

ESRS sustainability statements: first insights

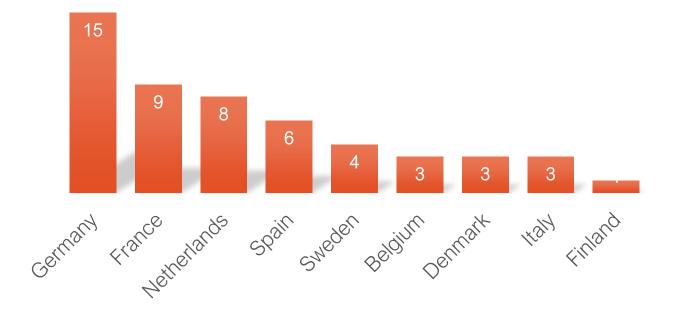
Criteria

STOXX Europe 600 largest entities sustainability reports published until 31/3/2025

Result

46 % of STOXX Europe 600 (only EU companies) totalling 52 entities

Analysis of selected entities per county:



Includes early CSRD adopters (before formal transposition on national level):

- German entities
- Spanish entities
- Swedish entities
- Dutch entities



Sustainability statements overview



Number of pages

• Average: 133

• Max: 456

• Min: 29

Number of disclosure requirements (DRs)

• Average: 46

• Max: 66

• Min: 14

Sustainability reporting (SR) regimes used:

- **73%** ESRS only
- 17% ESRS + GRI / SASB / TNFD / TCFD
- 10% GRI / TCFD / SASB (Sweden & Germany)



96% have used the transitional provision on entity specific information & presumably all on VC





ACCOUNTANCY Assurance reports on Sust. Statements overview

ESRS vs GRI



ISAE 3000 vs National

90% assurance on ESRS / rest on GRI reporting

67% follow ISAE 3000 / rest national standard

■ ESRS ■ GRI ■ ISAE 3000 ■ NATIONAL

All assurance report provide an unqualified opinion

Audit fees

(Sust. assurance / Statutory audit)

Average: 19%

Max: 76%

Min: 2%

Below 10% 11 entities

Above 30% 7 entities

50% include Emphasis of Matter/Other Matter Paragraph referring to important matter in SR

Audit fees (% Sust. assurance / Statutory audit)





Basis of emphasis of matter / other matter



Basis of preparation	New standards involve estimates and measurement uncertainty
Forward-looking information	Based on assumptions
Third-party data	Some metrics rely on external sources not verified in the assurance process
First-time ESRS reporting	2024 disclosures may differ from prior unassured years
Comparative information	Prior-year disclosures were not subject to assurance procedures
Lack of historical data	Comparability affected by evolving reporting practices



Additional Findings from Qualified Audit Reports



The following issues led to qualified opinions in other sustainability assurance reports (additionally to the abovementioned sample of 52 entities) published until 31/3/2024):

Scope 3	Inaccurate reporting (ESRS E1 requirements) / material omissions / disclosures inconsistency
ESRS E5-4	Failure to report required metrics / insufficient data for material topics
Methodology non compliance	Reliance on unverified third party data
Eu taxonomy Compliance failure	Incomplete disclosures of Article 8