Global Innovation Index 2026
Powering entrepreneurs at the frontier of science

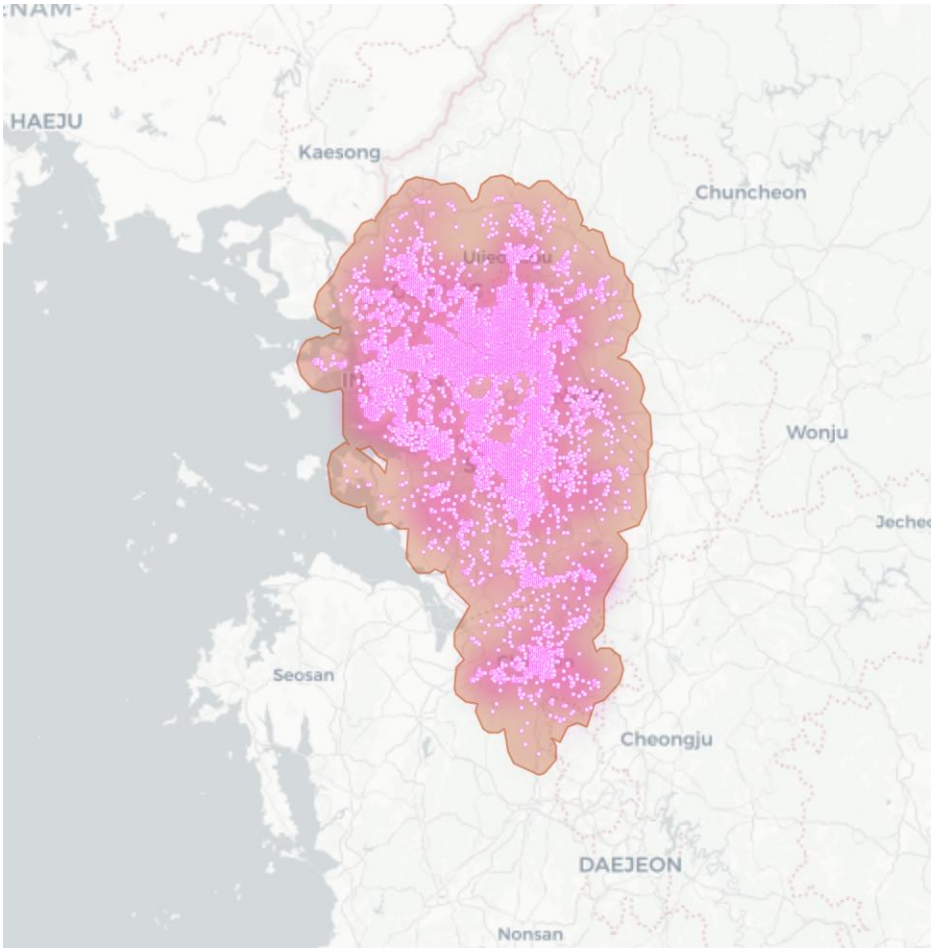


Seoul, Republic of Korea

Seoul is the top-ranked cluster, out of 3 Korean clusters, that falls within the top 100 innovation clusters in 2026. Over the most recent five-year period, this cluster filed a total of **78,650 PCT applications**, published **213,139 scientific articles** and had **7,566 venture capital deals**, making it:

5th in the World's Top 100 Innovation Cluster Rankings for 2026

(Also the 25th innovation cluster by intensity)



Note: Points represent the location of an inventor, author, or VC deal. Map created with Leaflet.
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Source: WIPO Statistics Database, June 2026.



Top PCT applicants

		Patents	Share
1	SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO., LTD.	16,235	22%
2	LG ELECTRONICS INC.	10,947	15%
3	LG INNOTEK CO. LTD.	1,628	2%

Top publishing organizations

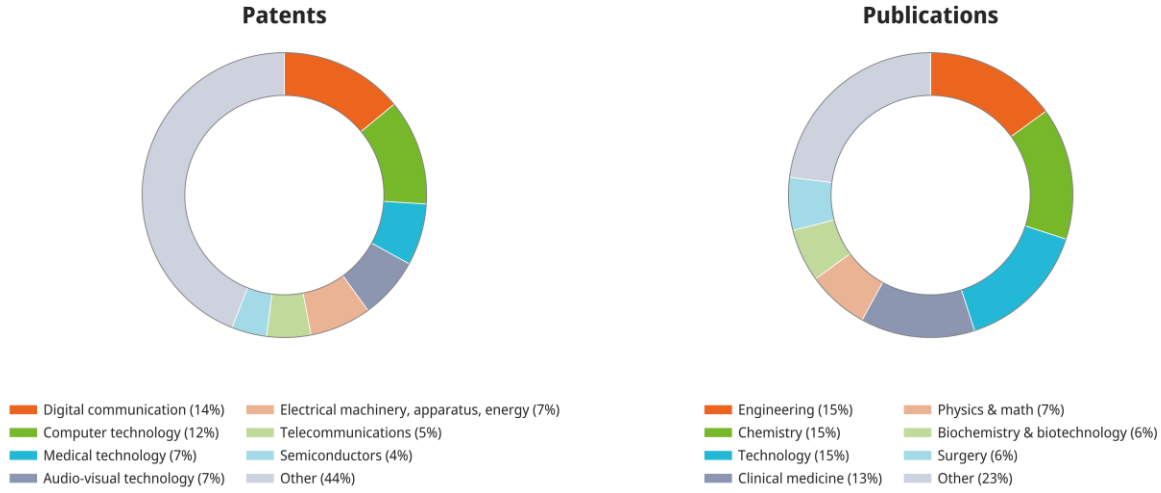
		Articles	Share
1	SEOUL NATIONAL UNIVERSITY (SNU)	9,474	11%
2	SUNGKYUNKWAN UNIVERSITY (SKKU)	6,540	7%
3	KOREA UNIVERSITY	5,077	6%

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Top technology fields in Seoul



12% of Seoul's PCT patent applications are filed in collaboration with other inventors located outside the cluster, with **Daejeon**, **Busan** and **Daegu** emerging as the top collaborative locations.

57% of Seoul's scientific articles are published in collaboration with other organizations located outside the cluster, with the top three collaborating locations being **Daejeon**, **Daegu** and **Busan**.

Estimated cluster population	26,712,809

Innovation Metric	Five-year total (#)			Collaborative outputs (#)	
	Unique count	Fractional count	Per 1 million inhabitants	Total	Outside cluster
PCT applications	78,650	73,770	2,762	62,414	9,775
Scientific publications	213,139	144,898	5,424	209,601	121,456
Venture capital deals	7,566	n/a	283	n/a	n/a