent, teachers and lecturers, are less frequently approached in 1990 than in 1987.

15 to 19 year olds are as one might expect more likely to make use of careers counsellors and teachers at school than are 20 to 24 year olds, these latter preferring to talk to their friends, professional agencies or companies.

Women are more likely to talk to their peers and family than are men, and men are more likely not to seek external advice at all.

#### **6.1.2 Their attitudes towards official services**

Those young people who go against the dominant trend and consult official guidance services are more likely to rate these services positively than in 1987.

Despite a very slight increase in the proportion of young people who were contacted by the services themselves, almost 6 out of ten young European who use official services take the initiative of contacting them themselves, as was seen in 1987.

Even though an improvement has been recorded, young people still complain of difficulties in making these services understand their problems. They are especially dissatisfied with the quality of the advice they receive. In 1987, the principal point of contention was the absence of job opportunities available through these services.

## **6.2 Their experience of professional training**

Only one young person in twenty claims to be on a full time professional training course outside of full-time education, whereas in reality **nearly 50% of young people in work and 30% of young unemployed claim to have followed a training course since leaving school.**

Paradoxically, **nearly two thirds of those without a school certificate or diploma have not followed a training course**, whereas less than half of those with some school qualification fall into this category.

On the whole, young people claim to be **satisfied** with the training courses they have followed and consider them to have been useful. They seem to play a non negligible role in obtaining work.

Young people still in training in 1990 seem more sceptical than in 1987 as to the usefulness of their training. They are also a little more likely to have had work before starting the course but as in 1987, **73% of them started the course immediately upon leaving school.**

## **6.3 Their professional activities**

### **6.3.1 The ways that they have found their jobs**

As in 1987, most young people find work through personal contacts and relations. The importance of direct contact with employers has fallen since 1987. Scanning the papers for advertisements, the third most important source, has increased among men, but decreased among women.

15 to 19 year olds are especially dependent upon personal relations, whereas their elders resort more frequently on contacts with companies or the newspapers. Direct contact seems to be more frequent in the North of Europe than in the South.

### **6.3.2 Changes of job since starting work**

As in 1987, **nearly 4 young workers in 10 are still in their first job.** 10% of them have had at least 5 jobs. We see a considerable increase in the number of young people never having been out of work: **56% now compared to 49% in 1987.**

Instability is more common among men than women. It is also more marked among 20 to 24 year olds than among 15 to 19 year olds.

### **6.3.3 Characteristics of the job they have**

The majority (72%) of young people in work have full time jobs. Half of them work more than 39 hours per week, and more than one third of them between 30 and 39 hours per week.

Those working less than 20 hours per week do so mostly because they couldn't find anything else, or because they are studying or following a training course in parallel. As in 1987, women are more likely to work less than 30 hours per week, as are young people having left school after 18 years of age.

### **6.3.4 Qualifications for the job they do**

The chances of finding a job where they can use their skills has improved since 1987. Four workers in ten receive training at work. Knowledge of information technology seems to be a determining factor in achieving job satisfaction in all respects (salary, using skills, job prospects, chances of receiving additional training).

### **6.3.5 Relationship between occupation, educational level, knowledge of languages and of information technology**

Mastery of IT and knowledge of languages decreases considerably the probability of being unemployed.

### **6.3.6 Their satisfaction with their current job**

On the whole, young Europeans in work, both men and women, are satisfied with their current job. Furthermore, they seem confident about their career prospects and we see far fewer pessimists than in 1987.

## **6.4 Their experience of unemployment**

### **6.4.1 The length of their job search**

The average length of time taken to find a job has fallen, and the number of young people being out of work for more than two years has fallen by a half. Long term unemployment (more than one year) is essentially a feminine phenomenon.

### **6.4.2 The ways that they look for work**

We note that some methods of looking for work are less effective than others. In fact, even though more than half of the unemployed scan the newspapers or go to job centres to find work, only 13% and 12% of them respectively find work in these ways.

Personal relations and direct contact with employers are insufficiently used, even though these are precisely the most effective means of finding work!

### **6.4.3 The main cause of unemployment**

When explaining the reasons for being out of work, young people complain above all of a lack of work corresponding to their qualifications. One in five of them cites a total lack of work in the area where they live.

**Appendix 1:**  
**TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS**

**1.CO-OPERATING AGENCIES AND RESEARCH EXECUTIVES**

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<b>FRANCE</b>	<b>TMO Consultants</b> 22, rue du 4-Septembre F-75002 PARIS	<b>Ms. Isabelle CREBASSA</b>	<b>tel. + +/33 1 47 42 34 81</b> <b>fax. + +/33 1 47 42 44 74</b>
<b>IRELAND</b>	<b>LANSDOWNE Market Research</b> 12, Hatch Street IRL-DUBLIN 2	<b>Mr. Roger JUPP</b>	<b>tel. + +/353 1 61 34 83</b> <b>fax. + +/353 1 61 34 79</b>
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<b>NEDERLAND</b>	<b>NIPO</b> "Westerdokhuis" Barentszplein, 7 NL-1013 NJ AMSTERDAM	<b>Mr. Martin JONKER</b>	<b>tel. + +/31 20 523 84 44</b> <b>fax. + +/31 20 626 43 75</b>
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## **2. THE EUROBAROMETER STUDIES**

INRA (EUROPE) carries out the regular STANDARD EUROBAROMETER opinion surveys, on request of the COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES.

INRA (EUROPE) is a European Network of Market and Public Opinion Research agencies, co-ordinated by the European Co-ordination Office (E.C.O.), Avenue R. Vandendriessche 18, B - 1150 Brussels.

The results of the Eurobarometer are made available through the Unit "Surveys, Research, Analyses" of the DG ICC of the Commission of the European Communities. All requests for further information should be addressed to Mr. Karlheinz REIF, DG X - ICC - SRA, "Eurobarometer", Rue de la Loi 200, B-1049 Brussels.

All Eurobarometer data are stored at the Zentral Archiv (Universität Köln, Bachemer Strasse, 40, D-5000 Köln 41). They are at the disposal of all institutes members of the European Consortium for Political Research (Essex), of the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (Michigan) and all those interested in social science research.

### **3. EUROBAROMETER 34.2 : YOUNG EUROPEANS IN 1990**

This special study was realised between 3 december and 23 december 1990, at the request of the Task Force "Human Resources, Education, Training and Youth" of the COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES .

This survey repeats a similar study of 1987, which - for some elements - was carried out for the first time in 1982.

#### **SAMPLING**

In all 12 countries of the European Community, in total 7.706 young people of the respective nationalities, between 15 and 24 years of age, were interviewed in their private residence.

Germany was covered with a double sample, i.e. +/- 600 interviews in West Germany and +/- 600 in East Germany. As in the usual standard EUROBAROMETER, both Luxemburg and Northern Ireland are covered with a reduced sample : +/- 200 interviews for each.

<b><u>COUNTRY</u></b>	<b><u>NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS</u></b> <b>(NOT WEIGHTED)</b>
Belgique	593
Danmark	617
Deutschland (West)	659
Deutschland (East)	613
Ellas	612
España	600
France	603
Italia	600
Ireland	608
Luxembourg	199
Nederland	581
Portugal	600
UK: Great Britain	621
UK: Northern Ireland	200



The sample design, applied in all member states, is a selection by quota. In this way a representative sample of the total target population (young people between 15 and 25 years of age) was drawn.

The sampling method can be described as follows :

#### Phase 1

In all Member States a number of sampling points was drawn with probability proportional to population size, for a total coverage of each Member State, and to population density.

The number of sampling points in each of the countries (except Luxemburg and Northern Ireland) is at least 60.

For doing so, the points were drawn systematically from all "administrative regional units", after stratification by individual unit and type of area. They thus represent the whole territory of the Member States according to the EUROSTAT-NUTS II and according to the distribution of the national, resident population in terms of metropolitan, urban and rural areas.

#### Phase 2

In each of the selected sampling points, a starting address was drawn, at random. That starting address formed the first of a cluster of addresses. The remainder of the cluster was selected as every Nth address by standard random route procedures from the initial address.

#### Phase 3

In each household the young respondent was selected according to the quota imposed. These quota were crossed in all countries, i.e. by sex, age and activity rate. The quota are defined in a uniform way, i.e. from census data 1981-1982, in all countries of the European Community, as published by EUROSTAT in 1988. For East Germany, the most recent results of a national census were used.

The maximum number of interviews per household is one. All interviews are taken face-to-face and as far as possible in the absence of possible parents.

### REALISATION OF THE FIELDWORK

In all member States, fieldwork was conducted on the basis of detailed and uniform instructions prepared by the European Co-ordination Office (ECO) of INRA (EUROPE).

<u>COUNTRY</u>	<u>FROM :</u>	<u>TO:</u>	<u>TARGET POPULATION</u> <u>(15-24 years)</u> <u>(x .000)</u>
Belgique	7/12	23/12	1 528.4
Danmark	6/12	23/12	790.1
Deutschland (Ost)	6/12	17/12	2 210.0
Deutschland (West)	5/12	20/12	10 277.0
Ellas	3/12	20/12	1 497.0
España	3/12	23/12	6 505.0
France	3/12	20/12	8 563.4
Ireland	3/12	18/12	617.7
Italia	5/12	20/12	9 349.9
Luxembourg	3/12	23/12	56.0
Nederland	3/12	22/12	2 502.0
Portugal	4/12	19/12	1.710.3
U.K. : Great Britain	3/12	10/12	9 008.2
U.K. : Northern Ireland	3/12	19/12	278.8
EC12			54 893.9

### COMPARISON OF THE SAMPLES WITH THE TARGET POPULATIONS AND WEIGHTING

For each of the countries a comparison between the samples and a proper universe description was carried out. This Universe description was derived from EUROSTAT, Recensement de la Population, thème 3c, 1988.

Were verified in this way : geographical distribution (region and density), the quota variables (age, sex, activity rate), supplementary variables such as marital status and occupation.

For all EC-member-countries a national weighting procedure, using marginal and intercellular weighting, was carried out based on this Universe description. As such in all countries, minimum sex, age, region NUTS II and size of locality were introduced in the iteration procedure. For some countries extra variables were added, when considered necessary.

For international weighting INRA (EUROPE) applies the official population figures as published by EUROSTAT in the Regional Statistics Yearbook of 1988. The total population figures for input in this post-weighting procedure are listed above.

**SUMMARY OF THE COMPARISON OF THE TARGET POPULATION WITH  
THE WEIGHTED RESULTS (% DOWN)**

	<u>TARGET POPULATION</u>	<u>SAMPLE</u>
<b><u>SEX (*) :</u></b>		
Male	51%	51%
Female	49%	49%
<b><u>AGE (*) :</u></b>		
15-19 years	52%	52%
20-24 years	48%	48%
<b><u>ACTIVITY RATE (*) :</u></b>		
Active	53%	53,5%
Not active	47%	46,5%
<b><u>MARITAL STATUS(*) :</u></b>		
Single	84,0%	87,0%
Married	15,6%	12,4%
Widow/Divorced	0,4%	0,5%
<b><u>OCCUPATION (**):</u></b>		
Student	44,3%	43,1%
No student	55,7%	56,9%
- independent	4,1%	3,3%
- paid employee	37,4%	42,5%
- housewife	6,3%	3,3%
- unemployed	7,2%	6,7%
- others	0,7%	1,1%

(\*) Excluding West Germany  
Source : EUROSTAT

(\*\*) Source : EB-master sample

**ADMINISTRATIVE REGIONAL UNITS (NUTS II)**

**BELGIQUE :**

Hainaut  
Limburg  
Namur  
Flandre Orientale  
Flandre Occidentale  
Liège  
Luxembourg  
Brabant Flamand  
Antwerpen  
Bruxelles  
Brabant Wallon

**DANMARK :**

Hovedstadsområdet  
Sjælland, Lolland-,  
Falster, Bornholm  
Fyn  
Jylland

**DEUTSCHLAND (ex-RFA) :**

Schleswig Holstein  
Hamburg  
RB Braunschweig  
RB Hanover  
RB Lüneburg  
RB Weser-EMS  
Bremen  
Düsseldorf  
Köln  
Münster  
Detmold  
Arnsberg  
Darmstadt  
Giessen  
Kassel  
Koblenz  
Trier  
Rheinessen-Pfalz  
Saarland  
Nordwürttemberg-Stuttgart  
Nordbaden-Karlsruhe  
Südbaden-Freiburg  
Südwürttemberg-Tübingen  
Oberbayern  
Niederbayern  
Oberpfalz  
Oberfranken  
Mittelfranken  
Unterfranken  
Schwaben  
Berlin-West

**DEUTSCHLAND (ex-RDA) :**

Berlin-Ost  
Rostock  
Schwerin  
Neubrandenburg  
Potsdam  
Frankfurt/O.  
Cottbus  
Magdeburg  
Halle  
Erfurt  
Gera  
Suhl  
Dresden  
Leipzig  
Chemnitz

**ELLAS :**

Kentriki kai Dytiki Makedonia  
Thessalia  
Anatoliki Makedonia  
Thraki  
Anatoliki Sterea kai Nisia  
Peloponnisos & Dytiki Sterea  
Ipeiros  
Kriti  
Nisia Anatolikou Aigaiou

**ESPAÑA :**

Andalucia  
Aragon  
Asturias  
Balears  
Canarias  
Cantabria  
Castilla-La Mancha  
Castilla-Leon  
Cataluna  
Extremadura  
Galicia  
Madrid  
Murcia  
Navarra  
Pais Valenciano  
Pais Vasco  
La Rioja

**FRANCE :**

Ile de France  
Champagne-Ardennes  
Picardie  
Haute Normandie  
Centre  
Basse Normandie  
Bourgogne  
Nord/Pas-de-Calais  
Lorraine  
Alsace  
Franche-Comte  
Pays de la Loire  
Bretagne  
Poitou-Charentes  
Aquitaine  
Midi-Pyrénées  
Limousin  
Rhône-Alpes  
Auvergne  
Languedoc-Roussillon  
Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur  
Corse

**ITALIA :**

Valle d'Aosta /Piemonte  
Liguria  
Lombardia  
Milano  
Trentino  
Veneto  
Friuli, Venezia, Giulia  
Emilia  
Toscana  
Marche  
Umbria  
Lazio  
Molise e Abruzzo  
Campania  
Puglia  
Basilicata  
Calabria  
Sicilia  
Sardegna

**IRELAND :**

Dublin  
Rest Of Leinster  
Munster  
Connaught/Ulster

**LUXEMBOURG :**

Centre  
Sud  
Nord  
Est

**NEDERLAND :**

Groningen  
Friesland  
Drente  
Overijssel  
Gelderland  
Utrecht  
Noord-Holland  
Zuid-Holland  
Zeeland  
Noord-Brabant  
Limburg  
Flevoland

**PORTUGAL:**

Norte  
Centro  
Lisboa e Vale do Tejo  
Alentejo  
Algarve  
Azores  
Madeira

**GREAT BRITAIN :**

Cleveland, Durham  
Cumbria  
Northumberland,  
Tyne & Wear  
Humberside  
North Yorkshire  
South Yorkshire  
West Yorkshire  
Derbyshire,  
Nottinghamshire  
Leicestershire,  
Northamptonshire  
Lincolnshire  
East Anglia  
Bedfordshire,  
Hertfordshire  
Berkshire,  
Buckinghamshire,  
Oxfordshire  
Surrey, East/West Sussex  
Essex  
Greater London  
Hampshire, Isle of Wight  
Kent  
Avon, Gloucestershire,  
Wiltshire  
Cornwall, Devon  
Dorset, Somerset  
Hereford & Worcester,  
Warwickshire  
Shropshire, Staffordshire  
West Midlands (county)  
Cheshire  
Greater Manchester  
Lancashire  
Merseyside  
Clwyd, Dyfed,  
Gwynedd, Powys  
Gwent,  
M-S-W Giamorgan  
Borders, Central, Fife,  
Lothian, Tayside  
Dumfries-Galloway,  
Strathclyde  
Highlands, Islands  
Grampian  
NORTHERN IRELAND

**Appendix 2 :**

**QUESTIONNAIRE**

YOUR SURVEY NUMBER

1  
[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

COUNTRY CODE

2  
[ ] [ ]

OUR SURVEY NUMBER

3  
[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

INTERVIEW NUMBER

4  
[ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]

- Q.0. Are you ... (NATIONALITY) ?
- |          |   |   |                 |
|----------|---|---|-----------------|
| Yes..... | 5 | 1 | GO TO Q.1       |
| No.....  | 2 |   | CLOSE INTERVIEW |
- Q.1. (IF YES IN Q.1 AND 18 OR MORE) Do you know whether your name appears in the Electoral Register (the register of people entitled to vote at the next General Election), under your present address, at another address or does not appear at all ?
- |                               |   |   |                 |
|-------------------------------|---|---|-----------------|
| at present address.....       | 6 | 1 |                 |
| at another address.....       | 2 |   |                 |
| don't know if registered..... | 3 |   |                 |
| does not appear at all.....   | 4 |   |                 |
| is not ... (NATIONALITY)..... | 5 |   | CLOSE INTERVIEW |

EB34.0 - Q1 - TREND MODIFIED

- Q.2. On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the life you lead ? Would you say you are ... ? (READ OUT)
- |                           |   |   |  |
|---------------------------|---|---|--|
| very satisfied.....       | 7 | 1 |  |
| fairly satisfied.....     | 2 |   |  |
| not very satisfied.....   | 3 |   |  |
| not at all satisfied..... | 4 |   |  |
| DK.....                   | 5 |   |  |

EB34.0 - Q7 -TREND

- Q.3. On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in (YOUR COUNTRY) ? Would you say you are ... ? (READ OUT)
- |                           |   |   |  |
|---------------------------|---|---|--|
| very satisfied.....       | 8 | 1 |  |
| fairly satisfied.....     | 2 |   |  |
| not very satisfied.....   | 3 |   |  |
| not at all satisfied..... | 4 |   |  |
| DK.....                   | 5 |   |  |

EB34.0 - Q8 -TREND

QUESTIONS 3A-B-C REPLACE Q.3 IN EX-DDR ONLY

- Q.3. a) Sind Sie mit der Art und Weise, wie sich die Demokratie in der DDR bis zur Vereinigung entwickelt hat, alles in allem gesehen, sehr zufrieden, ziemlich zufrieden, ziemlich unzufrieden oder völlig unzufrieden ?
- |                           |   |   |  |
|---------------------------|---|---|--|
| Sehr zufrieden.....       | 9 | 1 |  |
| Ziemlich zufrieden.....   | 2 |   |  |
| Ziemlich unzufrieden..... | 3 |   |  |
| Völlig unzufrieden.....   | 4 |   |  |
| Weiss nicht.....          | 5 |   |  |

EB34.0 - Q8A - TREND

Q.3. b) Und wie ist das mit der bisherigen Bundesrepublik vor der Vereinigung? Sind Sie mit der Art und Weise, wie sich die Demokratie in der bisherigen Bundesrepublik funktioniert hat alles in allem gesehen, sehr zufrieden, ziemlich zufrieden, ziemlich unzufrieden oder völlig unzufrieden?

Sehr zufrieden.....	10	1
Ziemlich zufrieden.....		2
Ziemlich unzufrieden.....		3
Völlig unzufrieden.....		4
Weiss nicht.....		5

EB34.0 - Q8B - TREND

Q.3. c) Und was sind Ihre Erwartungen für die Zukunft: Erwarten Sie, mit der Art und Weise, wie die Demokratie in Deutschland funktionieren wird, alles in allem gesehen sehr zufrieden, ziemlich zufrieden, ziemlich unzufrieden oder völlig unzufrieden zu sein?

Sehr zufrieden.....	11	1
Ziemlich zufrieden.....		2
Ziemlich unzufrieden.....		3
Völlig unzufrieden.....		4
Weiss nicht.....		5

EB34.0 - Q8C - TREND

QUESTIONS 3E-F REPLACE Q3 IN EX-BRD ONLY

Q.3. e) Sind Sie mit der Art und Weise, wie sich die Demokratie in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland bis zum Beitritt der DDR funktioniert hat Vereinigung entwickelt hat, alles in allem gesehen, sehr zufrieden, ziemlich zufrieden, ziemlich unzufrieden oder völlig unzufrieden?

Sehr zufrieden.....	12	1
Ziemlich zufrieden.....		2
Ziemlich unzufrieden.....		3
Völlig unzufrieden.....		4
Weiss nicht.....		5

EB34.0 - Q8E - TREND

Q.3. f) Und was sind Ihre Erwartungen für die Zukunft: Erwarten Sie, mit der Art und Weise, wie die Demokratie im Vereinten Deutschland funktionieren wird, alles in allem gesehen sehr zufrieden, ziemlich zufrieden, ziemlich unzufrieden oder völlig unzufrieden zu sein?

Sehr zufrieden.....	13	1
Ziemlich zufrieden.....		2
Ziemlich unzufrieden.....		3
Völlig unzufrieden.....		4
Weiss nicht.....		5

EB34.0 - Q8F - TREND

ASK ALL COUNTRIES

Q.4. When you hold a strong opinion, do you ever find yourself persuading your friends, relatives or fellow workers to share your views? Does this happen ...? (READ OUT)

often.....	14	1
from time to time.....		2
rarely.....		3
never.....		4
DK.....		5

EB34.0 - Q12 - TREND

Q.5. When you get together with friends, would you say you discuss political matters frequently, occasionally, or never?

frequently.....	15	1
occasionally.....		2
never.....		3
DK.....		4

EB34.0 - Q13 - TREND

Q.6 There is a lot of talk these days about what (YOUR COUNTRY)'s goals should be for the next ten or fifteen years. On this card are listed some of the goals that different people say should be given top priority. Would you please say which one of them you yourself consider to be most important in the long run ? (SHOW CARD \*\* - ONE ANSWER ONLY). And what would be your second choice ?

	MOST IMPORTANT GOALS	
	1st	2nd
maintaining order in the country	16 1	17 1
giving the people more say in important government decisions	2	2
fighting rising prices	3	3
protecting freedom of speech	4	4
DK	5	5

EB34.0 - Q14 - TREND

Q.7. On this card are three basic kinds of attitudes towards the society we live in. Please choose the one which best describes your own opinion (SHOW CARD \*\*, ONE ANSWER ONLY) ?  
 The entire way our society is organised must be radically changed by revolutionary action..... 18 1  
 Our society must be gradually improved by reforms..... 2  
 Our present society must be strongly defended against all subversive forces..... 3  
 DK..... 4

EB34.0 - Q15 - TREND

Q.8. What sort of things in life interest you a lot ? I am going to show you a list of things. Which of these really interest you ? (SHOW CARD \*\* - PROBE) Which others ?

Science and technology..... 19 1,  
 National politics..... 2,  
 Sport..... 3,  
 Major social problems (eg : human rights, poverty, sexual equality, etc ...)..... 4,  
 Arts & entertainment (theatre, music, cinema)..... 5,  
 How people live in other countries in Europe..... 6,  
 Regional life, language and culture..... 7,  
 The environment, nature protection, ecology..... 8,  
 The Third World, problems of under development..... 9,  
 International politics..... 10,  
 The peace movement..... 11,  
 None of these..... 12,  
 DK..... 13,

EB34.0 - Q9 - TREND



Q.9. In your opinion, in this list which are the greatest causes which nowadays are worth the troubles of taking risks and making sacrifices for ? (SHOW CARD \*\* - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Sexual equality.....	20	1,
Protection of the environment.....		2,
World peace.....		3,
Struggle against racism.....		4,
Defence of (YOUR COUNTRY).....		5,
Fight against poverty.....		6,
My religious faith.....		7,
Freedom of the individual.....		8,
The unification of Europe.....		9,
Human rights.....		10,
The revolution.....		11,
Help to the Third World.....		12,
None of these.....		13,
DK.....		14,

EB34.0 - Q10 - TREND

Q.10. Here is a list of qualities which parents can try to encourage in their children. Which do you consider to be especially important ?

Please choose three (SHOW CARD \*\* - THREE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Good manners and politeness.....	21	1,
Ability to communicate with others.....		2,
Independence.....		3,
Conscientiousness at work.....		4,
A sense of responsibility.....		5,
Imagination.....		6,
Tolerance and respect for others.....		7,
Thrift, not wasting money and other things.....		8,
Religious faith.....		9,
Obedience.....		10,
Loyalty.....		11,
DK.....		12,

EB34.0 - Q60 - TREND

Q.11. In your opinion, what are the three major problems facing young people today ? (SHOW CARD \*\* - THREE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Lack of suitable housing.....	22	1,
Racism and discrimination.....		2,
Unemployment.....		3,
Education doesn't prepare young people properly for life.....		4,
Problems with the authorities (police, civil service ...)		5,
A.I.D.S.....		6,
Drugs.....		7,
Other.....		8,
DK.....		9,

EB34.0 - Q59 - TREND

Q.12. Which, if any, of the following groups or associations do you belong to ? (SHOW CARD \*\* - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Charities and social action groups.....	23	1,
Church or religious organizations.....		2,
Cultural or arts groups.....		3,
Trade unions or professional associations.....		4,
Political parties or movements.....		5,
Organizations concerned with any abuse of human rights taking place in (YOUR COUNTRY) or abroad.....		6,
Nature conservation, animal welfare or ecology groups.....		7,
Youth organisations (e.g. scouts, youth clubs etc ...)		8,
Consumer groups.....		9,
Sports clubs or associations.....		10,
Other specific groups or associations (e.g. stamp collecting, etc ...)		11,
Do not belong to any group or association.....		12,

EB34.0 - Q11 - TREND

Q.13. Are there places such as clubs or community centres in your neighbourhood for people like you ? (IF YES) How often do you use them ... ? (READ OUT)

Never.....	24	1
Occasionally.....		2
Regularly.....		3
No places of this kind in the neighbourhood.....		4
DK.....		5

EB34.0 - Q61 - TREND

I would now like to ask you some questions about the European Community

Q.14. Do you feel you know enough about the European Community and what it does or would you like to know more ?

Know enough.....	25	1
Would like to know more.....		2
DK.....		3

EB34.0 - Q28 - TREND

Q.15. Have you ever been taught anything about the European Community for instance at school, university or during a course ?

Yes.....	26	1
No.....		2
DK.....		3

EB28Y - Q158 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.16. Here is a map and a list of the countries in Europe as a whole. Could you please tell me the countries which are members of the European Community. Please give me the numbers or the names of the member-countries

1. Portugal.....	27	1,
2. Spain.....		2,
3. France.....		3,
4. Italy.....		4,
5. Greece.....		5,
6. Albania.....		6,
7. Yugoslavia.....		7,
8. Bulgaria.....		8,
9. Turkey.....		9,
10. Romania.....		10,
11. Austria.....		11,
12. Hungary.....		12,
13. Switzerland.....		13,
14. Ex-West Germany.....		14,
15. Czechoslovakia.....		15,
16. Belgium.....		16,
17. Luxemburg.....		17,
18. Ex-East Germany.....		18,
19. Poland.....		19,
20. USSR.....		20,
21. Denmark.....		21,
22. The Netherlands.....		22,
23. United Kingdom.....		23,
24. Ireland.....		24,
25. Norway.....		25,
26. Sweden.....		26,
27. Finland.....		27,
28. Iceland.....		28,

EB34.2 - Q - NEW

Q.17. In general, are you for or against efforts being made to unify Western Europe ? Are you ... ? (READ OUT)

for - very much.....	28	1
for - to some extent.....		2
against - to some extent.....		3
against - very much.....		4
DK.....		5

EB34.0 - Q21 - TREND

Q.18. In your opinion, how is the European Community, European Unification advancing nowadays ? Please look at these people (SHOW CARD \*\*)  
 N°1 is standing still, N° 7 is running as fast as possible. Choose the one which best corresponds with your opinion of the European Community, European Unification ?

1.....	29	1
2.....		2
3.....		3
4.....		4
5.....		5
6.....		6
7.....		7
DK.....		8

EB34.0 - Q25 - TREND

Q.19. And which corresponds best to what you would like ?

1.....	30	1
2.....		2
3.....		3
4.....		4
5.....		5
6.....		6
7.....		7
DK.....		8

EB34.0 - Q26 - TREND

Q.20. Generally speaking, do you think that (YOUR COUNTRY'S) membership of the European Community (Common Market) is ... ?

Good thing.....	31	1
Bad thing.....		2
Neither good nor bad.....		3
DK.....		4

EB34.0 - Q22 - TREND

Q.20A REPLACES Q20 IN EX-DDR ONLY

Q.20. a) Mit dem Beitritt der DDR ist das vereinte Deutschland Mitglied der Europäischen Gemeinschaft.  
 Ist allgemein gesehen die Mitgliedschaft Deutschlands in der Europäischen Gemeinschaft Ihrer Meinung nach eine gute Sache, eine schlechte Sache oder weder gut noch schlecht ?

Eine gute Sache.....	32	1
Eine schlechte Sache.....		2
Weder gut noch schlecht.....		3
Weiss nicht.....		4

EB34.0 - Q22A - TREND

ASK ALL COUNTRIES

Q.21. Taking everything into consideration, would you say that (YOUR COUNTRY) has on balance benefited or not from being a member of the European Community (Common Market) ?

benefited.....	33	1
not benefited.....		2
DK.....		3

EB34.0 - Q23 - TREND

Q.21A replaces Q.21 IN EX-DDR ONLY

Q.21. a) Wirdt ihrer Meinung nach die bisherige DDR durch die Mitgliedschaft Deutschlands in der Europäischen Gemeinschaft Vorteile haben oder nicht ?

Vorteile.....	34	1
Keine Vorteile.....		2
Weiss nicht.....		3

EB34.0 - Q23A - TREND

ASK ALL COUNTRIES

Q.22. If you were told tomorrow that the European Community (Common Market) had been scrapped, would you be very sorry about it, indifferent or very relieved ?

very sorry.....	35	1
indifferent.....		2
very relieved.....		3
DK.....		4

EB34.0 - Q24 - TREND

Q.23. In your opinion, has the level of agreement between the countries of the European Community (Common Market) in generally increased, decreased or stayed about the same, over the last 12 months ?

Generally increased.....	36	1
Generally decreased.....		2
Stayed about the same.....		3
DK.....		4

EB34.0 - Q27 - TREND

Q.24. Here are different areas in which the European Community is active. Which are the three areas about which you would like to obtain more information ? (SHOW CARD \*\* - 3 ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Environment.....	37	1,
Travel, for example : border checks, duty-free purchases and payment facilities, cover for accidents or illness.....		2,
Consumer protection.....		3,
Recognition of qualifications.....		4,
Exchange programmes, for example : education and training programmes.....		5,
Youth programmes, for example : exchanges, grants and subsidies.....		6,
Fight against cancer, AIDS, drugs, smoking.....		7,
Sports, for example : sponsoring, patronage.....		8,
Citizen's rights, for example : worker's rights, right of residence, right to vote and social security.....		9,
Culture.....		10,
Young people's rights for example : parental authority, legal independence, protection at work.....		11,
Help for the most underprivileged, for example : people with disabilities, the poor and the illiterate.....		12,
DK.....		13,

EB34.2 - Q - NEW

Q.25. If you wanted to get more information about the European Community, which 3 sources of information would you prefer ?  
 (3 ANSWERS POSSIBLE - SHOW CARD \*\*)

Publications, books.....	38	1,
Cinema or TV films.....		2,
Video clips.....		3,
Lectures.....		4,
Information visits to European institutions.....		5,
Courses.....		6,
European information displays in town halls, libraries.....		7,
Youth exchange programs within the European Community.....		8,
Pilot projects, that's to say local initiatives co-ordinated at a European level.....		9,
Mobile information displays : buses, exhibitions, information stands.....		10,
Practical guides.....		11,
Access to national and European Community data bases.....		12,
Other.....		13,
Don't want any more information (SPONTANEOUS).....		14,
DK.....		15,

EB33 - Q17 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.26. Have you read in the papers, seen on television or heard anything about the Single European Market of 1992 ?

Yes.....	39	1
No.....		2
DK.....		3

EB34.0 - Q35 - TREND

Q.27. Have you recently seen or heard, in the papers, on the radio, or on television, anything about the European Commission in Brussels, that is the Commission of the European Communities ?

Yes.....	40	1	GO TO Q28
No.....		2	GO TO Q29
DK.....		3	GO TO Q29

EB34.0 - Q44 - TREND

Q.28. (IF YES IN Q.27) Has what you read or heard given you a generally favourable or unfavourable impression of the European Commission ?

Generally favourable.....	41	1
Generally unfavourable.....		2
Neither favourable nor unfavourable (SPONTANEOUS).....		3
DK.....		4

EB34.0 - Q45 - TREND

Q.29. What is your mother tongue ?



EB34.0 - Q62 - TREND

Q.30 Which of the following languages have you learned (except your mother tongue) ?  
(SHOW CARD \*\* - SEVERAL ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Q.31 And which of these languages can you speak well enough to take part in a conversation (except your mothertongue) ?  
(SEVERAL ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Q.32 And which (one or more) of these languages do you use at home ?

	LEARNED	SPOKEN	USED AT HOME
Danish	43 1,	44 1,	45 1,
German	2,	2,	2,
French	3,	3,	3,
Italian	4,	4,	4,
Dutch	5,	5,	5,
English	6,	6,	6,
Spanish	7,	7,	7,
Portuguese	8,	8,	8,
Greek	9,	9,	9,
Other	10,	10,	10,
None	11,	11,	//////////
DK	12,	12,	//////////

EB34.0 - Q63-Q64-Q65 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.33. (IF OTHER LANGUAGES LEARNED THAN THE MOTHER TONGUE) If you know other languages than your mother tongue, how did you learn them ? (SEVERAL ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

From parents, family.....	46 1,
Travelling abroad or living abroad.....	2,
At school; university; OF College; etc ... as part of my education.....	3,
Taking other courses; at my own initiative.....	4,
Other.....	5,
DK.....	6,

EB34.0 - Q66 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.34. Do you think knowing foreign languages is very important, useful, or not important ? (ONLY ONE ANSWER)

Very important.....	47 1
Useful.....	2
Not important.....	3
DK.....	4

EB34.0 - Q67 - TREND

Q.35. Do you think enough attention is paid to teaching languages at school, university and other training courses ?

Enough.....	48 1
Not enough.....	2
DK.....	3

EB34.0 - Q68 - TREND

- Q.36. Would you like to learn any of these languages (SHOW CARD \*\* - EXCLUDING MOTHER TONGUE)  
(IF YES) Which ones? (SEVERAL ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
- |                 |    |     |
|-----------------|----|-----|
| Danish.....     | 49 | 1,  |
| German.....     |    | 2,  |
| French.....     |    | 3,  |
| Italian.....    |    | 4,  |
| Dutch.....      |    | 5,  |
| English.....    |    | 6,  |
| Spanish.....    |    | 7,  |
| Portuguese..... |    | 8,  |
| Greek.....      |    | 9,  |
| Other.....      |    | 10, |
| None.....       |    | 11, |
| DK.....         |    | 12, |

EB28Y - Q154 TREND MODIFIED

- Q.37. (IF ONE OR SEVERAL LANGUAGES MENTIONED). For what reasons mostly? (SHOW CARD \*\* - SEVERAL ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
- |  |    |    |
|--|----|----|
| To improve my jobs prospects.....  | 50 | 1, |
| Out of interest.....   |    | 2, |
| It is close to my own language.....  |    | 3, |
| I would like to live, work or study in a country where the language is spoken..... |    | 4, |
| Some people in my family speak that language.....                                  |    | 5, |
| Other reasons.....   |    | 6, |
| DK.....  |    | 7, |

EB28Y - Q155 - TREND MODIFIED

- Q.38. Have you ever been abroad? (IF YES) Counting all holidays and other trips you made abroad, how much time would you say it amounts to, altogether?
- |                          |    |   |            |
|--------------------------|----|---|------------|
| Never been abroad.....   | 51 | 1 | GO TO Q.45 |
| Less than one month..... |    | 2 | GO TO Q.39 |
| 1 to 2 months.....       |    | 3 | GO TO Q.39 |
| 3 to 6 months.....       |    | 4 | GO TO Q.39 |
| 7 to 12 months.....      |    | 5 | GO TO Q.39 |
| More than 12 months..... |    | 6 | GO TO Q.39 |
| DK.....                  |    | 7 | GO TO Q.39 |

EB28Y - Q158 - TREND MODIFIED

- Q.39. (IF YES IN Q.38 - CODES 2 TO 6) Which of these countries have you ever visited for any reason at all?  
(SHOW CARD \*\* - SEVERAL ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
- |                      |    |     |
|----------------------|----|-----|
| Belgium.....         | 52 | 1,  |
| Denmark.....         |    | 2,  |
| Ex-West Germany..... |    | 3,  |
| Ex-East Germany..... |    | 4,  |
| Greece.....          |    | 5,  |
| Spain.....           |    | 6,  |
| France.....          |    | 7,  |
| Ireland.....         |    | 8,  |
| Italy.....           |    | 9,  |
| Luxemburg.....       |    | 10, |
| Netherlands.....     |    | 11, |
| Portugal.....        |    | 12, |
| United Kingdom.....  |    | 13, |
| Others.....          |    | 14, |

EB28y - Q163 - TREND MODIFIED

- Q.40. Have you ever been abroad on a youth exchange? (IF YES) Was it ...?  
(READ OUT - SHOW CARD \*\* - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

	YES	NO
In a group, organised by school or university	53 1	2
In a group, arranged by an organisation	54 1	2
For a stay with a family arranged by an organisation	55 1	2
For a stay with a family, by private arrangement	56 1	2
Other	57 1	2

EB28Y - Q160 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.41. (IF AT LEAST ONE "YES" IN QUESTION Q.40). Which of these countries have you been to, on an exchange (SHOW CARD \*\*)

Belgium.....	58	1,
Denmark.....		2,
Ex-West Germany.....		3,
Ex-East Germany.....		4,
Spain.....		5,
France.....		6,
Greece.....		7,
Italy.....		8,
Ireland.....		9,
Luxemburg.....		10,
Netherlands.....		11,
Portugal.....		12,
United Kingdom.....		13,
Other.....		14,

EB28Y - Q161 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.42. Have you ever worked abroad ? (IF YES) Counting all the periods you have spent working abroad, how much time would you say it amounts, altogether ?

Never worked abroad.....	59	1
Less than one month.....		2
One to 6 months.....		3
7 to 12 months.....		4
More than 12 months.....		5
DK.....		6

EB28Y - Q162 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.43. (IF YES IN Q.42 - CODES 2 TO 6) Which of these countries have you ever worked in ? (SHOW CARD \*\* - SEVERAL ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

EB34.2 - Q - NEW

Q.44. Have you ever studied abroad ? (IF YES) In which countries have you studied ? (SHOW CARD \*\* - SEVERAL ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

EB34.2 - Q - NEW

Q.45. (ASK ALL) In which, if any, of these countries would you like to go and work for a while ? (SHOW CARD \*\* - SEVERAL ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

EB28Y - Q164 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.46. And, in which, if any, of these countries would you like to go and study ? (SHOW CARD \*\* - SEVERAL ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

EB28Y - Q165 - TREND MODIFIED

	Q.43. EVER WORKED	Q.44. EVER STUDIED	Q.45. WOULD LIKE TO GO AND WORK	Q.46. WOULD LIKE TO GO AND STUDY
Belgium	60 1,	61 1,	62 1,	63 1,
Denmark	2,	2,	2,	2,
Ex-West Germany	3,	3,	3,	3,
Ex-East Germany	4,	4,	4,	4,
Greece	5,	5,	5,	5,
Spain	6,	6,	6,	6,
France	7,	7,	7,	7,
Ireland	8,	8,	8,	8,
Italy	9,	9,	9,	9,
Luxemburg	10,	10,	10,	10,
Netherlands	11,	11,	11,	11,
Portugal	12,	12,	12,	12,
United Kingdom	13,	13,	13,	13,
Others	14,	14,	14,	14,
None	15,	15,	15,	15,



Q.47. If you were interested in going abroad for work or for study or professional training, what do you think would be your main problem? (SHOW CARD \*\*)

I would not know how to find a place to work or study..... 64 1  
 I would have problems with the language..... 2  
 I could not afford it..... 3  
 I am afraid I would be homesick..... 4  
 My family would not want me to go..... 5  
 Other..... 6  
 Not interested..... 7  
 DK..... 8

EB28Y - Q166 - TREND

Q.48. Do you live ...? (READ OUT - ONLY ONE ANSWER)

With your parents..... 65 1  
 By yourself..... 2  
 With your wife or husband..... 3  
 With your girlfriend or boyfriend..... 4  
 Share accommodation with another person or persons..... 5  
 DK..... 6

EB28Y - Q167 - TREND

Q.49. I am going to mention different aspects of life. Can you tell me for each one if, for you, things are going very well, quite well, so-so, quite badly or very badly? (SHOW CARD \*\*)

READ OUT	VERY WELL	QUITE WELL	SO-SO	QUITE BADLY	VERY BADLY	DK
Relationship with your parents	66 1	2	3	4	5	6
Relationship with your friends	67 1	2	3	4	5	6
Love	68 1	2	3	4	5	6
Your career prospects	69 1	2	3	4	5	6
Your personal future, such as marriage, family	70 1	2	3	4	5	6
Accommodation	71 1	2	3	4	5	6
Holidays and leisure	72 1	2	3	4	5	6

EB28Y - Q168/174 - TREND

Q.50. Are you a member of a club, an organisation, an association or a movement for young people?

Yes..... 73 1  
 No..... 2  
 DK..... 3

EB28Y - Q175 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.51. Do you feel you are informed enough about opportunities that might interest you, whether to do with work or not?

Yes..... 74 1  
 No..... 2  
 DK..... 3

EB28Y - Q176 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.52. How do you get information on these opportunities? (SHOW CARD \*\* - SEVERAL ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

National TV or national radio..... 75 1,  
 Local TV or local radio..... 2,  
 Information centres, official bodies..... 3,  
 Press, advertisements..... 4,  
 Centres specialising in information for young people..... 5,  
 Talking to friends and family..... 6,  
 Clubs and associations for young people..... 7,  
 Other..... 8,  
 DK..... 9,

EB28Y - Q177 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.53. Do you think that some types of people of your age experience discrimination in education, training, getting a job or at work ? (IF YES) Which types are you thinking of ? (SHOW CARD \*\* - SEVERAL ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Young women.....	76	1,
Children of immigrants.....		2,
Non-whites.....		3,
Handicapped.....		4,
Unemployed.....		5,
Others.....		6,
None.....		7,
DK.....		8,

EB28Y - Q178 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.54. Have you yourself experienced this sort of discrimination ?

Yes.....	77	1
No.....		2
DK.....		3

EB28Y - Q179 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.55. How would you describe your financial situation ? (SHOW CARD \*\*)

It's fine.....	78	1
I have to be careful, but I get by.....		2
I have trouble making ends meet.....		3
Things are very difficult.....		4
DK.....		5

EB28Y - Q180 - TREND

Q.56. Where does your income normally come from ? (SHOW CARD \*\* - SEVERAL ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

From your work.....	79	1,
Social security, unemployment benefit.....		2,
Grant or training allowance.....		3,
From parents and family.....		4,
Casual jobs.....		5,
Husband/wife/companion working.....		6,
Other.....		7,
DK.....		8,

EB28Y - Q237 - TREND

Q.57. How much money do you have available per month, or per week ? (SHOW CARD \*\* - CODE CORRESPONDING NUMBER)



EB28Y - Q238 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.58. Do you know how to use any sort of computer or word processor ? Would you say you can use it ... ? (READ OUT)

Very well.....	81	1	GO TO Q.59
Fairly well.....		2	GO TO Q.59
A little.....		3	GO TO Q.59
Not at all.....		4	GO TO Q.60
DK.....		5	GO TO Q.60

EB28Y - Q239 - TREND

Q.59. (IF VERY WELL, FAIRLY WELL OR A LITTLE). Where did you learn how to use it ? (SHOW CARD\*\*- SEVERAL ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

At school or university.....	82	1,
In a job placement or training course.....		2,
At home or with friends.....		3,
At a club or in an association.....		4,
At work.....		5,
Other.....		6,
DK.....		7,

EB28Y - Q240 - TREND

ASK ALL

Q.60. Would you like to know more about using computers? (IF YES) Why? (SEVERAL ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Would not like to know more.....	83	1,
Yes, for fun/I enjoy using them.....		2,
Yes, to improve my qualifications and job prospects.....		3,
Other reason.....		4,
DK.....		5,

EB28Y - Q241 - TREND

Q.61. At different times in life, we have to make choices that affect our future, for instance, which direction to follow, which job to apply for, etc ... When you personally have had to make such a decision, who have you talked to ... ?

Parents, family.....	84	1,
Friends of my age.....		2,
Guidance services at school or university.....		3,
Information and guidance services outside school or university.....		4,
Job centre, employment agency.....		5,
Information centre run by young people.....		6,
Firms and companies.....		7,
Teachers and lecturers.....		8,
Others.....		9,
I have never asked for advice.....		10,
DK.....		11,

EB28Y - Q242 - TREND MODIFIED

ASK Q.62 TO Q.65 TO THOSE WHO MENTIONED 3,4 OR 5 IN PREVIOUS QUESTION, ALL OTHERS GO TO Q.66

Q.62. Generally speaking, how would you rate the help you have received from official sources? Please use this scale (SHOW CARD \*\*) going from 1 = useless to 5 = very useful

1. Useless.....	85	1
2.....		2
3.....		3
4.....		4
5. Very useful.....		5
DK.....		6

EB28Y - Q243 - TREND

Q.63. What were the main problems you had, when talking to these guidance services? (SHOW CARD\*\* - SEVERAL ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

I could not make them understand what I wanted.....	86	1,
There were no jobs in the fields in which I wanted to work.....		2,
I did not like the suggestions they made.....		3,
Their advice was too complicated.....		4,
I had to go to several places to get advice.....		5,
What they suggested looked too difficult.....		6,
They did not seem interested in me.....		7,
Other.....		8,
No problem.....		9,
DK.....		10,

EB28Y - Q244 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.64. How many times have you been in contact with these guidance services?

Once.....	87	1
Twice.....		2
Three to five times.....		3
Six or more times.....		4
DK.....		5

EB28Y - Q245 - TREND

Q.65. Did you contact these guidance services or did they contact you?

I contacted them.....	88	1
They contacted me.....		2
Both.....		3
DK.....		4

EB28Y - Q246 - TREND MODIFIED

ASK ALL

Q.66. Do you know if there are any information services in your area, run by young people for young people ? (IF YES) Have you ever used them ?

Do not know of any such service.....	89	1
Know of such services, but never used them.....		2
Know of such services and used them.....		3
DK.....		4

EB28Y - Q247 - TREND

Q.67. What is your present main occupation ? (SHOW CARD \*\* - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Paid full time or part time employment.....	90	1	GO TO Q.68
Government or local authority work scheme.....		2	GO TO Q.68
Still studying - school, higher education.....		3	GO TO Q.81
Job placement or apprenticeship.....		4	GO TO Q.86
Unemployed and looking for work.....		5	GO TO Q.89
Military/national service.....		6	GO TO Q.92
At home, looking after family/dependents.....		7	GO TO Q.92
None of these.....		8	GO TO Q.92

EB28Y - Q248 - TREND

QUESTIONS Q.68 TO Q.80 TO THOSE IN FULL TIME OR PART TIME EMPLOYMENT (CODE 1 OR 2 TO Q.67)

- Q.68. Do you have a permanent job, a contract for a fixed period of time, or a purely temporary job ?
- A permanent job..... 91 1
  - Contract for a fixed period of time..... 2
  - A purely temporary job..... 3
  - DK..... 4

EB28Y - Q249 - TREND

- Q.69. How many hours a week do you usually spend working at your job ?
- Less than 10 hours..... 92 1 GO TO Q.70
  - From 10 to 19 hours..... 2 GO TO Q.70
  - From 20 to 29 hours..... 3 GO TO Q.71
  - From 30 to 39 hours..... 4 GO TO Q.71
  - 40 hours or more..... 5 GO TO Q.71
  - DK..... 6 GO TO Q.71

EB28Y - Q250 - TREND

- Q.70. (IF LESS THAN 20 HOURS IN Q.69 - CODE 1 OR 2) You are working less than 20 hours week. Is this because ... ? (READ OUT)
- You are also studying or following a training course at the same time..... 93 1
  - That was the only job you could get..... 2
  - For family reasons..... 3
  - From personal choice..... 4
  - DK..... 5

EB28Y - Q251 - TREND MODIFIED

- Q.71. Thinking about your present job, could you answer yes or no to the following ... ? (READ OUT)

	YES	No	DK
In your job, do you use skills directly related to your studies or to training courses you have done ?	94 1	2	3
Are you paid the going rate for the sort of job you do ?	95 1	2	3
Are there any chances of promotion ?	96 1	2	3
Are you getting training as part of your job ?	97 1	2	3

EB28Y - Q252/255 - TREND MODIFIED

- Q.72. How did you find your present job ?
- Job centre or employment agencies..... 98 1
  - Through parents, friends or family..... 2
  - Advertisements..... 3
  - By contacting employers directly..... 4
  - Through school or training centres..... 5
  - Other..... 6
  - DK..... 7

EB28Y - Q256 - TREND MODIFIED

- Q.73. How much skill and training does your job really need ? Please use this scale (SHOW CARD \*\*) going from 1 = no skill at all to 5 = a lot of skill and training.
- 1. No skill at all..... 99 1
  - 2..... 2
  - 3..... 3
  - 4..... 4
  - 5. A lot of skill..... 5
  - DK..... 6

EB28Y - Q257 - TREND

- Q.74. Are you completely satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with your current job ?
- Completely satisfied..... 100 1
  - Fairly satisfied..... 2
  - Not very satisfied..... 3
  - Not at all satisfied..... 4
  - DK..... 5

EB34.2 - Q - NEW

Q.75. Whether you are satisfied or not, which one of the 3 following statements best describes your current situation ? (ONE ANSWERS ONLY - READ OUT)

- I can't think of any better job for the moment..... 101 1
- I am looking for another job, e.g. a more interesting one, better paid or with better promotion prospects..... 2
- I'm thinking of resuming my studies or taking up a full time training course for a while 3
- None..... 4
- DK..... 5

EB34.2 - Q - NEW

Q.76. For how long have you had your present job ?

- Less than 6 months..... 102 1
- 6 to 12 months..... 2
- One to 3 years..... 3
- 4 years or more..... 4
- DK..... 5

EB28Y - Q259 - TREND

Q.77. Altogether, including your present job ...

a) How many jobs, lasting one month or more, have you had since you started working ?

b) And how many of these jobs were for six months or more ?

	a) JOBS FOR ONE MONTH OR MORE	b) JOBS FOR 6 MONTHS OR MORE
None	//////////	104 1
1	103 1	2
2	2	3
3	3	4
4	4	5
5 or more	5	6
DK	6	7

EB28Y - Q260/261 - TREND

Q.78. Since you left school, how many times have you been unemployed and looking for a job for a month or more ?

- Once..... 105 1
- Twice..... 2
- Three times..... 3
- Four times..... 4
- Five times or more..... 5
- Never..... 6
- DK..... 7

EB28Y - Q262 - TREND

Q.79. Are you member of a trade union ?

Yes.....	106	1	GO TO Q.92
No.....		2	GO TO Q.80
DK.....		3	GO TO Q.92

EB28Y -Q263 - TREND

Q.80. (IF NOT) Which is the main reason, from this list, why you are not a member of a trade union ? (SHOW CARD \*\* - ONLY ONE ANSWER)

There is no union where I work.....	107	1
Where I work, the unions don't look after the interests of people like me.....		2
My employer does not like unions.....		3
I don't believe in unions.....		4
I'm going to join, but I haven't done so yet.....		5
Others.....		6
DK.....		7

EB28Y - Q264 - TREND MODIFIED

GO TO Q.92

QUESTIONS Q.81 TO Q.85 TO THOSE STILL AT SCHOOL OR IN HIGHER EDUCATION (CODE 3 TO Q.67)

Q.81. Are you studying what you wanted to or not ?

Yes.....	108	1
No.....		2
DK.....		3

EB28Y - Q265 - TREND

Q.82. If you are over minimum schoolleaving age, what were the main reasons why you chose to continue your studies ? (SHOW CARD \*\* - SEVERAL ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

I thought it would be better for me to carry on studying.....	109	1,
I enjoy my studies.....		2,
My parents or family wanted me to.....		3,
There were no training courses where I was.....		4,
There were no jobs available that suited me.....		5,
There were no jobs at all in the area.....		6,
I did not really know what other opportunities were available to me.....		7,
Other.....		8,
DK.....		9,

EB28Y - Q266 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.83. At what age do you intend to finish your full-time studies ?

15.....	110	1
16.....		2
17.....		3
18.....		4
19.....		5
20.....		6
21.....		7
22.....		8
23.....		9
24.....		10
25 and over.....		11
DK.....		12

EB28Y - Q267 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.84. Why did you choose the studies you are doing now ? (SHOW CARD \*\* - SEVERAL ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

I am particularly interested in them.....	111	1,
It leads to the sort of job I want to do.....		2,
It leads to a well paid job.....		3,
It gives me a better chance of finding a job.....		4,
My parents/family wanted me to.....		5,
Other.....		6,
DK.....		7,

EB28Y - Q268 - TREND

Q.85. Where are you studying ... ? (READ OUT)

Secondary school.....	112	1
University, or college, or polytechnic.....		2
Other.....		3
DK.....		4

EB28Y - Q269 - TREND

GO TO D.0



Q.86 TO Q.88 TO THOSE IN JOB PLACEMENT OR APPRENTICESHIP, ETC ... (CODE 4 TO Q.67)

Q.86. How many months have you been doing in this job placement or training course ?

Less than 6 months.....	113	1
6 months to 12 months.....		2
13 months to 24 months.....		3
25 months or more.....		4
DK.....		5

EB28Y - Q270 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.87. Did you start your job placement or training course straight after school ? (IF NO) Did you have a job in between, did you look for a job but not found one or neither of these ?

Straight from school to course.....	114	1
Had a job in between.....		2
looked for a job but did not find one.....		3
Neither of these.....		4
DK.....		5

EB28Y - Q271 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.88. Thinking about this job placement or training course, could you answer yes or no to the following ?  
(READ OUT)

	YES	NO	DK
Do you intend to complete it ?	115 1	2	3
Is it the training you wanted ?	116 1	2	3
Does your current course lead to a recognized qualification ?	117 1	2	3
Will the course you are doing give you the necessary skills for a job ?	118 1	2	3
Are you getting paid (e.g. allowance, wage, benefit) while you are on this course ?	119 1	2	3
Does your training course include a period of work experience ?	120 1	2	3

EB28Y - Q272/277 - TREND MODIFIED

GO TO Q.92

Q.89 TO Q.91 TO THOSE UNEMPLOYED AND LOOKING FOR A JOB (CODE 5 TO Q.67)

Q.89. For how many months have you been looking for a job ?

Less than three months.....	121	1
3 - 6 months.....		2
7 - 12 months.....		3
13 - 24 months.....		4
25 months or more.....		5
DK.....		6

EB28Y - Q278 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.90. How have you been looking for a job ? (SEVERAL ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

In the newspapers and advertisements.....	122	1,
Job centre/employment agency.....		2,
Through friends or family.....		3,
By contacting employers directly.....		4,
Through school or training centres.....		5,
Other.....		6,
DK.....		7,

EB28Y - Q279 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.91. What is the main reason why you are unemployed ? (SHOW CARD \*\* - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

The jobs I have been offered did not really appeal to me.....	123	1
I can get at least as much money on the dole as I could in a job.....		2
There are no jobs available that suit my training and qualifications.....		3
There are absolutely no jobs at all in this area.....		4
Personal or family reasons (e.g. looking after children).....		5
Other reason.....		6
DK.....		7

EB28Y - Q280 - TREND MODIFIED

GO TO Q.92

QUESTIONS Q.92 to Q.101 TO ALL YOUNG PEOPLE EXCEPT THOSE STILL AT SCHOOL OR IN HIGHER EDUCATION (CODES 1,2,4,5,6,7,8 TO Q.67, NOT CODE 3)

Q.92. How long after the end of minimum schoolleaving age, did you finish your formal education ?

Immediately after.....	124	1
1 year later.....		2
2 years later.....		3
3 years later.....		4
4 years later.....		5
Later still.....		6
DK.....		7

EB28Y - Q326 - TREND

Q.93. Why did you finish your formal education when you did ? (SHOW CARD\*\* - SEVERAL ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

I had got as far as I could.....	125	1,
I saw no point in going on.....		2,
I did not like it.....		3,
I needed money.....		4,
I wanted to work.....		5,
My family needed the money.....		6,
We could not afford to pay for the course.....		7,
I had young children to bring up.....		8,
Other.....		9,
DK.....		10

EB28Y - Q327 - TREND

Q.94. After your formal education, did you start any training course ? (IF YES) How many different courses ?

None.....	126	1	GO TO Q.100
One.....		2	GO TO Q.95
Two.....		3	GO TO Q.95
Three.....		4	GO TO Q.95
More.....		5	GO TO Q.95
DK.....		6	GO TO Q.95

EB28Y - Q328 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.95. (IF ONE OR MORE AT THE PREVIOUS QUESTION, ASK Q.95 TO Q.99)  
How many of these training courses did you complete ?

None.....	127	1
One.....		2
Two.....		3
Three.....		4
More.....		5
DK.....		6

EB28Y - Q329 - TREND

Q.96. Counting all the training courses you have done, how much time would you say it amounts to altogether ?

Less than 6 months.....	128	1
6 - 12 months.....		2
13 - 18 months.....		3
19 - 24 months.....		4
Longer.....		5
DK.....		6

EB28Y - Q330 - TREND MODIFIED

Q.97. Overall, do you think the standard of training you have received has been ... ? (READ OUT)

Good.....	129	1
Acceptable.....		2
Poor.....		3
DK.....		4

EB28Y - Q331 - TREND

Q.98. Overall, how much do you think you have gained from the training courses you have done : a great deal, enough, not much or nothing ?

A great deal.....	130	1
Enough.....		2
Not much.....		3
Nothing.....		4
DK.....		5

EB28Y - Q332 - TREND

Q.99. Have these courses ever helped you directly to get a job ?

Yes.....	131	1
No.....		2
DK.....		3

EB28Y - Q333 - TREND

TO ALL YOUNG PEOPLE EXCEPT THOSE STILL AT SCHOOL OR IN HIGHER EDUCATION (CODES 1,2,4,5,6,7,8 TO Q.67, NOT CODE 3)

Q.100. Did you leave school with any formal qualification, diploma or certificate ?

Yes.....	132	1
No.....		2
DK.....		3

EB28Y - Q334 - TREND

Q.101. Have you got any sort of formal qualification since you left school (e.g. from training courses or further education) ?

Yes.....	133	1
No.....		2
DK.....		3

EB28Y - Q335 - TREND

DEMOGRAPHICS

TO ALL

D.0. What is your date of birth ?

Day

--	--

134

Month

--	--

135

Year

--	--

136

EB34.2 - D0 - NEW

D.1. (ASK ALL)

In political matters people talk of "the left" and "the right".  
How would you place your views on this scale ?  
(SHOW CARD \*\* - DO NOT PROMPT. IF CONTACT HESITATES, ASK TO TRY AGAIN)

	left												right
	137	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		

Refusal..... 138 1  
DK..... 2

EB34.0 - D1 - DEMO

D.2. Do you consider yourself to be close to any particular party ? If so, do you feel yourself to be very close to this party, fairly close or merely a sympathiser ?

very close..... 139 1  
fairly close..... 2  
merely a sympathiser..... 3  
close to no particular party..... 4  
DK..... 5

EB34.0 - D2 - DEMO

NO QUESTION D3 TO D9

D.10. (ASK ALL)

Are you ... ?

Single..... 140 1  
Married..... 2  
Living as married..... 3  
Divorced..... 4  
Separated..... 5  
Widowed..... 6

EB34.0 - D10 - DEMO

D.11.	How old were you when you finished your full-time education ?		
	up to 14 years.....	141	1
	15 years.....		2
	16 years.....		3
	17 years.....		4
	18 years.....		5
	19 years.....		6
	20 years.....		7
	21 years.....		8
	22 years and older.....		9
	still studying.....		10

EB34.0 - D11 - DEMO

D.12.	(SEX)		
	Male.....	142	1
	Female.....		2

EB34.0 - D12 - DEMO

NO QUESTION D.13

D.14.	How many people live in your household, including yourself, all adults and children ?		
	one.....	143	1
	2.....		2
	3.....		3
	4.....		4
	5.....		5
	6.....		6
	7.....		7
	8.....		8
	9 and more.....		9

EB34.0 - D14 - DEMO

D.15.	How many children under 15 living at home ?		
	one.....	144	1
	2.....		2
	3.....		3
	4.....		4
	5.....		5
	6.....		6
	7.....		7
	8.....		8
	9 and more.....		9
	none.....		10

EB34.0 - D15 - DEMO

NO QUESTION D16

D.17. What is your occupation ?

(WRITE IN AND CODE)

.....  
SELF EMPLOYED

- 01 FARMER
- 02 FISHERMAN
- 03 PROFESSIONAL (LAWYER, MEDICAL PRACTITIONER, ACCOUNTANT, ETC ...)
- 04 OWNERS OF SHOPS OR COMPANIES, CRAFTSMEN, BUSINESS PROPRIETORS

EMPLOYED

- 05 EMPLOYED PROFESSIONAL (EMPLOYED LAWYER, MEDICAL PRACTITIONER, ACCOUNTANT)
- 06 GENERAL MANAGEMENT
- 07 MIDDLE MANAGEMENT
- 08 OTHER OFFICE EMPLOYEES
- 09 NON-OFFICE EMPLOYEES, NON MANUAL WORKERS (SHOP ASSISTANTS, ETC ...)
- 10 SUPERVISORS
- 11 SKILLED MANUAL WORKER
- 12 OTHER MANUAL WORKER

WITHOUT PAID WORK

- 13 RETIRED
- 14 HOUSEWIFE NOT OTHERWISE EMPLOYED
- 15 STUDENT
- 16 MILITARY SERVICE
- 17 TEMPORARILY NOT WORKING, UNEMPLOYED



145

EB34.0 - 017 - DEMO

D.18. (TO THOSE WHO ARE NOT DOING ANY PAID WORK : CODES 13 TO 17 IN D17) Did you do any paid work in the past ? (IF YES) What was your last occupation (WRITE IN AND CODE)

.....  
SELF EMPLOYED

- 01 FARMER
- 02 FISHERMAN
- 03 PROFESSIONAL (LAWYER, MEDICAL PRACTITIONER, ACCOUNTANT, ETC ...)
- 04 OWNERS OF SHOPS OR COMPANIES, CRAFTSMEN, BUSINESS PROPRIETORS

EMPLOYED

- 05 EMPLOYED PROFESSIONAL (EMPLOYED LAWYER, MEDICAL PRACTITIONER, ACCOUNTANT)
- 06 GENERAL MANAGEMENT
- 07 MIDDLE MANAGEMENT
- 08 OTHER OFFICE EMPLOYEES
- 09 NON-OFFICE EMPLOYEES, NON MANUAL WORKERS (SHOP ASSISTANTS, ETC ...)
- 10 SUPERVISORS
- 11 SKILLED MANUAL WORKER
- 12 OTHER MANUAL WORKER

00 NEVER DID ANY PAID WORK



146

EB34.0 - D18 - DEMO

NO QUESTION D19 TO D21

D.22. (ASK ALL) Are you the head of the household ?

Yes..... 147 1 GO TO D25

No..... 2 GO TO D23

EB34.0 - D22 - DEMO

D.23. (ASK THOSE WHO ARE NOT HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD : CODE 2 IN D22) What is the occupation of the head of household ?  
(WRITE IN AND CODE)

.....  
SELF EMPLOYED

- 01 FARMER
- 02 FISHERMAN
- 03 PROFESSIONAL (LAWYER, MEDICAL PRACTITIONER, ACCOUNTANT, ETC ...)
- 04 OWNERS OF SHOPS OR COMPANIES, CRAFTSMEN, BUSINESS PROPRIETORS

EMPLOYED

- 05 EMPLOYED PROFESSIONAL (EMPLOYED LAWYER, MEDICAL PRACTITIONER, ACCOUNTANT)
- 06 GENERAL MANAGEMENT
- 07 MIDDLE MANAGEMENT
- 08 OTHER OFFICE EMPLOYEES
- 09 NON-OFFICE EMPLOYEES, NON MANUAL WORKERS (SHOP ASSISTANTS, ETC ...)
- 10 SUPERVISORS
- 11 SKILLED MANUAL WORKER
- 12 OTHER MANUAL WORKER

WITHOUT PAID WORK

- 13 RETIRED
- 14 HOUSEWIFE NOT OTHERWISE EMPLOYED
- 15 STUDENT
- 16 MILITARY SERVICE
- 17 TEMPORARILY NOT WORKING, UNEMPLOYED



148

EB34.0 - D23 - DEMO

D.24. (ASK THOSE WHERE HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD DOES NOT DO ANY PAID WORK : CODES 13 TO 17 IN D23) Did the head of household do any paid work in the past ? (IF YES) What was his/her last occupation ? (WRITE IN AND CODE)

.....  
SELF EMPLOYED

- 01 FARMER
- 02 FISHERMAN
- 03 PROFESSIONAL (LAWYER, MEDICAL PRACTITIONER, ACCOUNTANT, ETC ...)
- 04 OWNERS OF SHOPS OR COMPANIES, CRAFTSMEN, BUSINESS PROPRIETORS

EMPLOYED

- 05 EMPLOYED PROFESSIONAL (EMPLOYED LAWYER, MEDICAL PRACTITIONER, ACCOUNTANT)
- 06 GENERAL MANAGEMENT
- 07 MIDDLE MANAGEMENT
- 08 OTHER OFFICE EMPLOYEES
- 09 NON-OFFICE EMPLOYEES, NON MANUAL WORKERS (SHOP ASSISTANTS, ETC ...)
- 10 SUPERVISORS
- 11 SKILLED MANUAL WORKER
- 12 OTHER MANUAL WORKER

00 HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD NEVER DID ANY PAID WORK



149

EB34.0 - D24 - DEMO

NO QUESTION 25 AND 26



D.27.	Would you say you live in a ... ? (READ OUT)		
	Rural area or village.....	150	1
	Small or middle size town.....		2
	Large town.....		3
	DK.....		4

EB34.0 - D27 - DEMO

D.28.	Do you consider yourself as belonging to a particular religion ? (IF YES) Which one ?			
	Roman catholic.....	151	1	GO TO D29
	Protestant.....		2	GO TO D29
	Orthodox.....		3	GO TO D29
	Jewish.....		4	GO TO D29
	Muslim.....		5	GO TO D30
	Buddhist.....		6	GO TO D30
	Hindu.....		7	GO TO D30
	Other.....		8	GO TO D30
	None.....		9	GO TO D30
	DK.....		10	GO TO D30

EB34.0 - D28 - DEMO

D.29.	(TO THOSE WITH CODE 1 TO 4 ON D28)		
	Do you attend religious services several times a week, once a week, a few times a year, once a year or less or never ?		
	(ONE ANSWER ONLY)		
	Several times a week.....	152	1
	Once a week.....		2
	A few times a year.....		3
	Once a year or less.....		4
	Never.....		5
	DK.....		6

EB34.0 - D29 - DEMO

D.30.	(ASK ALL)		
	Whether you do or you don't follow religious practices, would you say that you are ... ?		
	religious.....	153	1
	not religious.....		2
	an agnostic.....		3
	an atheist.....		4
	DK.....		5

EB34.0 - D30 - DEMO

INTERVIEW PROTOCOLE

P.1 - Date of interview	Day	Month
	154 _ _	155 _ _

EB34.0 - P.1 - PROTO.

P.2 - Time of the beginning of the interview	HOUR	MINUTES
USE 24 HOUR CLOCK	156 _ _	157 _ _

EB34.0 - P.2 - PROTO.

P.3 - NUMBER OF MINUTES THE INTERVIEW LASTED	Minutes
	158 _ _

EB34.0 - P.3 - PROTO

P.4 - Number of persons present during the interview		
Two (interviewer and respondent).....	159	1
Three.....		2
Four.....		3
Five or more.....		4

EB34.0 - P.4 - PROTO.

P.5 - Respondent cooperation		
Excellent.....	160	1
Fair.....		2
Average.....		3
Bad.....		4

EB34.0 - P.5 - PROTO.

P.6 - Size of locality

LOCAL CODES

161 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

EB34.0 - P.6 - PROTO.

P.7 - Region

SEE LOCAL CODES

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162

EB34.0 - P.7 - PROTO.

P.8 - POSTAL CODE

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163

EB34.0 - P.8 - PROTO.

P.9 - SAMPLE POINT NUMBER

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 164

EB34.0 - P.9 - PROTO.

P.10 - INTERVIEWER NUMBER

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 165

EB34.0 - P.10 - PROTO.

P.11 - WEIGHTING FACTOR

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 166

EB34.0 - P.11 - PROTO.