Digital skills and jobs

The European Commission is determined to tackle the digital skills gap and promote projects and strategies to improve the level of digital skills in Europe.

All Europeans need digital skills to study, work, communicate, access online public services and find trustworthy information. However, many Europeans do not have adequate digital skills. The Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI) shows that 4 out of 10 adults and every third person who works in Europe lack basic digital skills. There is also low representation of women in tech-related professions and studies, with only 1 in 6 ICT specialists and 1 in 3 science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) graduates being women.

The European Commission has set targets in the European skills agenda and the digital education action plan to ensure that 70% of adults have basic digital skills by 2025. These initiatives aim to reduce the level of 13-14 year-olds who underperform in computing and digital literacy from 30% (2019) to 15% in 2030.

(https://ec.europa.eu/inea/en/connecting-europe-facility). It offers information and resources on digital skills, as well as training and funding opportunities.

**Background**

Over 70% of businesses have said that the lack of staff with adequate digital skills is an obstacle to investment. Europe also faces a shortage of digital experts who can develop cutting-edge technologies for the benefit of all citizens.

A strong digital economy powered by Europeans with digital skills is vital for innovation, growth, jobs, and European competitiveness. The spread of digital technologies is having a massive impact on the labour market and the type of skills needed in the economy and in society. Member States, business, training providers, the European Commission and other organisations need to work together to tackle the digital skills gap.

To follow the development of the digital transition and the digital skills gap the Commission publishes DESI annually. It tracks Member States’ digital performance in different areas to monitor progress and pinpoint where further efforts are necessary.

Digital economy and society index (DESI)
European Skills Agenda
Digital Education Action Plan
Follow the latest progress and learn more about getting involved.

Follow the Commission's work on digital skills @DigitalSkillsEU
(https://twitter.com/digitalskillseu?lang=en)

**Latest News**

EU to invest more than €760 million in digital transition and cybersecurity

The Commission has adopted this week the amendment of the Digital Europe work programmes for 2024, assigning €762.7 million in funding for digital solutions to benefit citizens, public administrations, and businesses.

DIGIBYTE | 14 December 2023
Over €760 million investment from the Digital Europe Programme for Europe’s digital transition and cybersecurity
The European Commission has adopted the amendment of the Digital Europe Programme Work Programmes 2023-2024

PRESS RELEASE | 24 November 2023
EU and Canada launch Digital Partnership to strengthen strategic cooperation

Today, the EU and Canada strengthened their relationship as strategic and like-minded partners in the digital field.

PRESS RELEASE | 21 November 2023
Commission opens calls to invest €42 million in digital skills

The European Commission has opened a new set of calls for proposals under the 2023-2024 Work Programmes of the Digital Europe Programme with a focus on advanced digital skills.

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Big Picture


The EU has developed a range of policies and initiatives to increase digital skills in both the workforce and consumers.

Dig deeper

The European Commission is aiming to modernise education and training by funding research and innovation and promoting digital technologies used for learning.


The European Commission supports a number of initiatives to promote excellence in digital skills across different organisations, sectors and countries.

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