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As at the end of June, internet, TV and fixed telephone subscriptions all registered increases over 2013.

## Post and Telecommunications: Q2/2014

Cut-off date:  
**9 September 2014**

### **Internet, Analogue and Digital TV Subscriptions**

During the second quarter of 2014, internet broadband subscriptions grew by 5.5 per cent reaching 148,411.

High speed internet connections exceeding 10Mbps advanced by 18.1 per cent, reaching 136,068. In contrast, internet subscriptions with speeds ranging from 2 to 10Mbps decreased by 51.5 per cent (Table 2). The internet subscription index as at the end of Quarter 2 stood at 159.5 per cent, increasing by 5.5 percentage points when compared with 2013 levels (Table 1).

Television subscriptions totalled 149,158 and remained at par with last year's levels. Digital subscriptions continued to dominate the market while analogue subscriptions dropped by 9.5 per cent when compared to the same quarter in 2013 (Table 3).

### **Telecommunications**

The number of fixed telephone subscriptions as at the end of June reached 232,469 increasing by 1.1 per cent over 2013. Total fixed originating minutes to national networks dropped by 6.5 per cent, while minutes towards international networks decreased by 10.9 per cent (Table 4).

Local originating mobile traffic increased by 11.7 per cent. Postive changes were recorded both towards fixed and mobile telephone networks - 5.8 and 12.3 per cent respectively (Table 5). Meanwhile the number of SMS's sent while roaming decreased by 9.2 per cent.

### **Post and Courier Services**

Total postal traffic during the reference quarter decreased by 1.4 per cent: and stood at over 10 million items. Items received and dispatched by couriers totalled 179,944, an increase of 8.4 per cent over the previous year ■

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Table 1. Information society subscriptions indices (2006=100)

Subscriptions Indices	Q2						% change 2014/2013
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
Internet subscriptions	116.0	126.0	135.4	144.0	151.2	159.5	5.5
Analogue and digital television subscriptions	121.1	130.5	134.7	135.3	135.9	136.0	0.1
Fixed telephony subscriptions	119.8	120.5	117.3	114.0	112.4	113.7	1.1

Table 2. Internet

Internet Subscriptions	as at end of March	as at end of June		Absolute change 2014/2013	% change 2014/2013
	2014	2013	2014		
<b>Internet Subscriptions</b>	<b>144,800</b>	<b>140,711</b>	<b>148,411</b>	<b>7,700</b>	<b>5.5</b>
Broadband					
144 kbps but less than 2 Mbps	17	39	17	-22	-56.4
2 Mbps but less than 10 Mbps	12,853	25,426	12,326	-13,100	-51.5
Greater than 10 Mbps	131,930	115,246	136,068	20,822	18.1

Table 3. Analogue and digital TV subscriptions

Pay TV Broadcasting	as at end of March	as at end of June		Absolute change 2014/2013	% change 2014/2013
	2014	2013	2014		
<b>Analogue and Digital subscriptions</b>	<b>148,545</b>	<b>149,049</b>	<b>149,158</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Analogue subscriptions	7,186	7,964	7,208	-756	-9.5
Digital subscriptions (including IPTV*)	141,359	141,085	141,950	865	0.6

Table 4. Fixed telephony

Fixed Telephony Subscriptions	as at end of March	as at end of June		Absolute change 2014/2013	% change 2014/2013
	2014	2013	2014		
<b>Number of subscriptions</b>	<b>230,413</b>	<b>229,919</b>	<b>232,469</b>	<b>2,550</b>	<b>1.1</b>
Fixed Telephony	Q1	Q2		Absolute change 2014/2013	% change 2014/2013
	2014	2013	2014		
<b>Total fixed originating minutes to national networks</b>	<b>142,579,479</b>	<b>147,399,710</b>	<b>137,771,831</b>	<b>-9,627,879</b>	<b>-6.5</b>
Fixed to fixed	128,226,424	129,349,015	121,711,458	-7,637,557	-5.9
Fixed to mobile	12,510,582	16,187,853	14,108,301	-2,079,552	-12.8
Other*	1,842,473	1,862,842	1,952,072	89,230	4.8
<b>Total fixed originating minutes to international networks**</b>	<b>8,484,994</b>	<b>9,469,602</b>	<b>8,435,137</b>	<b>-1,034,465</b>	<b>-10.9</b>

\*Includes originating minutes through Internet, Freephone, Premium, Payphone calls and Paging Networks

\*\* Includes Traditional fixed minutes and Calling Cards

Table 5. Mobile telephony

Local Originating Mobile Traffic*	Q1	Q2		Absolute change 2014/2013	% change 2014/2013
	2014	2013	2014		
<b>Total Minutes</b>	<b>166,842,260</b>	<b>162,390,930</b>	<b>181,356,919</b>	<b>18,965,989</b>	<b>11.7</b>
Local outgoing minutes to fixed traffic	17,420,198	17,971,502	19,010,986	1,039,484	5.8
Local outgoing minutes to mobile traffic	144,569,832	139,848,648	157,029,661	17,181,013	12.3
Mobile originating minutes to international networks	4,852,230	4,570,780	5,316,272	745,492	16.3
Outgoing SMS traffic	128,130,684	148,090,707	128,872,744	-19,217,963	-13.0
Outgoing MMS traffic	46,382	61,070	37,414	-23,656	-38.7
Roaming	Q1	Q2		Absolute change 2014/2013	% change 2014/2013
	2014	2013	2014		
<b>Outbound roaming (Maltese subscriptions abroad)</b>					
Total minutes originated while roaming	1,757,723	1,577,300	1,911,542	334,242	21.2
Total minutes received while roaming	1,426,921	1,426,872	1,325,623	-101,249	-7.1
SMS sent while roaming	2,321,489	2,363,144	2,146,388	-216,756	-9.2
<b>Inbound roaming (visitors in Malta)</b>					
Total outgoing visitors minutes	4,384,774	6,379,565	7,639,561	1,259,996	19.8
Total incoming visitors minutes	4,066,826	5,869,672	6,315,595	445,923	7.6

\* Excluding roaming

**Table 6. National post: Items received and dispatched**

National Post	Q1	Q2		Absolute change 2014/2013	% change 2014/2013
	2014	2013	2014		
<b>Total Traffic</b>	<b>9,592,260</b>	<b>9,902,982</b>	<b>10,037,544</b>	<b>134,562</b>	<b>1.4</b>
Domestic service*	8,049,286	8,126,543	8,301,109	174,566	2.1
Outbound service	386,285	608,003	600,678	-7,325	-1.2
Inbound service	1,156,689	1,168,436	1,135,757	-32,679	-2.8
<b>Parcels and other Items</b>	<b>28,903</b>	<b>24,994</b>	<b>29,808</b>	<b>4,814</b>	<b>19.3</b>
Domestic service	54	832	46	-786	-94.5
Outbound service	4,891	4,872	5,594	722	14.8
Inbound service	23,958	19,290	24,168	4,878	25.3

\*This includes operators other than the designated Universal service provider.

**Table 7. Courier service: Items received and dispatched**

Courier Service	Q1	Q2		Absolute change 2014/2013	% change 2014/2013
	2014	2013	2014		
<b>Total Traffic</b>	<b>171,275</b>	<b>166,051</b>	<b>179,944</b>	<b>13,893</b>	<b>8.4</b>
Letters/documents	104,788	95,517	114,548	19,031	19.9
Parcels	66,487	70,534	65,396	-5,138	-7.3

## Methodological Notes

1. The data published in this release are based on a quarterly census among fixed and mobile telephone, television, internet, postal and courier service providers. The data are collected by the Malta Communications Authority (MCA).
2. The statistics in this release should be considered as provisional and are therefore 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.
3. The mode of data collection related to couriers was changed in January 2009, and as a result information for previous years cannot be compared on a like with like basis.

### Definitions:

4. **Active mobile** subscribers having made at least one call, SMS, MMS or data activity both 2G and 3G during the period under review.
5. **Active internet** subscribers are defined as those connections having recorded a transaction within 90 days of the period stipulated. Past data has been revised.
6. **Broadband** is defined as a connection to the internet which is 'always on' and has a speed of more than 128 kbps.
7. **Active fixed telephony** subscribers are defined as those connections which made and received any calls within 90 days of the period stipulated.
8. **Fixed line telephony** comprises calls originating from publicly available telephone services provided at a fixed location.
9. **Internet Protocol television (IPTV)** is a system through which television services are delivered using the Internet protocol suite over a packet-switched network such as the Internet, instead of being delivered through traditional terrestrial, satellite signal, and cable television formats.
10. **International minutes** consumed from a fixed line are inclusive of both services provided by ISP and fixed telephony providers from Quarter 3 2005 onwards. Traffic originating from all operators offering fixed traffic telephony including analogue telephony, and digital communications (including wireless telephony).
11. **National Post and Courier Service**
  - Domestic Area:** Volume of domestically destined postal items falling within the reserved area.
  - Outbound:** Volume of domestically originating letters in the reserved area forwarded to foreign destinations.
  - Inbound:** Volume of foreign originating letters in the reserved area forwarded to Malta.