

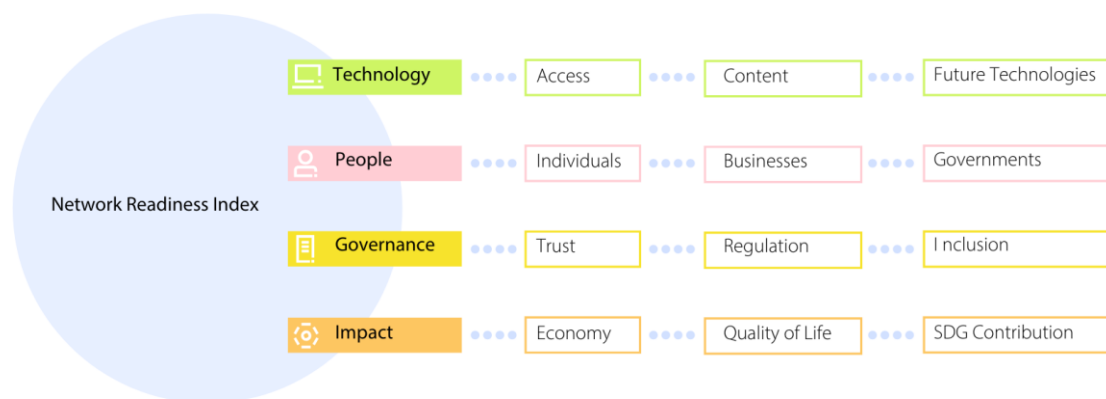
# Network Readiness Index 2024



## Australia

*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 2024 the NRI Report maps the network-based readiness landscape of 133 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 54 variables.*

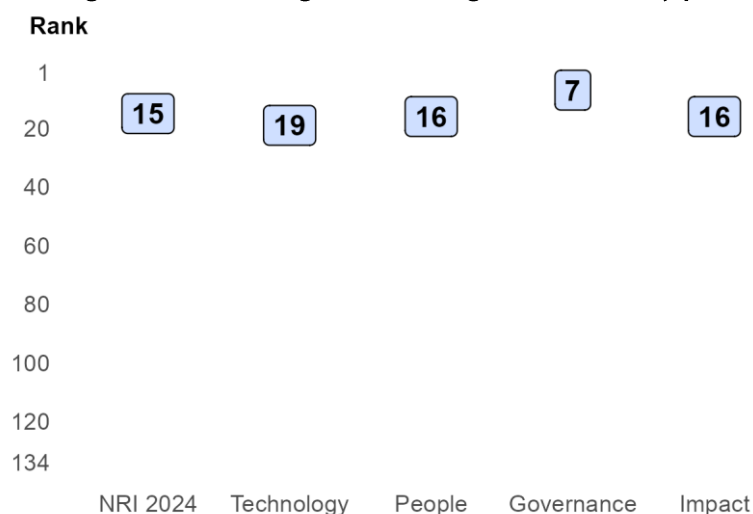
**Figure 1: The NRI 2024 model**



### Global NRI position of Australia

Australia ranks 15th out of the 133 economies included in the NRI 2024 (Figure 2). Its main strength relates to Governance. The greatest scope for improvement, meanwhile, concerns Technology.

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

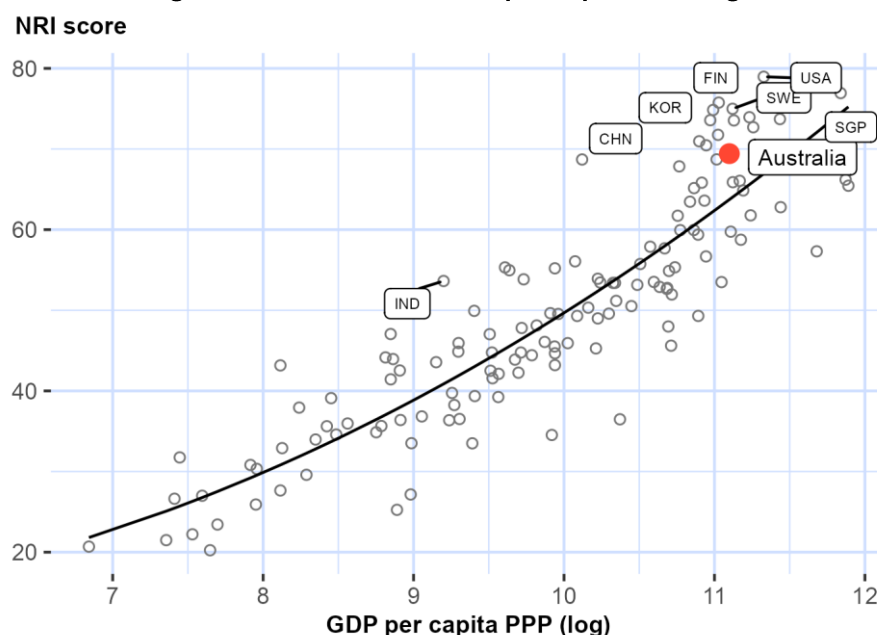
**Table 1: Australia rankings by sub-pillar**

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
Trust	7	SDG Contribution	12
Governments	8	Businesses	13
Inclusion	8	Quality of Life	15
Regulation	10	Economy	24
Content	11	Future Technologies	39
Access	12	Individuals	69

## NRI score and income

Figure 3 shows the position of Australia 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, Australia 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), SWE = Sweden (4), KOR = Republic of Korea (5), CHN = China (17), and IND = India (49). Australia belongs to the group of high-income countries, where the best performer is United States of America (USA). The top performer of its region-Asia & Pacific-is Singapore (SGP).

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#### Performance against its income group and region

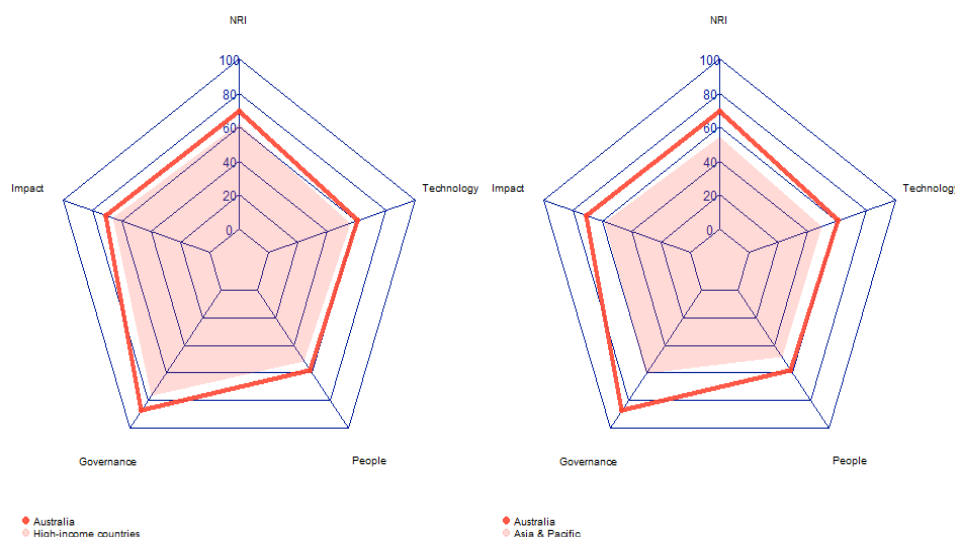
##### *High-income countries*

Australia is ranked 15th 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: Access, Content, Businesses, Governments, Trust, Regulation, Inclusion, Economy, Quality of Life and SDG Contribution.

##### *Asia & Pacific*

Australia is ranked 4th within Asia & Pacific (Figure 4, right panel). It outperforms its region in each of the four pillars. With regard to sub-pillars, it outperforms the average in Asia & Pacific in ten of the twelve sub-pillars: Access, Content, Businesses, Governments, Trust, Regulation, Inclusion, Economy, Quality of Life and SDG Contribution.

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



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

Dimension	Australia	High-income countries	Asia & Pacific
NRI	69.43	62.50	54.25
Technology	60.54	55.84	49.31
People	58.49	51.81	48.55
Governance	87.61	76.61	60.88
Impact	71.07	65.73	58.26

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## Strongest and weakest indicators

The indicators where Australia performs particularly well include 1.1.2 Handset prices, 1.1.6 Internet access in schools, and 3.2.4 E-commerce legislation (Table 3). By contrast, the economy's weakest indicators include 4.1.4 ICT services exports, 4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, and 1.3.4 Computer software spending.

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

Strongest indicators	Rank	Weakest indicators	Rank
1.1.2 Handset prices	1	2.1.5 AI talent concentration	28
1.1.6 Internet access in schools	1	1.3.3 Robot density	29
3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	1	3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use	49
3.2.1 Regulatory quality	2	4.2.3 Income inequality	50
3.3.1 E-Participation	2	1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	51
4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	5	3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments	55
3.1.4 Internet shopping	6	1.3.4 Computer software spending	67
2.3.1 Government online services	7	4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	74
2.2.4 Public cloud computing market scale	8	4.1.4 ICT services exports	75
4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	8		
3.3.3 Availability of local online content	9		
4.2.1 Happiness	9		
4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	9		

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

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## NRI 2024 At-A-Glance: Australia

Network Readiness Index

Rank: 15 (out of 133)

Score: 69.43

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score	Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	19	60.54	C. Governance pillar	7	87.61
1st sub-pillar: Access	12	80.16	1st sub-pillar: Trust	7	89.62
2nd sub-pillar: Content	11	55.75	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	10	88.54
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	39	45.70	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	8	84.67
B. People pillar	16	58.49	D. Impact pillar	16	71.07
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	69	48.37	1st sub-pillar: Economy	24	44.56
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	13	58.28	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	15	84.93
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	8	68.82	3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	12	83.71

### The Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score
<b>A. Technology pillar</b>	19	60.54	<b>C. Governance pillar</b>	7	87.61
<i>1st sub-pillar: Access</i>	12	80.16	<i>1st sub-pillar: Trust</i>	7	89.62
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	36	76.29	3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	18	84.53
1.1.2 Handset prices	1	100.00	• 3.1.2 Cybersecurity	15	97.50
1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	51	35.57	○ 3.1.3 Online access to financial account	9	87.15
1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	48	95.41	3.1.4 Internet shopping	6	89.30
1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	50	73.71	<i>2nd sub-pillar: Regulation</i>	10	88.54
1.1.6 Internet access in schools	1	100.00	• 3.2.1 Regulatory quality	2	92.50
<i>2nd sub-pillar: Content</i>	11	55.75	3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	11	94.64
1.2.1 GitHub commits	23	49.04	3.2.3 Regulation of emerging technologies	22	75.95
1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	11	62.41	3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	1	100.00
1.2.3 Mobile apps development	37	71.65	3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	42	79.60
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	25	39.90	<i>3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion</i>	8	84.67
<i>3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies</i>	39	45.70	3.3.1 E-Participation	2	98.83
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	14	85.73	3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	20	96.29
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	24	65.75	3.3.3 Availability of local online content	9	93.03
1.3.3 Robot density	29	9.90	○ 3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use	49	68.42

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Indicator	Rank	Score		Indicator	Rank	Score	
1.3.4 Computer software spending	67	21.42	○	3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments	55	66.79	○
<b>B. People pillar</b>	16	58.49		<b>D. Impact pillar</b>	16	71.07	
<i>1st sub-pillar: Individuals</i>	69	48.37		<i>1st sub-pillar: Economy</i>	24	44.56	
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	28	31.06		4.1.1 ICT patent applications	24	18.17	
2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	21	78.29		4.1.2 Domestic market scale	20	71.61	
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	27	68.45		4.1.3 Prevalence of gig economy	12	78.20	
2.1.4 Adult literacy rate	NA	NA		4.1.4 ICT services exports	75	10.27	○
2.1.5 AI talent concentration	28	15.67	○	<i>2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life</i>	15	84.93	
<i>2nd sub-pillar: Businesses</i>	13	58.28		4.2.1 Happiness	9	85.06	●
2.2.1 Firms with website	21	78.99		4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	37	84.91	
2.2.2 Number of venture capital deals invested in AI	26	20.80		4.2.3 Income inequality	50	73.78	○
2.2.3 Annual investment in telecommunication services	10	73.98		4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	5	95.88	●
2.2.4 Public cloud computing market scale	8	59.36	●	<i>3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution</i>	12	83.71	
<i>3rd sub-pillar: Governments</i>	8	68.82		4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	8	93.55	●
2.3.1 Government online services	7	93.15	●	4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education	10	66.20	
2.3.2 Data Capabilities	11	69.74		4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	20	95.73	
2.3.3 Government promotion of investment in emerging technologies	10	80.16		4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	74	78.00	○
2.3.4 R&D expenditure by governments and higher education	21	32.24		4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	9	96.29	●

NOTE: ● a strength and ○ a weakness.



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