

Kyrgyzstan - Country Brief

Global Talent Competitiveness Index (GTCI) 2025

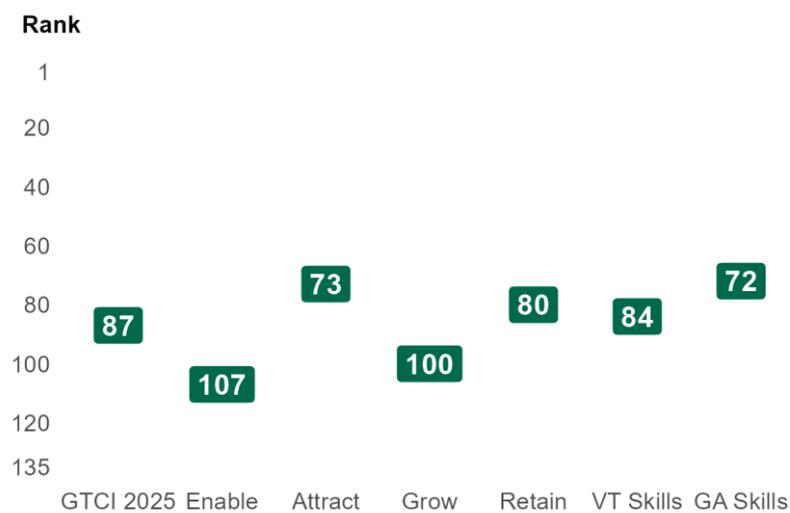


Total population:	7.22 million
GDP:	US\$ 17.491 billion
GDP (PPP) per capita:	US\$ 6,752 (110 out of 135 countries)
Country income level:	Lower-middle income
GTCI 2025 ranking:	87 (out of 135)

Global GTCI position

In GTCI 2025, Kyrgyzstan is ranked 87th out of a sample of 135 countries (Figure 1). When it comes to sub-pillars, the strongest showings of Kyrgyzstan relate to High-level Skills, External Openness and Mid-level Skills, among others. Still, more could be done to improve the economy's performances in the Lifelong Learning, Regulatory Landscape and Employability sub-pillars.

Figure 1: Kyrgyzstan 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

Kyrgyzstan is situated in Central and Southern Asia and is classified as Lower-middle income. Within its region, the country is ranked 3rd out of 10 countries (Table 1).

Kyrgyzstan is ranked 6th within the group of Lower-middle income countries (implying that 83 percent of countries rank lower).

Table 1: Kyrgyzstan performance vs. income groups and regions

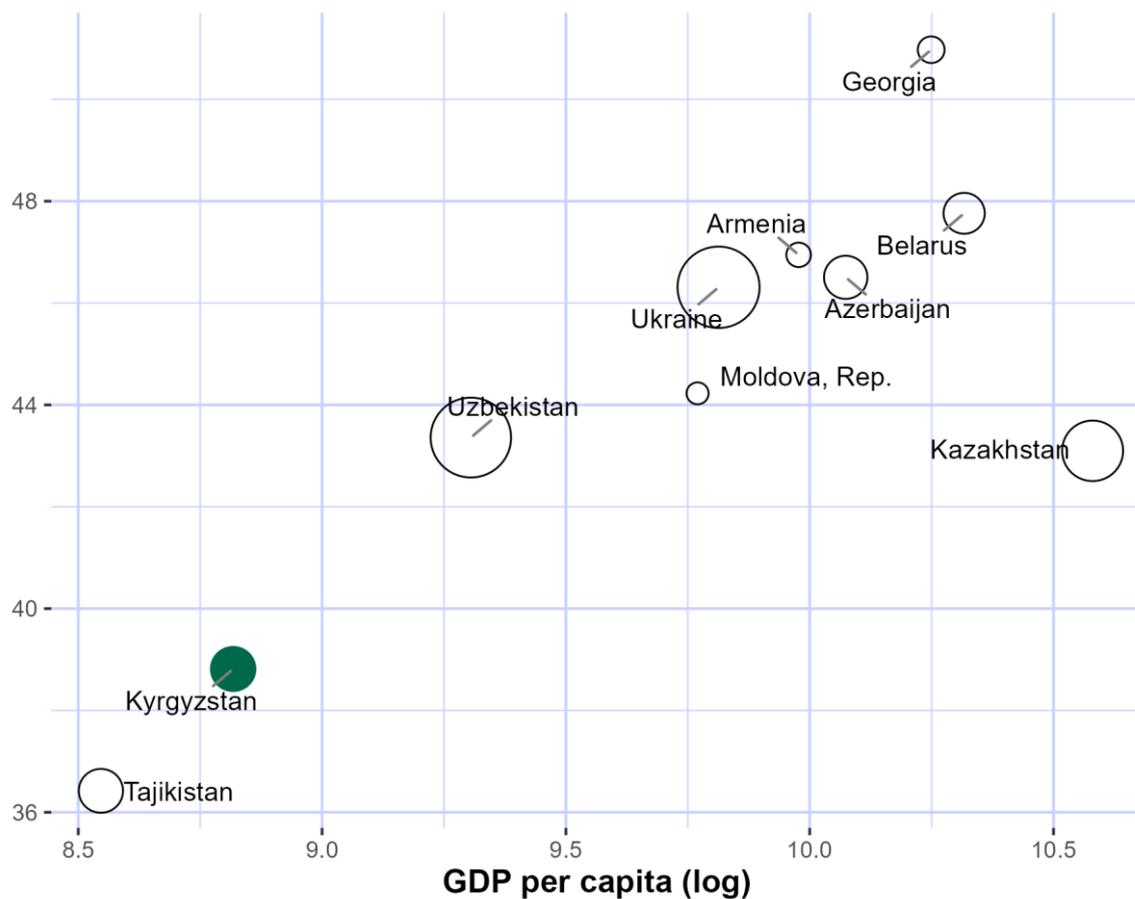
Comparison group	Top 3 scorers of the group	Score GAP: Kyrgyzstan score minus group highest score	Share of countries in the group ranked below Kyrgyzstan
Region			
Central and Southern Asia	Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan	-4.5	70%
Eastern, Southeastern Asia and Oceania	Singapore, Australia, New Zealand	-34.5	19%
Europe	Switzerland, Denmark, Finland	-34.3	0%
Latin America and the Caribbean	Chile, Uruguay, Costa Rica	-13.8	39%
Northern Africa and Western Asia	Israel, United Arab Emirates, Cyprus	-21.3	26%
Northern America	United States of America, Canada	-30.6	0%
Sub-Saharan Africa	Mauritius, Seychelles, South Africa	-10.9	84%
Income group			
High income	Singapore, Switzerland, Denmark	-34.5	0%
Upper-middle income	Georgia, Malaysia, Mauritius	-12.2	17%
Lower-middle income	Uzbekistan, Jordan, Philippines	-4.5	83%
Low income	Rwanda, Malawi, Gambia	4.9	100%

Comparison with group of competitors

Kyrgyzstan's group of competitors is defined as post-Soviet republics in Eurasia, excluding Russia. It comprises a group of 10 economies. Figure 2 plots how Kyrgyzstan fares against each competitor in terms of GTCI score and GDP per capita.

As can be seen, Kyrgyzstan'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 Kyrgyzstan and its identified competitors



Note: Bubble size indicates country population.

Performance against its income group and region

Lower-middle-income countries

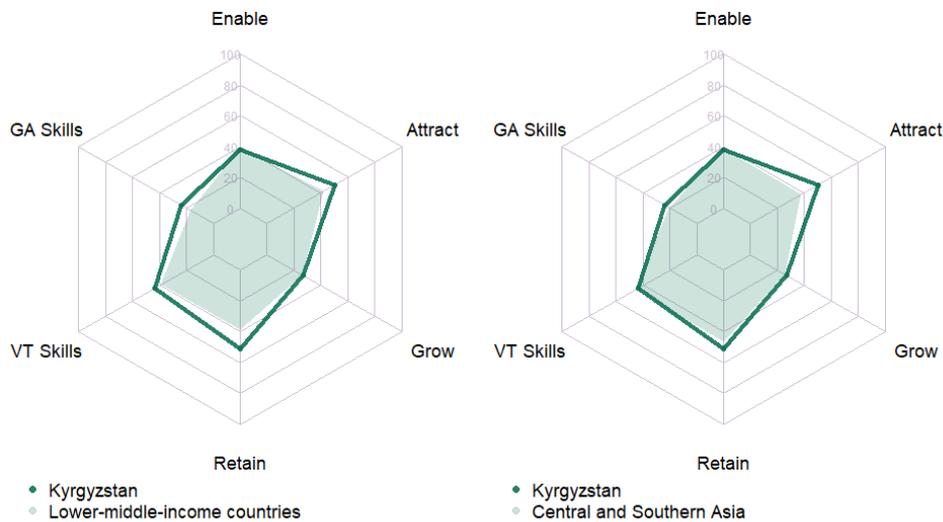
Kyrgyzstan is ranked 6th in the group of lower-middle-income countries (Figure 3, left panel). In terms of pillar performance, it has a higher score than the income group average in five of the six pillars: GTCI, Attract, Grow, Retain, VT and GA. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms lower-middle-income countries in ten of the fourteen sub-pillars: Business Labour Landscape, External Openness, Internal Openness, Formal Education, Access Growth Opportunities, Sustainability, Lifestyle, Midlevel Skills, Highlevel Skills and Talent Impact.

Central and Southern Asia

Kyrgyzstan is ranked 3rd within Central and Southern Asia (Figure 3, right panel). It has a score above the regional average in four of the six pillars: GTCI, Attract, Grow, Retain and GA. With regard to sub-pillars, it outperforms the average in Central and Southern Asia in nine of the fourteen sub-pillars: Business Labour Landscape, External Openness, Internal Openness, Lifelong Learning, Access Growth Opportunities, Sustainability, Lifestyle, Midlevel Skills and Highlevel Skills.



Figure 3: Kyrgyzstan 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, Kyrgyzstan’s ranking ranges from 74th to 95th place (see Figure 4). During GTCI 2020-GTCI 2025, Kyrgyzstan ranks 87 out of a total 134 countries (on average), which is a decline from the average rank of 86 in GTCI 2015-GTCI 2019.

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





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