EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Brussels, 16.6.2025
COM(2025) 290 final

ANNEX 17

ANNEX

to the

Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council and the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions

State of the Digital Decade 2025: Keep building the EU's sovereignty and digital future

{SWD(2025) 290 final} - {SWD(2025) 291 final} - {SWD(2025) 292 final} -
{SWD(2025) 293 final} - {SWD(2025) 294 final} - {SWD(2025) 295 final}

European Commission

SHORT COUNTRY REPORTS 2025

Latvia

Executive summary

Latvia can rely on good digitalisation of public services for businesses, and citizens, but lags behind on 5G, fibre-to-the-premises, and very high-capacity networks, while having a high access to health records.

In its national roadmap and roadmap adjustment, Latvia shows a substantial level of ambition in its contribution to the Digital Decade having set 14 national targets, 86% of which are aligned with the EU 2030 targets. The country is following its trajectories moderately well with 50% of them on track (on the basis of the 2024 trajectories defined for 8 KPIs out of 8 analysed). Latvia addressed 84% of the 13 recommendations issued by the Commission in 2024, either by implementing significant policy changes (15%) or making some changes (69%) through new measures.

In 2024, gigabit connectivity and 5G remain below the EU average. Digitalisation of SMEs and the adoption of advanced digital technologies by businesses are a priority of the Latvian recovery and resilience plan. Latvia's overarching Cybersecurity Strategy 2023-2026 continues to guide its overall approach to cybersecurity.

Digital Decade KPI (1)	Latvia				EU		Digital Decade target by 2030	
	DESI 2024 (year 2023)	DESI 2025 (year 2024)	Annual progress	National trajectory 2024 (3)	DESI 2025	Annual progress	LV	EU
Fixed Very High Capacity Network (VHCN) coverage	68.0%	68.1%	0.2%	74.0%	82.5%	4.9%	100.0%	100%
Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) coverage	61.9%	61.1%	-1.2%	74.0%	69.2%	8.4%	100.0%	-
Overall 5G coverage	53.1%	71.1%	33.9%	55.5%	94.3%	5.9%	70.0%	100%
Edge Nodes (estimate)	5	10	100.0%	0	2257	90.5%	51	10000
SMEs with at least a basic level of digital intensity (2)	-	59.2%	6.4%	-	72.9%	2.8%	90.0%	90%
Cloud	29.0%	-	-	-	-	-	75.0%	75%
Artificial Intelligence	4.5%	8.8%	94.9%	13.0%	13.5%	67.2%	75.0%	75%
Data analytics	36.9%	-	-	-	-	-	75.0%	75%
AI or Cloud or Data analytics	48.2%	-	-	-	-	-	-	75%
Unicorns	0	0		-	286	4.4%	2	500
At least basic digital skills	45.3%	-	-	-	-	-	70.0%	80%
ICT specialists	4.4%	4.9%	11.4%	5.4%	5.0%	4.2%	10.0%	~10%
eID scheme notification		Yes						
Digital public services for citizens	88.2	93.5	6.0%	88.0	82.3	3.6%	100.0	100
Digital public services for businesses	87.2	96.3	10.4%	87.0	86.2	0.9%	100.0	100
Access to e-Health records	84.8	85.9	1.2%	80.0	82.7	4.5%	100.0	100

(1) See the methodological note for the description of the indicators and other metrics
(2) DESI 2025 reports the version 4 of the Digital Intensity Index, that is comparable with the DII value from DESI 2023 (referring to year 2022) for the calculation of the annual progress. It is not comparable to the national trajectory that is based on version 3 of the index.
(3) National trajectory value if present in the national roadmap and if the indicator was measured in DESI2025 (year 2024)

According to the special Eurobarometer on 'the Digital Decade' 2025, 75% of Latvian citizens consider that the digitalisation of daily public and private services is making their lives easier. Concerning the action of the public authorities, 86% consider it important to counter and mitigate the issue of fake

news and disinformation online, and regarding competitiveness, 78% consider it important to ensure that European companies can grow and become 'European Champions' able to compete globally.

A competitive, sovereign, and resilient EU based on technological leadership

Latvia's digital infrastructure coverage remains below the EU average, mainly in VHCN, FTTP and 5G, even in the context of a strong year-on-year growth in overall 5G coverage. In broadband uptake, 1 Gbps subscriptions are growing faster than the EU, despite slower growth in 100 Mbps subscriptions and 5G SIM penetration. The country is advancing on deployment of edge nodes and quantum technologies, but lags on cloud, and AI. There has been a surge in cyber-attacks, totalling 418 325 registered complaints in 2024. Despite this, Latvia demonstrates overall preparedness as none of the attacks have had a lasting impact.

Protecting and empowering EU people and society

Latvia's digital skills lagged behind the EU, with only 45.34% of its population having basic digital skills compared to the EU's 55.56%. Despite a noticeable gender gap favouring women and strong collaborative skills, Latvia faces challenges, especially among rural areas and older adults, and remains below the EU in educational attainment-related digital skills. To address these gaps, initiatives like the STARS learning account have been launched. In the ICT sector, Latvia has seen a positive increase in the employment of ICT specialists, especially among women. Despite this, the country's ICT training for businesses lags behind the EU average. Latvia excels in digital public services for both citizens and businesses, surpassing EU growth rates, especially in cross-border services. Latvia's performs strongly on digital public services and access to e-health records compared with the EU average. While strengths are evident, Latvia could benefit from further efforts to close gaps in digital skills, aiming for broader proficiency across different demographic groups.

Leveraging digital transformation for a smart greening

Latvia prioritises the promotion of energy and material efficiency in digital infrastructure, aiming to minimise its environmental impact by creating data centres that will run on 100% renewable energy. In addition, it is focusing on introducing smart digital solutions that in turn will reduce the country's carbon footprint.

National digital decade strategic roadmap

Latvia submitted an adjusted Digital Decade roadmap on 11 February 2025. The adjusted roadmap contains new 43 measures, 2 new targets and 4 revised trajectories. It includes reporting on the consultation of stakeholders but lacks information on how their comments were considered. The updates are clearly aligned with the new Commission's priorities on gigabit connectivity and 5G. The adjusted roadmap addresses a substantial number of roadmap recommendations issued in 2024. All targets are aligned with the EU-level goals for 2030, except for the target for at least basic digital skills, where Latvia is aiming for 70% instead of 80% by 2030. The adjusted roadmap continues to prioritise AI, the digitalisation of public services, and tech uptake. It contains 90 measures, with a budget of EUR 2 287.5 million, including EUR 2 004.8 million from the public budget (equivalent to 4.99% of the country's GDP). It still covers all Digital Decade objectives, such as a human-centred digital space, boosting resilience and security, promoting sovereignty and greening digital technology.

Funding & projects for digital

Latvia allocates 23% of its total recovery and resilience plan to digital (EUR 416 million)[1]. In addition, under cohesion policy, EUR 441million, representing 10% of the country's total cohesion policy funding, is dedicated to advancing Latvia's digital transformation[2].

Latvia is a member of the Alliance for Language Technologies EDIC and of the Local Digital Twins towards the CitiVERSE EDIC. Latvian organisations are indirect and/or associated partners in the Important Project of Common European Interest (IPCEI) on Microelectronics and Communication Technologies (IPCEI-ME/CT) and in the IPCEI on Next Generation Cloud Infrastructure and Services (IPCEI-CIS). Latvia is also a participating state in the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking (JU) and in the Chips JU.

Latvia has not yet presented any measure in the framework of Digital Decade's Best Practice Accelerator[3].

Digital Rights and Principles

According to a support study, Latvia has shown rather limited activity in the **European Declaration on Digital Rights and Principles**, with 34 initiatives overall and 2 new initiatives launched in 2024. Latvia is most active in the area of interactions with algorithms and artificial intelligence systems. Less activity has been identified with regards to putting people at the centre of the digital transformation, connectivity and sustainability. Measures in the area of putting people at the centre of the digital transformation appear to have most impact on the ground, in contrast to those addressing freedom of choice.

Recommendations

- **Digital skills:** Strengthen and continue to implement measures to increase digital skills across all ages with a special emphasis on people living in rural areas and those with lower educational background.
- **Connectivity:** Sustain the ongoing effort and establish new measures to support VHCN, FTTP, and 5G coverage.
- **SMEs**: Sustain and complement activities to improve the digitalisation and uptake of advanced technologies, emphasising the take-up of advanced technologies and give special attention to SMEs.
- **Cybersecurity**: Continue efforts in cybersecurity to address the evolving and increasing threats. Ensure introduction and continuation of implementation of cybersecurity education, especially at undergraduate level.

[1] The share of financial allocations that contribute to digital objectives has been calculated using Annex VII to the Recovery and Resilience Facility Regulation. Last data update: 16 May 2025.
[2] This amount includes all investment specifically aimed at or substantially contributing to digital transformation in the 2021-2027 Cohesion policy programming period. The source funds are the European Regional Development Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, and the Just Transition Fund.
[3] The Best Practice Accelerator (BPA) is a platform that enables Member States to share successful measures and challenges encountered in their efforts to meet their Digital Decade targets and objectives. Best practices are made available to Member States via the BPA Repository and showcased in regular workshops, currently focused on three thematic clusters: Digital Skills, Green IT, and the Uptake of Digital Technologies.

- **E-health:** Ensure that all data types are made available in a timely manner. Offer a mobile application for citizens to access their electronic health records. Connect more private rehabilitation centres to the online access service.