

A global coalition  
working to make  
broadband  
affordable for all



Regional Snapshot:

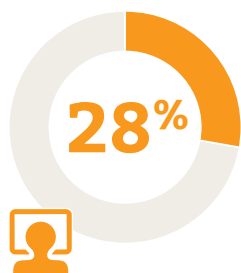
# Africa

## Affordability Report 2019



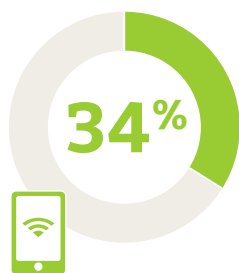
The Affordability Report is an annual report published by the **Alliance for Affordable Internet**. It examines the policy and regulatory frameworks that have allowed some countries to make broadband internet access more affordable, accessible, and universal and seeks to understand what others can do to catch up quickly. The 2019 Affordability Report explores the policy progress made across 61 low- and middle-income countries and 29 countries in Africa.

## In Africa...



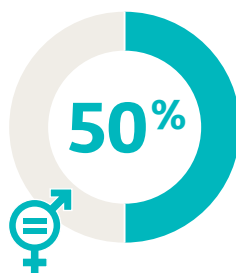
**ONLINE POPULATION**

(ITU, 2019)



**MOBILE INTERNET SUBSCRIBERS**

(A4AI/GSMA, 2019)



**INTERNET USE GENDER GAP**

(A4AI/ITU, 2019)

## Africa 2019 ADI Rankings

The **Affordability Drivers Index (ADI)** scores and ranks all 61 countries based on an in-depth analysis of communications infrastructure and access and affordability indicators.

ADI RANK (AFRICA)	GLOBAL ADI RANK		COUNTRY	ACCESS SCORE	INFRASTRUCTURE SCORE	ADI SCORE (OUT OF 100)
1	13	▼ 1	Mauritius	76.3	50.4	66.0
2	15	▼ 1	Morocco	73.7	48.8	63.8
3	19	▼ 1	Nigeria	69.2	48.1	61.1
4	20	●	Ghana	67.1	50.1	61.1
5	21	▲ 2	Tunisia	66.6	50.5	61.0
6	22	●	Botswana	67.6	47.7	60.1
7	23	▼ 4	South Africa	69.6	45.1	59.7
8	27	▼ 1	Côte d'Ivoire	67.3	43.5	57.7
9	28	▼ 1	Senegal	58.3	52.1	57.5
10	29	●	Benin	57.2	51.0	56.3
11	31	▼ 3	Rwanda	56.8	47.4	54.3
12	32	▲ 3	Tanzania	55.1	47.7	53.6
13	33	●	Egypt	56.8	44.3	52.7
14	36	●	Uganda	55.2	45.0	52.2
15	37	●	Kenya	50.3	48.8	51.6
16	40	▲ 5	Mali	49.7	46.8	50.3
17	42	▲ 2	Namibia	43.9	46.6	47.2
18	44	▲ 6	Cameroon	45.5	43.2	46.2
19	45	▼ 2	Mozambique	45.7	41.6	45.5
20	46	●	Zambia	45.9	40.3	44.9
21	49	●	Burkina Faso	44.6	37.5	42.8
22	50	▼ 2	Gambia, The	46.5	33.5	41.7
23	52	▲ 2	Malawi	40.8	28.7	36.2
24	53	▼ 1	Zimbabwe	45.0	24.0	35.9
25	54	▼ 1	Sudan	42.9	25.6	35.7
26	56	●	Liberia	27.8	18.2	24.0
27	57	●	Sierra Leone	29.1	15.9	23.4
28	58	●	Congo, DR	21.4	14.6	18.8
29	60	●	Ethiopia	14.7	7.2	11.4

● = No Change | ▲ 1 = Up from previous year | ▼ 1 = Down from previous year

## What is affordable internet?

# “1 for 2”

1GB of mobile prepaid data of 2% or less of average monthly income

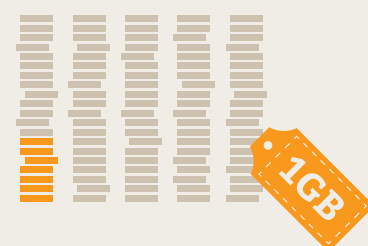
## How affordable is access in Africa?

# 10 out of 45

countries we track have affordable internet:



Algeria  
Botswana  
Cabo Verde  
Egypt  
Gabon  
Mauritius  
Namibia  
Nigeria  
Sudan  
Tunisia



1GB of data costs an average person just over

# 7.1%

of their monthly income

The **2019 Affordability Report** calls on policy makers and regulators to promote competitive and diverse broadband markets as key ingredients to drive down the cost of internet access. Competitive and diverse markets, especially those with robust public access options, emerge as a path forward for increased inclusion and the expansion of digital economies.



Globally, consumers pay an estimated additional  
**\$3.42 per GB**  
 in more consolidated markets

## How do we create stronger market competition?

### 1 Fair Market Rules

Policymakers should set fair rules for entry into the market, with clear licensing requirements for traditional providers and community networks. Effective operating rules are also necessary for service providers to plan long-term network investments.

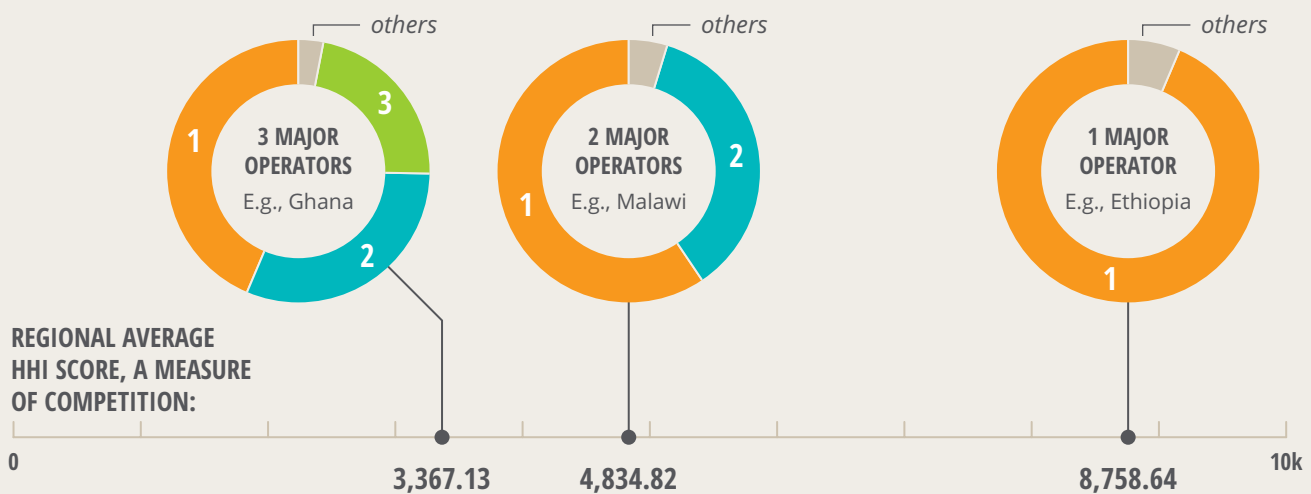
### 2 Evidence-Based Policies

Policymakers and regulators should base their decisions on publicly available evidence and consult all stakeholders in inclusive processes, including businesses and civil society groups.

### 3 Dynamic Competition Policy

Policymakers and regulators should apply dynamic pressures to markets as they change to support positive and sustainable market competition.

## The Shape of Mobile Broadband Markets in Africa



Source: A4AI/GSMAi, 2018

## How can we build healthy, diverse broadband markets?

### 1 Competitive Markets for Mobile Broadband

Robust and competitive markets give consumers a wider choice of services and pressures operators to lower prices and improve services. They also provide the regulatory certainty necessary to encourage investment.

### 2 Affordable Backhaul & Infrastructure

Regulators and policymakers play a key role in facilitating passive and active infrastructure sharing among operators, supporting open access networks, and allocating spectrum in a fair and transparent manner for the greatest public benefit.

### 3 Diverse Connectivity Strategies & Public Access

Public access strategies and community networks complement private investment by providing more opportunities to connect and expanding internet coverage to a wider diversity of people.



# A global coalition working to make broadband affordable for all



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[www.a4ai.org](http://www.a4ai.org) | Twitter: [@a4a\\_internet](https://twitter.com/a4a_internet)

