# Latvia

## Country context

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population (000s)</td>
<td>2,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GNI per capita (PPP Int $)</td>
<td>22,970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physician density (per 10,000 population)</td>
<td>3.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse &amp; midwife density (per 10,000 population)</td>
<td>3.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital bed density (per 10,000 population)</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life expectancy at birth (years)</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total health expenditure (% GDP)</td>
<td>5.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICT Development Index rank</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile-cellular subscriptions (% population)</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet users (% population)</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 1. eHealth foundations

### National policies or strategies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy or strategy</th>
<th>Country response</th>
<th>Global &quot;yes&quot; response</th>
<th>Year adopted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National universal health coverage policy or strategy</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National eHealth policy or strategy</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National health information system (HIS) policy or strategy</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National telehealth policy or strategy</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Funding sources for eHealth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding source</th>
<th>Country response</th>
<th>Global &quot;yes&quot; response</th>
<th>Funding source %**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public funding</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>&lt;25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private or commercial funding</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Zero</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donor/non-public funding</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>&gt;75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public-private partnerships</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>Zero</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Multilingualism in eHealth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy or strategy</th>
<th>Country response</th>
<th>Global &quot;yes&quot; response</th>
<th>Year adopted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Policy or strategy on multilingualism</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government-supported Internet sites in multiple languages</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### eHealth capacity building

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health sciences students – Pre-service training in eHealth</th>
<th>Country response</th>
<th>Global &quot;yes&quot; response</th>
<th>Proportion**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>&lt;25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health professionals – In-service training in eHealth</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>&lt;25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## 2. Legal frameworks for eHealth

### Policy or legislation – purpose

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy or legislation</th>
<th>Country response</th>
<th>Global &quot;yes&quot; response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Defines medical jurisdiction, liability or reimbursement of eHealth services such as telehealth</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addresses patient safety and quality of care based on data quality, data transmission standards or clinical competency criteria</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protects the privacy of personally identifiable data of individuals irrespective of whether it is in paper or digital format</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protects the privacy of individuals’ health-related data held in electronic format in an EHR</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governs the sharing of digital data between health professionals in other health services in the same country through the use of an EHR</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governs the sharing of digital data between health professionals in health services in other countries through the use of an EHR</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governs the sharing of personal and health data between research entities</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allows individuals electronic access to their own health-related data when held in an EHR</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allows individuals to demand their own health-related data be corrected when held in an EHR if it is known to be inaccurate</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allows individuals to demand the deletion of health-related data from their EHR</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allows individuals to specify which health-related data from their EHR can be shared with health professionals of their choice</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governs civil registration and vital statistics</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governs national identification management systems</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 3. Telehealth

**Telehealth programmes country overview**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Health system level**</th>
<th>Programme type**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teleradiology</td>
<td>Intermediate</td>
<td>Established</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teledermatology</td>
<td>‡</td>
<td>‡</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telepathology</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Established</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telepsychiatry</td>
<td>‡</td>
<td>‡</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remote patient monitoring</td>
<td>‡</td>
<td>‡</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 4. Electronic Health Records (EHRs)

**EHR country overview**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Country response</th>
<th>Year introduced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National EHR system</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislation governing the use of the EHR</td>
<td>‡</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health facilities with EHR</strong></td>
<td>Use EHR</td>
<td>Facilities with EHR %**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary care facilities (e.g., clinics)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>‡</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary care facilities (e.g., hospitals)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>‡</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tertiary care facilities (e.g., specialized care)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>‡</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other electronic systems**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>System</th>
<th>Country response</th>
<th>Global “yes” response §</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory information systems</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathology information systems</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy information systems</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PACS</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automatic vaccination alerting system</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ICT-assisted functions**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>System</th>
<th>Country response</th>
<th>Global “yes” response §</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electronic medical billing systems</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply chain management information systems</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human resources for health information systems</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 5. Use of eLearning in health sciences

**eLearning programmes country overview**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health sciences students – Pre-service</th>
<th>Country response</th>
<th>Global “yes” response §</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dentistry</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public health</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing &amp; midwifery</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biomedical/Life sciences</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health professionals – In-service</th>
<th>Country response</th>
<th>Global “yes” response §</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dentistry</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public health</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing &amp; midwifery</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biomedical/Life sciences</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. mHealth

mHealth programmes country overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accessing/providing health services</th>
<th>Health system level**</th>
<th>Programme type**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Toll-free emergency</td>
<td>National</td>
<td>Established</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health call centres</td>
<td>National</td>
<td>Established</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appointment reminders</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Established</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile telehealth</td>
<td>Intermediate</td>
<td>Established</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management of disasters and emergencies</td>
<td>National</td>
<td>Established</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treatment adherence</td>
<td>Intermediate</td>
<td>Pilot</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accessing/providing health information</th>
<th>Health system level**</th>
<th>Programme type**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community mobilization</td>
<td>National</td>
<td>Established</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to information, databases and tools</td>
<td>International, National, Local</td>
<td>Established</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient records</td>
<td>Intermediate</td>
<td>Established</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mLearning</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Established</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decision support systems</td>
<td>National</td>
<td>Established</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collecting health information</th>
<th>Health system level**</th>
<th>Programme type**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patient monitoring</td>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Established</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health surveys</td>
<td>‡</td>
<td>‡</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disease surveillance</td>
<td>National</td>
<td>Established</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Social media

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social media and health</th>
<th>Country response</th>
<th>Global &quot;yes&quot; response</th>
<th>Year adopted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National policy or strategy on the use of social media by government organizations</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy or strategy makes specific reference to its use in the health domain</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Health care organizations – use of social media</th>
<th>Country response</th>
<th>Global &quot;yes&quot; response</th>
<th>Year adopted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Promote health messages as a part of health promotion campaigns</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help manage patient appointments</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seek feedback on services</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make general health announcements</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make emergency announcements</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Individuals and communities – use of social media</th>
<th>Country response</th>
<th>Global &quot;yes&quot; response</th>
<th>Year adopted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learn about health issues</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Help decide what health services to use</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide feedback to health facilities or health professionals</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Run community-based health campaigns</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participate in community-based health forums</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Big data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy or strategy – purpose</th>
<th>Country response</th>
<th>Global &quot;yes&quot; response</th>
<th>Year adopted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Governing the use of big data in the health sector</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governing the use of big data by private companies</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LEGEND

* Country context indicators
All other country indicators. Global Health Observatory. 2012-2014 - http://www.who.int/gho

** Glossary
§ Indicates the percentage of participating Member States responding “Yes”
— Don’t know
N/A Not applicable
‡ Indicates question was unanswered
Zero No funding

http://www.who.int/goe