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 Code Week 2023 kicks off to encourage young people to acquire coding and digital skills**

The EU Code Week kicks off on Saturday 7 October this year. The aim of the Code Week initiative is to encourage young people take up coding and pursue a career in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields.

PRESS RELEASE | 27 September 2023

**First report on the State of the Digital Decade calls for collective action to shape the digital transition**
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 | 30 June 2023
2030 Digital Decade: Commission adopts indicators to monitor Europe's digital transformation and issues guidance to Member States

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.

PRESS RELEASE | 15 June 2023
Digital Assembly 2023 kicks off focusing on a digital, open and secure Europe

The Commission hosted, together with the Swedish Presidency of the Council of the EU, the Digital Assembly 2023 in Stockholm.

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.

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

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