



# Global Innovation Index 2021

## Why in News

Recently, India has climbed two spots and has been **ranked 46<sup>th</sup> in the [Global Innovation Index \(GII\) 2021 rankings](#)**.

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## The seven GII pillar scores for India



## Key Points

### ▪ Global Innovation Index (GII) 2021:

#### ◦ About:

- **Launch:** The GII is launched by the [World Intellectual Property Organization \(WIPO\)](#), a specialized agency of the [United Nations](#).
- The GII aims to capture the multi-dimensional facets of innovation ranking and rich analysis referencing around **132 economies**.

- **Partnership:** It is published in **partnership with the Portulans Institute and other corporate partners:**
  - The Brazilian National Confederation of Industry (CNI), [Confederation of Indian Industry \(CII\)](#), Ecopetrol (Colombia) and the Turkish Exporters Assembly (TIM).
- **Indicators:** The index ranks world economies according to their innovation capabilities and consists of roughly 80 indicators grouped into **innovation inputs** and **outputs**.
  - **Innovation inputs:** Institutions; Human capital and research; Infrastructure; Market sophistication; Business sophistication.
  - **Innovation outputs:** Knowledge and technology outputs; Creative outputs
- **Global Performance:**
  - **Top Five: Switzerland, Sweden, U.S., and U.K.** continue to lead the innovation ranking, and have all ranked in the top 5 in the past three years.
    - The **Republic of Korea** joins the top 5 of the GII for the first time in 2021.
  - **Asian Countries:** Four Asian economies feature in the top 15: **Singapore (8), China (12), Japan (13) and Hong Kong, China (14).**
- **India's Performance:**
  - India has been on an upward trajectory over the past few years in the [GII](#).
    - India has shot up from a rank of 81 in 2015 to 46 in 2021.
  - India performs better in **innovation outputs** than **innovation inputs** in 2021.
    - This year India ranks **57<sup>th</sup> in innovation inputs**, the same as last year but higher than 2019.
    - As for innovation outputs, **India ranks 45<sup>th</sup>**. This position is the same as last year but higher than 2019.
  - India **ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> among the 34 lower middle-income group economies.**
  - India **ranks 1<sup>st</sup> among the 10 economies in Central and Southern Asia.**
  - The government attributed the country's improved performance to the departments of atomic energy, science and technology, biotechnology and space.
- **Other Findings from the GII 2021:**
  - **Investments in innovation** reached an **all-time high** before the pandemic with R&D growing at an exceptional rate of 8.5% in 2019.
  - **Government budget allocations** for the top R&D spending economies showed continued growth in 2020.
  - The **publication of scientific articles worldwide grew by 7.6%** in 2020.
  - **India, Kenya, the Republic of Moldova, and VietNam** hold the record for **overperforming on innovation** relative to their level of development for the 11th year in a row.

## Note

- The [India Innovation Index](#) has been developed by [NITI \(National Institution for Transforming India\) Aayog](#) on the lines of the GII.
  - The index goes beyond traditional approaches by considering the best parameters in measuring innovation such as **patents per million of population, publication in scientific journals, percentage of GDP spending on research.**
  - It also adds parameters that are specific to the Indian economy (eg. [Demographic dividend](#)), to give it a more holistic coverage.

**Source: PIB**

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