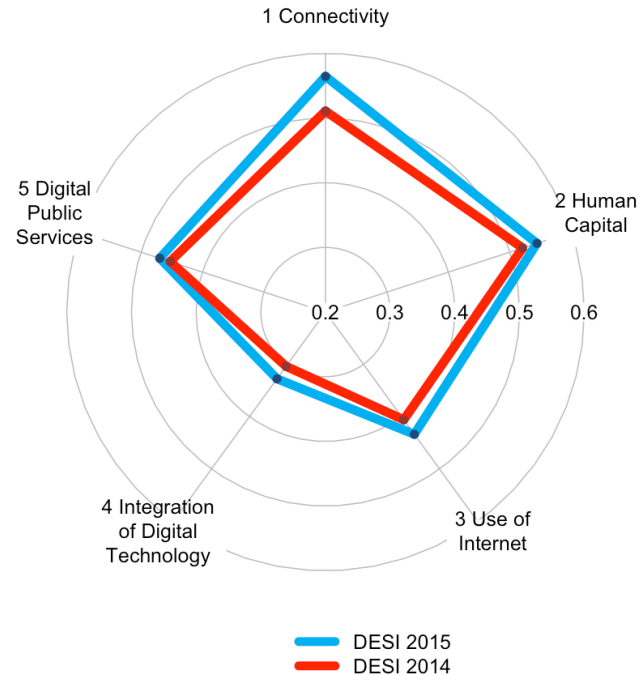


The European Union is progressing

In DESI 2015, the European Union as a whole scores 0.48, which represents an improvement in digital development in comparison to last year, when it scored 0.45.

The region performs best in Connectivity and Human Capital, but needs to progress in the use of Internet by citizens and even more so in Integration of Digital Technology by businesses.



While the EU improved in every DESI dimension over the last year, the greatest progress was attained in Connectivity (from 0.51 to 0.56). This is mostly due to significant improvements in the take-up of mobile broadband (from 64 to 72 subscribers per 100 people) and to the take-up of fast broadband (the share of fast connections increased from 21% to 25% of all broadband connections). The EU has also seen improvements in the basic digital skills of its citizens (from 55% to 59% of the population), but still has a long way to go in equipping its citizens with the necessary skills and competences to fully take advantage of the digital economy.

Digital developments are uneven across the EU

Digital developments are uneven across the European Union, despite some convergence in the performance of countries during the past year. In 2015 the overall score of the worst performing EU country (Romania – 0.3) was less than half the score of the best performing country (Denmark – 0.68).

Digital Public Services is the dimension where performance is most fragmented (with a gap of 0.6 between the worst and best performer). European countries perform most alike in Connectivity and in Use of Internet, i.e., member states are closer together in what concerns deployment and take-up of broadband infrastructure, and citizens have similar online attitudes once they have the skills to exploit the benefits of digital technologies.

Clustering of Member States

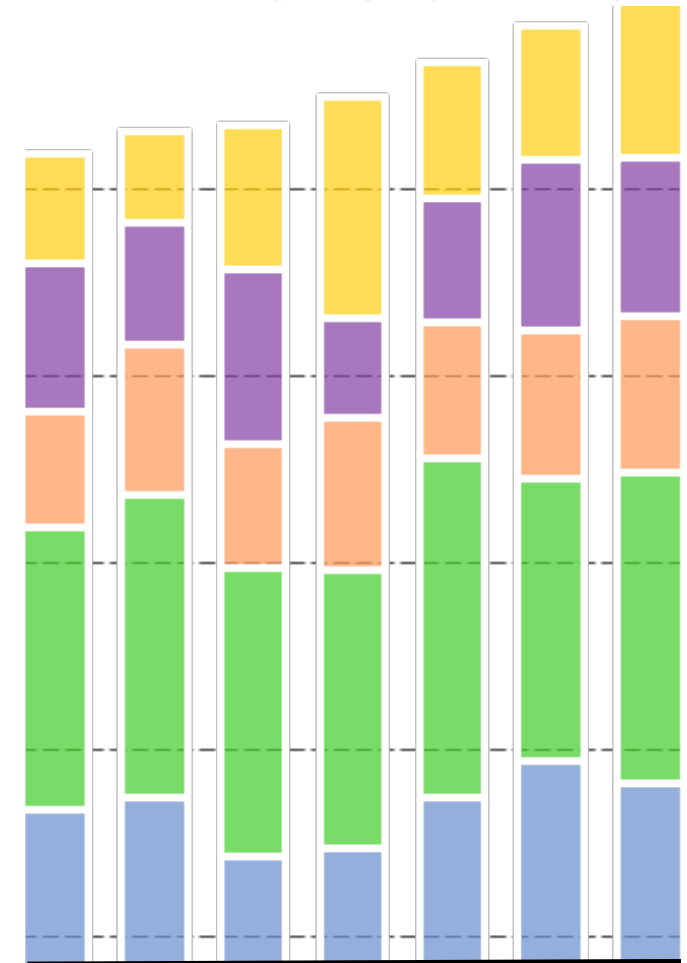
Denmark, Sweden, Finland and The Netherlands are the **highest performing countries**. They are ahead in the EU as well as world leaders in digital.

Belgium, the United Kingdom, Estonia, Luxembourg, Ireland, Germany, Lithuania, Spain, Austria, France, Malta and Portugal belong to the **medium-performance group**. They are doing well in certain areas but still need to progress in others.

The Czech Republic, Latvia, Slovenia, Hungary, Slovakia, Cyprus, Poland, Croatia, Italy, Greece, Bulgaria and Romania are the **slow performing countries**. They need to step up their performance in a number of areas and catch up with the rest of the EU.

DESI 2015 Digital Economy and Society Index

Measuring EU progress in digital



Explore the DESI online

<http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/digital-agenda-scoreboard>





DESI

The Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI) includes five main dimensions:

Connectivity

measures the deployment of broadband infrastructure and its quality. Access to fast broadband-enabled services is a necessary condition for competitiveness.

Human Capital

measures the skills needed to take advantage of the possibilities offered by a digital society. Such skills go from basic user skills that enable individuals to interact online and consume digital goods and services, to advanced skills that empower the workforce to take advantage of technology for enhanced productivity and economic growth.

Use of Internet

accounts for the variety of activities performed by citizens already online. Such activities range from consumption of online content (videos, music, games, etc.) to modern communication activities or online shopping and banking.

Integration of Digital Technology

measures the digitisation of businesses and their exploitation of the online sales channel. By adopting digital technology businesses can enhance efficiency, reduce costs and better engage customers, collaborators and business partners. Furthermore, the Internet as a sales outlet offers access to wider markets and potential for growth.

Digital Public Services

measures the digitisation of public services, and focuses in particular on eGovernment and eHealth. Modernisation and digitisation of public services, including eHealth, can lead to efficiency gains for the public administration, citizens and businesses alike as well as to the delivery of better services for the citizen.

