

2018 Country Report for Germany

Key points for EASPD members

I. Employment and Labour Market Policy

- Regarding progress in reaching the national targets under the Europe 2020 strategy, Germany is performing well on the employment rate.
- On the back of sustained economic growth, employment continues to grow and unemployment has dropped to record lows.
- Overall youth unemployment in Germany is one of the lowest in the EU.
- **Better involvement of the underrepresented groups in the labour market can help address the looming shortage of skilled labour stemming from demographic change.**
- **Despite growing skilled labour force shortages, the labour market potential of certain groups remains underused.**

II. Education Policy

- Educational outcomes are stable overall but remain considerably influenced by socio-economic background.
- Regarding progress in reaching the national targets under the Europe 2020 strategy, Germany is performing well on early school leaving.
- Spending on education remains below the EU average.
- Distribution constraints on public spending in education due limited cooperation possibilities between central and federal level remain largely in place; despite a change in the Base Law.
- In Germany, 45 % of primary and secondary teachers are aged 50 or above, compared with 35 % in the rest of the EU.

III. Social Policy

- While operating at high cost and with certain inequalities in access, unmet medical needs for medical care are very low in Germany (0.5 % of the population) and the density of physicians, nurses and hospitals in Germany is among the highest in the EU.
- Germany is among the four OECD countries with the largest regional differences in the number of hospital beds per 10 000 inhabitants.



IV. Anything else?

- Large gender employment gap.
- The gender pension gap is one of the highest in the EU.
- In 2016, the percentage of the population at risk of poverty or social exclusion continued to fall.
- Germany has a high gap in the EU between people with disabilities and those without as regards being at risk of poverty or social exclusion.

Additional Information

- European Commission: 2018 Country Report for [Germany](#)
- EASPD [Activities on the European Semester](#)

For more information, please contact

Thomas Bignal

EASPD Policy Officer

T. +32 2 233 77 23

thomas.bignal@easpd.eu

www.easpd.eu

