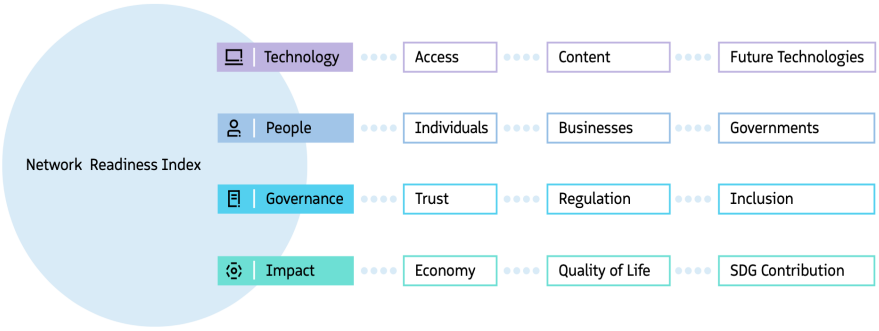
Italy

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 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.

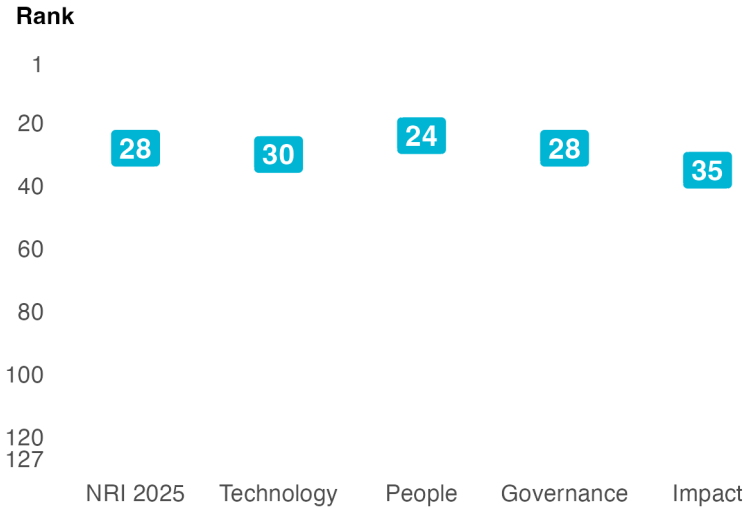
Figure 1: The NRI 2025 model



Global NRI position of Italy

Italy ranks 28 out of the 127 economies included in the NRI 2025 (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



Performance at sub-pillar level

When it comes to sub-pillars, the strongest showings of Italy relate to SDG Contribution, Regulation and Businesses, among others (Table 1). More could be done, though, to improve the economy's performances in the Inclusion, Economy and Quality of Life sub-pillars.

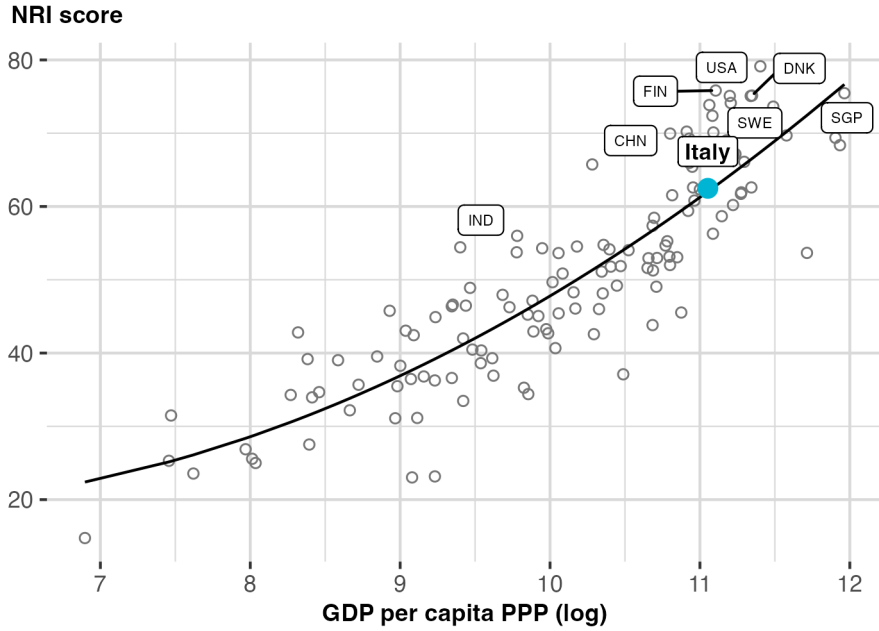
Table 1: Italy rankings by sub-pillar

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
SDG Contribution	16	Governments	34
Regulation	20	Individuals	36
Businesses	23	Access	43
Future Technologies	26	Inclusion	45
Trust	26	Economy	48
Content	33	Quality of Life	59

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 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 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

Italy is ranked 27th 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 two of the four pillars: People and Governance. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms high-income countries in six of the twelve sub-pillars: Future Technologies, Individuals, Businesses, Trust, Regulation and SDG Contribution.

Europe

Italy is ranked 19th within Europe (Figure 4, right panel). It has a score above the regional average in three of the four pillars: Technology, People and Governance. With regard to sub-pillars, it outperforms the average in Europe in seven of the twelve sub-pillars: Future Technologies, Individuals, Businesses, Governments, Trust, Regulation 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	62.48	62.71	61.14
Technology	55.13	55.47	53.04
People	53.52	52.36	50.07
Governance	78.54	77.18	76.41
Impact	62.72	65.84	65.05

NRI 2025 At-A-Glance: Italy

Network Readiness Index Rank: 28 (out of 127) Score: 62.48

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	30	55.13
1st sub-pillar: Access	43	75.15
2nd sub-pillar: Content	33	41.40
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	26	48.85
B. People pillar	24	53.52
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	36	57.92
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	23	51.44
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	34	51.21

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
C. Governance pillar	28	78.54
1st sub-pillar: Trust	26	82.46
2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	20	79.96
3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	45	73.19
D. Impact pillar	35	62.72
1st sub-pillar: Economy	48	36.88
2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	59	67.82
3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	16	83.46

The Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score	
A. Technology pillar	30	55.13	
1st sub-pillar: Access	43	75.15	
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	33	82.28	
1.1.2 Handset prices	43	82.19	
1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	36	43.21	
1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	1	100.00	●
1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	54	73.21	
1.1.6 Internet access in schools	55	70.00	○
2nd sub-pillar: Content	33	41.40	
1.2.1 GitHub commits	43	19.85	
1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	28	26.57	
1.2.3 Mobile apps development	57	66.90	
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	14	52.29	●
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	26	48.85	
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	26	77.91	
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	60	41.00	
1.3.3 Robot density	15	28.90	
1.3.4 Computer software spending	12	47.59	●
B. People pillar	24	53.52	
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	36	57.92	
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	14	46.27	●
2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	45	59.10	
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	48	75.45	
2.1.4 Adult literacy rate	16	98.46	
2.1.5 AI talent concentration	38	10.33	○
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	23	51.44	

Indicator	Rank	Score	
C. Governance pillar	28	78.54	
1st sub-pillar: Trust	26	82.46	
3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	30	83.20	
3.1.2 Cybersecurity	1	100.00	●
3.1.3 Online access to financial account	n/a	n/a	
3.1.4 Internet shopping	28	64.17	
2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	20	79.96	
3.2.1 Regulatory quality	42	58.35	
3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	1	100.00	●
3.2.3 Regulation of emerging technologies	38	61.99	
3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	1	100.00	●
3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	28	79.47	
3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	45	73.19	
3.3.1 E-Participation	61	63.76	
3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	27	91.64	
3.3.3 Gender gap in Internet use	62	64.17	○
3.3.4 Rural gap in use of digital payments	n/a	n/a	
D. Impact pillar	35	62.72	
1st sub-pillar: Economy	48	36.88	
4.1.1 ICT patent applications	26	15.01	
4.1.2 Domestic market scale	11	77.82	●
4.1.3 Technology-Enabled Work Flexibility	56	44.76	
4.1.4 ICT services exports	76	9.92	○
2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	59	67.82	
4.2.1 Happiness	37	70.49	
4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	104	51.69	○

Network Readiness Index 2025

Indicator	Rank	Score	
2.2.1 Firms with website	19	84.91	
2.2.2 Number of venture capital deals invested in AI	50	9.58	
2.2.3 Annual investment in telecommunication services	10	64.61	●
2.2.4 Public cloud computing market scale	11	46.64	●
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	34	51.21	
2.3.1 Government online services	61	71.41	
2.3.2 Data Capabilities	28	52.77	
2.3.3 Government promotion of emerging technologies	28	60.08	
2.3.4 Gross expenditure on R&D	34	20.59	

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

Indicator	Rank	Score	
4.2.3 Income inequality	54	73.21	
4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	14	89.38	●
3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	16	83.46	
4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	1	100.00	●
4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education	31	57.67	
4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	15	96.36	
4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	17	88.91	●
4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	30	81.79	

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