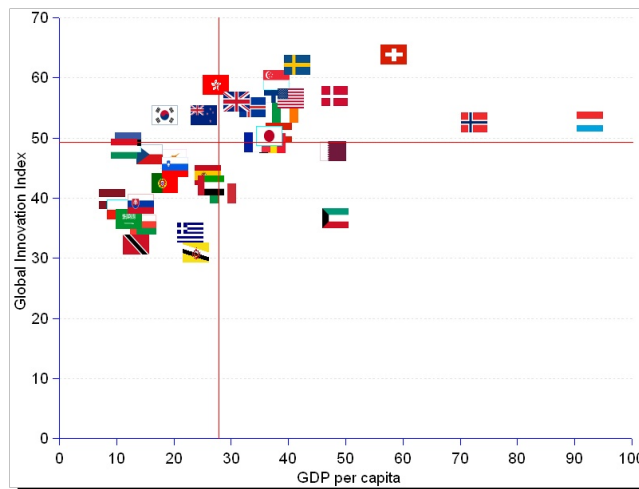


# Global Innovation Index High Income Countries – 2011

The chart shows the spread of the innovation score for the HI group (high income country group according to the World Bank classification) as a function of the GDP (gross domestic product) per capita. The vertical red line corresponds to the median GDP per capita — \$28 thousand — for the HI countries. The horizontal red line represents the median innovation score — 49.22 —, significantly higher than the median for the set of 125 countries — 34.18 — for which the innovation score has been established.



GDP per capita, enjoy innovation indexes higher than the median (upper left quadrant)

The sub-set of economies above both median values — upper right quadrant — comprises such countries as Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Singapore, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States. It is an interesting mix in

A comparative glance at the 125-country list and the HI list reveals that innovation, like many other goodies, favors the wealthy and remains unaffordable to poor countries. Top ranking innovative countries enjoy pretty comfortable GDP per capita. Poor countries do not rank well.

which prevail small or even minuscule countries : 11 countries have a population of 10 million or less, and only 3 countries count 65 million or above. The fact suggests that, even amongst high income and high innovative countries, the smaller ones achieve higher performances than the heavyweights.

However, riches are not all. Some countries achieve modest innovation scores, despite enjoying lush incomes from their natural resources — the case of Brunei, Oman, Bahrain, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE or Kuwait. This suggests that living on a rent may not be a strong enough stimulus to induce innovative high performance. This inference is corroborated by the fact that countries such as Estonia, Hungary, Czech Republic, Hong Kong or Korea, despite being below the median

There is also a strong correlation ( $r = 0.76$ ;  $R^2 = 0.57$ ). between the innovation score of the HI countries and the index of the 100 world top universities per capita. Although this could be expected, the fact seems to validate the view according to which high level universities are good catalysts of innovation.

Tongue on cheek, one may conclude that one's country will have a hard time to score high in innovation if it is big, lives on a rent, its universities suck, or if it is simply penniless. 🚫

Global Innovation Index High Income Countries * 2011				
Country	Innovation Score	Population 2011 (million)	GDP 2010 (billion US\$) <sup>1</sup>	GDP per capita (thousand US\$)
Australia	49.85	23	843 <sup>2</sup>	35.9
Austria	50.75	8.8	339	38.4
Bahrain	37.8	1.328	19 <sup>2</sup>	14.1
Belgium	49.05	11	421	37.2
Brunei Daruss	30.93	0.409	10 <sup>2</sup>	23.9
Canada	56.33	36	1418	39.7
Croatia	37.98	4.6	55	12
Cyprus	46.45	1.146	23 <sup>2</sup>	19.9
Czech Repub	47.3	11	173	15.8
Denmark	56.96	5.8	280	48.2
Estonia	49.18	1.4	17	12
Finland	57.5	5.6	215	38.1
France	49.25	67	2306	34.6
Germany	54.89	86	2982	34.5
Greece	34.18	12	275	22.9
Hong Kong (S	58.8	7.4	202	27.4
Hungary	48.12	10	118	11.3
Iceland	55.1	0.336	11	33.8
Ireland	54.1	4.7	184	39.5
Israel	54.03	7.8	196	25.2
Italy	40.69	64	1848	28.7
Japan	50.32	135	4953	36.7
Korea, Repub	53.68	49	914	18.5
Kuwait	36.64	2.8	136 <sup>3</sup>	48.2
Latvia	39.8	2.3	22	9.2
Luxembourg	52.65	0.536	50	92.7
Netherlands	56.31	17	706	40.7
New Zealand	53.79	4.6	115 <sup>2</sup>	25.3
Norway	52.6	5.1	373	72.5
Oman	35.51	2.9	42 <sup>2</sup>	14.7
Poland	38.02	40	422	10.6
Portugal	42.4	11	206	18.4
Qatar	47.74	1.9	90 <sup>2</sup>	47.9
Saudi Arabia	36.44	28	342 <sup>2</sup>	12.1
Singapore	59.64	5.3	201	38
Slovak Repub	39.05	5.6	80	14.3
Slovenia	45.07	2.1	43	20.3
Spain	43.81	49	1268	26
Sweden	62.12	10	413	41.5
Switzerland	63.82	8.1	472	58.4
Trinidad and T	32.17	1.4	18	13.5
United Arab E	41.99	7.9	210 <sup>2</sup>	26.6
United Kingdo	55.96	65	2024	31
United States	56.57	325	13138	40.4
Median	49.22			28
* The World Bank divides world economies in "income groups", according to 2010 gross national income (GNI) per capita. The groups are : low income, \$1,005 or less; lower middle income, \$1,006 - \$3,975; upper middle income, \$3,976 - \$12,275; and high income, \$12,276 or more.				
<sup>1</sup> Real US dollars, 2005=100				
<sup>2</sup> GDP value for 2009				
<sup>3</sup> GDP value for 2008				

Sources: INSEAD - The Global Innovation Index for the innovation index, United Nations Population Division for population data, and World DataBank – The World Bank for GDP estimates.