



Ukraine ranking in the Global Innovation Index 2026

Ukraine ranks **67th** 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.

Ukraine ranks 14th among the 35 Upper middle-income group economies.

Ukraine ranks 34th among the 39 economies in Europe.

> **Ukraine GII Ranking (2020-2026)**

The table shows the rankings of Ukraine 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 Ukraine in the GII 2026 is between ranks 54 and 68.

Year	GII Position	Innovation Inputs	Innovation Outputs
2020	45th	71st	37th
2021	49th	76th	37th
2022	57th	75th	48th
2023	55th	78th	42nd
2024	60th	78th	54th
2025	66th	80th	54th
2026	67th	78th	59th

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

This year Ukraine ranks 78th in innovation inputs. This position is higher than last year.

Ukraine ranks 59th in innovation outputs. This position is lower than last year.

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

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



For Ukraine, 9 indicators have improved in the short-term and 1 indicator has worsened.

Science and innovation investment

	Scientific publications	R&D investments	Venture capital deal numbers	International patent filings
Short term	▲ 3.2 % 2024 - 2025	▲ 18.2 % 2023 - 2024	▲ 39.1 % 2024 - 2025	▲ 0.9 % 2024 - 2025
Long term (annual growth)	▲ 1.9 % 2015 - 2025	▼ -7.8 % 2014 - 2024	▲ 2.7 % 2020 - 2025	▼ -2 % 2015 - 2025

Technology adoption

	Safe sanitation	Connectivity		Robots	Electric vehicles
		Fixed broadband	5G		
Short term	▲ 0.1% 2023 - 2024	▲ 1.6% 2023 - 2024	n/a	▲ 0.3% 2023 - 2024	n/a
Long term (annual growth)	▲ 0.1% 2014 - 2024	▲ 7.6% 2014 - 2024	n/a	▲ 11.2% 2014 - 2024	n/a
Penetration	92.4 per 100 inhabitants in 2024	21.7 per 100 inhabitants in 2024	n/a	n/a	n/a

Socioeconomic impact

	Labor productivity	Life expectancy	Temperature change
Short term	▲ 1.5 % 2024 - 2025	▲ 1.7 % 2023 - 2024	+ 2.3 °C 2025
Long term (annual growth)	▼ -0.3 % 2015 - 2025	▲ 0.4 % 2014 - 2024	+ 2 °C 2015
Level	35,905.8 USD in 2025	74.7 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

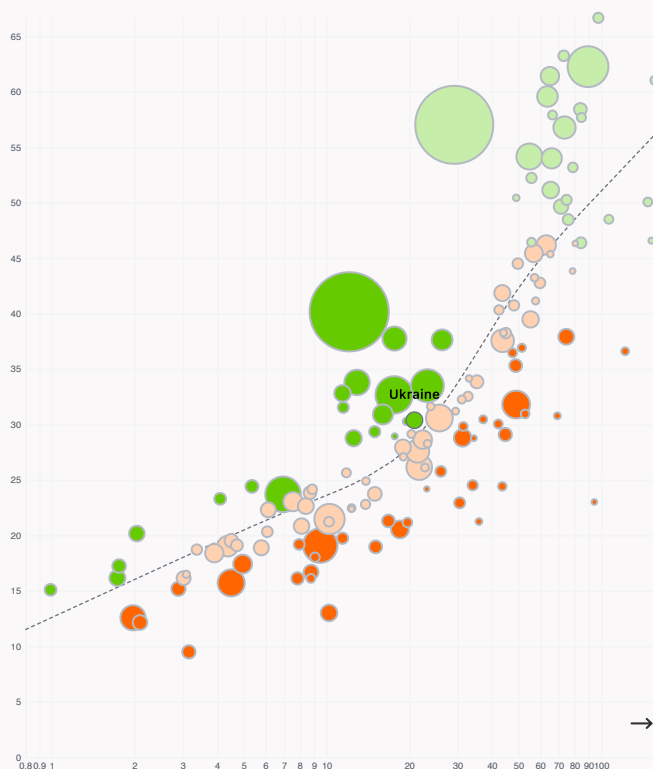
The bubble chart below shows the relationship between income levels (GDP per capita) and innovation performance (GII score). The trend line gives an indication of the expected innovation performance according to income level. Economies appearing above the trend line are performing better than expected and those below are performing below expectations.



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

> Innovation overperformers relative to their economic development

↑ **GII Score**



- Innovation leader
- Performing above expectations for level of development
- Performing at expectations for level of development
- Performing below expectations for level of development

Size legend (Population)



→ **GDP per capita**



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.



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

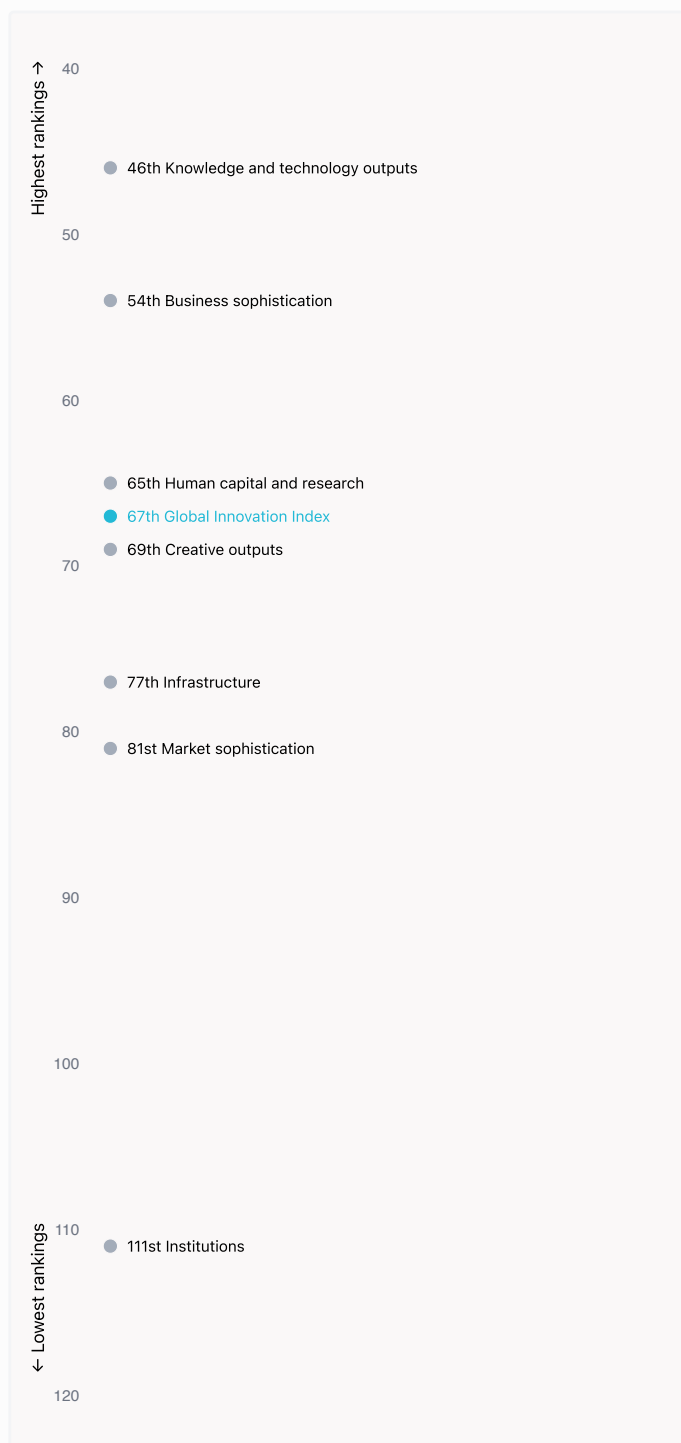
> Relationship between innovation inputs and outputs





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



Highest Rankings

Ukraine ranks highest in Knowledge and technology outputs (46th), Business sophistication (54th) and Human capital and research (65th).



Lowest Rankings

Ukraine ranks lowest in Institutions (111st), Market sophistication (81st) and Infrastructure (77th).



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



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



Upper middle-income economies

Ukraine performs above the Upper middle-income group average in Human capital and research, Infrastructure, Business sophistication, Knowledge and technology outputs, Creative outputs.



Europe

Ukraine performs below the regional average in all pillars.

Institutions

Top 10 | Score: 78.28

Europe | Score: 60.15

Upper middle-income | Score: 45.06

Ukraine | Score: 33.49

Human capital and research

Top 10 | Score: 60.87

Europe | Score: 45.82

Ukraine | Score: 34.34

Upper middle-income | Score: 31.25

Infrastructure

Top 10 | Score: 63.75

Europe | Score: 56.48

Ukraine | Score: 43.46

Upper middle-income | Score: 43.45

Market sophistication

Top 10 | Score: 63.92

Europe | Score: 45.67

Upper middle-income | Score: 35.56

Ukraine | Score: 32.78

Business sophistication

Top 10 | Score: 60.02

Europe | Score: 40.95

Ukraine | Score: 30.96

Upper middle-income | Score: 26.56

Knowledge and technology outputs

Top 10 | Score: 55.83

Europe | Score: 35.30

Ukraine | Score: 27.38

Upper middle-income | Score: 21.41

Creative outputs

Top 10 | Score: 55.45

Europe | Score: 38.51

Ukraine | Score: 24.08

Upper middle-income | Score: 23.59



Innovation strengths and weaknesses in Ukraine

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



Ukraine’s best-ranked innovation strengths are **Utility models by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP** (rank 1), **Females employed w/advanced degrees, %** (rank 4) and **Government online service*** (rank 5).

Strengths

Rank	Code	Indicator name
1	6.1.3	Utility models by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP
4	5.1.2	Females employed w/advanced degrees, %
5	3.1.3	Government online service*
9	6.3.4	ICT services exports, % total trade
12	2.1.2	Government funding/pupil, secondary, % GDP/cap
15	2.2.1	Tertiary enrolment, % gross
15	7.3.3	Mobile app creation/bn PPP\$ GDP
18	7.1.4	Industrial designs by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP
20	5.3.2	High-tech imports, % total trade
25	3.3.2	Low-carbon energy use, %
25	6.2.3	Software spending, % GDP

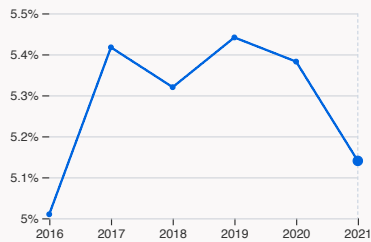
Weaknesses

Rank	Code	Indicator name
46	2.3.3	Global corporate R&D investors, top 3, mn USD
58	4.1.3	Loans from microfinance institutions, % GDP
58	6.2.2	Unicorn valuation, % GDP
94	5.2.3	University industry & international engagement, top 5*
108	3.2.4	Gross capital formation, % GDP
112	4.1.2	Domestic credit to private sector, % GDP
122	5.1.3	Youth demographic dividend, %
125	1.1.1	Operational stability for businesses*
136	6.2.1	Labor productivity growth, %



Ukraine's innovation system

> Innovation inputs in Ukraine



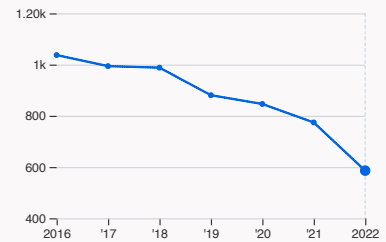
2.1.1 Expenditure on education

was equal to 5.14 % GDP in 2021, down by 0.24 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 41.



2.2.2 Graduates in science and engineering

was equal to 23.89 % of total graduates in 2024, down by 0.18 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 52.



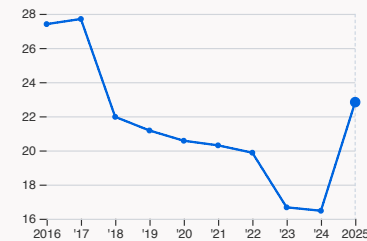
2.3.1 Researchers

was equal to 586.08 FTE per million population in 2022, down by 24.29% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 70.



2.3.2 Gross expenditure on R&D

was equal to 0.37 % GDP in 2024, up by 0.05 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 69.



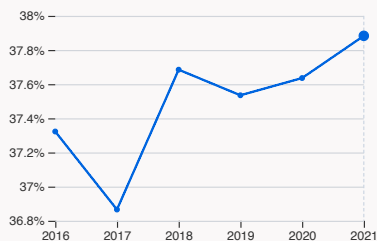
2.3.4 QS university ranking

was equal to an average score of 22.83 for the top three universities in 2025, up by 38.62% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 60.



4.3.2 Domestic industry diversification

was equal to an index score of 0.14 in 2023, down by 7.2% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 54.



5.1.1 Knowledge-intensive employment

was equal to 37.88 % in 2021, up by 0.25 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 37.

Global Innovation Index 2026

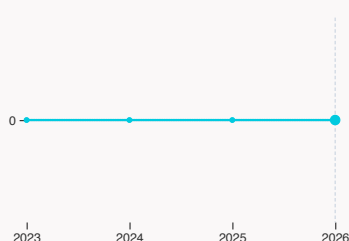


> Innovation outputs in Ukraine



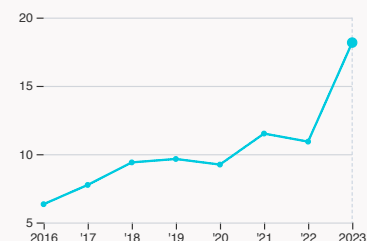
6.1.1 Patents by origin

was equal to 969 patents in 2024, down by 4.06% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 33.



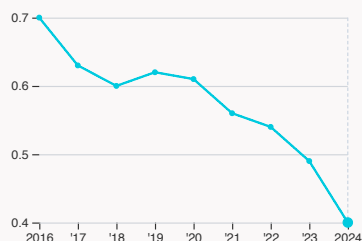
6.2.2 Unicorn valuation

The country does not have unicorns in 2026.



6.2.4 High-tech manufacturing

was equal to 18.17 high-tech manufacturing output in trillion USD in 2023, up by 66.39% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 58.



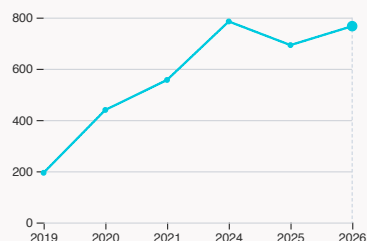
6.3.2 Production and export complexity

was equal to a score of 0.4 in 2024, down by 18.37% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 52.



6.3.3 High-tech exports

was equal to 877.87 million USD in 2024, up by 11.17% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 72.



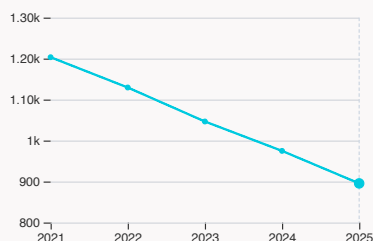
7.1.3 Global brand value, top 5,000

was equal to 766.58 million USD for the brands in the top 5,000 in 2026, up by 10.68% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 75.



7.2.2 National feature films

was equal to 50 films in 2024, up by 212.5% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 69.



7.3.3 Mobile app creation

was equal to 895.47 million global downloads of mobile apps in 2025, down by 8.14% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 15.



Ukraine'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, 6.2.2 Top Unicorn Companies and 7.1.1 Top 15 intangible-asset intensive companies.

2.3.4 QS university ranking of Ukraine’s top universities

Rank	University	Score
721-730	TARAS SHEVCHENKO NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF KYIV	n/a
781-790	V. N. KARAZIN KHARKIV NATIONAL UNIVERSITY	n/a
801-850	NATIONAL TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF UKRAINE "IGOR SIKORSKY KYIV POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE"	n/a

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	V.N. KARAZIN KHARKIV NATIONAL UNIVERSITY	40.75
2	SUMY STATE UNIVERSITY	35.65
3	NATIONAL PIROGOV MEMORIAL MEDICAL UNIVERSITY, VINNYTSYA	29.80

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 Ukraine

Rank	Company	Industry	Description
1	Shield AI	Aerospace	US-based Shield AI, a defense technology company which develops unmanned systems and associated software, supported by artificial intelligence, has opened an office in Kyiv, Ukraine. The company has established a dedicated team of engineers, mission operations personnel and technical specialists and will work with Unmanned Systems Forces operators, delivering training that will prepare them for deploying V-BATs to the front lines. It will serve the domestic market.
2	Qvantel	Software & IT services	Finland-based Qvantel, a provider of cloud-based business support solutions (BSS) and software consulting services, has opened a new managed services center in Kyiv, Ukraine. It opens with a team of 100 BSS experts and will support long-term partner Kyivstar's digital strategy in Ukraine.
3	Tekever	Space & defence	Portugal-based Tekever, a technology developer for the enterprise, aerospace, defense and security markets, has opened a representative office in Ukraine. With the opening of the office, the company plans to expand its staff, increase its network of engineering, service and research facilities and create new training centers to increase the efficiency of joint operations with Ukraine-based partners. It will serve the domestic market.

Source: FT Locations, fDi Markets.



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

Rank	Brand	Industry	Brand Value, mn USD
1	Kernel	Food	544.1
2	Kyivstar	Telecoms	222.5

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

GII 2026 SPECIAL THEME
Deep science entrepreneurship in Ukraine

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.

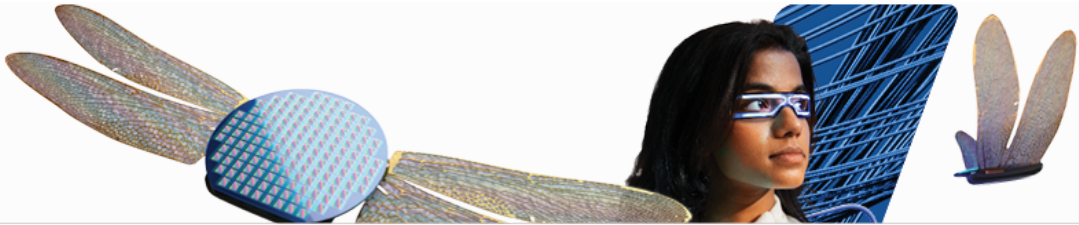
Top deep science startups in Ukraine

Rank	Company	Industry	City	Founded	VC funding raised, mn USD	Valuation, bn USD
1	Tencore	Robotics and autonomous systems	Kyiv	2024	3.7	0.05
2	Buntar Aerospace	Robotics and autonomous systems	Kyiv	2023	11.6	0.04
3	Trypillian	Robotics and autonomous systems	Kyiv	2024	5.0	0.02

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\$
59	78	Upper middle	Europe	39.0	686.9	20,903.9
Score / Value Rank				Score / Value Rank		
 Institutions				33.5	111	
1.1 Institutional environment				30.2	122	◇
1.1.1 Operational stability for businesses*				32.9	125	○ ◇
1.1.2 Government effectiveness*				27.6	107	◇
1.2 Regulatory environment				37.4	100	
1.2.1 Regulatory quality*				39.7	95	
1.2.2 Rule of law*				35.1	104	
1.3 Business environment				32.8	90	
1.3.1 Policy stability for doing business†				34	95	
1.3.2 Entrepreneurship policies and culture†				● 31.7	51	
 Human capital and research				34.3	65	
2.1 Education				58.5	47	
2.1.1 Expenditure on education, % GDP				● 5.1	41	
2.1.2 Government funding/pupil, secondary, % GDP/cap				● 26.1	12	●
2.1.3 School life expectancy, years				14	70	
2.1.4 PISA scales in reading, maths and science				439.5	43	
2.1.5 Pupil–teacher ratio, secondary				9.6	28	
2.2 Tertiary education				35.9	55	
2.2.1 Tertiary enrolment, % gross				87.2	15	● ◆
2.2.2 Graduates in science and engineering, %				23.9	52	
2.2.3 Tertiary inbound mobility, %				2.2	78	
2.3 Research and development (R&D)				8.5	71	
2.3.1 Researchers, FTE/mn pop.				● 586.1	70	
2.3.2 Gross expenditure on R&D, % GDP				0.4	69	
2.3.3 Global corporate R&D investors, top 3, mn USD				0	46	○ ◇
2.3.4 QS university ranking, top 3*				23.1	60	
 Infrastructure				43.5	77	
3.1 Information and communication technologies (ICTs)				90.7	25	◆
3.1.1 ICT access*				83.2	74	
3.1.2 ICT use*				n/a	n/a	
3.1.3 Government online service*				98.2	5	● ◆
3.2 General infrastructure				20.2	132	◇
3.2.1 Electricity output, GWh/mn pop.				2,625.8	74	
3.2.2 Aviation import dwell time				n/a	n/a	
3.2.3 Logistics performance*				27.3	76	
3.2.4 Gross capital formation, % GDP				19.2	108	○
3.3 Ecological sustainability				19.5	64	
3.3.1 GDP/unit of energy use				8.9	104	
3.3.2 Low-carbon energy use, %				30.4	25	● ◆
3.3.3 ISO 14001 environment/bn PPP\$ GDP				1.1	65	
 Market sophistication				32.8	81	
4.1 Credit				16.7	106	
4.1.1 Finance for startups and scaleups†				● 44.6	54	
4.1.2 Domestic credit to private sector, % GDP				18.2	112	○
4.1.3 Loans from microfinance institutions, % GDP				0.04	58	○
4.2 Investment				3.1	90	
4.2.1 Market capitalization, % GDP				● 4.3	80	
4.2.2 Venture capital (VC) received, deal count/bn PPP\$ GDP				0.04	76	
4.2.3 Late-stage VC deal count, % global VC				0.007	78	
4.2.4 VC investors, deal count/bn PPP\$ GDP				0.1	54	
4.3 Trade, diversification and market scale				78.5	37	
4.3.1 Applied tariff rate, weighted avg., %				1.6	53	
4.3.2 Domestic industry diversification				86.6	54	
4.3.3 Domestic market scale, bn PPP\$				686.9	44	
 Business sophistication				31	54	
5.1 Knowledge workers				44.2	39	◆
5.1.1 Knowledge-intensive employment, %				● 37.9	37	◆
5.1.2 Females employed w/advanced degrees, %				● 30	4	● ◆
5.1.3 Youth demographic dividend, %				24.6	122	○ ◇
5.1.4 GERD performed by business, % GDP				0.2	56	
5.1.5 GERD financed by business, %				40.4	48	
5.2 Innovation linkages				23.3	73	
5.2.1 Public research–industry co-publications, %				2.8	27	◆
5.2.2 University–industry R&D collaboration†				34.7	75	
5.2.3 University industry & international engagement, top 5*				8.1	94	○
5.2.4 State of cluster development†				41.7	64	
5.2.5 Patent families/bn PPP\$ GDP				0.04	63	
5.3 Knowledge absorption				25.4	60	
5.3.1 Intellectual property payments, % total trade				0.6	63	
5.3.2 High-tech imports, % total trade				12.8	20	●
5.3.3 ICT services imports, % total trade				1.5	72	
5.3.4 FDI net inflows, % GDP				1.6	95	
5.3.5 Greenfield R&D & high-tech FDI				0.8	70	
5.3.6 Research talent, % in businesses				26.5	51	
 Knowledge and technology outputs				27.4	46	
6.1 Knowledge creation				32.4	27	◆
6.1.1 Patents by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP				1.5	33	
6.1.2 PCT patents by inventor origin/bn PPP\$ GDP				0.2	46	
6.1.3 Utility models by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP				5.6	1	● ◆
6.1.4 Scientific and technical articles/bn PPP\$ GDP				12.3	73	
6.1.5 Citable documents H-index				16.4	52	
6.2 Knowledge impact				17.4	111	
6.2.1 Labor productivity growth, %				-1.7	136	○ ◇
6.2.2 Unicorn valuation, % GDP				0	58	○ ◇
6.2.3 Software spending, % GDP				0.4	25	● ◆
6.2.4 High-tech manufacturing, %				21.6	58	
6.3 Knowledge diffusion				32.3	46	
6.3.1 Intellectual property receipts, % total trade				0.08	67	
6.3.2 Production and export complexity				75.3	52	
6.3.3 High-tech exports, % total trade				1.2	72	
6.3.4 ICT services exports, % total trade				8.9	9	● ◆
6.3.5 ISO 9001 quality/bn PPP\$ GDP				5.1	53	
 Creative outputs				24.1	69	
7.1 Intangible assets				28.2	64	
7.1.1 Intangible asset intensity, top 15, %				n/a	n/a	
7.1.2 Trademarks by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP				58	26	
7.1.3 Global brand value, top 5,000, % GDP				0.3	75	
7.1.4 Industrial designs by origin/bn PPP\$ GDP				3.8	18	●
7.2 Creative goods and services				7.5	95	
7.2.1 Cultural and creative services exports, % total trade				0.5	59	
7.2.2 National feature films/mn pop. 15–69				1.8	69	
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	86	
7.3 Online creativity				32.5	48	
7.3.1 Top-level domains (TLDs)/th pop. 15–69				4.4	61	
7.3.2 GitHub commits/mn pop. 15–69				15.8	49	
7.3.3 Mobile app creation/bn PPP\$ GDP				77.3	15	● ◆

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 Ukraine.



Ukraine has missing data for four indicators and outdated data for eight indicators.

Missing data for Ukraine

Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year*	Source
3.1.2	ICT use*	n/a	2024	World Intellectual Property Organization; International Telecommunication Union ITU DataHub (accessed April 15th, 2026)
3.2.2	Aviation import dwell time	n/a	2024	Cargo iQ; World Bank (WB) Logistic Performance Indicators (LPI) 2.0 (2026 release)
7.1.1	Intangible asset intensity, top 15, %	n/a	2025	Brand Finance
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).

Outdated data for Ukraine

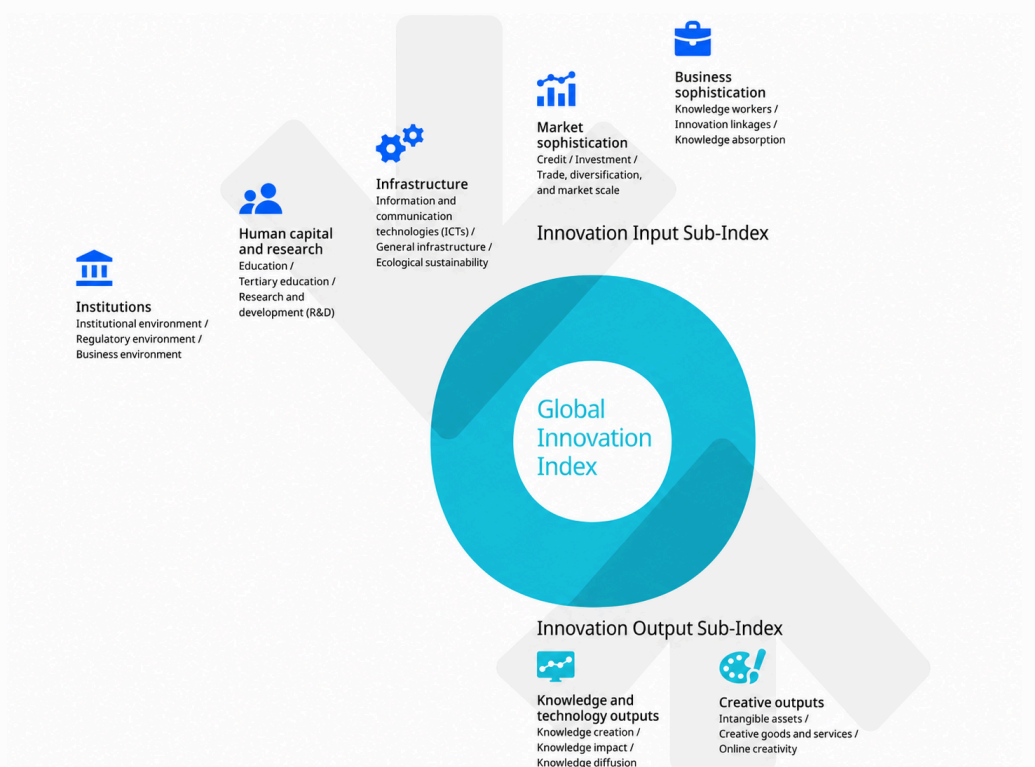
Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year*	Source
1.3.2	Entrepreneurship policies and culture ⁺	2024	2025	Global Entrepreneurship Monitor
2.1.1	Expenditure on education, % GDP	2021	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
2.1.2	Government funding/pupil, secondary, % GDP/cap	2021	2022	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
2.3.1	Researchers, FTE/mn pop.	2022	2024	UNESCO Institute for Statistics; Eurostat; OECD; RICYT
4.1.1	Finance for startups and scaleups ⁺	2024	2025	Global Entrepreneurship Monitor
4.2.1	Market capitalization, % GDP	2018	2024	World Federation of Exchanges; World Bank
5.1.1	Knowledge-intensive employment, %	2021	2025	International Labour Organization
5.1.2	Females employed w/advanced degrees, %	2021	2025	International Labour Organization

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



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.