Global Innovation Index 2025

Cyprus ranking in the Global Innovation Index 2025

Cyprus ranks 25th 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.

Cyprus ranks 24th among the 54 High-income group economies.

Cyprus ranks 2nd among the 18 economies in Northern Africa and Western Asia.

Cyprus GII Ranking (2020-2025)

The table shows the rankings of Cyprus 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 Cyprus in the GII 2025 is between ranks 23 and 30.

Year	GII Position	Innovation Inputs	Innovation Outputs
2020	29th	30th	26th
2021	28th	31st	21st
2022	27th	29th	20th
2023	28th	33rd	21st
2024	27th	35th	17th
2025	25th	36th	16th

Cyprus performs better in innovation outputs than innovation inputs in 2025.

This year **Cyprus ranks 36th in innovation inputs.** This position is lower than last year.

Cyprus ranks 16th in innovation outputs. This position is higher than last year.

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

For Cyprus, 5 indicators have improved in the short-term and 3 indicators have worsened.

Science and innovation investment

	Scientific publications	R&D investments	Venture capital deal numbers	International patent filings
Short term	▲ 5.4 % 2023 - 2024	▼ -0.7 % 2022 - 2023	▲ 17.6 % 2023 - 2024	▼ -22.7 % 2023 - 2024
Long term (annual growth)	▲ 9 % 2014 - 2024	▲ 8 % 2013 - 2023	▲ 23.9 % 2020 - 2024	▲ 0.8 % 2014 - 2024

Technology adoption

	Safe sanitation	Connectivity		Robots	Electric vehicles
		Fixed broadband	5G		
Short term	0% 2023 - 2024	▲ 2.2% 2022 - 2023	0% 2022 - 2023	n/a	n/a
Long term (annual growth)	▲ 0.1% 2014 - 2024	▲ 4.5% 2013 - 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a
Penetration	77 per 100 inhabitants in 2024	38.7 per 100 inhabitants in 2023	100 per 100 inhabitants in 2023	n/a	n/a

Socioeconomic impact

	Labor productivity	Life expectancy	Temperature change
Short term	▲ 1 % 2023 - 2024	▲ 1.5 % 2022 - 2023	+ 2.5 °C 2024
Long term (annual growth)	▲ 1.4 % 2014 - 2024	0 % 2013 - 2023	+ 1 °C 2014
Level	114,451.7 USD in 2024	81.6 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.

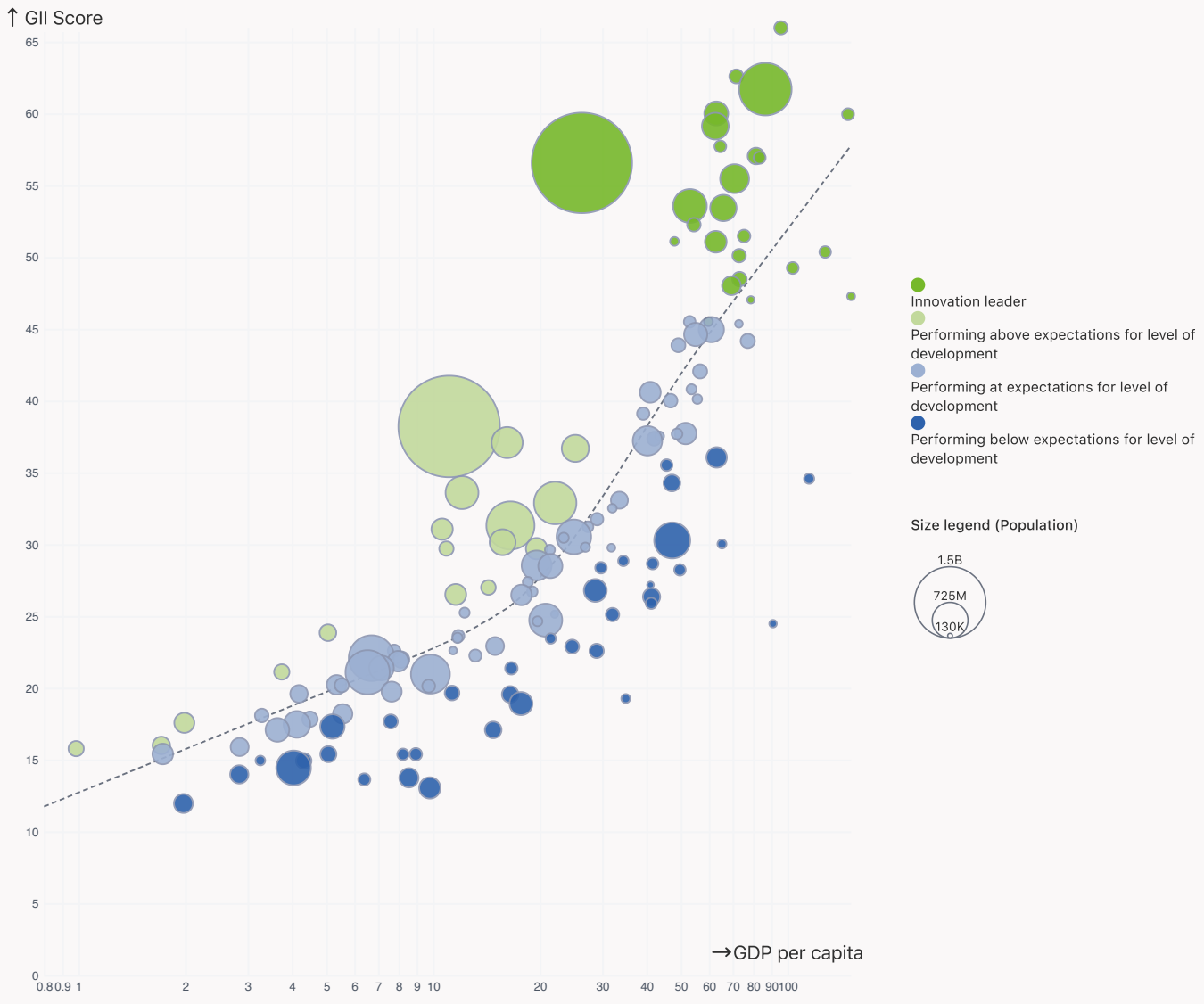
Global Innovation Index 2025

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.

Cyprus is an Innovation leader, ranking in the top 25 of the GII.

> 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.

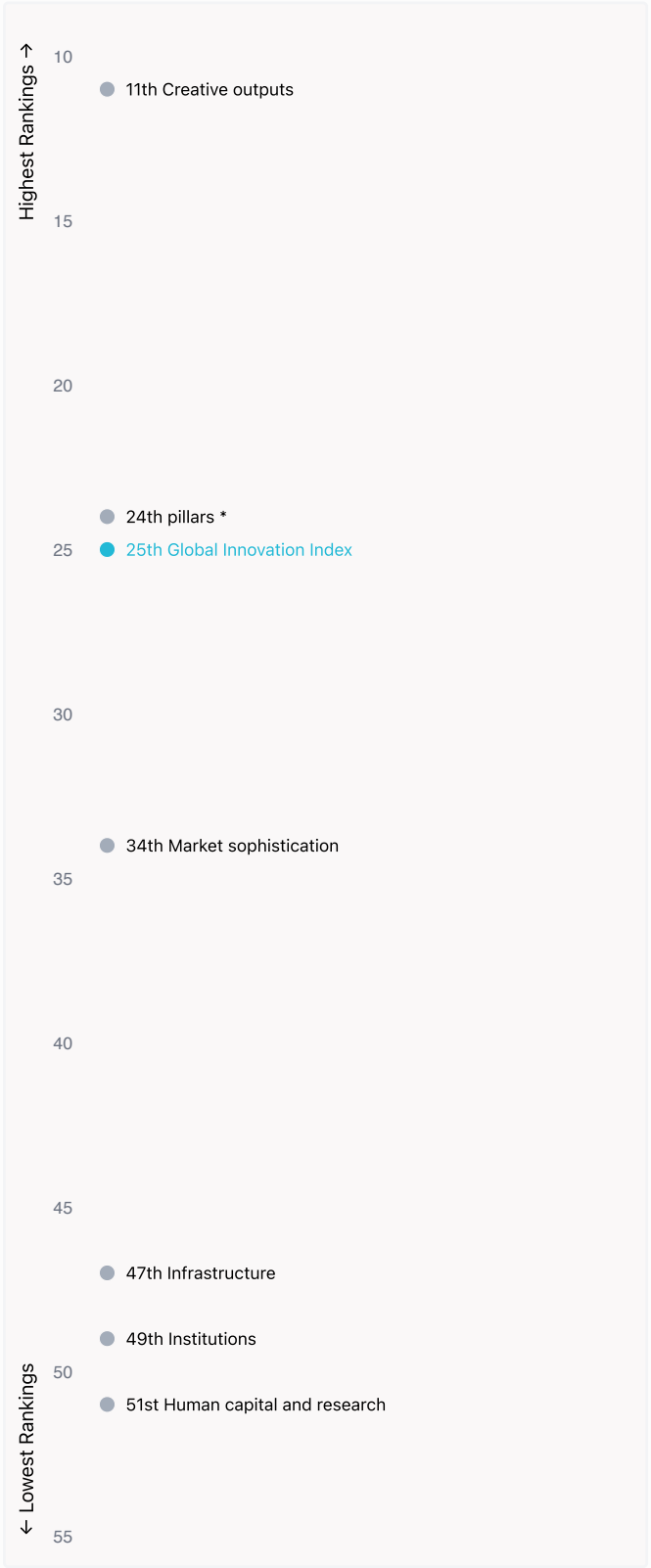
Cyprus produces more innovation outputs relative to its level of innovation investments.

> Relationship between innovation inputs and outputs

Global Innovation Index 2025

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



Highest Rankings

Cyprus ranks highest in Creative outputs (11th) and Business sophistication, Knowledge and technology outputs (24th).

Lowest Rankings

Cyprus ranks lowest in Human capital and research (51st), Institutions (49th) and Infrastructure (47th).

* Business sophistication, Knowledge and technology outputs

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

Global Innovation Index 2025

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

High-income economies

Cyprus performs above the High-income group average in Business sophistication, Knowledge and technology outputs, Creative outputs.

Northern Africa and Western Asia

Cyprus performs above the regional average in all pillars.

Institutions

- Top 10 | Score: 78.63
- High-income | Score: 65.99
- Cyprus | Score: 57.88
- NAWA | Score: 54.35

Human capital and research

- Top 10 | Score: 59.30
- High-income | Score: 45.45
- Cyprus | Score: 35.76
- NAWA | Score: 33.89

Infrastructure

- Top 10 | Score: 61.36
- High-income | Score: 54.18
- Cyprus | Score: 50.38
- NAWA | Score: 43.93

Market sophistication

- Top 10 | Score: 61.82
- High-income | Score: 47.12
- Cyprus | Score: 45.65
- NAWA | Score: 38.18

Business sophistication

- Top 10 | Score: 59.10
- Cyprus | Score: 45.64
- High-income | Score: 42.22
- NAWA | Score: 30.52

Knowledge and technology outputs

- Top 10 | Score: 54.93
- Cyprus | Score: 36.30
- High-income | Score: 33.94
- NAWA | Score: 22.17

Creative outputs

- Top 10 | Score: 55.98
- Cyprus | Score: 51.57
- High-income | Score: 38.68
- NAWA | Score: 25.50

Global Innovation Index 2025

Innovation strengths and weaknesses in Cyprus

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

Cyprus's best-ranked innovation strengths are **Mobile app creation/bn PPP$ GDP** (rank 1), **Cultural and creative services exports, % total trade** (rank 1) and **ICT services exports, % total trade** (rank 1).

Strengths

Rank	Code	Indicator name
1	7.3.3	Mobile app creation/bn PPP$ GDP
1	7.2.1	Cultural and creative services exports, % total trade
1	6.3.4	ICT services exports, % total trade
1	5.3.3	ICT services imports, % total trade
1	4.2.5	VC investor co-participation/bn PPP$ GDP
2	7.1.4	Industrial designs by origin/bn PPP$ GDP
4	2.1.2	Government funding/pupil, secondary, % GDP/cap
5	5.3.4	FDI net inflows, % GDP
6	2.1.5	Pupil–teacher ratio, secondary
6	4.2.4	VC investors, deal count/bn PPP$ GDP

Weaknesses

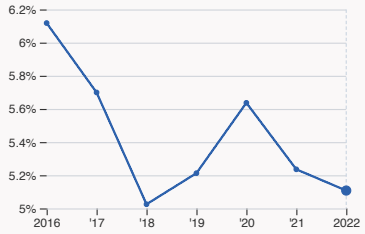
Rank	Code	Indicator name
132	5.3.2	High-tech imports, % total trade
117	4.3.3	Domestic market scale, bn PPP$
117	2.2.2	Graduates in science and engineering, %
111	5.1.3	Youth demographic dividend, %
73	4.1.1	Finance for startups and scaleups†
70	1.3.2	Entrepreneurship policies and culture†
63	7.1.1	Intangible asset intensity, top 15, %
63	4.2.1	Market capitalization, % 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

Cyprus's innovation system

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

Innovation inputs in Cyprus

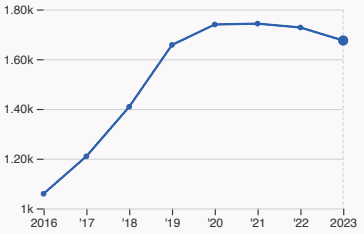


2.1.1 Expenditure on education

was equal to 5.11 % GDP in 2022, down by 0.13 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 36.

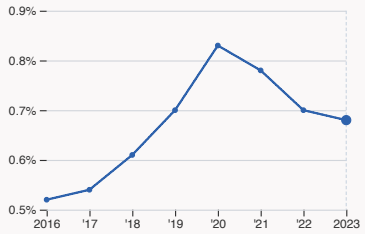
2.2.2 Graduates in science and engineering

was equal to 10.2 % of total graduates in 2022, down by 0.97 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 117.



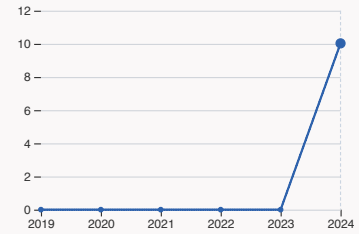
2.3.1 Researchers

was equal to 1675.3 FTE per million population in 2023, down by 3.03% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 46.



2.3.2 Gross expenditure on R&D

was equal to 0.68 % GDP in 2023, down by 0.02 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 54.



2.3.4 QS university ranking

was equal to an average score of 10.03 for the top three universities in 2024, up by 1003% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 71.

4.3.2 Domestic industry diversification

was equal to an index score of 0.184 in 2022, down by 0.48% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 73.

5.1.1 Knowledge-intensive employment

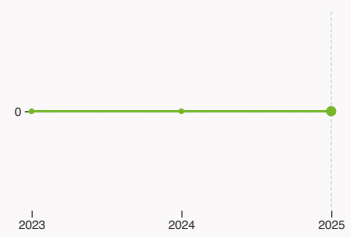
was equal to 42.34 % of total workforce in 2024, up by 1.38 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 26.

Global Innovation Index 2025

Innovation outputs in Cyprus

6.1.1 Patents by origin

was equal to 55 patents in 2023, up by 14.58% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 52.

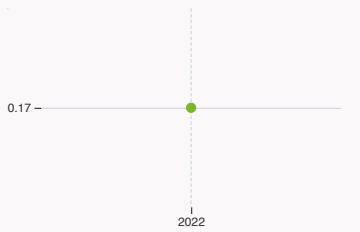


6.2.2 Unicorn valuation

The country does not have unicorns in 2025.

6.2.4 High-tech manufacturing

was equal to 658.76 high-tech manufacturing output in million USD in 2022, down by 5.82% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 78.

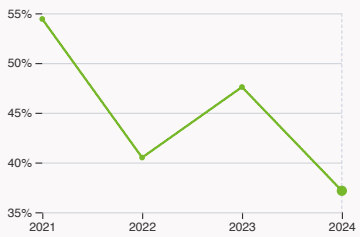


6.3.2 Production and export complexity

was equal to a score of 0.17 in 2022 – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 55.

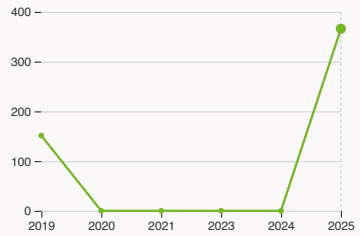
6.3.3 High-tech exports

was equal to 187.38 million USD in 2023, down by 16.13% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 90.



7.1.1 Intangible asset intensity, top 15

was equal to 37.16 % for the top 15 companies in 2024, down by 10.43 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 63.



7.1.3 Global brand value, top 5,000

was equal to 366 million USD in 2025, up by 36600% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 58.

7.2.2 National feature films

was equal to 6 films in 2023, up by 200% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 28.

7.3.3 Mobile app creation

was equal to 5.35 billion global downloads of mobile apps in 2024, up by 2.1% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 1.

Cyprus's innovation top performers

Data not available for 2.3.3 Global corporate R&D investors and 6.2.2 Top Unicorn Companies.

Disclaimer: This section contains only the top performers per country. For the complete list, please visit the GII Innovation Ecosystems and Data Explorer website.

2.3.4 QS university ranking of Cyprus's top universities

Rank	University	Score
389	UNIVERSITY OF CYPRUS (UCY)	30.10

Source: QS Quacquarelli Symonds Ltd (https://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/world-university-rankings/2024).
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'.

5.2.3 University industry and international engagement, top 5 universities

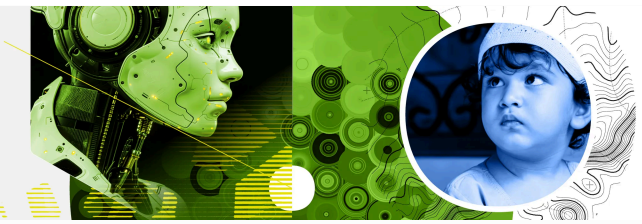
Rank	University	Score
1	UNIVERSITY OF CYPRUS	69.70
1	NEAR EAST UNIVERSITY	73.60
2	UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA	65.10

Source: Times Higher Education (THE), World University Rankings 2025.
Note: Rank corresponds to within economy ranks. The score is calculated as the average of the International Outlook score (encompassing international staff, students, and co-authorship) and the industry score (reflecting industry income and patent citations). The 2025 ranking corresponds to data from the academic year that ended in 2022.

7.1.1 Top 15 intangible-asset intensive companies in Cyprus

Rank	Firm	Intensity, %
1	FRONTLINE PLC	34.73
2	YODA PLC	10.15
3	PURCARI WINERIES PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED	37.31

Source: Brand Finance (https://brandirectory.com/reports/gift-2024).
Note: Brand Finance only provides within economy ranks.



7.1.3 Top 5,000 companies in Cyprus with highest global brand value

Rank	Brand	Industry	Brand Value, mn USD
1	BANK OF CYPRUS	Banking	366

Source: Brand Finance (https://brandirectory.com).
Note: Rank corresponds to within economy ranks.

Cyprus

GII 2025 rank **25**

Output rank	Input rank	Income	Region	Population (mn)	GDP, PPP$ (bn)	GDP per capita, PPP$
16	36	High	Northern Africa and Western Asia	1.4	55.1	59,857.9

	Score / Value	Rank	
Institutions	**57.9**	**49**	◇
1.1 Institutional environment	**67.3**	**37**	◇
1.1.1 Operational stability for businesses*	73.3	38	
1.1.2 Government effectiveness*	61.2	37	◇
1.2 Regulatory environment	**66.1**	**37**	◇
1.2.1 Regulatory quality*	64.7	36	◇
1.2.2 Rule of law*	67.5	37	◇
1.3 Business environment	**40.3**	**76**	◇
1.3.1 Policy stability for doing business†	54.8	56	◇
1.3.2 Entrepreneurship policies and culture†	25.8	70	○ ◇
Human capital and research	**35.8**	**51**	◇
2.1 Education	**61.3**	**35**	
2.1.1 Expenditure on education, % GDP	5.1	36	
2.1.2 Government funding/pupil, secondary, % GDP/cap	34.3	4	● ◆
2.1.3 School life expectancy, years	16.2	32	
2.1.4 PISA scales in reading, maths and science	403.4	60	◇
2.1.5 Pupil–teacher ratio, secondary	7.9	6	● ◆
2.2 Tertiary education	**36.8**	**43**	
2.2.1 Tertiary enrolment, % gross	98.3	9	
2.2.2 Graduates in science and engineering, %	10.2	117	○ ◇
2.2.3 Tertiary inbound mobility, %	20.2	8	
2.3 Research and development (R&D)	**9.2**	**65**	◇
2.3.1 Researchers, FTE/mn pop.	1,675.3	46	◇
2.3.2 Gross expenditure on R&D, % GDP	0.7	54	◇
2.3.3 Global corporate R&D investors, top 3, mn USD	0	44	○ ◇
2.3.4 QS university ranking, top 3*	10.3	71	◇
Infrastructure	**50.4**	**47**	◇
3.1 Information and communication technologies (ICTs)	**86.4**	**39**	◇
3.1.1 ICT access*	98.8	17	
3.1.2 ICT use*	82	50	◇
3.1.3 Government's online service*	78.5	42	◇
3.2 General infrastructure	**34.3**	**65**	◇
3.2.1 Electricity output, GWh/mn pop.	5,804.3	37	
3.2.2 Logistics performance*	50	50	◇
3.2.3 Gross capital formation, % GDP	21.1	97	
3.3 Ecological sustainability	**30.4**	**40**	
3.3.1 GDP/unit of energy use	17.3	21	
3.3.2 Low-carbon energy use, %	8.9	97	
3.3.3 ISO 14001 environment/bn PPP$ GDP	5	17	
Market sophistication	**45.6**	**34**	◇
4.1 Credit	**27.8**	**72**	◇
4.1.1 Finance for startups and scaleups†	33	73	○ ◇
4.1.2 Domestic credit to private sector, % GDP	62.7	49	◇
4.1.3 Loans from microfinance institutions, % GDP	n/a	n/a	
4.2 Investment	**41.5**	**10**	
4.2.1 Market capitalization, % GDP	19.4	63	○ ◇
4.2.2 Venture capital (VC) received, deal count/bn PPP$ GDP	0.7	8	
4.2.3 Late-stage VC deal count, % global VC	0.02	59	
4.2.4 VC investors, deal count/bn PPP$ GDP	2.4	6	● ◆
4.2.5 VC investor co-participation/bn PPP$ GDP	0.9	1	● ◆
4.3 Trade, diversification and market scale	**67.7**	**74**	◇
4.3.1 Applied tariff rate, weighted avg., %	1.3	24	
4.3.2 Domestic industry diversification	75.8	73	◇
4.3.3 Domestic market scale, bn PPP$	55.1	117	○ ◇

	Score / Value	Rank	
Business sophistication	**45.6**	**24**	◇
5.1 Knowledge workers	**44.8**	**38**	◇
5.1.1 Knowledge-intensive employment, %	42.3	26	
5.1.2 Females employed w/advanced degrees, %	29.1	8	
5.1.3 Youth demographic dividend, %	26.5	111	○
5.1.4 GERD performed by business, % GDP	0.3	50	◇
5.1.5 GERD financed by business, %	35.7	54	◇
5.2 Innovation linkages	**38.5**	**33**	◇
5.2.1 Public research–industry co-publications, %	4.4	19	
5.2.2 University–industry R&D collaboration†	38.8	56	◇
5.2.3 University industry & international engagement, top 5*	48	36	◇
5.2.4 State of cluster development†	43.8	74	◇
5.2.5 Patent families/bn PPP$ GDP	0.9	29	◇
5.3 Knowledge absorption	**53.7**	**4**	◆
5.3.1 Intellectual property payments, % total trade	1.2	28	
5.3.2 High-tech imports, % total trade	3.2	132	○ ◇
5.3.3 ICT services imports, % total trade	16	1	● ◆
5.3.4 FDI net inflows, % GDP	19.1	5	● ◆
5.3.5 Research talent, % in businesses	34	39	◇
Knowledge and technology outputs	**36.3**	**24**	
6.1 Knowledge creation	**32.5**	**28**	◇
6.1.1 Patents by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	1.1	52	◇
6.1.2 PCT patents by inventor origin/bn PPP$ GDP	0.6	31	◇
6.1.3 Utility models by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	-	-	
6.1.4 Scientific and technical articles/bn PPP$ GDP	37.4	9	◆
6.1.5 Citable documents H-index	13.8	63	◇
6.2 Knowledge impact	**22.4**	**80**	◇
6.2.1 Labor productivity growth, %	2.2	23	◆
6.2.2 Unicorn valuation, % GDP	0	53	○ ◇
6.2.3 Software spending, % GDP	0.1	83	◇
6.2.4 High-tech manufacturing, %	13.9	78	◇
6.3 Knowledge diffusion	**54**	**5**	
6.3.1 Intellectual property receipts, % total trade	2.2	12	
6.3.2 Production and export complexity	52.6	55	◇
6.3.3 High-tech exports, % total trade	0.7	90	◇
6.3.4 ICT services exports, % total trade	26.6	1	● ◆
6.3.5 ISO 9001 quality/bn PPP$ GDP	16.1	12	◆
Creative outputs	**51.6**	**11**	
7.1 Intangible assets	**51.6**	**15**	
7.1.1 Intangible asset intensity, top 15, %	37.2	63	○ ◇
7.1.2 Trademarks by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	95.6	7	◆
7.1.3 Global brand value, top 5,000, % GDP	1	58	◇
7.1.4 Industrial designs by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	17.5	2	● ◆
7.2 Creative goods and services	**43.2**	**12**	
7.2.1 Cultural and creative services exports, % total trade	4.6	1	● ◆
7.2.2 National feature films/mn pop. 15–69	6	28	
7.2.3 Entertainment and media market/th pop. 15–69	n/a	n/a	
7.2.4 Creative goods exports, % total trade	0.1	90	
7.3 Online creativity	**59.9**	**22**	
7.3.1 Top-level domains (TLDs)/th pop. 15–69	39.1	23	
7.3.2 GitHub commits/mn pop. 15–69	40.6	27	◇
7.3.3 Mobile app creation/bn PPP$ GDP	100	1	● ◆

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 Cyprus.

Cyprus has missing data for two indicators and outdated data for six indicators.

Missing data for Cyprus

Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year*	Source
4.1.3	Loans from microfinance institutions, % GDP	n/a	2023	International Monetary Fund, Financial Access Survey (FAS)
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 Cyprus

Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year*	Source
2.1.1	Expenditure on education, % GDP	2022	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
2.1.3	School life expectancy, years	2022	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
2.1.5	Pupil–teacher ratio, secondary	2022	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
2.2.1	Tertiary enrolment, % gross	2022	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
2.2.3	Tertiary inbound mobility, %	2022	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
5.1.5	GERD financed by business, %	2021	2022	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT

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

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.