



CEI conference in Prague « Higher Quality of Education and Training - Better Employability »

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European Employment Strategy, CSR, Local Development

Quality of Education and Training and the EES

Guidelines



1. Attract and retain more people in employment and modernise social protection systems.
2. Improve adaptability of workers and enterprises and the flexibility of labour markets.
3. Increase investment in human capital through better education and skills.
 - Expand and improve investment in human capital
 - Adapt education and training systems in response to new competence requirements



Start with investing more in young people

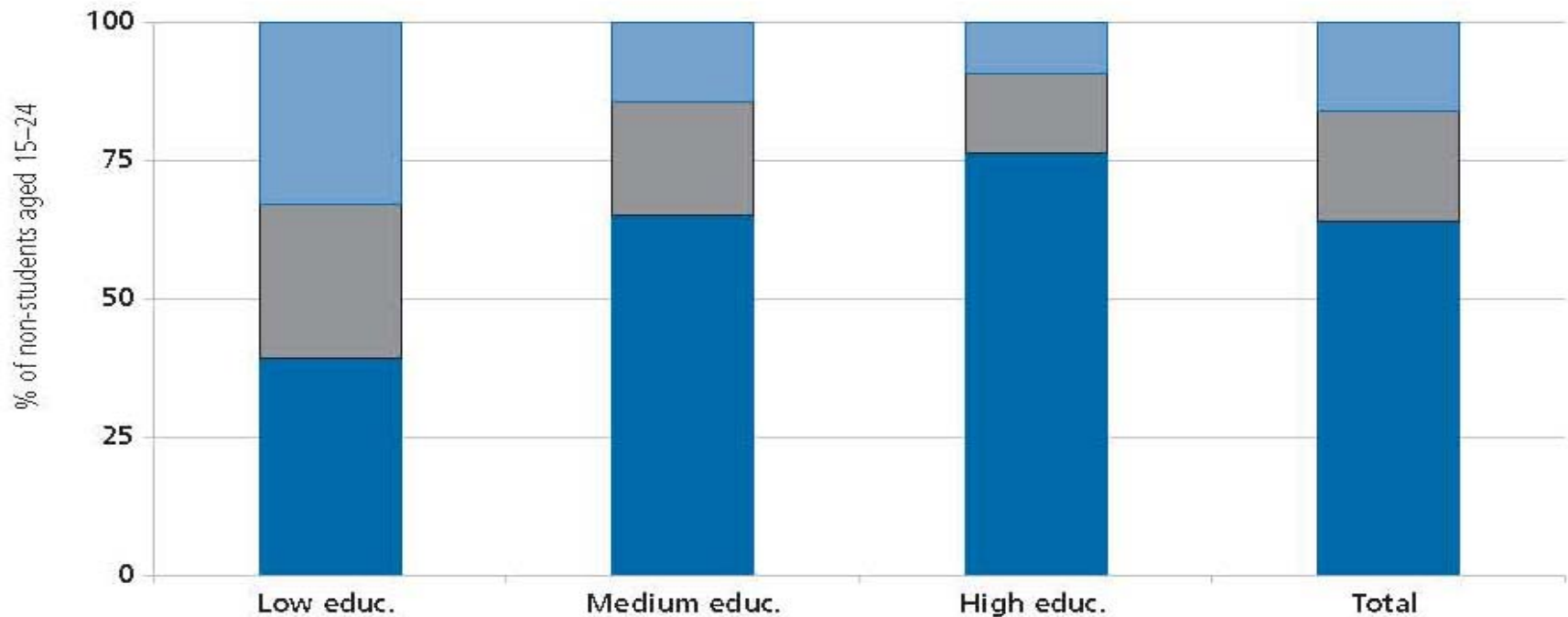


- Better educated youth tend to make quicker transitions into employment
- Education levels need to be improved to meet EU target of 85% having completed at least upper secondary education...



Chart 29: Youth school-to-work transition by educational attainment in the EU-27 - labour market status of non-students (age 15–24) one year leaving school, 2006

■ Employed ■ Unemployed ■ Inactive



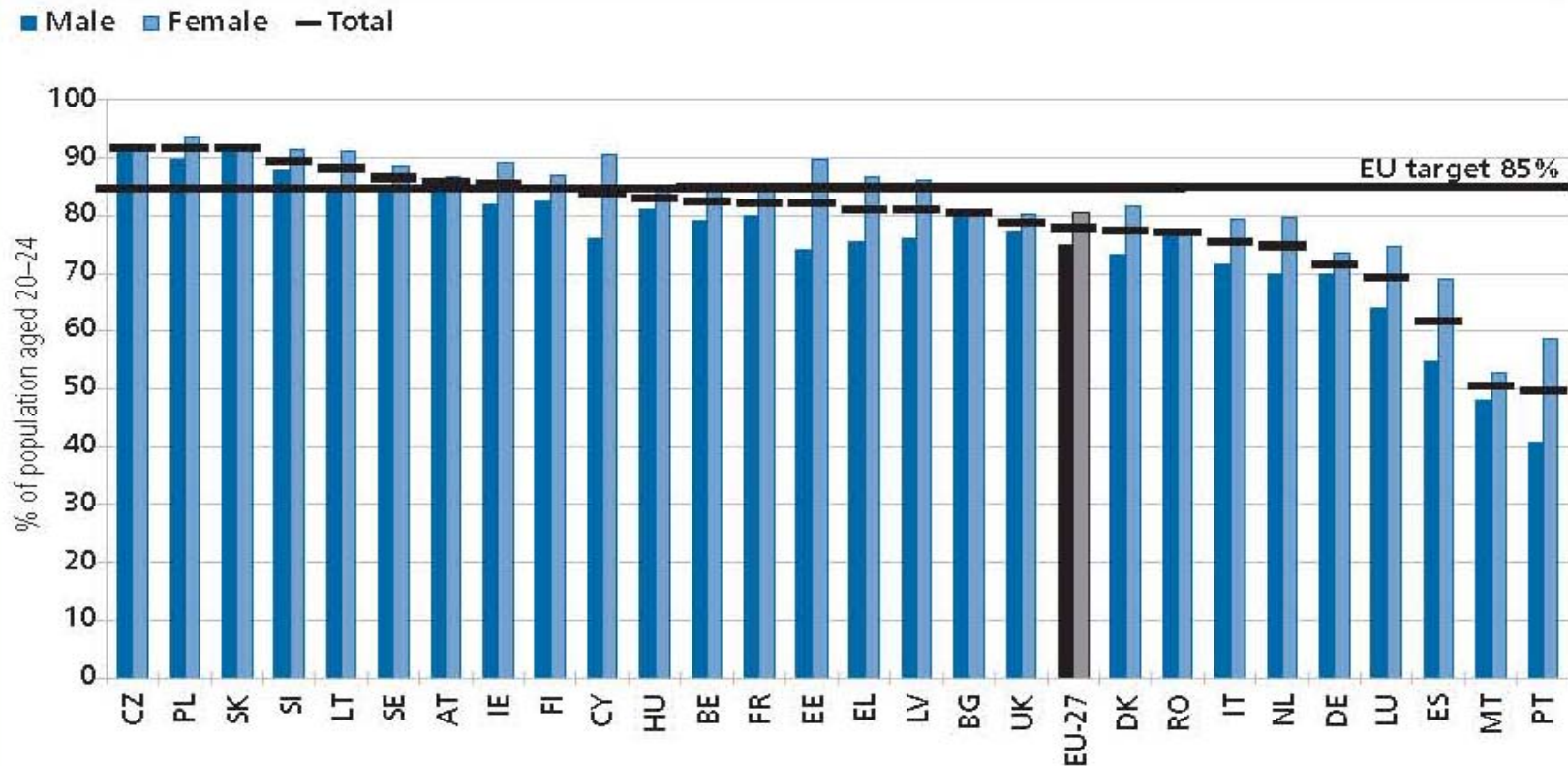
Source: Eurostat, EU LFS annual averages.

Note: Non-student school leavers defined as 15 to 24 years old who have completed their education in the previous year.





Chart 33: Share of youth population aged 20–24 having completed at least upper secondary education, 2006



Source: Eurostat, EU LFS annual averages.



Responding to the challenges for youth requires a strategic approach



- In education and training,
 - Prevent school failure early on → promote pre-primary education for a better start of all children
 - Link school education and the world of work → increase vocational training offer and quality, provide guidance and counselling services to young people
 - Bring qualifications more in line with labour market requirements
- Prevent unemployment or risky inactivity spells of young people by timely offer of a new start in education or employment
- Set up adequate activation strategies for young unemployed and inactive, including social assistance services
- Reduce institutional barriers to the labour market entry of youth
- Improve progression prospects for young workers

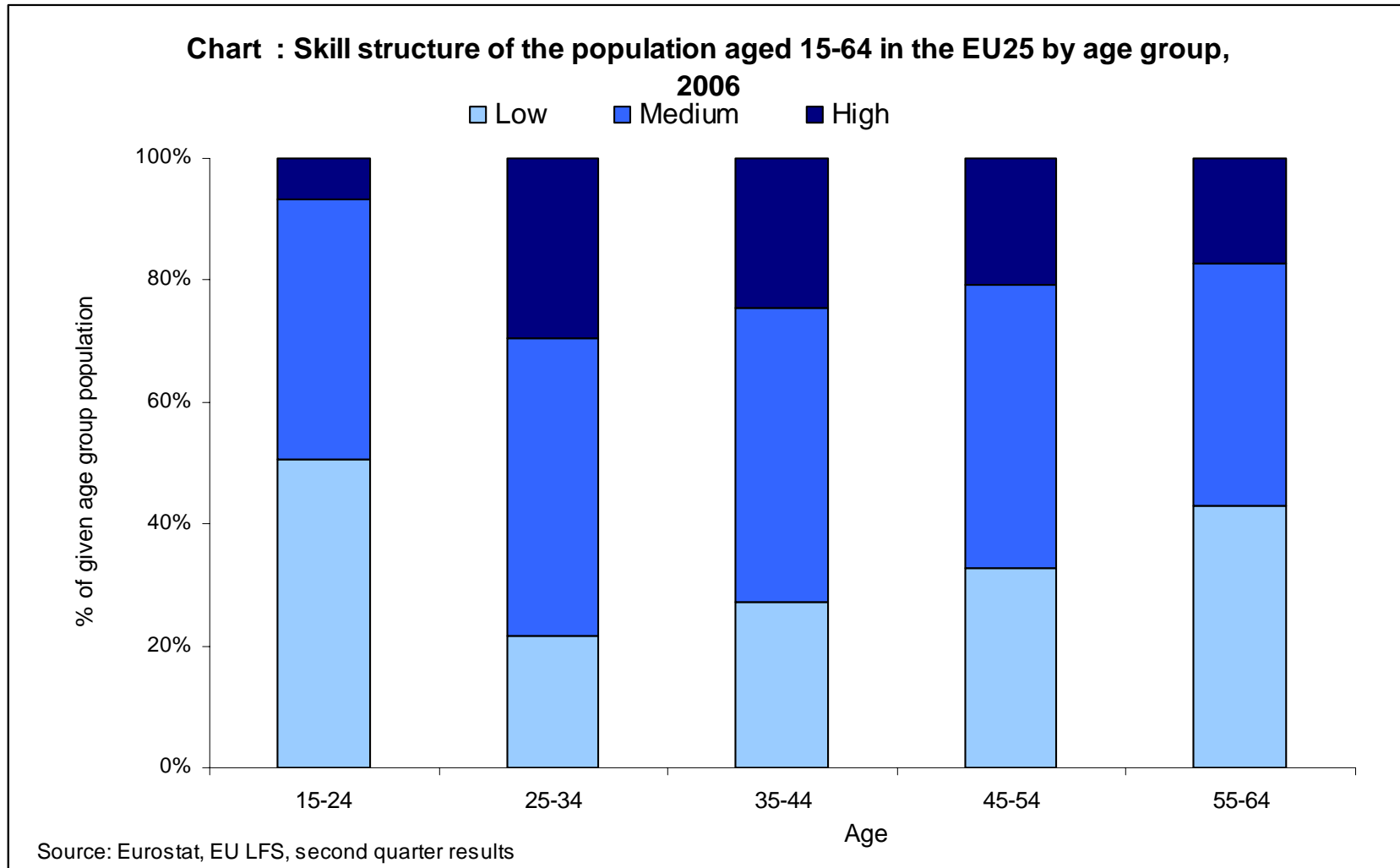




But we need to continue increase skills levels for all in view of evolving skills needs!



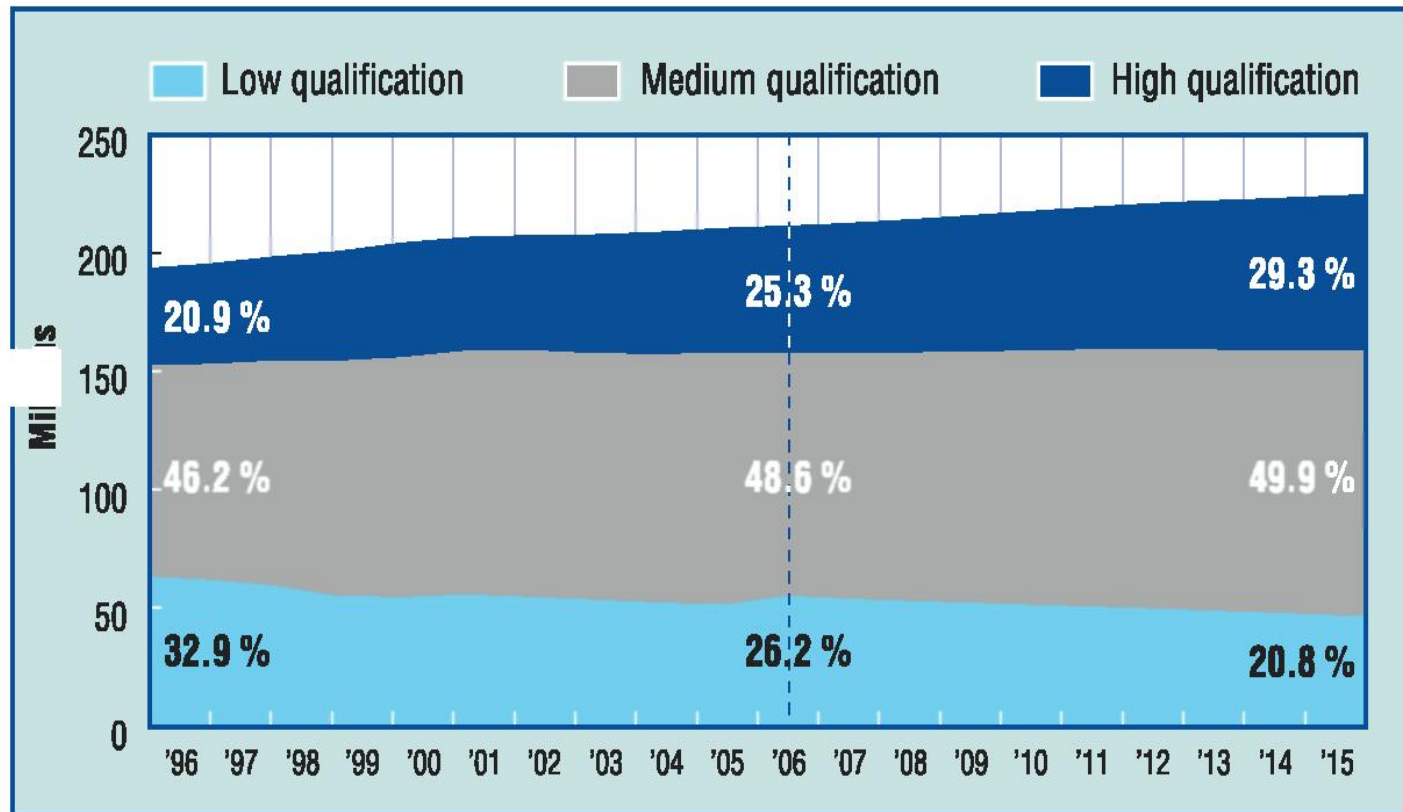
Skill structure by age





Evolving skills needs

Qualification requirements by level of qualification (in millions, %), EU-25 + NO + CH

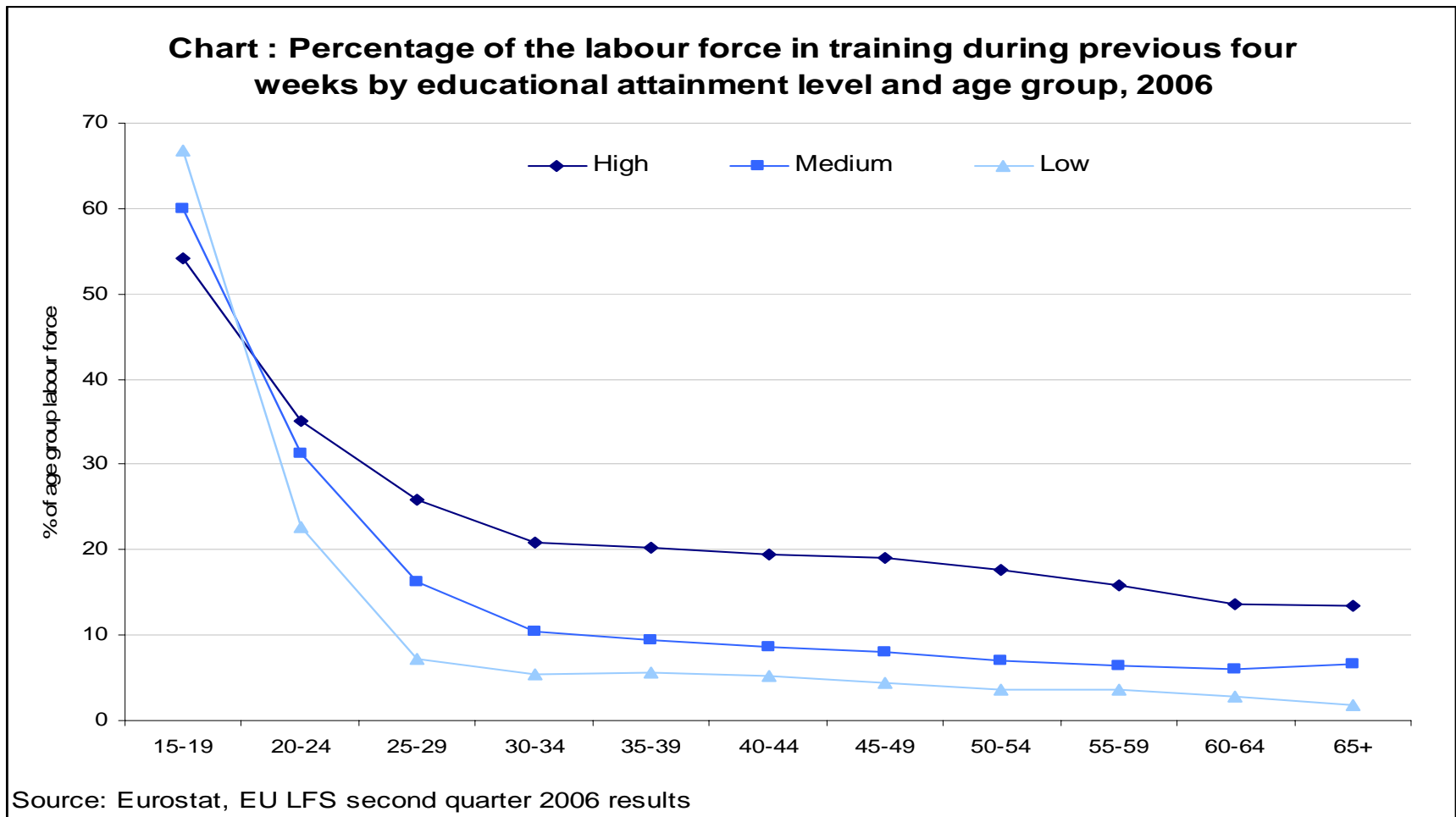


Source: Cedefop, 2008





Training intensity is higher for those with high(er) educational attainment!





Illustrated by the following figures

Participation in education and training, 2005

•Adults aged 25-64:	Low education	3.4%
	High Education	21.4%
•Age group 55-64:	Low education	1.9%
	High Education	13.9%
•Age group 25-34:	Low Education	5.9%
	High Education	26.5%

EU actions to improve quality of learning systems and greater opportunities for people at all stages of their lives



(note: MS in charge of design/executing own education and training systems)



EU actions

- Foster collaboration on education and training (Education and Training 2010, Lifelong Learning Programme 2007-2013)
- Common European Framework (EQF, Europass, VET etc)
- Action Plan on Adult Learning (27.9.07)
- Funding and technical support (EACEA)
- New Skills for New Jobs initiative



Rationale for the New Skills for New Jobs initiative

- A skills revolution: challenges confronting the EU:
 - *globalisation*
 - *technological advances (moves to low carbon)*
 - *Ageing population*

- Focuses on skills and labour markets and the high, medium and low skilled
- Addressing skills shortages and mismatches
- Improving capacity for skills assessment, anticipation and matching



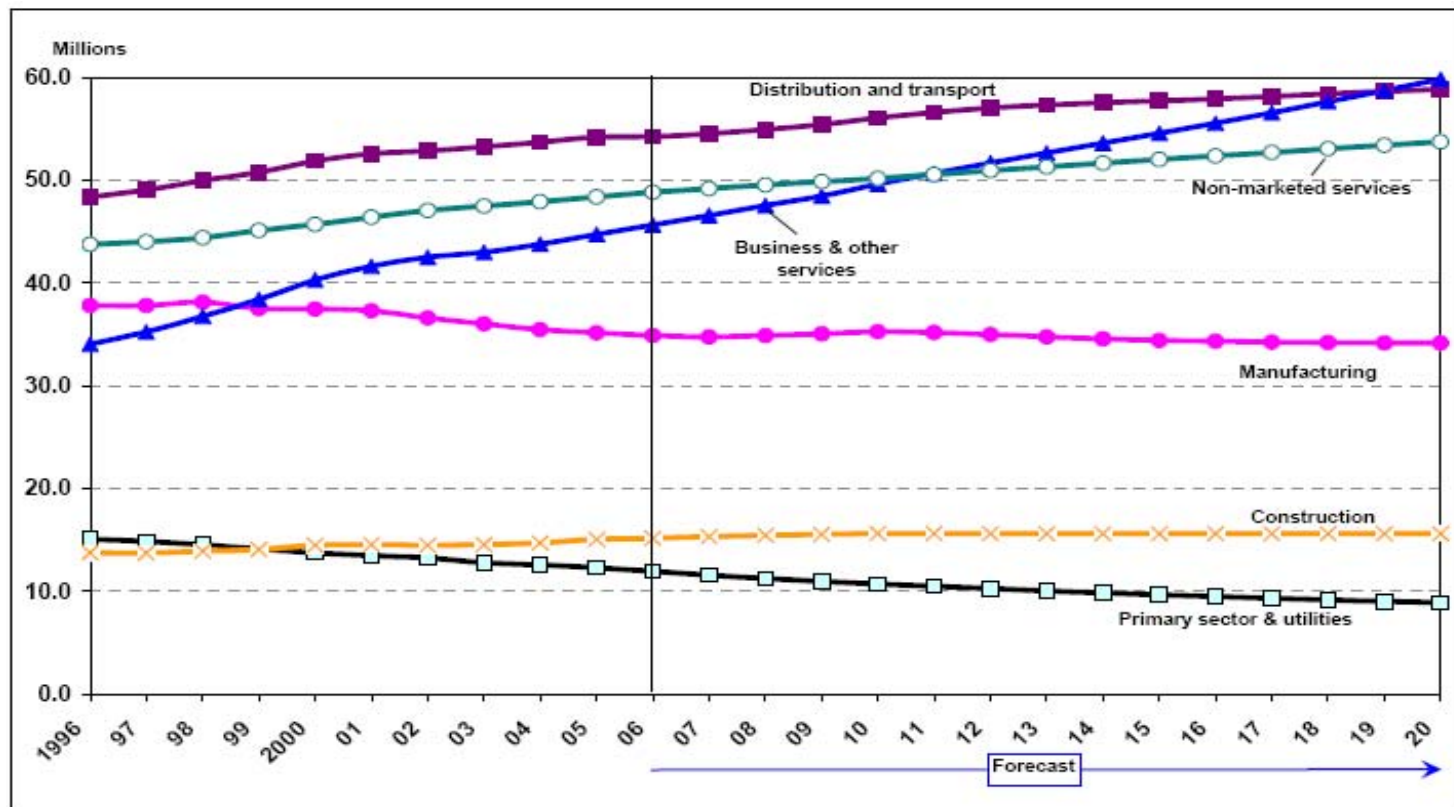
Political Mandate

- The European Council Conclusions stressed that *“Member States and the Commission should give priority to the implementation of the New Skills for New Jobs initiative”* (December 2007)
- *“Invite the Commission to present a comprehensive assessment of the future skills requirements in Europe up to 2020, taking account of the impacts of technological change and ageing populations and to propose steps to anticipate future needs. Economic migration can play a role in meeting the needs of the labour market and can contribute to help skills shortages”* (March 2008)



First assessment up to 2020

Job creation: 20 million net new jobs (85 million replacement jobs)...



Source: Cedefop, 2008.



... and labour supply

- EU working age population will peak 2012
- More women and older workers will add until 2018
- 2020 employment rate will need to be 74% (today 65%).



Contribution of the New Skills for New Jobs initiative to growth and jobs and social inclusion

- Identification of labour market trends, skills shortages and new drivers at sectoral, national and European levels
- Better implementation of labour market reform: flexicurity strategies and fighting unemployment and inactivity
- Promotion of labour mobility, better transitions.



Outputs

- Strengthened EU forecasting and anticipation
- Addressing short term mismatches
- Deepening international cooperation
- Mobilising EU instruments.



Thank you !

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=568&langId=en>