

THE YOUTH AND THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS IN UZBEKISTAN

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Annotation: This article examines the significant achievements of Uzbekistan's youth in recent years (2023–2025) across education, innovation, entrepreneurship, sports, and culture. It analyzes these successes within the framework of the “Uzbekistan-2030” strategy and state youth policy. Based on official statistics and formal sources, the article highlights the role of young people in building a New Uzbekistan and outlines future prospects for the nation’s “golden generation.”

Keywords: Uzbek youth, achievements, education, innovation, entrepreneurship, sports, Uzbekistan-2030, youth policy, international recognition, golgeneration

Introduction

More than 60% of Uzbekistan's population is under 30 years old, making youth the country's primary driving force for the future. In recent years, particularly between 2023 and 2025, young Uzbekistanis have achieved remarkable success in education, science, sports, culture, and business. These accomplishments are the direct result of large-scale reforms under the “Uzbekistan-2030” strategy and the state program “Youth Are Our Future.” President Shavkat Mirziyoyev has repeatedly referred to today's youth as the “golden generation,” emphasizing that every achievement of young people is a national

victory. This article reviews these successes using official data and explores the growing global recognition of Uzbekistan's youth.

Achievements in Education and Science

Uzbekistan's youth are increasingly gaining admission to the world's top universities. In 2024, Uzbekistan ranked first in Central Asia for the number of students accepted into the world's top 500 universities. Currently, 30 young Uzbekistanis study at the global top-10 universities, over 500 at top-100 institutions, and more than 1,500 at top-300 universities.

The “One Million Programmers” project trained 325,000 young people in modern digital professions. In 2024 alone, the state covered foreign language exam fees for 7,500 youth and provided financial support to 6,000 high-achieving students. The number of young people obtaining internationally recognized language certificates doubled in 2024 compared to 2023, reaching 150,000. The number of students achieving high IELTS scores increased fivefold, with over 2 million young people currently studying foreign languages.

The number of master's degree students has grown seven times, while female enrollment in higher education has increased elevenfold. Under the “Bright Future” initiative, 1,000 talented youth received full scholarships to study at leading foreign universities.

Innovation and Entrepreneurship

The number of young entrepreneurs in Uzbekistan tripled between 2023 and 2025. Today, 40% of all business owners in the country are under 30. Over \$145 million has been invested in youth-led startups, with plans to reach \$1 billion by 2030.

Through the “Youth Are Our Future” Foundation, young entrepreneurs receive preferential loans at 7% interest and property leasing support. In 2025, 8,300 youth-led projects worth \$35 billion are being implemented, creating 292,000 new jobs.

At the National Youth Innovators Exhibition, young engineers presented projects in artificial intelligence, drone technology, and mechanical engineering. President

Mirziyoyev personally reviewed these projects and issued directives for their further development. A joint program with the UAE, “One Million AI Leaders,” was launched to train the next generation of tech leaders.

Success in Sports and Culture

Uzbek youth continue to dominate international sports arenas:

Football star Abduqodir Khusanov became the first Uzbek player in the English Premier League after transferring from RC Lens (France) to Manchester City in 2025.

In athletics, Guzaloy Davronova won gold at the 2022 World Junior Championships (triple jump – 14.04 m), followed by gold at the 2023 Asian Championships and the title of “Best Young Athlete of the Year.”

Young Uzbek athletes won medals at the 2023 Asian Judo Championships, international olympiads in computer science, mathematics, chemistry, and chess.

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