

Table of Contents

- Introduction
- State of Play
 - Coordination
 - Functioning and coordination of the infrastructure
 - Usage of the infrastructure for spatial information
 - Data Sharing Arrangements
 - Costs and Benefits
- Key Facts and Figures.
 - Identification of spatial data with relevance to the environment (step 1)
 - Documentation of the data (metadata) (step 2)
 - Accessibility of the data through digital services (step 3)
 - Interoperability of spatial data sets (step 4)

Introduction

The INSPIRE Directive sets the minimum conditions for interoperable sharing and exchange of spatial data across Europe as part of a larger European Interoperability Framework and the e-Government Action Plan that contributes to the Digital Single Market Agenda. Article 21 of [INSPIRE Directive](#) defines the basic principles for monitoring and reporting. More detailed implementing rules regarding INSPIRE monitoring and reporting have been adopted as [COMMISSION DECISION regarding INSPIRE monitoring and reporting](#) on the 5th of June 2009.

This country fiche highlights the progress in the various areas of INSPIRE implementation and presents an outlook of planned actions for further improvement of the INSPIRE implementation. The country fiche includes information **until May 2019** as an update of the information acquired through:

- member states update,
- [monitoring report](#) in May 2019.

State Of Play

This report sets out a high-level view on the governance, use and impact of the INSPIRE Directive in Ireland. More detailed information is available on the [INSPIRE knowledge base](#).

Coordination

National Contact Point

Name of Public Authority: Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government

Contact Email: [Click to email](#)

MIG Contacts: Contact Person: Sheila Power

Email: Sheila.power@housing.gov.ie

Contact Person: Emma Reeves

Email: Emma.reeves@housing.gov.ie

MIG T Contacts: Contact Person: Margaret Twynam-Muldoon (GIS)

Email: Margaret.twynammuldoon@housing.gov.ie

Coordination Structure & Progress:

National Contact point

Name of the public authority	Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government
Contact information:	
	IRL INSPIRE, National Contact Point

Mailing address	Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government Newtown Road Wexford Ireland
Telephone number	+353 53 9117417
Email address	inspire.ie@housing.gov.ie
Organisation's website URL	http://www.housing.gov.ie
Contact person (if available)	Emma Reeves
Telephone number	+353 53 9117417
Email address	emma.reeves@housing.gov.ie
Contact person - substitute (if available)	Sheila Power
Telephone number	+353 53 9117567
Email address	sheila.power@housing.gov.ie

Coordination Structure

- The Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government is leading the development of an Action Plan for the implementation of INSPIRE in Ireland
- The INSPIRE Steering Committee is providing an effective structure for coordinating, across the key stakeholders, the contributions of all those with an interest in relevant data.
- The National Contact Point is the Chair of the Steering Committee.
- The terms of reference of the Committee are to provide a strategic overview and appropriate guidance on the implementation of the INSPIRE Directive.
- The INSPIRE Steering Committee meets twice per year and is the main vehicle for the coordination of stakeholder interests and includes representation from the main data owners nationally. Membership of this national committee is provided at Table A.

Progress

- The Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government has been assigned responsibility by the Irish Government to lead the implementation of the INSPIRE Directive in Ireland. Legislation formalising this position was signed into law by regulation in 2015, and in July 2018 a confirmatory Statutory Instrument S.I. No. 280 of 2018 was signed.
- Irish representatives are taking an active part in working groups at European level.
- In early 2018 the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government commissioned a Report to better understand the current position on INSPIRE in Ireland.
- The recommendations from this Report (dated June 2018) have been accepted and are influencing the direction and pace of work on a roadmap to full implementation of the INSPIRE Directive in Ireland.
- A dedicated team including policy and technical expertise has been established to lead this project.
- In early 2019 the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government allocated additional resources to assist its INSPIRE officials and stakeholders on a range of tasks including but not limited to the creation of work packages around monitoring and reporting, data specifications, metadata, network services, spatial data services and validation.
- Following tendering process the contract for this consultative work was awarded, providing Ireland with an INSPIRE skillset for support and advice to escalate compliance.

Table A: INSPIRE STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

NAME	ORGANISATION	EMAIL
Emma Reeves (Chair)	Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, Newtown Road, Wexford.	emma.reeves@housing.gov.ie
Sheila Power	Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, Newtown Road, Wexford	sheila.power@housing.gov.ie
Rob Ovington (GIS)		robert.ovington@housing.gov.ie
Deirdre Kelly (GIS)	Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, Custom	Deirdre.Kelly@housing.gov.ie

Margaret Twynam Muldoon (GIS)	House, Dublin.	Margaret.TwynamMuldoon@housing.gov.ie
Lorraine McNerney Maria Byrne	Ordnance Survey Ireland, Phoenix Park, Dublin 8	Lorraine.mcnerney@osi.ie Maria.Byrne@osi.ie
Eileen Carroll	Environmental Protection Agency, Johnstown Castle Estate, Wexford, Y35W821	E.Carroll@epa.ie
Adam Leadbetter Tara Keena	The Marine Institute Rinville, Oranmore, Co Galway H91R673	Adam.Leadbetter@Marine.ie tara.keena@marine.ie Grainne
James Barry	The Property Registration Authority, Chancery Street, Dublin 7	james.barry@prai.ie
Grainne NiShe	Geological Survey Ireland, Beggar's Bush, Haddington Road, Dublin, D04K7X4	graine.nishe@gsi.ie
Dermot Corcoran	Central Statistics Office, Skehard Road, Cork, T12X00E	Dermot.corcoran@cso.ie
Gareth John	Department of Culture Heritage and the Gaeltacht, 23 Kildare Street, Dublin D02TD30	gareth.john@chg.gov.ie

Functioning and coordination of the infrastructure

- Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSi) provides the INSPIRE Geoportal and supporting functions through a managed service as agreed with Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG). The next step is to set out the roles and responsibilities of both parties with respect to that managed service in a formal Memorandum of Understanding document.
- Ireland's INSPIRE Geoportal has recently been upgraded with new hardware and software, and with simpler implementation to remove and reduce accessibility issues related to complex licencing and security software in previous version. The rebuilding project is a long term project that involves a full review of a system that had included data that was not relevant to INSPIRE and building, in the first instance, on relevant metadata.
- The new Geoportal is available at <https://inspire.geohive.ie> and Discovery Service endpoint is at <https://inspire.geohive.ie/geoportal/csw?SERVICE=CSW&VERSION=2.0.2&REQUEST=GetCapabilities>
- The metadata and service records are currently under review and still being migrated and updated in the new Geoportal; this process will continue throughout 2019.
- The ongoing development of the newly upgraded Geoportal is an integral part of Ireland's commitment to meeting its INSPIRE obligations.

Usage of the infrastructure for spatial information

- The challenge of building more open, transparent and accountable public governance in Ireland is a key objective in the Irish Public Service; and progress is being achieved through a range of reform initiatives.
- In January 2019 the Government published its first Data Strategy for the public service which sets out goals and actions to deliver more joined-up whole-of-Government approach to how data is used and managed within the public service. The INSPIRE Directive is referenced in section 5.12 under the heading of Geo-Spatial. This strategy is available to download at <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/1d6bc7-public-service-data-strategy-2019-2023/>
- The Open Data Initiative is closely aligned with the Public Service Reform Plan, the ICT Strategy, and the Civil Service Renewal Plan. As of May 2019 there are almost 10,000 datasets published on the Open Data portal <https://data.gov.ie/> from 108 publishers.
- Open data is recognized by the Irish Government as having a powerful role to play in the Public Service. Open Data is an important element of a wide variety of key policy documents and action plans. Ireland's Open Data portal provides transparency through the publication of Irish Public Sector data in open, free and reusable formats.

Data sharing arrangements

- The INSPIRE Data Sharing arrangements organise the publication of the declared Irish INSPIRE datasets through the Irish INSPIRE Geoportal to connect into the EU INSPIRE portal and wider INSPIRE network of re-use.
- The National Mapping Agreement is an agreement between the Irish Government and Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSi) which gives Government Departments, Public Sector Bodies and Educational Institutions, including new and existing users, access to Ordnance Survey Ireland's geospatial data.
- As part of the Open Data initiative, the open licence format adopted by the Irish Government is the Creative Commons Attribution (CC-BY) licence, which allows for maximum dissemination and use of licensed materials. This policy is in line with the Commission's guidelines on recommended licences and datasets in relation to the Public Sector Information Directive.
- In March 2019 the Data Sharing and Governance Act 2019 was signed into law. The Act comes in the wake of the GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 in order to clarify and strengthen the data sharing rights and obligations of public bodies. The Act paves the way

for more efficient and cost effective service delivery by public bodies by providing a clear legal basis for the sharing of personal data in certain circumstances. The aim is to reduce the administrative burden associated with the need for individuals to provide their personal data to numerous public bodies.

Costs and benefits

- The total costs associated with implementing the Directive are not systematically being measured across all stakeholders, partly because it is very difficult to track the costs related specifically to INSPIRE implementation versus those incurred in efforts to open up and share GIS data under other related projects.
- However, the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government has made available a budget of €250,000 in 2019 for INSPIRE Expertise. It is envisaged that data owners will benefit greatly from this expertise in terms of training, education, guidance and empowerment for implementation.
- In 2019 the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government has assigned dedicated additional technical and policy staff to the implementation of INSPIRE.
- In the period since the last report, there has been a growing awareness of the value of open data, including GIS data. Similarly, it is reasonable to conclude that there is a growing awareness across State bodies of the benefits of delivering services on a spatial basis. It is likely that the INSPIRE Directive has helped to inform that increased awareness although no studies have been undertaken to attempt to disaggregate the contribution of INSPIRE from the general policy shift towards open data.

Key facts and figures

In addition to the above mentioned issues, the implementation of INSPIRE Directive requires Member States to take four main steps in relation to management of spatial datasets which fall under the Directive:

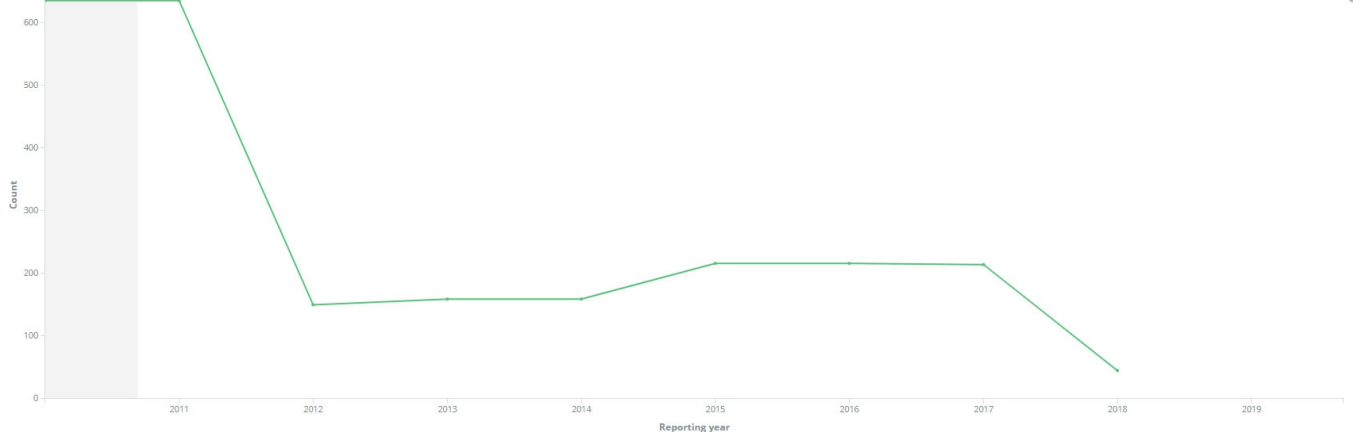
- Step 1: Identify spatial datasets
- Step 2: Document these datasets (metadata)
- Step 3: Provide services for identified spatial datasets (discovery, view, download)
- Step 4: Make spatial datasets interoperable by aligning them with the common data models.

The key facts and figures presented in this country fiche are based on the information provided by Ireland on the [INSPIRE dashboard](#). **The provided statistics is not reflecting the data available on INSPIRE geoportal.** The INSPIRE geoportal is updated on a regular and ongoing basis, whilst the INSPIRE dashboard is typically updated after every reporting round, on a yearly basis.

The conformity of the implementation is assessed against the full set of legal specifications set out by the Directive and the Implementing Rules and the commonly agreed good practices set out by the technical guidelines.

Identification of spatial data with relevance to the environment (step 1)

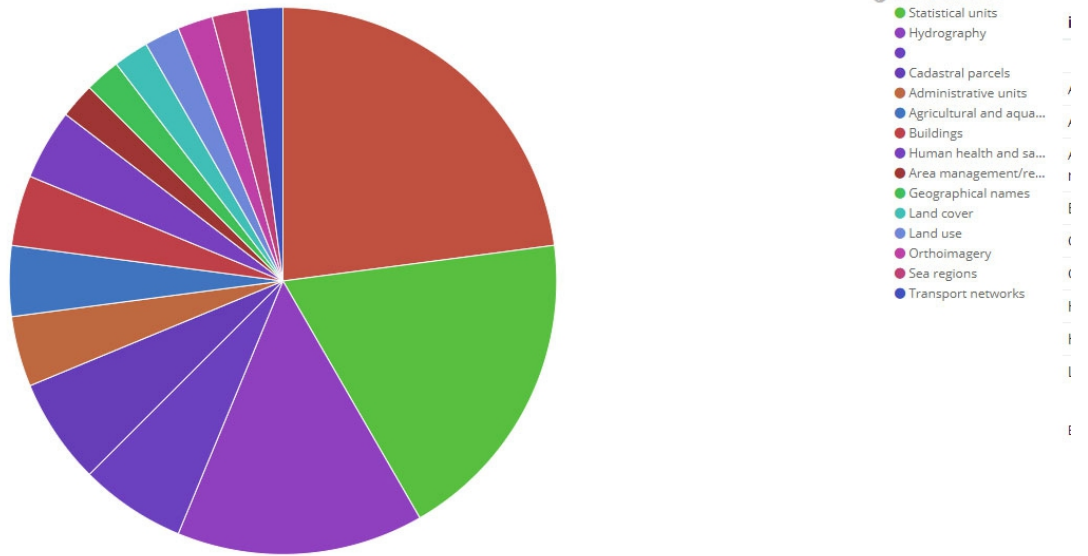
Indicator / Number of spatial data sets for all annexes (DSv_Num)



Country fiche / datasets by annex

Data sets made available per INSPIRE theme (reference year 2018)

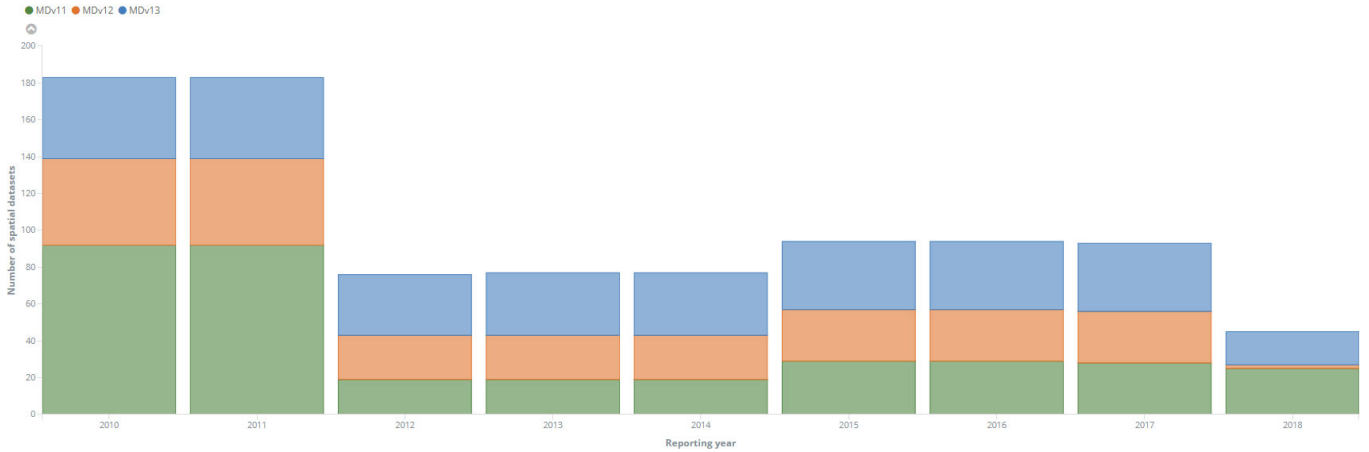
INSPIRE Raw data (datasets) by themes



Country fiche / datasets by themes

Data sets made available per INSPIRE theme

Indicator / Number of spatial data sets per annexes



Country fiche / Documentation of the data

MDv1.1: number of spatial data sets for Annex I that have metadata

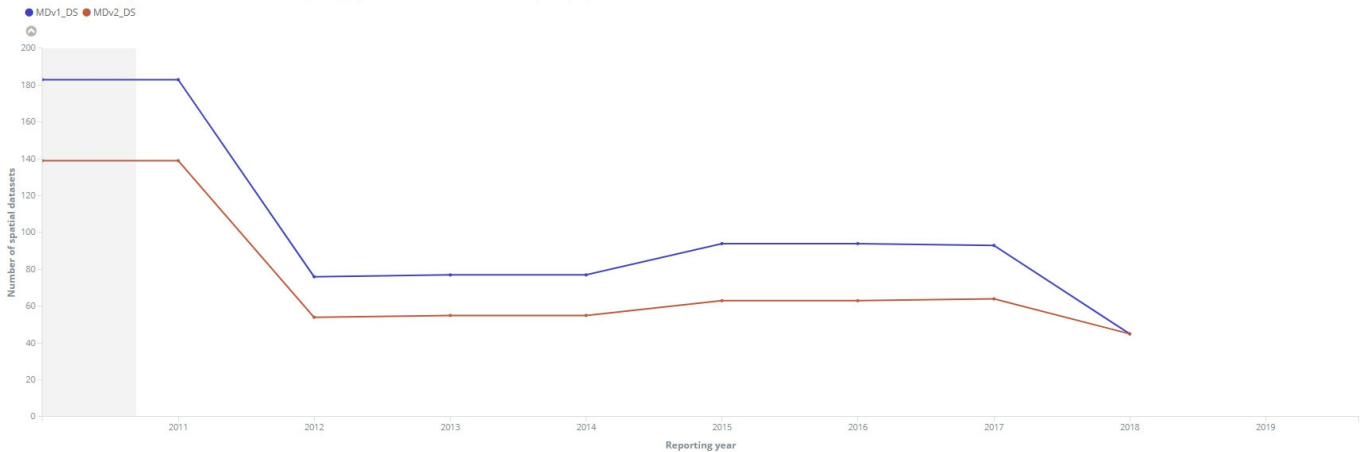
MDv1.2: number of spatial data sets for Annex II that have metadata

MDv1.3: number of spatial data sets for Annex III that have metadata

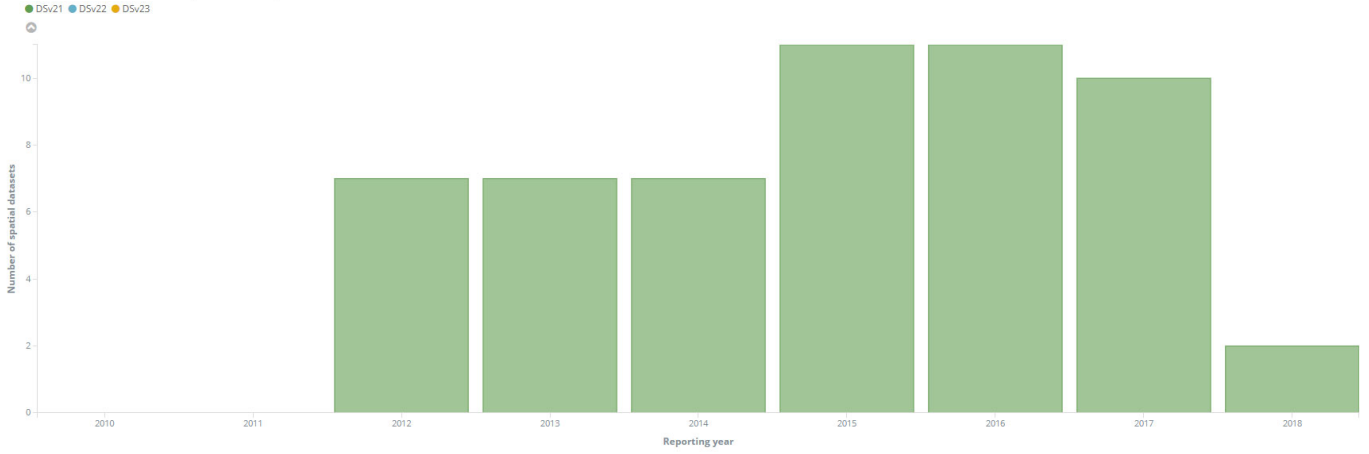
Documentation of the data (metadata) (step 2)

Evolution of documented data and conformity of the documentation

Indicator / Number of spatial data set that have metadata (MDv1_DS) and have conformant metadata (MDv2_DS)



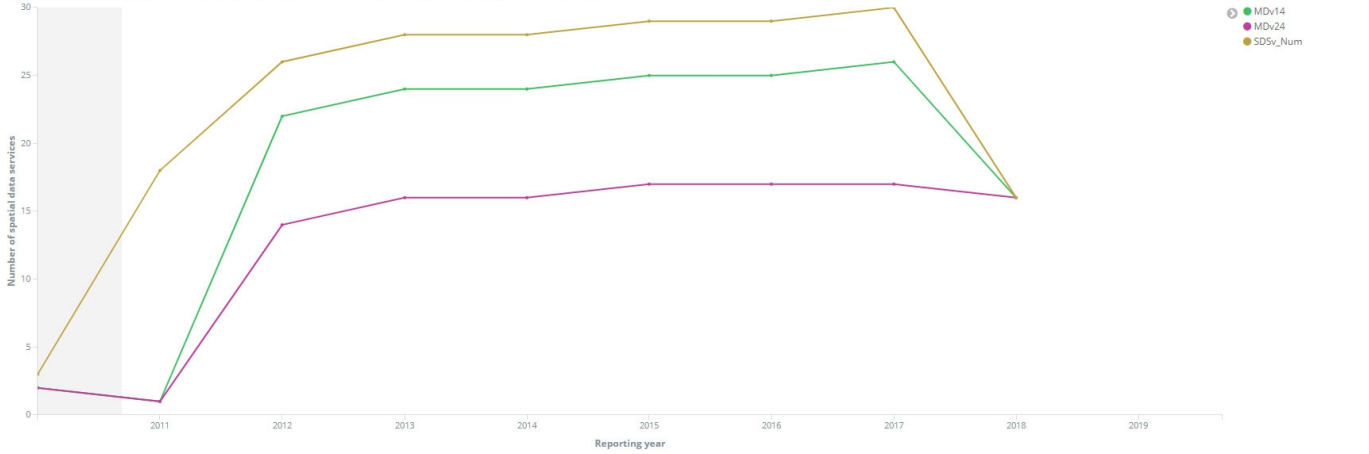
Indicator / Number of conformant spatial data sets per Annexes



Country fiche / Evolution of documented services and conformity of the documentation

Evolution of documented services and conformity of the documentation

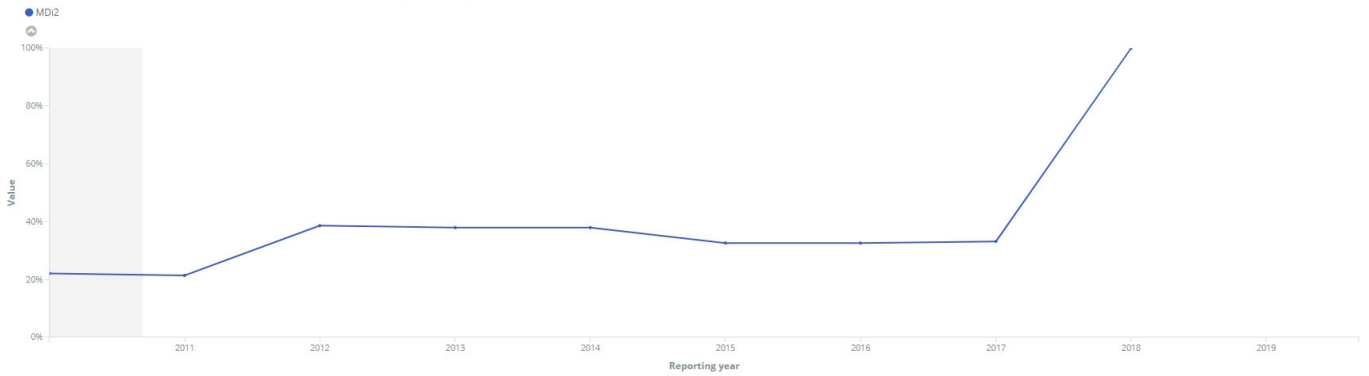
Indicator / Number of spatial data services (SDSv_Num) with metadata (MDv14) and conformant metadata (MDv24)



Country fiche / Evolution of the overall conformity of the documented metadata

Evolution of the overall conformity of the documented metadata

Indicator / Percentage of spatial data sets and services with conformant metadata (MDi2)



Country fiche / accessibility

Accessibility of the data through digital services (step 3)

Digitally accessible spatial data per INSPIRE theme (reference year 2018)

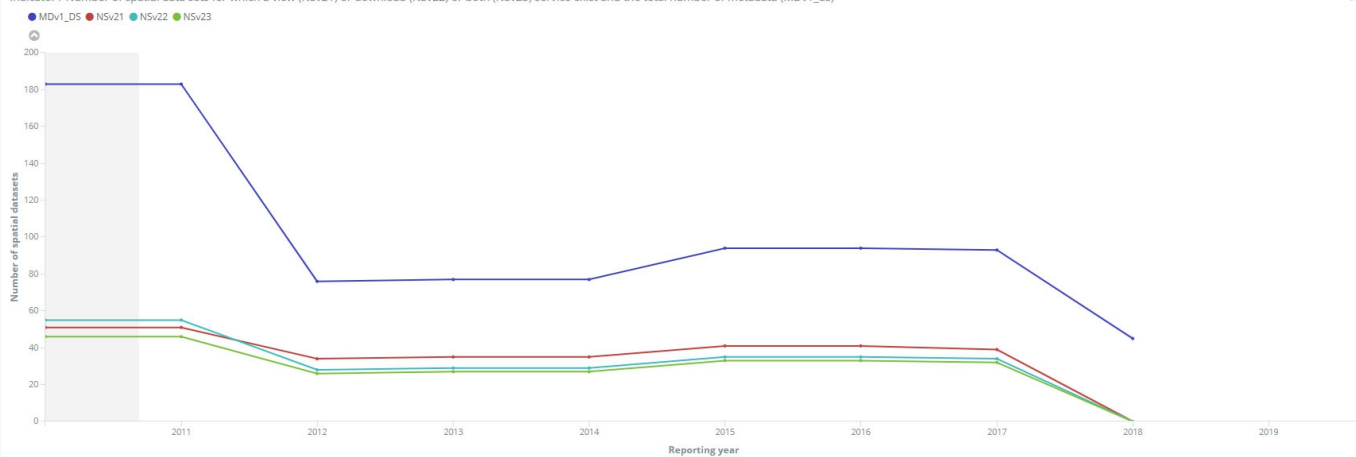
INSPIRE Raw data (datasets available through services) by themes

☹️
No results found

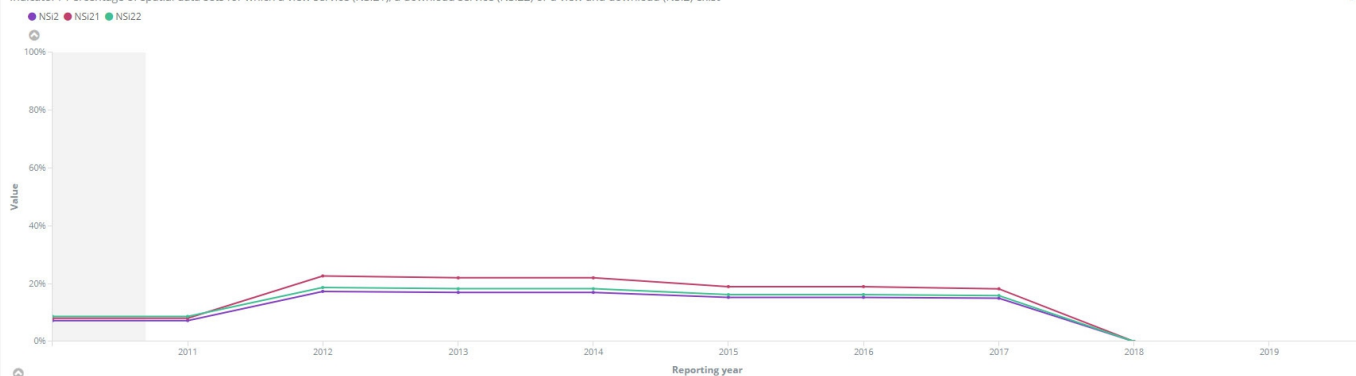
Country fiche / Evolution of spatial data accessible through services

Evolution of spatial data made accessible through digital services

Indicator / Number of spatial data sets for which a view (Nsv21) or download (Nsv22) or both (Nsv23) service exist and the total number of metadata (MDv1_ds)



Indicator / Percentage of spatial data sets for which a view service (NSI21), a download service (NSI22) or a view and download (NSI2) exist

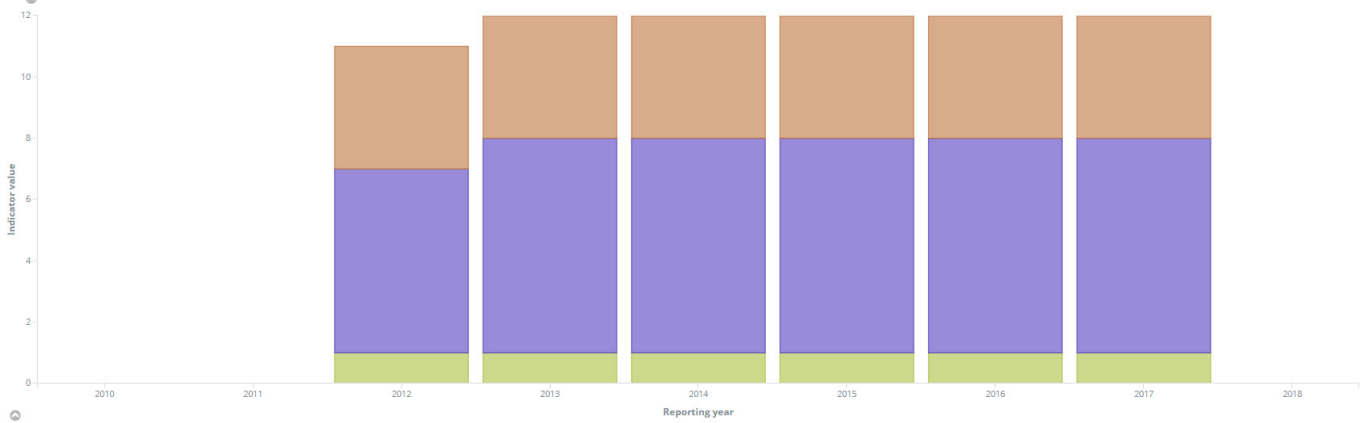


Country fiche / Evolution of the conformity of the digital services

Evolution of the conformity of the digital services

Indicator / Number of all conformant network services: discovery (NSv41), view (NSv42), download (NSv43), transformation (NSv44) total (NSv4)

● NSv41 ● NSv42 ● NSv43 ● NSv44 ● NSv45



Country fiche / Interoperability

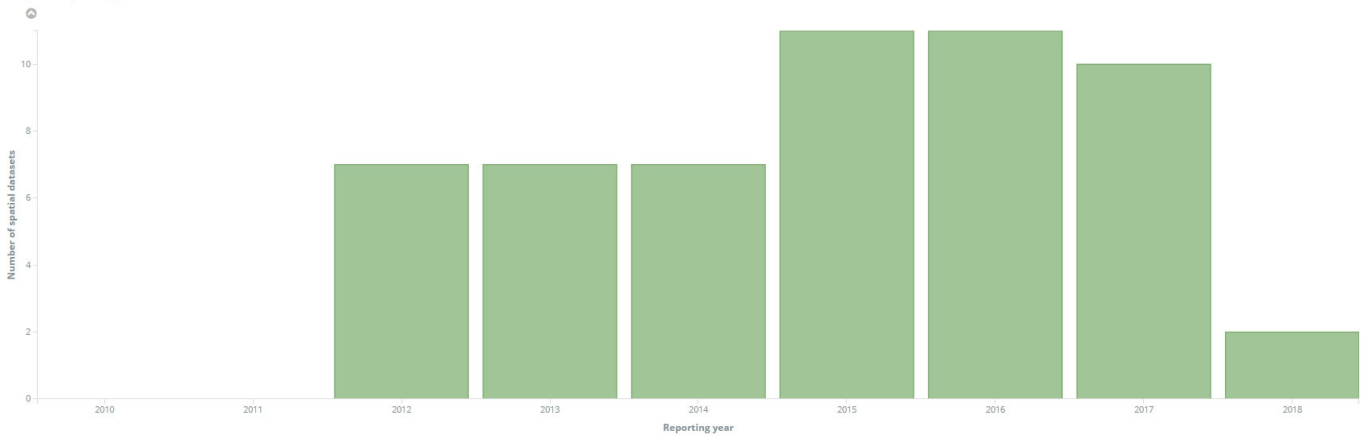
Interoperability of spatial data sets (step 4)

The interoperability of spatial data sets is an outlook on the readiness of Member States to make their spatial data interoperable according to the Interoperability specifications laid down in the INSPIRE Interoperability Implementing regulation (Commission Regulation (EU) No 1089/2010 <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:02010R1089-20131230&qid=1400675738563>). The deadlines for implementation of the spatial data interoperability are 23/11/2017 for Annex I data and 21/10/2020 for Annex II and III data.

Evolution of the conformity with INSPIRE interoperability specifications for spatial data

Indicator / Number of conformant spatial data sets per Annexes

● DSv21 ● DSv22 ● DSv23



DSv2.1: number of conformant spatial data sets with conformant metadata for Annex I

DSv2.2: number of conformant spatial data sets with conformant metadata for Annex II

DSv2.3: number of conformant spatial data sets with conformant metadata for Annex III