

## Raising school completion rates and providing high-quality professional training in Latvia (Investing in Youth: Latvia)

Education in Latvia has undergone profound changes over the last decades in the context of a declining youth population. Dropout rates have fallen but remain particularly high for young boys and in vocational education. A better sharing of information between schools, municipalities and employment services would be needed to further reduce early school-leaving. Reinforcing career guidance could help by motivating at-risk youth for professional pathways early on. The VET system remains mostly school-based and Latvia would benefit from the development of a system of company-based apprenticeships. Extracurricular activities, which are a tradition and strength of the educational system, should be maintained and further encouraged.

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