@AT WORTHY

GLOBAL AI WORTHINESS INDEX

Measuring Nations' Capability to Develop and Sustain Worthy AI Systems

2025

Global AI Worthiness Index (GAWI)

2025

Global AI Worthiness Index 2025, referred to as the “Index”, represents the outcome of AT Worthy’s structured evaluation of national artificial intelligence ecosystems. It gathers model-assisted assessments, cross-checked scoring logic, and curated evidence synthesized into a single comparative framework.

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ISBN: 979-8-9895701-0-2

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Preface

AI Worthiness reflects a country's capacity to build, govern, and apply artificial intelligence in ways that are consistent, trustworthy, and aligned with the public interest. In the national context, it encompasses policy foundations, institutional readiness, research strength, technical talent, computational resources, and societal engagement.

As artificial intelligence becomes embedded in public services, economic systems, and civic life, questions of governance, accountability, and societal impact have moved from the margins to the center of national policy agendas. Yet despite the growing influence of AI on collective outcomes, the international landscape still lacks a unified and transparent benchmark for evaluating how countries govern and apply these capabilities.

Existing assessments tend to remain fragmented, uneven in scope, or focused on narrow dimensions such as investment, research output, or infrastructure alone. This absence of a comprehensive metric is not merely a methodological gap, but a governance risk in a world where AI capabilities are advancing faster than the institutions meant to steward them.

To help address this gap, AT Worthy developed the Global AI Worthiness Index as a systematic framework for measuring the maturity of national AI ecosystems across all United Nations Member States.

The Index is designed to move beyond notions of readiness or capacity alone, by examining how technological capability is matched with responsibility, transparency, and public accountability.

It relies on a harmonized scoring logic, model assisted analysis, and publicly available evidence to generate a coherent and comparable view of national AI performance.

By providing clear benchmarking and actionable insights, the Global AI Worthiness Index seeks to equip governments, institutions, and stakeholders with a practical tool to identify strengths, address structural gaps, and improve policy coherence.

In doing so, it lays the groundwork for the broader analytical framework presented in the Executive Overview, where AI worthiness is examined not as a competition for dominance, but as a shared measure of how nations choose to govern and apply the intelligence they create.

Khaled Koubaa
CEO & Founder
AT Worthy Technology, Inc.

Executive Overview

Artificial intelligence has emerged as a structural force in modern governance and development, transforming how nations organize their economies, administer public services, and pursue collective progress. It now operates as both infrastructure and instrument of decision-making, shaping how societies create value, exercise authority, and define the contours of opportunity.

In this evolving landscape, the question is no longer only who can build artificial intelligence, but how it is built, governed, and applied in ways that preserve human dignity and serve the common good.

The Global AI Worthiness Index (GAWI) was conceived to measure this deeper dimension of technological progress. It introduces the principle of worthiness, the capacity to advance AI while maintaining proportional governance responsibility, as a basis for evaluating how national systems of innovation contribute to a trustworthy and inclusive global AI ecosystem.

GAWI moves beyond readiness metrics by making responsibility visible, examining how nations wield their technological power with transparency and conscience. It examines the institutional, educational, and technical conditions under which artificial intelligence is developed and deployed, assessing not only what a nation can achieve but how it chooses to achieve it.

This approach recognizes that the maturity of an AI ecosystem depends as much on ethics, governance, and public accountability as on compute power or research output. Worthiness, therefore, is not an abstract moral sentiment but a concrete operational standard: it is the disciplined coupling of AI capacity with accountable oversight.

GAWI's analytical framework is structured around four interdependent pillars, each capturing a distinct dimension of national performance in artificial intelligence:

- Standards and Governance evaluate how nations design and enforce transparent, interoperable, and accountable systems for managing AI.
- Talent and Research measure the intellectual and educational foundations of innovation, the capacity to generate new knowledge and guide its responsible use.
- Adoption and Public Value assess how artificial intelligence enhances societal well-being, strengthens public institutions, and promotes inclusion.
- Resources and Infrastructure capture the technical and industrial capacities that enable sustainable innovation and ensure digital resilience.

Each pillar is composed of publicly verifiable indicators and weighted according to its structural importance in shaping responsible AI ecosystems. Together, they form a composite measurement that values equilibrium over dominance. A nation can lead in a single pillar, yet true worthiness is revealed only when the pillars reinforce one another and the system operates coherently, where ethical governance reinforces technical advancement, and social benefit grounds industrial ambition.

The Index is not designed as a league table of competition but as a shared framework for accountability and learning. Its purpose is to provide governments, researchers, and institutions with a transparent mechanism to identify strengths, gaps, and pathways for improvement. By translating ethical principles into measurable evidence, GAWI demonstrates that technological governance can be assessed with the same rigor traditionally reserved for economic or human development.

The launch of the 2025 edition establishes the first global baseline for measuring AI worthiness across all United Nations Member States. This edition sets the foundation for longitudinal evaluation and policy dialogue, paving the way for future reports that will incorporate additional dimensions such as sustainability, safety, and societal trust.

Through this process, GAWI aims to strengthen the global culture of responsible innovation, where leadership is defined not by the scale of resources, but by the integrity of choices. The 2025 edition establishes an initial reference point and a comparative benchmark for evidence based digital governance.

Ultimately, the Global AI Worthiness Index serves both as a framework and an invitation to ensure that technological progress remains inseparable from the values that define humanity, for instance by making it possible to compare how different countries embed AI in public services, protect citizens' rights, and invest in talent.

How GAWI Differs from Other AI Indices

Most AI indices answer a familiar question: who is most ready to compete in AI. They typically measure inputs and outputs such as investment and compute capacity. These are valuable lenses, but they often converge on the same outcome: a capability leaderboard that rewards scale.

The Global AI Worthiness Index asks a different question: which countries combine AI capability with credible governance and measurable public value. GAWI treats AI as both a strategic capability and a governance challenge. It therefore measures national performance across two families of pillars that must rise together:

- Capability pillars capture whether a country can build and sustain AI systems over time, through Talent and Research and Resources and Infrastructure.
- Responsibility pillars capture whether a country can deploy AI with legitimacy, accountability, and public trust, through Standards and Governance and Adoption and Public Value.

This design leads to three practical differences from many existing indices.

First, GAWI prioritizes alignment over dominance. A country can score highly in capability and still underperform in overall worthiness if responsibility mechanisms lag behind. The index is built to detect imbalance, not to celebrate aggregate capability.

Second, GAWI introduces a governance threshold for top tier leadership. In many indices, countries can rank at the top primarily through innovation capacity and market power. In GAWI, a country cannot be classified as a Builder without demonstrable governance maturity. This is not ideological filtering. It is a governance floor for credible, scalable deployment. A system that shapes global AI outcomes must also sustain credible guardrails.

Third, GAWI is designed for policy diagnosis, not only comparison. Rankings are a communication device, but the intended use is pillar-level interpretation. The question for decision makers is not "who is ahead," but "which constraints are binding, and which reforms unlock progress."

GAWI also differs in its approach to evidence. The index is built from publicly accessible sources and structured review, with model assisted synthesis used to increase comparability and transparency. The goal is not perfect precision. The goal is a consistent, explainable point of reference that can improve through critique and iteration across editions.

In practice, GAWI complements existing indices by measuring capability and responsibility together, because both determine real-world AI outcomes.

Key Highlights at a Glance

The Global AI Worthiness Index (GAWI) identifies the countries most capable of building, governing, and deploying AI in ways that merit global trust.

Top 10 AI Worthiness Scores

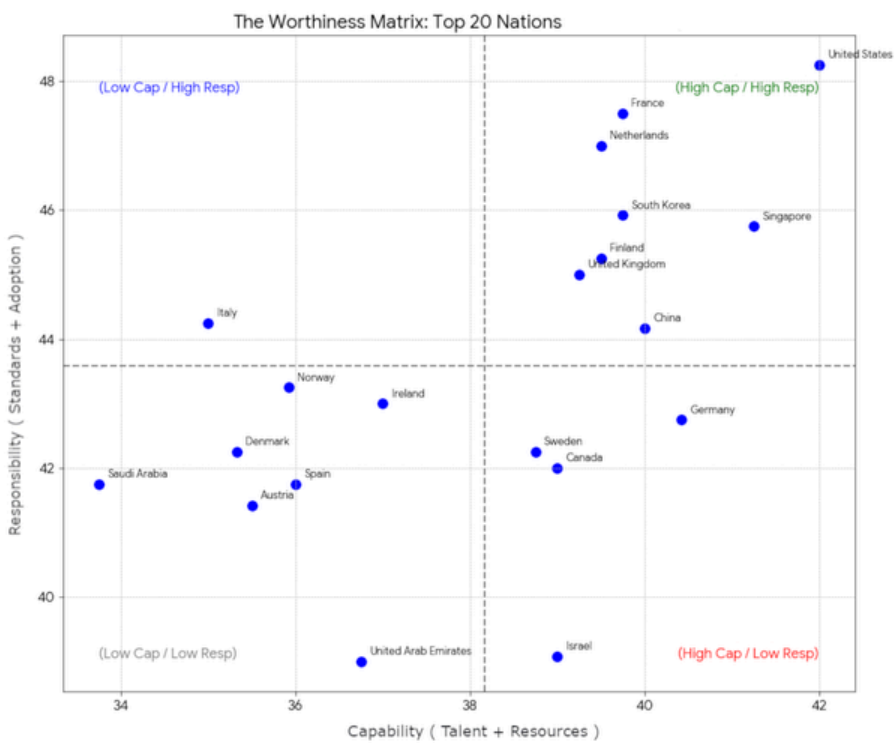
The table below lists the ten highest scoring countries in the 2025 edition of GAWI.

Rank	Country	Score
1	United States of America	90.25
2	France	87.25
3	Singapore	87.00
4	Netherlands	86.50
5	South Korea	85.67
6	Finland	84.75
7	United Kingdom	84.25
8	China	84.17
9	Germany	83.17
10	Sweden	81.00

The State of AI Worthiness

The AI Worthiness Matrix

The AI Worthiness Matrix is a 2x2 view of the Top 20 countries that separates a nation's means from its manner.
The horizontal axis represents Capability, measured as [T] Talent + [R] Resources. In practice, this captures research depth, skills, and the enabling infrastructure that makes AI scalable.
The vertical axis represents Responsibility, measured as [S] Standards and Governance + [A] Adoption and Public Value. This captures whether AI is shaped by clear rules, public accountability, and real societal outcomes.



Matrix axes definition

Axis	Built from	Interprets as	What moves it
Capability (horizontal)	T + R	Skills, research depth, and enabling infrastructure	Talent formation, research intensity, compute and infrastructure investment
Responsibility (vertical)	S + A	Rules, accountability, and public value outcomes	Enforceable governance, transparency mechanisms, scaled adoption with trust signals

How to read the matrix

A country can move upward by strengthening governance, standards participation, transparency, and public value adoption. It can move rightward by investing in talent formation, research capacity, and resources. The countries closest to the dashed lines often have the clearest near term pathway: targeted reforms can shift them into a more coherent posture quickly.

The dashed lines in the chart mark the Top 20 average for each axis, creating four quadrants. Countries in the upper right balance capability with responsibility. Countries elsewhere reveal more asymmetry, either strong stewardship with constrained capacity, or strong capacity with weaker safeguards.

Quadrant placement is relative to the Top 20 averages in this edition. Countries in the “Governance Gap” quadrant may still score highly on governance in absolute terms, but are lower on responsibility relative to their capability compared to the most balanced performers.

How to interpret the four quadrants

Axis	Profile	What it implies	Typical policy move
High Capability + High Responsibility	Balanced leaders	Scales AI with guardrails and public value	Maintain balance, stress-test oversight as adoption scales
Low Capability + High Responsibility	Responsible builders	Strong governance posture, constrained scale	Invest in talent and infrastructure without degrading legitimacy
Low Capability + Low Responsibility	Capability gap	Early ecosystem, multiple constraints	Build foundations in both tracks, avoid pilots without machinery
High Capability + Low Responsibility	Governance gap	Power outruns guardrails	Strengthen enforceability, transparency, and accountability routines

Balanced Leaders

This quadrant includes countries that show the strongest overall alignment between capability and responsibility: United States, France, Singapore, Netherlands, South Korea, Finland, United Kingdom, and China. These systems combine high national capacity with comparatively strong performance on governance, standards alignment, and public value. In Index terms, they are not only able to build and deploy AI at scale, but also exhibit stronger observable mechanisms for accountability and trusted adoption.

Responsible Builders

Italy presents a distinctive profile within this quadrant. Its responsibility score is high relative to the Top 20, while capability remains below the group average. This profile reflects a country with comparatively strong governance posture and public value orientation, but with remaining constraints in talent depth, research intensity, and infrastructure scale. The strategic implication is straightforward: capability investments are likely to yield outsized gains because the responsibility foundations are already relatively mature.

Capability Gap

This quadrant includes Ireland, Norway, Spain, Denmark, Austria, United Arab Emirates, and Saudi Arabia. These countries sit below the Top 20 averages on both axes, though for different reasons and at different distances from key thresholds. The main signal is not failure. It is where additional effort is required on two tracks: expanding enabling capacity while strengthening the governance and public value mechanisms that convert AI investment into trusted outcomes.

Governance Gap

This quadrant includes Germany, Sweden, Canada, and Israel. These countries show strong capability relative to the Top 20 average, but comparatively lower responsibility scores. This pattern signals a governance gap: capability is advancing faster than the accountability and public value mechanisms that sustain trust at scale. In policy terms, this is where risks of uneven oversight and trust erosion can accumulate, even when technical performance remains high.

Overall Tier Distribution

The GAWI Tiers categorize nations based on their overall AI Worthiness Score, reflecting their role in shaping the global AI landscape, from policy-making to adoption.

The three defined tiers are:

Tier	What it means in plain language	Threshold rule in this edition
Builders	Shape norms and sustain advanced AI ecosystems	Total score ≥ 75 and S ≥ 20
Deployers	Active adopters and regional innovators	Total score 55 to 74.99 and S ≥ 15
Bystanders	Developing across multiple pillars	All remaining countries

The Standards & Governance thresholds are not intended to privilege any single legal tradition or political model. They operationalize minimum observable safeguards that are widely recognized across United Nations and multilateral commitments, including transparency of rules, accountability mechanisms, and documented enforcement capacity. Countries may reach these safeguards through different institutional designs; the Index scores the presence of verifiable mechanisms, not alignment with any one jurisdiction's regulatory language.

Tier thresholds are applied independently of rank order; overlaps between tiers and ranked groups emerge from score distributions rather than design.

Summary of Findings

Tier Distribution:

Tier	Count	Percentage
Builders	20	10 %
Deployers	44	23 %
Bystanders	131	67 %

The Majority of Nations are Bystanders:
A substantial majority of nations in the index (67%) fall into the Bystanders tier. This underscores the significant global maturity gap, where most nations are still in the early stages of building foundational AI capabilities and responsible governance structures.

The Narrow Path to Leadership:
The most capable tiers, Builders and Deployers, collectively account for 33% of the nations assessed. This highlights that global AI influence, development, and standard-setting are currently concentrated in a small group of nations.

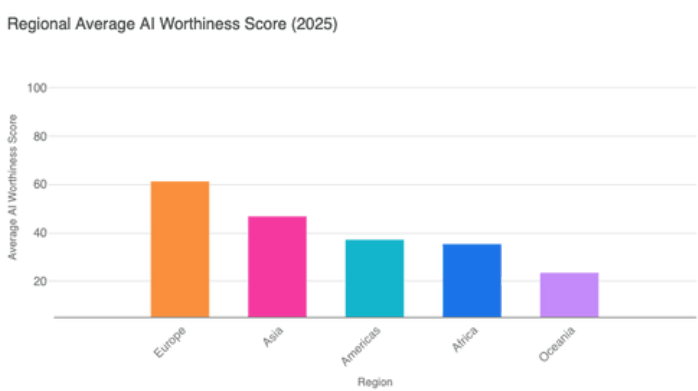
Gap Between Deployment and Leadership:
The Deployers tier is more than twice as large as the Builders tier (a ratio of 44 to 20). This suggests a significant opportunity for these nations to evolve to the Builders tier with targeted, integrated investment across infrastructure, human capital, and governance.

Regional Overview

The regional overview of the Global AI Worthiness Index 2025 highlights the current standing of different global regions in terms of their AI capabilities, governance, adoption, and infrastructure.The overall average AI Worthiness Score across all 195 ranked countries is 43.34 out of a possible 100 points.

Here is a breakdown of the regions, ranked by their average score:

Region	Average Score
Europe	61.13
Asia	46.66
Americas	37.03
Africa	35.18
Oceania	23.36



Key Findings

- Europe leads the world, with an average score of 61.13. This region demonstrates strong performance, likely driven by robust standards and governance frameworks, high talent density, and advanced infrastructure.

- Asia ranks second with an average score of 46.66, significantly ahead of the global average. This score reflects a mix of highly advanced nations and emerging AI powerhouses, particularly excelling in research output and adoption initiatives.

- The Americas and Africa are clustered below the global average, with scores of 37.03 and 35.18, respectively. While the Americas benefits from leading AI nations in Northern America, the overall average is pulled down by other subregions. Africa's score suggests there is significant opportunity for development across all categories.

- Oceania has the lowest average score at 23.36, indicating the region generally lags in the core pillars of AI worthiness compared to other continents.

Overview of AI Worthiness Pillars

The AI Worthiness STAR Framework measures a nation's AI capabilities across four critical pillars. By calculating the global average performance across all 195 ranked countries, we can identify global trends in AI development.

	Pillar	Max	Average	% of Max
S	Standards & Governance	35	15.66	44.73%
T	Talent & Research	30	11.93	39.78%
A	Adoption & Public Value	20	7.94	39.72%
R	Resources & Infrastructure	15	7.81	52.07%
	Total	100	43.34	43.34%

Key Global Observations

1. Global Strength in Resources (R):

The world shows its strongest performance in the Resources & Infrastructure pillar, achieving over half (52.07%) of the maximum possible score. This suggests that nations around the world are prioritizing investment in data centers, cloud services, and connectivity relatively more than the other pillars.
This suggests that the foundational elements for AI (like internet access, cloud capacity, and data centers) are more established globally than the human capital (Talent & Research) and regulatory frameworks (Standards & Governance).

2. Governance is Leading the Human Pillars (S):

Standards & Governance is the second strongest pillar, achieving nearly 45% of its maximum score. This indicates a global interest in adopting policies, ethical frameworks, and regulatory mechanisms, reflecting a growing awareness of the need for responsible AI deployment.
Governance is performing better than the other "people-centric" pillars (Talent and Adoption), suggesting that policy development is outpacing the actual development of AI talent and public sector implementation.

3. Talent & Research Needs Development (T):

The Talent & Research pillar is one of the two weakest pillars globally, scoring only 39.78% of its maximum potential. This suggests that a significant worldwide challenge lies in developing the necessary human capital, increasing research output, and establishing robust centers of excellence and international collaboration. The sub-40% score signals a global 'talent ceiling,' indicating that the systems for producing AI-related graduates, funding research, and enabling researcher mobility are underdeveloped relative to the demand for AI innovation.

4. Adoption and Public Value Lag (A):

The Adoption & Public Value pillar is the lowest-performing pillar globally, achieving just 39.72% of its maximum score. This indicates difficulty in translating national AI capability into tangible, measured outcomes, such as scaling government AI projects, ensuring public-sector transparency, and fostering deep citizen trust and participation. The weakest performance in this area suggests that while some countries may have the capacity (R) and the policy (S), the actual application of AI to create public benefits, requiring scaled projects, transparency, and high citizen buy-in, remains the greatest barrier to achieving true AI worthiness.

From Readiness to Worthiness

In the twenty–first century, artificial intelligence has become a defining force in how knowledge is produced, economies are organized, and decisions are executed. More importantly, it is reshaping institutions, rewriting administrative routines, and changing how authority is exercised and justified across the public and private sectors. The capacity to develop, govern, and apply AI has become a central element of national power and a shared determinant of global progress.

In this evolving context, most international assessments continue to focus on a single recurring question: to what extent is a country ready to adopt artificial intelligence? These readiness indices offer valuable insight into the availability of digital infrastructure and the scale of investment that enable AI deployment. They help identify which nations possess the resources conducive to technological uptake.

Yet, by their very design, such measures capture potential rather than purpose. They assess whether a nation can develop artificial intelligence, but not whether it will do so in ways that uphold transparency, accountability, and inclusion. In this respect, readiness is a measure of capacity, not of conduct. It describes the ability to build systems, but not the determination to govern them ethically.

The Global AI Worthiness Index (GAWI) was conceived to address this conceptual gap. It moves beyond the traditional logic of readiness to evaluate a deeper question: how a nation is shaping artificial intelligence in a worthy way. As defined above, worthiness, in this sense, is not a moral abstraction but an empirical framework integrating governance, knowledge, social outcomes, and technology into one analytical construct.

GAWI is built on the premise that the legitimacy of a country's position in the global AI ecosystem depends not solely on its computational strength or financial investment, but also on how its institutions align technological advancement with the broader public interest. It reflects the understanding, affirmed in United Nations' "Pact for the Future", that the governance of artificial intelligence must serve the Sustainable Development Goals and the shared values of the international community.

From Metrics of Power to Metrics of Stewardship

For years, the global discourse on AI has been shaped by benchmarks that privilege economic scale and computational power. While these indicators remain valuable for assessing capacity, they provide only a partial understanding. A nation may excel in one domain, but genuine worthiness arises from coherence, where ethical governance reinforces technical advancement and social benefit grounds industrial ambition.

The STAR Framework

The GAWI framework departs from the traditional logic of accumulation to focus on equilibrium. It operationalizes this philosophy through the STAR Framework, which evaluates 195 nations across four interdependent pillars:

Pillar	Focus	Description
[S] Standards & Governance	Legitimacy & Accountability	Evaluates how nations design and enforce transparent, interoperable, and accountable systems for managing AI. It measures the regulatory policies that ensure technology is aligned with the public interest.
[T] Talent & Research	Competence & Knowledge	Measures the intellectual and educational foundations of innovation. This pillar assesses the capacity to generate new knowledge and the systems for producing AI-related graduates and fostering international collaboration.
[A] Adoption & Public Value	Contribution & Benefit	Assesses how AI enhances societal well-being, strengthens public institutions, and promotes inclusion. It looks for tangible outcomes, such as scaled government projects and citizen trust.
[R] Resources & Infrastructure	Resources & Capability	Captures the technical and industrial capacities that enable sustainable innovation. This includes data centers, cloud services, and connectivity, the physical means to sustain a digital ecosystem.

A Shift in Measurement Philosophy

The transition from readiness to worthiness marks a fundamental shift in how we measure national progress. Rather than treating rank as a prize, GAWI uses rank as a diagnostic signal for accountability and learning. Small differences in total score may reflect indicator timing or data availability, so the recommended interpretation is pillar by pillar rather than rank alone. By standardizing these metrics across all United Nations Member States, plus the two UN non-member observer states (the Holy See and the State of Palestine), GAWI establishes the first global reference standard for evidence-based digital governance.

Ultimately, this approach asserts that leadership in the age of artificial intelligence is defined not by the scale of resources, but by the principles that shape how they are deployed. The Global AI Worthiness Index invites nations to view their ecosystems holistically, recognizing that meaningful progress emerges not from the advancement of any single component, but from the coherence of the whole.

Foundations of AI Worthiness

Artificial intelligence now occupies a unique position at the intersection of technological capability and moral responsibility. As algorithms increasingly influence decision-making in governance, commerce, and daily life, societies are confronted with a fundamental question: how should intelligence be governed? This question lies at the core of the emerging field of AI governance and is the central inquiry of the Global AI Worthiness Index (GAWI).

Defining AI Worthiness

While we have argued for moving beyond readiness, this section clarifies what "worthiness" measures in the GAWI framework. AI Worthiness is a concrete operational standard: whether a nation's AI capability is matched by responsibility in governance, safeguards, and accountability. It is defined by the conditions under which AI is developed and deployed, and by whether national institutions can channel technological power through effective oversight.

In practice, it asks whether a nation exercises its AI capacity with transparency and conscience, ensuring that technological advancement does not outpace ethical governance and that equilibrium is maintained as capability grows.

The STAR Framework: Operationalizing the Concept

To translate this definition into measurable evidence, GAWI employs the STAR Framework. This structure breaks down the complex concept of AI worthiness into four interdependent pillars. These pillars were directly informed by the commitments made in United Nations General Assembly Resolution 79/1 (The Global Digital Compact), specifically Action 30, which calls for science and technology to contribute to the full enjoyment of human rights.

The index maps the resolution's specific directives (a, b, c, and d) directly to the four STAR pillars:

Action 30 clause	Pillar	Interpretation	What we score
30(b) human rights in regulation and norm-setting	S	Rules that constrain and guide AI	Laws, ethical frameworks, regulator capacity, standards participation, transparency mechanisms
30(a) ethical research, autonomy and safety of researchers	T	Integrity and depth of the research system	Research output and impact, funding, centers of excellence, mobility and inclusivity
30(c) participation and benefit for vulnerable groups	A	Public value and inclusion in deployment	Scaled gov AI projects, trust and participation signals, local language and inclusion initiatives
30(d) tech opportunities for equity and disability inclusion	R	Availability of enabling infrastructure	Connectivity, compute, cloud and data centers, sustainability and resilience signals

Genuine worthiness arises from the coherence of these elements. A nation may excel in compute power (Capability), but without robust governance (Legitimacy) or social benefit (Contribution), it fails to fulfill the holistic vision outlined in the Pact for the Future.

Alignment with Multilateral Frameworks

The conceptual underpinnings of AI Worthiness are firmly aligned with ongoing multilateral efforts to define and promote ethical AI governance. The UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence (2021) establishes a universal normative foundation for human-centred AI, while the OECD AI Principles (2019) set standards for transparency and fairness.

Most significantly, by anchoring the STAR Framework in Action 30 of The Pact for the Future, GAWI serves as a direct operational tool for these commitments. It transforms the high-level language of the resolution, calling for responsibility, regulation, participation, and equity, into tangible, measurable indicators. This enables governments and societies to observe their progress, identify gaps, and calibrate policies in line with shared ethical commitments.

GAWI Pillars and Methodology

While the previous chapters defined the conceptual boundaries of AI Worthiness, this chapter details its operational architecture. The Global AI Worthiness Index (GAWI) translates these ethical propositions into a measurable system through the STAR Framework.

This framework is not a hierarchy of capacity but an equilibrium of responsibility. It anchors the assessment in four interdependent pillars, each weighted according to its structural importance in shaping a responsible AI ecosystem.

The index evaluates national performance across four domains, comprised of publicly verifiable indicators. The distribution of points reflects a deliberate design choice to value governance and human capital over raw industrial power.

Weights and scoring logic

Pillar	Max points	Why this weight ?
[S] Standards and Governance	35	This pillar carries the highest weight, establishing that policy foundations are the prerequisite for worthiness. It measures the existence of national AI laws, ethical frameworks, and regulatory oversight capacities.
[T] Talent and Research	30	By weighting this pillar second highest, GAWI emphasizes that a worthy ecosystem relies on people. It assesses AI–related graduates, research output, and the inclusivity of researcher mobility.
[A] Adoption and Public Value	20	This pillar moves beyond mere implementation to measure benefit. Indicators include scaled government AI projects, transparency in the public sector, and citizen trust.
[R] Resources and Infrastructure	15	While essential, this pillar is weighted lowest. This signals that while compute power and infrastructure is necessary for capacity, it does not largely determine worthiness.

Weighting Philosophy: Agency Over Affluence

The weighting of the pillars, Governance (35) and Talent (30) versus Adoption (20) and Resources (15), reflects the index's core philosophy.

Governance and Talent together account for 65% of the overall score. This structure prioritizes governance and human capital over economic scale. It recognizes that while building data centers (Resources) requires vast financial capital, establishing ethical laws (Governance) and fostering education (Talent) are choices available to nations across the economic spectrum.

This approach ensures that moral leadership and educational investment outweigh sheer computational strength. Traditional indices often reward economic power; GAWI rewards how responsibly decisions are made, enabling developing nations with strong governance to score competitively against wealthier nations that may lack ethical oversight.

Indicators & Metrics

The Global AI Worthiness Index (GAWI) translates the STAR Framework into a set of observable, verifiable metrics. Unlike the high-level pillars which establish the weighting logic (as detailed in the previous chapter), this section breaks down the specific empirical variables used to calculate the scores. Each indicator is derived exclusively from public, auditable sources, ensuring that the assessment remains transparent and comparable across all 195 jurisdictions (193 UN Member States + 2 Permanent Observers).

Pillar I: Standards and Governance

Governance represents the cornerstone of AI worthiness, defining the legal and institutional scaffolding that ensures innovation aligns with public trust. This pillar moves beyond the mere existence of strategy documents to assess enforceability, oversight capacity, and international alignment.

Sub-pillars include:

- National AI Law and Ethical Frameworks: Assessing the existence, legal enforceability, and scope of national AI strategies and ethical guidelines. (Primary Sources: OECD.AI Policy Tracker; UNESCO Ethics of AI Database)
- Regulatory and Oversight Capacity: Measuring the operational authority, budget, and independence of national AI regulators or equivalent oversight institutions. (Primary Sources: Government gazettes; public budgets)
- Participation in Global Standards Bodies: Tracking active membership and contribution to technical standards bodies (ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 42, IEEE, ITU) and policy groups (OECD, UNESCO).
- Transparency and Impact Assessment Mechanisms: Verifying the mandatory presence of algorithmic impact assessments, public consultation mechanisms, and incident reporting protocols.

- Data Protection and Cross-Border Trust Frameworks: Evaluating participation in regimes that facilitate safe data flows, such as GDPR adequacy decisions, APEC CBPR, or Convention 108+.
- Multistakeholder Inclusion: Measuring the formal engagement of civil society, academia, and the private sector in the policymaking process.

Pillar II: Talent and Research

This pillar captures the "competence" dimension of worthiness. It evaluates the human and intellectual foundations of the ecosystem, focusing on the capacity to generate new knowledge and the inclusivity of the scientific community.

Sub-pillars include:

- AI-Related Graduates per Capita: The annual number of graduates in AI, computer science, and related STEM fields per million inhabitants. (Primary Sources: UNESCO UIS; OECD Education Statistics)
- Research Output and Citation Impact: The volume of AI-related publications weighted by their relative citation impact to measure quality over quantity. (Primary Sources: Scopus; OpenAlex)
- Public AI Research Funding: Government expenditure on AI-related research and development (R&D) as a percentage of GDP. (Primary Sources: OECD Main Science Indicators)
- Centers of Excellence and International Collaboration: The number of leading AI research laboratories and the density of cross-border research partnerships. (Primary Sources: CSRankings; QS Global Rankings)
- Researcher Mobility and Inclusivity: Tracking the net inflow/outflow of AI talent and the participation of under-represented groups in the research workforce. (Primary Sources: UNESCO Science Report)

Pillar III: Adoption and Public Value

Adoption measures the "contribution" of AI to society. This pillar pivots from potential to outcome, examining whether the technology is actually being used to improve governance, services, and quality of life.

Sub-pillars include:

- Scaled Government AI Projects: Evidence of AI systems deployed in critical sectors like health, education, transport, and administration. (Primary Sources: OECD GovTech reports)
- Transparency in Public-Sector AI: The availability of open data, public procurement records for AI systems, and algorithmic transparency registers. (Primary Sources: Open Data Index; GovAI)
- Measured Public Outcomes: Survey-based indicators reflecting public confidence in digital government and willingness to engage with AI services. (Primary Sources: Edelman Trust Barometer; WEF)
- Citizen Trust and Participation: Survey-based indicators of public trust in AI and digital government. Sources: Edelman Trust Barometer; WEF.
- Local Language and Inclusion Initiatives: The development of AI datasets and models for low-resource languages and marginalized communities to ensure equitable access. (Primary Sources: UNESCO Language Data Commons)

Pillar IV: Resources and Infrastructure

Infrastructure provides the physical "capability" for independent action. While heavily dependent on capital investment, this pillar focuses on the sustainable and secure scaling of these resources

Sub-pillars include:

- AI-Grade Compute Capacity: The presence of high-performance computing (HPC) clusters capable of training or fine-tuning foundation models. (Primary Sources: Top500; Green500)
- Data-Center and Cloud Infrastructure: National and hyperscale data center capacity, measured in megawatts and regional availability zones. (Primary Sources: DatacenterMap; Uptime Institute)
- Semiconductor Ecosystem: Domestic capabilities in any stage of the chip value chain, from design and fabrication to packaging. (Primary Sources: SEMI; national registries)
- Connectivity and Energy Sustainability: Broadband reliability combined with the share of renewable energy powering digital infrastructure. (Primary Sources: ITU; IEA).
- Cybersecurity and Resilience Measures: The adoption of national standards for data security, disaster recovery, and critical infrastructure protection. (Primary Sources: ITU Global Cybersecurity Index)

Inclusive Geographic Coverage

The Global AI Worthiness Index (GAWI) is designed as a universal measurement framework. Its coverage extends to 195 nations, comprising the 193 United Nations Member States and 2 Permanent Observers (Holy See and State of Palestine). This universal scope reflects GAWI's foundational principle: that the ability to govern and apply artificial intelligence responsibly is not limited to a particular region, level of income, or stage of digital maturity.

Universality as a Principle

By encompassing all countries and territories included in the dataset, the Index enables cross national comparability while upholding the principle of equity. The data shows that while capabilities differ widely, ranging from global "Builders" to "Bystanders", every jurisdiction can demonstrate worthiness through ethical governance and institutional integrity. This inclusive approach transforms GAWI from a ranking of power into a mirror of global stewardship, ensuring that emerging economies are assessed using the same methodological parameters as advanced technological powers.

Leaving No One Behind

The inclusion of all 195 nations introduces significant diversity in data availability. However, the Index utilizes a "harmonized scoring logic" and "publicly available evidence" to bridge these gaps. This prevents data scarcity from penalizing developing countries and instead highlights policy choices. By offering a comprehensive map of the world's AI landscape, GAWI serves as a global public good, enabling international organizations to identify where capacity-building is most needed to prevent a deepening digital divide.

The AI Worthiness Landscape 2025

The year 2025 marks a decisive stage in the diffusion of artificial intelligence as a general-purpose technology. What began as a frontier of research has matured into a structural layer of global interdependence, linking nations through flows of data, algorithms, and computational infrastructure. As AI integrates into public administration, health, and industry, it has become a determinant of both national competitiveness and collective resilience. This evolving context establishes the empirical rationale for a metric that privileges stewardship over scale.

A World Divided: The Three Tiers of AI Maturity

Across the world, the integration of AI is transforming national strategies, yet the landscape remains defined by significant structural asymmetries. The Global AI Worthiness Index categorizes this landscape not merely by economic income, but by the maturity of AI ecosystems. The 2025 analysis reveals a distinct hierarchy among the 195 nations:

- A small group of nations (10%) that serve as global leaders, shaping norms and infrastructure.
- A larger cohort of active adopters (23%) and regional innovators who are translating capabilities into application.
- The substantial majority of nations (67%) that are still in the early stages of building foundational capabilities and responsible governance structures.

This distribution underscores a profound global maturity gap. While "Builders" dominate advanced research and foundational model development, the "Deployers" represent a critical bridge-nations poised to advance through targeted investment in human capital and governance. Meanwhile, the high concentration of nations in the "Bystander" tier highlights the urgent need for capacity-building to prevent a deepening digital divide.

From Abstract Principles to Concrete Governance

The policy debate has evolved alongside these technological shifts. The international community has moved from abstract discussions about the promise and perils of AI toward concrete efforts to articulate principles and measure progress. The OECD AI Principles (2019) created a foundation for responsible innovation, while UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence (2021) provided a universal normative framework. Building upon these, United Nations "Pact for the Future" (2024) has elevated AI governance to a matter of global public interest, calling for transparency and interoperability.

GAWI uses OECD, UNESCO, and UN commitments as widely recognized reference anchors, not as exclusive authorities. The Index remains compatible with diverse regional and national approaches to AI governance, and it focuses on observable mechanisms and outcomes rather than formal adherence to any single framework.

Despite this growing consensus, the physical and intellectual resources of AI, talent, compute, and data, remain unevenly distributed. The index data confirms that global influence is currently concentrated in a small group of nations. This asymmetry risks reproducing historical inequalities, where digital dependence limits both economic opportunity and normative influence.

The Role of GAWI in the New Landscape

The Global AI Worthiness Index is situated within this landscape as an instrument for transparency and inclusion. By shifting the emphasis from technological readiness to ethical worthiness, it complements existing measurements of innovation capacity with indicators that reveal how nations translate potential into responsibility.

GAWI provides a comparative lens for policymakers to understand where progress aligns with shared human values. It recognizes that while a nation may possess the raw capability to build AI, true worthiness is found in the "alignment between capability and responsibility". The Index thus serves not as a competitive ranking, but as a framework for accountability, encouraging states to exercise leadership through the integrity of their choices rather than the scale of their resources.

Leading Countries Globally and by Region

Top 20 Globally

	Country	Score
1	United States of America	90.25
2	France	87.25
3	Singapore	87.00
4	Netherlands	86.50
5	South Korea	85.67
6	Finland	84.75
7	United Kingdom	84.25
8	China	84.17
9	Germany	83.17
10	Sweden	81.00
11	Canada	81.00
12	Ireland	80.00
13	Italy	79.25
14	Norway	79.17
15	Israel	78.08
16	Spain	77.75
17	Denmark	77.58
18	Austria	76.92
19	United Arab Emirates	75.75
20	Saudi Arabia	75.50

The Top 20 countries in the 2025 Global AI Worthiness Index are not simply "the most advanced" AI nations. They are the systems that, taken together, sit at the frontier of the Index's definition of worthiness: the alignment between responsibility and capability. This is why the Top 20 are best read as a structure in the global AI ecosystem, not just a list.

A note on "Top 20" and "Builders"

In this edition, the Top 20 countries and the Builder tier happen to overlap due to score distributions, not by methodological design.
GAWI defines Builders as countries with an overall score of 75+ and a Standards and Governance pillar score of at least 20, and the report notes there are 20 Builders in total.
So the overlap emerges because the Builder criteria, when applied to the 2025 dataset, happens to select exactly twenty countries. In a future edition, you could easily have 22 Builders or 17 Builders, and the "Top 20" would no longer equal "all Builders".

Cross pillar pattern: two forces, one tension

GAWI's weighting already tells you what "leadership" means here: Governance (35) + Talent (30) form 65% of the score, explicitly privileging agency and institutional choices over raw compute.

That design is why the Top 20 are less about who owns the biggest machines, and more about who can sustain AI systems with rules, people, and public legitimacy.

A clean way to see this is the AI Worthiness Matrix, which splits countries along two combined dimensions:

- Capability = Talent + Resources
- Responsibility = Governance and Standards + Adoption and Public Value

What the Top 20 collectively tells us

The Top 20 demonstrate that global AI leadership is currently concentrated in a small set of nations, consistent with the report's broader point about a steep maturity hierarchy.

But they also show something more interesting than concentration: there are multiple viable "routes" to worthiness. Some countries lead by balancing everything. Some lead with horsepower and need guardrails. Some lead with governance and need scale. That diversity is exactly what makes the Top 20 analytically useful, and not just reputationally flattering.

Top 10 in Africa

Africa's Top 10 reflects a strategy of targeted policy focus. These countries are not competing on raw compute scale. They compete through policy focus, execution discipline, and the ability to translate limited inputs into credible national trajectories. In this region, advantage often comes from how well the system is run, not how much infrastructure it owns.

	Country	Score
1	South Africa	65.25
2	Egypt	63.50
3	Rwanda	61.75
4	Kenya	58.75
5	Tunisia	57.00
6	Morocco	56.67
7	Nigeria	56.25
8	Ethiopia	55.25
9	Ghana	53.67
10	Mauritius	51.75

The shape of the regional distribution

The spread is meaningful. South Africa leads at 65.25, while Mauritius closes at 51.75, a gap of 13.50 points. Even among front-runners, that is a wide corridor. It signals that the continental frontier is real, but not yet consolidated.

A second signal is clustering. Kenya, Tunisia, Morocco, Nigeria, and Ethiopia sit in a narrow band around the mid-50s. When scores compress like this, rankings are often decided by specific bottlenecks: the depth of advanced skills, the ability to scale deployments across agencies, and the reliability of underlying infrastructure and data systems.

Who leads, and what that leadership implies

South Africa and Egypt lead through different structural advantages.
South Africa reflects the "broad base" model: a larger, diversified economy, stronger higher-education depth, and institutions that can support sustained programs rather than one-off initiatives. The benefit is resilience. The trade-off is that progress can look less dramatic because it is spread across a wider system.
Egypt suggests a "scale plus delivery capacity" pathway. Large talent pipelines and coordinated national programs can accelerate deployment. The strategic test is whether governance, transparency, and inclusion mechanisms scale proportionally, ensuring accountability keeps pace with implementation.

The Middle Cohort: Translating Focus into Scalable Execution

Ranks three through eight represent distinct development archetypes, not just incremental differences.

Rwanda (61.75) reads like a coordination-led builder. Its advantage is clarity: focused priorities, tight national alignment, and the ability to turn experimentation into repeatable government practice. The risk is concentration, meaning too much depends on a small number of programs, partners, or institutions.

Kenya (58.75) represents the ecosystem pathway. Private-sector dynamism and a strong innovation scene can pull adoption forward quickly. The limiting factor is often not energy, but institutional follow-through: consistent rules, procurement competence, and sustained investment in advanced research and skills.

Tunisia (57.00) and Morocco (56.67) are effectively tied, and the tie is informative. It suggests North African ecosystems are converging in capability. Their next separation is likely to come from execution quality: how well talent is retained, how research is converted into products and public services, and how consistently reforms are implemented across institutions.

Nigeria (56.25) is the scale paradox in African form. Market size and entrepreneurial momentum can drive rapid uptake, but uneven enforcement, fragmented implementation, and infrastructure reliability can dilute gains. Nigeria's next leap is less about generating ideas and more about strengthening the national machinery that makes innovation governable and scalable.

Ethiopia (55.25) signals entry into the leading cohort, but close enough to the threshold that shocks matter. Countries in this band can move up quickly with targeted investments, yet they are also sensitive to setbacks in infrastructure, talent retention, or administrative bandwidth.

The edge of the Top 10: high-potential but capacity-constrained

Ghana (53.67) and Mauritius (51.75) sit at the bottom of the leading cohort, which should be read as both achievement and warning. Countries in this position often face a simple reality: either they deepen advanced skills and implementation capability, or they get overtaken by fast improvers. Ghana is promising, but institutionally constrained: the bottleneck is not intent, but the ability to convert early momentum into sustained, system-wide capability.

Mauritius is a structural special case. Smaller states can outperform on regulatory clarity, agility, and business environment. Their constraint is scale, especially in research mass and specialist talent pools. The most credible strategy is specialization and regional partnering, not imitation of large-country models.

Regional takeaway

Africa's Top 10 does not point to one dominant route to AI leadership. It shows multiple paths, each with trade-offs: breadth, coordination, ecosystems, scale, or agility. The next phase of competition will be decided by who can strengthen delivery and oversight capacity, deepen advanced skills and research depth, and scale deployments into measurable public value that citizens can actually experience.

Top 10 in the Americas

The Americas present a sharply segmented AI landscape. At the top sit two systems with continental scale and deep research ecosystems. Below them is a tier of countries leveraging institutional discipline and targeted policy choices to remain competitive. At the bottom of the Top 10 are large markets whose potential is real, but whose scores remain compressed by uneven execution across the national system.

	Country	Score
1	United States of America	90.25
2	Canada	81.00
3	Brazil	74.25
4	Chile	66.00
5	Uruguay	63.00
6	Costa Rica	56.92
7	Colombia	55.83
8	Argentina	54.58
9	Peru	54.50
10	Mexico	52.83

A steep curve, then a plateau

The distribution is unusually steep. The United States leads at 90.25, while Mexico closes the Top 10 at 52.83, creating a gap of 37.42 points. This is not a marginal difference. It reflects a region where frontier capability is highly concentrated.

After the United States, the curve bends sharply. Canada remains firmly in the upper tier, but the drop from Canada to Brazil marks a shift from global Builder-level systems to countries operating at the upper edge of Deployer performance. From Costa Rica through Mexico, scores cluster tightly, indicating that relative position is sensitive to incremental changes rather than structural leaps.

The top two operate at a different altitude

The United States functions as the region's gravitational center. Its advantage does not come from a single pillar, but from accumulated depth across research, capital, talent concentration, infrastructure, and global norm-setting influence. In worthiness terms, leadership also brings exposure: the United States is sufficiently central that governance quality, transparency, and accountability are continuously tested at scale.

Canada follows a different path to the top. Its position reflects the combination of strong research capacity, high institutional trust, and an ecosystem capable of translating innovation into deployment across both public and private sectors. Canada illustrates that leadership in worthiness does not require maximum scale, but it does require durable institutions and a coherent policy environment.

Brazil anchors the region, but reveals the gap

Brazil (74.25) is the largest AI system in Latin America and the region's natural anchor below North America. Its size supports meaningful talent pipelines, domestic adoption, and global relevance.

The distance from the top two, however, highlights where scale alone is insufficient. The limiting factors are less about ambition than about system integration: infrastructure reliability, regulatory consistency, research intensity relative to population, and the ability to implement national programs across a complex federal structure. Brazil's position signals latent strength that has not yet fully crystallized into sustained, system-wide performance.

Small states, strong execution

Chile (66.00) and Uruguay (63.00) demonstrate a recurring regional pattern: smaller countries can remain competitive by being governable. Predictable rules, focused digital public infrastructure, and administrative coherence allow these systems to convert policy intent into operational outcomes more reliably than some larger peers.

Chile reflects a balanced profile, combining institutional capacity with steady adoption. Uruguay illustrates the coherence model more starkly, where alignment across agencies reduces friction and improves execution. In both cases, the advantage comes from manageability rather than magnitude.

A tightly contested lower half

From Costa Rica through Mexico, the lower half of the Top 10 forms a compressed band. This clustering signals competition, but also shared limitations.

Across this group:

- oversight and delivery functions are unevenly distributed across the state
- advanced research depth and talent retention vary significantly
- deployment progresses, but national scale remains difficult to sustain
- infrastructure and data systems increasingly define the ceiling

Costa Rica (56.92) stands out for credibility. Institutional stability and rule-of-law signals strengthen trust even in the absence of large-scale infrastructure or industrial depth.

Colombia (55.83), Argentina (54.58), and Peru (54.50) form a near tie, suggesting volatility. Targeted reforms in procurement, data governance, or research investment could reorder this cluster quickly.

Mexico (52.83) is the structural outlier. Given its market size and proximity to the U.S. ecosystem, higher placement might be expected. Its score suggests that the binding constraints are not relevance or demand, but the ability to translate potential into consistent, trusted national capability.

Regional takeaway

The Americas are defined by concentration rather than continuity. North America occupies the frontier. Brazil anchors the upper tier in Latin America. Smaller, well-organized states demonstrate how execution quality can offset scale. The next regional shift will depend on whether large markets in the lower half can consolidate implementation capacity, and whether mid-tier leaders can deepen research and infrastructure without losing institutional coherence. That distinction separates temporary momentum from durable leadership.

Top 10 in Asia

Asia's Top 10 is the most internally diverse regional cohort in the Index. It spans compact city-states, industrial economies, frontier research hubs, and resource-rich countries executing fast national AI programs. What unites them is not a single development model, but the ability to assemble a workable configuration across policy, skills, deployment, and infrastructure, even when the balance between those elements varies sharply.

	Country	Score
1	Singapore	87.00
2	South Korea	85.67
3	China	84.17
4	Israel	78.08
5	United Arab Emirates	75.75
6	Saudi Arabia	75.50
7	Japan	74.50
8	India	69.33
9	Qatar	67.00
10	Malaysia	65.92

A clear summit, followed by a crowded field

At the top, Singapore leads a high-performing cluster with South Korea and China. Below them, scores step down to Israel and then compress into a competitive band stretching from the mid-70s to the mid-60s.

This distribution matters. It indicates that Asia has established frontier leaders, but also a wide second tier where relative position is sensitive to execution choices rather than structural endowment alone.

Three leaders, three distinct architectures

Singapore exemplifies a coordination-first system. Its advantage comes from institutional tightness: strategy, infrastructure investment, talent attraction, and public-sector deployment reinforce each other with minimal friction. The result is not just speed, but repeatability.

South Korea follows an industrial integration path. Its strength lies in embedding AI into advanced manufacturing and national R and D systems, anchoring digital capability in the real economy rather than standalone platforms.

China represents a mobilization-at-scale architecture. Market size, industrial capacity, and national coordination enable rapid expansion. The strategic question is whether oversight and trust-building mechanisms scale with deployment intensity, especially where cross-border confidence and transparency are concerned.

Israel as an innovation-dense ecosystem

Israel sits below the top three, but for a different reason than size alone. Its ecosystem concentrates exceptional research output, startup formation, and defense-linked innovation into a compact system. That density lifts overall performance, but Builder-level leadership increasingly depends on the breadth of public-sector deployment and infrastructure depth, not innovation concentration alone.

Gulf states and accelerated AI development

The United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, and Qatar reflect a shared regional pattern: rapid capability accumulation through investment, partnerships, and state-led programs. These systems can move quickly because capital and authority are aligned.
The limiting factor is temporal. Research cultures, advanced skills pipelines, and institutional learning curves cannot be compressed at the same pace as infrastructure procurement. Over time, differentiation within this group will depend less on spending and more on how effectively talent and research ecosystems mature.

Japan and India illustrate the "scale paradox" in opposite ways

Japan's position below some Gulf states is less about technical weakness than conversion speed. Deep industrial expertise and research capacity exist, but longer institutional decision cycles and complex cross-sector coordination requirements can moderate the pace of visible adoption. Progress depends on translating industrial strength into faster, system-wide implementation.

India illustrates a different scale challenge. Talent volume and digital public infrastructure enable large-scale deployment, but Builder-level advancement requires greater depth in advanced research, infrastructure reliability, and oversight capacity that can operate consistently at population scale. Here, momentum is not the constraint. Synchronization is.

Malaysia: a controlled ascent

Malaysia closes the Top 10 as a pragmatic upper-middle performer. Systems at this level often possess sufficient administrative capability and ecosystem depth to progress steadily, but remain close enough to key thresholds that targeted policy choices matter disproportionately. Specialization, trusted cross-border integration, and visible public-sector outcomes are the most credible levers upward.

Regional takeaway

Asia's Top 10 demonstrates that AI worthiness is not produced by one formula. Coordination, industrial integration, mobilization, innovation density, and investment-driven acceleration all work under different conditions. What separates sustained leaders from fast movers is not ambition, but the ability to reduce internal imbalance as systems scale. In Asia, imbalance is the quiet constraint on long-term leadership.

Top 10 in Europe

Europe's Top 10 is the most institutionally aligned regional cohort in the Index. Scores are uniformly high, dispersion is limited, and the underlying pattern is consistent: Europe competes through rule-making capacity, research systems, and public administration strength rather than sheer market scale. Under a worthiness lens, responsibility is not layered on top of innovation. It is embedded in how systems are designed and operated.

	Country	Score
1	France	87.25
2	Netherlands	86.50
3	Finland	84.75
4	United Kingdom	84.25
5	Germany	83.17
6	Sweden	81.00
7	Ireland	80.00
8	Italy	79.25
9	Norway	79.17
10	Spain	77.75

A narrow corridor shaped by execution margins

France leads at 87.25 and Spain closes at 77.75, producing a total spread of 9.50 points. This narrow range is a defining feature. Unlike regions where leadership is separated by scale or resource asymmetry, Europe's Top 10 resembles a field of closely matched systems.

In this context, rank is driven by marginal differences. Variations in research intensity, infrastructure modernization, and the pace of implementation can reorder positions quickly. Small reforms have outsized effects when underlying capability is already high.

France and the Netherlands: two routes to the summit

France (87.25) leads through a coordinated national model. Its strength lies in the ability to align public strategy, research institutions, regulatory engagement, and state-led adoption into a single trajectory. The result is predictability: policy intent, funding, and deployment tend to reinforce rather than compete with one another.

The Netherlands (86.50) follows a connectivity-driven path. While smaller in scale, it benefits from strong institutional quality, cross-border integration, and operational governance that translates policy into enforceable practice. In a region where interoperability and trust are economic assets, this alignment delivers disproportionate returns.

Nordic systems: trust as infrastructure

Finland (84.75), Sweden (81.00), and Norway (79.17) reflect a Nordic configuration where social trust, public administration quality, and long-term investment in skills reinforce each other. These systems perform strongly on responsibility indicators because transparency and inclusion are part of everyday public service delivery, not special initiatives.

The constraint is not design quality but mass. Smaller populations and markets limit how quickly infrastructure depth and research scale can expand. Their advantage is reliability: what is deployed is typically trusted, replicable, and resilient.

United Kingdom and Germany: capability at scale, different frictions

The United Kingdom (84.25) sits near the top tier due to a combination of frontier research, global standards engagement, and a dense institutional ecosystem. Its distinguishing feature is international orientation. The persistent challenge is consistency: translating excellence at the frontier into evenly distributed public-sector outcomes.

Germany (83.17) anchors Europe's industrial transformation pathway. Its strength lies in embedding AI into manufacturing, engineering, and complex production systems. The trade-off is tempo. Industrial integration delivers durable gains, but it often progresses more slowly than digitally native deployment models. In a ranking sensitive to visible implementation and agility, that pace can matter.

Ireland: leverage through integration

Ireland (80.00) benefits from deep integration into global technology ecosystems, including substantial multinational presence. Its score reflects the interaction between regulatory environment, market access, and externally-sourced capability.

The strategic question is depth. Sustained advancement depends on anchoring capability locally, especially through research investment and public-sector use, rather than relying primarily on externally sourced systems. As the ecosystem expands, maintaining governance credibility becomes as important as attracting capital.

Regional takeaway

Europe's Top 10 reinforces a central insight of the Index. In this region, legitimacy, accountability, and cross-border trust function as strategic infrastructure, not constraints.

The next phase of competition will be determined by who can expand advanced capability, particularly in research and infrastructure, while preserving the institutional qualities that make European systems trusted at scale. Europe's challenge is not rule-setting. It is accelerating delivery within a rules-rich environment.

Top 10 in Oceania

Oceania's Top 10 shows the sharpest internal divide in the Index. Two countries operate with mature national systems capable of sustained AI development. Below them is a steep drop, followed by a group of small island states whose scores are shaped primarily by structural conditions rather than strategic choice. The result is a region defined by asymmetry, not gradual progression.

	Country	Score
1	Australia	73.58
2	New Zealand	67.83
3	Fiji	24.75
4	Papua New Guinea	21.17
5	Kiribati	21.00
6	Vanuatu	20.67
7	Tonga	17.92
8	Tuvalu	14.58
9	Samoa	13.25
10	Marshall Islands	12.50

A two-tier distribution

Australia leads at 73.58, with New Zealand close behind at 67.83. The next score, Fiji at 24.75, marks a drop of more than 43 points from second to third place. This is not a gradual decline. It indicates that, at present, AI worthiness in Oceania is concentrated in two fully formed national systems.

For the rest of the region, the limiting factors are structural. Population size, geographic dispersion, connectivity costs, and administrative scale shape what is currently feasible, regardless of policy intent.

Australia and New Zealand: regional anchors

Australia (73.58) and New Zealand (67.83) represent the only systems in this group that can credibly sustain the full stack: standards and governance capacity, research and advanced talent pipelines, and the infrastructure base needed for broad deployment.

Even between them, the gap of 5.75 points is meaningful. It typically reflects differences in scale: market size, research volume, and infrastructure depth. New Zealand often compensates through institutional coherence and public sector execution, but it has less sheer mass to deploy.

Fiji as the regional hinge

Fiji (24.75) occupies a pivotal position. It sits well above the remaining island states, suggesting a role as an administrative, connectivity, and coordination node for the Pacific, yet it remains far below the two regional anchors.

Countries in this hinge position often offer the highest return on targeted investment. Improvements in government digital services, workforce development, and regional standards alignment can produce visible gains without requiring the resources of a continental system. Fiji represents the most plausible entry point for a second tier of regional advancement.

Pacific Island states: scale as the defining constraint

Papua New Guinea, Kiribati, Vanuatu, Tonga, Tuvalu, Samoa, and the Marshall Islands cluster between 21.17 and 12.50. This grouping reflects a common small-state profile rather than country-specific shortcomings.

- Across this group, the constraints are structural:
- very small and highly mobile specialist talent pools
- fragile infrastructure and high connectivity costs
- limited administrative bandwidth for policy design, procurement, and oversight
- dependence on external partners, which can accelerate uptake but complicate control and continuity

Regional takeaway

Oceania currently resembles a hub-and-spoke system. Australia and New Zealand function as the hubs. Fiji is the hinge. The remaining island states operate at an early stage where progress depends less on advanced research ambitions and more on foundational capabilities. The most credible gains will come from strengthening data protection basics, procurement competence, cybersecurity readiness, and regional cooperation mechanisms that allow small administrations to govern AI collectively rather than independently.

AI Worthiness in Action

This section goes beyond the numbers to illustrate the institutional dynamics that often explain why countries cluster into Builders, Deployers, and Bystanders. The goal is not to assign credit, but to show how choices, constraints, and policy architecture translate into measurable outcomes.
These case studies should be read as explanatory lenses consistent with the Index's indicators, not as claims of direct causality.

The Builder Blueprint

Case Study: France

GAWI Rank: #2 globally
GAWI Score: 87.25

France lands near the summit because it behaves like a system, not a collection of initiatives. In the European cohort, it is described as a "state capacity plus research depth" model where national strategy, research institutions, and regulatory posture reinforce each other, producing coherence across pillars rather than isolated excellence.

Why France scores where it does

GAWI defines worthiness as the alignment between capability and responsibility, and weights that thesis heavily: Governance plus Talent account for most of the score. France performs strongly precisely in those two "load-bearing" categories, while remaining credible on adoption and infrastructure.

Pillar I: Standards and Governance

France's governance advantage is not only domestic. It sits inside an EU architecture that now has a comprehensive, risk-based legal framework for AI, the EU AI Act (Regulation (EU) 2024/1689). That matters in a worthiness index because it turns "ethics talk" into enforceable obligations, supervisory structures, and shared rules across a large market.

France's national approach complements this. Its National Strategy for AI under the France 2030 plan builds on the earlier "AI for Humanity" phase, aiming to strengthen AI capability through coordinated public action. In the GAWI logic, that coordination tends to show up as higher scores on regulatory capacity, standards engagement, transparency mechanisms, and cross-border trust readiness.

A particularly "worthiness-native" detail is France's tradition of public-sector algorithm accountability work, including efforts around public algorithm registers and related transparency commitments. These are the sorts of institutional signals that raise the ceiling on trustworthy adoption later.

Pillar II: Talent and Research

France's research depth is not accidental. It is being industrialized through France 2030 programs that explicitly treat AI training and research clusters as national infrastructure. For example, INRIA describes the creation of nine AI clusters supported through France 2030 investment, with goals that include scaling high-quality training and centers of excellence.

This aligns with how GAWI conceptualizes Talent and Research: not just publication volume, but the capacity to sustain a research ecosystem and produce the next generation of practitioners, including through centers of excellence and international collaboration.

Pillar III: Adoption and Public Value

France's adoption strength tends to come from the same "state capacity" engine mentioned in the Europe analysis: when a government can coordinate funding, procurement, standards participation, and public service modernization, adoption becomes reproducible rather than anecdotal.

In GAWI terms, this is the shift from potential to outcome: scaled government projects, transparency in public-sector AI, and public trust signals. France's existing ecosystem of open government and algorithm accountability efforts makes adoption less likely to become a "black box rollout" problem and more likely to remain legible and contestable.

Pillar IV: Resources and Infrastructure

France's profile here is best understood as "strong enough to support sovereignty ambitions, but still strategic rather than dominant." Its near-top placement does not require being the biggest compute owner globally, because the index privileges coherence over brute force.

Where France is accelerating is the political economy of infrastructure: recent announcements and investment narratives increasingly frame data centers and compute as national competitiveness assets. Even if infrastructure is not the main reason France is #2, it is an important stabilizer for sustaining model development, deployment capacity, and resilience.

The "Builder Blueprint" France represents

France offers a repeatable pattern for other would-be Builders:

1. Rules that travel: anchor national action in an interoperable legal regime with enforceable obligations, like the EU AI Act.
2. Research as national infrastructure: fund and operationalize excellence through clusters and sustained programs, not one-off grants.
3. Transparency as a design choice: treat accountability mechanisms, including public algorithm registers, as part of public service legitimacy rather than as compliance theater.

The main risk to watch

France's advantage is coherence, but coherence can be stressed by two forces: speed and scale. As deployments multiply, accountability systems must keep pace so that trust does not lag behind adoption. That tension is exactly what GAWI is built to make visible: capability rises fast, but worthiness only holds if governance and public value mechanisms rise in sync.

The Deployer Dilemma

Case Study: India

GAWI Rank: #33 globally
GAWI Score: 69.33

India is the Deployer case study that best illustrates a core GAWI insight: scale is not the same thing as coherence. India has enormous talent volume and a globally distinctive Digital Public Infrastructure trajectory, yet it remains in the Deployer tier because the Index rewards balanced maturity across governance, talent depth, adoption, and infrastructure.

Why India scores where it does

In the report's Asia analysis, India is framed as a "scale paradox." Talent and adoption momentum are real, but the binding constraints are advanced research intensity per capita, infrastructure readiness, and governance and oversight capacity keeping pace with national scale deployment.

This is the Deployer dilemma in its purest form. A country can be active, ambitious, and fast, yet still fall short of Builder status when institutional capacity and compute backbone do not rise at the same speed as adoption.

Pillar I: Standards and Governance

India's governance story is dynamic rather than settled. One of the clearest real world signals is the policy recalibration noted in the Stanford HAI AI Index. India introduced a requirement related to prior approval for model launches, then revised the approach after backlash, shifting toward guidance that emphasized disclosures and self regulation while retaining concerns about bias and electoral integrity.

That pattern fits the GAWI lens. In a system deploying at national scale, governance must be both credible and operational. When governance instruments remain in flux, or unevenly enforceable, capability gains translate into more complexity, not automatically into more worthiness.

Pillar II: Talent and Research

India's talent base is large and globally visible, but the Index distinguishes between volume and depth. The report explicitly points to "advanced research intensity per capita" as a constraint that helps explain why India is not yet in the Builder tier.

This matters because Builder status is not only about producing engineers. It is about sustaining frontier research ecosystems, retaining advanced talent, and converting training capacity into consistent research impact and innovation density.

Pillar III: Adoption and Public Value

India's adoption pathway is one of its strongest strategic advantages, largely because Digital Public Infrastructure enables scaled implementation across sectors. That same strength, however, increases the bar for transparency, auditability, and public trust mechanisms. When adoption scales faster than oversight capacity, trust debt accumulates quietly, then arrives loudly.

This tension is exactly why India is such a clear Deployer example. The country is capable of large-scale deployment. The next step is ensuring that deployment is consistently accountable and legible to the public.

Pillar IV: Resources and Infrastructure

India is actively investing to close infrastructure constraints. The Stanford HAI AI Index notes the launch of the IndiaAI Mission, including significant public investment and plans to expand access to GPUs via public private partnerships, alongside broader governance and democratization goals.

In GAWI terms, this is the right direction. Infrastructure is a pacing factor for sovereign capability and for reliable scaling. But because the Index weights governance and talent heavily, compute is an enabler, not the definition of leadership.

The "Deployer Blueprint" India represents

India offers a repeatable pattern for countries that are scaling fast but have not yet crossed into Builder status:

1. Adoption at scale first: use national digital rails to move from pilots to programs, even while institutions mature.
2. Governance catches up under pressure: regulatory posture evolves through real-world deployment, political economy constraints, and public scrutiny.
3. Infrastructure as a national capability project: treat compute access as public capacity, not only private advantage, as reflected in IndiaAI's GPU access plans.

The main risk to watch

India's core risk is synchronization. If adoption and infrastructure expand faster than governance capacity and advanced research depth, the ecosystem becomes powerful but harder to steer. That is the Deployer trap. Worthiness rises when the guardrails, the talent depth, and the deployment engine accelerate together, rather than in separate waves.

The Bystander Reality

Case Study: Ghana

GAWI Rank: #68 globally
GAWI Score: 53.67

Ghana is a useful "AI Worthiness in Action" case precisely because it occupies a recognizable but non-generic position. It is a respected regional performer with a reputation for institutional stability, digital public-sector experimentation, and financial innovation. Yet at the global level, its overall score remains below the Deployer threshold, placing it in the Bystanders tier.

In Africa, Ghana ranks #9 in the Top 10. That placement signals momentum and credibility. Globally, it signals a plateau that can only be crossed through deeper institutionalization rather than additional pilots or announcements.

Why Ghana scores where it does

In the Africa Top 10 analysis, Ghana sits at the edge of the leading cohort: high potential but capacity constrained. That description matters here. Ghana is not constrained by lack of vision or early adoption. It is constrained by the difficulty of converting a strong digital reputation into durable, system-wide capability.

Ghana has often been an early mover in digital government initiatives and regulatory experimentation, particularly in areas linked to digital identity, payments, and financial services. The challenge is that early leadership does not automatically translate into the institutional depth required to sustain AI governance and research ecosystems at national scale.

Pillar I: Standards and Governance

GAWI's tier logic treats governance as a gating factor. Activity alone is not enough.

For Ghana, the strategic challenge is moving from policy presence to policy machinery. Ghana has produced strategies, frameworks, and public commitments, and it is frequently referenced as a regional example of regulatory seriousness. What remains uneven is the operational layer: cross-ministerial coordination, oversight routines, and repeatable governance practices that make AI systems auditable and accountable across government, not only within flagship initiatives.

This distinction matters because Ghana's strength has often been credibility and trust. Without operational governance depth, that reputational capital risks being stretched as AI use expands into more sensitive domains.

Pillar II: Talent and Research

The Index is explicit that Talent and Research is one of the weakest pillars globally. Ghana's position near the lower edge of Africa's Top 10 reflects a familiar tension: strong human capital foundations, but limited retention and research depth at the advanced end.

Ghana produces capable graduates and benefits from strong regional and diaspora connections. The bottleneck is not basic skills, but advanced research ecosystems that can anchor talent locally, sustain doctoral and postdoctoral pathways, and connect research to national priorities rather than export it outward.

This is where Ghana's regional leadership can be misleading. Being a top performer in West Africa does not automatically resolve the global talent ceiling that defines Builder-level systems.

Pillar III: Adoption and Public Value

Adoption and Public Value is the most difficult pillar globally, and Ghana illustrates why.

Ghana has a track record of successful digital services and fintech-enabled public infrastructure, which gives it an advantage in citizen-facing adoption. The open question is whether AI-enabled services can move beyond pilots and sector-specific programs into nationally scaled deployments with measurable outcomes and sustained public trust.

Here, the challenge is not enthusiasm. It is institutional follow-through: procurement capability, auditability, and the ability to demonstrate value consistently across agencies and regions.

Pillar IV: Resources and Infrastructure

Global performance in Resources and Infrastructure is relatively strong, and Ghana is no exception in seeing incremental improvement. But Ghana's case reinforces a core finding of the Index: infrastructure upgrades alone do not resolve governance or talent constraints.

For smaller and mid-sized administrations, infrastructure availability must be matched with the ability to manage vendors, oversee systems, and maintain continuity over time. Without that, capability accumulates without fully translating into trusted national outcomes.

The "Bystander Blueprint" Ghana represents

Ghana represents a near-threshold Bystander archetype: credible, visible, and respected, yet vulnerable to stagnation.
The pathway upward is clear but demanding:

1. Operationalize governance, so accountability is routine rather than episodic.
2. Deepen advanced research and talent retention, not just skills supply.
3. Scale public-value deployments transparently, so adoption reinforces trust rather than stretching it.

The main risk to watch

Ghana's risk is not losing regional momentum. It is stalling before reaching the next capability frontier.
As the report notes for countries at the bottom of a regional Top 10, momentum alone is not enough. Either institutional depth and research capacity consolidate, or faster improvers with narrower reputational capital but stronger execution overtake them.

GAWI 2025: Country Rankings

This section presents the full list of countries assessed in the 2025 Global AI Worthiness Index. Rankings are organized by tier to support interpretation and comparison across different stages of AI worthiness. Because small score differences can reflect indicator timing or data coverage, the recommended reading is tier first, then pillar-level strengths and constraints, rather than rank alone.

Builders

(Score ≥ 75 + S ≥ 20)

	Country	[S]	[T]	[A]	[R]	Total
1	United States of America	31.00	27.75	17.25	14.25	90.25
2	France	32.00	25.50	15.50	14.25	87.25
3	Singapore	29.50	27.00	16.25	14.25	87.00
4	Netherlands	32.25	25.25	14.75	14.25	86.50
5	South Korea	31.75	25.75	14.17	14.00	85.67
6	Finland	29.25	26.25	16.00	13.25	84.75
7	United Kingdom	29.75	25.50	15.25	13.75	84.25
8	China	29.75	26.00	14.42	14.00	84.17
9	Germany	29.75	26.42	13.00	14.00	83.17
10	Sweden	28.50	25.00	13.75	13.75	81.00
11	Canada	27.50	25.75	14.50	13.25	81.00
12	Ireland	29.75	24.00	13.25	13.00	80.00
13	Italy	33.00	21.00	11.25	14.00	79.25
14	Norway	28.50	23.17	14.75	12.75	79.17
15	Israel	25.50	25.75	13.58	13.25	78.08
16	Spain	28.00	22.00	13.75	14.00	77.75
17	Denmark	28.75	22.83	13.50	12.50	77.58
18	Austria	28.50	22.50	12.92	13.00	76.92
19	United Arab Emirates	23.75	24.25	15.25	12.50	75.75
20	Saudi Arabia	26.50	21.75	15.25	12.00	75.50

Deployers

(Score 55–74 + S ≥ 15)

	Country	[S]	[T]	[A]	[R]	Total
21	Japan	27.00	21.75	12.50	13.25	74.50
22	Brazil	26.75	20.00	15.00	12.50	74.25
23	Switzerland	23.00	25.25	12.42	13.50	74.17
24	Australia	25.00	21.83	13.75	13.00	73.58
25	Portugal	26.75	21.50	11.75	12.33	72.33
26	Estonia	24.50	20.50	15.75	11.00	71.75
27	Czechia	27.50	21.92	9.92	12.25	71.58
28	Belgium	26.75	21.25	10.58	12.75	71.33
29	Luxembourg	26.50	21.75	10.08	12.50	70.83
30	Slovenia	26.50	21.25	11.67	11.08	70.50
31	Greece	27.00	17.08	14.75	11.25	70.08
32	Poland	25.75	18.67	13.17	12.33	69.92
33	India	22.50	20.75	13.58	12.50	69.33
34	New Zealand	25.00	18.58	12.75	11.50	67.83
35	Hungary	26.00	18.50	12.50	10.25	67.25
36	Qatar	21.67	19.67	14.25	11.42	67.00
37	Chile	25.00	17.67	12.58	10.75	66.00
38	Malaysia	22.75	18.00	12.92	12.25	65.92
39	South Africa	20.75	19.67	13.83	11.00	65.25
40	Lithuania	24.25	18.50	10.92	10.75	64.42
41	Thailand	22.25	16.67	12.50	12.50	63.92
42	Egypt	23.75	18.00	11.75	10.00	63.50
43	Turkey	23.50	19.00	10.75	10.25	63.50
44	Vietnam	21.75	18.33	11.75	11.50	63.33

	Country	[S]	[T]	[A]	[R]	Total
45	Uruguay	25.75	14.00	13.17	10.08	63.00
46	Malta	24.67	14.42	11.33	11.33	61.75
47	Rwanda	23.75	17.67	11.25	9.08	61.75
48	Bahrain	21.83	14.00	12.67	12.25	60.75
49	Slovakia	20.92	19.25	9.75	10.50	60.42
50	Latvia	22.25	15.50	10.67	11.42	59.83
51	Serbia	21.00	18.00	10.50	10.25	59.75
52	Russian Federation	19.50	18.83	11.67	9.75	59.75
53	Kazakhstan	21.00	16.25	12.92	9.50	59.67
54	Iceland	20.25	16.25	11.50	11.50	59.50
55	Kenya	21.75	16.67	10.00	10.33	58.75
56	Oman	20.75	13.67	11.92	11.83	58.17
57	Tunisia	20.00	16.75	10.50	9.75	57.00
58	Costa Rica	21.50	12.17	10.67	12.58	56.92
59	Romania	20.75	14.83	10.92	10.33	56.83
60	Morocco	18.00	17.50	8.83	12.33	56.67
61	Bulgaria	20.00	16.50	8.75	11.00	56.25
62	Nigeria	18.00	16.08	12.75	9.42	56.25
63	Colombia	21.75	15.00	10.83	8.25	55.83
64	Ethiopia	22.25	14.50	10.33	8.17	55.25

Bystanders

(Score < 55)

	Country	[S]	[T]	[A]	[R]	Total
65	Uzbekistan	21.25	13.50	10.83	9.08	54.67
66	Argentina	21.25	14.00	11.50	7.83	54.58
67	Peru	24.25	11.50	11.25	7.50	54.50
68	Ghana	20.25	15.08	10.08	8.25	53.67
69	Cyprus	20.50	16.50	8.00	8.00	53.00
70	Ukraine	19.17	14.83	11.50	7.42	52.92
71	Mexico	18.75	15.25	9.08	9.75	52.83
72	Croatia	19.08	14.58	8.50	10.00	52.17
73	Indonesia	18.00	13.50	10.00	10.42	51.92
74	Mauritius	18.33	14.00	11.67	7.75	51.75
75	Philippines	19.25	13.25	9.42	9.75	51.67
76	Jordan	20.50	11.75	9.50	8.75	50.50
77	El Salvador	22.50	9.08	8.67	8.75	49.00
78	Senegal	18.00	11.17	10.08	8.75	48.00
79	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	16.25	17.00	8.00	6.75	48.00
80	Algeria	15.25	15.00	8.58	8.50	47.33
81	Dominican Republic	18.00	10.92	7.50	9.25	45.67
82	Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)	16.33	11.83	8.50	8.50	45.17
83	Uganda	16.25	11.25	8.75	8.25	44.50
84	Republic of Moldova	15.58	10.83	7.00	11.00	44.42
85	Cameroon	18.00	11.00	9.75	5.50	44.25
86	Tanzania	14.25	11.25	10.08	8.33	43.92
87	Malawi	14.83	9.58	11.75	7.25	43.42

	Country	[S]	[T]	[A]	[R]	Total
88	Bangladesh	15.00	11.75	7.83	8.75	43.33
89	Sri Lanka	16.75	12.50	6.75	7.25	43.25
90	Tajikistan	17.17	9.83	10.50	5.75	43.25
91	Armenia	12.00	16.00	6.00	9.00	43.00
92	Liechtenstein	18.92	8.58	6.92	8.33	42.75
93	Ecuador	14.50	9.75	10.75	7.50	42.50
94	Zimbabwe	18.83	9.83	6.00	7.67	42.33
95	Benin	16.92	11.58	8.00	5.83	42.33
96	Kuwait	14.08	11.50	8.42	8.00	42.00
97	Pakistan	13.58	12.83	7.00	7.75	41.17
98	Holy See	25.42	4.00	7.67	4.08	41.17
99	Azerbaijan	15.83	8.25	8.75	8.25	41.08
100	Bhutan	15.17	9.08	7.58	8.75	40.58
101	Mongolia	12.42	10.50	10.00	6.92	39.83
102	Nepal	14.92	9.25	7.50	7.33	39.00
103	Brunei Darussalam	14.50	8.75	10.00	5.75	39.00
104	Burkina Faso	12.42	11.75	8.25	6.58	39.00
105	Cabo Verde	13.67	9.83	7.25	7.50	38.25
106	Zambia	16.17	9.00	6.75	5.75	37.67
107	Trinidad and Tobago	13.00	11.67	7.33	5.50	37.50
108	Panama	13.25	9.33	5.50	9.25	37.33
109	Jamaica	16.25	9.00	6.42	5.50	37.17
110	Botswana	14.25	10.25	5.33	7.00	36.83
111	Namibia	15.00	8.50	5.17	8.08	36.75
112	Lebanon	12.25	9.92	7.00	7.00	36.17
113	Lesotho	13.00	6.33	10.25	6.50	36.08
114	Belarus	11.58	10.67	6.25	7.25	35.75

	Country	[S]	[T]	[A]	[R]	Total
115	Albania	11.33	7.42	9.33	7.58	35.67
116	Gabon	12.75	10.00	6.00	6.75	35.50
117	Gambia	10.25	11.33	7.50	6.25	35.33
118	Georgia	12.83	9.33	5.25	6.00	33.42
119	Cambodia	13.25	8.33	5.75	5.00	32.33
120	Montenegro	12.08	7.58	6.08	6.50	32.25
121	North Macedonia	10.00	10.25	5.25	6.67	32.17
122	Republic of Congo	11.83	10.42	4.00	5.83	32.08
123	Chad	12.00	9.50	6.50	3.92	31.92
124	Kyrgyzstan	12.58	6.67	4.75	7.25	31.25
125	Angola	9.75	9.75	5.50	6.25	31.25
126	Togo	7.00	8.50	9.83	5.50	30.83
127	Barbados	12.75	7.67	3.50	6.08	30.00
128	Democratic Republic of the Congo	12.25	9.08	3.33	4.83	29.50
129	Madagascar	9.25	6.50	9.67	3.83	29.25
130	Guyana	10.67	6.83	6.00	5.00	28.50
131	Djibouti	10.00	7.75	4.33	6.25	28.33
132	Mauritania	12.00	7.17	4.33	4.75	28.25
133	Iraq	9.08	9.92	4.50	4.67	28.17
134	Cuba	10.67	8.58	3.75	4.92	27.92
135	Equatorial Guinea	12.83	6.50	4.00	4.17	27.50
136	Mozambique	9.25	4.83	5.75	7.33	27.17
137	Bosnia and Herzegovina	9.50	8.42	3.33	5.83	27.08
138	Andorra	12.75	4.75	3.75	5.42	26.67
139	Guinea	7.67	9.00	4.00	5.92	26.58
140	Lao People's Democratic Republic	9.00	6.33	7.25	4.00	26.58

	Country	[S]	[T]	[A]	[R]	Total
141	Niger	9.75	8.50	4.00	4.25	26.50
142	Somalia	10.25	5.25	7.00	3.83	26.33
143	Paraguay	7.33	6.42	4.33	8.17	26.25
144	Seychelles	8.92	4.50	7.67	4.33	25.42
145	Sierra Leone	8.00	6.50	6.42	4.17	25.08
146	Fiji	7.00	6.50	4.50	6.75	24.75
147	State of Palestine	10.50	7.00	2.67	4.50	24.67
148	Bahamas	11.75	6.00	3.00	3.83	24.58
149	Saint Lucia	12.83	4.00	3.67	4.00	24.50
150	Maldives	9.42	5.58	3.83	5.50	24.33
151	Guatemala	9.00	5.50	4.17	5.25	23.92
152	Venezuela	8.58	6.83	2.75	5.33	23.50
153	Monaco	8.25	3.00	3.00	9.00	23.25
154	Libya	8.33	6.50	3.00	5.25	23.08
155	Myanmar	8.00	5.58	3.50	5.50	22.58
156	Bolivia	7.50	5.83	3.83	4.75	21.92
157	Saint Kitts and Nevis	7.25	3.00	7.33	4.00	21.58
158	Guinea-Bissau	4.50	8.00	4.50	4.50	21.50
159	Liberia	4.83	8.00	4.00	4.33	21.17
160	Papua New Guinea	6.92	4.75	5.00	4.50	21.17
161	Antigua and Barbuda	10.00	5.33	2.00	3.75	21.08
162	Kiribati	10.25	2.00	4.50	4.25	21.00
163	Vanuatu	8.83	4.50	3.33	4.00	20.67
164	Suriname	6.67	4.33	3.00	5.00	19.00
165	Timor-Leste	7.17	4.00	3.33	3.75	18.25
166	Belize	5.92	5.50	2.00	4.50	17.92
167	Tonga	4.67	5.50	3.25	4.50	17.92

	Country	[S]	[T]	[A]	[R]	Total
168	San Marino	8.50	4.58	1.00	3.75	17.83
169	Mali	6.50	5.50	3.50	2.33	17.83
170	Comoros	6.75	5.00	2.00	4.00	17.75
171	Honduras	5.50	5.25	1.33	5.00	17.08
172	Turkmenistan	4.50	6.00	3.00	3.33	16.83
173	Eswatini	1.00	6.00	7.00	2.00	16.00
174	Nicaragua	4.75	5.00	1.00	4.33	15.08
175	Grenada	4.00	5.00	2.33	3.58	14.92
176	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	3.00	7.33	2.33	2.00	14.67
177	Tuvalu	6.00	2.00	3.33	3.25	14.58
178	Eritrea	3.00	6.50	2.00	3.00	14.50
179	Haiti	4.50	3.50	2.75	3.33	14.08
180	Central African Republic	3.50	5.00	2.00	3.50	14.00
181	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	5.25	3.00	2.00	3.75	14.00
182	Samoa	4.00	2.00	3.00	4.25	13.25
183	Burundi	3.00	4.50	2.33	3.33	13.17
184	São Tomé and Príncipe	5.25	3.00	1.00	3.50	12.75
185	Sudan	3.00	4.00	2.50	3.25	12.75
186	South Sudan	3.00	4.00	2.00	3.50	12.50
187	Marshall Islands	3.00	4.00	2.00	3.50	12.50
188	Solomon Islands	4.00	2.00	2.33	3.50	11.83
189	Dominica	3.83	1.00	3.00	4.00	11.83
190	Syrian Arab Republic	5.00	3.33	1.00	2.33	11.67

	Country	[S]	[T]	[A]	[R]	Total
191	Yemen	2.00	3.00	3.33	3.25	11.58
192	Micronesia (Federated States of)	4.00	3.00	0.00	3.83	10.83
193	Palau	2.33	3.00	1.50	3.50	10.33
194	Afghanistan	1.25	4.33	1.00	3.25	9.83
195	Nauru	3.00	1.00	0.00	2.75	6.75

Accountability, Transparency, and Iteration

The Global AI Worthiness Index (GAWI) is designed as a baseline measurement and an evolving analytical framework. Because indices shape perception as well as inform policy, the credibility of GAWI depends not only on what it measures, but on how it is produced, reviewed, and updated.

GAWI is developed and published by AT Worthy Technology Inc. as an independent, non-partisan research initiative. The Index is produced without financial or political sponsorship from governments, corporations, or advocacy groups. Editorial control over methodology, data interpretation, and publication rests solely with the research team to preserve analytical independence.

Transparency by design

GAWI relies exclusively on publicly accessible data sources and documented analytical methods. Historical datasets and prior methodological versions are preserved to support reproducibility and longitudinal comparison.

Transparency is treated as a continuous obligation rather than a one-time disclosure. The intent is to allow external observers to understand not only the results, but the reasoning and assumptions that produce them.

Public feedback and low-touch revision process

GAWI incorporates public scrutiny through a lightweight and open revision mechanism hosted on the GAWI GitHub repository. This repository serves as the primary channel for factual corrections, methodological comments, and proposed refinements.

The process is intentionally simple:

- Issue submission: Governments, researchers, and institutions may submit factual corrections or methodological observations through GitHub issues.
- Review and response: The research team reviews submissions, responds publicly, and requests clarification where needed.
- Changelog documentation: Accepted corrections and clarifications are recorded in a public changelog, with references to the affected indicators or sections.
- Edition-based incorporation: Substantive methodological changes are incorporated into subsequent editions rather than retroactively altering published scores.

This approach balances openness with stability. It allows correction and learning without introducing continuous recalculation or informal lobbying into the Index.

Annual update cycle

GAWI follows an annual refresh cycle to maintain relevance while preserving comparability across editions. Each cycle includes:

- verification of existing data sources,
- review of indicator consistency and cross-pillar balance,
- limited methodological refinements where global coverage or data quality has materially improved,
- publication of a new edition with a version identifier.

Changes between editions are documented explicitly to ensure that score movements reflect real-world change rather than shifting measurement rules.

Neutrality in communication

GAWI is communicated using neutral, analytical language. Rankings and tier classifications are presented for transparency, not endorsement or critique. Commentary emphasizes learning, comparison, and improvement rather than competition.

All official visualizations, summaries, and press materials are reviewed internally to ensure accuracy, proportionality, and consistency with the Index's analytical intent.

Scope and future development

GAWI 2025 serves as an initial benchmark edition. Future editions may expand indicator coverage where reliable global data becomes available, including areas such as AI safety practices, environmental sustainability of compute infrastructure, and inclusion metrics. Any such additions will be introduced incrementally and documented in advance.

The Index is intended to remain lightweight, inspectable, and usable. Its purpose is not to define a single model of AI governance, but to provide a shared reference point for understanding how capability and responsibility evolve together across different national contexts.

About AT Worthy Technology Inc.

AT Worthy Technology Inc. is a private technology company headquartered in Virginia, United States of America. It develops measurement frameworks and tools focused on digital trust, accountability, and governance in the digital and AI era.

AT Worthy's work aims to make concepts such as transparency, fairness, and responsibility operational by translating them into measurable indicators that can support decision-making by governments, companies, and civil society organizations.

AT Worthy has developed two complementary frameworks to evaluate how digital technology and AI are used in the real world. The Digital Worthiness framework assesses businesses and organizations on how effectively they use digital tools to improve customer experience and deliver reliable, seamless service. The AI Worthiness framework evaluates how AI is deployed responsibly by both state and non state actors, with attention to governance, safeguards, transparency, and public trust.

AT Worthy is led by a team combining experience in public policy, digital governance, and technology. Its Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Khaled Koubaa, has served on the Boards of ICANN, AFRINIC, and the Internet Society, and has contributed to advisory bodies linked to the United Nations and the World Bank Group. His work is grounded in the view that sustainable digital progress depends not only on capacity, but also on measurable integrity and trustworthy governance.

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Data Requests & Research Collaboration
Researchers and institutions seeking access to GAWI datasets, methodology documentation, or partnership opportunities in AI governance are invited to reach out to:
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GAWI 2025 is published by AT Worthy Technology Inc.