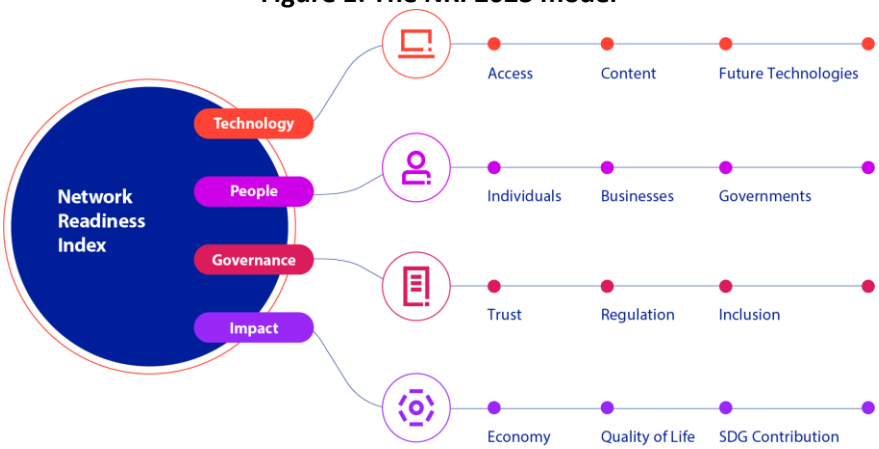
Jamaica

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.

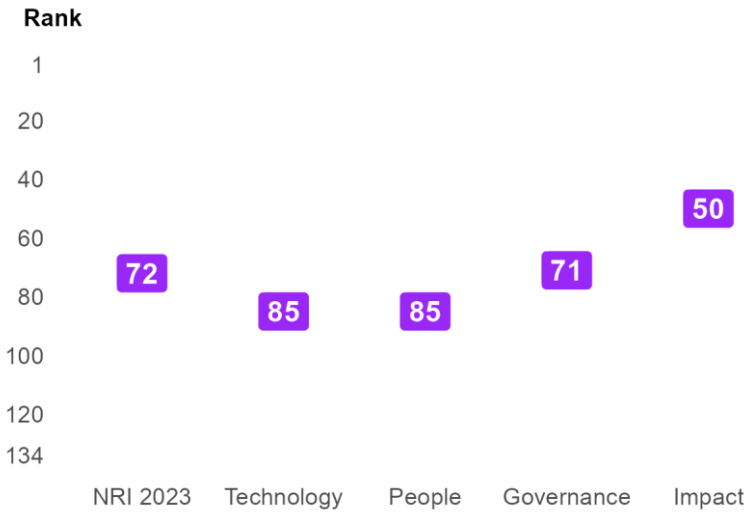
Figure 1: The NRI 2023 model



Global NRI position of Jamaica

Jamaica ranks 72nd out of the 134 economies included in the NRI 2023 (Figure 2). Its main strength relates to Impact. The greatest scope for improvement, meanwhile, concerns Technology and People.

Figure 2: Jamaica global ranking, overall and by pillar



Performance at sub-pillar level

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

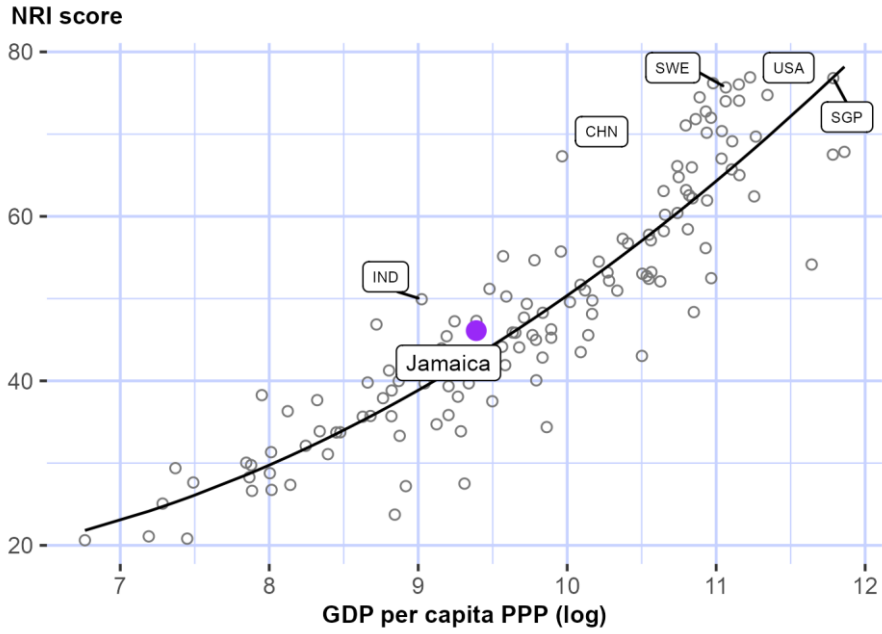
Table 1: Jamaica rankings by sub-pillar

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
Regulation	27	Economy	77
Businesses	46	Inclusion	87
Quality of Life	46	Access	90
Future Technologies	51	Trust	99
SDG Contribution	51	Content	106
Governments	69	Individuals	117

NRI score and income

Figure 3 shows the position of Jamaica 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, Jamaica 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). Jamaica belongs to the group of upper-middle-income countries, where the best performer is China (CHN). The top performer of its region-The Americas-is United States of America (USA).

Performance against its income group and region

Upper-middle-income countries

Jamaica is ranked 19th in the group of upper-middle-income countries (Figure 4, left panel). In terms of pillar performance, it has a score higher than the income group average in one of the four pillars: Impact. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms upper-middle-income countries in five of the twelve sub-pillars: Future Technologies, Businesses, Regulation, Quality of Life and SDG Contribution.

The Americas

Jamaica is ranked 10th within The Americas (Figure 4, right panel). It has a score above the regional average in two of the four pillars: Governance and Impact. With regard to sub-pillars, it outperforms the average in The Americas in five of the twelve sub-pillars: Future Technologies, Businesses, Governments, Regulation and Quality of Life.

Figure 4: Performance of Jamaica against its income group and region, overall and by pillar

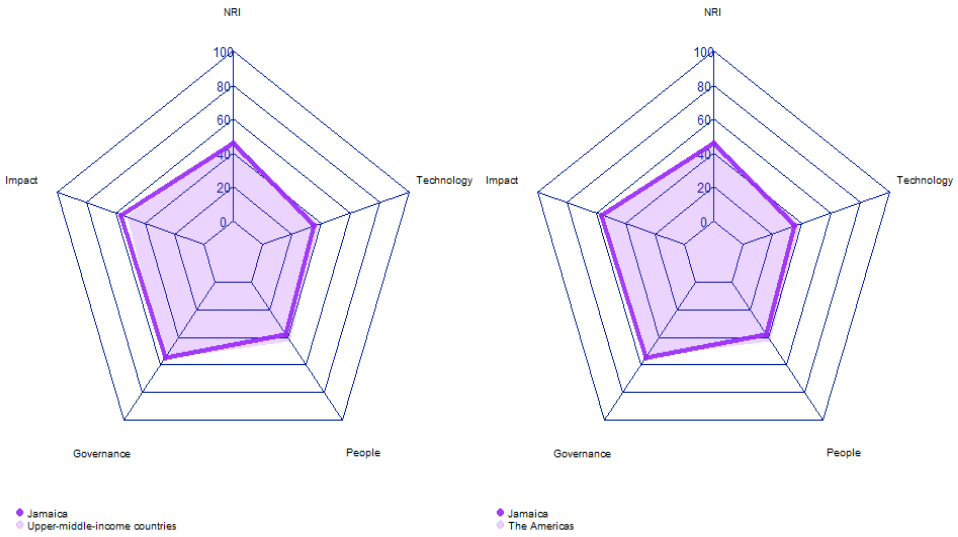


Table 2: Jamaica scores vs. averages of its income group and region, overall and by pillar

Dimension	Jamaica	Upper-middle-income countries	The Americas
NRI	46.11	47.35	47.41
Technology	35.38	38.48	38.24
People	38.28	42.59	42.35
Governance	54.49	55.90	54.12
Impact	56.28	52.43	54.93

Strongest and weakest indicators

The indicators where Jamaica performs particularly well include 3.2.4 E-commerce legislation, 3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use, and 3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content (Table 3). By contrast, the economy's weakest indicators include 4.1.4 Domestic market size, 1.1.1 Mobile tariffs, 1.2.4 AI scientific publications, and 2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country.

Table 3: Highlight of Strengths and Opportunities for Jamaica

Strongest indicators	Rank	Weakest indicators	Rank
3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	1	1.2.3 Mobile apps development	103
3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use	4	1.2.4 AI scientific publications	110
3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	6	2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	110
4.1.6 ICT services exports	20	1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	119
1.3.4 Computer software spending	29	4.1.4 Domestic market size	122
4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	38		
4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	41		
2.3.2 Publication and use of open data	47		
4.1.5 Prevalence of gig economy	56		
3.2.1 Regulatory quality	58		
4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	58		

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

NRI 2023 At-A-Glance: Jamaica

Network Readiness Index Rank: 72 (out of 134) Score: 46.11

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score	Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	85	35.38	C. Governance pillar	71	54.49
1st sub-pillar: Access	90	54.89	1st sub-pillar: Trust	99	30.05
2nd sub-pillar: Content	106	13.63	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	27	79.98
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	51	37.61	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	87	53.45
B. People pillar	85	38.28	D. Impact pillar	50	56.28
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	117	24.94	1st sub-pillar: Economy	77	24.39
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	46	52.36	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	46	74.44
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	69	37.53	3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	51	70.02

The Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score		Indicator	Rank	Score	
A. Technology pillar	85	35.38		**C. Governance pillar**	71	54.49	
1st sub-pillar: Access	90	54.89		*1st sub-pillar: Trust*	99	30.05	
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	119	24.33	○	3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	95	40.89	
1.1.2 Handset prices	95	35.15		3.1.2 Cybersecurity	106	31.34	
1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	77	24.91		3.1.3 Online access to financial account	NA	NA	
1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	57	99.67		3.1.4 Internet shopping	74	17.93	
1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	95	66.45		*2nd sub-pillar: Regulation*	27	79.98	
1.1.6 Internet access in schools	43	78.83		3.2.1 Regulatory quality	58	54.02	●
2nd sub-pillar: Content	106	13.63		3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	87	73.53	
1.2.1 GitHub commits	86	3.33		3.2.3 Regulation of emerging technologies	NA	NA	
1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	90	1.45		3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	1	100.00	●
1.2.3 Mobile apps development	103	49.11	○	3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	6	92.35	●
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	110	0.64	○	*3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion*	87	53.45	
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	51	37.61		3.3.1 E-Participation	106	26.75	
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	76	43.00		3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	92	56.09	
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	72	38.00		3.3.3 Availability of local online content	65	60.34	

Indicator	Rank	Score	
1.3.3 Robot density	NA	NA	
1.3.4 Computer software spending	29	31.83	●
B. People pillar	85	38.28	
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	117	24.94	
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	110	1.22	○
2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	83	36.31	
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	89	45.75	
2.1.4 Tertiary enrollment	89	16.47	
2.1.5 Adult literacy rate	NA	NA	
2.1.6 AI talent concentration	NA	NA	
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	46	52.36	
2.2.1 Firms with website	NA	NA	
2.2.2 GERD financed by business enterprise	NA	NA	
2.2.3 Knowledge intensive employment	68	30.78	
2.2.4 Annual investment in telecommunication services	94	73.94	
2.2.5 GERD performed by business enterprise	NA	NA	
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	69	37.53	
2.3.1 Government online services	99	43.79	
2.3.2 Publication and use of open data	47	35.29	●
2.3.3 Government promotion of investment in emerging tech	78	33.50	
2.3.4 R&D expenditure by governments and higher education	NA	NA	

Indicator	Rank	Score	
3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use	4	83.18	●
3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments	101	40.88	
D. Impact pillar	50	56.28	
1st sub-pillar: Economy	77	24.39	
4.1.1 High-tech and medium-high-tech manufacturing	NA	NA	
4.1.2 High-tech exports	91	4.02	
4.1.3 PCT patent applications	70	2.47	
4.1.4 Domestic market size	122	32.66	○
4.1.5 Prevalence of gig economy	56	44.77	●
4.1.6 ICT services exports	20	38.01	●
2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	46	74.44	
4.2.1 Happiness	66	65.43	
4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	38	83.17	●
4.2.3 Income inequality	NA	NA	
4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	58	74.73	●
3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	51	70.02	
4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	67	68.54	
4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education	NA	NA	
4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	103	63.72	
4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	72	70.16	
4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	41	77.67	●

NOTE: ● a strength and ○ a weakness.

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