

Network Readiness Index 2025

With support from:



Pakistan

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.

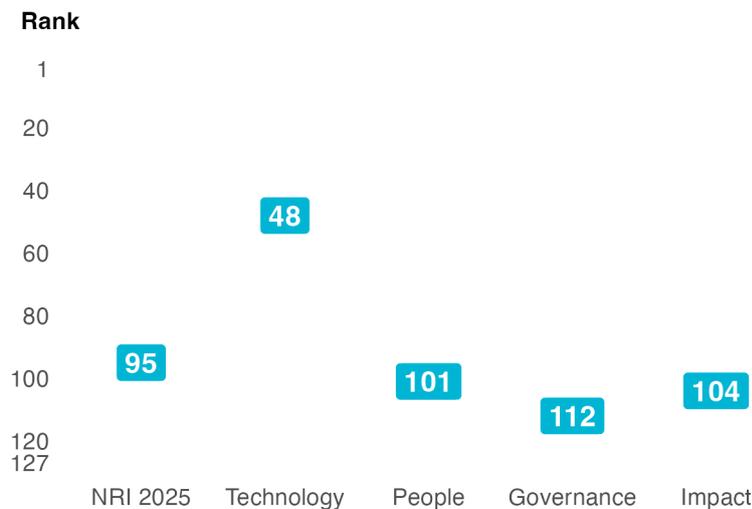
Figure 1: The NRI 2025 model



Global NRI position of Pakistan

Pakistan ranks 95 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 Governance.

Figure 2: Pakistan global ranking, overall and by pillar



Performance at sub-pillar level

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

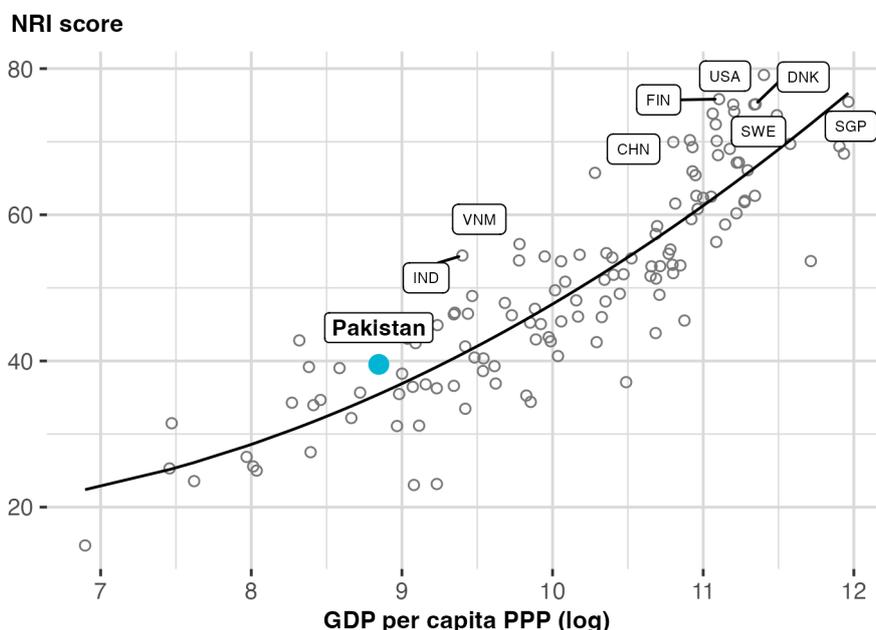
Table 1: Pakistan rankings by sub-pillar

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
Future Technologies	24	Governments	95
Content	29	Individuals	101
Economy	57	Access	104
Trust	87	Quality of Life	109
Regulation	89	SDG Contribution	111
Businesses	91	Inclusion	125

NRI score and income

Figure 3 shows the position of Pakistan 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, Pakistan 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

Lower-middle-income countries

Pakistan is ranked 13th 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: Technology. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms lower-middle-income countries in six of the twelve sub-pillars: Content, Future Technologies, Businesses, Trust, Regulation and Economy.

Asia & Pacific

Pakistan is ranked 18th within Asia & Pacific (Figure 4, right panel). It lags behind its region in each of the four pillars. With regard to sub-pillars, it outperforms the average in Asia & Pacific in two of the twelve sub-pillars: Content and Future Technologies.

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

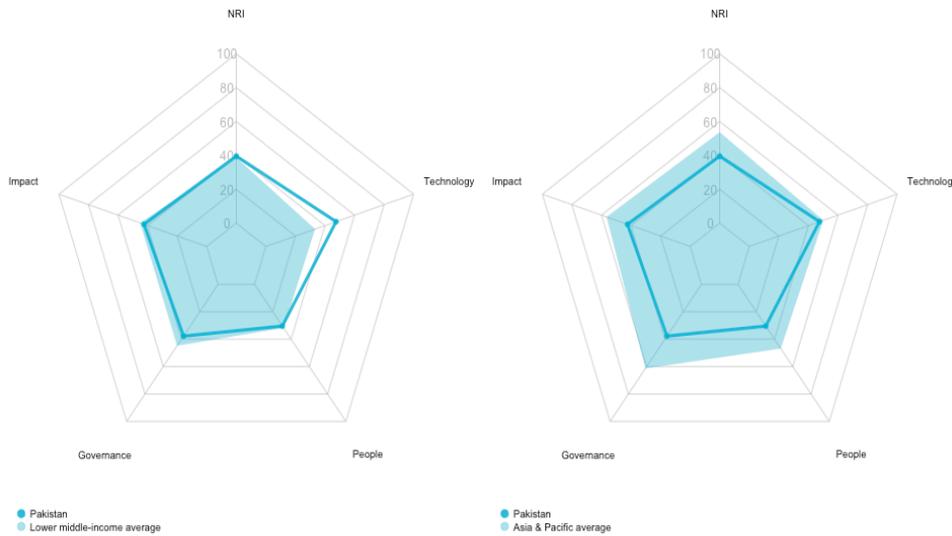


Table 2: Pakistan scores vs. averages of its income group and region, overall and by pillar

Dimension	Pakistan	Lower-middle-income countries	Asia & Pacific
NRI	39.53	38.70	53.68
Technology	47.53	33.29	50.06
People	30.43	31.73	46.80
Governance	37.75	44.79	61.33
Impact	42.43	45.00	56.53

NRI 2025 At-A-Glance: Pakistan

Network Readiness Index

Rank: 95 (out of 127)

Score: 39.53

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score	Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	48	47.53	C. Governance pillar	112	37.75
1st sub-pillar: Access	104	49.02	1st sub-pillar: Trust	87	45.62
2nd sub-pillar: Content	29	44.34	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	89	52.22
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	24	49.21	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	125	15.40
B. People pillar	101	30.43	D. Impact pillar	104	42.43
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	101	38.52	1st sub-pillar: Economy	57	34.30
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	91	23.97	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	109	44.84
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	95	28.79	3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	111	48.14

The Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	48	47.53	C. Governance pillar	112	37.75
1st sub-pillar: Access	104	49.02	1st sub-pillar: Trust	87	45.62
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	73	62.28	3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	104	37.10
1.1.2 Handset prices	87	48.08	3.1.2 Cybersecurity	42	96.03
1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	17	52.96	3.1.3 Online access to financial account	n/a	n/a
1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	121	0.00	3.1.4 Internet shopping	113	3.73
1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	19	81.80	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	89	52.22
1.1.6 Internet access in schools	n/a	n/a	3.2.1 Regulatory quality	115	19.68
2nd sub-pillar: Content	29	44.34	3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	5	94.38
1.2.1 GitHub commits	99	2.47	3.2.3 Regulation of emerging technologies	50	51.65
1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	109	0.39	3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	107	50.00
1.2.3 Mobile apps development	17	74.52	3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	94	45.40
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	1	100.00	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	125	15.40
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	24	49.21	3.3.1 E-Participation	85	46.38
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	40	71.45	3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	119	12.08
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	48	48.25	3.3.3 Gender gap in Internet use	104	0.00
1.3.3 Robot density	n/a	n/a	3.3.4 Rural gap in use of digital payments	80	3.15
1.3.4 Computer software spending	30	27.94	D. Impact pillar	104	42.43
B. People pillar	101	30.43	1st sub-pillar: Economy	57	34.30
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	101	38.52	4.1.1 ICT patent applications	76	0.05
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	15	46.01	4.1.2 Domestic market scale	25	70.01
2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	74	46.01	4.1.3 Technology-Enabled Work Flexibility	86	24.19
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	103	25.37	4.1.4 ICT services exports	18	42.94
2.1.4 Adult literacy rate	91	36.70	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	109	44.84
2.1.5 AI talent concentration	n/a	n/a	4.2.1 Happiness	99	33.69
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	91	23.97	4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	115	37.11

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Indicator	Rank	Score
2.2.1 Firms with website	75	43.76
2.2.2 Number of venture capital deals invested in AI	86	0.94
2.2.3 Annual investment in telecommunication services	46	46.75
2.2.4 Public cloud computing market scale	63	4.44
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3rd sub-pillar: Governments	95	28.79
2.3.1 Government online services	75	64.41
2.3.2 Data Capabilities	n/a	n/a
2.3.3 Government promotion of emerging technologies	95	19.47
2.3.4 Gross expenditure on R&D	87	2.50

Indicator	Rank	Score
4.2.3 Income inequality	21	85.20
4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	109	42.24
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3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	111	48.14
4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	113	22.22
4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education	n/a	n/a
4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	119	40.00
4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	81	71.58
4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	90	43.48

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

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