

Insight Report

The Global Competitiveness Report 2015–2016

Highlights



The Global Competitiveness Index 2015–2016 Rankings

Covering 140 economies, the Global Competitiveness Index 2015–2016 measures national competitiveness—defined as the set of institutions, policies and factors that determine the level of productivity.

Economy	Score ¹	Prev. ²	Trend ³	Economy	Score ¹	Prev. ²	Trend ³	Economy	Score ¹	Prev. ²	Trend ³
1 Switzerland	5.76	1		44 Malta	4.39	47		95 El Salvador	3.67	84	
2 Singapore	5.68	2		45 South Africa	4.39	56		96 Zambia	3.67	96	
3 United States	5.61	3		46 Panama	4.38	48		97 Seychelles	3.66	82	
4 Germany	5.53	5		47 Turkey	4.37	45		98 Dominican Republic	3.66	101	
5 Netherlands	5.50	8		48 Costa Rica	4.33	51		99 Kenya	3.65	90	
6 Japan	5.47	6		49 Romania	4.32	59		100 Nepal	3.65	102	
7 Hong Kong SAR	5.46	7		50 Bulgaria	4.32	54		101 Lebanon	3.64	113	
8 Finland	5.45	4		51 India	4.31	71		102 Kyrgyz Republic	3.63	108	
9 Sweden	5.43	10		52 Vietnam	4.30	68		103 Gabon	3.63	106	
10 United Kingdom	5.43	9		53 Mexico	4.29	61		104 Mongolia	3.61	98	
11 Norway	5.41	11		54 Rwanda	4.29	62		105 Bhutan	3.60	103	
12 Denmark	5.33	13		55 Slovenia	4.28	70		106 Argentina	3.79	104	
13 Canada	5.31	15		56 Macedonia, FYR	4.28	63		107 Bangladesh	3.76	109	
14 Qatar	5.30	16		57 Colombia	4.28	66		108 Nicaragua	3.75	99	
15 Taiwan, China	5.28	14		58 Oman	4.25	46		109 Ethiopia	3.75	118	
16 New Zealand	5.25	17		59 Hungary	4.25	60		110 Senegal	3.73	112	
17 United Arab Emirates	5.24	12		60 Jordan	4.23	64		111 Bosnia & Herzegovina	3.71	n/a	
18 Malaysia	5.23	20		61 Cyprus	4.23	58		112 Cape Verde	3.70	114	
19 Belgium	5.20	18		62 Georgia	4.22	69		113 Lesotho	3.70	107	
20 Luxembourg	5.20	19		63 Slovak Republic	4.22	75		114 Cameroon	3.69	116	
21 Australia	5.15	22		64 Sri Lanka	4.21	73		115 Uganda	3.66	122	
22 France	5.13	23		65 Peru	4.21	65		116 Egypt	3.66	119	
23 Austria	5.12	21		66 Montenegro	4.20	67		117 Bolivia	3.60	105	
24 Ireland	5.11	25		67 Botswana	4.19	74		118 Paraguay	3.60	120	
25 Saudi Arabia	5.07	24		68 Morocco	4.17	72		119 Ghana	3.58	111	
26 Korea, Rep.	4.99	26		69 Uruguay	4.09	80		120 Tanzania	3.57	121	
27 Israel	4.98	27		70 Iran, Islamic Rep.	4.09	83		121 Guyana	3.56	117	
28 China	4.89	28		71 Brazil	4.08	57		122 Benin	3.55	n/a	
29 Iceland	4.83	30		72 Ecuador	4.07	n/a		123 Gambia, The	3.48	125	
30 Estonia	4.74	29		73 Croatia	4.07	77		124 Nigeria	3.46	127	
31 Czech Republic	4.69	37		74 Guatemala	4.05	78		125 Zimbabwe	3.45	124	
32 Thailand	4.64	31		75 Ukraine	4.03	76		126 Pakistan	3.45	129	
33 Spain	4.59	35		76 Tajikistan	4.03	91		127 Mali	3.44	128	
34 Kuwait	4.59	40		77 Greece	4.02	81		128 Swaziland	3.40	123	
35 Chile	4.58	33		78 Armenia	4.01	85		129 Liberia	3.37	n/a	
36 Lithuania	4.55	41		79 Lao PDR	4.00	83		130 Madagascar	3.32	130	
37 Indonesia	4.52	34		80 Moldova	4.00	82		131 Myanmar	3.32	134	
38 Portugal	4.52	36		81 Namibia	3.99	88		132 Venezuela	3.30	131	
39 Bahrain	4.52	44		82 Jamaica	3.97	86		133 Mozambique	3.20	133	
40 Azerbaijan	4.50	38		83 Algeria	3.97	79		134 Haiti	3.18	137	
41 Poland	4.49	43		84 Honduras	3.95	100		135 Malawi	3.15	132	
42 Kazakhstan	4.49	50		85 Trinidad and Tobago	3.94	89		136 Burundi	3.11	139	
43 Italy	4.46	49		86 Cambodia	3.94	85		137 Sierra Leone	3.06	138	
44 Latvia	4.45	42		87 Côte d'Ivoire	3.93	115		138 Mauritania	3.03	141	
45 Russian Federation	4.44	53		88 Tunisia	3.93	87		139 Chad	2.96	143	
46 Mauritius	4.43	39		89 Albania	3.93	97		140 Guinea	2.84	144	
47 Philippines	4.39	52		90 Serbia	3.89	94					

● Advanced Economies
 ● Middle East, North Africa, and Pakistan
 ● Emerging and Developing Asia
 ● Latin America and the Caribbean
 ● Commonwealth of Independent States
 ● Emerging and Developing Europe
 ● Sub-Saharan Africa

Note: The Global Competitiveness Index captures the fundamentals of an economy. Recent developments, including currency (e.g., Switzerland) and commodity price fluctuations (e.g., Azerbaijan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia), geopolitical uncertainties (e.g., Ukraine), and security issues (e.g., Turkey) must be kept in mind when interpreting the results.

¹ Scale ranges from 1 to 7.

² 2014–2015 rank out of 144 economies.

³ Evolution in percentile rank since 2007.

Reforms to improve productivity needed to break out of the “new normal”

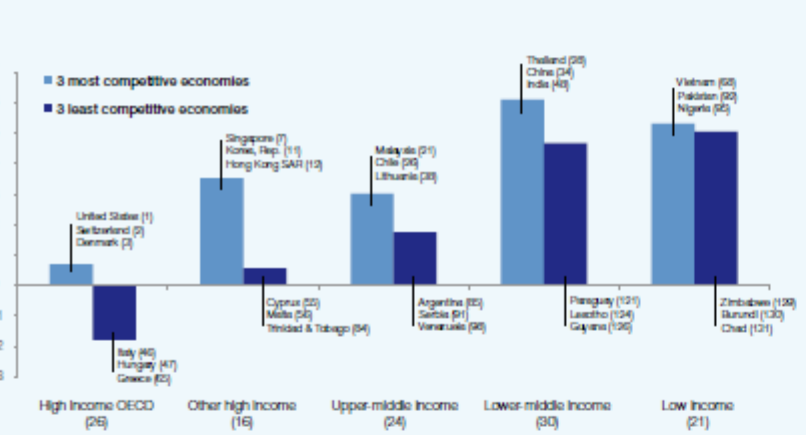
Despite substantive efforts to re-ignite recovery, global economic growth remains low and unemployment persistently high. *The Global Competitiveness Report 2015-2016* calls for productivity-enhancing reforms to break with this pattern.

Seven years after the beginning of the financial crisis in 2008, its consequences are still being felt around the world. The recovery has been less robust, more uncertain and taken longer than many expected, suggesting a “new normal” of subdued economic growth, lower productivity growth and high unemployment. Recent geopolitical shocks – from the crisis in Ukraine to conflicts in the Middle East, terrorism and the migrant crisis – have added to economic difficulties.

Addressing constraints to growth on the supply side could go a long way to restoring growth. Through a systematic assessment of the drivers of productivity, the *Report* identifies priority areas for structural reforms.

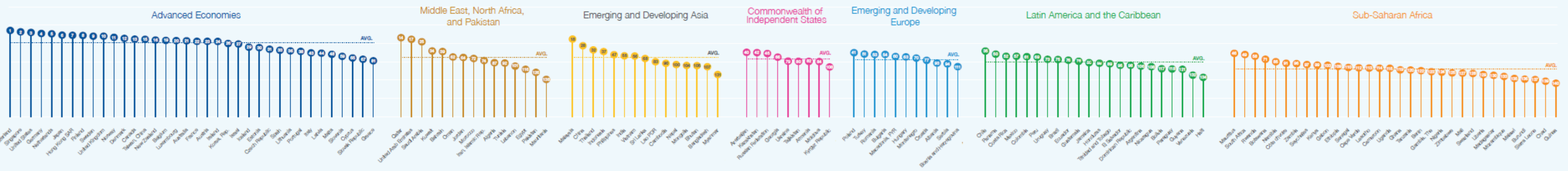
Average growth rates of the most and least competitive economies, by income group

Average growth rate, 2007–14

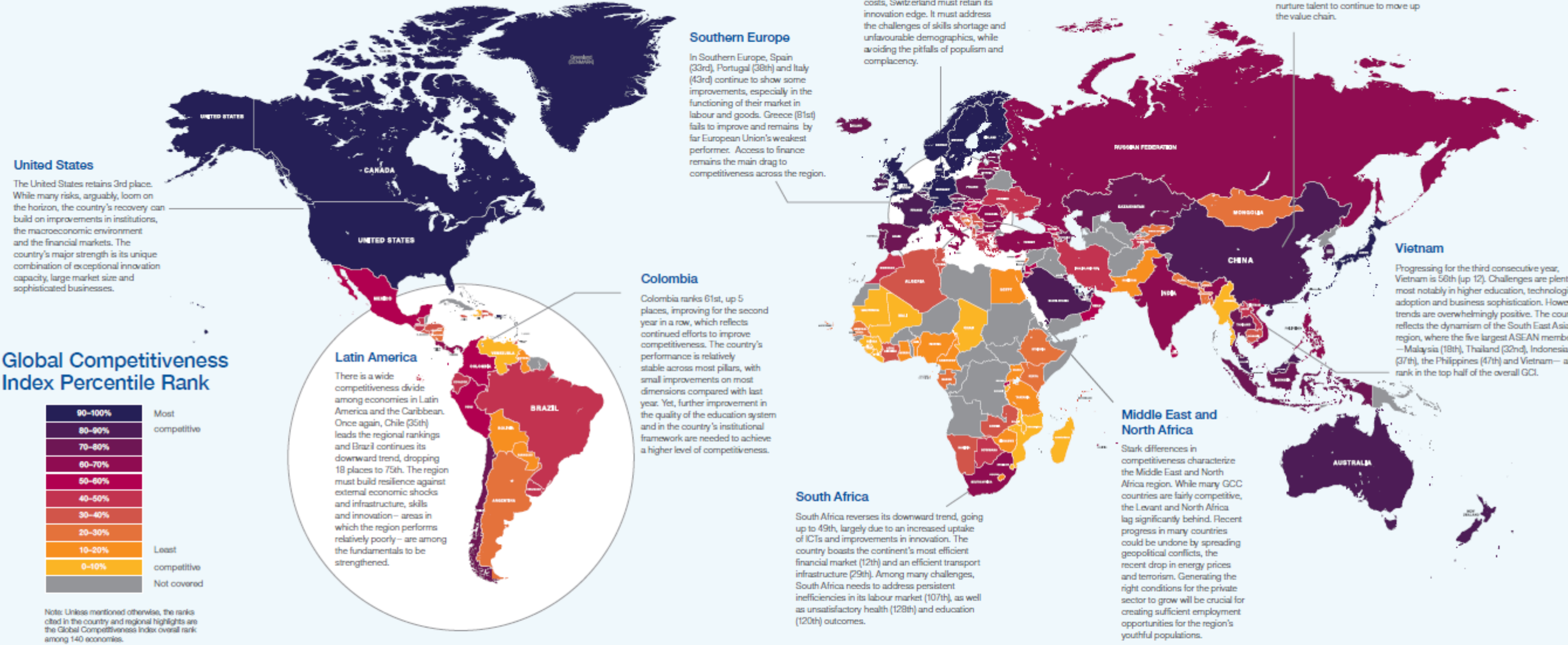


Sources: World Economic Forum; IMF
Note: The GCI 2007–2008 rank out of 131 appears next to the country name. The number of economies included in each group is indicated in parentheses along the x-axis.

Regional Rankings



The Global Competitiveness Map



About the Global Competitiveness Index

Competitiveness is defined as the set of institutions, policies and factors that determine a country's level of productivity. The level of productivity, in turn, sets the level of prosperity that can be reached by an economy.

Since 2005, the World Economic Forum has based its competitiveness analysis on the Global Competitiveness Index (GCI), a comprehensive framework that measures the microeconomic and macroeconomic foundations of national competitiveness, grouped into 12 categories.

To produce *The Global Competitiveness Report*, as well as other regional and industry benchmarking reports, the World Economic Forum relies on a large set of data sourced from international organizations such as the World Bank, the United Nations and the International Monetary Fund, and from its own annual Executive Opinion Survey.

The Survey captures invaluable information on a broad range of economic and social factors, for which data sources are non-existent, too scarce, unreliable, or outdated. In 2015, the Survey captured the opinions of over 14,000 business executives.

The GCI Framework: The 12 Pillars of Competitiveness



Latest Research

The Global Competitiveness and Risks Team measures the drivers of social and economic development through a set of proprietary global Indexes and conducts an annual assessment of global risks. Its research serves as a platform for multi-stakeholder dialogue and public-private cooperation for better policymaking and more resilience.



The Global Risks 2015 Report

Every year since 2006, this report assesses the global risks landscape and analyzes the complex interconnections among key risks. Drawing on the perspectives of leading experts, the report aims to stimulate multi-stakeholder dialogue around the world on how to address, mitigate, and prepare for the most significant risks. Visit www.weforum.org/risks.



The Global Information Technology Report 2015

Launched in 2001, *The Global Information Technology Report* series features the Network Readiness Index, an annual assessment of the factors, policies and institutions that enable a country to fully leverage information and communication technologies (ICTs) for increased competitiveness and well-being. Under the theme 'ICTs for inclusive growth', the 2015 edition evaluates 143 economies and showcases practical solutions to allow everyone to participate in and benefit from the ICT revolution. Visit www.weforum.org/gitr.



The Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Report 2015

This report assesses economies based on the policies they are implementing to develop the travel and tourism sector. It explores how the travel and tourism industry has the potential to boost economic resilience and job creation, and examines a number of factors that continue to hinder its development. Visit www.weforum.org/tcr.



The Africa Competitiveness Report 2015

The Africa Competitiveness Report highlights areas that require policy action and investment to ensure Africa's sustained growth. The Report, which is the result of a long-standing collaboration, leverages the knowledge and expertise of the African Development Bank, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the World Bank Group, and the World Economic Forum to present a joint vision to inform policies that can help Africa transform its economies. Visit www.weforum.org/acr.

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About the World Economic Forum

The World Economic Forum is an international institution committed to improving the state of the world through public-private cooperation in the spirit of global citizenship. It engages with business, political, academic and other leaders of society to shape global, regional and industry agendas.

Incorporated as a not-for-profit foundation in 1971 and headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, the Forum is independent, impartial and not tied to any interests. It cooperates closely with all leading international organizations.