

Malta - Country Brief

Global Talent Competitiveness Index (GTCI) 2025

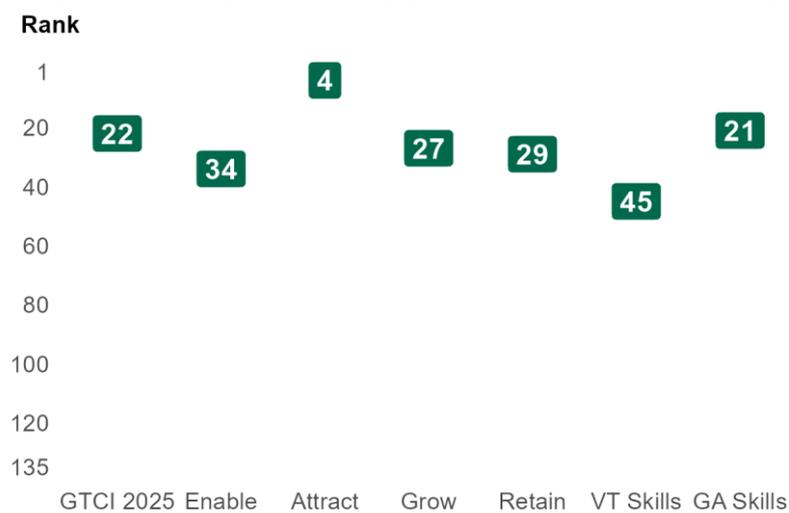


Total population:	0.57 million
GDP:	US\$ 24.315 billion
GDP (PPP) per capita:	US\$ 73,259 (14 out of 135 countries)
Country income level:	High income
GTCI 2025 ranking:	22 (out of 135)

Global GTCI position

In GTCI 2025, Malta is ranked 22nd out of a sample of 135 countries (Figure 1). When it comes to sub-pillars, the strongest showings of Malta relate to External Openness, Access to Growth Opportunities and Talent Impact, among others. Still, more could be done to improve the economy's performances in the Market Landscape, Employability and Mid-level Skills sub-pillars.

Figure 1: Malta 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

Malta is situated in Europe and is classified as High income. Within its region, the country is ranked 17th out of 39 countries (Table 1).

Malta is ranked 22nd within the group of High income countries (implying that 58 percent of countries rank lower).

Table 1: Malta performance vs. income groups and regions

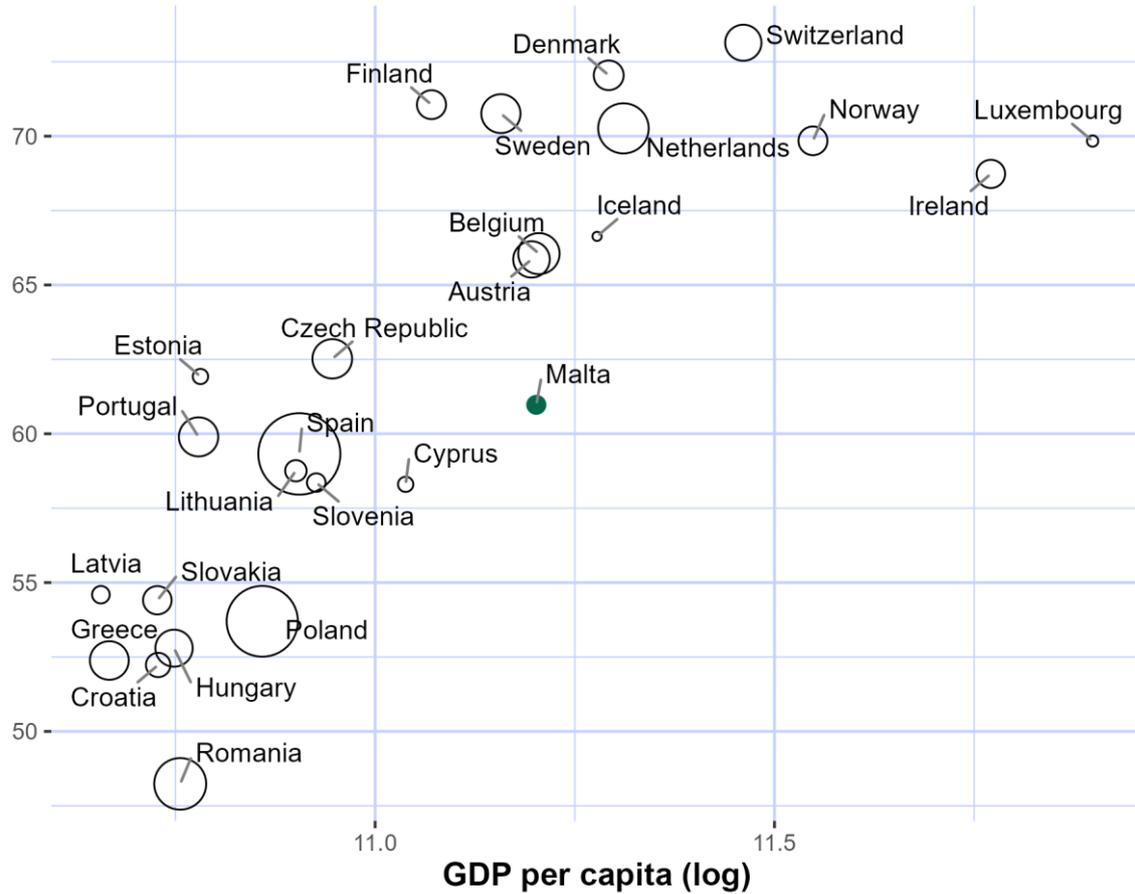
Comparison group	Top 3 scorers of the group	Score GAP: Malta score minus group highest score	Share of countries in the group ranked below Malta
Region			
Central and Southern Asia	Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan	17.6	100%
Eastern, Southeastern Asia and Oceania	Singapore, Australia, New Zealand	-12.3	81%
Europe	Switzerland, Denmark, Finland	-12.2	56%
Latin America and the Caribbean	Chile, Uruguay, Costa Rica	8.3	100%
Northern Africa and Western Asia	Israel, United Arab Emirates, Cyprus	0.8	100%
Northern America	United States of America, Canada	-8.4	0%
Sub-Saharan Africa	Mauritius, Seychelles, South Africa	11.3	100%
Income group			
High income	Singapore, Switzerland, Denmark	-12.3	58%
Upper-middle income	Georgia, Malaysia, Mauritius	10.0	100%
Lower-middle income	Uzbekistan, Jordan, Philippines	17.6	100%
Low income	Rwanda, Malawi, Gambia	27.0	100%

Comparison with group of competitors

Malta'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 Malta fares against each competitor in terms of GTCI score and GDP per capita.

As can be seen, Malta's GTCI score and GDP per capita are, respectively, lower and higher than the corresponding medians of its group of competitors. Thus, Malta is underachieving against its group of competitors. Thus, the country's talent competitiveness is below what would be expected given its income level.

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



Note: Bubble size indicates country population.

Performance against its income group and region

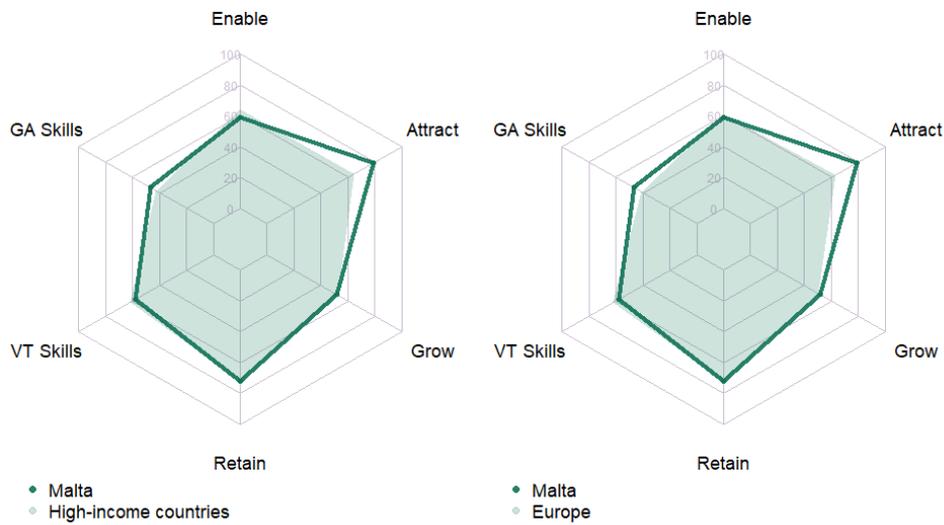
High-income countries

Malta is ranked 22nd 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 three of the six pillars: GTCI, Attract, Retain and GA. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms high-income countries in seven of the fourteen sub-pillars: External Openness, Internal Openness, Lifelong Learning, Access Growth Opportunities, Lifestyle, Highlevel Skills and Talent Impact.

Europe

Malta is ranked 17th within Europe (Figure 3, right panel). It has a score above the regional average in three of the six pillars: GTCI, Attract, Grow and GA. With regard to sub-pillars, it outperforms the average in Europe in seven of the fourteen sub-pillars: External Openness, Internal Openness, Lifelong Learning, Access Growth Opportunities, Lifestyle, Highlevel Skills and Talent Impact.

Figure 3: Malta 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, Malta’s ranking ranges from 21st to 28th place (see Figure 4). During GTCI 2020-GTCI 2025, Malta ranks 22 out of a total 134 countries (on average), which is better than the average rank of 26 in GTCI 2015-GTCI 2019.

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





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