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Digital Decade 2026 country report

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State of the Digital Decade 2026: Closing structural gaps and mobilising investments for 2030 and beyond

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European Commission

DIGITAL DECADE COUNTRY REPORT 2026

Greece

Greece

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Executive summary

Overall, Greece has made significant progress in its digital transition, particularly in establishing a framework for the safe and resilient use of digital technologies across the economy and society. Recent key achievements include the adoption of a new national framework for data governance and a cybersecurity strategy to strengthen the country's digital resilience. However, these advancements have yet to be translated into tangible benefits, notably for businesses, which continue to lag behind in both basic digital adoption and the uptake of advanced technologies. Structural weaknesses in digital skills also persist. While the vast majority of young people have at least basic digital skills, the proportion of the entire population with at least basic digital skills has shown no progress since 2023.

The slow pace of business digitalisation risks undermining Greece's **competitiveness.** Low levels of digital adoption prevent businesses from capitalising on digital innovation and emerging transformative technologies. Furthermore, the persistent gap in digital skills and the shortage of ICT specialists limit access to a trained workforce, further hindering digital transformation.

Despite these challenges, Greece is rapidly developing assets that could drive future progress in **digital leadership**. The AI Factory 'Pharos' was formally established as a legal entity in 2025; four additional AI Factory Antennas have also been launched in countries of the region. In the area of quantum communications, Greece is coordinating a project to develop a secure and scalable infrastructure connecting the national quantum communication infrastructures of four EU countries. The initiative will provide ultra-secure communication channels bolstering Europe's cybersecurity resilience. Greece is also investing in semiconductors, having recently established the Hellenic Chips Competence Centre. Public and private stakeholders in the sector have started initial collaboration with the prospect of developing an ecosystem in Greece. Additionally, a major European Investment Bank (EIB) investment in a new gallium production facility in Greece marks a significant step toward strengthening Europe's strategic autonomy in critical raw materials.

Greece in the Digital Decade

Greece shows a moderate level of ambition in its contribution to the Digital Decade having set 14 national targets (out of 14 possible), 57% of which are aligned with the EU 2030 targets. In its national roadmap, Greece provided 13 trajectories points for 2025 (out of 13 analysed). The country is following them moderately well with 62% considered to be on track. Greece has addressed 83% of the six recommendations issued by the Commission in 2025, either by implementing significant policy changes (16%) or making some changes (67%) through new measures. According to the national roadmap, by the end of 2026, 42% of the measures will come to an end. The total public budget associated with these measures is EUR 3.69 billion, representing 60% of the total public budget outlined in the roadmap.

According to the special Eurobarometer on 'the Digital Decade 2026', 76% of respondents in Greece consider that digital policy should be a very high/high priority for the EU in shaping Europe's future. They also think that, in the next 10 years, the EU should cooperate with Member States to reinforce cybersecurity and protection online (93%), promote digital education and skills programmes (90%) and strengthen the regulation of online platforms - e.g. online social media networks, marketplaces, app stores, etc. (8%). In addition, 82% of respondents think that the EU should reduce its dependence on digital from third countries, and 85% that the EU should prioritise investments in digital infrastructure

and services that are developed and controlled in Europe. 56% would be willing to switch to an EU-based digital service provider even if it meant slightly higher costs.

Funding for digital and multi-country projects

Greece allocates 22% of its total recovery and resilience plan to digital (EUR 7.8 billion). In addition, under the cohesion policy, EUR 3.1 billion, representing 15% of the country's total cohesion policy funding, is dedicated to advancing Greece's digital transformation.

Greece is the host Member State of the IMPACTS-EDIC, a European Digital Infrastructure Consortium (EDIC) established in December 2025 to boost interoperable digital solutions and services for public administrations across multiple countries. The country is also a member of the Alliance for Language Technologies EDIC and of the EUROPEUM EDIC, which seeks to strengthen cooperation on blockchain. Furthermore, Greece has been chosen by applicant Member States to host the CSC-EDIC on cybersecurity skills. Greece is directly participating in the Important Project of Common European Interest (IPCEI) on Microelectronics and Communication Technologies (IPCEI-ME/CT) and is a participating Member State of two Joint Undertakings (JUs), the EuroHPC JU and the Chips JU.

Digital Decade KPI (1)	Greece				EU		Digital Decade target by 2030	
	Last available data (2)	DESI 2026 (year 2025)	Annual progress	National trajectory 2025 (3)	DESI 2026	Annual progress	EL	EU
Fixed Very High Capacity Network	46.1%	59.8%	29.7%	51.0%	85.5%	3.7%	100.0%	100%
Fibre to the Premises (FTTP) coverage	46.1%	59.8%	29.7%	51.0%	74.1%	7.1%	100.0%	-
Overall 5G coverage	99.8%	99.5%	-0.3%	90.0%	96.8%	2.6%	100.0%	100%
Edge Nodes (estimate, new methodology)	-	89	-	5	7451	-	95	10 000
SMEs with at least a basic level of digital intensity *	43.3%	56.0%	13.7%	55.6%	71.4%	11.0%	79.7%	90%
Cloud *	18.1%	21.3%	8.4%	23.2%	46.7%	9.5%	56.0%	75%
Artificial Intelligence	9.8%	8.9%	-9.0%	12.0%	20.0%	48.0%	32.0%	75%
Data analytics *	25.0%	31.5%	12.2%	18.3%	39.9%	9.5%	40.0%	75%
AI or Cloud or Data analytics *	33.5%	40.8%	10.3%	-	63.2%	7.5%	-	75%
Unicorns	3	3	0.0%	6	324	10.2%	20	500
At least basic digital skills *	52.4%	51.0%	-1.4%	61.4%	60.4%	4.3%	70.2%	80%
ICT specialists	2.5%	2.5%	0.0%	3.2%	5.0%	2.0%	4.5%	~10%
e-ID scheme notification		No						
Digital public services for citizens	76.7	79.4	3.4%	76.2	84.6	2.8%	98.2	100
Digital public services for businesses	78.6	86.0	9.4%	84.4	88.6	2.7%	100.0	100
Access to electronic health records	73.8	93.8	27.0%	72.1	86.5	4.6%	100.0	100

(1) Indicators full description, metadata and sources in the DESI 2026 methodological note
(2) Last available data is DESI2025 (reference year 2024) except for indicators marked with a star * for which it is DESI2024 (reference year 2023)
(3) National trajectory value for 2025, if set by the country in its Digital Decade national roadmap

A competitive, sovereign and resilient EU based on technological leadership

On gigabit connectivity, Greece continues to make steady progress in fibre deployment, in line with its national trajectory, though it remains below the EU average. In sparsely populated areas, a very low

level of coverage is observed across regions, with significant disparities between urban and rural areas. On the other hand, 5G coverage is equally well deployed across the country. Leveraging its strategic geographical position at the crossroads of three continents, Greece has also taken steps to enhance connectivity across borders and strengthen the resilience and security of its digital infrastructure. This includes the development of submarine cables and attracting investment for the deployment of data centres, creating significant opportunities in a rapidly expanding sector. However, the digital transformation of SMEs is progressing too slowly to meaningfully contribute to economic growth and competitiveness. Persistent challenges remain, including a limited absorption capacity, particularly among micro enterprises, a shortage of digital skills and remaining administrative bottlenecks, all of which risk hindering progress towards the 2030 Digital Decade target. The uptake of AI by businesses overall was also slow compared to the EU average in 2025. On a positive note, the emerging AI ecosystem centred around the AI Factory, along with broader investments in high-tech sectors – such as quantum communications and data centres – could generate a positive spillover effect for the wider economy. Greece is rapidly developing its digital leadership capabilities, and in 2025, it further strengthened the framework conditions for a thriving digital economy by adopting a new framework for data governance and a national cybersecurity strategy to enhance cyber resilience in the face of evolving threats in line with EU regulations.

Protecting and empowering EU people and society

In 2025, only half of people aged 16 to 74 (50.96%) in Greece possessed at least basic digital skills, a 1.4% annual decline since 2023, broadening the gap with the EU average of 60.40%. This trend is particularly alarming compared to the EU's annual growth rate of 4.3% over the same period. Greece has implemented several initiatives to integrate digital skills into the education system, and the key performance indicator confirms that educational attainment significantly influences digital proficiency. Individuals with no or low formal education face considerable challenge, 22.62% only having at least a basic level of digital skills. This underlines the importance of educational initiatives to address the digital skills gap. Additionally, the country has launched large-scale upskilling and reskilling programmes across different population segments. Despite these efforts, however, in 2025 the KPI overall performance showed a slight decrease while disparities between age groups remain. In particular a drastic fall in the percentage of people having at least basic digital skills is observed in age groups above 34 years old. Furthermore, the share of ICT specialists in employment is stagnating at 2.5% since the previous year. To address this issue, Greece has intensified efforts to expand its pipeline of future digital talent and ICT specialists through multiple channels, including education reforms, reskilling and upskilling programmes, monitoring of the situation and use of a labour market diagnostic tool. Nevertheless, the shortage of ICT specialists in employment remains one of Greece's most pressing challenges in its digital transition.

Greece continues to progress in implementing its national strategy for digitalisation of public services with significant milestones reached in 2025 in terms of enhancing the resilience and security of public services and data. Extensive use of the new Governmental Cloud (G-Cloud) funded by the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), significantly improved efficiency and security. The new national data governance framework also serves as the foundation for interoperability across government clouds (G-Cloud); standardisation of health data formats; privacy safeguards, and interoperability with the health Cloud (H-Cloud). As regards the availability of digital public services online, the availability of cross-border services for businesses improved considerably but remained below the EU average. In terms of domestic online services for citizens by governance level, central government services scored highest, followed by regional government, with local government services lagging behind. The justice

system is becoming more digital but there is room to further expand the use of digital communication with courts.

Recommendations

- **Building technological leadership**: Strategically consolidate the emerging innovation-enabling framework in Greece to foster and sustain public and private investments into a high-tech digital infrastructure for the country (edge computing, quantum infrastructure, data centres). Leverage available public funding to consolidate the recently established assets, such as 'Pharos' the national AI Factory, the Hellenic Chips Competence Centre, the quantum communication projects. A special attention should be given to emerging technologies (e.g. semiconductors), as enablers for many other applications and sectors.
- **Digital skills**: Address the widening digital skills gap and reverse the declining trend in basic digital skills. Strengthen targeted interventions, as a priority, for groups presenting the lowest percentage of at least basic digital skills, such as (i) people without formal education or with a low level of formal education, (ii) older people, (iii) rural population, to help ensure an inclusive development of digital skills across all population groups.
- **Uptake of AI**: Reinforce measures to accelerate the uptake of AI by enterprises in their sectors to optimise their growth capabilities and remain competitive. By taking advantage of the recent national strategies in AI and data, shape and adapt the emerging AI ecosystem, in a timely way, around the 'Pharos' AI Factory with other actors of the ecosystem (such as the Greek EDIHs, the Testing and Experimentation Facilities (TEFs), the future AI regulatory sandboxes). Foster a culture of innovation and digital literacy within enterprises to enable the adoption of AI and respond to challenges and priorities in line with the EU Apply AI Strategy.
- **Digitalisation of SMEs**: Encourage SMEs to speed up their digitalisation path through the adoption of innovative technological solutions to boost their productivity and competitiveness. Create incentives in different sectors to strengthen the capacities of SMEs and enable them to benefit from the spillover effect of public and private investments in innovative advanced digital technology that are rapidly developing in the country, to include the SMEs in growth opportunities and to create partnerships useful for their productivity and competitiveness.
- **ICT specialists**: Intensify effort, investment and incentives, to attract and retain ICT specialists in Greece to close the persistent gap in the supply of ICT specialists and ensure that the human capital matches the scale of the country's ongoing digital transition, and the need for gender balance. Monitor the labour market to strengthen the offer of training in high-in-demand digital sectors. Acting in formal education path to increase the share of ICT graduates and in aligning upskilling and reskilling programmes to the demand generated by the rapid deployment of digital technologies in all sectors, for workers and the economy to rapidly benefit from the digital transition.
- **Connectivity**: Pursue the redundancy of backbone networks including submarine cables. Accelerate the rollout of fibre infrastructure, including through more coordinated approach to regulation at national and regional level ensuring a balanced deployment in rural areas. Where deemed necessary, in particular to reduce regional disparities, leverage available public funding to accelerate the deployment and take-up of advanced electronic communication infrastructure. In this context, foster the copper networks switch-off, as a key enabling factor to boost investment and accelerate the greater availability of VHCN; use upcoming spectrum licence renewals to introduce pro-investment conditions.

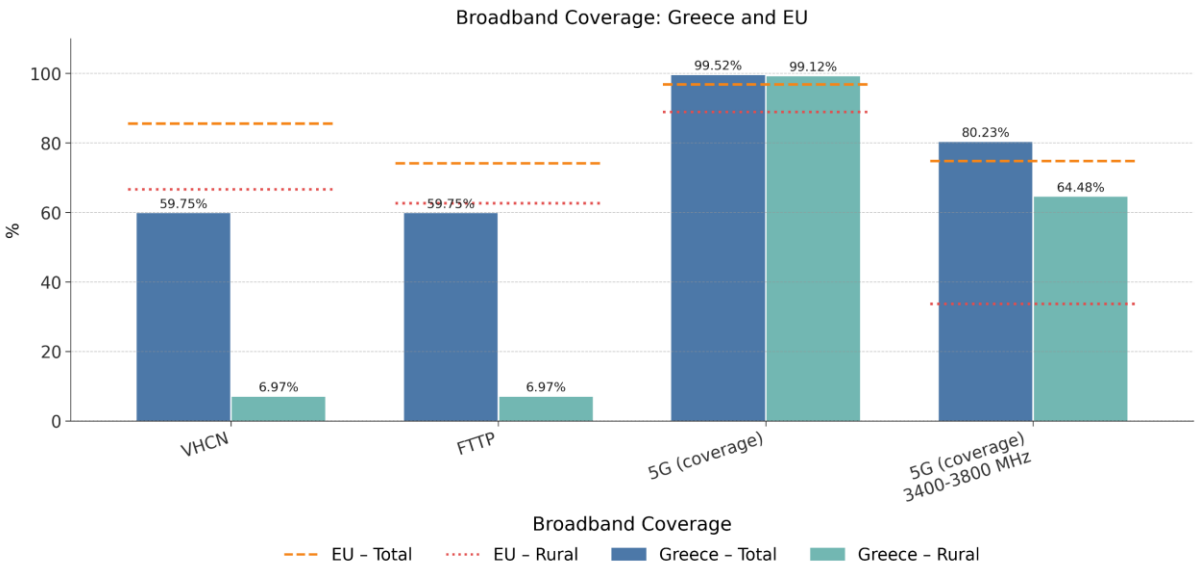
- **Digital Public Services**: Accelerate the availability of cross-border public services online for businesses and people. Expand the implementation of the country's national strategy for digitalisation of the public services and sector, with a special attention to support local and regional authorities in digitalising services. Further digitalise judicial proceedings—including cross-border services—by deploying necessary IT solutions and increasing the uptake of digital tools by courts to improve their electronic access for citizens and businesses.

A competitive, sovereign and resilient EU based on technological leadership

Building technological leadership: digital infrastructure and technologies

Connectivity infrastructure

Performance assessment



Greece achieved a coverage of 59.75% in very high-capacity networks (VHCN) in 2025, following an annual progress of 29.7%. The country is on track according to its national trajectory, although it remains below the EU average of 85.54%. In 2024 Greece's coverage was 46.06%, below the EU's 82.49%. Despite a lower coverage, Greece's growth rate in deploying VHCN is faster than the EU's average EU of 3.7% in the same period. Greece's fibre coverage increased from 10.17% in 2020 to 59.75% in 2025, a significant rise in six years. For households in sparsely populated areas, VHCN coverage reached 6.97% in 2025, a 113.4% increase from the 2024 figure of 3.26%. This is notably lower than the EU average of 66.66%, highlighting a wide urban/rural digital divide, despite a higher growth rate than the EU's 7.7%.

In the absence of coaxial networks, Greece's fibre to the premises (FTTP) coverage is 59.75%, largely reflecting its total VHCN coverage. This result is lower than the EU average of 74.13%. At the same time, Greece had a growth rate of 29.7%, significantly higher than the average EU growth rate of 7.1%. The country is on track according to the national trajectory presented in its strategic Digital Decade roadmap. In terms of subscriptions, 0.00% of households in Greece had a fixed broadband subscription for a service providing at least 1 Gbps was in 2025, while the EU average was 26.97%. 44.66% had subscriptions for a service of at least 100 Mbps lower than the EU average (76.24%) but representing an increase of 28.14%.

In contrast to fixed connectivity, Greece performs very well in wireless communications, with an overall 5G coverage of 99.52% in 2025, above the EU average (96.79%). In 2024 Greece already stood above the EU average (94.35%) with a 5G coverage of 99.80%. At 2.6% the EU's growth rate was higher

than Greece's, but a slowing rate is only to be expected as the saturation point approaches. The country is on track according to its national trajectory, even ahead of its forecast for 2025 as presented in its Digital Decade strategic roadmap. In sparsely populated areas, Greece's 5G coverage was close to the overall coverage in 2025 at 99.12%, very similar to the 2024 figure of 99.29% and significantly above the EU's average of 88.88% in 2025 and 79.58% in 2024.

Greece's 5G coverage in the 3.4-3.8 GHz band was 80.23% in 2025, a 10.0% increase from the previous year and above the EU average of 74.75%. The EU's growth rate of 10.6% thus slightly exceeded Greece's. In sparsely populated areas, Greece's 5G coverage in the 3.4-3.8 GHz band reached 64.48% in 2025, after a significant annual growth of 57.2% confirming the trend of speedy deployment. The growth rate observed in Greece surpassed the average EU rate of 32.9%.

In terms of 5G mobile subscriptions, 35.87% of Greece's population have a 5G SIM card in 2025, This is lower than the EU average of 55.55% up from 35.56% in 2024, showing a growth of 56.2%. There is no data available for Greece in 2024.

Greece has made significant strides in deploying gigabit connectivity infrastructure. Although its VHCN and FTTP coverage rate is lower than the EU average, Greece's growth rates significantly exceed EU's growth rates, indicating rapid progress. In overall 5G and in the 3.4-3.8 GHz band, Greece also has higher coverage rates than the EU average. In terms of take-up, overall, the findings also indicate considerable differences in broadband take-up indicators between Greece and the EU average.

The overview of VHCN, FTTP and 5G coverage across Greece's NUTS-2 regions (basic regions in the EU nomenclature of territorial units for statistical and regional policy purpose) shows that in terms of fixed broadband coverage, sparsely populated areas have a very low level of coverage across all regions. In contrast, 5G coverage is equally well deployed across the country.

	VHCN coverage		FTTP Coverage		5G Coverage	
	Overall	Rural	Overall	Rural	Overall	Rural
National coverage	59.75%	6.97%	59.75%	6.97%	99.52%	99.12%
Eastern Macedonia and Thrace	50.71%	6.40%	50.71%	6.40%	98.92%	98.98%
Attica	89.34%	4.34%	89.34%	4.34%	99.97%	99.90%
Western Greece	40.02%	3.41%	40.02%	3.41%	98.80%	98.74%
Western Macedonia	48.16%	3.94%	48.16%	3.94%	99.38%	99.38%
Ionian Islands	14.31%	2.52%	14.31%	2.52%	99.33%	99.44%
Epirus	7.12%	1.80%	7.12%	1.80%	98.90%	98.81%
Central Macedonia	79.56%	26.22%	79.56%	26.22%	99.76%	99.65%
Crete	26.74%	3.74%	26.74%	3.74%	99.30%	99.20%
South Aegean	4.90%	0.66%	4.90%	0.66%	99.51%	99.50%
Peloponnese	37.20%	4.92%	37.20%	4.92%	98.86%	98.81%
Central Greece	16.50%	2.43%	16.50%	2.43%	98.88%	98.77%
Thessaly	29.51%	3.19%	29.51%	3.19%	99.32%	99.29%
North Aegean	21.32%	2.54%	21.32%	2.54%	98.76%	98.70%

Policy context and assessment of recommendations

Achieving extensive VHCN coverage is a challenge for Greece due toits geography. Nevertheless, deployment continues to expand rapidly, and the country is on track according to its national trajectory. The KPI results achieved by Greece in 2025 even exceeded its forecast for that year in its national trajectories for both VHCN and FTTP.

Electronic communication service providers are implementing extensive investment programmes, continuing to deploy FTTP infrastructures at rapid pace. As mentioned in last year's report, with the recent entry of new operators on the market and all operators having major investment plans, rapid progress is expected in the roll-out of Fiber to the Home (FTTH) network. Furthermore, the flagship public-private investment 'Ultra-Fast Broadband' (UFFB) to deploy fibre infrastructure in semi-urban and rural areas is progressing well. Over 10 000 end-users have access to commercial services since December 2025, under the first part of the contract, and another 10 000 users will have access by March 2026. For the second part of the contract, signed in December 2025 for the four remaining lots, construction work is expected to start within the next few months. The total amount of the UFBB investment is approximately EUR 745 million, with approximately EUR 251 million from the EU structural funds. The implementation of this project is expected to significantly contribute to reducing the digital divide between rural and urban areas in Greece with an estimation of 830 000 households and businesses covered in underserved areas.

On the implementation of the Gigabit Infrastructure Act (GIA), the General Secretariat for Telecommunications and Post at the Ministry of Digital Governance set up a dedicated working group — which also collaborates with EETT, the National Regulatory Authority, to map the legislative interventions required to reflect the provisions of the GIA in the national legislation framework. Through this process, a number of alignment points were identified, particularly in relation to infrastructure construction procedures and their interaction with the existing legislative framework. In response, a comprehensive law has been drafted, reflecting GIA's provisions and establishing a coherent and consistent framework for the execution of civil works. Following a public consultation period, the law is expected to be submitted for consent to the Parliament within the upcoming weeks.

In the licensing domain, the e-Dieleysis system is a key enabler for the accelerated deployment of telecommunications infrastructure. The platform has been fully operational and mandatory, since September 2024, streamlining right-of-way procedures, reducing the bureaucratic overhead, and enabling comprehensive centralised oversight of all ongoing projects. To date (May 2026), it has processed over 5 000 licensing requests, reflecting strong uptake across the sector. The continuous improvement of the system's performance remains a priority. Key indicators such as licensing turnaround times by provider and region are actively monitored to identify opportunities for further efficiency gains. In this context, operators have flagged a number of areas for improvement such as the coordination with local authorities, the alignment of permit procedures especially when involving multiple authorities (e.g. for environmental compliance), and the need for further harmonisation of local frameworks. Addressing these areas will be instrumental in sustaining deployment momentum and reducing the costs across the board.

The General Secretariat for Telecommunications and Post is currently developing a new unified information platform for electronic communications networks and services in Greece. The platform is design to enable continuous, evidence-based monitoring of both mobile and fixed network performance, and to support the early identification of coverage and quality gaps across the country. It will integrate data from a wide range of sources, including the Broadband Map, e-Dieleysis, market datasets, crowdsourced Quality of Experience measurements from other platforms such as Ookla, nPerf, and OpenSignal, and monitoring and interference data. For fixed broadband, the platform will track VHCN/FTTP availability and real-world performance metrics by area, latency and packet-loss levels and the penetration of 100 Mbps and 1 Gbps services, enabling targeted identification of persistently underperforming regions. For mobile networks, it will enable systematic monitoring of coverage and actual service quality across technologies and frequency bands encompassing

geographic and indoor coverage, download and upload speeds, latency and jitter, call and session stability, 5G availability and user experience across key applications including web browsing and video streaming. The General-Secretariat considers this monitoring capability a strategic priority. Independent measurements by nPerf and Ookla for 2025 already point to meaningful performance differences between providers. These findings underline the value of continuous, granular quality monitoring as a complement to nominal coverage figures, and as a foundation for informed policy and regulatory action.

The resulting information will support operational interventions and substantiated strategic decision-making at a time when Greece is working on its future Broadband Plan (2026-2030). Currently, it is difficult to estimate the investment need between now and 2030. Thanks to the new platform, the Ministry of Digital Governance will strive to have an estimate by mid-2026 to define a strategy for addressing the remaining gaps to reach the Digital Decade KPI by 2030.

As for 5G mobile networks, in early 2026, EETT, launched a public consultation on the assignment methodology and specific procedural details related to the allocation of rights in the 900 MHz and 1800 MHz frequency bands scheduled to expire in 2027. EETT is considering granting rights of use of a duration of 20 years, or of indefinite duration subject to periodic review of obligations every 20 years. Telecommunication providers have continued to intensively upgrade their infrastructure, focusing on full coverage with 5G Standalone (SA) technology, as the basis for advanced industrial and business applications.

EETT also recently issued a new regulation[1] establishing a framework for conducting measurement campaigns of quality indicators for mobile broadband communications networks. The regulation enables EETT to measure the characteristics and performance of mobile broadband communication networks, taking into account BEREC Guidelines on Quality of Service Parameters. The regulation was put out to public consultation before it was adopted.

Regarding copper switch-off, EETT has defined detailed procedures and specified the coverage and take-up criteria that must be met to switch off the legacy copper network in a given area. In 2025, the incumbent operator initiated copper switch-off up to the building in six local exchanges with more than 145 000 subscribers. According to EETT's data (at 31/12/2025), eight local exchanges, serving more than 240 000 subscribers, either fulfil or are very close to fulfilling requirements for copper switch-off up to the building. At the same time, 37 local exchanges, with approximately 950 000 subscribers, either fulfil or are very close to fulfilling requirements for partial copper switch-off, up to the cabinet. Finally, EETT introduced the possibility for operators to announce Fibre to the Cabinet (FTTC) stop sell in buildings connected to FTTH or in whole Local Exchange areas fully covered by their fibre network.

In March 2026, the 'Mission Critical Networks' (MCNGR) tender to create a 'National System of Critical Wireless Communications' was put out to public consultation. The aim is to establish a joint national mission-critical communications system for the Hellenic Police, the Hellenic Coast Guard and other public safety and emergency agencies (budget: EUR 180 million). Current technology trends strongly support the use of mission-critical voice, video, and data services over 4G/5G networks, based on 3GPP standards, for modern, interoperable, and resilient communications for civil protection and public safety. This could be complemented by satellite solutions to ensure redundancy and coverage in remote areas or during emergency conditions.

[1] EETT Decision 1182/2B/2026, OJ B 705, 12/02/2026

Greece considers terrestrial and submarine optical infrastructures as a strategic pillar for national resilience and enhanced connectivity. The total capacity of international cable systems landing in Greece is expected to exceed 3 000 Tbps by 2030 (up from less than 500 Tbps in 2023). Additionally, more than 80 submarine cables currently interconnect Greek islands. The SEA SPINE project includes plans for seven new submarine links totalling 563 km, along with 231 km of terrestrial network segments, connecting 11 islands.

In 2025, another major initiative - the East-Aegean Network (EAN) - was selected for co-funding under the CEF Digital programme. The project aims to deploy optical interconnections between Crete, the Eastern Aegean islands, Thrace, and Bulgaria. The proposed plans are to instal approximately 1 300 km of submarine optical cables and a 280 km terrestrial network (including 90 km on islands), with design capacity of up to 20 Tbps per fibre.

In March 2026, Greece presented a study on the development and location of data centres, a subject closely linked to the new submarine cables. Jointly presented by the Ministry of Digital Governance and AI, the Ministry of Environment and Energy and the Ministry of Development, the study identifies the criteria to be considered in the planning for new data centres. It will act as a roadmap for installation of new data centres with proper energy distribution and implementation of energy infrastructure required to support them linked to the design of a new submarine and terrestrial backbone network. There is already a lot of initiatives from the private sector to invest in data centres all over Greece. The study mentions possible investments leading to a capacity exceeding 1GW, twenty times the current capacity. Interest comes from many areas in Greece, not only Attica, also Sparta, Peloponnese, Western Macedonia where the Public Power Corporation (PPC) plans to invest in a big data centre. This development will contribute to building technological leadership in Greece.

Semiconductors

In June 2025, Greece announced the launch of the Hellenic Chips Competence Centre (HCCC). With this decision, the country joins European efforts to reduce external dependence, contributing to the EU's strategic policy of sovereignty in line with the European Chips Act. The HCCC is the result of a partnership between industry, the Hellenic Emerging Technologies Industry Association (HETiA) and the Ministry of Development, with funding in the order of EUR 7.26 million, co-funded by the EU.

Edge nodes

Performance assessment

Greece had an estimated 89 edge nodes by 2025 according to the Edge Node Observatory report. Due to a change in the methodology, this number cannot be compared to previous estimations.

Policy context and assessment of recommendations

Edge computing is also gaining traction in Greece, with companies specialising in cloud-based and IoT solutions becoming key players in boosting edge computing capabilities. The Institute of Communication and Computer Systems at the National Technical University of Athens is a significant research institution in this field, contributing to interdisciplinary research and fostering innovation. Additionally, HETiA and the University of Thessaly have hosted conferences spotlighting Greece's advancements in edge computing, bridging the gap between academic research and industry application. In this dynamic context, demand for skilled professionals in cloud and edge technologies is increasing, as major providers plan to establish local cloud and edge infrastructure in Greece.

Greece

Quantum technologies

The Ministry of Digital Governance and Artificial Intelligence is currently preparing a quantum technology strategy for Greece, expected to be released in 2026.

In 2025, Greece reinforced its strategic role in the rapidly emerging field of quantum communications by participating in two European projects under the CEF Digital programme. These projects, South-East Europe to Western Europe Quantum Communication Infrastructure (SEEWQCI) and Cross-border interoperability of optical ground stations in Ireland, Luxembourg, Germany and Greece for quantum key distribution within the Eagle-1 mission (TransEuroOGS) build upon successful implementation of HellasQCI, the National Quantum Communication Infrastructure, which is now entering its second phase through the deployment of cross-border EuroQCI infrastructures and interoperability activities at European level. Coordinated by the National Infrastructures for Research and Technology (GRNET) under the political guidance of the Ministry of Digital Governance and AI, and the General Secretariat of Telecommunications and Post, these projects will contribute to strengthening the resilience of critical infrastructure and represent a strategic investment in national security and digital sovereignty.

The SEEWQCI project, coordinated by Greece, will develop a secure and scalable infrastructure interconnecting the National Quantum Communication Infrastructures of Greece, Bulgaria, Cyprus, and the Netherlands. By advancing the technological maturity of EuroQCI and IRIS² through a hybrid terrestrial–satellite architecture, the project will provide ultra-secure communication channels for governments, national security authorities (NSAs), and security operations centres (SOCs), while enhancing Europe's overall cybersecurity resilience. It aims to deploy a 1 100 km terrestrial quantum network between Greece and Bulgaria, forming the initial segment of a Balkan Corridor linking South-East Europe with Central and Western Europe. It will also establish five Optical Ground Stations in Greece, Cyprus, and the Netherlands, enabling six cross-border connections using terrestrial, satellite, and hybrid configurations. The project began on 1 January 2026 for 42 months.

The TransEuroOGS project, coordinated by Germany, brings together partners from Germany, Greece, Luxembourg and Ireland to support the advancement of optical ground stations (OGS) for quantum key distribution (QKD) and their integration with local terrestrial fibre networks across the participating countries. As the readiness level of the OGS sites range from early construction to pre-operational, a key objective is to harmonisation the core architectural elements, components, and operational parameters required to meet the protocol specifications of the Eagle-1 mission and to prepare a future mission. These efforts will culminate in interoperability demonstrations conducted through cross-border campaigns linking OGS sites throughout Europe using Eagle-1 resources. The project began on 1 January 2026 for 42 months.

Supporting EU-wide digital ecosystems and scaling up innovative enterprises

SMEs with at least basic digital intensity

Performance assessment

55.95% of SMEs in Greece had at least a basic level of digital intensity[2] in 2025, after a progression of 13.7% annually between 2023 and 2025, standing below the EU average of 71.39%. In 2023, the figure for Greece (43.26%) was also lower than the EU average (57.9%). Although Greece is lagging behind the EU average, its annual growth rate of 13.7% outpaces the EU's growth rate of 11.0%, indicating a positive trend in the digitalisation of Greek SMEs. The country is on track according to its national trajectory.

Looking specifically at SMEs with a very high digital intensity index[3], Greece stood at 5.91% in 2025, up from 2.65% in 2023. While this represents an annual growth of 49.3%, higher than the EU's 43.9%, Greece remains below the EU average of 9.07%. Overall, while Greece is making progress, there is still significant room for improvement in the digital intensity of SMEs, particularly in terms of achieving advanced levels of digitalisation.

Policy context and assessment of recommendations

The limited level of digital maturity of SMEs in Greece risks holding back digital growth. It could also impact productivity growth, while the country is on-going a significant digital transition of its public sector and digital infrastructure. Greece is also developing strategies to reap the benefits of digital technology across all sectors of the economy (see the section below on the new strategy on AI, and data).

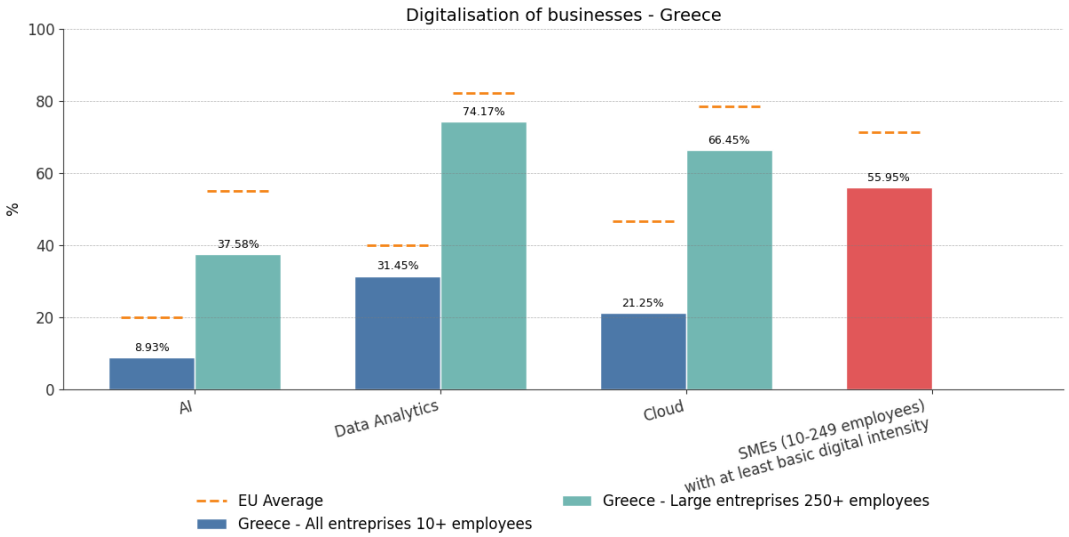
In 2025, Greece continued to implement the flagship measure 'Digital Tools for SMEs' programmes supported by the RRF and finishing in mid-2026. By February 2026, 101 960 SMEs had been supported in their digital transformation. Another key programme, 'Research - Innovate 2021–2027', co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund, is still being implemented. It promotes collaborative R&D, technology transfer and the uptake of advanced digital technologies (AI, data, Industry 4.0). Currently, 72 digital technologies projects (EUR 50.16 million) are under implementation, with further approvals pending, contributing to increased innovation capacity and digital uptake.

Specific initiatives such as the GAIA Greek SME Hub Accelerator offers tailored guidance and training for SMEs to help them transform ideas into business proposals, exploiting data from European data spaces. In December 2025, a second evaluation cycle was announced, after the first evaluation cycle had closed with 48 applications from SMEs. The participating enterprises came from a wide range of sectors, mainly tourism, education, health and biotechnology, industry and ICT, but also agriculture and agri-food, environment and energy, media, shipping, transport and the supply chain.

[2] The digital intensity score is based on the Digital Intensity Index (DII), counting how many out of 12 selected technologies are used by enterprises. A basic level requires a usage of at least four technologies.
[3] A very high level of digital intensity requires use of at least 10 technologies out of 12 selected in the DII

Take up of advanced technologies

Performance assessment



31.45% of Greek enterprises were using data analytics technologies in 2025, reflecting an annual growth of 12.2% since 2023, when the figure was 25.0%. Despite this progress, Greece remains below the EU average of 39.85%. At the same time, however, Greece's growth rate of 12.2% surpasses the EU's growth rate of 9.5% and the country is on track according to its national trajectory. Focusing on SMEs, 30.82% had adopted data analytics in 2025, up from 24.48% in 2023, with a growth rate of 12.2% compared to the EU's 9.7%. For large enterprises, the adoption rate in 2025 was 74.17%, up from 54.91% in 2023, an increase of 16.2% compared to an average 6.9% for the EU. This indicates that larger Greek enterprises are progressively closing the gap with their EU counterparts.

Regarding cloud technologies, 21.25% of Greek enterprises had adopted cloud in 2025, following an annual growth of 8.4% from 18.07% in 2023. This is considerably lower than the EU average of 46.69%, with Greece's growth rate of 8.4% also slightly below the EU's 9.5%. The country is lagging behind compared to its national trajectory. For SMEs, the adoption rate in 2025 was 20.58%, up from 17.57% in 2023, with an annual growth rate of 8.2% compared to the EU's 9.7%. Large enterprises in Greece had a higher adoption rate of 66.45% in 2025, up from 46.56% in 2023, with an annual growth rate of 19.5% compared to the EU's 6.0%. This suggests that larger enterprises are driving the adoption of cloud technologies.

In the area of artificial intelligence, 8.93% of Greek enterprises were using AI in 2025, a 9.0% decrease from previous year (9.81% in 2024). This is significantly lower than the EU average of 19.95% and contrasts with the EU's average growth rate of 48.0%. The country is lagging compared to its national trajectory. For SMEs, the adoption rate in 2025 was 8.51%, down from 9.53% in 2024. This was a decrease of 10.7% while the EU saw a growth rate of 49.5% over the same period. Large enterprises in Greece had a higher adoption rate of 37.58% in 2025, up from 24.27% in 2024, with a growth rate of 54.8% compared to the EU's 33.7%. This shows that despite an overall decline in AI adoption, large enterprises are making progress.

When considering the adoption of AI, cloud, or data analytics technologies together, 40.76% of Greek enterprises were using at least one of these technologies in 2025, reflecting an annual growth of 10.3% since 2023, when the figure was 33.52%. While the adoption rate is below the EU average of 63.2%, Greece's growth rate of 10.3% exceeds the EU's 7.5%. For SMEs, the adoption rate in 2025

was 40.14%, up from 32.92% in 2023, at a growth rate of 10.4% compared to the EU's 7.7%. Large enterprises in Greece had a higher adoption rate of 83.33% in 2025, up from 68.11% in 2023, corresponding to a growth rate of 10.6% compared to the EU's 3.4%. This indicates that Greek enterprises, particularly large ones, are increasingly adopting digital technologies, albeit at a slower pace than their EU peers.

Greece is making progress in the digitalisation of its businesses, with notable improvements in the adoption of data analytics and cloud technologies, particularly among large enterprises. However, enterprises in Greece continue to lag behind their EU peers in most indicators of digital intensity and technology adoption. While the growth rates observed in several areas exceed the average EU rates, a significant gap persists, especially in cloud adoption and artificial intelligence.

Policy context and assessment of recommendations

AI development is a high priority of the Greek government. In July 2025, a Special Secretariat for Artificial Intelligence and Data Governance was established, at the Ministry of Digital Governance and AI, its mission being to design, coordinate and implement a comprehensive framework of policies and actions for the use of AI and data governance in Greece.

The Blueprint for Greece's AI transformation is the official national AI roadmap. Although it was published before the EU Apply AI Strategy was issues, there is a strong alignment across verticals (key sectors are healthcare, culture, security climate) and horizontal topics (skills, public sector transformation).

In December 2025, the 'Pharos' AI Factory was established by law as a legal entity[4]. Since October 2025, four AI Factory Antennas in four countries of the region (Malta, Cyprus, Northern Macedonia and Serbia) have been selected to collaborate with Pharos. Greece is looking to establish AI regulatory sandboxes for SMEs and start-ups to safely develop, test and validate AI systems to foster AI innovation. Greece is also preparing the Law for the AI Act which will include regulatory sandboxes (March 2026).

2025 recommendation on the adoption of advanced technologies: further develop the ecosystem and raise awareness of existing opportunities and resources for businesses to benefit from advanced digital technologies - such as AI - and from access to innovative process (e.g. through the European Digital Innovation Hubs (EDIHs).
Greece made some efforts to address the recommendation by putting significant policy actions into place in 2025. Greece is putting into place the legal framework and infrastructure of its AI strategy (as described above) as a basis for developing the ecosystem. However, this has yet to produce any tangible effect on businesses. In 2025, the KPI measuring uptake of AI by businesses was stagnating.

Unicorns, scale-ups and start-ups

Performance assessment

At the beginning of 2026, Greece had three unicorns, the same number as in 2025. However, in its national Digital Decade roadmap, Greece estimated that it would have six unicorns by end of 2025. The country is lagging behind compared to its trajectory to reach the national target 2030 of 20 unicorns.

[4] Law No 5263/2025

Policy context and assessment of recommendations

On 1 April 2026, over 1 600 start-ups were registered on Elevate Greece platform up from 930 start-ups 12 months earlier. This platform, set up by the Ministry of Development in 2020, acts as the national registry of start-ups.

A new law introducing measures to enhance the innovation ecosystem in Greece, adopted in 2024, entered into force in January 2025. It introduced significant incentives for patents to be commercialised in Greece that should foster innovation and attract investment. The law is also enforcing tax reduction and a 'start-up visa' for investors, venture capitalists and SMEs and for R&D activities. Investors in startups registered on the platform Elevate Greece will be eligible for the start-up visa if they invest at least EUR 250 000.

Strengthening Cybersecurity & Resilience

Regarding the implementation of cybersecurity measures by enterprises, Greece is lagging behind the EU average. In 2024, 36.30% of enterprises applied at least 5 cybersecurity measures (out of 11 measures as measured by Eurostat), while the EU average was at 56.85%. Only 11.70% of enterprises used biometric authentication methods (EU: 18.27%), while data, documents or e-mails encryption techniques were used by 30.48% of enterprises in Greece (EU average: 39.72%).

In December 2025, Greece issued its new National Cybersecurity Strategy (2026-2030) through the National Cybersecurity Authority. The strategy aims at strengthening national cyber resilience, enhance coordination among public and private stakeholders and support the development of cybersecurity capabilities across critical sectors. It is structured around four strategic objectives: (i) capacity building and awareness, focusing on cybersecurity skills, societal awareness, preparedness and response; (ii) strengthening National, European and International Cooperation, including cybercrime prevention, information sharing and cross-border collaboration; (iii) cybersecurity governance, addressing crisis management, digital trust, and risk assessment; and (iv) regulatory compliance and policy development, promoting security and privacy by design, supply chain security, and improved risk management and compliance frameworks. It was developed in the context of the pilot national capabilities assessment framework from the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA) with a small group of Member States' competent authorities. This reform together with the investment to set up the Security Operations Centre (SOC) is part of Greece's Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRP).

The priority of the National Cybersecurity Authority (NCSA) is to implement the Action Plan of the new strategy withing 5 years. Promoting skills and awareness in specific sectors are priorities for the two first years, putting particular emphasis on the public sector and its personnel. The secondary legislation programme also remains a key priority for the coming months. This includes the publication of the template security policy for basic and essential entities falling within the scope of the NIS2 Directive, the set-up of the new NIS2 audit framework and the national plan for handling cyber incidents.

In October 2025, the National Coordination Centre (NCC-EL) operating within the NCSA entered a new scale-up phase in full alignment with the European Cybersecurity Competence Centre and the network of National Coordination Centres. The NCSA is the coordinator of the NCC-EL ScaleUP project, supported by EU funding, which will enable the national centre to follow best practices of other Member States in organising the national cybersecurity competence community and further align its activities with priorities at national and EU level. The NCC-EL also plans to implement the first

financial support to third party programme in 2027 to support SMEs in up taking cybersecurity solutions.

In early 2026, the NCSA submitted the official proposal to the European Commission to set up a European Digital Infrastructure Consortium (EDIC) on Cybersecurity Skills which has received approval by the Digital Decade Committee. The members of the consortium are Austria Slovenia Cyprus and Croatia, while two additional countries, Poland and Czech Republic participate as observers. The EDIC will support the Cybersecurity Skills Academy. Its institutional status will be formally established in Greece, before the EDIC initiates its operation. The EU-funded AKADIMOS and CADMOS projects will be incorporated into the EDIC ensuring continuity and scalability of existing EU funded cybersecurity skills initiatives.

In January 2026, Greece demonstrated a pioneering quantum-secure communications use case for critical infrastructures through HellasQCI infrastructure. In collaboration with the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA) and Motor Oil Hellas at the Corinth Refineries, the demonstration involved the deployment of Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) equipment between two refinery data centres interconnected through optical fibre network. The project established a high-speed quantum-secure communication channel resistant to future quantum-enabled cyber threats, highlighting the potential of quantum communication technologies for securing critical industrial infrastructures in Greece.

In February 2026, Greece launched another pioneering pilot project under HellasQCI infrastructure that places the country at the forefront of quantum secure healthcare communications. Alexandra University Hospital (Athens) became the first hospital in Greece to operate a quantum secure communication link under real conditions, connecting securely with the 'Demokritos' National Centre for Scientific Research through HellasQCI infrastructure deployed and coordinated by GRNET. The pilot tested the secure storage of medical imaging; the secure handling of electronic patient records (EHR); a secure communication platform for physicians. The project, significantly increased security for sensitive medical data, by using a hybrid approach of Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) – a secure key exchange based on quantum physics, and Post Quantum Cryptography (PQC) – i.e. cryptographic algorithms resistant to future quantum computers). This milestone demonstrates the practical value and operational maturity of HellasQCI and paves the way for the broader adoption of quantum-secure communications in Greece.

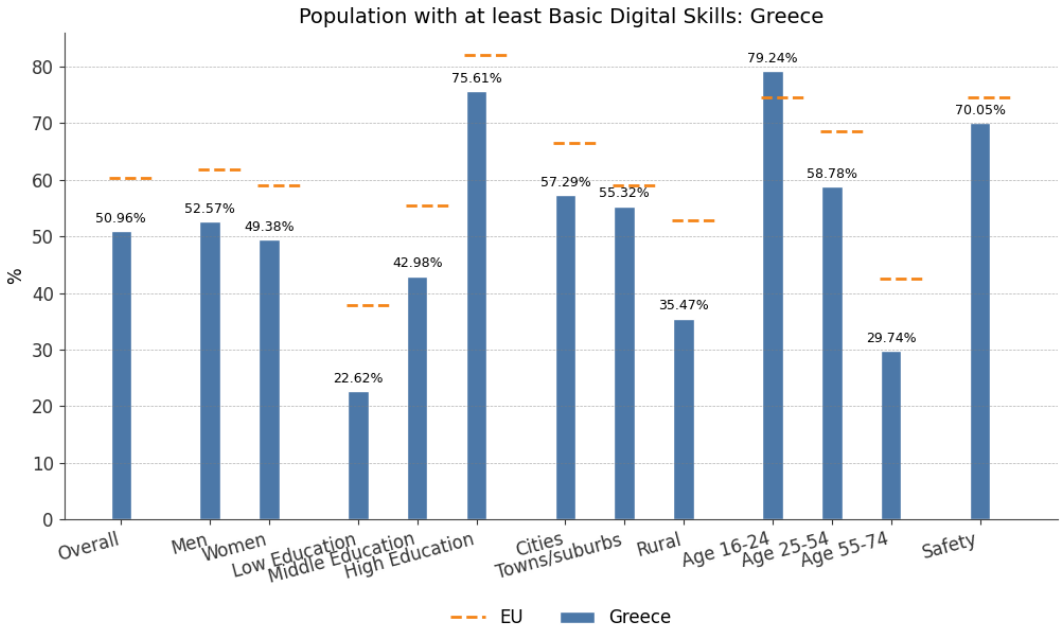
Protecting and empowering EU people and society

Empowering people and bringing the digital transformation closer to their needs

Equipping people with digital skills

Basic digital skills

Performance assessment



In 2025, overall, only 50.96% of individuals aged 16-74 had at least basic digital skills in Greece, after a decrease of 1.4% annually since 2023, standing below the EU average of 60.40%. This decline is particularly alarming when contrasted to the EU's annual growth rate of 4.3% over the same period. In 2023, Greece's figure was 52.4%, already lower than the EU average of 55.56%. This trend highlights a widening gap between Greece and the EU in terms of digital skills proficiency. The country is lagging behind compared to its national trajectory.

Regarding **the gender gap**, Greece exhibits a disparity of 3.19 percentage points in favour of men, with 52.57% of men and 49.38% of women possessing at least basic digital skills. This gap is slightly larger than the EU average of 2.75 percentage points.

Education level significantly influences digital proficiency. Individuals with no or low formal education face considerable challenges, with only 22.62% possessing at least a basic level of digital skills. This represents a 28.34 percentage point gap relative to the national average, which is larger than the EU average gap of 22.84 percentage points.

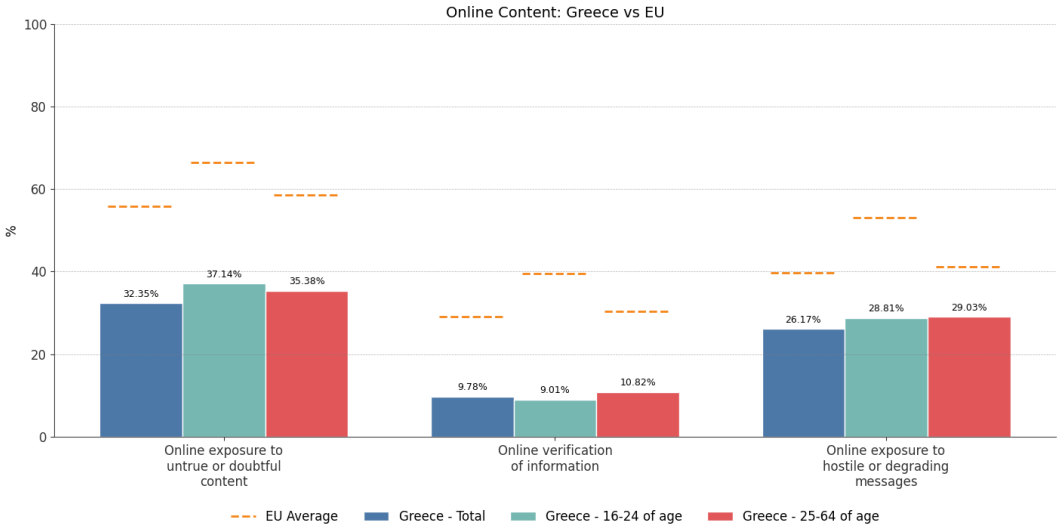
In terms of **living areas**, there are notable differences between Greece's urban and rural regions. In cities, 57.29% of individuals have at least a basic level of digital skills, which is lower than the EU average of 66.50%. But the gap between urban and rural areas in Greece is 21.82 percentage points, significantly larger than the EU average of 13.67 percentage points. Rural areas in Greece have a particularly low proficiency rate of 35.47%, compared to the EU average of 52.83%.

On the positive side, **young adults** aged 16 to 24 in Greece have a higher proficiency rate of 79.24%, surpassing the EU average of 74.55%. In contrast, in the senior age group, 55 to 74, only 29.74% have at least a basic level of digital skills, which is lower than the EU average of 42.6%. Although the percentage of older adults having at least a basic level of digital skills is increasing, there is still a significant gap of 49.5 percentage points with the younger group, significantly larger than the EU average of 31.95 percentage points. A more detailed breakdown by age group, shows at what age the proportion of people with at least a basic level of digital skills drops: 72.44 % of people aged 25 to 34 have at least basic digital skills, this is the case for only 56.88 % of people aged 35 to 44.

In terms of **digital safety skills,** 70.05% of individuals in Greece have at least basic safety skills, which is lower than the EU average of 74.63%.

Regarding the **use of generative AI**, 44.09% of people in Greece used this technology in 2025, which is higher than the EU average of 32.66%. Additionally, 16.07% of people used generative AI for professional purposes, slightly above the EU average of 15.36%.

In summary, Greece's digital skills profile reveals several challenges, including a decline in overall digital skills proficiency, a slightly larger gender gap than the EU average, and significant differences based on education level, age group and where people live. While there are positive developments in the adoption of generative AI, particularly in professional settings, and improvements among older adults, targeted measures are necessary to address the widening gaps and ensure inclusive digital skills development across all demographics.



In 2025, 32.35% of people in Greece reported having been exposed to untrue or doubtful content online a decrease of 3.2% annually since 2023, when the figure was 34.55%. This places Greece below the EU average, which increased from 49.25% in 2023 to 55.90% in 2025 at an annual growth rate of 6.5%. Focusing on the age group 16-24, 37.14% of people in Greece had been exposed to such content in 2025, a decrease from 41.58% in 2023. This is significantly lower than the EU average for the same age group, which rose from 61.66% to 66.34% over the same period. The gap between the youngest

age group (16-24) and older adults (25-64) in Greece was 1.76 pp, much smaller than the 7.77 pp gap observed at the EU level. For adults aged 25-64, 35.38% had been exposed to untrue or doubtful content in Greece in 2025, down from 37.77% in 2023, again below the EU averages of 51.70% in 2023 and 58.57% in 2025.

However, only 9.78% of individuals in Greece **had verified the truthfulness of online content** in 2025, down from 18.66% in 2023, reflecting a significant annual decrease of 27.6%over this period. This is well below the EU average, which increased from 24.29% in 2023 to 29.16% in 2025 at an annual growth rate of 9.6%. Among people in Greece aged 16-24, only 9.01% had verified online content in 2025, a sharp decline from 25.49% in 2023. This is in sharp contrast to the EU average for the same age group, which rose from 34.68% to 39.49%. Unlike for the EU, where there was a gap of 9.09 pp in favour of younger individuals, there was a gap of 1.81 pp in favour of the core working-age group (25-64) in Greece. In this older age group, 10.82% of individuals had verified online content in 2025, down from 20.18% in 2023, compared to the EU averages of 25.18% in 2023 and 30.40% in 2025.

26.17% of Greek respondents **had been exposed to hostile or degrading messages online,** in 2025, a slight increase of 0.9% annually is observed from 25.73% in 2023. This is significantly lower than the EU average, which rose from 33.50% in 2023 to 39.72% in 2025 at an annual growth rate of 8.9%. Among people aged 16-24, 28.81% had been exposed to such messages in 2025, a decrease from 39.03% in 2023. This is below the EU average for the same age group, which increased from 47.54% to 52.99%. Unlike for the EU, where there was a gap of 11.85 pp in favour of younger individuals, in Greece there was a slight gap of 0.22 pp in favour of the core working-age group (25-64). In this older age group, 29.03% of individuals in Greece had been exposed to hostile or degrading messages in 2025, up from 27.39% in 2023, compared to the EU averages of 34.53% in 2023 and 41.14% in 2025.

The data shows that Greece has seen a decline in exposure to untrue or doubtful content and online verification of information, bucking the upward trend observed at the EU level. The age group disparities in Greece also differ from those in the EU, with smaller gaps between younger individuals and older age groups. This suggests that while Greece may have lower overall exposure to harmful online content, there is a worrying trend of decreasing vigilance in verifying information, particularly among younger people. These insights highlight the need for targeted measures to encourage critical thinking and verification behaviours among the Greek population, especially young people.

Policy context and assessment of the recommendations

Greece continues to implement large-scale initiatives to enhance digital skills across the population. Greece has developed an increasingly coherent framework to support digital skills and digital education in a systemic approach extending across compulsory education, vocational education and training (VET), higher education and lifelong learning. In the formal education system, two flagship initiatives of the Ministry of Education (supported by the RRF) aim to (i) transform conventional curricula and educational content into open-source, interactive digital environments accessible to all, with integrated artificial intelligence; (ii) implement large-scale teachers training, aims to equip approximately 150 000 teachers with advanced digital and AI-related skills by 2026. Digital competencies are now embedded as a core subject from preschool to upper secondary education. Additionally, the Institute of Educational Policy (IEP) has introduced adaptive learning platforms that personalise education through AI, fostering computational thinking and data literacy among students.

The National Coalition for Digital Skills and Jobs continues to expand targeted training opportunities. It provides interactive training for public sector employees through workshops and online labs leading to free certification. To date, more than 9 600 civil servants have participated and over 1 000 have

been certified. The Coalition also offers training for vulnerable groups, with the aim of making the digital transition more inclusive.

In 2025, a large-scale upskilling and reskilling programme was launched in 2025 through the Public Employment Service (DYPA) under the 'Greece 2.0' RRP. Using vouchers, the initiative offers up to 150 hours of training, to develop digital, green and financial skills, with the goal of reaching 170 000 unemployed and employed individuals and providing certified training outcomes.

Regarding the protection of minors online, Greece has adopted a national strategy to protect minors from online addiction, unsafe content, and risks arising from algorithmic influence. The strategy includes a comprehensive set of measures to protect minors in the digital environment, combining formal education measures with targeted technological and regulatory initiatives. Within the education system, the issue is mainly addressed by developing digital and AI literacy, and integrating safe, ethical and responsible use of digital technologies into school curricula.

The 'Kids Wallet' application launched in 2025 is the cornerstone of Greece's strategy to protect minor online. It is the national tool for age verification, providing parental control functionalities and supporting the secure digital identification of minors.

2025 recommendation on basic digital skills: address the large digital gap in basic digital skills, between age groups and between rural and urban areas.
In 2025, Greece continued the implementation of existing measures but did not take any new measure. As described above, Greece had in place several initiatives to include digital skills in the education system. The KPI result showed that education levels significantly influence digital proficiency in Greece, underscoring the importance of educational initiatives to bridge the digital skills divide. Despite the progress made, challenges persist in terms of reaching older demographics and rural populations, where digital engagement remains uneven. The country also continued implementing large initiatives for upskilling and reskilling several segments of the population, including civil servants. However, the KPI measuring the level of people's digital skills shows sign of decline in overall digital skills proficiency.

ICT specialists

Performance assessment

In 2025, Greece had 2.50% of ICT specialists in employment, below the EU average of 5.0%. The country is lagging behind its national trajectory, although its national target for 2030 is 4.5% while at EU level the 2030 target is 10%. The percentage of women ICT specialists in employment is 17% in Greece, below the EU average of 19.5% but showing an annual growth of 6.25%, while the EU average shows no sign of growth, stagnating at 19.5%.

Over the past five years, the growth in absolute numbers of employed ICT specialists in Greece has closely followed the EU-wide trend. Between 2021 and 2025, the absolute number of ICT specialists employed in Greece rose from 93 400 to 110 400 – an increase of 18%. This is in line with the overall growth of ICT specialists in the EU, which increased from 8.9 million to 10.5 million ICT specialists over the same period (an increase of 17%).

Policy context and assessment of the recommendations

Greece has intensified its efforts to boost the pipeline of future ICT talent and specialists, addressing critical skills shortages through several channels, including education reforms, reskilling and upskilling programmes, monitoring and labour market diagnostic. In 2025, the Ministry of Education established the successful implementation of study programmes providing students with the necessary digital skills a funding criterion for the annual subsidy allocated to Greek universities.

In formal education, Greece has accelerated the integration of AI and advanced ICT into secondary and higher education curricula and designed experiential learning initiatives such as AI competitions and hackathons to stimulate student interest in tech careers. A notable development is the expansion of teacher training in AI and emerging technologies, with 150 000 educators set to receive upskilling by 2026 (RRF-funded projects). At the tertiary level, new specialised degree programmes in quantum computing, cybersecurity, and data science have been introduced, including an EU-funded project at the Institute of Quantum Technologies (NCSR Demokritos), which aims to develop a workforce in quantum computing.

The reform of vocational education and training, including the introduction of 130 new Training Guides for SAEK (Higher Vocational Training Schools, formerly IEK), also represents a significant step towards embedding digital and ICT-related skills across multiple sectors and strengthening the link between education and labour market needs.

To bridge the gap between education and industry, Greece has strengthened collaboration between universities and the private sector (e.g. SEPE-university exchanges). The Hellenic Chamber of Commerce now offers certified training programmes for independent professionals and company employees in high-demand areas such as cloud computing, AI, and cybersecurity. In December 2025, a large upskilling initiative (budget EUR 70 million) was launched aimed at providing employees with advanced digital skills. It focuses in particular on the use of AI in businesses, big data analysis, cybersecurity and data protection, and adoption of cloud by SMEs.

However, the sector still faces low ICT graduation rates and gender imbalances. To counter this, scholarships and mentorship programmes aimed at women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) have been expanded. In the academic year 2023-2024, 22 721 men and 7 040 women were enrolled in Greek Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) offering undergraduate programmes in informatics and digital skills, while there were 5 202 men and 3 836 women among postgraduate students.

In June 2025, Greece launched a significantly improved Labour Market Diagnostic Mechanism. The upgraded mechanism combines big data from ERGANI, ELSTAT, and ESCO to monitor ICT labour demand. The Initial testing targeted the ICT and communications sector, confirming: (i) a strong shortage of ICT specialists; (ii) a high demand for ICT professionals across regions; (iii) dynamic ICT occupations indicated by the system (engineering, software design, tech technicians). These results have an impact on (i) updates to vocational curricula; (ii) targeted training for unemployed people; and (iii) matching ICT job openings with jobseekers.

Greece is also reinforcing its monitoring system with a project of 'Monitoring System for the labour market pathways of higher education institution (HEI) students and graduates' (Budget: EUR 750 000). Implemented by the National Authority for Higher Education, the action focuses on developing a monitoring system for the labour market pathways of HEI students and graduates, aiming to produce statistical data and indicators at both national and institutional level (up to the 2025-2026

academic year). The objective is for institutions to adapt to the needs of a modern economy and develop curricula linked to the labour market.

2025 recommendation on ICT specialists: continue to explore options focusing on raising the number of ICT specialists in employment
Greece made some efforts to address the recommendation through new policy actions in 2025. As described above, Greece put into place initiatives to boost the ICT talent pool through several channels: education reforms to integrate AI at school; new specialised degree programmes in advanced digital technologies; improved labour market diagnostic. Despite these efforts, challenges remain, including skills gaps in advanced digital domains, low ICT graduation rates, and difficulties in attracting and retaining ICT specialists.

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

Performance assessment

For digital public services for citizens (national and cross-border), in 2025, Greece scored at 79.36/100, a 3.4% increase compared to 2024. The country is on track according to its national trajectory (even above the trajectory point for 2025 as presented in the national strategic roadmap). However, it remains below the EU average of 84.64/100.

Looking at the domestic online services for citizens, Greece scored at 94.19/100—slightly above the EU average (94.01/100)—with a 1.6% increase compared to 2024. While for cross-border services, Greece scored 64.52/100, below the EU average (75.28/100), but still a 6.3% improvement from 2024. Overall, the services for citizens that score particularly well are related to the following life events: Transport (90.42), Moving (90.0), and Studying (83.50), while services related to Health (66.43), Family (69.44), and starting a small claims procedure (75.0) are the least digitalised. In terms of performance by level of government, for the domestic online services to citizens, central government scored 87.11/100, regional government: 80.0/100 and local government: 75.56/100.

For digital public services for businesses (national and cross-border), in 2025 Greece scored at 86.0/100, a 9.4% increase compared to 2024. The country is on track according to its national trajectory (even above the trajectory point for 2025). The gap with the EU average is reduced by 2.6 points EU average (88.59/100).

Remarkably, cross-border digital public services for businesses presents an annual increase of 20%. Greece scored 75.0/100, although still below the EU average (78.37/100). On the other hand, for the services for businesses available to users in the country, Greece scored 97.06/100 (a 2.4% increase from 2024), just below the EU average (98.81/100). The business-related life event scoring particularly well is Regular Business Operations (90.0), whereas the Business Start-Up (82.06) shows the most room for improvement.

Overall, Greece is making steady progress in the KPIs for digital public services, with faster progress in the indicator for digital public services for businesses. Although this performance is underpinned by services available to national users, which form the most mature component of the KPI, recent progress has been driven primarily by improvements in cross-border digital public services for businesses, reflecting positive momentum across the KPI. Furthermore, according to the 2026 EU Justice Scoreboard, indicators on the digitalisation of Greece's justice system suggest that greater uptake of digital tools by the courts would improve electronic access for citizens and businesses.

Regarding access to e-health records, Greece's score jumped from 73.81 in 2024 to 93.75 in 2025, well above the EU average of 86.51. It represents an annual increase of 27.01%. As anticipated in last year Digital Decade country report, although several initiatives were ongoing, it was too early to see them factored into the score. The country is on track according to its national trajectory (even well above the national trajectory point for 2025).

Overall, the percentage of e-government users, people who used websites or mobile applications for interaction with public authorities, continues to grow and reached 80.08% in 2025, above the EU average (76.03%). Auxiliary indicators, such as the user support available shows the same dynamic, Greece scored 97.62, a progress of 13.20%, passing above the EU average's score (88.75). In pre-filled forms, measuring the share of administrative steps in which online forms contain prefilled data, Greece is among the front-runners in the EU with 94.75%, while the EU average is at 75.93%.

Policy context and assessment of the recommendations

The Ministry of Digital Governance has initiated the process in view of the notification to the European Commission of an electronic identification scheme (eID scheme) for peer review by the second quarter of 2026. Relevant stakeholders have been involved in this process to help clarify and define the details of to the peer review application file to be submitted. Greece will cooperate with Cyprus, whose eID scheme was successfully peer reviewed by the European Commission, to learn from its experience.

On electronic identity, Greece is constantly upgrading the new Gov.gr Wallet, released in September 2025. The application integrates key identification functions forming the basis of the new national eID system. It includes (i) secure access to the Personal Number (the unique national identifier) with anti-screenshot protection; (ii) storage of official identity documents: ID card, driving license, disability card, unemployment card, academic ID; and (iii) AI-enabled document issuance (Responsible Declarations, Certificates). This shows that Greece is moving towards a fully digital identity ecosystem, where the Wallet will become the primary interface for identification. In early 2026, three new functionalities were added that give people better control over their digital documents and make the digital wallet more user friendly. As already mentioned in the previous report, Greece is very active in large-scale pilot projects, preparing the launch of the European Digital identity Wallet (EUID Wallet) by November 2026.

In 2025, Greece launched the 'Kids Wallet' app enabling users' age to be verified with the objective of tackling online addiction among minors (as already mentioned in the previous report). The Kids Wallet is the cornerstone of Greece's strategy to protect minor online. It has now been fully launched and is being actively promoted as the national tool for minors' digital identity, age verification and parental control.

2025 recommendation on eID: notify an e-ID scheme to the Commission.
Greece addressed fully the recommendation by putting significant policy actions into place in 2025. Greece has initiated the process with a view to notify an eID scheme to the Commission by the second quarter of 2026. As described above, Greece is cooperating with Cyprus on this to learn from the successful peer review of its eID scheme notification. Greece is also actively participating in large-scale pilot projects preparing the launch of the EUID Wallet.

Greece has made good progressed in digital public services, through several significant milestones, reforms and investments; it is also leading a new EDIC. The Ministry of Digital Governance has

continued to develop and add services to Gov.gr, the national portal for online public services. AI-powered assistants have also been integrated into Gov.gr and its mobile services.

An important development in the digitalisation of the public sector in Greece is the extensive use of the new Governmental Cloud (G-Cloud). More than 1300 systems are hosted on the G-Cloud, funded by the RRF.

Greece has established a comprehensive regulatory framework for public-sector data governance, in line with the EU Data Governance Act. The framework sets out rules for the re-use of public-sector information and designates the competent authorities for data intermediation services and data altruism organisations.

Greece is working on introducing AI technologies in public administration. Projects planned to strengthen governance and data use in the public sector include: (i) the Central Data Governance and Classification Framework, which aims to develop a governance strategy for government clouds (G-Cloud, H-Cloud, RE-Cloud) as part of the national strategy for the data economy; and (ii) the Central Hub for the Management and Analysis of big data, which will collect and homogenise data from across the public administration, produces hierarchical performance indicators and prioritises needs and scenarios for data-driven services.

The IMPACTS-EDIC (Innovative Massive Public Administration interConnected Transformation Services), led by Greece, was adopted in December 2025. The EDIC brings together 13 countries to cooperate on developing common European solutions for the interconnection of Member States' public administrations and creating innovative digital services to be used by citizens and businesses across the EU. It will seek to boost the use of technologies and supporting activities for the implementation of the Interoperable Europe Act. The total estimated budget is approximately EUR 18 million, for a duration of four years. The project is expected to reduce administrative barriers to cross-border services, thus helping achieve the EU 2030 targets of 100% of digital public services for citizens and businesses. It will also help make Greece's public services more efficient and strengthen the resilience and security of its digital governance, ensuring convergence in collaboration with other European countries.

Regarding the digitalisation of justice, several ongoing projects aiming to improve the level of digitalisation are advancing in Greece. But progress is limited to certain courts and workflows. Further improvements are needed to boost the adoption of digital tools enhance electronic access to courts and reduce delays. Challenges persist particularly in deploying the decentralised IT infrastructure for the Justice Digital EXchange system (JDEX), a critical reform for cross-border judicial services.

Regarding e-health, a key milestone was reached in May 2025 with the rollout of the National Electronic Health Record (NEHR) system. The system gives healthcare providers centralised access to patient histories and enables patients to access their personal medical records – including diagnoses, prescriptions, test results and hospitalisations – in one place via a central portal or the MyHealth mobile app. Physicians also have real-time access to their patients' medical records. The integration of AI-driven digital helps patients and healthcare professionals navigate and manage health information. However, the use of internet for health-related activities varies across education levels, and limited digital skills remain a challenge.

A Health Monitoring project (funded by the RRF), focusing on data governance, metadata standardisation, and evidence-based policymaking, was launched in September 2025 with completion scheduled for mid-2026. New digital tools for use by the public, such as the Healthflix

platform (a video-on-demand service for health education) and the Health Advisor app (a personalised health coach integrating NEHR data) are both nearing completion by mid-2026.

The National Data Governance Framework[5] will support the standardisation of health data formats, privacy safeguards, and interoperability across government clouds (G-Cloud, H-Cloud). The National Health Data Portal is not yet fully operational, but its infrastructure aligned with the EU Data Governance Act is being finalised to enable secure, anonymised data sharing for research and policymaking. Collectively, these initiatives mark Greece's transition towards a data-driven, citizen-centred healthcare system, with AI, prevention, and interoperability at its core.

2025 recommendation on Digital Public Services: address all the dimensions of online public services for citizens and businesses, including the cross-border dimension
Greece made some efforts to address the recommendation through new policy actions in 2025. Greece launched the new IMPACTS-EDIC bringing together 13 countries to develop common European solutions for the interoperability of public administrations and strengthen cross-border services. The country took action to reinforce the data governance and worked to introduce AI technologies into public administration. This has led to measurable improvements in cross-border digital public services for businesses, although Greece remains below the EU average. In terms of performance per level of government, domestic online services provided by the central government scored higher than those provided at regional level, with online services provided by local government scoring even lower.

[5] Law 5188/2025

Leveraging digital transformation for a smart greening

In Greece, air emissions from the ICT sector are low, but the recycling of electronic equipment could be improved. Sectoral air emissions data show that the ICT sector emitted 14.1 kg CO_2 equivalents per capita, below the EU average of 22.8 kg CO_2 equivalents (data from 2022). Almost all emissions were from ICT services activities (96.6%). The ICT sector represented only 0.20% of air emissions from the economy overall (EU average: 0.35%). Furthermore, only 73.20% of ICT-related waste collected (corresponding to two categories of waste electrical and electronic equipment) is recycled or prepared for reuse, while the EU average is 80.23%. In the Digital Decade Eurobarometer 2026, 59% of respondents in Greece consider that green digital technologies would have the most positive impact in the next 10 years (EU average: 50%).

Greece continues to use digital technologies to enhance energy efficiency and sustainability. The public sector plays a pivotal role in the digital transformation, using smart energy-management systems (EMS), with online monitoring dashboards and digital audits for public buildings. This will go a long way towards achieving the national commitment to reduce energy use by 10% annually and 30% by 2030. In public procurement, digital tools – such as online compliance trackers and life-cycle costing (LCC) software – are embedded in the National Action Plan for Green Public Procurement, ensuring that green criteria are systematically applied to IT equipment, construction, and transport services.

Additionally, 2025 saw the launch of several projects using digital technologies for smart greening in key sectors. Greece is preparing to implement the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD 2024/1275) by May 2026, including with respect to digital building renovation passports. Greece continues to expand the Exoikonomo ('Save Energy') renovation programme, which relies heavily on digital energy audits, building performance digital modelling and online platforms for subsidies. The planned installation of 7.5 million smart meters by 2030 should also contribute to energy optimisation.

The transport and agriculture sectors benefit from digital innovations too. In transport, AI-powered traffic optimisation to reduce congestion and emissions, smart electrical vehicle (EV) charging networks, and real-time fuel-consumption monitoring contribute to decarbonisation while at the same time improving operational efficiency. Greece is also harnessing digitalisation to foster smart greening in agriculture. The National Data Governance Framework adopted in 2025 paves the way for precision farming based on agri-environmental datasets and AI-driven crop forecasting, and water-management models, while government cloud infrastructures facilitate real-time environmental monitoring.

2025 recommendation on smart greening: make efforts to leverage digital technologies for smart greening in additional sectors of the economy (e.g. transport, buildings and agriculture)
In 2025, Greece made some efforts to address the recommendation by putting significant policy actions into place. As mentioned above, initiatives have recently been taken to use digital technologies in other sectors of the economy, in particular in transport, construction and agriculture. These initiatives are supported by the new national data governance framework and the recent expansion of government clouds (G-Cloud, H-Cloud, RE-Cloud), ensuring seamless

integration of digital tools in national climate strategies. These efforts highlight how digitalisation acts as both an enabler and an accelerator for sustainable development across sectors.

Annex I: National roadmap analysis

Greece's national Digital Decade strategic roadmap

Greece submitted adjustments to its national Digital Decade roadmap on 17th January 2025 with specific follow-up actions to the country recommendations made in 2024. It includes 16 additional measures and an in-depth analysis of the situation. The updates align with the new Commission's priorities on AI; deployment of submarine cables to increase the resilience of the backbone; joining forces in developing capacities in edge tech such as quantum, and on the protection of minors online. However, the adjustment lacked additional targeted support to address the current shortfall of ICT specialists in employment, while new measures to build a strong ICT talent pipeline have been included in the adjustment.

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

- The adjustment presents a detailed analysis of the rationale for setting the national targets, which are not aligned with the EU's 2030 target. It will serve as a tool to track the progress of each indicator against the forecast and eventually revise the targets which are currently low on ambition compared to the 2030 EU target.
- Greece also added two new measures planed for encouraging the creation and operation of SMEs, after the end of the current flagship's measures in 2027. The precise arrangements are still to be defined.
- On AI uptake: the new Greek AI-factory will create an ecosystem helping to develop innovative AI-driven services and play a crucial role in fostering the growth of and ongoing support for an innovative and competitive ecosystem of start-ups and SMEs.
- Digital infrastructure: Four new measures were added contributing to the strategy for digital infrastructure: (i) one measure to incentivise the take-up of fibre connections, adding to an existing measure for incentivising the development of in-house cabling; (ii) a large project of submarine cable deployment to extend the fibre optic network to several islands; (iii) two new measures to support the deployment and testing of quantum communication infrastructure jointly with other Member States.
- ICT specialists: five measures to stimulate young people's eagerness for ICT technology and reinforce the pipeline of potential ICT students. No targeted measures to address the current lack of ICT specialists in employment has been added.
- The creation of the Greek AI factory and the building of an ecosystem around it for harnessing AI's potential for growth.

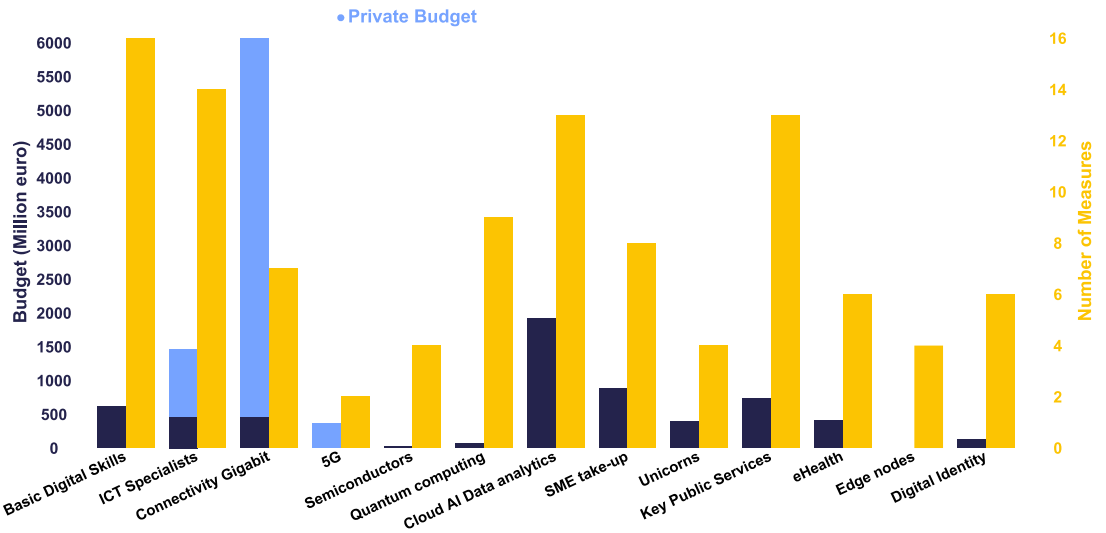
Greece has a new strategy for protecting minors online. It also launched a new online platform for the school community to report and stop bullying. Overall, a digital readiness principle applies for each piece of legislation.

The adjustment of the Greek national roadmap reinforces the already mostly complete roadmap submitted in 2023. Apart from additional policy and measures contributing to the target and objectives of the Digital Decade, the adjustment contains a detailed analysis of the national targets which were originally set below the EU's 2030 targets, based on which Greece decided not to revise the targets for digital skills, and for the digital transformation of businesses. Additional measures

were taken directly linked to the objective of the declaration on digital rights and principles, such as the strategy for protecting minors online.

After the publication of the country report 2024, the Ministry of Digital Governance organised several meetings and workshops specifically on the Digital Decade targets with the members of the 'core working group' of the Executive Network of Digital Transformation (ENDT), i.e. representatives of the organisations responsible for implementing most of the digital transformation activities, to validate and further specify the set of measures in the national roadmap.

Measures and budget in national roadmap[6]



Overall, the roadmap reflects a high ambition in terms of national targets, scope of measures and planned investments. The national roadmap includes **125 measures representing total public funding estimated at EUR 6.1 billion** (about 2.57% of GDP) **and an additional estimate of EUR 7 billion in private investments** for the coming years in connectivity and data centres, for a total of EUR 13.1 billion. The adjustment of the roadmap with additional new initiatives in line with the national digital transformation strategy demonstrates the commitment to take action to reach the Digital Decade and objectives set in the roadmap. But there is still room to reinforce the range of measures in certain areas, to ensure that the targets are met by 2030.

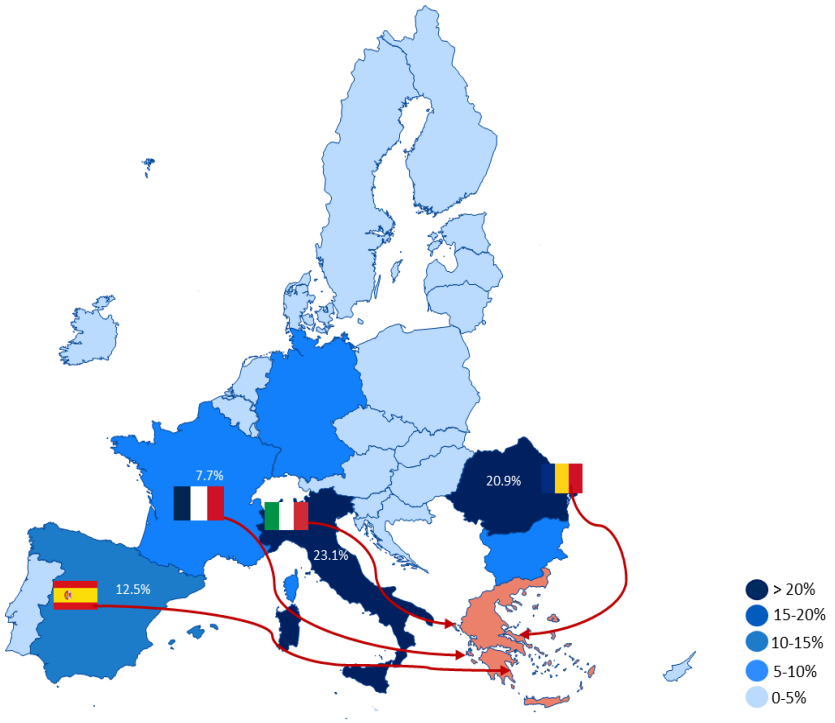
[6] When referring to national roadmaps, data used in this report are those declared by the Member States in their national roadmaps, on the basis of the Commission's guidance (C(2023) 4025 final). Data might reflect possible variations in reporting practices and methodological choices across Member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

Annex II: Funding, economic impacts & Multi-Country Projects

Country results from the study 'Assessing the Economic Impact of Digital Investments under the Recovery and Resilience Facility'

A modelling study conducted by the European Commission services, with the FIDELIO model, assesses the economic impact of the digital component of the RRF. As of November 2025, the digital part of the Recovery and Resilience Plan of Greece was evaluated to EUR 7.80 billion with EUR 1.17 billion for digital infrastructures, EUR 0.8 billion for digital skills, EUR 2.82 billion for the digitalisation of businesses, EUR 2.64 billion for the digitalisation of public services, and EUR 378 million for other digital priorities.

The total economic impact of RRF digital measures is estimated to EUR 6.99 billion for the national economy. Of this, EUR 6.73 billion stems from the direct effects of Greece's own RRP and EUR 0.27 billion corresponds to spillover effects from the implementation of other EU Member States' plans. Greece benefited the most from spillover effects from RRPs of Italy (EUR 61 million), Romania (EUR 56 million), Spain (EUR 33 million). The most impacted sectors are ICT Services (EUR 2.02 billion), Education (EUR 0.84 billion), and Trade (EUR 0.57 billion).



RRF spillover effects to Greece

Greece

Funding from the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) & Cohesion Policy

Greece allocates 22% of its total recovery and resilience plan to digital (EUR 7.8 billion)[7]. In addition, under cohesion policy, EUR 3.1 billion, representing 15% of the country's total cohesion policy funding, is dedicated to advancing Greece's digital transformation[8].

Multi-Country Projects

Greece is the host of IMPACTS-EDIC, and a member of the Alliance for Language Technologies EDIC and the EUROPEUM EDIC. Greece has been chosen by applicant Member States to host the CSC-EDIC on cybersecurity skills. Furthermore, the country is directly participating in the IPCEI on Microelectronics and Communication Technologies (IPCEI-ME/CT), and it is participating State in the EuroHPC and Chips JUs.

[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: 23 April 2026.

[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 (including Interreg), the Cohesion Fund, the European Social Fund Plus, and the Just Transition Fund.