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.

The European Digital Skills and Jobs Platform is a new initiative launched under the Connecting Europe Facility Programme. 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.

Access the Digital Skills and Jobs Platform
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

Latest News

Commission kick-starts work on the European Year of Skills

Following the announcement by President Ursula von der Leyen in her 2022 State of the Union address, the Commission has adopted its proposal to make 2023 the European Year of Skills.

PRESS RELEASE | 11 October 2022
Commission steps up action to tackle disinformation and promote digital literacy among young people

The Commission has published Guidelines for teachers and educators in primary and secondary
schools, on how to address disinformation and promote digital literacy in their classrooms.

PRESS RELEASE | 06 October 2022
10th anniversary of EU Code Week: bringing coding to schools and beyond

This year, EU Code Week is celebrating its ten-year anniversary and will take place from 8 to 23 October 2022

DIGIBYTE | 05 October 2022
Anniversary edition of EU Code Week marks 10 years of bringing coding to classrooms across Europe and beyond

The tenth anniversary edition of EU Code Week will be launched with a kick-off on 6 October 2022. With a wide range of activities organised to bring coding into the classroom, this year’s Code Week will take place from 8 to 23 October 2022.

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

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

Digital skills initiatives

The Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition and other initiatives promote excellence in digital skills across different organisations, areas and countries.

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