

i2010 Annual Report 2007

Although data is incomplete, Malta shows a mixed performance in the few available indicators for information society development.

Malta Today

The percentage of broadband subscriptions is just below the EU average and has shown slow growth compared to previous years. Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) accounts for more than half of all broadband connections. Despite only slightly below average broadband penetration, a market for paid audiovisual online content has not materialised so far, possibly due to the market's limited size and average broadband speeds.

eGovernment supply for citizens is measured as the highest in Europe, whereas enterprise supply is slightly below normal. The number of enterprises interacting online with public authorities was higher in 2005 than the EU average of 2006. Schools are very well connected, scoring second in Europe, but the availability of computers and teacher use in classroom is only average.

User skills levels in ICT in the workforce are among the highest in the EU. Expert level skills are, however, now below average. Enterprise connectivity and technology use was in 2005 generally already above the EU average of 2006, so it seems safe to assume that Malta here performs above average.

Maltese ICT Policy

The ICT sector in Malta is well-developed and the government aims at attracting more ICT companies: a National ICT Framework aims to make Malta a better place to invest and various measures are improving digital skills among workers.

The **SmartCity@Malta initiative** aims to attract "knowledge-based activities by leading global players in the field". The project has attracted foreign direct investment and is expected to create over 5000 mostly ICT-related jobs.

Digital Skills: A number of initiatives that address employment in the ICT sector and general ICT competencies are being implemented. They include an eWork Framework, a National ICT Skills Framework, ICT certifications for students and the unemployed, fiscal incentives to encourage education in ICT and science, an ICT student placement programme, and academic initiatives developed in partnership with Microsoft, Cisco, SAP and IBM.

Broadband	2003	2004	2005	2006	EU25	Rank
Total DSL coverage (as % of total population)	95.0	95.0	99.0		87.4	5
DSL coverage in rural areas (as % of total population)			0.0		65.9	22
Broadband penetration (as % of population)		3.8	11.1	13.2	15.7	15
DSL penetration (as % of population)		3.2	6.5	8.1	12.8	16
Predominant download speed			1-2Mbps			
Households having broadband (as % of those having access to the internet at home)				76.7	62.1	8
% of enterprises with broadband access	62.3		77.7		74.5	
Number of 3G subscribers per 100 inhabitants			0.0		5.0	22
Digital Television in households					30.6	
Music: number of single downloads per 100 inhabitants			0.0			15
Internet Usage						
% population who are regular internet users				36.0	46.7	21
Take up of internet services (as % of population)						
Sending emails				31.3	43.8	22
Looking for information about goods and services				25.6	42.9	24
Internet telephoning or videoconferencing				4.1	7.1	26
Playing/downloading games and music				16.6	18.2	19
Listening to the web radio/watching web tv				9.9	11.8	19
Reading online newspapers/magazines				16.6	19.0	19
Internet banking				16.0	22.0	17
Places of access						
% at home				32.2	42.6	17
% at work				14.0	23.0	25
% at educational place				3.8	8.0	28
% at PIAP				1.8	6.8	29
eGovernment Indicators						
% basic public services for citizens fully available online		33.3		83.3	36.8	1
% basic public services for enterprises fully available online		50.0		62.5	67.8	15
% of population using e-Government services				16.2	23.8	19
of which for returning filled in forms				3.4	8.1	20
% of enterprises using e-Government services			68.3		63.7	
of which for returning filled in forms	35.5		45.4		44.8	
ICT in schools						
Number of computers connected per 100 pupils				10.2	9.9	10
% of schools with broadband access				95.0	67.0	1
% of teachers having used the computer in class during the last 12 months				74.5	74.3	13
e-Commerce						
E-commerce as % of total turnover of enterprises					11.7	
% enterprises receiving internet orders	20.6		14.3		13.9	
% enterprises purchasing on the internet			46.8		37.9	
e-business. % enterprises:						
with integrated internal business processes			43.4		37.3	
with integrated external business processes			18.9		13.5	
Security: % enterprises using Secure servers	38.0		41.2		41.0	
% using digital signatures for authentication	2.9		10.7		14.3	
Employment and Skills						
% employees using computers connected to the Internet	29.2				36.1	
% of persons employed with ICT user skills.	19.9	20.5	20.4	20.8	18.5	3
% of persons employed with ICT specialist skills	3.1	4.1	3.3	2.4	3.1	24
Indicators on growth of ICT sector and R&D						
ICT sector share of total GDP					5.5	
ICT sector share of total employment					4.0	
ICT sector growth (constant prices).					3.6	
R&D expenditure in ICT by the business sector, as % of GDP					0.3	
=== as % of total R&D expenditure					25.7	