

Inclusive entrepreneurship trends and policies in Poland

This profile includes recent data on self-employment and entrepreneurship activities by women, youth and seniors in Poland and also highlights recent inclusive entrepreneurship policy initiatives by the Polish Agency for Enterprise Development (PARP).

Key trends: Polish people were more likely to be self-employed in 2016 than the European Union average (17.7% of workers were self-employed vs. 14.0% in the EU). Over the last decade, the self-employment rate declined slightly, but was constant for youth. Over the 2012-16 period, Polish people were more likely to be involved in starting or managing a new business that is less than 42 months old (9.6% vs. 6.7% for the EU). However, this high entrepreneurship activity rate is partially explained by a high proportion of entrepreneurs who report that they did not have any other opportunities in the labour market. More than one-third (35.8%) of new Polish entrepreneurs started out of “necessity” over this period, relative to 22.1% in the European Union. Among the key social target groups, senior entrepreneurs were the most likely to engaged in necessity entrepreneurship (52.0% vs. 25.5% for the EU). More than half (57.9%) of adults in Poland reported that they have the skills to start a business, which was higher than the European Union average in the period 2012-16 (41.9%). Accordingly, Polish entrepreneurs were more likely to expect to create at least 19 jobs over the first five years of business operation than the European Union average.

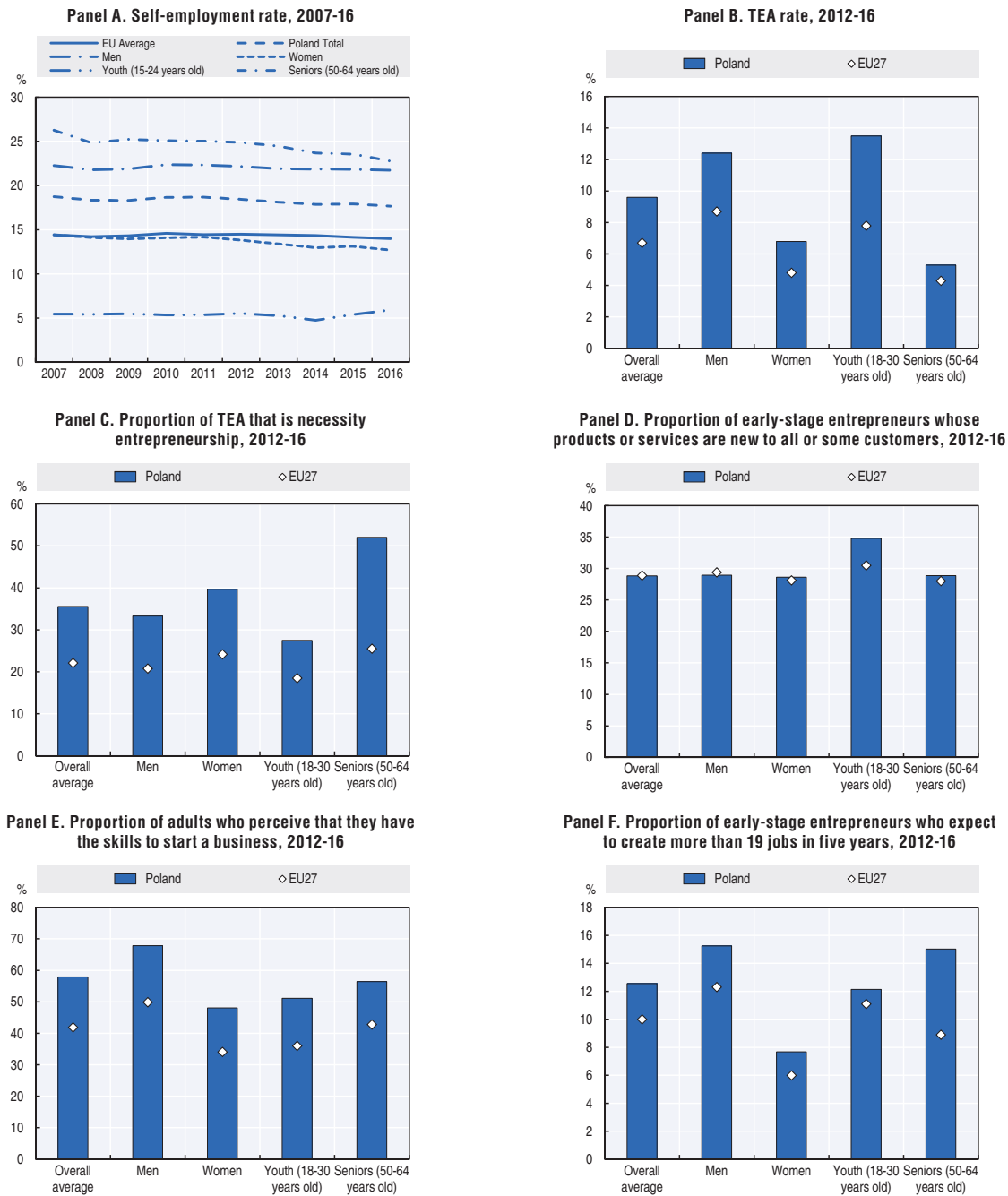
Hot issue: A recent policy priority in Poland has been to boost entrepreneurship education, notably within higher education. The Law on Higher Education was announced in Fall 2016 and aims to make the new Polish higher education system more innovative and relevant for economic development. Entrepreneurship education is also increasingly available in higher education, and is supported by student clubs and the Academic Incubators of Entrepreneurship.

Recent policy developments: A new strategic plan for economic development and fostering entrepreneurship was developed by the Ministry of Economic Development and approved in February 2016. The “Plan for Responsible Development” (i.e. Morawiecki’s Plan) includes five pillars of the economic development of Poland including i) reindustrialisation, i.e. supporting the development of new competitive advantages and new economic specialisations; ii) development of innovative business through the creation of a friendly environment for businesses and strengthening an innovation support system; iii) increasing public investments for development; iv) internationalisation, i.e. increasing exports and foreign investments, developing a Polish brand; and v) supporting social and regional development. Inclusive entrepreneurship is an important element of this new strategy as supporting under-represented and disadvantaged groups in entrepreneurship can help achieve several of these objectives, notably improving social and regional development.

The full Country Assessment Note can be found at: www.oecd.org/cfe/leed/inclusive-entrepreneurship.htm.

Key inclusive entrepreneurship data

Figure 29.1. Entrepreneurship and self-employment data for Poland



Notes: 1. The self-employment rate is defined as the number of self-employed people (15-64 years old) divided by the number of people in employment. 2. The TEA rate is the proportion of adults (18-64 years old) involved in setting up a business or managing a business that is less than 42 months old. 3. Necessity entrepreneurship is defined as entrepreneurship activities that were launched because the individual did not have other options in the labour market. 4. Early-stage entrepreneurs are those who are in the process of setting up a business or manage a business that is less than 42 months old. 5. In Panels B, C, D, E and F, the population covered are those 18-64 years old.

Sources: Panel A: Eurostat (2017), Labour Force Survey, available at: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/lfs/data/database>; Panels B, C, D, E, and F: GEM (2017), Special tabulations of the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor adult population survey, 2012-16.

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933625433>

Reader's guide to the country profiles

This section of the book provides a short overview of inclusive entrepreneurship trends and recent policy actions in each European Union Member State. Each Country Profile highlights recent trends for key inclusive entrepreneurship indicators, focusing on activity rates, quality and barriers to business creation for people in under-represented and disadvantaged groups, drawing on a set of charts (see below). In addition, the Country Profiles briefly describe a current policy issue relevant for inclusive entrepreneurship policy development. Finally, each Country Profile describes a recent policy action that was introduced to support the unemployed, women, youth or seniors in business creation and self-employment.

The country overviews are complemented with a common set of country-specific data that benchmark key inclusive entrepreneurship indicators against the European Union average and over time. Data are presented for men, women, youth, seniors and the overall population total. These data help to show the scale of the challenge and its recent evolution. All Country Profiles contain six figures (except for the Malta profile, which does not participate in the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor survey):

Panel A: Self-employment rate, 2007-16. This presents the proportion of those in employment who are self-employed.

Panel B: Total Early-stage Entrepreneurship Activity (TEA) rate, 2012-16. This presents the proportion of the population who is actively involved in starting a business or who is the owner-operator of a business that is less than 42 months old.

Panel C: Proportion of TEA that is necessity entrepreneurship, 2012-16. This presents the proportion of early-stage entrepreneurship that was launched due to a lack of other opportunities in the labour market.

Panel D: Proportion of early-stage entrepreneurs whose products or services are new to all or some customers, 2012-16. This presents the proportion of early-stage entrepreneurs who self-report that they offer products and/or services that are new to potential customers.

Panel E: Proportion of adults who perceive that they have the skills to start a business, 2012-16. This presents the proportion of the population who believe that they have the knowledge and skills needed to start a business.

Panel F: Proportion of early-stage entrepreneurs who expect to create more than 19 jobs in five years, 2012-16. This presents the proportion of early-stage entrepreneurs who anticipate the creation of at least 19 additional new jobs over the next five years.



From:
The Missing Entrepreneurs 2017
Policies for Inclusive Entrepreneurship

Access the complete publication at:
<https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264283602-en>

Please cite this chapter as:

OECD/European Union (2017), "Inclusive entrepreneurship trends and policies in Poland", in *The Missing Entrepreneurs 2017: Policies for Inclusive Entrepreneurship*, OECD Publishing, Paris.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264283602-34-en>

This work is published under the responsibility of the Secretary-General of the OECD. The opinions expressed and arguments employed herein do not necessarily reflect the official views of OECD member countries.

This document and any map included herein are without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory, to the delimitation of international frontiers and boundaries and to the name of any territory, city or area.

You can copy, download or print OECD content for your own use, and you can include excerpts from OECD publications, databases and multimedia products in your own documents, presentations, blogs, websites and teaching materials, provided that suitable acknowledgment of OECD as source and copyright owner is given. All requests for public or commercial use and translation rights should be submitted to rights@oecd.org. Requests for permission to photocopy portions of this material for public or commercial use shall be addressed directly to the Copyright Clearance Center (CCC) at info@copyright.com or the Centre français d'exploitation du droit de copie (CFC) at contact@cfcopies.com.