The Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI)
Priority nº 3: "A Europe fit for the digital age"

A Union that strives for more

My agenda for Europe

By candidate for President of the European Commission

Ursula von der Leyen

POLITICAL GUIDELINES FOR THE NEXT EUROPEAN COMMISSION 2019-2024
Digital Single Market

Access
Better access for consumers and businesses to digital goods and services across Europe

Environment
Innovative services and advanced digital networks

Economy & Society
Enhance the growth potential of the digital economy
What is DESI?

Aggregates digital indicators in a composite index

Measures Europe’s digital performance & identifies areas for improvement

Tracks progress of EU Member States

Supports international benchmarking

EC’s Main Digital Analytical Tool
DESI Drives Strategic Digital Development

Robust digital policies → Targeted investments → Better DESI results

DESI
DESI 2019 ranking
5 Years Digital Progress in the EU

Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI) - growth 2014-2019
Structure

- The DESI comprises **5 dimensions** representing main policy areas
- Relevant **sub-dimensions** under each dimension
- Overall including over **40 indicators**
- Calculated for **six years**, from 2014 to 2019.
1. Connectivity

- Connectivity is a necessary infrastructure for a digital economy and society.
- A digital society can only develop if its members are connected to the Internet.
- A high-speed Internet connection is essential to fully benefit from the developments of today’s digital world.
2. Human Capital

- Digital skills are a necessary prerequisite for a digital economy and society.
- Citizens must have the appropriate skills to take advantage of the Internet.
- Basic skills enable individuals to take part in the digital society.
- Advanced skills empower the workforce to develop digital goods and services for enhanced productivity and economic growth.
3. Use of Internet

- Citizens engage in a wide range of content-rich activities online:
  - They consume content (e.g. news, music, movies, TV or games).
  - They communicate in different ways (e.g. online video-calls or social networks).
  - They engage in transactions (e.g. banking or shopping online).
- Such activities are drivers for the development of broadband networks.
4. Integration of Digital Technology

- Business digitisation is one of the main contributors to enhanced economic growth.

- Adoption of digital technology enhances efficiency, reduces costs and allows for closer engagement with customers, collaborators or business partners.

- The ability to use the Internet as a sales outlet pushes businesses to modernise and allows them to exploit new sources of revenue.
Digital Public Services

- Digital technologies can improve business and citizen interaction with the public sector.
- Public administrations can better address business and citizen needs, while reducing costs.
- Better and more streamlined public services make citizens and businesses gain efficiency, both due to better functionality as well as to reductions in time spent.
Types of Analyses Based on the DESI

General performance assessment
- Characterisation of the performance of individual Member States by observing their overall index score and the scores of the main index dimensions.

Zooming-in
- Pinpoint the areas where Member State performance could be improved by analysing the scores of the index’s sub-dimensions and individual indicators.

Follow-up
- Assess progress over time in aggregate dimensions and individual indicators.

Comparative analysis
- Cluster Member States according to their index scores and growth from the previous year
- Comparisons between Member States in similar stages of digital development to flag the need for improvement in relevant policy areas.
The **iDESI** includes the same five dimensions as the DESI, but it is built on a slightly different set of indicators than DESI due to some DESI indicators not being available in non-EU countries.

As a result, the I-DESI rankings and scores are slightly different to those of the DESI.
Useful links


• DESI visualisation tool (graphs and numbers): https://digital-agenda-data.eu/datasets/desi/visualizations


• Download the new DESI Report 2019:
  - Connectivity - Broadband market developments in the EU (PDF)
  - Human Capital - Digital Inclusion and Skills (PDF)
  - Use of Internet Services (PDF)
  - Integration of Digital Technology (PDF)
  - Digital Public Services (PDF)
  - The EU ICT Sector and its R&D Performance (PDF)
  - Research and Innovation: ICT projects in Horizon 2020 Digital (PDF)

• Review country performance - Country Profiles

• Explore DESI Report Telecoms Chapters

• Explore DESI Data
Thank you!

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