



Mobile Internet Connectivity 2020

Middle East and North Africa Factsheet



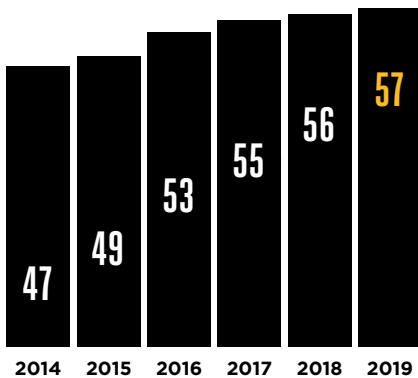
THE MOBILE CONNECTIVITY INDEX

There are now more than 3.8 billion mobile internet subscribers globally, representing 49% of the world's population. In the Middle East and North Africa, the proportion of the population not covered by a mobile broadband network fell by two thirds between 2014 and 2019 and now stands at 9%. However, almost half of the population are not connected to the mobile internet even though they are covered by a 3G or 4G network.

The GSMA Connected Society's Mobile Connectivity Index (MCI) supports the mobile industry's commitment to connect everyone and everything to a better future by measuring the performance of 170 countries - representing 99% of the global population - against the four key enablers of mobile internet adoption: infrastructure; affordability; consumer readiness; and content and services. The data the MCI provides can help focus the deliberate and strategic efforts that are required by the mobile industry, governments and the international community to accelerate mobile internet uptake.

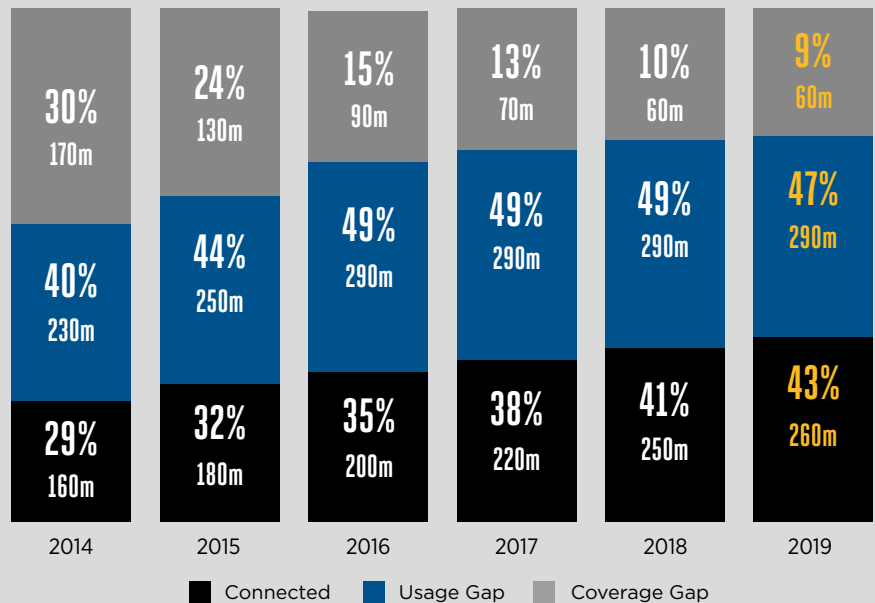
STATE OF MOBILE INTERNET CONNECTIVITY

Middle East and North Africa Mobile Connectivity Index score over time



The index is built up through 41 indicators feeding into 14 dimensions that are aggregated to give a score for each of the four enablers. Scores fall within a range of 0-100.

Percentage of the Middle East and North African population connected to mobile internet



Source: GSMA Intelligence. 'Usage gap' refers to populations that live within the footprint of a mobile broadband network but who are not using mobile internet. 'Coverage gap' refers to populations that do not live within the footprint of a mobile broadband network (3G or above).

NB: totals may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

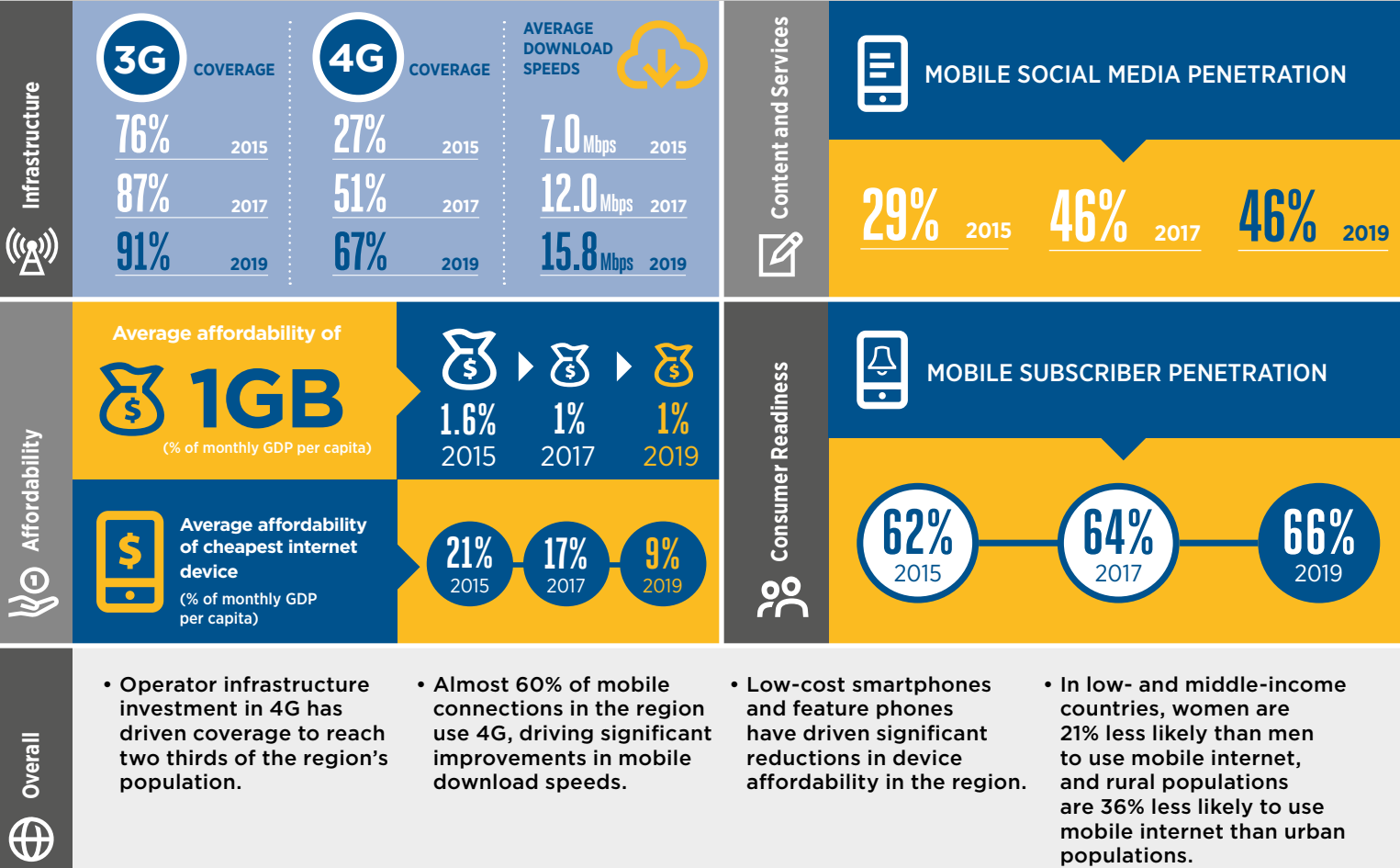
The GSMA Connected Society programme works with the mobile industry and key stakeholders to increase access to and adoption of mobile internet and all the benefits that it can deliver. Get in touch to find out more: connectedsociety@gsma.com



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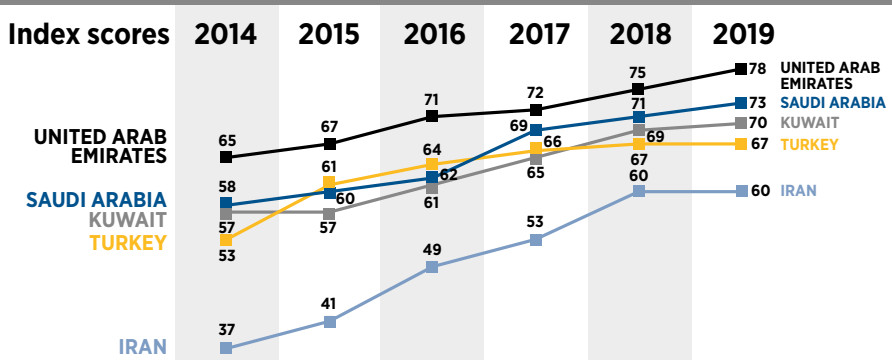
KEY STATISTICS



Top Five Countries by Index and Enabler (2019)

Index	Infrastructure	Affordability	Consumer Readiness	Content and Services
United Arab Emirates	United Arab Emirates	Qatar	Israel	Israel
Qatar	Qatar	United Arab Emirates	Turkey	United Arab Emirates
Israel	Saudi Arabia	Israel	Bahrain	Turkey
Saudi Arabia	Turkey	Oman	Kuwait	Qatar
Bahrain	Bahrain	Kuwait	Saudi Arabia	Saudi Arabia

Most Improved Countries (2014-2019)



	2014 Mobile Internet Penetration	2019 Mobile Internet Penetration
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	54%	75%
SAUDI ARABIA	64%	73%
KUWAIT	50%	54%
TURKEY	37%	53%
IRAN	32%	51%