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DiGiX 2026 Update:

A Multidimensional Index of Digitization

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Summary

The 2026 update of DiGiX assesses the degree of digitization of 96 economies using 2024 data (or latest available). DiGiX is a multidimensional composite indicator designed to evaluate countries' digital readiness and digital transformation capacity through six complementary dimensions: infrastructure, users adoption, firms adoption, affordability, regulation, and government adoption.

The updated version incorporates new indicators related to artificial intelligence usage, digital infrastructure performance, software intensity, cybersecurity, and enterprise digital activity, reflecting the rapid transformation of the global digital ecosystem during the AI diffusion cycle observed in 2024–2025. The results confirm a strong positive relationship between digitization and income levels, while also revealing substantial heterogeneity across countries with similar GDP per capita. This suggests that institutional quality, enterprise digitalization, affordability, and government adoption continue to play a critical role in explaining differences in digital maturity beyond economic development alone.

The top positions in the 2026 DiGiX ranking are dominated by advanced digital economies with strong performance across all dimensions, particularly in infrastructure quality, firms adoption of digital technologies, and governance frameworks supportive of innovation. Nordic countries continue to exhibit balanced digital ecosystems, while economies such as Singapore and Hong Kong stand out for their strong enterprise digitalization and AI adoption. At the opposite end of the ranking, several low-income economies continue to face structural constraints associated with limited digital infrastructure, lower internet penetration, weak institutional frameworks, and affordability barriers. The results therefore highlight the persistence of a global digital divide, although also showing substantial differences within regions.

We maintain both the methodology and the core conceptual structure of DiGiX introduced in previous versions, while adapting indicators to better capture current technological dynamics, especially the growing role of AI adoption, enterprise digital capabilities, and cybersecurity resilience. The index is constructed using a two-stage Principal Component Analysis (2PCA), allowing the weighting structure to emerge from the data rather than from arbitrary assumptions. This ensures methodological rigor, transparency, and comparability across countries.

Digitization, Artificial Intelligence and Economic Transformation

Digital transformation has entered a new phase characterized by the rapid diffusion of artificial intelligence technologies, increasing data intensity, and the integration of digital systems across firms, governments, and households. In this environment, digitization is no longer only a matter of connectivity or internet access; it increasingly reflects the ability of economies to generate, adopt, govern, and scale advanced digital technologies.

Artificial intelligence is becoming a core driver of productivity growth, organizational efficiency, and innovation capacity. The inclusion of AI-related indicators in this edition of DiGiX reflects this structural transformation. In particular, the incorporation of the Anthropic Usage Index allows the index to capture the diffusion of generative AI technologies across economies and their integration into productive activities. At the same time, the expansion of AI capabilities increases the importance of digital infrastructure, cybersecurity, and institutional quality. Countries with robust connectivity networks, affordable digital services, high enterprise digitalization, and strong governance frameworks are better positioned to leverage the opportunities associated with AI-driven growth.

The results also suggest that digital development increasingly depends on complementarities between dimensions. Strong infrastructure alone is not sufficient to achieve high levels of digitization if enterprise adoption remains weak or if regulatory frameworks fail to support innovation and digital trust.

Structure of DiGiX 2026

DiGiX 2026 is constructed using 18 indicators grouped into six dimensions representing three broad pillars:

- Supply pillar: Infrastructure and Costs
- Demand pillar: Users Adoption, Firms Adoption, and Government Adoption
- Institutional pillar: Regulation

The dimensions and indicators included in this version are the following:

Infrastructure

- Population covered by 5G networks
- Computer software spending
- Secure Internet servers

Costs

- Data-only mobile broadband basket (5GB)
- Fixed-broadband Internet basket (5GB)

Users Adoption

- Individuals using the Internet
- Active mobile-broadband subscriptions
- Fixed-broadband subscriptions
- Mobile broadband internet traffic

Firms Adoption

- AI Usage Index (Anthropic)
- GitHub commits
- Mobile apps development
- Internet domain registrations

Government Adoption

- E-Participation Index

Regulation

- Cybersecurity
- Regulatory quality
- ICT regulatory environment
- Cybercrime incidence (inverse)

The selection of indicators aims to preserve the simplicity and interpretability of DiGiX while ensuring that the index captures the evolving nature of digital transformation. Similar to previous versions, the dimensions remain stable over time while individual indicators are updated to reflect technological progress and data availability.

Top Performing Countries

The top-performing countries in DiGiX 2026 are characterized by balanced digital ecosystems combining:

- strong digital infrastructure,
- high internet penetration,

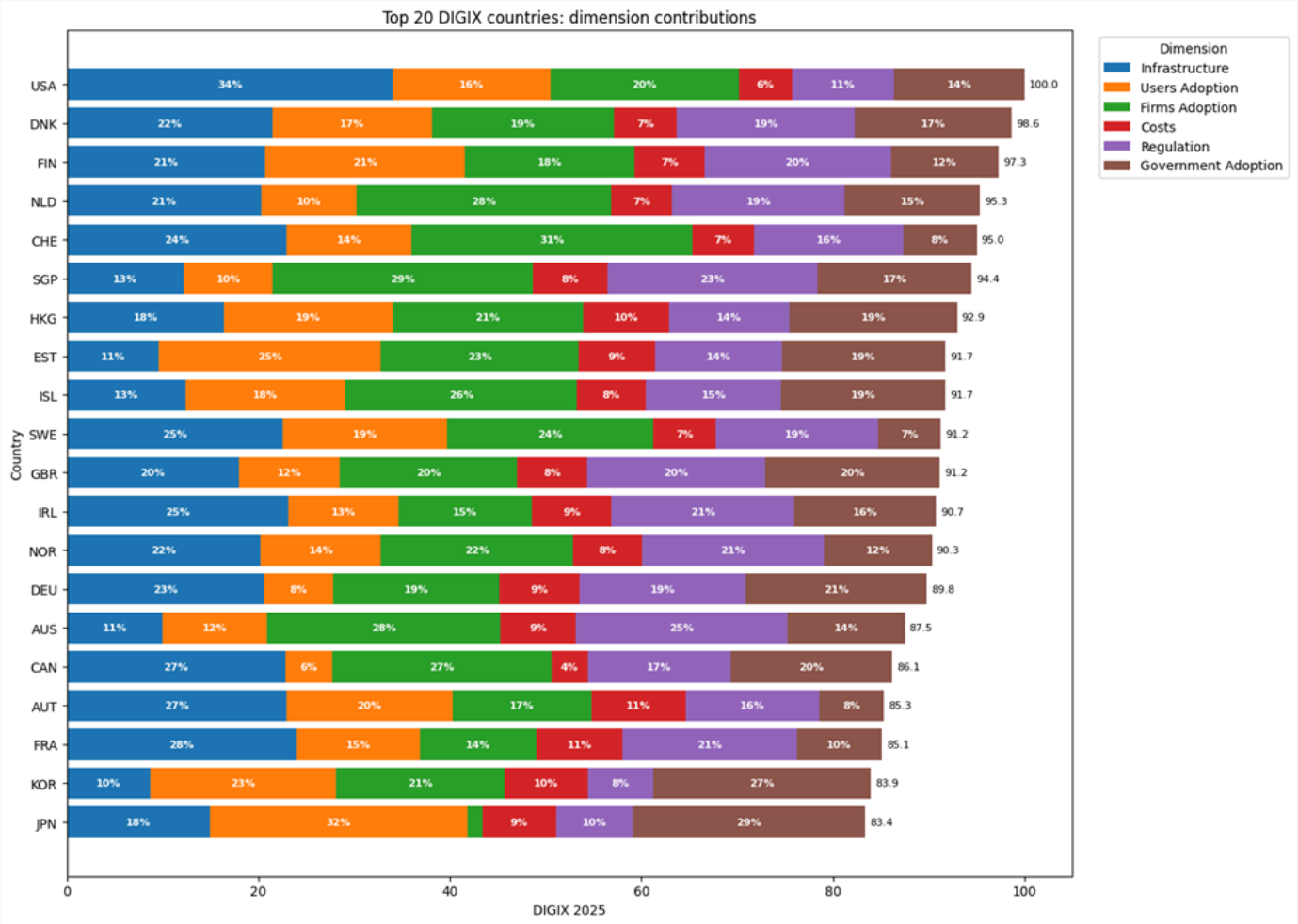
- advanced enterprise digitalization,
- favorable affordability conditions,
- strong institutional quality,
- and high levels of government digital adoption.

Figure 1 shows that the United States leads the DIGIX ranking. The relative weakness of its regulatory framework and its higher costs compared with Europe are more than offset by its strong digital infrastructure, which surpasses that of any EU country, as well as by high levels of firm-level adoption, exceeding those of the largest EU economies and rivalled mainly by the Nordic countries. These countries continue to stand out due to their balanced performance across dimensions, especially in regulation and government adoption. Singapore and Hong Kong remain global leaders in enterprise digitalization and AI adoption, benefiting from a strong adoption rate. The United States exhibits outstanding performance in enterprise adoption and infrastructure, particularly due to the scale of its digital economy and software ecosystem. Estonia continues to perform exceptionally well relative to its size, reflecting its long-standing digital government strategy.

The decomposition of the DIGIX score by dimensions reveals that countries reach high levels of digitization through different combinations of strengths. Some economies rely more heavily on infrastructure and regulation, while others derive their performance from enterprise digitalization or government adoption (See Figure 1).

Table 1 presents the overall DiGiX 2026 ranking for the 96 economies included in the sample. The results confirm the strong concentration of digital leadership among advanced economies, with the United States, Denmark, Finland, the Netherlands, and Switzerland occupying the top positions. At the same time, the ranking reveals substantial heterogeneity across countries and regions, highlighting that digital development remains uneven despite the global acceleration of technological adoption. Beyond Europe and North America, Singapore and Hong Kong emerge as the leading digital economies in Asia, while Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates stand out in the Middle East. In Latin America, Chile, Uruguay, and Brazil occupy the top regional positions, reflecting comparatively stronger digital infrastructure, adoption levels, and institutional environments than other economies in the region.

Figure 1. TOP 20 DIGIX COUNTRIES: DIMENSION CONTRIBUTIONS



Digitization and GDP per capita

Figure 2 illustrates the strong positive relationship between DIGIX and GDP per capita PPP. Countries with higher income levels generally exhibit higher levels of digitization, reflecting complementarities between economic development, institutional quality, infrastructure investment, and technological adoption. However, the relationship is not deterministic. Several countries significantly outperform or underperform relative to their income levels. Advanced digital economies such as Singapore, Denmark, Finland, Estonia, and Hong Kong exhibit exceptionally high digital performance relative to their size and economic structure. Conversely, some high-income economies show lower-than-expected digital performance due to weaker enterprise adoption, regulatory constraints, or lower government digitalization.

Among middle-income economies, substantial heterogeneity also emerges. Countries such as Malaysia, Uruguay, and Mauritius perform comparatively well relative to their income level, while others remain constrained by weaker institutional environments, affordability barriers, or lower digital adoption.

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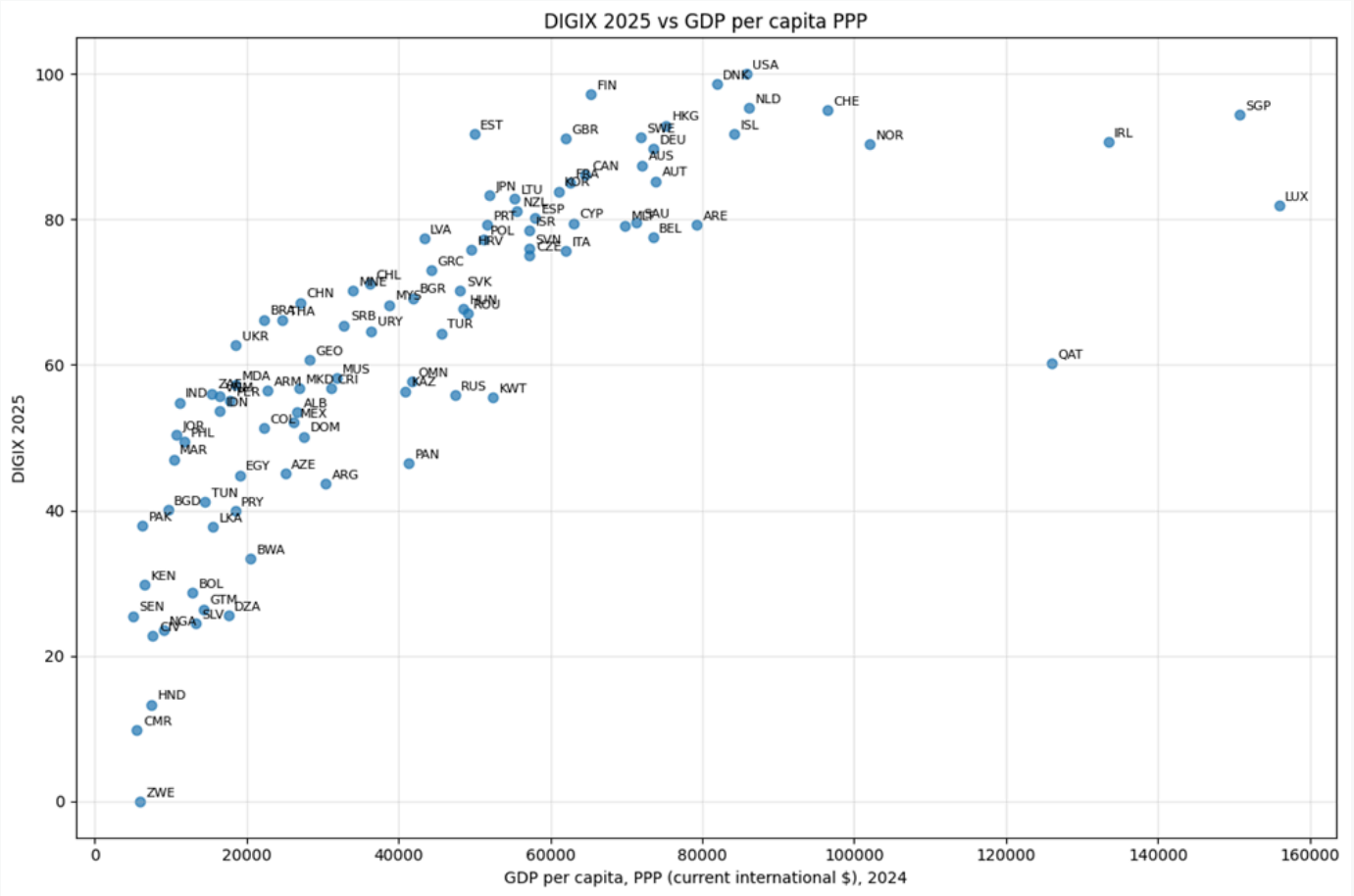
Figure 2. COMPARISON OF DIGIX SCORES WITH GDP PER CAPITA



After excluding outlier economies such as Qatar, Singapore, Ireland, and Luxembourg, the correlation between DiGiX and GDP per capita remains very high at 0.87, confirming that countries with higher income levels tend to exhibit substantially higher degrees of digitization. This strong and statistically significant relationship between digitization and economic development is supported by a log-linear regression specification. The estimated coefficient for the logarithm of GDP per capita is positive and highly statistically significant, while the model explains approximately 78% (81% without outliers) of the cross-country variation in DiGiX scores. This suggests that economic development constitutes one of the main structural drivers of digitization. However, the fact that around 22% of the variation remains unexplained also indicates that income alone is not sufficient to account for digital performance differences across countries. The logarithmic specification additionally suggests diminishing marginal returns of income on digitization: gains in GDP per capita are associated with larger improvements in digitization at lower income levels than among already highly developed economies.

Table 1. DIGIX RANKING 2024

Rank	Country	DIGIX	Rank	Country	DIGIX
1	United States	100.00	51	Turkey	64.35
2	Denmark	98.63	52	Ukraine	62.73
3	Finland	97.27	53	Georgia	60.65
4	Netherlands	95.35	54	Qatar	60.20
5	Switzerland	94.98	55	Mauritius	58.16
6	Singapore	94.45	56	Oman	57.67
7	Hong Kong	92.94	57	Moldova	57.21
8	Estonia	91.71	58	Macedonia	56.83
9	Iceland	91.70	59	Costa Rica	56.76
10	Sweden	91.24	60	Armenia	56.51
11	United Kingdom	91.16	61	Kazakhstan	56.38
12	Ireland	90.73	62	South Africa	56.09
13	Norway	90.31	63	Russia	55.81
14	Germany	89.76	64	Vietnam	55.69
15	Australia	87.48	65	Kuwait	55.52
16	Canada	86.14	66	Peru	55.10
17	Austria	85.28	67	India	54.84
18	France	85.07	68	Indonesia	53.62
19	Korea, Rep.	83.89	69	Albania	53.54
20	Japan	83.37	70	Mexico	52.08
21	Lithuania	82.91	71	Colombia	51.27
22	Luxembourg	81.91	72	Jordan	50.37
23	New Zealand	81.09	73	Dominican Rep.	50.16
24	Spain	80.14	74	Philippines	49.40
25	Saudi Arabia	79.65	75	Morocco	47.01
26	Cyprus	79.51	76	Panama	46.54
27	Portugal	79.33	77	Azerbaijan	45.06
28	UAE	79.26	78	Egypt	44.85
29	Malta	79.20	79	Argentina	43.66
30	Israel	78.55	80	Tunisia	41.18
31	Belgium	77.49	81	Bangladesh	40.11
32	Latvia	77.45	82	Paraguay	39.93
33	Poland	77.29	83	Pakistan	37.93
34	Slovenia	75.98	84	Sri Lanka	37.75
35	Croatia	75.79	85	Botswana	33.41
36	Italy	75.71	86	Kenya	29.81
37	Czech Rep.	75.01	87	Bolivia	28.70
38	Greece	73.07	88	Guatemala	26.40
39	Chile	71.17	89	Algeria	25.51
40	Montenegro	70.26	90	Senegal	25.49
41	Slovak Rep.	70.21	91	El Salvador	24.50
42	Bulgaria	69.21	92	Nigeria	23.58
43	China	68.56	93	Cote dIvoire	22.79
44	Malaysia	68.27	94	Honduras	13.30
45	Hungary	67.76	95	Cameroon	9.76
46	Romania	67.15	96	Zimbabwe	0.00
47	Brazil	66.23			
48	Thailand	66.09			
49	Serbia	65.45			
50	Uruguay	64.68			

Conclusions

DiGiX 2026 confirms that digitization remains a multidimensional and evolving process shaped by infrastructure, affordability, adoption, regulation, and institutional quality. The updated index captures the transition toward a more AI-intensive digital economy, where enterprise capabilities, digital governance, and cybersecurity become increasingly central components of digital maturity.

The balanced contribution of all six dimensions highlights the importance of holistic digital strategies. Countries that combine strong infrastructure with high adoption, affordability, institutional quality, and government digitalization are those best positioned to benefit from the next wave of technological transformation. The results also underscore the persistence of significant digital gaps across and within regions, suggesting that targeted policy interventions remain necessary to promote inclusive and sustainable digital development.

The results of DiGiX 2026 have several economic implications. First, digitization increasingly acts as a structural determinant of productivity, competitiveness, and economic resilience. Economies with stronger digital ecosystems are better positioned to adapt to technological shocks, AI adoption, and changing business models. Second, cybersecurity and institutional quality become increasingly important as economies digitize. Higher exposure to digital activity also increases vulnerability to cyber risks, making regulatory quality and cybersecurity frameworks critical determinants of sustainable digital development. Finally, the increasing role of AI adoption suggests that future digital divides may not only reflect differences in connectivity, but also differences in the capacity to integrate AI technologies into productive activities.

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Annex A. Methodology and contribution of dimensions to DiGiX

DiGiX is constructed using a two-stage Principal Component Analysis (2PCA), consistent with previous editions of the index.

The methodology follows four steps:

1. Standardization of all indicators
2. Construction of six dimensional indices through PCA
3. Extraction of the first principal component within each dimension
4. Construction of the final DIGIX index through PCA applied to the six dimensions

Cost variables and cybercrime incidence are introduced with a negative sign so that higher values always indicate better digital performance.

The methodology is entirely data-driven. Dimension weights are not imposed ex ante but emerge from the covariance structure of the data. This avoids arbitrary weighting schemes and ensures that the index reflects the actual multidimensional structure of digitization across countries.

The first principal component of the final PCA explains 72.4% of the total variance of the six dimensions, indicating a strong common latent structure underlying digitization:

The relatively high explanatory power of the first component across dimensions confirms the internal coherence of the selected indicators and supports the validity of the aggregation strategy.

One of the most relevant results of the PCA methodology is that the six dimensions contribute relatively evenly to the final index. This confirms that digitization is inherently multidimensional and cannot be reduced to a single factor such as infrastructure or income level.

The contribution of each dimension to the final DIGIX index was computed using the normalized squared loadings of the first principal component of the second-stage PCA.

The results indicate a remarkably balanced weighting structure. Infrastructure and users adoption remain the most influential dimensions, reflecting the foundational role of connectivity and digital usage. However, regulation and firms adoption also contribute substantially, highlighting the increasing importance of governance quality, cybersecurity, enterprise digitalization, and AI adoption.

Government adoption and affordability exhibit slightly smaller contributions, although they remain highly relevant components of the digital ecosystem.

Compared with earlier editions of DiGiX, the current version places relatively greater emphasis on enterprise digitalization and AI-related dynamics, reflecting the structural shift toward digital production capabilities and the growing relevance of AI technologies in economic activity.

Dimension	Contribution to DiGiX	Explained variance ratio (PC1)
Infrastructure	18.60%	67.10%
Users Adoption	18.50%	58.60%
Regulation	17.50%	46.20%
Firms Adoption	16.90%	71.80%
Government Adoption	14.40%	
Costs	14%	86.80%
Final DIGIX PCA		72.40%

Annex B. Methodological Notes and Treatment of Missing Values

This version of DiGiX incorporates several imputations and adjustments in order to maximize country coverage while preserving methodological consistency and minimizing distortions in the ranking.

The following principles were applied:

- Preference was always given to official public data sources.
- When 2024 data were unavailable, the latest available data were used .
- Missing values were only imputed when sufficient economic or regional comparability existed: Peer Group Mean Imputation ensures a comprehensive comparison across the ranked countries. This technique replaces missing observations with the average value of a specific subgroup, preserving the representative characteristics of countries with similar socio-economic profiles. Countries were categorized into peer groups based on two primary dimensions: geographic region and income level.

AI Usage Index (Anthropic)

The index captures the relative adoption and integration of generative AI technologies within each economy rather than the absolute number of users.

Anthropic did not report values for China, Hong Kong, and the Russian Federation in the official dataset. These values were imputed using proportional adjustments based on Stanford AI diffusion indicators and relative scaling against Denmark as benchmark economy.

5G Population Coverage

For several countries without official 2024 data, values were imputed using:

- official regulator announcements,
- GSMA information,
- launch status of commercial 5G networks,
- and regional deployment evidence.

Countries without commercial deployment in 2024 were assigned zero values.

GitHub Commits

WIPO reports China and Hong Kong as n/a because Google Play data are unavailable for these economies. Missing values were imputed using regional peer averages and comparable Asian digital ecosystems.

Mobile Broadband Traffic

When official ITU values were unavailable, imputations were based on:

- historical ITU series,
- regional traffic growth rates,
- or comparable neighboring economies.

Missing Data Strategy

The final sample includes only countries with complete information across all dimensions after imputations.

The treatment of missing values follows the same principles established in earlier DiGiX editions:

- conservative imputations,
- avoidance of excessive smoothing,
- and preservation of cross-country heterogeneity.

Outlier treatment was conducted conservatively in order to avoid excessive influence of extreme observations while preserving the discriminatory power of the indicators.

Annex C. Variable Definitions and Sources

Infrastructure

Population covered by 5G networks, *2024:* Percentage of the population covered by at least a 5G/LTE mobile network.

Definition:This indicator captures mobile-broadband coverage and refers to the proportion of the population that lives within range of at least a 4G/LTE mobile-cellular network signal, regardless of whether they subscribe to the service or use it.

Source: International Telecommunication Union (ITU), ITU DataHub.

Computer software spending, *2024:* Total computer software spending (% of GDP).

Definition: Computer software spending includes the total value of purchased or leased packaged software, such as operating systems, database systems, programming tools, utilities and applications. It excludes expenditures for internal software development. The data are estimated based on software and services industry sales data. For countries where industry sales data is unavailable, the data is estimated using macro level variables and trade data. Data are reported as a percentage of GDP.

Source: Global Innovation Index Database, WIPO 2025. S&P Global Market Intelligence.

Secure Internet servers, *2024:* Secure Internet servers (per million population).

Definition: Secure Internet servers are servers that use encryption technology in Internet transactions.

Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators.

Costs

Data-only mobile broadband basket (5GB), *2024:* Data-only mobile-broadband basket (% GNI per capita).

Definition: The basket is based on a monthly allowance of 5 GB of data using at least 3G technology. Prices are expressed as a percentage of monthly GNI per capita.

Source: International Telecommunication Union (ITU), ICT Price Baskets / ITU DataHub.

Fixed-broadband Internet basket (5GB), *2024*: Fixed-broadband basket (% GNI per capita).

Definition:The fixed-broadband basket refers to the price of a monthly subscription to an entry-level fixed-broadband plan with a minimum monthly usage allowance of 5 GB. Prices are expressed as a percentage of monthly GNI per capita.

Source: International Telecommunication Union (ITU), ICT Price Baskets / ITU DataHub.

Users Adoption

Individuals using the Internet, *2024*: Internet users (%).

Definition: Refers to the proportion of individuals who used the Internet from any location in the last three months. Access can be via a fixed or mobile network.

Source: International Telecommunication Union (ITU), ITU DataHub.

Active mobile-broadband subscriptions, *2024*: Active mobile-broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants.

Definition: Refers to the sum of active handset-based and computer-based (USB/dongles) mobile-broadband subscriptions that allow access to the Internet, divided by population and multiplied by 100.

Source: International Telecommunication Union (ITU), ITU DataHub.

Fixed-broadband subscriptions, *2024*: Fixed broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants.

Definition: Fixed-broadband subscribers divided by population and multiplied by 100.

Source: International Telecommunication Union (ITU), ITU DataHub.

Mobile broadband internet traffic, *2024*: Mobile broadband Internet traffic divided by mobile broadband subscriptions.

Definition: Mobile-broadband Internet traffic (within the country) refers to broadband traffic volumes originated within the country from 3G networks or other more advanced mobile-networks; including 3G upgrades, evolutions or equivalent standards in terms of data transmission speeds. Download and upload traffic should be added up and reported together.

Source: International Telecommunication Union (ITU), ITU DataHub.

Firms Adoption

Anthropic AI Usage Index (AUI), *2025*

Definition: The Anthropic AI Usage Index (AUI) measures the relative intensity of generative AI usage across countries based on activity observed on Claude.ai. The indicator is constructed as the country's proportion of Claude.ai usage divided by its proportion of population aged 15–64. Values above 1 indicate that a country is over-represented in AI usage relative to its working-age population, while values below 1 indicate under-representation. The data correspond to the period from August 4 to August 11, 2025.

Source: Anthropic Economic Index, September 2025 Report. Anthropic PBC.

GitHub commits, *2024*: GitHub commits pushes received and sent (per million population, 15–69 years old).

Definition: GitHub is the world's largest host of source code, and a commit is the term used for a saved change on this platform. One or more commits can be saved (or pushed) to projects (or repositories). Thus, 'GitHub commit pushes received and sent' refers to the sum of the number of batched changes received and sent by projects on GitHub that are publicly available within a specific economy. Automated activity resulting in non-productive commits is excluded.

Source: Global Innovation Index Database, WIPO 2025. GitHub; United Nations, World Population Prospects.

Mobile apps development, *2024*: Global downloads of mobile apps (per billion PPP$ GDP, two-year average).

Definition: Global downloads of mobile apps, by origin of the headquarters of the developer/firm, scaled by PPP$ GDP (billions). Global downloads are compiled by data.ia, public data sources and the company's proprietary forecast model based on data from Google Play Store and iOS App Store in each country. Since data for China are not available for Google Play Store and only for iOS App Store, data from China are treated as missing and classified as 'n/a'.

Source: Global Innovation Index Database, WIPO 2025. data.ia (a Sensor Tower Company); IMF World Economic Outlook Database.

Internet domain registrations, *2024*: Generic Top-Level Domains (gTLDs) and Country Code Top-Level Domains (ccTLDs) (per thousand population, 15–69 years old).

Definition: The sum of Generic top-level domains (TLDs) and country-code TLDs as a proportion of thousand population, 15–69 years old. A top-level domain (TLD) encompasses various categories maintained by the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) for Internet use.

Source: Global Innovation Index Database, WIPO 2025. ZookNIC Inc.; United Nations, World Population Prospects 2024.

Government Adoption

E-Participation Index, *2024*.

Definition: The E-Participation Index measures how effectively governments use online services to provide information to citizens, interact with stakeholders, and engage citizens in decision-making processes through digital channels.

Source: United Nations E-Government Survey.

Regulation

Cybersecurity, *2024*: Global Cybersecurity Index.

Definition: The Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI) measures the level of cybersecurity commitment made by individual countries. It is a composite index consisting of 25 indicators distributed across five main pillars: Legal Measures, Technical Measures, Organizational Measures, Capacity Building Measures, and Cooperation Measures.

Source: International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Global Cybersecurity Index.

Regulatory quality, *2024*: Regulatory Quality indicator.

Definition: The regulatory quality indicator captures the perception of a government's ability to formulate and implement sound policies and regulations that permit and promote private sector development.

Source: World Bank, Worldwide Governance Indicators.

ICT regulatory environment, *2024*: ICT Regulatory Tracker.

Definition: The ICT regulatory environment indicator is based on the ICT Regulatory Tracker composite index that provides a measure of the existence and features of ICT legal and regulatory frameworks.

Source: International Telecommunication Union (ITU), ICT Regulatory Tracker.

Cybercrime incidence (inverse), *2024*: Cybercrime incidents / total active sites.

Definition: Netcraft's 'Map of Current Cybercrime Attacks' provides a real-time visualisation of cybercrime in countries. Measurements are determined by using IP address delegation information to attribute sites in Netcraft Threat Intelligence Feeds to countries. Netcraft then uses the number of active sites found by its web server survey to calculate the ratio of sites currently being used for cybercrime to active sites in each country. For DiGiX, the variable is constructed as the inverse of the 1 in X sites ratio reported by Netcraft.

Source: Netcraft Threat Intelligence Feeds and Netcraft Map of Current Cybercrime Attacks.

GDP

GDP per capita, PPP (current international $), *2024*.

Definition: GDP per capita based on purchasing power parity (PPP). PPP GDP is gross domestic product converted to international dollars using purchasing power parity rates. An international dollar has the same purchasing power over GDP as a U.S. dollar has in the United States. GDP at purchaser's prices is the sum of gross value added by all resident producers in the economy plus any product taxes and minus any subsidies not included in the value of the products. It is calculated without making deductions for depreciation of fabricated assets or for depletion and degradation of natural resources. Midyear population is used for the computation of per capita values.

Source: World Bank, World Development Indicators (Indicator code: NY.GDP.PCAP.PP.CD).