

Asia hotbed of IT piracy despite economic growth: report

May 25 2016



The Software Alliance—which includes giants like Microsoft, Apple, Intel, Oracle and Adobe—said in a report that the unlicensed software in Asia had a value of \$19.1 billion last year

More than 60 percent of all computer software installed in the Asia-Pacific in 2015 was unlicensed, the worst of any region, despite growing economies and anti-piracy efforts, an industry watchdog said Wednesday.

The Software Alliance—which includes giants like Microsoft, Apple, Intel, Oracle and Adobe—said in a report that the [unlicensed software](#) in Asia had a value of \$19.1 billion last year.

Piracy rates were most rampant in Bangladesh, Pakistan and Indonesia at more than 80 percent. The global piracy average was 39 percent.

While the worldwide piracy rate decreased by four percentage points from 2013, Asia saw only a one percentage point decline to 61 percent over the two-year period, said the report, which did not cover mobile devices.

The report resulted from a survey of 22,000 computer users and 2,000 information technology decision-makers and includes business, operating system, gaming and security software.

The group's Asia-Pacific senior director Tarun Sawney called for more action to address the problem of unlicensed software, particularly for key sectors like banking.

"Whilst there's still been improvement from two years ago on the use of unlicensed software, the rate is still too high and certainly in emerging economies, a lot of which are in Asia-Pacific, the problem still persists," he told a press conference.

The [report](#) cited a "disconnect" between businesses' concern about cybersecurity and their attitude to unlicensed software.

It found that the worldwide rate for what it called "critical" sectors such as banking, insurance and securities industries was 25 percent.

No figure was given for Asia in those sectors.

© 2016 AFP

Citation: Asia hotbed of IT piracy despite economic growth: report (2016, May 25) retrieved 30 June 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2016-05-asia-hotbed-piracy-economic-growth.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.