

News Release



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Information Society

Information Society: April - June 2005

Internet Subscriptions

This release provides indices from 2004 to the 2nd quarter 2005. In the second quarter of 2005, the internet subscriptions index rose by 10.3 per cent from 256.7 in 2004 to 283.2 in 2005. The rate of internet subscriptions per 100 population reached 22.1 up from 20.1 per 100 population recorded in the same period in 2004. The number of narrow band and broad band subscriptions reached 49,542 and 38,408 respectively.

T. V Licences and Cable Subscriptions

T. V Licences as end of June 2005 stood at 122,938 amounting to 30.6 per 100 population. In the same quarter, the cable subscriptions index rose by 0.3 per cent from 126.7 to 127.1 recorded in the same period in 2004. Cable television subscriptions amounted to 25.4 per 100 population as at the end of the second quarter of 2005.

Telephone Communication

In the period under review, the mobile phone subscriptions index showed an increase of 8.6 per cent. The number of mobile telephones reached 321,965 in absolute terms; that is 80.1 per 100 population. The number of contract based mobile telephone subscriptions reached 25,563. The number of card plan mobile telephone subscriptions reached 296,402. In the second quarter this year, the number of minutes consumed to mobile networks amounted to over 35.4 million minutes while those directed to the fixed line network amounted to around 5.4 million minutes. This signified a rise of 19.0 per cent and 14.3 per cent respectively. A rise of 4.1 per cent was recorded in the number of SMS. Also a rise of 108,630 MMS was recorded in the second period of 2005. The minutes consumed for the WAP service stood at 31,570 in the period under review. This amounts to a drop of 2.5 per cent between the second quarter 2005 and the first quarter 2005.

In the second quarter of 2005, the fixed telephone subscriptions indices decreased by 0.7 per cent from 102.9 in 2004 to 102.2 in 2005. The number of minutes used in fixed line telephony on local calls decreased by around 14.1 million when compared to the first quarter 2005. The recorded drop was both in the use of residential and business fixed telephone lines for local calls purposes. These amounted to around 1.7 million and 1.9 million respectively. The amount of minutes taken up by international calls from fixed line telephones increased by around 14.2 per cent in the second quarter when compared to the previous quarter. The number of international calls from fixed telephone lines increased by 16.5 per cent when compared to the first quarter 2005.

In the second quarter this year, the use of VOIP reached around 7 million minutes; an increase of around 1.4 million minutes over the same period last year. The pager subscriptions index decreased by 0.7 per cent from 83.8 to 83.2 over the second quarter in 2004 and 2005 respectively ■

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Table 1. Information society subscriptions indices

2000=100

	2004				2005	Annual % Change
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q2	
Internet subscriptions	256.1	256.7	272.8	276.0	283.2	10.3
Fixed telephony subscriptions	102.8	102.9	102.5	103.1	102.2	-0.7
Mobile telephony subscriptions	397.4	404.9	415.3	421.3	439.8	8.6
Pager subscriptions	85.4	83.8	83.9	82.2	83.2	-0.7
Cable subscriptions	124.2	126.7	125.5	125.8	127.1	0.3

Table 2. Telephony subscriptions indices

2000=100

2000				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Mobile telephone subscriptions	60.5	85.5	99.0	155.0
Fixed telephone subscriptions	98.9	99.1	100.6	101.4
Pager subscriptions	95.7	100.0	102.2	102.1
2001				
Mobile telephone subscriptions	185.1	218.7	250.8	301.3
Fixed telephone subscriptions	101.9	102.3	103.2	103.2
Pager subscriptions	97.9	98.6	94.4	93.1
2002				
Mobile telephone subscriptions	322.1	326.7	346.9	378.2
Fixed telephone subscriptions	103.1	102.8	103.4	102.9
Pager subscriptions	90.6	93.5	89.1	89.1
2003				
Mobile telephone subscriptions	375.1	375.9	383.7	396.2
Fixed telephone subscriptions	103.1	103.1	103.1	103.4
Pager subscriptions	88.8	86.3	62.0	86.3
2004				
Mobile telephone subscriptions	397.4	404.9	415.3	423.5
Fixed telephone subscriptions	102.8	102.9	102.5	103.1
Pager subscriptions	85.4	83.8	83.9	82.2
2005				
Mobile telephone subscriptions	471.8	439.8		
Fixed telephone subscriptions	104.0	102.2		
Pager subscriptions	83.4	83.2		

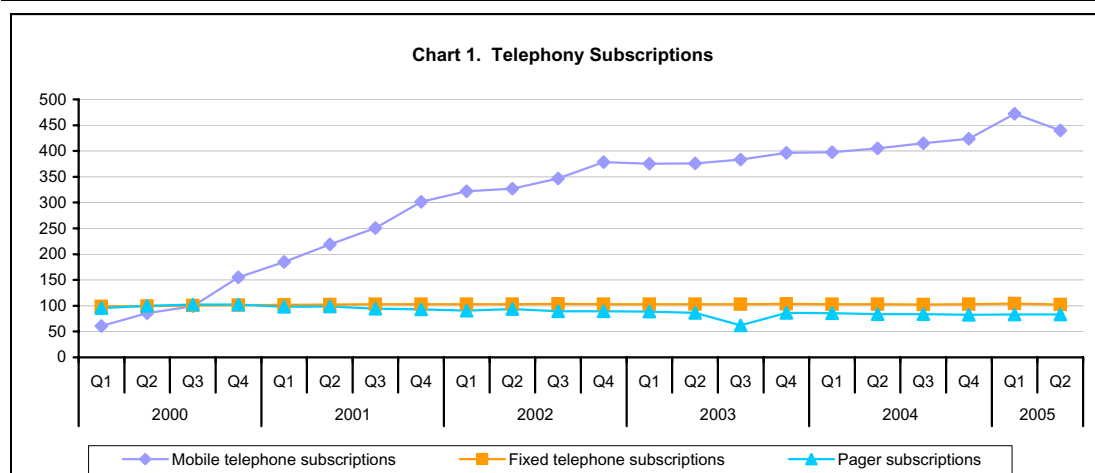


Table 3. Mobile telephony

	2005		Absolute change	Percentage change
	Jan-March	April - June		
Number of subscriptions (total)	315,393	321,965	6,572	2.1
Contract based subscriptions	24,626	25,563	937	3.8
Card plan subscriptions	290,767	296,402	5,635	1.9
Minutes consumed to mobile networks	29,743,349	35,388,362	5,645,013	19.0
Minutes consumed to fixed lines	4,712,117	5,386,183	674,066	14.3
Number of SMS	96,992,073	100,937,302	3,945,229	4.1
Number of MMS	159,602	268,232	108,630	68.1
WAP (minutes consumed)	32,392	31,570	-822	-2.5

Table 4. Internet and Cable Subscriptions Indices

2000=100

2000				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Internet	82.4	91.7	103.6	122.4
Cable	96.3	98.9	101.6	103.3
2001				
Internet	122.4	133.6	146.3	163.5
Cable	104.4	107.3	110.8	112.2
2002				
Internet	175.8	186.1	196.4	213.3
Cable	112.5	115.9	118.2	118.4
2003				
Internet	223.6	227.7	232.3	249.2
Cable	119.9	121.7	123.2	123.8
2004				
Internet	223.6	227.7	232.3	249.2
Cable	119.9	121.7	123.2	123.8
2005				
Internet	277.2	283.2		
Cable	127.5	127.1		

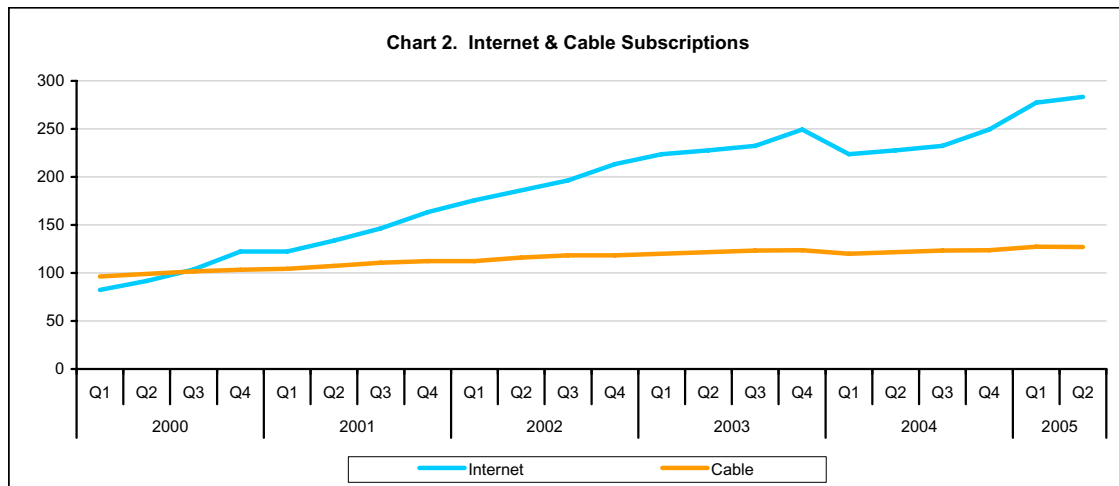


Table 5. Information society indicators per 100 population

	As Per end of June									
	Number					Per Population				
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Internet Subscriptions	41,962	58,440	71,515	80,629	88,950	10.7	14.8	18.0	20.1	22.1
Narrow Band	:	:	:	49,306	49,542	:	:	:	12.3	12.3
Broad Band	:	:	:	31,322	38,408	:	:	:	7.8	9.6
Mobile telephone subscriptions	160,116	239,122	275,156	296,372	321,965	40.7	60.4	69.1	74.0	80.1
Pager Subscriptions	5,155	4,888	4,511	4,280	4,350	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1
Fixed Telephone lines	205,917	206,981	207,694	207,152	205,832	52.4	52.3	52.2	51.7	51.2
VOIP (minutes Consumed)	:	:	2,386,431	5,662,551	6,956,860	:	:	:	:	:
Public coin phones	:	:	175	176	168	:	:	:	:	:
Public card phones	:	:	1,685	1,590	1,232	:	:	:	:	:
Public webphones	:	:	:	80	71	:	:	:	:	:
Cable television subscriptions	86,153	93,039	97,759	101,730	102,100	21.9	23.5	24.6	24.6	25.4
T.V Licences	:	:	:	:	122,938	:	:	:	:	30.6

Table 6. Fixed telephony

	2005		Absolute change	Percentage change
	Jan - March	April - June		
Number of subscriptions (total)	209,441	205,832	-3,609	-1.7
Residential	167,321	165,655	-1,666	-1.0
Business	42,120	40,177	-1,943	-4.6
Minutes consumed for local fixed lines	214,250,948	200,144,561	-14,106,387	-6.6
Residential	148,204,943	138,816,314	-9,388,629	-6.3
Business	66,046,005	61,328,247	-4,717,758	-7.1
Minutes consumed for international fixed telephone lines	4,082,715	4,661,022	578,307	14.2
Number of calls consumed for international fixed lines	1,238,062	1,441,762	203,700	16.5

Methodological Notes

1. The data in this release are based on a quarterly census among fixed and mobile telephone, cable television and internet service providers. Other data were obtained from the Department of Wireless and Telegraphy.
2. On the basis of the information provided indices have been calculated for major groups showing the level of specified variable (for example internet subscriptions), relative to the average level throughout the base year 2000.
3. These statistics are as at the end of each quarter.
4. The statistics in this release should be considered as current and thereby subject to revision. Each release may include revisions of past quarterly data. Revisions may be carried out in respect of a rolling two-year period.

5. Definitions

Internet subscriptions are inclusive of household and business subscriptions but are exclusive of the subscriptions of educational institutions.

Broadband Internet subscriptions are inclusive of dial-up, ISDN and mobile internet while broadband is inclusive of ADSL and cable.

ISDN - Integrated Services Digital Network: a service provided by telecoms operators provided end-to-end digital links - giving users greater bandwidth and faster call setup times.

ADSL - Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line. A high-speed, high bandwidth telephone lines.

WAP - Wireless Application Protocol. The mobile equivalent of HTML

VOIP - voice over internet protocol - this is telephony over the internet.