

# MALAWI

**Joined Commonwealth:** 1964

**Joined Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation:** 1983

**CTO Representative:** [Malawi Posts and Telecoms Corporation](#)

**Capital:** Lilongwe

Malawi is a long, narrow south-east African country shaped by the dramatic Rift Valley, with Lake Malawi a dominant feature. It is bordered by Mozambique to the east, south and south-west, by Zambia to the north and north-west and by Tanzania to the north and north-east.

*Source:* The Commonwealth Yearbook 1998

**Other Websites:**

[Malawi Site](#)

**Policy making authority:**

Ministry of Information, Broadcasting, Posts and Telecommunications

**Mobile cellular operators:**

VCL Communications

**Regulator:**

Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority

**CTO National Bodies:**

Malawi Posts and Telecommunications Corporation

**Fixed network operator:**

Malawi Posts and Telecommunications Corporation

- is the national state owned operator

Country Data	1996	1997	1998	1999
Population	10,140,000	10,440,000	10,540,100	10,640,384
Gross domestic product (GDP)	35,535,601,664	41,558,601,728	52,404,899,840	n/a
Key Telecommunications data	1996	1997	1998	
Main telephone lines in operation	35,471	36,754	37,371	
Main lines per 100 inhabitants	0.3	0.3	0.3	
% of digital main lines	55.4	57.5	64	
% of main lines equip. for direct int'l dialling	98	98	n/a	
Cellular mobile telephone subscribers	3,700	7,000	10,500	
Analog cellular subscribers	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Digital cellular subscribers	3,700	7,000	10,500	
Public packet data network subscribers	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Public pay phones	507	507	509	
International outgoing telephone traffic (million minutes)	7.6	10.0	10.7	
International incoming telephone traffic (million minutes)	7.4	9.9	10.4	
Estimated modems in use	200	n/a	n/a	
Number of internet hosts	0.0	0.0	1.0	

Total telecom service revenue	488,960,000	597,750,016	1,018,339,968	
Telecom revenue (US\$)	31,940,426	36,350,204	32,772,820	

Source: [International Telecommunication Union: Online Subscriptions; Development Sector; World Telecommunication Indicators](#)

**Liberalisation index (1998):**

Local fixed service:	Monopoly
Long distance fixed service:	Monopoly
International fixed service:	Monopoly
Leased lines:	Monopoly
Mobile cellular service, analog:	n/a
Mobile cellular service, digital:	Monopoly
Data service:	Competition

Source: [International Telecommunication Union: General Trends in Telecommunication Reform 1998, Africa Volume II](#)