EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Brussels, 16.6.2025
SWD(2025) 294 final

PART 16/27

COMMISSION STAFF WORKING DOCUMENT

Digital Decade 2025 country reports

Accompanying the document

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

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

European Commission

DIGITAL DECADE 2025
COUNTRY REPORTS

Latvia

Latvia

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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.

Latvia

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.
- **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.

[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.

A competitive, sovereign and resilient EU based on technological leadership

Latvia is making significant strides in its semiconductor industry by setting up its national chips competence centre as part of the EU Chips Joint Undertaking. The country aims to make the most of its strengths in photonic integrated circuits, microelectronics, polymer photonics, and quantum devices while investing in quantum computing AI, cybersecurity, Baltic-Nordic cooperation, and digital skills.

The Latvian ICT sector accounted for 6.45% of gross value added in 2022, which is an increase from 6.36% in 2021[4]. R&D personnel accounted for 22.73% of employment in Latvia's ICT sector (up from 26.1% in 2021) making them leader in the EU and is an increase from the previous year measured (26.1% in 2021).

Latvia's digital infrastructure lags behind the EU average in most categories, with significant gaps in VHCN, FTTP, and 5G coverage, particularly in sparsely populated areas. However, Latvia shows strong growth in both overall 5G coverage and 5G coverage in the 3.4–3.8 GHz band.

Latvia's indicator of broadband take up reveal already country with a strong penetration of 5G SIM card and high-speed broadband subscriptions, but varying growth rates on these two measures compared with the EU. For example, Latvia's growth rate in 5G subscriptions significantly outpaces the EU, while its growth rate in 100 Mbps subscriptions high-speed broadband and 5G SIM card penetration lags behind the EU average.

Latvia is making progress in the deployment of edge nodes, quantum technologies, and efforts to improve digitalisation among SMEs. However, the country still lags behind the EU average in some areas, such as the adoption of cloud, AI, and data analytics (combined indicator). In 2024, Latvia deployed 10 edge nodes. The country is also making strides in quantum technologies, with the 'Development of experimental quantum communication infrastructure in Latvia' project making significant progress. Meanwhile, Latvia's digitalisation of SMEs is growing, with a 6.4% increase in the number of SMEs using digital technologies in 2024, although it still lags behind the EU average on this measure. The country has also taken steps to support innovative entrepreneurship, with measures such as the 'Support for the development of innovative entrepreneurship in SMEs' programme, which aims to provide financing for businesses and create new jobs.

Despite having zero unicorns, Latvia has seen an increase in the number of start-ups in recent years, with 512 Latvian start-ups by the end of 2024, and 3 968 employees working for Latvian start-ups. However, the country still lags behind the EU average in terms of cybersecurity, with 54.61% of individuals taking at least one action to protect their data online in the past year, compared with 69.55% in the EU. Latvia has also experienced a significant increase in cyber-attacks, with 418 325 registered complaints in 2024, and a high level of cyber threats.

[4] Most of the indicators mentioned in the country report are explained in the DESI 2025 Methodological Note accompanying the State of the Digital Decade report 2025.

According to the 2025 Eurobarometer[5], 82% of Latvians think that building efficient and secure digital infrastructures and data processing facilities should be a priority for the public authorities.

Building technological leadership: digital infrastructure and technologies

To improve its connectivity Latvia is relying on both market actions and other long-running policy measures set put in its roadmap. Based on current rate of progress, Latvia is falling behind the EU average on connectivity.

Connectivity infrastructure

Latvia's VHCN coverage for all households was 67.98% in 2023 and 68.13% in 2024, both below the EU's coverage rates of 78.64% and 82.49% respectively. The country is lagging behind compared to its national trajectory. The growth rate for total VHCN coverage in Latvia was 0.2% in 2024 compared with 2023, which is lower than the EU's 4.9%. For households in sparsely populated areas, Latvia's coverage was 11.71% in 2023 and 10.43% in 2024, significantly lower than the EU's 55.59% and 61.89% respectively. The year-on-year growth rate for this category was -10.9%, compared to the EU's +11.3%.

Latvia's FTTP coverage for all households was 61.88% in 2023 and 61.11% in 2024, both below the EU's coverage rates of 63.87% and 69.24% respectively. The country is lagging behind compared to its national trajectory. The growth rate for total FTTP coverage in Latvia was -1.2%, which is lower than the EU's 8.4%. The slight decline is due to that the NRA restated coverage for 2023. Despite the slight decline in percentage terms, in absolute numbers coverage has increased by 5 316 homes passed. For households in sparsely populated areas, Latvia's coverage was 11.71% in 2023 and 10.43% in 2024, significantly lower than the EU's 52.55% and 58.78% respectively. The growth rate between 2023 and 2024 for FTTP coverage of households in sparsely populated areas was -10.9%, compared with the EU's 11.9%. The decline in coverage in rural areas can be attributed to the change in NUTS3 regions and is based on data from Latvia's NRA.

Latvia's overall 5G coverage for all households was 53.11% in 2023 and 71.1% in 2024, both below the EU's 5G coverage rates of 89.05% and 94.35% respectively. **The country is on track for 5G coverage according to its national trajectory.** The growth rate for total 5G coverage in Latvia was 33.9% between 2023 and 2024, which is higher than the EU's 6.0%. For households in sparsely populated areas, Latvia's 5G coverage was 0.0% in 2023 and 15.04% in 2024, significantly lower than the EU's 71.1% and 79.57% respectively (the EU therefore saw 11.9% growth on this measure).

Latvia's 5G coverage in the 3.4–3.8 GHz band for all households was 39.0% in 2023 and 52.2% in 2024, both below the EU's coverage rates of 51.06% and 67.72% respectively. The growth rate between 2023 and 2024 for total 5G coverage in this band in Latvia was 33.8%, which is higher than the EU's 32.6%. For households in sparsely populated areas, Latvia's 5G coverage in the 3.4-3.8 GHz band was 0.0% in both 2023 and 2024, significantly lower than the EU's 15.86% and 26.19% respectively.

Latvia's 5G spectrum assignment for pioneer bands was 66.67% in both 2024 and 2025, below the EU's assignment rates of 73.4% and 74.63% respectively. Latvia saw no growth in spectrum assignment between 2024 and 2025, while the EU's growth on this metric was 1.7%. **Latvia's indicators of broadband take-up show a mixed performance compared with the EU average.** In 2023, 70.8% of

[5] Special Eurobarometer 566 on 'the Digital Decade' 2025: https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/news-redirect/883227

fixed broadband subscriptions in Latvia were at speeds of 100 Mbps or higher, surpassing the EU's 65.9%. By 2024, this figure rose to 72.86%, still ahead of the EU's 71.88%. However, Latvia's year-on-year growth rate for this type of subscription between 2023 and 2024 of 2.9% lagged behind the EU's 9.1%. For subscriptions at speeds of 1 Gbps or higher, Latvia started at 4.66% in 2023, below the EU's 18.47%. By 2024, Latvia reached 24.22%, outpacing the EU's 22.25%. Latvia's growth rate of 419.7% for 1-Gbps-or-higher subscriptions significantly outpaced the EU's 20.5%. In terms of 5G SIM cards per head of population, Latvia showed strong performance. In 2023, 29.06% of the population had 5G SIM cards, higher than the EU's 21.7%. This figure rose to 43.21% in 2024, also higher than the EU's 35.56%. However, Latvia's growth rate on this metric between 2023 and 2024 of 48.7% was lower than the EU's 63.9%.

VHCN and FTTP

Latvia has increased its target for VHCN coverage and adjusted its target trajectory accordingly. It has also introduced an FTTP target and trajectory, both of which are aligned with the EU target of 100% FTTP coverage by 2030. The country is on track according to its target national trajectory. Given the latest numbers and the pace of roll-out, both targets (for VHCN coverage and FTTP coverage) seem to be out of reach for Latvia without significant efforts. These targets seem all the more unlikely to be met given that Latvia's roadmap adjustment did not present any new measures.

Latvia's NRA reports that there is a competitive and affordable market for consumers for both VHCN and FTTP.

2024 recommendation on connectivity infrastructure: Continue the ongoing efforts to support VHCN, FTTP and significantly increase efforts for 5G rollout, including by fostering private investment and by stimulating take-up.
In 2024, Latvia continued the implementation of existing measures but did not take any new measures. Latvia relies on the long-running measures introduced in its roadmap. However, more efforts are needed to reach the 2030 target.

The Latvian NRA, Sabiedrisko pakalpojumu regulesanas komisija, has deregulated the country's electronic communications markets. In this context, the Latvian NRA has limited possibilities to shape the **copper switch-off process** in the country. However, Latvia does not have extensive copper networks left in place. The actual share of copper technologies within fixed broadband networks is around 19% at household level, and public services are becoming less and less copper-reliant. The Latvian NRA is not in favour of an EU-level mandatory deadline for copper switch-off. The Latvian NRA underlines the risk that a mandatory deadline could mean that some end users in more remote areas could be left without any viable connectivity alternative.

5G

Following the roadmap adjustment, Latvia's 5G target remains at 70% penetration by 2030, which is below the EU target of 100%. The country is on track to achieve this target according to its national trajectory. At 71%, Latvia's 5G performance is significantly higher than its target trajectory level for 2024 (55.5%). This means the country has already surpassed its 2030 target. Given Latvia's latest performance, and the high pace of 5G roll-out in the country, it seems that this 70% target could be increased.

The Latvian market shows progress in 6G technology. Based on current progress, it is possible that 6G could be operating in the country (in test mode) as early as 2028. One of Latvia's telecoms

operators has become the first Baltic operator to be a full member of the 6G Smart Networks and Services Industry Association (6G-IA), which allows it to be more actively involved in 5G and 6G research programmes and infrastructure implementation projects. The Latvian telecoms operator is currently working on: (i) R&D on future 3GPP features using Open Core platforms; (ii) international academic, industrial and public-sector partnerships; (iii) live networks including testbeds for experimentation; and (iv) the validation of new technologies.

The Latvian Ministry of Defence, the national armed forces, NATO and LMT, a Latvian mobile operator launched the Digital Backbone Experiment (DiBaX), which is exploring the potential applications of 5G in military operations. There are also two 5G networks in the Latvian town of Adazi that allow defence technology developers to test and compare the performance of new innovations across different 5G networks.

Latvia's NRA reports that there is a competitive and affordable market for consumers in 5G.

2024 recommendation on connectivity infrastructure: Continue the ongoing efforts to support VHCN, FTTP and significantly increase efforts for 5G rollout, including by fostering private investment and by stimulating take-up. Ensure sufficient access of new players to spectrum for innovative business-to-business (B2B) and business-to-consumer (B2C) applications and encourage operators to speed up the deployment of 5G stand-alone core networks

Latvia made some effort to address the recommendation through new policy actions in 2024. Latvia continues to profit from the radio spectrum auctions in the 3.6 MHz band, and and additional 50 MHz was awarded to two operators in 2023 (the licenses for these awarded spectrum started in January 2024 and will be valid for 20 years). As a result, Latvia is making progress in expanding 5G coverage, although, is still behind the EU average.

Semiconductors

Latvia continues to show ambition in developing and strengthening its semiconductor industry, by establishing a national chips competence centre as part of the European Union Chips Joint Undertaking in Latvia (under the DIGITAL-Chips-2024-SG-CCC1 project). In 2024, the European Commission approved of Latvia's application for the development and operation of a national chips competence centre that will: (i) provide services to participants in the semiconductor ecosystem (in particular start-ups and SMEs); (ii) join the European network of semiconductor competence centres; and (iii) cooperate with other Member State competence centres and ecosystems.

Latvia has competitive advantages in the international semiconductor industry, specifically in photonic integrated circuits, microelectronics, polymer photonics platforms, and quantum devices. The centre is expected to invest in quantum computing, AI, cybersecurity, cooperation between Baltic and Nordic countries, and the development of digital skills (in particular in the chips sector).

Edge nodes

According to the Edge Node Observatory, Latvia is estimated to have deployed a total of 10 edge nodes in 2024, an increase of 5 edge nodes from 2023.

Latvia has, in its 2024 roadmap adjustment, provided a new target and a trajectory for edge nodes. Their projected trajectory includes no edge nodes until 2027, when they anticipate having 10 (which they have already achieved in 2024). This number is expected to increase to 26 in 2028, 35 in 2029, and 51 by 2030.

2024 recommendation on edge nodes: Consider measures specific to edge nodes deployment, supplementary to the IPCEI-CIS participation.

In 2024, Latvia continued the implementation of existing measures but did not take any new measure. Latvia continues to be an indirect member of the IPCEI Next Generation Cloud Infrastructure and Services. Latvia assesses that there is no demand nor need for edge nodes, and as a result it has not developed any policies to develop edge nodes.

Quantum technologies

Latvia continues to make strides in quantum technologies. The project 'Development of experimental quantum communication infrastructure in Latvia' (LATQN), running from the beginning of 2023 to the end of 2025, progressed significantly during 2024. In 2024, the project: (i) completed a quantum key distribution (QKD) encryption transmissions test within the healthcare sector; (ii) continued wireless tech integration with QKD; (iii) made plans for continued advanced data transmission integration (lines of various lengths have been examined including 16, 20, 40, and 50 kilometres and more); and (iv) started tests with the financial sector. LATQN is involved in the broader EuroQCI community, and takes part in the regular EuroQCI Technical Working Group meetings. It also represents Latvian quantum computing projects in various EU Member State forums and European Commission activities.

Supporting EU-wide digital ecosystems and scaling up innovative enterprises

Latvia demonstrates uneven progress in technology adoption, with its uptake of data analytics surpassing the EU average, but cloud and artificial intelligence (AI) considerably lagging behind. The disparity between SMEs and large enterprises remains pronounced, with the latter exhibiting significantly higher adoption rates in all three areas. Given the dominant role of SMEs in the Latvian enterprise landscape and their substantial contribution to economic value added, targeted measures to increase digital adoption among SMEs could drive broader economic growth and resilience.

SMEs with at least basic digital intensity

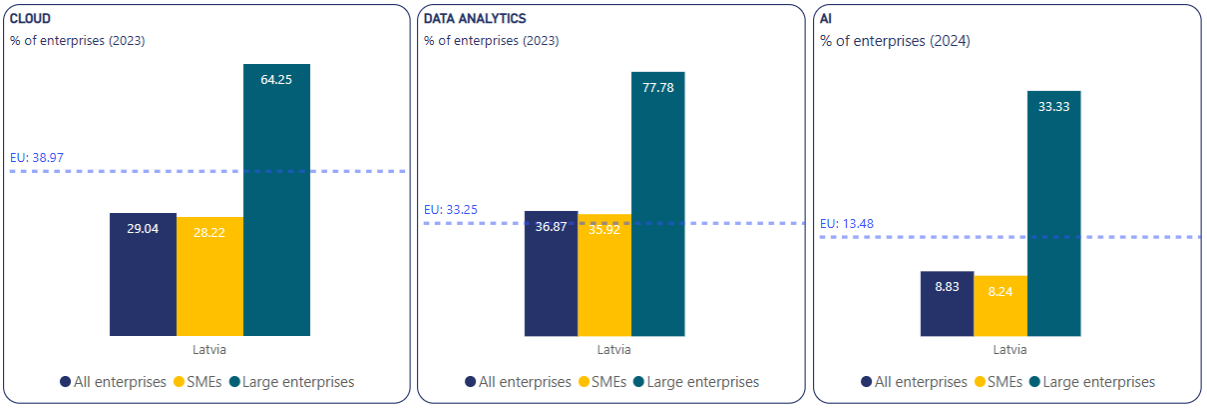
In 2024, 3 out of 5 SMEs (59.18%) in Latvia had at least a basic level of digital intensity, up from 52.27% in 2022, with an annualised growth rate of 6.4% (2022 is the last comparable year that used a similar methodology for measuring the digital intensity of enterprises). Despite this progress, Latvia remained considerably below the EU average on this measure, with 72.91% of EU SMEs having at least a basic level of digital intensity. Focusing on high or very high digital intensity, only 25.94% of SMEs in Latvia reached this level, also falling short of the EU average, where 32.66% of SMEs have attained this level. Thus, although Latvian SMEs showed significant growth on this measure, they still lagged behind EU average levels.

Latvia's roadmap adjustment introduces seven measures to improve the digitalisation of SMEs by educational measures. The 'Improving digital technology and process management skills in Latvian companies' project will train at least 85 employees in 19 training programmes by 2026. The measure 'Development of Digital Skills for Development of New Products and Technologies in Latvian enterprises' aims to provide training for 950 micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises in digital stills. The training will consist of 550 short-cycle training programmes, 350 long-cycle programmes, and 50 online training programmes. A total of 5 000 employees will be trained under the framework. Additionally, the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) measure 'Development of digital skills of enterprises' targets Latvian SMEs at the beginning of their digitalisation process. This RRF measure

started in 2023 and will run until 2026. By mid 2024, it had supported over 1 080 businesses, and is expected to have supported a total of 2 521 by 2026.

2024 recommendation on the digitalisation of SMEs: Establish and sustain ambitious initiatives to further increase the digitalisation of SMEs.
Latvia made some efforts to address the recommendation through new policy actions in 2024. Latvia has continued to set up and sustain ambitious RRF measures (see above) to further increase the digitalisation of SMEs. As a result, Latvia has seen impressive growth on some measures of digitalisation. Despite this, Latvia is still behind the EU average in this area, and it is therefore important for it to continue prioritising the digitalisation of SMEs, especially considering that many of the long-running measures are scheduled to finish in 2025 and 2026.

Take up of cloud/AI/data analytics



According to the latest available data (2023), 48.23% of enterprises in Latvia engaged with AI technologies, sophisticated or intermediate cloud-services, or data analytics in the past year, falling short of the EU average of 54.70%. More specifically, the uptake of these technologies among Latvian SMEs was slightly lower at 47.3%, while large enterprises in Latvia demonstrated a significantly higher rate of 88.41%. This indicates a difference of 41.11 pps in uptake between SMEs and large enterprises in Latvia, which is higher than the EU-level gap of 32.97 pps.

Adoption of cloud, data analytics, and the three technologies together (i.e. AI, cloud and data analytics) were not measured in 2024.

The latest available data reveals that in 2023 cloud uptake in Latvia stood at 29.04%, trailing behind the EU average of 38.97%. However, while 28.22% of Latvian SMEs had adopted cloud services by 2023, uptake among large enterprises was more than double this rate, at 64.25%. This indicates a marked difference of 36.03 percentage points in uptake between SMEs and large enterprises in Latvia, which exceeds the EU-level gap of 31.68 percentage points (on average 69.73% of large EU businesses had adapted cloud services by 2023).

In Latvia, 36.87% of all enterprises performed data analytics in 2023, beating the EU average of 33.25%. However, while uptake of data analytics was 35.92% among Latvian SMEs, a much higher proportion of large Latvian enterprises, 77.78%, used data analytics. This resulted in a gap of 41.86 pps in engagement with data analytics between SMEs and large enterprises, which was consistent with the EU gap.

Latvia

In 2022, **Latvian SMEs generated 47.6% of the value added in the country's economy, while large enterprises generated 32.1%**. Notably, SMEs made up approximately 97.7% of all Latvian enterprises with more than 10 employees, while large enterprises accounted for only 2.3% of enterprises with more than 10 employees.

Latvia has demonstrated uneven progress in technology adoption, with the uptake of data analytics surpassing the EU average, but the uptake of cloud and AI lagging considerably behind. The disparity between SMEs and large enterprises in Latvia remains pronounced, with the latter exhibiting significantly higher adoption rates in all three areas (data analytics, AI, and cloud). Given the dominant role of SMEs in the Latvian enterprise landscape and their substantial contribution to economic value added, targeted measures to increase digital adoption among SMEs could drive broader economic growth and resilience.

- **Cloud**

Latvia's roadmap adjustment presents TetCloud, a data-storage solution produced by the technology company Tet. TetCloud provides data storage outside Latvia and is considered to be the most powerful cloud platform in the Baltics.

2024 recommendation on cloud: Continue, expand, and accelerate public and private investments in the uptake of cloud. Support the broad uptake of the next generation of cloud infrastructure and services under development in the IPCEI-CIS by companies of all sizes, including by liaising with the direct participants to develop a country-specific dissemination strategy reaching beyond the participating organisations
Latvia has made some effort to address the recommendation through new policy actions in 2024. Latvia has fully addressed the recommendation by putting significant policy actions into place in 2024. So far, the IPCEI-CIS has been launched by all three applicants. Latvian experts participate in EU working groups on cloud data, microelectronics and health. These experts are drawn from 15 Latvian enterprises. Other research and knowledge-dissemination organisations have expressed an interest in joining the IPCEI-CIS, two of which have already received State aid and begun implementing projects. Furthermore, Latvia plans to participate in JEF-IPCEI where the future of IPCEIs are planned and solutions for improving the ICPEIs are sought.

- **Data Analytics**

Several data analysis courses in Latvia cater to business professionals, offering both foundational and advanced skills. The Baltic Data Academy[1] provides an in-depth Power BI course focused on data modelling, DAX, and interactive dashboards, with the option to adapt the course to English. Riga Business School[2] offers an advanced Excel course through its LIFT program, covering Power Query, Power Pivot, and DAX for automated reporting, with English-language support available. Riga Coding School[3] also offers a beginner-friendly course on data processing and visualization, occasionally available in English. These programs are ideal for entrepreneurs, analysts, and decision-makers seeking to enhance their data-driven business capabilities.

2024 recommendation on data analytics: Continue, expand, and accelerate public and private investments in the uptake of Data analytics.
Latvia made some efforts to address the recommendation through new policy actions in 2024. Latvia is addressing this recommendation by focusing on highlighting measures in it roadmap

adjustment that have an overall focus on the digitalisation of SMEs (see chapter on the SMEs with at least a basic level of digital intensity) including data analytics but not necessarily targeted solely at data analytics.

- **Artificial Intelligence**

AI in Latvia grew with a remarkable speed during the last year almost doubling (4.5% in 2023 to 8.83% in 2024). However, the country is lagging behind compared to its national trajectory. Additionally, the OECD reports that venture capital investment in AI in Latvia almost tripled year on year from EUR 7.83 million in 2023 to EUR 19.36 million in 2024.

In late December 2024, Latvia's Cabinet of Ministers approved of the draft law 'On the development of AI' that will: (i) build an AI technology ecosystem; (ii) lay down the legal framework for cooperation between universities, the public sector and the private sector; and (iii)decide on the purpose and tasks of the Latvian National Centre for Artificial Intelligence. Additionally in 2024, a memorandum of cooperation on AI was signed by the Latvian government, agencies of the Latvian government, and Microsoft. This memorandum will promote the use of AI and digital solutions to modernise public administration processes in the country.

2024 recommendation on AI: Continue, expand, and accelerate public and private investments in the uptake of AI.

Latvia made some efforts to address the recommendation through new policy actions in 2024. Through the draft law and the memorandum, Latvia is now setting up a framework that will guide the future development of AI. However, there remains a lack of additional public and private investment in the uptake of AI.

Unicorns, scale-ups and start-ups

In 2024, Latvia had zero unicorns. Latvia aims to achieve two unicorns by 2030.

The number of start-ups in Latvia is growing every year. The Latvian start-up association, Startin.LV, estimates that Latvia was home to 512 start ups at the end of 2024, and 3 968 people were employed by Latvian start-ups in 2023. Most Latvian start-ups are B2B and their main activity is the creation of software. In 2024, EUR 34.3 million of equity funding was awarded to Latvian start-ups. The percentage of start-ups with at least one female shareholder increased from 25% in 2023 to 26.4% in 2024.

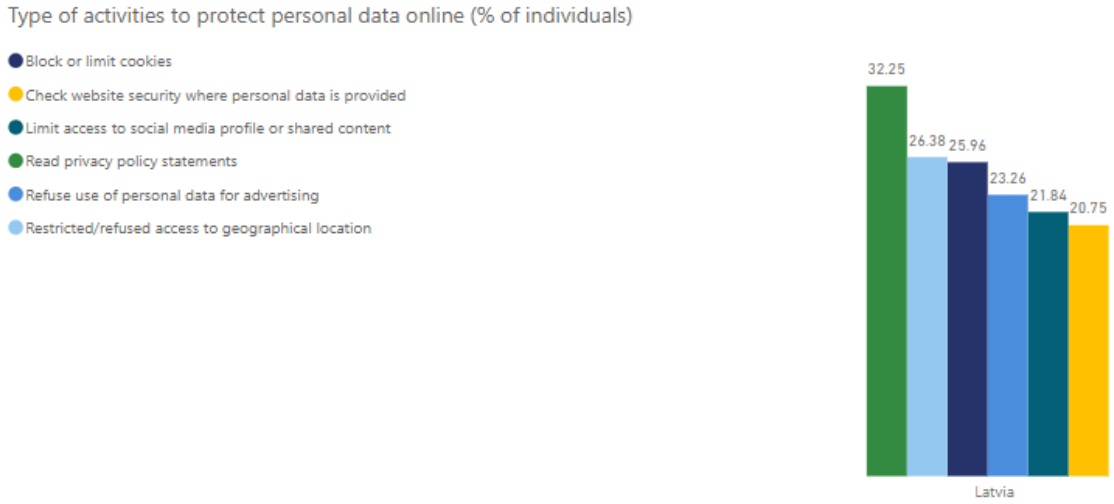
In its roadmap adjustment, Latvia presented its plan 'Support for the development of innovative entrepreneurship in SMEs', which aims to ensure the availability of financing to implement a business's ideas and develop commercial activity in Latvia. This initiative supports the goals of Latvia's smart specialisation strategy by increasing the proportion of innovative businesses in the economy and fostering commercial activities that generate high added value in the high-tech and medium-high-tech sectors. As part of the programme 22 representative offices of IDAL were set up, and the programme plans to have supported 488 enterprises by 2029 and create 1 000 new jobs. By the end of 2024, 161 enterprises had already been supported in incubation and 13 enterprises had received a grant.

Additionally, the 'Venture capital investments of the EU cohesion policy programme for 2021-2027': (i) measure, acceleration funds had, by the end of 2024, invested a total amount of EUR 1.6 million in 24 companies; (ii) start-up and growth funds had invested EUR 9 million; and (iii) an additional EUR 9

million had been invested in private co-financing. By the end of 2027, the measure is expected to have supported 68 more mature companies, including 45 start-ups.

Strengthening Cybersecurity & Resilience

In Latvia, 54.61% of individuals took at least one action to protect their data online in 2024, below the EU average of 69.55%. However, only 26.7% of Latvians engaged in three or more actions to promote cybersecurity in the year (and therefore could be considered as having above-basic digital safety skills). The most common action taken by Latvians during the year to protect their cybersecurity was reading privacy policy statements (32.25% did this), while checking if websites where personal data were provided were secure was the measure least commonly taken (only 20.75% of people did this).



Latvian enterprises tend to experience fewer cyber-attacks than the EU average, but Latvian employees are also less aware of their ICT-security-related obligations than their EU peers. The number of Latvian enterprises that experienced ICT security incidents leading to unavailability of ICT services due to attack from outside (e.g. ransomware attacks or denial of service attacks) increased significantly in Latvia, growing from 3.79% in 2022 to 8.02% in 2024. This is the highest percentage for 2024 of all the EU Member States and is significantly higher than the EU average for 2024 of 3.43%. However, Latvian enterprises are less prone to incidents related to hardware or software failures (10.05% of enterprises had such problems) than their EU peers (17.97% had such problems). In terms of preventive measures, 88.88% of Latvian enterprises deployed some ICT security measures in 2024 (around the EU average of 92.76%), but only 47.47% of enterprises in the country made their employees aware of their obligations in ICT-security-related issues, significantly below the EU average (59.97%).

Latvia is falling behind the EU in the roll-out of the secure Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6) for end users. On the deployment of secure internet standards, Latvia is falling behind the EU in the roll-out of IPv6 for the end users (only 15% of end users in Latvia use this protocol against an EU average of 36%) and is significantly behind the EU average on the server side (2% of Latvian servers use this protocol, against 17% of servers in the EU on average). IPv6 is an important protocol as it ensures the scalability, stability, and security of the internet. The deployment of this new version is increasingly urgent, as traditional IPv4 addresses have been long depleted. Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC) is also an important standard to be rolled out, as it introduces security features to DNS.

In Latvia, the DNSSEC validation rate (i.e. verification rate of the authenticity of responses sent by name servers to clients, using a digital signature technology) is 70% (Q3 2024), significantly above the EU average of 47%.

According to the Digital Decade Eurobarometer 2025, 80% of Latvian citizens think that an improved cybersecurity, better protection of online data and safety of digital technologies would facilitate their daily use of digital technologies.

Latvia's overarching cybersecurity strategy for 2023-2026 continues to guide Latvia's overall cybersecurity approach. In the quarter of 2024 Latvia had its highest historical level of cyber threats ever. CERT.LV, the Cyber Incident Response Institution of the Republic of Latvia, registered 418,325 cyber incidents (affected unique IP addresses), and increase of 25% compared with the same period in 2023. Financial and geopolitical cyber-attacks continue to be prevalent, and most of the cyber-attacks are 'tied' cyber-attacks supporting Russia. Distributed denial of service attacks continue to be the most common form of attack on Latvia, and although the number of these attacks has fallen they have become more complex, concentrated, powerful, and harmful.

Despite the high amount of cyber-attacks, Latvia maintains a high level of cyber resilience, as CERT.LV reports that the recorded cyber-attacks have not had a significant impact on public security and/or essential and important services.

In its roadmap adjustment, Latvia reports of several measures it is implementing to boost its cybersecurity. One of these is in the field of education: Riga Technical University launched a two-year course of studies on cybersecurity in 2024 that will educate 200 students from different fields in five key areas of cybersecurity: management, hygiene, incident management, digital forensics, and architecture. After the completion of this programme, the students (with the help of mentors) will go to the regions of Latvia to help local governments and enterprises to implement cybersecurity management frameworks and technical solutions. Riga Technical University also launched masters degree programme in cybersecurity engineering in 2023 which now has 38 graduates.

2024 recommendation on cybersecurity: Implement cyber security classes in the formal education in relevant study programs.
Latvia addressed fully the recommendation by putting significant policy actions into place in 2024. Latvia has implemented cyber security classes in formal education.

Despite Latvia's introduction of cybersecurity classes in formal education, there is still a significant shortage of cybersecurity professionals and skills. Even though, Latvia's general education in secondary school includes some cybersecurity topics, and non-formal education is available, overall levels of cybersecurity education are fragmented, and there is no overall coordinating body for cybersecurity education. The teaching of deeper cybersecurity knowledge is limited to selected schools, and even though there are classes/courses offered at a university masters level there are not enough courses offered at bachelor level, nor is there a dedicated bachelor level programme.

Protecting and empowering EU people and society

Empowering people and bringing the digital transformation closer to their needs

Latvia is making an effort to increase digital skills by both upskilling its labour force, and economically inactive population (including young and seniors), aiding SMEs in the digital transformation, and introducing individual learning accounts to promote digital skills. There is a rural-urban divide, with people living in rural areas having lower levels of digital skills than those living in cities. Older adults and people with lower levels of education also have significantly lower levels of digital skills. Latvia's overall level of proficiency in digital skills is below the EU average. Latvia's lower performance of at least basic digital skills present as a challenge in many other areas such as the digitalisation of SMEs, and the development of public services for citizens and businesses.

According to the 2025 Eurobarometer, 82% of Latvians think that accessing public services online will be important for their daily life in 2030. Concerning human support to help access and use digital technologies and services, 71% consider it would improve their daily use of digital technologies, and 85% think public authorities should consider it important to ensure that people receive proper human support to help them adapt to the changes in their lives brought about by digital technologies and services.

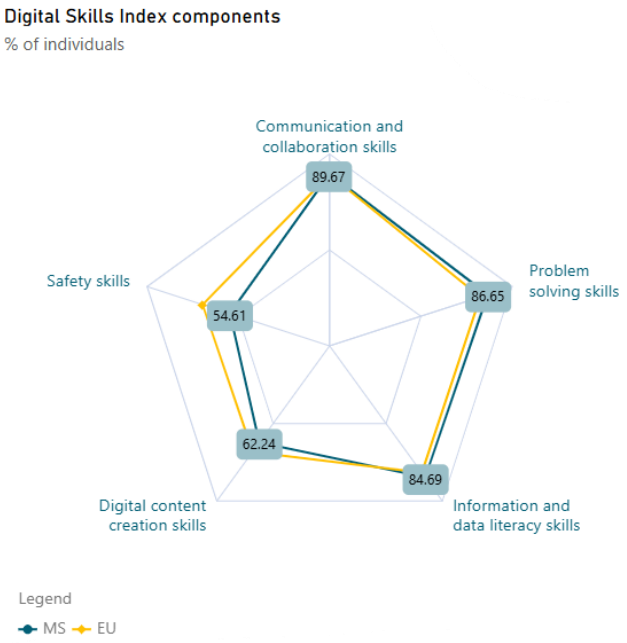
Equipping people with digital skills

Basic Digital Skills

Latvia's digital skills profile is weak. In 2023, the percentage of the Latvian population with at least basic digital skills was 45.34%, falling short of the EU average of 55.56%. Despite the absence of data for 2024, analysing the available data by various demographics reveals several key points.

- **Gender Gap**: Interestingly, the gender gap in digital skills in Latvia is in favour of women, with 44.12% of men and 46.43% of women having at least basic digital skills. This the opposite of the EU average gap (which has a 2.23 pps in favour of men), indicating a relatively balanced digital skillset between genders.
- **Education Level:** Educational attainment is significantly linked to digital skills. In Latvia, 65.59% of those with higher education have at least basic digital skills, which is below the EU average (79.83%). Only 32.75% of Latvians with no or low levels of formal education have proficiency in digital skills, with the gap between this group and the national average being 12.59 percentage points. This is almost half of what is observed at the EU level (where the gap is 21.95 pps).
- **Living Areas:** Residents of rural areas in Latvia have the lowest levels of at-least-basic digital skills, at just 32.31%, significantly lagging behind the EU average for rural areas (47.50%). The gap between rural areas and the national average when measuring the percentage of people with at-least-basic levels of digital skills is 13.03 percentage points, which is larger than the EU average (8.06 pps), indicating a significant regional digital divide.

- **Age Groups:** The most digitally skilled age group in Latvia is the group aged 25-to-34, with 67.08% of people in this age cohort having the highest level of digital skills, just below the EU average (70.18%). Conversely, the group aged 65-to-74 has much lower digital skills, with only 14.53% of this cohort having the highest level of digital skills, well below the EU average for that age group (28.19%).
- **Digital Skills Index components**: Latvia performs better than the EU average in three out of the five areas on the Digital Skills Index. The highest score for Latvia is in communication and collaboration skills, 89.67% of the population have these skills. However, the country scores poorly in safety skills where only 54.61% of the population has these skills, which is significantly below the EU average (69.55%).



In summary, Latvia's digital skills situation presents a challenge, with overall proficiency below the EU average. While the gender gap is not problematic and the country is at or above EU levels in certain skills areas, there is a need for improvement, especially in bridging the rural-urban divide and improving the digital capabilities of older adults and people with lower levels of education. Addressing these issues will be crucial for advancing Latvia's digital proficiency.

Latvia's target is for 70% of its population to have at-least-basic digital skills by 2030 below the EU target of 80%. Despite new measures added in the roadmap adjustment, Latvia is far from reaching its target. Due to the spillover effect of basic digital skills in helping the country to reach several other Digital Decade targets, it is especially important for Latvia to intensify its efforts in this area.

Latvia has focused on individual learning accounts to boost people's digital skills. In 2024 Lavia launched the individual learning account programme STARS (stars.gov.lv). The program is aimed to make learnings more accessible and appealing for particularly for those groups whose learning opportunities are limited or lack the motivation to participate in education. STARS provides over 60 different educational programmes targeted at developing medium and high levels of digital skills. The study models, vocational education programme modules, and module clusters last between 50 and 212 hours. The participants are awarded 500 euros to cover the cost of the education programme, depending on the price of the course, it can be free, or the individual may choose to co-finance the remaining amount. And in 2024, the Latvian NGO, Riga TechGirls, concluded its five-year programme 'Get to know your technologies'. This programme aimed to develop an understanding of the diverse fields within technology field, the opportunities technologies create, and how the knowledge can be beneficial across various industries. During its five-year run, the programme has had over 30 000 participants (6 590 in 2024).

2024 recommendation on digitalisation of skills: Accelerate measures to further boost digital skills of the population and increase investments. Focus on implementing measures and digital literacy education for everyone.

Latvia made some efforts to address the recommendation through new policy actions in 2024. The Latvian roadmap adjustment has introduced two new measures. Many of the measures introduced in the original roadmap were long-term measures launched in 2024 that will finish around 2027, so it is still too early to be able to determine the effects of those. However, based on current initiatives it seems that they will not be enough to bridge the big gap.

ICT specialists

ICT specialists account for 4.9% of total employment in Latvia (2030 national target 10%) after an increase of 11.36% in 2024 compared with 2023. This puts Latvia just below the EU average of 5.0%. The country is lagging behind compared to its national trajectory. ICT specialists accounted for only 4.4% of total employment in Latvia in 2023 so growth of 11.36% on this measure between 2023 and 2024 is more than double the growth observed at EU level (where the number of ICT specialists as a percentage of total employment only grew by 4.2% between 2023 and 2024).

Latvia's performance in the provision of ICT training and ICT specialist employment shows a mixed picture when compared to the EU average. In terms of ICT specialist employment, ICT specialists as a percentage of Latvia's total employment stood at 4.4% in 2023, below the EU's 4.8%. By 2024, this figure rose to 4.9%, still trailing behind the EU's 5.0%. However, Latvia's growth rate of 11.4% in this area outperformed the EU's growth rate of 4.2%. On female ICT specialists, Latvia has a higher percentage than the EU. In 2023, 23.9% of ICT specialists in Latvia were female, exceeding the EU's 19.4%. This figure increased to 26.8% in 2024, while the EU's figure only slightly increased to 19.5%. Latvia's year-on-year growth rate of 12.1% in this area significantly outperformed the EU's 0.5% indicating a promising trend in gender diversity within the ICT sector.

The provision of ICT training for enterprises with 10 or more employees has declined in Latvia, with a lower percentage of enterprises offering such training compared to the EU average. In 2022, 15.1% of enterprises with 10 or more employees in Latvia provided ICT training, which was lower than the EU's 22.37%. By 2024, this figure had decreased to 14.54%, while the EU's figure also slightly decreased to 22.29%.

Latvia's ICT training provision for enterprises with 10 or more employees has declined, with a lower percentage of enterprises offering such training compared to the EU average. However, the country shows a positive trajectory in the employment of ICT specialists, particularly in the growth of female ICT specialists. The growth rate of female ICT specialists in Latvia is notably higher than the EU average, indicating a promising trend in gender diversity within the ICT sector.

While Latvia faces challenges in ICT training provision, the country's strong growth in ICT specialist employment, particularly among females, is a positive indicator.

In term of demand from the labour market, Eurostat experimental statistics based on web scraping show that the profiles of 'software and applications developers and analysts' are the most sought after profile in Latvia, representing 43.2% of online job advertisements for ICT specialists (58.0% at EU level). Two types of profile are more wanted in Latvia than in the EU in average: 'information and communications technology service managers' (4.6% of online job advertisements for ICT specialists), and 'information and communications technology operations and user support technicians' (16.1%).

Latvia still aims to reach its target of having ICT specialists make up 10% of people in employment by 2030. Based on the measures introduced in the roadmap adjustment and Latvia's current rate of progress, is the country appears to be on track to reach the 2030 target. In its roadmap adjustment, Latvia presented two especially impressive measures to train ICT specialists. The first of these measures is the human capital development action plan for 2024-2025, which focuses on cross-cutting and general components of education, data, evidence-based decisions, analytics, and cooperation with business. The plan identifies five lines of action; STEM education and skills; labour market expansion; attracting qualified workers to take up ICT training; supply and quality of adult learning; and support for entrepreneurial spirit. The measure is intended to increase the number of ICT specialists by 10 000 by 2027. Furthermore, in their five-year 'Get to know technologies' programme, which ran from 2021 to 2025, the Riga TechGirls group educated more than 30 000 participants to promote IT skills, programming, cybersecurity, use of AI, and management of information technology projects.

2024 recommendation on ICT specialists: Continue existing and implement additional measures targeting various groups to ensure an increase of ICT specialists, and improve gender balance.
Latvia addressed fully the recommendation by putting significant policy actions into place in 2024. Latvia has addressed this recommendation in full through both: (i) the growth of ICT specialists as a percentage of the workforce (including the growth in the percentage of women ICT specialists); and (ii) the introduction of measures in the roadmap (mentioned above).

Key digital public services and solutions – trusted, user-friendly, and accessible to all

Latvia's performs strongly on digital public services and access to e-health records compared with the EU average, with noteworthy recent progress in services for both the general public and businesses. In 2023, Latvia's total score for digital public services for citizens was 88.22, surpassing the EU's 79.44. This figure rose to 93.48 in 2024, still ahead of the EU's 82.32. Latvia's growth rate of 6.0% on this measure between 2023 and 2024 outpaced the EU's 3.6%. In the category of cross-border digital services for citizens, Latvia's scores were 85.88 in 2023 and 89.74 in 2024, higher in both years than the EU's 68.37 and 71.28, respectively. Latvia's growth rate of 4.5% on this measure between 2023 and 2024 was slightly above the EU's 4.3%.

For digital public services for businesses, Latvia's total score was 87.22 in 2023 and 96.25 in 2024, compared with the EU's 85.42 and 86.23, respectively. The country's growth rate of 10.4% between 2023 and 2024 on this measure significantly exceeded the EU's 0.9%. In the category of cross-border digital services for businesses, Latvia's scores were 74.44 in 2023 and 92.5 in 2024, compared with the EU's 73.13 and 73.76, respectively. Latvia's growth rate of 24.3% between 2023 and 2024 on this measure was substantially higher than the EU's 0.9%.

On access to e-health records, Latvia's total score was 84.82 in 2023 and 85.86 in 2024, compared with the EU's 79.12 and 82.7, respectively. However, Latvia's growth rate of 1.2% on this measure between 2023 and 2024 lagged behind the EU's 4.5%.

Latvia's digital public services for both citizens and businesses are advancing at a rapid pace, with both absolute scores and growth rates in these areas consistently outpacing the EU average. This trend is particularly evident in cross-border services for businesses, where Latvia's growth rate is substantially higher than the EU's.

e-ID

In 2023, 70.22% of Latvians said they had used their eID to access online services for private purposes in the previous 12 months, which is above the EU average (41.11%).

Latvia participates in the Large-scale EU Digital Identity Wallet Pilot for Trusted Identity Technologies and a Single Digital Ecosystem (APTITUDE) together with Czechia, Germany, Greece, France, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, and Ukraine. The project intends to create a digital wallet and digital ID, so that payments can be made more securely. The project is a follow-up on the large-scale project EU Digital Identity Wallet – the NOBID Consortium.

Latvia's own solution, Wallet B, is in its final development phase, with testing to begin in March 2025.

LV stakeholders, both public and private, are present in one of the LSPs consortia proceeding to the grant agreement preparation stage. This includes government ministries and agencies, a bank and academia. LV's overall costs for involvement in proposals is approximately 2.6 million euros with the grant requested by LV entities amounting to over 1.3 million euros. Use-cases LV will be involved in include: NOBID: Payments.

Latvian stakeholders, both public and private, are present in one of the large-scale-pilot consortia for the development of payments/eID, and these stakeholders are now proceeding to the grant agreement preparation stage. These stakeholders include government ministries and agencies, a bank and academics. Latvia's overall costs for involvement in the eID large-scale-pilot proposals are approximately EUR 2.6 million, with the grant requested by Latvian stakeholders amounting to over EUR 1.3 million. Use-cases for the project include: NOBID: Payments.

Digitalisation of public services for citizens and businesses

Latvia still aims to reach a score of 100 for the digitalisation of public services for citizens and businesses by 2030. Based on its presented measures their current performance it seems likely that Latvia will reach this target.

In 2024, Latvia made progress in further digitalising several important governmental sectors. The roadmap adjustment presents 11 different governmental sectors in which Latvia said it would increase the availability of key public services. The different initiatives include:

- a register of documents attesting to primary and secondary education, which allows the individual to view their own data;
- ensure the creation and improvement of e-services in the culture sector;
- develop the social platform 'DigiSoc', which will gather the necessary data for the provision of social services from both registers of national importance and external systems;
- the 'Development of the public prosecutors Information System' project, which will enable parties involved in a legal case to consult the case file electronically without visiting the public prosecutor's office;
- the 'E-Case programme', which will improve a standardised approach to data exchange between government information systems, and expand the range of electronic services available to the public;
- plans to allow for data check in Latvia's register of businesses;
- plans to improve digital services to facilitate cross-border cooperation in the field of taxation;
- plans to improve geospatial solutions for smart land management, policy forecasting, and planning for the transition to a green economy.

The above-mentioned measures are also intended to reduce the administrative burden and promote simplification.

2024 recommendation on public services: Ensure coordinated implementation of public services and work towards integration of public records with the view of implementing 'once-only' principle in public administration.
Latvia made some efforts to address the recommendation through new policy actions in 2024. **Latvia has made progress in implementing the 'once-only' principle in public administration**. Latvia's Data Dissemination and Management Platform (DAGR) is the default data source for public administrations to ensure the efficient functioning of institutional services in the digital environment. In 2024, seven contracts were concluded for the improvement of DAGR, and four cooperation agreements are now in the process of harmonisation. In addition, two cooperation agreements were adjusted in 2024 to include a specific data set pm the portal. The DAGR now contains datasets from 11 institutions and validated consumer applications for 22 institutions. Under the Single Digital Gateway Regulation at national level, it is intended that all the necessary data for services to residents and businesses will be retrieved from DAGR.

e-Health

Latvia still aims at a score of 100 for the access to medical records, in line with the 2030 EU target. The country is on track according to its national trajectory. Based on their presented measures and their current performance it seems likely that the member state will reach this target.

Latvia's e-Health maturity score improved slightly on last year. Of the 13 e-Health data categories investigated in this study, 9 are available in a timely manner, and the remaining 4 categories are available but not in a timely manner. Data on laboratory test results are made available to citizens in a timely manner. As in 2023, 8 of the 9 applicable categories of healthcare providers in Latvia are connected to country's online health portal and supply data to it. (geriatric nursing homes are not applicable because they are classified as social institutions and not medical institutions and, therefore do not process health data). The only applicable provider not supplying data is private rehabilitation centres. Citizens can access data through an online portal, although a mobile application is not available. Moreover, the online access service does not follow EU guidelines on web accessibility, which is the main gap in the maturity of Latvia's e-Health system.

Latvia is making strides in ensuring accessible healthcare for all. In 2024, cross-border e-health services became available in Latvia by providing cross-border data exchange via the European core service platform (together with Czechia, Estonia, Spain, France, Lithuania, Portugal and other countries are expected to join). This system allows for the exchange of basic health data (diagnosis, surgical intervention), the transfer and use of e-prescriptions (for foreigners or Latvians abroad in the countries that are members of the platform). Additionally, Latvian patient data are available to foreign doctors, and Latvian doctors can access the data of residents of other countries. Furthermore, since 2024 Latvian medical treatment institutions submit vaccinations and laboratory results to the national e-health system. Latvia has also launched a digital competence centre which gathers ICT staff working on the system in one place to allow for the more effective introduction of new digital solutions and improvement of existing solutions.

According to the 2025 Eurobarometer, 76% Latvians think that digital technologies will be important when accessing or receiving healthcare services (e.g., telemedicine, artificial intelligence for diagnosis diseases) during their daily life by 2030.

2024 recommendation on 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. Ensure that the online access service complies to web accessibility guidelines.

Latvia made some efforts to address the recommendation through new policy actions in 2024. As mentioned above, Latvia is taking measures to ensure that healthcare is becoming more accessible. However, efforts are needed to ensure that: (i) there is a mobile application; (ii) private rehabilitation centers are connected to online access services; and (iii) online systems for access to health data comply with web-accessibility guidelines.

Building a safe and human centric digital environment and preserving our democracy

In Latvia, online participation in political and civic life is increasing. In 2024, 26.42% of people in Latvia used the internet to participate in consultations, for voting or sharing opinions online. This share is above the EU average and trending upward (this percentage in Latvia was only 11.44% in 2022), which is a stronger growth than observed at the EU level (where this percentage only increased from 17.59% in 2022 and 20.45% in 2024).

In 2023, 31.51% of individuals in Latvia encountered messages online that were considered hostile or degrading towards groups based on factors such as racial origin or disability, slightly below the EU average of 33.5%. Young people (aged 16-24) (of whom 36.79% were exposed to such message) and adults (aged 25-64) (of whom 34.13% were exposed to such messages) reported very similar levels of exposure, indicating little variation by age. Males (30.28%) and females (32.62%) also reported comparable rates, with a minor gender difference.

In 2023, 46.52% of individuals in Latvia stated that they had come across untrue or doubtful information or content on internet news sites or social media, slightly below the EU average of 49.25%. Of those exposed to such content, only 15.87% verified its truthfulness, suggesting that a relatively small share of individuals engaged in critical evaluation of the material. Young people (aged 16-24) reported higher exposure (55.82% were exposed) than adults (aged 25-64) (49.53% of whom were exposed), with verification rates being markedly higher for young people (25.36%) than for adults (16.16%). Males (46.56%) and females (46.48%) reported nearly identical levels of exposure, with similar verification rates of 17.3% for males and 14.59% for females.

The 2023 data on online interactions in Latvia reveal rates of perceived hostile and degrading online messages and exposure to potentially misleading information online that are only slightly below the EU average. However, the data also suggest that Latvians have not been actively engaging in verifying the accuracy of online content, with only a relatively small proportion of individuals in Latvia checking the truthfulness of information. The findings therefore highlight the need for efforts to: (i) promote digital literacy and critical thinking in Latvia, particularly among adults (those aged 25-64); (ii) support the development of effective online information evaluation skills; and (iii) foster a more informed online community.

According to the Digital Decade Eurobarometer 2025, 88% Latvians think it should be urgent the action of the public authorities to protect children online regarding the negative impact of social media on

children's mental health, cyberbullying and online harassment. 86% believe it is urgent to put in place age assurance mechanisms to restrict age-inappropriate content.

The organisation **Latvian Safer Internet Centre (LSIC)** priorities children's safety online. The LSIC website and helpline allow minors to report breaches and illegal content online. The organisation assists children experiencing cybercrime and cyber bullying. The organisation works in an agreement together with the Latvian Police to report cybercrime and also provide professional consultation by psychologists.

Fighting disinformation is high on the Latvian agenda. Their 'Black on White' communication project intends to increase the resilience against disinformation, and other manipulation methods in the information space. 'Black on White' is an internet platform (www.melnsuzbalta.lv) that gathers up-to-date information on disinformation cases, and allows members of the public to report disinformation and other instances of manipulation online by filling out a questionnaire. The project also has a podcast that educates its listeners how to recognise the most common manipulation methods, and how to report suspicious behaviour online.

Leveraging digital transformation for a smart greening

Latvians recycle only a small share of their old ICT equipment. Latvians recycled their laptop, desktop devices and mobile phones (6.86% for laptops and tablets, 7.69% for desktops, 8.45% mobile phones) less than the EU average (11.31%, 14.66%, and 10.93% respectively). Moreover, only 16.03% of Latvians said that they considered energy efficiency as important when purchasing ICT devices (EU: 19.35%). Nevertheless, 14.87% of Latvians said in the survey that the eco-design of the device they purchased was important, which is above the EU average (12.04%). However, Latvian consumers said that those two eco-friendly criteria were of less importance than the price, performance, and design of the ICT device.

Latvia emphasises promoting energy-efficient and material-efficient digital infrastructure. In its roadmap adjustment, Latvia present three measures aimed at improving the energy and material efficiency of digital infrastructure. The first of these measures is that in 2025 the Delska Data Centre in Riga will be commissioned, and it will run on 100% green energy from wind farms and innovative cooling systems. The second of these measures is the construction of the Tet data centre in Salaspils, which started in late 2024, and is expected to be completed in 2028. The data centre includes modern energy-efficiency technologies, and heat recovery systems, which will transfer heat from the centre to the local district heating system. Additionally, the data centres of the State Radio and Television Centre (LVRTC) provides tier III services (a classification of data services that are very reliable, secure and available) thanks to its own reserved power supply and cooling system. These data centres also have backup communication channels with connections to global telecom operators. Finally, Latvia has produced a draft regulation on state data processing cloud regulations (24-TA-1050) that sets out the functions and task of cloud in the country's national administrative IT systems, which includes a requirement that data centres managing state data must comply with the current version of standard ISO/IEC 30134-2.

Latvia's roadmap adjustment presents several energy-efficient digital solutions. Latvia has a project for a smart street-lighting system where the sensory system and LED lighting adapt light intensity depending on weather and traffic conditions, thus reducing energy consumption. Additionally, the

country has put it place a smart waste container management system for the automatic digitalisation of the waste collecting process.

Latvia's Information and Communication Technology Association, LIKTA, is also in the process of developing a sustainability reporting tool that aims to advise enterprises on how to effectively align their activities with the necessary sustainability requirements. The total budget for this project is EUR 3.46 million, and the consortium consists of industry ministries from countries in the region and leading ICT associations from Estonia, Finland, Latvia, and Lithuania.

According to the Digital Decade Eurobarometer 2025, 55% Latvians consider digital technologies important to help fight climate change (standing slightly above the EU average of 74% and showing an increment of four percentage points since last year), while 68% of Latvian respondents think that ensuring that digital technologies serve the green transition should be an important action for public authorities (below the EU average of 80%).

2024 recommendation on green ICT: Develop a coherent approach to twinning the digital and green transitions. First, promote improvements in energy and material efficiency of digital infrastructures, in particular data centres. Second, support the development and deployment of digital solutions that reduce the carbon footprint in other sectors, such as energy, transport, buildings, and agriculture, including the uptake of such solutions by SMEs.

Monitor and quantify the emission reductions of the deployed digital solutions in line with the relevant EU guidance and with the support of the methodology developed by the European Green Digital Coalition, in view of future policy development, as well as of attracting relevant financing

Latvia made some efforts to address the recommendation through new policy actions in 2024. Latvia has tackled this recommendation through its emphasis on presenting digital solutions that strive to promote energy efficiency.

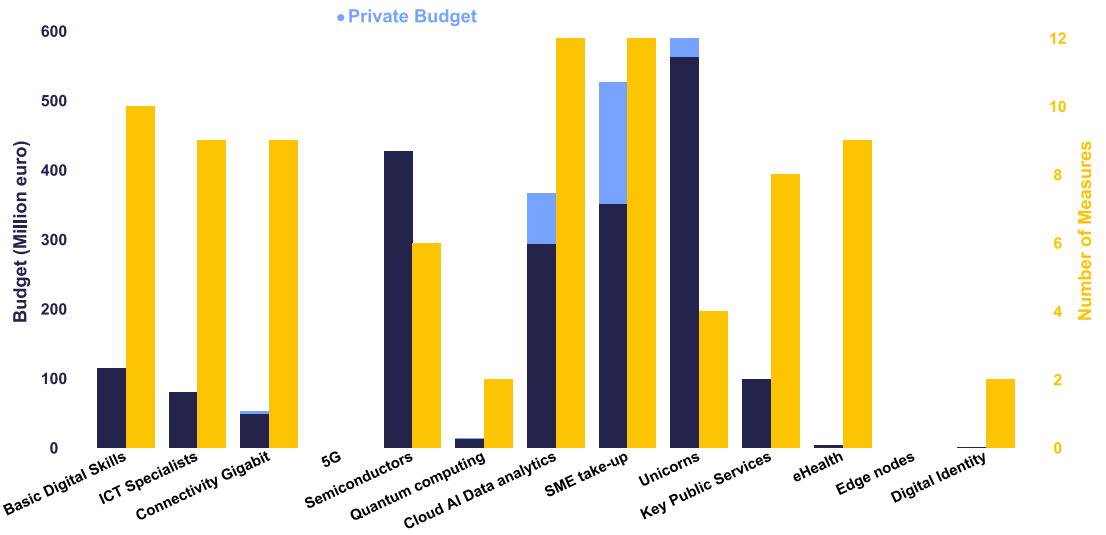
Annex I – National roadmap analysis

Latvia submitted a Digital Decade roadmap adjustment on 11 February 2025, containing 43 measures, 2 new targets and 4 revised trajectories. The update clearly aligns with the new Commission's priorities on the uptake of AI, cybersecurity and technology in general. Latvia's roadmap adjustment includes reporting on consultations with stakeholders. However, the roadmap adjustment lacks additional targeted support to help the country reach 100% connectivity.

The roadmap adjustment addresses a substantial number of relevant recommendations issued in 2024:

- *Propose a target and trajectory for FTTP and edge nodes. (ii) Align the level of ambition of targets for at least basic digital skills, VHCN, and 5G with the EU targets:* In response, Latvia proposed a target for FTTP and edge nodes and aligned it with the EU targets. Latvia also modified its target for VHCN in line with EU targets, while its target for 5G continues to be for coverage of 70% (EU target: 100%) and least basic digital skills remains lower than the EU value of 80% at 70% by 2030.
- *MEASURES: (i) Strengthen measures and increase funding for at least basic digital skills, VHCN, and 5G to be able to align its national targets with the Digital Decade target. (ii) Increase funding for digitalisation of businesses and digital skills to be able to reach targets for digital intensity of SMEs, uptake of cloud, AI, data analytics, and for ICT specialists. (iii) Provide more information on the implementation of digital rights and principles (and Digital Decade general objectives), including what national measures contribute to it:* Latvia has addressed the recommendation in full.

Measures and budget in national roadmap[6]



[6] When referring to national roadmaps, data used in this report are those declared by the Member States in their national roadmaps, on the basis of the Commission's guidance (C(2023) 4025 final). Data might reflect possible variations in reporting practices and methodological choices across Member States. No systematic assessment of the extent to which Member States followed the guidance was carried out.

Latvia

Overall, Latvia has presented a non-exhaustive set of the policies and measures contributing to the achievement of each of the Digital Decade targets. The measures presented also cover several types of objectives: technological leadership, sovereignty, competitiveness, cybersecurity, fundamental rights and the green transition. In total the measures presented amount to EUR 2 287.4 million, not including confidential budgets.

Annex II – Factsheet on multi-country projects (MCPs) and funding

Multi-country projects and best practices

Latvia is a member of the Alliance for Language Technologies EDIC and of the Local Digital Twins towards the CitiVERSE EDIC, and is working towards setting up an EDIC in the area of cancer imaging. Latvian entities are indirect and/or associated partners in the IPCEI on Microelectronics and Communication Technologies (IPCEI-ME/CT) and the IPCEI on Next Generation Cloud Infrastructure and Services (IPCEI-CIS). Latvia is a participating state in the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking (JU) and of the Chips JU.

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

EU funding for digital policies in Latvia

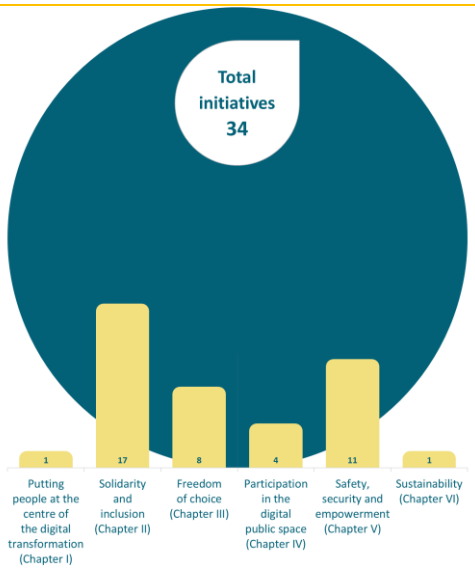
Latvia allocates 23% of its total recovery and resilience plan to digital (EUR 416 million)[7]. In addition, under cohesion policy, EUR 441million (representing 10% of the country's total cohesion policy funding), is dedicated to advancing Latvia's digital transformation[8]. According to JRC estimates, EUR 738 million directly contribute to achieving Digital Decade targets (of which EUR 384 million comes from the RRF and EUR 354 million from cohesion policy funding)[9].

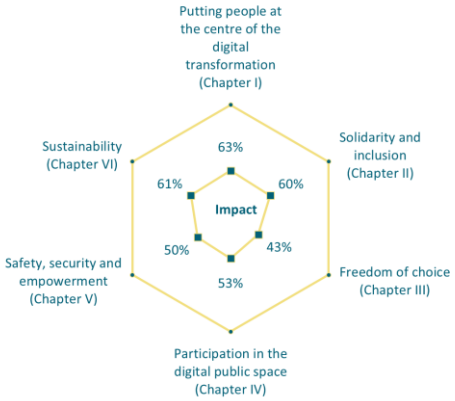
[7] The share of financial allocations that contribute to digital objectives has been calculated using Annex VII to the Recovery and Resilience Facility Regulation. Last data update: 16 May 2025.

[8] 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.

[9] Joint Research Centre, Nepelski, D. and Torrecillas, J. Mapping EU level funding instruments 2021-2027 to Digital Decade targets – 2025 update, Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg, 2025, JRC141966. Last data update: 10 March 2025.

Annex III – Digital Rights and Principles[10]





Activity on Digital Rights and Principles (figure 1)

Latvia has shown rather limited activity in implementing digital rights and principles, with the overall number of initiatives of around a half or less of the EU average (77). Latvia launched 2 new initiatives in 2024, showing limited progress towards its commitments. **Latvia is most active in the area of Interactions with algorithms and artificial intelligence systems** (III). There is room for improvement, especially with regards to Putting people at the centre of the digital transformation (I), Connectivity (II) and Sustainability (VI) where less activity has been identified.

Impact of Digital Rights Initiatives (figure 2)

Quantitative impact indicators, developed by support study, illustrate the level of implementation of digital rights initiatives on the ground. Based on the available data, they estimate the impact of measures implemented by key stakeholders in Latvia (mainly national government) and how these are perceived by citizens.

The indicators suggest that **Latvia is most successful in implementing commitments related to Putting people at the centre of the digital transformation** (I). Latvia should review and strengthen efforts in areas where the impact of digital rights initiatives appears to be limited despite relative activity, notably on Freedom of choice (III).

According to the Special Eurobarometer 'Digital Decade 2025', **46% of citizens in Latvia think that the EU protects their digital rights well** (a 4% increase since 2024). This is above the EU average of 44%. Citizens are particularly confident about getting easy online access to all key public services in the EU (58%, corresponding to the EU average). They are most worried that their right to a safe digital environment and content for children and young people is not well protected (39%, below the EU average of 48%).

[10] Based on a study to support the Monitoring of the Implementation of the Declaration on Digital Rights and Principles, available here. For a more detailed country factsheet accompanying the study, click here.