



# 2030 DIGITAL DECADE

**Annex  
Poland**

**REPORT ON THE STATE OF THE DIGITAL DECADE 2023**

# Digital Decade Country Report 2023: Poland

**Poland has scope to improve its performance in the digital transition and to contribute to the collective efforts to achieve the EU's Digital Decade targets.** There has been progress in the digitalisation of public services, with notable improvements to the flagship e-Government app and in e-health. Poland has also made progress on skills, but it should strive further to achieve the Digital Decade targets. Efforts in digital infrastructures also need to be stepped up, as 5G core spectrum bands are still not available, and the EU regulatory framework is not in place. At the same time, operators have continued to invest in fixed connectivity. The coordination of digital policies was moved to the newly re-created Ministry of Digital Affairs on 1 May 2023.

Poland is collaborating with other Member States in exploring the possibility to set up **European Digital Infrastructure Consortia (EDICs)** on: (i) establishing an Alliance for Language Technologies, to develop a common infrastructure in the field of natural language processing and to develop large multi-language models; and (ii) Innovative Massive Public Administration Inter-Connected Transformation Services, to develop a new generation of advanced cross-border services. Poland is one of the Member States that have jointly submitted a formal application to set up the European Blockchain Partnership and the EDIC on European Blockchain Infrastructure, supporting EU-wide cross-border public services.

## DIGITAL SKILLS

The most recent figures on digital basic skills put Poland below the EU average and show a considerable gap with the EU Digital Decade target of 80%. In 2021, 43% of people aged 16-74 had at least basic digital skills (EU 54%) and 21% had above basic digital skills (EU: 26%). Nonetheless, the education system continued to mainstream ICT in the curricula and provide funding for schools and other entities. The activities of NGOs were a major force in providing support outside the formal system, including activities financed from public funds, with initiatives such as [Zdalna Szkoła+](#) (Remote School), [Lekcja:Enter](#), or [Digital Festival](#) providing support to remote education and other digital activities. The recent adoption of the Digital Competence Development Programme is likely to improve the coordination of governmental policies in this area, while actions focused on digitalisation of for schools could be strengthened. In Poland, the share of ICT specialists in total employment is 3.6%, below the EU average of 4.6%. Moreover, the share of women among ICT specialists is, at 16.7%, also well below the EU average of 18.9%

**Poland should step up its efforts in the area of digital skills.** In particular, Poland should strengthen digital skills in primary, secondary, and vocational education and training and step up the upskilling and reskilling of the labour force, paying special attention to advanced and emerging technologies.

### DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE

There has been a steady increase in the percentage of households covered by fixed very high-capacity networks: 71% in 2022 compared to 65% in 2020 and close to the EU average of 73% while still below the EU target of gigabit connectivity everywhere. The situation is less positive in mobile connectivity with 63% of households covered by 5G in 2022, which is below the EU average of 81%. 5G has been provided based on frequency bands other than the 5G priority ones that enable enhanced services, because the auctions had been delayed with the 3.6 GHz one launched only in June 2023. On the regulatory side, the European Electronic Communication Code which was expected to be adopted in December 2020, has not been transposed into national law. On quantum computing, Poland takes part in LUMI-Q, a multinational consortium working to provide a Europe-wide quantum computing environment and a Quantum Hub was launched to develop and implement quantum computing technologies. Poland is a member of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking on high-performance computing and of the European Blockchain Partnership. It launched the European Blockchain Service Infrastructure node in 2022 and has developed various parts of the system since then. Poland is participating in the Important Project of Common European Interest (IPCEI) on Microelectronics and Communication Technologies with one direct participant active in photonics, and private investments in a large chips back-end manufacturing plant have been announced.

**Poland should step up its efforts on connectivity infrastructure.** To incentivise the development of robust connectivity, the current EU regulatory framework needs to be transposed into the national regulations. The assignment of the radio spectrum needed for 5G connectivity in a transparent, open and non-discriminatory way is also necessary to achieve the Digital Decade 5G targets. Measures taken by Poland in the field of semiconductors and quantum computing should continue in order to help the EU to become a strong market player in these areas.

### DIGITALISATION OF BUSINESSES

Poland's performance remains below the EU average with significant progress still needed in terms of the uptake of advanced technologies. In the area of advanced technologies, in 2021 19% of companies were using cloud solutions, but only 3% used AI and in 2020 9% used big data analysis. 61% of Polish SMEs have at least a basic level of digital intensity, which is below the EU average of 69%. Nonetheless, in 2022, the integration of digital technology in businesses' activities has progressed steadily. Various governmental bodies supported this drive using public funding, in particular from EU funds.

**Poland should significantly step up its efforts in the area of digitalisation of businesses.** In particular, Poland should facilitate access to advanced technologies including AI, big data and the cloud through sustained measures including improved access to training, incentives and knowledge transfer. It should also continue to support SMEs in their efforts to raise their uptake of advanced technologies and by encouraging start-up ecosystems.



### DIGITALISATION OF PUBLIC SERVICES

Poland is still underperforming in the online availability of digital services, scoring 60 on digital public services for citizens (EU average: 77) and 73 for businesses (EU average: 84). On e-Government services, 63% of internet users relied on e-Government services, which was converging close to the EU average of 74% in 2022. The mObywatel application is being further improved (covering a national ID card, driver's licence, or pensioner's card) and has gained popularity with 9.1 million users in December 2022. On access to e-health records, Poland scores at 86, significantly better than the EU average (72 in 2022). The Patient's Portal provides improved services capitalising on the successful introduction of e-prescriptions. The mobile version of the portal is being constantly upgraded. An IT tool is available to public administration for searching, comparing and purchasing cloud services, and has been complemented by a government cloud services.

**Poland should step up its efforts to digitalise public services.**

### DIGITAL IN POLAND'S RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE PLAN (RRP)

Measures contributing to the digital transition account for 21.3% (over EUR 7.5 billion) of the plan's total allocation, of which EUR 6.8 billion is expected to contribute to the Digital Decade targets<sup>1</sup>. They consist of rolling out connectivity, both fixed broadband and 5G, improving the delivery of public services to businesses and citizens as well as the digitisation of public administration, while strengthening their resilience and cybersecurity. Poland has yet to submit a payment request for the first tranche of the RRF money.

<sup>1</sup> Based on Annex VII of the RRF Regulation. Furthermore, a qualitative assessment of the data took place to allow for an estimation of the possible contribution of RRF measures to the Digital Decade targets and the remaining part is also supporting the general objectives of the Digital Decade. This applies to all descriptions of the RRFs included in this Annex. The information provided refers to the Recovery and Resilience Plan as adopted by the Council before 1 September 2023, without prejudice to potential ongoing revisions of the plan.