Global Innovation Index 2025

Cabo Verde ranking in the Global Innovation Index 2025

Cabo Verde ranks 95th 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.

Cabo Verde ranks 12th among the 37 Lower middle-income group economies.

Cabo Verde ranks 7th among the 32 economies in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Cabo Verde GII Ranking (2020-2025)

The table shows the rankings of Cabo Verde 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 Cabo Verde in the GII 2025 is between ranks 94 and 105.

Year	GII Position	Innovation Inputs	Innovation Outputs
2020	100th	99th	90th
2021	89th	96th	88th
2022	n/a	n/a	n/a
2023	91st	74th	106th
2024	90th	68th	113rd
2025	95th	79th	113rd

Cabo Verde performs worse in innovation outputs than innovation inputs in 2025.

This year **Cabo Verde ranks 79th in innovation inputs.** This position is lower than last year.

Cabo Verde ranks 113rd in innovation outputs. This position is the same as last year.

Cabo Verde 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 Cabo Verde, how rapidly is technology being embraced and what are the resulting societal impacts.

For Cabo Verde, 2 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	▼ -12.5 % 2023 - 2024	n/a	n/a	n/a
Long term (annual growth)	▲ 7.6 % 2014 - 2024	n/a	n/a	n/a

Technology adoption

	Safe sanitation	Connectivity		Robots	Electric vehicles
		Fixed broadband	5G		
Short term	n/a	▲ 10.6% 2022 - 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a
Long term (annual growth)	n/a	▲ 5.9% 2013 - 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a
Penetration	n/a	7.2 per 100 inhabitants in 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a

Socioeconomic impact

	Labor productivity	Life expectancy	Temperature change
Short term	n/a	▲ 0.2 % 2022 - 2023	+ 2.6 °C 2024
Long term (annual growth)	n/a	▲ 0.3 % 2013 - 2023	+ 1.2 °C 2014
Level	n/a	76.1 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.

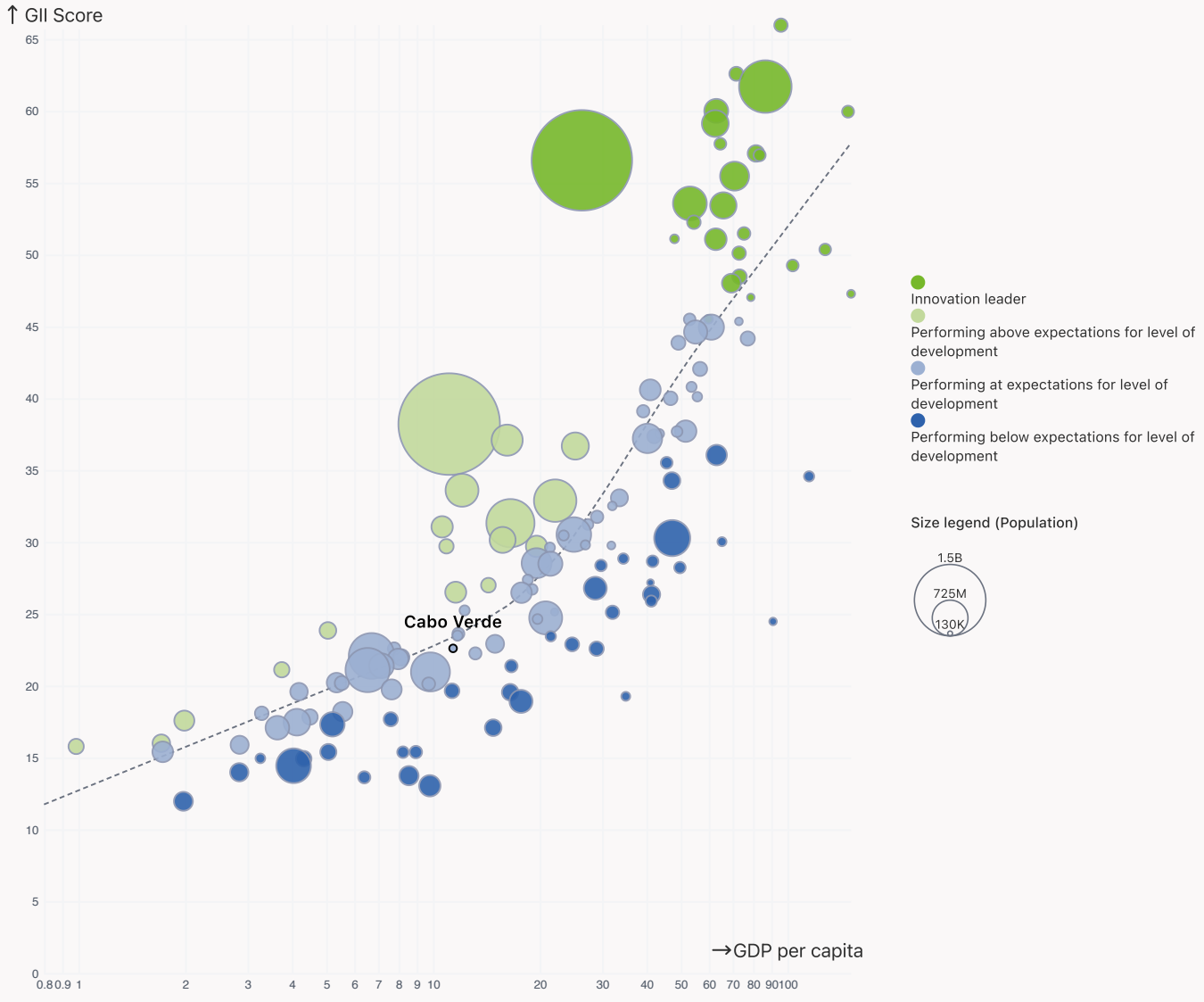
Global Innovation Index 2025

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 Cabo Verde performs at 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.

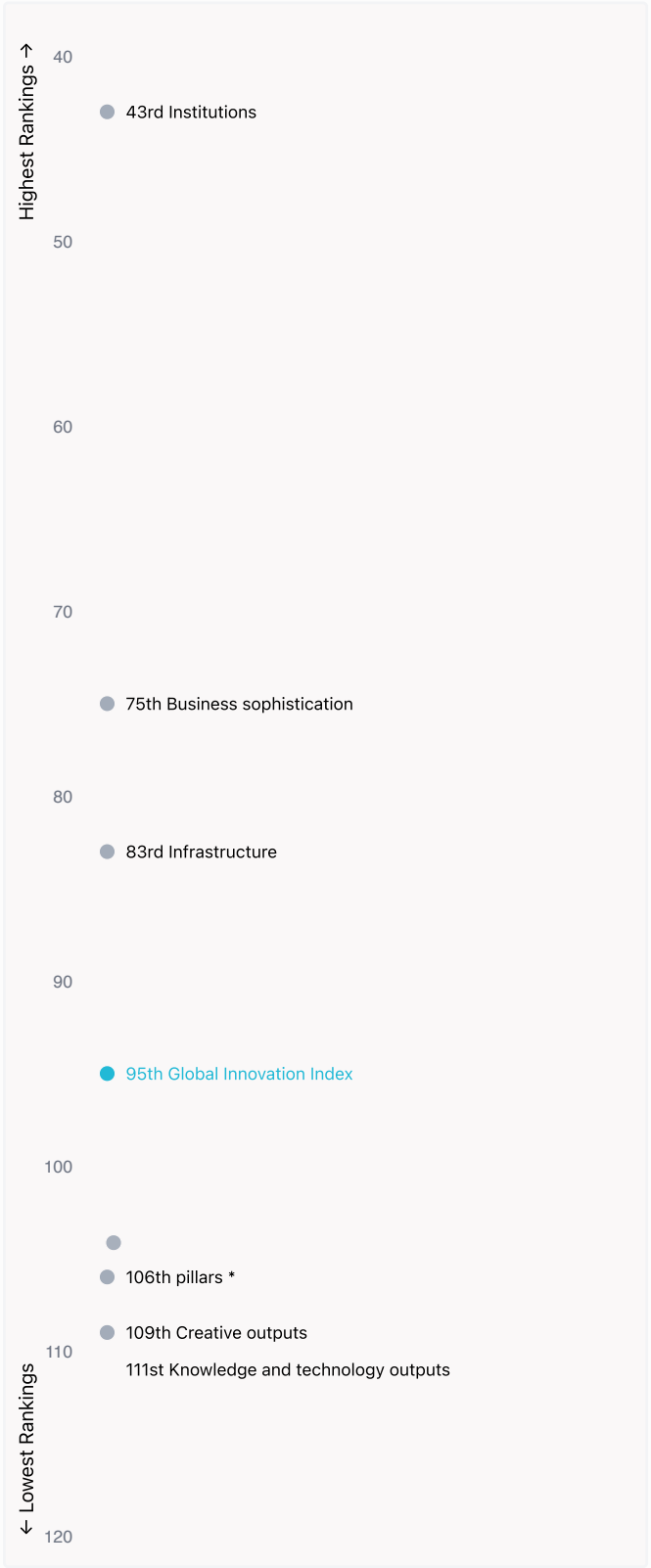
Cabo Verde produces less innovation outputs relative to its level of innovation investments.

> Relationship between innovation inputs and outputs

Global Innovation Index 2025

Overview of Cabo Verde'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 Cabo Verde are those that rank above the GII (shown in blue) and the weakest are those that rank below.



Highest Rankings

Cabo Verde ranks highest in Institutions (43rd), Business sophistication (75th) and Infrastructure (83rd).

Lowest Rankings

Cabo Verde ranks lowest in Knowledge and technology outputs (111st), Creative outputs (109th) and Human capital and research, Market sophistication (106th).

* Human capital and research, Market sophistication

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

Global Innovation Index 2025

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

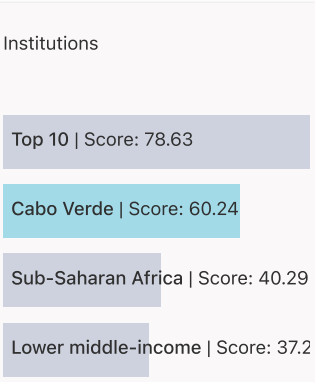
The charts shows the relative position of Cabo Verde (blue bar) against other economy groupings (grey bars)

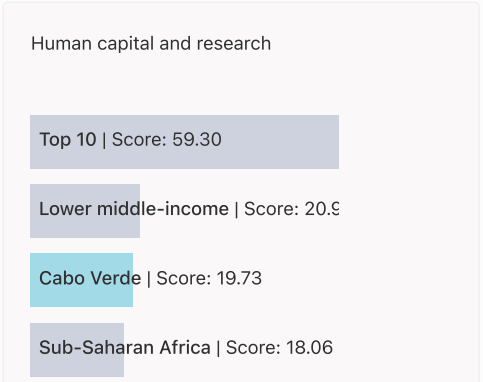
Lower middle-income economies

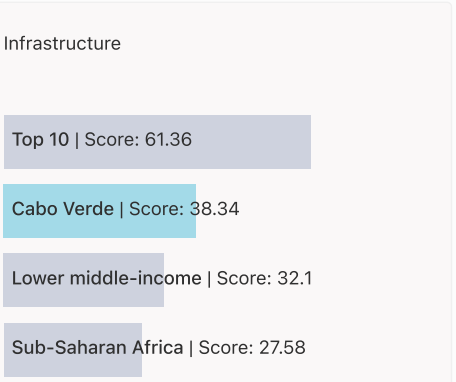
Cabo Verde performs above the Lower middle-income group average in Institutions, Infrastructure, Business sophistication.

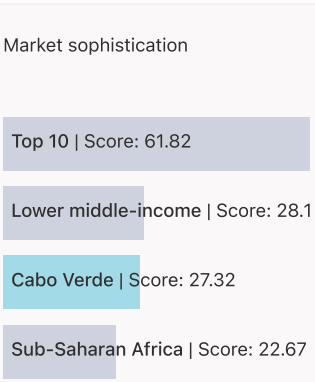
Sub-Saharan Africa

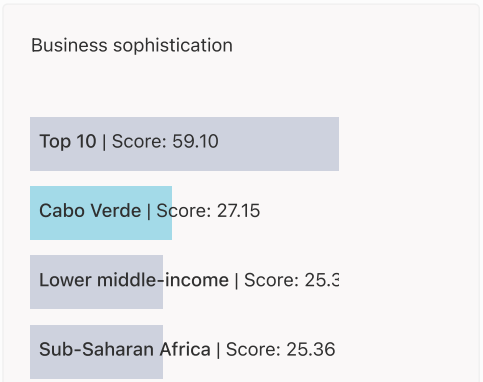
Cabo Verde performs above the regional average in Institutions, Human capital and research, Infrastructure, Market sophistication, Business sophistication.

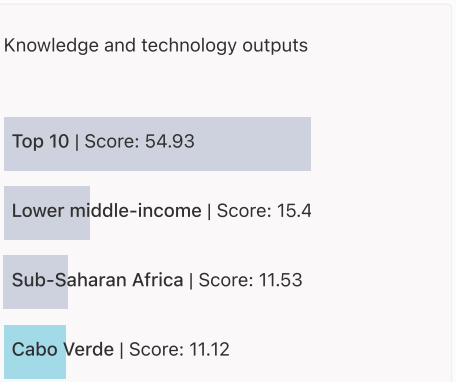


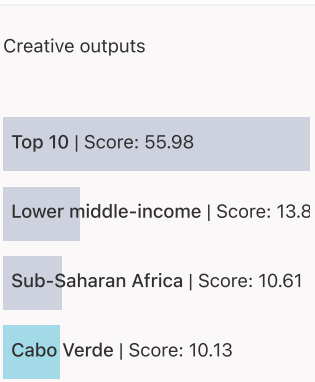












Global Innovation Index 2025

Innovation strengths and weaknesses in Cabo Verde

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

Cabo Verde's best-ranked innovation strengths are **FDI net inflows, % GDP** (rank 28), **Policy stability for doing business†** (rank 34) and **Operational stability for businesses*** (rank 40).

Strengths

Rank	Code	Indicator name
28	5.3.4	FDI net inflows, % GDP
34	1.3.1	Policy stability for doing business†
40	1.1.1	Operational stability for businesses*
47	5.3.3	ICT services imports, % total trade
50	1.2.2	Rule of law*
53	5.1.3	Youth demographic dividend, %
54	6.3.5	ISO 9001 quality/bn PPP$ GDP
56	4.1.2	Domestic credit to private sector, % GDP
60	6.2.3	Software spending, % GDP
60	1.2.1	Regulatory quality*

Weaknesses

Rank	Code	Indicator name
139	6.1.5	Citable documents H-index
138	4.3.3	Domestic market scale, bn PPP$
124	4.3.1	Applied tariff rate, weighted avg., %
115	6.3.1	Intellectual property receipts, % total trade
111	7.2.4	Creative goods exports, % total trade
101	2.2.2	Graduates in science and engineering, %
100	5.2.5	Patent families/bn PPP$ GDP
80	2.3.4	QS university ranking, top 3*
53	6.2.2	Unicorn valuation, % GDP
44	2.3.3	Global corporate R&D investors, top 3, mn USD

Global Innovation Index 2025

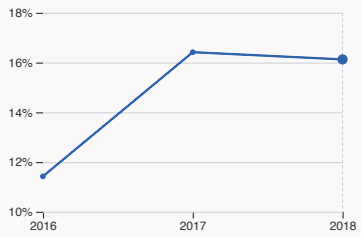
Cabo Verde's innovation system

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

Innovation inputs in Cabo Verde

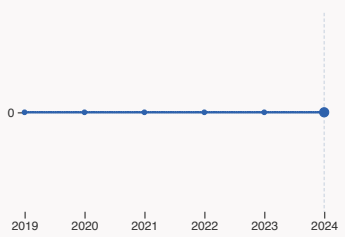
2.1.1 Expenditure on education

was equal to 4.35 % GDP in 2023, down by 0.38 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 60.



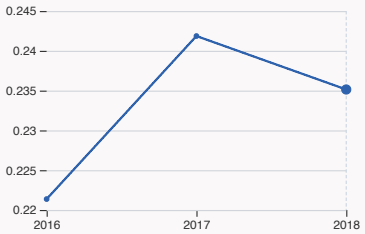
2.2.2 Graduates in science and engineering

was equal to 16.13 % of total graduates in 2018, down by 0.29 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 101.



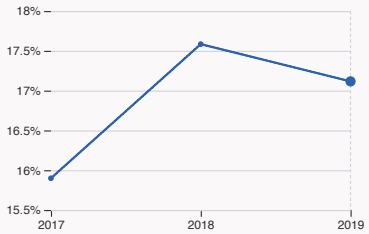
2.3.4 QS university ranking

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 0.24 in 2018, down by 2.78% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 86.



5.1.1 Knowledge-intensive employment

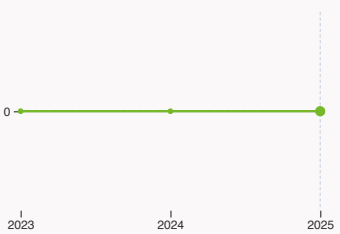
was equal to 17.12 % in 2019, down by 0.47 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 83.

Global Innovation Index 2025

Innovation outputs in Cabo Verde

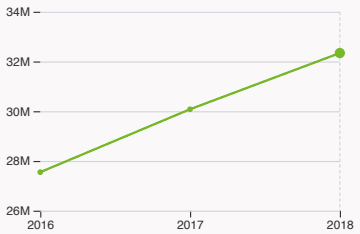
6.1.1 Patents by origin

was equal to 1 patent in 2023, down by 50% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 100.



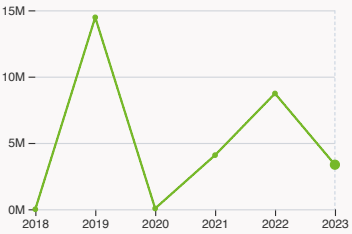
6.2.2 Unicorn valuation

The country does not have unicorns in 2025.



6.2.4 High-tech manufacturing

was equal to 32.34 high-tech manufacturing output in million USD in 2018, up by 7.51% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 85.



6.3.3 High-tech exports

was equal to 3.36 million USD in 2023, down by 61.51% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 108.

Cabo Verde

GII 2025 rank **95**

Output rank	Input rank	Income	Region	Population (mn)	GDP, PPP$ (bn)	GDP per capita, PPP$
113	79	Lower middle	Sub-Saharan Africa	0.5	5.8	11,397.1

	Score / Value	Rank	
Institutions	**60.2**	**43**	
1.1 Institutional environment	**58**	**59**	
1.1.1 Operational stability for businesses*	72.7	40	●
1.1.2 Government effectiveness*	43.4	71	
1.2 Regulatory environment	**57.2**	**56**	
1.2.1 Regulatory quality*	52.3	60	●
1.2.2 Rule of law*	62	50	●
1.3 Business environment	**65.5**	**[24]**	
1.3.1 Policy stability for doing business†	65.5	34	●
1.3.2 Entrepreneurship policies and culture†	n/a	n/a	
Human capital and research	**19.7**	**106**	
2.1 Education	**46.7**	**81**	
2.1.1 Expenditure on education, % GDP	4.3	60	
2.1.2 Government funding/pupil, secondary, % GDP/cap	14.1	68	
2.1.3 School life expectancy, years	13.3	81	
2.1.4 PISA scales in reading, maths and science	n/a	n/a	
2.1.5 Pupil–teacher ratio, secondary	15.3	82	
2.2 Tertiary education	**12.5**	**112**	
2.2.1 Tertiary enrolment, % gross	24.3	97	
2.2.2 Graduates in science and engineering, %	16.1	101	○
2.2.3 Tertiary inbound mobility, %	1.4	85	
2.3 Research and development (R&D)	**0**	**[124]**	
2.3.1 Researchers, FTE/mn pop.	n/a	n/a	
2.3.2 Gross expenditure on R&D, % GDP	n/a	n/a	
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	**38.3**	**83**	
3.1 Information and communication technologies (ICTs)	**70.2**	**84**	
3.1.1 ICT access*	72.9	92	
3.1.2 ICT use*	75.1	77	
3.1.3 Government's online service*	62.6	78	
3.2 General infrastructure	**38.6**	**[47]**	
3.2.1 Electricity output, GWh/mn pop.	n/a	n/a	
3.2.2 Logistics performance*	n/a	n/a	
3.2.3 Gross capital formation, % GDP	24.3	58	
3.3 Ecological sustainability	**6.2**	**130**	◇
3.3.1 GDP/unit of energy use	n/a	n/a	
3.3.2 Low-carbon energy use, %	8	102	
3.3.3 ISO 14001 environment/bn PPP$ GDP	0.4	97	
Market sophistication	**27.3**	**[106]**	
4.1 Credit	**19.8**	**[93]**	
4.1.1 Finance for startups and scaleups†	n/a	n/a	
4.1.2 Domestic credit to private sector, % GDP	55.7	56	●
4.1.3 Loans from microfinance institutions, % GDP	n/a	n/a	
4.2 Investment	**n/a**	**[n/a]**	
4.2.1 Market capitalization, % GDP	n/a	n/a	
4.2.2 Venture capital (VC) received, deal count/bn PPP$ GDP	n/a	n/a	
4.2.3 Late-stage VC deal count, % global VC	n/a	n/a	
4.2.4 VC investors, deal count/bn PPP$ GDP	n/a	n/a	
4.2.5 VC investor co-participation/bn PPP$ GDP	n/a	n/a	
4.3 Trade, diversification and market scale	**34.9**	**127**	◇
4.3.1 Applied tariff rate, weighted avg., %	9	124	○
4.3.2 Domestic industry diversification	65.2	86	
4.3.3 Domestic market scale, bn PPP$	5.8	138	○ ◇

	Score / Value	Rank	
Business sophistication	**27.1**	**75**	
5.1 Knowledge workers	**32.2**	**[86]**	
5.1.1 Knowledge-intensive employment, %	17.1	83	
5.1.2 Females employed w/advanced degrees, %	7.6	86	
5.1.3 Youth demographic dividend, %	42.1	53	●
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	**23.2**	**77**	
5.2.1 Public research–industry co-publications, %	0.7	105	
5.2.2 University–industry R&D collaboration†	36.8	62	
5.2.3 University industry & international engagement, top 5*	n/a	n/a	
5.2.4 State of cluster development†	50	61	
5.2.5 Patent families/bn PPP$ GDP	0	100	○ ◇
5.3 Knowledge absorption	**26.1**	**75**	
5.3.1 Intellectual property payments, % total trade	0.2	105	
5.3.2 High-tech imports, % total trade	8.1	67	
5.3.3 ICT services imports, % total trade	1.8	47	●
5.3.4 FDI net inflows, % GDP	5.4	28	●
5.3.5 Research talent, % in businesses	n/a	n/a	
Knowledge and technology outputs	**11.1**	**111**	
6.1 Knowledge creation	**7.7**	**[94]**	
6.1.1 Patents by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	0.2	100	
6.1.2 PCT patents by inventor origin/bn PPP$ GDP	n/a	n/a	
6.1.3 Utility models by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	-	-	
6.1.4 Scientific and technical articles/bn PPP$ GDP	9.6	73	
6.1.5 Citable documents H-index	0	139	○ ◇
6.2 Knowledge impact	**19.7**	**97**	
6.2.1 Labor productivity growth, %	0.7	77	
6.2.2 Unicorn valuation, % GDP	0	53	○ ◇
6.2.3 Software spending, % GDP	0.2	60	●
6.2.4 High-tech manufacturing	10.3	85	
6.3 Knowledge diffusion	**5.9**	**130**	
6.3.1 Intellectual property receipts, % total trade	0.004	115	○
6.3.2 Production and export complexity	n/a	n/a	
6.3.3 High-tech exports, % total trade	0.3	108	
6.3.4 ICT services exports, % total trade	0.9	89	
6.3.5 ISO 9001 quality/bn PPP$ GDP	4.8	54	●
Creative outputs	**10.1**	**[109]**	
7.1 Intangible assets	**15.6**	**[85]**	
7.1.1 Intangible asset intensity, top 15, %	n/a	n/a	
7.1.2 Trademarks by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	16.2	96	
7.1.3 Global brand value, top 5,000, % GDP	n/a	n/a	
7.1.4 Industrial designs by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	1.1	60	
7.2 Creative goods and services	**4.9**	**[97]**	
7.2.1 Cultural and creative services exports, % total trade	0.4	65	
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	0.05	111	○
7.3 Online creativity	**4.3**	**132**	◇
7.3.1 Top-level domains (TLDs)/th pop. 15–69	2.6	80	
7.3.2 GitHub commits/mn pop. 15–69	6	72	
7.3.3 Mobile app creation/bn PPP$ GDP	n/a	n/a	

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.

Global Innovation Index 2025

Data Availability

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

Cabo Verde has missing data for twenty six indicators and outdated data for eleven indicators.

Missing data for Cabo Verde

Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year	Source
1.3.2	Entrepreneurship policies and culture†	n/a	2024	Global Entrepreneurship Monitor
2.1.4	PISA scales in reading, maths and science	n/a	2022	OECD, PISA
2.3.1	Researchers, FTE/mn pop.	n/a	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
2.3.2	Gross expenditure on R&D, % GDP	n/a	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
3.2.1	Electricity output, GWh/mn pop.	n/a	2023	International Energy Agency
3.2.2	Logistics performance*	n/a	2023	World Bank, Logistics Performance Index 2023
3.3.1	GDP/unit of energy use	n/a	2022	International Energy Agency
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
4.2.2	Venture capital (VC) received, deal count/bn PPP$ GDP	n/a	2024	PitchBook Data, Inc.; International Monetary Fund
4.2.3	Late-stage VC deal count, % global VC	n/a	2024	PitchBook Data, Inc.
4.2.4	VC investors, deal count/bn PPP$ GDP	n/a	2024	PitchBook Data, Inc.; International Monetary Fund
4.2.5	VC investor co-participation/bn PPP$ GDP	n/a	2024	PitchBook Data, Inc.; International Monetary Fund
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
5.2.3	University industry & international engagement, top 5*	n/a	2025	Times Higher Education, World University Rankings 2025
5.3.5	Research talent, % in businesses	n/a	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
6.1.2	PCT patents by inventor origin/bn PPP$ GDP	n/a	2024	World Intellectual Property Organization; International Monetary Fund

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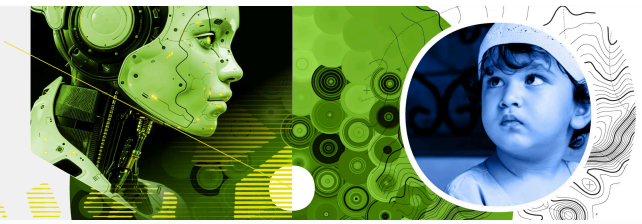

Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year	Source
6.1.3	Utility models by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	n/a	2023	World Intellectual Property Organization; International Monetary Fund
6.3.2	Production and export complexity	n/a	2022	Harvard University, Growth Lab
7.1.1	Intangible asset intensity, top 15, %	n/a	2024	Brand Finance
7.1.3	Global brand value, top 5,000, % GDP	n/a	2025	Brand Finance; International Monetary Fund
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
7.3.3	Mobile app creation/bn PPP$ GDP	n/a	2024	data.ia (a Sensor Tower Company); International Monetary Fund

Outdated data for Cabo Verde

Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year	Source
2.1.2	Government funding/pupil, secondary, % GDP/cap	2019	2021	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
2.1.3	School life expectancy, years	2018	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
2.1.5	Pupil–teacher ratio, secondary	2021	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
2.2.1	Tertiary enrolment, % gross	2018	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
2.2.2	Graduates in science and engineering, %	2018	2022	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD
2.2.3	Tertiary inbound mobility, %	2018	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
4.3.2	Domestic industry diversification	2018	2022	United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
5.1.1	Knowledge-intensive employment, %	2019	2024	International Labour Organization
5.1.2	Females employed w/advanced degrees, %	2019	2024	International Labour Organization
6.2.4	High-tech manufacturing	2018	2022	United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
7.1.4	Industrial designs by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	2020	2023	World Intellectual Property Organization; International Monetary Fund

Global Innovation Index 2025

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.