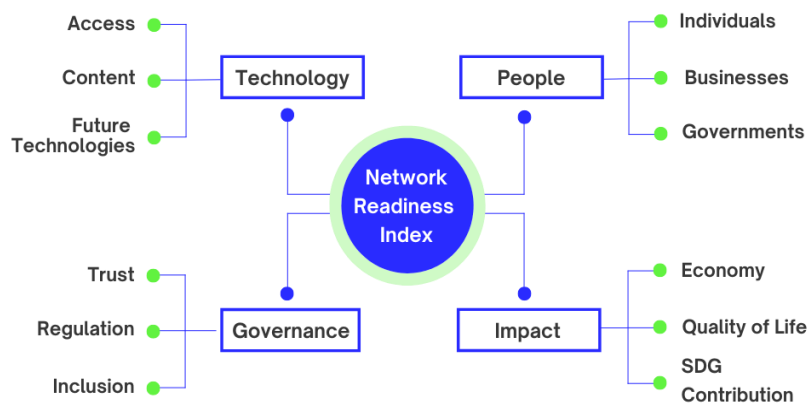


Network Readiness Index 2022 United Kingdom

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 2022 the NRI Report maps the network-based readiness landscape of 131 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 58 variables.

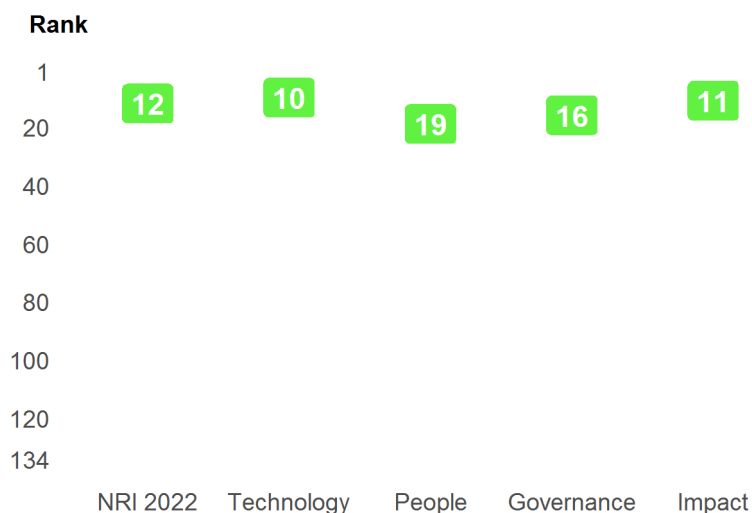
Figure 1: The NRI 2022 model



Global NRI position of United Kingdom

United Kingdom ranks 12th out of the 131 economies included in the NRI 2022 (Figure 2). Its main strength relates to Technology. The greatest scope for improvement, meanwhile, concerns People.

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 Inclusion, SDG Contribution and Content, among others (Table 1). More could be done, though, to improve the economy's performances in the Regulation, Quality of Life and Individuals sub-pillars.

Table 1: United Kingdom rankings by sub-pillar

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
Inclusion	2	Future Technologies	14
SDG Contribution	3	Trust	18
Content	11	Businesses	22
Access	12	Regulation	26
Governments	13	Quality of Life	32
Economy	13	Individuals	61

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 (rank: 1), SGP = Singapore (rank: 2), SWE = Sweden (3), CHN = China (23), IND = India (61). Netherlands (NLD) is ranked 4th. United Kingdom belongs to the group of high-income countries, where the best performer is United States of America (USA). The top performer of its region-Europe-is Sweden (SWE).

Performance against its income group and region

High-income countries

United Kingdom is ranked 12th 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 outperforms high-income countries in ten of the twelve sub-pillars: Access, Content, Future Technologies, Businesses, Governments, Trust, Regulation, Inclusion, Economy and SDG Contribution.

Europe

United Kingdom is ranked 8th within Europe (Figure 4, right panel). It outperforms its region in each of the four pillars. With regard to sub-pillars, it outperforms the average in Europe in ten of the twelve sub-pillars: Access, Content, Future Technologies, Businesses, Governments, Trust, Regulation, Inclusion, Economy and SDG Contribution.

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	73.41	66.21	63.72
Technology	71.19	60.28	56.43
People	64.14	58.83	56.35
Governance	81.76	76.89	74.79
Impact	76.54	68.86	67.30

Strongest and weakest indicators

The indicators where United Kingdom performs particularly well include 2.3.2 Publication and use of open data, 3.2.4 E-commerce legislation, and 3.1.2 Cybersecurity (Table 3). By contrast, the economy's weakest indicators include 3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content, 4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices, and 4.2.3 Income inequality.

Table 3: Strongest and weakest indicators of United Kingdom

Strongest indicators	Rank	Weakest indicators	Rank
2.3.2 Publication and use of open data	1	2.1.6 AI talent concentration	27
3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	1	4.2.3 Income inequality	54
3.1.2 Cybersecurity	2	4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	64
4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	2	3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	86
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	3		
4.1.5 Prevalence of gig economy	4		
3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	5		
1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	6		
2.3.1 Government online services	6		
1.1.2 Handset prices	8		
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	8		

NRI 2022 At-A-Glance: United Kingdom

Network Readiness Index

Rank: 12 (out of 131)

Score: 73.41

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score	Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	10	71.19	C. Governance pillar	16	81.76
1st sub-pillar: Access	12	80.47	1st sub-pillar: Trust	18	78.39
2nd sub-pillar: Content	11	74.49	2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	26	79.67
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	14	58.61	3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	2	87.21
B. People pillar	19	64.14	D. Impact pillar	11	76.54
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	61	50.05	1st sub-pillar: Economy	13	61.15
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	22	65.82	2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	32	78.73
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	13	76.56	3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	3	89.73

The Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score	
A. Technology pillar	10	71.19	C. Governance pillar	16	81.76	
<i>1st sub-pillar: Access</i>	12	80.47	<i>1st sub-pillar: Trust</i>	18	78.39	
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	16	84.16	3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	20	83.82	
1.1.2 Handset prices	8	93.36	• 3.1.2 Cybersecurity	2	99.53	•
1.1.3 FTTH/building Internet subscriptions	43	33.37	3.1.3 Online access to financial account	27	55.84	
1.1.4 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	28	99.97	3.1.4 Internet shopping	17	74.36	
1.1.5 International Internet bandwidth	6	91.48	• <i>2nd sub-pillar: Regulation</i>	26	79.67	
1.1.6 Internet access in schools	NA	NA	3.2.1 Regulatory quality	15	80.53	
<i>2nd sub-pillar: Content</i>	11	74.49	3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	8	95.88	
1.2.1 GitHub commits	19	50.30	3.2.3 Regulation of emerging technologies	29	66.32	
1.2.2 Internet domain registrations	11	57.85	3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	1	100.00	•
1.2.3 Mobile apps development	12	98.50	3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	86	55.60	○
1.2.4 AI scientific publications	3	91.31	• <i>3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion</i>	2	87.21	
<i>3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies</i>	14	58.61	3.3.1 E-Participation	6	97.53	
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	12	84.23	3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	5	99.42	•
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	8	82.25	• 3.3.3 Availability of local online content	12	90.87	
1.3.3 Robot density	23	16.55	3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use	38	72.19	
1.3.4 Computer software spending	11	51.41	3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments	19	76.06	

Indicator	Rank	Score	Indicator	Rank	Score
B. People pillar	19	64.14	D. Impact pillar	11	76.54
<i>1st sub-pillar: Individuals</i>	61	50.05	<i>1st sub-pillar: Economy</i>	13	61.15
2.1.1 Mobile broadband internet traffic within the country	NA	NA	4.1.1 High-tech and medium-high-tech manufacturing	25	55.78
2.1.2 ICT skills in the education system	40	61.54	4.1.2 High-tech exports	23	56.47
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	26	78.87	4.1.3 PCT patent applications	19	43.36
2.1.4 Tertiary enrollment	42	43.63	4.1.4 Domestic market size	10	79.30
2.1.5 Adult literacy rate	NA	NA	4.1.5 Prevalence of gig economy	4	89.24 ●
2.1.6 AI talent concentration	27	16.18 ○	4.1.6 ICT services exports	30	42.75
<i>2nd sub-pillar: Businesses</i>	22	65.82	<i>2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life</i>	32	78.73
2.2.1 Firms with website	11	85.36	4.2.1 Happiness	15	83.48
2.2.2 GERD financed by business enterprise	23	66.33	4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	64	74.60 ○
2.2.3 Knowledge intensive employment	8	78.71	4.2.3 Income inequality	54	70.10 ○
2.2.4 Annual investment in telecommunication services	NA	NA	4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	28	86.74
2.2.5 GERD performed by business enterprise	17	32.86	<i>3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution</i>	3	89.73
<i>3rd sub-pillar: Governments</i>	13	76.56	4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	2	97.31 ●
2.3.1 Government online services	6	95.76 ●	4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education	12	70.26
2.3.2 Publication and use of open data	1	100.00 ●	4.3.3 SDG 5: Women's economic opportunity	11	96.49
2.3.3 Government promotion of investment in emerging tech	22	66.43	4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	11	91.81
2.3.4 R&D expenditure by governments and higher education	42	44.05	4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	16	92.78

NOTE: ● a strength and ○ a weakness.

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