Network Readiness
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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.
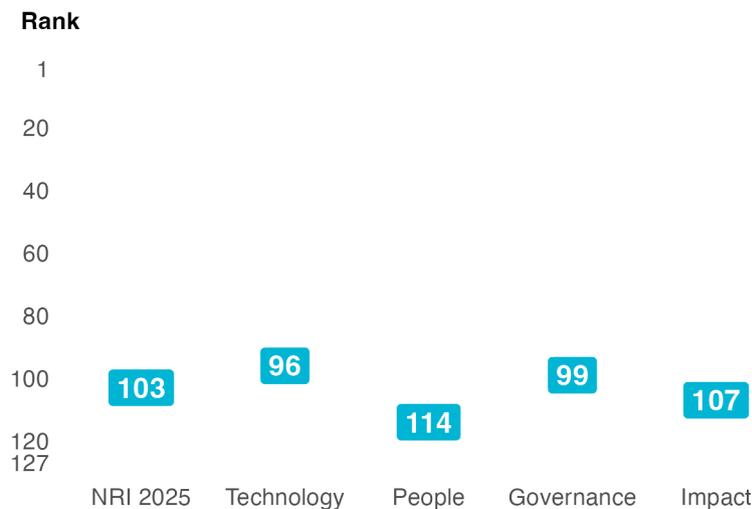
Figure 1: The NRI 2025 model

Global NRI position of Nigeria

Nigeria ranks 103 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.

Figure 2: Nigeria global ranking, overall and by pillar

Performance at sub-pillar level

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

Table 1: Nigeria rankings by sub-pillar

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
Content	61	Quality of Life	101
Trust	72	Individuals	104
Economy	87	Inclusion	108
Future Technologies	91	Access	111
Regulation	96	Businesses	112
Governments	101	SDG Contribution	112

NRI score and income

Figure 3 shows the position of Nigeria 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, Nigeria is slightly below 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)
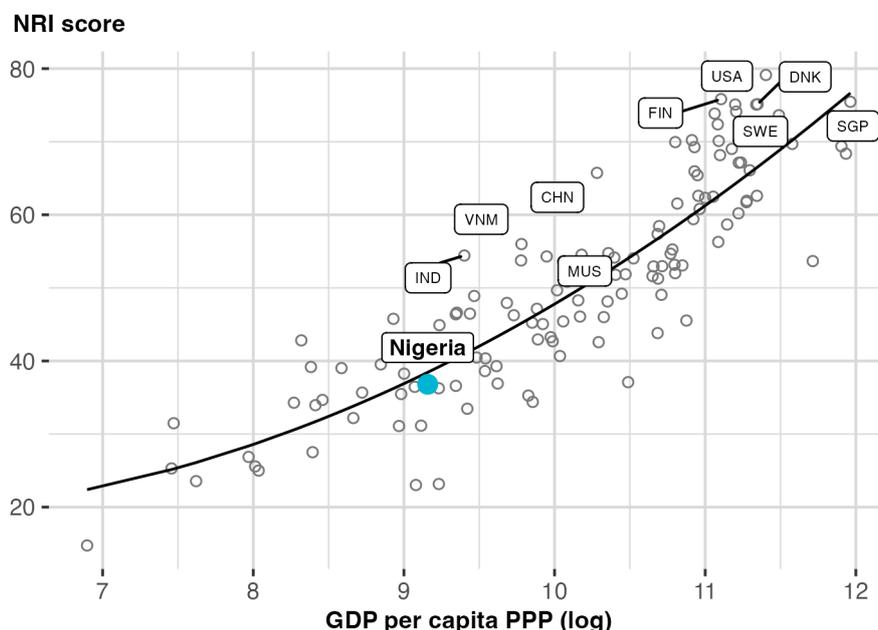
Note: USA = United States of America (rank: 1), FIN =Finland (rank: 2), SGP = Singapore (3), DNK =Denmark (4), SWE = Sweden (5), CHN =China (24), and IND = India (45).

Performance against its income group and region

Lower-middle-income countries
Nigeria is ranked 18th in the group of lower-middle-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: Governance. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms lower-middle-income countries in four of the twelve sub-pillars: Content, Trust, Regulation and Economy.

Africa
Nigeria is ranked 10th within Africa (Figure 4, right panel). It has a score above the regional average in three of the four pillars: Technology, Governance and Impact. With regard to sub-pillars, it outperforms the average in Africa in seven of the twelve sub-pillars: Content, Future Technologies, Individuals, Trust, Regulation, Economy and Quality of Life.

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

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

Dimension	Nigeria	Lower-middle-income countries	Africa
NRI	36.81	38.70	34.00
Technology	31.82	33.29	25.85
People	26.47	31.73	26.78
Governance	48.03	44.79	43.45
Impact	40.90	45.00	39.92

NRI 2025 At-A-Glance: Nigeria

Network Readiness Index — Rank: 103 (out of 127) — Score: 36.81

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score		Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	96	31.82		C. Governance pillar	99	48.03
1st sub-pillar: Access	111	40.93		1st sub-pillar: Trust	72	49.80
2nd sub-pillar: Content	61	26.44		2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	96	49.96
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	91	28.09		3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	108	44.34
B. People pillar	114	26.47		D. Impact pillar	107	40.90
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	104	35.49		1st sub-pillar: Economy	87	27.42
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	112	18.69		2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	101	47.54
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	101	25.24		3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	112	47.74

The Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score		Indicator	Rank	Score	
A. Technology pillar	96	31.82		C. Governance pillar	99	48.03	
1st sub-pillar: Access	111	40.93		1st sub-pillar: Trust	72	49.80	
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	101	47.36		3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	106	36.13	
1.1.2 Handset prices	122	20.67	○	3.1.2 Cybersecurity	80	78.86	
1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	92	19.92		3.1.3 Online access to financial account	5	78.31	●
1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	112	44.32		3.1.4 Internet shopping	106	5.89	
1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	60	72.36	●	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	96	49.96	
1.1.6 Internet access in schools	n/a	n/a		3.2.1 Regulatory quality	119	18.78	
2nd sub-pillar: Content	61	26.44		3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	32	85.00	●
1.2.1 GitHub commits	97	2.57		3.2.3 Regulation of emerging technologies	103	17.94	
1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	104	0.51		3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	72	75.00	
1.2.3 Mobile apps development	82	59.18		3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	83	53.07	
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	17	43.51	●	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	108	44.34	
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	91	28.09		3.3.1 E-Participation	103	33.34	
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	88	43.79		3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	104	42.76	
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	111	22.75		3.3.3 Gender gap in Internet use	n/a	n/a	
1.3.3 Robot density	n/a	n/a		3.3.4 Rural gap in use of digital payments	49	56.91	
1.3.4 Computer software spending	63	17.74		D. Impact pillar	107	40.90	
B. People pillar	114	26.47		1st sub-pillar: Economy	87	27.42	
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	104	35.49		4.1.1 ICT patent applications	80	0.01	○
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	24	39.25	●	4.1.2 Domestic market scale	26	69.42	●
2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	88	36.65		4.1.3 Technology-Enabled Work Flexibility	66	38.04	
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	114	11.58		4.1.4 ICT services exports	110	2.23	
2.1.4 Adult literacy rate	83	54.48		2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	101	47.54	
2.1.5 AI talent concentration	n/a	n/a		4.2.1 Happiness	96	36.30	
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	112	18.69		4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	105	51.43	

Indicator		Rank	Score	
2.2.1	Firms with website	108	13.64	○
2.2.2	Number of venture capital deals invested in AI	91	0.41	○
2.2.3	Annual investment in telecommunication services	25	52.99	●
2.2.4	Public cloud computing market scale	56	7.71	●
3rd sub-pillar: Governments		101	25.24	
2.3.1	Government online services	97	44.32	
2.3.2	Data Capabilities	55	34.08	
2.3.3	Government promotion of emerging technologies	97	18.14	
2.3.4	Gross expenditure on R&D	74	4.40	

Indicator		Rank	Score	
4.2.3	Income inequality	50	74.23	●
4.2.4	Healthy life expectancy at birth	114	35.56	
3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution		112	47.74	
4.3.1	SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	122	6.67	○
4.3.2	SDG 4: Quality Education	n/a	n/a	
4.3.3	SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	111	50.91	
4.3.4	SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	40	82.45	●
4.3.5	SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	125	13.06	○

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

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