

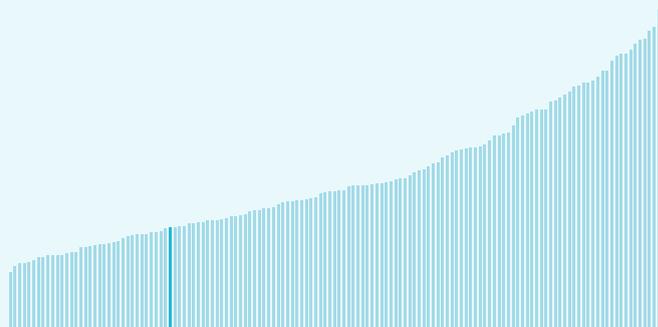
Global Innovation Index 2025



Nigeria ranking in the Global Innovation Index 2025

Nigeria ranks **105th** 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.



Nigeria ranks 18th among the 37 Lower middle-income group economies.



Nigeria ranks 11th among the 32 economies in Sub-Saharan Africa.



> Nigeria GII Ranking (2020-2025)

The table shows the rankings of Nigeria 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 Nigeria in the GII 2025 is between ranks 92 and 110.

Year	GII Position	Innovation Inputs	Innovation Outputs
2020	117th	115th	121st
2021	118th	115th	124th
2022	114th	113rd	107th
2023	109th	116th	98th
2024	113rd	121st	98th
2025	105th	127th	80th

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

This year Nigeria ranks 127th in innovation inputs. This position is lower than last year.

Nigeria ranks 80th in innovation outputs. This position is higher than last year.

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



For Nigeria, 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	▼ -1.9 % 2023 - 2024	n/a	▼ -42.5 % 2023 - 2024	▲ 25 % 2023 - 2024
Long term (annual growth)	▲ 10.1 % 2014 - 2024	n/a	▼ -9.1 % 2020 - 2024	▲ 2.3 % 2014 - 2024

Technology adoption

	Safe sanitation	Connectivity		Robots	Electric vehicles
		Fixed broadband	5G		
Short term	▲ 0.2% 2023 - 2024	▲ 20.7% 2022 - 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a
Long term (annual growth)	▲ 1.9% 2014 - 2024	▲ 22.8% 2013 - 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a
Penetration	32.2 per 100 inhabitants in 2024	0.05 per 100 inhabitants in 2023	11.8 per 100 inhabitants in 2023	n/a	n/a

Socioeconomic impact

	Labor productivity	Life expectancy	Temperature change
Short term	▲ 0.5 % 2023 - 2024	▲ 0.7 % 2022 - 2023	+ 1.6 °C 2024
Long term (annual growth)	▼ -1.6 % 2014 - 2024	▲ 0.5 % 2013 - 2023	+ 1.1 °C 2014
Level	16,611.8 USD in 2024	54.5 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 Nigeria 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.



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

> Relationship between innovation inputs and outputs

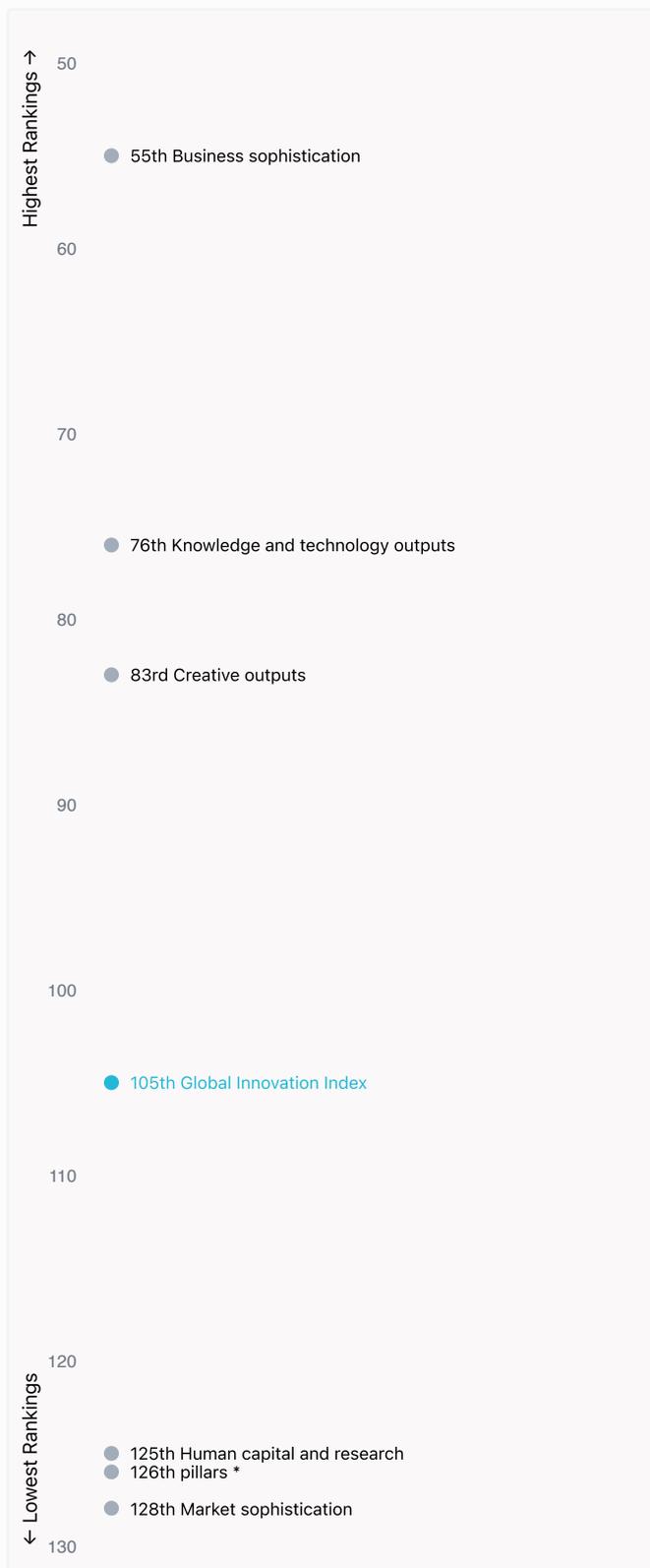


Global Innovation Index 2025



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



Highest Rankings

Nigeria ranks highest in Business sophistication (55th), Knowledge and technology outputs (76th) and Creative outputs (83rd).



Lowest Rankings

Nigeria ranks lowest in Market sophistication (128th), Institutions, Infrastructure (126th) and Human capital and research (125th).

* Institutions, Infrastructure



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

Global Innovation Index 2025



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

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



Lower middle-income economies

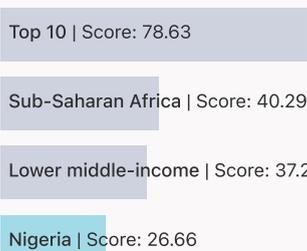
Nigeria performs above the Lower middle-income group average in Business sophistication, Knowledge and technology outputs, Creative outputs.



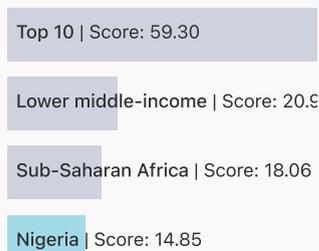
Sub-Saharan Africa

Nigeria performs above the regional average in Business sophistication, Knowledge and technology outputs, Creative outputs.

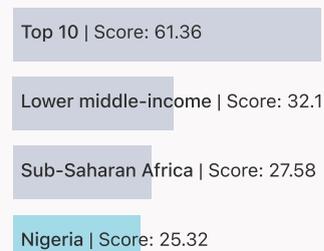
Institutions



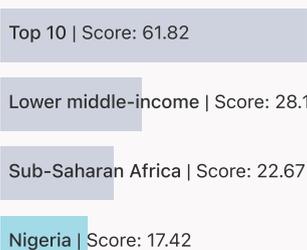
Human capital and research



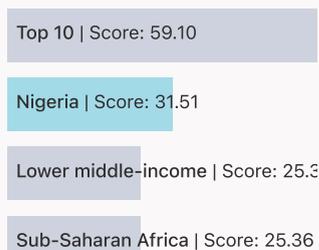
Infrastructure



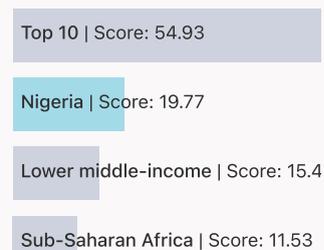
Market sophistication



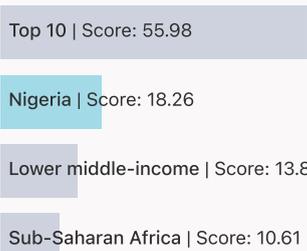
Business sophistication



Knowledge and technology outputs



Creative outputs



Global Innovation Index 2025



Innovation strengths and weaknesses in Nigeria

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



Nigeria's best-ranked innovation strengths are **Unicorn valuation, % GDP** (rank 1), **High-tech imports, % total trade** (rank 8) and **Youth demographic dividend, %** (rank 13).

Strengths

Rank	Code	Indicator name
1	6.2.2	Unicorn valuation, % GDP
8	5.3.2	High-tech imports, % total trade
13	5.1.3	Youth demographic dividend, %
26	4.3.3	Domestic market scale, bn PPP\$
35	5.1.1	Knowledge-intensive employment, %
36	3.3.1	GDP/unit of energy use
36	4.2.3	Late-stage VC deal count, % global VC
55	4.2.2	Venture capital (VC) received, deal count/bn PPP\$ GDP
60	6.1.5	Citable documents H-index
63	6.2.3	Software spending, % GDP

Weaknesses

Rank	Code	Indicator name
138	7.2.4	Creative goods exports, % total trade
136	2.1.1	Expenditure on education, % GDP
130	1.1.1	Operational stability for businesses*
128	5.2.2	University–industry R&D collaboration†
127	4.1.2	Domestic credit to private sector, % GDP
127	6.3.2	Production and export complexity
127	6.3.1	Intellectual property receipts, % total trade
105	2.3.1	Researchers, FTE/mn pop.
80	2.3.4	QS university ranking, top 3*
44	2.3.3	Global corporate R&D investors, top 3, mn USD

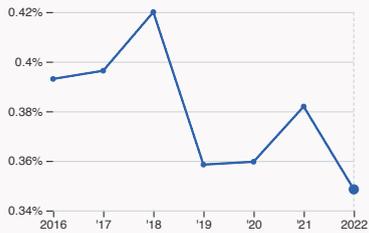
Global Innovation Index 2025



Nigeria's innovation system

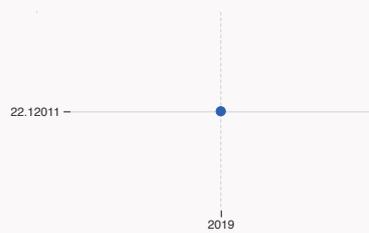
As far as practicable, the plots below present unscaled indicator data.

> Innovation inputs in Nigeria



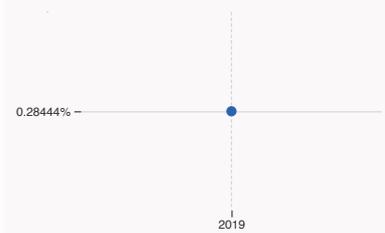
2.1.1 Expenditure on education

was equal to 0.35 % GDP in 2022, down by 0.03 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 136.



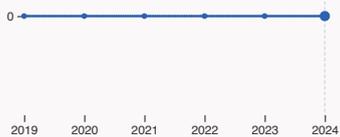
2.3.1 Researchers

was equal to 22.12 FTE per million population in 2019 – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 105.



2.3.2 Gross expenditure on R&D

was equal to 0.28 % GDP in 2019 – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 77.



2.3.4 QS university ranking

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



5.1.1 Knowledge-intensive employment

was equal to 38.14 % in 2019 – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 35.

Global Innovation Index 2025

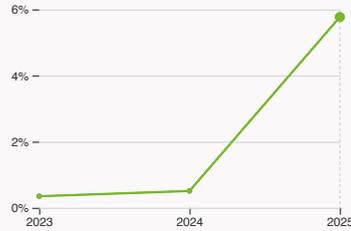


> Innovation outputs in Nigeria



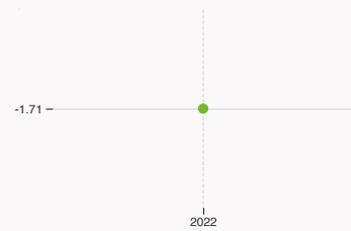
6.1.1 Patents by origin

was equal to 410 patents in 2020, down by 6.61% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 82.



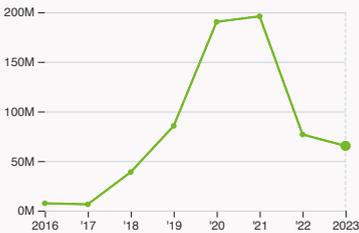
6.2.2 Unicorn valuation

was equal to 5.77 % GDP in 2025, up by 5.26 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 1.



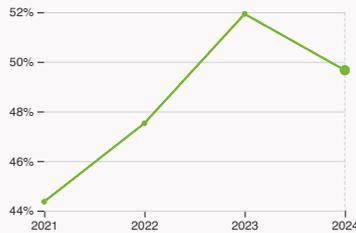
6.3.2 Production and export complexity

was equal to a score of -1.71 in 2022 – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 127.



6.3.3 High-tech exports

was equal to 65.26 million USD in 2023, down by 14.97% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 127.



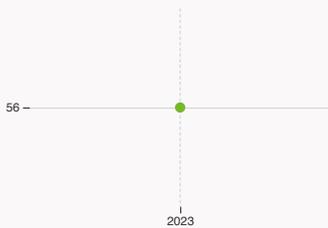
7.1.1 Intangible asset intensity, top 15

was equal to 49.66 % for the top 15 companies in 2024, down by 2.27 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 50.



7.1.3 Global brand value, top 5,000

was equal to 2.22 billion USD for the brands in the top 5,000 in 2025 with no change from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 57.



7.2.2 National feature films

was equal to 56 films in 2023 – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 85.



7.3.3 Mobile app creation

was equal to 79.36 million global downloads of mobile apps in 2024, down by 21.22% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 84.

Global Innovation Index 2025



Nigeria's innovation top performers

Data not available for 2.3.3 Global corporate R&D investors and 2.3.4 QS university ranking of top universities.

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

5.2.3 University industry and international engagement, top 5 universities

Rank	University	Score
1	COVENANT UNIVERSITY	50.55
2	OBAFEMI AWOLowo UNIVERSITY	37.90
3	BAYERO UNIVERSITY	33.00

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.

6.2.2 Top Unicorn Companies in Nigeria

Rank	Unicorn Company	Industry	City	Valuation, bn USD
1	FLUTTERWAVE	Financial Services	Lagos	3
2	OPAY	Financial Services	Lagos	3
3	CHIPPER CASH	Financial Services	Lagos	2

Source: CBInsights, Tracker – The Complete List of Unicorn Companies: <https://www.cbinsights.com/research-unicorn-companies>.

7.1.1 Top 15 intangible-asset intensive companies in Nigeria

Rank	Firm	Intensity, %
1	BUA FOODS PLC	89.49
2	BUA CEMENT PLC	73.35
3	TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATION OF NIGERIA PLC	48.76

Source: Brand Finance (<https://brandirectory.com/reports/gift-2024>).

Note: Brand Finance only provides within economy ranks.

Global Innovation Index 2025



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

Rank	Brand	Industry	Brand Value, mn USD
1	ACCESS BANK	Banking	559.2
2	DANGOTE CEMENT	Engineering	370.4
3	GTCO	Banking	328.4

Source: Brand Finance (<https://brandirectory.com>).

Note: Rank corresponds to within economy ranks.

Nigeria

Output rank	Input rank	Income	Region	Population (mn)	GDP, PPP\$ (bn)	GDP per capita, PPP\$
80	127	Lower middle	Sub-Saharan Africa	232.7	1,489.8	6,542.6
			Score / Value Rank			
Institutions				26.7	126	
1.1 Institutional environment				22.4	130	◇
1.1.1 Operational stability for businesses*				22.7	130	○ ◇
1.1.2 Government effectiveness*				22.2	120	
1.2 Regulatory environment				27.9	124	
1.2.1 Regulatory quality*				25.1	124	
1.2.2 Rule of law*				30.7	116	
1.3 Business environment				29.6	[99]	
1.3.1 Policy stability for doing business†				29.6	104	
1.3.2 Entrepreneurship policies and culture†				n/a	n/a	
Human capital and research				14.8	[125]	
2.1 Education				38.1	[113]	
2.1.1 Expenditure on education, % GDP				0.3	136	○ ◇
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				15.3	83	●
2.2 Tertiary education				5.3	[124]	
2.2.1 Tertiary enrolment, % gross				11.3	113	●
2.2.2 Graduates in science and engineering, %				n/a	n/a	
2.2.3 Tertiary inbound mobility, %				n/a	n/a	
2.3 Research and development (R&D)				1.1	103	
2.3.1 Researchers, FTE/mn pop.				22.1	105	○
2.3.2 Gross expenditure on R&D, % GDP				0.3	77	●
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				25.3	126	◇
3.1 Information and communication technologies (ICTs)				44.8	118	
3.1.1 ICT access*				51.6	115	
3.1.2 ICT use*				38.5	117	◇
3.1.3 Government's online service*				44.3	99	
3.2 General infrastructure				19	114	
3.2.1 Electricity output, GWh/mn pop.				189.7	121	
3.2.2 Logistics performance*				22.7	82	
3.2.3 Gross capital formation, % GDP				22.7	82	
3.3 Ecological sustainability				12.2	105	
3.3.1 GDP/unit of energy use				14.4	36	●
3.3.2 Low-carbon energy use, %				3.6	117	
3.3.3 ISO 14001 environment/bn PPP\$ GDP				0.1	128	
Market sophistication				17.4	128	◇
4.1 Credit				3.6	131	
4.1.1 Finance for startups and scaleups†				n/a	n/a	
4.1.2 Domestic credit to private sector, % GDP				13	127	○
4.1.3 Loans from microfinance institutions, % GDP				0.5	46	●
4.2 Investment				5.6	67	
4.2.1 Market capitalization, % GDP				22	58	
4.2.2 Venture capital (VC) received, deal count/bn PPP\$ GDP				0.1	55	●
4.2.3 Late-stage VC deal count, % global VC				0.07	36	●
4.2.4 VC investors, deal count/bn PPP\$ GDP				0.1	62	
4.2.5 VC investor co-participation/bn PPP\$ GDP				0.06	57	
4.3 Trade, diversification and market scale				43.1	121	
4.3.1 Applied tariff rate, weighted avg., %				10.7	130	◇
4.3.2 Domestic industry diversification				n/a	n/a	
4.3.3 Domestic market scale, bn PPP\$				1,489.8	26	●
Business sophistication				31.5	55	
5.1 Knowledge workers				50.8	[27]	
5.1.1 Knowledge-intensive employment, %				38.1	35	●
5.1.2 Females employed w/advanced degrees, %				2.8	103	●
5.1.3 Youth demographic dividend, %				61.4	13	●
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				12.1	123	
5.2.1 Public research-industry co-publications, %				0.9	94	
5.2.2 University-industry R&D collaboration†				10.1	128	○ ◇
5.2.3 University industry & international engagement, top 5*				14.9	77	
5.2.4 State of cluster development†				27.6	113	
5.2.5 Patent families/bn PPP\$ GDP				0.0008	98	
5.3 Knowledge absorption				31.6	48	
5.3.1 Intellectual property payments, % total trade				0.4	79	
5.3.2 High-tech imports, % total trade				20.3	8	●
5.3.3 ICT services imports, % total trade				0.8	98	
5.3.4 FDI net inflows, % GDP				0.4	121	
5.3.5 Research talent, % in businesses				n/a	n/a	
Knowledge and technology outputs				19.8	76	
6.1 Knowledge creation				7.2	98	
6.1.1 Patents by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP				0.4	82	●
6.1.2 PCT patents by inventor origin/bn PPP\$ GDP				0.003	105	
6.1.3 Utility models by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP				-	-	
6.1.4 Scientific and technical articles/bn PPP\$ GDP				3.8	114	
6.1.5 Citable documents H-index				14.4	60	●
6.2 Knowledge impact				49	10	
6.2.1 Labor productivity growth, %				-1.4	123	
6.2.2 Unicorn valuation, % GDP				5.8	1	●
6.2.3 Software spending, % GDP				0.2	63	●
6.2.4 High-tech manufacturing				n/a	n/a	
6.3 Knowledge diffusion				3	134	◇
6.3.1 Intellectual property receipts, % total trade				0	127	○ ◇
6.3.2 Production and export complexity				10.5	127	○ ◇
6.3.3 High-tech exports, % total trade				0.1	127	
6.3.4 ICT services exports, % total trade				0.3	118	
6.3.5 ISO 9001 quality/bn PPP\$ GDP				0.7	117	
Creative outputs				18.3	83	
7.1 Intangible assets				25.4	65	
7.1.1 Intangible asset intensity, top 15, %				49.7	50	
7.1.2 Trademarks by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP				10.1	113	●
7.1.3 Global brand value, top 5,000, % GDP				1.1	57	
7.1.4 Industrial designs by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP				0.9	67	●
7.2 Creative goods and services				1.1	124	
7.2.1 Cultural and creative services exports, % total trade				n/a	n/a	
7.2.2 National feature films/mn pop. 15-69				0.4	85	
7.2.3 Entertainment and media market/th pop. 15-69				1.3	56	
7.2.4 Creative goods exports, % total trade				0.0001	138	○ ◇
7.3 Online creativity				21	94	
7.3.1 Top-level domains (TLDs)/th pop. 15-69				0.5	110	
7.3.2 GitHub commits/mn pop. 15-69				2.7	103	
7.3.3 Mobile app creation/bn PPP\$ GDP				60	84	

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 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 Nigeria.



Nigeria has missing data for fourteen indicators and outdated data for twelve indicators.

Missing data for Nigeria

Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year	Source
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
2.2.2	Graduates in science and engineering, %	n/a	2022	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD
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
4.3.2	Domestic industry diversification	n/a	2022	United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
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
5.3.5	Research talent, % in businesses	n/a	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
6.1.3	Utility models by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP	n/a	2023	World Intellectual Property Organization; International Monetary Fund
6.2.4	High-tech manufacturing	n/a	2022	United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
7.2.1	Cultural and creative services exports, % total trade	n/a	2023	World Trade Organization, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Global Innovation Index 2025



Outdated data for Nigeria

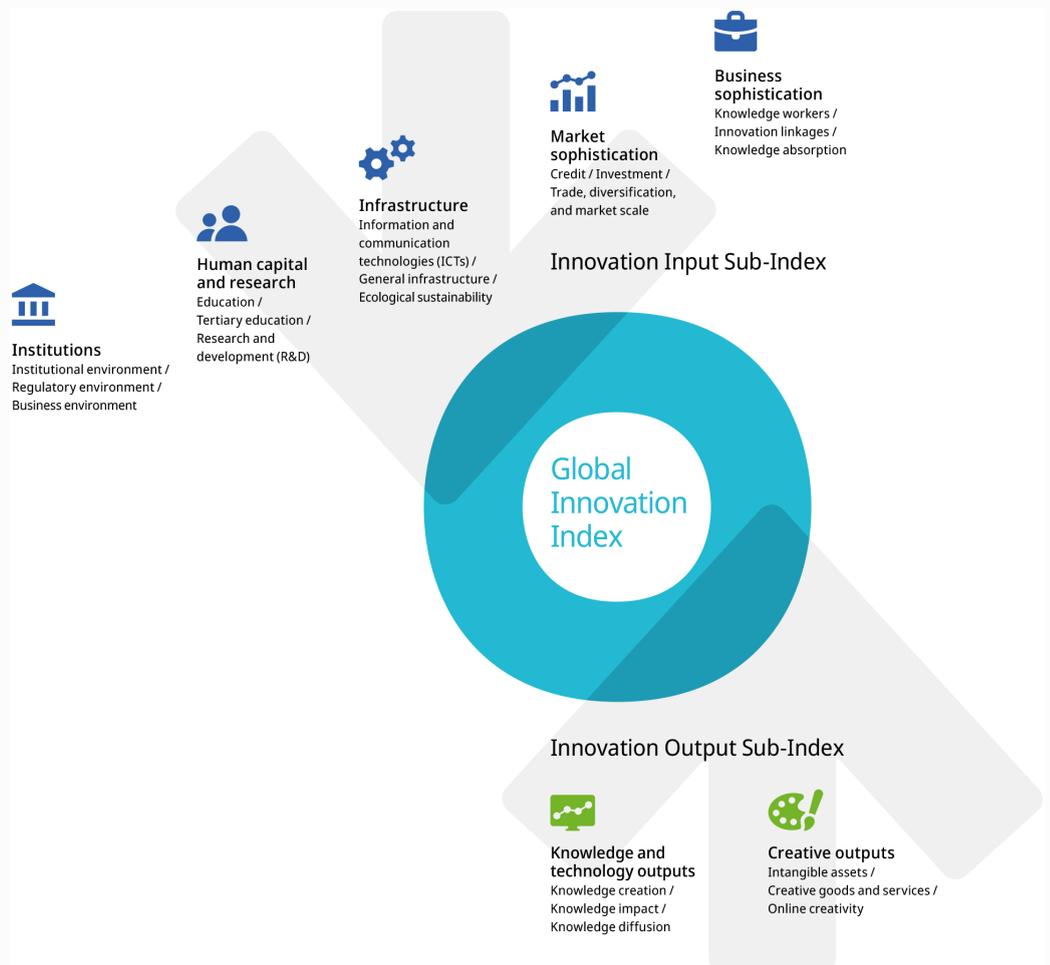
Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year	Source
2.1.1	Expenditure on education, % GDP	2022	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
2.1.5	Pupil-teacher ratio, secondary	2021	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
2.2.1	Tertiary enrolment, % gross	2018	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
2.3.1	Researchers, FTE/mn pop.	2019	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
2.3.2	Gross expenditure on R&D, % GDP	2019	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
4.1.2	Domestic credit to private sector, % GDP	2022	2023	International Monetary Fund; World Bank and OECD GDP estimates
4.1.3	Loans from microfinance institutions, % GDP	2022	2023	International Monetary Fund, Financial Access Survey (FAS)
5.1.1	Knowledge-intensive employment, %	2019	2024	International Labour Organization
5.1.2	Females employed w/advanced degrees, %	2023	2024	International Labour Organization
6.1.1	Patents by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP	2020	2023	World Intellectual Property Organization; International Monetary Fund
7.1.2	Trademarks by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP	2019	2023	World Intellectual Property Organization; International Monetary Fund
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.