State of NWT Digital 2027

An automated benchmark of 100 public Northwest Territories websites

Rovidx Media & Consulting, Inc.

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Contents

> **Release status:** Publication draft. The automated 100-site benchmark is complete and reproducible. The planned manual accessibility sub-sample, seeded 10% rerun and independent reviews were not completed. No incomplete manual observations are used in this report.

Methodology version: 1.0
Data collection: 14-15 August 2026
Collection window (UTC): 14 August 2026 at 21:31:01.718 through 15 August 2026 at 21:15:03.075
Benchmark: 100 public homepages across five NWT regions
Source frame: 552 candidate organizations
Data completeness: 100 of 100 benchmark records had a valid total score and recorded completeness of 1.0

0.1 Disclosure

This study was commissioned and produced by **Rovidx Media & Consulting, Inc.**, an Indigenous-owned technology and consulting company based in Hay River, Northwest Territories. Rovidx provides technology consulting, digital projects and website services. That commercial interest is disclosed because the findings may create reputational value for the company.

The research is intended to provide a constructive Northern baseline. It is not a competitor ranking, a sales list, a security assessment, a WCAG certification or evidence that Rovidx is the best provider in the territory. Individual scores are not published.

1 Executive summary

The State of NWT Digital 2027 study examined how 100 Northwest Territories organizations used their public homepages to provide accessible, reliable, discoverable, secure and useful digital experiences. The benchmark included businesses, tourism operators, governments, Indigenous governments and organizations, institutions and other public-facing organizations across all five official NWT regions.

The aggregate picture is mixed but constructive. Basic public availability was strong: HTTPS worked, HTTP redirected to HTTPS and certificates were current for all 100 final benchmark sites. Most homepages also made their purpose, contact method and a next step discoverable. Search fundamentals such as titles, indexability, viewport configuration and language declarations were common.

The largest shared opportunities were in mobile interaction, loading performance, automated accessibility readiness and security-policy headers. Only 16 of 100 sites met the study's automated mobile target-size threshold. The median mobile Lighthouse performance score was 66, and median laboratory Largest Contentful Paint was 8.5 seconds. Automated axe testing detected at least one critical or serious rule on 93 of 100 sites. These are screening observations, not proof of legal non-compliance.

The internal Digital Readiness Baseline had a median of 73.51 out of 100, with an interquartile range of 68.88 to 77.93. The bootstrap 95% confidence interval for the sample median was 71.70 to 75.50. The score is intended for aggregate interpretation and is not a formal certification or public leaderboard.

1.1 Ten major findings

1. **Basic HTTPS availability was strong.** HTTPS worked on 100 of 100 sites (Wilson 95% CI 96.3%-100%), HTTP redirected to HTTPS on all 100, and all tested certificates were current.
2. **Organizations were usually easy to identify and contact.** A contact method was discoverable on 94 of 100 sites, a clear next step on 94, an observable purpose signal on 93 and a community or service-location signal on 89.
3. **Core search foundations were widely adopted, but richer discovery signals were uneven.** All 100 sites had a page title; 98 were observed as indexable; 98 had viewport configuration; 96 declared an HTML language; and 85 exposed a sitemap. Meta descriptions appeared on 57, Open Graph essentials on 46 and relevant structured data on 39.
4. **Mobile loading performance was a broad opportunity.** The median mobile Lighthouse performance score was 66; only 3 sites scored from 90 to 100, while 13 scored below 50. These are controlled lab results, not direct measurements of real user experience.
5. **Heavier pages were generally associated with weaker mobile performance.** Median mobile page weight was 3.22 MiB, and page weight had a Spearman correlation of -0.54 with Lighthouse performance. This association does not establish causation.
6. **Mobile tap targets were the weakest scored mobile signal.** Only 16 of 100 sites met the study's threshold that at least 90% of sampled primary controls measure at least 24 by 24 CSS pixels. Mobile navigation worked under the protocol on 60 sites, while 79 avoided material horizontal overflow.
7. **Automated accessibility tools found recurring barriers despite a relatively high Lighthouse median.** The median Lighthouse accessibility score was 88, but axe detected at least one critical or serious rule on 93 sites. Colour-contrast rules appeared on 67 sites and link-name rules on 63.
8. **HTTPS adoption did not automatically produce broad security-header adoption.** HSTS and X-Content-Type-Options appeared on 48 sites each, frame protection on 32, Content-Security-Policy on 15, Referrer-Policy on 15 and Permissions-Policy on 11. Missing headers are hygiene opportunities, not proof of vulnerabilities.

9. **WordPress was the most frequently detected platform.** Passive fingerprinting identified WordPress on 46 sites, Wix on 13 and Drupal on 11; 22 remained unknown. These detections are probable rather than guaranteed.
10. **Regional differences were descriptive rather than decisive.** Regional medians ranged from about 69 to 74 with overlapping interquartile ranges. The sample was regionally structured but sector-skewed: tourism and hospitality accounted for 77 of 100 sites.

1.2 What the results do not show

- They do not establish WCAG conformance or legal compliance.
- They do not establish cybersecurity strength or identify exploitable vulnerabilities.
- They do not show actual user performance because no CrUX field data was collected.
- They do not estimate the territory-wide share of organizations with websites because website discovery was not completed uniformly across the 552-record source frame.
- They do not measure every page, workflow, language version or service offered by an organization.
- They do not support publishing individual rankings.

2 About the NWT digital landscape

The study uses the official five-region structure published by the GNWT Department of Municipal and Community Affairs: Beaufort Delta, Dehcho, North Slave, Sahtu and South Slave. The sample guarantees at least ten benchmark sites in each region and then allocates remaining positions using the frozen sampling procedure.

Public websites matter as information and service channels across the NWT, but this study does not infer that community size, remoteness, governance model or organizational resources caused a technical outcome. The findings describe the tested websites under one standardized protocol.

3 Methodology

3.1 Source frame and sample

The candidate frame contains 552 organizations assembled from public sources, led by the GNWT Business Incentive Policy Registry, the Northwest Territories Tourism member directory and first-party government, municipal, Indigenous, institutional and organizational websites.

The benchmark used a reproducible stratified selection process with seed `20270814`. Two persistent failures were retested on a separate day and then replaced from the frozen reserve. One replacement matched region and sector; the other matched region but not sector because no corresponding Sahtu reserve record was available. Original evidence was archived and not scored as zero.

Region	Benchmark sites
Beaufort Delta	12
Dehcho	12
North Slave	52
Sahtu	10
South Slave	14
Total	**100**

Sector	Benchmark sites
Tourism and hospitality	77
Indigenous governments and organizations	10
Education and training	5
Government and public administration	4
Non-profit and community services	1
Professional and business services	1
Retail, food and consumer services	1
Utilities, telecommunications and infrastructure	1

The sector distribution reflects the verified website pool, not the NWT economy. Tourism directory records exposed websites much more systematically than the larger business-registry source.

3.2 Collection protocol

The canonical public homepage was the common unit of comparison. Collection used only ordinary public requests and browsing. The study did not log in, submit forms, attempt admin access, scan ports, run penetration tests, exploit vulnerabilities or bypass access controls.

Each site received:

- three randomized local Lighthouse 13.4.1 mobile runs;
- one secondary desktop Lighthouse run;
- a Playwright 1.62.1 mobile browser review at 390 by 844 pixels;
- axe-core 4.13.0 automated accessibility testing;
- passive HTTP, TLS and response-header observations;
- search, mobile and organizational-clarity observations; and
- passive CMS/platform fingerprinting.

Playwright used Chrome for Testing 151.0.7922.34. The collection ran on one machine from 14 to 15 August 2026. The median of three valid mobile Lighthouse runs was used. CrUX was not requested because no API key was available; missing field data was never converted to zero.

3.3 Digital Readiness Baseline

The internal baseline totals 100 points:

Category	Weight	Sample median	Median share of category
Performance and loading experience	25	16.50	66.0%
Automated accessibility readiness	20	15.44	77.2%
Search and technical structure	20	17.14	85.7%
Mobile usability	15	9.64	64.3%
Organizational clarity and trust	10	8.00	80.0%
Basic security and reliability hygiene	10	7.00	70.0%

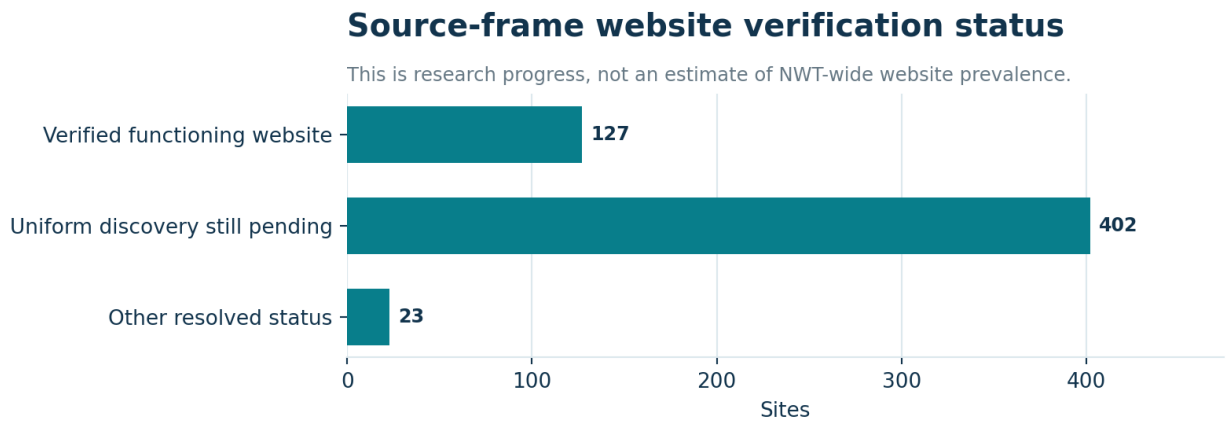
Every final record had `data_completeness=1.0`. One mobile text-legibility observation was `unable_to_determine`; it was not scored as pass, failure or zero, and the remaining applicable mobile points were normalized to the fixed category weight.

3.4 Statistical treatment

Percentages report a numerator and denominator. Wilson 95% confidence intervals are used for overall proportions where helpful. Medians include the sample size and interquartile range. The overall score median uses a seeded 10,000-resample bootstrap confidence interval. Regional and sector findings are descriptive. Sector cells with fewer than five observations are suppressed from comparative charts.

4 Website availability and source-frame status

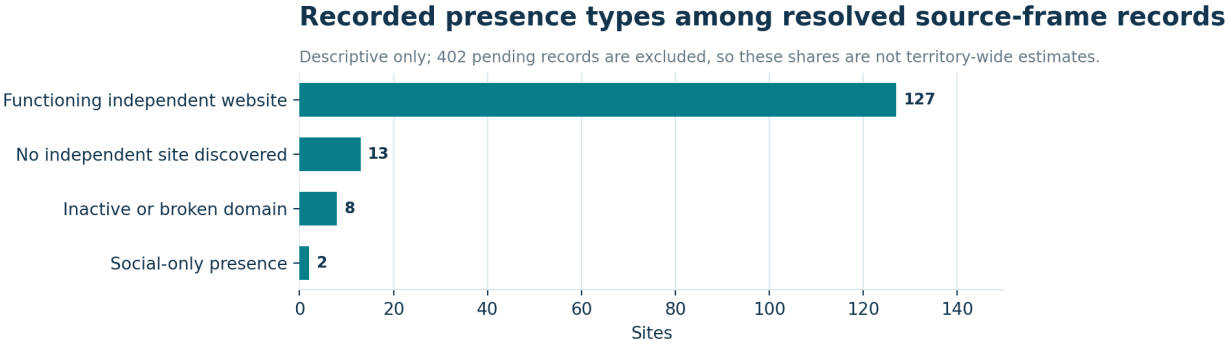
The source frame is useful for constructing the benchmark, but it cannot support a territory-wide website-presence estimate. Website discovery remained pending for 402 of 552 records, primarily from the BIP Registry. Reporting 127 verified functioning websites as 23% of the frame would therefore confuse research progress with actual prevalence.



Source: data/source-frame.csv; n=552 candidate records; frame frozen 14 August 2026.

Required chart 1: Source-frame website verification status. Underlying data: *data/chart-data/final/01-source-frame-website-verification.csv*.

Among the 150 records whose presence status was resolved, 127 had a functioning independent website, 13 had no independent site discovered, eight had an inactive or broken domain and two used a social-only presence. These counts remain descriptive because unresolved records are not missing at random.



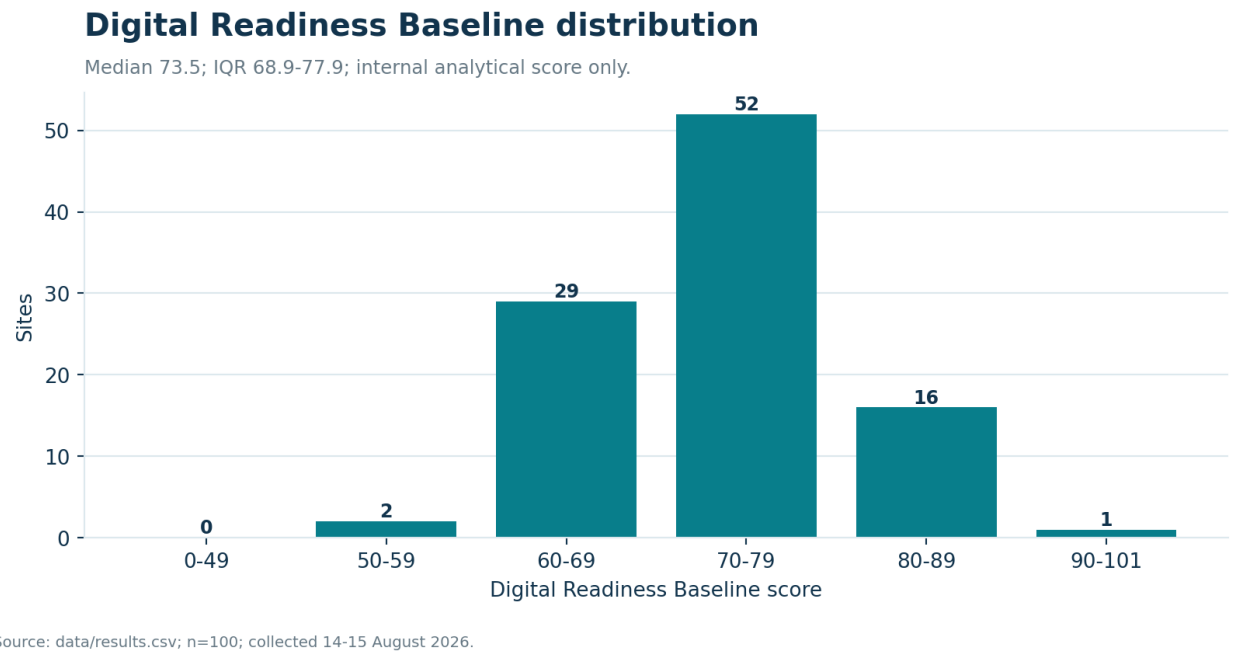
Source: data/source-frame.csv; n=150 resolved records; frame frozen 14 August 2026.

Required chart 2: Recorded presence types among resolved source-frame records. Underlying data: *data/chart-data/final/02-recorded-website-presence-status.csv*.

5 Overall Digital Readiness Baseline

All 100 final benchmark sites produced valid total scores. The median baseline was **73.51**, the middle half ranged from **68.88 to 77.93**, and scores ranged from 51.79 to 90.61. The bootstrap 95% confidence interval for the median was 71.70 to 75.50.

Search and technical structure had the highest median share of its category weight (85.7%). Mobile usability was lowest (64.3%), followed by performance (66.0%). This is an aggregate diagnostic, not an endorsement or ranking of individual organizations.



Required chart 16: Digital Readiness Baseline distribution. Underlying data: *data/chart-data/final/16-readiness-distribution.csv*.

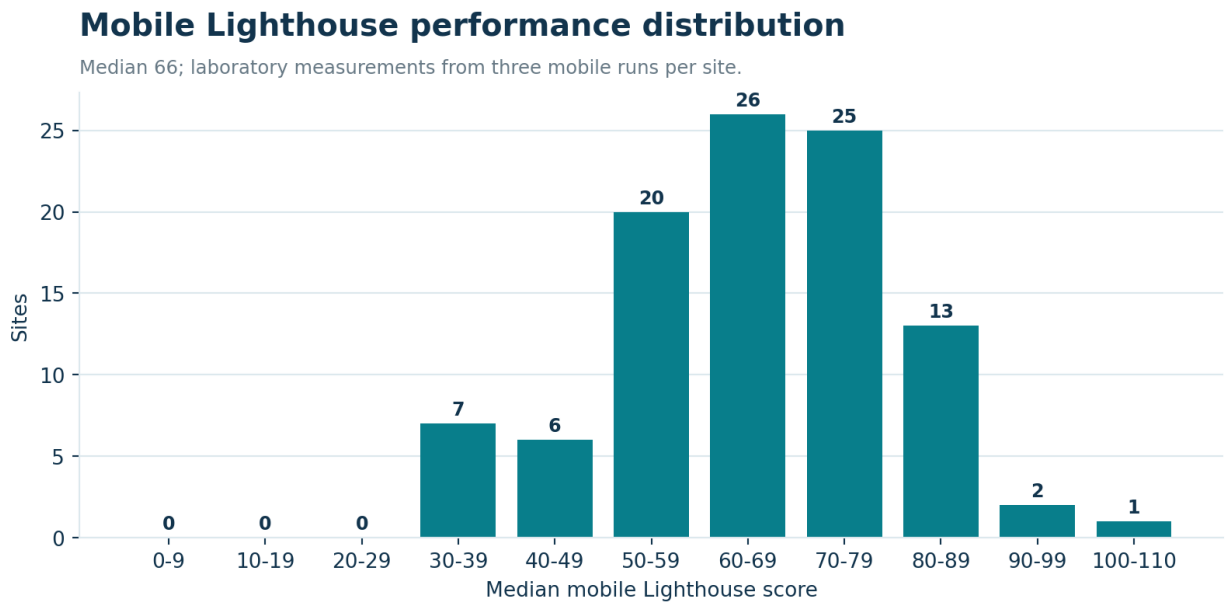
6 Performance and loading experience

6.1 Laboratory results

The median mobile Lighthouse performance score was **66** (IQR 57-74). Three sites scored 90 or higher, 84 scored from 50 through 89 and 13 scored below 50.

Median laboratory timing observations were:

Metric	Median	Interquartile range
First Contentful Paint	2.58 s	1.97-3.32 s
Largest Contentful Paint	8.47 s	5.31-13.80 s
Speed Index	4.11 s	2.79-6.78 s
Total Blocking Time	29 ms	10-100 ms
Cumulative Layout Shift	0.011	0.000-0.096

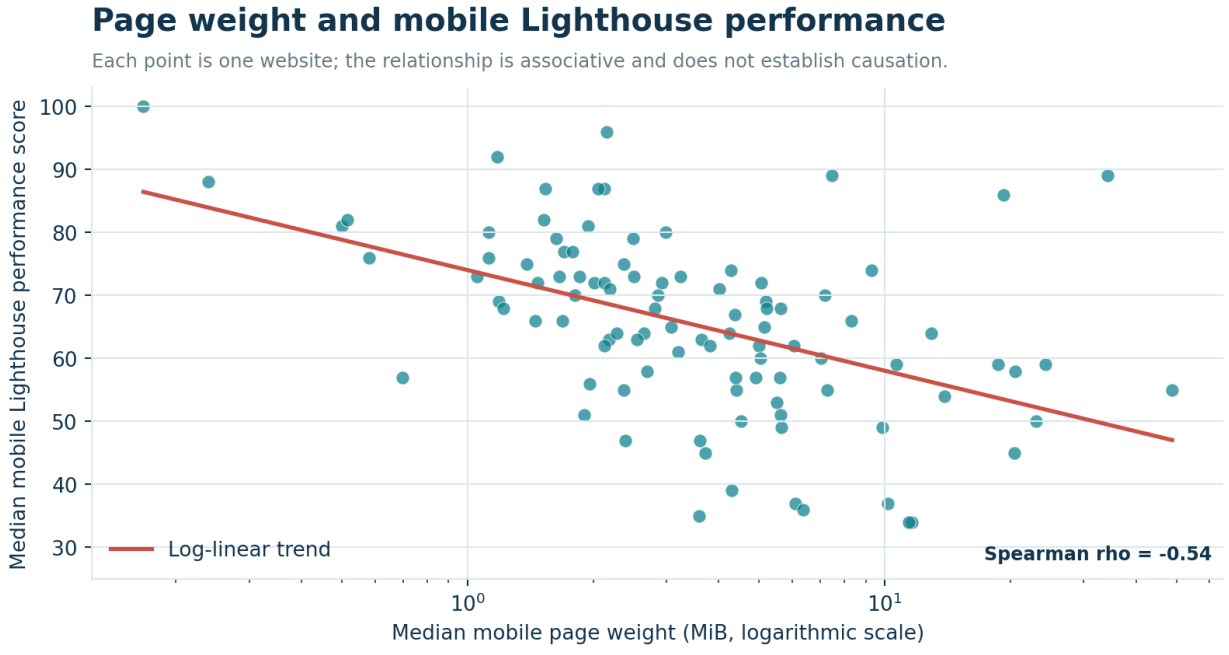


Source: data/results.csv; n=100; collected 14-15 August 2026.

Required chart 3: Mobile Lighthouse performance distribution. Underlying data: *data/chart-data/final/03-mobile-performance-distribution.csv*.

6.2 Page weight

Median mobile page weight was **3.22 MiB** (IQR 1.93-5.63 MiB). Page weight and Lighthouse performance had a Spearman association of **-0.54**. The relationship is consistent with page weight being an important practical consideration, but it does not prove that page weight alone caused any site's performance result.



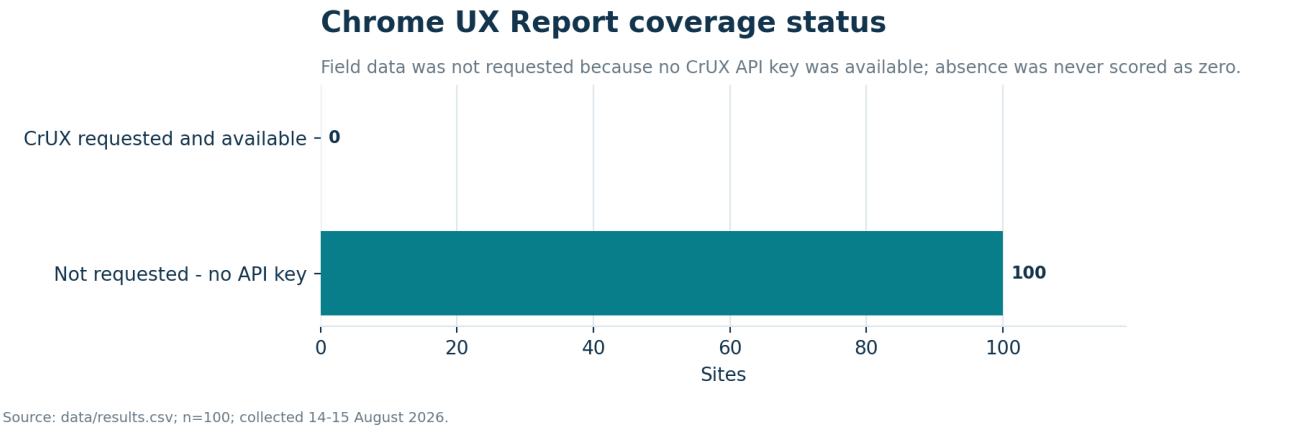
Source: preserved Lighthouse evidence; n=100; collected 14-15 August 2026.

Required chart 17: Relationship between page weight and performance. Underlying data:

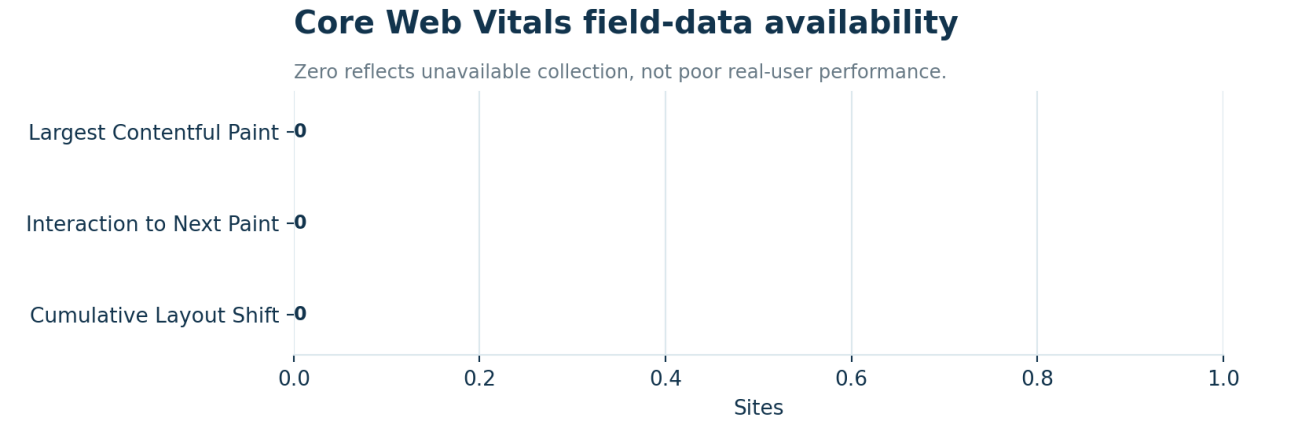
data/chart-data/final/17-page-weight-performance.csv.

6.3 Field-data limitation

The Chrome UX Report API was not requested because no API key was available. No field metric was scored as zero, and the report does not characterize lab Lighthouse measurements as actual user experience.



Required chart 6: Chrome UX Report coverage status. Underlying data: *data/chart-data/final/06-crux-coverage-status.csv*.

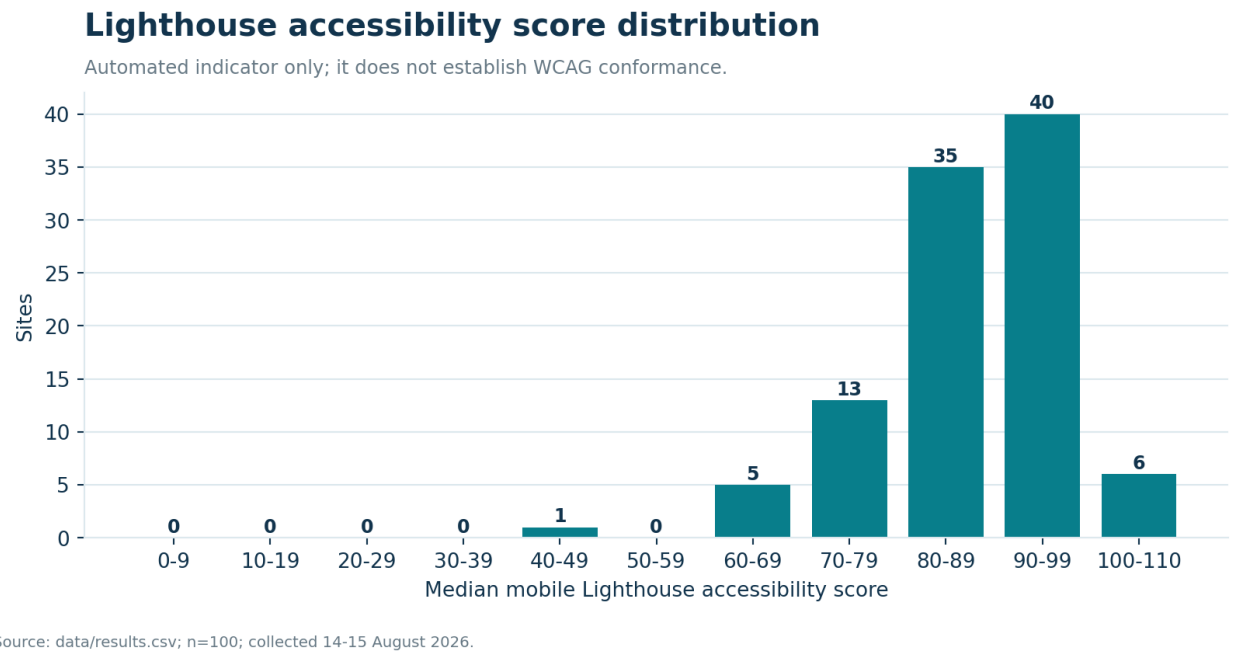


Required chart 7: Core Web Vitals field-data availability. Underlying data: *data/chart-data/final/07-crux-metric-availability.csv*.

7 Accessibility readiness

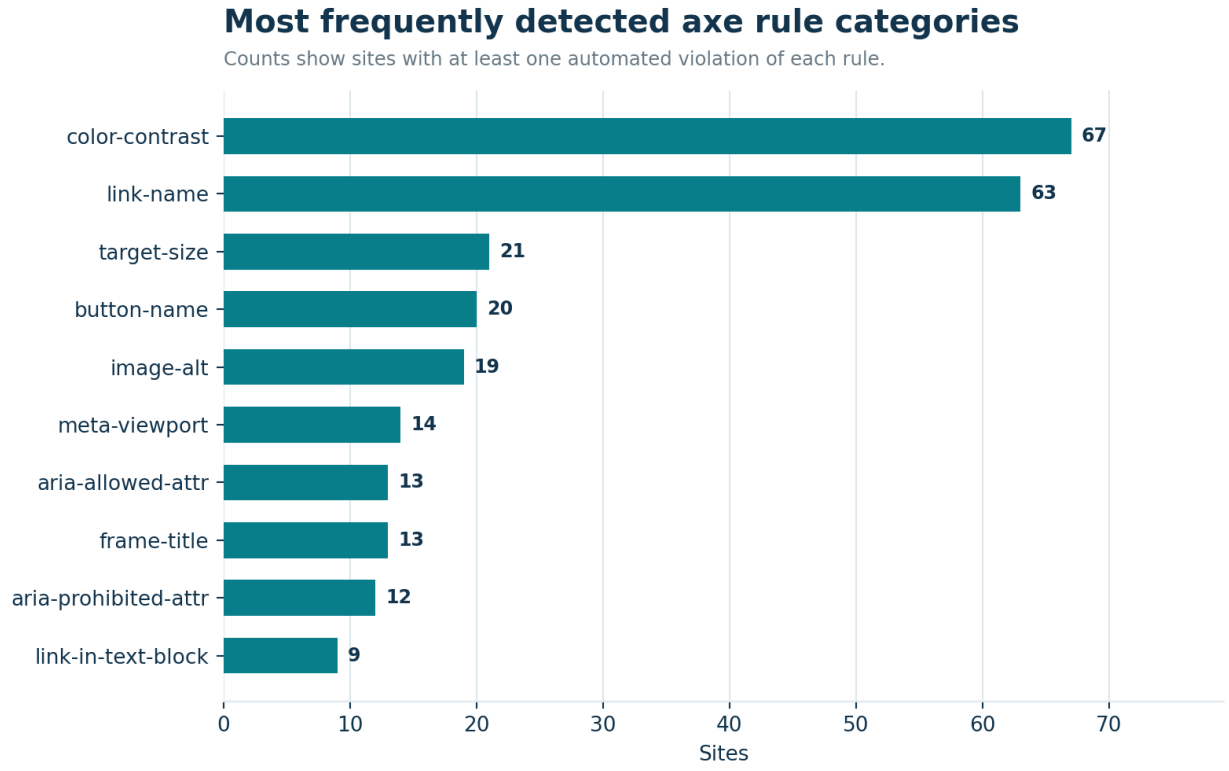
The median Lighthouse accessibility score was **88** (IQR 82-93). Axe found no automated violations on seven sites, but detected at least one critical or serious rule on **93 of 100**. Critical rules appeared on 44 sites and serious rules on 91.

The most common automated rule categories were colour contrast on 67 sites and link names on 63. Target-size rules appeared on 21, button names on 20 and image alternatives on 19. Repeated nodes were retained for diagnostic purposes, but scoring used distinct rules so one repeated template problem did not dominate.



Source: data/results.csv; n=100; collected 14-15 August 2026.

Required chart 4: Lighthouse accessibility score distribution. Underlying data: *data/chart-data/final/04-accessibility-score-distribution.csv*.



Source: raw browser-axe.json files; n=100; axe-core 4.13.0; collected 14-15 August 2026.

Required chart 5: Most frequently detected axe rule categories. Underlying data: *data/chart-data/final/05-common-axe-rules.csv*.

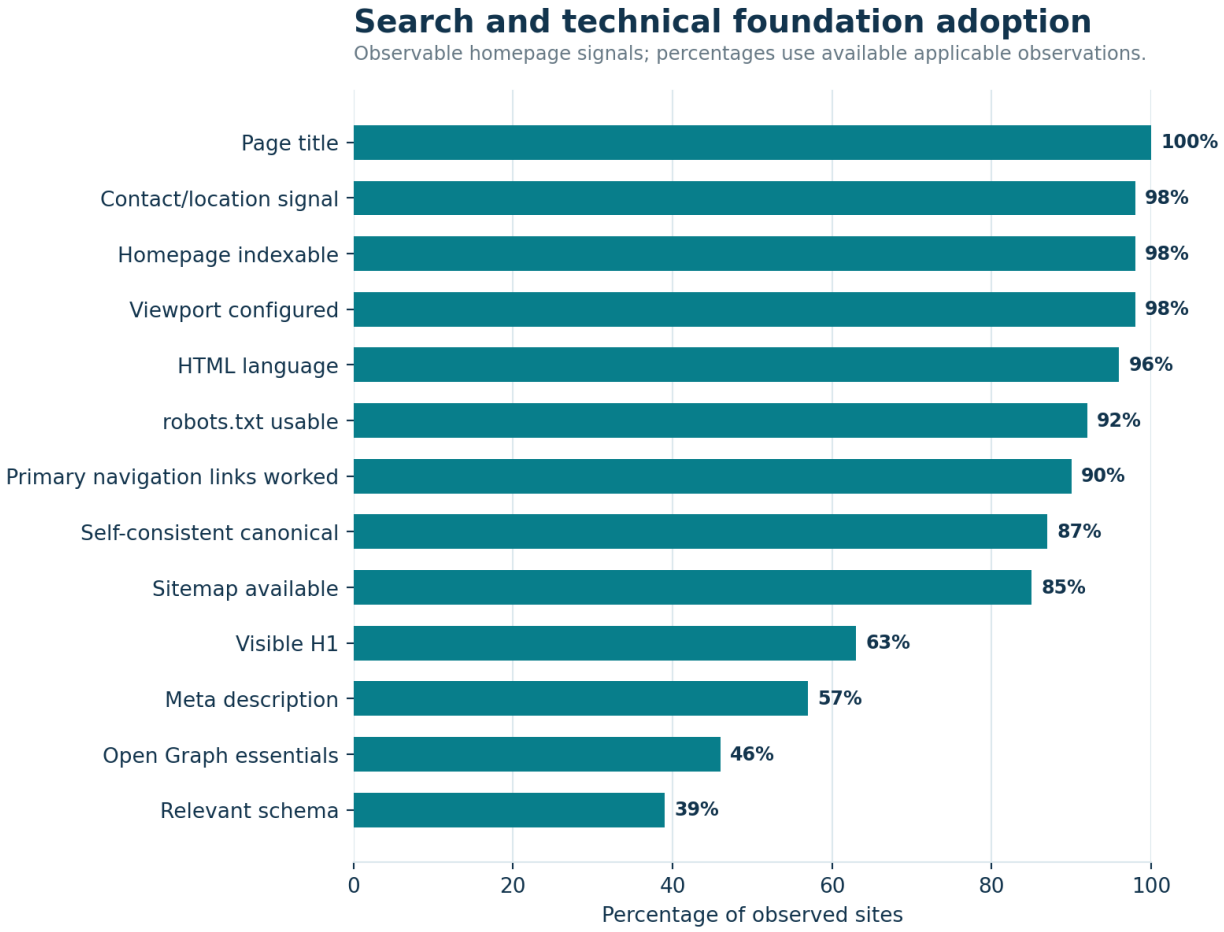
Automated tests detect only some accessibility barriers. They cannot establish that a site passes or fails WCAG 2.2. A structured 20-site manual review was selected but not completed. Five of

360 planned check rows contained partial observations; those entries were excluded from analysis because they were incomplete and not comparable. The accessibility section is therefore limited to automated readiness signals.

8 Search and discovery foundations

Basic technical signals were common: page titles appeared on 100 sites, indexability and viewport configuration on 98, contact/location signals on 98, HTML language on 96, usable robots observations on 92, functioning sampled navigation links on 90 and sitemaps on 85.

Content and enrichment signals were less consistent. Visible H1 headings appeared on 63 sites, meta descriptions on 57, Open Graph essentials on 46 and relevant structured data on 39. Where JSON-LD was used and evaluable, 56 of 57 implementations were syntactically valid.



Source: data/results.csv; n=100; collected 14-15 August 2026.

Required chart 10: Search and technical foundation adoption. Underlying data: *data/chart-data/final/10-search-foundation-adoption.csv*.

These checks measure observable foundations, not search rankings. The study did not attempt to prove that a missing item caused lower visibility, and it did not assess keyword strategy or content depth across entire sites.

9 Mobile usability

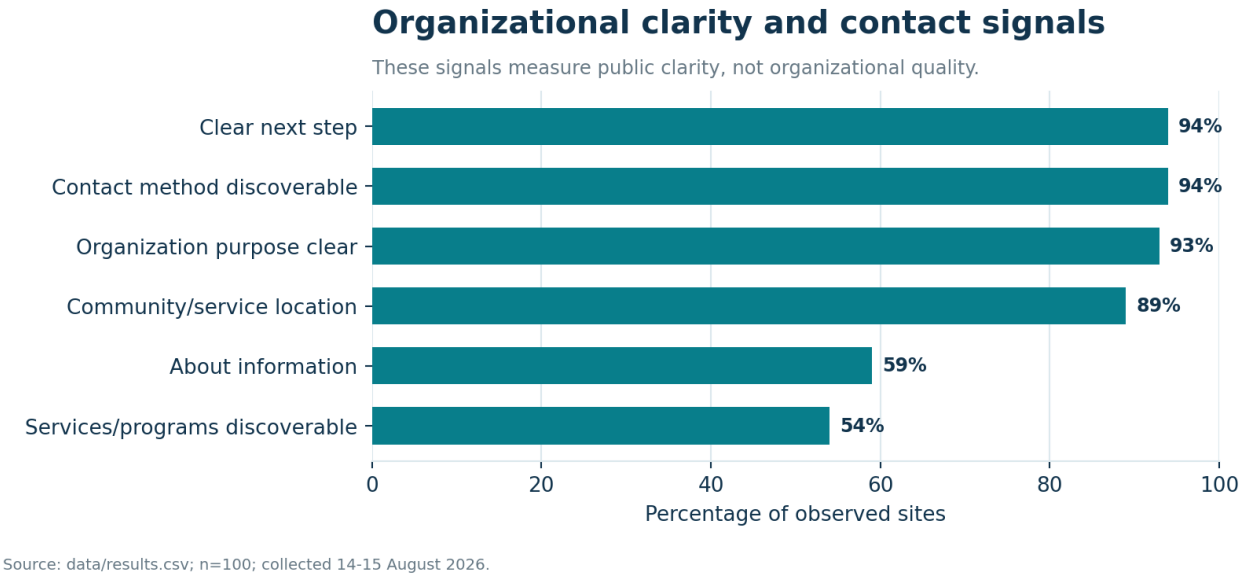
Mobile usability was the weakest median category relative to its weight. The automated protocol observed:

Observation	Result
No material horizontal overflow	79 of 100
Mobile navigation worked	60 of 100
Body text met the legibility threshold	63 of 99 observed; 1 unable to determine
Primary controls met the target threshold	16 of 100
CTA/contact path worked without submission	92 of 100
No content-blocking overlay	90 of 100
Forms appeared usable where present	27 of 41 applicable sites
No broken mobile layout	79 of 100

Target size should be interpreted as a standardized screening threshold rather than a full manual assessment. The protocol sampled visible primary controls and did not evaluate every interaction on every page.

10 Organizational clarity and trust

The sample performed strongly on several practical communication signals. Contact methods and clear next steps were each observed on 94 sites; purpose signals on 93; and community or service-location signals on 89. About information appeared on 59 and services, programs or products were detected on 54. Privacy information was discoverable under the locked homepage protocol on 31.



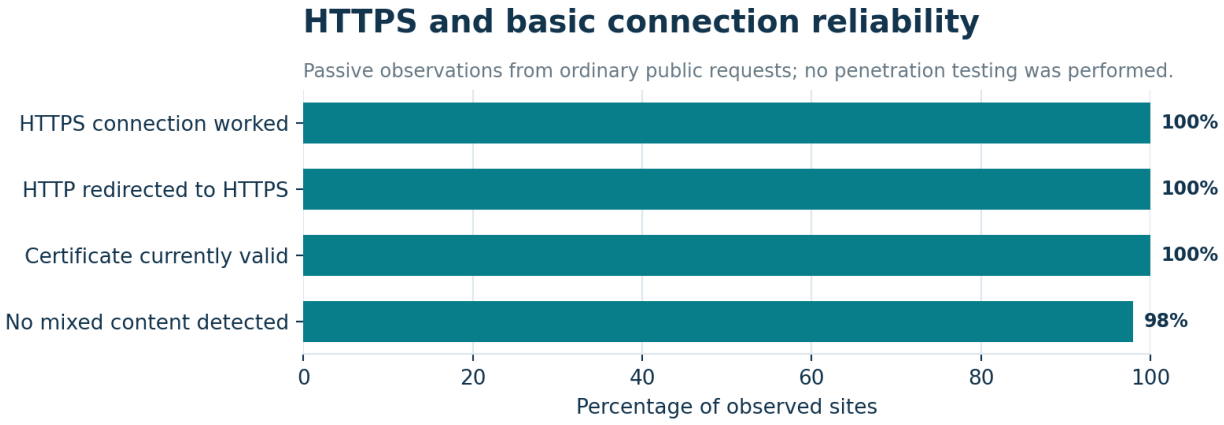
Required chart 13: Organizational clarity and contact signals. Underlying data: *data/chart-data/final/13-contact-information-availability.csv*.

These results measure public clarity, not organizational quality, legitimacy or service effectiveness. A signal may exist deeper in a site without being detected by the homepage-centred protocol.

11 Basic security and reliability hygiene

11.1 HTTPS and connection reliability

The strongest result in the benchmark was basic HTTPS availability. All 100 final sites connected over HTTPS, redirected from HTTP to HTTPS and presented a currently valid certificate. Two sites produced a mixed-content observation; 98 did not.

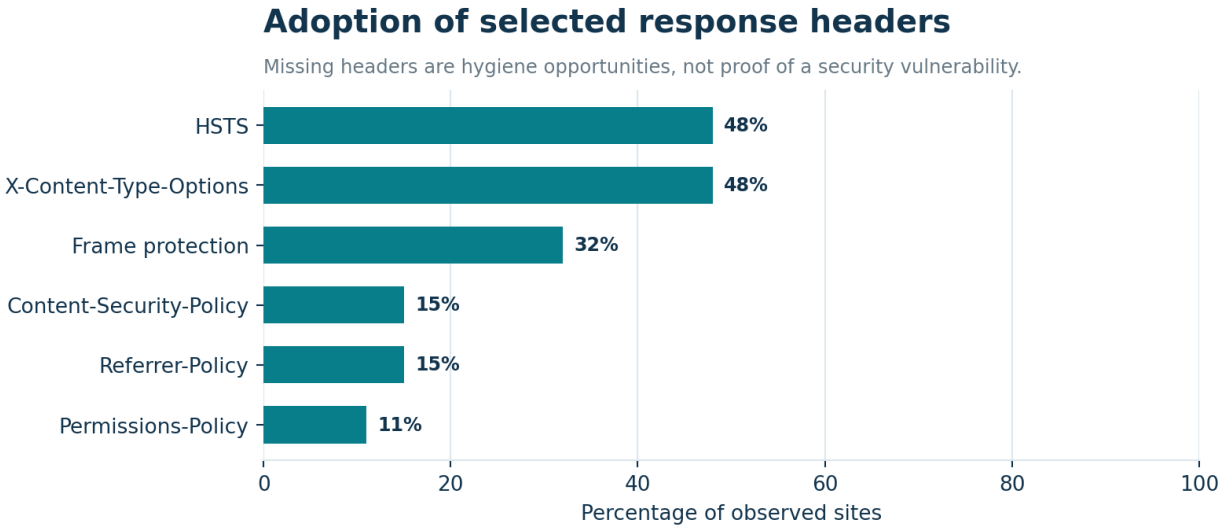


Source: data/results.csv; n=100; collected 14-15 August 2026.

Required chart 8: HTTPS and basic connection reliability. Underlying data: *data/chart-data/final/08-https-adoption.csv*.

11.2 Response headers

Header adoption was much less consistent. HSTS and X-Content-Type-Options appeared on 48 sites each, frame protection on 32, Content-Security-Policy on 15, Referrer-Policy on 15 and Permissions-Policy on 11.



Source: data/results.csv; n=100; collected 14-15 August 2026.

Required chart 9: Adoption of selected response headers. Underlying data: *data/chart-data/final/09-security-header-adoption.csv*.

This is intentionally described as security and reliability hygiene. Missing headers do not demonstrate that a website is insecure, exploitable or poorly managed. The study performed no penetra-

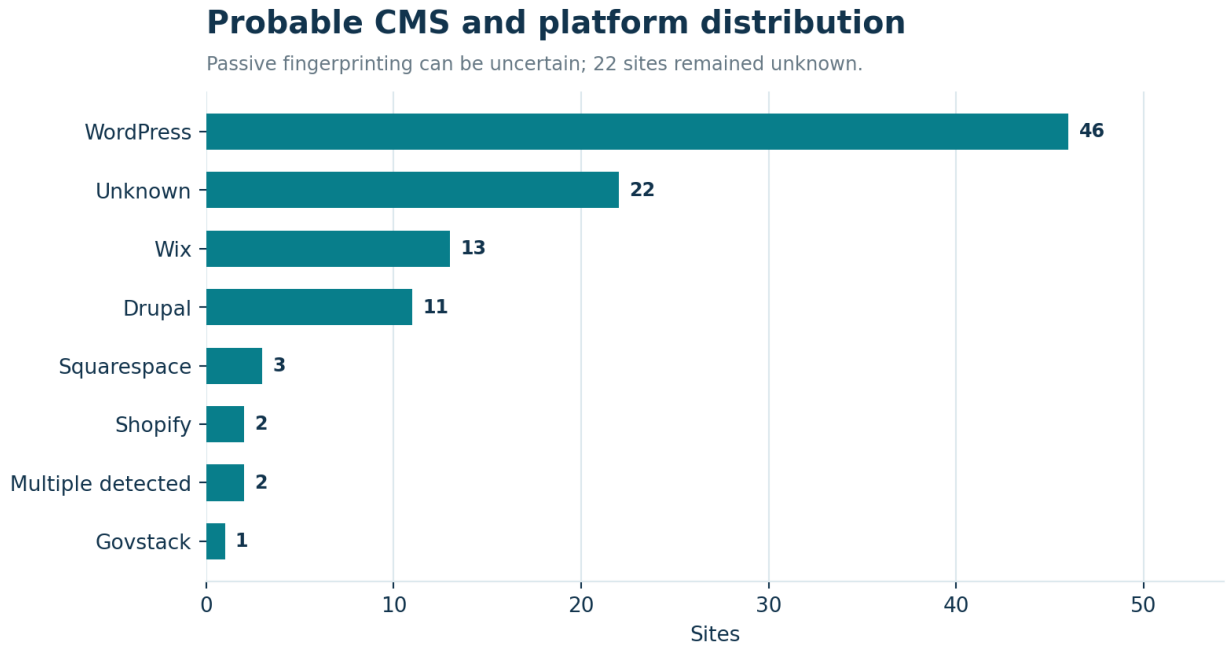
tion test, active security scan or vulnerability assessment.

12 Platforms and analytics

12.1 CMS and platform observations

Passive fingerprinting identified the following probable platforms:

Platform	Sites
WordPress	46
Unknown	22
Wix	13
Drupal	11
Squarespace	3
Multiple detected	2
Shopify	2
Govstack	1



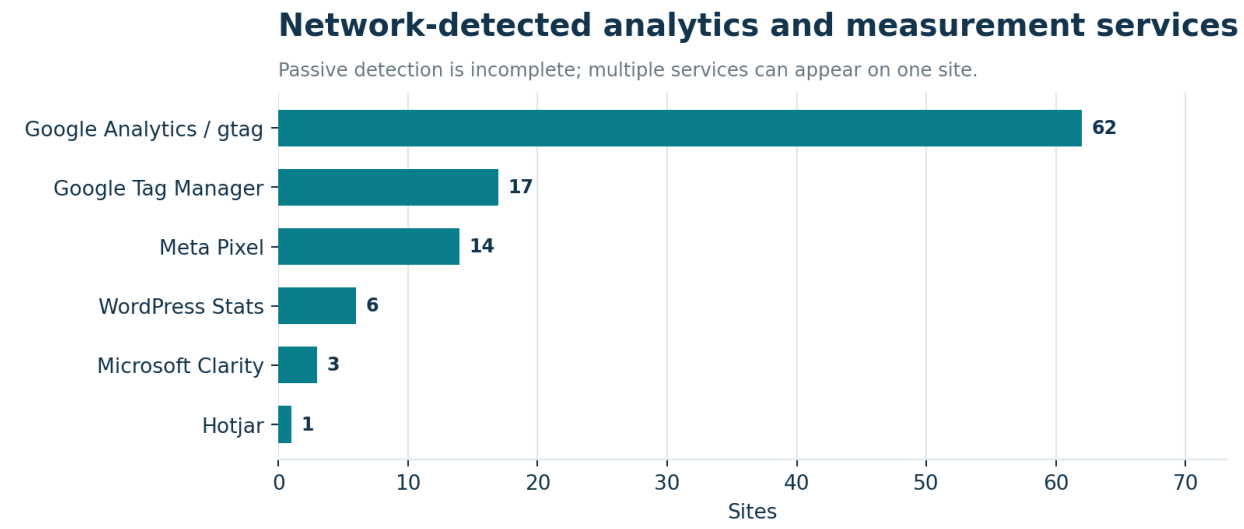
Source: data/results.csv and browser evidence; n=100; collected 14-15 August 2026.

Required chart 11: Probable CMS and platform distribution. Underlying data: *data/chart-data/final/11-platform-distribution.csv*.

Platform-level performance patterns were explored only where at least five sites shared a category. They are directional and heavily confounded by design, hosting, content, plugins and implementation decisions. The report does not treat a platform as the cause of an outcome.

12.2 Analytics and measurement tools

At least one recognized analytics or measurement request was passively detected on **68 of 100** sites. Google Analytics or gtag appeared on 62, Google Tag Manager on 17, Meta Pixel on 14, WordPress Stats on six, Microsoft Clarity on three and Hotjar on one. Multiple tools can appear on the same site.



Source: Lighthouse network request evidence; n=100; collected 14-15 August 2026.

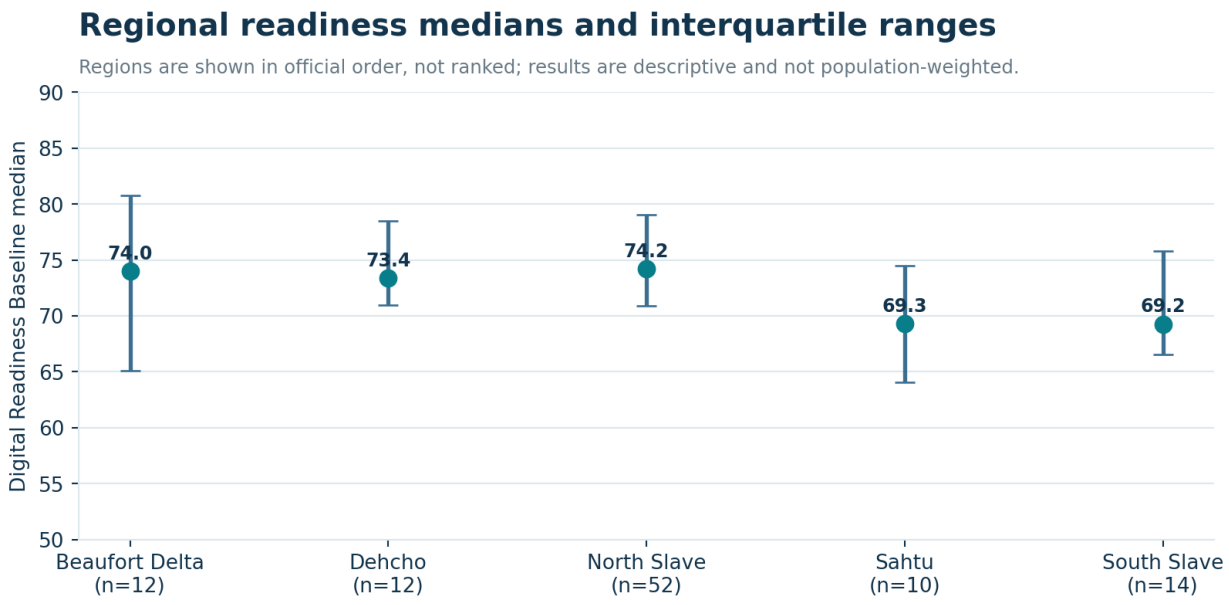
Required chart 12: Network-detected analytics and measurement services. Underlying data: *data/chart-data/final/12-analytics-tool-adoption.csv*.

Network detection is incomplete. Consent choices, deferred loading, blockers, server-side analytics and unfamiliar tools can prevent detection, so absence means “not detected by this protocol,” not “not used.”

13 Regional and sector perspectives

Regional medians ranged from 69.3 to 74.2, and interquartile ranges overlapped. The sample sizes are modest outside North Slave, and the results are not weighted to population or organization counts.

Region	n	Median	IQR
Beaufort Delta	12	74.0	65.1-80.8
Dehcho	12	73.4	71.0-78.5
North Slave	52	74.2	70.9-79.0
Sahtu	10	69.3	64.0-74.5
South Slave	14	69.2	66.5-75.8

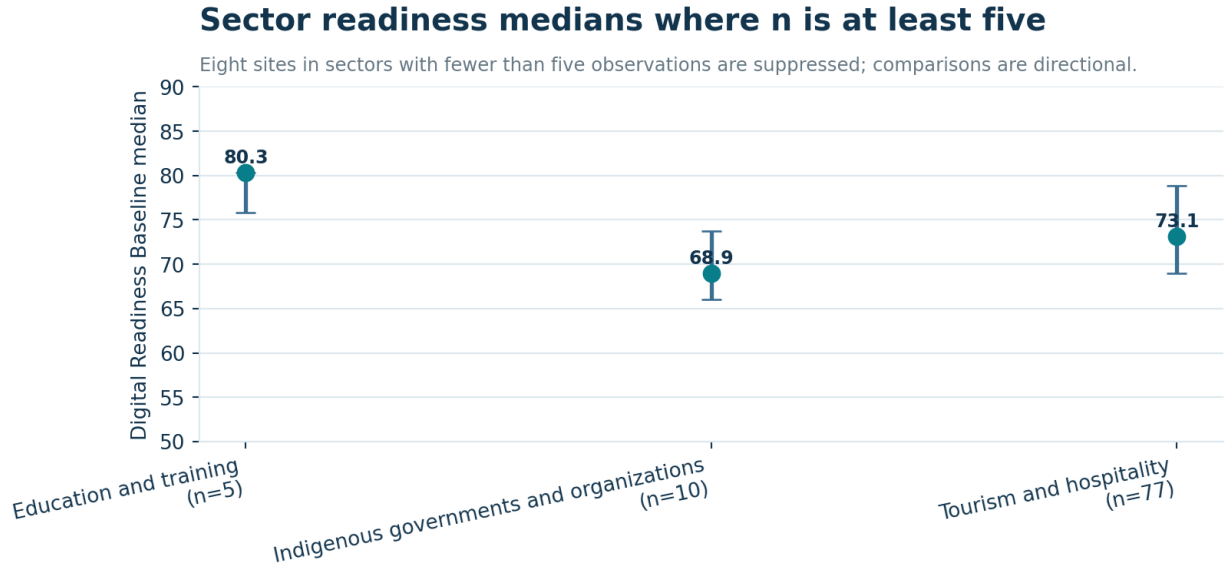


Source: data/results.csv; n=100; collected 14-15 August 2026.

Required chart 14: Regional readiness medians and interquartile ranges. Underlying data: *data/chart-data/final/14-regional-readiness-comparison.csv*.

Only education and training, Indigenous governments and organizations, and tourism and hospitality had at least five observations. Eight sites across smaller sectors were suppressed from the comparative figure.

Sector	n	Median	IQR
Education and training	5	80.3	75.8-80.4
Indigenous governments and organizations	10	68.9	66.0-73.7
Tourism and hospitality	77	73.1	69.0-78.9



Source: data/results.csv; n=92 shown of 100; collected 14-15 August 2026.

Required chart 15: Sector readiness medians where n is at least five. Underlying data: *data/chart-data/final/15-sector-readiness-comparison.csv*.

Education's five-site median is based on a very small group, while tourism accounts for 77 sites. These differences are directional and should not be interpreted as rankings of sectors, communities or governance models.

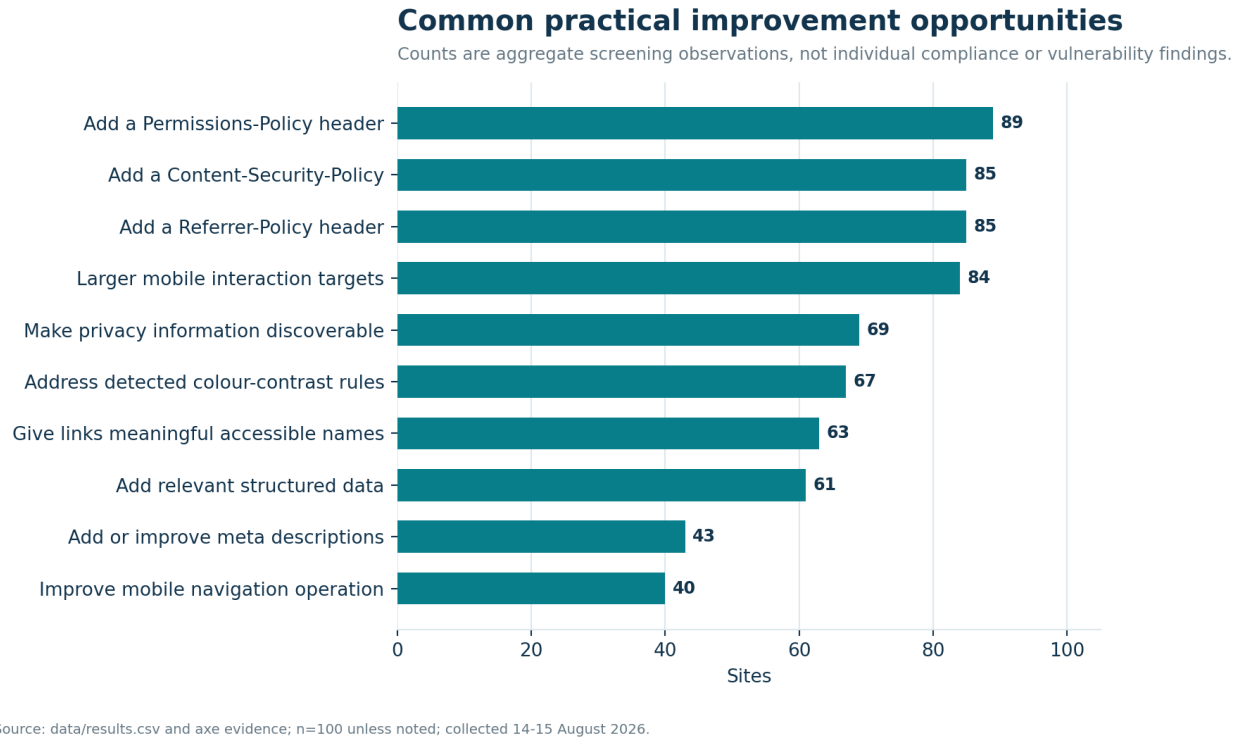
14 What NWT organizations are doing well

The strongest aggregate signals provide a useful foundation for improvement:

- HTTPS connections, redirects and valid certificates were present throughout the final benchmark.
- Most sites communicated their purpose, contact method, location and a next step.
- Titles, indexability, viewport settings and language declarations were widespread.
- Ninety sites passed the sampled primary-navigation link check.
- Ninety-two sites exposed a CTA or contact path that worked without submitting a form.
- Most sites avoided detected mixed content, major blocking overlays and material layout failure.

These strengths matter because they make incremental improvement more practical. Many organizations do not need to replace their entire website; focused maintenance can address high-impact gaps.

15 Priority opportunities for 2027-2029



Required chart 18: Common practical improvement opportunities. Underlying data: *data/chart-data/final/18-common-improvement-opportunities.csv*.

15.1 For small businesses and tourism operators

1. Compress and resize images, reduce unnecessary scripts and retest mobile performance.

2. Check tap targets, menus and text at common phone widths.
3. Add a clear page title, meta description, visible primary heading and concise service description.
4. Make contact, location, booking or inquiry paths obvious without forcing a form submission.
5. Include website maintenance in annual operations rather than treating launch as completion.

15.2 For Indigenous governments and organizations

1. Prioritize reliable access to programs, contacts, public notices and service information.
2. Test keyboard operation, focus visibility, link names and document alternatives with users.
3. Build accessibility and performance expectations into procurement and ongoing support.
4. Plan for clear language, content governance and multilingual needs where appropriate.
5. Treat digital service continuity as an operational responsibility, not only a design project.

15.3 For non-profits and training organizations

1. Use shared templates and checklists for headings, image alternatives, labels and links.
2. Make eligibility, registration, schedules, location and contact steps explicit.
3. Budget for maintenance, accessibility remediation and content ownership.
4. Prefer lighter pages that remain useful on slower or constrained connections.

15.4 For governments and institutions

1. Establish common performance, accessibility, metadata and security-header baselines.
2. Include measurable acceptance criteria in digital procurement.
3. Test high-use services with keyboard, zoom and mobile workflows before release.
4. Publish ownership and maintenance responsibilities for every public service page.
5. Reassess legacy templates and third-party components on a scheduled cycle.

15.5 For funders and economic-development organizations

1. Fund maintenance and accessibility improvements, not only new website builds.
2. Offer practical training on mobile performance, content structure and basic analytics.
3. Support shared testing capacity for small organizations.
4. Encourage plain-language procurement requirements and measurable handoff documentation.
5. Repeat the benchmark periodically to measure adoption rather than relying on anecdotes.

16 Recommended territory-wide actions

The findings support five practical, non-prescriptive actions:

1. **A shared digital-readiness checklist.** Provide a short Northern baseline covering performance, mobile interaction, accessibility screening, search foundations and passive reliability hygiene.
2. **Maintenance-focused funding.** Allow grants to cover remediation, content governance, analytics setup, accessibility work and performance optimization.
3. **Accessible procurement language.** Give organizations reusable requirements for keyboard operation, responsive behaviour, performance budgets, content ownership and documentation.
4. **Training for internal website owners.** Focus on tasks that staff can sustain: image preparation, meaningful headings and links, metadata, privacy information and maintenance planning.
5. **Repeatable measurement.** Re-run the same aggregate benchmark on a defined schedule, with a smaller annual pulse and a fuller study every two or three years.

These actions should be considered starting points. The benchmark does not measure organizational budgets, staffing, procurement constraints or community priorities and therefore cannot prescribe one solution for every organization.

17 Limitations and deviations

1. **The source frame is not a census.** It combines directories with different coverage and update practices.
2. **Website discovery was incomplete.** The 402 pending frame records prevent a territory-wide website-presence estimate.
3. **The benchmark is sector-skewed.** Tourism and hospitality represents 77 of 100 sites because that source systematically exposed websites.
4. **The homepage is the common unit.** Deeper pages and complete service workflows may differ.
5. **Lighthouse is laboratory data.** It does not describe every real device, connection or user.
6. **CrUX was unavailable.** No real-user Core Web Vitals coverage or results are reported.
7. **Automated accessibility testing is incomplete.** It does not establish WCAG conformance.
8. **The planned manual review was not completed.** Five partial observations were excluded; no manual findings are reported.
9. **Passive security observations are narrow.** No active security or vulnerability testing was performed.
10. **Technology and analytics detections are probabilistic.** Undetected or misclassified tools may remain.
11. **Regional and sector comparisons are descriptive.** Small samples, unequal sector coverage and unmeasured confounders limit interpretation.
12. **A seeded 10% audit rerun was not completed.** The pilot was rerun after collector fixes, but full-sample variance was not assessed.
13. **Independent review is pending.** The draft has not yet been reviewed by the planned performance, accessibility, Northern business, cultural-framing and technical reviewers.
14. **No individual rankings are published.** Aggregate reporting is intentional and reduces the risk of unfairly stigmatizing organizations.

18 Quality assurance

- The frozen sample and result file each contain 100 matching record IDs.
- All 100 final records have three valid mobile performance runs and three valid mobile accessibility runs.
- All 100 have a valid total and recorded data completeness of 1.0.
- Workspace validation passed.
- All 824 entries in the raw-evidence SHA-256 manifest verified successfully.
- Two persistent first-sample failures were archived, retested on a separate day, excluded with evidence and replaced through the reserve process.
- One collection record is labelled partial because an initial desktop Lighthouse attempt timed out; its retry succeeded and all scored mobile evidence is complete.
- The automated analysis is reproducible from scripts and preserved raw evidence.
- Chart values are generated from saved chart-data CSV files.
- The incomplete manual observations are excluded.

Outstanding publication gates are the 10% rerun, independent review, editorial/link review and accessibility review of the final document. Publication requires separate Rovidx approval.

19 Conclusion

The NWT website sample is not digitally uniform, but it is not accurately described as uniformly weak either. Most tested organizations had reliable HTTPS access, clear contact paths and several basic search foundations. The clearest opportunities are practical: make pages lighter, make mobile controls easier to use, address recurring automated accessibility rules, improve structured discovery signals and adopt consistent maintenance and security-hygiene practices.

The value of this benchmark is not a leaderboard. It is a repeatable baseline that organizations, funders, developers and public institutions can use to prioritize achievable improvements and measure change over time.

20 About Rovidx

Rovidx Media & Consulting, Inc. is an Indigenous-owned Northern technology and consulting company based in Hay River, Northwest Territories. Rovidx works on technology consulting, digital projects, websites and related services. Rovidx commissioned and produced this research and may benefit commercially from increased visibility or demand for digital services. The methodology, limitations and aggregate evidence are disclosed to reduce that conflict, and the report does not claim that Rovidx is the territory's top provider.

Website: https://rovidx.com

21 Sources and standards

- GNWT Business Incentive Policy Registry
- Northwest Territories Tourism member directory
- GNWT Municipal and Community Affairs community list
- PageSpeed Insights API v5
- Chrome UX Report documentation
- Lighthouse project
- axe-core project
- Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.2
- MDN HTTP Observatory tests and scoring

22 Appendix: reproducibility and files

The full internal workspace retains the source frame, selected and reserve samples, exclusions, raw audit folders, checksums, scripts, data dictionary, methodology and QA log. Public-facing materials should use aggregate chart data and withhold individual scores and detailed security observations unless Rovidx approves a separate disclosure process.

The 18 chart-data files and chart catalogue are stored under `data/chart-data/final/`. The 18 rendered chart pairs are under `charts/final/`. Aggregate analysis is stored in `outputs/final/final-analysis.json` and `outputs/final/final-analysis-summary.csv`.