

6% of young Russians do not have a regular job

Rossiyskaya Gazeta newspaper (Russia) 16.08.2010

SUMMARY:

There is a massive number of unemployed young people in the world. Almost 81 million people aged 15 to 24 - about 13% of the world's potential labor force - have no job.

That figure comes from the International Labour Organization (ILO). However, at 16%, the proportion of unemployed young people in Russia is higher than the global average. According to the ILO, the level of unemployment among young people around the world reached 11.9% in 2007, before the start of the world financial crisis. It grew by 1.1 million people in 2007-2008 and by 6.7 million people in 2008-2009. As a result, the number of young unemployed in the world increased by 7.8 million in two years, the highest figure since recordings began.

The number of young people without jobs is not expected to increase next year. Countries in Central and South Eastern Europe (not EU members) and CIS member states are expected to see the greatest decline in youth unemployment. In developed countries and EU members a drop of 0.9 percentage points compared with the previous year is expected.

As for Russia, the figures there are higher than the international average. According to the Federal Service for State Statistics, the unemployment rate among people aged 15 to 24 stands at 16%, although it is 14.7% among the urban population and 18.8% among the rural population. Thus, there are 2.9 times more young people out of work than there are jobless people aged 30 to 49, or 3.4 times more in cities and 2 times more in rural areas. At the same time, the overall number of officially unemployed people has dropped to 1,763,000 people.

Many young Russians cannot find a job because, on the one hand, an employer wants to have not just young, active and educated specialists, but those who also have experience, something young people often lack. On the other hand, young people themselves often want too much of

their future job. For example, students and graduates from big cities, as a rule, hope to find a prestigious job with a high salary immediately.

According to research conducted by the web portal Superjob, 59% of Russian companies are ready to employ graduates of higher educational institutions without experience if they are willing to learn. In most cases they are hired for roles such as sales manager, call-center staff, accounting assistant, secretary, customer service manager, assistant general manager, and courier jobs.

At the same time, almost one-third of Russian companies (32%) do not want to employ inexperienced specialists. Their main reasons are lack of time, resources, and desire needed to train young specialists.