

Key statistical highlights: ITU data release June 2012

Mobile cellular:

- Total **mobile-cellular subscriptions reached almost 6 billion by end 2011**, corresponding to a **global penetration of 86%**.
- **Growth was driven by developing countries**, which accounted for more than 80% of the 660 million new mobile-cellular subscriptions added in 2011.
- In 2011, **142 million mobile-cellular subscriptions were added in India**, twice as many as in the whole Africa, and more than in the Arab States, CIS and Europe together.
- By end 2011, **there were 105 countries with more mobile-cellular subscriptions than inhabitants**, including African countries such as Botswana, Gabon, Namibia, Seychelles and South Africa.
- Countries where mobile-cellular penetration increased the most in 2011 include Brazil, Costa Rica, Kazakhstan, Lao P.D.R. and Mali.

Mobile broadband:

- By end 2011, **there were more than 1 billion mobile-broadband subscriptions worldwide**.
- Mobile broadband has become the single most dynamic ICT service reaching a **40% annual subscription growth in 2011**.
- Although developing countries are catching up in terms of 3G coverage, **huge disparities remain** between mobile-broadband penetration in the developing (8%) and the developed world (51%).
- **In Africa there are less than 5 mobile-broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants**, whereas all other regions have penetration levels above 10%.
- By end 2011, there were **more mobile-broadband subscriptions than inhabitants in the Republic of Korea and Singapore**. In Japan and Sweden, active mobile-broadband penetration surpassed 90% by end 2011.
- In 2011, **144 million mobile-broadband subscriptions were added in the BRICS** (Brazil, the Russian Federation, India, China and South Africa), accounting for 45% of the world's total subscriptions added in 2011.

Fixed (wired) broadband:

- By end 2011, there were **590 million fixed (wired)-broadband subscriptions worldwide**.
- Fixed (wired) broadband growth in developed countries is slowing (5% increase in 2011), whereas **developing countries continue to experience high growth (18% in 2011)**.
- **Fixed (wired)-broadband penetration remains low in some regions**, such as Africa and the Arab States, with 0.2% and 2% respectively by end 2011.
- In 2011, **30 million fixed (wired)-broadband subscriptions were added in China, about half of the total subscriptions added worldwide**, and fixed (wired)-broadband penetration reached 12% in the country.
- **Top performers – such as France, Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway, the Republic of Korea and Switzerland** – had fixed (wired)-broadband penetrations above 35% by end 2011.
- **Countries where fixed (wired)-broadband penetration increased the most in 2011 include Bahrain, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mauritius and Uruguay**. However, among these, only Bahrain and Uruguay surpassed the 10% fixed (wired)-broadband penetration by end 2011.

Internet:

- The percentage of individuals using the Internet continues to grow worldwide and **by end 2011 2.3 billion people were online**.
- **In developing countries, the number of Internet users doubled between 2007 and 2011, but only a quarter of inhabitants in the developing world were online** by end 2011.
- **The percentage of individuals using the Internet in the developed world reached the 70% landmark** by end 2011. In Iceland, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden more than 90% of the population are online.
- By end 2011, **70% of the total households in developed countries had Internet, whereas only 20% of households in developing countries had Internet access**. Some outstanding exceptions include Lebanon and Malaysia with 62% and 61% of households with Internet respectively.
- **Total international Internet bandwidth increased seven-fold over the last five years** reaching 76'000 Gbit/s by end 2011. This equates to 34'000 bit/s per Internet user worldwide.
- **Major differences in Internet bandwidth per Internet user persist between regions**: on average, a user in Europe enjoys 25 times as much international Internet capacity as a user in Africa.