

AccessibleEU – Accessibility Indicators

Highlights 2024

Portugal

Background

AccessibleEU intends to monitor action and progress of member states to implement accessibility legislation and standards by using a framework largely based on the [United Nations \(2020\) Article 9: Illustrative Indicators, Human Rights Indicators on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities \(CRPD\)](#) developed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

This monitoring framework is composed of structural indicators, process indicators, and outcome indicators:

- **Structural indicators** aim to capture the institutional aspects of national commitments.
- **Progress indicators** focus on efforts of member states to transform commitments into results.
- **Outcome indicators** relate to the impact of commitments and efforts onto individuals.

AccessibleEU uses a total of 30 indicators covering the areas of Built Environment, Transport, Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) and Public Policies.

Overview for Portugal

Percentage of people with disabilities ([Eurostat, 2024](#)): 24,40%

AccessibleEU National Expert: [Diogo Martins](#)

National Council of Persons with Disabilities (member of the European Disability Forum): [Portuguese National Confederation of Organisations of Disabled People](#)

[Annual Country Report 2024 for Portugal](#)

Structural indicators

Topic: Legislation enacted ensuring the right to access, on an equal basis with others, to the physical environment, transportation, services, information and communications, including ICTs, and other facilities and services open or provided to the public, in both urban and rural areas.

- **Findings:** Legal frameworks in place across the sectors of the built environment, transport, ICT, and public policies, include accessibility requirements. The right to equal access is more explicitly stated in the Public procurement Law 18/2008.

Topic: Incorporation of EU accessibility standards and/or transposition of EU Directives in national legal frameworks

- **Findings:** EU accessibility standards have been incorporated have been incorporated on digital accessibility law ([Decree-Law No. 83/2018](#)). The laws regarding public tendering and procurement (Public procurement Law 18/2008) are based on directive 2004/17/CE; and directive 2004/18/CE.

Topic: Accessibility related Strategic and action planning is up to date on national level and aligned with EU relevant strategies.

- **Findings:** A National Strategy for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2025 is in place and includes accessibility related objectives. Organisations representing persons with disabilities participate in monitoring the implementation of the Strategy.

Process indicators

Topic: Training on universal design and accessibility standards is part of higher education courses/ professional accreditation.

- **Findings:** Some undergraduate and postgraduate courses about accessibility in Higher Education on accessibility have been identified across the sectors of the Built Environment, Transport, ICT and Public Policies. Examples include a [Course on Acessibilidade e Design Universal](#).

Topic: Implementation of accessibility audits on government facilities, services and programmes that require the participation of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations, including with respect to emergency protocols, procedures, services and facilities.

- **Findings:** Auditing of accessibility in the built environment is undertaken by official bodies responsible for promoting accessibility and coordinating disability policies. For instance, Estrutura de Missão para a Promoção da

Acessibilidade (EMPA) and Instituto Nacional para a Reabilitação (INR) carried out two accessibility auditing programmes ([INR Report 2022](#)).

Topic: Awareness raising campaigns and activities to promote accessibility across all services open to the public and promote knowledge of universal design and accessibility standards by relevant professionals, manufacturers and service providers, as well as informing individuals of their rights and responsibilities as they relate to accessibility.

- **Findings:** Current awareness raising efforts focus on ICT and built environment, and in particular increasing the visibility of private sector providers which comply with accessibility requirements ([Selo acessibilidade CML](#)).

Topic: Incentives and support provision to improve accessibility in the provision of goods and services and/or information about accessibility to potential users.

- **Findings:** There are incentives in the form of access to funding, capacity building and accessibility recognition schemes that are available in the areas of [ICT](#) and [Tourism](#) (which may by implication further include the Built Environment and Transport).

Topic: Consultation processes undertaken to ensure the active involvement of persons with disabilities, including through their representative organizations, in the design, implementation and monitoring of laws, regulations, policies and programs, related to accessibility of the built environment, transportation, information and communication.

- **Findings:** Organisations representing persons with disabilities participate in monitoring the implementation of the National Strategy for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2025

Outcome indicators

Topic: Reported access to public transport, public buildings/spaces and websites and compliance with legal requirements.

- **Findings:** Some official data is available and can be explored further in the areas of the [built environment](#) and [web accessibility](#).