

Table 2
Adult and youth literacy¹

Country or territory	ADULT LITERACY RATE (15 and over) [%]						ADULT ILLITERATES (15 and over)			
	1990			2000-2004 ²			1990		2000-2004 ²	
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total (000)	% F	Total (000)	% F
Arab States										
Algeria	52.9	64.3	41.3	68.9	78.0	59.6	6 799	62	6 486	65
Bahrain	82.1	86.8	74.6	88.5	91.5	84.2	60	55	57	55
Djibouti	53.0	66.8	39.7	...	...	...	141	65	...	...
Egypt ^w	47.1	60.4	33.6	55.6*	67.2*	43.6*	17 432	63	20 468	64*
Iraq	35.7	51.3	19.7	...	...	...	6 208	62	...	...
Jordan ^w	81.5	90.0	72.1	90.9	95.5	85.9	320	72	299	74
Kuwait	76.7	79.3	72.6	82.9	84.7	81.0	317	47	302	42
Lebanon	80.3	88.3	73.1	...	...	...	347	72	...	...
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	68.1	82.8	51.1	81.7	91.8	70.7	773	71	686	77
Mauritania	34.8	46.3	23.9	41.2	51.5	31.3	743	60	939	60
Morocco	38.7	52.7	24.9	50.7	63.3	38.3	9 089	62	10 108	63
Oman	54.7	67.3	38.3	74.4	82.0	65.4	457	57	424	55
Palestinian Autonomous Territories	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Qatar	77.0	77.4	76.0	84.2*	84.9*	82.3*	78	28	70	35*
Saudi Arabia	66.2	76.2	50.2	77.9	84.1	69.5	3 287	59	3 218	61
Sudan	45.8	60.0	31.5	59.9	70.8	49.1	7 836	63	7 942	64
Syrian Arab Republic	64.8	81.8	47.5	82.9*	91.0*	74.2*	2 351	75	1 864	74*
Tunisia ^w	59.1	71.6	46.5	73.2	83.1	63.1	2 081	65	1 869	69
United Arab Emirates	71.0	71.2	70.6	77.3	75.6	80.7	421	28	499	25
Yemen	32.7	55.2	12.9	49.0	69.5	28.5	3 820	66	5 033	70
Central and Eastern Europe										
Albania ^o	77.0	86.8	66.7	98.7*	99.2*	98.3*	509	71	29	67*
Belarus	99.5	99.7	99.3	99.7	99.8	99.6	42	76	26	67
Bosnia and Herzegovina ^o	...	...	...	94.6*	98.4*	91.1*	...	...	181	85*
Bulgaria ^o	97.2	98.3	96.2	98.6	99.1	98.1	195	70	97	69
Croatia	96.9	99.0	94.9	98.1*	99.3*	97.1*	121	85	68	83*
Czech Republic ^o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Estonia ^o	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8*	99.8*	99.8*	3	53	2	55*
Hungary ^o	99.1	99.3	98.9	...	...	...	78	63	...	...
Latvia ^o	...	...	...	99.7*	99.8*	99.7*	...	...	5	63*
Lithuania ^o	99.3	99.5	99.1	99.6*	99.6*	99.6*	20	67	10	54*
Poland ^o	99.6	99.6	99.5	...	...	...	119	60	...	...
Republic of Moldova	97.5	99.1	96.1	99.0	99.6	98.6	80	83	32	80
Romania ^o	97.1	98.6	95.6	97.3*	98.4*	96.3*	519	77	501	71*
Russian Federation ^w	99.2	99.6	98.9	99.6	99.7	99.5	857	76	496	69
Serbia and Montenegro	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Slovakia	...	...	...	99.7*	99.7*	99.7*	...	...	14	49*
Slovenia ^o	99.6	99.6	99.5	99.7	99.7	99.6	7	58	6	56
The former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia ^o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Turkey ^o	77.9	89.2	66.4	86.5*	94.4*	78.5*	8 066	75	6 592	79*
Ukraine	99.4	99.7	99.2	99.6	99.8	99.5	237	77	147	70
Central Asia										
Armenia	97.5	98.9	96.1	99.4*	99.7*	99.2*	63	80	14	73*
Azerbaijan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Georgia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kazakhstan	98.8	99.5	98.2	99.4	99.7	99.2	136	79	64	73
Kyrgyzstan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mongolia	...	...	...	97.8*	98.0*	97.5*	...	...	38	56*
Tajikistan	98.2	99.2	97.2	99.5*	99.7*	99.3*	55	77	20	68*
Turkmenistan	...	...	...	98.8*	99.3*	98.3*	...	...	38	73*
Uzbekistan	98.7	99.5	97.9	99.3	99.6	98.9	164	80	122	74
East Asia and the Pacific										
Australia ^o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brunei Darussalam	85.5	91.0	79.4	93.9*	96.3*	91.4*	24	66	15	68*
Cambodia	62.0	77.7	48.8	69.4	80.8	59.3	2 032	73	2 454	70
China ^w	78.3	87.2	68.9	90.9*	95.1*	86.5*	181 331	70	89 788	73*

1. For countries indicated with (*), national literacy data are used; for all others, the UIS estimates (July 2002 assessment) are used.
2. See Introduction note to the Statistical annex for broader explanation of national literacy definition, sources and years of data.

Table 2

YOUTH LITERACY RATE (15-24) [%]						YOUTH ILLITERATES (15-24)				Country or territory
1990			2000-2004 ²			1990		2000-2004 ²		
Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total (000)	% F	Total (000)	% F	
Arab States										
77.3	86.1	68.1	89.9	94.0	85.6	1 158	69	691	70	Algeria
95.6	96.2	95.0	98.6	98.4	98.9	3	54	2	38	Bahrain
73.2	82.2	64.2	...	...	...	28	67	...	...	Djibouti
61.3	70.9	51.0	73.2*	79.0*	66.9*	3 970	62	3 974	60 *	Egypt ^w
41.0	56.4	24.9	...	...	...	2 063	62	...	...	Iraq
96.7	97.9	95.3	99.4	99.3	99.5	23	66	7	40	Jordan ^w
87.5	87.9	87.2	93.1	92.2	93.9	46	51	26	40	Kuwait
92.1	95.5	88.6	...	...	...	48	71	...	...	Lebanon
91.0	98.9	82.7	97.0	99.8	94.0	78	94	40	97	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
45.8	55.5	36.1	49.6	57.4	41.8	214	59	275	58	Mauritania
55.3	68.0	42.0	69.5	77.4	61.3	2 254	64	1 924	62	Morocco
85.6	95.4	75.4	98.5	99.6	97.3	43	82	8	87	Oman
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Palestinian Autonomous Territories
90.3	88.3	93.0	94.8*	94.1*	95.8*	6	29	4	40 *	Qatar
85.4	91.2	78.6	93.5	95.4	91.6	446	68	278	63	Saudi Arabia
65.0	75.6	54.0	79.1	83.9	74.2	1 752	65	1 348	61	Sudan
79.9	92.2	66.9	95.2*	97.1*	93.0*	520	81	199	70 *	Syrian Arab Republic
84.1	92.8	75.2	94.3	97.9	90.6	264	77	117	81	Tunisia ^w
84.7	81.7	88.6	91.4	88.2	95.0	48	27	37	26	United Arab Emirates
50.0	73.5	25.0	67.9	84.3	50.9	1 134	73	1 245	75	Yemen
Central and Eastern Europe										
94.8	97.4	91.9	99.4*	99.4*	99.5*	34	75	3	42 *	Albania ^o
99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	3	50	3	49	Belarus
...	...	...	99.6*	99.6*	99.7*	...	...	2	41 *	Bosnia and Herzegovina ^o
99.4	99.5	99.3	99.7	99.8	99.6	7	59	4	67	Bulgaria ^o
99.6	99.7	99.6	99.6*	99.6*	99.7*	2	52	2	48 *	Croatia
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Czech Republic ^o
99.8	99.7	99.8	99.8*	99.7*	99.8*	0.5	42	1	39 *	Estonia ^o
99.7	99.8	99.7	...	...	...	4	56	...	...	Hungary ^o
...	...	...	99.7*	99.7*	99.8*	...	...	1	43 *	Latvia ^o
99.8	99.8	99.8	99.7*	99.7*	99.7*	1	45	2	42 *	Lithuania ^o
99.8	99.8	99.8	...	...	...	11	49	...	...	Poland ^o
99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	1	48	2	49	Republic of Moldova
99.3	99.3	99.2	97.8*	97.7*	97.8*	28	54	79	49 *	Romania ^o
99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	42	47	47	49	Russian Federation ^w
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Serbia and Montenegro
...	...	...	99.6*	99.6*	99.7*	...	...	3	42 *	Slovakia
99.8	99.7	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	1	45	1	48	Slovenia ^o
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	The former Yugoslav Rep. of Macedonia ^o
92.7	97.1	88.3	95.5*	97.8*	93.2*	838	79	616	75 *	Turkey ^o
99.8	99.8	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	11	43	8	34	Ukraine
Central Asia										
99.5	99.7	99.4	99.8*	99.7*	99.9*	3	63	1	35 *	Armenia
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Azerbaijan
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Georgia
99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	6	45	6	50	Kazakhstan
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Kyrgyzstan
...	...	...	97.7*	97.0*	98.4*	...	...	13	34 *	Mongolia
99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8*	99.8*	99.8*	2	55	2	49 *	Tajikistan
...	...	...	99.8*	99.8*	99.8*	...	...	2	49 *	Turkmenistan
99.6	99.7	99.6	99.7	99.7	99.6	14	57	18	58	Uzbekistan
East Asia and the Pacific										
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Australia ^o
97.9	97.6	98.1	99.1*	99.0*	99.3*	1	43	1	42 *	Brunei Darussalam
73.5	81.5	65.6	80.3	84.5	75.9	476	65	588	61	Cambodia
95.3	97.5	93.1	98.9*	99.2*	98.5*	11 709	72	2 314	63 *	China ^w

Table 2 (continued)

Country or territory	ADULT LITERACY RATE (15 and over) [%]						ADULT ILLITERATES (15 and over)			
	1990			2000-2004 ²			1990		2000-2004 ²	
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total (000)	% F	Total (000)	% F
Cook Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fiji	88.6	91.6	85.5	92.9*	94.5*	91.4*	51	63	39	60*
Indonesia ^w	79.5	86.7	72.5	87.9	92.5	83.4	23 800	68	18 432	69
Japan ^o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kiribati	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lao People's Democratic Republic	56.5	70.3	42.8	66.4	77.4	55.5	1 017	67	1 081	67
Macao, China	90.5	94.6	86.8	91.3*	95.3*	87.8*	26	73	32	75*
Malaysia ^w	80.7	86.9	74.4	88.7*	92.0*	85.4*	2 190	66	1 804	64*
Marshall Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Micronesia (Federated States of)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Myanmar	80.7	87.4	74.2	85.3	89.2	81.4	4 905	68	4 876	64
Nauru	30.4	47.4	14.0	...	...	...	7 546	61	...	...
New Zealand ^o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Niue	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Palau	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Papua New Guinea	56.6	64.4	48.2	...	...	...	1 046	57	...	...
Philippines ^w	91.7	92.2	91.2	92.6*	92.5*	92.7*	2 986	53	3 687	50*
Republic of Korea ^o	95.9	98.4	93.4	...	...	...	1 307	80	...	...
Samoa	98.0	98.5	97.4	98.7	98.9	98.4	2	61	1	58
Singapore	88.8	94.4	83.2	92.5	96.6	88.6	265	75	244	77
Solomon Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Thailand ^w	...	...	...	92.6*	94.9*	90.5*	...	...	3 402	66*
Timor-Leste	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tokelau	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tonga	...	...	...	98.8*	98.8*	98.9*	...	...	1	48*
Tuvalu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Vanuatu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Viet Nam	...	...	...	90.3*	93.9*	86.9*	...	...	5 273	69*
Latin America and the Caribbean										
Anguilla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Antigua and Barbuda	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Argentina ^w	95.7	95.9	95.6	97.0	97.0	97.0	964	54	831	52
Aruba	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bahamas	94.4	93.6	95.2	...	...	...	10	44	...	...
Barbados	99.4	99.4	99.3	99.7	99.7	99.7	1	57	1	51
Belize	...	...	...	76.9*	76.7*	77.1*	...	...	36	49*
Bermuda	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bolivia	78.1	86.8	69.8	86.7*	93.1*	80.7*	862	71	700	74*
Brazil ^w	82.0	82.9	81.2	88.2*	88.0*	88.3*	17 336	53	14 958	51*
British Virgin Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cayman Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chile ^w	94.0	94.4	93.6	95.7*	95.8*	95.6*	550	55	483	52*
Colombia	88.4	88.8	88.1	92.1	92.1	92.2	2 584	53	2 320	51
Costa Rica	93.9	93.9	93.8	95.8	95.7	95.9	121	50	119	48
Cuba	95.1	95.2	95.1	96.9	97.0	96.8	398	51	278	52
Dominica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dominican Republic	79.4	79.8	79.0	84.4	84.3	84.4	894	50	910	49
Ecuador	87.6	90.2	85.1	91.0*	92.3*	89.7*	775	60	770	57*
El Salvador	72.4	76.1	69.1	79.7	82.4	77.1	835	59	848	58
Grenada	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Guatemala	61.0	68.8	53.2	69.9	77.3	62.5	1 843	60	2 069	62
Guyana	97.2	98.0	96.4	...	...	...	13	66	...	...
Haiti	39.7	42.6	36.9	51.9	53.8	50.0	2 328	54	2 407	54
Honduras	68.1	68.9	67.3	80.0*	79.8*	80.2*	851	51	804	49*
Jamaica ^w	82.2	78.0	86.1	87.6	83.8	91.4	274	40	224	36
Mexico ^o	87.3	90.6	84.3	90.5*	92.6*	88.7*	6 471	64	6 471	62*
Montserrat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Netherlands Antilles	95.6	95.6	95.7	96.7	96.7	96.7	6	53	6	52
Nicaragua	62.7	62.7	62.8	76.7*	76.8*	76.6*	764	51	723	51*
Panama	89.0	89.7	88.4	92.3	92.9	91.7	171	53	162	54

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1990			2000-2004 ²			1990		2000-2004 ²		
Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total (000)	% F	Total (000)	% F	
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Cook Islands
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Democratic People's Republic of Korea
97.8	98.1	97.6	99.3*	99.1*	99.4*	3	54	1	39*	Fiji
95.0	96.6	93.4	98.0	98.5	97.6	1 873	65	835	62	Indonesia ^w
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Japan ^o
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Kiribati
70.1	79.47	60.56	79.3	85.8	72.7	235	66	226	65	Lao People's Democratic Republic
97.2	99.2	95.8	99.6*	99.4*	99.8*	2	88	0.3	26*	Macao, China
94.8	95.3	94.2	97.2*	97.2*	97.3*	179	55	122	48*	Malaysia ^w
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Marshall Islands
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Micronesia (Federated States of)
88.2	90.1	86.2	91.4	91.6	91.1	972	58	830	51	Myanmar
46.6	67.0	27.3	...	...	...	1 867	67	...	...	Nauru
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	New Zealand ^o
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Niue
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Palau
68.6	74.4	62.4	...	...	...	277	60	...	...	Papua New Guinea
97.3	97.1	97.4	95.1*	94.5*	95.7*	342	46	787	43*	Philippines ^w
99.8	99.8	99.8	...	...	...	18	49	...	...	Republic of Korea ^o
99.0	99.1	98.9	99.5	99.4	99.5	0.3	50	0.2	43	Samoa
99.0	98.8	99.2	99.5	99.4	99.6*	6	39	3	38*	Singapore
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Solomon Islands
...	...	...	98.0*	98.1*	97.8*	...	...	233	53*	Thailand ^w
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Timor-Leste
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Tokelau
...	...	...	99.2*	99.2*	99.1*	...	...	0.2	51*	Tonga
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Tuvalu
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Vanuatu
94.1	94.5	93.6	...	...	...	801	54	...	...	Viet Nam
Latin America and the Caribbean										
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Anguilla
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Antigua and Barbuda
98.2	98.0	98.4	98.6	98.4	98.9	97	44	91	41	Argentina ^w
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Aruba
96.5	95.4	97.5	...	...	...	2	34	...	...	Bahamas
99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	0.1	49	0.1	49	Barbados
...	...	...	84.2*	83.9*	84.6*	...	...	8	48*	Belize
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Bermuda
92.6	96.2	89.0	97.3*	98.5*	96.1*	98	74	44	72*	Bolivia
91.8	90.5	93.1	96.3*	95.1*	97.5*	2 363	42	1 292	34*	Brazil ^w
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	British Virgin Islands
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Cayman Islands
98.1	97.9	98.3	99.0*	98.8*	99.2*	48	44	26	40*	Chile ^w
94.9	94.3	95.5	97.2	96.5	97.9	369	44	229	38	Colombia
97.4	97.1	97.7	98.4	98.1	98.7	15	43	13	39	Costa Rica
99.3	99.3	99.2	99.8	99.8	99.8	17	51	3	49	Cuba
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Dominica
87.5	86.8	88.2	91.7	91.0	92.5	184	46	144	44	Dominican Republic
95.5	96.0	94.9	96.4*	96.4*	96.5*	95	56	92	48*	Ecuador
83.8	85.1	82.6	88.9	89.6	88.1	172	55	144	53	El Salvador
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Grenada
73.4	80.5	66.2	80.1	86.2	73.8	457	63	498	65	Guatemala
99.8	99.8	99.8	...	...	...	0.3	51	...	...	Guyana
54.8	55.8	53.8	66.2	65.8	66.5	580	51	638	49	Haiti
79.7	78.5	80.8	88.9*	86.9*	90.9*	201	47	157	40*	Honduras
91.2	87.1	95.2	94.5	91.3	97.8	42	28	29	20	Jamaica ^w
95.2	95.9	94.4	96.6*	96.8*	96.5*	889	58	687	52*	Mexico ^o
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Montserrat
97.5	97.3	97.7	98.3	98.2	98.5	1	46	1	45	Netherlands Antilles
68.2	67.7	68.7	86.2*	83.6*	88.8*	246	50	157	40*	Nicaragua
95.3	95.7	94.8	97.0	97.4	96.6	24	54	17	56	Panama

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	1990			2000-2004 ²			1990		2000-2004 ²	
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total (000)	% F	Total (000)	% F
Paraguay ^w	90.3	92.4	88.3	91.6*	93.1*	90.2*	237	60	294	59*
Peru ^w	...	...	...	85.0*	91.3*	80.3*	...	...	2 519	69*
Saint Kitts and Nevis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Saint Lucia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suriname	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Trinidad and Tobago	96.8	98.1	95.6	98.5	99.0	97.9	26	70	15	69
Turks and Caicos Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Uruguay ^w	96.5	96.0	97.0	97.7	97.3	98.1	80	46	58	43
Venezuela	88.9	90.1	87.7	93.1	93.5	92.7	1 340	55	1 163	53
North America and Western Europe										
Andorra	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Austria ^o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Belgium ^o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Canada ^o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cyprus ^o	94.3	97.7	91.0	96.8*	98.6*	95.1*	29	80	20	79*
Denmark ^o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Finland ^o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
France ^o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Germany ^o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Greece ^o	94.9	97.6	92.3	...	...	...	419	77	...	...
Iceland ^o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ireland ^o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Israel ^o	91.4	94.9	88.0	95.3	97.3	93.4	267	71	214	72
Italy ^o	97.7	98.3	97.1	...	...	...	1 103	65	...	...
Luxembourg ^o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malta	88.4	87.9	88.9	92.6	91.8	93.4	32	49	23	46
Monaco	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Netherlands ^o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Norway ^o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Portugal ^o	87.2	90.9	83.8	...	...	...	1 013	66	...	...
San Marino	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spain ^o	96.3	97.8	94.8	...	...	...	1 186	71	...	...
Sweden ^o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Switzerland ^o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
United Kingdom ^o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
United States ^o	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
South and West Asia										
Afghanistan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bangladesh	34.2	44.3	23.7	41.1	50.3	31.4	41 606	56	52 209	57
Bhutan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
India ^w	49.3	61.9	35.9	61.3*	...	...	272 279	61	270 466	...
Iran, Islamic Republic of	63.2	72.2	54.0	...	83.5*	70.4*	11 506	61	10 543	64*
Maldives	94.8	95.0	94.6	97.2	97.3	97.2	6	50	5	50
Nepal	30.4	47.4	14.0	44.0	61.6	26.4	7 546	61	8 204	65
Pakistan	35.4	49.3	20.1	41.5*	53.4*	28.5*	41 368	60	51 536	60*
Sri Lanka ^w	88.7	92.9	84.7	92.1	94.7	89.6	1 262	65	1 099	64
Sub-Saharan Africa										
Angola	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Benin	26.4	38.1	15.5	39.8	54.8	25.5	1 773	59	2 152	64
Botswana	68.1	65.7	70.3	78.9	76.1	81.5	234	49	225	45
Burkina Faso	...	...	...	12.8*	18.5*	8.1*	...	...	5 611	56*
Burundi	37.0	48.4	26.6	50.4	57.7	43.6	1 929	61	1 744	60
Cameroon	57.9	68.7	47.5	67.9*	77.0*	59.8*	2 701	64	2 876	64*
Cape Verde	63.8	76.2	54.3	75.7	85.4	68.0	67	71	65	72
Central African Republic	33.2	47.1	20.7	48.6*	64.7*	33.5*	1 119	63	1 122	67*
Chad	27.7	37.0	18.8	45.8	54.5	37.5	2 299	58	2 409	59
Comoros	53.8	61.4	46.4	56.2	63.5	49.1	129	59	188	58
Congo	67.1	77.1	57.9	82.8	88.9	77.1	443	66	331	68

1. For countries indicated with (*), national literacy data are used; for all others, the UIS estimates (July 2002 assessment) are used.

2. See Introduction note to the Statistical annex for broader explanation of national literacy definition, sources and years of data.

Table 2

YOUTH LITERACY RATE (15-24) [%]						YOUTH ILLITERATES (15-24)				Country or territory
1990			2000-2004 ²			1990		2000-2004 ²		
Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total (000)	% F	Total (000)	% F	
95.6	95.9	95.2	96.3*	96.2*	96.5*	36	53	42	47 *	Paraguay ^w
94.5	96.9	92.1	96.6*	97.7*	95.6*	243	71	177	65 *	Peru ^w
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Saint Kitts and Nevis
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Saint Lucia
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Suriname
99.6	99.7	99.6	99.8	99.8	99.8	1	51	1	50	Trinidad and Tobago
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Turks and Caicos Islands
98.7	98.3	99.1	99.1	98.8	99.4	6	34	5	32	Uruguay ^w
96.0	95.4	96.6	98.2	97.6	98.9	153	42	86	30	Venezuela
North America and Western Europe										
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Andorra
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Austria ^o
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Belgium ^o
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Canada ^o
99.7	99.5	99.8	99.8*	99.7*	99.8*	0.3	29	0.3	40 *	Cyprus ^o
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Denmark ^o
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Finland ^o
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	France ^o
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Germany ^o
99.5	99.4	99.7	...	...	...	7	37	...	...	Greece ^o
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Iceland ^o
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Ireland ^o
98.7	99.0	98.4	99.5	99.6	99.4	10	61	5	59	Israel ^o
99.8	99.8	99.8	...	...	...	18	49	...	...	Italy ^o
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Luxembourg ^o
97.5	96.0	99.1	98.7	97.6	99.8	1	18	1	7	Malta ^o
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Monaco
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Netherlands ^o
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Norway ^o
99.5	99.5	99.6	...	...	...	8	44	...	...	Portugal ^o
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	San Marino
99.6	99.6	99.6	...	...	...	27	44	...	...	Spain ^o
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Sweden ^o
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Switzerland ^o
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	United Kingdom ^o
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	United States ^o
South and West Asia										
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Afghanistan
42.0	50.7	33.2	49.7	57.8	41.1	12 842	56	14 740	57	Bangladesh
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Bhutan
64.3	73.4	54.2	...	...	...	58 555	61	...	...	India ^w
86.3	91.7	80.8	...	...	...	1 425	68	...	...	Iran, Islamic Republic of
98.1	98.1	98.1	99.2	99.1	99.2	1	48	1	46	Maldives
46.6	67.0	27.3	62.7	78.1	46.0	1 867	67	1 797	70	Nepal
47.4	62.5	30.6	53.9*	65.5*	42.0*	10 697	63	13 537	61 *	Pakistan
95.1	95.9	94.2	97.0	97.2	96.9	157	57	105	51	Sri Lanka ^w
Sub-Saharan Africa										
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Angola
40.4	56.6	24.7	55.5	72.7	38.5	497	64	610	70	Benin
83.3	79.3	87.2	89.1	85.5	92.8	48	38	44	33	Botswana
...	...	...	19.4*	25.5*	14.0*	...	...	2 087	54 *	Burkina Faso
51.6	58.4	44.8	66.1	67.2	65.1	517	57	490	52	Burundi
81.1	86.4	75.9	...	...	...	414	64	...	...	Cameroon
81.5	87.1	76.2	89.1	92.0	86.3	13	65	11	63	Cape Verde
52.1	65.6	39.4	58.5*	70.3*	46.9*	258	65	321	65 *	Central African Republic
48.0	58.4	37.7	69.9	75.8	64.0	569	60	481	60	Chad
56.7	63.8	49.6	59.0	65.6	52.2	45	58	66	58	Comoros
92.5	94.9	90.3	97.8	98.4	97.3	36	66	16	64	Congo

Table 2 (continued)

Country or territory	ADULT LITERACY RATE (15 and over) [%]						ADULT ILLITERATES (15 and over)			
	1990			2000-2004 ²			1990		2000-2004 ²	
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total (000)	% F	Total (000)	% F
Côte d'Ivoire	38.5	50.5	25.7	...	...	...	4 119	57	...	...
Democratic Rep. of the Congo	47.5	61.4	34.4	...	...	...	10 400	64	...	...
Equatorial Guinea	73.3	85.8	61.1	...	...	...	55	74	...	...
Eritrea	46.4	58.5	34.8	...	...	...	900	62	...	...
Ethiopia	28.6	37.3	19.8	41.5	49.2	33.8	18 993	57	21 955	57
Gabon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gambia	25.6	31.7	19.7	...	...	...	397	55	...	...
Ghana	58.5	70.1	47.2	73.8	81.9	65.9	3 455	65	3 213	66
Guinea	27.2	42.3	12.9	...	...	...	406	61	...	...
Guinea-Bissau	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kenya	70.8	80.9	60.8	84.3	90.0	78.5	3 489	68	2 897	69
Lesotho	78.0	65.4	89.5	81.4*	73.7*	90.3*	184	28	184	32*
Liberia	39.2	55.4	22.8	55.9	72.3	39.3	691	64	765	69
Madagascar	58.0	66.4	49.8	...	...	...	2 768	60	...	...
Malawi	51.8	68.8	36.2	61.8	75.5	48.7	2 450	69	2 446	69
Mali	...	...	...	19.0*	26.7*	11.9*	...	...	5 184	56*
Mauritius	79.8	84.8	75.0	84.3*	88.2*	80.5*	150	62	142	63*
Mozambique	33.5	49.3	18.4	46.5	62.3	31.4	4 867	65	5 638	68
Namibia	74.9	77.4	72.4	83.3	83.8	82.8	201	57	186	54
Niger	11.4	18.0	5.1	17.1	25.1	9.3	3 391	54	4 775	55
Nigeria	48.7	59.4	38.4	66.8	74.4	59.4	23 678	61	22 168	61
Rwanda	53.3	62.9	44.0	69.2	75.3	63.4	1 660	61	1 412	64
Sao Tome and Principe	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Senegal	28.4	38.2	18.6	39.3	49.0	29.7	2 822	58	3 387	59
Seychelles	...	...	...	91.9*	91.4*	92.3*	...	...	-	-*
Sierra Leone	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Somalia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
South Africa	81.2	82.2	80.2	86.0	86.7	85.3	4 252	54	4 190	54
Swaziland	71.6	73.7	69.9	80.9	82.0	80.0	129	58	115	57
Togo	44.2	60.5	28.7	59.6	74.3	45.4	1 049	65	1 088	69
Uganda	56.1	69.3	43.5	68.9	78.8	59.2	3 940	66	3 890	67
United Republic of Tanzania	62.9	75.5	51.0	77.1	85.2	69.2	5 128	68	4 556	68
Zambia	68.2	78.6	58.7	79.9	86.3	73.8	1 400	67	1 148	66
Zimbabwe ^w	80.7	86.6	75.0	90.0	93.8	86.3	1 085	66	732	69

	Weighted average						Sum	% F	Sum	% F
World	75.4	81.8	69.1	81.7	87.0	76.5	871 750	63	799 147	64
Countries in transition	99.2	99.6	98.8	99.6	99.7	99.4	1 759	78	998	70
Developed countries	98.0	98.5	97.5	98.9	99.1	98.6	14 864	64	9 151	62
Developing countries	67.0	75.9	57.9	76.4	83.4	69.3	855 127	63	788 999	64
Arab States	50.0	63.7	35.6	62.2	73.1	50.6	63 023	63	69 298	64
Central and Eastern Europe	96.2	98.0	94.6	97.3	98.7	96.1	11 500	75	8 464	77
Central Asia	98.7	99.4	98.0	99.4	99.6	99.1	572	79	333	70
East Asia and the Pacific	81.8	88.9	74.5	91.3	94.9	87.6	232 255	69	134 978	71
Latin America and the Caribbean	85.0	86.7	83.3	89.2	90.1	88.5	41 742	56	39 383	55
North America and Western Europe	97.9	98.4	97.4	98.8	99.1	98.6	11 326	64	6 946	61
South and West Asia	47.5	59.7	34.4	58.3	70.9	45.0	382 353	60	402 744	64
Sub-Saharan Africa	49.9	60.0	40.3	62.0	70.1	54.2	128 980	61	137 000	61

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Table 2

YOUTH LITERACY RATE (15-24) [%]						YOUTH ILLITERATES (15-24)				Country or territory
1990			2000-2004 ²			1990		2000-2004 ²		
Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total (000)	% F	Total (000)	% F	
52.6	64.9	40.3	59.9	69.6	51.5*	1 046	62	1 426	61 *	Côte d'Ivoire
68.9	80.3	57.6	...	...	...	2 213	68	...	...	Democratic Rep. of the Congo
92.7	96.6	88.8	...	...	...	5	77	...	...	Equatorial Guinea
60.9	72.5	49.3	...	...	...	236	65	...	...	Eritrea
43.0	51.5	34.1	57.4	63.0	51.8	5 326	58	5 752	57	Ethiopia
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Gabon
42.2	50.5	34.1	...	...	...	95	58	...	...	Gambia
81.8	88.2	75.4	92.2	94.2	90.1	538	67	348	63	Ghana
44.1	62.2	26.5	...	...	...	107	66	...	...	Guinea
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Guinea-Bissau
89.8	92.9	86.7	95.8	96.4	95.1	473	65	314	58	Kenya
87.2	77.2	97.1	...	...	...	38	12	...	...	Lesotho
57.2	75.4	38.6	70.8	86.3	55.4	176	71	190	76	Liberia
72.2	77.8	66.6	...	...	...	635	60	...	...	Madagascar
63.2	75.7	51.2	72.5	81.9	62.8	643	68	641	68	Malawi
...	...	...	24.2*	32.3*	16.9*	...	...	1 938	55 *	Mali
91.1	91.2	91.1	94.5*	93.7*	95.4*	18	49	11	42 *	Mauritius
48.8	66.1	31.7	62.8	76.6	49.2	1 365	68	1 363	69	Mozambique
87.4	85.9	89.0	92.3	90.6	94.0	36	44	29	39	Namibia
17.0	24.9	9.3	24.5	34.0	15.1	1 211	54	1 684	55	Niger
73.6	80.8	66.5	88.6	90.7	86.5	4 243	63	2 780	58	Nigeria
72.7	78.0	67.4	84.9	86.3	83.6	363	60	268	59	Rwanda
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Sao Tome and Principe
40.1	50.0	30.2	52.9	61.3	44.5	829	58	960	59	Senegal
...	...	...	99.1*	98.8*	99.4*	...	...	-	-*	Seychelles
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Sierra Leone
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Somalia
88.5	88.6	88.4	91.8	91.8	91.7	882	51	771	50	South Africa
85.1	84.7	85.5	91.2	90.4	92.1	25	52	21	46	Swaziland
63.5	79.4	47.7	77.4	88.3	66.6	242	72	219	74	Togo
70.1	79.8	60.5	80.2	86.3	74.0	1 003	66	1 001	66	Uganda
83.1	89.2	77.2	91.6	93.8	89.4	882	69	642	63	United Republic of Tanzania
81.2	86.4	76.2	89.2	91.5	86.9	311	64	247	61	Zambia
93.9	96.6	91.3	97.6	98.9	96.2	128	72	74	78	Zimbabwe ^w

Weighted average						Sum	% F	Sum	% F	
84.3	88.2	80.1	87.6	90.9	84.0	156 430	62	136 710	63	World
99.2	99.2	99.2	99.4	99.4	99.3	332	49	304	50	Countries in transition
99.7	99.7	99.6	99.7	99.7	99.7	471	51	354	49	Developed countries
80.9	85.8	75.8	85.2	89.3	81.0	155 627	62	136 052	63	Developing countries
66.6	77.3	55.3	78.2	84.4	71.8	14 203	66	12 946	64	Arab States
98.3	99.2	97.4	98.8	99.3	98.3	1 023	75	790	69	Central and Eastern Europe
97.7	97.8	97.7	98.3	98.3	98.3	281	50	257	50	Central Asia
95.4	97.2	93.6	97.8	98.2	97.4	17 383	68	7 446	58	East Asia and the Pacific
92.7	92.7	92.7	95.5	95.2	95.9	6 351	50	4 589	46	Latin America and the Caribbean
99.7	99.7	99.7	99.8	99.8	99.8	310	49	203	49	North America and Western Europe
61.5	71.1	51.0	72.3	81.5	62.5	87 276	61	79 344	65	South and West Asia
67.5	74.8	60.2	76.6	81.0	72.3	29 603	61	31 135	59	Sub-Saharan Africa