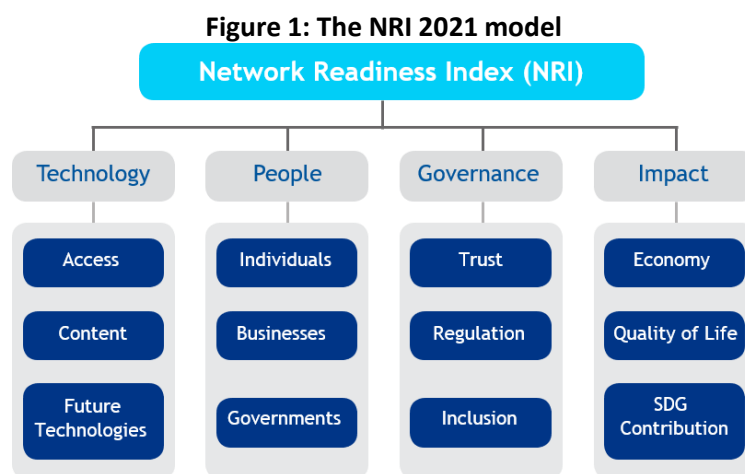


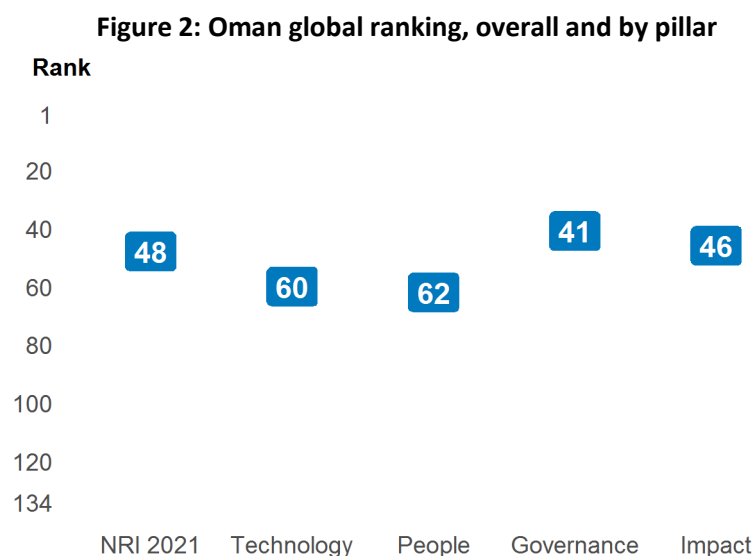
Network Readiness Index 2021 Oman

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 2021 the NRI Report maps the network-based readiness landscape of 130 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 Oman

Oman ranks 48th out of the 130 economies included in the NRI 2021 (Figure 2). Its main strength relates to Governance. The greatest scope for improvement, meanwhile, concerns People.



Performance at sub-pillar level

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

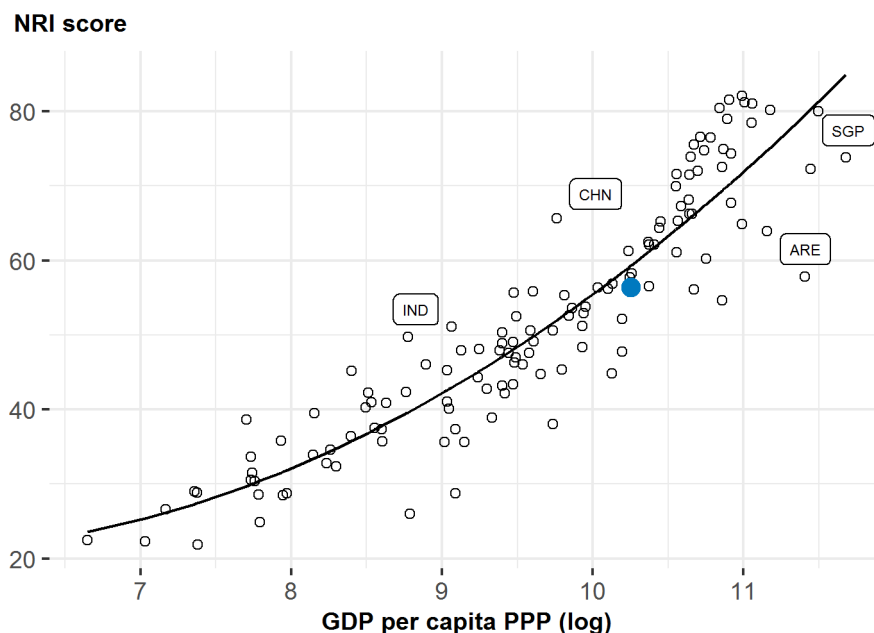
Table 1: Oman rankings by sub-pillar

Sub-pillar	Rank	Sub-pillar	Rank
Quality of Life	26	Future Technologies	51
Inclusion	27	Individuals	63
Trust	29	Businesses	82
SDG Contribution	37	Content	85
Governments	38	Regulation	85
Access	48	Economy	85

NRI score and income

Figure 3 shows the position of Oman 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, Oman 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: NLD = Netherlands (rank: 1), SWE = Sweden (2), DNK = Denmark (3), CHN = China (29), IND = India (67). USA is ranked 4th. Oman belongs to the group of high-income countries, where the best performer is Netherlands (NLD). The top performer of its region-Arab States-is United Arab Emirates (ARE).

Performance against its income group and region

High-income countries

Oman is ranked 44th in the group of high-income countries (Figure 4, left panel). In terms of pillar performance, it has a score below the income group average in each of the four pillars. At the sub-pillar level, it outperforms high-income countries in one of the twelve sub-pillars: Inclusion.

Arab States

Oman is ranked 4th within Arab States (Figure 4, right panel). It has a score above the regional average in three of the four pillars: nri.score, people, governance and impact. With regard to sub-pillars, it outperforms the average in Arab States in seven of the twelve sub-pillars: Access, Governments, Trust, Regulation, Inclusion, Quality of Life and SDG Contribution.

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

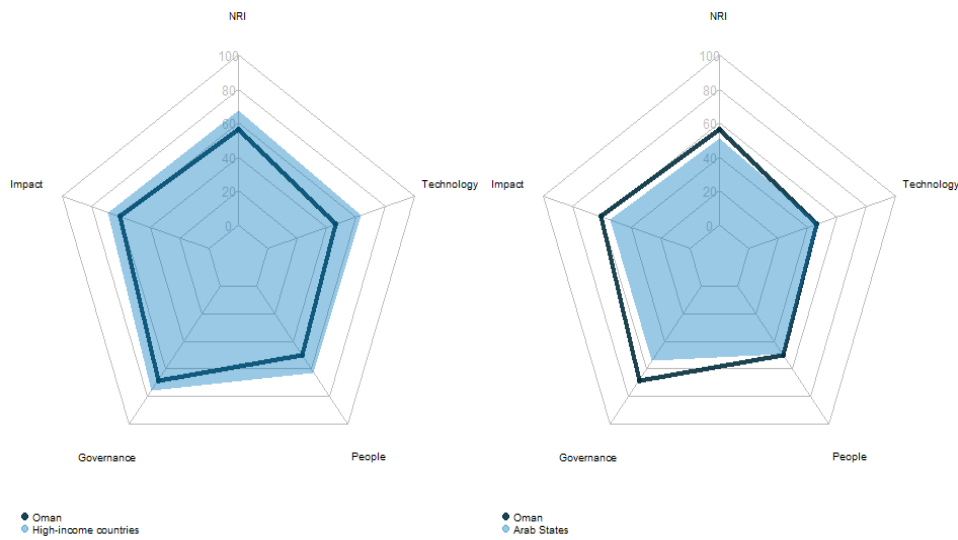


Table 2: Oman scores vs. averages of its income group and region, overall and by pillar

Dimension	Oman	High-income countries	Arab States
NRI	56.38	67.45	51.35
Technology	46.40	62.99	47.18
People	49.97	62.65	49.53
Governance	68.32	75.52	54.24
Impact	60.83	68.63	54.47

Strongest and weakest indicators

The indicators where Oman performs particularly well include 1.1.7 Internet access in schools, 3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use, and 1.1.3 Households with internet access (Table 3). By contrast, the economy's weakest indicators include 3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content, 1.2.1 GitHub commits, and 4.1.6 ICT services exports.

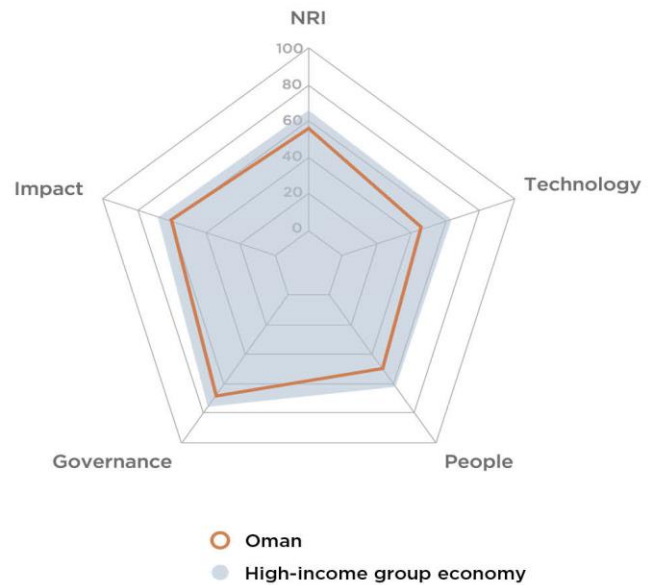
Table 3: Strongest and weakest indicators of Oman

Strongest indicators	Rank	Weakest indicators	Rank
1.1.7 Internet access in schools	1	3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	76
3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use	5	1.3.4 Computer software spending	100
1.1.3 Households with internet access	14	4.1.6 ICT services exports	110
4.2.1 Happiness	19	1.2.1 GitHub commits	118
2.3.3 Government promotion of investment in emerging technologies	23	3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	126
4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	23		
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	24		
2.3.1 Government online services	24		
3.1.2 Cybersecurity	28		
4.1.5 Prevalence of gig economy	29		
3.2.3 Legal framework's adaptability to emerging technologies	30		

Oman

Network Readiness Index Rank (out of 130) **48** Score **56.38**

Pillar/sub-pillar	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	60	46.40
1st sub-pillar: Access	48	72.46
2nd sub-pillar: Content	85	29.70
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	51	37.05
B. People pillar	62	49.97
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	63	63.09
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	82	33.81
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	38	53.03
C. Governance pillar	41	68.32
1st sub-pillar: Trust	29	69.73
2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	85	58.34
3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	27	76.88
D. Impact pillar	46	60.83
1st sub-pillar: Economy	85	31.64
2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	26	79.45
3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	37	71.39



Network Readiness Index in detail

Indicator	Rank	Score
A. Technology pillar	60	46.40
1st sub-pillar: Access	48	72.46
1.1.1 Mobile tariffs	55	65.15
1.1.2 Handset prices	40	67.93
1.1.3 Households with internet access	14	94.58 ●
1.1.4 SMS sent by population 15-69	84	74.10
1.1.5 Population covered by at least a 3G mobile network	46	99.84
1.1.6 International Internet bandwidth	38	5.61
1.1.7 Internet access in schools	1	100.00 ●
2nd sub-pillar: Content	85	29.70
1.2.1 GitHub commits	118	0.11 ○
1.2.2 Wikipedia edits	86	37.79
1.2.3 Internet domain registrations	*	*
1.2.4 Mobile apps development	69	73.82
1.2.5 AI scientific publications	75	35.75
3rd sub-pillar: Future Technologies	51	37.05
1.3.1 Adoption of emerging technologies	44	57.47
1.3.2 Investment in emerging technologies	43	50.01
1.3.3 Robot density	NA	NA
1.3.4 Computer software spending	100	3.68 ○
B. People pillar	62	49.97
1st sub-pillar: Individuals	63	63.09
2.1.1 Active mobile broadband subscriptions	80	73.25
2.1.2 ICT skills	47	39.42
2.1.3 Use of virtual social networks	24	80.46 ●
2.1.4 Tertiary enrollment	72	27.90
2.1.5 Adult literacy rate	42	94.43
2nd sub-pillar: Businesses	82	33.81
2.2.1 Firms with website	NA	NA
2.2.2 GERD financed by business enterprise	55	39.30
2.2.3 Professionals	92	17.27
2.2.4 Technicians and associate professionals	67	31.57
2.2.5 Annual investment in telecommunication services	51	79.49
2.2.6 GERD performed by business enterprise	65	1.42
3rd sub-pillar: Governments	38	53.03
2.3.1 Government online services	24	84.84 ●
2.3.2 Publication and use of open data	NA	NA
2.3.3 Government promotion of investment in emerging tech	23	62.25
2.3.4 R&D expenditure by governments and higher education	87	11.99

Indicator	Rank	Score
C. Governance pillar	41	68.32
1st sub-pillar: Trust	29	69.73
3.1.1 Secure Internet servers	87	43.49
3.1.2 Cybersecurity	28	95.97 ●
3.1.3 Online access to financial account	NA	NA
3.1.4 Internet shopping	NA	NA
2nd sub-pillar: Regulation	85	58.34
3.2.1 Regulatory quality	56	49.09
3.2.2 ICT regulatory environment	61	83.92
3.2.3 Legal framework's adaptability to emerging technologies	30	61.39 ●
3.2.4 E-commerce legislation	76	75.00 ○
3.2.5 Privacy protection by law content	126	22.31 ○
3rd sub-pillar: Inclusion	27	76.88
3.3.1 E-Participation	38	82.71
3.3.2 Socioeconomic gap in use of digital payments	NA	NA
3.3.3 Availability of local online content	41	74.51
3.3.4 Gender gap in Internet use	5	73.43 ●
3.3.5 Rural gap in use of digital payments	NA	NA
D. Impact pillar	46	60.83
1st sub-pillar: Economy	85	31.64
4.1.1 High-tech and medium-high-tech manufacturing	65	20.40
4.1.2 High-tech exports	74	15.93
4.1.3 PCT patent applications	68	32.77
4.1.4 Growth rate of GDP per person engaged	94	49.10
4.1.5 Prevalence of gig economy	29	65.07 ●
4.1.6 ICT services exports	110	6.59 ○
2nd sub-pillar: Quality of Life	26	79.45
4.2.1 Happiness	19	78.09 ●
4.2.2 Freedom to make life choices	23	91.82 ●
4.2.3 Income inequality	NA	NA
4.2.4 Healthy life expectancy at birth	79	68.45
3rd sub-pillar: SDG Contribution	37	71.39
4.3.1 SDG 3: Good Health and Well-Being	71	67.21
4.3.2 SDG 4: Quality Education	NA	NA
4.3.3 Females employed with advanced degrees	NA	NA
4.3.4 SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy	105	60.62
4.3.5 SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities	51	86.34

NOTE: * Indicates confidential data; ● a strength and ○ a weakness.

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