

Indicator 9.c.1

Indicator Name, Target and Goal

Indicator 9.c.1 Proportion of population covered by a mobile network, by technology

Target 9.c Significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020

Goal 9 Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

Definition and Rationale

○ Definition

"Proportion of population covered by a mobile network" is defined as the proportion of the inhabitants living within range of a mobile-cellular signal, irrespective of whether or not they are mobile phone subscribers or users. This is calculated by dividing the number of inhabitants within range of a mobile-cellular signal by the total population and multiplying by 100.

○ Concepts

This indicator is based on where the population lives, and not where they work or go to school, etc. When there are multiple operators offering the service, the maximum population number covered should be reported. The coverage refers to 3G, 3.9G, LTE, and 5G.

○ Rationale and Interpretation:

The indicator highlights the importance of mobile networks in providing basic, as well as advanced communication services and will help design targeted policies to overcome remaining infrastructure barriers, and address the digital divide. Many governments track this indicator and have set specific targets in terms of the mobile population coverage (by technology) that operators must achieve.

Data Sources and Collection Method

This indicator is based on an internationally agreed definition and methodology, which have been developed under the coordination of ITU, through

its Expert Groups and following an extensive consultation process with countries. It is also a core indicator of the Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development's Core List of Indicators, which has been endorsed by the UN Statistical Commission (last time in 2014).

ITU collects data for this indicator through an annual questionnaire from national regulatory authorities or Information and Communication Technology Ministries. The Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications collects data from prefectures and municipalities.

Method of Computation and Other Methodological Considerations

Computation Method

The population of the area / the total population based on Census × 100

Comments and limitations

N/A

Data Disaggregation

N/A

References

https://www.tele.soumu.go.jp/resource/e/proc/others/001_eng.pdf

Custodian Ministries of Data

Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

Custodian Ministries of Related Policies

Digital Agency

International Organizations

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)