



A Digital Europe needs Digital Skills



Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition



@digitalskillsEU #DigitalSkills #DSJCoalition

All Europeans

There is a worrying **digital skills gap** in Europe.

Just **56%** of Europeans aged 16 to 75 have at least **basic digital skills**.



79% of EU citizens go online weekly, whereas **71%** do so every day.

63% of elderly people and those with low education levels or on low incomes use the internet weekly.

19% of Europeans have no digital skills at all. They do not know how to look for information on the web, read the news online, send emails or pay their bills online.



14% of Europeans have never used the internet.

More than **8 out of 10** Europeans use mobile phones to go online



Equipping people with the right skills

The EU faces a huge digital skills challenge. We need to upskill and reskill citizens and the labour force.

Policies need to be put in place to ensure that people at all ages have access to the appropriate digital skills. Developing skills is largely under the **competences of the Member States**, but the EU can help.

Through the Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition and other initiatives, the Commission seeks to reduce digital skills gaps by fostering the sharing, replication and upscaling of best practices in areas such as training and matching for digital jobs, certification and awareness raising.



The Commission has also launched the Digital Opportunity traineeship programme, which will give around 6,000 students of all disciplines hands-on experience in fields such as cybersecurity, data analytics, quantum or artificial intelligence as well as programming and software development. The first traineeships will start in 2018.

ICT specialists

The demand for ICT specialists is growing rapidly in all sectors of the economy.



Since 2005, **over 2 million more** ICT specialists were employed in the EU.

Over 90% of people with an **ICT education** in the EU has a job.

40% of enterprises who are looking to fill **ICT specialist jobs** say they have difficulties finding the right people.



Today there are at least **350,000 open vacancies for ICT specialists** in Europe and this figure is expected to increase.

Young People

In today's digitised world, **digital skills are as important as being able to read and write**. They are basic skills that everyone should have.

Less than half of the **children** are in highly **digitally-equipped schools**.



Only 20-25% of **school children** are taught by **digitally confident & supportive teachers**.



9 out of 10 young people (16 to 24 year old) use the **internet every day**.



1 out of 5 youngsters do not have **basic digital skills**. They are not browsing, chatting, mailing or shopping online – as most young people do.

Many companies say when **young people** leave education, they are **not ready yet for the workplace**.

Skills for work

Employees need sound digital skills to remain employable in today's digital working place.

Digital technologies are **used in all types of jobs** from farming, healthcare and travel businesses to car mechanics, teaching and the ICT industry.



Today **90%** of jobs require **basic digital skills**, such as sending emails, finding information on the internet and editing documents.

However, **37%** of the labour force don't have basic digital skills. Of these, **1 out of 3** do not have any digital skills at all.

38% of companies report that the lack of digital skills impact their performance. Loss of productivity (46%) and fewer customers (43%) are the main negative impacts.



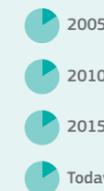
Women in ICT

Women are under-represented at all levels in the ICT sector, particularly in the decision-making positions.



Only **3.5%** of all university students study **Information and Communication Technology (ICT)**. And **less than 1 in 5** ICT graduates is a woman.

For every **1000 women graduates**, **only 24 take up jobs in the ICT sector**, and of those only **6 women in 1000** remain in the **digital sector**.



Only 16% of ICT jobs are held by women. **Since 2005** the numbers of women in the tech sector have remained equal. This means that **we have not seen an improvement at all**.