



CZECH REPUBLIC



Population: 10,686,269 | GDP: \$375.9 billion | Language: Czech | Unicorns 2009-2018: 0



What did the Czech Republic do right?

The country welcomes self-driving vehicle technology. Many of its universities involved in research and development, and BMW has plans to build a new test track facility. Broadband is widely affordable, and the country improved its Entrepreneurial Activity grade to a B- from a C+, thanks in part to a new business entry rate of 3.98 per 1,000 people.

What can the Czech Republic do better?

The Czech Republic can improve domestic drone innovation by lifting rules that require authorization for commercial flights and prevent recreational drone users from flying their devices within 100 feet of any person, vehicle or building. Those onerous regulations were behind the country's Drones grade, which decreased from a B to a C.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

An Innovation Leader, the Czech Republic has a remarkably consistent record of encouraging innovation, earning a B- or higher in all but two categories.



Credit: Bazi, Wikimedia Commons

The Central European Institute of Technology is collaborating with major automakers to develop self-driving vehicles in the Czech Republic.

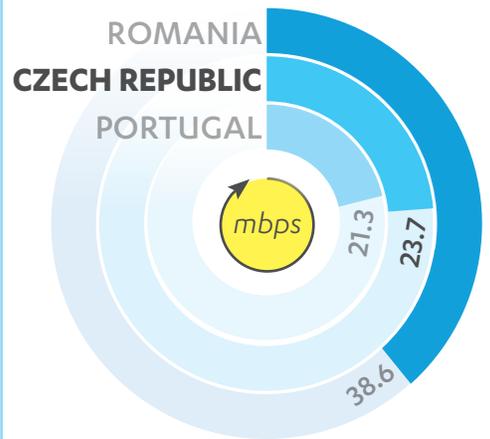
Czech efforts in the public, private and university sectors have helped transform the country into a European hub for self-driving vehicle testing, earning it an A in the category. The Central European Institute of Technology, based in Brno, in the country's southeast region, is working with automakers, including Mercedes-Benz parent company Daimler, to develop fully self-driving vehicles.

Meanwhile, Prague's Czech Technical University partnered with Volkswagen and IBM to create UP-Drive, a self-driving vehicle project aimed at improving 360-degree object detection, data management, mapping and scene understanding.

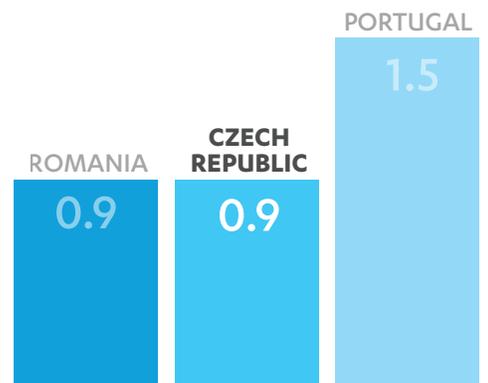
The Czech Republic also did well in Resilience, earning a B+. The FM Global Resilience Index — one of two measures used to calculate grades in the category — ranks the country the second-most resilient in the world on a metric encompassing exposure to natural hazards, fire and cyber risks.

Sources: (Czechinvest)

Mean Download Speed (Fixed & Mobile)



Fixed Broadband Cost Per Month



Shown as a percentage of gross monthly income per capita



Resilience

The Czech Republic has a visible supply chain, buildings designed to resist natural hazards and a well-developed e-government presence.



R&D Investment

The country spends 1.7 percent of its GDP on research and development, a decrease of 0.28 percentage points from 2018. The Czech Republic's grade decreased to a B from a B+ in 2018.



Human Capital

38.3 percent of the Czech Republic's workers are highly skilled, a decrease from 38.4 percent in 2018, but the country awarded 33.4 percent of its college degrees in STEM fields, an increase from 25.5 percent in 2018.



Short-Term Rentals

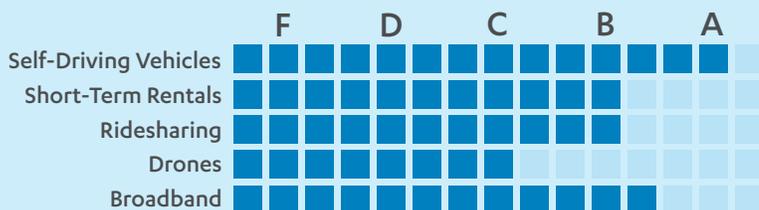
Although short-term rentals are legal throughout the country and require only that hosts pay a value-added tax on their earnings, authorities are considering limiting short-term rentals.



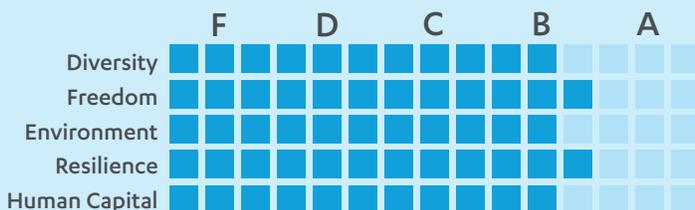
Ridesharing

Rideshare drivers must have business certificates in order to work in the Czech Republic.

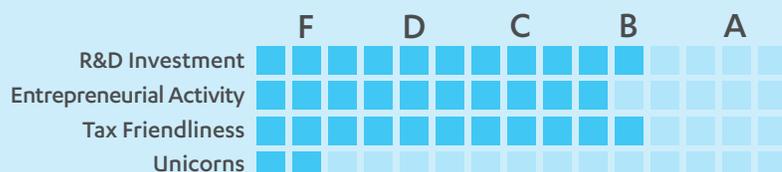
Technology



Society



Economy



ABOUT THE SCORECARD

With the 2019 International Innovation Scorecard, the Consumer Technology Association expands the report in breadth and depth, adding 23 new countries and two new categories. In this second edition, we evaluate 61 countries and the European Union across 28 indicators to determine whether they stifle progress or fuel the fires of innovation.

Each country on the Scorecard ranks in one of four tiers: Innovation Champions excel in almost all areas, followed by Innovation Leaders, which earn high scores in most. Behind the Leaders are Innovation Adopters, which promote innovation in some areas but not others. Finally, Modest Innovators may support innovation in one or more areas, but they show the greatest room for improvement.

ABOUT CTA

The Consumer Technology Association (CTA)[™] is the preeminent trade organization representing the \$398 billion U.S. consumer technology industry, which supports more than 15 million jobs. CTA serves over 2,200 companies, ranging from the startups and small businesses that make up 80 percent of its membership to some of the world's best-known brands. CTA also owns and produces CES[®], the world's premier gathering for consumer technology and the innovators who turn today's dreams into tomorrow's realities. Profits from CES are reinvested into CTA's industry services.

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