

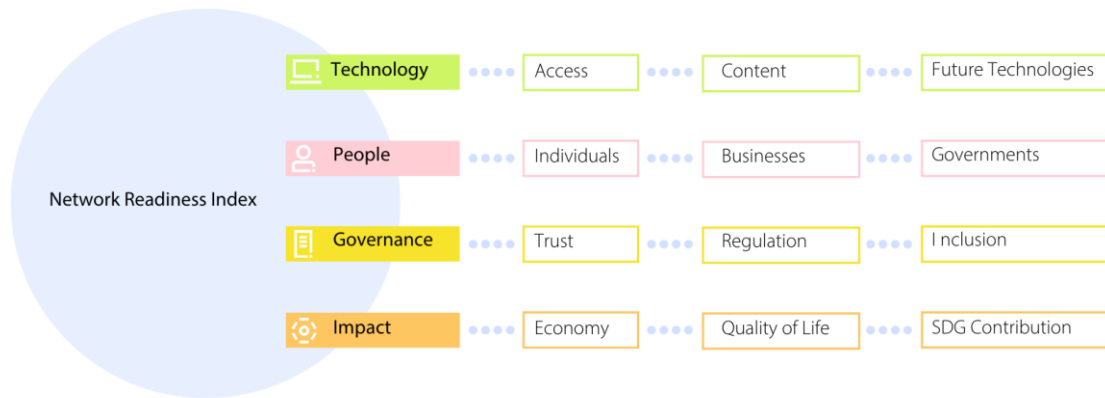
Network Readiness Index 2024



Italy

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.

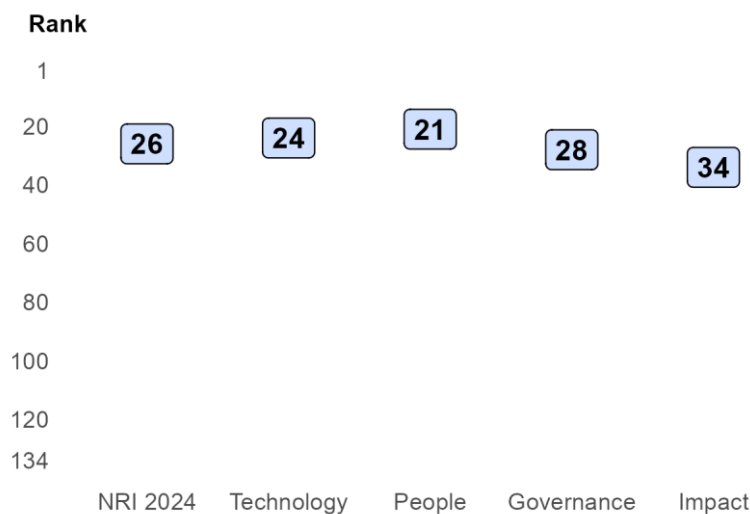
Figure 1: The NRI 2024 model



Global NRI position of Italy

Italy ranks 26th 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 Impact.

Figure 2: Italy 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 Italy relate to SDG Contribution, Future Technologies and Governments, among others (Table 1). More could be done, though, to improve the economy's performances in the Access, Economy and Quality of Life sub-pillars.

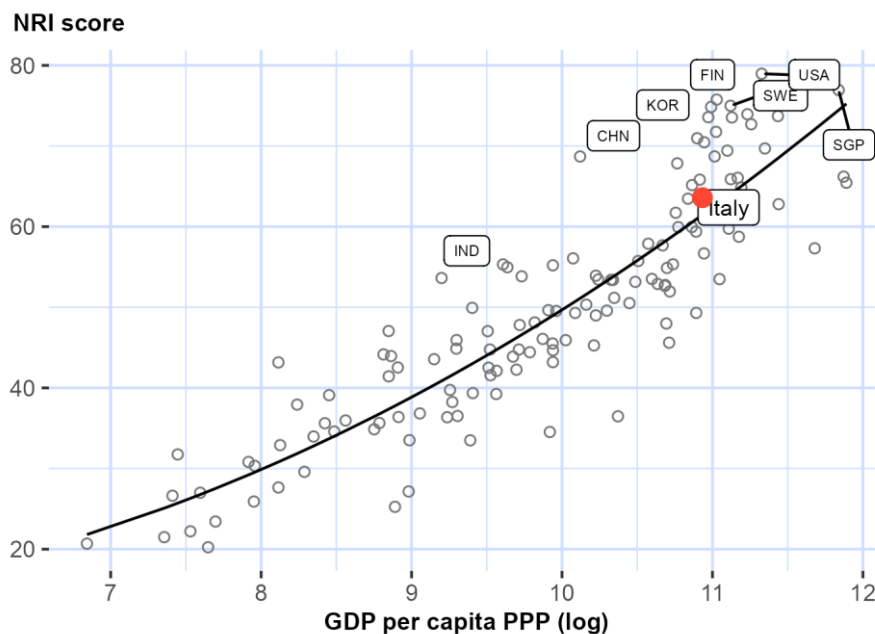
Table 1: Italy rankings by sub-pillar

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
SDG Contribution	19	Content	30
Future Technologies	25	Individuals	30
Governments	25	Trust	30
Businesses	26	Access	35
Regulation	27	Economy	37
Inclusion	29	Quality of Life	64

NRI score and income

Figure 3 shows the position of Italy 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, Italy 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). Italy belongs to the group of high-income countries, where the best performer is United States of America (USA). The top performer of its region-Europe-is Finland (FIN).

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Performance against its income group and region

High-income countries

Italy is ranked 25th 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 three of the four pillars: NRI, Technology, People and Governance. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms high-income countries in ten of the twelve sub-pillars: Access, Content, Future Technologies, Individuals, Businesses, Governments, Trust, Regulation, Inclusion and SDG Contribution.

Europe

Italy is ranked 18th within Europe (Figure 4, right panel). It has a score above the regional average in three of the four pillars: NRI, Technology, People and Governance. With regard to sub-pillars, it outperforms the average in Europe in ten of the twelve sub-pillars: Access, Content, Future Technologies, Individuals, Businesses, Governments, Trust, Regulation, Inclusion and SDG Contribution.

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

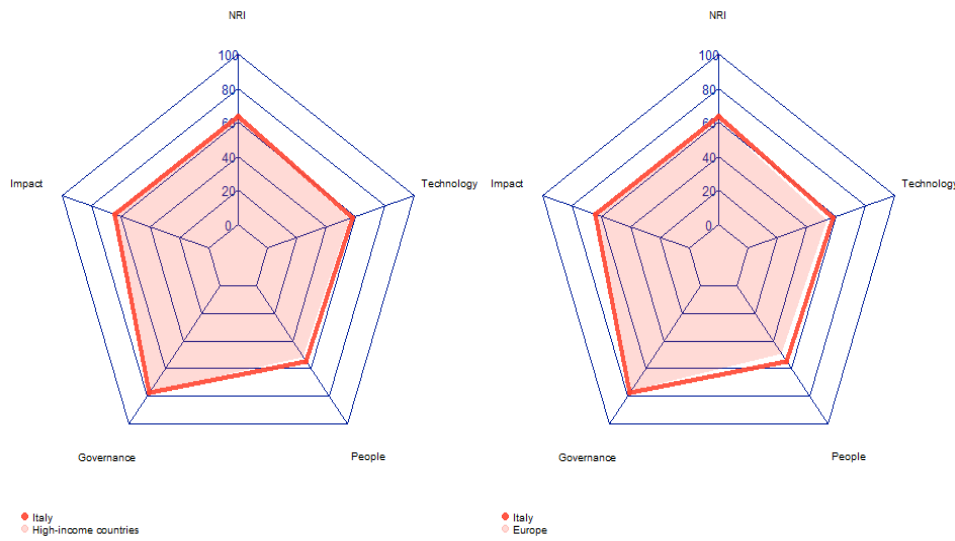


Table 2: Italy scores vs. averages of its income group and region, overall and by pillar

Dimension	Italy	High-income countries	Europe
NRI	63.60	62.50	60.84
Technology	57.84	55.84	53.51
People	54.87	51.81	49.45
Governance	77.92	76.61	75.76
Impact	63.75	65.73	64.63

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Strongest and weakest indicators

The indicators where Italy performs particularly well include 1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network, 3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment, and 3.2.4 E-commerce legislation (Table 3). By contrast, the economy's weakest indicators include 4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices, 4.1.4 ICT services exports, and 3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use.

Table 3: Highlight of Strengths and Opportunities for Italy

Strongest indicators	Rank	Weakest indicators	Rank
1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	1	2.1.5 AI talent concentration	32
3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	1	2.2.2 Number of venture capital deals invested in AI	51
3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	1	1.1.6 Internet access in schools	55
1.3.4 Computer software spending	6	4.2.3 Income inequality	55
3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments	6	1.2.3 Mobile apps development	60
2.2.3 Annual investment in telecommunication services	8	1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	61
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	10	3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use	63
4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	11	4.1.4 ICT services exports	72
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	12	4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	112
2.2.4 Public cloud computing market scale	12		
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	13		
4.1.2 Domestic market scale	13		

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

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NRI 2024 At-A-Glance: Italy

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Rank: 26 (out of 133)

Score: 63.60

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score	Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	24	57.84	C. Governance pillar	28	77.92
1st sub-pillar: Access	35	75.49	1st sub-pillar: Trust	30	75.07
2nd sub-pillar: Content	30	44.87	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	27	81.49
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	25	53.15	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	29	77.22
B. People pillar	21	54.87	D. Impact pillar	34	63.75
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	30	57.00	1st sub-pillar: Economy	37	40.21
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	26	51.47	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	64	68.50
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	25	56.15	3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	19	82.55

The Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	24	57.84	C. Governance pillar	28	77.92
<i>1st sub-pillar: Access</i>	35	75.49	<i>1st sub-pillar: Trust</i>	30	75.07
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	13	86.72	• 3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	35	79.29
1.1.2 Handset prices	44	81.60	3.1.2 Cybersecurity	27	96.17
1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	35	41.43	3.1.3 Online access to financial account	40	60.61
1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	1	100.00	• 3.1.4 Internet shopping	29	64.19
1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	53	73.21	<i>2nd sub-pillar: Regulation</i>	27	81.49
1.1.6 Internet access in schools	55	70.00	○ 3.2.1 Regulatory quality	46	60.02
<i>2nd sub-pillar: Content</i>	30	44.87	3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	1	100.00
1.2.1 GitHub commits	44	20.24	3.2.3 Regulation of emerging technologies	38	64.91
1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	29	23.82	3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	1	100.00
1.2.3 Mobile apps development	60	66.55	○ 3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	33	82.51
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	12	68.86	• <i>3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion</i>	29	77.22
<i>3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies</i>	25	53.15	3.3.1 E-Participation	32	72.10
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	26	77.91	3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	28	92.67
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	61	41.00	○ 3.3.3 Availability of local online content	41	75.00
1.3.3 Robot density	14	29.57	3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use	63	66.56

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Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score		
1.3.4 Computer software spending	6	64.12	●	3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments	6	79.77	●
B. People pillar	21	54.87		D. Impact pillar	34	63.75	
<i>1st sub-pillar: Individuals</i>	30	57.00		<i>1st sub-pillar: Economy</i>	37	40.21	
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	10	47.97	●	4.1.1 ICT patent applications	27	11.05	
2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	45	62.68		4.1.2 Domestic market scale	13	77.57	●
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	43	63.30		4.1.3 Prevalence of gig economy	32	61.34	
2.1.4 Adult literacy rate	17	99.05		4.1.4 ICT services exports	72	10.90	○
2.1.5 AI talent concentration	32	12.02	○	<i>2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life</i>	64	68.50	
<i>2nd sub-pillar: Businesses</i>	26	51.47		4.2.1 Happiness	50	67.78	
2.2.1 Firms with website	35	70.91		4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	112	54.89	○
2.2.2 Number of venture capital deals invested in AI	51	5.51	○	4.2.3 Income inequality	55	72.49	○
2.2.3 Annual investment in telecommunication services	8	75.64	●	4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	11	93.15	●
2.2.4 Public cloud computing market scale	12	53.83	●	<i>3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution</i>	19	82.55	
<i>3rd sub-pillar: Governments</i>	25	56.15		4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	21	88.71	
2.3.1 Government online services	23	85.18		4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education	31	57.67	
2.3.2 Data Capabilities	28	52.77		4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	15	96.58	
2.3.3 Government promotion of investment in emerging technologies	28	60.08		4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	24	89.62	
2.3.4 R&D expenditure by governments and higher education	27	26.56		4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	30	83.93	

NOTE: ● a strength and ○ a weakness.

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