ORGANISATION DE COOPÉRATION ET DE DÉVELOPPEMENT ÉCONOMIQUES

OECD OCDE

ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

OECD COMMUNICATIONS OUTLOOK 2001
Broadcasting Section

Country: NEW ZEALAND

Date completed: 1 September 2000

BROADCASTING

Broadcasting services available

1. Please provide details of the broadcasting and cable television services available in your country.

Infrastructure provision for following service	Number of licensed operators (2000)	Number of privately owned companies[1]	Number of public service organisations[2]
Terrestrial TV (National coverage[3])	5/10	4	1
Terrestrial TV (Local coverage[4] only)	1/1	1	0
Terrestrial radio (National coverage)	4/12	3	1
Terrestrial radio (Local coverage only)	4/4	4	0
Cable television service[5]	1. Multiple operators permitted	1	0
Analogue direct broadcast satellite (DBS) service	0	0	0
Digital DBS service	1/30	1	0

NZL Notes
a) Broadcasters are not licensed as such, but can operate services by purchasing suitable radio frequency spectrum. Each organisation may provide more than one programme service. Numbers refer to organisations/number of programmes.
b) Local TV coverage varies throughout the country. Coverage is provided in 6 major centres, with typically 1 channel being available. One centre has 3 local services.
c) Cable TV operators are not licensed as such. At present one operator is providing service in 1 major centre, and is rolling out a network in 2 other centres.
d) Radio operators/programmes figures are approximate only as services provided varies throughout the country.

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1 Defined as private sector companies holding one or more licences for service provision.

2 Including state-owned corporations or institutions holding one or more licences for service provision.

3 A service with national coverage is defined as a service by a group of television or radio stations distributing a majority of the same programming, that are licensed on a national or regional basis but collectively provide nation-wide coverage. Affiliating companies of the nation-wide broadcast network are included in this category. If new operators have been licensed to provide national coverage in the last three years but are at the stage of rolling out networks please include these operators in the total.

4 A service with local coverage is defined as a service by a group of television or radio stations that are licensed on a national or regional basis but distribute the programming in the local area only. If new operators have been licensed to provide local coverage in the last three years but are at the stage of rolling out networks please include these operators in the total.

5 Please indicate if more than one organisation is permitted to own and operate cable television infrastructure in the same area.

2. **Please provide details on the major terrestrial TV broadcasting companies which have national coverage in your country[6].**

Name of national terrestrial broadcaster	Ownership status (private or public)	Analogue or digital service or both	If digital		Relationship with transmission network owner[7]
			Free to Air (FTA)[8] or subscription	Number of channels	
Television New Zealand Ltd	Public	Analogue, 2 FTA channels.			a)
Canwest Television	Private	Analogue 2 FTA channels			a)
Prime Television	Private	Analogue 1 FTA channel			a)
Sky Network Television	Private	Analogue 4 subscription channels			a)
Totalisator Agency Board	Private	Analogue 1 FTA channel			a)

NZL notes

a) The Totalisator Board is a specialist agency providing gambling services. Whilst it is ultimately Government owned, it is shown as Private ownership because it only provides TV coverage of horse racing meetings for gambling purposes. Some unused programme time is leased to Sky Network for Pay TV purposes.

b) Extent of national coverage varies from 99.98% population to around 75% depending upon the particular channel.

c) Each broadcaster owns the relevant transmitter and network equipment, but may lease tower and building space from a common site operator.

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[6] A service with national coverage is defined as a service by a group of television or radio stations distributing a majority of the same programming, that are licensed on a national or regional basis but collectively provide nation-wide coverage. Affiliating companies of the nation-wide broadcast network are included in this category. If new operators have been licensed to provide national coverage in the last three years but are at the stage of rolling out networks please include these operators in the total.

[7] Options include:

(a) broadcaster owns network

(b) broadcaster has a commercial relationship with a privately owned network

(c) broadcaster has a commercial relationship with state owned network

(d) broadcaster has non-commercial relationship with state owned network

(e) other; please describe.

[8] A free to air (FTA) service is one which is available to viewers without paying a direct fee.

3. Please provide details on the major cable and satellite broadcasters and transmission networks in your country.

	Name of broadcaster	Number of channels in premium service		Does the broadcaster own the transmission network? If not, who does?	Is the transmission network used to deliver more than one broadcasting service?
		Analogue service	Digital service		
CABLE	Telstra Saturn Ltd	30	0	Yes	Some sound services are provided.
SATEL	Sky Network Television	0	30, varies	Satellite capacity leased from OPTUS Pty (Australia)	Yes, some sound services are provided.

NZL Note

a) Cable service only provided in one centre, but installation in progress in some other centres.

b) Channels provided on cable and satellite varies from time to time.

4. What was the price of a subscription service in the largest city of your country on 1st January 2000? Basic service corresponds to the least expensive option to a customer and premium service the most expensive option. (Local currency, current prices)

	Name of operator	Connection fee	Basic service		Premium service	
			Monthly subscription fees	Number of cable channels included in the basic option (excluding free services)	Monthly subscription fees	Number of cable channels included in the premium option (excluding free services)
Cable Television services	Telstra Saturn Ltd		$30	30	Pay per view, movies from $3 upwards	
Satellite television service	Sky Network TV		$18	5 (bundle of terrestrial FTA channels)	$45	30
Digital terrestrial television service	N/A					

Communication services available on broadcasting networks

5. Please provide details on the communication services available from broadcasting transmission networks in your country.

	Terrestrial	Cable	Satellite
Services provided over the network, e.g. FTA broadcasting, Subscription broadcasting, Telephony, New digital services, Internet access	FTA broadcasting and subscription broadcasting.	Subscription broadcasting, high speed internet. Telephony	Subscription broadcasting. Interactive services being planned.
How many cable and satellite operators are providing telephony and internet access services?	Nil	1	Nil
Regulatory restrictions Does the owner/manager of the transmission network face regulatory requirements in the following areas. If so, please give details. -Access to infrastructure or transmission services -Providing access to conditional access systems -Ownership restrictions -Restrictions on services which can be provided	All operators or network owners are subject to market dominance controls under the NZ Commerce Act. No specific additional restrictions apply to broadcasting networks. Acquisition of spectrum licences is considered under the Commerce Act to ensure dominance is not created or strengthened.		

NZL Note:

a) Telephony is offered by the cable operator, but this service uses twisted pair reticulation from local concentration points to the premises, rather than voice cable modems. Infrastructure is shared between TV and telephony in other parts of the networks.

b) An internet provider also uses satellite capacity for high speed services, but does not (yet?) offer full satellite television.

Digital television

6. (a) Please indicate on which transmission networks digital television is (or will be) available and whether it is provided as a subscription service or FTA. Also indicate the year in which the service first became available (or will become available).

	Terrestrial	Cable	Satellite
FTA	**No (2001/2?)**		**No**
Subscription	**No (2001/2?)**	**No**	**Yes, 1998**

NZL Note:
a) Government is developing policy on digital television (particularly terrestrial transition).

(b) Please provide data indicating the take-up rate of digital television by consumers, such as percentage of households with a digital television receiver.	Approximately 150,000 subscribers (households and hotels/motels etc) receive digital satellite television. This is around 15% of an estimated 1 million households. Set top boxes are used rather than digital receivers.
(c) Do regulations restrict the type of services which digital broadcasters can provide? If so, please provide details.	No
(d) Are digital terrestrial broadcasters required to provide a simulcast service in analogue and digital? If so, please describe the requirement.	Not applicable. Policy on digital terrestrial broadcasting is under development.

Broadcasting regulatory framework

7. Which organisation(s) administer the following services (carriage and content) in your country and what are their main responsibilities? Please mention agencies dealing with spectrum allocation and management, and providing licences.

Terrestrial broadcasting service	Spectrum allocation – Ministry of Economic Development. No specific broadcasting licence is required. Content standards – Broadcasting Standards Authority
Cable Television service	No specific Government regulatory approvals are required. Local Councils deal with use of road reserve and use of existing poles (if required) is negotiated with the pole owner. Content standards – Broadcasting Standards Authority
Direct broadcast satellite (DBS) service	As for terrestrial broadcasting.

8. **How would a carriage network which delivered television, telephony and internet services be regulated in your country?**

General competition law under the Commerce Act would be applicable. Telecommunications services are presently subject to a Government enquiry and this may make recommendations on service standards and obligations. Some submissions have advocated the establishment of an Electronic Commissioner.

9. **Please provide a description of significant recent policy changes affecting the provision of broadcasting services, as well as any draft laws, or regulatory proposals to be implemented in 2000-2001.**

No specific policy changes have occurred. Government has requested a departmental review of Broadcasting policies and this work is underway.

10. **Please indicate whether public service obligations in broadcasting regulations have changed since 1998 and provide details of any changes.**

1. No changes have occurred. Some may arise from the present policy review. 2. Some local content is funded from public sources. This funding was previously from a "Public Broadcasting Fee" levied on television receiver ownership. The fee has been abolished and funding is now from general taxation.

11. **Please indicate whether regulations concerning content have changed since 1998. Please provide details of any changes in relation to:**

Local content requirements	No.
Must-carry requirements	No. There are no "must carry" rules.
Community standards	Standards are subject to evolution through the Broadcasting Standards Authority.

12. **Please indicate whether regulations concerning ownership and market entry (for terrestrial, cable and satellite) have changed since 1998. Please provide details of any changes in the following areas:**

Limitations on number of stations	No
Foreign ownership	No
Cross media and cross sector provisions	No
Other restrictions on ownership	No

Convergence

13. **Under the communication regulation existing in your country how would services provided over the Internet, which some have likened to broadcasting services (e.g. audio and video services transmitted over the Internet) be defined and treated?**

It is likely that they would be treated as broadcasting services in so far as content is concerned.

14. **Would a video-on-demand service be treated differently in terms of regulations, according to the transmission methods (for example, PSTN, cable or satellite)?**

No. Some "near video on demand" is operated through a cable network and no special regulation is provided.

15. **Under the communication regulation existing in your country how would conditional access services, such as in digital DBS services, be treated?**

Conditional access exists for some analogue terrestrial and digital satellite services. There are no specific regulations applicable to solely these services.
Policy on digital terrestrial services which may include CA services is being developed.