Global Innovation Index 2025

Congo ranking in the Global Innovation Index 2025

Congo ranks 137th among the 139 economies featured in the GII 2025.

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.

Congo ranks 36th among the 37 Lower middle-income group economies.

Congo ranks 30th among the 32 economies in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Congo GII Ranking (2020-2025)

The table shows the rankings of Congo over the past six 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 Congo in the GII 2025 is between ranks 134 and 139.

Year	GII Position	Innovation Inputs	Innovation Outputs
2020	n/a	n/a	n/a
2021	n/a	n/a	n/a
2022	n/a	n/a	n/a
2023	n/a	n/a	n/a
2024	n/a	n/a	n/a
2025	137th	134th	135th

Congo performs worse in innovation outputs than innovation inputs in 2025.

This year Congo ranks 134th in innovation inputs.

Congo ranks 135th in innovation outputs.

Congo has no clusters in the world's top innovation clusters of the Global Innovation Index.

Global Innovation Index 2025

> Global Innovation Tracker

The Global Innovation Tracker 2025 shows what is the current state of innovation in Congo, how rapidly is technology being embraced and what are the resulting societal impacts.

For Congo, 4 indicators have improved in the short-term and 2 indicators have worsened.

Science and innovation investment

	Scientific publications	R&D investments	Venture capital deal numbers	International patent filings
Short term	▲ 17.7 % 2023 - 2024	n/a	▲ 66.7 % 2023 - 2024	n/a
Long term (annual growth)	▲ 9.7 % 2014 - 2024	n/a	n/a	n/a

Technology adoption

	Safe sanitation	Connectivity		Robots	Electric vehicles
		Fixed broadband	5G		
Short term	n/a	▲ 198% 2022 - 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a
Long term (annual growth)	n/a	▲ 68% 2013 - 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a
Penetration	n/a	1.3 per 100 inhabitants in 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a

Socioeconomic impact

	Labor productivity	Life expectancy	Temperature change
Short term	▼ -0.5 % 2023 - 2024	▲ 1.2 % 2022 - 2023	+ 1.3 °C 2024
Long term (annual growth)	▼ -4 % 2014 - 2024	▲ 0.4 % 2013 - 2023	+ 0.7 °C 2014
Level	14,449.3 USD in 2024	65.8 years in 2023	n/a

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 countries. from 1951–1980. Figures are rounded.

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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 Congo performs below expectations for its level of development.

> Innovation overperformers relative to their economic development

Global Innovation Index 2025

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.

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

> Relationship between innovation inputs and outputs

Global Innovation Index 2025

Overview of Congo's rankings in the seven areas of the GII in 2025

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

Highest Rankings

Congo ranks highest in Business sophistication (43rd), Human capital and research (117th), Institutions (129th) and Knowledge and technology outputs (130th).

Lowest Rankings

Congo ranks lowest in Market sophistication (139th), Infrastructure (135th) and Creative outputs (132nd).

The full WIPO Intellectual Property Statistics profile for Congo can be found on https://www.wipo.int/edocs/statistics-country-profile/en/cg.pdf

Global Innovation Index 2025

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

Lower middle-income economies

Congo performs above the Lower middle-income group average in Business sophistication.

Sub-Saharan Africa

Congo performs above the regional average in Business sophistication.

Institutions

- Top 10 | Score: 78.63
- Sub-Saharan Africa | Score: 40.29
- Lower middle-income | Score: 37.2
- Congo | Score: 24.97

Human capital and research

- Top 10 | Score: 59.30
- Lower middle-income | Score: 20.9
- Sub-Saharan Africa | Score: 18.06
- Congo | Score: 17.84

Infrastructure

- Top 10 | Score: 61.36
- Lower middle-income | Score: 32.1
- Sub-Saharan Africa | Score: 27.58
- Congo | Score: 18.92

Market sophistication

- Top 10 | Score: 61.82
- Lower middle-income | Score: 28.1
- Sub-Saharan Africa | Score: 22.67
- Congo | Score: 6.01

Business sophistication

- Top 10 | Score: 59.10
- Congo | Score: 36.27
- Lower middle-income | Score: 25.3
- Sub-Saharan Africa | Score: 25.36

Knowledge and technology outputs

- Top 10 | Score: 54.93
- Lower middle-income | Score: 15.4
- Sub-Saharan Africa | Score: 11.53
- Congo | Score: 8.14

Creative outputs

- Top 10 | Score: 55.98
- Lower middle-income | Score: 13.8
- Sub-Saharan Africa | Score: 10.61
- Congo | Score: 4.72

Global Innovation Index 2025

Innovation strengths and weaknesses in Congo

The table below gives an overview of the indicator strengths and weaknesses of Congo in the GII 2025.

Congo's best-ranked innovation strengths are **Youth demographic dividend, %** (rank 19), **ICT services imports, % total trade** (rank 19) and **Gross capital formation, % GDP** (rank 37).

Strengths

Rank	Code	Indicator name
19	5.1.3	Youth demographic dividend, %
19	5.3.3	ICT services imports, % total trade
37	3.2.3	Gross capital formation, % GDP
45	6.2.4	High-tech manufacturing, %
55	6.1.4	Scientific and technical articles/bn PPP$ GDP
56	7.2.1	Cultural and creative services exports, % total trade
64	4.2.2	Venture capital (VC) received, deal count/bn PPP$ GDP
69	2.3.2	Gross expenditure on R&D, % GDP
76	4.2.5	VC investor co-participation/bn PPP$ GDP
84	3.3.2	Low-carbon energy use, %

Weaknesses

Rank	Code	Indicator name
138	4.3.1	Applied tariff rate, weighted avg., %
137	3.1.3	Government's online service*
137	5.3.2	High-tech imports, % total trade
129	6.3.2	Production and export complexity
112	4.3.2	Domestic industry diversification
100	5.2.5	Patent families/bn PPP$ GDP
80	2.3.4	QS university ranking, top 3*
75	6.1.3	Utility models by origin/bn PPP$ GDP
53	6.2.2	Unicorn valuation, % GDP
44	2.3.3	Global corporate R&D investors, top 3, mn USD

Global Innovation Index 2025

Congo's innovation system

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

Innovation inputs in Congo

2.1.1 Expenditure on education

was equal to 3.34 % GDP in 2023, up by 0.61 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 97.

2.2.2 Graduates in science and engineering

was equal to 15.13 % of total graduates in 2017 – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 106.

2.3.1 Researchers

was equal to 126.97 FTE per million population in 2022 – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 90.

2.3.2 Gross expenditure on R&D

was equal to 0.38 % GDP in 2022 – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 69.

2.3.4 QS university ranking

The country does not have any universities in the QS world universities ranking in 2024.

4.3.2 Domestic industry diversification

was equal to an index score of 0.526 in 2021, up by 9.88% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 112.

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Innovation outputs in Congo

6.1.1 Patents by origin

was equal to 4 patents in 2023, up by 33.33% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 113.

6.2.2 Unicorn valuation

The country does not have unicorns in 2025.

6.2.4 High-tech manufacturing

was equal to 370.22 high-tech manufacturing output in million USD in 2021, down by 47.98% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 45.

6.3.2 Production and export complexity

was equal to a score of -2.18 in 2022 – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 129.

6.3.3 High-tech exports

was equal to 27.82 million USD in 2022, down by 31.33% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 107.

7.3.3 Mobile app creation

was equal to 713 global downloads of mobile apps in 2023, down by 71.63% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 129.

Congo

GII 2025 rank
137

Output rank	Input rank	Income	Region	Population (mn)	GDP, PPP$ (bn)	GDP per capita, PPP$
135	134	Lower middle	Sub-Saharan Africa	6.3	40.4	6,403.6

	Score / Value	Rank	
Institutions	**25**	**129**	
1.1 Institutional environment	**27.1**	**125**	
1.1.1 Operational stability for businesses*	44	108	
1.1.2 Government effectiveness*	10.3	136	◇
1.2 Regulatory environment	**22.8**	**131**	◇
1.2.1 Regulatory quality*	18.2	134	◇
1.2.2 Rule of law*	27.5	121	
1.3 Business environment	**n/a**	**[n/a]**	
1.3.1 Policy stability for doing business†	n/a	n/a	
1.3.2 Entrepreneurship policies and culture†	n/a	n/a	
Human capital and research	**17.8**	**117**	
2.1 Education	**40.6**	**[105]**	
2.1.1 Expenditure on education, % GDP	3.3	97	
2.1.2 Government funding/pupil, secondary, % GDP/cap	n/a	n/a	
2.1.3 School life expectancy, years	n/a	n/a	
2.1.4 PISA scales in reading, maths and science	n/a	n/a	
2.1.5 Pupil–teacher ratio, secondary	26.2	117	
2.2 Tertiary education	**11.2**	**115**	
2.2.1 Tertiary enrolment, % gross	10.4	118	
2.2.2 Graduates in science and engineering, %	15.1	106	◇
2.2.3 Tertiary inbound mobility, %	n/a	n/a	
2.3 Research and development (R&D)	**1.8**	**94**	
2.3.1 Researchers, FTE/mn pop.	127	90	
2.3.2 Gross expenditure on R&D, % GDP	0.4	69	●
2.3.3 Global corporate R&D investors, top 3, mn USD	0	44	○ ◇
2.3.4 QS university ranking, top 3*	0	80	○ ◇
Infrastructure	**18.9**	**135**	◇
3.1 Information and communication technologies (ICTs)	**23.3**	**133**	◇
3.1.1 ICT access*	43.8	125	◇
3.1.2 ICT use*	13.3	126	◇
3.1.3 Government's online service*	12.9	137	○ ◇
3.2 General infrastructure	**24.7**	**95**	
3.2.1 Electricity output, GWh/mn pop.	839.2	102	
3.2.2 Logistics performance*	22.7	82	
3.2.3 Gross capital formation, % GDP	27.5	37	●
3.3 Ecological sustainability	**8.7**	**116**	◇
3.3.1 GDP/unit of energy use	5.1	118	◇
3.3.2 Low-carbon energy use, %	13.6	84	●
3.3.3 ISO 14001 environment/bn PPP$ GDP	0.3	108	
Market sophistication	**6**	**139**	◇
4.1 Credit	**2.3**	**[136]**	
4.1.1 Finance for startups and scaleups†	n/a	n/a	
4.1.2 Domestic credit to private sector, % GDP	13.8	125	
4.1.3 Loans from microfinance institutions, % GDP	n/a	n/a	
4.2 Investment	**2.6**	**91**	
4.2.1 Market capitalization, % GDP	n/a	n/a	
4.2.2 Venture capital (VC) received, deal count/bn PPP$ GDP	0.08	64	●
4.2.3 Late-stage VC deal count, % global VC	0.002	98	
4.2.4 VC investors, deal count/bn PPP$ GDP	0.04	90	
4.2.5 VC investor co-participation/bn PPP$ GDP	0.03	76	●
4.3 Trade, diversification and market scale	**13.1**	**138**	◇
4.3.1 Applied tariff rate, weighted avg., %	12.8	138	○ ◇
4.3.2 Domestic industry diversification	4.9	112	○ ◇
4.3.3 Domestic market scale, bn PPP$	40.4	126	

	Score / Value	Rank	
Business sophistication	**36.3**	**[43]**	
5.1 Knowledge workers	**85**	**[1]**	
5.1.1 Knowledge-intensive employment, %	n/a	n/a	
5.1.2 Females employed w/advanced degrees, %	n/a	n/a	
5.1.3 Youth demographic dividend, %	59.5	19	●
5.1.4 GERD performed by business, % GDP	n/a	n/a	
5.1.5 GERD financed by business, %	n/a	n/a	
5.2 Innovation linkages	**1.2**	**[138]**	
5.2.1 Public research–industry co-publications, %	0.4	127	
5.2.2 University–industry R&D collaboration†	n/a	n/a	
5.2.3 University industry & international engagement, top 5*	n/a	n/a	
5.2.4 State of cluster development†	n/a	n/a	
5.2.5 Patent families/bn PPP$ GDP	0	100	○ ◇
5.3 Knowledge absorption	**22.5**	**89**	
5.3.1 Intellectual property payments, % total trade	0.3	95	
5.3.2 High-tech imports, % total trade	1.7	137	○ ◇
5.3.3 ICT services imports, % total trade	3.2	19	● ◆
5.3.4 FDI net inflows, % GDP	1.8	94	
5.3.5 Research talent, % in businesses	n/a	n/a	
Knowledge and technology outputs	**8.1**	**130**	◇
6.1 Knowledge creation	**6.6**	**104**	
6.1.1 Patents by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	0.1	113	
6.1.2 PCT patents by inventor origin/bn PPP$ GDP	0.006	98	
6.1.3 Utility models by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	0	75	○ ◇
6.1.4 Scientific and technical articles/bn PPP$ GDP	12.7	55	●
6.1.5 Citable documents H-index	4.7	106	
6.2 Knowledge impact	**16.7**	**113**	
6.2.1 Labor productivity growth, %	-2.7	131	◇
6.2.2 Unicorn valuation, % GDP	0	53	○ ◇
6.2.3 Software spending, % GDP	n/a	n/a	
6.2.4 High-tech manufacturing, %	27.3	45	●
6.3 Knowledge diffusion	**1.1**	**137**	◇
6.3.1 Intellectual property receipts, % total trade	0.004	113	
6.3.2 Production and export complexity	0	129	○ ◇
6.3.3 High-tech exports, % total trade	0.3	107	
6.3.4 ICT services exports, % total trade	0.2	124	
6.3.5 ISO 9001 quality/bn PPP$ GDP	0.8	115	
Creative outputs	**4.7**	**[132]**	
7.1 Intangible assets	**3.2**	**[130]**	
7.1.1 Intangible asset intensity, top 15, %	n/a	n/a	
7.1.2 Trademarks by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	1.1	133	◇
7.1.3 Global brand value, top 5,000, % GDP	n/a	n/a	
7.1.4 Industrial designs by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	0.2	104	
7.2 Creative goods and services	**5.5**	**[92]**	
7.2.1 Cultural and creative services exports, % total trade	0.5	56	●
7.2.2 National feature films/mn pop. 15–69	n/a	n/a	
7.2.3 Entertainment and media market/th pop. 15–69	n/a	n/a	
7.2.4 Creative goods exports, % total trade	0.009	130	
7.3 Online creativity	**7**	**129**	◇
7.3.1 Top-level domains (TLDs)/th pop. 15–69	0.2	124	
7.3.2 GitHub commits/mn pop. 15–69	0.2	132	
7.3.3 Mobile app creation/bn PPP$ GDP	20.7	129	◇

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.

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Data Availability

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

Congo has missing data for twenty two indicators and outdated data for seventeen indicators.

Missing data for Congo

Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year*	Source
1.3.1	Policy stability for doing business†	n/a	2024	World Economic Forum, Executive Opinion Survey (EOS)
1.3.2	Entrepreneurship policies and culture†	n/a	2024	Global Entrepreneurship Monitor
2.1.2	Government funding/pupil, secondary, % GDP/cap	n/a	2021	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
2.1.3	School life expectancy, years	n/a	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
2.1.4	PISA scales in reading, maths and science	n/a	2022	OECD, PISA
2.2.3	Tertiary inbound mobility, %	n/a	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
4.1.1	Finance for startups and scaleups†	n/a	2024	Global Entrepreneurship Monitor
4.1.3	Loans from microfinance institutions, % GDP	n/a	2023	International Monetary Fund, Financial Access Survey (FAS)
4.2.1	Market capitalization, % GDP	n/a	2022	World Federation of Exchanges; World Bank
5.1.1	Knowledge-intensive employment, %	n/a	2024	International Labour Organization
5.1.2	Females employed w/advanced degrees, %	n/a	2024	International Labour Organization
5.1.4	GERD performed by business, % GDP	n/a	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
5.1.5	GERD financed by business, %	n/a	2022	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
5.2.2	University–industry R&D collaboration†	n/a	2024	World Economic Forum, Executive Opinion Survey (EOS)
5.2.3	University industry & international engagement, top 5*	n/a	2025	Times Higher Education, World University Rankings 2025
5.2.4	State of cluster development†	n/a	2024	World Economic Forum, Executive Opinion Survey (EOS)
5.3.5	Research talent, % in businesses	n/a	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
6.2.3	Software spending, % GDP	n/a	2024	S&P Global, Market Intelligence
7.1.1	Intangible asset intensity, top 15, %	n/a	2024	Brand Finance
7.1.3	Global brand value, top 5,000, % GDP	n/a	2025	Brand Finance; International Monetary Fund

Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year*	Source
7.2.2	National feature films/mn pop. 15–69	n/a	2023	OMDIA; United Nations, World Population Prospects
7.2.3	Entertainment and media market/th pop. 15–69	n/a	2024	PwC, GEMO; United Nations, World Population Prospects; International Monetary Fund

*Model year corresponds to the most frequent data year (the year that appears most often across all economies in the GII).

Outdated data for Congo

Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year*	Source
2.1.5	Pupil–teacher ratio, secondary	2018	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
2.2.2	Graduates in science and engineering, %	2017	2022	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD
2.3.1	Researchers, FTE/mn pop.	2022	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
2.3.2	Gross expenditure on R&D, % GDP	2022	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
3.2.1	Electricity output, GWh/mn pop.	2022	2023	International Energy Agency
4.3.1	Applied tariff rate, weighted avg., %	2022	2023	World Trade Organization
4.3.2	Domestic industry diversification	2021	2022	United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
5.3.1	Intellectual property payments, % total trade	2021	2023	World Trade Organization, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
5.3.2	High-tech imports, % total trade	2022	2023	United Nations Comtrade Database; World Trade Organization and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
5.3.3	ICT services imports, % total trade	2021	2023	World Trade Organization and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
6.1.3	Utility models by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	2021	2023	World Intellectual Property Organization; International Monetary Fund
6.2.4	High-tech manufacturing, %	2021	2022	United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
6.3.1	Intellectual property receipts, % total trade	2021	2023	World Trade Organization, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
6.3.3	High-tech exports, % total trade	2022	2023	United Nations Comtrade Database; World Trade Organization and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; Trade Data Monitor.
6.3.4	ICT services exports, % total trade	2021	2023	World Trade Organization and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
7.2.4	Creative goods exports, % total trade	2022	2023	United Nations Comtrade Database; World Trade Organization and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

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Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year*	Source
7.3.3	Mobile app creation/bn PPP$ GDP	2023	2024	data.ia (a Sensor Tower Company); International Monetary Fund

*Model year corresponds to the most frequent data year (the year that appears most often across all economies in the GII).

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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 140 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.

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.