

GLOBAL DATA BAROMETER 2022 FIRST EDITION

Country Report



Thailand

General Country Score

42

South and East Asia

33

Global

33

Capabilities

55

South and East Asia 37
Global 42

Governance

42

South and East Asia 36
Global 36

Availability

36

South and East Asia 29
Global 30

Use and Impact

20

South and East Asia 28
Global 22

KEY FINDINGS

Thailand has some high capabilities in terms of data matters, such as having accessible civil servants training, data hackathons for data reuse and widespread open data initiatives. In terms of Governance, Thailand fared well in data protection as they have a law, whilst having a framework in data management and a yet-to-be-enforced Digital Government Standard. Thailand could do some improvement in terms of data availability in climate action and company information, as well as improving data quality to enable more use and impact of the data.

CAPABILITIES

There is widespread and regular evidence of civil servants training in data skills. Thailand Digital Government Academy, under DGA, organized a number of trainings accessible for all levels of public servants. In terms of open data, the DGA has a portal <https://data.go.th/>. At the sub-national level, Bangkok has its own open data website: <http://data.bangkok.go.th/>, but other cities mostly provide information in PDF formats. Additionally, the DGA is responsible for data reuse practice through finance or facilitation including data hackathons.

	Country	Region
Open data initiative	●	6/11 ●
Sub-national institutional capabilities to manage data	●	2/11 ●
Widespread and regular training for civil servants	●	6/11 ●
Support for data reuse	●	2/11 ●

Table 1: Comparison of selected indicators of Capabilities in the country vs region. Green circles refer to availability widespread and regular evidence in the government, yellow circles refer to isolated evidence in the government, and red circles refer to no evidence. x/11 countries refer to x countries reviewed which achieved the corresponding circle.

GOVERNANCE

The Personal Data Protection Act in Thailand is comparable to the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), although the enforcement of the act has seen postponements upon publishing in 2019. In terms of data management, there are national level recommendations published by the DGA and ETDA but lack the enforceability of the law, and so only a few government departments adopt them. As for data sharing, there are a few regulations but do not directly specify data sharing with certain sectors. There is the Digital Government Standard, but it is yet to be enforced.

	Country	Region
Data protection laws	●	7/11 ●
Data management frameworks	●	1/11 ●
Data sharing frameworks	●	7/11 ●

Table 2: Comparison of selected indicators of Governance in country vs region. Green circles refer to existence of framework with full force of law, yellow circles refer to existence of frameworks but no force of law, and red circles refer to no existence of such frameworks. x/11 countries refer to x countries reviewed which achieved the corresponding circle.

AVAILABILITY

Thailand has data available for company register, existing land use, political finance data, public consultation data, RTI performance data, budget and spend data, public procurement data, vital statistics, real-time healthcare system capacity, COVID-19 vaccination and climate vulnerability.

However, there is low availability of data in areas such as beneficial ownership, land tenure, asset declarations, lobbying data, emission and biodiversity.

	Country
Scored \geq Global Average	Public Procurement, Public Finance, Health & Covid 19, Land, Political Integrity
Scored < Global Average	Climate Action, Company Information

Table 3: Comparison of modules (except Capabilities and Governance) in the country against global average. Note that these are modules, so may have overlapping indicators with Use and Impact.

USE AND IMPACT

There are isolated cases of use of datasets assessed in Thailand, for instance the political integrity data is used to conduct background checks of politicians and the procurement data is used on some CSO websites. However, challenges remain such as data quality and the need to convert from PDFs into machine readable formats.

On the other hand, there is no use case of company data for due diligence.

Use cases	Country	Region
Corporate due diligence	●	2/11 ●
Influencing policy for inclusion and gender	●	5/11 ●
Accountability use of political integrity	●	2/11 ●
Procurement data analytics	●	5/11 ●

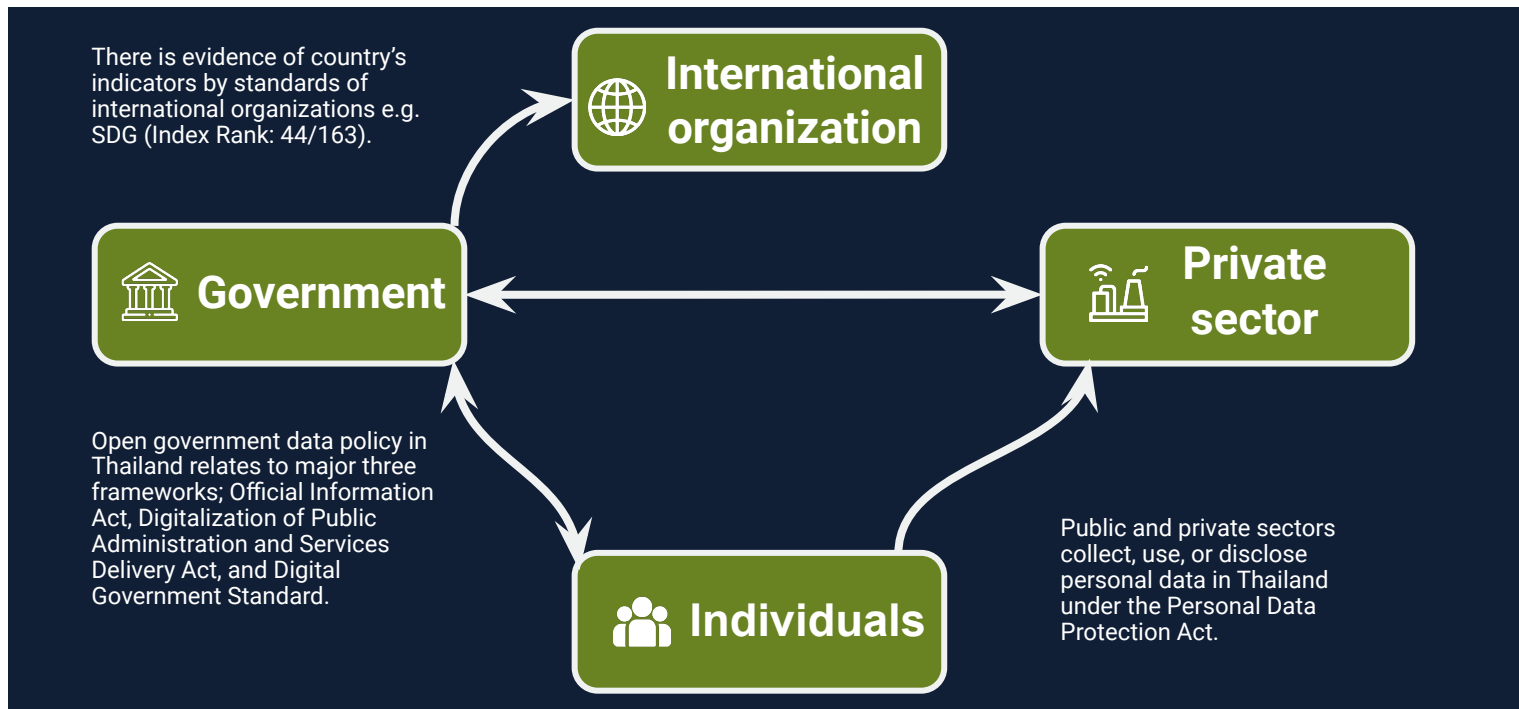
Table 4: Comparison of selected indicators of Use and Impact in country vs region ranked by green referring to uses that are widespread, regular and embedded, yellow referring to uses in isolated cases and red referring to no evidence of use. x/11 countries refer to x countries out of 11 reviewed which achieved the corresponding colour rank.



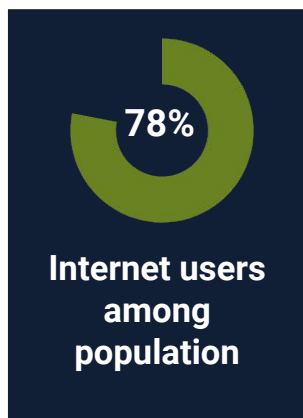
SOCIOECONOMIC BACKGROUND

Thailand, located at the centre of Mainland Southeast Asia. Since 2019, has been nominally a parliamentary constitutional monarchy; however in practice, structural advantages in the constitution have ensured the military's hold in power. Over the last four decades, the country has moved from a low-income to an upper middle-income status supported by its export-led model. Despite this, the progress of poverty reduction had slowed since 2015 with the largest contraction of income during the pandemic. In 2021, the economy grew 1.6% over the year.

DATA ECOSYSTEM IN THE COUNTRY



OTHER INDICATORS



NOTES:

Data sources in this country report include the World Bank (<https://data.worldbank.org/>, <https://www.worldbank.org/>), World Population Review (<https://worldpopulationreview.com/>), Sustainable Development Goal Index (<https://dashboards.sdqindex.org/profiles>) and Digital Development Dashboard (<https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Statistics/Dashboards/Pages/Digital-Development.aspx>).

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The Global Data Barometer is a collaborative project that aims to measure the state of data in relation to urgent societal issues. Building on the Open Data Barometer, which has been used to drive policymaking, advocacy, and academic research, the survey was implemented from May 2019 - May 2021 to create a benchmark encompassing data governance, capability, availability, and use and impact of data for public data.

Full report and downloadable datasets can be found here: <https://globaldatabarometer.org/>.

