

SDG Goal 17

Partnerships for the goals

SDG Target 17.8

Fully operationalize the technology bank and science, technology and innovation capacity-building mechanism for least developed countries by 2017 and enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology

SDG Indicator 17.8.1

Proportion of individuals using the Internet

Time series

Individuals using the Internet

1. General information on the time series

- Date of national metadata: 24 January 2023
- National data: <http://sdg-indicators.de/17-8-1/>
- Definition: The time series measures the share of population aged 16-74 years, which used the internet in the last three months.
- Disaggregation: age group; sex

2. Comparability with the UN metadata

- Date of UN metadata: July 2024
- UN metadata: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-17-08-01.pdf>
- The time series is compliant with the UN metadata. Since no age group is defined in the UN metadata, the age group used for Germany in the UN Global SDG Database is used.

3. Data description

- Before 2021: The data is derived from the European Union Statistics on the private use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) conducted by the Federal Statistical Office in cooperation with the statistical offices of the Länder. The ICT survey determines EU-wide harmonised and comparable indicators for the monitoring of digitisation status in the European Union. The basis is a consistent, for all Member States binding, methodological standard. 12,000 households and the persons over 10 years of age living in these households are surveyed for ICT on a voluntary basis every year. Since the survey year 2006, the ICT survey is realised as quota sample.

From 2021: The data is derived from the European Union Statistics on the private use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) conducted by the Federal Statistical Office in cooperation with the statistical offices of the Länder.

In order to improve data quality, the ICT survey is no longer conducted as an independent survey, but is integrated as a voluntary sub-sample into the microcensus, which requires information, since the survey year 2021.

A few questions on internet access are asked as part of the microcensus core programme and are to be answered by each randomly selected microcensus household. The detailed questions in the microcensus survey part on internet use are to be answered only by a randomly selected proportion of the households to be surveyed in advance - i.e. a microcensus sub-sample. A maximum of 3.5 % of the households in the microcensus and the persons between 16 and 74 years living in these households are surveyed each year.

The integration of the ICT survey into the microcensus has an impact on the comparability of the ICT results over time. This is reinforced by the consequences of the Corona pandemic. Before 2021, the ICT

survey was a quota sample with exclusive data collection via paper questionnaires. From 2021 onwards, the ICT survey is a random sample and thus closer to reality with regard to the dynamic development of the digital society in Germany. In addition, from ICT 2021 onwards, further survey forms (online, face-to-face, telephone) are offered.

The microcensus is an inquiry directed to households, designed to obtain information with a sample of 1 % on the population, labor market, housing situation, education, health and various topics related to the economic and social situation of households.

The survey population includes: persons in private households and collective households at their main and secondary place of residence.

The survey population does not include: members of foreign armed forces as well as foreign diplomatic representations with their family members. Persons without a place of residence (homeless people) have no chance of being covered in the microcensus.

4. Access to data source

- Individuals - internet use – Eurostat table [isoc_ci_ifp_iu]:
https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/isoc_ci_ifp_iu/default/table?lang=en

5. Metadata on source data

- Quality report – Survey on the Private use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) (only available in German):
<https://www.destatis.de/DE/Methoden/Qualitaet/Qualitaetsberichte/Einkommen-Konsum-Lebensbedingungen/einfuehrung.html>

6. Timeliness and frequency

- Timeliness: t + 3 months
- Frequency: Annual

7. Calculation method

- Unit of measurement: Percentage
- Calculation:

$$\text{Proportion of individuals using the internet} = \frac{\text{Persons using the Internet [number]}}{\text{Total number of Persons [number]}} \cdot 100 [\%]$$