

United Kingdom - Country Brief Global Talent Competitiveness Index (GTCI) 2023



Total population: 66.97 million

GDP: US\$ 3,070.67 billion

GDP (PPP) per capita: US\$ 54,602.54

(25 out of 134 countries)

Country income level: High income

GTCI 2023 ranking: 10 (out of 134)

Retain VT Skills GK Skills

Global GTCI position

In GTCI 2023, United Kingdom is ranked 10 out of a sample of 134 countries (Figure 1), which means that it has featured in the top 15 every year since the launch of the GTCI and in the top 10 eight times, including this year. It features in the top three (2nd) for its ability to Grow talent, primarily thanks to the impact of its world-class tertiary education and programmes for Formal Education and Lifelong Learning, for which it is ranked 3rd and 2nd, respectively. The United Kingdom also achieves 2nd-place ranking in the Global Knowledge Skills pillar, where its highly innovative and entrepreneurial economy result in a large Talent Impact (also 2nd). However, the impressive level of Global Knowledge Skills stands in stark contrast to the country's comparatively weak position (29th) for Vocational and Technical Skills. There is considerable scope to raise its ranking in the Mid-Level Skills sub-pillar (from 44th), and to boost its 20th position for Employability by better matching workforce supply and labour market demand.

Rank

1
20
10
12
13
2
11
29
40
60
80
100
120
134

Figure 1: United Kingdom global ranking (GTCI sample of 134 countries)

Note: VT Skills = Vocational and Technical Skills; GK Skills = General Knowledge Skills.

Grow

Attract

GTCI 2023 Enable



Comparison with different groups of countries

United Kingdom is situated in Europe and is classified as a high-income country. Within its region, the country is ranked 7 out of 39 countries (Table 1). With respect to other regions, United Kingdom out-performs the top-scoring countries in four of them.

United Kingdom is ranked 10 within the group of high-income countries (implying that 82 percent of countries rank lower). As for the other income groups, it outperforms the top-ranked country in each of them.

Table 1: United Kingdom performance vs. income groups and regions

| Comparison group | Top 3 scorers of the group | Score GAP: United Kingdom score minus group highest score | Share of countries in the group ranked below United Kingdom |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Region | | | |
| Central and Southern Asia | Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan | 28.8 | 100% |
| Eastern, Southeastern Asia and Oceania | Singapore, Australia, New Zealand | -3.4 | 87% |
| Europe | Switzerland, Denmark, Netherlands | -5.2 | 82% |
| Latin America and the Caribbean | Chile, Uruguay, Costa Rica | 18.3 | 100% |
| Northern Africa and Western Asia | United Arab Emirates, Israel, Cyprus | 11.2 | 100% |
| Northern America | United States, Canada | -2.8 | 50% |
| Sub-Saharan Africa | Mauritius, South Africa, Botswana | 25.0 | 100% |
| Income group | | | |
| High income | Switzerland, Singapore, United States | -5.2 | 82% |
| Upper-middle income | China, Malaysia, Georgia | 21.2 | 100% |
| Lower-middle income | Uzbekistan, Ukraine, Jordan | 28.8 | 100% |
| Low income | Gambia, Rwanda, Uganda | 41.3 | 100% |

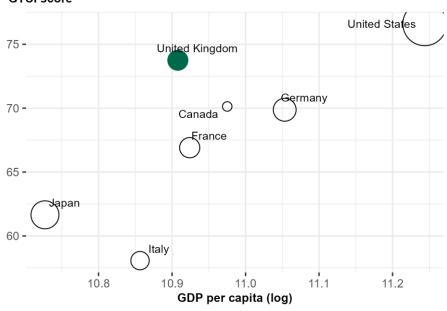
Comparison with group of competitors

United Kingdom's group of competitors is defined as those 7 countries that are members of the G7: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Figure 2 plots how United Kingdom fares against each competitor in terms of GTCI score and GDP per capita.

As can be seen, United Kingdom's GTCI score and GDP per capita are, respectively, higher and lower than the corresponding medians of its group of competitors. Thus, United Kingdom performs well against its competitors and its talent competitiveness is better than would be expected in view of its income level.



Figure 2: GTCI score and GDP per capita (log) of United Kingdom and its identified competitors GTCI score

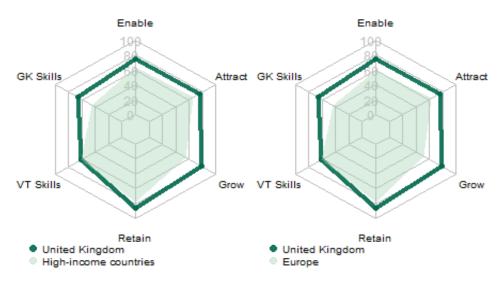


Note: Bubble size indicates country population.

Performance across pillars

The performance of United Kingdom is higher than the average of high-income countries in each of the six pillars. Its greatest showing, comparatively speaking, is in the pillar related to Grow. With respect to its region, United Kingdom outperforms Europe in each of the six pillars. Just as it does against its income group, United Kingdom performs particularly well against its region in the pillar that relates to Grow.

Figure 3: United Kingdom pillar scores vs. averages of relevant income group and region



Note: VT Skills = Vocational and Technical Skills; GK Skills = General Knowledge Skills.



Longer-term trends in talent competitiveness

During 2019-2023, United Kingdom ranks 11 out of a total 113 countries, which is lower than the average rank of 7 in GTCI 2013-GTCI 2018. The country is regarded as a talent champion because its GTCI score in the latter five-year period is higher than in the former period (up by 6.4 percent) and because it has a higher-than-average score in GTCI 2023 (for the sample considered): 73.75 against an average of 47.77.

Figure 4: Evolution of GTCI rank for United Kingdom, 2013-2023





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