

## COMPUTER, INTERNET AND TELECOMMUNICATION

Communication access and computers are increasingly present in homes in OECD countries, both in countries that already have high penetration rates and in those where adoption has lagged.

### Definition

For access to home computers, the table shows the number of households that reported having at least one personal computer in working order in their home. The second part of the table shows the percentage of households who reported that they had access to the Internet. In almost all cases this access is via a personal computer either using a dial-up, ADSL or cable broadband access.

The table also shows total communication access paths. For OECD countries and China, these refer to the total number of fixed lines (standard analogue access lines and ISDN lines), DSL, Cable modem subscribers and mobile telephone subscribers. For Brazil, India, the Russian Federation and South Africa, total communication access paths are the sum of main telephone lines in operation, ISDN lines, DSL and cable modem subscribers and cellular mobile telephone subscribers.

### Comparability

The OECD has addressed issues of international comparability by developing a model survey on ICT use in households/by individuals. The model survey uses modules addressing different topics so that additional components can be added as technologies reflecting usage practices and policy interests change. The ICT access and use by households and individuals model survey is available on the OECD website.

Statistics on ICT use by households may run into problems of international comparability because of structural differences in the composition of households. On the other hand, statistics on ICT use by individuals may refer to people of different ages, and age is an important determinant of ICT use.

### Overview

ICT penetration rates are highest in Iceland, the Netherlands, Japan, Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Korea, where 80% or more of households had access to a home computer by 2007. On the other hand, shares in Turkey, Mexico, Greece, the Czech Republic and Portugal were below 50%. Between 2001 and 2007, the percentages of households with access to a home computer increased sharply in France, Japan, the United Kingdom and Germany.

The picture with regard to Internet access is similar. In Korea, Iceland, the Netherlands, Sweden, Denmark and Norway, more than 75% of all households had Internet access in 2007. In Mexico and Brazil, on the other hand, less than one quarter of all households had Internet access in the same year.

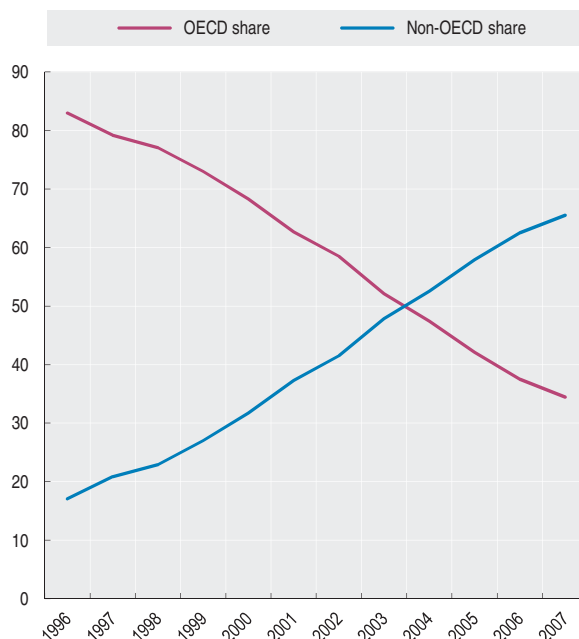
Access to telecommunications networks continues to expand in all OECD countries. Access increased by 164% in the OECD area as a whole in last decade, going from 59.5 to 156.7 telecommunications paths per 100 inhabitants. Growth rates in telecommunication paths were ever higher in China (which experienced growth in access penetration of a 986% in the last decade), Mexico (654%), the Russian Federation (521%) and Estonia (341%).

Household- and person-based measures yield different figures in terms of levels and growth rates of ICT use. Such differences complicate international comparisons and make benchmarking exercises based on a single indicator of Internet access or use misleading, since country rankings change according to the indicator used.

For telecommunications access, data for OECD countries are collected according to agreed definitions and are highly comparable. The data shown for the nine non-OECD countries were partly collected according to the OECD definitions and partly provided by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). The definition used by ITU is slightly narrower than the one used by the OECD, although data reported for the two sets of countries can be regarded as broadly comparable.

### Mobile cellular subscribers

OECD and non-OECD share in the world total



StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/821246427106>

### Sources

- OECD (2009), *OECD Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard 2009*, OECD, Paris.

### Further information

#### Analytical publications

- OECD (2008), *OECD Information Technology Outlook 2008*, OECD, Paris.
- OECD (2009), *OECD Communications Outlook 2009*, OECD, Paris.

#### Statistical publications

- Eurostat (2005), *Eurostat community survey on ICT usage in households and by individuals*, May 2005, Eurostat, Luxembourg.

#### Web sites

- OECD Science, Technology and Industry, [www.oecd.org/sti](http://www.oecd.org/sti).
- OECD Telecommunications and Internet Policy, [www.oecd.org/sti/telecom](http://www.oecd.org/sti/telecom).



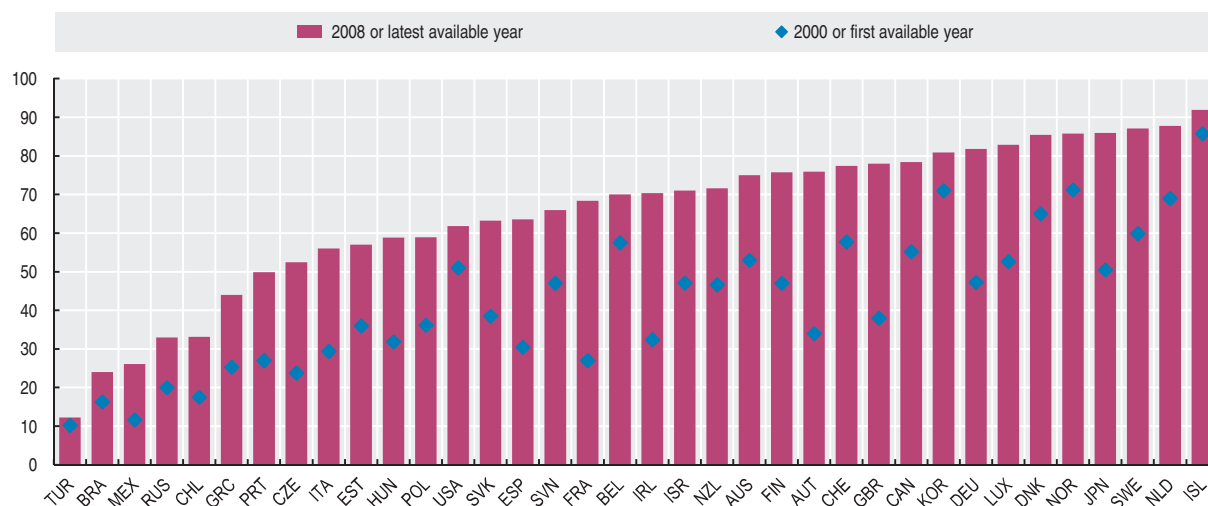
## Households with access to home computers, Internet and telephone

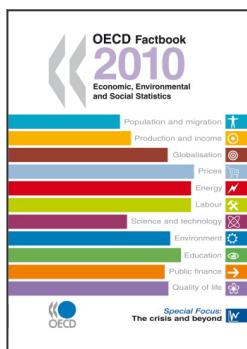
	Percentage of households with access to a home computer				Percentage of households with access to the Internet				Number of telecommunication access paths per 100 inhabitants			
	2000	2005	2007	2008	2000	2005	2007	2008	1995	2000	2005	2007
Australia	53.0	70.0	75.0	..	32.0	60.0	67.0	..	62.3	96.1	147.8	167.3
Austria	34.0	63.1	70.7	75.9	19.0	46.7	59.6	68.9	51.6	120.2	152.2	170.4
Belgium	..	..	67.2	70.0	..	50.2	60.2	63.6	48.3	100.0	150.5	159.5
Canada	55.2	72.0	78.4	..	42.6	64.3	72.7	..	68.8	96.7	138.3	153.1
Czech Republic	..	30.0	43.4	52.4	..	19.1	35.1	45.9	23.7	80.3	147.5	161.1
Denmark	65.0	83.8	83.0	85.5	46.0	74.9	78.1	81.9	77.2	124.4	174.6	190.8
Finland	47.0	64.0	74.0	75.8	30.0	54.1	68.8	72.4	75.5	131.7	168.3	179.2
France	27.0	..	61.6	68.4	11.9	..	49.2	62.3	57.8	97.9	136.1	152.0
Germany	47.3	69.9	78.6	81.8	16.4	61.6	70.7	74.9	53.7	107.2	156.4	187.0
Greece	..	32.6	40.2	44.0	..	21.7	25.4	31.0	51.1	107.1	163.3	202.9
Hungary	..	42.3	53.5	58.8	..	22.1	38.4	48.4	24.1	65.3	128.3	154.8
Iceland	..	89.3	89.1	91.9	..	84.4	83.7	87.7	67.2	134.4	179.5	183.3
Ireland	32.4	54.9	65.5	70.3	20.4	47.2	57.3	63.0	40.1	96.3	148.7	172.7
Italy	29.4	45.7	53.4	56.0	18.8	38.6	43.4	46.9	50.7	117.5	174.6	203.5
Japan	50.5	80.5	85.0	85.9	..	57.0	62.1	63.9	58.5	102.0	134.8	137.1
Korea	71.0	78.9	80.5	80.9	49.8	92.7	94.1	94.3	45.6	113.1	143.4	155.0
Luxembourg	..	74.5	80.0	82.8	..	64.6	74.6	80.1	62.7	125.7	222.6	222.1
Mexico	..	18.3	22.0	26.1	..	8.8	11.9	13.7	10.4	26.9	66.0	88.2
Netherlands	..	77.9	86.3	87.7	41.0	78.3	82.9	86.1	55.5	122.1	161.5	174.1
New Zealand	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	56.7	102.2	138.0	162.7
Norway	..	74.2	82.4	85.8	..	64.0	77.6	84.0	78.6	125.8	164.7	170.6
Poland	..	40.1	53.7	58.9	..	30.4	41.0	47.6	15.2	46.2	107.3	141.9
Portugal	27.0	42.5	48.3	49.8	8.0	31.5	39.6	46.0	39.2	102.3	152.7	170.7
Slovak Republic	..	46.7	55.4	63.2	..	23.0	46.1	58.3	21.1	55.4	108.8	140.0
Spain	30.4	54.6	60.4	63.6	..	35.5	44.6	51.0	40.7	103.7	154.8	171.1
Sweden	59.9	79.7	82.9	87.1	48.2	72.5	78.5	84.4	91.0	139.0	176.8	190.2
Switzerland	57.7	76.5	..	..	..	..	73.9	..	70.2	122.9	165.7	181.1
Turkey	..	12.2	..	..	6.9	7.7	..	..	23.7	49.6	89.0	115.9
United Kingdom	38.0	70.0	75.4	78.0	19.0	60.2	66.7	71.1	58.4	114.2	175.4	195.3
United States	51.0	..	..	..	41.5	..	61.7	..	71.4	115.3	154.3	167.5
EU27 total	..	..	64.0	67.9	..	48.4	54.1	60.4	..	..	..	..
OECD average	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	51.7	96.1	139.1	156.7
Brazil	..	16.9	24.0	..	..	12.9	17.0	..	9.2	31.6	73.0	..
Chile	17.5	..	..	..	8.6	..	..	..	..	44.1	94.2	112.1
China	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.4	58.5	73.0
Estonia	..	43.0	57.0	..	..	39.0	53.0	..	..	79.3	145.9	191.0
India	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.3	3.6	12.9	..
Israel	47.1	62.4	68.9	71.0	19.8	48.9	59.3	61.8	..	116.8	165.8	181.3
Russian Federation	..	26.0	..	..	..	25.0	..	..	16.9	24.2	112.7	..
Slovenia	..	61.0	66.0	..	..	48.0	58.0	..	..	..	194.0	188.6
South Africa	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.1	29.6	82.2	..

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/825881036804>

## Households with access to home computers

As a percentage of all households

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/821215531881>



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