



United Arab Emirates ranking in the Global Innovation Index 2026

United Arab Emirates ranks **25th** among the 139 economies featured in the GII 2026.

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.

United Arab Emirates ranks 24th among the 54 High-income group economies.

United Arab Emirates ranks 2nd among the 18 economies in Northern Africa and Western Asia.

> **United Arab Emirates GII Ranking (2020-2026)**

The table shows the rankings of United Arab Emirates over the past seven 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 United Arab Emirates in the GII 2026 is between ranks 24 and 31.

Year	GII Position	Innovation Inputs	Innovation Outputs
2020	34th	22nd	55th
2021	33rd	23rd	47th
2022	31st	18th	52nd
2023	32nd	19th	54th
2024	32nd	19th	50th
2025	30th	14th	47th
2026	25th	12th	42nd

United Arab Emirates performs worse in innovation outputs than innovation inputs in 2026.

This year United Arab Emirates ranks 12th in innovation inputs. This position is higher than last year.

United Arab Emirates ranks 42nd in innovation outputs. This position is higher than last year.

> **World's Top 100 Innovation Clusters**

United Arab Emirates has no clusters in the world's top innovation clusters of the Global Innovation Index.

Global Innovation Index 2026



> Global Innovation Tracker

The Global Innovation Tracker 2026 shows what is the current state of innovation in United Arab Emirates, how rapidly is technology being embraced and what are the resulting societal impacts.



For United Arab Emirates, 9 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	▲ 10.2 % 2024 - 2025	▲ 4 % 2023 - 2024	▼ -17 % 2024 - 2025	▲ 31.7 % 2024 - 2025
Long term (annual growth)	▲ 17.9 % 2015 - 2025	▲ 11.1 % 2014 - 2024	▲ 7.1 % 2020 - 2025	▲ 10.9 % 2015 - 2025

Technology adoption

	Safe sanitation	Connectivity		Robots	Electric vehicles
		Fixed broadband	5G		
Short term	0% 2023 - 2024	▲ 14.1% 2023 - 2024	▲ 0.5% 2023 - 2024	▲ 13.2% 2023 - 2024	▲ 25% 2024 - 2025
Long term (annual growth)	0% 2014 - 2024	▲ 15.2% 2014 - 2024	n/a	▲ 27.2% 2014 - 2024	▲ 59.3% 2015 - 2025
Penetration	98.4 per 100 inhabitants in 2024	40.8 per 100 inhabitants in 2024	99.5 per 100 inhabitants in 2024	n/a	3 per 100 cars in 2025

Socioeconomic impact

	Labor productivity	Life expectancy	Temperature change
Short term	▲ 2.5 % 2024 - 2025	▲ 0.2 % 2023 - 2024	+ 1.5 °C 2025
Long term (annual growth)	▲ 0.3 % 2015 - 2025	▲ 0.1 % 2014 - 2024	+ 1.7 °C 2015
Level	138,179.3 USD in 2025	83.1 years in 2024	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.



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.



United Arab Emirates is an Innovation leader, ranking in the top 25 of the GII.

> Innovation overperformers relative to their economic development





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.



United Arab Emirates produces less innovation outputs relative to its level of innovation investments.

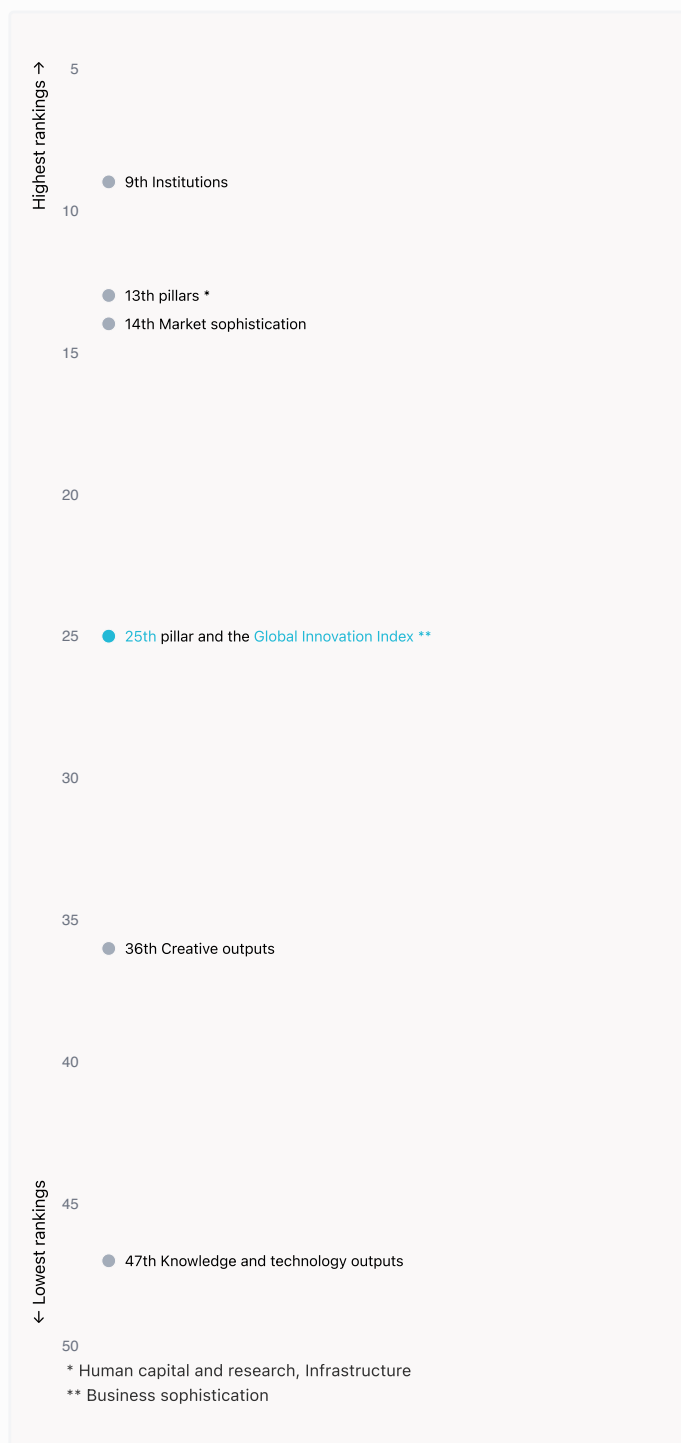
> Relationship between innovation inputs and outputs





Overview of United Arab Emirates's rankings in the seven areas of the GII in 2026

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



Highest Rankings

United Arab Emirates ranks highest in Institutions (9th), Human capital and research, Infrastructure (13th) and Market sophistication (14th).



Lowest Rankings

United Arab Emirates ranks lowest in Knowledge and technology outputs (47th), Creative outputs (36th) and Business sophistication, GII Index (25th).



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

Global Innovation Index 2026



Benchmark of United Arab Emirates against other economy groupings for each of the seven areas of the GII Index



High-income economies

United Arab Emirates performs above the High-income group average in Institutions, Human capital and research, Infrastructure, Market sophistication, Business sophistication.



Northern Africa and Western Asia

United Arab Emirates performs above the regional average in all pillars.

Institutions

United Arab Emirates | Score: 80.23

Top 10 | Score: 78.28

High-income | Score: 66.62

NAWA | Score: 54.89

Human capital and research

Top 10 | Score: 60.87

United Arab Emirates | Score: 57.86

High-income | Score: 47.25

NAWA | Score: 36.97

Infrastructure

Top 10 | Score: 63.75

United Arab Emirates | Score: 62.16

High-income | Score: 57.21

NAWA | Score: 47.40

Market sophistication

Top 10 | Score: 63.92

United Arab Emirates | Score: 59.06

High-income | Score: 47.93

NAWA | Score: 39.73

Business sophistication

Top 10 | Score: 60.02

United Arab Emirates | Score: 45.03

High-income | Score: 42.52

NAWA | Score: 30.04

Knowledge and technology outputs

Top 10 | Score: 55.83

High-income | Score: 34.48

United Arab Emirates | Score: 26.94

NAWA | Score: 24.00

Creative outputs

Top 10 | Score: 55.45

High-income | Score: 38.33

United Arab Emirates | Score: 36.80

NAWA | Score: 26.44



Innovation strengths and weaknesses in United Arab Emirates

The table below gives an overview of the indicator strengths and weaknesses of United Arab Emirates in the GII 2026.



United Arab Emirates's best-ranked innovation strengths are **Entrepreneurship policies and culture⁺** (rank 1), **Tertiary inbound mobility, %** (rank 1) and **Finance for startups and scaleups⁺** (rank 1).

Strengths

Rank	Code	Indicator name
1	1.3.2	Entrepreneurship policies and culture ⁺
1	2.2.3	Tertiary inbound mobility, %
1	4.1.1	Finance for startups and scaleups ⁺
1	5.3.5	Greenfield R&D & high-tech FDI
2	5.3.6	Research talent, % in businesses
3	2.2.2	Graduates in science and engineering, %
4	1.3.1	Policy stability for doing business ⁺
5	3.1.1	ICT access*
6	3.1.2	ICT use*
6	7.1.3	Global brand value, top 5,000, % GDP

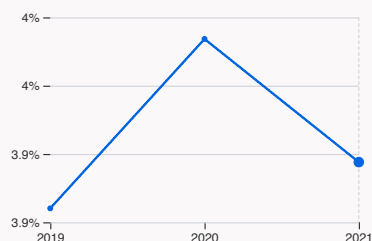
Weaknesses

Rank	Code	Indicator name
73	6.1.3	Utility models by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP
81	3.3.2	Low-carbon energy use, %
82	2.1.1	Expenditure on education, % GDP
82	6.1.1	Patents by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP
88	7.2.2	National feature films/mn pop. 15–69
90	6.2.1	Labor productivity growth, %
96	5.1.3	Youth demographic dividend, %
106	7.1.2	Trademarks by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP
111	7.1.4	Industrial designs by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP
112	3.3.1	GDP/unit of energy use



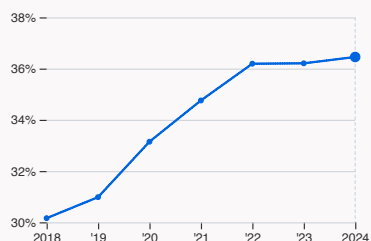
United Arab Emirates's innovation system

› Innovation inputs in United Arab Emirates



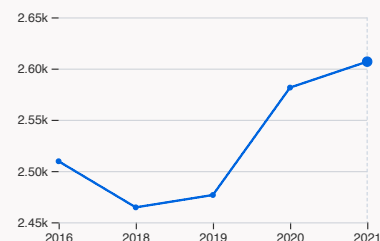
2.1.1 Expenditure on education

was equal to 3.89 % GDP in 2021, down by 0.09 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 82.



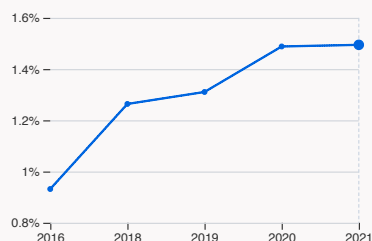
2.2.2 Graduates in science and engineering

was equal to 36.45 % of total graduates in 2024, up by 0.25 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 3.



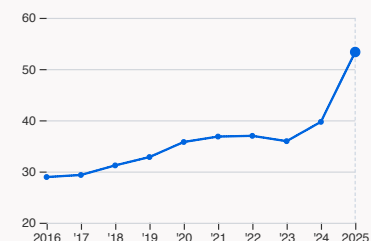
2.3.1 Researchers

was equal to 2606.78 FTE per million population in 2021, up by 0.98% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 37.



2.3.2 Gross expenditure on R&D

was equal to 1.49 % GDP in 2021, up by 0.006 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 28.



2.3.4 QS university ranking

was equal to an average score of 53.33 for the top three universities in 2025, up by 34.33% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 28.



4.3.2 Domestic industry diversification

was equal to an index score of 0.115 in 2023, down by 10.16% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 43.



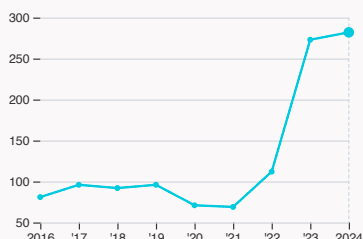
5.1.1 Knowledge-intensive employment

was equal to 33.63 % in 2024, down by 0.24 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 43.

Global Innovation Index 2026

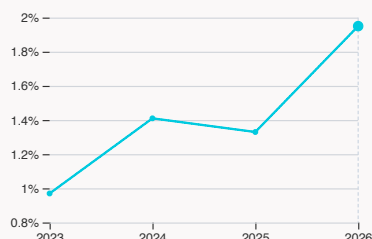


➤ Innovation outputs in United Arab Emirates



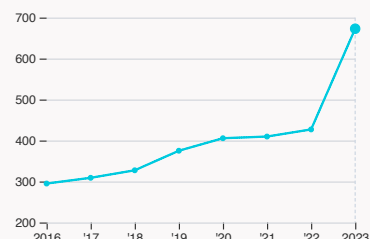
6.1.1 Patents by origin

was equal to 282 patents in 2024, up by 3.3% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 82.



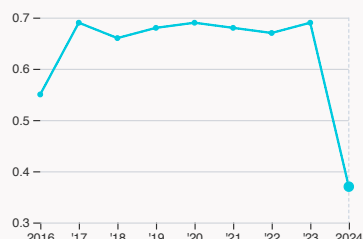
6.2.2 Unicorn valuation

was equal to 1.95 % GDP in 2026, up by 0.62 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 28.



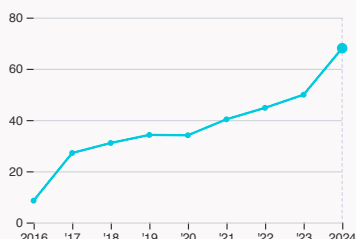
6.2.4 High-tech manufacturing

was equal to 672.79 high-tech manufacturing output in billion USD in 2023, up by 57.53% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 48.



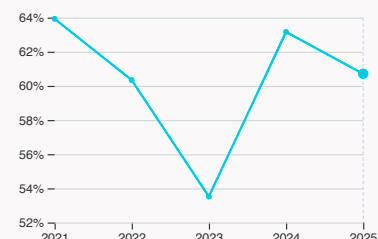
6.3.2 Production and export complexity

was equal to a score of 0.37 in 2024, down by 46.38% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 56.



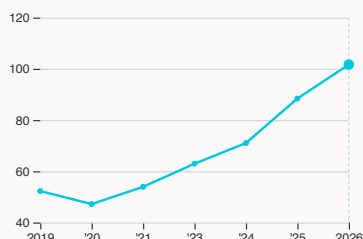
6.3.3 High-tech exports

was equal to 68.05 billion USD in 2024, up by 36.35% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 13.



7.1.1 Intangible asset intensity, top 15

was equal to 60.71 % for the top 15 companies in 2025, down by 2.45 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 30.



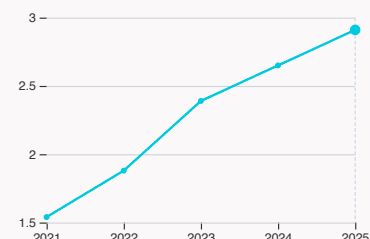
7.1.3 Global brand value, top 5,000

was equal to 101.66 billion USD for the brands in the top 5,000 in 2026, up by 15% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 6.



7.2.2 National feature films

was equal to 5 films in 2024, down by 54.55% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 88.



7.3.3 Mobile app creation

was equal to 2.91 billion global downloads of mobile apps in 2025, up by 9.81% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 7.



United Arab Emirates's innovation top performers

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

2.3.3 Global corporate R&D investors from United Arab Emirates

Rank	Firm	Industry	R&D [mn EUR]	R&D Growth [%]	R&D Intensity [%]
452	MAMOURA DIVERSIFIED GLOBAL P.J.S.C	Financial	477	33.82	3.38

Source: WIPO, based on European Commission's Joint Research Centre (<https://iri.jrc.ec.europa.eu/scoreboard/2025-eu-industrial-rd-investment-scoreboard>) and Orbis database (<https://www.moodys.com/web/en/us/capabilities/company-reference-data/orbis.html>).
Note: Data is based on the 2025 EU Industrial R&D Investment Scoreboard from the European Commission's Joint Research Centre, which ranks the top 2,000 firms by R&D investment annually. For countries not represented in the Scoreboard, companies from Orbis with R&D expenditure above USD 50 million were identified and used to complement the dataset.

2.3.4 QS university ranking of United Arab Emirates's top universities

Rank	University	Score
177	KHALIFA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	58.80
229	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES UNIVERSITY	53.00
272	AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF SHARJAH	48.20

Source: QS Quacquarelli Symonds Ltd (<https://www.topuniversities.com/world-university-rankings>).
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	KHALIFA UNIVERSITY	93.55
2	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES UNIVERSITY	86.90
3	UNIVERSITY OF SHARJAH	71.70

Source: Times Higher Education (THE), World University Rankings 2026 (<https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/2026/world-ranking>).
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 2026 ranking corresponds to data from the academic year that ended in 2023.



5.3.5 Greenfield R&D and high-tech FDI announcements in United Arab Emirates

Rank	Company	Industry	Description
1	Erisha E Mobility	Automotive OEM	Erisha E Mobility, a company that designs, manufactures and supplies electric vehicles and a subsidiary of India-based Rana Group, will open an Erisha smart manufacturing hub in Ras Al Khaimah, United Arab Emirates. The USD 10 billion project will focus on pioneering technologies such as electric and hydrogen vehicle production, renewable energy, electric vertical take-off and landing aircraft and semiconductor manufacturing. The hub will span 1,393,545 m² with an expansive total construction area of approximately 2,322,576 m². The hub will support over 150 industries. It will house a wide range of facilities, including hospitals, medical colleges, shopping complexes, hypermarkets, warehouses, office spaces, community centers, banks and financial institutions. The facility will open in 2030 and will serve the domestic market.
2	Microsoft	Communications	US-based Microsoft, a software firm, has announced it will invest USD 5.5 billion to expand its artificial intelligence and cloud infrastructure in the United Arab Emirates. This investment will take place from the start of 2026 to the end of 2029 and will serve the domestic market. This is part of the company's broader strategy to invest USD 15.2 billion in the United Arab Emirates between 2023 and 2029.
3	Stargate	Communications	Stargate, a joint venture unit of US-based OpenAI and Japan-based Softbank, has announced that it will establish a 1 GW cluster in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. With the first 200 MW phase expected to go live in 2026, the Stargate UAE cluster is part of the company's strategy to launch artificial intelligence infrastructure in the United Arab Emirates. OpenAI is an artificial intelligence research and deployment company that conducts research and implements machine learning.

Source: FT Locations, fDi Markets.

6.2.2 Top Unicorn Companies in United Arab Emirates

Rank	Unicorn Company	Industry	Location	Valuation, bn USD
1	Tabby	Financial Services	Dubai	3.30
2	Vista Global	Industrials	Dubai	2.50
3	Kitopi	Consumer & Retail	Dubai	1.55

Source: CBInsights, Tracker - The Complete list of Unicorns Companies; Africa: The Big Deal; and PitchBook Data, Inc.

Note: The list is based on unicorns as of January 2026, covering nearly 2000 companies worldwide. For African countries, the dataset is supplemented with data from Africa: The Big Deal. PitchBook data is also used as a complementary source to enrich coverage.

7.1.1 Top 15 intangible-asset intensive companies in United Arab Emirates

Rank	Firm	Intensity, %
1	EMIRATES TELECOMMUNICATIONS GROUP COMPANY PJSC	76.92
2	INVEST BANK P.S.C.	98.23
3	FIRST ABU DHABI BANK P.J.S.C.	33.67

Source: Brand Finance (<https://brandirectory.com/reports/global-intangible-finance-tracker-gift/2025>).

Note: Brand Finance only provides within economy ranks.



7.1.3 Top 5,000 companies in United Arab Emirates with highest global brand value

Rank	Brand	Industry	Brand Value, mn USD
1	ADNOC	Oil & Gas	21,132.9
2	e&	Telecoms	16,354.3
3	Emirates	Airlines	10,634.5

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

Note: Rank corresponds to within economy ranks.

GII 2026 SPECIAL THEME

Deep science entrepreneurship in United Arab Emirates

The GII 2026 special theme examines deep science entrepreneurship — startups and spinouts built on scientific and engineering breakthroughs in fields such as advanced materials, energy, genomics, quantum technologies and synthetic biology, which take far longer and far more capital to reach the market than digital ventures do. Drawing on the Dealroom–WIPO Deep Science Startup Tracker, the tables below identify this economy's most valuable venture capital-backed deep science firms and, separately, those that originated in university or public research.

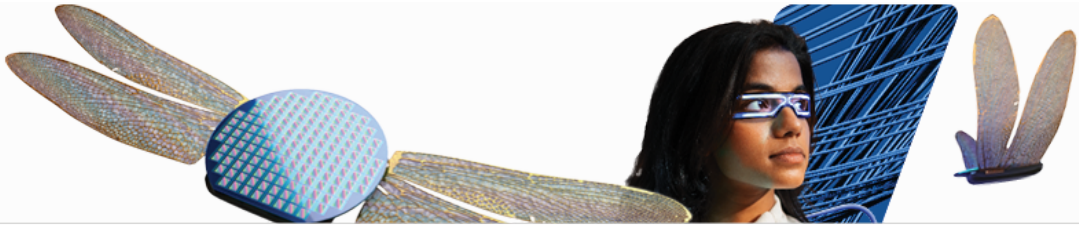
Top deep science startups in United Arab Emirates

Rank	Company	Industry	City	Founded	VC funding raised, mn USD	Valuation, bn USD
1	XPANCEO	Semiconductors	Dubai	2021	290.0	1.35
2	Micropolis Robotics	Transportation	Dubai	2014	7.3	0.14
3	Company Six	Robotics and autonomous systems	Abu Dhabi	2017	14.3	0.04

Source: Dealroom–WIPO Deep Science Startup Tracker (<https://www.wipo.int/en/web/global-innovation-index/2026/deep-science-innovation>).

Output rank	Input rank	Income	Region	Population (mn)	GDP, PPP\$ (bn)	GDP per capita, PPP\$				
42	12	High	Northern Africa and Western Asia	11.3	935.4	84,402.8				
Score / Value			Rank	Score / Value			Rank			
Institutions			80.2	9	Business sophistication			45	25	
1.1 Institutional environment			78.6	21	5.1 Knowledge workers			33.5	77	
1.1.1 Operational stability for businesses*			82.9	22	5.1.1 Knowledge-intensive employment, %			33.6	43	
1.1.2 Government effectiveness*			74.3	21	5.1.2 Females employed w/advanced degrees, %			13.2	66	
1.2 Regulatory environment			69.5	30	5.1.3 Youth demographic dividend, %			28.4	96	
1.2.1 Regulatory quality*			75.1	25	5.1.4 GERD performed by business, % GDP			0.9	30	
1.2.2 Rule of law*			63.9	44	5.1.5 GERD financed by business, %			n/a	n/a	
1.3 Business environment			92.6	2	5.2 Innovation linkages			46.9	27	
1.3.1 Policy stability for doing business†			85.1	4	5.2.1 Public research–industry co-publications, %			1.4	69	
1.3.2 Entrepreneurship policies and culture†			100	1	5.2.2 University–industry R&D collaboration†			57.7	31	
Human capital and research			57.9	13	5.2.3 University industry & international engagement, top 5*			72.2	22	
2.1 Education			56.5	57	5.2.4 State of cluster development†			86	11	
2.1.1 Expenditure on education, % GDP			3.9	82	5.2.5 Patent families/bn PPP\$ GDP			0.2	41	
2.1.2 Government funding/pupil, secondary, % GDP/cap			23.8	21	5.3 Knowledge absorption			54.6	5	
2.1.3 School life expectancy, years			15.8	42	5.3.1 Intellectual property payments, % total trade			0.7	59	
2.1.4 PISA scales in reading, maths and science			426.8	48	5.3.2 High-tech imports, % total trade			18.9	10	
2.1.5 Pupil–teacher ratio, secondary			8.4	13	5.3.3 ICT services imports, % total trade			1.4	75	
2.2 Tertiary education			77.5	1	5.3.4 FDI net inflows, % GDP			6.2	20	
2.2.1 Tertiary enrolment, % gross			63.7	52	5.3.5 Greenfield R&D & high-tech FDI			10.7	1	
2.2.2 Graduates in science and engineering, %			36.5	3	5.3.6 Research talent, % in businesses			78.1	2	
2.2.3 Tertiary inbound mobility, %			65	1	Knowledge and technology outputs			26.9	47	
2.3 Research and development (R&D)			39.6	27	6.1 Knowledge creation			9.5	85	
2.3.1 Researchers, FTE/mn pop.			2,606.8	37	6.1.1 Patents by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP			0.3	82	
2.3.2 Gross expenditure on R&D, % GDP			1.5	28	6.1.2 PCT patents by inventor origin/bn PPP\$ GDP			0.1	51	
2.3.3 Global corporate R&D investors, top 3, mn USD			57.2	26	6.1.3 Utility models by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP			0.009	73	
2.3.4 QS university ranking, top 3*			53.9	28	6.1.4 Scientific and technical articles/bn PPP\$ GDP			12.5	72	
Infrastructure			62.2	13	6.1.5 Citable documents H-index			17.1	50	
3.1 Information and communication technologies (ICTs)			95.6	7	6.2 Knowledge impact			32.1	46	
3.1.1 ICT access*			99.9	5	6.2.1 Labor productivity growth, %			0.9	90	
3.1.2 ICT use*			97	6	6.2.2 Unicorn valuation, % GDP			1.9	28	
3.1.3 Government online service*			89.9	16	6.2.3 Software spending, % GDP			0.3	32	
3.2 General infrastructure			70.3	5	6.2.4 High-tech manufacturing, %			27.4	48	
3.2.1 Electricity output, GWh/mn pop.			15,979.9	7	6.3 Knowledge diffusion			39.2	32	
3.2.2 Aviation import dwell time			1.4	23	6.3.1 Intellectual property receipts, % total trade			1	19	
3.2.3 Logistics performance*			86.4	7	6.3.2 Production and export complexity			74.7	56	
3.2.4 Gross capital formation, % GDP			25.2	50	6.3.3 High-tech exports, % total trade			13.8	13	
3.3 Ecological sustainability			20.5	55	6.3.4 ICT services exports, % total trade			1.7	72	
3.3.1 GDP/unit of energy use			7.5	112	6.3.5 ISO 9001 quality/bn PPP\$ GDP			9.9	22	
3.3.2 Low-carbon energy use, %			9.2	81	Creative outputs			36.8	36	
3.3.3 ISO 14001 environment/bn PPP\$ GDP			5.6	17	7.1 Intangible assets			41.7	30	
Market sophistication			59.1	14	7.1.1 Intangible asset intensity, top 15, %			60.7	30	
4.1 Credit			63.1	8	7.1.2 Trademarks by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP			13.2	106	
4.1.1 Finance for startups and scaleups†			100	1	7.1.3 Global brand value, top 5,000, % GDP			16.9	6	
4.1.2 Domestic credit to private sector, % GDP			65.5	43	7.1.4 Industrial designs by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP			0.1	111	
4.1.3 Loans from microfinance institutions, % GDP			n/a	n/a	7.2 Creative goods and services			28.2	42	
4.2 Investment			35.8	14	7.2.1 Cultural and creative services exports, % total trade			0.3	73	
4.2.1 Market capitalization, % GDP			184	7	7.2.2 National feature films/mn pop. 15–69			0.5	88	
4.2.2 Venture capital (VC) received, deal count/bn PPP\$ GDP			0.3	26	7.2.3 Entertainment and media market/th pop. 15–69			27	26	
4.2.3 Late-stage VC deal count, % global VC			0.08	35	7.2.4 Creative goods exports, % total trade			5.7	9	
4.2.4 VC investors, deal count/bn PPP\$ GDP			0.9	12	7.3 Online creativity			35.6	40	
4.3 Trade, diversification and market scale			78.2	39	7.3.1 Top-level domains (TLDs)/th pop. 15–69			8.8	44	
4.3.1 Applied tariff rate, weighted avg., %			2.7	75	7.3.2 GitHub commits/mn pop. 15–69			16.6	47	
4.3.2 Domestic industry diversification			91.2	43	7.3.3 Mobile app creation/bn PPP\$ GDP			81.6	7	
4.3.3 Domestic market scale, bn PPP\$			935.4	34						

Notes: ● indicates a strength; ○ a weakness; ◆ an income group strength; ◇ an income group weakness; * an index; † a survey question. ● indicates that the economy's data are older than the base year. Square brackets [] indicate that 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. Examine the underlying data further via the [GII Innovation Ecosystems & Data Explorer at https://www.wipo.int/gii-ranking/en](https://www.wipo.int/gii-ranking/en).



Data Availability

The following tables list indicators that are either missing or outdated for United Arab Emirates.



United Arab Emirates has missing data for two indicators and outdated data for ten indicators.

Missing data for United Arab Emirates

Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year*	Source
4.1.3	Loans from microfinance institutions, % GDP	n/a	2024	International Monetary Fund, Financial Access Survey (FAS)
5.1.5	GERD financed by business, %	n/a	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).

Outdated data for United Arab Emirates

Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year*	Source
2.1.1	Expenditure on education, % GDP	2021	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
2.1.2	Government funding/pupil, secondary, % GDP/cap	2021	2022	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
2.3.1	Researchers, FTE/mn pop.	2021	2024	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
2.3.2	Gross expenditure on R&D, % GDP	2021	2024	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
3.2.1	Electricity output, GWh/mn pop.	2023	2024	International Energy Agency
4.1.2	Domestic credit to private sector, % GDP	2022	2024	International Monetary Fund; Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and World Bank.
5.1.1	Knowledge-intensive employment, %	2024	2025	International Labour Organization
5.1.2	Females employed w/advanced degrees, %	2023	2025	International Labour Organization
5.1.4	GERD performed by business, % GDP	2021	2024	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
5.3.6	Research talent, % in businesses	2021	2024	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT

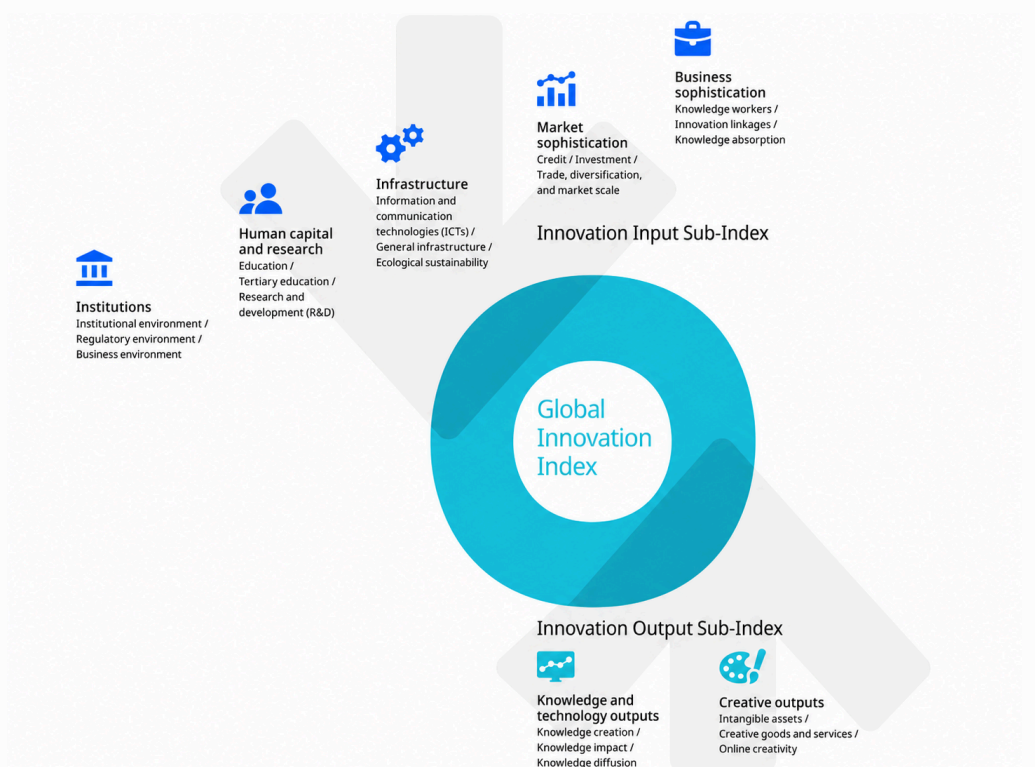
*Model year corresponds to the most frequent data year (the year that appears most often across all economies in the GII).

Global Innovation Index 2026



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.