

Information Society Statistics

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Internet and mobile phone usage in the European Union: the upward trend continues in 2001

Statistics in focus

INDUSTRY, TRADE AND SERVICES

THEME 4 – 8/2002

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Main results

- According to the ITU the number of Personal Computers in use in the EU increased in 2000 to 108 million (1999: 93 million) or by about 16%. There are, however, strong differences in the density of PCs between Member States, and between the EU (35 PCs/100 inhabitants) and the USA (59/100). The Nordic countries and Luxembourg have the highest PC density in the EU-15 (over 40/100).
- The number of Internet hosts in the EU increased in 2000 by over 30%. After a further expansion of 28% in 2001, it reached 13.5 million in January 2002. In the same month there were over 140 million Internet hosts world wide.
- The number of Internet users in EU-15 reached in summer 2001 around 145 million (Eurobarometer survey of June 2001, NetSizer estimate for August 2001). According to a Eurobarometer survey 38% of EU households had Internet access at home in November 2001.
- The number of mobile phone subscribers in the EU reached 236 million at the end of 2000, a growth of 55% compared to 1999. In December 2001 the number of subscribers is estimated to have reached 279 million (World: 1 030 million) a growth of 18% compared to the year before.
- With an Information and Communication Technology market size of about 500 billion euro in 2000 the EU ranks behind the USA (730 billion euro) but ahead of Japan (220 billion euro).

Table 1: Information Society in 2000/2001 (in million)

	EU-15	Japan	USA	World	Source
Number of PCs (Dec. 2000)	108	40	161	449	ITU
- per 100 inhabitants	35	32	59	8	
Internet hosts (July 2001)	12	6	76	120	RIPE, NetSizer
- per 100 inhabitants	3	5	28	2	
Internet users (August 2001)	144	53	174	660	NetSizer
- per 100 inhabitants	38	42	63	11	
Mobile phone subscribers (Dec. 2000)	239	67	109	740	ITU
- per 100 inhabitants	63	53	40	12	



Introduction

The availability and use of Information and Communication Technology has strongly increased in the last decade. The term "Information Society" is used to describe the new situation emerging. The aim of this report is to provide an overview on key Information Society related parameters (data on Personal Computers, Internet hosts and users, mobile phone subscribers and ICT market). Statistical data come from Eurostat and other Commission services, as well as

from ITU, EITO, RIPE, Nua, and have been brought together for this purpose. Some of the figures represent estimates (Internet hosts and Internet users) and there are considerable differences in the estimates provided by the different sources. Thus, figures have to be interpreted cautiously.

The present report is an update of the Statistics in Focus 23/2001, which had been released in June 2001.

Personal computers

Table 2: Number of Personal Computers

	Number of PCs (in million)						Growth (%)	PCs per 100 inhabitants		Population (>15) having a computer at home (%), by types of computer:		
	1990	1995	1996	1998	1999	2000		1990	2000	desktop	laptop	palm
							2000/99			2000		
EU-15	25.2	56.2	64.7	84.7	93.2	107.8	15.7	7	35	35	5	3
B	0.9	1.8	2.2	2.9	3.2	3.5	9.4	9	34	42	7	3
DK	0.6	1.4	1.6	2.0	2.2	2.3	4.5	11	43	59	11	2
D	6.5	15.6	19.1	22.9	24.4	27.6	13.3	8	34	32	5	2
EL	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.8	17.2	2	7	15	1	3
E	1.1	3.5	4.1	4.3	4.8	5.8	20.8	3	14	34	3	2
F	4.0	7.8	8.8	12.4	13.0	17.9	37.8	7	30	29	5	3
IRL	0.3	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.4	13.3	8	36	28	5	3
I	2.1	4.8	5.3	10.0	11.0	12.0	9.1	4	21	35	1	2
L	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	17.6	30	46	45	10	8
NL	1.4	3.1	3.6	5.0	5.7	6.3	10.5	9	39	66	18	9
A	0.5	1.3	1.4	1.9	2.1	2.3	8.1	6	28	32	7	3
P	0.3	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.1	12.9	3	10	20	3	2
FIN	0.5	1.2	1.4	1.8	1.9	2.1	10.2	10	40	45	7	1
S	0.6	2.2	2.6	3.5	4.0	4.5	12.5	8	51	56	11	4
UK	6.2	11.8	12.7	15.5	18.0	20.2	12.2	11	34	36	8	6
IS	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	10.0	15	39	:	:	:
N	0.8	1.2	1.4	1.7	2.0	2.2	10.0	20	49	:	:	:
USA	54.2	86.3	96.6	124.0	141.0	161.0	14.2	20	59	:	:	:
Japan	7.4	15.1	20.4	30.0	36.3	40.0	10.2	6	32	:	:	:

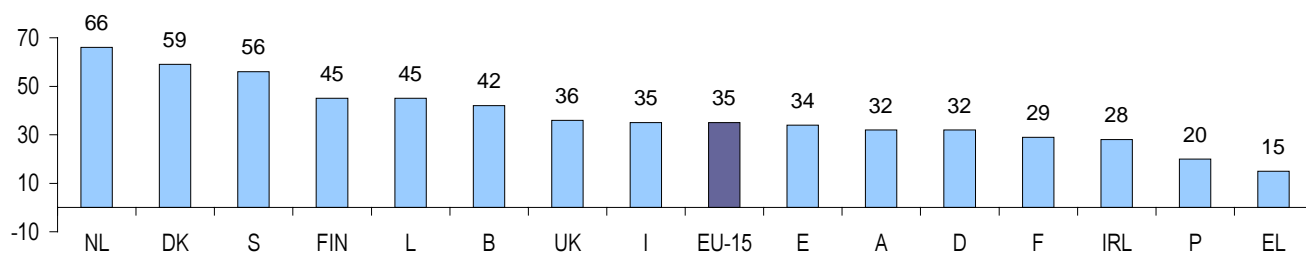
Source: International Telecommunication Union (ITU); Eurobarometer 53 for 2000 data for types of computer.

Data in italics are estimates.

In 2000 the number of PCs in use in the EU increased by about 16%. While the Nordic countries, Luxembourg and the Netherlands showed the highest number of PCs per 100 inhabitants, the density in Greece (7/100)

and Portugal (10/100) remains low compared to the EU average (35/100). In 2000, 35% of the EU population (aged 15 and over) had a desktop computer at home, while 5% had a laptop.

Figure 1: Proportion of people having a desktop computer at home (%), 2000



Source: Eurobarometer 53, April 2000. Data refer to population aged 15 and over.

Internet hosts

Table 3: Number of Internet hosts

	Number of Internet hosts (in 1 000)							Internet hosts per 100 inhabitants						
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	July 2001	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	July 2001
EU-15	1 894	2 993	4 652	6 417	7 954	10 477	12 354	0.5	0.8	1.2	1.7	2.1	2.8	3.3
B	31	65	107	209	339	300	329	0.3	0.6	1.1	2.0	3.3	2.9	3.2
DK	51	107	169	298	338	334	467	1.0	2.0	3.2	5.6	6.4	6.3	8.8
D	474	620	1 132	1 450	1 635	2 040	2 361	0.6	0.8	1.4	1.8	2.0	2.5	2.9
EL	8	17	28	50	75	111	136	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.7	1.0	1.3
E	51	113	196	307	470	455	487	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.8	1.2	1.2	1.2
F	151	239	355	511	607	1 122	906	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.9	2.1	1.9	1.5
IRL	13	27	40	56	64	111	116	0.4	0.7	1.1	1.5	1.7	2.9	3.1
I	75	148	254	387	394	1 020	879	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.7	1.8	1.5
L	2	4	5	8	10	12	14	0.5	0.9	1.1	1.8	2.2	2.7	3.1
NL	172	271	391	626	959	1 624	2 550	1.1	1.7	2.5	4.0	6.1	10.2	16.1
A	53	89	108	173	263	483	516	0.7	1.1	1.3	2.1	3.2	6.0	6.4
P	12	24	42	56	78	62	157	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.6	1.6
FIN	216	314	487	460	462	529	785	4.2	6.1	9.5	8.9	8.9	10.2	15.2
S	145	238	349	379	523	596	670	1.6	2.7	3.9	4.3	5.9	6.7	7.6
UK	440	719	988	1 449	1 739	1 678	1 981	0.8	1.2	1.7	2.5	2.9	2.8	3.3
IS	:	:	:	25	30	40	47	:	:	:	9.0	10.7	14.3	16.8
N	:	:	:	319	439	453	404	:	:	:	7.2	9.8	10.1	9.0
USA	6 055	10 113	20 624	30 489	53 176	80 567	75 741	2.3	3.8	7.7	11.3	19.6	29.4	27.6
Japan	269	734	1 169	1 688	2 637	4 641	6 446	0.2	0.6	0.9	1.3	2.1	3.7	5.1

Source: Data from 1995 to 2000: ITU; 2001 data: RIPE for European countries; NetSizer (August 2001) for USA and Japan.

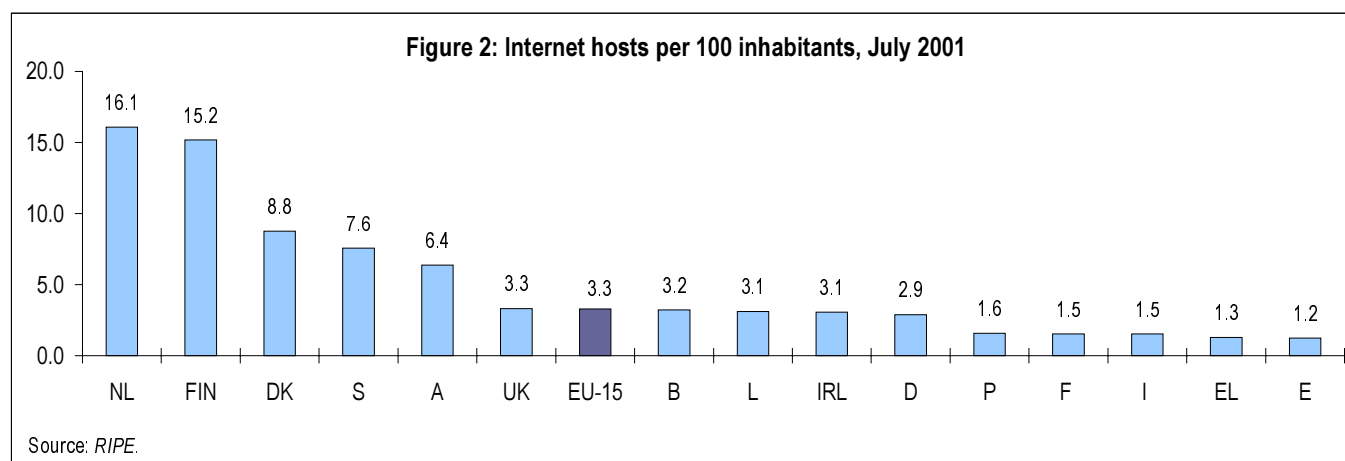
Data in italics are estimates.

In January 2002 there were 13.5 million Internet hosts in the EU (if country code top level domain are counted only). The number of Internet hosts world wide reached over 140 million in January 2002.

The highest density is found in the Netherlands (16.1 hosts/100 inhabitants in July 2001), Finland (15.2/100), Denmark (8.8/100) and Sweden (7.6/100). Spain, Denmark (8.8/100) and Sweden (7.6/100). Spain,

Greece, France, Italy and Portugal have the lowest density with less than 2 hosts per 100 inhabitants. This compared to 27.6/100 in the USA and 5.1/100 in Japan.

The second quarter 2001 was characterised by a slowing down of growth (Ireland, Austria, Spain) and in some cases even a decline in the number of hosts (France, Italy, Norway and USA), partly caused by the recent '.com crisis'.



Internet users

Table 4: Number of Internet users

	Number of Internet users (1 000)				Internet users per 100 inhabitants			
	1997	1998	1999	2000	1997	1998	1999	2000
EU-15	19 340	36 305	55 942	92 177	5.2	9.7	14.9	24.5
B	500	800	1 400	2 700	4.9	7.8	13.7	26.4
DK	600	1 000	1 500	1 950	11.4	18.9	28.2	36.6
D	5 000	10 500	15 900	24 000	6.1	12.8	19.4	29.2
EL	200	350	750	1 000	1.9	3.3	7.1	9.5
E	1 100	1 733	2 830	5 388	2.8	4.4	7.2	13.7
F	1 000	3 500	5 660	8 500	1.7	6.0	9.6	14.4
IRL	150	300	444	784	4.1	8.1	11.9	20.8
I	1 300	3 000	5 000	11 000	2.3	5.2	8.7	19.1
L	30	50	75	100	7.2	11.8	17.5	23.0
NL	1 000	1 600	3 000	6 800	6.4	10.2	19.0	42.9
A	760	1 230	1 840	3 000	9.4	15.2	22.4	37.0
P	500	600	700	1 000	5.0	6.0	7.0	10.0
FIN	1 000	1 311	1 667	1 927	19.5	25.5	32.3	37.3
S	2 000	2 961	3 666	4 048	22.6	33.5	41.4	45.7
UK	4 310	8 000	12 500	19 980	7.3	13.5	21.1	33.5
IS	:	100	150	168	:	36.3	53.8	60.2
N	:	1 600	2 000	2 200	:	35.9	44.7	49.1
USA	40 000	60 000	74 100	95 354 ¹	15.0	22.3	27.3	34.8
Japan	11 550	16 740	18 300	47 080	9.3	13.3	14.5	37.3

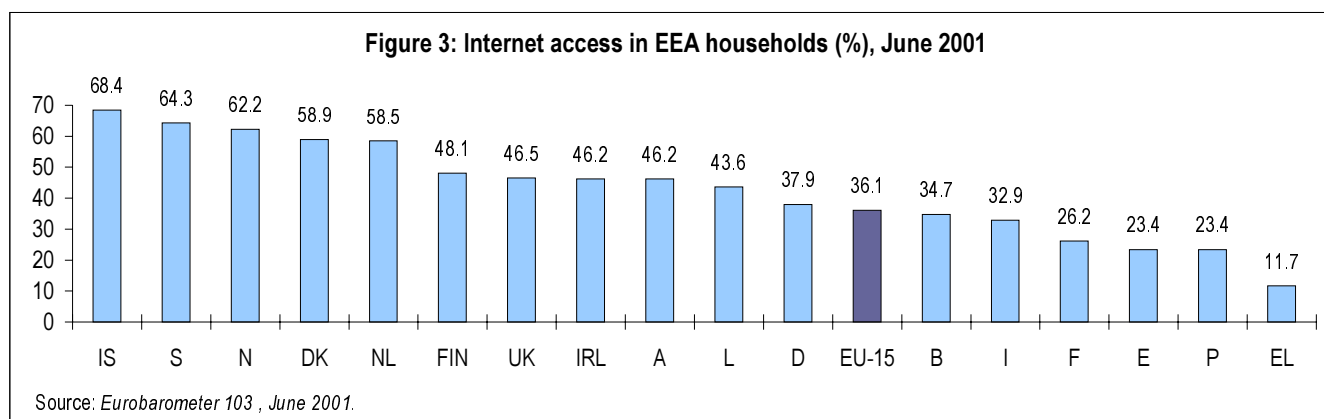
(1) According to Nua the figure for December 2000 for the USA was 164.4 million Internet users.

Source: Data from 1997 to 2000: ITU. Nua figures for Belgium (September 2000), Italy (June 2000), the Netherlands (September 2000), Austria (October 2000) and the United Kingdom (November 2000).

According to a Eurobarometer survey carried out in June 2001, the Internet penetration in EU-15 households reached 36.1% (November 2001: 37.7 %). The Nordic countries and the Netherlands show the highest Internet household penetration.

(15 years and older) corresponding to 144 million persons use the Internet. 31% of persons surveyed use Internet at home, 19% at work and 9% at school and Universities.

According to this survey 46.2% of the EU population



Mobile phone subscribers

Table 5: Mobile phone subscribers

	Number of mobile phone subscribers at the end of the year (1 000)						Growth (%)	Mobile phone subscribers per 100 inhabitants					
	1990	1995	1997	1998	1999	2000		2000/99	1990	1995	1997	1998	1999
EU-15	3 121	17 981	52 863	87 573	151 892	238 916	57.3	0.9	4.8	14.1	23.4	40.5	63.5
B	45	235	974	1 756	3 187	5 336	67.5	0.5	2.3	9.6	17.2	31.4	52.1
DK	148	822	1 444	1 931	2 629	3 364	28.0	2.9	15.7	27.3	36.4	49.5	63.1
D	273	3 764	8 276	13 913	23 470	48 202	105.4	0.3	4.6	10.1	17.0	28.6	58.7
EL	6	273	938	2 057	3 300	5 932	79.8	0.1	2.6	8.9	19.6	31.1	56.3
E	55	944	4 338	6 437	15 000	24 736	64.9	0.1	2.4	11.0	16.4	38.1	62.7
F	284	1 302	5 817	11 210	20 619	29 052	40.9	0.5	2.2	9.9	19.1	35.0	49.1
IRL	25	158	533	946	1 692	2 490	47.2	0.7	4.4	14.6	25.5	45.7	65.9
I	266	392	11 738	20 489	30 296	42 246	39.4	0.5	6.9	20.4	35.6	52.8	73.2
L	1	27	67	131	209	380	81.7	0.2	6.6	16.0	30.8	48.7	87.2
NL	79	539	1 717	3 351	6 900	10 710	55.2	0.5	3.5	11.0	21.3	43.5	67.5
A	73	384	1 160	2 293	4 206	6 253	48.7	0.9	4.8	14.4	28.4	51.4	77.2
P	6	341	1 507	3 075	4 671	6 665	42.7	0.1	3.4	15.2	30.8	46.8	66.7
FIN	258	1 039	2 163	2 947	3 364	3 729	10.9	5.2	20.3	42.1	57.2	65.1	72.1
S	465	2 025	3 169	3 932	5 165	6 369	23.3	5.4	22.9	35.8	44.4	58.3	71.9
UK	1 142	5 736	9 023	14 878	27 185	43 452	59.8	2.0	9.8	15.3	25.2	46.3	72.9
IS	10	31	65	91	173	188	9.0	3.9	11.6	24.1	33.4	61.9	67.4
N	197	981	1 677	2 106	2 745	3 368	22.7	4.7	22.5	38.1	47.5	61.8	75.2
USA	5 283	33 786	55 312	69 209	86 047	109 478	27.2	2.1	12.9	20.8	25.7	31.7	40.0
Japan	868	11 712	38 254	47 285	56 849	66 784	17.5	0.7	9.3	30.7	37.5	45.0	52.9
China	18	3 629	13 233	23 863	43 296	85 260	96.9	0.0	0.3	1.1	1.9	3.4	6.7

Source: Data from 1990 to 1999: Eurostat, New Cronos/COINS for European countries and ITU for USA, Japan and China. 2000 data: ITU.

Data for Greece for 1990 estimated.

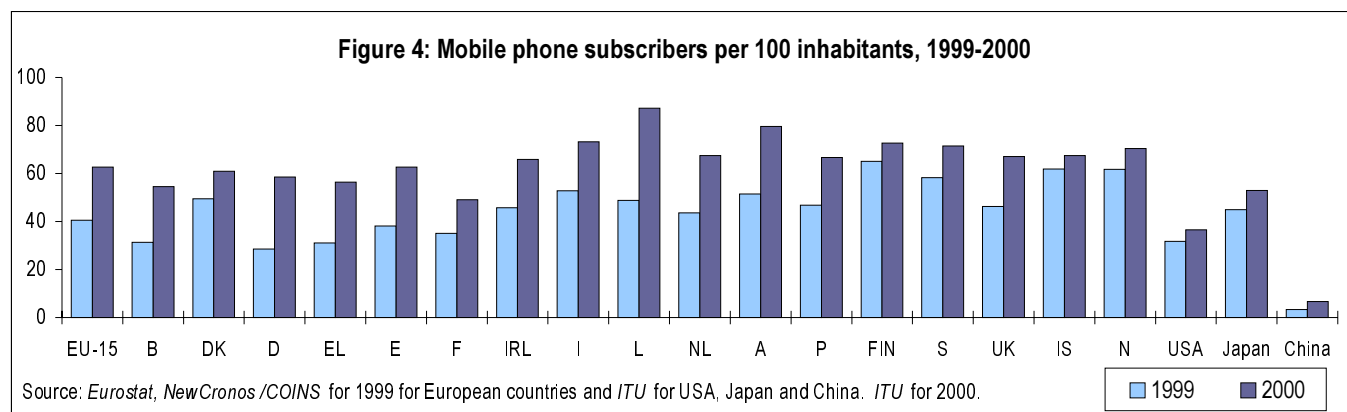
The number of mobile phone subscribers in the EU has increased rapidly over the last few years, but 2001 marked a period of consolidation with a slowing down in the growth (+18% according to 'Mobile Communications', Informa Telecoms Group).

At the end of 2000 the number of the subscribers in the EU reached 63 per 100 inhabitants ('Mobile Communications' estimate for 1 January 2002: 279 million subscribers or 73/100 inhabitants). Luxembourg (87/100), Austria (77/100), Italy (73/100), the United

Kingdom (73/100) and Finland (73/100) recorded in 2000 the highest densities of subscribers. France (49/100) and Belgium (55/100) registered the lowest.

The density of mobile phone subscribers in the USA (40/100) and in Japan (53/100) is still lower than the EU average. Furthermore, the USA still has high share of subscription to analogue systems (1999: 60%).

In 2000, the number of mobile phone subscribers surpassed the number of fixed lines in the EU, which reached 205 million (ITU data).



Information and Communication Technology market

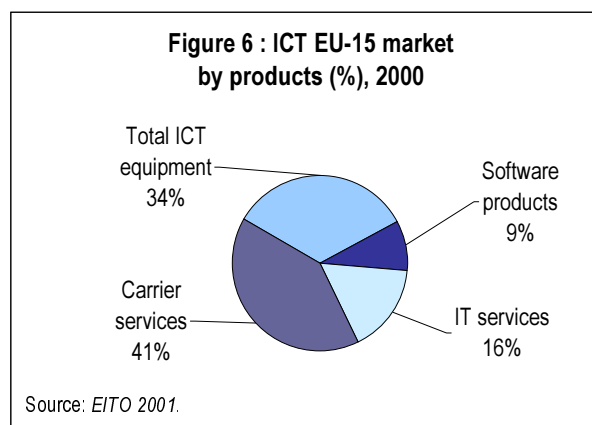
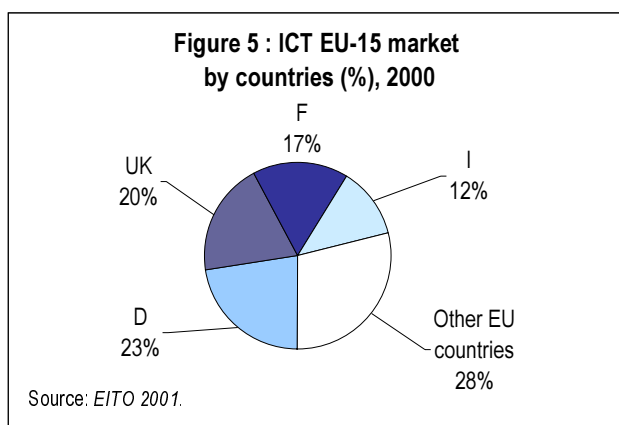
Table 6: ICT Market by country (bn euro)

	ICT market (bn euro)			Growth (%)	Per capita (euro)
	1998	1999	2000	2000/99	2000
EU-15 total	401.3	450.6	509.8	13.1	1 354
Of which:					
Total ICT equipment	133.0	152.1	173.0	13.7	459
Software products	36.6	41.5	47.1	13.5	125
IT services	64.7	73.6	83.1	13.0	221
Carrier services	167.1	183.4	206.5	12.6	549
B + L	11.7	13.1	14.7	12.2	1 379
DK	8.8	9.6	10.6	11.0	1 991
D	94.8	104.3	115.1	10.4	1 400
EL	5.1	6.3	7.3	16.3	690
E	27.3	32.6	38.3	17.7	972
F	67.0	75.0	85.3	13.7	1 440
IRL	3.8	4.2	4.8	14.1	1 284
I	46.8	53.9	61.4	14.0	1 065
NL	20.4	23.1	26.3	13.9	1 656
A	9.2	10.6	12.0	12.9	1 481
P	5.8	6.5	7.4	15.3	744
FIN	6.4	7.3	7.9	9.1	1 534
S	14.9	16.5	18.3	10.6	2 064
UK	79.3	87.8	100.2	14.2	1 681
IS	:	:	:	:	:
N	7.1	7.9	8.5	7.6	1 896
USA	622.2	672.3	727.5	8.2	2 655
Japan	201.0	207.7	221.6	6.7	1 754
World	1 668.7	1 822.2	2 012.4	10.4	330

Source: EITO 2001. Population data: Eurostat (Theme 3), ITU for World.

In 2000 the total Information and Communication Technology market value in the EU reached euro 510 billion, which represents an average of 1 354 euro per head.

The countries with largest market share of EU-15 are Germany, the United Kingdom, France and Italy - they together represent 72% of the total market. Carrier services (including Internet and mobile services) represented 41% of the European market in 2000.



➤ ESSENTIAL INFORMATION – METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

Personal computers (PCs): includes portables, desktops and personal workstations. Board-level products are excluded. Data on the number of PCs by country from ITU represent estimates.

Internet Service Provider (ISP): organisation that lets users dial into its computers to connect to its Internet link (usually for a fee). An ISP in general provides an Internet connection and an electronic mail address.

Internet hosts: computers directly connected to the Internet and with their own IP address and full two-way access to other nodes on the network. The host data in this report refer to country code Top Level Domains only for EU countries and Japan (examples: .de or .uk), generic top level domains (examples: .com, .org) are not included for these countries. Top Level Domain does not necessarily entail that the host is physically located in the corresponding

country, but reveals how many hosts are interested in being known in the respective countries. There are about 36 million .com domains today (NetSizer).

Most of domain names have in the past been registered through the USA (1998: 75%, 2000: 50-60%).

Internet user: person using the Internet. The number is several times higher than the number of Internet hosts. Data relate to persons above a defined age limit. Data come from household surveys or represent estimates or forecasts.

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) market refers to the combined industries of Information Technology equipment (computer hardware, communication equipment, office equipment, data communication and network equipment), software products, IT services and

carrier services. The EITO market value is expressed in euro for the Euro-zone, and at constant 1999 exchange rates for remaining countries.

Mobile phone subscribers: users of portable telephones subscribing to an automatic public mobile telephone service which provides access to the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) using cellular technology.

Web site: a location on the World Wide Web identified by a web address. A Web site consists of one or more pages of information and data (encoded with a hypertext markup language to make them readable by a web browser).

Abbreviations / sources:

: Data not available
 Mio Million
 bn A thousand million
Italics Estimated data appear in Italics.

Eurobarometer Surveys Ad hoc surveys supervised by **DG INFSO** of the European Commission
http://europa.eu.int/information_society/basics/measuring/index_en.htm

EITO European Information Technology Observatory (EITO)
 Address: Lyoner Str. 18, D-60528 Frankfurt/Main, <http://www.eito.com>
 Publication: EITO 2001

ITU International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
 Address: Place des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva Switzerland; <http://www.itu.int>
 ITU is a UN-Organisation. Statistical publication: ITU Yearbook

RIPE NCC Réseaux IP Européens, Network Coordination Centre
 The RIPE DNS hostcount is done by transferring every possible Domain Name System zones under the mentioned top level domains. <ftp://ftp.ripe.net/ripe/hostcount/History/>. Issues monthly hostcount statistics.

Mobile Communications Baskerville - Information and Communication
 Informa Telecoms Group 40 Berners Street, London W1T 3NA, United Kingdom
 Informa produces monthly mobile phone statistics by operator. <http://www.informatelecom.com>

Nua Address: Merrion House, Merrion Road, Dublin 4, Ireland; <http://www.nua.ie>
 Nua is a private web publishing company. On its web site, Nua provides a collection of results of Internet surveys and on the worldwide number of Internet users, <http://www.nua.ie/surveys/how-many-online/>.

NetSizer Interactive tool providing the number of Internet hosts by month and by domain (figures are estimates based on sampling of IP addresses declared in the DNS). The associated consulting company Telecordia Technologies provides quantitative and qualitative analyses related to the "Evolution of the Internet", <http://www.netsizer.com>

Further information:

➤ Reference publications

Title Information Society Statistics Pocketbook
 Catalogue No KS-39-01-304-EN-C Price EUR 17,5

➤ Databases

New Cronos, Theme 4, Domain: INFOSOC
 (Information Society Statistics)

To obtain information or to order publications, databases and special sets of data, please contact the **Data Shop** network:

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