

Network Readiness Index 2025

With support from:



United Kingdom

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.

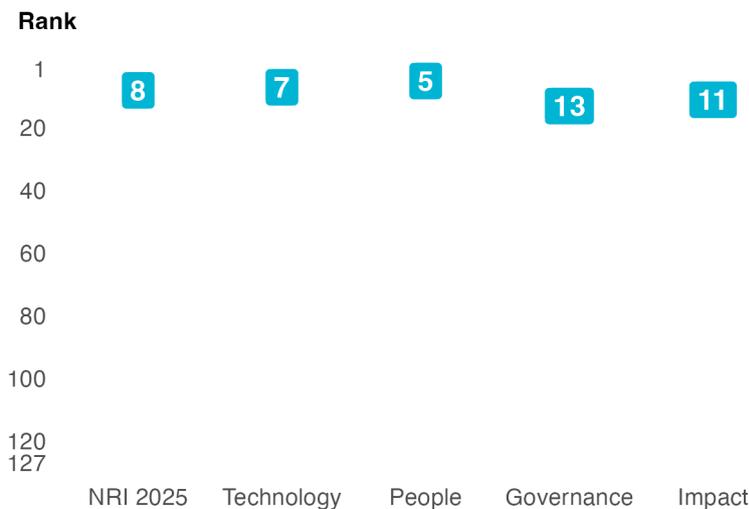
Figure 1: The NRI 2025 model



Global NRI position of United Kingdom

United Kingdom ranks 8 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 Governance.

Figure 2: United Kingdom global ranking, overall and by pillar



Performance at sub-pillar level

When it comes to sub-pillars, the strongest showings of United Kingdom relate to Businesses, Governments and Content, among others (Table 1). More could be done, though, to improve the economy's performances in the Quality of Life, Regulation and Individuals sub-pillars.

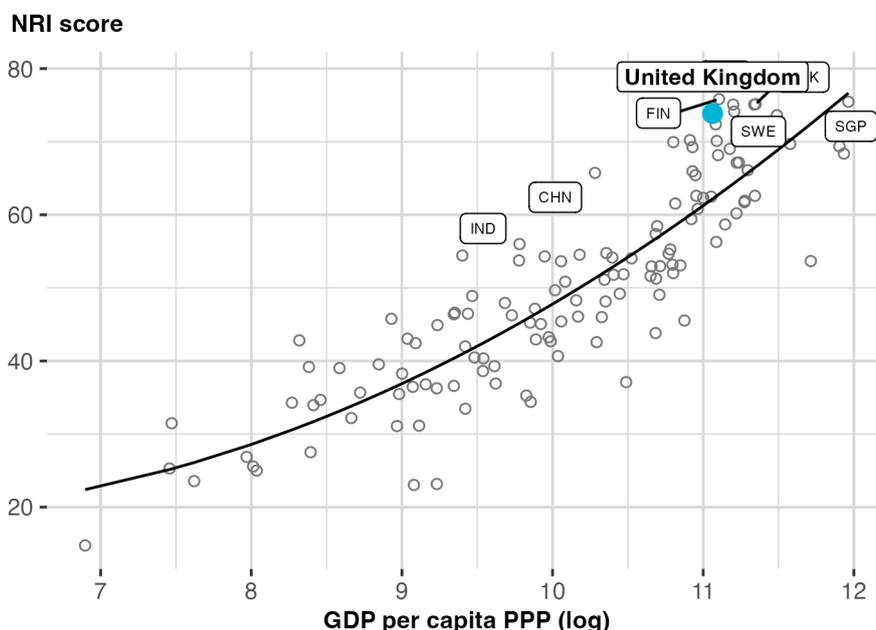
Table 1: United Kingdom rankings by sub-pillar

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
Businesses	3	Economy	13
Governments	3	Trust	14
Content	5	Future Technologies	17
Inclusion	6	Quality of Life	20
SDG Contribution	6	Regulation	24
Access	11	Individuals	33

NRI score and income

Figure 3 shows the position of United Kingdom 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, United Kingdom 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

High-income countries

United Kingdom is ranked 8th 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 each of the four pillars. At the sub-pillar level, it has a higher score than the average of high-income countries in all of them.

Europe

United Kingdom is ranked 6th within Europe (Figure 4, right panel). It outperforms its region in each of the four pillars. With regard to sub-pillars, it has a higher score than the regional average in each of the twelve sub-pillars.

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



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

Dimension	United Kingdom	High-income countries	Europe
NRI	73.85	62.71	61.14
Technology	67.74	55.47	53.04
People	67.97	52.36	50.07
Governance	84.62	77.18	76.41
Impact	75.07	65.84	65.05

NRI 2025 At-A-Glance: United Kingdom

Network Readiness Index

Rank: 8 (out of 127)

Score: 73.85

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score	Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	7	67.74	C. Governance pillar	13	84.62
1st sub-pillar: Access	11	83.05	1st sub-pillar: Trust	14	87.95
2nd sub-pillar: Content	5	64.28	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	24	78.33
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	17	55.89	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	6	87.58
B. People pillar	5	67.97	D. Impact pillar	11	75.07
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	33	58.71	1st sub-pillar: Economy	13	58.29
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	3	71.55	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	20	79.88
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	3	73.66	3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	6	87.04

The Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	7	67.74	C. Governance pillar	13	84.62
1st sub-pillar: Access	11	83.05	1st sub-pillar: Trust	14	87.95
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	34	81.87	3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	16	89.68
1.1.2 Handset prices	1	100.00	3.1.2 Cybersecurity	1	100.00
1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	32	45.01	3.1.3 Online access to financial account	n/a	n/a
1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	29	99.47	3.1.4 Internet shopping	18	74.17
1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	7	88.91	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	24	78.33
1.1.6 Internet access in schools	n/a	n/a	3.2.1 Regulatory quality	14	80.68
2nd sub-pillar: Content	5	64.28	3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	13	91.56
1.2.1 GitHub commits	20	55.61	3.2.3 Regulation of emerging technologies	29	66.54
1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	10	68.22	3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	1	100.00
1.2.3 Mobile apps development	25	72.94	3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	84	52.86
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	11	60.34	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	6	87.58
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	17	55.89	3.3.1 E-Participation	4	97.10
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	16	84.70	3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	5	99.34
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	8	82.25	3.3.3 Gender gap in Internet use	45	66.30
1.3.3 Robot density	24	12.60	3.3.4 Rural gap in use of digital payments	n/a	n/a
1.3.4 Computer software spending	17	44.02	D. Impact pillar	11	75.07
B. People pillar	5	67.97	1st sub-pillar: Economy	13	58.29
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	33	58.71	4.1.1 ICT patent applications	20	40.83
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	20	42.26	4.1.2 Domestic market scale	10	79.47
2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	28	72.00	4.1.3 Technology-Enabled Work Flexibility	10	79.46
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	12	84.23	4.1.4 ICT services exports	27	33.41
2.1.4 Adult literacy rate	n/a	n/a	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	20	79.88
2.1.5 AI talent concentration	18	36.34	4.2.1 Happiness	23	77.48
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	3	71.55	4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	39	81.77

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Indicator	Rank	Score	
2.2.1 Firms with website	22	83.08	
2.2.2 Number of venture capital deals invested in AI	7	70.07	
2.2.3 Annual investment in telecommunication services	7	69.98	●
2.2.4 Public cloud computing market scale	4	63.08	●
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3rd sub-pillar: Governments	3	73.66	
2.3.1 Government online services	7	94.40	●
2.3.2 Data Capabilities	6	71.31	●
2.3.3 Government promotion of emerging technologies	7	84.88	●
2.3.4 Gross expenditure on R&D	12	44.05	

Indicator	Rank	Score	
4.2.3 Income inequality	37	78.06	
4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	27	82.73	
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3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	6	87.04	
4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	1	100.00	●
4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education	13	64.95	
4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	15	96.36	
4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	11	90.96	
4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	16	91.81	

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

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