

## Guatemala - Country Brief

### Global Talent Competitiveness Index (GTCI) 2025

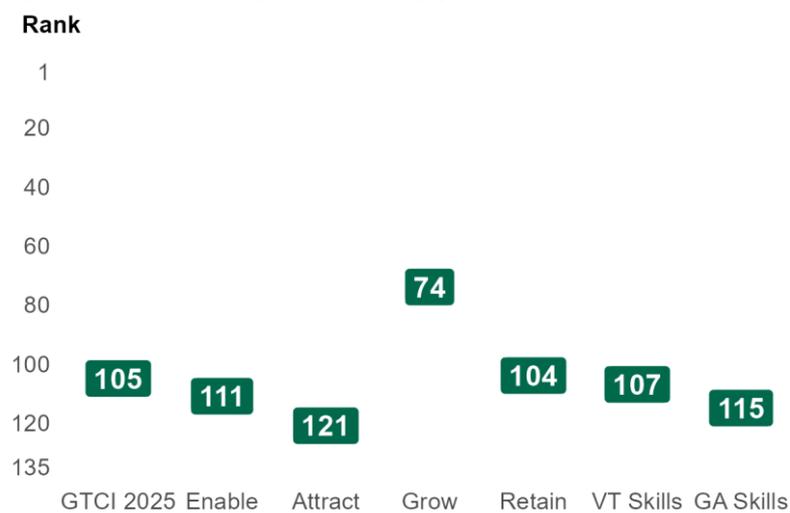


Total population:	18.41 million
GDP:	US\$ 104.436 billion
GDP (PPP) per capita:	US\$ 14,158 (86 out of 135 countries)
Country income level:	Upper-middle income
GTCI 2025 ranking:	105 (out of 135)

#### Global GTCI position

In GTCI 2025, Guatemala is ranked 105th out of a sample of 135 countries (Figure 1). When it comes to sub-pillars, the strongest showings of Guatemala relate to Lifelong Learning, Formal Education and Access to Growth Opportunities, among others. Still, more could be done to improve the economy's performances in the Internal Openness, High-level Skills and External Openness sub-pillars.

**Figure 1: Guatemala 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

Guatemala is situated in Latin America and the Caribbean and is classified as Upper-middle income. Within its region, the country is ranked 17th out of 18 countries (Table 1).

Guatemala is ranked 35th within the group of Upper-middle income countries (implying that 0 percent of countries rank lower).

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

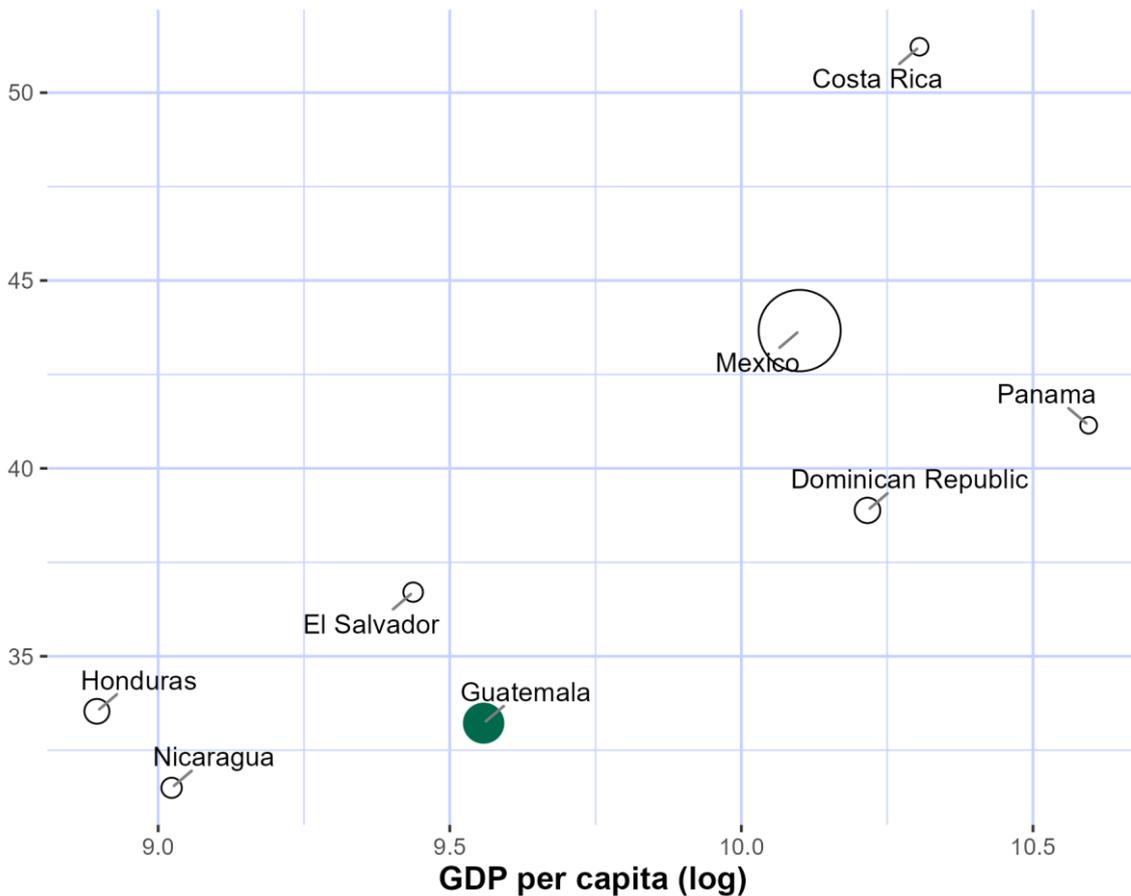
Comparison group	Top 3 scorers of the group	Score GAP: Guatemala score minus group highest score	Share of countries in the group ranked below Guatemala
<b>Region</b>			
Central and Southern Asia	Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan	-10.1	30%
Eastern, Southeastern Asia and Oceania	Singapore, Australia, New Zealand	-40.1	19%
Europe	Switzerland, Denmark, Finland	-39.9	0%
Latin America and the Caribbean	Chile, Uruguay, Costa Rica	-19.4	6%
Northern Africa and Western Asia	Israel, United Arab Emirates, Cyprus	-26.9	5%
Northern America	United States of America, Canada	-36.2	0%
Sub-Saharan Africa	Mauritius, Seychelles, South Africa	-16.5	71%
<b>Income group</b>			
High income	Singapore, Switzerland, Denmark	-40.1	0%
Upper-middle income	Georgia, Malaysia, Mauritius	-17.8	0%
Lower-middle income	Uzbekistan, Jordan, Philippines	-10.1	51%
Low income	Rwanda, Malawi, Gambia	-0.7	92%

### Comparison with group of competitors

Guatemala's group of competitors is defined as countries located in Central America and the Caribbean. It comprises a group of 8 economies. Figure 2 plots how Guatemala fares against each competitor in terms of GTCI score and GDP per capita.

As can be seen, Guatemala'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 Guatemala and its identified competitors**



Note: Bubble size indicates country population.

**Performance against its income group and region**

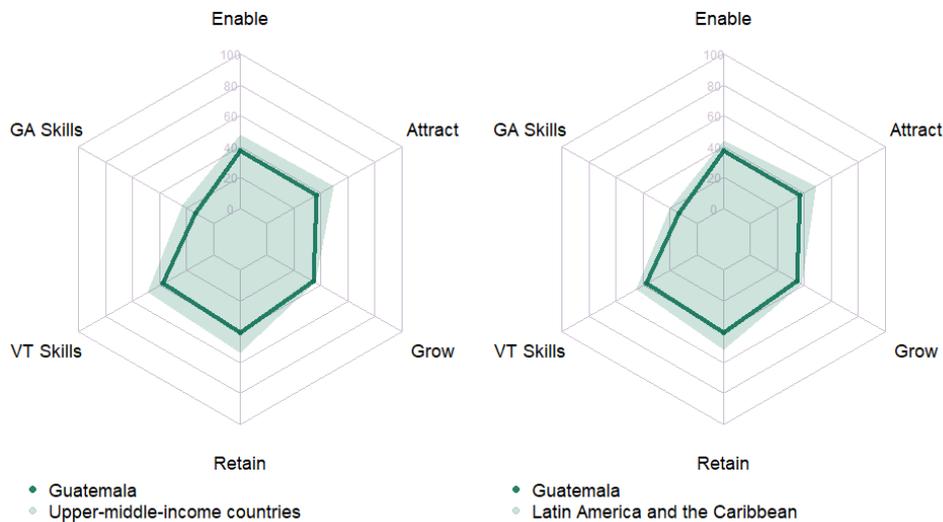
*Upper-middle-income countries*

Guatemala is ranked 35th in the group of upper-middle-income countries (Figure 3, left panel). In terms of pillar performance, it has a score below the income group average in each of the six pillars. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms upper-middle-income countries in one of the fourteen sub-pillars: Lifelong Learning.

*Latin America and the Caribbean*

Guatemala is ranked 17th within Latin America and the Caribbean (Figure 3, right panel). It lags behind its region in each of the six pillars. With regard to sub-pillars, it outperforms the average in Latin America and the Caribbean in one of the fourteen sub-pillars: Lifelong Learning.

**Figure 3: Guatemala 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, Guatemala’s ranking ranges from 104th to 95th place (see Figure 4). During GTCI 2020-GTCI 2025, Guatemala ranks 104 out of a total 134 countries (on average), which is a decline from the average rank of 80 in GTCI 2015-GTCI 2019.

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





## Sources

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