

The Little Data Book on Information and Communication Technology

17

Economic and social context

Sector structure

Sector efficiency and capacity

Sector performance

Access

Usage

Quality

Affordability

Trade

Applications



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**International
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2017 | THE LITTLE DATA BOOK ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY



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ISBN (paper): 978-1-4648-1028-2
ISBN (electronic): 978-1-4648-1029-9
DOI: 10.1596/978-1-4648-1028-2

Design by Communications Development Incorporated, Washington, DC.

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Acknowledgments

The Little Data Book on Information and Communication Technology 2017 is a joint publication between the World Bank and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

For the World Bank team, the work was the result of close collaboration between the staff of the Development Data Group of the Development Economics Vice Presidency and the Transport and Information Communication Technologies Global Practice. The Development Data Group team included Buyant Erdene Khaltarkhuu, Ana Florina Pirlea, William Prince, and Jomo Tariku. The Information and Communication Technologies team was represented by Kaoru Kimura. The work was carried out under the management of Haishan Fu and Pierre Guislain. Jewel McFadden, Nora Ridolfi, and Janice Tuten from World Bank Publications oversaw publication and dissemination of the book.

The ITU contribution was provided by the ICT Data and Statistics Division under the overall direction of Cosmas Zavazava, Chief, Projects and Knowledge Management Department of the Telecommunication Development Bureau. The team included Susan Teltscher (Head of Division), Fredrik Eriksson, Vanessa Gray, Esperanza Magpantay, and Ivan Vallejo. Regulatory data were provided by the Regulatory and Market Environment Division of the Telecommunication Development Bureau team, which included Sofie Maddens (Head of Division), Youlia Lozanova, and Nancy Sundberg.

The World Bank and ITU acknowledge the data provided by other sources: IMF, Netcraft, OECD, UNCTAD, UNDESA/UNPAN, UNESCO, UNPD, and UNSD.

Preface

Since the late 1990s access to information and communication technologies (ICTs) has seen tremendous growth—driven primarily by the wireless technologies and liberalization of telecommunications markets. Mobile communications have evolved from simple voice and text services to diversified innovative applications and mobile broadband Internet. In 2016, there were more than 7.3 billion mobile-cellular subscriptions worldwide. Globally, 3.5 billion people were using the Internet, of which 2.5 billion were from developing countries. Mobile-broadband subscriptions have risen constantly to reach 3.6 billion, while the number of fixed-broadband subscriptions reached more than 884 million during the same period.

The impacts of ICTs cross all sectors. Research has shown that investment in information and communication technologies is associated with such economic benefits as higher productivity, lower costs, new economic opportunities, job creation, innovation, and increased trade. ICTs also help provide better services in health and education, and strengthen social cohesion.

The Little Data Book on Information and Communication Technology 2017 illustrates the progress of this revolution for 217 economies around the world. It provides comparable statistics on the sector for 2005 and 2015 across a range of indicators, enabling readers to readily compare economies. This book includes indicators covering the economic and social context, the structure of the information and communication technology sector, sector efficiency and capacity, and sector performance related to access, usage, quality, affordability, trade, and applications. The glossary contains definitions of the terms used in the tables.

For more information and other World Bank data publications, visit our data Web site at data.worldbank.org or the Web site of the Information and Communication Technologies Department at www.worldbank.org/ict.

For more statistics on information and communication technology infrastructure, access, and usage, as well as analytical reports such as the annual *Measuring the Information Society Report*, visit ITU's Web site at www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/default.aspx and the ITU ICT Eye at www.itu.int/icteye.

Data notes

The data in this book are for 2010 and 2015 or the most recent year unless otherwise noted in the table or the glossary.

- Growth rates are proportional changes from the previous year unless otherwise noted.
- Regional aggregates include data for low- and middle-income economies only.
- Figures in italics indicate data for years or periods other than those specified.

Symbols used:

- . . indicates that data are not available or that aggregates cannot be calculated because of missing data.
- 0 or 0.0 indicates zero or small enough that the number would round to zero at the displayed number of decimal places.
- \$ indicates current U.S. dollars.

Lettered notes on some country tables can be found in the notes on page 235.

Data are shown for economies with populations greater than 30,000 or for smaller economies if they are members of the World Bank or the ITU. The term country (used interchangeably with economy) does not imply political independence or official recognition by the World Bank or the ITU but refers to any economy for which the authorities report separate social or economic statistics.

Aggregates for groups of economies are based on the World Bank's regional and income classifications, and may differ from those published by the ITU. Because of missing data, aggregates should be treated as approximations of unknown totals or average values. The aggregation method for each indicator is noted in the glossary. Sums (s) are simple totals of available data. Weighted averages (w) are calculated using the value of the denominator or, in some cases, another indicator as the weight. Median (m) calculations are based on available data and exclude economies with populations below 1 million. For more information about aggregation methods visit datahelpdesk.worldbank.org.

The cutoff date for data is June 18, 2016.

Regional tables

The country composition of regions is based on the World Bank's analytical regions and may differ from common geographic usage.

East Asia and Pacific

American Samoa; Australia; Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; China; Fiji; French Polynesia; Guam; Hong Kong SAR, China; Indonesia; Japan; Kiribati; Democratic People's Republic of Korea; Republic of Korea; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Macao SAR, China; Malaysia; Marshall Islands; Federated States of Micronesia; Mongolia; Myanmar; Nauru; New Caledonia; New Zealand; Northern Mariana Islands; Palau; Papua New Guinea; Philippines; Samoa; Singapore; Solomon Islands; Thailand; Timor-Leste; Tonga; Tuvalu; Vanuatu; Vietnam

Europe and Central Asia

Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Channel Islands, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Gibraltar, Greece, Greenland, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Isle of Man, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyz Republic, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan

Latin America and the Caribbean

Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Aruba, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Sint Maarten (Dutch part), St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Martin (French part), St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, Uruguay, República Bolivariana de Venezuela, Virgin

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