



The OECD Skills for Jobs Database 2018

10/2018  [European Skills Index](#), [European Skills Index](#), [People and Skills](#), [Matching Skills and Jobs](#), [EU](#),
[Other resources](#)



The new wave of data now covers 40 countries with the addition of 9 countries – Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Mexico, Peru, Turkey and the United States. Data are now also available at the regional level for several countries (Belgium, Hungary, Italy, Poland and the United Kingdom). Moreover, the results are newly available at the sectoral level. This can help design more effective policies by providing robust information on skill demands at a very disaggregated level.

First, the data show that skill shortages continue to be most common among high-skilled occupations. On average across the OECD countries analysed by the Skills for Jobs database, the majority of jobs that are hard-to-fill (i.e. in shortage) are found in high-skilled occupations. These jobs range from managerial positions to highly skilled professionals in the health care, teaching or ICT sectors. Almost 40% of hard-to-fill jobs are found in medium-skilled occupations, such as personal service workers or electrical and electronic trades workers. In contrast, low-skilled occupations account for less than 1 in 10 jobs in shortage.

Second, the new data confirm that skill demands are shifting towards more complex, non-routine tasks as a result of digitalisation and globalisation. On average across OECD and EU countries alike, shortages are the strongest in the **knowledge of Computers and Electronics** (e.g. the knowledge of computer hardware and software, programming and application) followed closely by substantial demand for **Judgment and Decision Making Skills** and **Verbal Abilities** (written expression and comprehension and oral expression).

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