# Information and Communication Technology

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## Purpose

To develop indicators and analysis of the information society that provide insights for policy making and analysis. The measurement work involves the production of internationally comparable and policy relevant indicators for measuring the supply and demand for ICT infrastructure, related services, content and applications, in particular electronic commerce.

## Objectives and outputs

Statistics for the information society are developed following a "building blocks" approach. Methodological work and data collection have proceeded in several areas at different speeds, in a step-by-step, pragmatic way, by looking first at supply side statistics for the information society (statistics on the ICT sector), and then at the demand side (ICT usage statistics).

The methodological work entails the development of guidelines and model surveys. Examples are the OECD definition of ICT sector (1998); the OECD definitions of electronic commerce transactions (2000) and their guidelines for implementation (2001); the OECD Model survey on ICT usage in business (2001); the OECD Model survey on ICT usage by households/individuals (2002).

The data collection and the development of new indicators is carried out on an ad hoc basis in order to aid formulating policies and monitoring progress related to the information society. Pilot collections of ICT indicators related to the ICT sector (supply statistics) and to ICT use and electronic commerce (demand statistics) are ongoing and metadata information on methodologies and survey vehicles used by Member countries is been collected. The indicators are used in periodical OECD publications such as the "Information Technology Outlook", the "Communications Outlook", and the "STI Scoreboard: Towards a Knowledge-based Economy" (http://www.oecd.org/sti/statistical-analysis). The latest product, released in October 2002, is "Measuring the Information Economy 2002" (MIE 2002). This new free publication, based on official statistics, combines supply (the ICT sector) and demand (ICT usage) statistics, together with data annexes and accurate methodological and metadata information. MIE 2002 is a Web book and one can click on the data in excel spreadsheets underlying the charts and figures, or print the pdf file, from www.oecd.org/sti/measuring-infoeconomy.

## Main Developments for 2003

### General aspects:

For 2003, the OECD Model Survey on ICT Use by Households and Individuals will be implemented, once approval is gained. It is also expected that an OECD product / commodity definition of ICT goods will be approved. Work will continue on measuring e-commerce through new work in two areas: eFinance and development of a module on business processes. In 2004, it is hoped that work will begin on the development of a model survey of Internet Service Providers (ISPs) as well as a new module for the household survey of "Trust and Security". A framework document will be constructed to compile the various methodological building blocks completed to date as well as to identifty gaps in need of future work. Outreach to non-member OECD countries will be strengthened both to disseminate the methodological work developed by the OECD and to collect data that adhere to these guidelines from non-members.

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# Telecommunications Indicators

## Purpose

To provide data on the evolution of the characteristics of the Telecommunications sector to analysts and policy makers in OECD Member governments and contribute to building a framework for indicators on the global information society. Work on this aspect involves the development of statistical standards and the compilation of reliable and internationally comparable indicators for the production and use of Communications technologies in businesses, households and governments.

## Objectives and outputs

Work on Communication Indicators provides data for analysts and policy makers in OECD Member governments and contributes to the indicators framework for global information society. Basic performance indicators and the communication tariff comparison methodology are reviewed every two years. The mobile tariff basket is presently under review and new baskets should be implemented during 2003. Work on the database and compilation of indicators continued through 2001, including publishing the Telecommunications Database 2001 (available as a CD). This database provides 90 time series of indicators on telecommunications such as network infrastructure, revenues, expenses and investment of operators, Internet indicators, trade in telecommunications equipment, etc. The sixth biennial "Communications Outlook" will be published in 2003. It will present data and analysis on market structures, performance indicators for public telecommunications services, broadcasting trends on convergence of information and communications technologies, tariffs and includes Internet indicators.

## Publications

Communications Outlook

OECD Telecommunication Database

## Databases

Communications

OECD Telecommunication Database

## Main Developments for 2003

### General aspects:

Inclusion of the Slovak Republic in the database.

Development of new indicators: Number of Dial-up Internet subscribers;

Number of DSL Internet subscribers; Number of Cable Modem Internet subscribers; Other broadband access technologies to Internet.