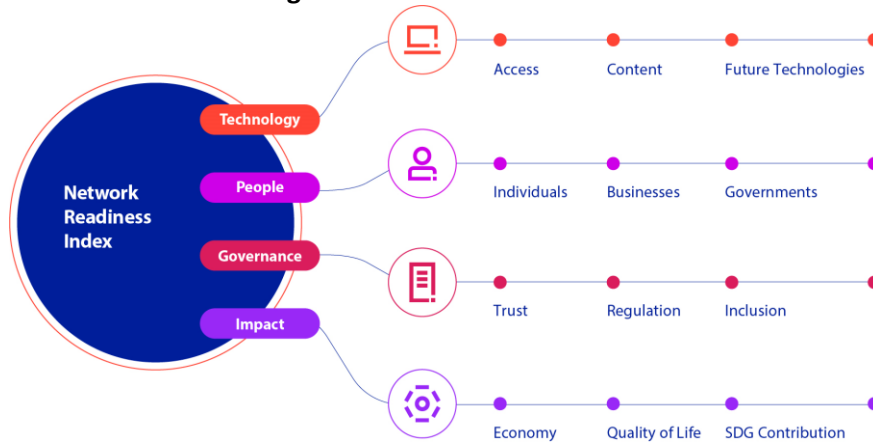# Austria

The Network Readiness Index (NRI) is one of the leading global indices on the application and impact of information and communication technology (ICT) in economies around the world. In its latest version of 2023 the NRI Report maps the network-based readiness landscape of 134 economies based on their performances in four different pillars: Technology, People, Governance, and Impact. Each of these pillars is itself comprised of three sub-pillars (see Figure 1) that have been populated by a total of 58 variables.
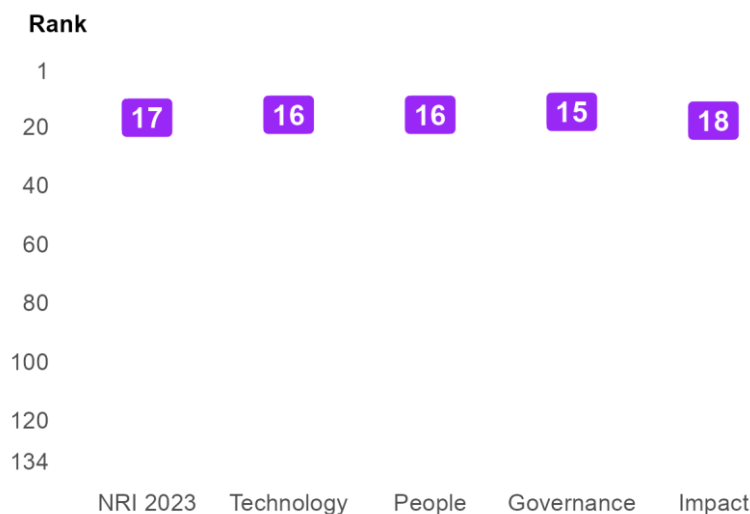
Figure 1: The NRI 2023 model

Global NRI position of Austria

Austria ranks 17th out of the 134 economies included in the NRI 2023 (Figure 2). Its main strength relates to Governance. The greatest scope for improvement, meanwhile, concerns Impact.

Figure 2: Austria global ranking, overall and by pillar

Performance at sub-pillar level

When it comes to sub-pillars, the strongest showings of Austria relate to Businesses, Quality of Life and Governments, among others (Table 1). More could be done, though, to improve the economy's performances in the Economy, Access and Individuals sub-pillars.

Table 1: Austria rankings by sub-pillar

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
Businesses	12	Content	17
Quality of Life	14	SDG Contribution	20
Governments	15	Trust	21
Regulation	15	Economy	22
Inclusion	15	Access	37
Future Technologies	16	Individuals	46

NRI score and income

Figure 3 shows the position of Austria in terms of both NRI score and GDP per capita (PPP). The trend line shows the expected NRI score given an economy's income level. As can be seen, Austria is well above the trend line, which suggests that it has a greater network readiness than would be expected given its income level.

Figure 3: NRI score and GDP per capita PPP (log)
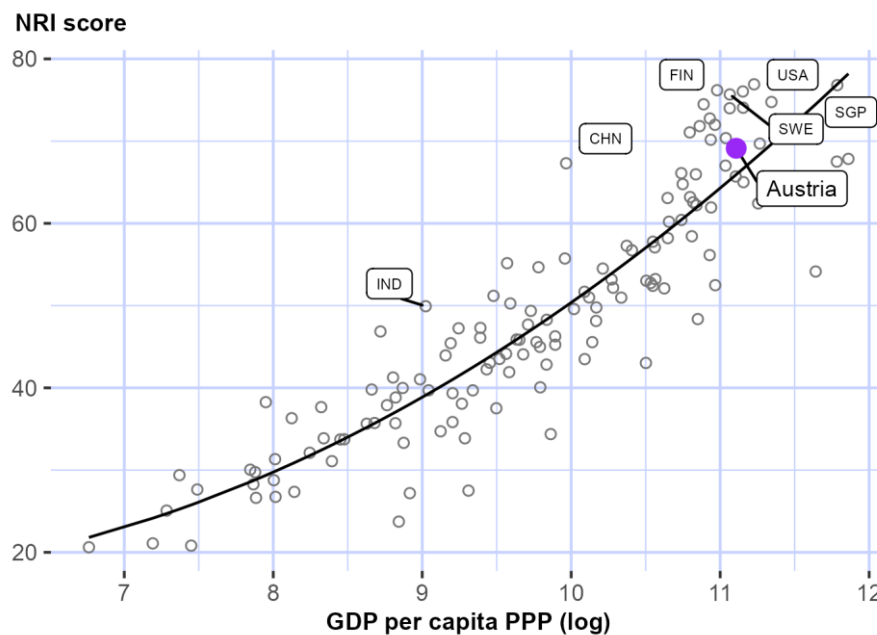
Note: USA = United States (rank: 1), SGP = Singapore (rank: 2), FIN = Finland (3), NLD = Netherlands (4), SWE = Sweden (5), CHN = China (20), IND = India (61). Austria belongs to the group of high-income countries, where the best performer is United States of America (USA). The top performer of its region-Europe-is Finland (FIN).

Performance against its income group and region

High-income countries
Austria is ranked 17th in the group of high-income countries (Figure 4, left panel). In terms of pillar performance, it has a score higher than the income group average in each of the four pillars. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms high-income countries in ten of the twelve sub-pillars: Content, Future Technologies, Businesses, Governments, Trust, Regulation, Inclusion, Economy, Quality of Life and SDG Contribution.

Europe
Austria is ranked 11th within Europe (Figure 4, right panel). It outperforms its region in each of the four pillars. With regard to sub-pillars, it has a higher score than the regional average in each of the twelve sub-pillars.

Figure 4: Performance of Austria against its income group and region, overall and by pillar
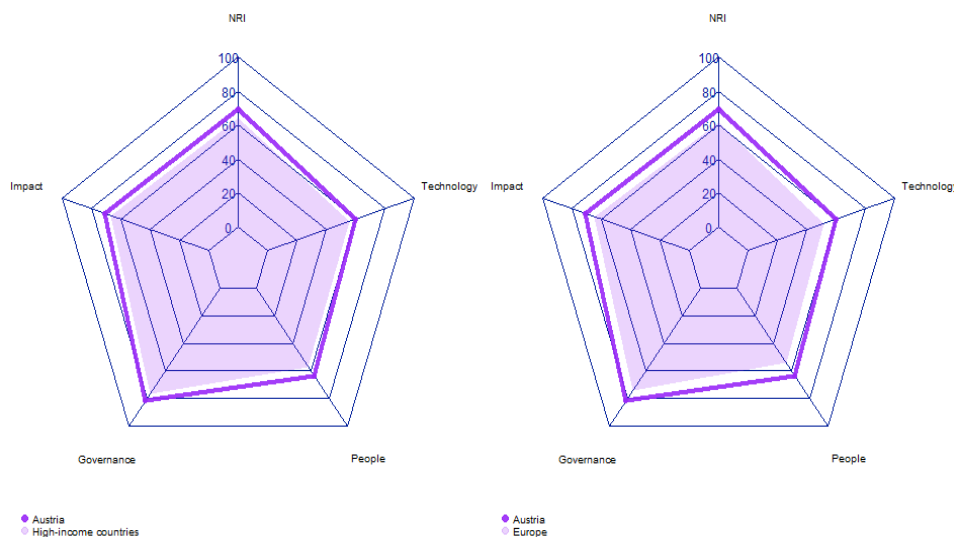
Table 2: Austria scores vs. averages of its income group and region, overall and by pillar

Dimension	Austria	High-income countries	Europe
NRI	69.13	64.07	61.25
Technology	60.19	55.76	51.90
People	63.74	56.99	54.16
Governance	81.98	76.81	74.33
Impact	70.61	66.73	64.61

Strongest and weakest indicators

The indicators where Austria performs particularly well include 3.2.4 E-commerce legislation, 1.1.2 Handset prices, and 2.2.1 Firms with website (Table 3). By contrast, the economy's weakest indicators include 1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions, 1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth, and 4.1.5 Prevalence of gig economy.

Table 3: Highlight of Strengths and Opportunities for Austria

Strongest indicators	Rank	Weakest indicators	Rank
3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	1	1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	76
1.1.2 Handset prices	3	4.1.5 Prevalence of gig economy	79
2.2.1 Firms with website	4	1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	86
2.2.5 GERD performed by business enterprise	7	1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	103
3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments	7		
1.3.4 Computer software spending	8		
2.3.4 R&D expenditure by governments and higher education	8		
3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	10		
4.1.3 PCT patent applications	12		
1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	13		
4.2.1 Happiness	13		

Note: For the full list of strengths and weaknesses, see At-A-Glance table.

NRI 2023 At-A-Glance: Austria

Network Readiness Index   Rank: 17 (out of 134)   Score: 69.13

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score	Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	16	60.19	C. Governance pillar	15	81.98
1st sub-pillar: Access	37	72.68	1st sub-pillar: Trust	21	77.61
2nd sub-pillar: Content	17	49.86	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	15	86.60
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	16	58.02	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	15	81.73
B. People pillar	16	63.74	D. Impact pillar	18	70.61
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	46	51.71	1st sub-pillar: Economy	22	43.79
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	12	72.73	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	14	84.83
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	15	66.78	3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	20	83.20

The Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score		Indicator	Rank	Score	
A. Technology pillar	16	60.19		**C. Governance pillar**	15	81.98	
1st sub-pillar: Access	37	72.68		*1st sub-pillar: Trust*	21	77.61	
1.1.1　Mobile tariffs	15	86.50		3.1.1　Secure Internet servers	22	83.21	
1.1.2　Handset prices	3	97.37	●	3.1.2　Cybersecurity	36	93.78	
1.1.3　FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	103	12.10	○	3.1.3　Online access to financial account	22	59.89	
1.1.4　Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	76	99.34	○	3.1.4　Internet shopping	20	73.57	
1.1.5　International Internet bandwidth	86	68.07	○	*2nd sub-pillar: Regulation*	15	86.60	
1.1.6　Internet access in schools	NA	NA		3.2.1　Regulatory quality	20	80.07	
2nd sub-pillar: Content	17	49.86		3.2.2　ICT regulatory environment	38	88.82	
1.2.1　GitHub commits	15	60.80		3.2.3　Regulation of emerging technologies	13	80.78	
1.2.2　Internet domain registrations	13	58.08	●	3.2.4　E-commerce legislation	1	100.00	●
1.2.3　Mobile apps development	52	70.83		3.2.5　Privacy protection by law content	24	83.33	
1.2.4　AI scientific publications	47	9.73		*3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion*	15	81.73	
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	16	58.02		3.3.1　E-Participation	21	76.74	
1.3.1　Adoption of emerging technologies	21	74.59		3.3.2　Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	10	98.14	●
1.3.2　Investment in emerging technologies	26	64.25		3.3.3　Availability of local online content	23	85.34	

Indicator	Rank	Score	
1.3.3 Robot density	14	29.87	
1.3.4 Computer software spending	8	63.38	●
B. People pillar	16	63.74	
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	46	51.71	
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	30	28.48	
2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	34	66.53	
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	24	77.52	
2.1.4 Tertiary enrollment	15	57.03	
2.1.5 Adult literacy rate	NA	NA	
2.1.6 AI talent concentration	15	28.97	
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	12	72.73	
2.2.1 Firms with website	4	94.14	●
2.2.2 GERD financed by business enterprise	27	62.56	
2.2.3 Knowledge intensive employment	24	67.62	
2.2.4 Annual investment in telecommunication services	37	82.49	
2.2.5 GERD performed by business enterprise	7	56.84	●
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	15	66.78	
2.3.1 Government online services	19	87.04	
2.3.2 Publication and use of open data	17	69.12	
2.3.3 Government promotion of investment in emerging tech	33	53.67	
2.3.4 R&D expenditure by governments and higher education	8	57.31	●

Indicator	Rank	Score	
3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use	51	68.92	
3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments	7	79.51	●
D. Impact pillar	18	70.61	
1st sub-pillar: Economy	22	43.79	
4.1.1 High-tech and medium-high-tech manufacturing	19	57.18	
4.1.2 High-tech exports	38	24.74	
4.1.3 PCT patent applications	12	53.52	●
4.1.4 Domestic market size	41	61.97	
4.1.5 Prevalence of gig economy	79	35.47	○
4.1.6 ICT services exports	30	29.86	
2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	14	84.83	
4.2.1 Happiness	13	86.42	●
4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	48	80.04	
4.2.3 Income inequality	24	83.42	
4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	21	89.44	
3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	20	83.20	
4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	26	88.39	
4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education	27	64.07	
4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	20	95.58	
4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	28	79.84	
4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	23	88.14	

NOTE: ● a strength and ○ a weakness.

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