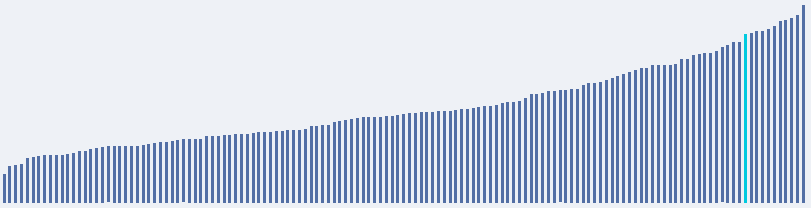
Global Innovation Index 2026



Germany ranking in the Global Innovation Index 2026

Germany ranks 11th 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.



Germany ranks 10th among the 54 High-income group economies.

Germany ranks 7th among the 39 economies in Europe.

Germany GII Ranking (2020-2026)

The table shows the rankings of Germany 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 Germany in the GII 2026 is between ranks 9 and 11.

Year	GII Position	Innovation Inputs	Innovation Outputs
2020	9th	14th	7th
2021	10th	14th	8th
2022	8th	12th	7th
2023	8th	13th	6th
2024	9th	13th	6th
2025	11th	15th	8th
2026	11th	14th	8th

Germany performs better in innovation outputs than innovation inputs in 2026.

This year **Germany ranks 14th in innovation inputs.** This position is higher than last year.

Germany ranks 8th in innovation outputs. This position is the same as last year.

World's Top 100 Innovation Clusters

Germany has 7 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 Germany, how rapidly is technology being embraced and what are the resulting societal impacts.

For Germany, 6 indicators have improved in the short-term and 5 indicators have worsened.

Science and innovation investment

	Scientific publications	R&D investments	Venture capital deal numbers	International patent filings
Short term	▲ 1.7 % 2024 - 2025	▼ -0.4 % 2023 - 2024	▼ -13.2 % 2024 - 2025	▼ -1.8 % 2024 - 2025
Long term (annual growth)	▲ 1.7 % 2015 - 2025	▲ 1.9 % 2014 - 2024	▼ -2.3 % 2020 - 2025	▼ -0.9 % 2015 - 2025

Technology adoption

	Safe sanitation	Connectivity		Robots	Electric vehicles
		Fixed broadband	5G		
Short term	0% 2023 - 2024	▲ 0.5% 2023 - 2024	▲ 2.2% 2023 - 2024	▲ 3.5% 2023 - 2024	▲ 19.2% 2024 - 2025
Long term (annual growth)	0% 2014 - 2024	▲ 2.7% 2014 - 2024	n/a	▲ 4.7% 2014 - 2024	▲ 53% 2015 - 2025
Penetration	96.8 per 100 inhabitants in 2024	45.6 per 100 inhabitants in 2024	98 per 100 inhabitants in 2024	n/a	6 per 100 cars in 2025

Socioeconomic impact

	Labor productivity	Life expectancy	Temperature change
Short term	▲ 0.4 % 2024 - 2025	▼ -0.3 % 2023 - 2024	+ 2.1 °C 2025
Long term (annual growth)	▲ 0.6 % 2015 - 2025	0 % 2014 - 2024	+ 1.7 °C 2015
Level	128,523.9 USD in 2025	80.8 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.

Global Innovation Index 2026

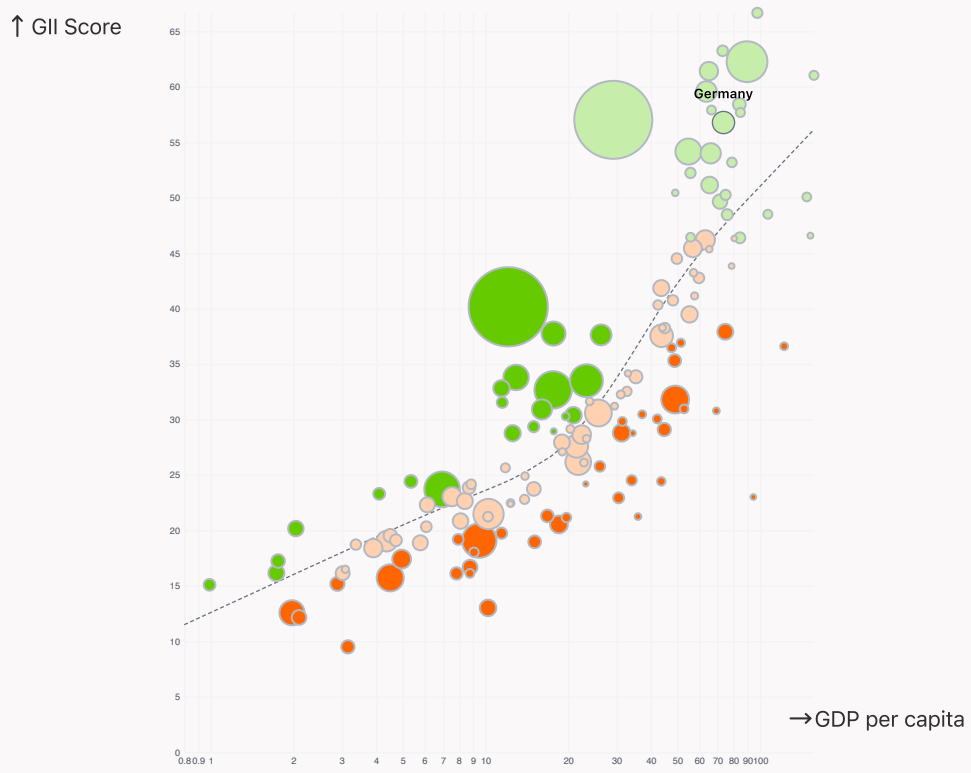


Expected vs. Observed Innovation Performance

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.

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

> Innovation overperformers relative to their economic development



Global Innovation Index 2026



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.

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

> Relationship between innovation inputs and outputs

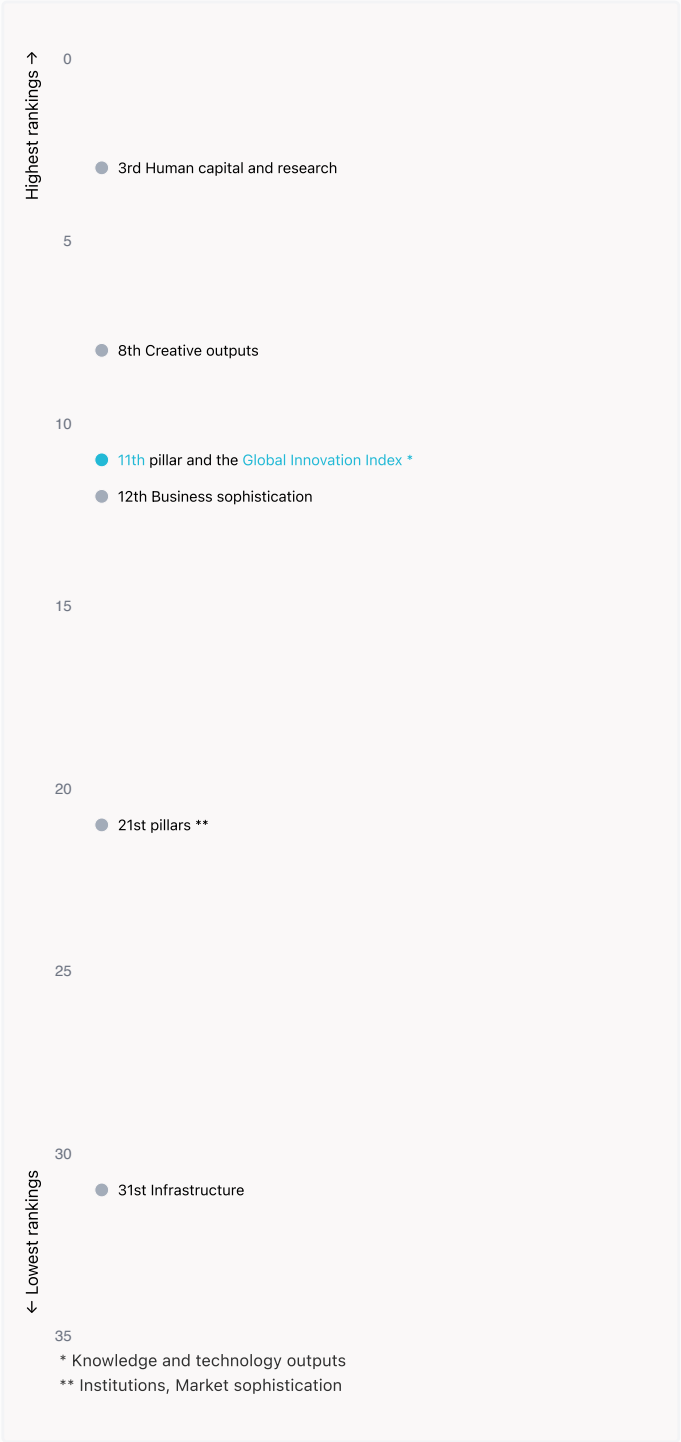


Global Innovation Index 2026



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



Highest Rankings

Germany ranks highest in Human capital and research (3rd), Creative outputs (8th) and Knowledge and technology outputs (11th).

Lowest Rankings

Germany ranks lowest in Infrastructure (31st), Institutions, Market sophistication (21st) and Business sophistication (12th).

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

Global Innovation Index 2026



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

High-income economies

Germany performs above the High-income group average in all pillars.

Europe

Germany performs above the regional average in all pillars.

Institutions

- Top 10 | Score: 78.28
- Germany | Score: 72.73
- High-income | Score: 66.62
- Europe | Score: 60.15

Human capital and research

- Germany | Score: 65.08
- Top 10 | Score: 60.87
- High-income | Score: 47.25
- Europe | Score: 45.82

Infrastructure

- Top 10 | Score: 63.75
- Germany | Score: 57.89
- High-income | Score: 57.21
- Europe | Score: 56.48

Market sophistication

- Top 10 | Score: 63.92
- Germany | Score: 51.60
- High-income | Score: 47.93
- Europe | Score: 45.67

Business sophistication

- Top 10 | Score: 60.02
- Germany | Score: 55.30
- High-income | Score: 42.52
- Europe | Score: 40.95

Knowledge and technology outputs

- Top 10 | Score: 55.83
- Germany | Score: 50.42
- Europe | Score: 35.30
- High-income | Score: 34.48

Creative outputs

- Germany | Score: 55.58
- Top 10 | Score: 55.45
- Europe | Score: 38.51
- High-income | Score: 38.33

Global Innovation Index 2026



Innovation strengths and weaknesses in Germany

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

Germany's best-ranked innovation strengths are **Global corporate R&D investors, top 3, mn USD** (rank 3), **Logistics performance*** (rank 3) and **Citable documents H-index** (rank 3).

Strengths

Rank	Code	Indicator name
3	2.3.3	Global corporate R&D investors, top 3, mn USD
3	3.2.3	Logistics performance*
3	6.1.5	Citable documents H-index
5	2.2.2	Graduates in science and engineering, %
5	6.3.2	Production and export complexity
6	4.3.3	Domestic market scale, bn PPP$
6	5.2.1	Public research–industry co-publications, %
6	6.1.1	Patents by origin/bn PPP$ GDP
6	7.3.1	Top-level domains (TLDs)/th pop. 15–69
7	5.2.5	Patent families/bn PPP$ GDP

Weaknesses

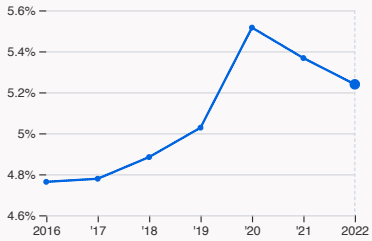
Rank	Code	Indicator name
36	1.3.2	Entrepreneurship policies and culture†
36	4.2.1	Market capitalization, % GDP
50	7.2.2	National feature films/mn pop. 15–69
52	7.3.3	Mobile app creation/bn PPP$ GDP
56	3.3.2	Low-carbon energy use, %
60	3.1.2	ICT use*
87	3.2.4	Gross capital formation, % GDP
94	5.3.4	FDI net inflows, % GDP
105	6.2.1	Labor productivity growth, %
130	5.1.3	Youth demographic dividend, %

Global Innovation Index 2026



Germany's innovation system

Innovation inputs in Germany



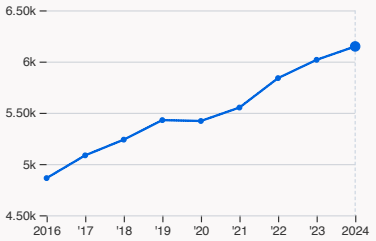
2.1.1 Expenditure on education

was equal to 5.24 % 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 35.76 % of total graduates in 2024, up by 0.27 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 5.



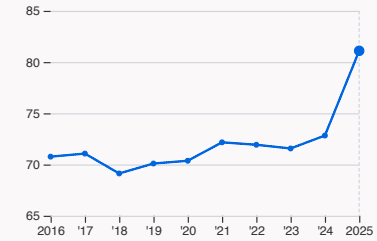
2.3.1 Researchers

was equal to 6148.15 FTE per million population in 2024, up by 2.17% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 11.



2.3.2 Gross expenditure on R&D

was equal to 3.13 % GDP in 2024, up by 0.003 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 9.



2.3.4 QS university ranking

was equal to an average score of 81.1 for the top three universities in 2025, up by 11.36% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 10.



4.3.2 Domestic industry diversification

was equal to an index score of 0.088 in 2023, down by 0.96% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 15.



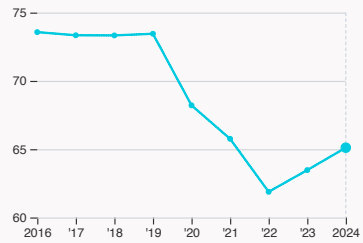
5.1.1 Knowledge-intensive employment

was equal to 47.95 % in 2025, up by 0.4 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 18.

Global Innovation Index 2026

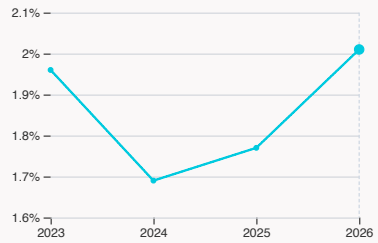


Innovation outputs in Germany



6.1.1 Patents by origin

was equal to 65.11 thousand patents in 2024, up by 2.58% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 6.



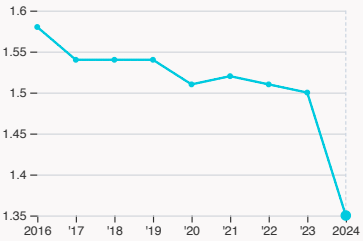
6.2.2 Unicorn valuation

was equal to 2.01 % GDP in 2026, up by 0.24 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 26.



6.2.4 High-tech manufacturing

was equal to 1.27 high-tech manufacturing output in trillion USD in 2023, down by 4.51% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 6.



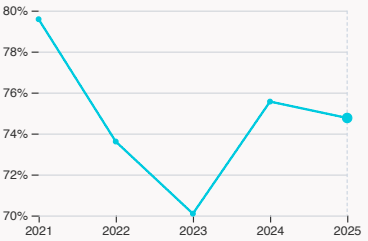
6.3.2 Production and export complexity

was equal to a score of 1.35 in 2024, down by 10% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 5.



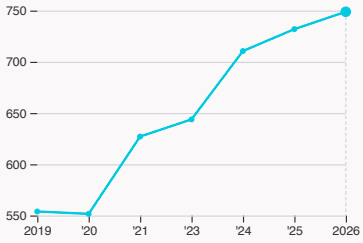
6.3.3 High-tech exports

was equal to 263.5 billion USD in 2024, down by 5.2% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 12.



7.1.1 Intangible asset intensity, top 15

was equal to 74.76 % for the top 15 companies in 2025, down by 0.8 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 10.



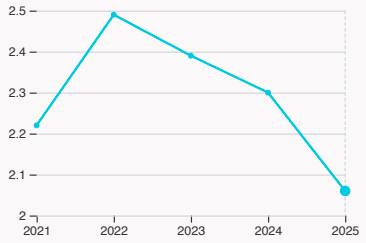
7.1.3 Global brand value, top 5,000

was equal to 748.88 billion USD for the brands in the top 5,000 in 2026, up by 2.32% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 10.



7.2.2 National feature films

was equal to 171 films in 2024, down by 6.56% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 50.



7.3.3 Mobile app creation

was equal to 2.06 billion global downloads of mobile apps in 2025, down by 10.43% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 52.



Germany'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 Germany

Rank	Firm	Industry	R&D [mn EUR]	R&D Growth [%]	R&D Intensity [%]
8	VOLKSWAGEN	Automobiles & Parts	20,998	-3.59	6.47
17	MERCEDES-BENZ	Automobiles & Parts	9,698	-2.83	6.66
21	BAYERISCHE MOTOREN WERKE	Automobiles & Parts	9,078	17.06	6.38
28	ROBERT BOSCH	Automobiles & Parts	7,954	5.16	8.80

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 Germany's top universities

Rank	University	Score
22	TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT MÜNCHEN	90.20
58	LUDWIG-MAXIMILIANS-UNIVERSITÄT MÜNCHEN	80.10
80	RUPRECHT-KARLS-UNIVERSITÄT HEIDELBERG	73.00

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	CONSTRUCTOR UNIVERSITY	93.20
2	TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF MUNICH	91.70
3	LMU MUNICH	89.35

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 Germany

Rank	Company	Industry	Description
1	Google	Communications	Google, a technology company and a subsidiary of US-based Alphabet, has announced it will establish a new data center in Dietzenbach, Germany, as part of its commitment to invest EUR 5.5 billion in Germany between 2026 and 2029.
2	Urenco	Chemicals	UK-based Urenco, a uranium enrichment company, has announced plans to invest EUR 1 billion to expand its site in Gronau, Germany from 2025 to 2035.
3	Oracle	Software & IT services	US-based Oracle, a cloud technology firm that provides computing infrastructure and software, has announced plans to expand its artificial intelligence (AI) infrastructure capacity in Frankfurt, Germany. It forms part of the company's plans to invest USD 2 billion by 2030 to meet the rapidly growing demand for its AI and cloud services in Germany.

Source: FT Locations, fDi Markets.

6.2.2 Top Unicorn Companies in Germany

Rank	Unicorn Company	Industry	Location	Valuation, bn USD
1	Celonis	Enterprise Tech	Munich	13.00
2	N26	Financial Services	Berlin	9.23
3	Personio	Enterprise Tech	Munich	8.50

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 Germany

Rank	Firm	Intensity, %
1	SAP SE	96.09
2	DEUTSCHE TELEKOM AG	70.69
3	SIEMENS AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT	72.68

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 Germany with highest global brand value

Rank	Brand	Industry	Brand Value, mn USD
1	T	Telecoms	96,237.6
2	Allianz Group	Insurance	60,679.3
3	Mercedes-Benz	Automobiles	46,581.7

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

GII 2026 SPECIAL THEME

Deep science entrepreneurship in Germany

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 Germany

Rank	Company	Industry	City	Founded	VC funding raised, mn USD	Valuation, bn USD
1	Helsing	Robotics and autonomous systems	Munich	2021	3,297.7	18.00
2	Quantum Systems	Robotics and autonomous systems	Gilching	2015	1,578.0	7.70
3	Neura Robotics	Robotics and autonomous systems	Metzingen	2019	1,689.0	7.00

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

Top deep science spinouts originated in Germany

Rank	Spinout	Industry	Current Headquarters Location	Founded	VC funding raised, mn USD	Valuation, bn USD
1	Alnylam Pharmaceuticals	Life Sciences	Cambridge	2002	40.1	34.55
2	Quantum Systems	Robotics and autonomous systems	Gilching	2015	1,578.0	7.70
3	BioNTech	Life Sciences	Mainz	2008	1,090.5	6.28

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

Germany

GII 2026 rank **11**

Output rank	Input rank	Income	Region	Population (mn)	GDP, PPP$ (bn)	GDP per capita, PPP$
8	14	High	Europe	84.1	6,153.7	73,553.3

	Score / Value	Rank	
Institutions	**72.7**	**21**	
1.1 Institutional environment	**79.3**	**20**	
1.1.1 Operational stability for businesses*	77	36	
1.1.2 Government effectiveness*	81.5	16	
1.2 Regulatory environment	**87.5**	**12**	
1.2.1 Regulatory quality*	84.3	14	
1.2.2 Rule of law*	90.6	11	
1.3 Business environment	**51.5**	**55**	
1.3.1 Policy stability for doing business†	59	42	
1.3.2 Entrepreneurship policies and culture†	43.9	36	○
Human capital and research	**65.1**	**3**	◆
2.1 Education	**69.7**	**11**	
2.1.1 Expenditure on education, % GDP	5.2	36	
2.1.2 Government funding/pupil, secondary, % GDP/cap	n/a	n/a	
2.1.3 School life expectancy, years	17.3	21	
2.1.4 PISA scales in reading, maths and science	482.3	23	
2.1.5 Pupil–teacher ratio, secondary	11.3	46	
2.2 Tertiary education	**56.7**	**6**	
2.2.1 Tertiary enrolment, % gross	76.7	34	
2.2.2 Graduates in science and engineering, %	35.8	5	●◆
2.2.3 Tertiary inbound mobility, %	13.4	22	
2.3 Research and development (R&D)	**68.8**	**5**	
2.3.1 Researchers, FTE/mn pop.	6,148.1	11	
2.3.2 Gross expenditure on R&D, % GDP	3.1	9	
2.3.3 Global corporate R&D investors, top 3, mn USD	87.6	3	●◆
2.3.4 QS university ranking, top 3*	82	10	
Infrastructure	**57.9**	**31**	
3.1 Information and communication technologies (ICTs)	**90.1**	**28**	
3.1.1 ICT access*	96.8	39	
3.1.2 ICT use*	82.7	60	○◇
3.1.3 Government online service*	90.8	12	
3.2 General infrastructure	**58.7**	**24**	
3.2.1 Electricity output, GWh/mn pop.	5,946.4	34	
3.2.2 Aviation import dwell time	1.4	23	
3.2.3 Logistics performance*	90.9	3	●◆
3.2.4 Gross capital formation, % GDP	21.6	87	○
3.3 Ecological sustainability	**24.8**	**43**	
3.3.1 GDP/unit of energy use	21.6	18	
3.3.2 Low-carbon energy use, %	14.7	56	○
3.3.3 ISO 14001 environment/bn PPP$ GDP	1.7	52	
Market sophistication	**51.6**	**21**	
4.1 Credit	**47.3**	**29**	
4.1.1 Finance for startups and scaleups†	63	29	
4.1.2 Domestic credit to private sector, % GDP	77.3	34	
4.1.3 Loans from microfinance institutions, % GDP	n/a	n/a	
4.2 Investment	**18**	**35**	◇
4.2.1 Market capitalization, % GDP	45.5	36	○
4.2.2 Venture capital (VC) received, deal count/bn PPP$ GDP	0.2	36	◇
4.2.3 Late-stage VC deal count, % global VC	0.7	9	
4.2.4 VC investors, deal count/bn PPP$ GDP	0.3	32	
4.3 Trade, diversification and market scale	**89.5**	**4**	◆
4.3.1 Applied tariff rate, weighted avg., %	1.3	20	
4.3.2 Domestic industry diversification	96.1	15	
4.3.3 Domestic market scale, bn PPP$	6,153.7	6	●◆

	Score / Value	Rank	
Business sophistication	**55.3**	**12**	
5.1 Knowledge workers	**53.6**	**21**	
5.1.1 Knowledge-intensive employment, %	47.9	18	
5.1.2 Females employed w/advanced degrees, %	17.2	44	◇
5.1.3 Youth demographic dividend, %	23.4	130	○
5.1.4 GERD performed by business, % GDP	2.1	10	
5.1.5 GERD financed by business, %	62.6	8	
5.2 Innovation linkages	**68.8**	**8**	
5.2.1 Public research–industry co-publications, %	6.3	6	●
5.2.2 University–industry R&D collaboration†	65.7	16	
5.2.3 University industry & international engagement, top 5*	89.6	11	
5.2.4 State of cluster development†	77.1	22	
5.2.5 Patent families/bn PPP$ GDP	3.9	7	●
5.3 Knowledge absorption	**43.5**	**15**	
5.3.1 Intellectual property payments, % total trade	1.3	29	
5.3.2 High-tech imports, % total trade	12.2	24	
5.3.3 ICT services imports, % total trade	3.5	15	
5.3.4 FDI net inflows, % GDP	1.6	94	○
5.3.5 Greenfield R&D & high-tech FDI	2.9	22	
5.3.6 Research talent, % in businesses	63	12	
Knowledge and technology outputs	**50.4**	**11**	
6.1 Knowledge creation	**57.9**	**7**	
6.1.1 Patents by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	10.9	6	●
6.1.2 PCT patents by inventor origin/bn PPP$ GDP	2.6	8	
6.1.3 Utility models by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	0.9	21	
6.1.4 Scientific and technical articles/bn PPP$ GDP	19.3	43	
6.1.5 Citable documents H-index	87.6	3	●◆
6.2 Knowledge impact	**43.1**	**16**	
6.2.1 Labor productivity growth, %	0.5	105	○
6.2.2 Unicorn valuation, % GDP	2	26	
6.2.3 Software spending, % GDP	0.5	22	
6.2.4 High-tech manufacturing, %	57.1	6	
6.3 Knowledge diffusion	**50.3**	**16**	
6.3.1 Intellectual property receipts, % total trade	2.6	9	
6.3.2 Production and export complexity	93.6	5	●
6.3.3 High-tech exports, % total trade	14.2	12	
6.3.4 ICT services exports, % total trade	2.9	48	
6.3.5 ISO 9001 quality/bn PPP$ GDP	7.7	31	
Creative outputs	**55.6**	**8**	
7.1 Intangible assets	**62**	**5**	
7.1.1 Intangible asset intensity, top 15, %	74.8	10	
7.1.2 Trademarks by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	46.5	39	
7.1.3 Global brand value, top 5,000, % GDP	14.1	10	
7.1.4 Industrial designs by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	7.7	7	◆
7.2 Creative goods and services	**33.3**	**27**	
7.2.1 Cultural and creative services exports, % total trade	1.3	28	
7.2.2 National feature films/mn pop. 15–69	2.9	50	○
7.2.3 Entertainment and media market/th pop. 15–69	51.4	10	
7.2.4 Creative goods exports, % total trade	2	25	
7.3 Online creativity	**65.1**	**9**	
7.3.1 Top-level domains (TLDs)/th pop. 15–69	65.9	6	●
7.3.2 GitHub commits/mn pop. 15–69	59.3	13	
7.3.3 Mobile app creation/bn PPP$ GDP	69.9	52	○

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.



Data Availability

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

Germany has missing data for two indicators and outdated data for three indicators.

Missing data for Germany

Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year*	Source
2.1.2	Government funding/pupil, secondary, % GDP/cap	n/a	2022	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
4.1.3	Loans from microfinance institutions, % GDP	n/a	2024	International Monetary Fund, Financial Access Survey (FAS)

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

Outdated data for Germany

Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year*	Source
2.1.1	Expenditure on education, % GDP	2022	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
4.1.2	Domestic credit to private sector, % GDP	2023	2024	International Monetary Fund; Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and World Bank.
5.3.5	Greenfield R&D & high-tech FDI	2024	2025	FT Locations, fDi Markets; International Monetary Fund

*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



Top innovation clusters in Germany

Germany has 7 clusters in the world's top innovation clusters of the Global Innovation Index

The table and map below give an overview of the top innovation clusters in Germany.

Rank	Cluster name	Top patent field	Top academic subject
28	Munich	Digital communication	Physics & math
31	Berlin	Medical technology	Technology
46	Cologne	Basic materials chemistry	Chemistry
54	Stuttgart	Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	Chemistry
67	Frankfurt am Main	Digital communication	Physics & math

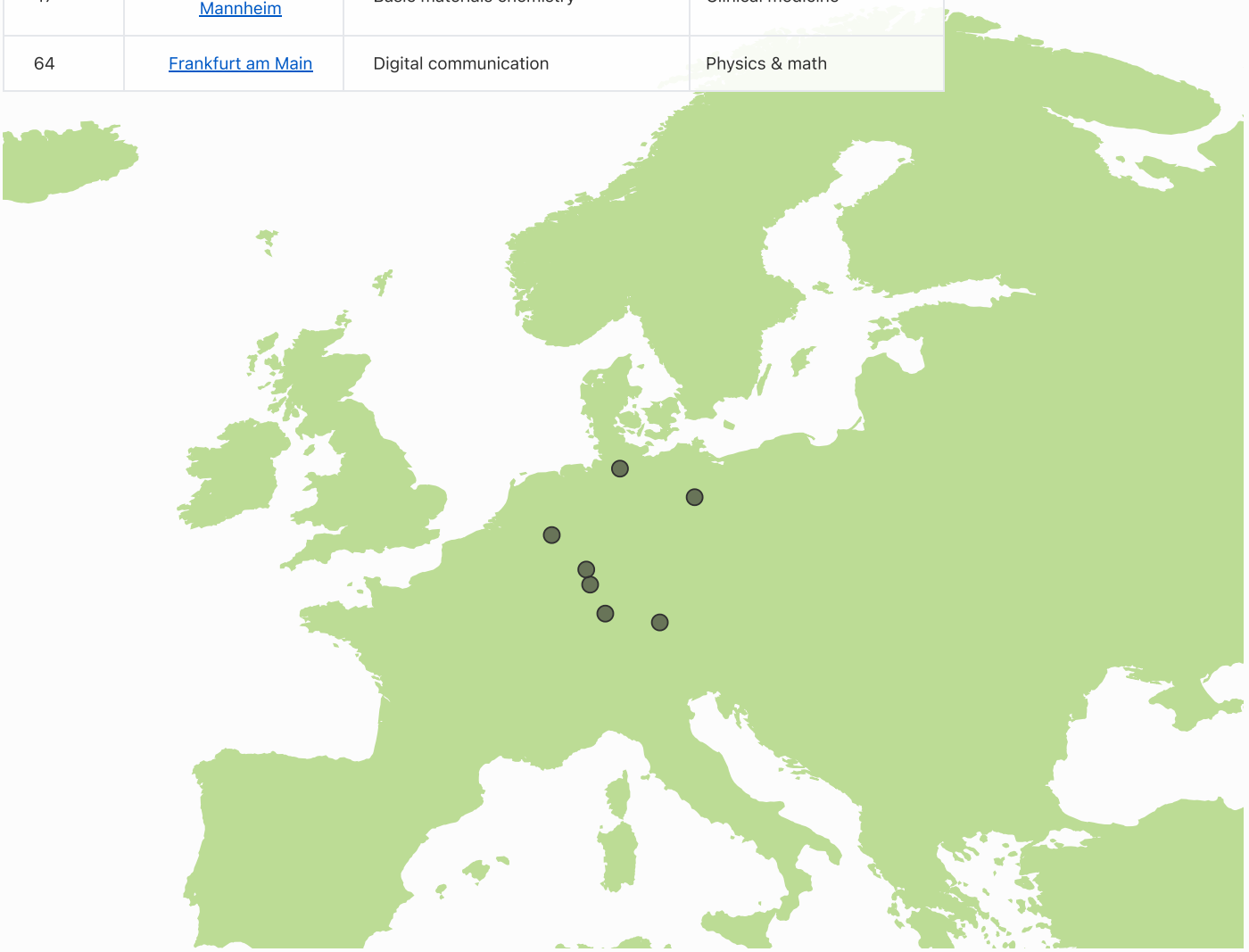


Global Innovation Index 2026



The table and map below give an overview by intensity of the top innovation clusters in Germany.

Rank	Cluster name	Top patent field	Top academic subject
15	Munich	Digital communication	Physics & math
31	Berlin	Medical technology	Technology
38	Stuttgart	Electrical machinery, apparatus, energy	Chemistry
47	Heidelberg–Mannheim	Basic materials chemistry	Clinical medicine
64	Frankfurt am Main	Digital communication	Physics & math

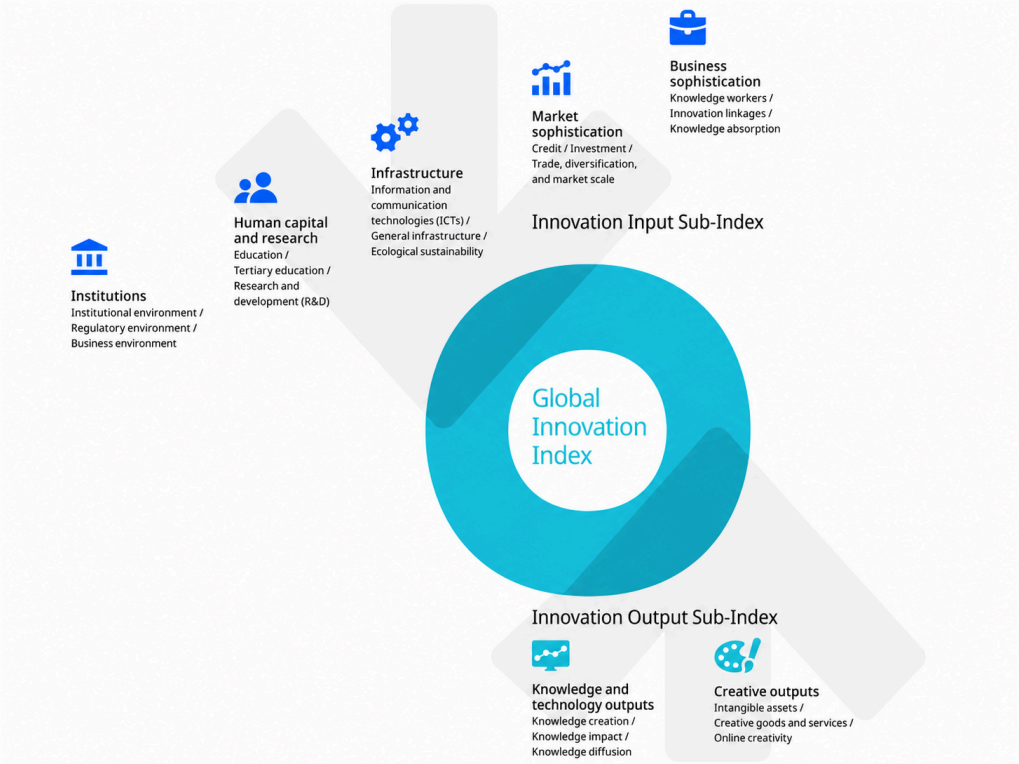


Global Innovation Index 2026



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.