

# Latvia

## Skills development, labour and skills shortages

[More about skills in Latvia](#)

### BASIC SKILLS

Many people do not have sufficient basic skills, such as literacy, numeracy and digital skills

Average student underachievement rate  
15 year-olds; reading, maths, and science

21%



27%



Source: OECD PISA

% of low-performing adults  
literacy and numeracy

21%



20%



Source: OECD PIAAC

% of adults with at least basic digital skills  
16-74 year-olds

45%



56%



Source: Eurostat Basic digital skills

### SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Not enough people are gaining the skills they need for the jobs of today and tomorrow

Participation rate  
in adult learning



34%



40% 60%

EU TARGET

Source: Eurostat Adult education survey

Employment rate of vocational  
education and training graduates



75%



81%

Source: Eurostat Labour force survey

Share of young people  
with higher education



45%



43%

Source: Eurostat Labour force survey

Share of students enrolled in STEM\*  
fields in initial medium-level VET



44%

Source: UOE data collection

Share of students enrolled in STEM\*  
fields at tertiary level



25%

(\*) science, technology, engineering and mathematics



620.6 MILLION

EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND+ AND RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE FACILITY\*  
2021-27 estimated investment in skills

(\*) ex ante cost estimates

### LABOUR & SKILLS SHORTAGES

Businesses are struggling to find workers with the right skills to grow and innovate

Companies reporting  
shortages of skilled workers  
as an investment barrier

83%



77%



Source: EIB Investment Survey

SMEs reporting difficulties  
to find employees with the  
right skills

35%



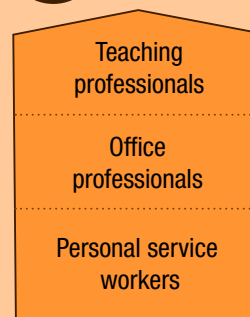
54%



Source: Eurobarometer SMEs  
and skills shortages

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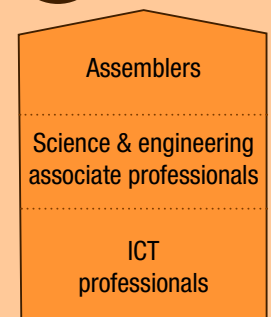
In-demand  
occupations



Source: Cedefop skillsOVATE/  
ELA-EURES

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Growing  
occupations



Source: Cedefop skills forecast