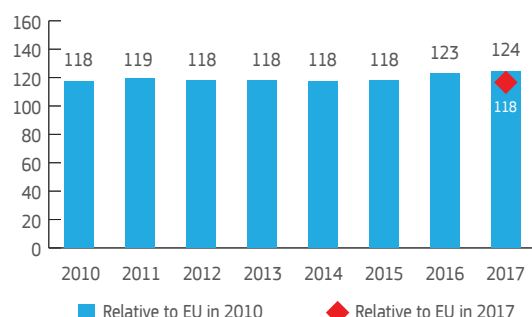




Belgium is a **Strong Innovator**. Over time, performance has increased relative to that of the EU in 2010.



Attractive research systems, Linkages, and Innovators are the strongest innovation dimensions. Sales and Employment impacts are the weakest innovation dimensions.

Belgium	Performance relative to EU 2010 in		Relative to EU 2017 in
	2010	2017	
SUMMARY INNOVATION INDEX	117.5	124.4	117.5
Human resources	112.5	127.1	106.5
New doctorate graduates	92.3	133.2	95.6
Population with tertiary education	163.4	163.4	144.1
Lifelong learning	77.1	77.1	75.5
Attractive research systems	151.8	191.0	168.0
International scientific co-publications	325.8	490.6	301.6
Most cited publications	121.8	127.6	122.9
Foreign doctorate students	134.6	178.1	160.9
Innovation-friendly environment	164.0	143.5	107.3
Broadband penetration	188.9	288.9	162.5
Opportunity-driven entrepreneurship	149.2	57.4	53.3
Finance and support	108.4	107.4	99.8
R&D expenditure in the public sector	91.1	103.5	107.3
Venture capital expenditures	130.6	112.4	92.1
Firm investments	124.4	149.5	133.8
R&D expenditure in the business sector	110.5	147.2	132.2
Non-R&D innovation expenditures	77.4	75.4	69.0
Enterprises providing ICT training	178.6	214.3	187.5
Innovators	132.5	138.8	161.3
SMEs product/process innovations	138.2	156.5	191.3
SMEs marketing/organisational innovations	114.1	117.7	142.0
SMEs innovating in-house	145.7	143.4	153.7
Linkages	152.9	163.4	161.8
Innovative SMEs collaborating with others	210.9	217.4	216.3
Public-private co-publications	130.9	141.1	139.8
Private co-funding of public R&D exp.	118.2	133.0	131.2
Intellectual assets	93.8	84.3	83.5
PCT patent applications	91.7	85.7	89.4
Trademark applications	113.3	116.0	102.6
Design applications	81.1	59.1	61.3
Employment impacts	75.1	78.9	78.5
Employment in knowledge-intensive activities	128.6	128.6	116.5
Employment fast-growing enterprises	37.0	43.4	46.4
Sales impacts	82.1	78.3	75.2
Medium and high tech product exports	83.4	81.7	77.2
Knowledge-intensive services exports	97.5	104.2	99.3
Sales of new-to-market/firm innovations	62.8	44.1	43.6

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.

Data in red show a decline in performance compared to 2010.

For Belgium, fast-track CIS 2016 data are not available.

Structural differences with the EU are shown in the table below. GDP per capita and the value added share of foreign-controlled enterprises are well above the EU average.

	BE	EU
Performance and structure of the economy		
GDP per capita (PPS)	33,900	28,600
Average annual GDP growth (%)	1.6	2.2
Employment share Manufacturing (NACE C) (%)	12.7	15.5
of which High and Medium high-tech (%)	36.2	37.2
Employment share Services (NACE G-N) (%)	40.3	41.6
of which Knowledge-intensive services (%)	36.3	35.0
Turnover share SMEs (%)	39.2	38.0
Turnover share large enterprises (%)	36.2	44.4
Foreign-controlled enterprises – share of value added (%)	15.0	12.5
Business and entrepreneurship		
Enterprise births (10+ employees) (%)	0.5	1.5
Total Entrepreneurial Activity (TEA) (%)	6.2	6.6
FDI net inflows (% GDP)	-1.0	3.6
Top R&D spending enterprises per 10 mln population	29.1	19.7
Buyer sophistication (1 to 7 best)	4.4	3.7
Governance and policy framework		
Ease of starting a business (0 to 100 best)	72.9	76.9
Basic-school entrepren. education and training (1 to 5 best)	2.0	1.9
Govt. procurement of advanced tech products (1 to 7 best)	3.5	3.5
Rule of law (-2.5 to 2.5 best)	1.5	1.2
Demography		
Population size (millions)	11.3	510.1
Average annual population growth (%)	0.5	0.3
Population density (inhabitants/km ²)	371.4	117.1

EU targets for 2020

Indicator	2013	Latest	Target ¹
Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (% of GDP)	2.33	2.49	3.00
Tertiary educational attainment (% of population aged 30-34)	42.7	45.9	47.0

¹ Sources are provided in the introduction to the country profiles.

RIO country report:

<https://rio.jrc.ec.europa.eu/en/country-analysis/Belgium>

European Semester country report:

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/2018-european-semester-country-report-belgium-en.pdf>