

Australia Profile (2018)

Various statistics (Latest data available: 2018)

Fixed-telephone subscriptions per 100 inhabitants	32.4924
Mobile-cellular subscriptions per 100 inhabitants	113.579
Fixed (wired)-broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants	33.7214
Mobile-broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants	136.958
Households with a computer (%)	82.4398
Households with Internet access at home (%)	86.1148
Individuals using the Internet (%)	86.545

Regulatory Authority (Latest data available: 2018)

Please provide the name of the Head of the Regulatory Authority	Ms Nerida O'Loughlin
Please provide the exact title of the Head of the Regulatory Authority.	Chair of the ACMA.
Name of the telecom/ICT regulator	Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA)

Policy Maker (Latest data available: 2018)

Please provide the name and contact details of the main Policy-Maker in charge of telecommunications/ICTs	Minister for Communications and the Arts
---	--

Level of Competition (Latest data available: 2018)

Cable modem	C*	P: 1991
Cable Television	C*	P: 1991
Data2015	C*	
Domestic fixed long distance	C*	P: 1991
Fixed Satellite Services (FSS)	C*	P: 1991
Fixed Wireless Broadband	C*	P: 1991
GMPCS (FSS/MSS)2009	M	
IMT (3G, 4G, etc.)	C*	
International Gateways	C*	P: 1991
International Fixed Long Distance	C*	P: 1991
Internet Services	C*	P: 1991
Leased Lines	C*	P: 1991
Wireless Local Loop	C*	P: 1991
Local Fixed Line Services	C*	P: 1991
Mobile	C*	P: 1991
Mobile Satellite Services (MSS)	C*	P: 1991
Paging2006	C	
VSAT	C*	P: 1991
DSL	C*	P: 1991

M: Monopoly
P: Partial competition (year when competition was introduced)
C: Full competition (year when competition was introduced)
N: N/A

Institutional Details (Latest data available: 2018)

Regulator autonomous in decision making	Yes
Who is responsible for approving the budget of the Regulator? [2010]	Legislature
Legal document creating the regulator	The ACMA was established under the Australian Communications and Media Authority Act 2005.
Sources of regulator's budget and % financed from each source	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licence fees, percentage:; • Government appropriation, percentage:; • Numbering fees, percentage:; • Spectrum fees, percentage:;
Regulator also regulates other utilities	
Reporting requirements of the regulator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual report to Sector Ministry • Other Indicate: Reports specified under legislation,
Year separate regulator created	2005

Structure Regulator (Latest data available: 2018)

Please provide the name of the Head of the Regulatory Authority	Ms Nerida O'Loughlin
Please provide the exact title of the Head of the Regulatory Authority.	Chair of the ACMA.
Regulator is a collegial body	Yes
If Yes, please provide the total number of members/commissioners (including the Head). [2013]	7
Is the Head of the Commission also responsible for day-to-day administrative matters?	Yes
What is the normal period of appointment for the members and the Head of the Regulatory Authority? [2010]	5 years
Please provide the total number of staff in the Regulatory Authority.	423

Regulatory Functions (Latest data available: 2018)

Entity in charge of licensing	R	
Entity in charge of interconnection rates	R	
Entity in charge of price regulation	M*	M: ACCC, wholesale price regulation, but not retail
Entity in charge of technical standards setting	O R M*	M: ACMA/Industry representative body co-regulation
Entity in charge of radio frequency allocation and assignment	R	
Spectrum Monitoring and Enforcement	R	
Entity in charge of numbering	R	
Entity in charge of type approval	M*	M: Labelling regime applies
Entity in charge of service quality monitoring	M*	M: ACCC
Entity in charge of universal service/access	S O R M*	M: Minister can make standards, rules and benchmarks. Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency) administers contracts, ACMA administers and collects the industry levy.
Quality of service standards setting	M*	M: ACCC
Entity in charge of enforcement of quality of service obligations	R	
Broadcasting (sound transmission)	R Op	
Entity in charge of broadcasting content	R	
Entity in charge of Information Technology	Op	

Entity in charge of Internet content	R
---	---

S: Sector Ministry
O: Other Ministry or Government body
R: Regulatory Authority
Op: Operator
N: Not regulated
M: If more than one entity or another body is involved in this function, please explain

Universal Service - services covered and operator obligations (Latest data available: 2018)

Definition of universal service/access exists	Yes
Universal access/service policy adopted	Yes
Voice services included in Universal service/access definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voice telephony services • Fixed line public payphone service as part of universal service definition
Internet services included in Universal service/access definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadband as part of universal service definition
Other services included in Universal service/access definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telecentres as part of universal service definition Explain: Australia has regulatory requirements on service providers to support emergency call services, directory services and services for persons with disabilities (such as supply specific equipment). However, these are not part of the universal service regime.,
Operators under universal access/service obligation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designated US Provider
Operators/service providers required to offer below-cost prices	Yes

Financing of Universal Service activities and/or Universal Service Funds (Latest data available: 2018)

Means of financing operator(s) universal access/service obligations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct subsidy from government • Universal service funds • Other Explain: The Australian Government contributes AU\$100m per annum and telecommunications carriers with eligible revenue over \$AU25m also pay an annual industry levy.,
Other financing mechanisms for the provision of Universal service	Yes
If Yes, please explain	A Government-funded National Broadband Network (NBN) will be deployed throughout Australia over the next 3 years to provide universal access to high-speed broadband services.
Operational Universal Service Fund	Yes
If Yes, when?	
Operators/ service providers required to contribute to USF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None of the above, please identify: Telecommunications carriers with eligible revenue over \$AU25m p.a.,
Means of calculating USF contribution amounts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Percentage of net revenues Percentage: Percentage based on each eligible carriers proportion of total eligible industry revenue,
USF financed by other sources	Yes
USF budget financing by source (in percentage)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government budget percentage: Fixed Government contribution of AU\$100m per annum as specified for earlier questions,
Regulator administrating USF	No
If No, name the entity responsible [2012]	ACMA responsible in past but in relation to 2012-13 FY onwards, levy will be collected by ACMA & funds disbursed by TUSMA as it manages the contract with Telstra

Interconnection issues (Latest data available: 2018)

Interconnection charging principle adopted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symmetric
If asymmetric charging, how it was decided?	

Approach used to regulate interconnection prices (Latest data available: 2014)

Approach used to regulate fixed termination rates O* O: Building Block Model approach

Approach used to regulate mobile termination rates O* O: Building Block Model approach

LRIC: LRIC cost model

FDC: FDC cost model

B: Benchmarking

O: Other

N: None

NGN (Latest data available: 2018)

Stage of introduction of NGN system by operators • Implementation

Cost model used (or planned) to calculate costs/tariffs of NGN Services

• Other please specify: Benchmarking, Regulated Asset Base (RAB) and Building Block Model (BBM). Initial wholesale prices on the NBN are set with reference to existing market prices to facilitate a smooth transition to the new network. Under a special access undertaking lodged with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, pricing on the NBN will be constrained by an overarching BBM methodology which allows NBN Co to recover its costs (inclusive of an appropriate return on capital). An Annual Building Block Revenue Requirement (ABBRR) allows NBN Co to earn a return on its RAB and cover depreciation, operational expenditure and net taxation expenses.,

NGN - Regulation of IP networks (Latest data available: 2018)

Regulations that govern the use of IP networks for Data Services O

Regulations that govern the use of IP networks for Voice Services O

USO: Regulatory arrangements subject to universal service obligations

I: Regulatory interconnection arrangements with networks using switching circuits

B: Banning of services based on IP

No: No regulatory arrangements defined at present

O: Other