Italy (43rd) improves one place in the rankings slightly increasing its score, notably through improved goods market efficiency (up seven places to 60th) and higher education and training (up two to 41st). Its long-standing competitiveness advantages include health and primary education (25th), large market size (12th), infrastructure (27th), and business sophistication (25th). Despite recent reforms, labor markets (116th) and financial markets (126th) remain weak points.

### Most problematic factors for doing business

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inefficient government bureaucracy</td>
<td>17.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax rates</td>
<td>17.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restrictive labor regulations</td>
<td>11.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax regulations</td>
<td>10.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to financing</td>
<td>9.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy instability</td>
<td>8.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inadequate supply of infrastructure</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insufficient capacity to innovate</td>
<td>5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corruption</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government instability/coups</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inadequately educated workforce</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor work ethic in national labor force</td>
<td>1.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime and theft</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor public health</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inflation</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign currency regulations</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: From the list of factors, respondents to the World Economic Forum’s Executive Opinion Survey were asked to select the five most problematic factors for doing business in their country and to rank them between 1 (most problematic) and 5. The score corresponds to the responses weighted according to their rankings.
## Global Competitiveness Index in detail

**Index Component** | Rank/137 | Value | Trend
--- | --- | --- | ---
**1st pillar: Institutions** | | | |
1.01 Property rights | 88 | 4.0 | |
1.02 Intellectual property protection | 50 | 4.4 | |
1.03 Diversion of public funds | 78 | 3.3 | |
1.04 Public trust in politicians | 122 | 1.9 | |
1.05 Irregular payments and bribes | 52 | 4.3 | |
1.06 Judicial independence | 65 | 4.0 | |
1.07 Favoritism in decisions of government officials | 118 | 2.2 | |
1.08 Efficiency of criminal justice system | 126 | 2.0 | |
1.09 Burden of government regulation | 134 | 2.0 | |
1.10 Efficiency of legal framework in settling disputes | 134 | 2.1 | |
1.11 Efficiency of legal framework in challenging regulations | 128 | 2.3 | |
1.12 Transparency of government policymaking | 126 | 3.1 | |
1.13 Business costs of terrorism | 81 | 4.9 | |
1.14 Business costs of crime and violence | 99 | 4.0 | |
1.15 Organized crime | 123 | 3.5 | |
1.16 Reliability of police services | 65 | 4.5 | |
1.17 Ethical behavior of firms | 94 | 3.5 | |
1.18 Strength of auditing and reporting standards | 87 | 4.3 | |
1.19 Efficacy of corporate boards | 113 | 4.2 | |
1.20 Protection of minority shareholders' interests | 117 | 3.4 | |
1.21 Strength of investor protection 0-10 (best) | 41 | 6.3 | |
**2nd pillar: Infrastructure** | | | |
2.01 Quality of overall infrastructure | 58 | 4.3 | |
2.02 Quality of roads | 45 | 4.5 | |
2.03 Quality of railroad infrastructure | 34 | 4.1 | |
2.04 Quality of port infrastructure | 60 | 4.4 | |
2.05 Quality of air transport infrastructure | 60 | 4.6 | |
2.06 Available airline seat kilometers million/week | 19 | 2.733 | |
2.07 Quality of electricity supply | 35 | 5.9 | |
2.08 Mobile-cellular telephone subscriptions /100 pop. | 31 | 140.4 | |
2.09 Fixed-telephone lines /100 pop | 32 | 33.1 | |
**3rd pillar: Macroeconomic environment** | | | |
3.01 Government budget balance % GDP | 61 | -2.4 | |
3.02 Gross national savings % GDP | 77 | 19.8 | |
3.03 Inflation annual % change | 60 | -0.1 | |
3.04 Government debt % GDP | 133 | 132.6 | |
3.05 Country credit rating 0-10 (best) | 37 | 68.4 | |
**4th pillar: Health and primary education** | | | |
4.01 Malaria incidence cases/100,000 pop. | n/a | m. | |
4.02 Business impact of malaria n/a | 6.6 | | |
4.03 Tuberculosis incidence cases/100,000 pop. | 10 | 5.8 | |
4.04 Business impact of tuberculosis | 31 | 6.4 | |
4.05 HIV prevalence % adult pop | 63 | 0.3 | |
4.06 Business impact of HIV/AIDS | 39 | 6.1 | |
4.07 Infant mortality deaths/1000 live births | 13 | 2.9 | |
4.08 Life expectancy years | 3 | 83.5 | |
4.09 Quality of primary education | 32 | 4.8 | |
4.10 Primary education enrollment rate net % | 48 | 97.2 | |
**5th pillar: Higher education and training** | | | |
5.01 Secondary education enrollment rate % gross | 34 | 102.9 | |
5.02 Tertiary education enrollment rate % gross | 41 | 62.5 | |
5.03 Quality of the education system | 66 | 3.7 | |
5.04 Quality of math and science education | 38 | 4.6 | |
5.05 Quality of management schools | 26 | 5.3 | |
5.06 Internet access in schools | 67 | 4.2 | |
5.07 Local availability of specialized training services | 31 | 5.1 | |
5.08 Extent of staff training | 97 | 3.6 | |
**6th pillar: Goods market efficiency** | | | |
6.01 Intensity of local competition | 60 | 4.4 | |
6.02 Extent of market dominance | 7 | 5.1 | |
6.03 Effective competition % | 58 | 3.9 | |
6.04 Effect of taxation on incentives to invest | 135 | 2.0 | |
6.05 Total tax rate % profits | 126 | 6.0 | |
6.06 No. of procedures to start a business | 53 | | |
6.07 Time to start a business days | 35 | 6.5 | |
6.08 Agricultural policy costs | 79 | 3.6 | |
6.09 Prevalence of non-tariff barriers | 33 | 4.8 | |
6.10 Trade costs % duty | 6 | 1.1 | |
6.11 Prevalence of foreign ownership | 111 | 3.8 | |
6.12 Business impact of rules on FDI | 91 | 4.2 | |
6.13 Burden of customs procedures | 59 | 4.3 | |
6.14 Imports % GDP | 111 | 27.4 | |
6.15 Degree of customer orientation | 40 | 5.1 | |
6.16 Buyer sophistication | 37 | 3.8 | |
**7th pillar: Labor market efficiency** | | | |
7.01 Cooperation in labor-employer relations | 102 | 4.0 | |
7.02 Flexibility of wage determination | 131 | 3.4 | |
7.03 Hiring and firing practices | 127 | 2.8 | |
7.04 Redundancy costs weeks of salary | 12 | 4.5 | |
7.05 Effect of taxation on incentives to work | 127 | 2.8 | |
7.06 Pay and productivity | 125 | 3.2 | |
7.07 Reliance on professional management | 94 | 3.8 | |
7.08 Country capacity to retain talent | 106 | 2.9 | |
7.09 Country capacity to attract talent | 104 | 2.6 | |
7.10 Female participation in the labor force ratio to men | 89 | 0.74 | |
**8th pillar: Financial market development** | | | |
8.01 Availability of financial services | 111 | 3.6 | |
8.02 Affordability of financial services | 101 | 3.4 | |
8.03 Financing through local equity market | 79 | 3.3 | |
8.04 Ease of access to loans | 120 | 3.0 | |
8.05 Country credit rating | 127 | 2.8 | |
8.06 Soundness of banks | 116 | 3.7 | |
8.07 Regulation of securities exchanges | 116 | 3.4 | |
8.08 Legal rights index 0-10 (best) | 106 | 2 | |
**9th pillar: Technological readiness** | | | |
9.01 Availability of latest technologies | 47 | 5.1 | |
9.02 Firm-level technology absorption | 80 | 4.5 | |
9.03 FDI and technology transfer | 95 | 4.0 | |
9.04 Internet users % pop. | 64 | 61.3 | |
9.05 Fixed-broadband Internet subscriptions /100 pop. | 37 | 25.4 | |
9.06 Internet bandwidth Mbps/user | 53 | 82.3 | |
9.07 Mobile-broadband subscriptions /100 pop. | 36 | 86.7 | |
**10th pillar: Market size** | | | |
10.01 Domestic market size index | 12 | 5.6 | |
10.02 Foreign market size index | 16 | 5.5 | |
10.03 GDP (PPP) $ billions | 12,234.5 | | |
10.04 Exports % GDP | 82 | 30.4 | |
**11th pillar: Business sophistication** | | | |
11.01 Local supplier quality | 12 | 5.2 | |
11.02 Local supplier quality | 25 | 5.2 | |
11.03 State of cluster development | 8 | 5.3 | |
11.04 Nature of competitive advantage | 12 | 5.8 | |
11.05 Value chain breadth | 11 | 5.3 | |
11.06 Control of international distribution | 30 | 4.3 | |
11.07 Production process sophistication | 25 | 5.2 | |
11.08 Extent of marketing | 52 | 4.6 | |
11.09 Willingness to delegate authority | 116 | 3.7 | |
**12th pillar: Innovation** | | | |
12.01 Capacity for innovation | 29 | 4.9 | |
12.02 Quality of scientific research institutions | 31 | 4.8 | |
12.03 Company spending on R&D | 35 | 3.9 | |
12.04 University-industry collaboration in R&D | 43 | 3.8 | |
12.05 Govt procurement of advanced technology products | 95 | 3.0 | |
12.06 Availability of scientists and engineers | 37 | 4.5 | |
12.07 PCT patents applications/million pop. | 24 | 57.5 | |

**Note:** Values are on a 1-to-7 scale unless indicated otherwise. Trend lines depict evolution in values since the 2012-2013 edition (or earliest edition available). For detailed definitions, sources, and periods, consult the interactive Economy Profiles and Rankings at http://go.weforum.org/