

# The Little Data Book on Information and Communication Technology

# 15

**Economic and social context**

**Sector structure**

**Sector efficiency and capacity**

**Sector performance**

**Access**

**Usage**

**Quality**

**Affordability**

**Trade**

**Applications**



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**International  
Telecommunication  
Union**

# 2015 | THE LITTLE DATA BOOK ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY



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Telecommunication  
Union**

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# Preface

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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 2015, there are more than 7 billion mobile-cellular subscriptions worldwide. Globally, 3.2 billion people are using the Internet of which 2 billion are from developing countries. Mobile-broadband subscriptions have risen constantly to reach 3 billion while the number of fixed-broadband subscriptions reach more than 790 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 2015* illustrates the progress of this revolution for 214 economies around the world. It provides comparable statistics on the sector for 2005 and 2014 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](http://data.worldbank.org) or the Web site of the Information and Communication Technologies Department at [www.worldbank.org/ict](http://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](http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Pages/default.aspx) and the ITU ICT Eye at [www.itu.int/icteye](http://www.itu.int/icteye).

# Data notes

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The data in this book are for 2005 and 2014 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 232.

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](http://datahelpdesk.worldbank.org).

The cutoff date for data is September 18, 2015.

# Regional tables

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The country composition of regions is based on the World Bank's analytical regions and may differ from common geographic usage. These regions include low- and middle-income economies only.

## **East Asia and Pacific**

American Samoa, Cambodia, China, Fiji, Indonesia, Kiribati, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Palau, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Vietnam

## **Europe and Central Asia**

Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyz Republic, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

## **Latin America and the Caribbean**

Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname

## **Middle East and North Africa**

Algeria, Djibouti, Arab Republic of Egypt, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, West Bank and Gaza, Republic of Yemen

## **South Asia**

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan,

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