



Uruguay

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.

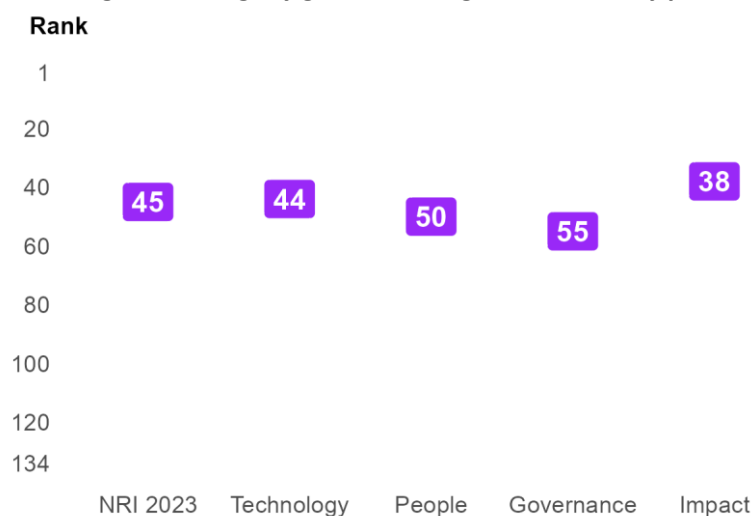
Figure 1: The NRI 2023 model



Global NRI position of Uruguay

Uruguay ranks 45th 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 Governance.

Figure 2: Uruguay 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 Uruguay relate to Individuals, Content and Governments, among others (Table 1). More could be done, though, to improve the economy's performances in the Future Technologies, Inclusion and Businesses sub-pillars.

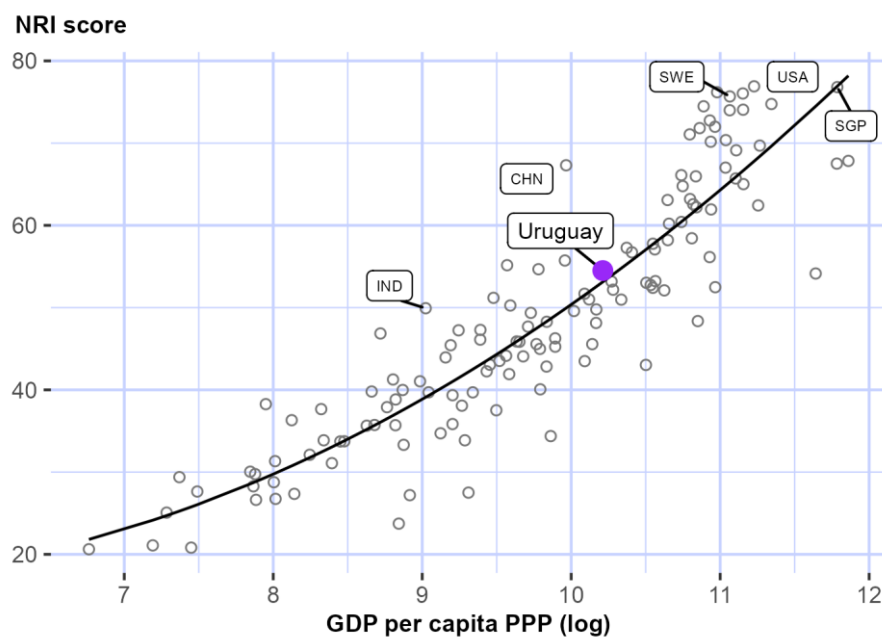
Table 1: Uruguay rankings by sub-pillar

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
Individuals	25	SDG Contribution	45
Content	32	Economy	49
Governments	36	Trust	58
Regulation	36	Future Technologies	64
Access	40	Inclusion	71
Quality of Life	44	Businesses	86

NRI score and income

Figure 3 shows the position of Uruguay 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, Uruguay is slightly above the trend line, which suggests that its network readiness is more or less in line with what 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). Uruguay belongs to the group of high-income countries, where the best performer is United States of America (USA). The top performer of its region-The Americas-is also United States of America (USA).

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Performance against its income group and region

High-income countries

Uruguay is ranked 39th 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 one of the twelve sub-pillars: Individuals.

The Americas

Uruguay is ranked 4th within The Americas (Figure 4, right panel). It outperforms its region in each of the four pillars. With regard to sub-pillars, it outperforms the average in The Americas in eleven of the twelve sub-pillars: Access, Content, Future Technologies, Individuals, Governments, Trust, Regulation, Inclusion, Economy, Quality of Life and SDG Contribution.

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

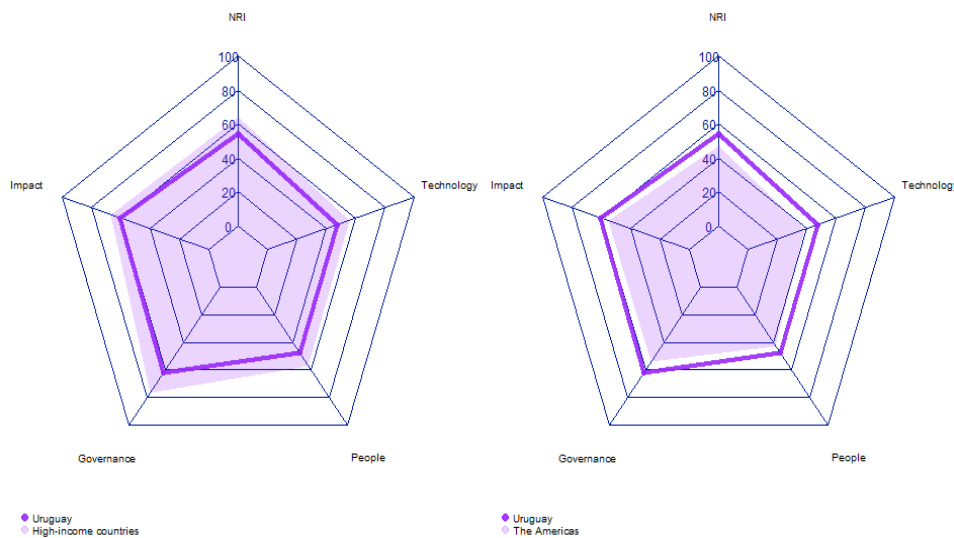


Table 2: Uruguay scores vs. averages of its income group and region, overall and by pillar

Dimension	Uruguay	High-income countries	The Americas
NRI	54.50	64.07	47.41
Technology	47.80	55.76	38.24
People	47.80	56.99	42.35
Governance	62.12	76.81	54.12
Impact	60.29	66.73	54.93

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Strongest and weakest indicators

The indicators where Uruguay performs particularly well include 3.2.4 E-commerce legislation, 4.1.6 ICT services exports, and 3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use (Table 3). By contrast, the economy's weakest indicators include 1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies, 3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments, and 1.2.4 AI scientific publications.

Table 3: Highlight of Strengths and Opportunities for Uruguay

Strongest indicators	Rank	Weakest indicators	Rank
3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	1	2.2.2 GERD financed by business enterprise	81
4.1.6 ICT services exports	7	4.1.5 Prevalence of gig economy	97
3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use	10	1.2.4 AI scientific publications	100
1.2.1 GitHub commits	11	1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	106
2.3.2 Publication and use of open data	14	3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments	106
2.1.5 Adult literacy rate	24		
4.2.1 Happiness	24		
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	25		
3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	28		
4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	32		
4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	33		

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

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NRI 2023 At-A-Glance: Uruguay

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Rank: 45 (out of 134)

Score: 54.50

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score	Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	44	47.80	C. Governance pillar	55	62.12
1st sub-pillar: Access	40	72.06	1st sub-pillar: Trust	58	49.78
2nd sub-pillar: Content	32	38.83	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	36	76.57
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	64	32.51	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	71	60.03
B. People pillar	50	47.80	D. Impact pillar	38	60.29
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	25	56.51	1st sub-pillar: Economy	49	34.28
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	86	37.89	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	44	74.46
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	36	48.99	3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	45	72.12

The Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	44	47.80	C. Governance pillar	55	62.12
1st sub-pillar: Access	40	72.06	1st sub-pillar: Trust	58	49.78
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	41	74.22	3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	56	60.44
1.1.2 Handset prices	49	58.42	3.1.2 Cybersecurity	72	74.71
1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	48	35.71	3.1.3 Online access to financial account	67	27.88
1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	92	98.45	3.1.4 Internet shopping	54	36.09
1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	97	65.69	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	36	76.57
1.1.6 Internet access in schools	27	99.88	3.2.1 Regulatory quality	41	65.92
2nd sub-pillar: Content	32	38.83	3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	92	70.00
1.2.1 GitHub commits	11	72.35	3.2.3 Regulation of emerging technologies	30	65.45
1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	44	10.44	3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	1	100.00
1.2.3 Mobile apps development	47	71.39	3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	28	81.46
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	100	1.16	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	71	60.03
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	64	32.51	3.3.1 E-Participation	61	58.14
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	54	51.47	3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	75	69.00
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	106	27.00	3.3.3 Availability of local online content	62	61.78

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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	10	75.45 ●
1.3.4 Computer software spending	71	19.07	3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments	106	35.76 ○
B. People pillar			D. Impact pillar		
<i>1st sub-pillar: Individuals</i>			<i>1st sub-pillar: Economy</i>		
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	74	7.35	4.1.1 High-tech and medium-high-tech manufacturing	76	17.10
2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	51	55.57	4.1.2 High-tech exports	48	17.45
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	25	77.32 ●	4.1.3 PCT patent applications	NA	NA
2.1.4 Tertiary enrollment	45	43.98	4.1.4 Domestic market size	89	43.96
2.1.5 Adult literacy rate	24	98.32 ●	4.1.5 Prevalence of gig economy	97	27.62 ○
2.1.6 AI talent concentration	NA	NA	4.1.6 ICT services exports	7	65.28 ●
<i>2nd sub-pillar: Businesses</i>			<i>2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life</i>		
2.2.1 Firms with website	37	68.85	4.2.1 Happiness	24	80.32 ●
2.2.2 GERD financed by business enterprise	81	5.20 ○	4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	35	83.78
2.2.3 Knowledge intensive employment	53	35.82	4.2.3 Income inequality	82	55.78
2.2.4 Annual investment in telecommunication services	77	76.34	4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	46	77.94
2.2.5 GERD performed by business enterprise	58	3.24	<i>3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution</i>		
<i>3rd sub-pillar: Governments</i>			4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	32	83.62 ●
2.3.1 Government online services	52	73.93	4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education	51	36.51
2.3.2 Publication and use of open data	14	70.59 ●	4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	44	84.07
2.3.3 Government promotion of investment in emerging tech	52	43.54	4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	33	78.54 ●
2.3.4 R&D expenditure by governments and higher education	64	7.88	4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	40	77.85

NOTE: ● a strength and ○ a weakness.

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