COUNTRY PROFILE

AUSTRALIA

IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook 2020, Talent & Digital 2019: summaries
WORLD COMPETITIVENESS RANKING 2020

All data are available from the World Competitiveness Online.

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OVERALL PERFORMANCE (63 countries)

CHALLENGES IN 2020
- Maintain the health, safety and wellbeing of Australia’s workforce.
- Stabilise the economy with fiscal and monetary policies that prioritise employment.
- Manage structural transitions for workers, businesses and regions impacted by Covid-19.
- Reboot Australia’s services sector amid ongoing social restrictions.
- Use digital technologies to increase productivity and enhance consumer convenience.

Provided by:
CEDA - Committee for Economic Development of Australia

COMPETITIVENESS LANDSCAPE

PEER GROUPS RANKINGS

ASIA - PACIFIC (14 countries)
COMPETITIVENESS EVOLUTION

The criteria below highlight the 15 biggest Improvements and the 15 biggest Declines in the overall performance of the economy. They are determined by the largest percentage changes in the value of each criterion from one yearbook to the next.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPROVEMENTS</th>
<th>WCY 2019</th>
<th>WCY 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.2.02 Current account balance</td>
<td>-2.11</td>
<td>0.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1.02 Government budget surplus/deficit (%)</td>
<td>-0.53</td>
<td>-0.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2.16 High-tech exports (%)</td>
<td>12.79</td>
<td>16.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3.07 Regulatory compliance (banking laws)</td>
<td>5.96</td>
<td>7.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4.14 Start-up days</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5.01 Consumer price inflation</td>
<td>1.98</td>
<td>1.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5.04 Risk of political instability</td>
<td>6.78</td>
<td>8.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4.05 Corporate boards</td>
<td>5.25</td>
<td>5.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2.18 Cyber security</td>
<td>5.56</td>
<td>6.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3.10 Stock market capitalization (%)</td>
<td>94.43</td>
<td>106.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5.02 Homicide</td>
<td>0.94</td>
<td>0.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4.04 Credibility of managers</td>
<td>5.19</td>
<td>5.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3.11 Transparency</td>
<td>5.79</td>
<td>6.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1.09 Public finances</td>
<td>5.90</td>
<td>6.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5.01 Attitudes toward globalization</td>
<td>6.44</td>
<td>7.06</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DECLINES</th>
<th>WCY 2019</th>
<th>WCY 2020</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.3.08 Exchange rate stability</td>
<td>0.013</td>
<td>0.099</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.18 Gross fixed capital formation - real growth</td>
<td>2.70</td>
<td>-2.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.15 Real GDP growth per capita</td>
<td>1.19</td>
<td>0.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4.04 Employment - long-term growth</td>
<td>3.56</td>
<td>2.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.14 Labor force long-term growth</td>
<td>2.24</td>
<td>1.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3.12 Bureaucracy</td>
<td>5.02</td>
<td>4.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.19 Resilience of the economy</td>
<td>7.24</td>
<td>6.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.5.03 Gov. expenditure on education per student</td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>15.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.4.16 Labor regulations</td>
<td>6.08</td>
<td>5.42</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.2.01 Collected total tax revenues</td>
<td>27.02</td>
<td>29.70</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.2.12 Real personal taxes</td>
<td>6.13</td>
<td>5.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.21 Brain drain</td>
<td>6.50</td>
<td>5.91</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.4.27 Environmental laws</td>
<td>6.96</td>
<td>6.39</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.4.12 New business density</td>
<td>15.5</td>
<td>14.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1.14 Real GDP growth</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

KEY ATTRACTIVENESS INDICATORS

From a list of 15 indicators, respondents of the Executive Opinion Survey were asked to select 5 that they perceived as the key attractiveness factors of their economy. The chart shows the percentage of responses per indicator from the highest number of responses to the lowest.
WORLD COMPETITIVENESS DIGITAL RANKING 2019

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AUSTRALIA

OVERALL PERFORMANCE (63 countries)

Overall | Factors | Sub-Factors
---|---|---
15 | Knowledge |
14 | Technology |
14 | Future readiness |

7 | Talent |
29 | Training & education |
13 | Scientific concentration |
7 | Regulatory framework |
19 | Capital |
17 | Technological framework |
7 | Adaptive attitudes |
35 | Business agility |
11 | IT integration |

The direction of the triangle indicates the performance change from the last year: ▲ improved or stable ▼ declined

OVERALL & FACTORS - 5 years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OVERALL</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future readiness</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COMPETITIVENESS & DIGITAL RANKINGS

N.B. This graph provides only a comparison of the country’s performance in the two rankings.

PEER GROUPS RANKINGS

ASIA - PACIFIC (14 countries)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

POPULATIONS > 20 MILLION (29 countries)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
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</table>
### KNOWLEDGE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subfactors</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Talent</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training &amp; education</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientific concentration</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Talent**
- Educational assessment PISA - Math: 23
- International experience: 35
- Foreign highly-skilled personnel: 10
- Management of cities: 26
- Digital/Technological skills: 44
- Net flow of international students: 1

**Training & education**
- Employee training: 44
- Total public expenditure on education: 21
- Higher education achievement: 13
- Pupil-teacher ratio (tertiary education): 32
- Graduates in Sciences: 53
- Women with degrees: 10

**Scientific concentration**
- Total expenditure on R&D (%): 19
- Total R&D personnel per capita: -
- Female researchers: -
- R&D productivity by publication: 17
- Scientific and technical employment: 6
- High-tech patent grants: 42
- Robots in Education and R&D: 24

### TECHNOLOGY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subfactors</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regulatory framework</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technological framework</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Regulatory framework**
- Starting a business: 5
- Enforcing contracts: 5
- Immigration laws: 23
- Development and application of techn: 22
- Scientific research legislation: 20
- Intellectual property rights: 14

**Capital**
- IT & media stock market capitalization: 37
- Funding for technological development: 36
- Banking and financial services: 28
- Country credit rating: 1
- Venture capital: 34
- Investment in Telecommunications: 14

**Technological framework**
- Communications technology: 54
- Mobile Broadband subscribers: 5
- Wireless broadband: 9
- Internet users: 29
- Internet bandwidth speed: 38
- High-tech exports (%): 28

### FUTURE READINESS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subfactors</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adaptive attitudes</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business agility</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IT integration</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Adaptive attitudes**
- E-Participation: 5
- Internet retailing: 9
- Tablet possession: 3
- Smartphone possession: 9
- Attitudes toward globalization: 32

**Business agility**
- Opportunities and threats: 38
- World robots distribution: 29
- Agility of companies: 45
- Use of big data and analytics: 28
- Knowledge transfer: 30

**IT integration**
- E-Government: 2
- Public-private partnerships: 26
- Cyber security: 39
- Software piracy: 5
WORLD TALENT RANKING 2019

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OVERALL PERFORMANCE (63 countries)

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△ improved or stable
▼ declined

Investment & Development

- Total public expenditure on education: Percentage of GDP
  - Value: 5.0 %
  - 2019 Rank: 23
- Gov. expenditure on education per student: Percentage of GDP per capita (secondary education)
  - Value: 15.0 %
  - 2019 Rank: 49
- Total public exp. on education per student: Spending per enrolled pupil/student, all levels
  - Value: 8,829 US$
  - 2019 Rank: 18
- Pupil-teacher ratio (primary education): Ratio of students to teaching staff
  - Value: 15.12 ratio
  - 2019 Rank: 29
- Pupil-teacher ratio (secondary education): Ratio of students to teaching staff
  - Value: 11.99 ratio
  - 2019 Rank: 30

Appeal

- Cost-of-living index: Index of a basket of goods & services in the main city, including housing (New York City = 100)
  - Value: 89.20 index
  - 2019 Rank: 47
- Attracting and retaining talents: is a priority in companies
  - Value: 7.35 Survey [0..10]
  - 2019 Rank: 22
- Worker motivation: in companies is high
  - Value: 6.32 Survey [0..10]
  - 2019 Rank: 23
- Brain drain: (well-educated and skilled people) does not hinder competitiveness in your economy
  - Value: 6.50 Survey [0..10]
  - 2019 Rank: 12

Readiness

- Labor force growth: Percentage change
  - Value: 1.55 %
  - 2019 Rank: 20
- Skilled labor: is readily available
  - Value: 6.62 Survey [0..10]
  - 2019 Rank: 10
- Finance skills: are readily available
  - Value: 7.33 Survey [0..10]
  - 2019 Rank: 12
- International experience: of senior managers is generally significant
  - Value: 5.28 Survey [0..10]
  - 2019 Rank: 35
- Competent senior managers: are readily available
  - Value: 6.21 Survey [0..10]
  - 2019 Rank: 19
- Primary and secondary education: meets the needs of a competitive economy
  - Value: 7.71 Survey [0..10]
  - 2019 Rank: 12
- Graduates in Sciences: % of graduates in ICT, Engineering, Math & Natural Sciences
  - Value: 18.30 %
  - 2019 Rank: 53
- University education: meets the needs of a competitive economy
  - Value: 7.54 Survey [0..10]
  - 2019 Rank: 17
- Management education: meets the needs of the business community
  - Value: 7.13 Survey [0..10]
  - 2019 Rank: 21
- Language skills: are meeting the needs of enterprises
  - Value: 6.50 Survey [0..10]
  - 2019 Rank: 31
- Student mobility inbound: Foreign tertiary-level students per 1000 inhabitants
  - Value: 15.50 number
  - 2019 Rank: 1
- Educational assessment - PISA: PISA survey of 15-year olds
  - Value: 502 Average
  - 2019 Rank: 19
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IMD is an independent academic institution with Swiss roots and global reach, founded almost 75 years ago by business leaders for business leaders. Since its creation, IMD has been a pioneering force in developing leaders who transform organizations and contribute to society.

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We believe that this consistency at the forefront of our industry is grounded in IMD’s unique approach to creating “Real Learning. Real Impact”. Led by an expert and diverse faculty, we strive to be the trusted learning partner of choice for ambitious individuals and organizations worldwide. Challenging what is and inspiring what could be.

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