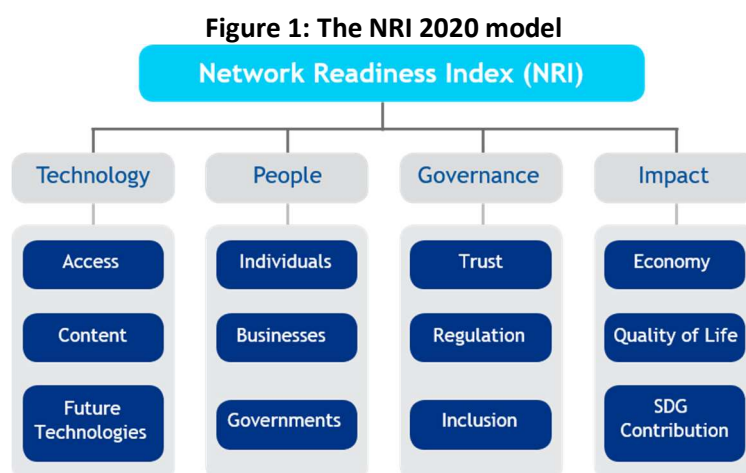


Network Readiness Index 2020

El Salvador

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 2020 the NRI Report maps the network-based readiness landscape of 134 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 60 variables.



Global NRI position of El Salvador

El Salvador ranks 95th out of the 134 economies included in the NRI 2020 (Figure 2). Its main strength relates to Impact. The greatest scope for improvement, meanwhile, concerns Technology and Governance.



Performance at sub-pillar level

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

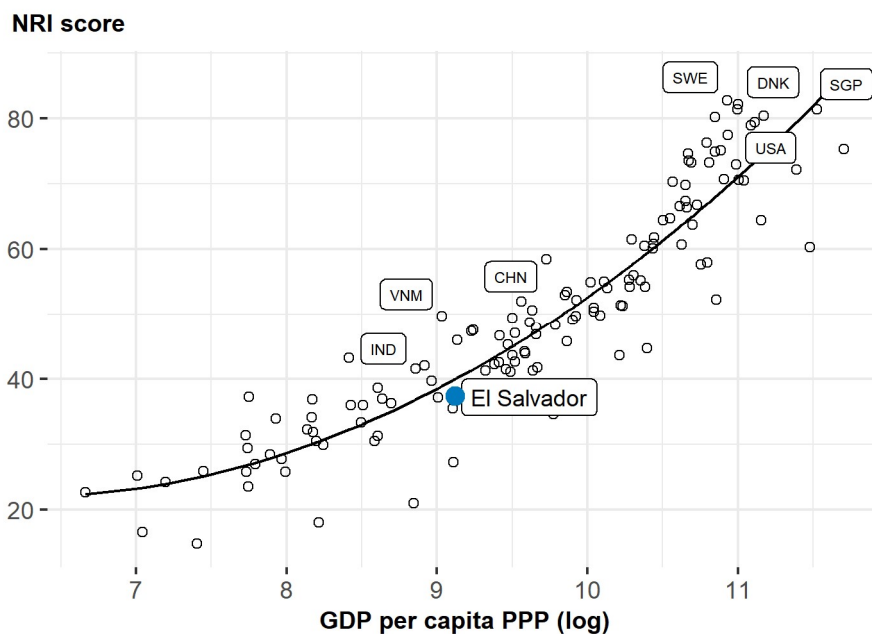
Table 1: El Salvador rankings by sub-pillar

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
SDG Contribution	45	Access	104
Quality of Life	47	Businesses	105
Content	82	Economy	112
Regulation	97	Governments	117
Individuals	98	Trust	121
Inclusion	101	Future Technologies	122

NRI score and income

Figure 3 shows the position of El Salvador 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, El Salvador is well below the trend line, which suggests that it is underachieving and that one would expect it could raise its network readiness in view of its income level.

Figure 3: NRI score and GDP per capita PPP (log)



Note: SWE = Sweden (rank: 1), DNK = Denmark (2), SGP = Singapore (3), CHN = China (40), IND = India (88). USA is ranked 8th. El Salvador belongs to the group of lower-middle-income countries, where the best performer is Vietnam (VNM). The top performer of its region-The Americas-is United States (USA).

Performance against its income group and region

Lower-middle-income countries

El Salvador is ranked 14th 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: nri.score and impact. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms lower-middle-income countries in six of the twelve sub-pillars: Content, Individuals, Regulation, Inclusion, Quality of Life and SDG Contribution.

The Americas

El Salvador is ranked 17th within The Americas (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 The Americas in two of the twelve sub-pillars: Quality of Life and SDG Contribution.

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

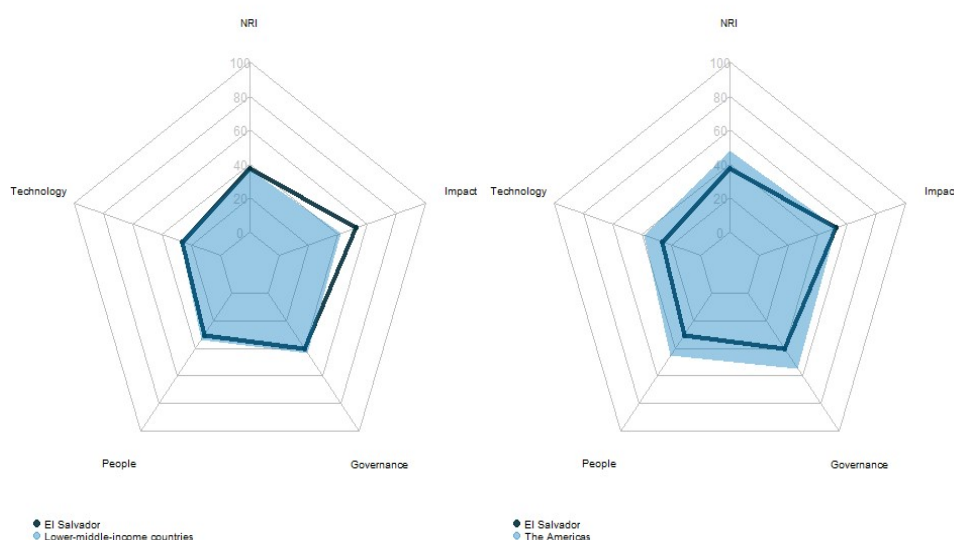


Table 2: El Salvador scores vs. averages of its income group and region, overall and by pillar

Dimension	El Salvador	Lower-middle-income countries	The Americas
NRI	37.33	36.72	47.67
Technology	25.81	27.72	38.26
People	30.62	33.88	45.24
Governance	40.55	43.15	54.59
Impact	52.35	42.15	52.61

Strongest and weakest indicators

The indicators where El Salvador performs particularly well include International Internet bandwidth, Happiness, and SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being (Table 3). By contrast, the economy's weakest indicators include ICT skills, Government promotion of investment in emerging technologies, and Cybersecurity.

Table 3: Top-ranked and bottom-ranked indicators of El Salvador

Strongest indicators	Rank	Weakest indicators	Rank
International Internet bandwidth	23	Internet users	106
Happiness	29	Availability of local online content	107
SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	39	Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	108
Freedom to make life choices	43	Prevalence of gig economy	110
Internet access in schools	53	Internet access	115
SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	54	Fixed-broadband subscriptions	115
Use of virtual social networks	55	Investment in emerging technologies	121
ICT PCT patent applications	61	ICT skills	124
SDG 5: Gender Equality	64	Government promotion of investment in emerging technologies	124
Adult literacy rate	65	Cybersecurity	124

NRI 2020 At-A-Glance: El Salvador

Network Readiness Index

Rank: 95 (out of 134)

Score: 37.33

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score	Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	106	25.81	C. Governance pillar	106	40.55
1st sub-pillar: Access	104	38.13	1st sub-pillar: Trust	121	17.26
2nd sub-pillar: Content	82	23.81	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	97	54.54
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	122	15.48	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	101	49.84
B. People pillar	105	30.62	D. Impact pillar	63	52.35
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	98	39.98	1st sub-pillar: Economy	112	13.56
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	105	30.44	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	47	71.55
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	117	21.43	3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	45	71.93

The Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	106	25.81	C. Governance pillar	106	40.55
1st sub-pillar: Access	104	38.13	1st sub-pillar: Trust	121	17.26
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	104	39.95	3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	101	36.30
1.1.2 Handset prices	69	43.74	3.1.2 Cybersecurity	124	12.57
1.1.3 Internet access	115	16.84	3.1.3 Online access to financial account	91	16.25
1.1.4 4G mobile network coverage	93	68.00	3.1.4 Internet shopping	100	3.91
1.1.5 Fixed-broadband subscriptions	115	1.06	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	97	54.54
1.1.6 International Internet bandwidth	23	74.10	3.2.1 Regulatory quality	71	50.56
1.1.7 Internet access in schools	53	23.24	3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	94	72.40
2nd sub-pillar: Content	82	23.81	3.2.3 Legal framework's adaptability to emerging technologies	103	20.21
1.2.1 GitHub commits	81	2.17	3.2.4 e-commerce legislation	77	75.00
1.2.2 Wikipedia edits	79	35.57	3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	NA	NA
1.2.3 Internet domain registrations	*	*	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	101	49.84
1.2.4 Mobile apps development	81	55.93	3.3.1 E-Participation	74	66.67
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	122	15.48	3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	108	41.00
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	91	36.60	3.3.3 Availability of local online content	107	35.79
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	121	18.90	3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use	67	54.81
1.3.3 ICT PCT patent applications	61	2.90	3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments	102	50.94
1.3.4 Computer software spending	104	3.50	D. Impact pillar	63	52.35
1.3.5 Robot density	NA	NA	1st sub-pillar: Economy	112	13.56
B. People pillar	105	30.62	4.1.1 Medium and high-tech industry	80	24.23
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	98	39.98	4.1.2 High-tech exports	79	9.71
2.1.1 Internet users	106	32.13	4.1.3 PCT patent applications	80	0.04
2.1.2 Active mobile-broadband subscriptions	93	21.07	4.1.4 Labor productivity per employee	NA	NA
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	55	58.76	4.1.5 Prevalence of gig economy	110	20.27
2.1.4 Tertiary enrollment	82	21.03	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	47	71.55
2.1.5 Adult literacy rate	65	85.88	4.2.1 Happiness	29	73.94
2.1.6 ICT skills	124	21.02	4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	43	85.41
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	105	30.44	4.2.3 Income inequality	70	62.89
2.2.1 Firms with website	81	38.31	4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	76	63.98
2.2.2 Ease of doing business	85	61.94	3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	45	71.93
2.2.3 Professionals	92	15.78	4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	39	78.69
2.2.4 Technicians and associate professionals	100	17.07	4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education	NA	NA
2.2.5 Business use of digital tools	94	48.13	4.3.3 SDG 5: Gender Equality	64	75.02
2.2.6 R&D expenditure by businesses	70	1.43	4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	54	81.86
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	117	21.43			
2.3.1 Government online services	91	56.37			
2.3.2 Publication and use of open data	84	13.88			
2.3.3 Government promotion of investment in emerging tech	124	5.95			
2.3.4 R&D expenditure by governments and higher education	92	9.51			

* Confidential data

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