Data has become a key asset for the economy and our societies and the need to make sense of ‘big data’ is leading to innovations in technology.

Big data refers to large amounts of data produced very quickly by a high number of diverse sources. Data can either be created by people or generated by machines, such as sensors gathering climate information, satellite imagery, digital pictures and videos, purchase transaction records, GPS signals, and more. It covers many sectors, from healthcare to transport to energy.

Generating value at the different stages of the data value chain will be at the centre of the future knowledge economy. Good use of data can also bring opportunities to more traditional sectors such as transport, health or manufacturing. Improved analytics and processing of data, especially of big data, will make it possible to:

- transform Europe’s service industries by generating a wide range of innovative information products and services;
- increase the productivity of all sectors of the economy through improved business intelligence;
- address more efficiently many of the challenges that face our societies;
- improve research and speed up innovation;
- achieve cost reductions through more personalised services;
• increase efficiency in the public sector.

Follow the latest progress and learn more about getting involved.

Follow the Commission's work on data @DataEcoEU (https://twitter.com/dataecoeu?lang=en)

Latest News

PRESS RELEASE | 03 October 2023
Commission recommends carrying out risk assessments on four critical technology areas: advanced semiconductors, artificial intelligence, quantum, biotechnologies
The Commission has adopted a Recommendation on critical technology areas for the EU’s economic security, for further risk assessment with Member States.

PRESS RELEASE | 27 September 2023

The first report on the State of the Digital Decade, published earlier this week, provides a comprehensive look at progress towards achieving the digital transformation to empower a more digitally sovereign, resilient, and competitive EU.

PRESS RELEASE | 25 September 2023

The Data Governance Act entered into application on 24 September 2023. The Regulation creates a new European way of data governance based on increasing trust in data sharing.

PRESS RELEASE | 30 June 2023

Today, the Commission adopted the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to allow for measuring progress made in achieving the 2030 Digital Decade targets, and issued guidance on how Member States should structure their national roadmaps, to reach the digital targets.

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Big Picture


The strategy for data focuses on putting people first in developing technology, and defending and promoting European values and rights in the digital world.

Dig deeper

For a data-informed public sector: Big Data Test Infrastructure
The Commission’s Big Data Test Infrastructure (BDTI) supports public administrations to experiment with public sector data for free in the cloud.


The portfolio of data projects aims for more effective and efficient management of big data.

**See Also**


The Data Act is a key measure for making more data available for use in line with EU rules and values.


The EU wants to ensure a free flow of data in Europe, allowing companies and public administrations to store and process non-personal data wherever they choose.


A European Data Governance Act, which is fully in line with EU values and principles, will bring significant benefits to EU citizens and companies.

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