

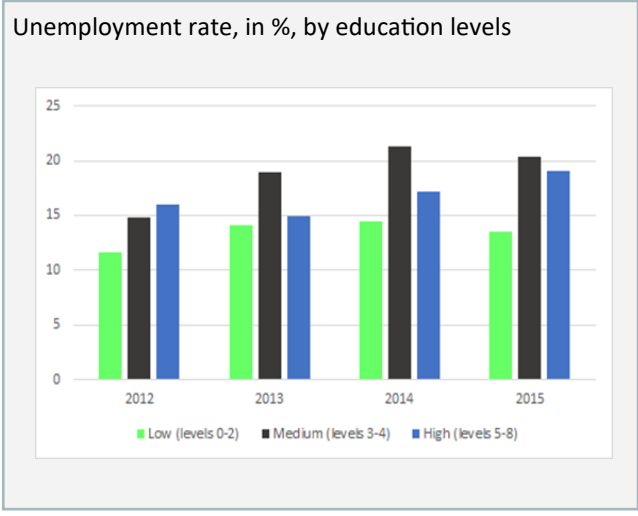
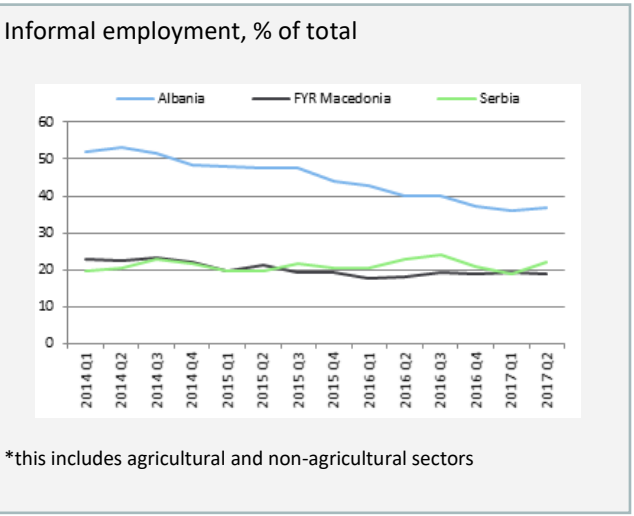
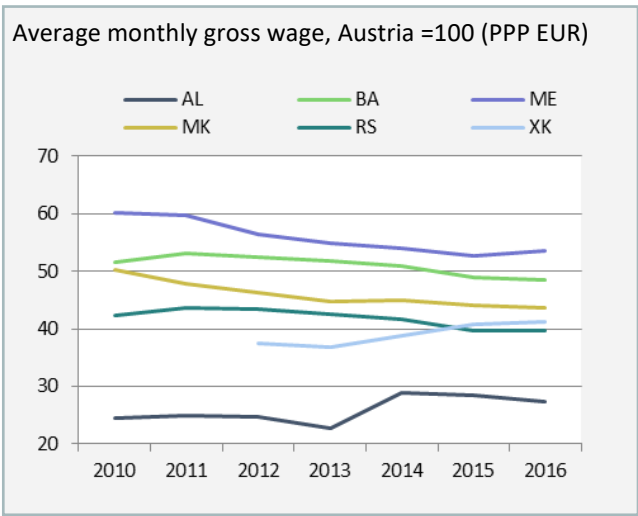
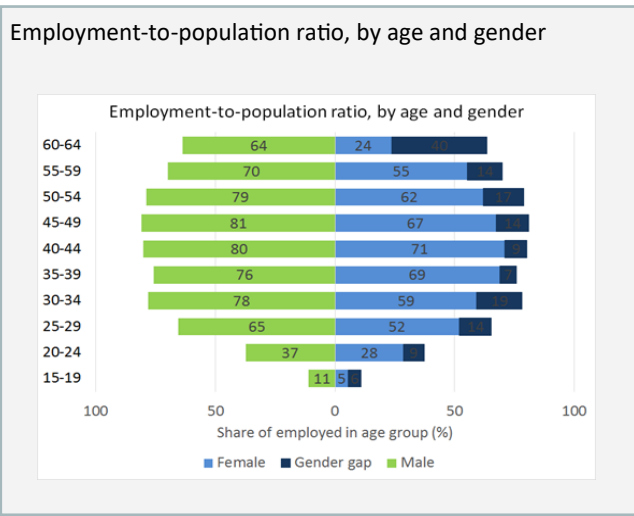
ALBANIA

April 2018

In recent years, economic growth in Albania spurred substantial increases in employment; almost 40,000 net new jobs were created between 2016 and 2017, out of which only 3,900 new jobs were for women. The employment rate increased from 50 percent in 2013 to 57 percent in 2017 (second quarter), low by European standards but the highest rate in the Western Balkans. The increase in the employment rate reflected an increase in labor force participation, especially among women. Unemployment rates had fallen to 14 percent in 2017. Challenges remain, however. First, the group of jobless youth who are neither employed/active nor in school (NEETs) make up 27 percent of Albanians aged 15–24, the highest level in the Balkans after Kosovo and more than twice the European Union average of 12 percent. Second, Albania has the lowest wage level, the highest informality rate (although decreasing), and high levels of self-employment in the region. Third, the employment rate of males remains about 14 percentage points higher than that of females. Finally, migration abroad has become increasingly common. The stock of migrants increased by more than three times in Albania: from 0.2 million in 1990 to 1.05 million in 2017, the highest in the Western Balkans after Bosnia and Herzegovina.

EMPLOYMENT GROWTH				Period
	Total	%		
Number of new jobs	39,500	3.4		Q2 2016 - Q2 2017
Among women	3,900	0.8		Q2 2016 - Q2 2017
Among youth	11,200	13.4		Q2 2016 - Q2 2017
Among low skilled	12,700	2.4		Q2 2016 - Q2 2017
KEY LABOR MARKET INDICATORS				
	Total	Male	Female	Period
Labor force participation (15-64 years)	66.8	75.7	57.7	Q2 2017
Employment rate (15-64 years)	57.3	64.1	50.3	Q2 2017
Unemployment rate (15+ years)	13.9	14.9	12.5	Q2 2017
Long term unemployment (15+ years)	9.6	10.0	9.2	Q2 2017
Youth unemployment (15-24 years)	32.4	35.1	27.8	Q2 2017
NEETs (15-24 years)	27.0	26.8	27.1	2016
WAGES				
	Total	Period		
Average monthly gross wages, EUR	450	Q2 2017		
Average monthly gross wages, EUR (PPP)	774	2016		
Change % EUR (PPP)	-4.1	2015-2016		





AL: Albania BA: Bosnia & Herzegovina ME: Montenegro MK: FYR Macedonia RS: Serbia XK: Kosovo WB: Western Balkans

Data and SEE Jobs Gateway

This country flyer is based on data presented in the Western Balkans Labor Market Trends 2018 report, a collaboration between the World Bank and the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (wiiw). The data has been collected directly from national statistical offices of the six Western Balkan countries, with the objective of harmonizing data as much as possible across countries. The database covers a unique and detailed set of labor market indicators based on Labor Force Survey (LFS) data for the Western Balkan countries. The dataset is harmonized across indicators, age groups and educational attainment. Overall, the database covers four parts: (i) Key economic indicators, (ii) Labor market indicators, (iii) Labor market data on a sub-national level and (iv) Data on earnings and unit labor costs. All data and more is available at the South-East Europe Jobs Gateway Database at <http://seejobsgateway.net>.

The SEE Jobs Gateway is a Community of Practice for labor market policies in the Western Balkans, bringing together policy makers, academics and experts from international organizations. Most members are from or have an interest in the Western Balkans, comprising of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, FRY Macedonia, Kosovo, Montenegro and Serbia.

