

In 2016, individuals who regularly make use of the internet reached 258,415, or 77.3 per cent of the total population aged between 16 and 74.

ICT Usage by Households: 2016

The highest share of internet use was registered within the 16 to 24 age cohort (98.1 per cent) while individuals aged 65 to 74 recorded the lowest internet usage level (37.9 per cent) (Table 2). Higher levels of internet usage (2.1 percentage points) on mobile phones were recorded when compared to 2015 levels. According to survey results, 75.8 per cent of internet users accessed the internet away from home or work using either phone network or a WiFi connection on their mobile phone (Table 4).

Results show that the internet is mostly used for communication purposes (95.1 per cent) and to access information (91.8 per cent) (Chart 1).

In 2016, 95.0 per cent of mobile internet users accessed the internet via a wireless network (WiFi) connection. Moreover, 80.9 per cent of mobile internet users accessed the internet via a 3G or 4G connection (Chart 3).

e-Government services

e-Government users, amounted to 56.7 per cent of internet users, showing an increase of 2.0 percentage points over the previous year. Usage of e-Government services mainly increased (6.2 percentage points) among persons aged between 25 and 34 (Table 5).

Cloud computing

In 2016, 35.6 per cent of internet users made use of cloud computing services - a decrease of 3.8 percentage points when compared with 2015 levels. The use of cloud computing was most common among individuals aged between 25 and 34, showing an increase of 4.9 percentage points over the previous year (Table 6).

e-Commerce

Over 60 per cent of individuals who used the internet three months prior to the surveying period purchased goods or services online in the previous year. Similar to 2015, the most common goods or services acquired online were clothes, sports goods, holiday accommodation and other transport arrangements (Table 8) ■

Table 1. Latest instance of internet use

	Number		% total	
	2015	2016	2015	2016
Within three months prior to survey	251,395	258,415	76.2	77.3
3-12 months before survey	:	:	:	:
More than one year before survey	:	:	:	:
Never used a computer	71,388	71,287	21.6	21.3
Total	329,984	334,346	100.0	100.0

: Data not reliable due to small sample representation

Table 2. Demographic profile of internet users

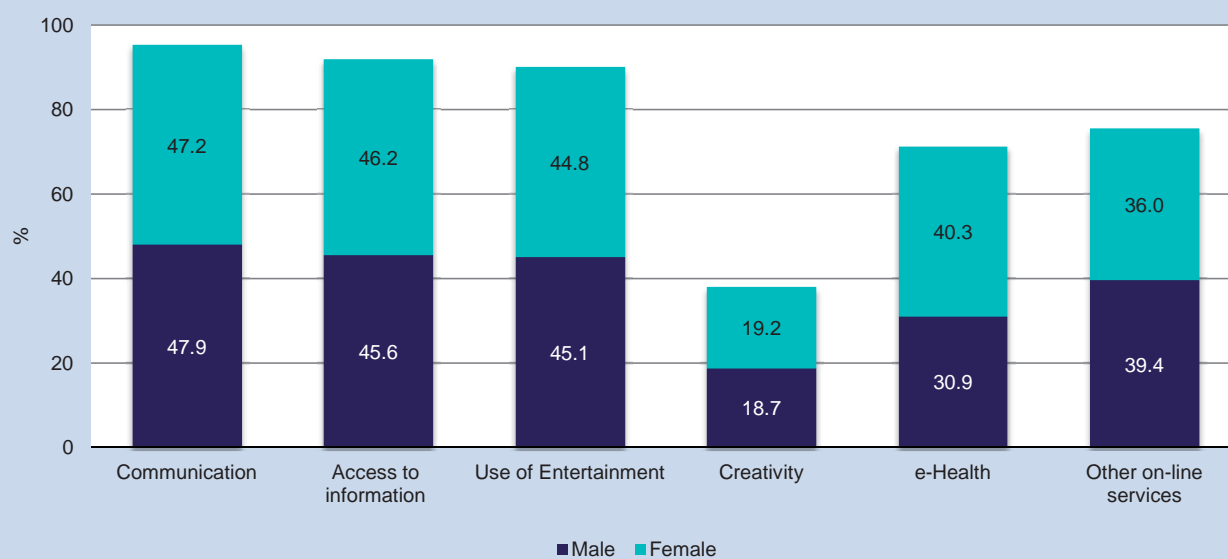
	Number*		% population**	
	2015	2016	2015	2016
Sex:				
Male	129,551	131,175	77.5	77.4
Female	121,844	127,239	74.8	77.2
Age group:				
16-24	46,836	45,809	97.9	98.1
25-34	59,571	61,563	95.0	95.9
35-44	52,559	55,600	89.6	92.1
45-54	38,560	43,865	73.1	83.4
55-64	36,547	32,094	62.1	54.4
65-74	17,322 ^u	19,484 ^u	35.2 ^u	37.9 ^u
Total	251,395	258,415	76.2	77.3

* Includes only persons who used the internet three months prior to the surveying period (refer to Table 1)

** Refer to methodological note 6

^u under-represented

Chart 1. Main activities for internet use*: 2016



* Includes only persons who used the internet three months prior to the surveying period (refer to Table 2)

Table 3. Frequency of internet usage

	Number		% total*	
	2015	2016	2015	2016
Every day or almost every day	228,401	234,812	90.9	90.9
At least once a week (but not every day)	17,125 ^u	18,923 ^u	6.8 ^u	7.3 ^u
Less than once a week	:	:	:	:
Total	251,395	258,415	100.0	100.0

* Includes only persons who used the internet three months prior to the surveying period (refer to Table 2)

^u under-represented

: Data not reliable due to small sample representation

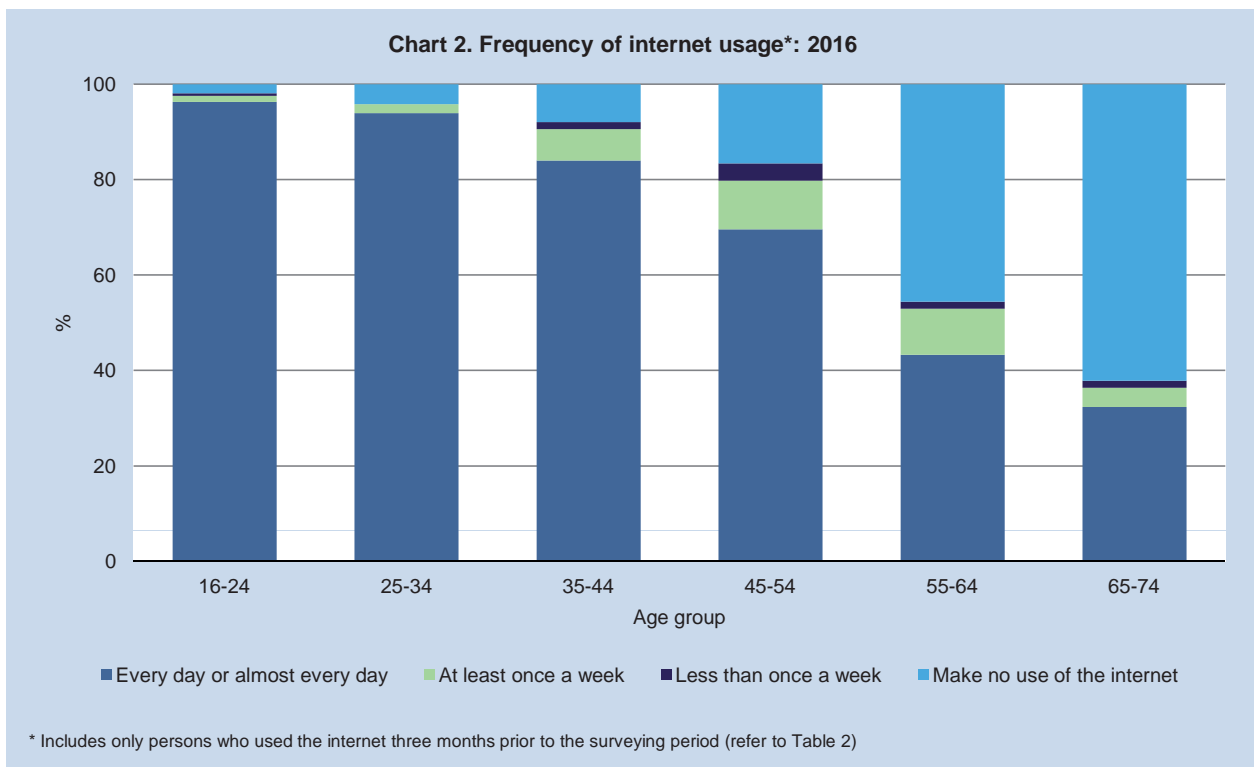


Table 4. Internet access using mobile phone away from home or work by sex and age group

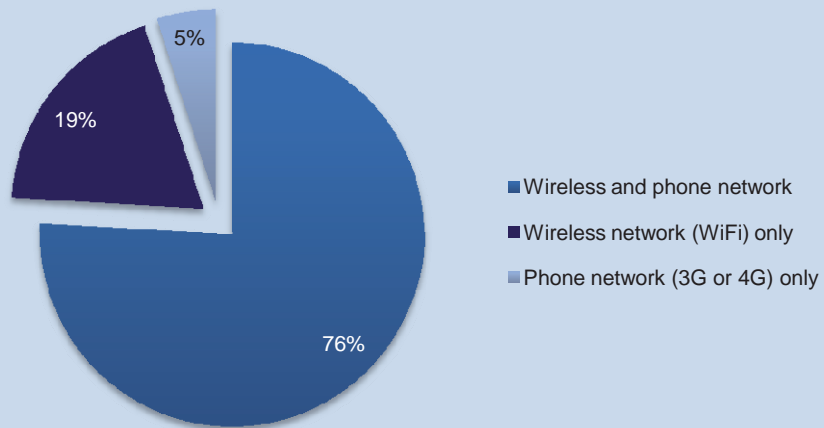
	Number		% internet users*		Change in percentage points
	2015	2016	2015	2016	
Sex:					
Male	95,001	100,208	73.3	76.4	3.1
Female	90,313	95,795	74.1	75.3	1.2
Age group:					
16-24	45,195	43,051	96.5	94.0	-2.5
25-34	51,069	55,992	85.7	91.0	5.2
35-44	42,055	44,416	80.0	79.9	-0.1
45-54	24,920	28,076	64.6	64.0	-0.6
55-64	16,265	15,894	44.5	49.5	5.0
65-74	:	:	:	:	:
Total	185,314	196,003	73.7	75.8	2.1

* Includes only persons who used the internet three months prior to the surveying period (refer to Table 2).

^u under-represented

: Data not reliable due to small sample representation

Chart 3. Internet access using mobile phone away from home or work by type of connection*: 2016



* Includes only persons who used the internet three months prior to the surveying period (refer to Table 2)

Table 5. Demographic profile of e-Government users

	Number		% internet users*		Change in percentage points
	2015	2016	2015	2016	
Sex:					
Male	72,965	71,980	56.3	54.9	-1.4
Female	64,581	74,641	53.0	58.7	5.7
Age group:					
16-24	25,542	24,811	54.5	54.2	-0.4
25-34	34,800	39,758	58.4	64.6	6.2
35-44	31,601	32,583	60.1	58.6	-1.5
45-54	22,312	24,359	57.9	55.5	-2.3
55-64	16,153	15,718	44.2	49.0	4.8
65-74	:	9,392 ^u	:	48.2 ^u	:
Total	137,546	146,621	54.7	56.7	2.0

* Includes only persons who used the internet three months prior to the surveying period (refer to Table 2)

^u under-represented

: Data not reliable due to small sample representation

Table 6. Demographic profile of cloud computing users

	Number		% internet users*		Change in percentage points
	2015	2016	2015	2016	
Sex:					
Male	53,565	50,804	41.3	38.7	-2.6
Female	45,394	41,195	37.3	32.4	-4.9
Age Group:					
16-24	26,819	25,256	57.3	55.1	-2.1
25-34	27,417	31,341	46.0	50.9	4.9
35-44	19,595	17,875 ^u	37.3	32.1 ^u	-5.1 ^u
45-54	13,363 ^u	:	34.7 ^u	:	:
55-64	:	:	:	:	:
65-74	:	:	:	:	:
Total	98,959	91,999	39.4	35.6	-3.8

* Includes only persons who used the internet three months prior to the surveying period (refer to Table 2)

^u under-represented

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Table 7. Demographic profile of online buyers who acquired goods or services in the past year

	Number		% internet users*		Change in percentage points
	2015	2016	2015	2016	
Sex:					
Male	89,749	85,559	69.3	65.2	-4.1
Female	77,049	76,432	63.2	60.1	-3.2
Age Group:					
16-24	39,238	36,194	83.8	79.0	-4.8
25-34	47,424	49,164	79.6	79.9	0.3
35-44	34,657	37,001	65.9	66.5	0.6
45-54	23,705 ^u	21,039 ^u	61.5 ^u	48.0 ^u	-13.5 ^u
55-64	15,579 ^u	11,222 ^u	42.6 ^u	35.0 ^u	-7.6 ^u
65-74	:	:	:	:	:
Total	166,799	161,991	66.3	62.7	-3.6

* Includes only persons who used the internet three months prior to the surveying period (refer to Table 2)

^u under-represented

: Data not reliable due to small sample representation

Table 8. Types of goods or services acquired over the internet in the past year

Type of goods or services acquired	Number		% internet users*		Change in percentage points
	2015	2016	2015	2016	
Food or groceries	:	:	:	:	:
Household goods	45,450	39,405	27.2	24.3	-2.9
Medicine	:	:	:	:	:
Films, music	28,628	24,158	17.2	14.9	-2.3
Books, magazines, newspapers	60,884	47,395	36.5	29.3	-7.2
E-learning material	16,630 ^u	:	10.0 ^u	:	:
Clothes, sports goods	119,662	117,261	71.7	72.4	0.6
Video games software and upgrades	41,941	30,196	25.1	18.6	-6.5
Computer hardware	40,102	31,290	24.0	19.3	-4.7
Electronic equipment	54,245	47,592	32.5	29.4	-3.1
Telecommunication services	37,359	42,151	22.4	26.0	3.6
Holiday accommodation	74,869	77,415	44.9	47.8	2.9
Other transport arrangements	68,846	68,602	41.3	42.3	1.1
Tickets for events	53,627	49,991	32.2	30.9	-1.3
Other	29,892	39,769	17.9	24.6	6.6
Total	166,799	161,991	66.3	62.7	-3.6

* Includes only persons who used the internet three months prior to the surveying period and who ordered over the internet in the last year

^u under-represented

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Note: respondents were allowed to tick more than one option.

Methodological Notes

1. The target population for this survey included all persons aged between 16 and 74 residing in private households. A gross sample of 1,500 individuals was selected using systematic random sampling from a population database held and maintained by NSO. A total of 1,146 filled questionnaires were collected between May and June 2016. The majority of surveys were carried out by face-to-face interviews.
2. Weights for individual respondents were computed. For calibration purposes, data was subdivided by sex, age groups and districts (NUTS 4 classification).
3. To ensure reliable results, regular audits were conducted together with checks for data entry errors and other outliers.
4. Some questionnaires were returned to the Office incomplete, resulting in item non-response. These were imputed using appropriate statistical models. Nevertheless, various non-sampling errors relating to respondent and processing may have occurred for various reasons; while all efforts were made to minimise such errors, these may occur and it is difficult to quantify their effect.
5. Use of internet referred to in this news release includes all means of accessing this medium.
6. Demographic profile of individuals' population frame:

	Number		% population	
	2015	2016	2015	2016
Sex:				
Male	167,133	169,563	50.6	50.7
Female	162,851	164,783	49.4	49.3
Age Group:				
16-24	47,863	46,691	14.5	14.0
25-34	62,676	64,227	19.0	19.2
35-44	58,672	60,392	17.8	18.1
45-54	52,761	52,584	16.0	15.7
55-64	58,819	59,007	17.8	17.6
65-74	49,193	51,445	14.9	15.4
Total	329,984	334,346	100.0	100.0

7. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:
 Statistical Concepts: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/concepts.aspx>
 Metadata: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=44>
8. Kindly indicate source when quoting from this release.
9. The advanced news release calendar may be accessed at www.nso.gov.mt

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