

i2010 Annual Report 2007



France is mixed in information society development with strengths in business use and connectivity but weaknesses in use among citizens, which lag a long way behind. Assessment is hindered by lack of data before 2006.

France Today

Broadband penetration has grown rapidly and coverage is widespread. This puts France just behind the group of highest-performing countries. Broadband is dominated by Digital Subscriber Line (DSL). Actual use is, however, below the EU average and less than might be expected from the high connectivity. The country's sizeable record industry has not been able to harness the above average broadband penetration for online sales. Online media use, except online broadcasting, is currently among the lowest in Europe.

The proportion of basic public services available online is higher than the EU average but still well below the best performing countries. Enterprise use of eGovernment is close to average. Although schools have more broadband in schools than average, the availability of computers to students and its use for teaching is not that well developed, although still close to mid-levels for Europe.

ICT skill among employees are somewhat below the EU average. The share of ICT in R&D is fairly high, above 30%. Enterprise use of ICT is also good. French enterprises using eBusiness and eCommerce tools are well above the average. France is currently the leading country in the use of eSignatures by enterprises.

French ICT Policy

ICT is considered to be a national policy priority. Measures taken have started to yield benefits, most visibly in the broadband market, where penetration is growing rapidly and prices are among the lowest in the EU. There are ambitious targets for infrastructure development, as well as network security and the development of ICT-skills among young people.

ICT infrastructure: coverage of mobile telephony, broadband and digital TV has spread thanks to regulatory and financial action as well as to a significant increase in competition.

Regional focus: The government has started to include ICT in plans for regional development to substantially increase the share of ICT-related expenditures in the forthcoming structural funds programmes.

ICT-Research: Research investment by the government has been raised considerably, particularly through the newly established Agency for Industrial Innovation and its ICT research projects.

Trust and security: on the basis of a report by Parliament, 12 recommendations are being implemented with concrete initiatives for spam and protection of minors.

Broadband	2003	2004	2005	2006	EU25	Rank
Total DSL coverage (as % of total population)	79.3	90.8	96.4		87.4	7
DSL coverage in rural areas (as % of total population)			87.9		65.9	6
Broadband penetration (as % of population)	4.8	9.5	14.7	19.0	15.7	8
DSL penetration (as % of population)	4.3	8.8	13.9	17.9	12.8	4
Predominant download speed			LE 512kbps			
Households having broadband (as % of those having access to the internet at home)				73.9	62.1	10
% of enterprises with broadband access	49.1			86.5	74.5	5
Number of 3G subscribers per 100 inhabitants			2.4		5.0	11
Digital Television in households			34.7		30.6	6
Music: number of single downloads per 100 inhabitants			13.7			10
Internet Usage						
% population who are regular internet users				39.3	46.7	19
Take up of internet services (as % of population)						
Sending emails				34.2	43.8	20
Looking for information about goods and services				36.0	42.9	17
Internet telephoning or videoconferencing				4.9	7.1	23
Playing/downloading games and music				9.3	18.2	29
Listening to the web radio/watching web tv				10.3	11.8	18
Reading online newspapers/magazines				9.5	19.0	26
Internet banking				18.1	22.0	15
Places of access						
% at home				34.6	42.6	15
% at work				18.2	23.0	20
% at educational place				6.3	8.0	23
% at PIAP				4.6	6.8	18
eGovernment Indicators						
% basic public services for citizens fully available online	33.3	41.7		58.3	36.8	8
% basic public services for enterprises fully available online	62.5	62.5		75.0	67.8	10
% of population using e-Government services					23.8	
of which for returning filled in forms					8.1	
% of enterprises using e-Government services				65.8	63.7	17
of which for returning filled in forms				51.3	44.8	14
ICT in schools						
Number of computers connected per 100 pupils				8.9	9.9	11
% of schools with broadband access				75.0	67.0	13
% of teachers having used the computer in class during the last 12 months				65.5	74.3	21
e-Commerce						
E-commerce as % of total turnover of enterprises				16.7	11.7	3
% enterprises receiving internet orders				16.2	13.9	10
% enterprises purchasing on the internet				26.0	37.9	14
e-business. % enterprises:						
with integrated internal business processes				53.3	37.3	4
with integrated external business processes				16.2	13.5	6
Security: % enterprises using Secure servers				52.3	41.0	5
% using digital signatures for authentication				32.9	14.3	1
Employment and Skills						
% employees using computers connected to the Internet	26.8			33.5	36.1	14
% of persons employed with ICT user skills.	17.1	16.8	16.6	16.3	18.5	20
% of persons employed with ICT specialist skills	2.9	3.1	2.9	2.9	3.1	14
Indicators on growth of ICT sector and R&D						
ICT sector share of total GDP	5.6				5.5	10
ICT sector share of total employment	4.8				4.0	5
ICT sector growth (constant prices).	1.2				3.6	16
R&D expenditure in ICT by the business sector, as % of GDP	0.4				0.3	4
=== as % of total R&D expenditure	30.6				25.7	6