Data availability for data from long questionnaire

2 May 2022

Background

In September of each year the ITU requests detailed data on household ICT indicators through its Questionnaire on ICT Access and Use by Households and Individuals (long questionnaire). This questionnaire complements the high-level data provided earlier in the year through the ITU ICT Households Short Questionnaire. The long questionnaire provides a wealth of data and allows the comparison and aggregation of country data that is later disseminated by the ITU online.

The household long questionnaire is Excel-based and includes 23 ICT household indicators[1] at many levels of disaggregation, e.g. urban/rural, household composition, gender, age, educational attainment, employment status and occupation.

The current questionnaire requests data on indicators of ICT access for households and ICT use for individuals through the following worksheets:

- **1a** – Households by location (urban/rural) and household composition
- **2a** – Individuals by location (urban or rural) and gender
- **2b** – Individuals by age and gender
- **2c** – Individuals by highest education level attained and gender
- **2d** – Individuals by labour force status and gender
- **2e** – Individuals by occupation and gender
- **Survey Information** – Information on the survey source of data
- **Notes** – All footnotes that apply to data provided.

In 2021, EGH decided to review the ITU's long questionnaire. The questionnaire is very long and in the future additional indicators may be requested by data users (for example on child online protection, mobile money or e-waste).

Current status

As a first step, the ITU has analyzed data received from countries since 2015. Data derived from questions with few responses from countries in recent years may be of lesser interest to countries and merit further discussion with EGH.

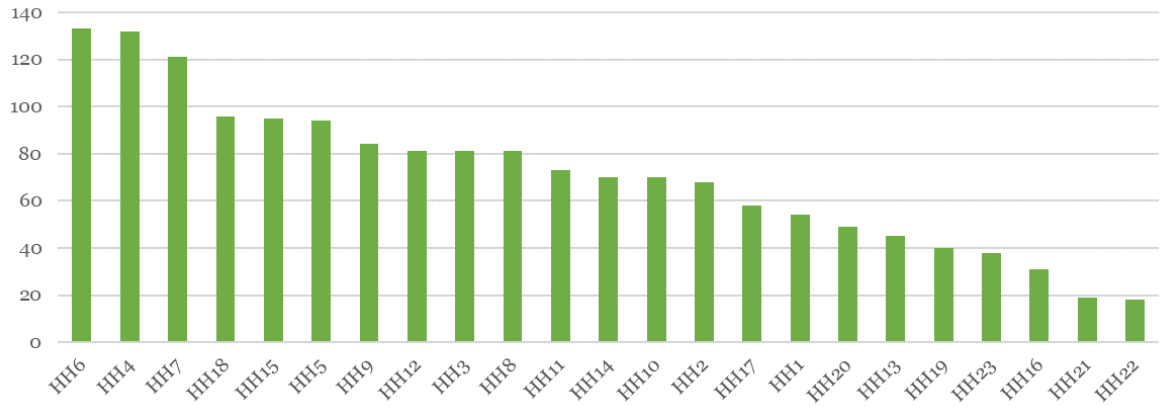
By indicator

Data availability by HH indicator shows much variation (Figure 1). Many countries have provided on the households with computers (HH4), households with Internet access (HH6), and individuals who have used the Internet (HH7). Many, though fewer, countries have provided data for the two additional indicators that are inputs

[1] For more detail see annex or Manual for Measuring ICT Access and Use by Households and Individuals

to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) - individuals with ICT skills (HH15) and individuals owning mobile phones (HH18).

Figure 1
Number of distinct countries providing data by HH indicator, since 2015



Note: Refers to the number of distinct countries providing at least one data point with the respective indicator

Some of the indicators with the fewest countries providing data are recently added indicator on online commerce (HH20, HH21, HH22, HH23). These indicators were introduced in the questionnaire starting in 2018. Given that changing household surveys can sometimes be a lengthy process it is likely that more countries could provide data in the future. However, it should still be noted that 20 or fewer countries have provided recent data on the payment channels for online purchases (HH21) and method of delivery for online purchases (HH22) – 11 and 6 in 2020, respectively.

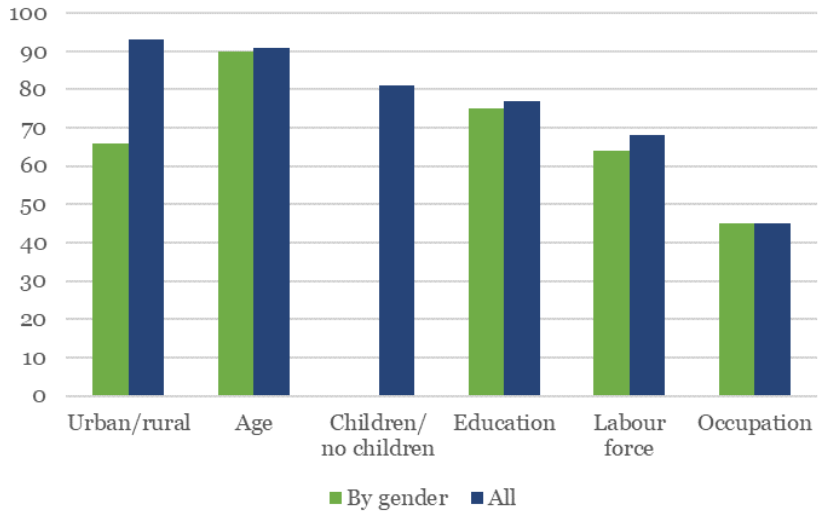
Other indicators where few countries provide data are ICT household expenditure (HH16), individuals' barriers to Internet use (HH19) and households with televisions by type (HH13). Among longstanding indicators[2], households with radios (HH1) and households with televisions (HH2) are provided least – though still by a substantial number of countries in each case.

By socio-demographic classification

Analysis of data availability by socio-demographic breakdowns shows that gender breakdowns are generally available where other socio-demographic breakdowns are available (Figure 2). However, it is notable that substantially fewer countries provide data on ICT indicators by occupation than by other classifications. Fewer countries also provide data by labour force. This is still a substantial number of countries with over 45 and 68 countries, respectively, having provided data by these classifications since 2015.

[2] HH1-HH12 - those requested by the ITU since before 2010

Figure 2
Number of distinct countries providing ICT household survey data by socio-demographic classification, since 2015



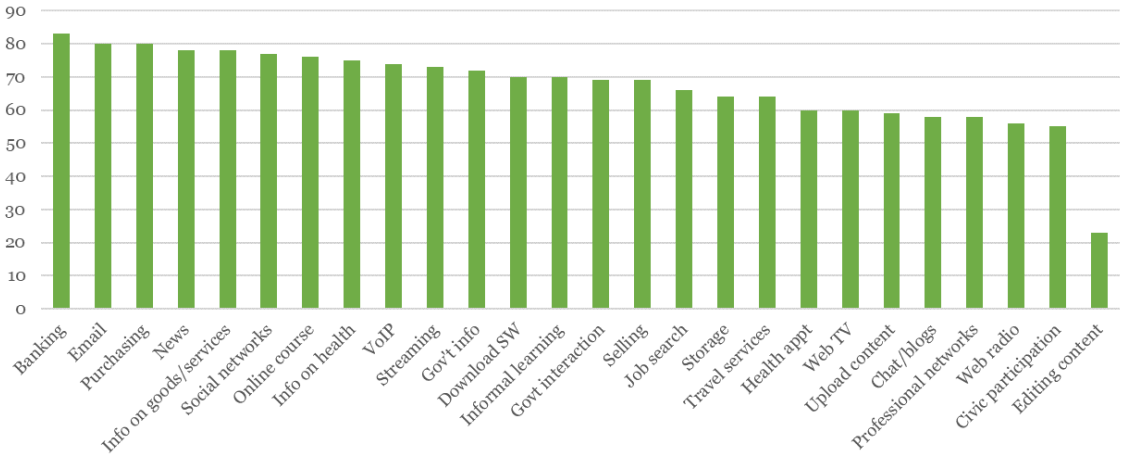
Note: Refers to the number of distinct countries providing at least one data point with the respective socio-demographic classification

Of note the cross-section of the most poorly reported indicators and the most poorly reported socio-demographic classification yield particularly few data. For example, only six and seven countries have provided data on HH22 and HH21, respectively, by occupation since 2015 – only one and three in 2020.

HH9

An area of review specifically noted by EGH was the current collection of information on 26 activities that people can do on the Internet (HH9). Figure 3 shows the number of countries providing data on HH9 since 2015. While there is variation among the number of countries providing data on different activities, *Using software run over the Internet for editing text documents, spreadsheets or presentations* (editing content) is clearly less reported than other. Since 2015 only 23 countries have reported on this year – 13 in 2020.

Figure 3
Number of distinct countries providing HH9 data (individuals using the internet by activity) by activity, since 2015



Annex – ITU ICT household indicators

Table 1
List of indicators on access to, and use of, ICT by households and individuals

Indicator Number	Indicator name	Used for monitoring SDGs
HH1	Proportion of households with a radio	
HH2	Proportion of households with a television	
HH3	Proportion of households with telephone	
HH4	Proportion of households with a computer	
HH5	Proportion of individuals using a computer	
HH6	Proportion of households with Internet	
HH7	Proportion of individuals using the Internet	√
HH8	Proportion of individuals using the Internet, by location	
HH9	Proportion of individuals using the Internet, by type of activity	
HH10	Proportion of individuals using a mobile cellular telephone	
HH11	Proportion of households with Internet, by type of service	
HH12	Proportion of individuals using the Internet, by frequency	
HH13	Proportion of households with multichannel television, by type	
HH14	Barriers to household Internet access	
HH15	Individuals with ICT skills, by type of skills	√
HH16	Household expenditure on ICT	
HH17	Proportion of individuals using the Internet, by type of portable device and network used to access the Internet	
HH18	Proportion of individuals who own a mobile phone	√
HH19	Proportion of individuals not using the Internet, by type of reason	
HH20	Proportion of individuals who purchased goods or services online, by type of good and service purchased	
HH21	Proportion of individuals who purchased goods or services online, by type of payment channel	
HH22	Proportion of individuals who purchased goods or services online, by method of delivery	
HH23	Proportion of individuals who did not purchase goods or services online, by type of reason	