

Information Society Statistics

*Rapid expansion of Internet and mobile phone usage, in
the European Union in 2000*

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Statistics
in focus

INDUSTRY, TRADE
AND SERVICES

THEME 4 – 23/2001

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Main results

- The number of Personal Computers in use in the EU-15 has been growing by about 10% per year. In 1999 there were about 93 million PCs in use in the EU or 1 PC for every 4 inhabitants. The number of PCs is expected to have surpassed 100 million in the second half of 2000.
- The number of Internet hosts is increasing by about 20% per year. In January 2001 there were over 110 million Internet hosts and over 400 million Internet users in the world. The number of Internet hosts in EU-15 stood at 12.6 million in January 2001, (if country code top level domains only are counted). The number of Internet users in EU-15 will probably reach 130 million in mid 2001.
- There are strong differences in the density of PCs and Internet hosts between Member States and between the EU and the USA. The Scandinavian countries have the highest PC and Internet density in the EU-15. In 1999 the PC density in the USA was twice as high as in Europe and in Japan it was slightly above the EU average.
- The number of mobile phone subscriptions in EU-15 has increased by over 60% in 2000, and stood at 235 million at the end of 2000. At the beginning of April 2001 the number of subscriptions surpassed 250 million.

Table 1 : Information Society in 1999/2001 (in million)

	EU-15	Japan	USA	World	Source
Number of PCs (Dec. 1999)	93	36	141	387	ITU
- per 100 inhabitants	25	29	52	6	
Internet Hosts (Jan. 2001)	13	5	75	112	ISC
- per 100 inhabitants	3.4	4.3	27	1.8	
Internet users (April 2001)	123	43	175	411	Netsizer
- per 100 inhabitants	33	35	63	7	
Mobile phones (Dec. 2000)	235	60	112	725	Mobile Communications, EITO
- per 100 inhabitants	63	47	41	12	



Introduction

The availability and use of information and communication technologies 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, IT market, and mobile phone).

Statistical data from Eurostat and from other Commission services and from ITU, EITO, RIPE, have been brought together for this purpose. Some of the figures represent estimates (number of PCs, Internet users) and there are considerable differences in the estimates provided by the different sources. Thus, figures have to be interpreted with care.

Personal computers

Table 2: Number of Personal Computers

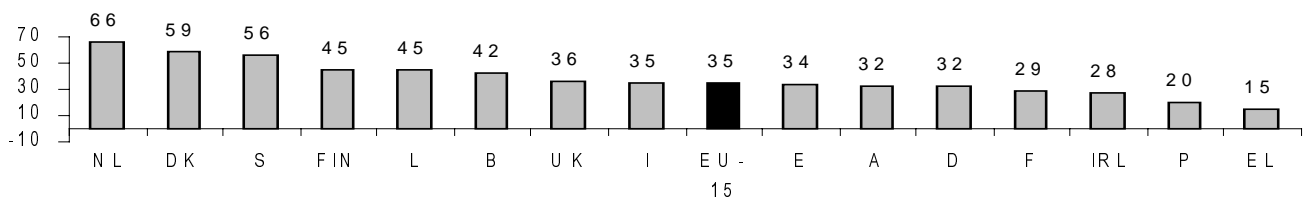
	Number of PCs (in million)					Growth (%) 1999	PCs per 100 inhabitants		Population (>15) having a computer at home (%)		
	1990	1995	1996	1998	1999		1990	1999	2000		
Type of computer :								desktop	laptop	palm	
EU-15	25.2	56.2	64.7	84.7	93.2	10.0	7	25	35	5	3
B	0.9	1.8	2.2	2.9	3.2	10.3	9	31	42	7	3
DK	0.6	1.4	1.6	2.0	2.2	10.0	11	41	59	11	2
D	6.5	15.6	19.1	22.9	24.4	6.6	8	30	32	5	2
EL	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.6	16.4	2	6	15	1	3
E	1.1	3.5	4.1	4.3	4.8	11.6	3	12	34	3	2
F	4	7.8	8.8	12.4	13.0	4.8	7	22	29	5	3
IRL	0.3	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.2	20.0	8	32	28	5	3
I	2.1	4.8	5.3	10.0	11.0	10.0	4	19	35	1	2
L	0.05	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	3.0	30	40	45	10	8
NL	1.4	3.1	3.6	5.0	5.7	14.0	9	36	66	18	9
A	0.5	1.3	1.4	1.9	2.1	10.5	6	26	32	7	3
P	0.3	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	14.8	3	9	20	3	2
FIN	0.5	1.2	1.4	1.8	1.9	3.3	10	36	45	7	1
S	0.6	2.2	2.6	3.5	4.0	14.3	8	45	56	11	4
UK	6.2	11.8	12.7	15.5	18.0	16.1	11	30	36	8	6
USA	54.2	86.3	96.6	124.0	141.0	13.7	20	52	:	:	:
Japan	7.4	15.1	20.4	30.0	36.3	21.0	6	29	:	:	:

Source: International Telecommunication Union (ITU). Eurobarometer (53) for 2000 data.

The number of personal computers in the EU countries is increasing by about 10 million per year. ITU estimates the number of PCs in the EU to be 93 Mio in 1999 (the ISPO estimate for the same year is 120 million). While the Scandinavian countries show the highest densities,

the density in Greece (6/100) and Portugal (9/100) remains low compared to the EU average (25/100). In 2000 35 % of the EU population (aged 15 and over) had a desktop computer at home. About 40 % of persons employed use a PC at work.

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



Source: European Commission. Eurobarometer 53 (2000). Data refer to population aged 15 and over.

Internet hosts

Table 3: Number of Internet hosts

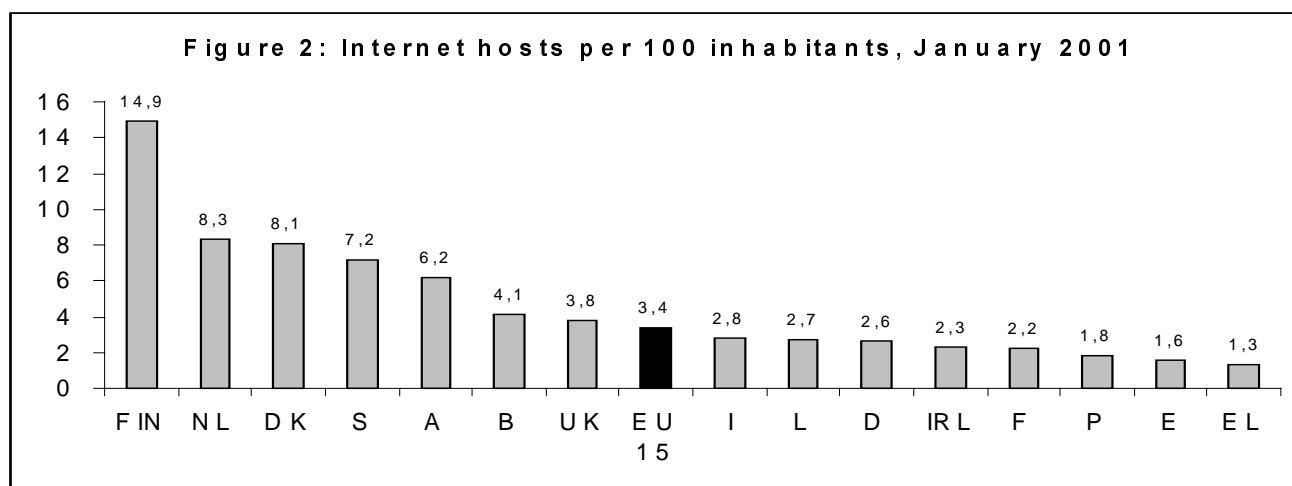
	Number of Internet hosts (in 1000)						Growth(%)	Internet hosts per 100 inhabitants					
	1995	1997	1998	1999	July 2000	January 2001	January 2001/ July 2000	1995	1997	1998	1999	July 2000	January 2001
EU-15	1894	4652	6417	8581	10906	12614	15.7	0.5	1.2	1.7	2.3	2.9	3.4
B	31	107	209	339	361	417	15.5	0.3	1.1	2.0	3.3	3.6	4.1
DK	51	169	298	338	370	436	17.8	1.0	3.2	5.6	6.4	7.0	8.1
D	474	1132	1450	1635	1917	2163	12.5	0.6	1.4	1.8	2.0	2.3	2.6
EL	8	28	50	75	106	148	39.6	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.7	1.0	1.3
E	51	196	307	470	539	663	23.0	0.1	0.5	0.8	1.2	1.4	1.6
F	151	355	511	607	984	1230	25.0	0.3	0.6	0.9	2.1	1.7	2.2
IRL	13	40	56	64	86	88	2.3	0.4	1.1	1.5	1.7	2.3	2.3
I	75	254	387	394	1574	1630	3.6	0.1	0.4	0.7	0.7	2.7	2.8
L	2	5	8	10	12	12	0.0	0.5	1.1	1.8	2.2	2.7	2.7
NL	172	391	626	959	1082	1320	22.0	1.1	2.5	4.0	6.1	6.8	8.3
A	53	108	173	263	350	504	44.0	0.7	1.3	2.1	3.2	4.3	6.2
P	12	42	56	78	117	177	51.3	0.1	0.4	0.6	0.8	1.2	1.8
FIN	216	487	460	462	704	771	9.5	4.2	9.5	8.9	8.9	13.6	14.9
S	145	349	379	523	624	764	22.4	1.6	3.9	4.3	5.9	7.0	7.2
UK	440	988	1449	1739	2081	2291	10.1	0.8	1.7	2.5	2.9	3.5	3.8
USA	6055	20624	30489	53176	58966*	74522	26.3	2.3	7.7	11.3	19.6	21.4	26.8
Japan	269	1169	1688	2637	3413	5416	58.7	0.2	0.9	1.3	2.1	2.7	4.3

Source: (1) Data from 1995 to 1999: ITU (2) data for 2000 and 2001: ISC

* Data from September. Source EITO 2001

According to ISC there were 112 million Internet hosts world wide in January 2001. More than half of all computers connected to the Internet, are located in the USA. The EU had 12.6 million Internet hosts in January 2001 (if country code top level domain are counted only). The highest density is found in Finland (14.9 hosts/100 inhabitants in January 2001), The Netherlands

(8.3/100), Denmark (8.1/100) and Sweden (7.2/100). Portugal (1.8/100), Spain (1.6/100) and Greece have the lowest density (1.3/100). The EU average in January 2001 was 3.4/100. This compares to 26.8/100 in the USA and 4.3/100 in Japan. The number of Internet hosts in the EU increased by 16 % from July 2000 to January 2001.



Internet user

Table 4: Number of Internet users

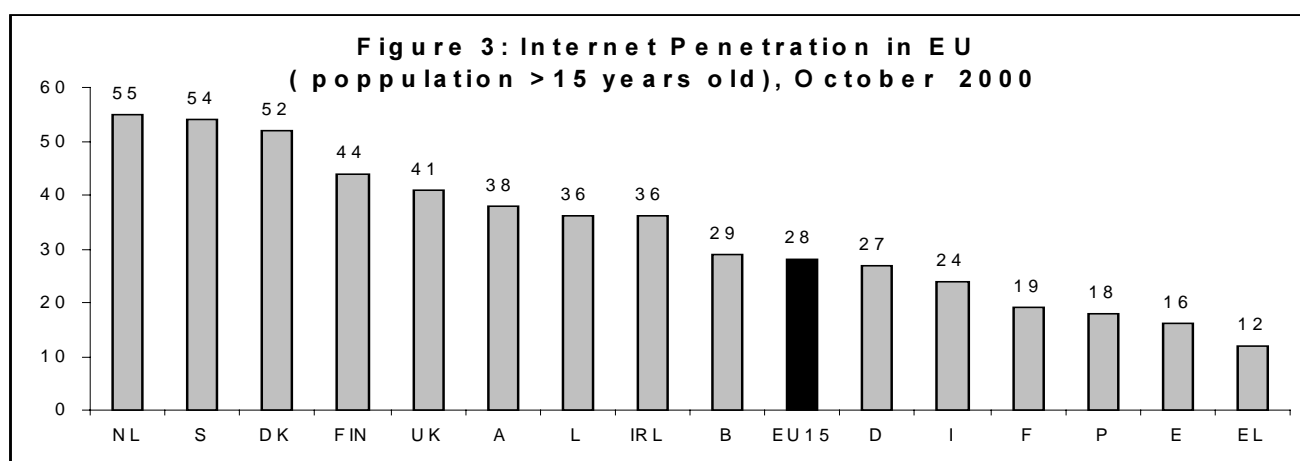
	Number of Internet users (1000)					Growth (%)	Internet users per 100 inhabitants				
			November		April				November		April
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	1999	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
EU-15	19340	36305	55942	99090	123229	24.4	5.2	9.7	14.9	26.3	32.7
B	500	800	1400	2900	4173	75.0	4.9	7.8	13.7	29.3	26.3
DK	600	1000	1500	2580	3494	50.0	11.4	18.9	28.2	48.4	66.8
D	5000	10500	15900	24280	31980	3.8	6.1	12.8	19.4	29.5	38.9
EL	200	350	750	1000	1285	28.5	1.9	3.3	7.1	9.4	12.1
E	1100	1733	2830	5490	7000	63.3	2.8	4.4	7.2	13.7	17.7
F	1000	3500	5660	10000	10844	8.4	1.7	6.0	9.6	16.9	18.4
IRL	150	300	444	1040	1097	48.0	4.1	8.1	11.9	27.4	29.4
I	1300	3000	5000	13420	14413	66.7	2.3	5.2	8.7	23.4	25.2
L	30	50	75	120	150	25.0	7.2	11.8	17.5	27.8	34.8
NL	1000	1600	3000	7280	10327	87.5	6.4	10.2	19.0	45.8	65.4
A	760	1230	1840	2700	3000	11.1	9.4	15.2	22.4	31.9	35.8
P	500	600	700	1000	1230	23.0	5.0	6.0	7.0	10.1	12.5
FIN	1000	1311	1667	2300	3147	36.8	19.5	25.5	32.3	44.5	60.9
S	2000	2961	3666	5000	6147	23.8	22.6	33.5	41.4	56.1	69.0
UK	4310	8000	12500	19980	24942	56.3	7.3	13.5	21.1	33.6	42.4
USA	40000	60000	110000	153840	175209	83.3	15.0	22.3	40.5	55.8	62.9
Japan	11550	16740	18300	38640	43847	9.3	9.3	13.3	14.5	30.5	34.6

Source: From 1997 to 99: ITU; 2000 data: Nua; 2001 data: Nelsizer. Austria : Austrian Internet Monitor (www.integral.co.at); UK 2001 data: EITO 2001. Data in italics estimated.

According to a Eurobarometer survey carried out in 2000, Internet penetration in EU-15 households reached 28% in October 2000 (population aged 15 and over using Internet at home).

NUA has estimated the number of Internet users in Europe at 113 million in November 2000 (of which EU-15 ca. 85% or 95 million).

At the end of 2001 the number of users will probably surpass 150 million in EU-15.



Information technology market

Table 5: IT Market by country (bn Euro)

	IT market (bn Euro)			Growth (%)	Per capita (Euro)	
	1998	1999	2000	2000	1999	2000
EU-15 total	189.2	210.6	234.7	11.4	559	623
Of which :						
Computer hardware	68.4	73.7	80.5	9.3	196	212
Office equipment	9.1	9.3	9.4	1.5	25	25
Software products	36.3	41.5	47.1	13.5	110	125
Services	64.2	73.6	83.1	13.0	195	221
Network equipment	11.2	12.5	14.5	16.1	33	39
B + L	5.7	6.3	6.9	10.7	589	648
DK	4.7	5.1	5.8	12.3	970	1093
D	46.0	50.6	55.7	9.8	617	673
EL	1.0	1.1	1.3	15.3	101	118
E	8.6	9.9	11.2	13.6	250	280
F	34.7	38.5	43.2	12.3	655	728
IRL	1.3	1.5	1.6	11.7	396	431
I	16.6	18.3	20.7	12.5	319	358
NL	10.3	11.4	12.6	10.6	730	794
A	4.2	4.6	5.0	10.8	564	621
P	1.4	1.6	1.8	14.0	158	178
FIN	3.0	3.3	3.7	12.2	646	723
S	8.4	9.4	9.7	9.8	106	1338
UK	41.1	45.6	53.1	12.7	772	892
USA	383.8	417.9	258.2	9.4	1517	937
Japan	11.4	114.7	457.1	6.4	906	3612
World	837.4	909.7	1004.3	10.4	164	165

Source: EITO 2001. Population Data : Eurostat, United Nations

The size of the IT market (hardware, software and services) in EU 15 has grown strongly – it increased by over 11% in 2000 (slower growth expected for 2001). The countries with largest market share of EU-15 are

Germany, UK and France - they together represent 63% of the total market. Computer hardware (PCs and data transmission hardware) represented 35% of the European IT market in 2000. (Source: EITO 2001).

Figure 4 : IT market in 2000 (%) by country

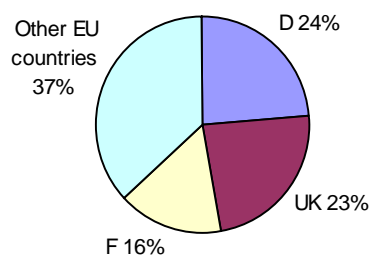
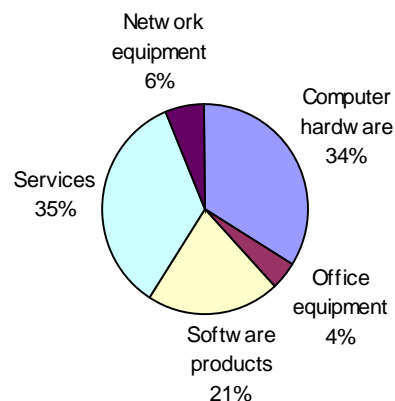


Figure 5 : IT market in 2000 (%) by products



Mobile phones

Table 6: Mobile phone subscriptions, 1990-2000

	Number of mobile phone subscriptions at the end of the year (1000)						Growth (%)	Mobile phones per 100 inhabitants					
	1990	1995	1997	1998	1999	2000		2000	1990	1995	1997	1998	1999
EU-15	3417	21160	52663	90145	146579	235209	60.5	0.5	5.7	14.1	24.1	39.1	62.5
B	43	235	974	1756	3193	5610	75.7	0.4	2.3	9.6	17.2	31.3	55.2
DK	148	822	1444	1931	2650	3511	32.5	2.9	15.8	27.4	36.5	49.9	67.2
D	273	3750	8170	13925	23470	48145	105.1	0.4	4.6	10.0	17.0	28.6	58.5
EL	6	273	938	2057	3300	5932	79.8	0.1	2.6	8.9	19.6	31.4	55.7
E	55	944	4338	7051	12300	24289	49.4	0.1	2.4	11.0	17.9	31.2	61.3
F	283	1024	5817	11210	21434	29681	38.5	0.5	1.8	9.9	19.1	36.3	50.3
IRL	25	158	533	946	1400	2398	71.3	0.7	4.4	14.6	25.6	37.5	64.3
I	266	3925	11734	20489	30296	42246	19.4	0.5	6.9	20.4	35.6	52.6	73.7
L	0.8	27	67	131	209	296	41.6	0.2	6.6	16.1	30.8	48.7	68.7
NL	79	513	1717	3351	6900	9917	43.7	0.5	3.3	11.0	21.4	43.8	68.5
A	74	347	1160	2293	4242	6120	44.2	1.0	4.3	14.4	28.4	52.5	74.4
P	7	341	1507	3076	4672	6665	28.3	0.1	3.4	15.2	30.9	46.8	67.5
FIN	226	1039	2162	2947	3445	3767	9.3	4.5	20.4	42.1	57.3	66.8	72.8
S	461	2025	3169	4108	5125	6575	28.3	19.2	23.0	35.8	46.4	57.9	73.8
UK	1114	5736	8933	14874	23944	40057	67.3	1.9	9.8	15.2	25.2	40.4	68.1
USA	5283	33786	55312	69209	86047	112000	30.2	2.1	12.9	20.8	25.7	31.7	40.7
Japan	868	11712	38254	47285	56849	59417	4.5	0.7	9.3	30.7	37.5	45.0	47.0
China	18	3629	13233	23863	43296	85260	97.0	0.0	0.3	1.1	1.9	3.4	6.7

Source: Eurostat. New Cronos: from 1990 to 97; ITU for 98-99; 2000 data: EU15: Informa Telecoms Group.

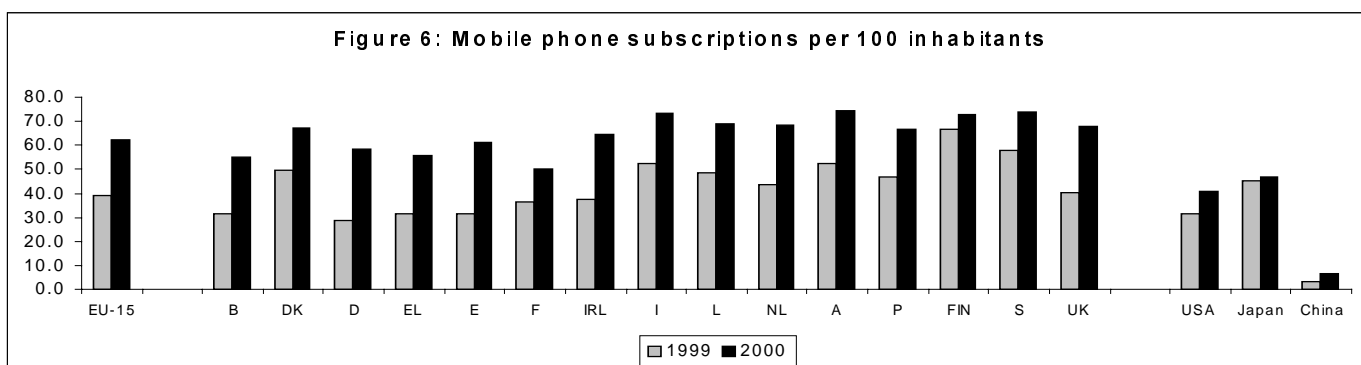
2000 data for Germany, France, Italy and Portugal: National Regulatory bodies; USA: EITO 2001; Japan: TCA. Greece 1990 estimated.

The penetration of mobile phones in EU countries has increased considerably in the last few years. At the end of 2000 the number of the subscriptions reached 63 per 100 inhabitants (estimate for April 2001: 67/100 or 253 million subscriptions). Austria (74/100), Sweden (74/100), Italy (74/100), and Finland (73/100) show the highest density of subscriptions. France (50/100) and Belgium (55/100) show the lowest densities.

The density of mobile phones subscriptions in the USA (41/100) and in Japan (47/100) is lower than in the EU.

As analogue mobile phones ("first generation" mobile phones) are being phased out, the share of digital mobile phones in EU-15 reached 99% in 1999 (USA: 40%, Japan: 100%).

It is believed that the figures in recent years overstate the number of real subscriptions by 10-20%, because of prepaid packages not used.



➤ ESSENTIAL INFORMATION – METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

Personal computers (PC): 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 providers (ISP) an organisation that lets users dial into its computers to connect to its Internet link (usually for a fee). ISPs in general provide an Internet connection and an electronic mail address.

Internet hosts are the computers that are directly connected to the Internet and have 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. There are

about 15 million .com domains today. 69% 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 projections (data in table 3 represent ITU estimates). In NUA estimates, figures represent both adults and children who have accessed the Internet at least once during the 3 months prior to being surveyed. NUA estimates of the worldwide number of Internet users are thus higher than estimates from other sources.

Information Technology (IT) market refers to the combined industries of hardware for office machines, data processing equipment, data communications equipment and services. The EITO market value is expressed in Million ECU at constant 1998 exchange rates.

Mobile phone subscribers refers to 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 is 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 Thousand million

Italics Estimated data appears in Italics.

EITO European Information Technology Observatory (EITO)
Address: Lyonerstr 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

ISPO Information Society Promotion Office, the Information Society website of the European Commission provides informations on EU policy but also links to EU websites providing figures on the Information Society (Eurobarometer figures, ESIS report, etc), <http://europa.eu.int/ISPO/ESIS>.

ISC Internet Software Consortium; <http://www.isc.org>
Produces twice a year (January, July) Internet domain survey.

RIPE NCC Réseaux IP Européens, Network Coordination Centre
<ftp://ftp.ripe.net/ripe/hostcount/History/>. Issues monthly hostcount statistics.

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 number of Internet hosts by month and by domain. The associated consulting company Telecordia Technologies provides quantitative and qualitative analyses related to the "Evolution of the Internet", <http://www.netsizer.com>

Informa **Informa Telecoms Group** (Baskerville Communications). Newland House, 40 Berners Street London W1T 3NA. UK.
Informa produces monthly mobile phone statistics by operator (Mobile Communications).
<http://www.informatelecom.com>

Further information:

➤ Databases

New Cronos

Domain: COINS (Telecommunication Statistics)

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

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