

Network Readiness Index 2025

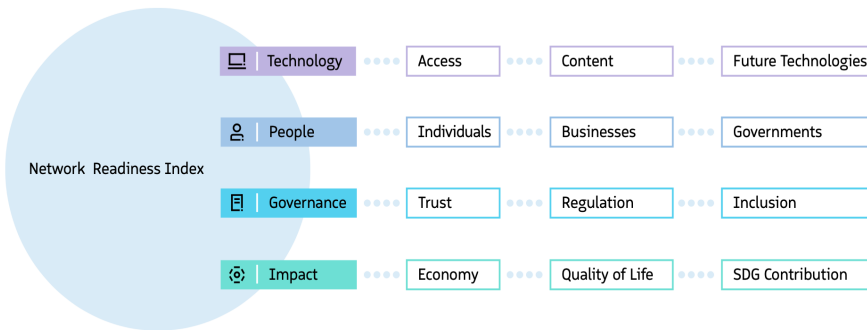
With support from:



Sri Lanka

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.

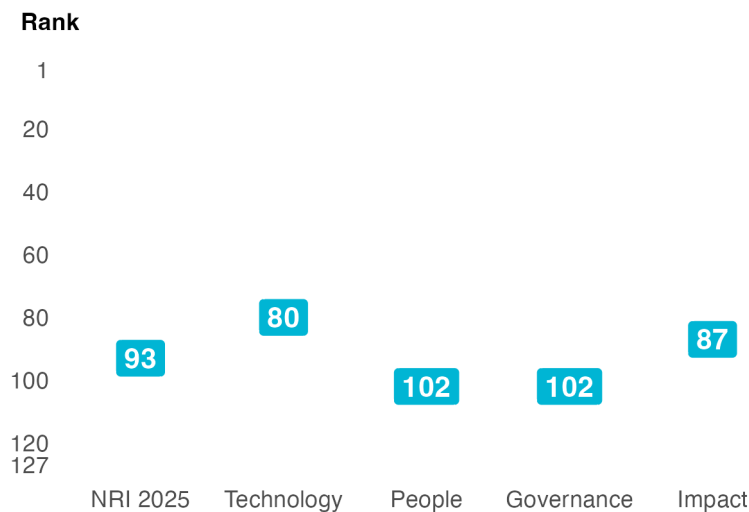
Figure 1: The NRI 2025 model



Global NRI position of Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka ranks 93 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 and Governance.

Figure 2: Sri Lanka global ranking, overall and by pillar



Performance at sub-pillar level

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

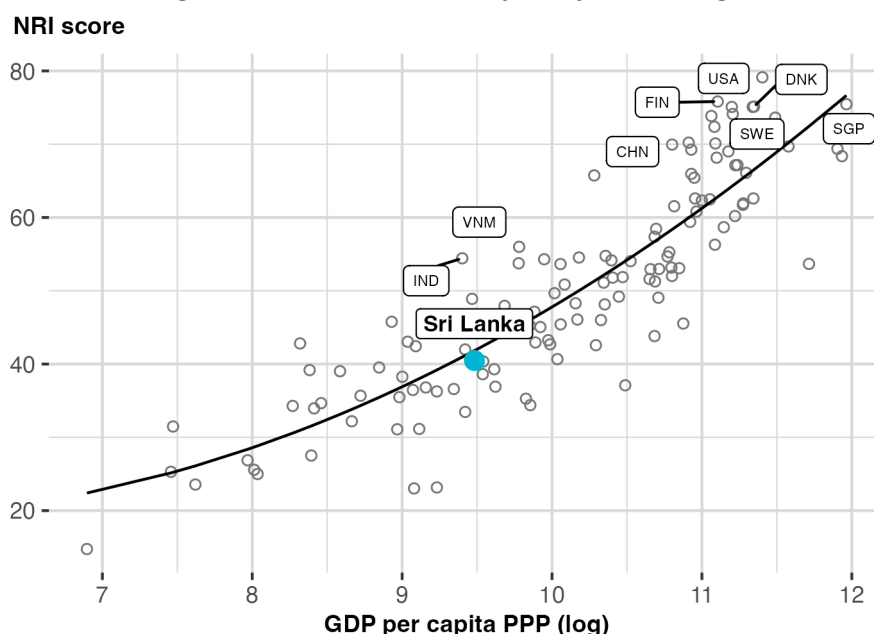
Table 1: Sri Lanka rankings by sub-pillar

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
Future Technologies	53	Access	89
SDG Contribution	55	Quality of Life	99
Inclusion	71	Trust	105
Content	72	Businesses	108
Individuals	76	Governments	108
Economy	80	Regulation	121

NRI score and income

Figure 3 shows the position of Sri Lanka 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, Sri Lanka 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).

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Performance against its income group and region

Lower-middle-income countries

Sri Lanka is ranked 12th 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 two of the four pillars: Technology and Impact. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms lower-middle-income countries in seven of the twelve sub-pillars: Access, Content, Future Technologies, Individuals, Inclusion, Economy and SDG Contribution.

Asia & Pacific

Sri Lanka is ranked 17th 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 one of the twelve sub-pillars: SDG Contribution.

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



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

Dimension	Sri Lanka	Lower-middle-income countries	Asia & Pacific
NRI	40.48	38.70	53.68
Technology	39.52	33.29	50.06
People	30.33	31.73	46.80
Governance	44.12	44.79	61.33
Impact	47.94	45.00	56.53

NRI 2025 At-A-Glance: Sri Lanka

Network Readiness Index

Rank: 93 (out of 127)

Score: 40.48

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score	Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	80	39.52	C. Governance pillar	102	44.12
1st sub-pillar: Access	89	58.52	1st sub-pillar: Trust	105	37.06
2nd sub-pillar: Content	72	22.56	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	121	34.69
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	53	37.50	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	71	60.60
B. People pillar	102	30.33	D. Impact pillar	87	47.94
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	76	47.88	1st sub-pillar: Economy	80	29.14
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	108	19.93	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	99	47.77
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	108	23.19	3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	55	66.91

The Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	80	39.52	C. Governance pillar	102	44.12
1st sub-pillar: Access	89	58.52	1st sub-pillar: Trust	105	37.06
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	19	86.43	3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	88	49.01
1.1.2 Handset prices	115	31.42	3.1.2 Cybersecurity	71	84.40
1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	55	34.42	3.1.3 Online access to financial account	56	4.31
1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	89	86.32	3.1.4 Internet shopping	90	10.51
1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	62	71.87	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	121	34.69
1.1.6 Internet access in schools	69	40.67	3.2.1 Regulatory quality	97	29.52
2nd sub-pillar: Content	72	22.56	3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	126	1.25
1.2.1 GitHub commits	49	14.47	3.2.3 Regulation of emerging technologies	71	41.92
1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	99	0.92	3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	107	50.00
1.2.3 Mobile apps development	88	56.71	3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	87	50.77
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	36	18.13	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	71	60.60
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	53	37.50	3.3.1 E-Participation	98	37.69
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	92	41.11	3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	62	73.70
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	68	38.25	3.3.3 Gender gap in Internet use	91	42.63
1.3.3 Robot density	n/a	n/a	3.3.4 Rural gap in use of digital payments	4	88.39
1.3.4 Computer software spending	24	33.13	D. Impact pillar	87	47.94
B. People pillar	102	30.33	1st sub-pillar: Economy	80	29.14
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	76	47.88	4.1.1 ICT patent applications	58	0.53
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	46	21.59	4.1.2 Domestic market scale	61	54.53
2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	66	49.32	4.1.3 Technology-Enabled Work Flexibility	85	24.28
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	100	31.36	4.1.4 ICT services exports	23	37.21
2.1.4 Adult literacy rate	56	89.23	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	99	47.77
2.1.5 AI talent concentration	n/a	n/a	4.2.1 Happiness	116	14.10
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	108	19.93	4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	91	58.85

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Indicator	Rank	Score
2.2.1 Firms with website	n/a	n/a
2.2.2 Number of venture capital deals invested in AI	n/a	n/a
2.2.3 Annual investment in telecommunication services	71	38.66
2.2.4 Public cloud computing market scale	93	1.20
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3rd sub-pillar: Governments	108	23.19
2.3.1 Government online services	96	45.79
2.3.2 Data Capabilities	62	27.71
2.3.3 Government promotion of emerging technologies	98	17.72
2.3.4 Gross expenditure on R&D	97	1.57

Indicator	Rank	Score
4.2.3 Income inequality	72	64.54
4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	37	76.15
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3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	55	66.91
4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	84	71.11
4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education	n/a	n/a
4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	112	50.00
4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	7	93.33
4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	89	43.67

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

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