

Ecuador - Country Brief

Global Talent Competitiveness Index (GTCI) 2025

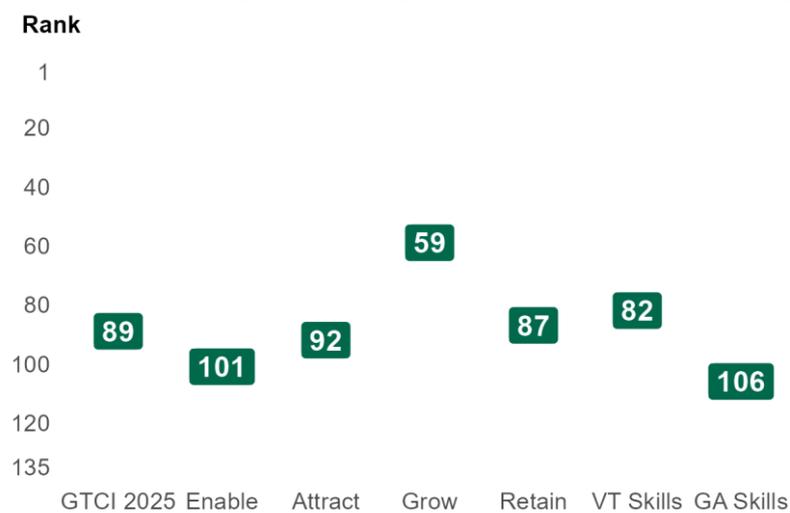


Total population:	18.14 million
GDP:	US\$ 121.147 billion
GDP (PPP) per capita:	US\$ 15,291 (84 out of 135 countries)
Country income level:	Upper-middle income
GTCI 2025 ranking:	89 (out of 135)

Global GTCI position

In GTCI 2025, Ecuador is ranked 89th out of a sample of 135 countries (Figure 1). When it comes to sub-pillars, the strongest showings of Ecuador relate to Lifelong Learning, Internal Openness and Access to Growth Opportunities, among others. Still, more could be done to improve the economy's performances in the Business and Labour Landscape, External Openness and High-level Skills sub-pillars.

Figure 1: Ecuador 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

Ecuador is situated in Latin America and the Caribbean and is classified as Upper-middle income. Within its region, the country is ranked 12th out of 18 countries (Table 1).



Ecuador is ranked 30th within the group of Upper-middle income countries (implying that 14 percent of countries rank lower).

Table 1: Ecuador performance vs. income groups and regions

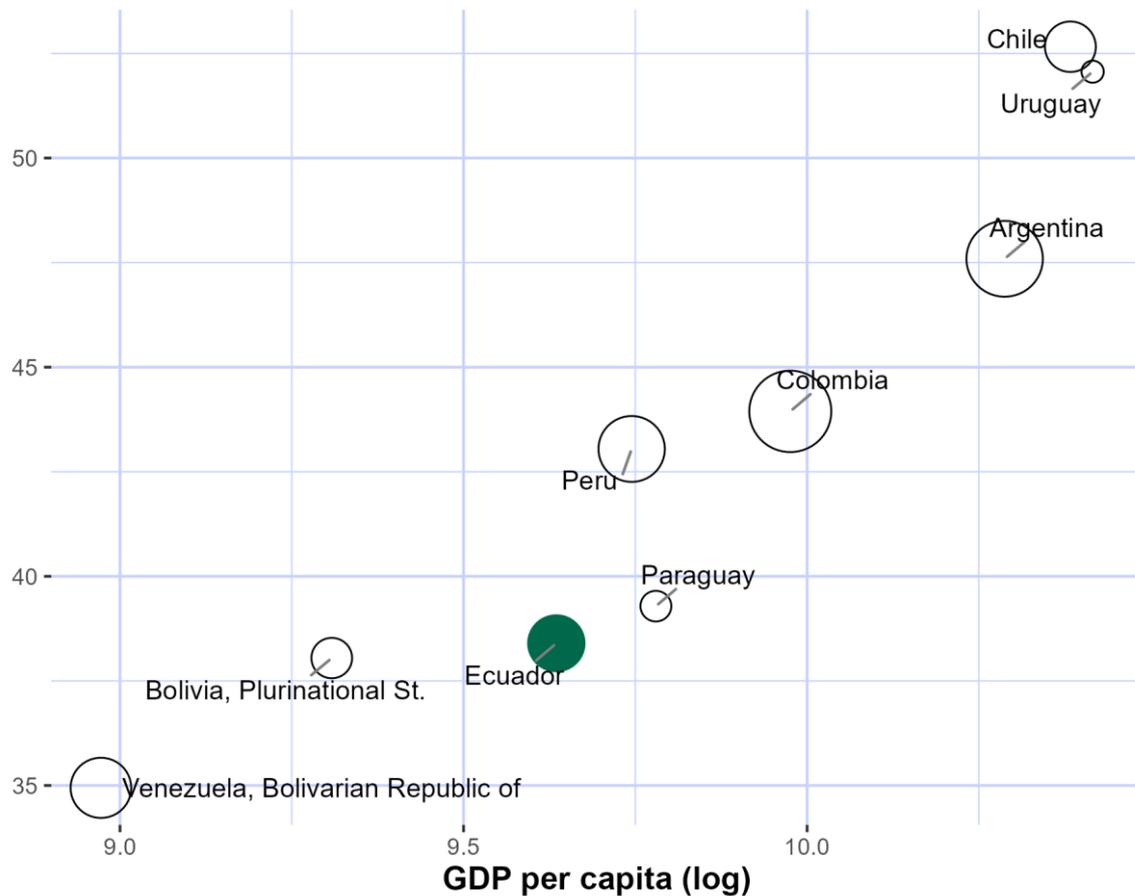
Comparison group	Top 3 scorers of the group	Score GAP: Ecuador score minus group highest score	Share of countries in the group ranked below Ecuador
Region			
Central and Southern Asia	Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan	-5.0	70%
Eastern, Southeastern Asia and Oceania	Singapore, Australia, New Zealand	-34.9	19%
Europe	Switzerland, Denmark, Finland	-34.7	0%
Latin America and the Caribbean	Chile, Uruguay, Costa Rica	-14.3	33%
Northern Africa and Western Asia	Israel, United Arab Emirates, Cyprus	-21.8	21%
Northern America	United States of America, Canada	-31.0	0%
Sub-Saharan Africa	Mauritius, Seychelles, South Africa	-11.3	84%
Income group			
High income	Singapore, Switzerland, Denmark	-34.9	0%
Upper-middle income	Georgia, Malaysia, Mauritius	-12.6	14%
Lower-middle income	Uzbekistan, Jordan, Philippines	-5.0	80%
Low income	Rwanda, Malawi, Gambia	4.5	100%

Comparison with group of competitors

Ecuador's group of competitors is defined as countries located in South America. It comprises a group of 9 economies. Figure 2 plots how Ecuador fares against each competitor in terms of GTCI score and GDP per capita.

As can be seen, Ecuador's GTCI score and GDP per capita are both lower than the corresponding medians of its group of competitors. Thus, the country's talent competitiveness is not in line with what would be expected given its income level.

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



Note: Bubble size indicates country population.

Performance against its income group and region

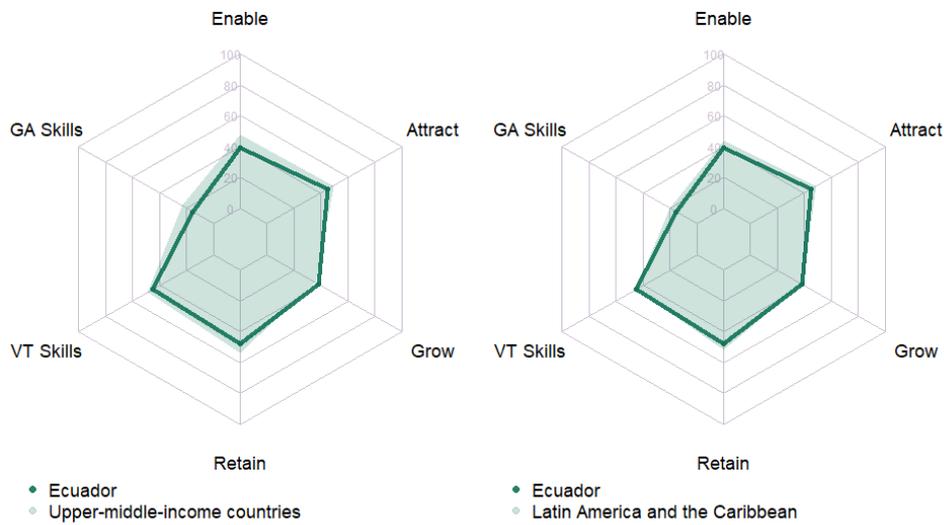
Upper-middle-income countries

Ecuador is ranked 30th in the group of upper-middle-income countries (Figure 3, left panel). In terms of pillar performance, it has a higher score than the income group average in one of the six pillars: Grow. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms upper-middle-income countries in three of the fourteen sub-pillars: Internal Openness, Lifelong Learning and Access Growth Opportunities.

Latin America and the Caribbean

Ecuador is ranked 12th within Latin America and the Caribbean (Figure 3, right panel). It has a score above the regional average in one of the six pillars: Grow. With regard to sub-pillars, it outperforms the average in Latin America and the Caribbean in four of the fourteen sub-pillars: Internal Openness, Lifelong Learning, Access Growth Opportunities and Employability.

Figure 3: Ecuador 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, Ecuador’s ranking ranges from 67th to 89th place (see Figure 4). During GTCI 2020-GTCI 2025, Ecuador ranks 86 out of a total 134 countries (on average), which is a decline from the average rank of 79 in GTCI 2015-GTCI 2019.

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





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