METHODOLOGY

Europe’s Long-Term Growth Champions 2026

in collaboration with FINANCIAL TIMES

statista

September 2025

The second ranking by the Financial Times and Statista awarded 300 long-term growth champions in Europe

Management Summary

The Europe's Long-Term Growth Champions 2026 is a list of the Top 300 companies in Europe that have achieved the highest percentage growth in revenues between 2014 and 2024. The creation of the ranking was based on a three-step process:

Application Phase

The project was advertised online and in print, allowing all eligible companies to register. In addition, Statista has identified more thousands of companies in Europe as potential candidates and invited them to participate.

Research Phase

Following the application phase, Statista examined the officially stated revenue data of public companies. In the next step, certain high-profile companies that met the criteria of minimum revenues in 2014 and 2024, independence and organic growth were added to the list.

Evaluation Phase

The compound annual growth rate was calculated based on the revenue figures submitted and verified by the companies. The companies had to meet different criteria, such as revenue thresholds and independence. All data reported by the companies was processed and checked by Statista.

Ranking

300 companies were ranked according to their revenue growth rate between 2014 and 2024. Minimum growth rate to be included was 9.8%.

All eligible companies could apply through an online application process

Application Phase

Advertisement & Invitation

For the Europe's Long-Term Growth Champions 2026, the Financial Times published an announcement article regarding the application phase. Meanwhile, Statista identified thousands of potential candidates through company databases and other open sources. For those companies, Statista sent invitations via email.

Criteria for Inclusion in the List

To be included in the list of the Europe's Long-Term Growth Champions 2026, a company must have met the following criteria:

- **Headquarters** in **Europe**
- **Revenues** of **at least €100,000** generated in **2014**
- **Revenues** of **at least €10,000,000** generated in **2024**
- Primarily **organic revenue growth** between 2014 and 2024 (i.e., "internally" stimulated)
- **Independence** (The company acts largely independently in its business decisions and does not derive financial benefits from its parent company)

Application

- **Online registration**
  Companies which met the aforementioned criteria could apply for the ranking. In the online registration, participants provided general business information, revenue and contact information.
- **Revenue Verification**
  To verify revenue data, companies submitted a revenue verification form that included revenues & fiscal years and was signed by the CEO, CFO, or executive committee member.

Following the application phase, high-profile companies were researched and added to the list

Research Phase

Data Research

Statista reviewed the revenue data of publicly listed companies in Europe. For the revenue data research, Statista reviewed their annual reports to reference financial statements of fiscal years 2014 and 2024.

Additional Data Research

For companies that achieved the minimum revenue for both years, Statista researched additional information regarding corporate structure, general business information, mergers and acquisitions activities.

Growth Champions were determined by the highest revenue growth between the fiscal years 2014 and 2024

Evaluation Phase

Revenue Growth

To evaluate the companies’ revenue growth between fiscal years 2014 and 2024, Statista calculated the CAGR of all companies and determined the Growth Champions by the highest CAGR.

- **CAGR (Compound Annual Growth Rate)**

  The compound annual growth rate (CAGR) is an essential metric in comparing a company's performance to its competitors and identifying high-growth potential in smaller companies that may be missed when only considering absolute growth figures.

$$\left(\frac{revenue\ 2024}{revenue\ 2014}\right)^{1/(2024-2014)} - 1 = compound\ annual\ growth\ rate\ (CAGR)$$

Organic Growth

To ensure that a company’s revenue growth was primarily organic (arising from an increase in the company's own business activity rather than mergers or takeovers), Statista reviewed each company’s mergers and acquisitions history between fiscal year 2014 and fiscal year 2024.

Independence

Statista reviewed each company’s corporate structure to ensure they met the criteria of independence.

Disclaimer

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The Europe’s Long-Term Growth Champions 2026 ranking was created through a complex procedure. Although the search was very extensive, the ranking does not claim to be complete, as some companies did not want to make their figures public or did not participate for other reasons.