Estonia consistently ranks as one of the most open, competitive and transparent economies in the world. This success is due to a commitment to low red tape, the rule of law, and significant investment in infrastructure and human capital. This creates an environment that allows solutions and services to be researched, developed, and delivered globally.

Estonia’s R&D ecosystem and digital capabilities make it an innovation hotspot. Successful start-ups include Transferwise, Skeleton Technologies, and Bolt, to name only few. Global giants like Ericsson, Arvato, Kuehne+Nagel, and NATO all conduct R&D in Estonia. As IT becomes the value driver across all industries, Estonia is uniquely positioned as the choice for digital- and knowledge-based businesses.
Financing and insurance activities: 30%
Wholesale and retail trade: 18%
Real estate activities: 17%
IT and communication: 11%
Manufacturing: 5%

FDI by field of activity (2021)

Foreign direct investment

The Estonian Government demonstrates flexible and needs-based legislation with priority on facilitation of entrepreneurship. This has resulted in a simple and transparent business environment that is one of the key drivers of foreign direct investment in Estonia. Furthermore, Estonia is among the leading countries in the Central and Eastern Europe regarding foreign direct investments per capita.

FDI by origin (2021)

21% Finnish companies
19% Luxembourgian companies
13% Swedish companies
8% Latvian companies
5% Belgian companies
4% Lithuanian companies

Northern Europe’s hub for knowledge and digital business

The Estonian tax code ranks first in the OECD Tax Competitiveness Index for the eighth year in a row (2021)

0% corporate income tax on retained and reinvested profits

One of the most open economies in the world - export of goods and services is round 73% of the GDP

Extensive IT usage across the economy creates significant efficiencies, scalability, and real-time data

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