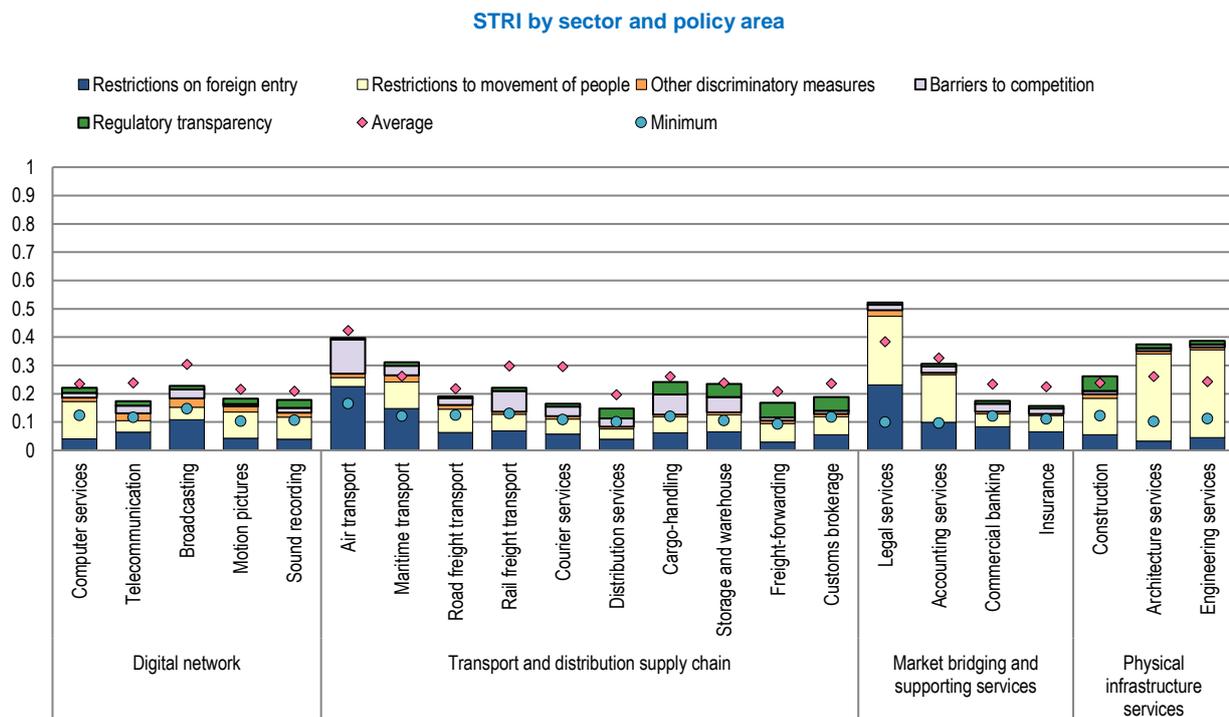


OECD Services Trade Restrictiveness Index (STRI): Slovenia

Slovenia exported services worth USD 8 billion and its services import value was USD 5 billion in 2017. Travel and other business services are Slovenia's largest services export and the largest services import categories.

Slovenia's score on the STRI index in the 22 sectors covered by the STRI project is shown below along with the average and the lowest score among the 45 countries included in the STRI database for each sector.



Note: The STRI indices take values between zero and one, one being the most restrictive. They are calculated on the basis of the STRI regulatory database which contains information on regulation for the 36 OECD Members, Brazil, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Russia and South Africa. The STRI database records measures on a Most Favoured Nations basis. Preferential trade agreements are not taken into account. Air transport and road freight cover only commercial establishment (with accompanying movement of people).

Horizontal policy measures

Slovenia has a lower score on the STRI than the average in 17 out of 22 sectors. A general regulation that contributes to the STRI in all sectors is the relatively short duration of stay for non-EU nationals seeking to provide services on a temporary basis as contractual services suppliers or independent services suppliers as they can stay in Slovenia up to three months on their first entry permit. Intra-corporate transferees can stay up to three years but their entry is subject to wage parity requirements. Other general regulations include a restriction on the acquisition of real estate by foreigners and minimum capital requirements to register a company. Rights under the public procurement law are limited to partners in regional trade agreements and members of the WTO's Government Procurement Agreement. The standards for cross-border transfer of personal data are set at the EU level. Transfers to non-EEA economies can take place when these ensure an adequate level of data protection or, in the absence of this, appropriate safeguards (e.g., binding corporate rules or standard data protection clauses) are in place.

The sectors with the relatively lowest STRI scores

Courier services, insurance and telecommunications services are the three sectors with the lowest score relative to the average in Slovenia. In courier services, there are few sector-specific restrictions. The existence of a state-owned designated postal operator and limits to the proportion of shares that can be acquired by foreign investors contribute to the score. In insurance and telecommunications, next to economy-wide restrictions, sector-specific limitations include commercial presence requirements and the existence of state-owned entities. Additionally, in the telecommunications sector, secondary spectrum trading is not allowed.

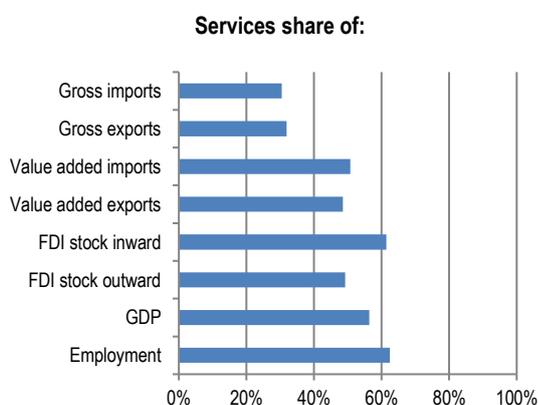
The sectors with the relatively highest STRI scores

Engineering services, architecture services and legal services, are the three sectors with the highest score relative to the average in Slovenia. With regard to legal services, the practice of domestic law is a regulated profession while the practice of international law is not. Slovenian or EU/EEA nationality is required to obtain a license to practice domestic law, and only licensed lawyers may manage or sit on the board of law firms. Architects and engineers are regulated professions as well. While recognition of foreign qualifications is in place for professionals from EEA member countries and Switzerland, such scheme for other countries is subject to reciprocity. Otherwise foreign suppliers have to completely re-do the educational degrees, practice and examinations locally. Moreover, there is no temporary licencing system in place in Slovenia.

Recent policy changes

Slovenia adopted a new Collective Management of Copyright and Related Rights Act in 2016 updating the conditions for membership in a collective copyright management body. As of 2018, intra-corporate transferees from third countries can stay in Slovenia up to 36 months on their initial permit. The new EU General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation 2016/679) entered into force on 25 May 2018 providing a comprehensive update on the EU data protection regime.

Efficient services sectors matter



Services account for only 18% of Slovenia's gross exports, but for 56% of value-added exports, indicating that Slovenia's exports of goods rely intensively on services inputs. Services account for about 62% of employment, which implies that earnings and aggregate demand depends crucially on productivity in the services sector. The information and communication technology revolution opens new opportunities for inclusive growth in Slovenia. Innovation and adoption of technology relies on access to knowledge and to the networks, people, goods and services that carry the knowledge around the world. In this context, Slovenia could benefit from more open markets for services trade through the temporary movement of natural persons in some sectors.

More information

- » Access all of the country notes, sector notes and interactive STRI tools on the OECD website at <http://oe.cd/stri>
- » Read more about services trade policies and their impacts in this publication: [Services Trade Policies and the Global Economy](#)
- » Contact the OECD Trade and Agriculture Directorate with your questions at stri.contact@oecd.org