

# ASIA-PACIFIC

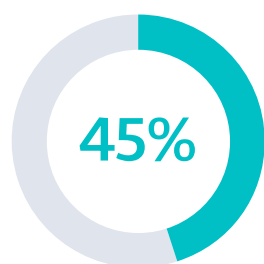
## REGIONAL SNAPSHOT

### Affordability Report 2020



The **Affordability Report** is an annual report published by the **Alliance for Affordable Internet**. It examines the policy and regulatory frameworks that have allowed some countries to make broadband internet access more affordable, accessible, and universal and seeks to understand what others can do to catch up quickly. The 2020 Affordability Report explores the policy progress made across 72 low- and middle-income countries and 21 countries across Asia-Pacific.

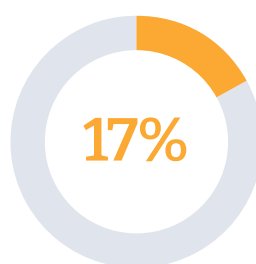
## Across Asia-Pacific...



**ONLINE POPULATION**  
Source: ITU, 2019



**MOBILE BROADBAND PENETRATION**  
Source: A4AI from GSMAI, 2020



**INTERNET USE GENDER GAP**  
Source: ITU, 2019

## Asia-Pacific 2020 ADI Rankings

The **Affordability Drivers Index (ADI)** scores and ranks all 72 countries based on an in-depth analysis of communications infrastructure and access and affordability indicators.

ADI RANK (APAC)		GLOBAL ADI RANK	COUNTRY	ACCESS SCORE	INFRASTRUCTURE SCORE	ADI SCORE (OUT OF 100)
1	●	1	Malaysia	86.9	75.1	85.3
2	▲1	6	Thailand	94.9	66.8	85.0
3	▼1	8	Turkey	85.5	67.6	80.6
4	●	11	India	79.8	73.2	80.5
5	▲1	14	Indonesia	74.5	71.0	76.6
6	▼1	18	Pakistan	76.9	59.0	71.5
7		20	Fiji	71.6	59.2	68.8
8	●	21	Jordan	68.9	61.0	68.3
9	●	22	Viet Nam	71.3	57.0	67.5
10	▲3	29	Cambodia	50.0	51.7	53.5
11	▲3	33	Nepal	48.2	49.8	51.5
12	●	35	China	32.2	48.2	42.3
13	▼2	37	Philippines	41.4	35.3	40.4
14	▲2	38	Myanmar	34.7	34.1	36.2
15	▲2	39	Kazakhstan	41.4	26.5	35.7
16		44	Papua New Guinea	17.2	29.6	24.6
17	▼1	45	Bangladesh	16.9	20.9	19.9
18	▼7	47	Sri Lanka	53.8	40.9	49.8
19		60	Afghanistan	34.7	36.5	37.4
20		62	Laos	35.8	32.7	36.0
21	●	72	Yemen	0.00	0.00	0.00

## What is

## affordable internet?

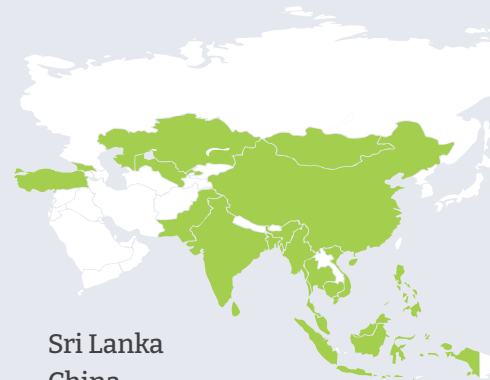
# “1 for 2”

1GB of mobile prepaid broadband for 2% or less of average monthly income.

## How affordable is

## access in Asia-Pacific?

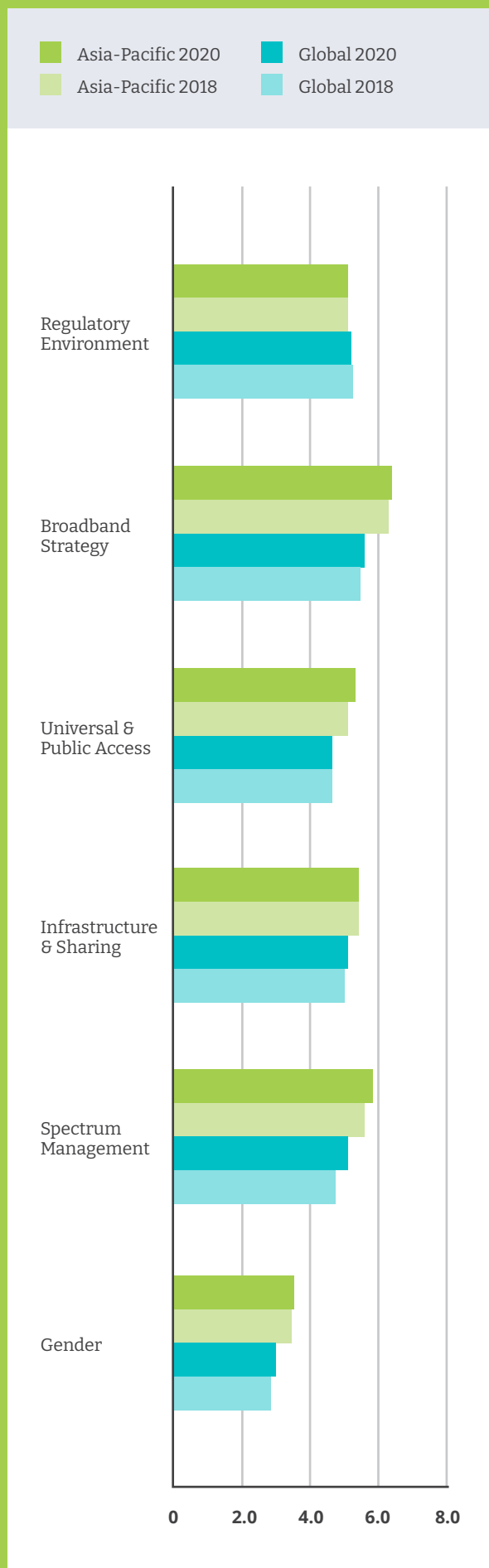
**17** out of **29** countries surveyed have affordable internet prices



- Sri Lanka
- China
- Kazakhstan
- Georgia
- Malaysia
- Myanmar
- Viet Nam
- Indonesia
- Bangladesh
- Uzbekistan
- Pakistan
- Turkey
- Thailand
- India
- Philippines
- Cambodia
- Mongolia

1GB of mobile data costs the average person just over **1.6%** of their monthly income.

## Regional policy trends



## Policy highlights from Asia-Pacific



### India

India's enabling regulatory approach to passive and active infrastructure sharing reduces costs for operators and enables rapid deployment of mobile services.



### Sri Lanka

With a dearth of recent regulations, the telecommunications market in Sri Lanka moves forward on outdated regulations in secrecy that limits public-private cooperation.



### Thailand

The regulator implemented new criteria to facilitate spectrum refarming in 2018 – and put the regulations to use one year later to reallocate bands.



### Indonesia

The USAF-backed investment project, Palapa Ring, has improved mobile internet user experiences across the Indonesian archipelago.



### Thailand

While lacking gendered targets in its national broadband plan, the country's Women Development Strategy includes promotion of women's access, training, and use of the internet – all with the ambition of supporting a greater proportion of women pursuing STEM-related degrees.



### Viet Nam

A lack of transparency around the USAF has led to a reduction of the contribution rate by half. Recent proposals have suggested divesting its universal service obligation to support e-government service development rather than subsidised access.



# A global coalition working to make broadband affordable for all

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