



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
MINISTRY OF FINANCE



STATISTICAL SERVICE
OF CYPRUS
1444 NICOSIA

15th December, 2017

PRESS RELEASE

SURVEY ON ICT USAGE IN HOUSEHOLDS AND BY INDIVIDUALS 2017

Access in Information and Communication Technologies

The percentage of households with access to tablet computers reached 45,9% in 2017 compared to 40,3% in 2016. At the same time, there is an increase in the percentage of households that own a laptop computer from 66,3% in 2016 to 69,2% in 2017. (Table 1)

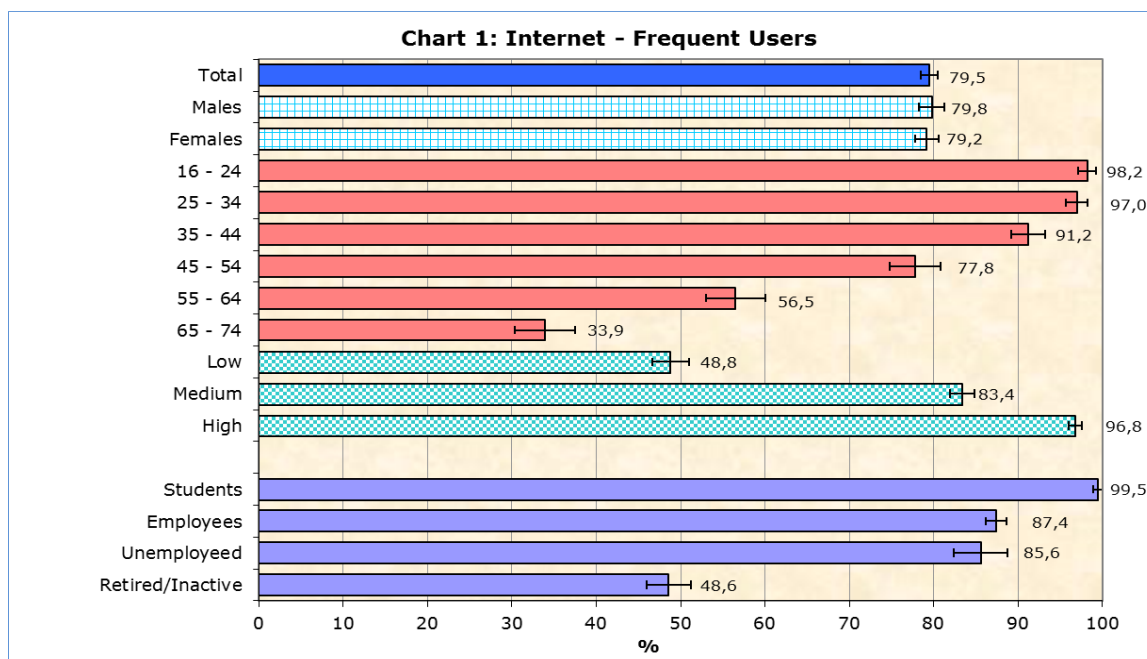
94,9% of households with dependent children own a computer whereas the corresponding percentage of households without dependent children is 68,5%.

During 2017, the internet access in households continued to increase and reached 79,4% compared to 74,4% in 2016.

The main reasons for not accessing the Internet from home is the lack of skills (63% of total households that do not have access) and the lack of need (62,2%).

Use of Internet

79,5% of persons is using the internet at least once a week. Almost all persons aged 16 – 24 years old (98,2%) use the internet at least once a week. This percentage decreases with age, even though for individuals 65 – 74 years old the use of internet increased to 33,9% in 2017 compared to 26,4% in 2016. High educated persons (96,8%) use the internet more frequently than persons with lower education level (48,8%). (Chart 1)



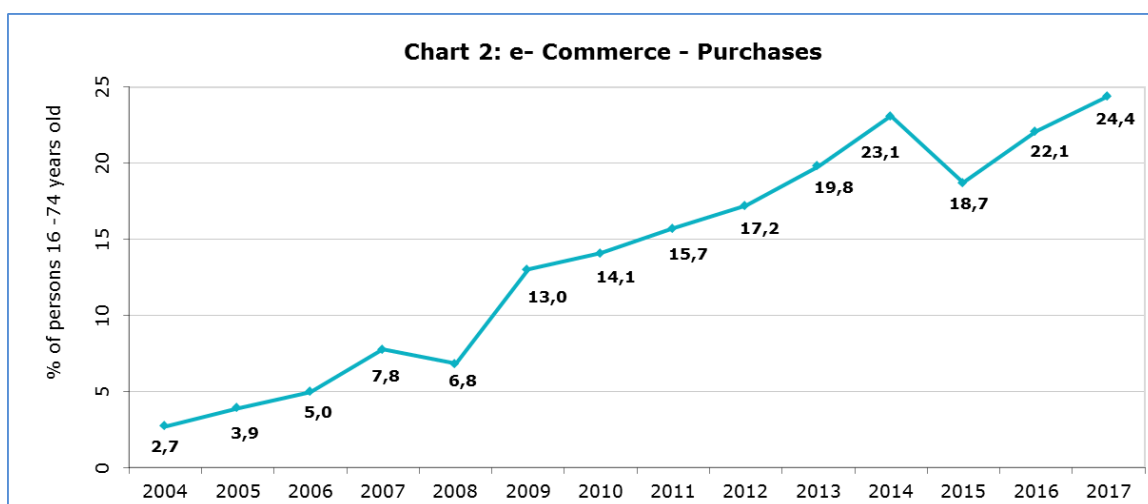
During the first quarter of 2017, internet usage increased to 80,7% compared to 75,9% in 2016. (Table 2)

The most popular Internet activities are the following: reading online news/newspapers/magazines (79,9%), participating in social networks (78,1%), finding information about goods and services (76,1%), seeking health related information (71,8%) and telephoning over the internet/video calls (via webcam) over the internet (70,0%). (Table 2)

84,6% of the persons that used the Internet in the first quarter of 2017, used their mobile phone or smart phone to access the Internet away from home or work while 21,2% used a laptop or tablet.

e-Commerce

24,4% of persons aged 16 – 74 years old made online orders for goods and services in the first quarter of 2017 compared to 22,1% in 2016. (Chart 2)



The most popular categories of goods/services ordered online were the following: clothes or sports goods (54,4%), other travel arrangements such as transport tickets, car hire etc. (48,1%) and holiday accommodation (38,1%). (Table 3)

82,4% of persons that bought or ordered goods and services for private use prefer sellers from other EU countries, 39,4% from the rest of the world and 27,3% buy or order from sellers in Cyprus. The amount spent for goods or services over the internet was usually between 100-500 Euros.

Table 1

Computer in Household (% of Households)	2014	2015	2016	2017
Laptop	70,9	66,9	66,3	69,2
Tablet	32,8	39,2	40,3	45,9
Desktop	26,8	22,5	20,5	20,3

Table 2

Internet Use	2014	2015	2016	2017
% individuals that used the internet (1 st quarter of the year)	69,3	71,7	75,9	80,7
Most popular Internet Activities				
Reading on line news	72,0	78,8	73,2	79,9
Participation in Social Networks	72,3	75,4	79,0	78,1
Finding information about goods and services	89,0	74,8	81,1	76,1
Seeking health related information	...	69,5	56,3	71,8
Telephoning over the internet/video calls (via webcam) over the internet	59,2	62,3	71,8	70,0

Table 3

Buys/Orders through Internet	2014	2015	2016	2017
% of individuals that bought/ordered goods or services (1 st quarter of the year)	23,1	18,7	22,1	24,4
Most Common Goods and Services (% of individuals that bought/ordered goods or services during the period April of the previous year - March of the reference year)				
Clothes, sports goods	60,6	60,0	52,6	54,4
Other travel arrangements (transport tickets, carhire etc.)	54,4	45,5	49,8	48,1
Holiday accommodation (hotel etc.)	51,6	36,9	40,9	38,1
Computer hardware (e.g. external hard disks, graphic cards)	23,0	21,3	17,3	14,7
Households Goods	11,2	10,6	11,7	14,4
Electronic equipment (incl. cameras)	24,3	15,6	12,1	13,2
Tickets for events	12,5	9,8	9,4	12,0

METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

Aim

The aim of the survey is to collect data on the access of households to selected Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), on the use of Internet, the reasons for using the Internet, the use of e-government and e-Commerce.

Coverage

The survey was conducted during the period April – June 2017 and covered 1.902 households with at least one member aged 16 – 74 (inclusive) and 4.038 individuals aged 16 – 74 (inclusive).

The survey covers all the government controlled areas of the Republic of Cyprus.

Sampling

The sampling frame used for the selection of the sample was the 2011 Population Census Frame, with reference date the 1st of October 2011. The units listed therein are households and individuals. Districts, municipalities, quarters, addresses, number of persons, telephone numbers are also included for each household. The 2011 Census frame was updated in September 2014, with the domestic consumers of electricity that were connected after Census, obtained from the Electricity Authority of Cyprus. In September 2016, the domestic consumers of electricity that were connected in the period from September 2014 to September 2016 obtained from the Electricity Authority of Cyprus were added to the Frame of 2014. There is one-to-one correspondence between the domestic consumer of electricity and the statistical definition of households. The sampling frame was stratified into urban and rural strata by district.

The selection in the urban areas was done by using simple systematic random sampling. A random start was selected, and by using the sampling interval N/n , (N : the population of households and n : the sample) the households for each district (urban areas) were selected.

The selection in rural areas was conducted in two stages: the villages of each district were the Primary Sampling Units and the households the Ultimate Sampling Units. The sample of the villages was drawn with Probability proportional to size (p.p.s.), the latter being determined from the number of individuals. Then in each selected village, 25 households were selected. In the cases of very small villages (less than 25 households), the villages were combined.

Data Collection

The data collection was conducted through personal interviews with all individuals of household aged 16 -74 years. In case of absence of an individual, some other member that knew answered the questionnaire.

Reference Period

The data refers to first quarter of 2017, unless otherwise stated.

Definitions

e- Commerce: Use of e-commerce refers to the purchase of goods and services over the Internet for private use via any device. Purchases refer to ordering goods or services for which payment is required but the payment does not have to be online. Orders via manually typed e-mails, SMS or MMS should be excluded.

Use of Internet: Internet use via any device: desktop, laptop, netbook, tablet, as well as smart phones, games consoles, e-book readers.

Further information

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