NHI-Network Human Right Index Report

(Taiwan as a Case Study)

Internet Society Taipei Chapter (ISOC Taipei)

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Table of Contents

Abstract

The purpose of this project is to develop an objective set of evaluation indicators to better understand and compare how people in different countries actually use Internet services — particularly focusing on their available access options, costs, and convenience.
The 2025 project takes **Taiwan** as the primary reference point, examining the accessibility, affordability, and fairness of current Internet services, and assessing whether they truly align with the principle that **"Internet access is a basic human right."**

During the preparation of this report, we reviewed major data sources available online. Most existing reports focus only on broadband penetration rates. However, **Cable.co.uk** has continuously conducted and published studies on the **global pricing of broadband and mobile data speeds**. Their *Worldwide Mobile Data Pricing 2023* report, based on crowdsourced data, provides the average price per gigabyte (GB). Yet, since different data plans offer different pricing structures, lower per-GB rates in high-volume plans may not accurately reflect real user costs.

To achieve a more accurate analysis, we referred to the **GSMA's Mobile Economy** report as a user-based benchmark. According to GSMA projections, the average Internet user in Asia will consume **20 GB of mobile data per month** by 2025. We therefore adopted **20 GB per month** as the baseline threshold required to meet the standard of *basic Internet human rights*.

Based on this methodology, we conducted a **comparative cost analysis** for 20 GB monthly data usage across **Taiwan, China, Hong Kong, and Singapore**, representing the Asia region.

In addition, a comprehensive **Internet environment assessment for Taiwan** was conducted, covering:

- The Internet access options available to residents in Taiwan
- Data and connectivity choices for Taiwanese travelers abroad
- Network access options for international visitors to Taiwan

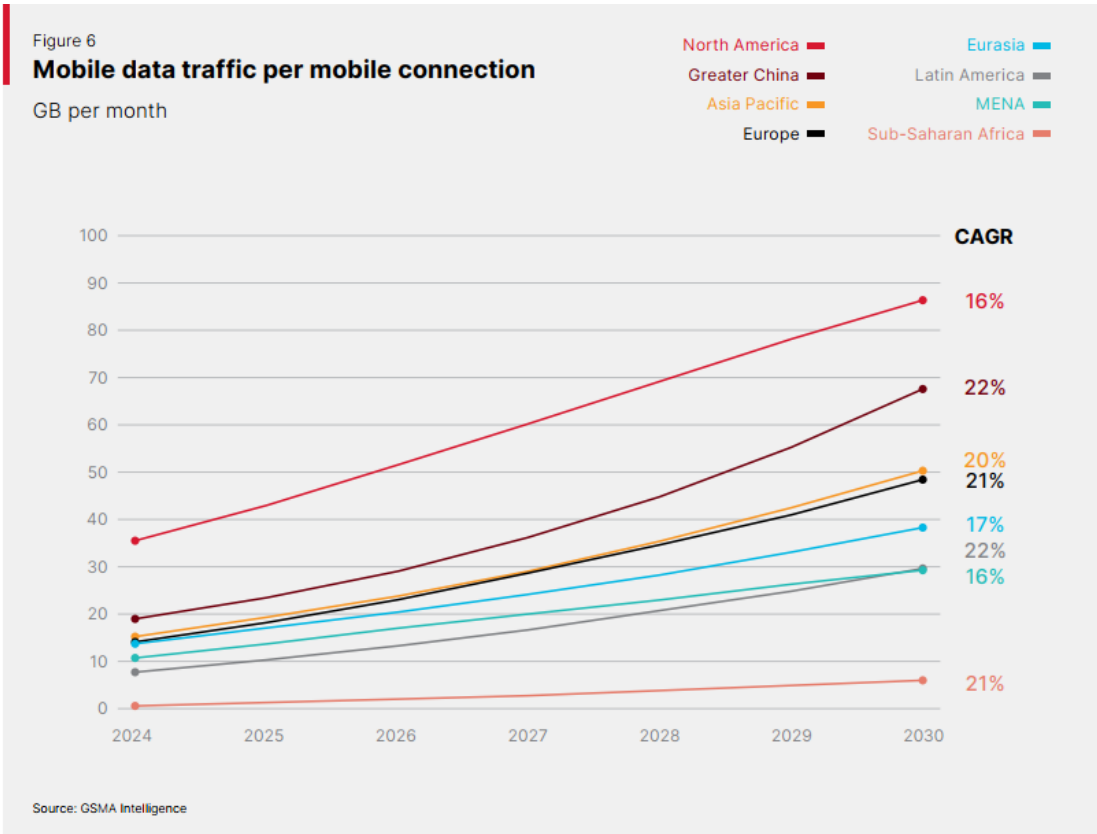
This report was researched by **ISOC Taipei**, with funding support from the **Internet Society (ISOC) Headquarters**.
ISOC operates numerous chapters worldwide, and we encourage greater participation from other ISOC Chapters and **Network Operators' Groups (NOGs)** to jointly contribute to future editions of this study.
The long-term goal is to establish a **global annual ISOC Mobile Internet Human Rights Data Report**, offering both international comparisons and practical references for citizens and travelers seeking optimal Internet access solutions.

Global Trends in Mobile Internet Usage

When examining international mobile Internet access, the most authoritative reference is the **GSMA's Mobile Economy Report**.
This comprehensive publication provides valuable insights into user behavior, connectivity infrastructure, and digital adoption trends across different regions of the world.

According to data presented in the **2025 edition** of the report, the GSMA projects the **average mobile data consumption per user** in each region, allowing us to understand the evolving global usage patterns.
Based on this analysis, the **Asia–Pacific region's** baseline data usage has been set at **20 GB per user per month**, which we adopt as the fundamental benchmark for assessing *basic Internet human rights* across Asian economies.

Further details can be found in the GSMA Mobile Economy Report:
🔗 https://www.gsma.com/solutions-and-impact/connectivity-for-good/mobile-economy/

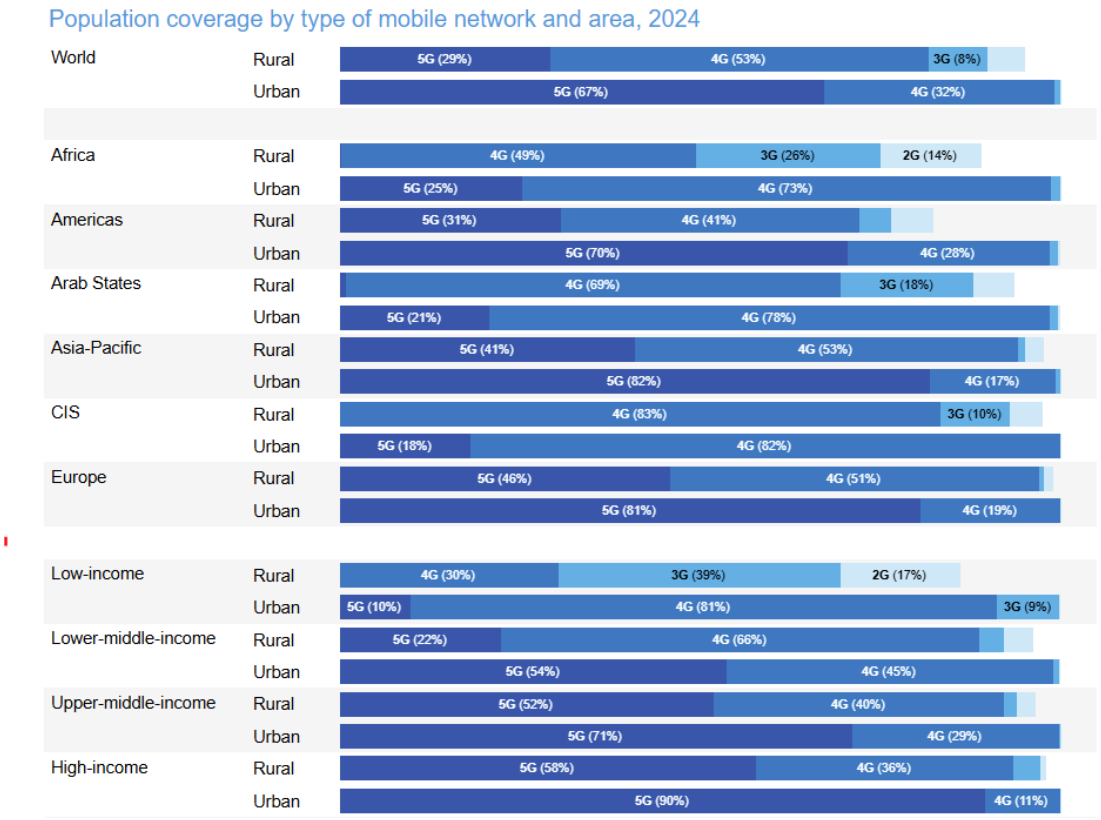


ITU Annual Data Report

In addition to GSMA, the **International Telecommunication Union (ITU)** serves as a key global authority for technical standards and statistical reporting related to mobile networks.

[ITU Facts and Figures 2024 Report]

This report provides valuable insights into **mobile network coverage** across nations, offering a reliable basis for evaluating the accessibility and inclusiveness of communication services worldwide.



(Figure: Global Mobile Network Coverage by Country)

Beyond coverage data, the ITU report also includes analyses of **user demographics**, **ICT affordability**, and **digital inclusion trends**, which align closely with the objectives of this study.

The **United Nations Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development** has established a target to make broadband access **affordable for developing countries by 2025**, defining affordability as **broadband prices below 2% of monthly gross national income (GNI) per capita**.

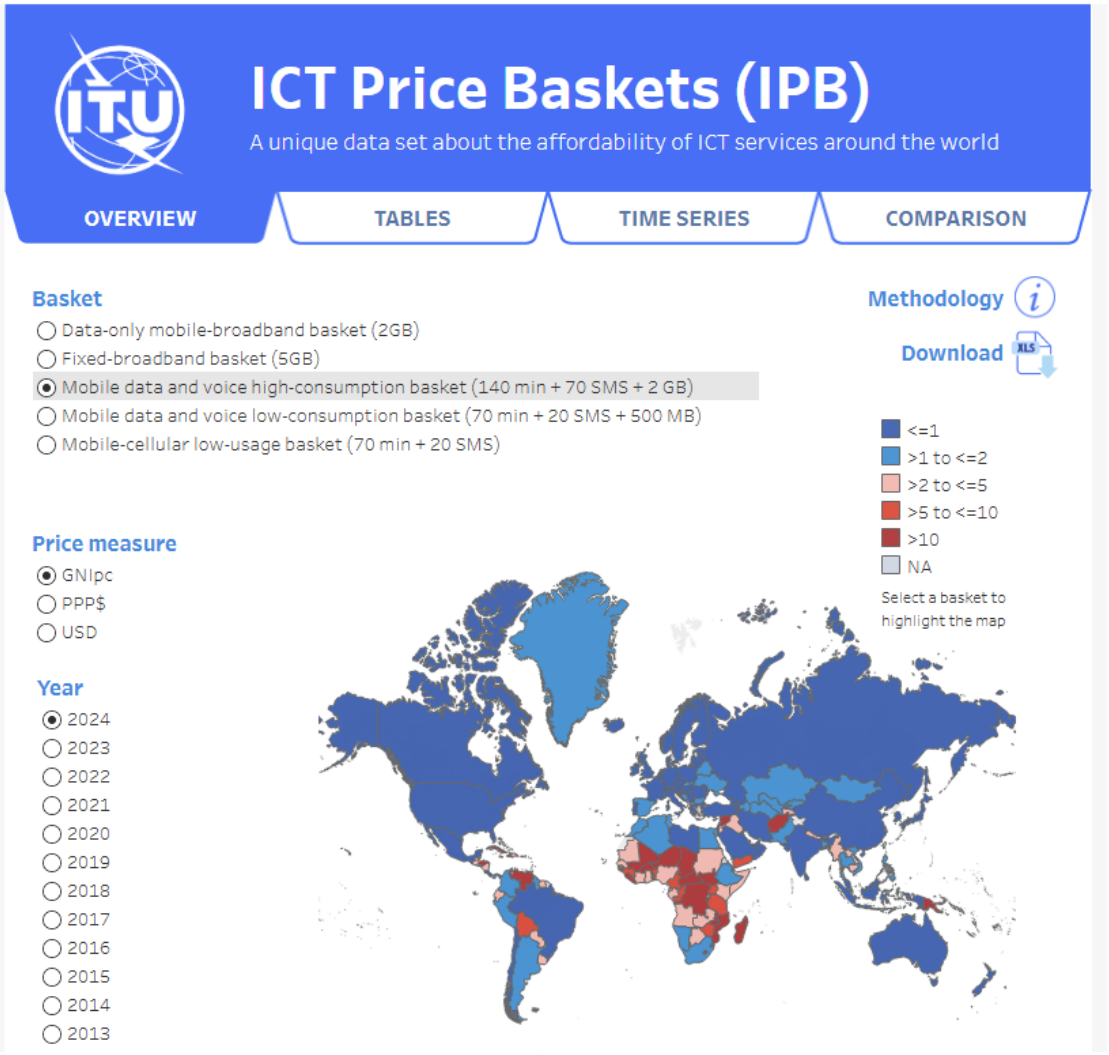
Between **2022 and 2024**, data availability and quality have improved significantly.
Out of **208 economies** with measurable data:

- **140 economies** have achieved the affordability target for either mobile or fixed broadband plans — an increase of 9 since 2023.
- However, among **low- and middle-income economies**, only **65 countries** (about half) meet this benchmark in at least one plan type.

Given current trends in ICT pricing and income growth, it is increasingly evident that **many of the remaining 66 economies** will be unable to achieve the 2025 broadband affordability target — even for basic entry-level services.

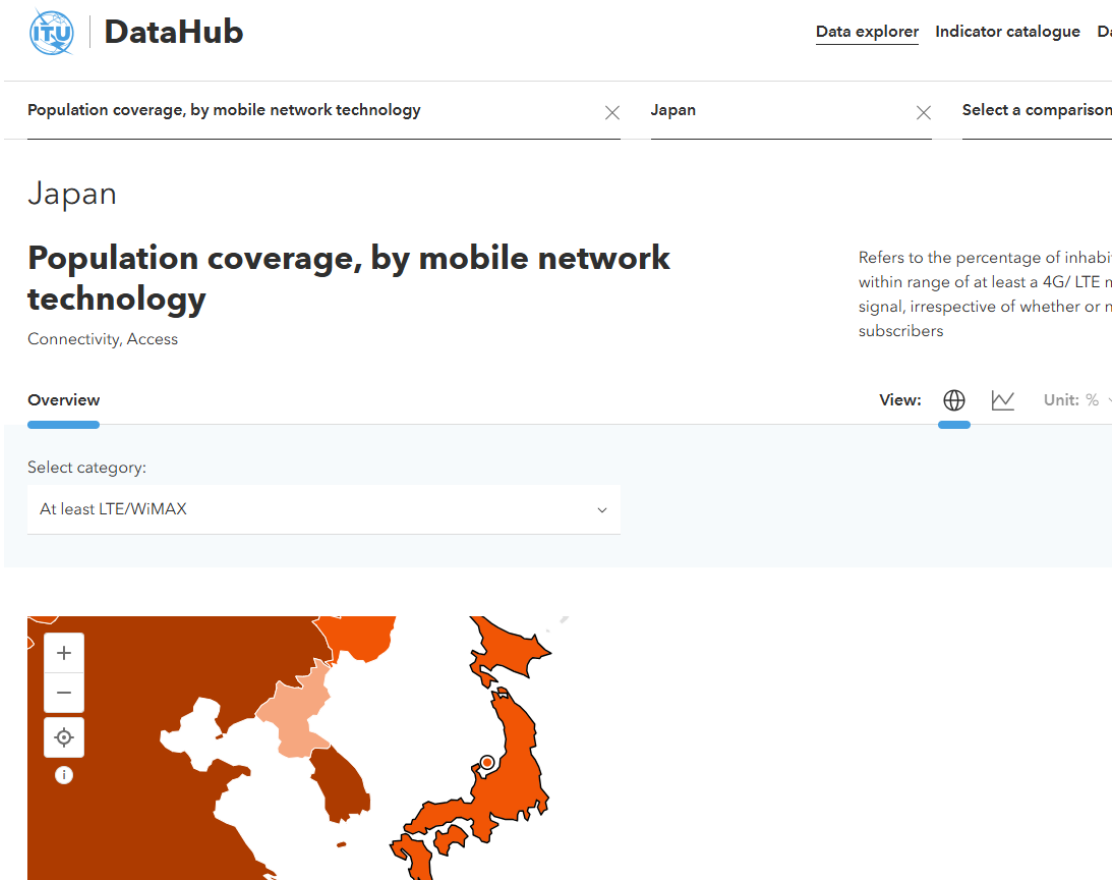
Comprehensive details are available in the **2024 ITU Report: The Affordability of ICT Services**:
📎 https://www.itu.int/itu-d/reports/statistics/affordability2024/

Interactive and graphical datasets can also be explored via the **ITU ICT Price Dashboard**:
📎 https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Dashboards/Pages/IPB.aspx



(Figure: ICT Internet Cost Database)

When official national statistics do not provide explicit data on **4G and higher network population coverage**, the **ITU DataHub** offers a reliable alternative source for analysis:
🔗 https://datahub.itu.int/data/?e=JPN&i=100095&s=19306



(Figure: Population Coverage Rate by Mobile Network Technology)

Mobile Internet Speeds by Country/Region

While 4G and 5G are technically capable of delivering high speeds, real-world performance can be constrained by **signal coverage** and **user density/load**.

For this study, we rely on **OpenSignal's Market Insights** for each country/region, using the **Download Speed Experience** of local mobile network operators as the primary data source.

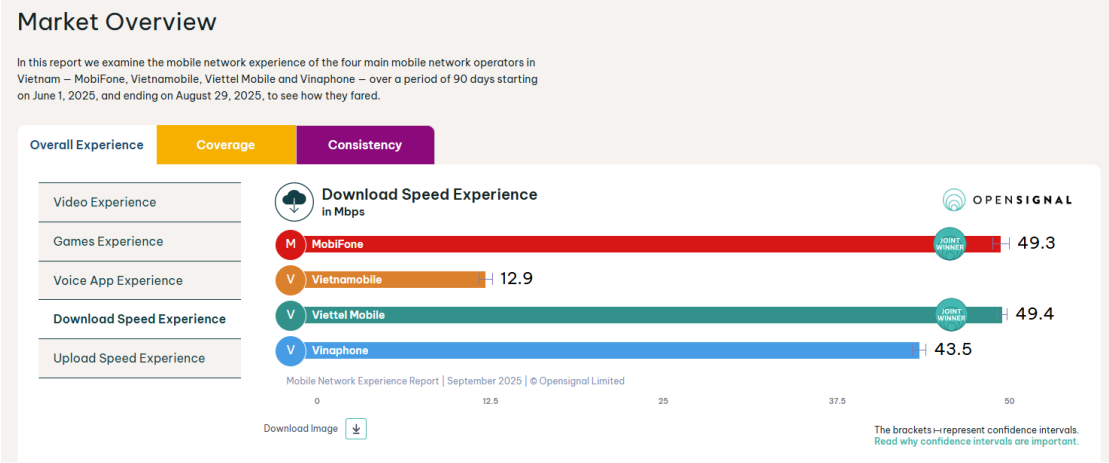


Figure: Vietnam — Local Download Speed

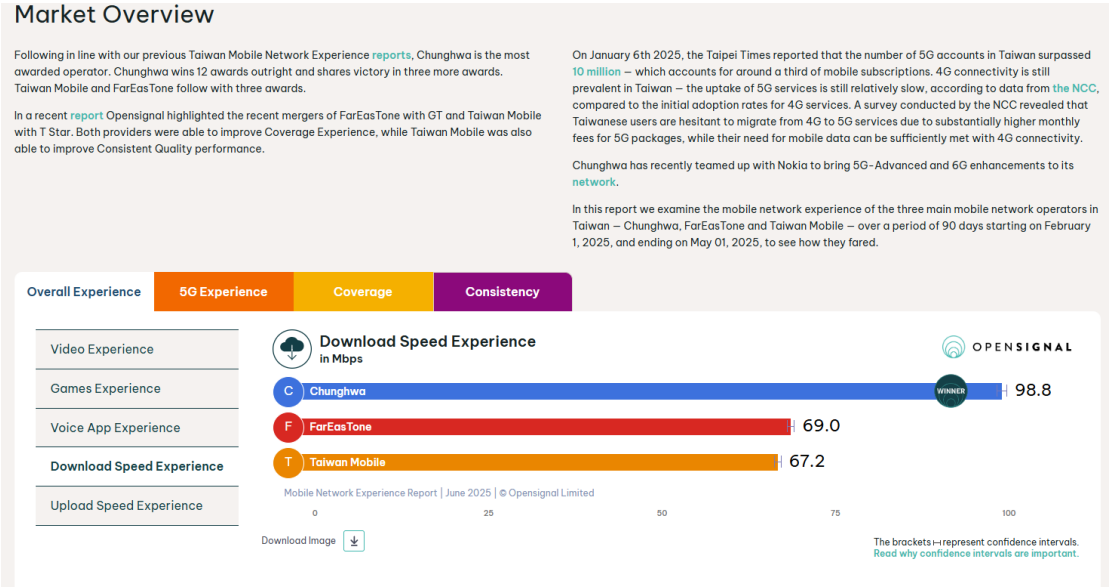


Figure: Taiwan — Local Download Speed

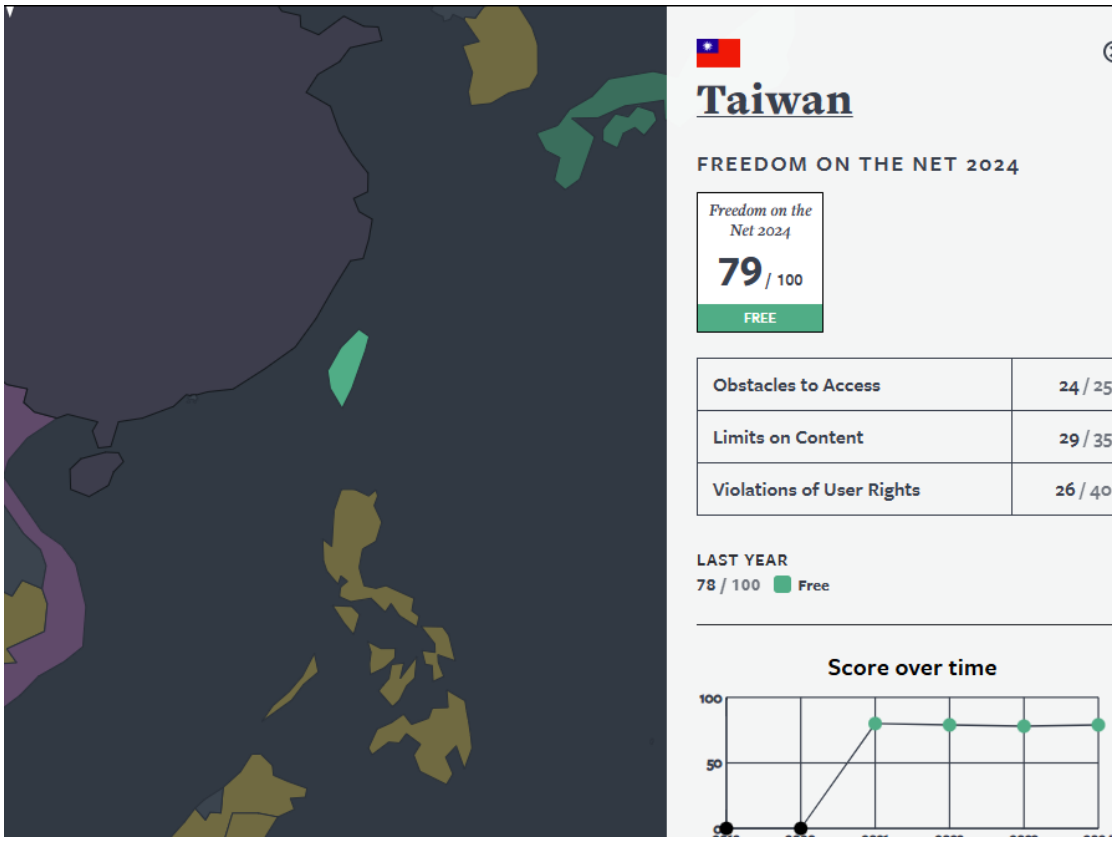
Network Neutrality

Network neutrality is a complex and multifaceted issue — not merely a technical or commercial matter, but often one involving **political and legal** considerations. Examples include:

- **China** restricting access to Google services,
- **Taiwan**'s government attempting to ban TikTok, and
- **ChatGPT** not being available in Hong Kong due to policy restrictions.

Given the diverse factors involved and the lack of universally comparable data, we adopt **Freedom House's Internet Freedom Index** from freedomhouse.org as the reference indicator for assessing **network neutrality** across regions in this study.

In addition, our **user survey** revealed that many participants are primarily concerned about the **availability of specific applications**, such as **ChatGPT, TikTok, LINE, Telegram, and Google Maps**, and whether these services function properly in their region.



(Figure: Internet Freedom Score — Taiwan)

(Figure: Internet Freedom Score — Vietnam)

Internet as a Basic Human Right — User Perception Survey

We believe that **comparison is one of the most effective ways to drive collective progress**, especially in Asia, where benchmarking and performance indicators are often valued.
With this in mind, our goal is to design a survey framework that helps evaluate how well Internet access in each country fulfills the idea of **the Internet as a fundamental human right**.

The focus of this design lies in understanding **how individuals can obtain acceptable Internet service quality at a reasonable cost**, ensuring that everyone, regardless of their background or location, can enjoy **equal opportunities for participation and competition** in the digital society.

Survey: "Internet as a Basic Human Right" — User Perception Study

Introduction & Consent

Thank you for participating in this survey.
This questionnaire aims to collect opinions from users in **Taiwan and other Asian countries** regarding **which factors should be included in evaluating "Internet as a Basic Human Right."**
The survey is **anonymous**, and all responses will be used **only for academic and policy analysis**.
Estimated time to complete: **8–12 minutes.**
By continuing, you indicate your **consent to participate** in this study.

(Single Choice)
☐ I agree to participate and understand the above explanation.
☐ I do not agree (selecting this option will end the survey).

Part 1: Respondent Information *(for demographic analysis)*

1. **Your age:**
   ☐ 18–24 ☐ 25–34 ☐ 35–44 ☐ 45–54 ☐ 55–64 ☐ 65+
2. **Your gender:**
   ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Non-binary ☐ Prefer not to say
3. **Your current place of residence (Country / City or Province):**
   ☐ (Fill in) _____
4. **Your education level:**
   ☐ High school or below ☐ College / University (including technical) ☐ Graduate school or above ☐ Other
5. **Your occupation:**
   ☐ Student ☐ Employee ☐ Self-employed ☐ Government worker ☐ Homemaker ☐ Retired ☐ Other: _____
6. **Your average personal or household Internet budget per month** (including broadband and mobile data, approximate):
   ☐ < NT$300 ☐ NT$300–1,000 ☐ NT$1,000–3,000 ☐ NT$3,000–6,000 ☐ > NT$6,000 ☐ Not sure

7. **Your main Internet usage purposes** (multiple choices allowed):
   ☐ Work ☐ Education ☐ Social networking ☐ Entertainment / Streaming ☐ Online shopping ☐ Politics / News ☐ Other: _____

Part 2: Usage Context

8. **Do you have fixed broadband at home?**
   ☐ Yes, stable ☐ Yes, but unstable ☐ No

9. **Your main Internet access methods** (up to two):
   ☐ Home broadband (Fiber / ADSL) ☐ Mobile data (SIM / eSIM) ☐ Public Wi-Fi (café, library, etc.) ☐ Mobile hotspot sharing ☐ Other

10. **Have Internet problems (high cost, slow speed, connection failure, etc.) ever affected your work or study?**
    ☐ Frequently ☐ Occasionally ☐ Rarely ☐ Never

Part 3: Factors Defining "Internet as a Basic Human Right"

Instructions:
The following are potential factors that may be included in the evaluation.
For each item, please answer **three aspects**:
A) Should it be included? (Yes / No / Unsure)
B) Importance rating (1 = Not important at all → 5 = Very important)
C) (Optional) Assign a relative weight (0–10; 0 = not important, 10 = extremely important) for quantitative analysis.

Suggested factors (can be adjusted):

1. Availability / Coverage
2. Affordability (price relative to income, low-income accessibility)
3. Internet speed (measured download/upload speed)
4. Reliability / Stability (uptime, jitter, packet loss)
5. Latency (important for real-time apps, gaming, video calls)
6. Data caps / Fair use policy
7. Device accessibility (smartphone, computer ownership)
8. Market competition (number of service providers)

9. Ease of subscription and use (language, registration requirements)
10. Privacy and data security protection
11. Accessibility for persons with disabilities
12. Multilingual and local content support
13. Customer service and fault resolution efficiency
14. Emergency communication availability
15. Convenience for international travelers / roaming
16. Quality and safety of public Wi-Fi
17. Network neutrality (no traffic discrimination; unrestricted access to Gmail, Google Maps, Shopee, ChatGPT, etc.)
18. Information accessibility (ability to reach government, education, health services)
19. Digital literacy and training support

(Each factor should have responses for A / B / C.)

Part 4: Ranking and Weighting

11. **Select the Top 5 factors you consider most important**
    (1 = most important, 5 = fifth most important):

- 1st: _____
- 2nd: _____
- 3rd: _____
- 4th: _____
- 5th: _____

12. **If the "Internet Human Rights Score" totals 100 points,** distribute percentages among your Top 5 factors (total must equal 100%).
    Example: Speed 30%, Price 30%, Coverage 20%, Privacy 10%, Accessibility 10%.

- 1st: ____ %
- 2nd: ____ %
- 3rd: ____ %

- 4th: ___ %
- 5th: ___ %

Part 5: Scenario Questions

13. **If the government could only invest in three Internet projects (due to budget limits), which three would you choose?**
    Please list them and briefly explain why.

14. **If a "Basic Internet Access" subsidy were introduced (e.g., free or discounted access for low-income households), what eligibility conditions or limits should apply?**
    (Open response)

Part 6: Open Feedback

15. **Are there any important factors not listed above that should be included in the "Internet as a Basic Human Right" score?**
    Please specify and explain.

16. **If you are willing to join a follow-up interview or focus group (online/offline), please leave your email address (optional, kept confidential):**

Part 7: Closing Message

Thank you for completing this survey!
If you wish to receive the **research report or summary**, please leave your contact information or follow our **project webpage** for updates.
(Optionally include a contact form or research project link.)

“Internet as a Basic Human Right” — User Perception Survey Report

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1. Survey Overview

- **Purpose:**
  To identify which factors users believe should be included in the evaluation of *Internet as a Basic Human Right*, and to quantify their relative importance.
- **Sample size:** 165 valid responses (response rate: 92%)
- **Survey location:** Primarily Taiwan, with small samples from other Asian regions (Japan, South Korea, Singapore, etc.)
- **Period:** September 1 – October 10, 2025
- **Method:** Online anonymous survey (Google Forms)
- **Analysis methods:**
  - *Top 5 factor ranking method*
  - *Weighted percentage distribution* (total = 100%)
  - Statistical analysis including mean, standard deviation, and cross-group comparison

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2. Summary of Main Findings (Overall Sample)

Rank	Indicator	Avg. Weight	Std. Dev.	% of respondents ranking in Top 5
1	**Network Neutrality**	30%	±6.2	91%
2	**Affordability**	25%	±7.1	88%
3	**Data Cap / Fair Use Policy**	20%	±5.4	77%
4	**Coverage / Availability**	15%	±8.6	65%
5	**Speed / Bandwidth**	10%	±5.9	59%

▨ **Total Weighted Sum:** 100%
▨ **Concentration Trend:** The top two factors (Network Neutrality + Affordability) account for **55%**, showing that users primarily care about *"Can I access what I want?"* and *"Can I afford it?"*

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3. Detailed Findings and Insights

1 Network Neutrality (30%)

- **Average score (1–5 scale):** 4.75
- **95%** of respondents believe "network neutrality" should be part of Internet human rights evaluation.
- **Open responses include:**
  - "ISPs should not block or throttle specific services."
  - "AI and streaming platforms should receive equal bandwidth treatment."
- **Policy recommendation:**
  Strengthen regulatory oversight, prohibit discriminatory traffic management, and ensure equal access to all lawful websites recognized under universal digital rights principles.

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2 Affordability (25%)

- **Average score (1–5):** 4.62
- **83%** of respondents believe current Internet prices are "too high" or "need improvement."
- **Income-based differences:**
  - Monthly income < NT$30,000 → average weight **33%**
  - Monthly income > NT$60,000 → average weight **17%**
- **Insight:** Price sensitivity is inversely correlated with income.
- **Policy recommendation:** Introduce a *"Social Access Tariff"*, offering discounted or half-price Internet plans for low-income households.

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3 Data Cap / Fair Use Policy (20%)

- **Average score (1–5):** 4.10
- **74%** of users believe "unlimited" or "high-volume" plans should be considered part of basic Internet rights.
- **Common feedback:**
    - "ISPs must disclose throttling or traffic shaping practices."
    - "Users should maintain stable access even after reaching data limits."
- **Policy recommendation:** Require transparency and standardized disclosure of Fair Use Policies.

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4 Coverage / Availability (15%)

- **Average score (1–5):** 3.85
- Only 65% ranked this in their top five, yet open responses highlighted:
    - 52% said, "Cheap plans mean nothing if there's no signal."
    - 9% emphasized, "Rural areas should have stable Internet, not just urban zones."
- **Policy recommendation:** Expand rural broadband coverage and promote a *"Universal Basic Connectivity Plan."*

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5 Speed / Bandwidth (10%)

- **Average score (1–5):** 3.68
- While not a top concern, over half noted that "extremely slow speeds make Internet rights meaningless."
- **Age-based difference:**
    - Younger users (18–34): avg. weight **14%**
    - Older users (50+): avg. weight **7%**
- **Policy recommendation:** Define minimum speed standards for education and remote work zones with heavy online usage.

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4. Group Comparison Summary

Group	Key Differences
💼 **High- vs. Low-income**	High-income users value neutrality and stability; low-income users prioritize affordability.
🧒💻 **Young adults (18–34)**	Focused more on speed and neutrality, less sensitive to price.
👩🏫 **Middle-aged & older (45+)**	Emphasized coverage and affordability — concern over "availability and affordability."
🌾 **Urban vs. Rural**	Rural respondents rated coverage 37%, significantly higher than urban 26%.

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5. Trend Overview (Descriptive Visualization)

If presented as a radar chart, the **Taiwan sample's average weighting** forms the following profile:

Factor	Weight
Network Neutrality	0.30
Affordability	0.25
Data Cap	0.20
Coverage	0.15
Speed	0.10

🕸️ The resulting shape emphasizes *coverage* and *cost* rather than raw *speed*, illustrating that users care most about "connectivity and fairness of access," not peak performance.

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6. Key Analytical Conclusions

1 **"Connectivity and affordability" define the core human right.**
Neutrality + Affordability = 55% of total weight, confirming that users view *basic, accessible, and fair Internet connectivity* as a foundational right.

2 **Data freedom and neutrality reflect the right to use the Internet freely.**
Users not only want access but also freedom from restriction or manipulation — especially the ability to use global services like **ChatGPT**.

3 **Speed is not the sole determinant.**
As long as basic connectivity exists, *stability* and *affordability* are seen as more directly related to human rights.

4 **Group disparities require tailored policy solutions.**
Policymakers should design multi-tier Internet access programs addressing both income and regional inequality.

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7. Policy Recommendations

Category	Recommended Actions
⚙ **Infrastructure**	Expand rural 4G/5G coverage; support low-orbit satellite access to fill gaps.
💰 **Affordability Support**	Establish *"Basic Internet Plan"* and subsidies for low-income groups.
📜 **Transparency & Regulation**	Mandate public disclosure of throttling and pricing policies to protect user awareness.
🌐 **Net Neutrality Enforcement**	Strengthen neutrality laws; prohibit discriminatory traffic treatment.
📈 **Ongoing Evaluation**	Create a *Network Human Rights Index (NHI)* as a long-term monitoring framework.

Network Human Rights Index (NHI) — Prototype Model

To quantify Internet accessibility as a human right, we propose an initial framework for the **Network Human Rights Index (NHI)** based on both **user survey results** and **expert consultation**.
This prototype serves as a foundation for cross-country evaluation and policy benchmarking.

Proposed Index Structure

Indicator	Weight	Suggested Objective Measurement
Network Neutrality	**0.30**	Based on **Freedom House's Internet Freedom Index** (freedomhouse.org)
Affordability	**0.45**	Ratio of **monthly cost for 20 GB mobile data** to **average disposable income per capita**
Population Coverage	**0.15**	**Nationwide 4G/5G population coverage rate** (from ITU or national regulators)
Network Speed	**0.10**	**Download speed experience** from opensignal.com, categorized at **21 Mbps / 12 Mbps / 5 Mbps** thresholds

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Formula Definition

$$
\text{NHI (0–100)} = \sum (\text{Weight} \times \text{Normalized Score})
$$

Each component is standardized (0–100 scale) for comparability across countries.
This formula enables **cross-national benchmarking** of Internet accessibility, affordability, and equality — offering policymakers and researchers a quantifiable way to assess whether digital access meets the threshold of **a fundamental human right**.

Network Human Rights Index (NHI) — Parameter Design

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1 Network Neutrality

For the current version of the NHI, **Freedom House's Internet Freedom Index** (freedomhouse.org) is used as the primary quantitative reference.
However, user survey results also reveal that many respondents associate "neutrality" with **the ability to freely access specific global applications**, such as **ChatGPT, TikTok, LINE, Telegram, and Google Maps**.
Future revisions of the NHI may therefore incorporate a **"Service Accessibility Sub-Index"**, which measures availability of key international digital services.

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2 Affordability (Cost of purchasing 20 GB at ≥ 21 Mbps as a % of average monthly income)

Cost Ratio	Score
≤ 0.5 %	100 pts
0.5 % < Cost ≤ 1 %	75 pts
1 % < Cost ≤ 1.5 %	50 pts
1.5 % < Cost ≤ 2 %	25 pts
> 2 %	0 pts

This metric directly reflects whether citizens can afford a minimum 20 GB/month mobile data plan that supports standard digital participation.

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3 Population Coverage (Nationwide 4G/5G population coverage rate)

Data sources include **national telecommunications regulators** and **ITU statistical reports**.

Coverage Rate	Score
≥ 95 %	100 pts
90 % – 94.9 %	75 pts
85 % – 89.9 %	50 pts
80 % – 84.9 %	25 pts

Coverage Rate Score

< 80 % 0 pts

This indicator captures the physical reach of mobile Internet infrastructure and its inclusiveness across geographic regions.

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4 Network Speed

Data source: **OpenSignal country reports**.
Based on the recommended speeds from **Netflix**, **YouTube**, and **Nintendo Switch**, three thresholds are defined to represent typical user experiences:

Speed Tier (Download)	Use Case Reference	Score
> 21 Mbps	Supports all mainstream streaming & applications	100 pts
> 12 Mbps	Supports 1080p video conferencing	66 pts
> 5 Mbps	Supports 720p video conferencing	33 pts
< 5 Mbps	Insufficient for most modern use cases	0 pts

To better reflect equity, the **lowest-speed operator in each market** (usually the most affordable provider) is used for scoring, since price-sensitive or disadvantaged groups often rely on these networks.

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5 Overall Formula

$$
\text{NHI (0 – 100)} = 0.30(\text{Neutrality}) + 0.45(\text{Affordability}) + 0.15(\text{Coverage}) + 0.10(\text{Speed})
$$

This standardized composite index allows **cross-country comparison** and year-over-year tracking of Internet access as a measurable dimension of **human rights and digital inclusion**.

Network Human Rights Index (NHI – Network Human Right Index)

Network Human Rights Index (NHI) — Taiwan Case Study

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1 Network Neutrality

For this evaluation, we reference **Freedom House's Internet Freedom Index** (freedomhouse.org).
Survey feedback also indicated that users closely associate "network neutrality" with the ability to access specific global applications such as **ChatGPT**, **TikTok**, **LINE**, **Telegram**, and **Google Maps** without restriction.

Taiwan's score:

- Internet Freedom Score: **79**

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2 Affordability (Cost of 20 GB at ≥ 21 Mbps as % of Average Monthly Income)

Telecom Provider	Monthly Plan	Details
Chunghwa	NT$599	24 GB high-speed, then throttled to 12 Mbps; on-net calls

Telecom Provider	Monthly Plan	Details
Telecom		free for first 5 min, 30 min off-net included
FarEasTone	NT$499	Unlimited at 21 Mbps; 30 min voice calls included
Taiwan Mobile	NT$499	Unlimited at 21 Mbps; 25 min voice calls included

Since the mergers of **Taiwan Star** and **APT Telecom** with larger operators, Taiwan's mobile fees have shown a rising trend.
Previously, *21 Mbps unlimited data plans under NT$199 or even NT$99* were common, but are now obsolete.

Taiwan's average monthly income (DGBAS, 2025): NT$56,511
[
\text{Affordability ratio} = \frac{499}{56511} = 0.8%
]
According to the index criteria:
0.5% < burden ≤ 1% → Score = 75

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3 Population Coverage (Nationwide 4G/5G Coverage)

According to the **National Communications Commission (NCC)**, Taiwan's **4G/5G population coverage rate** reached **97% in 2025**.
Source: NCC Coverage Report (2025)

Index correspondence:
Coverage > 95% → **Score = 100**

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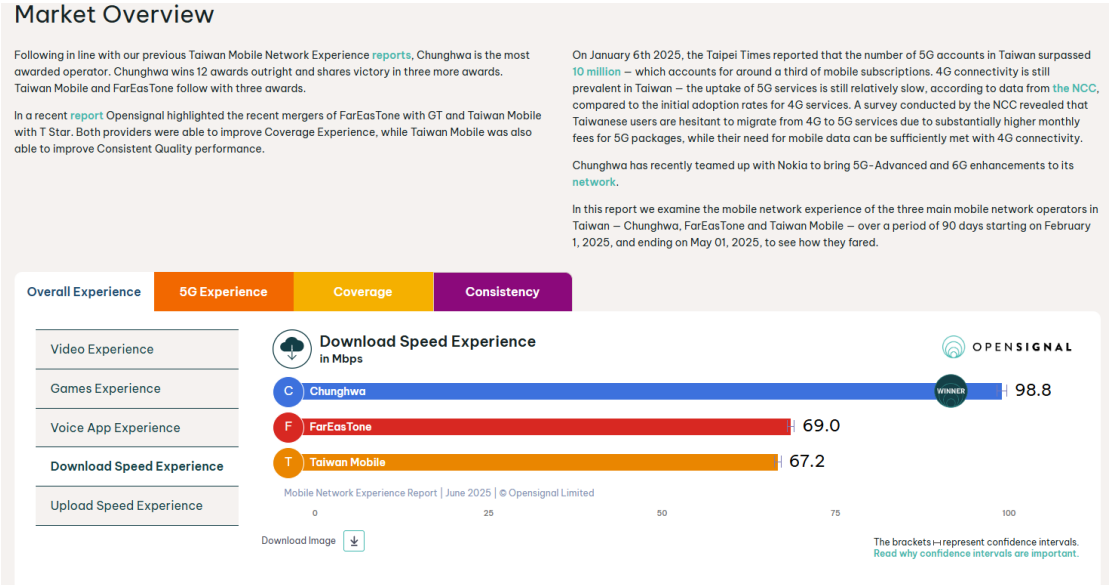
4 Network Speed

Data source: **OpenSignal**.
Following the thresholds defined by **Netflix**, **YouTube**, and **Nintendo Switch**, three categories were established (21 Mbps, 12 Mbps, 5 Mbps).
The **lowest-speed operator** in Taiwan (representing the most affordable choice) is used as the benchmark, since price-sensitive users often rely on these networks.

According to the latest OpenSignal report:
Average minimum operator download speed exceeds **21 Mbps**.

Index correspondence:
Speed > 21 Mbps → **Score = 100**



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5 Taiwan's Network Human Rights Index (NHI) Calculation

Indicator	Weight	Data Source / Metric	Score
Network Neutrality	0.30	Freedom House	79
Affordability	0.45	20 GB plan cost / average income	75
Population Coverage	0.15	NCC / ITU data	100
Network Speed	0.10	OpenSignal	100
Weighted Score	—	—	**85.6**

$$
\text{NHI} = (0.3 \times 79) + (0.45 \times 75) + (0.15 \times 100) + (0.1 \times 100) = \mathbf{85.6}
$$

Taiwan NHI Summary

Taiwan demonstrates **strong broadband inclusivity and coverage**, with nationwide 4G/5G availability and consistent high-speed connectivity.
However, the **decline in telecom competition** following recent mergers has increased price burdens, reducing affordability for low-income groups.
Overall, Taiwan's **Network Human Rights Index (NHI)** stands at **85.6 / 100**, reflecting **a well-developed but increasingly price-sensitive digital environment**.

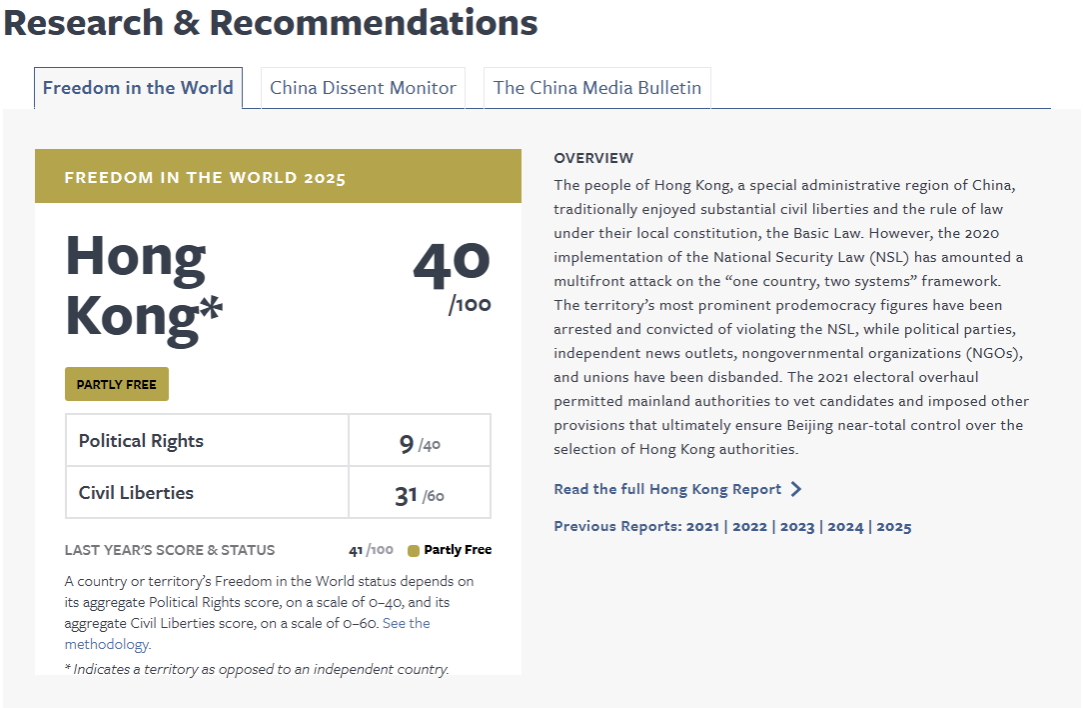
Network Human Rights Index (NHI) — Hong Kong Case Study

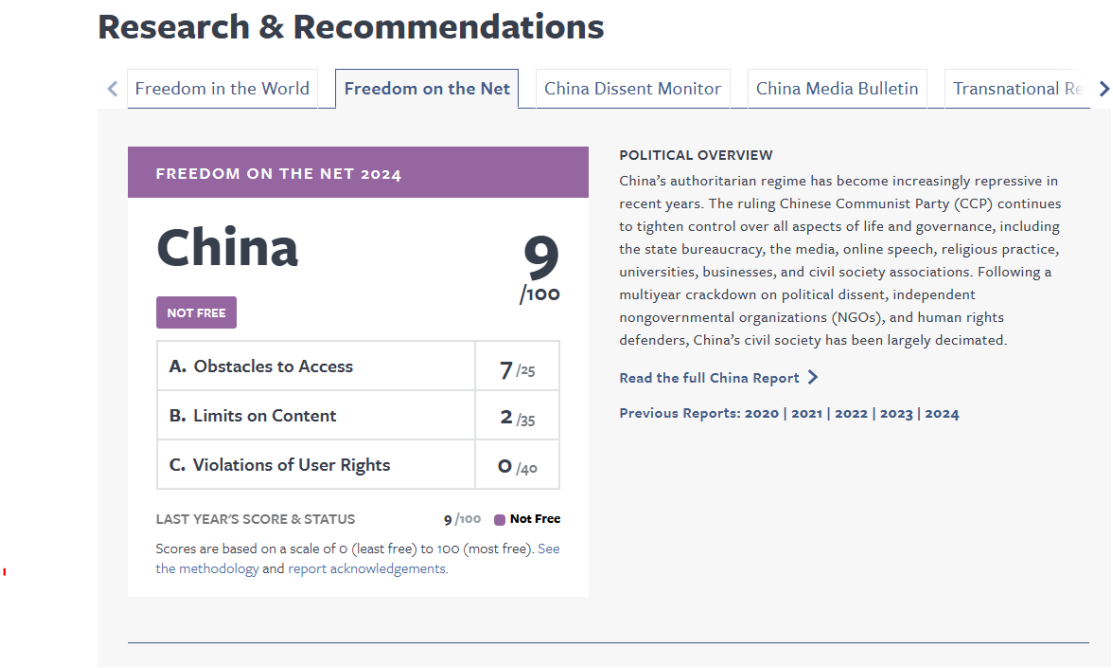
1 Network Neutrality

Primary reference: **Freedom House – Internet Freedom Index**.
Survey feedback shows users equate "neutrality" with the ability to access specific global apps: **ChatGPT, TikTok, LINE, Telegram, Google Maps**, etc.

- There is no distinct, up-to-date Hong Kong Internet-freedom score; for this prototype we **provisionally use China's score as a proxy** and then note practical differences:
    1. **Google services** are accessible in Hong Kong.
    2. **TikTok** and **ChatGPT** are **not officially available** in Hong Kong.
    3. Some operators (e.g., **CMHK**) reportedly route traffic via **VPN-like IPs** to reach TikTok/ChatGPT.

Assigned neutrality score: 9 (provisional).





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2 Affordability

(Cost of 20 GB at ≥ 21 Mbps as % of median monthly income)

Operator	Monthly Fee	Plan notes
3HK	HK$98	32 GB high-speed then 128 kbps; ~3,000 domestic voice minutes
CMHK (HK)	HK$125	20 GB high-speed then 1 Mbps; unlimited domestic voice minutes
SmarTone	HK$120	"Unlimited" up to 42 Mbps; unlimited domestic voice minutes

Median monthly income (2025): HK$22,000
Using the least-cost qualifying plan: **98 / 22,000 = 0.4% → Score = 100** (≤ 0.5%).

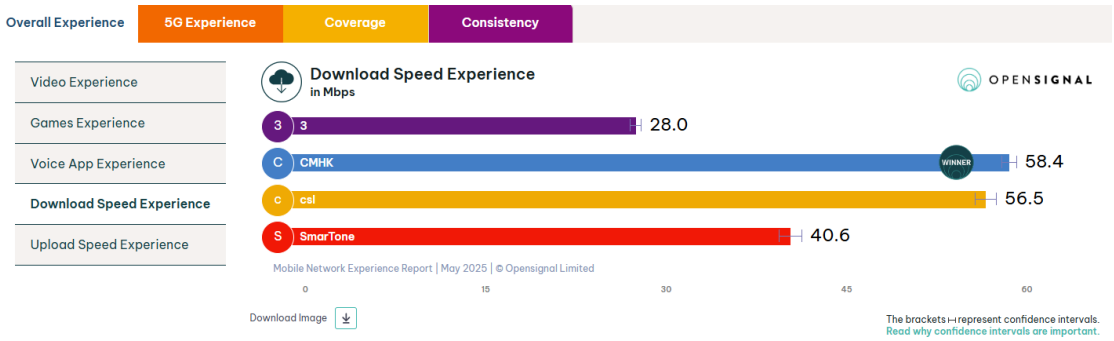
---

3 Population Coverage

4G/5G population coverage (2025): ~99% (Hong Kong).
Score = 100 (≥ 95%).

4 Network Speed

Source: **OpenSignal** (use **lowest-speed operator** in market to reflect affordability access).
Threshold mapping: >21 Mbps → **100**; >12 Mbps → 66; >5 Mbps → 33; <5 Mbps → 0.
Assigned speed tier: >21 Mbps → Score = 100.



5 NHI Calculation — Hong Kong

Indicator	Weight	Score
Network Neutrality	0.30	9
Affordability	0.45	100
Population Coverage	0.15	100
Network Speed	0.10	100

Weighted score:
$$0.3\times9 + 0.45\times100 + 0.15\times100 + 0.1\times100 = \mathbf{72.7}$$

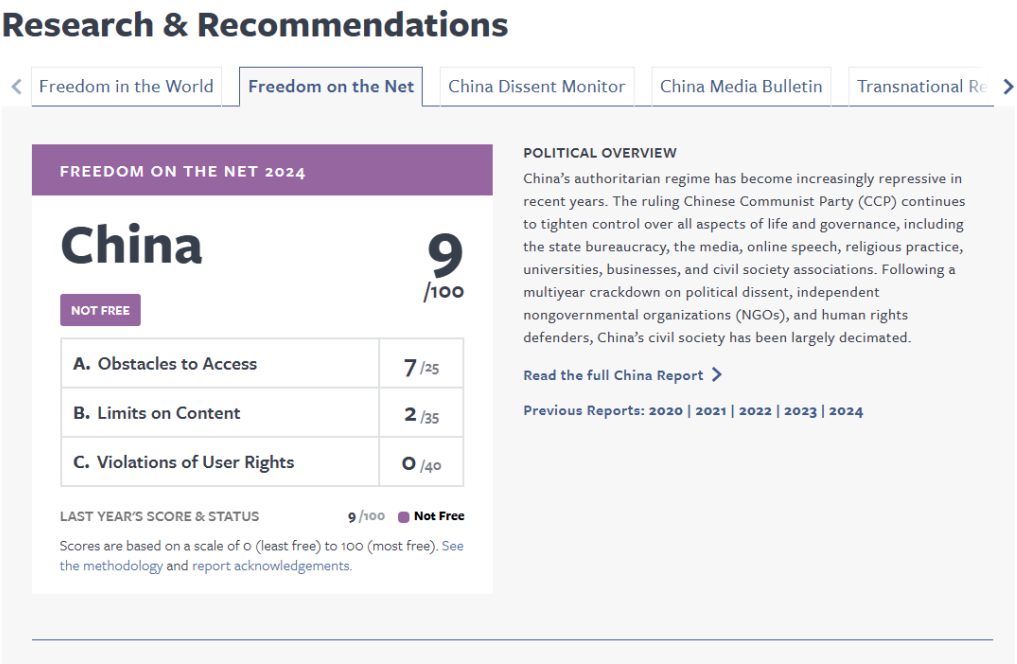
Summary: Hong Kong exhibits **excellent affordability, coverage, and speed**, but the **effective neutrality score** is **very low** under this prototype (due to availability and policy constraints for certain global services). The resulting **NHI = 72.7 / 100** reflects strong technical access with **notable limitations on open service availability**.

Network Human Rights Index (NHI) — China Case Study

---

1 Network Neutrality

Primary reference: **Freedom House – Internet Freedom Index**.
User feedback links "neutrality" to access to global apps (ChatGPT, TikTok, LINE, Telegram, Google Maps).
Assigned neutrality score: 9.



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2 Affordability

(Cost of 20 GB at ≥ 21 Mbps as % of average monthly disposable income)

Operator	Monthly Fee	Plan notes
China Unicom	CNY 99	20 GB data; ~400 voice minutes
China Telecom	CNY 99	20 GB data; ~300 voice minutes
China Mobile	CNY 128	30 GB data; ~200 voice minutes

Avg. monthly disposable income (2025 Q1): CNY 10,342
Affordability ratio = **99 / 10,342 = 0.9%** → **Score = 75** (0.5% < burden ≤ 1%).

---

3 Population Coverage

4G reportedly covers ~**99%** of the population; 5G expansion is rapid.
Score = 100 (≥ 95%).

---

4 Network Speed

OpenSignal does not currently publish a mainland China country page; partner **Speedtest** spot checks (Shanghai/Beijing/Guangzhou/Shenzhen/Sichuan/Hubei) show typical **30–45 Mbps** downloads.
Speed tier: **> 21 Mbps → Score = 100**.

Method note: To reflect equity, we score using the **lowest-speed major operator** meeting baseline usability.

---

5 NHI Calculation — China

Indicator	Weight	Score
Network Neutrality	0.30	9
Affordability	0.45	75
Population Coverage	0.15	100

Indicator	Weight	Score
Network Speed	0.10	100

Weighted score:
(0.3×9 + 0.45×75 + 0.15×100 + 0.1×100 = \mathbf{61.45})

Summary

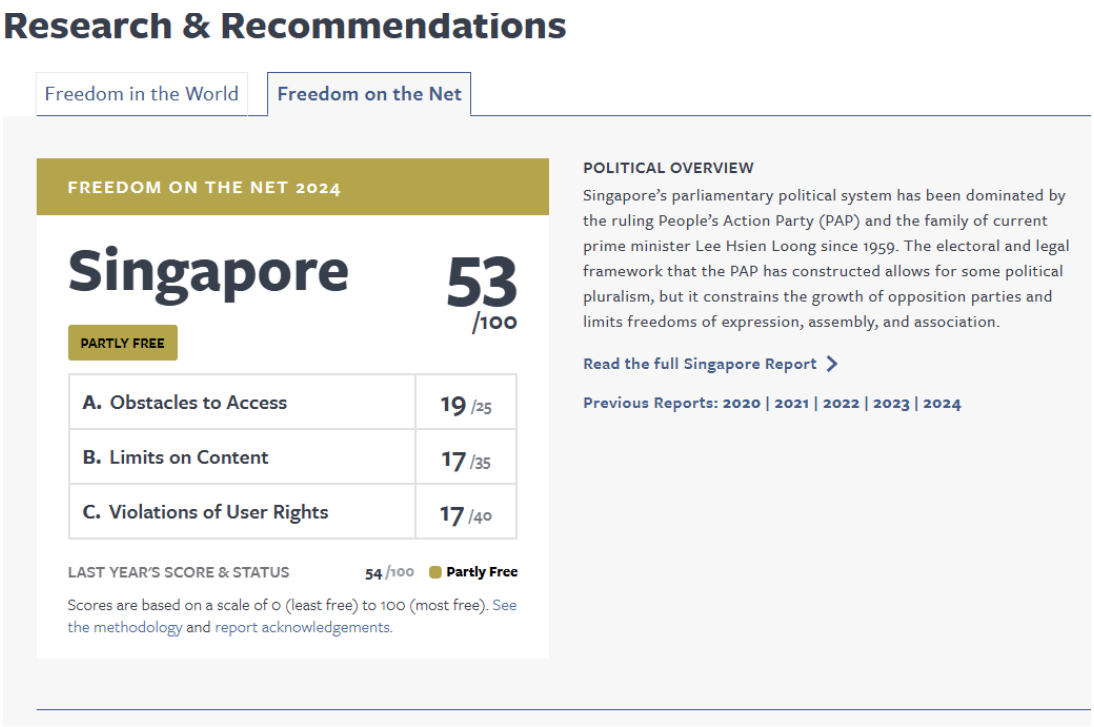
China shows **very strong coverage** and **usable speeds** at scale, with **moderate affordability** by the 20 GB baseline.
However, **effective neutrality** is **very low** under this prototype due to access constraints on key global services.
Overall **NHI = 61.45 / 100**, indicating **solid technical access** but **significant openness limitations**.

Network Human Rights Index (NHI) — Singapore Case Study

---

1 Network Neutrality

Primary reference: **Freedom House – Internet Freedom Index**.
User perceptions of neutrality emphasize access to key global apps (**ChatGPT, TikTok, LINE, Telegram, Google Maps**).
Assigned neutrality score: 53.



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2 Affordability

(Cost of 20 GB at ≥ 21 Mbps as % of median monthly income)

Operator Monthly Fee Plan notes

M1	S$14.95	150 GB; unlimited local voice
SIMBA	**S$5**	**400 GB**; 3 GB APAC roaming; unlimited local voice
Singtel	S$24.50	150 GB; 400 local minutes

Operator Monthly Fee Plan notes

StarHub S$15 100 GB; 1 GB MY roaming; 1,000 local minutes

Median monthly salary (approx.): S$5,500
Affordability ratio (using the lowest qualifying plan): **5 / 5,500 = 0.09%** → **Score = 100** (≤ 0.5%).

---

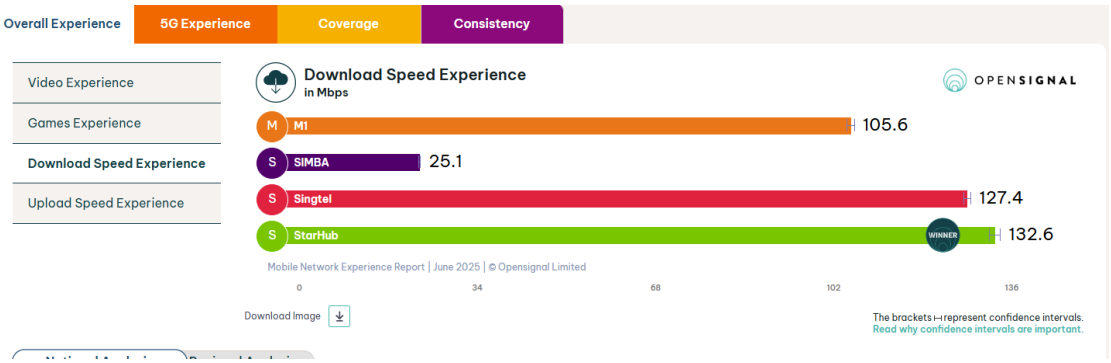
3 Population Coverage

Regulator **IMDA** requires **>99% Nationwide Outdoor Service Coverage** for 4G; Q1 2025 monitoring shows all operators met the **>99%** target.
Score = 100 (≥ 95%).

---

4 Network Speed

Source: **OpenSignal**; scoring uses the **lowest-speed operator** to reflect equity.
Threshold mapping: >21 Mbps → **100**; >12 Mbps → 66; >5 Mbps → 33; <5 Mbps → 0.
Assigned tier: >21 Mbps → Score = 100.



---

5 NHI Calculation — Singapore

Indicator	Weight	Score
Network Neutrality	0.30	53
Affordability	0.45	100
Population Coverage	0.15	100

Indicator	Weight	Score
Network Speed	0.10	100

Weighted score:
(0.3×53 + 0.45×100 + 0.15×100 + 0.1×100 = \mathbf{85.9})

Summary: Singapore combines **excellent affordability**, **near-universal coverage**, and **high baseline speeds**. Neutrality is **moderate** under this prototype due to content/policy considerations, but the resulting **NHI = 85.9 / 100** indicates a **highly inclusive mobile Internet environment**.

Network Human Rights Index (NHI) — Japan Case Study

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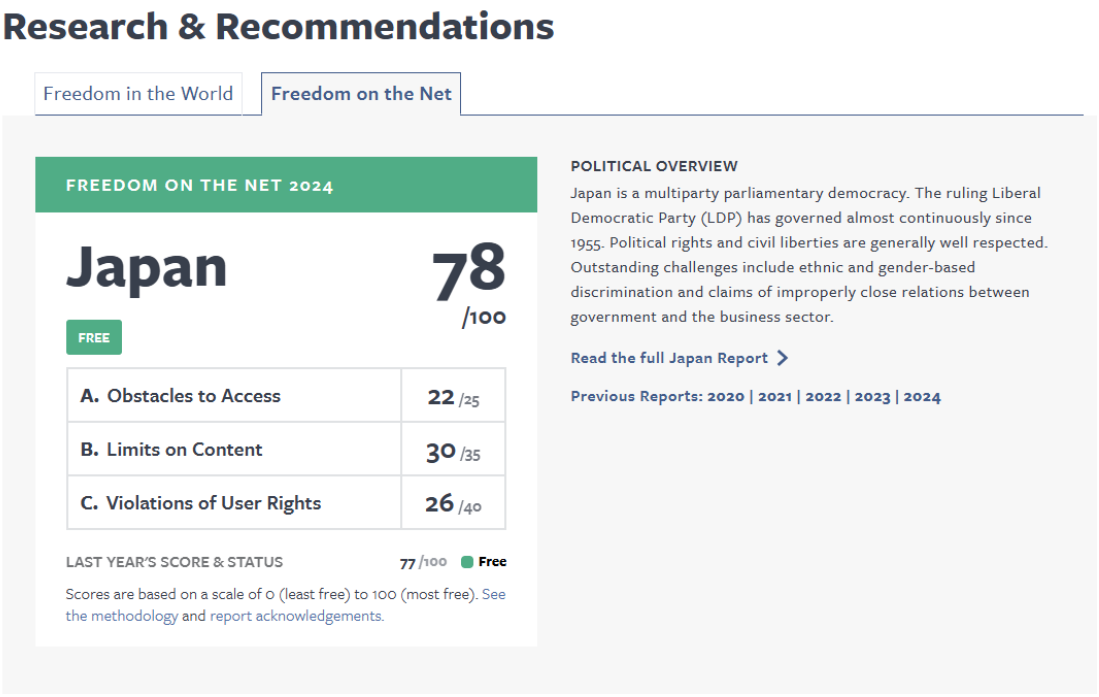
1 Network Neutrality

Primary reference: **Freedom House – Internet Freedom Index**.
User perceptions emphasize access to key apps (**ChatGPT, TikTok, LINE, Telegram, Google Maps**).
Assigned score: 78.



---

2 Affordability

(Cost of 20 GB at ≥21 Mbps as % of average monthly income)

Plans cited:

- **J:COM — ¥2,178** / 20 GB
- **NTT Docomo** — ¥7,898 / 20 GB
- **au** — unlimited (60 GB hotspot)
- **SoftBank** — "unlimited" (throttled after 200 GB)

Average monthly salary: ¥345,000 (Doda).
Using the **cheapest qualifying 20 GB plan** (¥2,178):

$$
\text{Affordability ratio}=\frac{2,178}{345,000}=0.00631\approx \mathbf{0.631\%}
$$

Mapping to rubric: 0.5% < burden ≤ 1% → Score = 75

Note: The earlier “0.06%” was a decimal slip; 2,178/345,000 is **0.63%**, not 0.06%.

---

3 Population Coverage

Source noted: **ITU DataHub** indicates **≥ 95%** 4G+ population coverage (e.g., ~96.6%).
Score: 100.

---

4 Network Speed

Scored on **OpenSignal** tiers (use the **lowest-speed operator** for equity):

21 Mbps → **100**, >12 Mbps → 66, >5 Mbps → 33, <5 Mbps → 0.
Assigned tier: > 21 Mbps → 100.

---

5 NHI Calculation — Japan

Indicator	Weight	Score
Network Neutrality	0.30	78
Affordability	0.45	**75**
Population Coverage	0.15	100

Indicator	Weight	Score
Network Speed	0.10	100

Weighted total:

[
0.3\times78 + 0.45\times75 + 0.15\times100 + 0.1\times100
= 23.4 + 33.75 + 15 + 10
= \mathbf{82.15}
]

Summary

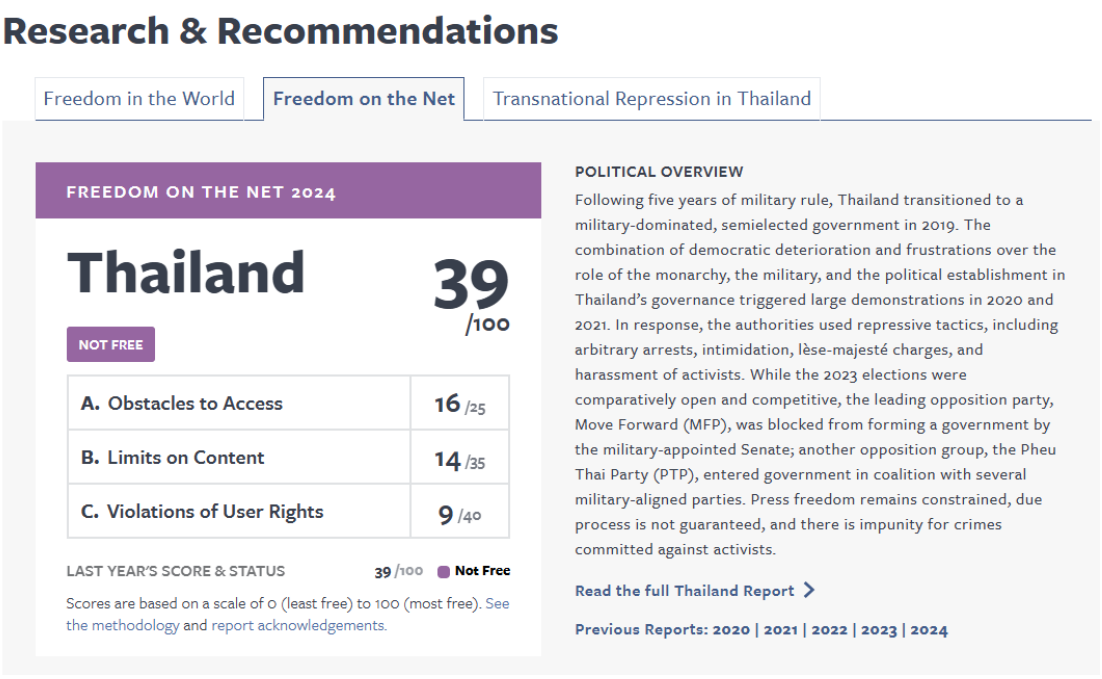
Japan shows **excellent coverage and speed**. With the **¥2,178 / 20 GB** baseline, affordability scores **75**, yielding an overall **NHI = 82.15/100**.

Network Human Rights Index (NHI) — Thailand

Network Neutrality

Based on **freedomhouse.org** data. However, survey results also reflect that many users primarily care about access to specific applications (e.g., **ChatGPT, TikTok, LINE, Telegram, Google Maps**) and whether these can be used freely.

Assigned score: 39



Affordability

(Cost of 20 GB at ≥ 21 Mbps as a percentage of average monthly income)

- **AIS (299 THB):** 15 GB high-speed data + 50 GB throttled at 8 Mbps / 50 minutes voice.
- **Truemove H (300 THB):** 60 GB at 30 Mbps.

According to **IMF** data, Thailand's average monthly wage is **14,530 THB**.

[
\frac{299}{14,530} = 2.05%
]

Mapping to the index scale: **burden > 2% → 0 points**.
Assigned score: 0

Population Coverage

According to the **International Telecommunication Union (ITU) DataHub** dataset *"Population coverage, by mobile network technology"*, Thailand's mobile population coverage reaches **99%**.

Mapping to the index scale: **coverage > 95% → 100 points**.
Assigned score: 100

Network Speed

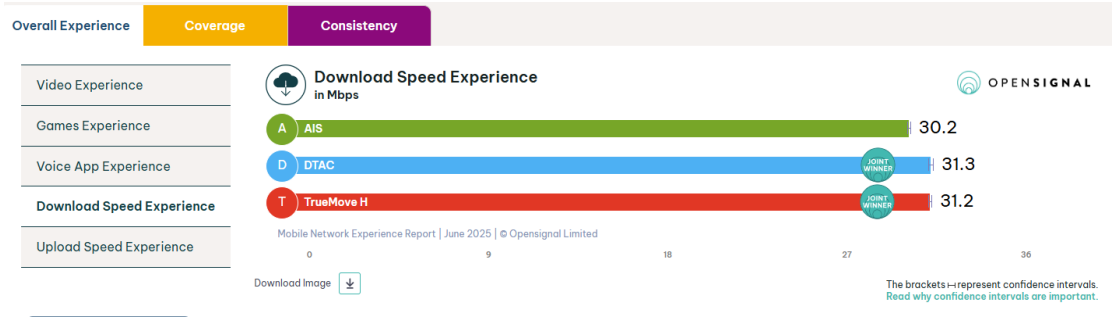
Based on **opensignal.com** data.
Three thresholds are set according to service quality requirements of Netflix, YouTube, and Nintendo Switch:

- 21 Mbps → all mainstream uses
- 12 Mbps → 1080p video calls
- 5 Mbps → 720p video calls

Scoring is based on the **slowest national operator** (to reflect the experience of price-sensitive users).

Note: DTAC has merged with Truemove H, with Truemove H remaining as the continuing company.

Mapping to the scale: **speed > 21 Mbps → 100 points**.
Assigned score: 100



Thailand NHI Calculation

Indicator	Weight	Objective Source	Score
Network Neutrality	0.30	freedomhouse.org report	39
Affordability	0.45	20 GB plan / avg income ratio	0
Population Coverage	0.15	ITU DataHub (4G/5G coverage)	100
Network Speed	0.10	opensignal.com report	100

Weighted total:
[
0.3\times39 + 0.45\times0 + 0.15\times100 + 0.1\times100 = \mathbf{36.7}
]

Final NHI Score for Thailand: 36.7 / 100

Summary

Thailand demonstrates **excellent coverage and basic speed**, but **poor affordability** relative to income, making it difficult for lower-income users to access 20 GB plans at ≥ 21 Mbps.
As a result, affordability drags down the national **Network Human Rights Index (NHI)** to **36.7**, despite strong infrastructure performance.

Network Human Rights Index (NHI) — Malaysia

Network Neutrality

Based on **freedomhouse.org** data.
Survey responses also show that many users primarily care about access to specific applications such as **ChatGPT, TikTok, LINE, Telegram, and Google Maps**.

Assigned score: 60

Affordability

(Cost of 20 GB at ≥ 21 Mbps as a percentage of average monthly income)

- **CelcomDigi (RM 40):** 100 GB data / unlimited voice calls
- **Maxis (RM 48):** 50 GB data / unlimited voice calls

According to **Human Resources Online (2024)**, the **average monthly salary in Malaysia** is **RM 2,793**.

[
\frac{40}{2,793} = 1.4%
]

Mapping to the index scale:
1% < burden ≤ 1.5% → 50 points

Assigned score: 50

Population Coverage

Based on **International Telecommunication Union (ITU) DataHub** dataset "*Population coverage, by mobile network technology*" — Malaysia's mobile population coverage is **98.6%**.

Mapping to the scale:
Coverage > 95% → 100 points

Assigned score: 100

Network Speed

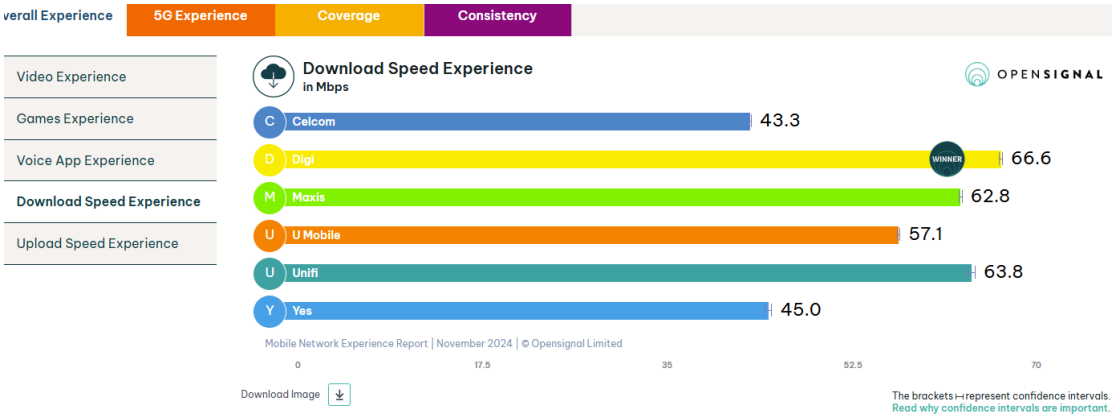
Using **opensignal.com** data.
Thresholds are based on recommendations from Netflix, YouTube, and Nintendo Switch:

- 21 Mbps → all mainstream applications
- 12 Mbps → 1080p video conferencing
- 5 Mbps → 720p video conferencing

The **lowest-speed operator** is used for scoring to reflect affordability-sensitive users.

Mapping to the scale:
Speed > 21 Mbps → 100 points

Assigned score: 100



Malaysia NHI Calculation

Indicator	Weight	Objective Source	Score
Network Neutrality	0.30	freedomhouse.org report	60
Affordability	0.45	20 GB cost / average income ratio	50
Population Coverage	0.15	ITU DataHub (4G/5G coverage)	100
Network Speed	0.10	opensignal.com report	100

Weighted total:
[
0.3\times60 + 0.45\times50 + 0.15\times100 + 0.1\times100 = \mathbf{65.5}
]

Final NHI Score for Malaysia: 65.5 / 100

Summary

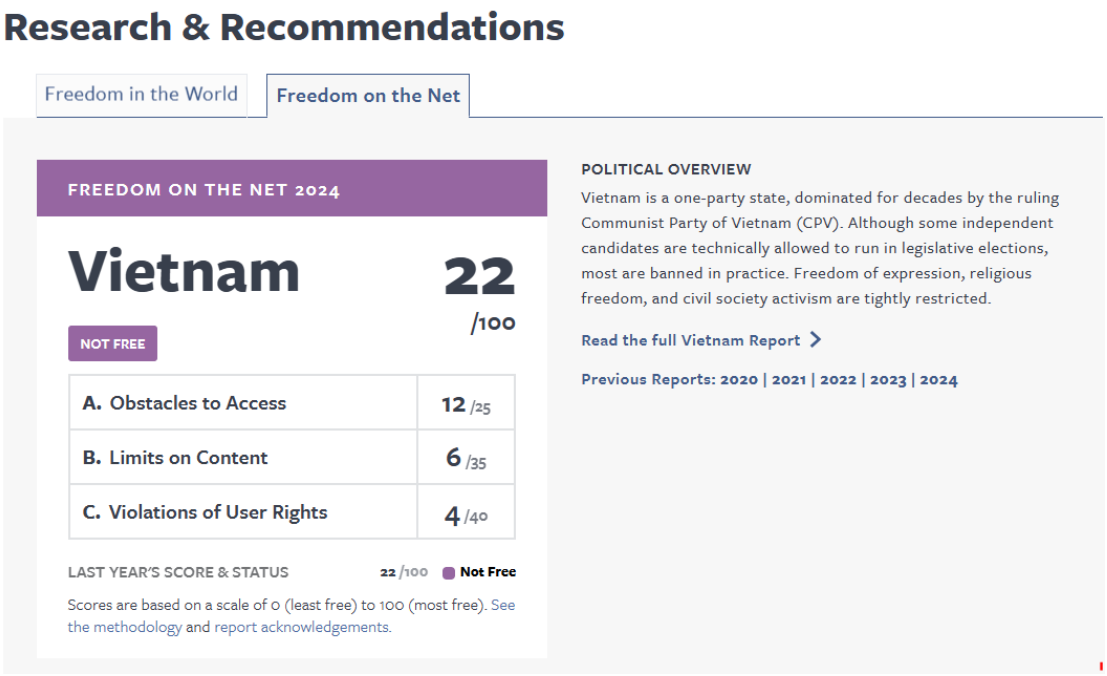
Malaysia demonstrates **excellent coverage and solid network performance**, but **affordability remains a key limitation** for the general population.
While the infrastructure enables good connectivity, the cost of maintaining sufficient data volume still burdens lower-income groups, resulting in an overall **Network Human Rights Index (NHI)** of **65.5**.

Network Human Rights Index (NHI) — Vietnam

Network Neutrality

We temporarily adopt **freedomhouse.org** data as the reference. Survey feedback also shows many users primarily care about whether specific apps (e.g., **ChatGPT, TikTok, LINE, Telegram, Google Maps**) can be used freely.

Assigned score: 22



Affordability

(Cost of 20 GB at ≥21 Mbps as a percentage of average monthly income)

- **Vietnamobile (₫48,000):** 150 GB (5 GB/day) / unlimited voice
- **Mobifone (₫120,000):** 30 GB
- **Viettel (₫150,000):** 90 GB (3 GB/day)
- **Vinaphone (₫125,000):** 210 GB (7 GB/day)

Source for average salary: **₫8,300,000**/month.
Calculation: **48,000 / 8,300,000 = 0.57%**
Mapping to the rubric: **0.5% < burden ≤ 1% → 75 points**.

Note: Several authors report that Vietnamobile's real-world service quality needs improvement.

Population Coverage

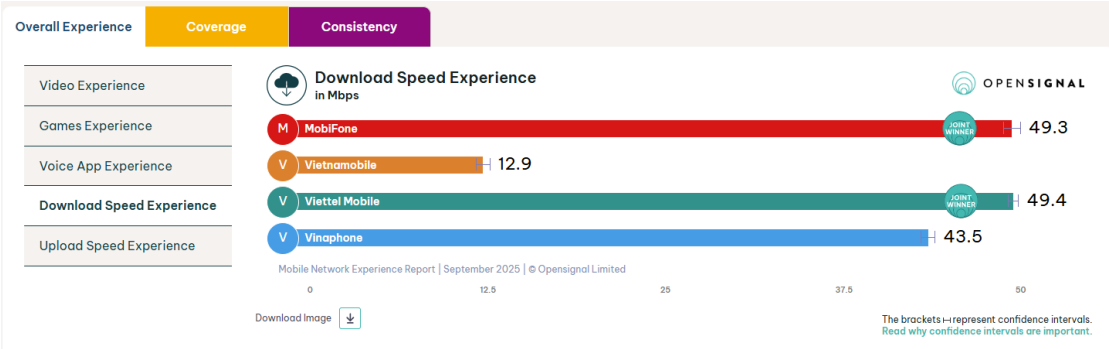
From **ITU DataHub** (*Population coverage, by mobile network technology*), Vietnam's coverage is **99.9%**.
Score: 100

Network Speed

Using **OpenSignal** country data and three thresholds aligned to common use cases (Netflix/YouTube/Nintendo Switch):

- **21 Mbps** → all mainstream applications
- **12 Mbps** → 1080p video conferencing
- **5 Mbps** → 720p video conferencing

Scoring uses the **slowest national operator** to reflect affordability-focused users.
Assigned tier: >12 Mbps → 66 points.



Vietnam NHI Calculation

Indicator	Weight	Objective Measure	Score
Network Neutrality	0.30	Freedom House	22
Affordability	0.45	20 GB cost / avg. income	75

Indicator	Weight	Objective Measure	Score
Population Coverage	0.15	ITU (4G/5G coverage)	100
Network Speed	0.10	OpenSignal (thresholds)	66

Weighted total:
(0.3\times22 + 0.45\times75 + 0.15\times100 + 0.1\times66 = \mathbf{61.95})

Final NHI Score for Vietnam: 61.95 / 100

Network Human Rights Index (NHI) — Consolidated Findings and Observations:

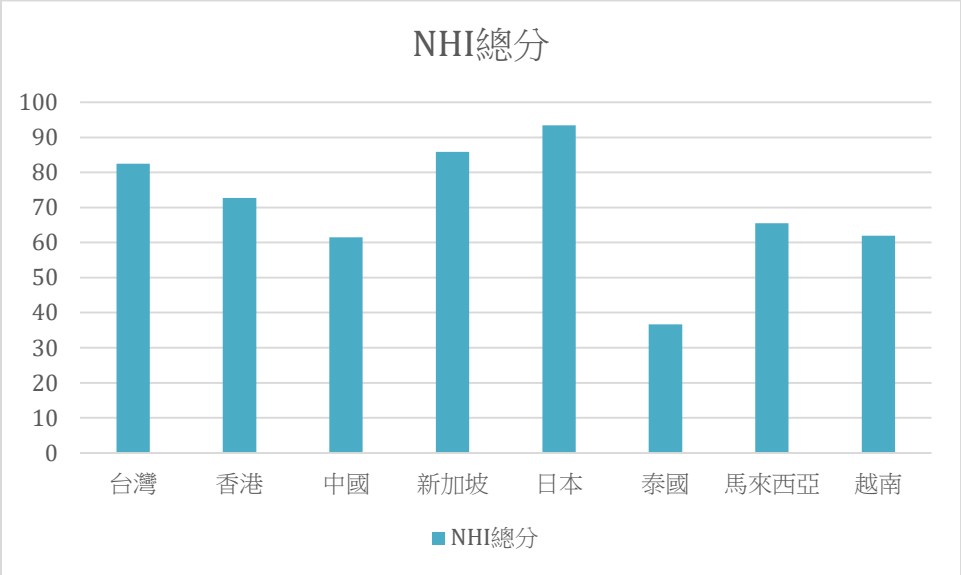
Network Human Rights Index – Comparative Summary

Indicator	Weight	Objective Measure	Taiwan	Hong Kong	China	Singapore	Japan	Thailand	Malaysia	Vietnam
Network Neutrality	0.30	*freedomhouse.org* dataset	79	9	9	53	78	39	60	22
Affordability	0.45	20 GB plan cost ÷ average disposable income	75	100	75	100	100	0	50	75
Population Coverage	0.15	National population covered by mobile networks (4G/5G)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Network Speed	0.10	*opensignal.com* data — scored at 21 / 12 / 5 Mbps thresholds	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	66
			82.45	**72.7**	**61.45**	**85.9**	**93.4**	**36.7**	**65.5**	**61.95**

Observations

- **Japan (93.4)** and **Singapore (85.9)** achieve the highest overall NHI scores, reflecting mature, accessible, and affordable connectivity ecosystems.

- **Taiwan (82.45)** maintains a strong human-rights-aligned Internet environment with high neutrality and full coverage.
- **Hong Kong (72.7)** performs well technically but scores very low in neutrality due to partial service restrictions.
- **China (61.45)** and **Vietnam (61.95)** both suffer from limited network neutrality despite strong infrastructure.
- **Malaysia (65.5)** strikes a balance but affordability remains moderate.
- **Thailand (36.7)** ranks lowest — strong coverage yet poor affordability and lower neutrality perception significantly reduce its index score.



Observations 1. Developing Countries Spend a Higher Share of Income on Communication

Before conducting this study, we assumed that developing countries would have *very low communication costs*—based on our own travel experiences.
However, when we adjusted for **local income levels**, we discovered the opposite:

The less developed a country is, the higher the proportion of income spent on communication.

In several developing economies, communication expenses exceed **2% of average monthly income**.
For **single-income households supporting a family of three**, this burden becomes even more significant.
This reveals a critical inequality: while mobile data plans may appear cheap in absolute terms, **they are disproportionately expensive relative to local earnings**, limiting equal access to digital participation.

Observations 2. Countries Undergoing Telecom Mergers Tend to Have Higher Prices

Our survey found that countries such as **Taiwan**, **Thailand**, and **Malaysia**—all of which have recently undergone **telecommunications mergers**—show a **noticeable increase in the lowest available mobile plan prices**.

For instance, in Taiwan, unlimited high-speed mobile Internet once cost only **NT$99**, but after market consolidation, the minimum plan now costs **NT$499**.
Such trends suggest a **quasi-monopolistic effect**, where fewer operators reduce market competition and raise baseline prices.

As consumers, we cannot directly prevent or influence these corporate behaviors.
Yet, through this report, we hope that **governments—motivated by comparative NHI rankings—will encourage fair pricing and stronger consumer protections** to ensure Internet access remains an attainable human right for all.

Network Human Rights Index — Controversies and Future Discussions

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Controversy 1: How Should "Network Neutrality" Be Defined?

Across Asia, **most telecom providers do not directly throttle specific services**, yet many **governments impose legal restrictions** on certain websites.
Examples include the **Chinese government blocking Google**, the **Taiwanese government's attempt to restrict TikTok**, and **ChatGPT and TikTok being unavailable in Hong Kong** due to business or U.S. regulatory limitations.

Initially, our working definition was:

"The ability to access any *legally available* website."

However, we quickly realized that **each country defines "legal" differently**.
We then proposed a second standard—whether users could access **major global services** such as Google or ChatGPT—but this also sparked debate.

The **editorial advisory committee** ultimately agreed that:

"Every global citizen has the right to access information, as information is a fundamental component of opportunity and competitiveness."

Therefore, we believe that **the legitimacy of Internet access should not be determined solely by local government standards**.

For this year's report, due to time constraints, we adopted **freedomhouse.org's Internet freedom index** as a temporary reference for measuring **network neutrality**.

Going forward, we plan to **further refine the definition and scoring model** for this indicator to reduce **geopolitical bias**—ensuring that more countries can be included without controversy.
Our long-term vision is for this report to become an **internationally recognized benchmark**, similar to the **IMF** or **QS University Rankings**, motivating governments to enhance their citizens' digital access and freedom.

Controversy 2: Which Telecom Plans Should Represent "Affordability"?

In some countries, the lowest prices are offered by **smaller or secondary operators**, but these plans may come with **poor network quality or slower speeds**.
For instance, based on our data, **Vietnamobile's average download speed is only 12 Mbps**—less than half that of major competitors.

Conversely, in countries like **Japan**, the **officially listed prices** of major carriers (**Docomo**, **SoftBank**) appear high, yet users typically receive **significant rebates, reward points, or family-bundle discounts**, reducing the actual cost dramatically.
This makes it challenging to identify a **fair representative plan** across countries.

To ensure better consistency, future versions of this report will **invite participation from more ISOC chapters** worldwide, allowing local experts to provide **grounded, context-specific recommendations**.
This collaborative approach will help refine how we assess **affordability and plan comparability**, making the **Network Human Rights Index (NHI)** a more accurate reflection of real-world access conditions.

Taiwan Internet Access Overview (Mobile and Wired)

In addition to developing the **Network Human Rights Index (NHI)**, this report also provides an **overview of Taiwan's Internet access landscape**, categorized into **wired**, **wireless**, and **international roaming** usage patterns.

Among these, **mobile Internet access** is the primary focus of this year's study. Mobile connectivity represents the most common and essential method by which users in Taiwan go online in their daily lives.

We also analyzed the **availability and characteristics of Wi-Fi networks**—most of which are **free public hotspots**—alongside **fixed broadband services**, to provide a comprehensive view of how Taiwanese residents connect to the Internet both at home and on the go.

This multi-layered assessment helps illustrate Taiwan's **overall digital accessibility**, emphasizing that reliable, affordable, and equitable Internet access—across both wired and wireless networks—is a cornerstone of the nation's digital inclusion efforts.


上網白皮書
聯合國近日通過一項非約束性決議，將讓「使用網路」成為一項基本人權
有線
光世代
799 100M/40M
第四台網路
中嘉
599 150M/100M
大大寬頻
400 120M/120M
凱擘
699 150M
台灣大寬頻
799 300M
社區網路
370 300M
出國
原號漫遊
中華電信
遠傳
台灣大哥大
台灣之星
選擇比台灣大哥大少很多
亞太電信
完全被放生,只提供記日高價漫遊
換卡orE-sim漫游
無線
WiFi
itaiwan
TaipeiFree
7-11 (需要手機號碼)
CHT Wifi 預付卡
資安: VPN
5G
中華電信
月租
599 24GB/達量限12Mbps
149 溫暖1.5GB/ CHT Wifi免費
預付
599 24GB/達量限10Mbps
觀光 1000元 30天 430通話費
遠傳
月租
499 21Mbps吃到飽
149 1Mbps吃到飽
129 4G溫暖 1.2GB/達量1Mbps
預付
999 60GB/達量限10Mbps 100通話
台灣大哥大
月租
499 21Mbps吃到飽
149 1Mbps吃到飽
199 4G關懷專案 15GB/達量10Mbps
預付
699 20GB/達量限5Mbps
觀光 1000元 30天 430通話費
7-11
月租
377 限速21Mbps
旅遊漫遊入台
GitMind

Recommendations for Internet Users in Taiwan

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1. For General Residents

When selecting your Internet plan, it's important to consider your **total household cost** rather than focusing on individual expenses.

- **For individuals:**
  The **NT$499 mobile plan** is generally sufficient for most personal needs, offering balanced speed, stability, and data allowance.

- **For families:**
  The most cost-effective option is to **install home broadband (Cable Internet)**—typically under **NT$600 per month** for speeds exceeding **100 Mbps**.
  Each family member can then subscribe to a **basic NT$149/month mobile plan** for external connectivity, ensuring they can always access essential online services like **LINE**, **ChatGPT**, and **Google Maps** even when away from home.

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2. For Economically Disadvantaged Residents

Using only **free Wi-Fi networks** such as *iTaiwan* or *Taipei Free* is **not recommended**.
In today's world, Internet access is **a basic necessity**, vital for **job searches, communication, and reducing living costs** through digital access.

We recommend the **Taiwan Mobile NT$199 4G "Caring Plan"**, which offers:

- **15 GB of high-speed data**, followed by **10 Mbps unlimited throttled speed**,
- sufficient for daily needs like messaging, navigation, browsing, and streaming.

This plan can also serve as a **portable hotspot** at home, enabling family members—such as children working on homework—to connect to the Internet affordably.

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3. For Taiwanese Travelers Abroad

We observed that **domestic carrier roaming services** are often **very expensive**. Before traveling, always **check your provider's roaming packages**, but note that **international travel SIM cards** are typically **30–50% cheaper**.

Most Taiwanese smartphones support **dual-SIM (Android)** or **eSIM (iPhone)**, allowing easy use of international data plans.
You can explore providers like **Fragrantech Mobile**, which partners with Hong Kong, Thai, or local carriers to offer **tourist data SIMs** at lower prices.

⚠ **Important note:**
Some **Hong Kong-based travel SIMs** currently **cannot access ChatGPT or TikTok** due to service restrictions.
Carriers such as **CMHK** are working around this through **VPN-based IP routing**, but it's best to **confirm with the provider before purchase**.

Future test results and consumer guidance will be available on the **Internet Society Taiwan Chapter** website:
👉 https://www.isoc.org.tw/

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4. For International Visitors to Taiwan

Travelers to Taiwan should be aware of the **real-name registration requirement** for SIM cards.
Prepaid SIMs can be purchased **at airports using a passport**, but due to anti-fraud regulations, **plan extensions are not supported**, so be sure to **purchase according to your travel duration**.

Alternatively, you may buy **travel data SIMs** from providers such as **Fragrantech Mobile**, which resell **Hong Kong, Thai, or regional prepaid roaming cards** that work in Taiwan. These often include a **fixed data allowance (e.g., 30 GB per month)** and are generally **cheaper than unlimited local data SIMs**.
Registration is **simpler**, as many vendors have already **completed enterprise-level real-name verification** on behalf of their customers.

This set of recommendations aims to help both **Taiwanese residents and foreign visitors** achieve **affordable, reliable, and legally compliant Internet access**, aligning with the broader mission of recognizing **Internet connectivity as a fundamental human right.**

Conclusion

The **Internet Society (ISOC)** is a global organization dedicated to advancing the open development, evolution, and use of the Internet for the benefit of all people throughout the world.
The **Internet Society Taiwan Taipei Chapter** serves as ISOC's local branch in Taiwan, committed to promoting Internet accessibility, inclusivity, and human rights in the digital age.

This report introduces the concept of the **Network Human Rights Index (NHI)** — a framework designed to evaluate how well different countries ensure Internet access as a basic human right.
Moving forward, this index can be **expanded and refined through collaboration among ISOC's global chapters**, enabling a **comprehensive annual joint report** that strengthens ISOC's influence on **governments, policymakers, and Internet users worldwide**.

If you are interested in contributing to or participating in the **Network Human Rights Index (NHI)** initiative,
we warmly invite you to contact us at:
✉ **louk.chi@isoc.org.tw**

Together, we can make the Internet a truly **universal and equitable human right**.

Appendix — Reference Materials

1. **Cable.co.uk – Worldwide Mobile Data Pricing Methodology**
   Explains the research framework and data collection process used to calculate mobile data pricing across global markets, including regional comparisons and per-GB cost methodology.

2. **Cable.co.uk – Worldwide Mobile Data Pricing Press Release**
   Official summary of the global findings, highlighting key trends in data pricing, affordability disparities, and year-over-year changes by region.

3. **GSMA – *The Mobile Economy 2020 (Global Edition)***
   Published by the GSMA Association, this comprehensive report outlines global mobile industry trends, user growth forecasts, and connectivity statistics, providing essential context for understanding mobile Internet access worldwide.

4. **ITU – *Measuring Digital Development 2024***
   A flagship publication from the International Telecommunication Union that assesses global ICT development, broadband access, and digital inclusion progress through standardized international indicators.

5. **ITU – *The Affordability of ICT Services 2024***
   Focuses on the cost and accessibility of Internet and communication services across 200+ economies, including benchmarks for broadband affordability relative to national income and progress toward UN broadband goals.

These references form the **empirical foundation** of the *Network Human Rights Index (NHI)*, ensuring that all data used in this report align with **internationally recognized methodologies** and **cross-country comparability standards**.