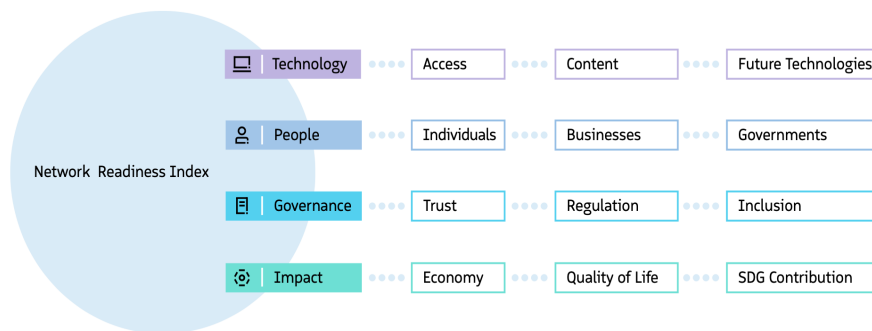# Hong Kong (China)

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.
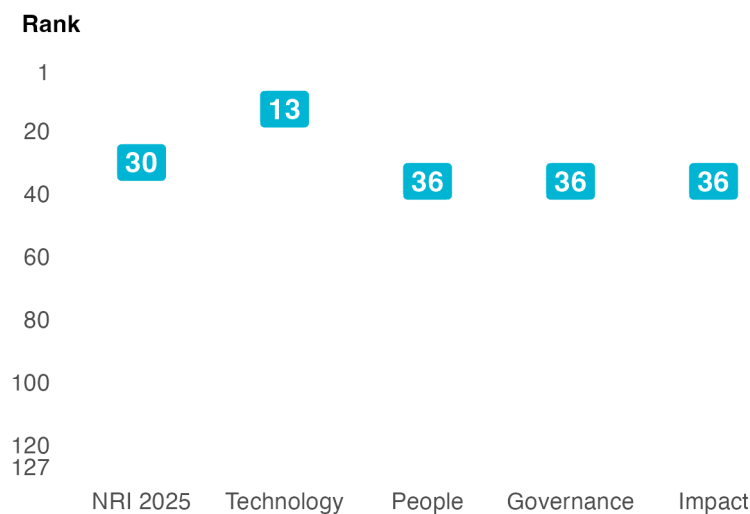
Figure 1: The NRI 2025 model

Global NRI position of Hong Kong (China)

Hong Kong (China) ranks 30 out of the 127 economies included in the NRI 2025 (Figure 2). Its main strength relates to Technology. The greatest scope for improvement, meanwhile, concerns People , Governance and Impact.

Figure 2: Hong Kong (China) global ranking, overall and by pillar

Performance at sub-pillar level

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

Table 1: Hong Kong (China) rankings by sub-pillar

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
Access	3	Economy	24
SDG Contribution	3	Businesses	36
Future Technologies	16	Inclusion	41
Individuals	18	Regulation	59
Content	19	Governments	73
Trust	22	Quality of Life	93

NRI score and income

Figure 3 shows the position of Hong Kong (China) 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, Hong Kong (China) is well below the trend line, which suggests that it is underachieving and that one would expect it could raise its network readiness in view of its income level.

Figure 3: NRI score and GDP per capita PPP (log)
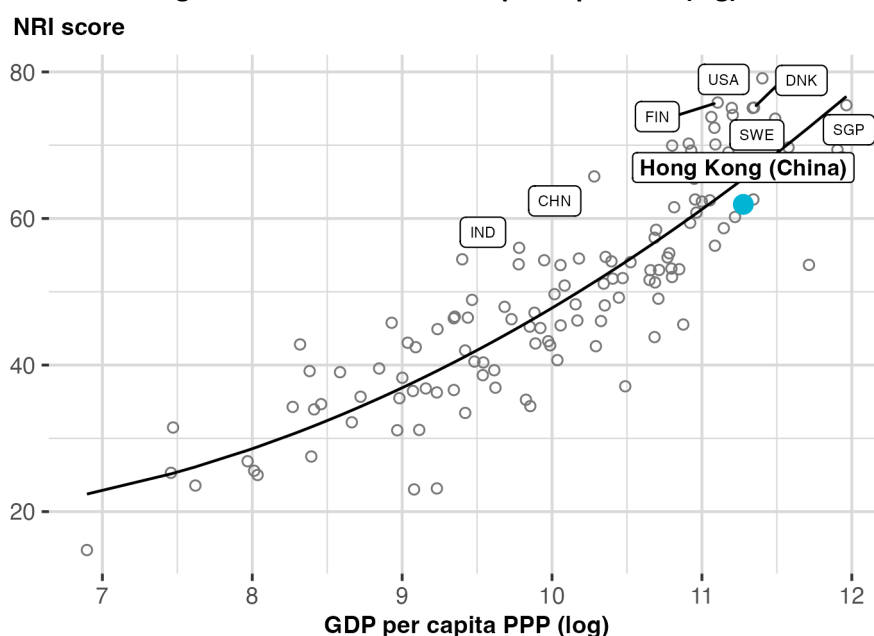
Note: USA = United States of America (rank: 1), FIN =Finland (rank: 2), SGP = Singapore (3), DNK =Denmark (4), SWE = Sweden (5), CHN =China (24), and IND = India (45).

Performance against its income group and region

High-income countries
Hong Kong (China) is ranked 29th 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 one of the four pillars: Technology. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms high-income countries in seven of the twelve sub-pillars: Access, Content, Future Technologies, Individuals, Trust, Economy and SDG Contribution.

Asia & Pacific
Hong Kong (China) is ranked 7th 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, Future Technologies, Individuals, Businesses, Trust, Regulation, Inclusion, Economy and SDG Contribution.

Figure 4: Performance of Hong Kong (China) against its income group and region, overall and by pillar
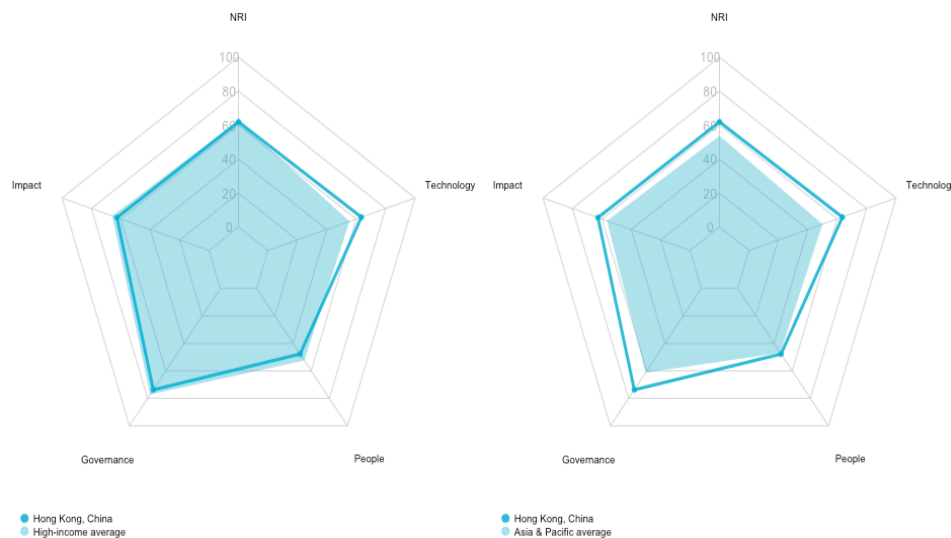
Table 2: Hong Kong (China) scores vs. averages of its income group and region, overall and by pillar

Dimension	Hong Kong (China)	High-income countries	Asia & Pacific
NRI	61.93	62.71	53.68
Technology	63.57	55.47	50.06
People	47.73	52.36	46.80
Governance	73.75	77.18	61.33
Impact	62.66	65.84	56.53

NRI 2025 At-A-Glance: Hong Kong (China)

Network Readiness Index   Rank: 30 (out of 127)   Score: 61.93

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score	Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	13	63.57	C. Governance pillar	36	73.75
1st sub-pillar: Access	3	85.80	1st sub-pillar: Trust	22	83.18
2nd sub-pillar: Content	19	48.00	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	59	63.90
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	16	56.93	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	41	74.16
B. People pillar	36	47.73	D. Impact pillar	36	62.66
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	18	63.23	1st sub-pillar: Economy	24	47.61
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	36	42.54	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	93	52.92
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	73	37.40	3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	3	87.44

The Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score		Indicator	Rank	Score	
A. Technology pillar	13	63.57		C. Governance pillar	36	73.75	
1st sub-pillar: Access	3	85.80		1st sub-pillar: Trust	22	83.18	
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	1	100.00	●	3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	8	96.32	●
1.1.2 Handset prices	39	84.44		3.1.2 Cybersecurity	n/a	n/a	
1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	52	35.61		3.1.3 Online access to financial account	n/a	n/a	
1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	63	94.74	○	3.1.4 Internet shopping	21	70.04	
1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	1	100.00	●	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	59	63.90	
1.1.6 Internet access in schools	1	100.00	●	3.2.1 Regulatory quality	12	82.38	●
2nd sub-pillar: Content	19	48.00		3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	68	72.81	
1.2.1 GitHub commits	n/a	n/a		3.2.3 Regulation of emerging technologies	28	67.38	
1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	19	44.43		3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	n/a	n/a	
1.2.3 Mobile apps development	4	84.34	●	3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	109	33.04	○
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	39	15.22		3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	41	74.16	
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	16	56.93		3.3.1 E-Participation	n/a	n/a	
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	18	83.93		3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	42	83.94	
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	15	74.75	●	3.3.3 Gender gap in Internet use	59	64.37	
1.3.3 Robot density	7	40.58	●	3.3.4 Rural gap in use of digital payments	n/a	n/a	
1.3.4 Computer software spending	27	28.46		D. Impact pillar	36	62.66	
B. People pillar	36	47.73		1st sub-pillar: Economy	24	47.61	
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	18	63.23		4.1.1 ICT patent applications	12	66.11	
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	44	21.87		4.1.2 Domestic market scale	48	60.23	
2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	20	76.29		4.1.3 Technology-Enabled Work Flexibility	36	59.89	
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	5	91.54	●	4.1.4 ICT services exports	96	4.22	
2.1.4 Adult literacy rate	n/a	n/a		2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	93	52.92	
2.1.5 AI talent concentration	n/a	n/a		4.2.1 Happiness	84	49.84	
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	36	42.54		4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	98	55.99	

Indicator		Rank	Score
2.2.1	Firms with website	60	56.15
2.2.2	Number of venture capital deals invested in AI	n/a	n/a
2.2.3	Annual investment in telecommunication services	44	46.89
2.2.4	Public cloud computing market scale	33	24.57
3rd sub-pillar: Governments		73	37.40
2.3.1	Government online services	n/a	n/a
2.3.2	Data Capabilities	21	57.49
2.3.3	Government promotion of emerging technologies	n/a	n/a
2.3.4	Gross expenditure on R&D	37	17.32

Indicator		Rank	Score	
4.2.3	Income inequality	n/a	n/a	
4.2.4	Healthy life expectancy at birth	n/a	n/a	
3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution		3	87.44	
4.3.1	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	n/a	n/a	
4.3.2	SDG 4: Quality Education	5	75.63	●
4.3.3	SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	34	88.18	
4.3.4	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	2	98.49	●
4.3.5	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	n/a	n/a	

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

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