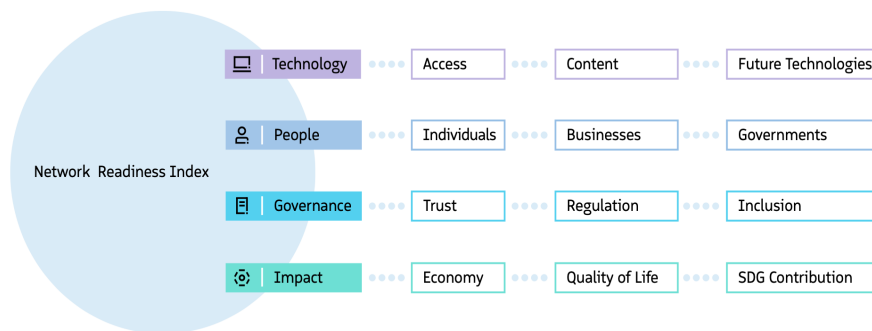# New Zealand

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.
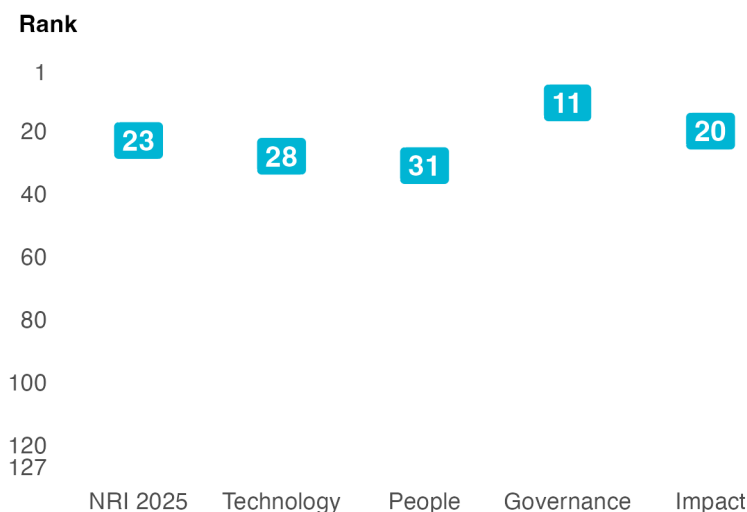
Figure 1: The NRI 2025 model

Global NRI position of New Zealand

New Zealand ranks 23 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 People.

Figure 2: New Zealand global ranking, overall and by pillar

Performance at sub-pillar level

When it comes to sub-pillars, the strongest showings of New Zealand relate to Inclusion, Quality of Life and Regulation, among others (Table 1). More could be done, though, to improve the economy's performances in the Future Technologies, Access and Individuals sub-pillars.
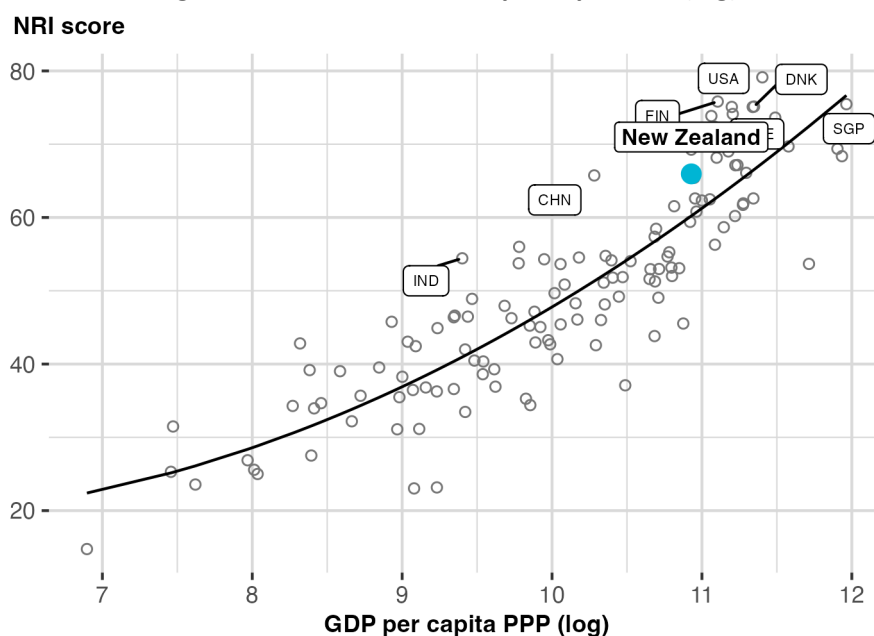
Table 1: New Zealand rankings by sub-pillar

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
Inclusion	1	Trust	28
Quality of Life	14	Economy	29
Regulation	17	Businesses	30
Content	20	Future Technologies	32
Governments	20	Access	46
SDG Contribution	20	Individuals	77

NRI score and income

Figure 3 shows the position of New Zealand 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, New Zealand 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).

Performance against its income group and region

High-income countries
New Zealand is ranked 23rd 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: Technology, Governance and Impact. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms high-income countries in seven of the twelve sub-pillars: Content, Governments, Trust, Regulation, Inclusion, Quality of Life and SDG Contribution.

Asia & Pacific
New Zealand is ranked 5th 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 eleven of the twelve sub-pillars: Access, Content, Future Technologies, Businesses, Governments, Trust, Regulation, Inclusion, Economy, Quality of Life and SDG Contribution.

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

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

Dimension	New Zealand	High-income countries	Asia & Pacific
NRI	65.95	62.71	53.68
Technology	56.42	55.47	50.06
People	51.89	52.36	46.80
Governance	85.58	77.18	61.33
Impact	69.91	65.84	56.53

NRI 2025 At-A-Glance: New Zealand

Network Readiness Index Rank: 23 (out of 127) Score: 65.95

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score	Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	28	56.42	C. Governance pillar	11	85.58
1st sub-pillar: Access	46	74.56	1st sub-pillar: Trust	28	82.29
2nd sub-pillar: Content	20	47.99	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	17	81.12
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	32	46.73	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	1	93.32
B. People pillar	31	51.89	D. Impact pillar	20	69.91
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	77	47.62	1st sub-pillar: Economy	29	44.26
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	30	45.26	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	14	82.60
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	20	62.80	3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	20	82.86

The Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score		Indicator	Rank	Score	
A. Technology pillar	28	56.42		C. Governance pillar	11	85.58	
1st sub-pillar: Access	46	74.56		1st sub-pillar: Trust	28	82.29	
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	42	77.72		3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	37	79.15	
1.1.2 Handset prices	1	100.00	●	3.1.2 Cybersecurity	79	79.12	○
1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	60	32.25		3.1.3 Online access to financial account	n/a	n/a	
1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	77	92.79	○	3.1.4 Internet shopping	6	88.60	●
1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	70	70.03		2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	17	81.12	
1.1.6 Internet access in schools	n/a	n/a		3.2.1 Regulatory quality	4	90.03	●
2nd sub-pillar: Content	20	47.99		3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	49	78.44	
1.2.1 GitHub commits	12	67.36	●	3.2.3 Regulation of emerging technologies	20	76.16	
1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	16	51.21	●	3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	1	100.00	●
1.2.3 Mobile apps development	45	68.83		3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	70	60.99	
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	68	4.56		3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	1	93.32	
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	32	46.73		3.3.1 E-Participation	12	92.75	●
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	9	92.79	●	3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	23	93.88	
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	19	68.50		3.3.3 Gender gap in Internet use	n/a	n/a	
1.3.3 Robot density	35	6.67	○	3.3.4 Rural gap in use of digital payments	n/a	n/a	
1.3.4 Computer software spending	57	18.95		D. Impact pillar	20	69.91	
B. People pillar	31	51.89		1st sub-pillar: Economy	29	44.26	
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	77	47.62		4.1.1 ICT patent applications	21	36.31	
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	84	7.06	○	4.1.2 Domestic market scale	64	53.53	
2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	17	77.15		4.1.3 Technology-Enabled Work Flexibility	18	73.10	
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	18	82.94		4.1.4 ICT services exports	62	14.08	
2.1.4 Adult literacy rate	n/a	n/a		2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	14	82.60	
2.1.5 AI talent concentration	30	23.33	○	4.2.1 Happiness	12	82.48	●
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	30	45.26		4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	44	80.34	

Network Readiness Index 2025

With support from: aws CNi

Indicator	Rank	Score	
2.2.1 Firms with website	8	92.64	●
2.2.2 Number of venture capital deals invested in AI	39	13.92	
2.2.3 Annual investment in telecommunication services	41	48.05	
2.2.4 Public cloud computing market scale	29	26.44	
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	20	62.80	
2.3.1 Government online services	8	93.42	●
2.3.2 Data Capabilities	17	62.93	
2.3.3 Government promotion of emerging technologies	18	71.86	
2.3.4 Gross expenditure on R&D	30	23.00	

Indicator	Rank	Score	
4.2.3 Income inequality	n/a	n/a	
4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	18	87.37	
3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	20	82.86	
4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	1	100.00	●
4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education	12	65.09	
4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	15	96.36	
4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	66	74.81	
4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	20	90.34	

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

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