

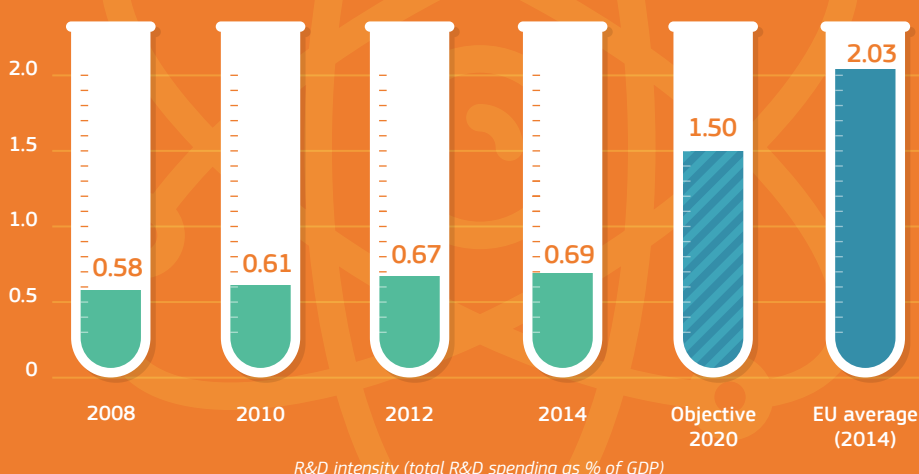
Latvia

Consolidating public research institutions and stimulating business investment in innovation

INVESTMENT IN R&D

R&D SPENDING

A slight increase in R&D expenditure, although it still remains far below the national target and the EU average

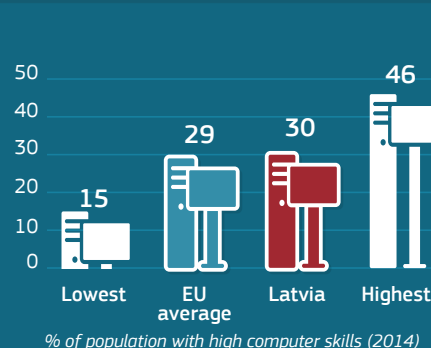
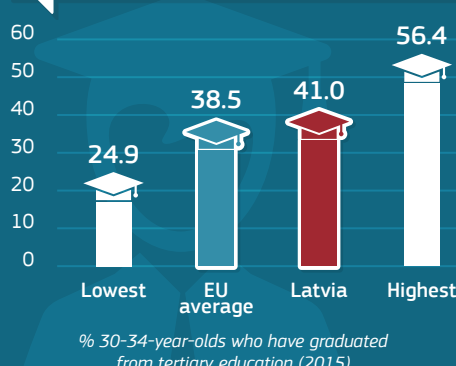


STRENGTHS OF R&I SYSTEM

TERTIARY EDUCATION

COMPUTER SKILLS

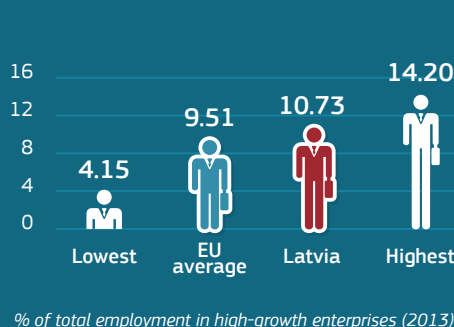
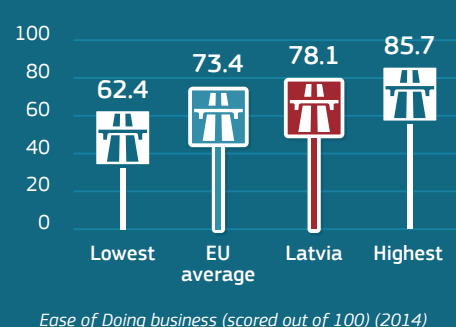
A strong human capital base is a key contributor to the innovation-driven growth in the country



EASE OF DOING BUSINESS

FAST-GROWING COMPANIES

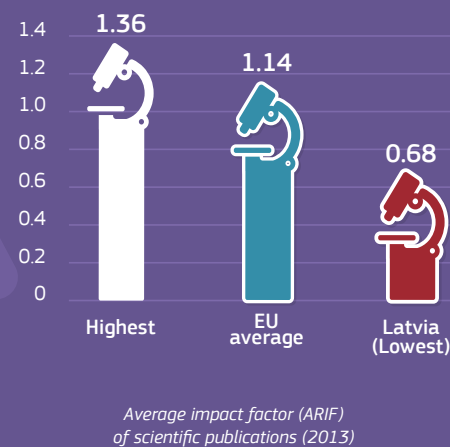
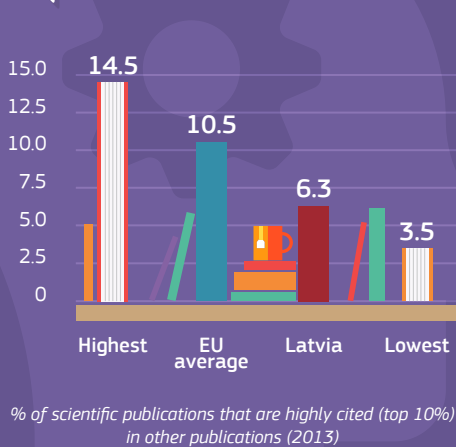
Favourable conditions for business development are in place



KEY CHALLENGES

QUALITY OF RESEARCH SYSTEM

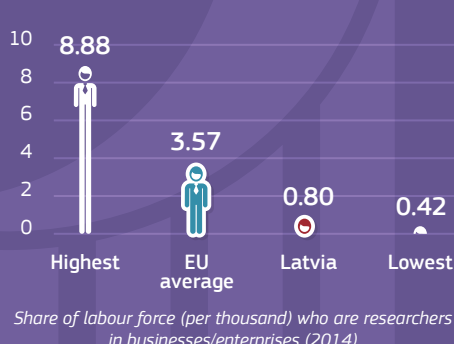
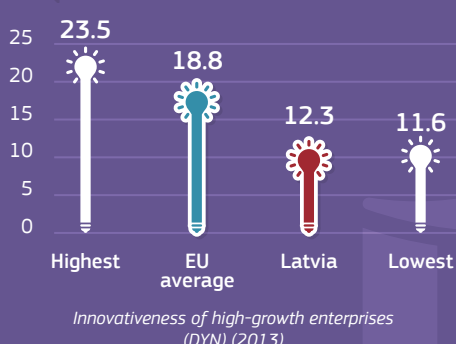
The quality of the science base is still not outstanding



INNOVATIVENESS OF SMES

RESEARCHERS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR

The innovation performance of the private sector is still too low, partly due to weak links between academia and business



RECOMMENDATIONS

2016 EUROPEAN SEMESTER – COUNTRY SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATION

€ Pursue the **consolidation of research institutions** and **provide incentives for private investment in innovation**

HORIZON 2020 POLICY SUPPORT FACILITY ACTIVITIES

- Latvia has asked for **specific support** – to be launched at the beginning of 2017
- The country has also participated in the **Mutual Learning Exercise on administration and monitoring of R&D tax incentives**