



## Oman

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.

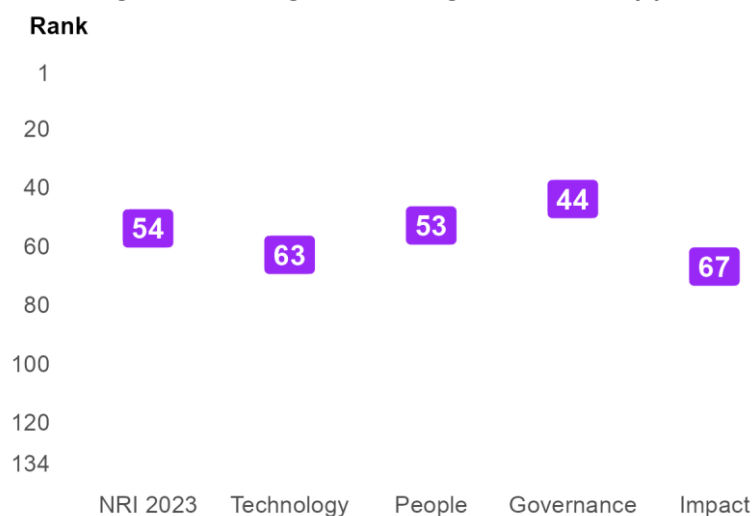
**Figure 1: The NRI 2023 model**



### Global NRI position of Oman

Oman ranks 54th 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: Oman global ranking, overall and by pillar**



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## Performance at sub-pillar level

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

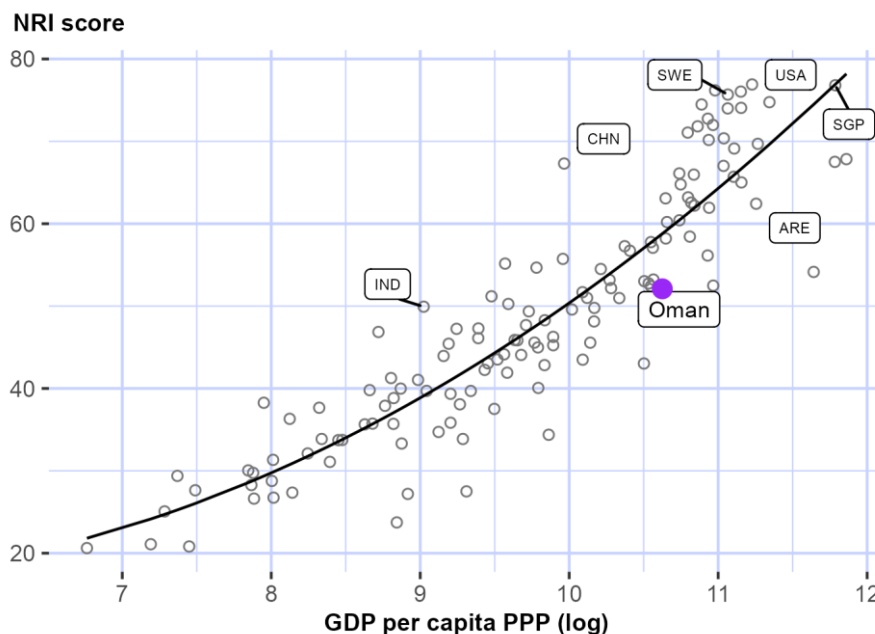
**Table 1: Oman rankings by sub-pillar**

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
Individuals	20	Access	56
Quality of Life	24	Economy	72
Trust	33	Content	84
Inclusion	43	Regulation	89
Governments	45	Businesses	94
Future Technologies	53	SDG Contribution	102

## NRI score and income

Figure 3 shows the position of Oman 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, Oman is well below the trend line, which suggests that it is underachieving and that one would expect it could raise its network readiness in view of 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). Oman belongs to the group of high-income countries, where the best performer is United States of America (USA). The top performer of its region-Arab States-is United Arab Emirates (ARE).

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## Performance against its income group and region

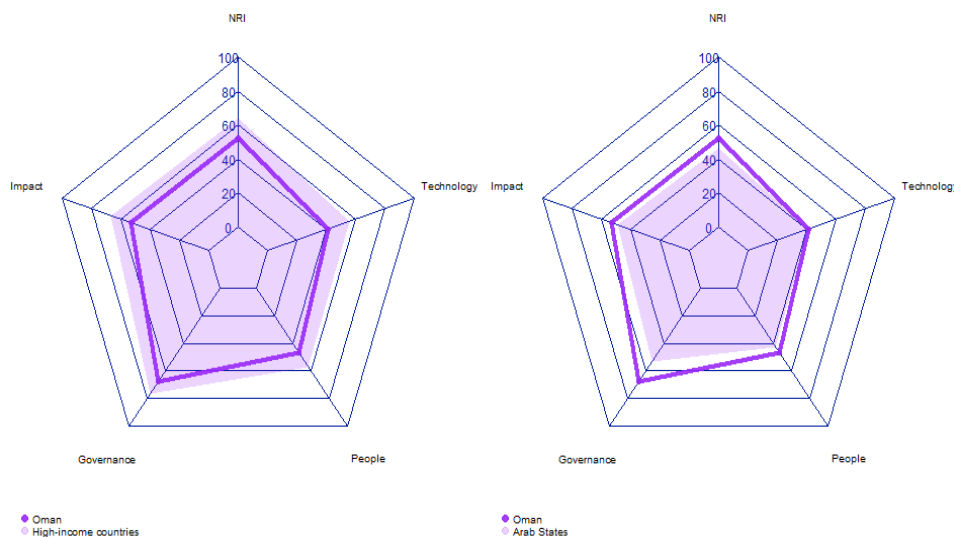
### High-income countries

Oman is ranked 46th in the group of high-income countries (Figure 4, left panel). In terms of pillar performance, it has a score below the income group average in each of the four pillars. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms high-income countries in two of the twelve sub-pillars: Individuals and Quality of Life.

### Arab States

Oman is ranked 5th within Arab States (Figure 4, right panel). It outperforms its region in each of the four pillars. With regard to sub-pillars, it outperforms the average in Arab States in eight of the twelve sub-pillars: Access, Content, Individuals, Governments, Trust, Regulation, Inclusion and Quality of Life.

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



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

Dimension	Oman	High-income countries	Arab States
NRI	52.10	64.07	46.59
Technology	41.31	55.76	41.17
People	46.48	56.99	42.66
Governance	67.48	76.81	53.45
Impact	53.11	66.73	49.08

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## Strongest and weakest indicators

The indicators where Oman performs particularly well include 1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network, 2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks, and 3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use (Table 3). By contrast, the economy's weakest indicators include 4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity, 4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, and 3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content.

**Table 3: Highlight of Strengths and Opportunities for Oman**

Strongest indicators	Rank	Weakest indicators	Rank
1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	1	3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	87
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	5	1.3.4 Computer software spending	104
3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use	7	3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	120
4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	16	4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	121
4.2.1 Happiness	19	4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	131
2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	23		
2.3.3 Government promotion of investment in emerging technologies	24		
4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	27		
3.1.2 Cybersecurity	28		
4.1.5 Prevalence of gig economy	30		

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

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## NRI 2023 At-A-Glance: Oman

Network Readiness Index

Rank: 54 (out of 134)

Score: 52.10

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score	Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	63	41.31	C. Governance pillar	44	67.48
1st sub-pillar: Access	56	67.80	1st sub-pillar: Trust	33	70.20
2nd sub-pillar: Content	84	18.93	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	89	60.23
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	53	37.21	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	43	72.03
B. People pillar	53	46.48	D. Impact pillar	67	53.11
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	20	57.80	1st sub-pillar: Economy	72	25.94
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	94	35.44	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	24	80.77
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	45	46.18	3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	102	52.62

### The Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score
<b>A. Technology pillar</b>	63	41.31	<b>C. Governance pillar</b>	44	67.48
1st sub-pillar: Access	56	67.80	1st sub-pillar: Trust	33	70.20
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	62	62.97	3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	85	44.42
1.1.2 Handset prices	55	54.72	3.1.2 Cybersecurity	28	95.97 ●
1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	93	17.37	3.1.3 Online access to financial account	NA	NA
1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	1	100.00 ●	3.1.4 Internet shopping	NA	NA
1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	56	73.23	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	89	60.23
1.1.6 Internet access in schools	33	98.49	3.2.1 Regulatory quality	53	57.05
2nd sub-pillar: Content	84	18.93	3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	34	89.41
1.2.1 GitHub commits	108	1.43	3.2.3 Regulation of emerging technologies	46	56.10
1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	94	1.24	3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	87	66.67 ○
1.2.3 Mobile apps development	44	71.86	3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	120	31.89 ○
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	99	1.21	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	43	72.03
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	53	37.21	3.3.1 E-Participation	50	65.12
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	44	57.47	3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	NA	NA
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	42	50.00	3.3.3 Availability of local online content	42	74.52



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Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score
1.3.3 Robot density	NA	NA	3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use	7	76.44 ●
1.3.4 Computer software spending	104	4.16 ○	3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments	NA	NA
<b>B. People pillar</b>			<b>D. Impact pillar</b>		
<i>1st sub-pillar: Individuals</i>	53	46.48	<i>1st sub-pillar: Economy</i>	67	53.11
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	20	57.80	4.1.1 High-tech and medium-high-tech manufacturing	72	25.94
2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	81	6.32	4.1.2 High-tech exports	71	19.79
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	23	72.63 ●	4.1.3 PCT patent applications	65	11.74
2.1.4 Tertiary enrollment	5	85.83 ●	4.1.4 Domestic market size	75	1.72
2.1.5 Adult literacy rate	68	30.16	4.1.5 Prevalence of gig economy	71	50.71
2.1.6 AI talent concentration	46	94.06 ●	4.1.6 ICT services exports	30	61.92 ●
<i>2nd sub-pillar: Businesses</i>	NA	NA	<i>2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life</i>	79	9.77
2.2.1 Firms with website	94	35.44	4.2.1 Happiness	24	80.77
2.2.2 GERD financed by business enterprise	NA	NA	4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	19	83.71 ●
2.2.3 Knowledge intensive employment	55	39.33	4.2.3 Income inequality	16	90.16 ●
2.2.4 Annual investment in telecommunication services	84	21.42	4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	NA	NA
2.2.5 GERD performed by business enterprise	55	79.29	<i>3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution</i>	80	68.45
<i>3rd sub-pillar: Governments</i>	64	1.73	4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	102	52.62
2.3.1 Government online services	45	46.18	4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education	78	66.17
2.3.2 Publication and use of open data	58	71.52	4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	NA	NA
2.3.3 Government promotion of investment in emerging tech	NA	NA	4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	131	13.27 ○
2.3.4 R&D expenditure by governments and higher education	24	61.99 ●	4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	121	44.00 ○
	79	5.04		27	87.04 ●

NOTE: ● a strength and ○ a weakness.

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