By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people.

**WORKING-AGE YOUNG PEOPLE UNEMPLOYED**

- **1991:** 67 million 15-24 year olds, 9%
- **2020:** 67 million 15-24 year olds, 14%

Worldwide, the youth unemployment rate is more than three times higher than the adult rate.

Typically, youth unemployment is 7-10% above adult unemployment rates.

This differential has grown over the last three decades and especially since the global financial crisis in 2008.

**GENDER AND YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT**

Young women are more likely to be unemployed than young men.

Worldwide, the difference is typically 1-1.5% (1991 to 2020).

Differences in male and female unemployment rates are especially marked in Arab states, North Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and in Eastern Europe, and Central and West Asia.

**YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT WORLDWIDE**

There are big differences in countries’ youth unemployment rates:

- In middle-income countries, youth unemployment has been rising steadily over the past 30 years.
- The greatest increase is in upper middle-income countries.
- In high-income countries, youth unemployment has declined over the past 30 years, but there was a huge spike in 2009-2013.

Why the big gender differences between countries?

Why the big rise in youth unemployment since 2008?

Will we meet UN Goal 8.5 for young people by 2030?

**Global Youth Unemployment: History, Governance and Policy**, by Ross Fergusson and Nicola Yeates has answers to these and many other questions.

This infographic should be cited as Ross Fergusson and Nicola Yeates (2021) ‘Global youth unemployment in numbers – a global perspective’, Milton Keynes: The Open University.