



INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

**TELECOMMUNICATION  
DEVELOPMENT BUREAU**

**Document 025-E  
10 October 2006  
Original: English**

5<sup>TH</sup> WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION/ICT INDICATORS MEETING, GENEVA, 11-13 OCTOBER 2006

---

SOURCE: MEF, ITU

TITLE: ITU data collection overview – Telecommunication/ICT statistics

---

## International Telecommunication Union

---



**5th World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Meeting**  
*Towards Harmonization of Indicators*  
*ITU Geneva, Switzerland*  
*11-13 October 2006*

---

### ITU data collection overview - Telecommunication/ICT statistics

---

**Ms. Esperanza C. Magpantay**  
Statistician  
Market, Economics and Finance Unit (MEF)  
Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT)

---

## Topic

---



- ITU's contribution to global telecom/ICT data collection and comparison
    - History
    - Data collection (benefits, challenges)
    - Telecom/ICT survey
    - WTI database (dissemination)
    - ICT Eye (storage and dissemination)
    - Publications
  - Challenges
  - Conclusion
-

## ITU Statistical Obligation: Why?



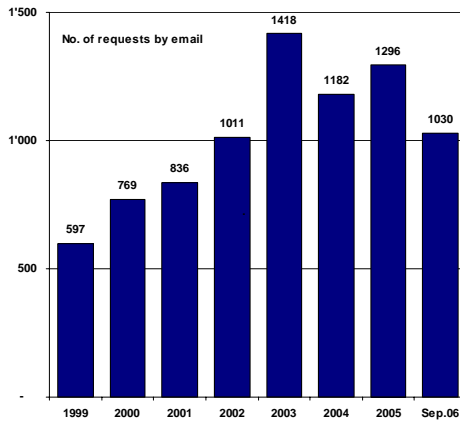
- As a United Nations agency, the ITU has an obligation to produce statistics covering its sector. This is in line with other specialized agencies that publish statistics covering their respective field of operations. This forms part of the global statistical system of the UN.
  
  - Inside ITU, Resolution No. 8 (Doha, 2006) calls on the Director of the BDT *"...to **survey countries and produce world and regional reports, in particular on...world telecommunication development.**"*
- 

## 32 years of data dissemination



- 1974: First edition of "**ITU Yearbook of Statistics**" published annually since that date
  - 1994: First edition of "**World Telecommunication Indicators (WTI)**" database available on diskette
  - 1997: World Telecommunication Indicators –**free statistics** - online
  - 2002: WTI "Win Stars" database, **online/CD-Rom**
  - July 2006: **ICT Eye** launched
  - 9 October 2006: **10<sup>th</sup> edition** of WTI database online, covering 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975-2005
-

## Demand for ITU statistics



- Refers to requests received by email
- Highest amount of requests came when a publication is released, ex. 2003
- Request are mainly made by analysts, students and the press
- Average request for 2005 is 108 per month
- Number of requests is still high despite availability of important statistics on our website

## Data collection – 1. Administrative sources



### HOW?

- Annual telecommunication Indicators questionnaire addressed to government agencies responsible for ICT/telecom (regulators or ministries) *or* operators
  - Short questionnaire (April)
  - Long questionnaire (Sept)
- Online research
- Annual reports

- More than 200 economies

- End of fiscal year data

### WHAT?

(around 100 indicators)

- Fixed telephone network
- Mobile network
- Text / Data network (internet)
- Traffic
- Tariffs (fixed, mobile, internet)
- Staff
- Quality of Service
- Revenue & Investment
- Community Access
- Broadcasting

## Data collection – 2. Survey data



- Annual ICT Household and individual questionnaire addressed to national statistical agencies
  - To collect statistics on access to and use of ICTs by household and individual
  - Collection started in 2005
  - First results published in WTDR 2006
  - Part of the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development
- Online research
- Next collection by November 2006
- Limited availability – not many countries collect data using official survey (to be discussed later)

## Benefits - Who gets what?



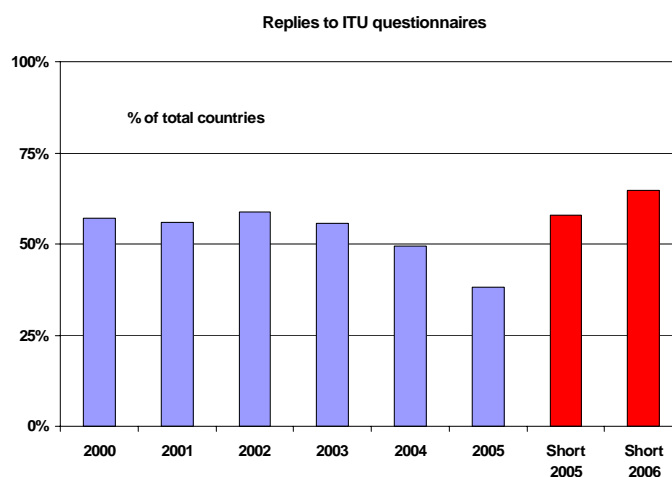
- Operators have access to national and regional telecommunication trends
  - Track market position and potential
  - International benchmarking exercises
- Regulators/ministries receive (national & regional) overview
  - Identify trends and benchmark results
  - Make informed policy decisions
  - Make regional/international comparisons
- Public is informed on trends and services
- Investors identify new market opportunities
- ITU fulfills its commitment with regard to monitoring and analysing the digital divide

## Data Collection – Challenges



- ❑ Not all countries return the questionnaires
- ❑ Not all questions get answered
- ❑ More work to aggregate operators' data since market is more and more competitive
- ❑ Operators data or annual reports sometimes not available
- ❑ Newer telecom/ICT data hard to obtain from developing countries
- ❑ Some information collected does not meet the ITU definition

## Replies to Indicators questionnaires



## Data dissemination

- ❑ Yearbook of Statistics (July 2006)
- ❑ World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators (WTI) database (9 October 2006)
- ❑ World Telecommunication/ICT Development Report (WTDR) (March 2006)
- ❑ Regional Telecommunication Indicators reports (Africa, Asia-Pacific, Americas)
- ❑ WTI tables publication (December 2005)
- ❑ Data collection best practices case studies (ex. Hong Kong and Australia)
- ❑ ICT Eye – Main ICT indicators (July 2006)
- ❑ Other Key statistics (<http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/ict/statistics/>)
- ❑ Requests through email, telephone, fax



## 1. ITU Data Reporting: World Telecom/ICT Indicators Database



- ❑ **Strengths:**
  - Based on annual questionnaire to national administrations and operators
  - Long time-series (1960 onwards), 2005
  - Online updates (3 or 4 times per year)
  - Tracks around 100 indicators for 200+ economies
  - Windows "STARS" based tool allows for easy data selection, mapping, cross-comparisons of data, etc
- ❑ **Weaknesses**
  - Based on economies NOT companies
  - Presence of missing data due to partial reporting



File Edit View Format Options Help Informa

WTI Home Query Result Map

New Query Load Query Save Query Availability

**Time Series Query** To view time series data you first define your query. Click each button below and select at least one country, series, and period. Click View Data to see the result.

Select:

Countries Series Periods View Data

The World Telecommunication Indicators Database contains time series data for the years 1950, 1965, 1970 and annually from 1975-2005 for around 80 sets of telecommunication statistics.

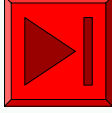
**Selected countries/groups: 214 of 214**



Alghanistan	1991
Albania	1992
Algeria	1993
American Samoa	1994
Andorra	1995
Angola	1996
Antigua and Barbuda	1997
Argentina	1998
Armenia	1999
Aruba	2000
Australia	2001
Austria	2002
Azerbaijan	2003
Bahamas	2004
Bahrain	2005

**Selected periods: 46 of 46**

**Selected series: 105 of 105**

- % automatic main lines
- % digital main lines
- % female Internet users
- % of homes with a Personal Computer
- % of homes with Internet
- % of households with a radio
- % of households with a telephone
- % of households with a television
- % of main lines in urban areas
- % of telephone faults cleared by next working day
- % residential main lines
- Average annual exchange rate per US\$
- Business telephone connection charge
- Business telephone connection charge (US\$)
- Business telephone monthly subscription
- Business telephone monthly subscription (US\$)
- Consumer price index (1995=100)
- Coverage of population (%)
- Faults per 100 main lines per year



 **2. ICT Eye** 

- ❑ The ICT "eye" is a unified system that will enable users to track the development and use of ICTs, and measure efforts to build the information society.
- ❑ The website is a one **stop-shop** for ICT indicators and statistics, regulatory and policy profiles, national tariff policies, operator information, financial and scientific institutions, and much much more...
- ❑ User-friendly interface
- ❑ Country profiles, reports, online survey



# ICT Eye Homepage



International Telecommunication Union  
Our Sites News Events Publications Site Map About Us

Français Español  
Print Version

ITU ICT Eye

ITU ICT Eye

ICT Statistics

Regulatory Information

Operators / Service Providers

Tariff Policies

Financial Institutions

Scientific Institutions

Economic Research Tools

ITU ICT EYE

REPORTS

SURVEY LOGIN

Homepage

Welcome to the ITU's ICT Eye

The ITU, the UN specialized agency for telecommunications, has its "eye" on ICTs and is recognized around the globe as the leading provider of timely and comprehensive telecommunication/ICT statistics and trends.

The ICT "eye" website is a one stop-shop for ICT information and provides telecommunication/ICT indicators and statistics, regulatory and policy profiles, national tariff policies, operator information, financial and scientific institutions, and much much more...

Please select a country from the map or select from the following list:

select a country to see its name

ICT Statistics

Regulatory Information

Operators / Service Providers

Tariff Policies

Financial Institutions

Scientific Institutions

Economic Research Tools

Thank you very much

<http://itu.int/ict>

[magpantay\[at\]itu.int](mailto:magpantay@itu.int)

