Türkiye - Country Brief
Global Talent Competitiveness Index (GTCI) 2025
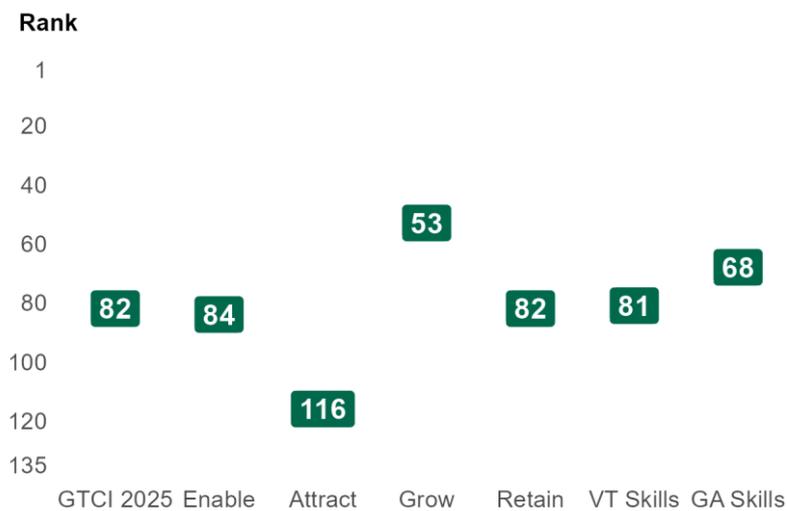
Total population:	85.52 million
GDP:	US$ 1322.405 billion
GDP (PPP) per capita:	US$ 40,501
	(48 out of 135 countries)
Country income level:	Upper-middle income
GTCI 2025 ranking:	82 (out of 135)

Global GTCI position

In GTCI 2025, Türkiye is ranked 82nd out of a sample of 135 countries (Figure 1). When it comes to sub-pillars, the strongest showings of Türkiye relate to Formal Education, Market Landscape and Lifelong Learning, among others. Still, more could be done to improve the economy's performances in the Regulatory Landscape, Internal Openness and Business and Labour Landscape sub-pillars.

Figure 1: Türkiye 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

Türkiye is situated in Northern Africa and Western Asia and is classified as Upper-middle income. Within its region, the country is ranked 14th out of 19 countries (Table 1).

Türkiye is ranked 25th within the group of Upper-middle income countries (implying that 29 percent of countries rank lower).

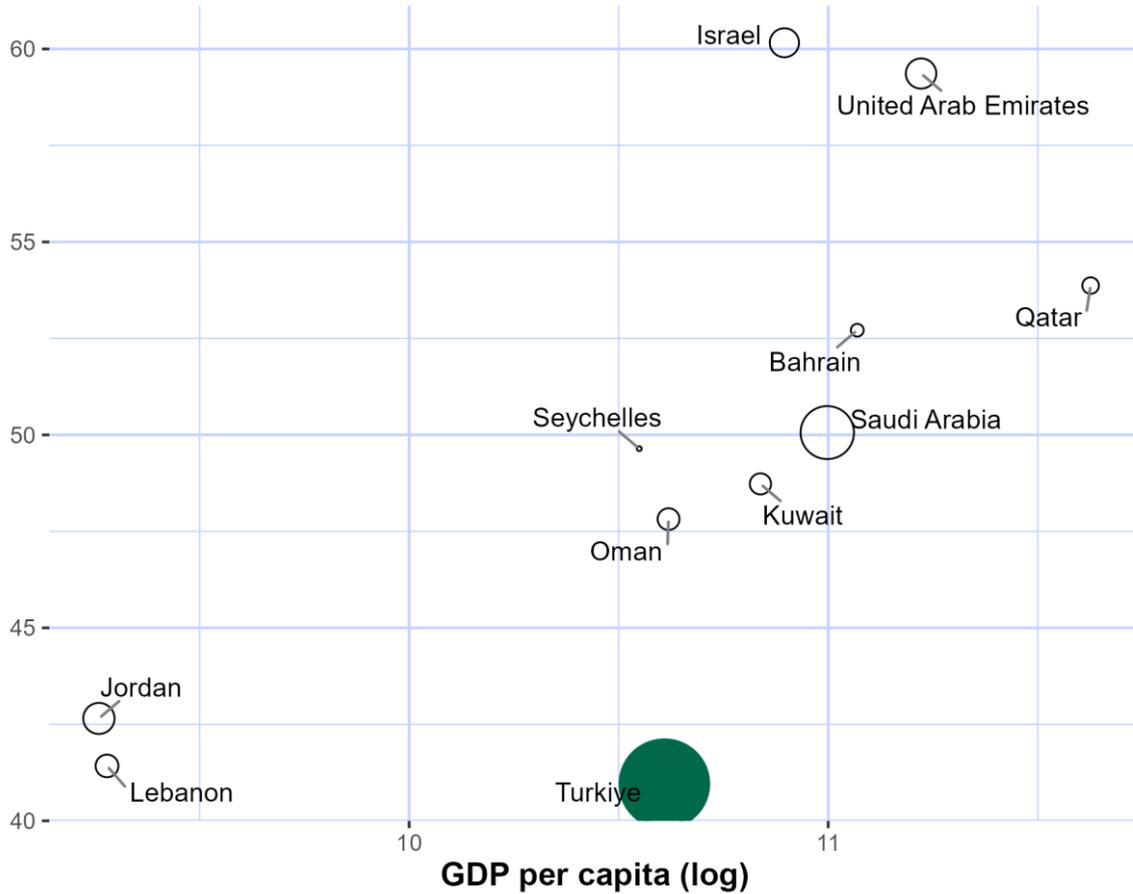**Table 1: Türkiye performance vs. income groups and regions**

Comparison group	Top 3 scorers of the group	Score GAP: Türkiye score minus group highest score	Share of countries in the group ranked below Türkiye
Region			
Central and Southern Asia	Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan	-2.4	80%
Eastern, Southeastern Asia and Oceania	Singapore, Australia, New Zealand	-32.3	19%
Europe	Switzerland, Denmark, Finland	-32.2	0%
Latin America and the Caribbean	Chile, Uruguay, Costa Rica	-11.7	50%
Northern Africa and Western Asia	Israel, United Arab Emirates, Cyprus	-19.2	26%
Northern America	United States of America, Canada	-28.5	0%
Sub-Saharan Africa	Mauritius, Seychelles, South Africa	-8.7	90%
Income group			
High income	Singapore, Switzerland, Denmark	-32.3	0%
Upper-middle income	Georgia, Malaysia, Mauritius	-10.0	29%
Lower-middle income	Uzbekistan, Jordan, Philippines	-2.4	86%
Low income	Rwanda, Malawi, Gambia	7.0	100%

Comparison with group of competitors

Türkiye's group of competitors is defined as high-income countries located in Western Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa plus Jordan, Lebanon, and Türkiye. It comprises a group of 11 economies. Figure 2 plots how Türkiye fares against each competitor in terms of GTCI score and GDP per capita.

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

Note: Bubble size indicates country population.
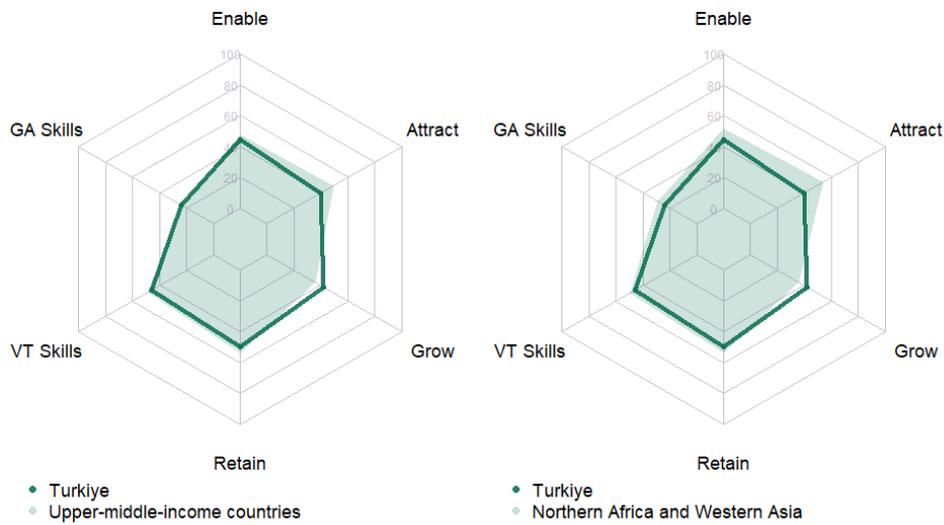

Performance against its income group and region

Upper-middle-income countries
Türkiye is ranked 25th 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 two of the six pillars: Grow and GA. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms upper-middle-income countries in five of the fourteen sub-pillars: Market Landscape, Formal Education, Lifelong Learning, Highlevel Skills and Talent Impact.

Northern Africa and Western Asia
Türkiye is ranked 14th within Northern Africa and Western Asia (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 Northern Africa and Western Asia in three of the fourteen sub-pillars: Market Landscape, Formal Education and Lifelong Learning.

Figure 3: Türkiye 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, Türkiye's ranking ranges from 59th to 82nd place (see Figure 4). During GTCI 2020-GTCI 2025, Türkiye ranks 80 out of a total 134 countries (on average), which is a decline from the average rank of 65 in GTCI 2015-GTCI 2019.

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

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