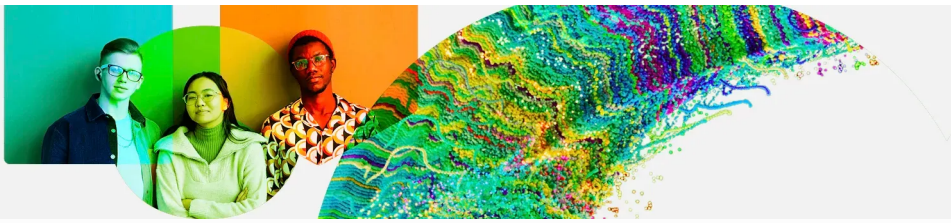
Global Innovation Index 2024



Uruguay ranking in the Global Innovation Index 2024

Uruguay ranks 62nd among the 133 economies featured in the GII 2024.

The Global Innovation Index (GII) ranks world economies according to their innovation capabilities. Consisting of roughly 80 indicators, grouped into innovation inputs and outputs, the GII aims to capture the multi-dimensional facets of innovation.

Uruguay ranks 44th among the 51 high-income group economies.

Uruguay ranks 5th among the 20 economies in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Uruguay GII Ranking (2020-2024)

The table shows the rankings of Uruguay over the past four years. Data availability and changes to the GII model framework influence year-on-year comparisons of the GII rankings. The statistical confidence interval for the ranking of Uruguay in the GII 2024 is between ranks 52 and 71.

Year	GII Position	Innovation Inputs	Innovation Outputs
2020	69th	69th	65th
2021	65th	69th	63rd
2022	64th	57th	76th
2023	63rd	56th	73rd
2024	62nd	56th	75th

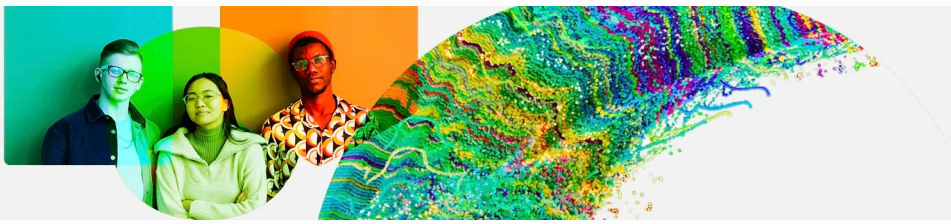
Uruguay performs worse in innovation outputs than innovation inputs in 2024.

This year **Uruguay ranks 56th in innovation inputs.** This position is the same as last year.

Uruguay ranks 75th in innovation outputs. This position is lower than last year.

Uruguay has no clusters in the top 100 S&T clusters of the Global Innovation Index.

Global Innovation Index 2024



> Global Innovation Tracker

The Global Innovation Tracker 2024 shows what is the current state of innovation in Uruguay, how rapidly is technology being embraced and what are the resulting societal impacts.

For Uruguay, 6 indicators have improved in the short-term and 3 indicators have worsened.

Science and innovation investment

Scientific publications	R&D investments	Venture capital		International patent filings
		Deal numbers	Deal values	
▼ -4.7% 2022 - 2023	▼ -0.9% 2020 - 2021	▲ 33.3% 2022 - 2023	▲ 89.2% 2022 - 2023	▲ 83.3% 2022 - 2023
▲ 5.1% 2013 - 2023	▲ 4% 2011 - 2021	▲ 23.1% 2013 - 2023	▲ 20.6% 2013 - 2023	▲ 10.6% 2013 - 2023

Technology adoption

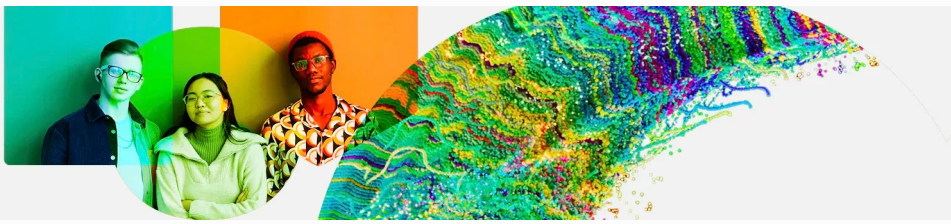
Safe sanitation	Connectivity		Robots	Electric vehicles
	Fixed broadband	5G		
n/a	▲ 2.8% 2021 - 2022	n/a	n/a	n/a
n/a	▲ 6.8% 2012 - 2022		n/a	n/a
n/a	33.2 per 100 inhabitants in 2022	n/a		n/a

Socioeconomic impact

Labor productivity	Life expectancy	Temperature change
▲ 0.3% 2022 - 2023	▲ 3.4% 2021 - 2022	▲ 1.5°C 2023
▲ 1.7% 2013 - 2023	▲ 0.1% 2012 - 2022	n/a
63,492 USD in 2023	78 years in 2022	

Notes: Not all indicators of the Global Innovation Tracker are used to calculate the Global Innovation Index. Long-term annual growth refers to the compound annual growth rate (CAGR) over the indicated period. For each variable, a one-year growth rate is set for the short run, and ten-year CAGR is set for the long run; time windows might differ when gaps exist in data availability. The end period corresponds to the most recent available observation, which may differ among countries. Temperature change is an exception: it indicates the change in degrees Celsius with respect to the average temperature in the country from 1951–1980. Figures are rounded.

Global Innovation Index 2024



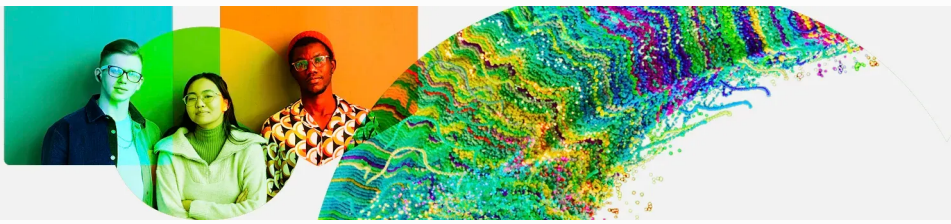
Expected vs. observed innovation performance

The bubble chart below shows the relationship between income levels (GDP per capita) and innovation performance (GII score). The trend line gives an indication of the expected innovation performance according to income level. Economies appearing above the trend line are performing better than expected and those below are performing below expectations.

Relative to GDP, Uruguay's performance is below expectations for its level of development.

> Innovation overperformers relative to their economic development

Global Innovation Index 2024

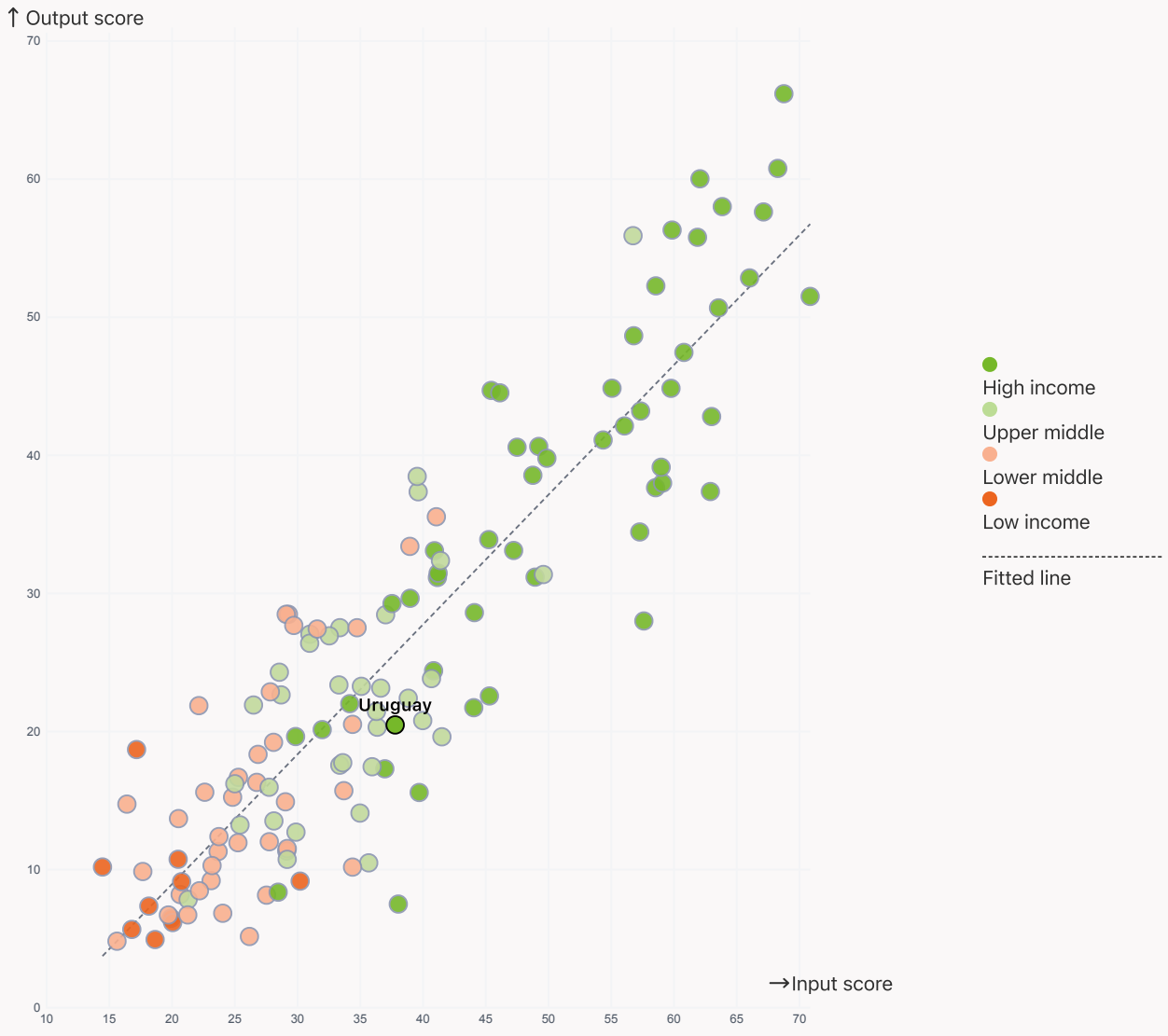


Effectively translating innovation investments into innovation outputs

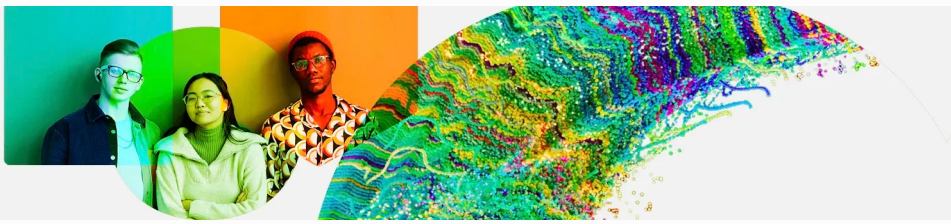
The chart below shows the relationship between innovation inputs and innovation outputs. Economies above the line are effectively translating costly innovation investments into more and higher-quality outputs.

Uruguay produces less innovation outputs relative to its level of innovation investments.

> Relationship between innovation inputs and outputs

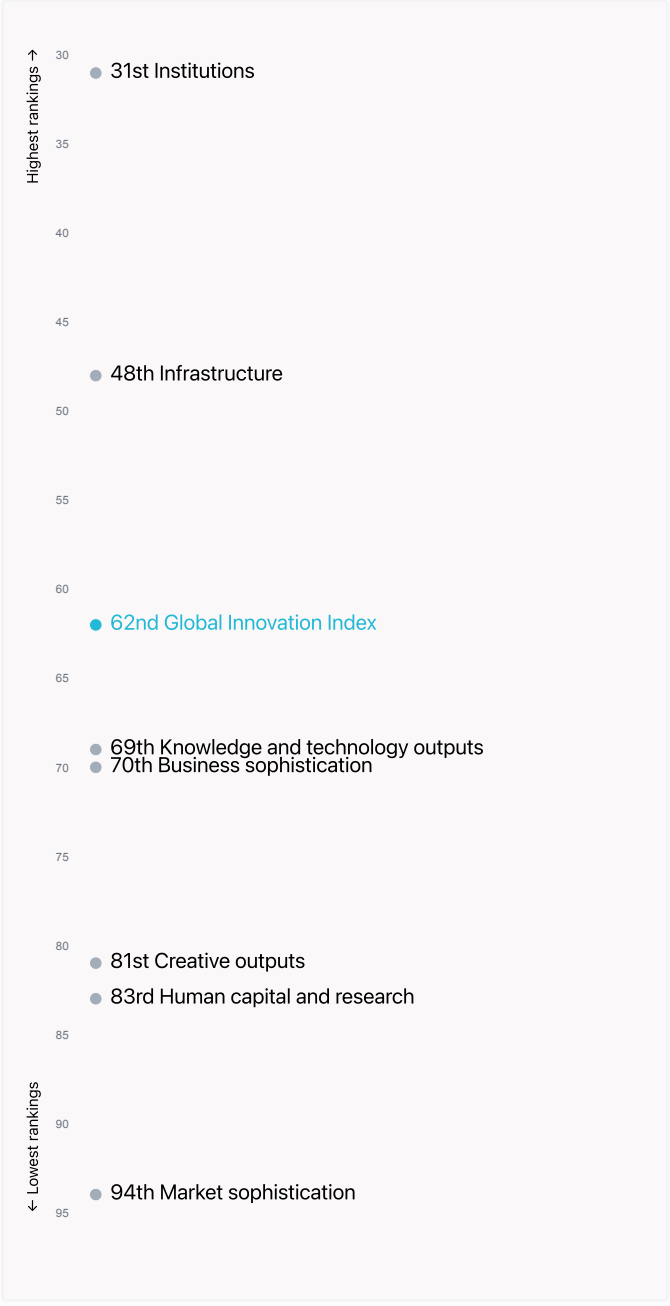


Global Innovation Index 2024



Overview of Uruguay's rankings in the seven areas of the GII in 2024

The chart shows the ranking for each of the seven areas that the GII comprises. The strongest areas for Uruguay are those that rank above the GII (shown in blue) and the weakest are those that rank below.



Highest rankings

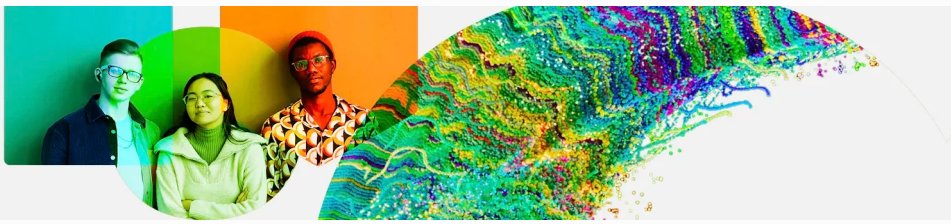
Uruguay ranks highest in Institutions (31st) and Infrastructure (48th).

Lowest rankings

Uruguay ranks lowest in Market sophistication (94th), Human capital and research (83rd) and Creative outputs (81st).

The full WIPO Intellectual Property Statistics profile for Uruguay can be found on this link.

Global Innovation Index 2024



Benchmark of Uruguay against other economy groupings for each of the seven areas of the GII Index

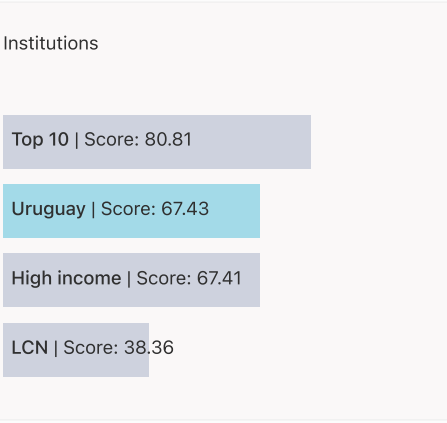
The charts shows the relative position of Uruguay (blue bar) against other economy groupings (grey bars), for each of the seven areas of the GII Index.

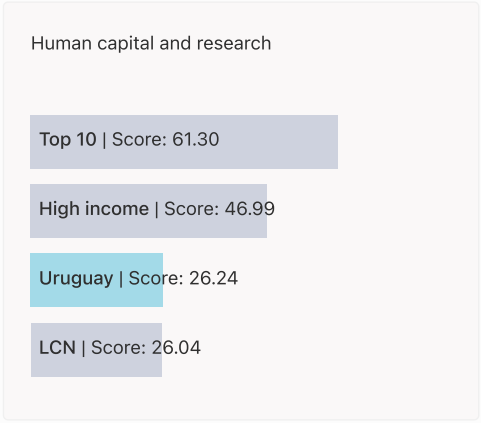
High-Income economies

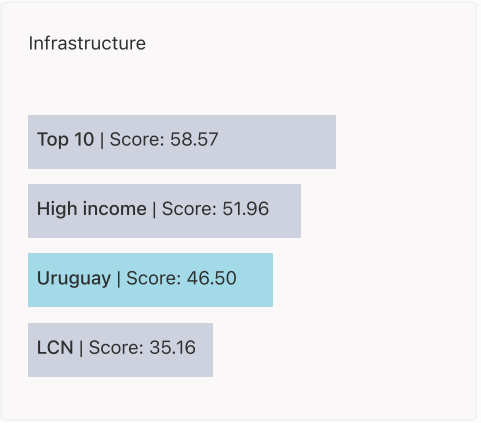
Uruguay performs above the high-income group average in Institutions.

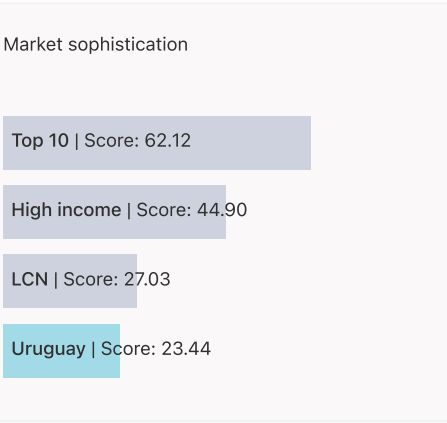
Latin America And The Caribbean

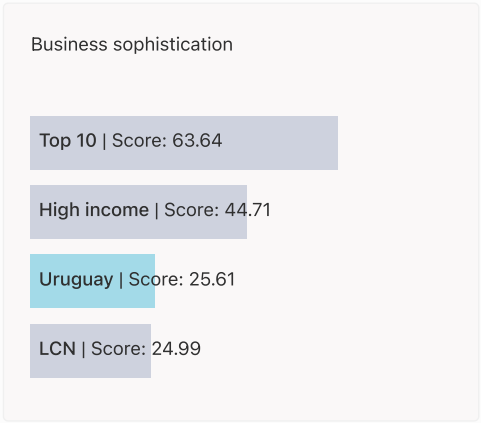
Uruguay performs above the regional average in Institutions, Human capital and research, Infrastructure, Business sophistication, Knowledge and technology outputs, Creative outputs.

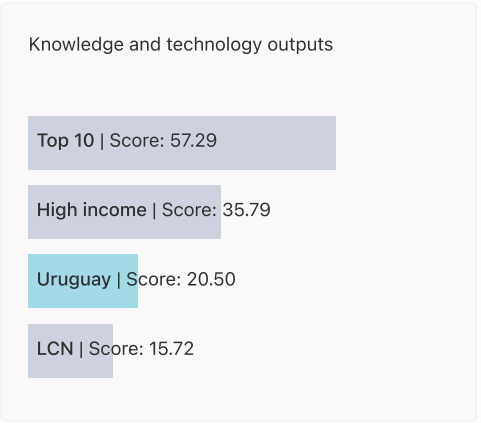


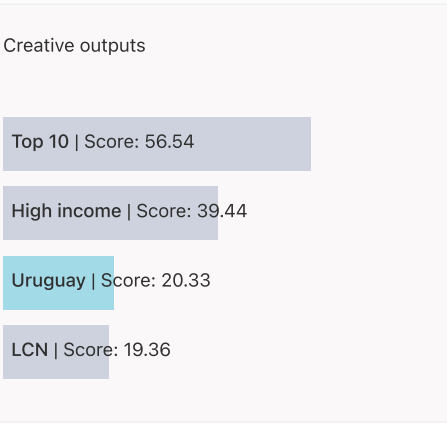




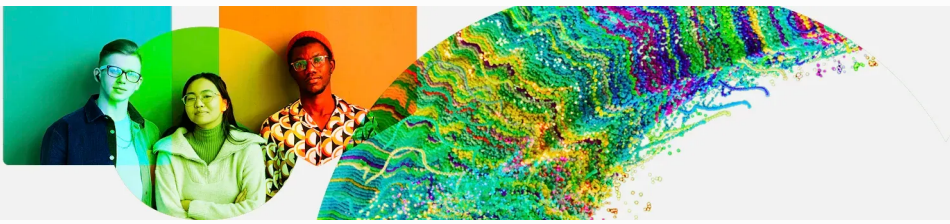








Global Innovation Index 2024



Innovation strengths and weaknesses in Uruguay

The table below gives an overview of the indicator strengths and weaknesses of Uruguay in the GII 2024.

Uruguay's main innovation strengths are **Policy stability for doing business†** (rank 4), **Low-carbon energy use, %** (rank 10) and **ICT services exports, % total trade** (rank 15).

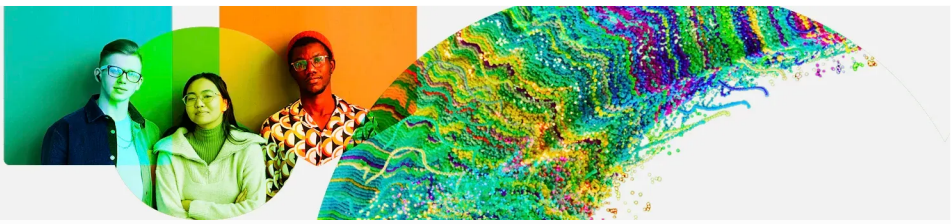
Strengths

Rank	Code	Indicator name
4	1.3.1	Policy stability for doing business†
10	3.3.2	Low-carbon energy use, %
15	6.3.4	ICT services exports, % total trade
15	1.1.1	Operational stability for businesses*
16	5.3.4	FDI net inflows, % GDP
17	2.1.3	School life expectancy, years
23	7.2.1	Cultural and creative services exports, % total trade
24	6.3.5	ISO 9001 quality/bn PPP$ GDP
28	5.3.3	ICT services imports, % total trade

Weaknesses

Rank	Code	Indicator name
107	5.2.1	Public Research-Industry co-publications, %
106	3.2.3	Gross capital formation, % GDP
105	4.1.2	Domestic credit to private sector, % GDP
84	5.1.4	GERD financed by business, %
79	5.3.5	Research talent, % in businesses
76	2.1.2	Government funding/pupil, secondary, % GDP/cap
75	7.1.3	Global brand value, top 5,000, % GDP
73	4.1.1	Finance for startups and scaleups†
49	6.2.2	Unicorn valuation, % GDP
41	2.3.3	Global corporate R&D investors, top 3, mn USD

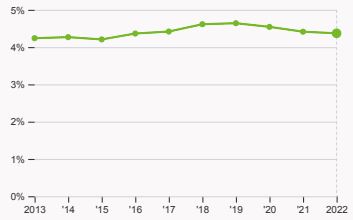
Global Innovation Index 2024



Uruguay's innovation system

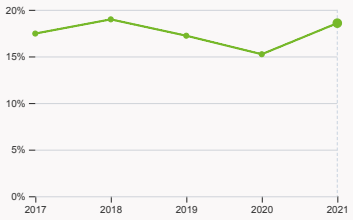
As far as practicable, the plots below present unscaled indicator data.

Innovation inputs in Uruguay



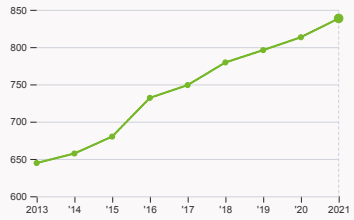
2.1.1 **Expenditure on education**

was equal to 4.37 % GDP in 2022, down by 0.04 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 59.



2.2.2 **Graduates in science and engineering**

was equal to 18.57 % of total graduates in 2021, up by 3.33 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 88.



2.3.1 **Researchers**

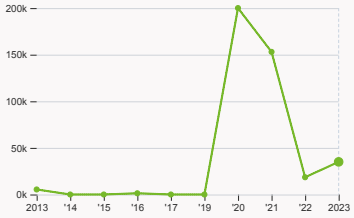
was equal to 838.51 FTE per million population in 2021, up by 3.11% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 56.

2.3.2 **Gross expenditure on R&D**

was equal to 0.42 % GDP in 2021, down by 0.03 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 64.

2.3.4 **QS university ranking**

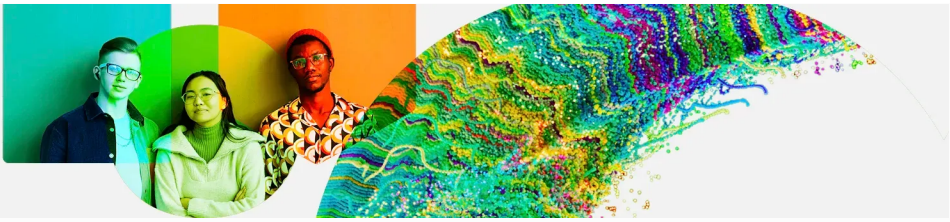
was equal to an average score of 15.7 for the top three universities in 2023, down by 30.32% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 58.

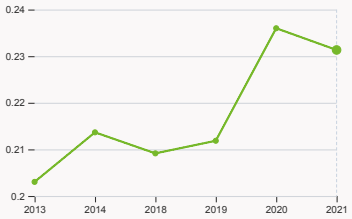


4.2.4 **VC received, value**

was equal to 35 thousand USD in 2023, up by 89.19% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 51.

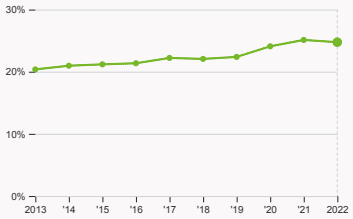
Global Innovation Index 2024





4.3.2 Domestic industry diversification

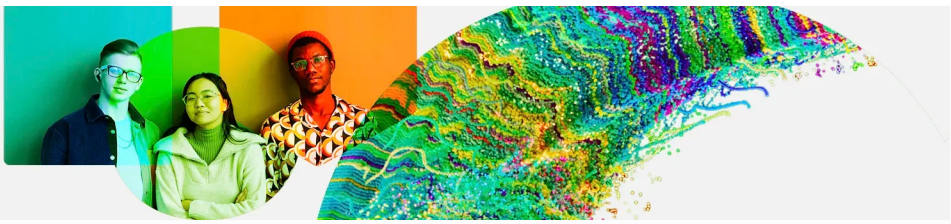
was equal to an index score of 0.23 in 2021, down by 1.97% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 86.



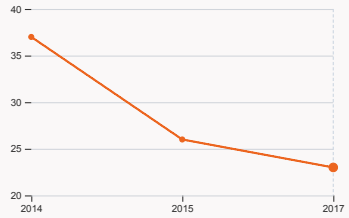
5.1.1 Knowledge-intensive employment

was equal to 24.75 % in 2022, down by 0.36 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 58.

Global Innovation Index 2024



Innovation outputs in Uruguay

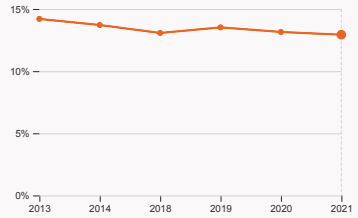


6.1.1 Patents by origin

was equal to 23 patents in 2017, down by 11.54% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 91.

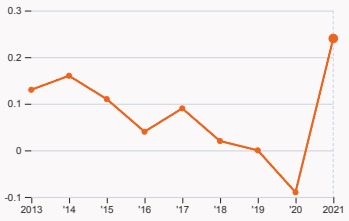
6.2.2 Unicorn valuation

was equal to 0 % GDP in 2024 with no change from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 49.



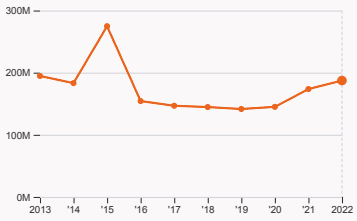
6.2.4 High-tech manufacturing

was equal to 12.93 % of total manufacturing output in 2021, down by 0.22 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 80.



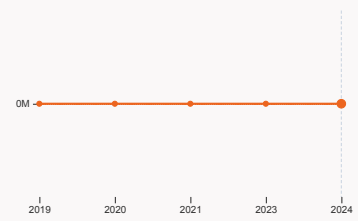
6.3.2 Production and export complexity

was equal to a score of 0.24 in 2021, up by 366.67% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 51.



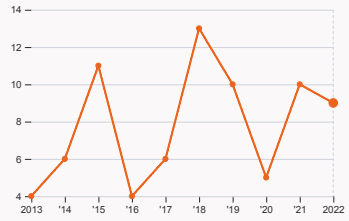
6.3.3 High-tech exports

was equal to 187.33 million USD in 2022, up by 7.9% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 80.



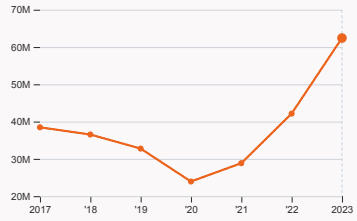
7.1.3 Global brand value

was equal to 0 million USD for the brands in the top 5,000 in 2024 with no change from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 75.



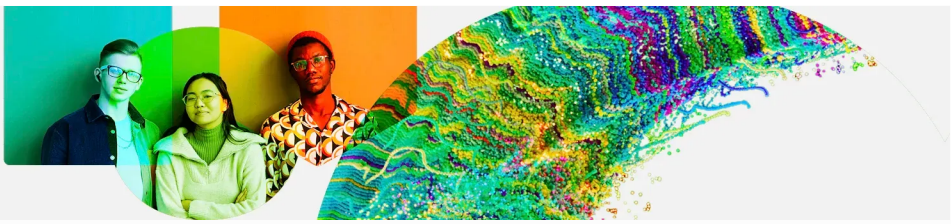
7.2.2 National feature films

was equal to 9 films in 2022, down by 10% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 36.



7.3.3 Mobile app creation

was equal to 62.41 million global downloads of mobile apps in 2023, up by 48.1% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 40.



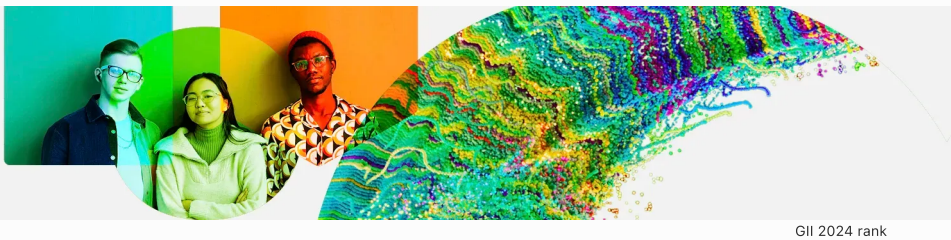
Uruguay's innovation top performers

2.3.4 QS university ranking of Uruguay's top universities

Rank	University	Score
651-660	UNIVERSIDAD DE MONTEVIDEO (UM)	18.00
771-780	UNIVERSIDAD ORT URUGUAY	15.30
801-850	UNIVERSIDAD DE LA REPUBLICA (UDELAR)	13.80

Source: QS Quacquarelli Symonds Ltd (https://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/world-university-rankings/2023).
Note: QS Quacquarelli Symonds Ltd annually assesses over 1,200 universities across the globe and scores them between [0,100].
Ranks can represent a single value "x", a tie "x=" or a range "x-y".

Global Innovation Index 2024



Uruguay

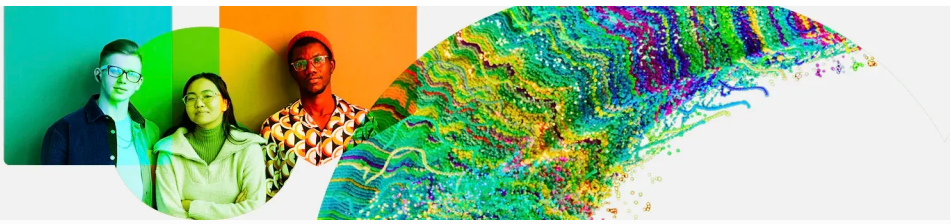
GII 2024 rank **62**

Output rank	Input rank	Income	Region	Population (mn)	GDP, PPP$ (bn)	GDP per capita, PPP$
75	56	High	LCN	3.4	103.4	28,983.8

	Score / Value	Rank	
Institutions	**67.4**	**31**	
1.1 Institutional environment	**74.8**	**30**	
1.1.1 Operational stability for businesses*	83.3	15	●◆
1.1.2 Government effectiveness*	66.2	34	
1.2 Regulatory environment	**63.2**	**36**	
1.2.1 Regulatory quality*	60.6	40	
1.2.2 Rule of law*	65.9	36	
1.3 Business environment	**64.3**	**27**	●◆
1.3.1 Policy stability for doing business†	88.9	4	●◆
1.3.2 Entrepreneurship policies and culture†	39.8	44	
Human capital and research	**26.2**	**83**	◇
2.1 Education	**42.5**	**88**	◇
2.1.1 Expenditure on education, % GDP	4.4	59	
2.1.2 Government funding/pupil, secondary, % GDP/cap	13.7	76	○◇
2.1.3 School life expectancy, years	17.4	17	●◆
2.1.4 PISA scales in reading, maths and science	424.8	49	◇
2.1.5 Pupil–teacher ratio, secondary	n/a	n/a	
2.2 Tertiary education	**28.4**	**78**	◇
2.2.1 Tertiary enrolment, % gross	75.2	30	
2.2.2 Graduates in science and engineering, %	18.6	88	
2.2.3 Tertiary inbound mobility, %	2.3	78	◇
2.3 Research and development (R&D)	**7.8**	**64**	◇
2.3.1 Researchers, FTE/mn pop.	838.5	56	◇
2.3.2 Gross expenditure on R&D, % GDP	0.4	64	◇
2.3.3 Global corporate R&D investors, top 3, mn USD	0	41	○◇
2.3.4 QS university ranking, top 3*	15.9	58	
Infrastructure	**46.5**	**48**	
3.1 Information and communication technologies (ICTs)	**75.9**	**54**	
3.1.1 ICT access*	89.4	67	◇
3.1.2 ICT use*	82.2	44	
3.1.3 Government's online service*	73.9	52	
3.1.4 E-participation*	58.1	61	
3.2 General infrastructure	**24.3**	**89**	◇
3.2.1 Electricity output, GWh/mn pop.	4,440.5	50	
3.2.2 Logistics performance*	40.9	60	◇
3.2.3 Gross capital formation, % GDP	18.9	106	○◇
3.3 Ecological sustainability	**39.3**	**19**	●◆
3.3.1 GDP/unit of energy use	13.7	37	
3.3.2 Low-carbon energy use, %	53.7	10	●◆
3.3.3 ISO 14001 environment/bn PPP$ GDP	3	33	
Market sophistication	**23.4**	**94**	◇
4.1 Credit	**16.3**	**95**	◇
4.1.1 Finance for startups and scaleups†	25.5	73	○◇
4.1.2 Domestic credit to private sector, % GDP	26.4	105	○◇
4.1.3 Loans from microfinance institutions, % GDP	n/a	n/a	
4.2 Investment	**10.2**	**59**	
4.2.1 Market capitalization, % GDP	n/a	n/a	
4.2.2 Venture capital (VC) investors, deals/bn PPP$ GDP	0.05	66	
4.2.3 VC recipients, deals/bn PPP$ GDP	0.05	51	
4.2.4 VC received, value, % GDP	0.001	51	
4.3 Trade, diversification and market scale	**43.9**	**92**	◇
4.3.1 Applied tariff rate, weighted avg., %	4.5	92	◇
4.3.2 Domestic industry diversification	65.5	86	◇
4.3.3 Domestic market scale, bn PPP$	103.4	89	

	Score / Value	Rank	
Business sophistication	**25.6**	**70**	◇
5.1 Knowledge workers	**29.7**	**74**	◇
5.1.1 Knowledge-intensive employment, %	24.7	58	◇
5.1.2 Firms offering formal training, %	53.3	14	
5.1.3 GERD performed by business, % GDP	0.1	60	◇
5.1.4 GERD financed by business, %	4.2	84	○◇
5.1.5 Females employed w/advanced degrees, %	10.4	73	◇
5.2 Innovation linkages	**20.8**	**82**	◇
5.2.1 Public Research-Industry co-publications, %	0.7	107	○◇
5.2.2 University-industry R&D collaboration†	45.8	62	
5.2.3 State of cluster development†	41.6	81	◇
5.2.4 Joint venture/strategic alliance deals/bn PPP$ GDP	0.02	54	
5.2.5 Patent families/bn PPP$ GDP	0.08	60	◇
5.3 Knowledge absorption	**26.3**	**65**	
5.3.1 Intellectual property payments, % total trade	1	39	
5.3.2 High-tech imports, % total trade	7	88	
5.3.3 ICT services imports, % total trade	2.1	28	●◆
5.3.4 FDI net inflows, % GDP	6.7	16	●◆
5.3.5 Research talent, % in businesses	2.2	79	○◇
Knowledge and technology outputs	**20.5**	**69**	◇
6.1 Knowledge creation	**12.3**	**73**	◇
6.1.1 Patents by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	0.3	91	◇
6.1.2 PCT patents by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	n/a	n/a	
6.1.3 Utility models by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	0.3	37	
6.1.4 Scientific and technical articles/bn PPP$ GDP	11.5	62	◇
6.1.5 Citable documents H-index	10.4	73	
6.2 Knowledge impact	**20.5**	**96**	◇
6.2.1 Labor productivity growth, %	0.6	70	
6.2.2 Unicorn valuation, % GDP	0	49	○◇
6.2.3 Software spending, % GDP	0.2	77	
6.2.4 High-tech manufacturing, %	12.9	80	◇
6.3 Knowledge diffusion	**28.6**	**44**	
6.3.1 Intellectual property receipts, % total trade	0.3	37	
6.3.2 Production and export complexity	49	51	
6.3.3 High-tech exports, % total trade	0.9	80	
6.3.4 ICT services exports, % total trade	5.9	15	●◆
6.3.5 ISO 9001 quality/bn PPP$ GDP	11.6	24	●◆
Creative outputs	**20.3**	**81**	◇
7.1 Intangible assets	**14.2**	**93**	◇
7.1.1 Intangible asset intensity, top 15, %	n/a	n/a	
7.1.2 Trademarks by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	49.2	37	
7.1.3 Global brand value, top 5,000, % GDP	0	75	○◇
7.1.4 Industrial designs by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	0.7	71	
7.2 Creative goods and services	**18.6**	**57**	
7.2.1 Cultural and creative services exports, % total trade	1.1	23	●◆
7.2.2 National feature films/mn pop. 15–69	3.8	36	
7.2.3 Entertainment and media market/th pop. 15–69	n/a	n/a	
7.2.4 Creative goods exports, % total trade	0.06	106	
7.3 Online creativity	**34.4**	**45**	
7.3.1 Top-level domains (TLDs)/th pop. 15–69	8.6	42	
7.3.2 GitHub commits/mn pop. 15–69	22.8	43	
7.3.3 Mobile app creation/bn PPP$ GDP	71.8	40	

NOTES: ● indicates a strength; ○ a weakness; ◆ an income group strength; ◇ an income group weakness; * an index; † a survey question, ◔ that the economy's data is outdated. Square brackets [ ] indicate the the data minimum coverage (DMC) requirements were not met at the sub-pillar or pillar level; n/a represents missing values; a dash - indicates an indicator which is not relevant to this economy and thus not considered for DMC thresholds.



Data availability

The following tables list indicators that are either missing or outdated for Uruguay.

Uruguay has missing data for six indicators and outdated data for thirteen indicators.

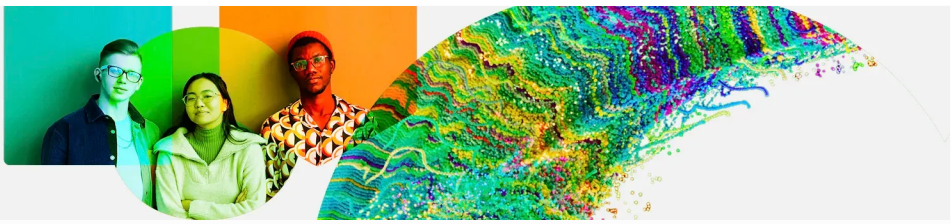
Missing data for Uruguay

Code	Indicator name	Economy Year	Model Year	Source
2.1.5	Pupil–teacher ratio, secondary	n/a	2022	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
4.1.3	Loans from microfinance institutions, % GDP	n/a	2022	International Monetary Fund, Financial Access Survey (FAS)
4.2.1	Market capitalization, % GDP	n/a	2022	World Federation of Exchanges; World Bank
6.1.2	PCT patents by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	n/a	2023	World Intellectual Property Organization; International Monetary Fund
7.1.1	Intangible asset intensity, top 15, %	n/a	2023	Brand Finance
7.2.3	Entertainment and media market/th pop. 15–69	n/a	2023	PwC, GEMO; United Nations, World Population Prospects; International Monetary Fund

Outdated data for Uruguay

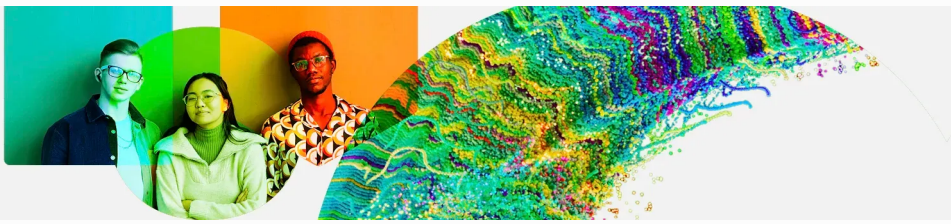
Code	Indicator name	Economy Year	Model Year	Source
2.1.3	School life expectancy, years	2021	2022	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
2.2.1	Tertiary enrolment, % gross	2021	2022	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
2.2.3	Tertiary inbound mobility, %	2021	2022	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
2.3.1	Researchers, FTE/mn pop.	2021	2022	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
2.3.2	Gross expenditure on R&D, % GDP	2021	2022	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
5.1.2	Firms offering formal training, %	2017	2023	World Bank Enterprise Surveys
5.1.3	GERD performed by business, % GDP	2021	2022	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
5.1.5	Females employed w/advanced degrees, %	2022	2023	International Labour Organization
5.2.4	Joint venture/strategic alliance deals/bn PPP$ GDP	2022	2023	LSEG Data & Analytics; International Monetary Fund
5.3.5	Research talent, % in businesses	2021	2022	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
6.1.1	Patents by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	2017	2022	World Intellectual Property Organization; International Monetary Fund

Global Innovation Index 2024



Code	Indicator name	Economy Year	Model Year	Source
6.1.3	Utility models by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	2017	2022	World Intellectual Property Organization; International Monetary Fund
7.1.4	Industrial designs by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	2017	2022	World Intellectual Property Organization; International Monetary Fund

Global Innovation Index 2024



About the Global Innovation Index

- The Global Innovation Index (GII) is published by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), a specialized agency of the United Nations.
- Recognizing that innovation is a key driver of economic development, the GII aims to provide an innovation ranking and rich analysis referencing around 130 economies. Over the last decade, the GII has established itself as both a leading reference on innovation and a "tool for action" for economies that incorporate the GII into their innovation agendas.

Source: Global Innovation Index Database, WIPO, 2024.

The Index is a ranking of the innovation capabilities and results of world economies. It measures innovation based on criteria that include institutions, human capital and research, infrastructure, credit, investment, linkages; the creation, absorption and diffusion of knowledge; and creative outputs.

The GII has two sub-indices: the Innovation Input Sub-Index and the Innovation Output Sub-Index, and seven pillars, each consisting of three sub-pillars.