

Network Readiness Index 2025

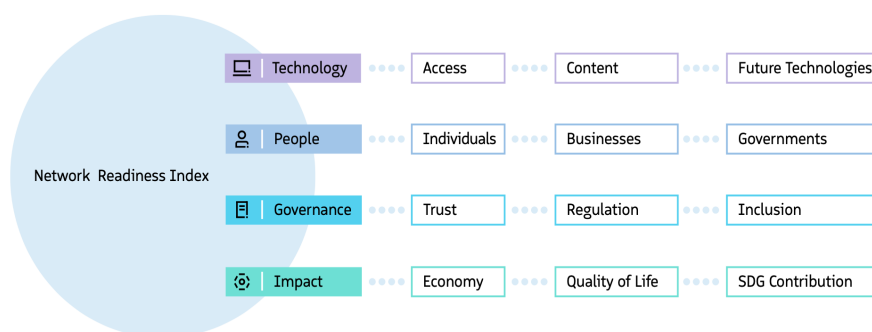
With support from:



Estonia

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 2025 the NRI Report maps the network-based readiness landscape of 127 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 53 variables.

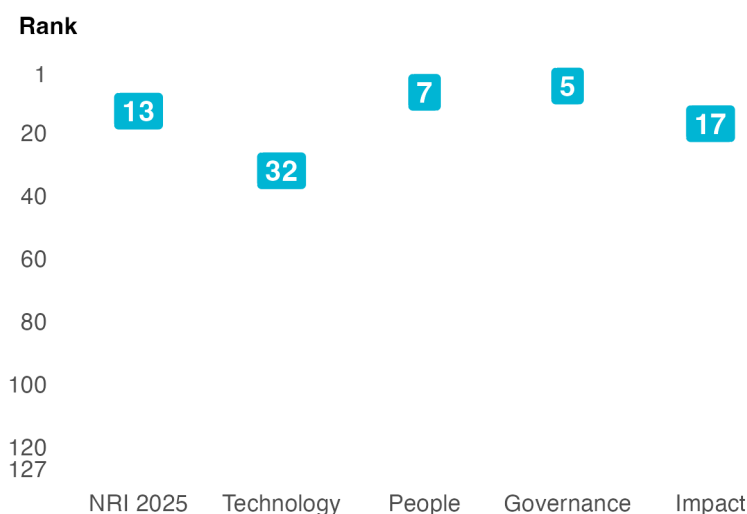
Figure 1: The NRI 2025 model



Global NRI position of Estonia

Estonia ranks 13 out of the 127 economies included in the NRI 2025 (Figure 2). Its main strength relates to Governance. The greatest scope for improvement, meanwhile, concerns Technology.

Figure 2: Estonia global ranking, overall and by pillar



Performance at sub-pillar level

When it comes to sub-pillars, the strongest showings of Estonia relate to Inclusion, Businesses and Governments, among others (Table 1). More could be done, though, to improve the economy's performances in the Quality of Life, Access and Future Technologies sub-pillars.

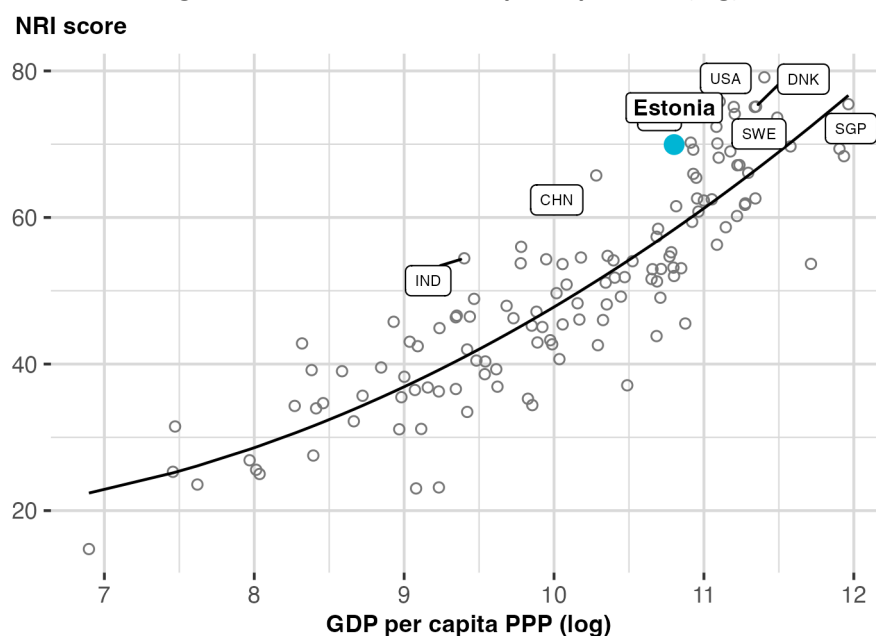
Table 1: Estonia rankings by sub-pillar

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
Inclusion	3	SDG Contribution	19
Businesses	4	Individuals	21
Governments	9	Economy	21
Trust	10	Quality of Life	25
Regulation	10	Access	37
Content	18	Future Technologies	52

NRI score and income

Figure 3 shows the position of Estonia 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, Estonia 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 of America (rank: 1), FIN =Finland (rank: 2), SGP = Singapore (3), DNK =Denmark (4), SWE = Sweden (5), CHN =China (24), and IND = India (45).

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Performance against its income group and region

High-income countries

Estonia is ranked 13th 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: People, Governance and Impact. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms high-income countries in ten of the twelve sub-pillars: Content, Individuals, Businesses, Governments, Trust, Regulation, Inclusion, Economy, Quality of Life and SDG Contribution.

Europe

Estonia is ranked 8th within Europe (Figure 4, right panel). It outperforms its region in each of the four pillars. With regard to sub-pillars, it outperforms the average in Europe in eleven of the twelve sub-pillars: Access, Content, Individuals, Businesses, Governments, Trust, Regulation, Inclusion, Economy, Quality of Life and SDG Contribution.

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



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

Dimension	Estonia	High-income countries	Europe
NRI	69.95	62.71	61.14
Technology	54.15	55.47	53.04
People	66.91	52.36	50.07
Governance	88.05	77.18	76.41
Impact	70.68	65.84	65.05

NRI 2025 At-A-Glance: Estonia

Network Readiness Index

Rank: 13 (out of 127)

Score: 69.95

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score	Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	32	54.15	C. Governance pillar	5	88.05
1st sub-pillar: Access	37	76.66	1st sub-pillar: Trust	10	89.43
2nd sub-pillar: Content	18	48.10	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	10	86.90
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	52	37.69	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	3	87.83
B. People pillar	7	66.91	D. Impact pillar	17	70.68
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	21	62.61	1st sub-pillar: Economy	21	50.65
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	4	70.20	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	25	78.50
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	9	67.91	3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	19	82.88

The Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	32	54.15	C. Governance pillar	5	88.05
1st sub-pillar: Access	37	76.66	1st sub-pillar: Trust	10	89.43
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	11	90.14	3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	10	95.39
1.1.2 Handset prices	28	90.57	3.1.2 Cybersecurity	46	94.04
1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	99	17.87	3.1.3 Online access to financial account	n/a	n/a
1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	1	100.00	3.1.4 Internet shopping	15	78.86
1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	112	61.37	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	10	86.90
1.1.6 Internet access in schools	1	100.00	3.2.1 Regulatory quality	17	78.00
2nd sub-pillar: Content	18	48.10	3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	39	82.19
1.2.1 GitHub commits	10	69.61	3.2.3 Regulation of emerging technologies	11	81.49
1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	24	37.66	3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	1	100.00
1.2.3 Mobile apps development	5	83.46	3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	8	92.80
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	87	1.68	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	3	87.83
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	52	37.69	3.3.1 E-Participation	7	95.65
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	30	76.83	3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	11	97.16
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	35	58.75	3.3.3 Gender gap in Internet use	12	70.69
1.3.3 Robot density	36	6.13	3.3.4 Rural gap in use of digital payments	n/a	n/a
1.3.4 Computer software spending	85	9.07	D. Impact pillar	17	70.68
B. People pillar	7	66.91	1st sub-pillar: Economy	21	50.65
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	21	62.61	4.1.1 ICT patent applications	30	10.77
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	72	12.18	4.1.2 Domestic market scale	104	39.03
2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	35	67.53	4.1.3 Technology-Enabled Work Flexibility	5	83.66
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	28	80.11	4.1.4 ICT services exports	6	69.15
2.1.4 Adult literacy rate	7	99.81	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	25	78.50
2.1.5 AI talent concentration	4	53.45	4.2.1 Happiness	36	70.53
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	4	70.20	4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	31	85.68

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Indicator	Rank	Score	
2.2.1 Firms with website	34	76.22	
2.2.2 Number of venture capital deals invested in AI	1	100.00	●
2.2.3 Annual investment in telecommunication services	94	34.40	○
2.2.4 Public cloud computing market scale	n/a	n/a	
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	9	67.91	
2.3.1 Government online services	3	99.44	●
2.3.2 Data Capabilities	1	100.00	●
2.3.3 Government promotion of emerging technologies	47	43.28	
2.3.4 Gross expenditure on R&D	20	28.91	

NOTE: ● indicates a strength and ○ indicates a weakness.

Indicator	Rank	Score	
4.2.3 Income inequality	27	82.40	
4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	35	76.19	
3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	19	82.88	
4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	42	97.78	
4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education	6	73.74	●
4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	15	96.36	
4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	74	73.41	
4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	35	78.23	

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