



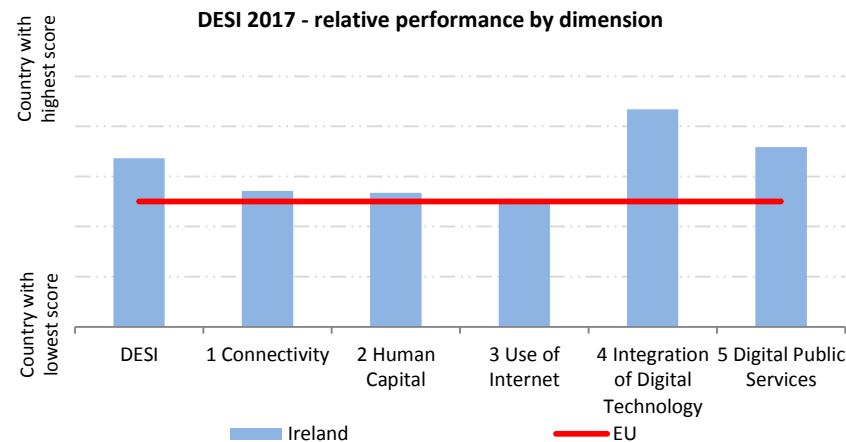
Ireland ranks 8th in DESI 2017. Ireland ranks very high when it comes to the integration of digital technologies by businesses, mostly because many SMEs embraced e-commerce. Internet users increasingly take advantage of high-speed infrastructures and also make good use of online public services. Ireland's main challenge is to equip more than half of the population with at least basic digital skills.

The Digital Economy and Society Index is a composite index measuring progress in digital through five components:

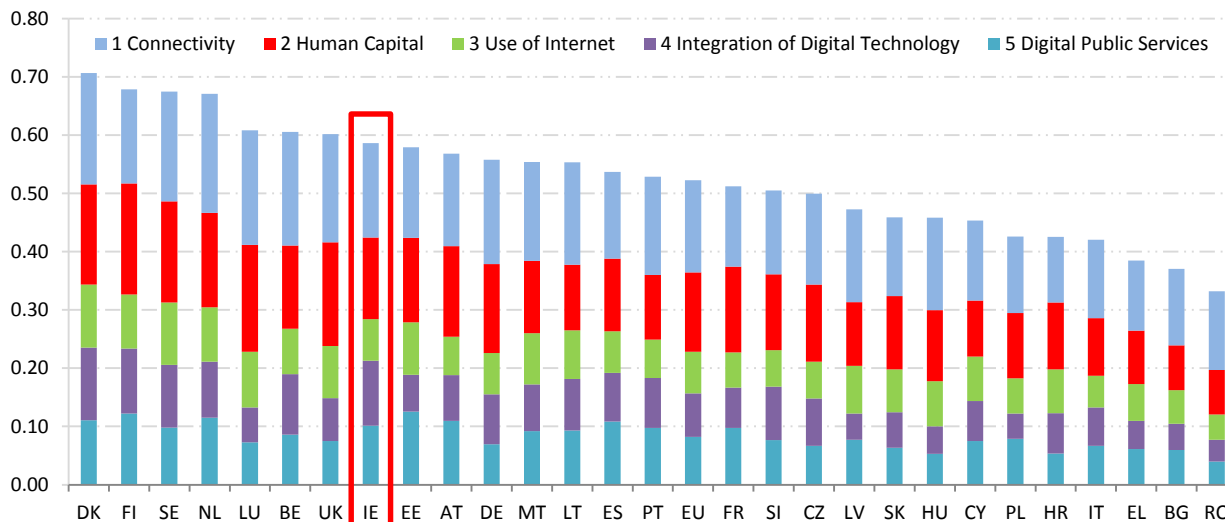
1 Connectivity	Fixed Broadband, Mobile Broadband, Broadband speed and prices
2 Human Capital	Basic Skills and Internet Use, Advanced skills and Development
3 Use of Internet	Citizens' use of Content, Communication and Online Transactions
4 Integration of Digital Technology	Business digitisation and eCommerce
5 Digital Public Services	eGovernment

Clustering: Ireland belongs to the cluster of high performing countries.

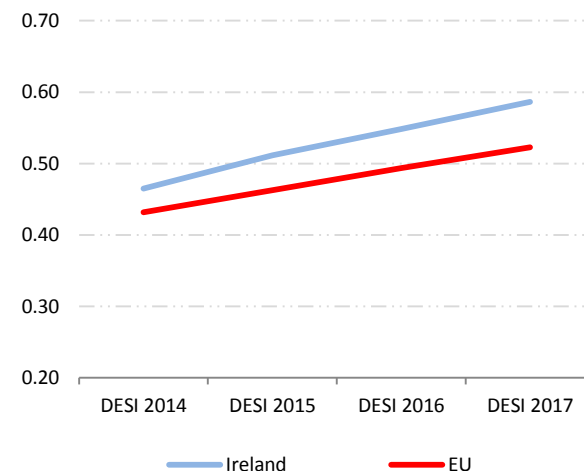
	Ireland rank	Ireland score	Cluster score	EU score
DESI 2017	8	0.59	0.63	0.52
DESI 2016 ¹	8	0.55	0.60	0.49



Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI) 2017 ranking



DESI - evolution over time

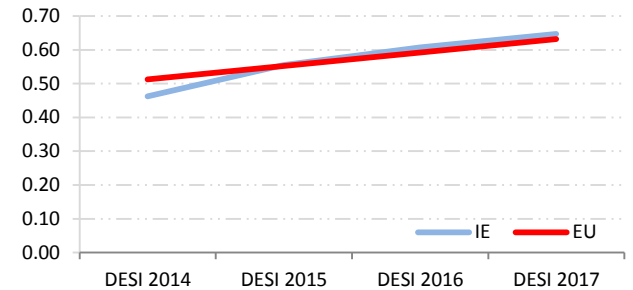


1) Connectivity: Fast broadband (NGA) coverage is well above EU average; growing share of internet users is taking advantage of this option. Take-up of (relatively expensive) fixed broadband is below, but take-up of mobile broadband is well above EU average.

	Ireland				EU	
	DESI 2017		DESI 2016		DESI 2017	
	value	rank	value	rank	value	
1a1 Fixed Broadband Coverage % households	96% →	20	96%	19	98%	
	2016		2015		2016	
1a2 Fixed Broadband Take-up % households	69% ↑	18	65%	20	74%	
	2016		2015		2016	
1b1 Mobile Broadband Take-up Subscriptions per 100 people	96 ↑	7	87	7	84	
	June 2016		June 2015		June 2016	
1b2 4G coverage² % households (average of operators)	94%	10	NA		84%	
	2016				2016	
1b3 Spectrum³ % of the target	70% ↓	10	74%	10	68%	
	2016		2015		2016	
1c1 NGA Coverage % households	82% ↑	13	80%	14	76%	
	2016		2015		2016	
1c2 Subscriptions to Fast Broadband % subscriptions >= 30Mbps	60% ↑	8	51%	9	37%	
	June 2016		June 2015		June 2016	
1d1 Fixed Broadband Price⁴ % income	1.9% ↑	22	2.1%	23	1.2%	
	price 2016, income 2015		price 2015, income 2015		price 2016, income 2015	

1 Connectivity	Ireland		Cluster	EU
	rank	score		
DESI 2017	11	0.65	0.75	0.63
DESI 2016	15	0.61	0.73	0.59

1 Connectivity - evolution over time

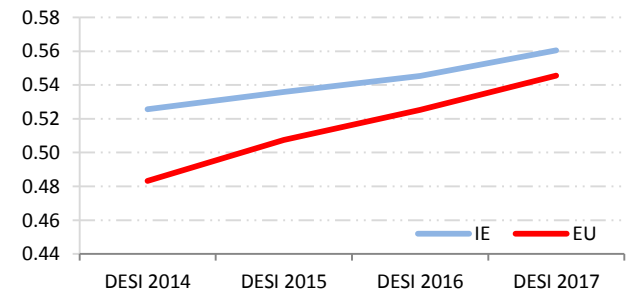


2) Human Capital: Ireland ranks first in the share of young people holding a STEM degree. However, more than half of the population still lacks basic digital skills.

	Ireland				EU	
	DESI 2017		DESI 2016		DESI 2017	
	value	rank	value	rank	value	
2a1 Internet Users % individuals	79% ↑	12	78%	12	79%	
	2016		2015		2016	
2a2 At Least Basic Digital Skills % individuals	44% →	24	44%	22	56%	
	2016		2015		2016	
2b1 ICT Specialists⁵ % individuals	3.7% ↓	10	4.0%	7	3.5%	
	2015		2014		2015	
2b2 STEM Graduates Per 1000 individuals (aged 20-29)	25 ↑	1	22	4	19	
	2014		2013		2014	

2 Human Capital	Ireland		Cluster	EU
	rank	score		
DESI 2017	12	0.56	0.68	0.55
DESI 2016	12	0.55	0.66	0.53

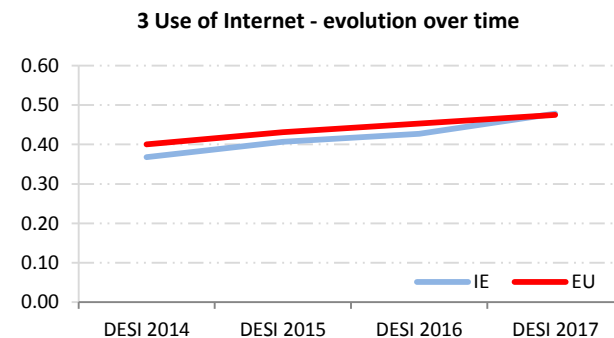
2 Human Capital - evolution over time



3) Use of Internet: The engagement of Irish internet users in online activities is broadly comparable to the EU average.

	Ireland				EU
	DESI 2017		DESI 2016		DESI 2017
	value	rank	value	rank	value
3a1 News	49%	↑ 28	48%	28	70%
% individuals who used Internet in the last 3 months	2016		2015		2016
3a2 Music, Videos and Games⁶	73%	22	NA		78%
% individuals who used Internet in the last 3 months	2016				2016
3a3 Video on Demand⁷	24%	10	NA		21%
% individuals who used Internet in the last 3 months	2016				2016
3b1 Video Calls	42%	↑ 17	36%	21	39%
% individuals who used Internet in the last 3 months	2016		2015		2016
3b2 Social Networks	70%	↑ 13	66%	15	63%
% individuals who used Internet in the last 3 months	2016		2015		2016
3c1 Banking	64%	→ 12	64%	11	59%
% individuals who used Internet in the last 3 months	2016		2015		2016
3c2 Shopping	71%	↑ 9	63%	13	66%
% internet users (last year)	2016		2015		2016

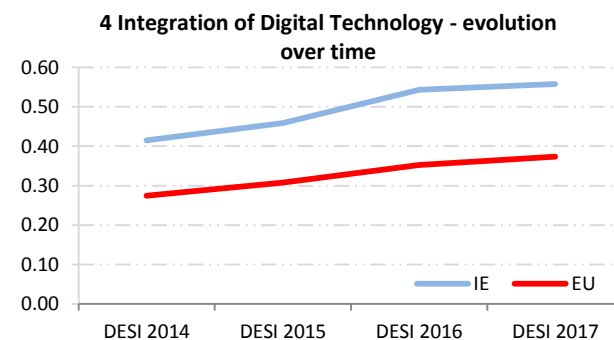
3 Use of Internet	Ireland		Cluster	EU
	rank	score	score	score
DESI 2017	16	0.48	0.60	0.48
DESI 2016	18	0.43	0.57	0.45



4) Integration of Digital Technology: In all of the EU, Irish SMEs make the most use of the opportunities offered by online commerce, including cross-border.

	Ireland				EU
	DESI 2017		DESI 2016		DESI 2017
	value	rank	value	rank	value
4a1 Electronic Information Sharing	25%	21	25%	21	36%
% enterprises	2015		2015		2015
4a2 RFID	4.0%	13	4.0%	13	3.9%
% enterprises	2014		2014		2014
4a3 Social Media	36%	↑ 3	35%	2	20%
% enterprises	2016		2015		2016
4a4 eInvoices	15%	15	NA		18%
% enterprises	2016		2015		2016
4a5 Cloud	24%	↑ 5	21%	5	13%
% enterprises	2016		2015		2016
4b1 SMEs Selling Online	30%	↓ 1	32%	1	17%
% SMEs	2016		2015		2016
4b2 eCommerce Turnover	21.8%	↑ 1	19.2%	1	9.4%
% SME turnover	2016		2015		2016
4b3 Selling Online Cross-border	16.2%	1	16.2%	1	7.5%
% SMEs	2015		2015		2015

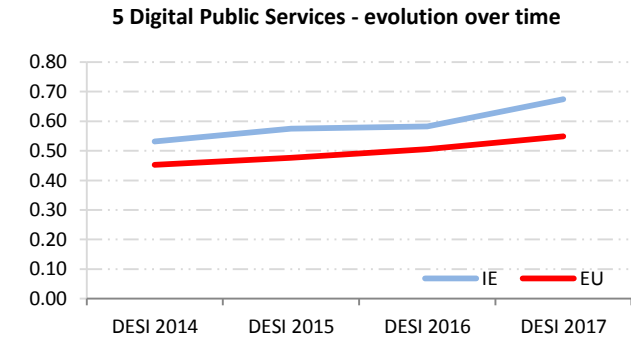
4 Integration of Digital Technology	Ireland		Cluster	EU
	rank	score	score	score
DESI 2017	2	0.56	0.44	0.37
DESI 2016	2	0.54	0.41	0.35



5) Digital Public Services: Demand among internet users is one of the highest in Europe. Ireland has greatly improved in providing Open Data. Filling in online forms could however be made more user-friendly.

	Ireland				EU
	DESI 2017 value	rank	DESI 2016 value	rank	DESI 2017 value
5a1 eGovernment Users % internet users (last year)	58% ↑	5	56%	4	34%
	2016		2015		2016
5a2 Pre-filled Forms Score (0 to 100)	35 →	18	35	17	49
	2016		2015		2016
5a3 Online Service Completion Score (0 to 100)	89 ↓	10	90	9	82
	2016		2015		2016
5a4 Open Data⁸ % of maximum score	80% ↑	3	44%	18	59%
	2016		2015		2016

5 Digital Public Services	Ireland		Cluster	EU
	rank	score	score	score
DESI 2017	7	0.67	0.59	0.55
DESI 2016	10	0.58	0.57	0.51



Methodological note

- ¹ **DESI 2016** was re-calculated for all countries to reflect slight changes in the choice of indicators and corrections to the underlying indicator data. As a result, country scores and rankings may have changed from the previous publication.
- ² **4G coverage**: This is a new DESI indicator measuring the average coverage of telecom operators' 4G networks.
- ³ **Spectrum**: There is a decrease in most of the Member States due to the additional EU harmonisation of the 700 MHz band in April 2016.
- ⁴ **Fixed Broadband Price**: Due to a slight methodological change, historical data was re-calculated.
- ⁵ **ICT Specialists**: Historical data have been revised by Eurostat.
- ⁶ **Music, Videos and Games**: Break in series due to a change in the Eurostat survey.
- ⁷ **Video on Demand**: Break in series due to a change of data source. New source is Eurostat.
- ⁸ **Open Data**: Change of data source. The historical data have also been restated. The new source is the European Data Portal.