Austria 2024 Digital Decade Country Report

Austria's performance towards the Digital Decade targets and objectives.

In 2023, Austria made good progress in the area of connectivity infrastructure, notably in Very High-Capacity Network (VHCN) coverage. However, some **challenges persist** in high quality gigabit networks coverage (notably Fibre to the Premises (FTTP)) and in the adoption of data analytics. Austria, instead, has **advanced well** in the adoption of cloud technologies.

2030 DIGITAL DECADE

REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE DIGITAL DECADE 2024

Austria Country Report

Two main strengths or areas of progress

Connectivity infrastructure

67.6% of households are covered by VHCN coverage. While this data stands below the EU average of 78.8%, there was a notable progress in 2023 (+23.3%).

Uptake of cloud by enterprises

Although still only 35.6% have adopted cloud technologies, below the EU average of 38.9%, Austria made a good progress in this area (+11.2%), exceeding the EU growth rate.

Two main weaknesses or areas to improve
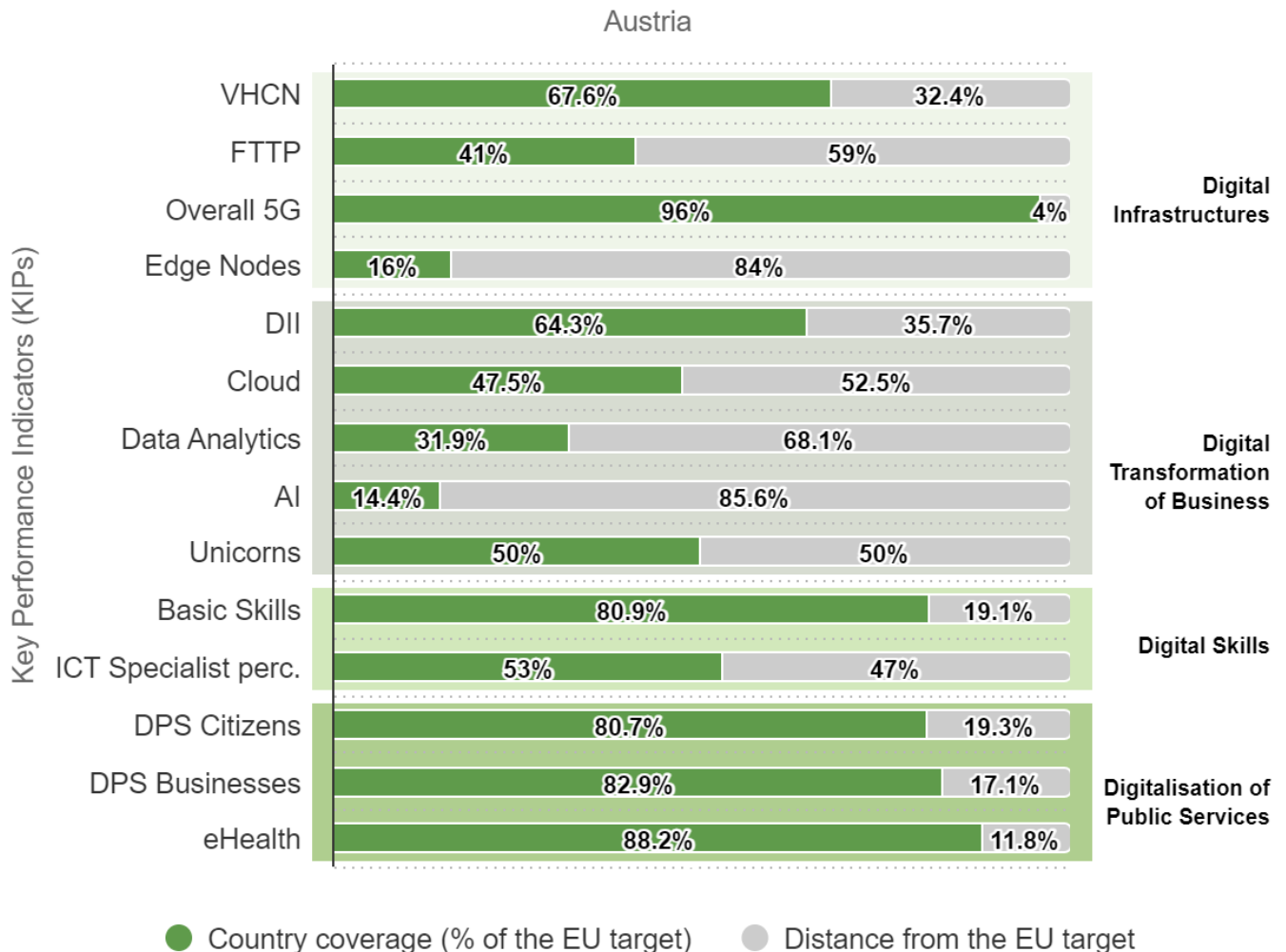
Connectivity infrastructure

Only 41% of Austria's households are covered by Fibre to the Premises (FTTP), which remains below the EU average of 64%, despite progress in 2023 (+ 11.9%).

Adoption of advanced digital technologies by enterprises

57.9% of enterprises have at least a basic level of digital intensity, in line with the EU average of 57.7%. However, only 23.9% of enterprises have adopted data analytics in 2023, which stands significantly below the EU average of 33.2%.

Austria's Key Performance Indicators

Observed and forecasted Key Performance Indicators as percentage of the EU target

Austria

KPI	Country coverage (% of the EU target)	Distance from the EU target	Category
VHCN	67.6%	32.4%	Digital Infrastructures
FTTP	41%	59%	
Overall 5G	96%	4%	
Edge Nodes	16%	84%	
DII	64.3%	35.7%	Digital Transformation of Business
Cloud	47.5%	52.5%	
Data Analytics	31.9%	68.1%	
AI	14.4%	85.6%	
Unicorns	50%	50%	
Basic Skills	80.9%	19.1%	Digital Skills
ICT Specialist perc.	53%	47%	
DPS Citizens	80.7%	19.3%	Digitalisation of Public Services
DPS Businesses	82.9%	17.1%	
eHealth	88.2%	11.8%	

Key Performance Indicators (KIPs)

● Country coverage (% of the EU target)   ● Distance from the EU target

* 2023: last observed data (DESI 2024, SDDR24); 2024-2030: forecast as per Member States' trajectories

A fully interactive graph is available on the web page.

Austria's Digital Decade strategic roadmap

The Austrian roadmap demonstrates that the country plans a **significant effort** to achieve the Digital Decade objectives and targets. It sets targets for 4 out of 14 key performance indicators (KPIs) and, in most of the cases, targets are aligned with the EU 2030 ambitions. To achieve its digital transformation, Austria plans to allocate a total budget (excluding private investments) estimated at **EUR 3.4 billion (0.7% GDP)**.

Digital rights and principles

The Special Eurobarometer 'Digital Decade 2024' reveals that 55% of Austrians believe the EU protects their digital rights (+8% compared to 2023, and above the EU average of 45%). Confidence in all relevant areas such as freedom of assembly online (65%), digital public services (65%) and privacy friendly technologies (67%), is higher than the EU average. However, significant concerns include control over personal data (38%) and the online safety for children (47%). These findings underscore the **need to reinforce digital rights at national level**.

Country-Specific Recommendations

Austria must improve its performance towards the Digital Decade targets and objectives, to foster competitiveness, resilience, sovereignty, and promote European values and climate action.

Connectivity infrastructure

Take appropriate actions to maintain the current FTTP roll-out pace and monitor the metrics, including rural coverage, to reach full coverage by 2030.

ICT specialists

Design new targeted measures to increase drastically the number of ICT specialists, including by upskilling/reskilling the labour force and bridging the gender gap.

Adoption of advanced technologies by enterprises

Design specific measures to increase the take-up of advanced technologies by enterprises, especially for data analytics techniques and cloud.

For more information and the full list of recommendations, please consult the report (https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/digital-decade-2024-country-reports).

More on the Digital Decade Report 2024

Digital Decade 2024 report: Country fact pages (https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/factpages/digital-decade-2024-report-country-fact-pages)

Check out the progress of all Member States and extracts of country-specific recommendations.