

Bahamas Profile (Latest data available: 2018)

Various statistics (Latest data available: 2018)

Fixed-telephone subscriptions per 100 inhabitants	28.4
Mobile-cellular subscriptions per 100 inhabitants	95.6
Fixed (wired)-broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants	20.2
Mobile-broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants	58.8
Households with a computer (%)	75
Households with Internet access at home (%)	70.4
Individuals using the Internet (%)	85

Policy Maker (Latest data available: 2018)

Please provide the name and contact details of the main Policy-Maker in charge of telecommunications/ICTs	Prime Minister
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Regulatory Authority (Latest data available: 2018)

Name of the telecom/ICT regulator	Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority (URCA)
Please provide the name of the Head of the Regulatory Authority	Mr. Neville Wilchcome
Please provide the exact title of the Head of the Regulatory Authority.	Chairman
Legal document creating the regulator	http://www.urcabahamas.bs/download/044487600.pdf
Year separate regulator created	2009
Regulator also regulates other utilities	• Yes If Yes, specify utilities regulated: Broadcasting,
Regulator autonomous in decision making	Yes
Who is responsible for approving the budget of the Regulator? [2010]	Board
Sources of regulator's budget and % financed from each source	• Licence fees, percentage; • Regulatory fees, percentage; • Regulated telecom operators • Regulated telecom operators percentage; percentage of operator revenue (turnover);
Reporting requirements of the regulator	• Annual report to the public • Report to Board of ICT regulator • Report to Government

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	R
Entity in charge of technical standards setting	R
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	R
Entity in charge of service quality monitoring ²⁰¹⁴	R



Entity in charge of universal service/access	R
Quality of service standards setting2014	R Op
Entity in charge of enforcement of quality of service obligations	R
Broadcasting (sound transmission)	R
Entity in charge of broadcasting content	R
Entity in charge of Information Technology	O
Entity in charge of Internet content2014	N

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

Level of Competition (Latest data available: 2018)

Local Fixed Line Services	C	
Domestic fixed long distance	C	
International Fixed Long Distance	C	
Mobile	P*	P: 2015
IMT (3G, 4G, etc.)	P	
Wireless Local Loop	P	
DSL	C	
Cable modem	M	
Fixed Wireless Broadband	C	
Leased Lines	C	
International Gateways	C	
Internet Services	C	
Cable Television	M	
Fixed Satellite Services (FSS)	N	
Mobile Satellite Services (MSS)	N	
VSAT	C	

M: Monopoly

P: Partial competition (year when competition was introduced)

C: Full competition (year when competition was introduced)

N: N/A

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"> • Fixed line private residential service as part of universal service definition • 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"> • Dial-up Internet access as part of universal service definition

Other services included in Universal service/access definition

- Schools ;
- Health centres ;
- Emergency services as part of universal service definition
- Services for impaired/ elderly

Operators under universal access/service obligation • 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 • Cross-subsidy between own services

Operational Universal Service Fund No

If Yes, when? [2014] Regulations are being consulted on. Establishment is targeted for late 2014

Operators/ service providers required to contribute to USF • All operators

Means of calculating USF contribution amounts

USF financed by other sources No

USF budget financing by source (in percentage)

Regulator administrating USF Yes

If No, name the entity responsible

Other financing mechanisms for the provision of Universal service No

If Yes, please explain