



INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION
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Telecommunication Statistics and Data Unit

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Title: Gender and ICT statistics and indicators (PowerPoint presentation)

Gender and ICT statistics and indicators

Nancy J. Hafkin
World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Meeting
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Why ICT and telecoms statistics by gender?

- To inform policy
 - **Without data, no visibility**
 - **Without visibility, no priority**
- To document the digital divide
- To inform regulation (e.g. universal service obligations)
- Particularly important in preparation for WSIS

What do we know and how to do know it

- ICTs are not gender neutral
- ICTs impact men and women differently
- Special attention to women's situation needed to achieve equity
- But, virtually no reliable data for majority of countries to make the case

Current state of ICT gender statistics

- Official ITU: only telecoms staff by sex
- Market research statistics for major markets
 - **Varying methodology**
- Officially gathered sex-disaggregated user data for some countries (Korea, Finland, Thailand, China)
- Some NGOs active

Which gender statistics needed?

- Internet access and usage by sex
- Telecommunications access by sex
- Content: major sites accessed by sex
- Main purposes of ICT usage by sex
- ICT education by sex
- ICT employment by sex
- ICT and telecoms decision makers by sex
- Gender issues in ICT policy
- Impact of ICTs on men and women

Some sector statistics emerging

- ICT statistics by gender in education
 - Use in schools in public formal education

Interesting cases - Korea

- Quarterly user surveys (5500 average)
- More than 20 categories of data disaggregated by sex (and age)
 - Rate, reasons, frequency of usage
 - Modes, primary purpose, place of access
- Indicators of women's informatization
 - Awareness, access, utilization, skills, effects
- Extending informatization indicators to 6 other Asian countries

Measuring the gender gap

- Bruce Bimber work at U of California (Santa Barbara)
- Demonstrated statistically significant gender gaps on Internet in access and use

Problems with currently available data

- Market research firms may not be unbiased
- Using data from different sources=comparing apples and oranges
- Widely varying statistics from different sources

Leading market research data sources

- Nielsen
- Netvalue
- Ipsos-Reid
- Media Metrix/Jupiter Communications
- Access Media International

Challenges in gender statistics

- Defining standards and methodology to ensure consistent and regular treatment
- Convincing government organizations to collect ICT and telecoms statistics by sex
- Lack of interest of some data sources in ICT statistics by sex (e.g. computer suppliers)
- Lack of market interest in many LDCs
- Male bias in online surveys

Some current statistics- Internet usage by sex

United States, Canada, Thailand	51-52%
Denmark, Sweden, South Korea, Finland	45-48%
Spain, Germany, Italy	38-40%
India, Indonesia, Poland, Belarus	18-23%
Lithuania, Czech Republic, Slovakia	12%
Jordan, Qatar	6%
Most LDCs	Unknown

Observations from current data

- Median percentage female home Internet usage- 29
- Mean: 38.6% (female users as percent of all)
- Bias towards high-income, high-use countries
- Statistically significant correlation between
 - female Internet use and Gender Equality
 - Female Internet use and Human Development
 - Female Internet use and Technology Achievement

Women in IT, telecoms decision making

- not there yet as producers, except in software programming
- women absent from IT decision making
- some women ministers of communication
- no developing country women in ITU study groups or on ICANN



Conclusion



- Need to convince governments to collect sex-disaggregated ICT, telecoms statistics
- Leadership of WSIS vital