The **United Kingdom** is an **Innovation Leader**. Over time, performance has increased by 11.7% relative to that of the EU in 2010.

- Relative to EU in 2010   ◆ Relative to EU in 2016
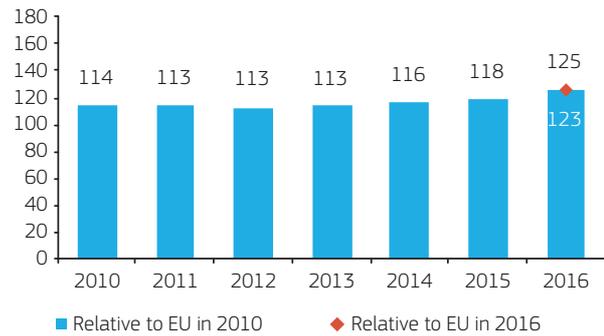
Innovation system

Relative strengths of the innovation system are in Attractive research systems, Human resources, and Employment impacts. Relative weaknesses are in Innovators, Finance and support, and Intellectual assets.

Structural differences

Notable differences are a smaller share of employment in Agriculture & Mining and Manufacturing, a smaller share of micro enterprises in turnover, a larger share of large enterprises in turnover, a higher number of Top R&D spending enterprises but a lower average R&D spending of these enterprises, a larger share of enterprise births, higher buyer sophistication, a higher growth rate of GDP, a higher growth rate of population, and higher population density.

	UK	EU
Structure of the economy		
Composition of employment, average 2011-15		
- Agriculture & Mining (NACE A-B) (%)	1.6	5.1
- Manufacturing (NACE C) (%)	9.8	15.6
of which High and Medium high-tech (%)	*38.2*	*36.4*
- Utilities and Construction (NACE D-F) (%)	8.7	8.6
- Services (NACE G-N) (%)	73.6	63.6
of which Knowledge-intensive services (%)	*63.3*	*58.0*
- Public administration, etc. (NACE O-U) (%)	6.3	7.1
Business indicators		
Composition of turnover, average 2011-2014		
- Micro enterprises (0-9 employees) (%)	13.0	17.3
- SMEs (10-249 employees) (%)	31.2	38.0
- Large enterprises (250+ employees) (%)	55.8	44.1
Share of foreign controlled enterprises, 2014 (%)	1.21	1.18
Top R&D spending enterprises		
- average number per 10 mln population, 2011-15	62.3	29.9
- average R&D spending, mln Euros, 2011-15	100.2	165.8
Enterprise births (10+ empl.) (%), avg 2012-14	3.6	1.5
Buyer sophistication 1-7 (best), 2013-14	4.6	3.6
Ease of starting a business, Doing Business 2017	82.7	76.5
Socio-demographic indicators		
GDP per capita, PPS, avg 2011-13	26,700	25,400
Change in GDP between 2010 and 2015, (%)	10.4	5.4
Population size, avg 2011-15 (millions)	63.9	505.5
Change in population between 2010 and 2015 (%)	3.8	1.1
Population aged 15-64, avg 2011-2015 (%)	65.2	66.1
Population density, average 2011-15	264.7	116.4
Degree of urbanisation, average 2011-15 (%)	86.5	74.4

Values in green show performance above 120% of EU, values in red show performance below 80% of EU.

United Kingdom	Performance relative to EU 2010 in		Change 2010-2016
	2010	2016	
SUMMARY INNOVATION INDEX	113.6	125.3	11.7
Human resources	187.5	195.3	17.8
New doctorate graduates	233.8	247.8	63.7
Population with tertiary education	154.6	191.4	36.8
Lifelong learning	138.9	126.1	-60.0
Attractive research systems	177.4	190.6	13.2
International scientific co-publications	155.5	279.3	135.2
Most cited publications	153.5	159.3	5.8
Foreign doctorate students	188.7	169.1	-19.7
Innovation-friendly environment	94.0	103.0	9.0
Broadband penetration	88.9	111.1	22.2
Opportunity-driven entrepreneurship	97.5	97.2	-0.3
Finance and support	124.4	87.1	-37.3
R&D expenditure in the public sector	85.8	71.6	-14.2
Venture capital expenditures	173.1	106.7	-66.4
Firm investments	99.7	118.9	19.2
R&D expenditure in the business sector	89.7	94.0	4.3
Non-R&D innovation expenditures	33.3	95.2	61.9
Enterprises providing ICT training	104.5	104.5	0.0
Innovators	61.0	85.8	24.8
SMEs product/process innovations	65.0	89.0	24.0
SMEs marketing/organizational innovations	69.1	119.1	50.1
SMEs innovating in-house	48.8	48.8	0.0
Linkages	138.5	134.0	-4.6
Innovative SMEs collaborating with others	217.8	217.8	0.0
Public-private co-publications	127.0	109.1	-17.9
Private co-funding of public R&D exp.	57.2	60.3	3.1
Intellectual assets	81.5	87.8	6.3
PCT patent applications	94.4	93.6	-0.8
Trademark applications	89.7	106.3	16.6
Design applications	57.8	65.9	8.0
Employment impacts	140.5	151.6	11.2
Employment in knowledge-intensive activities	187.4	202.8	15.4
Employment fast-growing enterprises	109.4	145.5	8.1
Sales impacts	95.0	132.8	37.8
Medium and high tech product exports	103.4	98.9	-4.5
Knowledge-intensive services exports	130.4	156.4	-0.2
Sales of new-to-market/firm innovations	41.1	174.5	133.4

Dark green: normalised performance above 120% of EU; light green: normalised performance between 90% and 120% of EU; yellow: normalised performance between 50% and 90% of EU; orange: normalised performance below 50% of EU. Normalised performance uses the data after a possible imputation of missing data and transformation of the data.

Change highlighted in green is positive; change highlighted in light red is negative.