



Sri Lanka has been successful in its adoption of ICT according to the Department of Census and Statistics. Its recent surveys show that computer literacy is on the rise with one in five households owning either a desktop or a laptop.

### Statistics reveal:

## One in five households owns a computer

In 2018, at least one computer was available in 22.3 percent of households in the country. That is about one in five households owns either a desktop or a laptop computer. This percentage is 37.5 in urban areas and rural and estate sector show 20.0 percent and 4.2 percent respectively.

When the provinces are consid-

ered, the highest availability is in the Western province (33.4%) while the lowest availability is reported from the Eastern (13.2%).

Percentage of computer literate population (computer literacy) over the survey periods has been gradually increasing, according to computer literacy statistics - 2018 of the Depart-

ment of Census and Statistics. Overall Computer Literacy reported in 2018 for Sri Lanka is 29.0 percent. Percentage of availability of desktop or laptop computer at a household vary between 22%-24% between 2015 to 2018 period.

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### One in five...

The survey results show an increase of 1.9 percentage points from 2015 to 2018. Urban sector shows the highest computer literacy rate (40.4%) among residential sectors. Computer literacy rate for rural and estate sectors are 27.5 percent and 10.8 percent respectively.

Among the provinces the highest level of computer literacy is reported from the Western province (40.0%). The lowest computer literacy is reported from the Eastern province (14.8%).

The Computer literacy among males (31.0%) is higher than that of females (27.2%) in 2018. Young youths (aged 15 - 19 years) show the highest computer literacy rate (60.8%) among all other age groups.

The survey results reveal that higher the level of education higher the computer literacy.

The group with A/L or above level of education shows the highest computer literacy

rate (71.6%). Also computer literacy is higher among those who are literate in English language (69.8%).

Among the unemployed, aged (25-29) group shows highest computer literate population percentage (76.1%). Annual results reveal that among unemployed many have at least some ICT skills. Even among the group aged 40-69 every one out of three is computer literate (30.1%) in 2018.

Computer literacy among the employed population who are aware of computer in Sri Lanka is around 63.2% in 2018.

The positions such as senior officials and Managers (70.2%), Professionals (87.4%), Technical and Associate professionals (83.8%), Clerks and Clerical support workers (89.9%) have higher computer literacy rates. Also, even among the individuals engage in elementary

occupations 30.5 percent are computer literate. When the digital literacy is considered 42.4% (aged 5-69) has digital literacy. Digital literacy is higher than computer literacy for all disaggregated levels, showing the drift from Personal Computer to Smartphones and tablets.

The report also depicts that 26.8 percent of the population aged 5 to 69 years use the internet facility at least once during twelve months in 2018.

The survey results further reveal that in the Urban sector, where the facilities are largely available, shows the highest usage of both e-mail and internet compared to other two sectors. The survey results reveal that 10.2 percent of the household population aged 5 - 69 years have used E-mail facility at least once during the past 12-month period.