

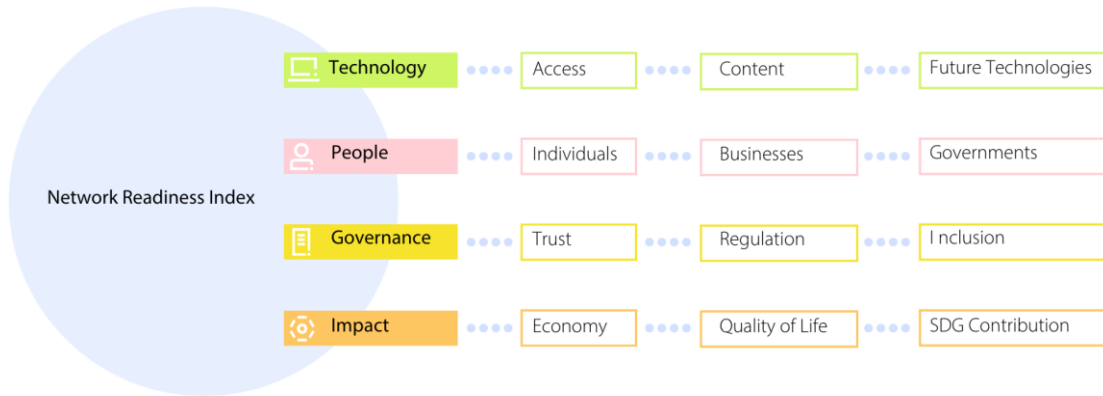
Network Readiness Index 2024



Ecuador

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.

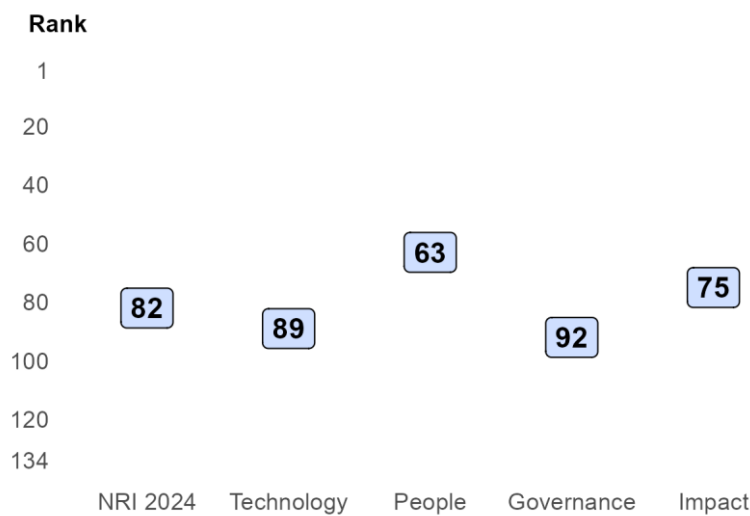
Figure 1: The NRI 2024 model



Global NRI position of Ecuador

Ecuador ranks 82nd out of the 133 economies included in the NRI 2024 (Figure 2). Its main strength relates to People. The greatest scope for improvement, meanwhile, concerns Governance.

Figure 2: Ecuador 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 Ecuador relate to SDG Contribution, Businesses and Individuals, among others (Table 1). More could be done, though, to improve the economy's performances in the Quality of Life, Trust and Economy sub-pillars.

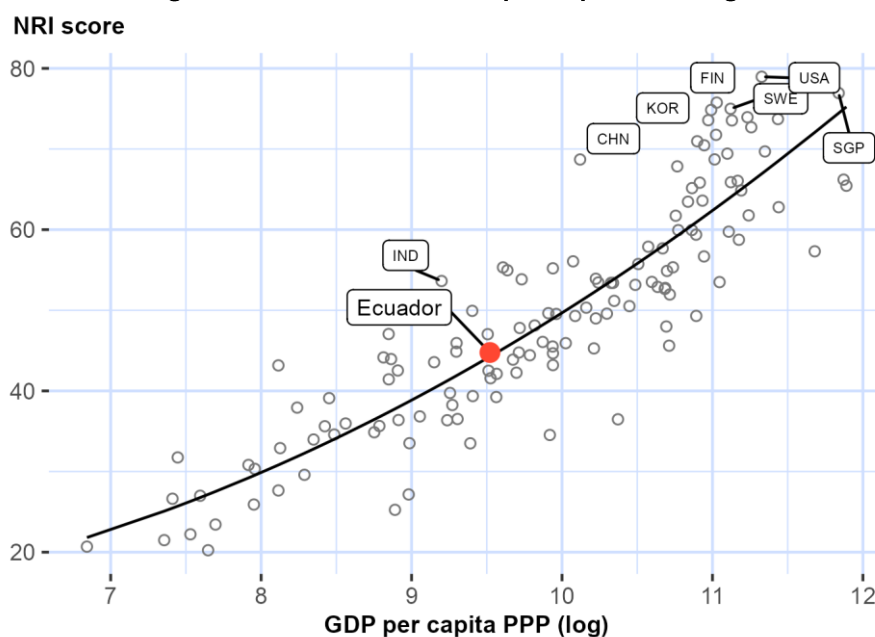
Table 1: Ecuador rankings by sub-pillar

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
SDG Contribution	22	Governments	90
Businesses	32	Access	92
Individuals	66	Regulation	92
Inclusion	74	Quality of Life	92
Future Technologies	85	Trust	108
Content	86	Economy	121

NRI score and income

Figure 3 shows the position of Ecuador 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, Ecuador 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), SWE = Sweden (4), KOR = Republic of Korea (5), CHN = China (17), and IND = India (49). Ecuador 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).

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Performance against its income group and region

Upper-middle-income countries

Ecuador is ranked 24th 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 two of the four pillars: People and Impact. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms upper-middle-income countries in two of the twelve sub-pillars: Businesses and SDG Contribution.

The Americas

Ecuador is ranked 12th within The Americas (Figure 4, right panel). It has a score above the regional average in one of the four pillars: People. With regard to sub-pillars, it outperforms the average in The Americas in three of the twelve sub-pillars: Individuals, Businesses and SDG Contribution.

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

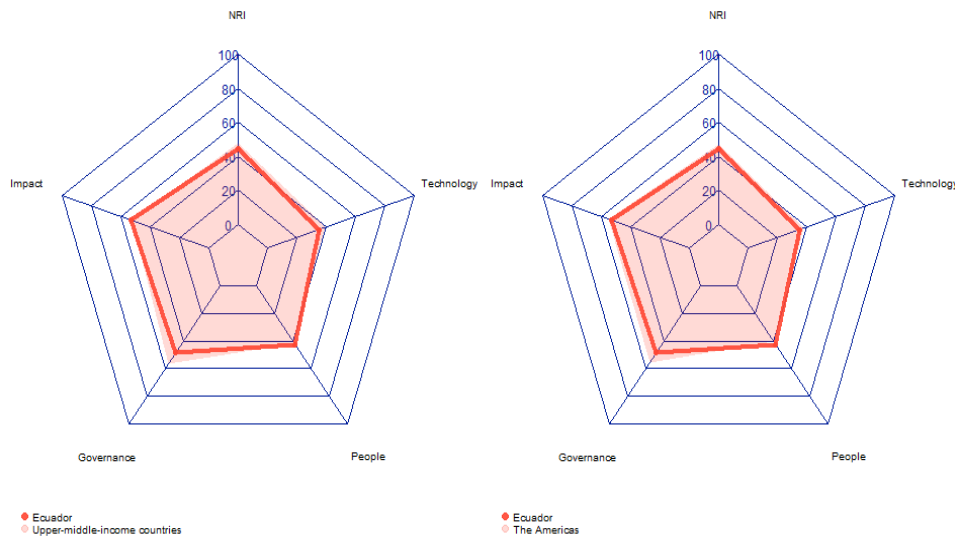


Table 2: Ecuador scores vs. averages of its income group and region, overall and by pillar

Dimension	Ecuador	Upper-middle-income countries	The Americas
NRI	44.76	47.52	47.17
Technology	34.90	39.51	37.72
People	42.73	41.65	40.44
Governance	48.65	56.74	55.39
Impact	52.76	52.19	55.11

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Strongest and weakest indicators

The indicators where Ecuador performs particularly well include 3.2.4 E-commerce legislation, 1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions, and 3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use (Table 3). By contrast, the economy's weakest indicators include 4.1.4 ICT services exports, 4.1.3 Prevalence of gig economy, and 1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies.

Table 3: Highlight of Strengths and Opportunities for Ecuador

Strongest indicators	Rank	Weakest indicators	Rank
3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	1	3.1.3 Online access to financial account	92
1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	17	3.2.3 Regulation of emerging technologies	96
3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use	19	4.2.3 Income inequality	101
2.2.1 Firms with website	28	2.3.3 Government promotion of emerging technologies	102
3.3.1 E-Participation	41	2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	103
4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	46	4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	105
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	47	3.1.2 Cybersecurity	110
4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	47	1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	112
4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	49	4.1.3 Prevalence of gig economy	114
2.3.1 Government online services	50	4.1.4 ICT services exports	120
4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	51		

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

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NRI 2024 At-A-Glance: Ecuador

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Rank: 82 (out of 133)

Score: 44.76

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score	Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	89	34.90	C. Governance pillar	92	48.65
1st sub-pillar: Access	92	54.55	1st sub-pillar: Trust	108	27.40
2nd sub-pillar: Content	86	19.49	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	92	61.09
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	85	30.67	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	74	57.47
B. People pillar	63	42.73	D. Impact pillar	75	52.76
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	66	49.07	1st sub-pillar: Economy	121	17.32
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	32	47.72	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	92	59.05
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	90	31.41	3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	22	81.90

The Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	89	34.90	C. Governance pillar	92	48.65
<i>1st sub-pillar: Access</i>	92	54.55	<i>1st sub-pillar: Trust</i>	108	27.40
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	89	54.17	3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	81	47.43
1.1.2 Handset prices	98	43.59	3.1.2 Cybersecurity	110	26.33 ○
1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	17	49.49	● 3.1.3 Online access to financial account	92	21.05 ○
1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	94	59.54	3.1.4 Internet shopping	83	14.79
1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	100	64.93	<i>2nd sub-pillar: Regulation</i>	92	61.09
1.1.6 Internet access in schools	60	55.56	3.2.1 Regulatory quality	95	37.23
<i>2nd sub-pillar: Content</i>	86	19.49	3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	80	76.19
1.2.1 GitHub commits	77	4.66	3.2.3 Regulation of emerging technologies	96	29.63 ○
1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	85	1.46	3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	1	100.00 ●
1.2.3 Mobile apps development	88	57.34	3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	83	62.41
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	47	14.49	<i>3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion</i>	74	57.47
<i>3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies</i>	85	30.67	3.3.1 E-Participation	41	69.76 ●
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	82	48.16	3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	98	54.30
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	112	23.25 ○	3.3.3 Availability of local online content	100	39.18
1.3.3 Robot density	NA	NA	3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use	19	71.64 ●

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Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score		
1.3.4 Computer software spending	70	20.59	3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments	86	52.47		
B. People pillar	63	42.73	D. Impact pillar	75	52.76		
<i>1st sub-pillar: Individuals</i>	66	49.07	<i>1st sub-pillar: Economy</i>	121	17.32		
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	71	10.64	4.1.1 ICT patent applications	57	0.42		
2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	103	34.48	○	4.1.2 Domestic market scale	65	52.67	
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	56	59.93	4.1.3 Prevalence of gig economy	114	14.53	○	
2.1.4 Adult literacy rate	58	91.22	4.1.4 ICT services exports	120	1.68	○	
2.1.5 AI talent concentration	NA	NA	<i>2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life</i>	92	59.05		
<i>2nd sub-pillar: Businesses</i>	32	47.72	4.2.1 Happiness	73	59.07		
2.2.1 Firms with website	28	75.84	●	4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	105	60.34	○
2.2.2 Number of venture capital deals invested in AI	NA	NA	4.2.3 Income inequality	101	47.30	○	
2.2.3 Annual investment in telecommunication services	65	50.41	4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	60	68.16		
2.2.4 Public cloud computing market scale	63	16.92	<i>3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution</i>	22	81.90		
<i>3rd sub-pillar: Governments</i>	90	31.41	4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	49	77.42	●	
2.3.1 Government online services	50	74.04	●	4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education	NA	NA	
2.3.2 Data Capabilities	64	26.73	4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	46	85.47	●	
2.3.3 Government promotion of investment in emerging technologies	102	17.09	○	4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	47	84.14	●
2.3.4 R&D expenditure by governments and higher education	65	7.80	4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	51	74.75	●	

NOTE: ● a strength and ○ a weakness.

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