



Evropská unie  
Evropský sociální fond  
Operační program Zaměstnanost

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# EVALUACE INICIATIVY NA PODPORU ZAMĚSTNANOSTI MLADÝCH V ČR

## Youth Employment Initiative

### PRŮBĚŽNÁ ZPRÁVA

**Vypracovalo:**

Oddělení evaluací (802)

Ministerstvo práce a sociálních věcí

Na Poříčním právu 1, 128 01 Praha

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## Executive summary

The ongoing evaluation of the implementation of Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) in the Czech Republic is based on the European Commission's requirement to present the member states' YEI evaluation reports by the end of 2018. This evaluation report develops findings from the ex-ante evaluation, and its main aim is to answer the evaluation questions which were formulated based on the Guidance on Evaluation of the Youth Employment Initiative. It contains an assessment of the socio-demographic characteristics of the YEI participants and evaluates their labor market situation immediately after completing the YEI. Moreover, this evaluation report investigates employment, education and training offers which participants received, and covers other intervention results as well as intervention implementation.

In the Czech Republic, the YEI is implemented in NUTS 2 region Northwest and since 2017 also in Moravian-Silesian region. Since 2012, which was the determining year for YEI regional coverage, the youth unemployment rate in these regions has decreased significantly. Nevertheless, in comparison with the rest of the Czech Republic, these regions are still dealing with the highest level of unemployment rates for the given target group (people below 25 years of age).

Until the end of October 2018, the YEI projects supported 4375 individuals. Their socio-demographic characteristics varied based on who implemented the project (either regional authorities or Employment Office authorities). Projects implemented by regional authorities supported relatively more participants with a primary level of education or belonging to a minority, while participants with disabilities were more frequent in Employment Office authorities' projects. Overall, YEI in the Czech Republic has been well targeted, while the regional authorities' projects have been able to target in greater extent also the most disadvantaged young people.

After leaving a project, 56 % of respondents were in employment. Another 10 % of respondents expected to start employment within the next month. Participants in Employment Office authorities' projects were more likely to have a job but less often believed that the project helped them to find a job. Interviews with project team members and participants confirm that project activities bring new skills and knowledge to participants. This finding is true especially for those with a lower level of education and those who had no prior working experience.

The situation of participants 6 months after leaving the project has also been assessed using a questionnaire. The results need to be interpreted with caution since the survey suffers from non-response bias, but the analysis shows that participants with higher educational attainment are more often in employment, education or internship.

Efficiency analysis confirmed that costs on participants in YEI projects are comparable with similar interventions in other regions.

As the YEI projects are still in implementation, the ongoing evaluation will be followed by ex-post evaluation based on full data. Moreover, the ex-post evaluation will also utilize administrative data from the information system IS ESF 2014+, which are not yet available due to the ongoing development of the system.