

Access Index™ Rankings by Country

Access Index™ Rankings for People, Business and Nations									
Country	Access Index Rank	Access Opportunities Index™			Country	Access Index Rank	Access Opportunities Index™		
		People Rank	Business Rank	Nations Rank			People Rank	Business Rank	Nations Rank
Hong Kong	1	12	12	8	Turkey	39	42	45	60
Singapore	2	19	3	20	Poland	40	36	38	32
Denmark	3	7	15	19	Mauritius	41	47	49	41
Switzerland	4	6	9	13	Uruguay	42	48	68	52
Netherlands	5	2	2	12	Argentina	43	51	64	40
Finland	6	4	5	5	Jordan	44	44	42	58
Germany	7	17	1	9	Mexico	45	41	39	39
Sweden	8	3	4	2	Russia	46	53	40	42
United Kingdom	9	5	10	3	Brazil	47	52	41	44
France	10	18	16	11	El Salvador	48	50	60	61
Belgium	11	10	7	10	Jamaica	49	39	53	54
United States	12	9	8	14	Panama	50	49	62	48
Canada	13	15	18	6	Bulgaria	51	40	59	50
Austria	14	11	11	4	China	52	45	22	33
Norway	15	13	35	7	Ukraine	53	54	44	65
New Zealand	16	14	26	27	Romania	54	46	55	45
Iceland	17	1	21	15	Trinidad & Tobago	55	38	47	37
Australia	18	16	27	21	Sri Lanka	56	59	57	70
Japan	19	21	17	17	Costa Rica	57	37	43	49
Israel	20	20	19	55	Egypt	58	60	58	51
Taiwan	21	n/a	13	28	India	59	64	37	56
South Korea	22	28	6	24	Indonesia	60	69	51	63
Ireland	23	8	14	1	Colombia	61	58	56	64
Portugal	24	29	46	22	Venezuela	62	61	73	62
Spain	25	23	23	18	Dominican Republic	63	56	71	47
Estonia	26	25	24	25	Peru	64	62	61	57
Greece	27	27	50	29	Philippines	65	57	52	59
Italy	28	26	32	16	Bolivia	66	70	67	73
Slovak Republic	29	35	31	38	Zimbabwe	67	74	69	75
Czech Republic	30	22	25	30	Paraguay	68	68	74	69
Slovenia	31	24	36	26	Honduras	69	67	65	74
Chile	32	30	28	36	Guatemala	70	66	75	68
Malaysia	33	33	20	31	Ecuador	71	63	72	72
Latvia	34	34	54	35	Nicaragua	72	71	70	71
Lithuania	35	32	33	34	Vietnam	73	65	48	53
Hungary	36	31	30	23	Nigeria	74	73	63	66
Thailand	37	43	34	46	Bangladesh	75	72	66	67
South Africa	38	55	29	43					

SRI's Access Index™ scored and ranked each nation based on 22 indicators of access to physical items and information in the categories of trade; transport; telecommunications; and news, media and information services. Three related versions of the Index measure the impact of Access on people, businesses and nations — each using 18–20 variables in categories including empowerment, connection, innovation, market reach, growth and competitiveness.

Why an Access Index™?

The Access Index™ developed by SRI International at FedEx's request provides insights into the power and importance of the concept of access at the national level. There are a host of studies that have quantified, ranked, and compared countries based on their level of globalization, economic freedom, competitiveness, and other factors. However, because the concept of "access" does not fit into traditional ways of thinking about how society advances, thus far few attempts have been made to quantify access or to measure its impacts comprehensively.

The Access Index™ is similar to a benchmarking exercise. Benchmarking is a powerful, analytical tool that uses a systematic aggregation of variables to assess and compare countries and regions on a certain factor, or set of factors. Benchmarking countries' level of access allows for an objective analysis of where one country stands in a competitive global environment, helps to pinpoint areas where access is strong, and identifies areas where access is limited.

The Access Index™ does not attempt to measure the competitiveness or globalization of countries. Rather, it seeks to measure the "openness" of countries – that is, the access of a country, its businesses, and its citizens to physical items and information from the outside world; as well as the access that the outside world has to a country, its businesses, and its citizens. By quantifying the level of access of nations, the Access Index™ can then be used to conduct comparisons and draw conclusions about the impact of increasing access on a nation, and the relationship between expanding access and growth, competitiveness, and well-being.