





YEAR 2019



1

THE OVERALL NATIONAL LABOUR MARKET IN 2018



Source: Eurostat (2018)

Population and Employment

TOTAL POPULATION **9 778 371**

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT*
4 411 000

69.3% of the population aged 15-64

TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT*
172 000

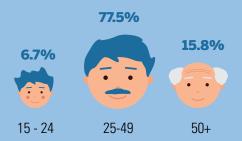
3.7% of the active population

*persons aged between 15 to 64 years old

Total employment - Gender



Total employment - Age



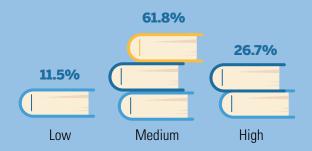
Total employment - Type of employment



Total employment - Type of contract



Total employment - Level of education*



* The statistics on level of education collated from Eurostat refer to ISCED level:

	ISCED 2011 (data from 2014 onwards)
Low education	Levels 0-2
Medium education	Levels 3-4
High education	Levels 5-8

PRACTICE OF SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY



Source: Special Eurobarometer 472 on Sport and physical activity (Publication March 2018) - n=1038

Level of practice of sport or physical activity



Regularly (at least 5 times a week)



With some regularity
(1 to 4 times a week)

24%



Seldom (3 times a month or less)



53%

Place of practice of those engaged in sport and physical activity



At home



On the way between home and school, work or shops 29%



At work



In a park, outdoors, etc.

17%



At a health or fitness centre

9%

59%



At a sport centre



At a sport club



19%

At school or university



Elsewhere 3%



Don't know

Reasons for engaging in sport or physical activity



Improve health
42%



Improve fitness **37%**



Improve physical performance 32%



Relax 28%



Improve physical appearance **24%**



Control weight **16%**



Counteract the effects of ageing 15%



Be with friends



Have fun



Improve self-esteem

Membership of clubs where people participate in sport or recreational physical activity



78%



Health or fitness centre



Sport club 4%

*Do not know= 1%



Socio-cultural club that includes sport 3%



Other

7%

Level of engagement in voluntary work that supports sport and physical activity





3.

THE SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY SECTOR AND ITS LABOUR MARKET



This section presents analysis from the official statistics collated at both national and European level through National Statistics Offices (NSO) and Eurostat. For the purpose of the fact sheet, data are provided for two different years to underline tendencies. These years can be different depending on the topic as we have not always been able to collate the same level of information/statistics for each year.

The collection of data has been a challenge and this analysis presents the best information available about the national sport labour market from the official statistics but is not necessarily the exact reality. Further discussion on the statistics can be found in the European report of the project.

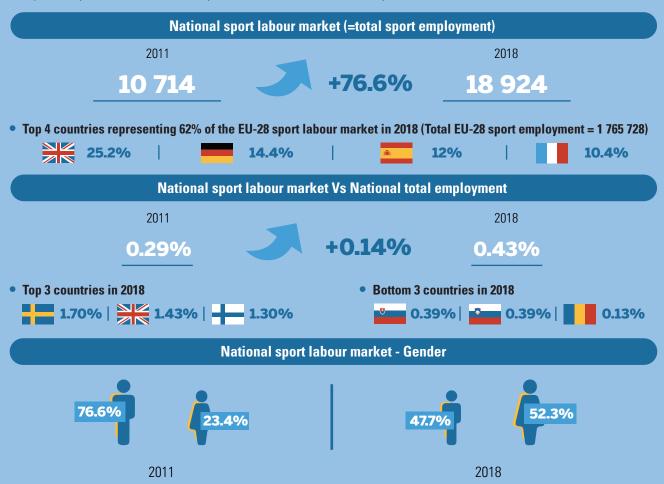
Scope: the widest sport and physical activity sector defined by the Council of Europe (2001) as "all forms of physical activity which, through casual or organised participation, aim at expressing or improving physical fitness and mental well-being, forming social relationships or obtaining results in competition at all levels". In this fact sheet we are using the term "sport sector" having the meaning of the broad sector of "sport and physical activity".

3.1 SIZE AND CHARACTERISTICS OF THE NATIONAL SPORT LABOUR MARKET

Sources: Eurostat and National Statistics Offices

To summarise our statistical definition for the sport labour market, the work carried out in collaboration with National Statistics Offices (NSO) and Eurostat was to collate available statistics on the number of:

- Persons having a sport-specific occupation (ISCO 342*) in an organisation whose main business is the provision of sport (NACE 93.1**), e.g. professional athletes, coaches, instructors in a sport club
- Persons having a non-sport specific occupation (Other ISCO codes) in an organisation whose main business is the provision of sport (NACE 93.1), e.g.
 managers, receptionists in a sport federation
- Persons having a sport-specific occupation (ISCO 342) in an organisation whose main business is not the provision of sport (Other NACE codes), e.g. a fitness instructor working in a hotel
- * ISCO "The international standard classification of occupations". ISCO divides jobs into 10 major groups of occupations and sport specific occupations are listed under ISCO3 Technicians and associate professionals and more precisely under the sub-group ISCO 342 Sport and Fitness Workers (3421 Athletes and Sports Players; 3422 Sports Coaches, Instructors and Officials; 3423 Fitness and Recreation Instructors and Programme Leaders).
- ** NACE "Statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community". NACE is basically a four-digit classification providing the framework for collecting and presenting a large range of reliable and comparable statistical data according to economic activity. The codes under NACE 93.1 (Sport activities) define the organisations whose main business is the provision of sport (93.11 Operation of sports facilities; 93.12 Activities of sport clubs; 93.13 Fitness facilities; 93.19 Other sports activities).



National sport labour market - Type of employment

National sport labour market - Type of contract



3.2 FOCUS ON SPORT SPECIFIC OCCUPATIONS (ISCO 342)

(ISCO 3421 - Athletes and Sports Players; ISCO 3422 - Sports Coaches, Instructors and Officials; ISCO 3423 - Fitness and Recreation Instructors and Programme Leaders)

Total number of people having a sport specific occupation (ISCO 342)



• Top 3 of the other NACE codes where sport specific occupations are engaged in 2016

30.2%						
	23.3%		16%			
	NACE 68.2: Renting and operating of own or leased real estate	NACE 85.5: Other education including sports and recreation education	NACE 96.0: Other personal service activities			

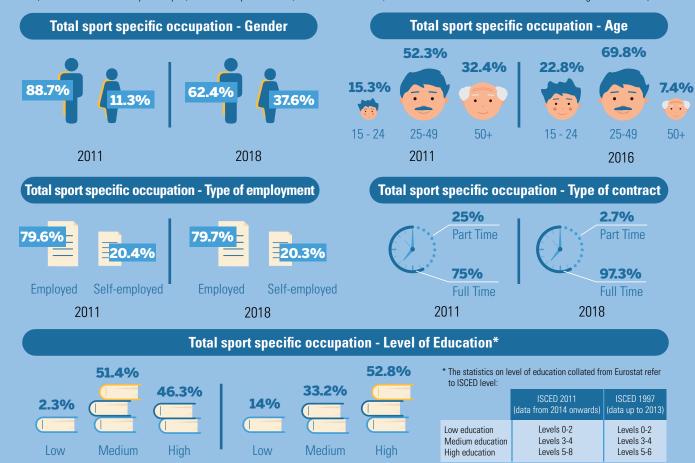
Variance from 2011 to 2016

11	Athletes and Sports Players ISCO 3421	+16.3%	11	Athletes and Sports Players ISCO 3421	16.4%
	Sports Coaches, Instructors and Officials ISCO 3422	+92.5%	P	Sports Coaches, Instructors and Officials ISCO 3422	47.8%
$\boldsymbol{\vdash}$	Fitness and Recreation Instructors & Programme Leaders - ISCO 3423	+241.5%	\mapsto	Fitness and Recreation Instructors and Programme Leaders - ISCO 3423	35.8%

Proportion of sport occupation in 2016

CHARACTERISTICS OF PEOPLE HAVING A SPORT SPECIFIC OCCUPATION - ISCO 342

(ISCO 3421 - Athletes and Sports Players; ISCO 3422 - Sports Coaches, Instructors and Officials; ISCO 3423 - Fitness and Recreation Instructors and Programme Leaders)



3.3 FOCUS ON SPORT ORGANISATIONS (NACE 93.1)

2011

NACE 93.1 (Sport activities) includes all organisations whose main business is the provision of sport (93.11 Operation of sports facilities; 93.12 Activities of sport clubs; 93.13 Fitness facilities; 93.19 Other sports activities)

2018

Total number of people working in a sport organisation (NACE 93.1)



Occupations engaged within sport organisations (NACE 93.1) - 2016

	ISCO 1 – Managers (e.g. directors, CEO)	2.1%	××	ISCO 6 - Skilled agricultural and fishery workers (e.g. animal producers, market gardeners)	0%
圓	ISCO 2 — Professionals (Health professionals, communication professionals, journalists, lawyers)	2.6%		ISCO 7 - Craft and related trades workers (e.g. building workers, painters, cleaners, bicycle repairers)	1.3%
	ISCO 3 - Technicians and associate professionals (incl. sport and fitness workers)	65.1%	'=	ISCO 8 - Plant and machine operators and assemblers (e.g. car, van, bus drivers, machine operators)	0%
	ISCO 4 - Clerical Support Workers (e.g. secretaries, receptions, bookkeepers)	8.4%	j	ISCO 9 - Elementary occupations (e.g. office cleaners, labourers, deliverers)	5.6%
2	ISCO 5 - Service and sales workers (e.g. conductors, cooks, waiters, lifeguards, sales workers)	15%			

4

SKILLS NEEDS AND TENDENCIES FOR THE SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY SECTOR

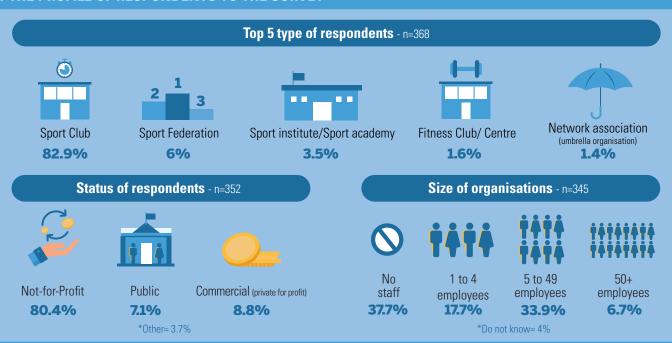


This section presents the main national results and key information from the first ever European Employer Skills Survey for the sport and physical activity sector. The goal was to consult the widest variety of employers to collate data on realities and difficulties to recruit and retain staff and volunteers and to identify the skill needs and future priorities for the sector.

The online survey was a great success with a total of **3,812 valid responses** collated from sport employers across the whole European Union and **368 responses** from your country.

<u>Important</u>: the analysis provides an elaboration of all responses collated through the survey and so should be taken into consideration carefully as it is not necessary the exact reality and the exact picture of the whole sector.

4.1 THE PROFILE OF RESPONDENTS TO THE SURVEY



4.2 EMPLOYMENT AND PRIORITY SKILLS FOR DEVELOPMENT

A positive forecast for the sector workforce

 Compared to 12 months ago, the number of employees in respondents' organisation has: n=329

Increased Remained the same Decreased

30.1%

*Do not know= 5.8%

= 59.9%

 Over the next 2 years, respondents think that the workforce of their organisation will: n=337

Increase Remain the same Decrease

31.2% = 52.8%

*Do not know= 13.3%

Occupations engaged in respondents' organisation - n=338

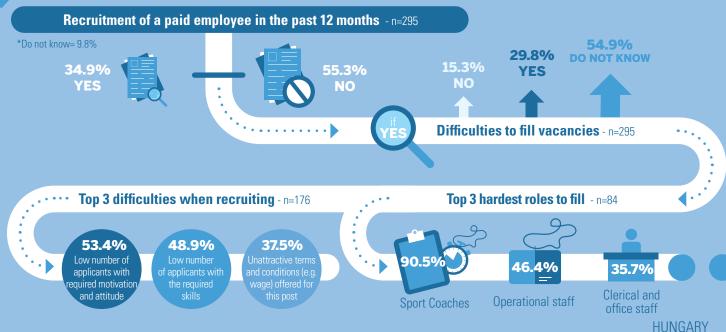
4.2%

1	Sport coaches	88.5%
2	Clerical and Office staff	60.9%
3	Operational staff	55.3%
4	Senior Management staff	50.9%
5	Middle Management staff	50.3%

11	Athletes and Players	49.4%
	Sport officials	32.3%
4	Outdoor activity leaders and animators	26.6%
H	Fitness Instructors / Personal Trainers	22.8%
		Sport officials Outdoor activity leaders and animators Fitness Instructors /

2.7%

Skills and attributes 5 most important skills and attributes 5 weakest skills and attributes 1. Sport specific knowledge and skills 1. Problem-solving skills 2. Clearly communicate instructions 2. Sport specific knowledge and skills 3. Plan coaching sessions and programmes Information/Communication Technology (ICT) skills 4. Ability to work in compliance with codes of practice/ethics Evaluate performance and provide feedback Demonstrate a duty of care to the athlete/ participant 5. Ability to work with children **Sport coaches** 1. Problem-solving skills Ensure health and safety of participants 2. Ability to work in compliance with codes of practice/ethics 2. Communicating effectively with participants 3. Clearly communicate instructions 3. Information/Communication Technology (ICT) skills 4. Ability to work with children 4. Provide appropriate feedback **Outdoor activity** 5. Problem-solving skills 5. Sport/activity specific technical knowledge and skills **leaders & animators** 1. Exercise science knowledge (anatomy / physiology) 1. Information/Communication Technology (ICT) skills 2. Ensure health and safety of participants 2. Motivational skills Communicating effectively with participants 3. Ability to work with older adults **Fitness instructors/** Ability to work in compliance with codes of practice/ethics 4. Designing sessions and programmes personal trainers 5. Ability to work with children Designing sessions and programmes 1. Uphold integrity and fair play 1. Managing conflict 2. Apply the rules and laws of the sport 2. Problem-solving skills 3. Decision-making skills 3. Information/Communication Technology (ICT) skills 4. Problem-solving skills 4. Decision-making skills **Sport Officials** 5. Managing conflict 5. Apply the rules and laws of the sport (e.g. referees, judges) Problem-solving skills 1. Facilitating innovation Leadership skills Organisational and planning skills Ability to work in compliance with codes of practice/ethics 3. Business development skills 4. Strategic thinking Team working Senior and middle Leadership skills 5. Knowledge of external policy issues facing sport management staff Technical skills and knowledge required for their role 1. Problem-solving skills Ability to work in compliance with codes of practice/ethics 2. Organisational and work planning skills 3. Use of technology, equipment and tools 3. Technical skills and knowledge required for their role 4. Team working skills 4. Communication skills 5. Problem-solving skills **Operational staff** 5. Team working skills 1. Administration skills 1. Problem-solving skills 2. Understanding written documents and writing clearly 2. Communication skills 3. Information/Communication Technology (ICT) skills 3. Ability to work in compliance with codes of practice/ethics **Clerical and office** 4. Technical skills and knowledge required for their role 4. Technical skills and knowledge required for their role staff / receptionists 5. Use of technology, equipment and tools 5. Customer service skills 4.3 RECRUITMENT REALITIES AND CHALLENGES



Difficulties retaining staff - n=292







• Hardest roles to retain (top 3) - n=66







• Top 5 difficulties expressed for retaining staff - n=65











Better pay by other organisations

other job roles

Lack of commitment to the job

progression/pathways

4.5 ENGAGEMENT OF VOLUNTEERS

Engagement of volunteers in a typical year - n=341

80.4%

Organisations engaging volunteers



11.4%

Organisations not engaging volunteers

Expectations of volunteers and paid staff

Do organisations have same expectations of volunteers and paid staff in the following roles?

Sport officials

81.8% Yes 18.2% No Outdoor activity leaders and animators
 Sports Coaches

27.3% No

69.4% Yes

Clerical and office staff / receptionists

70.6% Yes 29.4% No Operational staff

72.2% Yes

64.2% Yes 35.8% No Senior and middle management staff

64% Yes 36% No

Problems in engaging volunteers and for which occupations

Any particular problem engaging volunteers

Top 3 occupations where there are problems engaging volunteers

71.6% 19.5% 8.9% No

Clerical & Office Staff

53.8%





30.6% No

KEY ISSUES AND CHALLENGES FOR THE SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY SECTOR - n=280



 Expectations and priorities from national governments on sport organisations are increasing



73.9%



 Sport organisations have become more professional in recent years



57.1%

 The sector is changing and evolving, as a result the skills needed by those working in the sector will change too

It is difficult to find and recruit

people with the right skills to



82.5%



5.4%

 In the future there will be a demand for a better qualified workforce operating in sport organisations



58.6%



17.5%

 It is difficult to find and recruit people with the right skills to work as paid staff



63.6%

work as volunteers



62.9%



20.7%

 It is important that staff have access to ongoing training to keep their skills up to date



88.6%



4.6%

 New training courses are required to meet the training needs of sport organisations



76.8%



11.4%

26.1%

9.3%

 Universities/ training providers should work more closely with sport organisations



71.8%



10.7%

 It is difficult to progress from a technical role (e.g. as a coach or instructor) to a management position



54.3%



 The workforce of paid staff and volunteers in the sport and physical activity sector needs to be inclusive (reflecting gender, disability and minorities in society



38.6%



38.6%

Staff would benefit from learning experiences in other countries



74.3%



7.9%

The missing percentages stand for the answer "I do not know" present in the initial survey. Respondents indicate their agreement/disagreement with the above statements.



THE PROJECT

The aim of the ESSA-Sport project, funded by the European Commission under the Erasmus+ programme, was to establish a European Sector Skills Alliance covering the full breadth of the sport and physical activity sector across the EU.

The 3-year project, which concluded in October 2019, aimed to create a debate within the sector on the key issues of skills and workforce development which are central to helping the sector grow, to equip those working or volunteering with the right skills and to enable the sector to fulfil its potential as a social, health and economic driver.

The overall ambition was to create an evidential basis for change and improvement, to create a major consultation on skills and to build a lasting consultation network at national and EU level to take forward the conclusions and recommendations made in national and EU Reports.

The consortium, composed of 20 national coordinators and 5 European networks, is proud to have generated new knowledge and statistics included within this National Fact Sheet.

Further information on the identified skill needs and future priorities for the sector can be found in the detailed European Report as well as National Reports.



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