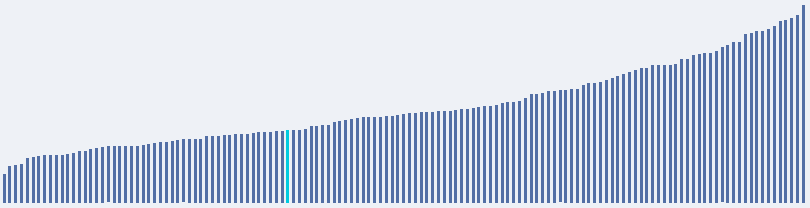
Global Innovation Index 2026



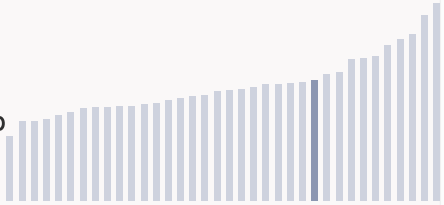
Senegal ranking in the Global Innovation Index 2026

Senegal ranks 90th 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.



Senegal ranks 11th among the 36 Lower middle-income group economies.



Senegal ranks 4th among the 31 economies in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Senegal GII Ranking (2020-2026)

The table shows the rankings of Senegal 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 Senegal in the GII 2026 is between ranks 88 and 96.

Year	GII Position	Innovation Inputs	Innovation Outputs
2020	102nd	102nd	84th
2021	105th	105th	102nd
2022	99th	93rd	105th
2023	93rd	95th	93rd
2024	92nd	90th	95th
2025	89th	82nd	97th
2026	90th	82nd	99th

World's Top 100 Innovation Clusters

Senegal has no clusters in the world's top innovation clusters of the Global Innovation Index.

Senegal performs worse in innovation outputs than innovation inputs in 2026.

This year **Senegal ranks 82nd in innovation inputs.** This position is the same as last year.

Senegal ranks 99th in innovation outputs. This position is lower than last year.

Global Innovation Index 2026



> Global Innovation Tracker

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

For Senegal, 7 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	▲ 3.9 % 2024 - 2025	▲ 6.1 % 2023 - 2024	▼ -33.3 % 2024 - 2025	▲ 200 % 2024 - 2025
Long term (annual growth)	▲ 4.7 % 2015 - 2025	▲ 8.3 % 2014 - 2024	▼ -1.9 % 2020 - 2025	▼ -15.4 % 2015 - 2025

Technology adoption

	Safe sanitation	Connectivity		Robots	Electric vehicles
		Fixed broadband	5G		
Short term	▲ 3.1% 2023 - 2024	▲ 44% 2022 - 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a
Long term (annual growth)	▲ 3.3% 2014 - 2024	▲ 12.8% 2013 - 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a
Penetration	30.1 per 100 inhabitants in 2024	2 per 100 inhabitants in 2023	n/a	n/a	n/a

Socioeconomic impact

	Labor productivity	Life expectancy	Temperature change
Short term	▲ 4.3 % 2024 - 2025	▲ 0.4 % 2023 - 2024	+ 1.5 °C 2025
Long term (annual growth)	▼ -0.8 % 2015 - 2025	▲ 0.4 % 2014 - 2024	+ 1.3 °C 2015
Level	16,855.4 USD in 2025	68.9 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

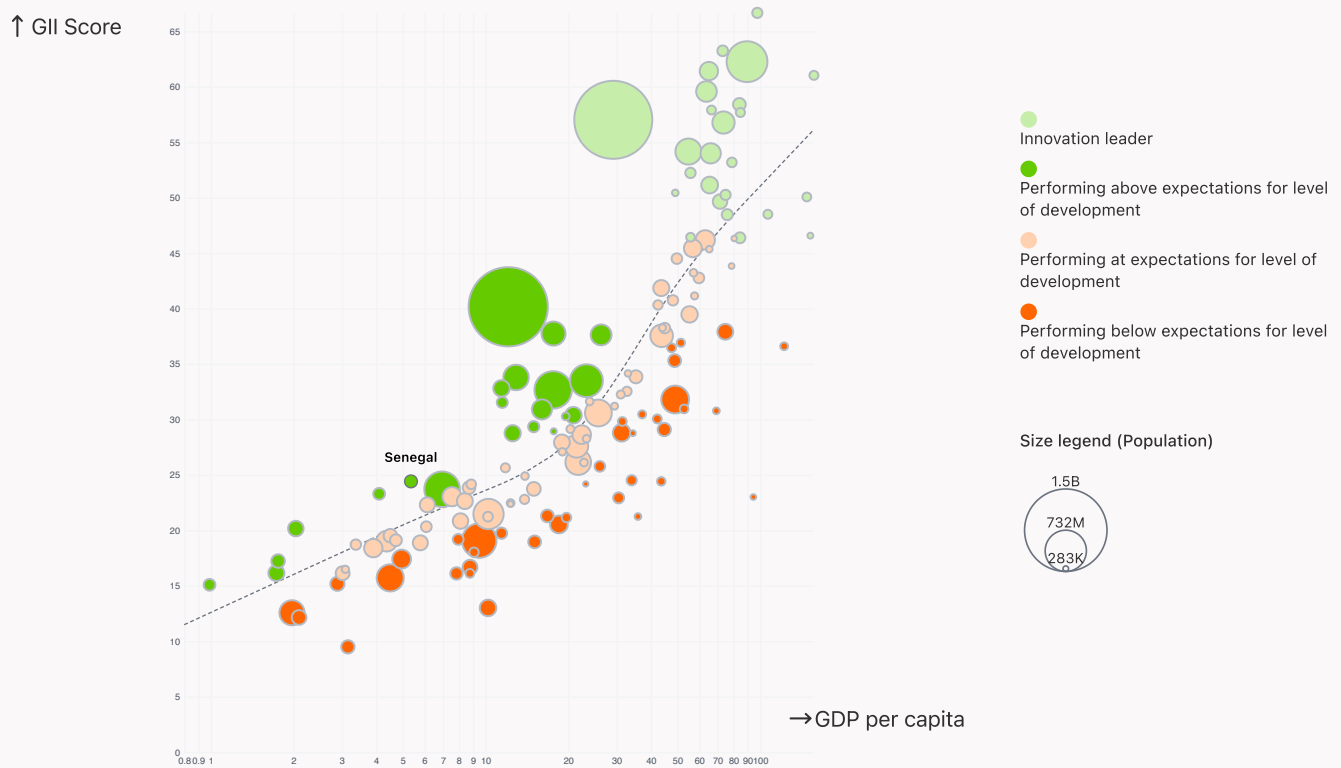


Expected vs. Observed Innovation Performance

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.

Relative to GDP Senegal performs above expectations for its level of development.

> 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.

Senegal produces less innovation outputs relative to its level of innovation investments.

> Relationship between innovation inputs and outputs

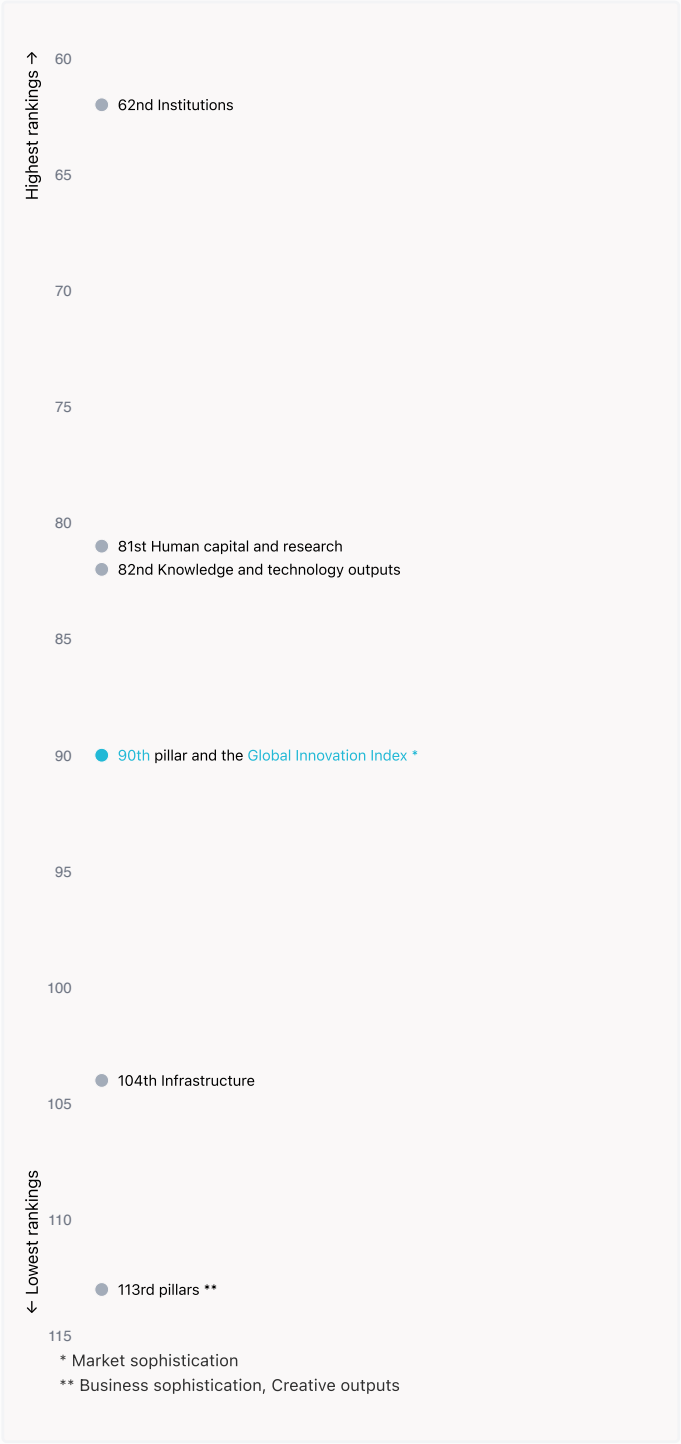


Global Innovation Index 2026



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



Highest Rankings

Senegal ranks highest in Institutions (62nd), Human capital and research (81st) and Knowledge and technology outputs (82nd).

Lowest Rankings

Senegal ranks lowest in Business sophistication, Creative outputs (113rd), Infrastructure (104th) and Market sophistication, GII Index (90th).

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

Global Innovation Index 2026



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

Lower middle-income economies

Senegal performs above the Lower middle-income group average in Institutions, Human capital and research, Market sophistication, Knowledge and technology outputs.

Sub-Saharan Africa

Senegal performs above the regional average in Institutions, Human capital and research, Infrastructure, Market sophistication, Knowledge and technology outputs.

Institutions

- Top 10 | Score: 78.28
- Senegal | Score: 52.87
- Lower middle-income | Score: 39.43
- Sub-Saharan Africa | Score: 39.32

Human capital and research

- Top 10 | Score: 60.87
- Senegal | Score: 30.89
- Lower middle-income | Score: 24.06
- Sub-Saharan Africa | Score: 19.47

Infrastructure

- Top 10 | Score: 63.75
- Lower middle-income | Score: 35.49
- Senegal | Score: 34.10
- Sub-Saharan Africa | Score: 27.81

Market sophistication

- Top 10 | Score: 63.92
- Senegal | Score: 32.12
- Lower middle-income | Score: 29.66
- Sub-Saharan Africa | Score: 22.67

Business sophistication

- Top 10 | Score: 60.02
- Lower middle-income | Score: 23.29
- Sub-Saharan Africa | Score: 22.38
- Senegal | Score: 20.81

Knowledge and technology outputs

- Top 10 | Score: 55.83
- Senegal | Score: 18.29
- Lower middle-income | Score: 16.59
- Sub-Saharan Africa | Score: 12.13

Creative outputs

- Top 10 | Score: 55.45
- Lower middle-income | Score: 16.00
- Sub-Saharan Africa | Score: 12.01
- Senegal | Score: 11.01

Global Innovation Index 2026



Innovation strengths and weaknesses in Senegal

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

Senegal's best-ranked innovation strengths are **Tertiary inbound mobility, %** (rank 6), **Gross capital formation, % GDP** (rank 6) and **Government funding/pupil, secondary, % GDP/cap** (rank 8).

Strengths

Rank	Code	Indicator name
6	2.2.3	Tertiary inbound mobility, %
6	3.2.4	Gross capital formation, % GDP
8	2.1.2	Government funding/pupil, secondary, % GDP/cap
8	5.3.4	FDI net inflows, % GDP
10	4.1.3	Loans from microfinance institutions, % GDP
11	6.2.2	Unicorn valuation, % GDP
16	2.1.1	Expenditure on education, % GDP
22	5.1.3	Youth demographic dividend, %
36	1.3.1	Policy stability for doing business†

Weaknesses

Rank	Code	Indicator name
46	2.3.3	Global corporate R&D investors, top 3, mn USD
77	6.1.3	Utility models by origin/bn PPP$ GDP
81	2.3.4	QS university ranking, top 3*
110	2.1.3	School life expectancy, years
116	5.1.1	Knowledge-intensive employment, %
116	5.1.2	Females employed w/advanced degrees, %
119	7.1.2	Trademarks by origin/bn PPP$ GDP
120	4.3.1	Applied tariff rate, weighted avg., %
122	5.3.1	Intellectual property payments, % total trade
132	5.2.1	Public research–industry co-publications, %

Global Innovation Index 2026



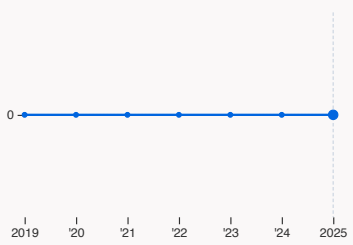
Senegal's innovation system

Innovation inputs in Senegal



2.1.1 Expenditure on education

was equal to 6.16 % GDP in 2023, up by 0.21 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 16.



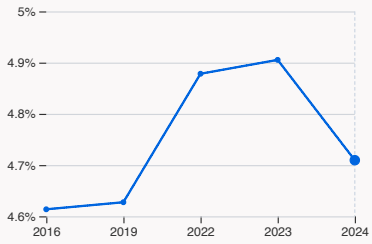
2.3.4 QS university ranking

The country does not have any universities in the QS world universities ranking in 2025.



4.3.2 Domestic industry diversification

was equal to an index score of 0.196 in 2023, down by 1.66% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 75.



5.1.1 Knowledge-intensive employment

was equal to 4.71 % in 2024, down by 0.2 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 116.

Global Innovation Index 2026

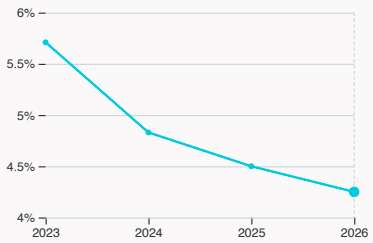


Innovation outputs in Senegal



6.1.1 Patents by origin

was equal to 15 patents in 2024, down by 28.57% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 101.



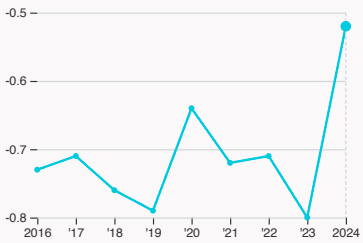
6.2.2 Unicorn valuation

was equal to 4.25 % GDP in 2026, down by 0.25 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 11.



6.2.4 High-tech manufacturing

was equal to 404.52 high-tech manufacturing output in trillion USD in 2023, down by 27.67% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 71.



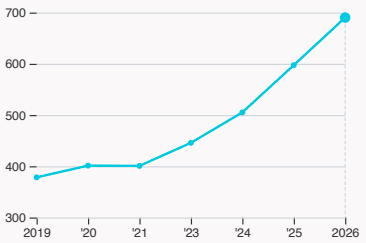
6.3.2 Production and export complexity

was equal to a score of -0.52 in 2024, up by 35% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 96.



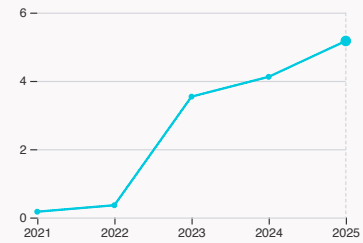
6.3.3 High-tech exports

was equal to 48.59 million USD in 2024, up by 104.68% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 100.



7.1.3 Global brand value, top 5,000

was equal to 690.32 million USD for the brands in the top 5,000 in 2026, up by 15.57% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 49.



7.3.3 Mobile app creation

was equal to 5.17 million global downloads of mobile apps in 2025, up by 25.49% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 110.



Senegal'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.

Data not available for 2.3.3 Global corporate R&D investors, 2.3.4 QS university ranking of top universities, 5.3.5 Greenfield R&D and high-tech FDI and 7.1.1 Top 15 intangible-asset intensive companies.

5.2.3 University industry and international engagement, top 5 universities

Rank	University	Score
1	UNIVERSITE CHEIKH ANTA DIOP DE DAKAR (UCAD)	38.05

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.

6.2.2 Top Unicorn Companies in Senegal

Rank	Unicorn Company	Industry	Location	Valuation, bn USD
1	Wave	Financial Services	Dakar	1.70

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.

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

Rank	Brand	Industry	Brand Value, mn USD
1	Sonatel	Telecoms	690.3

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

Senegal

GII 2026 rank **90**

Output rank	Input rank	Income	Region	Population (mn)	GDP, PPP$ (bn)	GDP per capita, PPP$
99	82	Lower middle	Sub-Saharan Africa	18.9	102.7	5,354.7

	Score / Value	Rank	
Institutions	**52.9**	**62**	◆
1.1 Institutional environment	**57.2**	**66**	◆
1.1.1 Operational stability for businesses*	65.8	65	
1.1.2 Government effectiveness*	48.5	64	◆
1.2 Regulatory environment	**44.2**	**80**	
1.2.1 Regulatory quality*	41.2	90	
1.2.2 Rule of law*	47.3	73	
1.3 Business environment	**57.2**	**42**	
1.3.1 Policy stability for doing business†	64	36	●◆
1.3.2 Entrepreneurship policies and culture†	50.4	25	
Human capital and research	**30.9**	**81**	
2.1 Education	**52.9**	**72**	
2.1.1 Expenditure on education, % GDP	6.2	16	●◆
2.1.2 Government funding/pupil, secondary, % GDP/cap	31.7	8	●◆
2.1.3 School life expectancy, years	9.1	110	○◇
2.1.4 PISA scales in reading, maths and science	n/a	n/a	
2.1.5 Pupil–teacher ratio, secondary	23	109	
2.2 Tertiary education	**39.7**	**42**	◆
2.2.1 Tertiary enrolment, % gross	15.3	109	
2.2.2 Graduates in science and engineering, %	n/a	n/a	
2.2.3 Tertiary inbound mobility, %	29.9	6	●◆
2.3 Research and development (R&D)	**0**	**[122]**	
2.3.1 Researchers, FTE/mn pop.	n/a	n/a	
2.3.2 Gross expenditure on R&D, % GDP	n/a	n/a	
2.3.3 Global corporate R&D investors, top 3, mn USD	0	46	○◇
2.3.4 QS university ranking, top 3*	0	81	○◇
Infrastructure	**34.1**	**104**	
3.1 Information and communication technologies (ICTs)	**55.8**	**109**	
3.1.1 ICT access*	67.8	97	
3.1.2 ICT use*	62.5	104	
3.1.3 Government online service*	37.2	110	
3.2 General infrastructure	**36.1**	**[86]**	
3.2.1 Electricity output, GWh/mn pop.	437.4	113	
3.2.2 Aviation import dwell time	n/a	n/a	
3.2.3 Logistics performance*	n/a	n/a	
3.2.4 Gross capital formation, % GDP	38.7	6	●◆
3.3 Ecological sustainability	**10.4**	**108**	
3.3.1 GDP/unit of energy use	13.8	64	
3.3.2 Low-carbon energy use, %	2.1	114	
3.3.3 ISO 14001 environment/bn PPP$ GDP	0.3	104	
Market sophistication	**32.1**	**90**	
4.1 Credit	**37.9**	**41**	
4.1.1 Finance for startups and scaleups†	40.4	59	
4.1.2 Domestic credit to private sector, % GDP	n/a	n/a	
4.1.3 Loans from microfinance institutions, % GDP	3.9	10	●
4.2 Investment	**7**	**61**	
4.2.1 Market capitalization, % GDP	n/a	n/a	
4.2.2 Venture capital (VC) received, deal count/bn PPP$ GDP	0.2	37	◆
4.2.3 Late-stage VC deal count, % global VC	0.01	65	
4.2.4 VC investors, deal count/bn PPP$ GDP	0.09	63	
4.3 Trade, diversification and market scale	**51.5**	**113**	
4.3.1 Applied tariff rate, weighted avg., %	8.5	120	○
4.3.2 Domestic industry diversification	76.3	75	
4.3.3 Domestic market scale, bn PPP$	102.7	97	

	Score / Value	Rank	
Business sophistication	**20.8**	**113**	
5.1 Knowledge workers	**30.8**	**[95]**	
5.1.1 Knowledge-intensive employment, %	4.7	116	○◇
5.1.2 Females employed w/advanced degrees, %	1.9	116	○
5.1.3 Youth demographic dividend, %	57.9	22	●
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	**16.4**	**107**	
5.2.1 Public research–industry co-publications, %	0.3	132	○◇
5.2.2 University–industry R&D collaboration†	35.8	73	
5.2.3 University industry & international engagement, top 5*	15.1	80	
5.2.4 State of cluster development†	26.9	107	
5.2.5 Patent families/bn PPP$ GDP	0.01	82	
5.3 Knowledge absorption	**15.3**	**114**	
5.3.1 Intellectual property payments, % total trade	0.04	122	○
5.3.2 High-tech imports, % total trade	5.2	115	
5.3.3 ICT services imports, % total trade	0.9	99	
5.3.4 FDI net inflows, % GDP	10.8	8	●◆
5.3.5 Greenfield R&D & high-tech FDI	0.5	86	
5.3.6 Research talent, % in businesses	n/a	n/a	
Knowledge and technology outputs	**18.3**	**82**	
6.1 Knowledge creation	**4.3**	**119**	
6.1.1 Patents by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	0.2	101	
6.1.2 PCT patents by inventor origin/bn PPP$ GDP	0.01	94	
6.1.3 Utility models by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	0	77	○◇
6.1.4 Scientific and technical articles/bn PPP$ GDP	8.1	99	
6.1.5 Citable documents H-index	5.7	97	
6.2 Knowledge impact	**35.9**	**29**	◆
6.2.1 Labor productivity growth, %	1.7	65	
6.2.2 Unicorn valuation, % GDP	4.3	11	●◆
6.2.3 Software spending, % GDP	0.2	72	
6.2.4 High-tech manufacturing, %	15.8	71	
6.3 Knowledge diffusion	**14.7**	**103**	
6.3.1 Intellectual property receipts, % total trade	0.07	75	
6.3.2 Production and export complexity	57.7	96	
6.3.3 High-tech exports, % total trade	0.4	100	
6.3.4 ICT services exports, % total trade	1.2	84	
6.3.5 ISO 9001 quality/bn PPP$ GDP	1	109	
Creative outputs	**11**	**113**	
7.1 Intangible assets	**6.4**	**114**	
7.1.1 Intangible asset intensity, top 15, %	n/a	n/a	
7.1.2 Trademarks by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	6.4	119	○
7.1.3 Global brand value, top 5,000, % GDP	1.7	49	
7.1.4 Industrial designs by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	0.3	93	
7.2 Creative goods and services	**11**	**[76]**	
7.2.1 Cultural and creative services exports, % total trade	0.8	44	
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	0.1	97	
7.3 Online creativity	**20.2**	**115**	
7.3.1 Top-level domains (TLDs)/th pop. 15–69	0.5	109	
7.3.2 GitHub commits/mn pop. 15–69	1.3	117	
7.3.3 Mobile app creation/bn PPP$ GDP	58.8	110	

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 Senegal.

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

Missing data for Senegal

Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year*	Source
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	2024	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD
2.3.1	Researchers, FTE/mn pop.	n/a	2024	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
2.3.2	Gross expenditure on R&D, % GDP	n/a	2024	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
3.2.2	Aviation import dwell time	n/a	2024	Cargo iQ; World Bank (WB) Logistic Performance Indicators (LPI) 2.0 (2026 release)
3.2.3	Logistics performance*	n/a	2023	World Bank, Logistics Performance Index 2023; and World Bank 2023, Connecting to Compete 2023: Trade Logistics in the Global Economy – The Logistics Performance Index and its Indicators.
4.1.2	Domestic credit to private sector, % GDP	n/a	2024	International Monetary Fund; Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and World Bank.
4.2.1	Market capitalization, % GDP	n/a	2024	World Federation of Exchanges; World Bank
5.1.4	GERD performed by business, % GDP	n/a	2024	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
5.1.5	GERD financed by business, %	n/a	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
5.3.6	Research talent, % in businesses	n/a	2024	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
7.1.1	Intangible asset intensity, top 15, %	n/a	2025	Brand Finance
7.2.2	National feature films/mn pop. 15–69	n/a	2024	OMDIA; United Nations, World Population Prospects
7.2.3	Entertainment and media market/th pop. 15–69	n/a	2025	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).

Global Innovation Index 2026



Outdated data for Senegal

Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year*	Source
1.3.2	Entrepreneurship policies and culture†	2016	2025	Global Entrepreneurship Monitor
2.1.3	School life expectancy, years	2023	2024	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
2.1.5	Pupil–teacher ratio, secondary	2023	2024	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
3.2.1	Electricity output, GWh/mn pop.	2023	2024	International Energy Agency
4.1.1	Finance for startups and scaleups†	2016	2025	Global Entrepreneurship Monitor
5.1.1	Knowledge-intensive employment, %	2024	2025	International Labour Organization
5.1.2	Females employed w/advanced degrees, %	2024	2025	International Labour Organization
5.3.1	Intellectual property payments, % total trade	2023	2024	World Trade Organization, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
5.3.3	ICT services imports, % total trade	2023	2024	World Trade Organization, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
6.1.3	Utility models by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	2021	2024	World Intellectual Property Organization; International Monetary Fund
6.3.1	Intellectual property receipts, % total trade	2023	2024	World Trade Organization, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
6.3.4	ICT services exports, % total trade	2023	2024	World Trade Organization, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

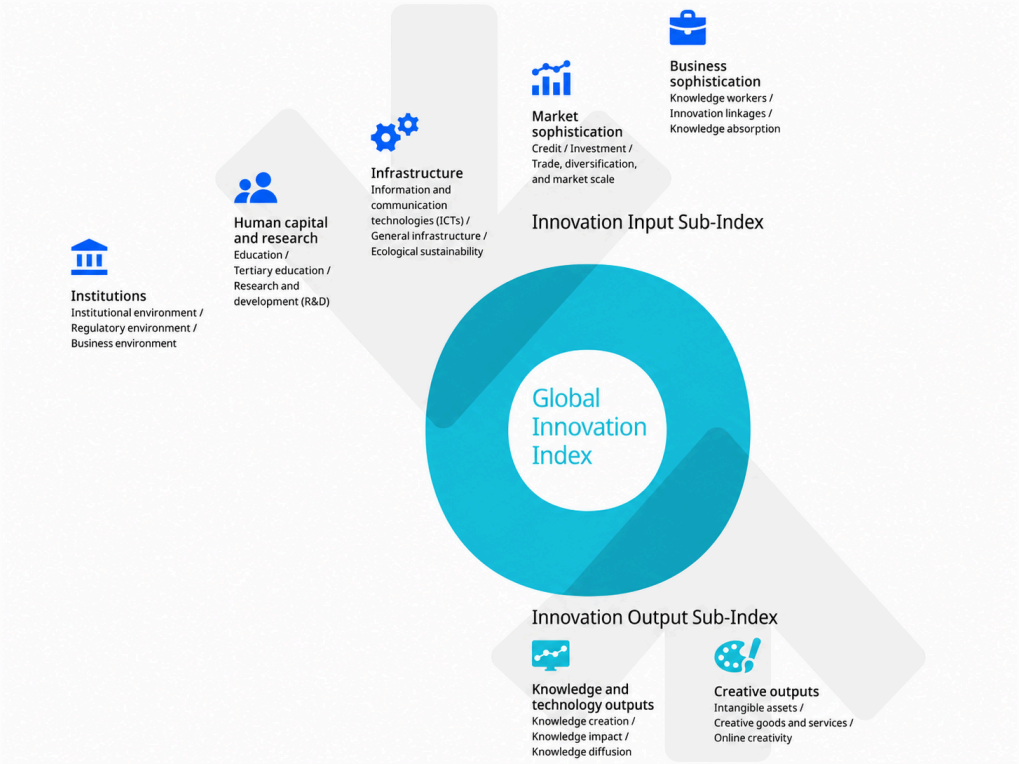
*Model year corresponds to the most frequent data year (the year that appears most often across all economies in the GII).

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.