Belgium - Country Brief
Global Talent Competitiveness Index (GTCI) 2025

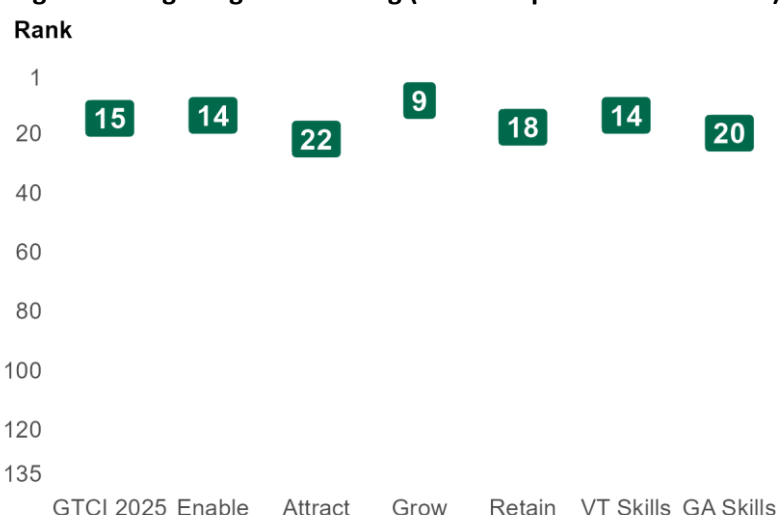|	
Total population:	11.88 million
GDP:	US$ 664.965 billion
GDP (PPP) per capita:	US$ 73,500
	(13 out of 135 countries)
Country income level:	High income
GTCI 2025 ranking:	15 (out of 135)

Global GTCI position

In GTCI 2025, Belgium is ranked 15th out of a sample of 135 countries (Figure 1). When it comes to sub-pillars, the strongest showings of Belgium relate to Formal Education, Market Landscape and Lifelong Learning, among others. Still, more could be done to improve the economy's performances in the Sustainability, Talent Impact and Regulatory Landscape sub-pillars.

Figure 1: Belgium global ranking (GTCI sample of 135 countries)

Note: VT Skills = Vocational and Technical Skills; GA Skills = Generalist Adaptive Skills.

Comparison with different groups of countries

Belgium is situated in Europe and is classified as High income. Within its region, the country is ranked 11th out of 39 countries (Table 1).

Belgium is ranked 15th within the group of High income countries (implying that 71 percent of countries rank lower).

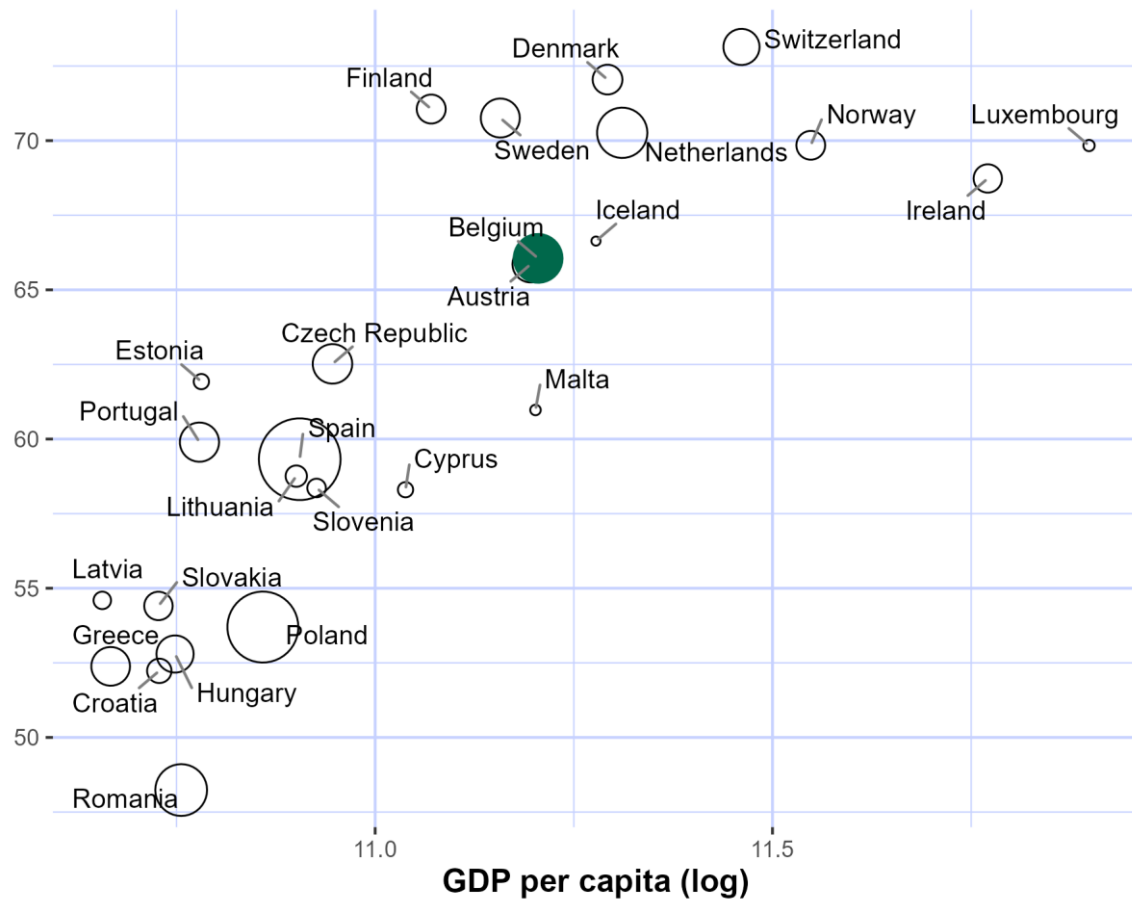**Table 1: Belgium performance vs. income groups and regions**

Comparison group	Top 3 scorers of the group	Score GAP: Belgium score minus group highest score	Share of countries in the group ranked below Belgium
Region			
Central and Southern Asia	Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan	22.7	100%
Eastern, Southeastern Asia and Oceania	Singapore, Australia, New Zealand	-7.2	88%
Europe	Switzerland, Denmark, Finland	-7.1	72%
Latin America and the Caribbean	Chile, Uruguay, Costa Rica	13.4	100%
Northern Africa and Western Asia	Israel, United Arab Emirates, Cyprus	5.9	100%
Northern America	United States of America, Canada	-3.4	0%
Sub-Saharan Africa	Mauritius, Seychelles, South Africa	16.4	100%
Income group			
High income	Singapore, Switzerland, Denmark	-7.2	71%
Upper-middle income	Georgia, Malaysia, Mauritius	15.1	100%
Lower-middle income	Uzbekistan, Jordan, Philippines	22.7	100%
Low income	Rwanda, Malawi, Gambia	32.1	100%

Comparison with group of competitors

Belgium's group of competitors is defined as high-income countries located in Europe (incl Cyprus). It comprises a group of 26 economies. Figure 2 plots how Belgium fares against each competitor in terms of GTCI score and GDP per capita.

As can be seen, Belgium's GTCI score and GDP per capita are both greater than the corresponding medians of its group of competitors. Thus, the country's talent competitiveness is in line with what would be expected given its income level.

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

Note: Bubble size indicates country population.
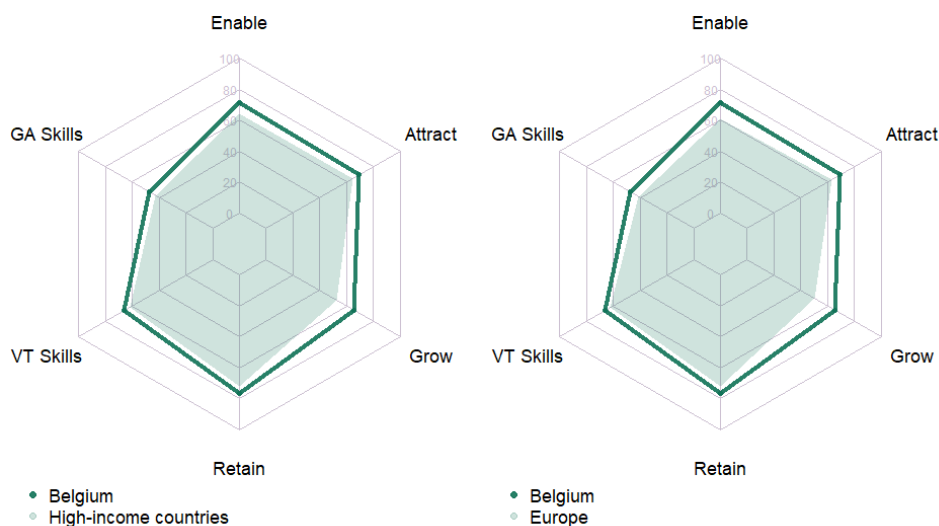
Performance against its income group and region

High-income countries
Belgium is ranked 15th in the group of high-income countries (Figure 3, left panel). In terms of pillar performance, it has a higher score than the income group average in each of the six pillars. At the sub-pillar level, it has a score higher than the average of high-income countries in all of them.

Europe
Belgium is ranked 11th within Europe (Figure 3, right panel). It outperforms its region in each of the six pillars. With regard to sub-pillars, it has a higher score than the regional average in each of the fourteen sub-pillars.

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

Note: VT Skills = Vocational and Technical Skills; GA Skills = Generalist Adaptive Skills.

Longer-term trends in talent competitiveness

Across all GTCI editions from 2015 to 2025, Belgium's ranking ranges from 15th to 18th place (see Figure 4). During GTCI 2020-GTCI 2025, Belgium ranks 16 out of a total 134 countries (on average), which is better than the average rank of 17 in GTCI 2015-GTCI 2019.

Figure 4: Evolution of GTCI rank for Belgium, 2015-2025

18 (out of 93)	**18** (out of 109)	**16** (out of 118)	**16** (out of 119)	**17** (out of 125)
GTCI 2014	GTCI 2015-16	GTCI 2017	GTCI 2018	GTCI 2019
18 (out of 132)	**17** (out of 134)	**16** (out of 133)	**16** (out of 134)	**15** (out of 135)
GTCI 2020	GTCI 2021	GTCI 2022	GTCI 2023	GTCI 2025

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