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Highlights

- Bulgaria is implementing reforms at all levels of education as this is a political priority. Although measures do not yet match the magnitude of the challenges, there is an increased focus on reducing early school leaving, increasing teacher salaries, introducing dual learning, improving digital skills and strengthening inclusive education.
- Bulgaria typically invests little in pre-primary and primary education, areas which are key for an equal start in life and for preventing income inequalities later in life. The funding model for schools was revised to allocate additional resources to disadvantaged schools.
- Bulgarian students' civic knowledge has increased. Recent measures seek to expand the provision of citizenship education.
- The challenge of Roma inclusion in education remains significant.
- The skills of graduates in higher education and vocational education and training insufficiently match the labour market needs. Participation in adult learning remains very low.

Key indicators

	Bulgaria		EU average		
	2014	2017	2014	2017	
Education and training 2020 benchmarks					
Early leavers from education and training (age 18-24)	12.9%	12.7%	11.2%	10.6%	
Tertiary educational attainment (age 30-34)	30.9%	32.8%	37.9%	39.9%	
Early childhood education and care (from age 4 to starting age of compulsory primary education)	89.3%	86.5%	94.2%	95.3%	
Proportion of 15 year-olds underachieving in:	Reading	39.4%	41.5%	17.8%	19.7%
	Maths	43.8%	42.1%	22.1%	22.2%
	Science	36.9%	37.9%	16.6%	20.6%
Employment rate of recent graduates by educational attainment (age 20-34 having left education 1-3 years before reference year)	65.4%	77.7%	76.0%	80.2%	
Adult participation in learning (age 25-64)	2.1%	2.3%	10.8%	10.9%	
Learning mobility	Degree mobile graduates	: 7.4%	: 3.1%		
	Credit mobile graduates	: 1.5%	: 7.6%		

Early leavers from education and training (age 18-24)

Education and Training
Monitor 2018

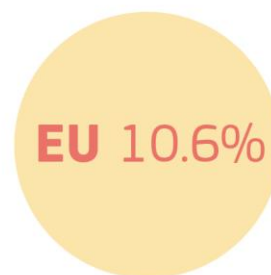
Bulgaria 12.7%



Men



Women



Source: Eurostat (EU-LFS, 2017)
Extracted on 08/2018
Illustration: © European Commission



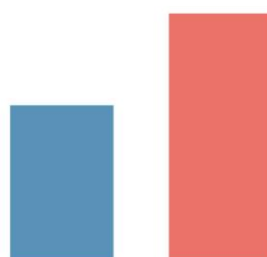
Tertiary educational attainment (age 30-34)

Education and Training
Monitor 2018

Bulgaria 32.8%



25.5% **40.5%**



Men

Women



Source: Eurostat (EU-LFS, 2017)
Extracted on 08/2018
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