Global Innovation Index 2025

Republic of Moldova ranking in the Global Innovation Index 2025

Republic of Moldova ranks 74th 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.

Republic of Moldova ranks 20th among the 36 Upper middle-income group economies.

Republic of Moldova ranks 37th among the 39 economies in Europe.

Republic of Moldova GII Ranking (2020-2025)

The table shows the rankings of Republic of Moldova 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 Republic of Moldova in the GII 2025 is between ranks 68 and 76.

Year	GII Position	Innovation Inputs	Innovation Outputs
2020	59th	75th	48th
2021	64th	80th	54th
2022	56th	78th	46th
2023	60th	81st	50th
2024	68th	80th	57th
2025	74th	89th	62nd

Republic of Moldova performs better in innovation outputs than innovation inputs in 2025.

This year **Republic of Moldova ranks 89th in innovation inputs.** This position is lower than last year.

Republic of Moldova ranks 62nd in innovation outputs. This position is lower than last year.

Republic of Moldova 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 Republic of Moldova, how rapidly is technology being embraced and what are the resulting societal impacts.

For Republic of Moldova, 2 indicators have improved in the short-term and 7 indicators have worsened.

Science and innovation investment

	Scientific publications	R&D investments	Venture capital deal numbers	International patent filings
Short term	▼ -3.1 % 2023 - 2024	▼ -2 % 2022 - 2023	▼ -29.3 % 2022 - 2024	▼ -16.7 % 2023 - 2024
Long term (annual growth)	▲ 0.2 % 2014 - 2024	▼ -0.8 % 2013 - 2023	▼ -29.3 % 2020 - 2024	▲ 5.2 % 2014 - 2024

Technology adoption

	Safe sanitation	Connectivity		Robots	Electric vehicles
		Fixed broadband	5G		
Short term	n/a	▲ 5.1% 2022 - 2023	n/a	▼ -75% 2022 - 2023	n/a
Long term (annual growth)	n/a	▲ 6% 2013 - 2023	n/a	▼ -14.9% 2013 - 2023	n/a
Penetration	n/a	27.4 per 100 inhabitants in 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a

Socioeconomic impact

	Labor productivity	Life expectancy	Temperature change
Short term	▲ 6.5 % 2023 - 2024	▼ -0.5 % 2022 - 2023	+ 3.3 °C 2024
Long term (annual growth)	▲ 2.9 % 2014 - 2024	▲ 0.1 % 2013 - 2023	+ 1.3 °C 2014
Level	36,404.6 USD in 2024	71.2 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.

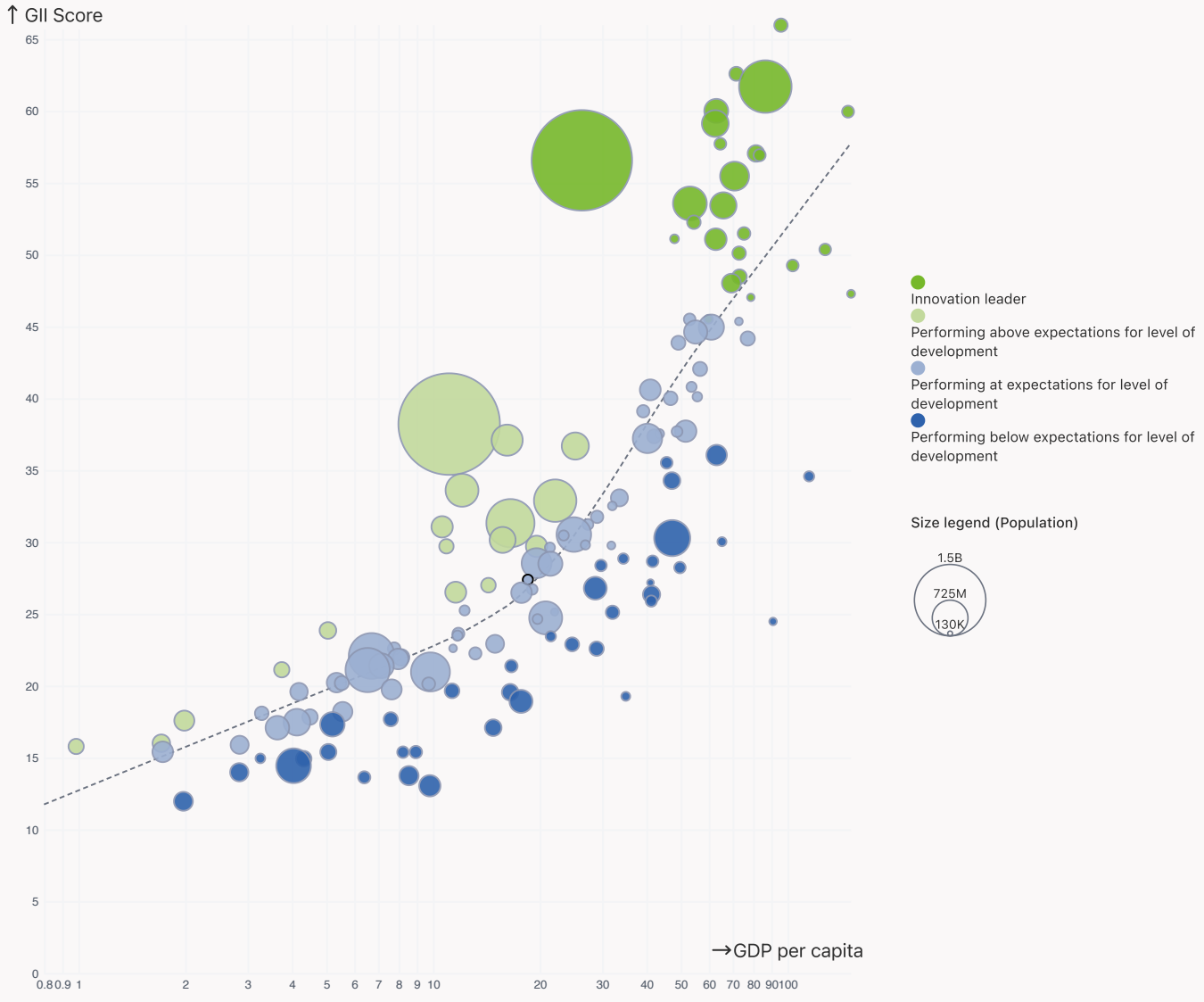
Global Innovation Index 2025

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 Republic of Moldova 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.

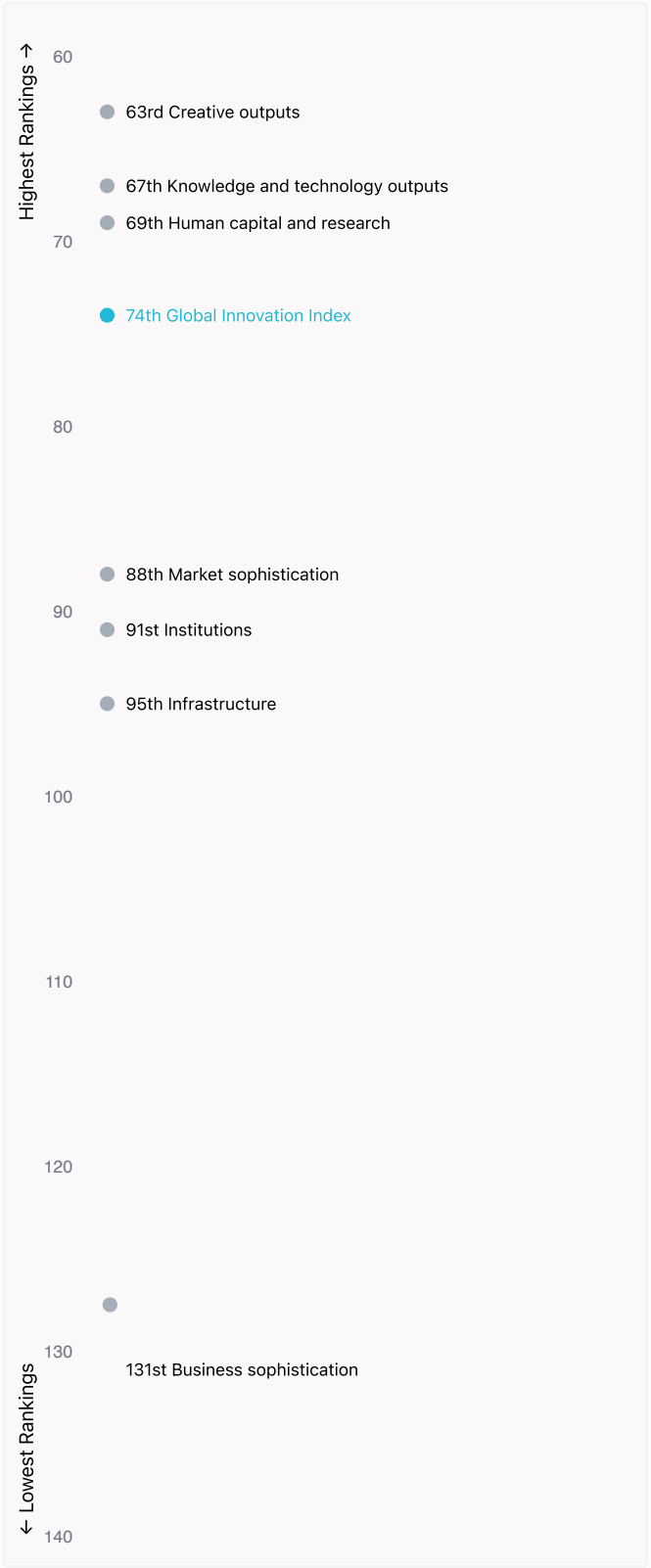
Republic of Moldova produces more innovation outputs relative to its level of innovation investments.

> Relationship between innovation inputs and outputs

Global Innovation Index 2025

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



Highest Rankings

Republic of Moldova ranks highest in Creative outputs (63rd), Knowledge and technology outputs (67th) and Human capital and research (69th).

Lowest Rankings

Republic of Moldova ranks lowest in Business sophistication (131st), Infrastructure (95th) and Institutions (91st).

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

Global Innovation Index 2025

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

Upper middle-income economies

Republic of Moldova performs above the Upper middle-income group average in Human capital and research, Knowledge and technology outputs, Creative outputs.

Europe

Republic of Moldova performs below the regional average in all pillars.

Institutions

- Top 10 | Score: 78.63
- Europe | Score: 59.42
- Upper middle-income | Score: 44.7
- Republic of Moldova | Score: 40.92

Human capital and research

- Top 10 | Score: 59.30
- Europe | Score: 44.67
- Republic of Moldova | Score: 30.94
- Upper middle-income | Score: 29.7

Infrastructure

- Top 10 | Score: 61.36
- Europe | Score: 54.13
- Upper middle-income | Score: 41.1
- Republic of Moldova | Score: 34.99

Market sophistication

- Top 10 | Score: 61.82
- Europe | Score: 44.89
- Upper middle-income | Score: 34.8
- Republic of Moldova | Score: 31.82

Business sophistication

- Top 10 | Score: 59.10
- Europe | Score: 40.79
- Upper middle-income | Score: 27.7
- Republic of Moldova | Score: 18.33

Knowledge and technology outputs

- Top 10 | Score: 54.93
- Europe | Score: 34.99
- Republic of Moldova | Score: 20.94
- Upper middle-income | Score: 20.0

Creative outputs

- Top 10 | Score: 55.98
- Europe | Score: 38.66
- Republic of Moldova | Score: 25.73
- Upper middle-income | Score: 22.6

Global Innovation Index 2025

Innovation strengths and weaknesses in Republic of Moldova

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

Republic of Moldova's best-ranked innovation strengths are **Utility models by origin/bn PPP$ GDP** (rank 4), **Loans from microfinance institutions, % GDP** (rank 7) and **ICT services exports, % total trade** (rank 8).

Strengths

Rank	Code	Indicator name
4	6.1.3	Utility models by origin/bn PPP$ GDP
7	4.1.3	Loans from microfinance institutions, % GDP
8	6.3.4	ICT services exports, % total trade
9	2.1.1	Expenditure on education, % GDP
11	7.1.2	Trademarks by origin/bn PPP$ GDP
16	7.3.3	Mobile app creation/bn PPP$ GDP
23	4.3.1	Applied tariff rate, weighted avg., %
23	7.1.4	Industrial designs by origin/bn PPP$ GDP
31	7.2.1	Cultural and creative services exports, % total trade
31	2.1.2	Government funding/pupil, secondary, % GDP/cap

Weaknesses

Rank	Code	Indicator name
127	5.2.4	State of cluster development†
123	4.3.3	Domestic market scale, bn PPP$
116	3.3.2	Low-carbon energy use, %
116	5.2.1	Public research–industry co-publications, %
113	5.2.2	University–industry R&D collaboration†
106	4.2.3	Late-stage VC deal count, % global VC
90	3.2.2	Logistics performance*
81	7.1.3	Global brand value, top 5,000, % 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

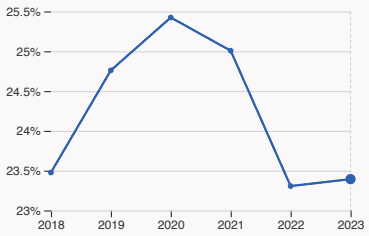
Republic of Moldova's innovation system

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

Innovation inputs in Republic of Moldova

2.1.1 Expenditure on education

was equal to 6.63 % GDP in 2023, up by 0.51 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 9.

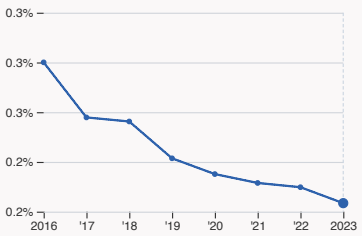


2.2.2 Graduates in science and engineering

was equal to 23.39 % of total graduates in 2023, up by 0.09 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 54.

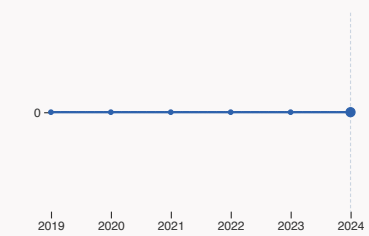
2.3.1 Researchers

was equal to 717.42 FTE per million population in 2023, down by 6.59% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 63.



2.3.2 Gross expenditure on R&D

was equal to 0.22 % GDP in 2023, down by 0.006 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 85.



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 0.196 in 2022, up by 24.59% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 77.

5.1.1 Knowledge-intensive employment

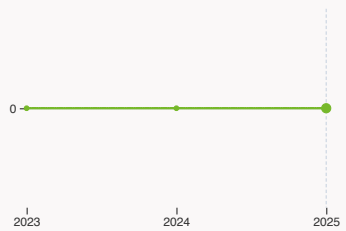
was equal to 19.009 % of total workforce in 2023, up by 1.3 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 81.

Global Innovation Index 2025

Innovation outputs in Republic of Moldova

6.1.1 Patents by origin

was equal to 30 patents in 2023, down by 38.78% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 64.

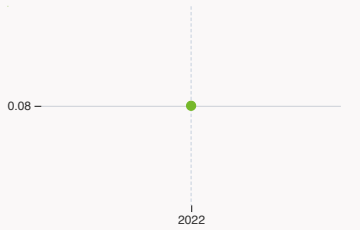


6.2.2 Unicorn valuation

The country does not have unicorns in 2025.

6.2.4 High-tech manufacturing

was equal to 516.52 high-tech manufacturing output in million USD in 2022, down by 3.73% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 80.

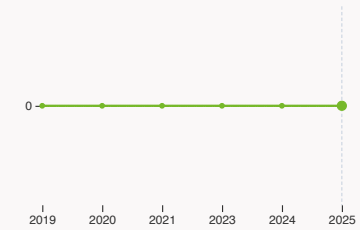


6.3.2 Production and export complexity

was equal to a score of 0.08 in 2022 – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 59.

6.3.3 High-tech exports

was equal to 70.97 million USD in 2023, up by 25.17% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 80.



7.1.3 Global brand value, top 5,000

The country does not have any brands that make the top 5,000 ranking in 2025.

7.3.3 Mobile app creation

was equal to 50.57 million global downloads of mobile apps in 2024, down by 18.89% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 16.

Republic of Moldova

GII 2025 rank **74**

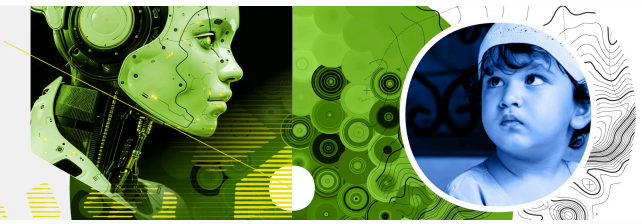
Output rank	Input rank	Income	Region	Population (mn)	GDP, PPP$ (bn)	GDP per capita, PPP$
62	89	Upper middle	Europe	3.0	45.4	18,524

	Score / Value	Rank	
Institutions	**40.9**	**91**	
1.1 Institutional environment	**47.2**	**84**	
1.1.1 Operational stability for businesses*	55.3	88	
1.1.2 Government effectiveness*	39	81	
1.2 Regulatory environment	**48.9**	**69**	
1.2.1 Regulatory quality*	49.2	70	
1.2.2 Rule of law*	48.5	74	
1.3 Business environment	**26.7**	**[109]**	
1.3.1 Policy stability for doing business†	26.7	111	
1.3.2 Entrepreneurship policies and culture†	n/a	n/a	
Human capital and research	**30.9**	**69**	
2.1 Education	**56.6**	**51**	
2.1.1 Expenditure on education, % GDP	6.6	9	●◆
2.1.2 Government funding/pupil, secondary, % GDP/cap	22.9	31	●
2.1.3 School life expectancy, years	14.8	57	
2.1.4 PISA scales in reading, maths and science	414	53	
2.1.5 Pupil–teacher ratio, secondary	11.5	48	
2.2 Tertiary education	**33.6**	**56**	
2.2.1 Tertiary enrolment, % gross	68.1	46	
2.2.2 Graduates in science and engineering, %	23.4	54	
2.2.3 Tertiary inbound mobility, %	7	44	
2.3 Research and development (R&D)	**2.6**	**92**	
2.3.1 Researchers, FTE/mn pop.	717.4	63	
2.3.2 Gross expenditure on R&D, % GDP	0.2	85	
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	**35**	**95**	
3.1 Information and communication technologies (ICTs)	**74.6**	**74**	
3.1.1 ICT access*	77.9	88	
3.1.2 ICT use*	78.8	63	
3.1.3 Government's online service*	67.1	69	
3.2 General infrastructure	**22.1**	**102**	
3.2.1 Electricity output, GWh/mn pop.	2,052.8	80	
3.2.2 Logistics performance*	18.2	90	○
3.2.3 Gross capital formation, % GDP	24.7	49	
3.3 Ecological sustainability	**8.3**	**120**	◇
3.3.1 GDP/unit of energy use	8.8	88	
3.3.2 Low-carbon energy use, %	3.8	116	○
3.3.3 ISO 14001 environment/bn PPP$ GDP	0.4	94	
Market sophistication	**31.8**	**88**	
4.1 Credit	**28**	**71**	
4.1.1 Finance for startups and scaleups†	n/a	n/a	
4.1.2 Domestic credit to private sector, % GDP	25.8	107	
4.1.3 Loans from microfinance institutions, % GDP	4.6	7	●◆
4.2 Investment	**1.2**	**[110]**	
4.2.1 Market capitalization, % GDP	n/a	n/a	
4.2.2 Venture capital (VC) received, deal count/bn PPP$ GDP	0.04	94	
4.2.3 Late-stage VC deal count, % global VC	0.002	106	○
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	**66.3**	**80**	
4.3.1 Applied tariff rate, weighted avg., %	1.3	23	●
4.3.2 Domestic industry diversification	73.2	77	
4.3.3 Domestic market scale, bn PPP$	45.4	123	○◇

	Score / Value	Rank	
Business sophistication	**18.3**	**131**	◇
5.1 Knowledge workers	**22.2**	**126**	◇
5.1.1 Knowledge-intensive employment, %	19	81	
5.1.2 Females employed w/advanced degrees, %	11.9	65	
5.1.3 Youth demographic dividend, %	30.9	83	
5.1.4 GERD performed by business, % GDP	0.04	73	
5.1.5 GERD financed by business, %	15.5	70	
5.2 Innovation linkages	**11**	**128**	◇
5.2.1 Public research–industry co-publications, %	0.6	116	○
5.2.2 University–industry R&D collaboration†	18.6	113	○
5.2.3 University industry & international engagement, top 5*	n/a	n/a	
5.2.4 State of cluster development†	19.3	127	○◇
5.2.5 Patent families/bn PPP$ GDP	0.07	58	
5.3 Knowledge absorption	**21.8**	**94**	
5.3.1 Intellectual property payments, % total trade	0.6	62	
5.3.2 High-tech imports, % total trade	8.1	66	
5.3.3 ICT services imports, % total trade	1.3	74	
5.3.4 FDI net inflows, % GDP	3	58	
5.3.5 Research talent, % in businesses	6.2	67	
Knowledge and technology outputs	**20.9**	**67**	
6.1 Knowledge creation	**20.8**	**51**	
6.1.1 Patents by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	0.7	64	
6.1.2 PCT patents by inventor origin/bn PPP$ GDP	0.04	73	
6.1.3 Utility models by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	2.5	4	●◆
6.1.4 Scientific and technical articles/bn PPP$ GDP	5.5	102	
6.1.5 Citable documents H-index	5	100	
6.2 Knowledge impact	**17.7**	**109**	
6.2.1 Labor productivity growth, %	0.8	72	
6.2.2 Unicorn valuation, % GDP	0	53	○◇
6.2.3 Software spending, % GDP	0.08	99	
6.2.4 High-tech manufacturing, %	13.2	80	
6.3 Knowledge diffusion	**24.4**	**52**	
6.3.1 Intellectual property receipts, % total trade	0.04	87	
6.3.2 Production and export complexity	50.6	59	
6.3.3 High-tech exports, % total trade	0.9	80	
6.3.4 ICT services exports, % total trade	8.1	8	●◆
6.3.5 ISO 9001 quality/bn PPP$ GDP	2.2	86	
Creative outputs	**25.7**	**63**	
7.1 Intangible assets	**29.3**	**62**	
7.1.1 Intangible asset intensity, top 15, %	n/a	n/a	
7.1.2 Trademarks by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	85	11	●
7.1.3 Global brand value, top 5,000, % GDP	0	81	○◇
7.1.4 Industrial designs by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	3.4	23	●
7.2 Creative goods and services	**12.2**	**[66]**	
7.2.1 Cultural and creative services exports, % total trade	1	31	●◆
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	0.2	77	
7.3 Online creativity	**32.1**	**51**	
7.3.1 Top-level domains (TLDs)/th pop. 15–69	4	67	
7.3.2 GitHub commits/mn pop. 15–69	16.1	49	
7.3.3 Mobile app creation/bn PPP$ GDP	76.4	16	●◆

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 Republic of Moldova.

Republic of Moldova has missing data for nine indicators and outdated data for nine indicators.

Missing data for Republic of Moldova

Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year*	Source
1.3.2	Entrepreneurship policies and culture†	n/a	2024	Global Entrepreneurship Monitor
4.1.1	Finance for startups and scaleups†	n/a	2024	Global Entrepreneurship Monitor
4.2.1	Market capitalization, % GDP	n/a	2022	World Federation of Exchanges; World Bank
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
5.2.3	University industry & international engagement, top 5*	n/a	2025	Times Higher Education, World University Rankings 2025
7.1.1	Intangible asset intensity, top 15, %	n/a	2024	Brand Finance
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 Republic of Moldova

Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year*	Source
1.3.1	Policy stability for doing business†	2021	2024	World Economic Forum, Executive Opinion Survey (EOS)
2.2.1	Tertiary enrolment, % gross	2022	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
5.1.1	Knowledge-intensive employment, %	2023	2024	International Labour Organization
5.1.2	Females employed w/advanced degrees, %	2023	2024	International Labour Organization
5.1.4	GERD performed by business, % GDP	2018	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
5.1.5	GERD financed by business, %	2018	2022	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
5.2.2	University–industry R&D collaboration†	2021	2024	World Economic Forum, Executive Opinion Survey (EOS)

Global Innovation Index 2025

Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year*	Source
5.2.4	State of cluster development†	2021	2024	World Economic Forum, Executive Opinion Survey (EOS)
5.3.5	Research talent, % in businesses	2018	2023	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.