

Internet access and use in 2009

One person in two in the EU27 uses the internet daily

While for young people the proportion is three quarters

In the **EU27**, 65% of households¹ had access to the internet during the first quarter of 2009, compared with 60% during the first quarter of 2008, and 56% had a broadband internet connection in 2009, compared with 49% in 2008.

These data² published by **Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Communities**, represent only a small part of the results of a survey on Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) usage in households and by individuals in the **EU27** Member States, the candidate countries, **Norway, Iceland and Serbia**. As well as internet use and broadband connections, the survey also covers other indicators such as e-shopping, e-government and advanced communication and content related services.

Household internet access ranges from 30% in Bulgaria to 90% in the Netherlands

In 2009, the proportion of households with internet access was three quarters or more in the **Netherlands** (90%), **Luxembourg** (87%), **Sweden** (86%), **Denmark** (83%), **Germany** (79%), **Finland** (78%) and the **United Kingdom** (77%). The lowest shares were registered in **Bulgaria** (30%), **Greece** and **Romania** (both 38%).

The proportion of households with a broadband connection in 2009 was highest in **Sweden** (80%), the **Netherlands** (77%) and **Denmark** (76%).

Almost 40% of individuals shop online

Nearly three quarters of those aged 16-24 in the **EU27** used the internet on average daily or almost daily in the first quarter of 2009, compared with nearly half of all individuals aged 16-74. The highest shares for those aged 16-24 were found in the **Netherlands** (90%), **Denmark** and **Estonia** (both 88%), **Finland** and **Sweden** (both 87%), and the lowest in **Romania** (41%), **Greece** (57%) and **Ireland** (58%).

In 2009, 37% of individuals aged 16-74 in the **EU27** had bought or ordered goods or services over the internet in the last 12 months. This share varied considerably between Member States, ranging from 2% in **Romania**, 5% in **Bulgaria** and 8% in **Lithuania** to 66% in the **United Kingdom**, 64% in **Denmark** and 63% in the **Netherlands** and **Sweden**. In the **EU27**, 40% of men had ordered goods or services over the internet, compared with 34% of women. The share for men was higher than for women in almost all Member States.

Percentage of households with internet access or broadband connections

| | Internet access | | | Broadband | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 |
| EU27 | 54 | 60 | 65 | 42 | 49 | 56 |
| Belgium | 60 | 64 | 67 | 56 | 60 | 63 |
| Bulgaria | 19 | 25 | 30 | 15 | 21 | 26 |
| Czech Rep. | 35 | 46 | 54 | 28 | 36 | 49 |
| Denmark | 78 | 82 | 83 | 70 | 74 | 76 |
| Germany | 71 | 75 | 79 | 50 | 55 | 65 |
| Estonia | 53 | 58 | 63 | 48 | 54 | 62 |
| Ireland | 57 | 63 | 67 | 31 | 43 | 54 |
| Greece | 25 | 31 | 38 | 7 | 22 | 33 |
| Spain | 45 | 51 | 54 | 39 | 45 | 51 |
| France | 49 | 62 | 63 | 43 | 57 | 57 |
| Italy | 43 | 47 | 53 | 25 | 31 | 39 |
| Cyprus | 39 | 43 | 53 | 20 | 33 | 47 |
| Latvia | 51 | 53 | 58 | 32 | 40 | 50 |
| Lithuania | 44 | 51 | 60 | 34 | 43 | 50 |
| Luxembourg | 75 | 80 | 87 | 58 | 61 | 71 |
| Hungary | 38 | 48 | 55 | 33 | 42 | 51 |
| Malta | 54 | 59 | 64 | 44 | 55 | 63 |
| Netherlands | 83 | 86 | 90 | 74 | 74 | 77 |
| Austria | 60 | 69 | 70 | 46 | 54 | 58 |
| Poland | 41 | 48 | 59 | 30 | 38 | 51 |
| Portugal | 40 | 46 | 48 | 30 | 39 | 46 |
| Romania | 22 | 30 | 38 | 8 | 13 | 24 |
| Slovenia | 58 | 59 | 64 | 44 | 50 | 56 |
| Slovakia | 46 | 58 | 62 | 27 | 35 | 42 |
| Finland | 69 | 72 | 78 | 63 | 66 | 74 |
| Sweden | 79 | 84 | 86 | 67 | 71 | 80 |
| United Kingdom | 67 | 71 | 77 | 57 | 62 | 69 |
| Croatia | 41 | 45 | 50 | 23 | 27 | 39 |
| Former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia | : | 29 | 42 | : | 23 | 34 |
| Turkey | 20 | : | : | 17 | : | : |
| Iceland | 84 | 88 | 90 | 76 | 83 | 87 |
| Norway | 78 | 84 | 86 | 67 | 73 | 78 |
| Serbia | 26 | : | 37 | 7 | : | 23 |

: Data not available

Use of the internet by individuals, 2009 (%)

| | Individuals using the internet on average daily or almost every day | | Individuals aged 16-74 having bought or ordered goods or services for private use over the internet | | |
|-------------------------------|---|------------|---|-----------|-----------|
| | Aged 16-24 | Aged 16-74 | Total | Males | Females |
| EU27 | 73 | 48 | 37 | 40 | 34 |
| Belgium | 77 | 56 | 36 | 41 | 30 |
| Bulgaria | 63 | 31 | 5 | 5 | 4 |
| Czech Rep. | 62 | 34 | 24 | 27 | 21 |
| Denmark | 88 | 72 | 64 | 66 | 61 |
| Germany | 80 | 55 | 56 | 60 | 53 |
| Estonia | 88 | 54 | 17 | 16 | 17 |
| Ireland | 58 | 40 | 37 | 37 | 36 |
| Greece | 57 | 27 | 10 | 13 | 7 |
| Spain | 68 | 39 | 23 | 26 | 20 |
| France | 69 | 50 | 45 | 46 | 43 |
| Italy | 70 | 40 | 12 | 16 | 9 |
| Cyprus | 61 | 34 | 16 | 20 | 13 |
| Latvia | 83 | 47 | 19 | 19 | 19 |
| Lithuania | 82 | 43 | 8 | 9 | 8 |
| Luxembourg | 83 | 71 | 58 | 65 | 52 |
| Hungary | 74 | 46 | 16 | 17 | 15 |
| Malta | 81 | 45 | 34 | 39 | 29 |
| Netherlands | 90 | 73 | 63 | 66 | 59 |
| Austria | 70 | 48 | 41 | 46 | 36 |
| Poland | 77 | 39 | 23 | 26 | 21 |
| Portugal | 71 | 33 | 13 | 15 | 11 |
| Romania | 41 | 19 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Slovenia | 82 | 47 | 24 | 25 | 23 |
| Slovakia | 78 | 49 | 28 | 29 | 27 |
| Finland | 87 | 68 | 54 | 54 | 53 |
| Sweden | 87 | 73 | 63 | 65 | 61 |
| United Kingdom | 83 | 60 | 66 | 70 | 62 |
| Croatia | 73 | 37 | 10 | 11 | 9 |
| Former Yug. Rep. of Macedonia | 69 | 37 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| Iceland | 94 | 82 | 44 | 45 | 42 |
| Norway | 89 | 76 | 70 | 74 | 65 |
| Serbia | 36 | 25 | 5 | 6 | 3 |

1. The survey covered households containing at least one person aged 16-74, and individuals aged 16-74. The main reference period was the first quarter of 2009. Households were asked about internet access by any member of the household at home. Individuals were asked about frequency of internet use and about activities they had carried out on the internet in the last three months prior to the survey, or in the last twelve months for e-commerce activities, at home or at any other location.
2. Eurostat, Data in Focus 46/2009 "Internet usage in 2009 - Households and individuals", available free of charge in pdf format on the Eurostat web site. The full set of data can be found in the dedicated section: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ict> under "Data".

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For further information on data:

Louise CORSELLI-NORDBLAD
Tel: +352-4301-33 444
eurostat-pressoffice@ec.europa.eu

Heidi SEYBERT
Tel: +352-4301- 37 416
heidi.seybert@ec.europa.eu

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