

Uzbekistan - Country Brief

Global Talent Competitiveness Index (GTCI) 2025

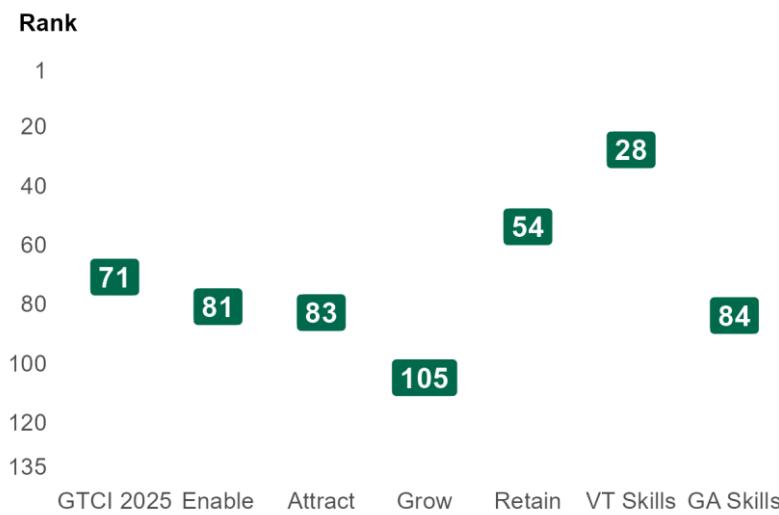


Total population:	36.36 million
GDP:	US\$ 114.962 billion
GDP (PPP) per capita:	US\$ 10,994 (94 out of 135 countries)
Country income level:	Lower-middle income
GTCI 2025 ranking:	71 (out of 135)

Global GTCI position

In GTCI 2025, Uzbekistan is ranked 71st out of a sample of 135 countries (Figure 1). When it comes to sub-pillars, the strongest showings of Uzbekistan relate to Employability, Mid-level Skills and Internal Openness, among others. Still, more could be done to improve the economy's performances in the External Openness, Lifelong Learning and Access to Growth Opportunities sub-pillars.

Figure 1: Uzbekistan 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

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

Uzbekistan is ranked 1st within the group of Lower-middle income countries (implying that 97 percent of countries rank lower).

Table 1: Uzbekistan performance vs. income groups and regions

Comparison group	Top 3 scorers of the group	Score GAP: Uzbekistan score minus group highest score	Share of countries in the group ranked below Uzbekistan
Region			
Central and Southern Asia	Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan	0.0	90%
Eastern, Southeastern Asia and Oceania	Singapore, Australia, New Zealand	-29.9	44%
Europe	Switzerland, Denmark, Finland	-29.8	0%
Latin America and the Caribbean	Chile, Uruguay, Costa Rica	-9.3	61%
Northern Africa and Western Asia	Israel, United Arab Emirates, Cyprus	-16.8	42%
Northern America	United States of America, Canada	-26.1	0%
Sub-Saharan Africa	Mauritius, Seychelles, South Africa	-6.3	94%
Income group			
High income	Singapore, Switzerland, Denmark	-29.9	2%
Upper-middle income	Georgia, Malaysia, Mauritius	-7.6	46%
Lower-middle income	Uzbekistan, Jordan, Philippines	0.0	97%
Low income	Rwanda, Malawi, Gambia	9.4	100%

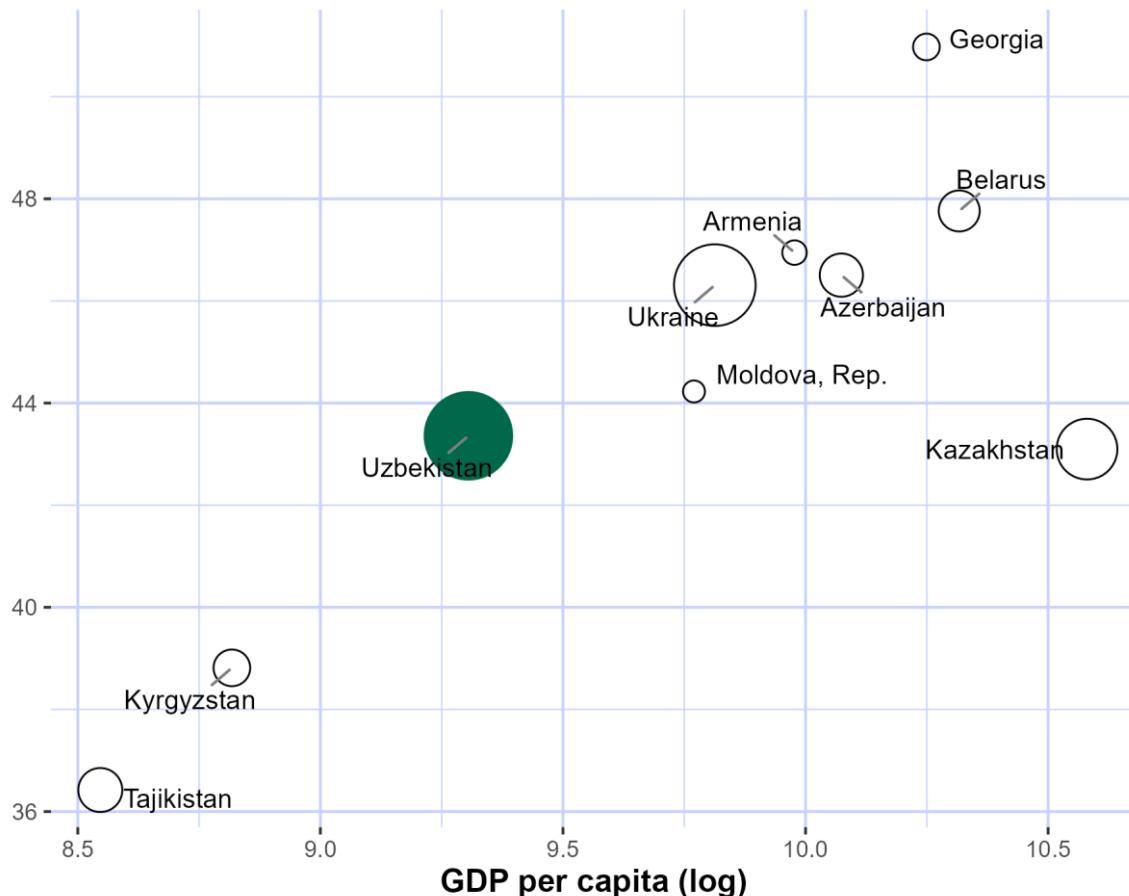
Comparison with group of competitors

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

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

GTCI score



Note: Bubble size indicates country population.

Performance against its income group and region

Lower-middle-income countries

Uzbekistan is ranked 1st 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, Enable, Attract, Retain, VT and GA. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms lower-middle-income countries in eleven of the fourteen sub-pillars: Regulatory Landscape, Market Landscape, Business Labour Landscape, Internal Openness, Formal Education, Sustainability, Lifestyle, Midlevel Skills, Employability, Highlevel Skills and Talent Impact.

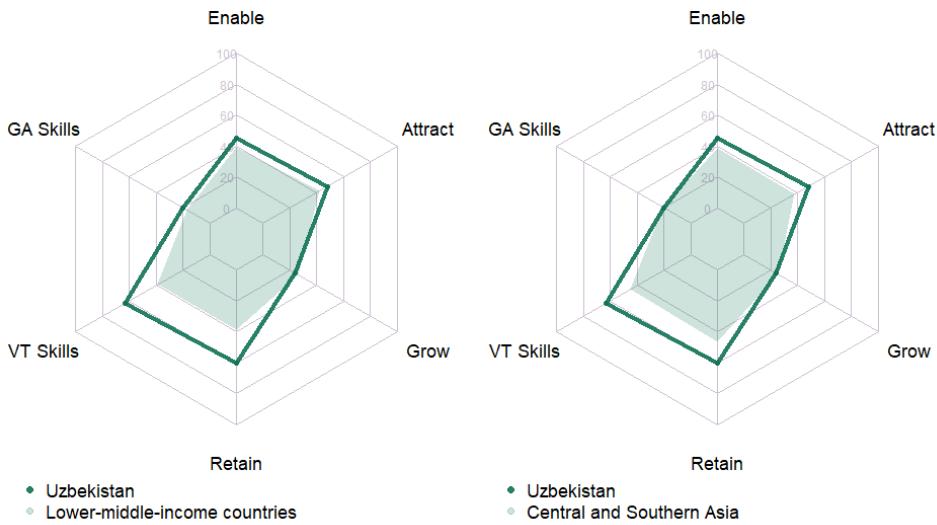
Central and Southern Asia

Uzbekistan is ranked 1st within Central and Southern Asia (Figure 3, right panel). It has a score above the regional average in four of the six pillars: GTCI, Enable, Attract, Retain and VT. With regard to sub-pillars, it outperforms the average in Central and Southern Asia in eleven of the fourteen sub-pillars: Regulatory Landscape, Market Landscape, Business Labour Landscape, External Openness, Internal Openness, Lifelong Learning, Sustainability, Lifestyle, Midlevel Skills, Employability and Highlevel Skills.



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Figure 3: Uzbekistan 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, Uzbekistan's ranking ranges from 62nd to 71st place (see Figure 4).

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



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