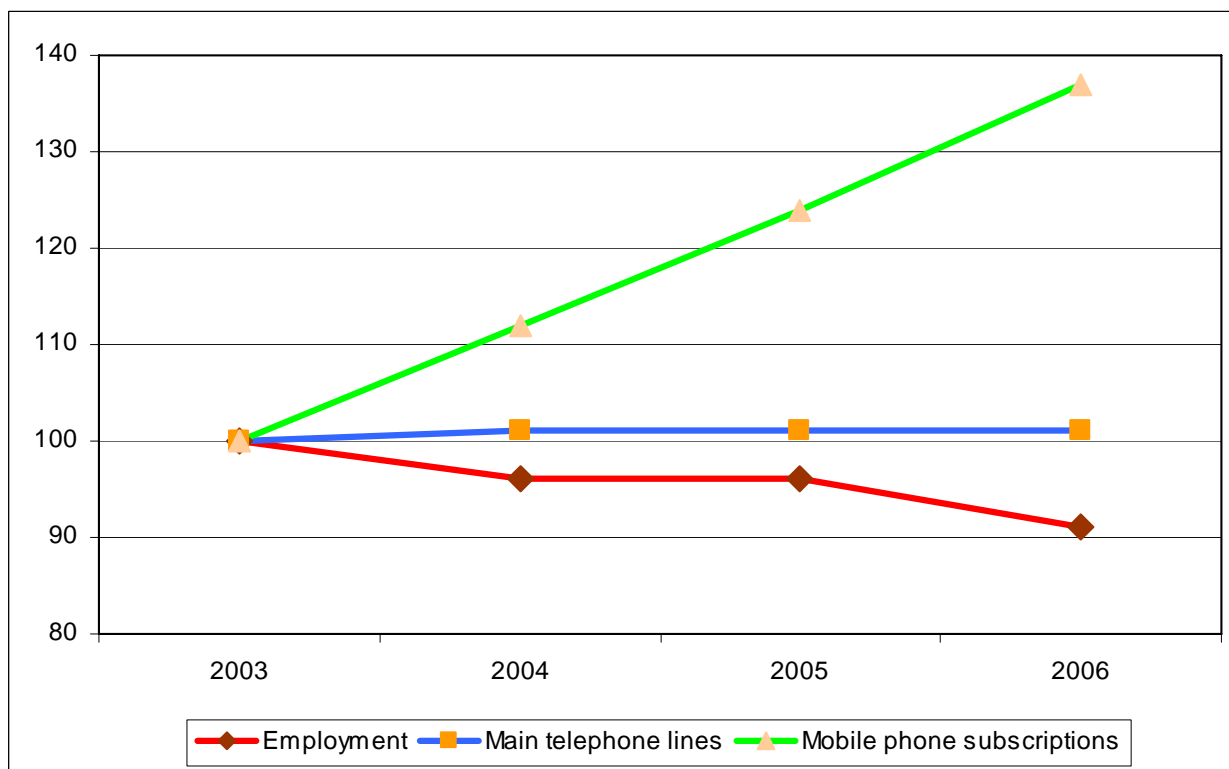


## Telecommunications in Europe, 2006

### Number of mobile phone subscriptions steadily increasing

**Figure 1: Recent developments in the telecommunication sector, Index: 2003=100**



Source: Eurostat, Annual Telecommunications Inquiry 2007, Data sources: National Statistical Offices and National Regulatory Authorities

## Stagnation in fixed telephones lines?

**Table 1: Number of main (= fixed) telephone lines (in 1000)**

						Distribution among EU Member States (%)	Average annual increase (%)	Change (%)	Main telephone lines per 100 inhabitants	
	1997	2003	2004	2005	2006	2006	2006/1997	2006/2005	1997	2006
<b>EU-27</b>	<b>218,590</b>	<b>230,608</b>	<b>233,308</b>	<b>233,171</b>	<b>232,285</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>EU25</b>	<b>212,482</b>	<b>223,422</b>	<b>226,148</b>	<b>226,301</b>	<b>225,654</b>	<b>97.1</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>EU15</b>	<b>193,559</b>	<b>199,205</b>	<b>201,940</b>	<b>203,256</b>	<b>203,881</b>	<b>87.8</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>53</b>
BE	4,939	3,570	3,447	3,320	3,169	1.4	-5.4	-4.5	49	30
BG	2,681	2,856	2,770	2,480	2,427	1.0	-1.2	-2.1	32	31
CZ	3,277	3,626	3,428	3,217	2,888	1.2	-1.6	-10.2	32	28
DK	3,341	2,187	2,557	2,476	2,332	1.0	-4.4	-5.8	63	43
DE	45,200	54,340	54,680	55,010	54,960	23.7	2.5	-0.1	55	67
EE	469	464	462	455	472	0.2	0.1	3.7	33	35
IE	1,500	1,610	1,593	1,600	1,728	0.7	1.8	8.0	41	41
EL*	5,431	5,200	5,079	4,928	4,900	2.1	-1.3	-0.6	51	55
ES	15,900	17,680	17,747	18,837	18,227	7.8	1.7	-3.2	40	42
FR	33,700	33,913	34,541	36,498	38,250	16.5	1.6	4.8	56	61
IT*	25,698	26,596	25,957	25,049	26,890	11.6	0.6	7.3	45	46
CY	386	423	432	402	385	0.2	0.0	-4.2	58	50
LV*	740	654	631	731	657	0.3	-1.5	-10.1	30	29
LT	1,048	824	820	801	792	0.3	-3.4	-1.1	29	23
LU	280	245	244	245	247	0.1	-1.6	0.8	67	54
HU	3,095	3,607	3,570	3,453	3,365	1.4	1.1	-2.5	30	33
MT*	187	208	211	209	202	0.1	1.0	-3.3	50	50
NL	8,860	7,841	7,511	7,040	5,977	2.6	-4.8	-15.1	57	37
AT	3,969	2,688	2,622	2,600	2,468	1.1	-5.8	-5.1	50	30
PL	7,619	12,304	12,545	11,764	11,284	4.9	5.0	-4.1	20	30
PT	4,002	4,497	4,469	4,209	4,234	1.8	0.7	0.6	40	40
RO	3,427	4,330	4,390	4,390	4,204	1.8	2.6	-4.2	16	19
SI	710	812	859	816	561	0.2	-2.9	-31.3	36	41
SK	1,392	1,295	1,250	1,197	1,167	0.5	-2.2	-2.5	26	22
FI	2,850	2,568	2,390	2,140	1,909	0.8	-4.9	-10.8	56	41
SE	6,010	5,497	5,403	5,236	4,987	2.1	-2.3	-4.8	68	55
UK*	31,879	30,773	33,700	34,068	33,603	14.5	0.7	-1.4	55	56
CH	4,284	3,089	3,012	2,923	2,896		-4.8	-0.9	60	39
IS	155	152	150	151	147		-0.7	-2.6	58	49
NO	2,735	1,442	1,399	1,320	1,177		-10.0	-10.8	62	25
HR	1,488	1,684	1,676	1,542	1,531		0.4	-0.7	33	34
TR	15,744	18,917	19,125	18,978	18,832		2.3	-0.8	25	26

Source: Eurostat, Annual Telecommunications Inquiry 2007, Data sources: National Statistical Offices and National Regulatory Authorities.

Notes: For EL (2006), IT, LV (2005-2006), MT (2006), UK (2003-2006), HR (1997), source is the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

## More than 1 mobile phone subscription per inhabitant in EU-27

**Table 2: Number of mobile telephone subscriptions (in 1000)**

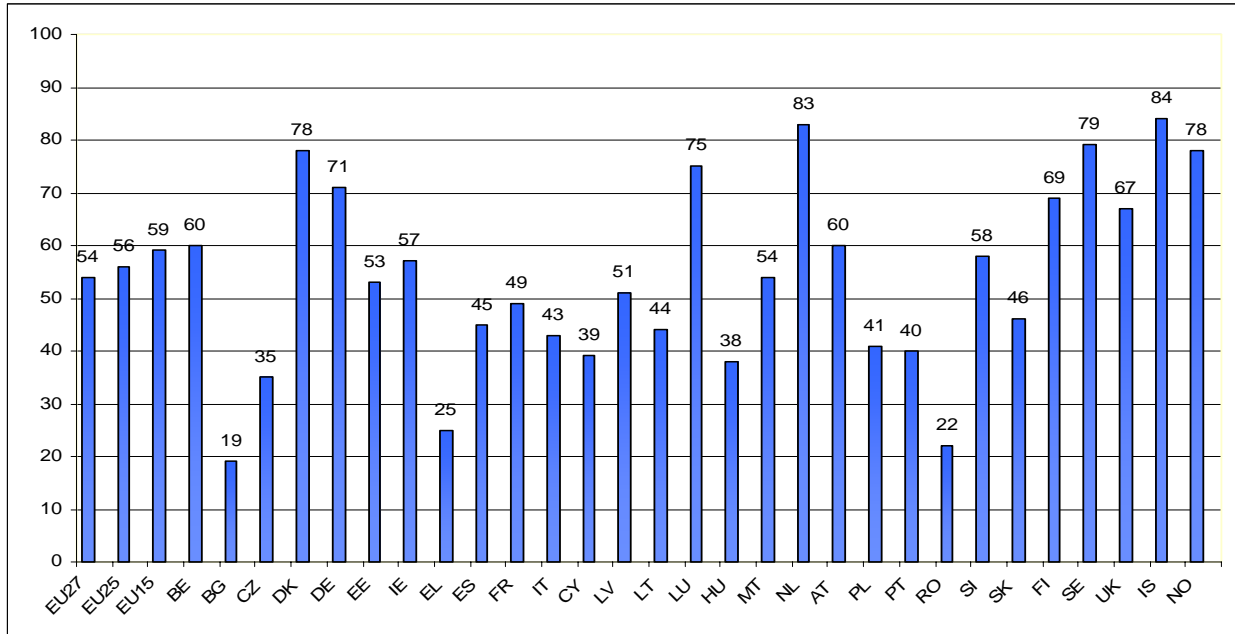
						Distribution among EU Member States (%)	Average annual increase (%)	Change (%)	Mobile phone subscriptions per 100 inhabitants	
	1997	2003	2004	2005	2006	2006	2006/1997	2006/2005	1997	2006
<b>EU-27</b>	<b>55,544</b>	<b>379,918</b>	<b>424,310</b>	<b>472,087</b>	<b>520,094</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>32.3</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>106</b>
<b>EU25</b>	<b>55,305</b>	<b>369,344</b>	<b>409,253</b>	<b>452,492</b>	<b>494,422</b>	<b>95.1</b>	<b>31.5</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>107</b>
<b>EU15</b>	<b>52,496</b>	<b>323,657</b>	<b>353,712</b>	<b>387,155</b>	<b>418,536</b>	<b>80.5</b>	<b>29.6</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>107</b>
BE	974	7,779	8,461	8,808	9,383	1.8	32.7	6.5	10	89
BG	37	3,534	4,842	6,241	8,253	1.6	96.6	32.2	0	107
CZ	521	9,709	10,783	11,775	12,753	2.5	49.1	8.3	5	124
DK	1,444	4,767	5,167	5,449	5,830	1.1	19.1	7.0	27	107
DE	8,276	64,800	74,316	79,300	85,700	16.5	33.9	8.1	10	104
EE	144	1,050	1,257	1,444	1,579	0.3	34.9	9.3	10	117
IE	533	3,400	3,800	4,213	4,700	0.9	31.3	11.6	15	112
EL*	938	8,936	9,324	10,260	10,980	2.1	36.0	7.0	9	99
ES	4,041	37,220	38,647	42,713	46,169	8.9	35.6	8.1	10	106
FR	5,817	41,702	44,544	48,088	51,663	9.9	31.4	7.4	10	82
IT*	11,738	56,770	62,750	71,500	78,571	15.1	26.8	9.9	21	134
CY	92	552	658	783	868	0.2	32.4	10.9	14	113
LV*	76	1,220	1,537	1,872	2,184	0.4	52.2	16.7	3	95
LT	151	2,102	3,051	4,353	4,718	0.9	53.8	8.4	4	139
LU	67	539	646	720	714	0.1	34.4	-0.8	16	155
HU	706	7,945	8,727	9,320	9,966	1.9	39.2	6.9	7	99
MT*	18	290	308	325	347	0.1	44.8	6.8	5	86
NL	1,717	13,491	14,821	15,834	18,400	3.5	34.5	16.2	11	113
AT	1,160	7,095	7,991	8,670	9,257	1.8	29.6	6.8	15	112
PL	812	17,401	23,096	29,166	36,758	7.1	61.1	26.0	2	96
PT	1,507	9,354	9,773	11,640	12,226	2.4	29.9	5.0	15	116
RO	202	7,040	10,215	13,354	17,419	3.3	74.6	30.4	1	81
SI	92	1,739	1,849	1,759	1,820	0.3	45.2	3.5	5	91
SK	197	3,679	4,275	4,540	4,893	0.9	49.4	7.8	4	91
FI	2,092	4,747	4,999	5,385	5,679	1.1	13.3	5.5	41	108
SE	3,169	8,801	8,785	9,104	9,607	1.8	14.9	5.5	36	106
UK*	9,023	54,256	59,688	65,471	69,657	13.4	29.1	6.4	15	115
CH	1,044	6,189	6,275	6,834	7,431		27.8	8.7	15	100
IS	66	279	290	304	323		22.0	6.3	24	108
NO	1,677	4,061	4,525	4,755	5,041		14.7	6.0	38	109
HR	120	2,551	2,842	3,650	4,395		56.8	20.4	3	99
TR	1,610	27,888	34,708	43,610	52,663		54.6	20.8	3	73

Source: Eurostat, Annual Telecommunications Inquiry 2007, Data sources: National Statistical Offices and National Regulatory Authorities.

Notes: For EL (2006), IT, LV (2003-2006), MT (2006), UK (2003-2006), HR (1997), source is the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

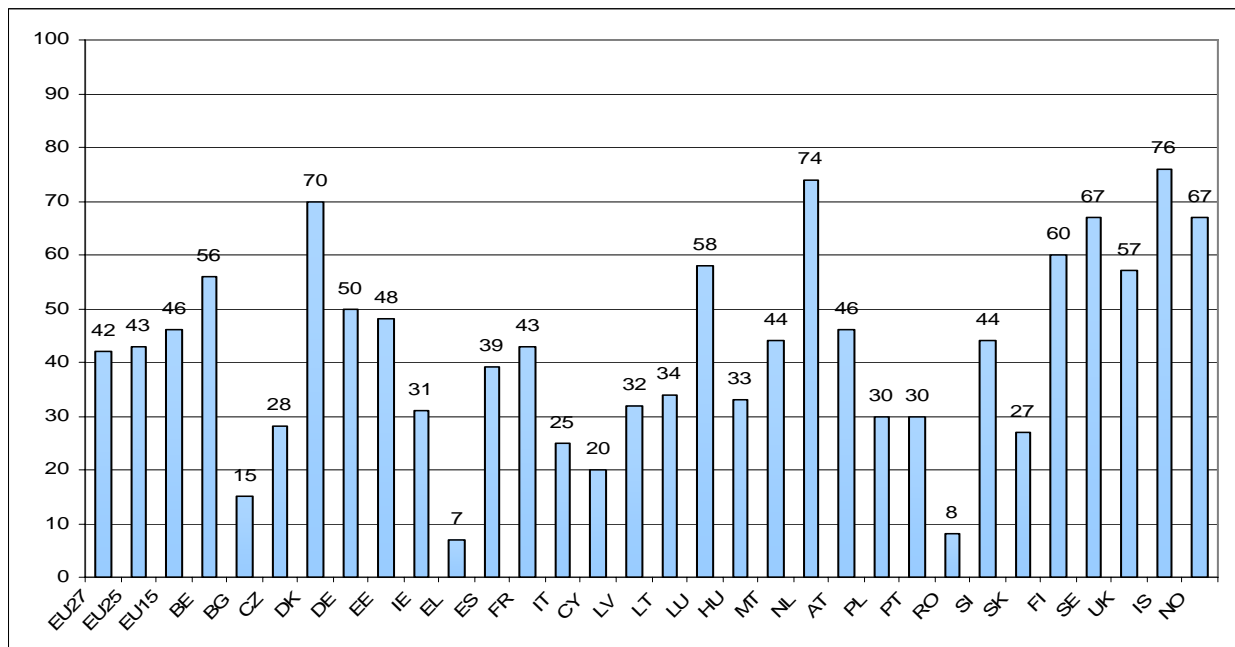
## 42 % of households access Internet via broadband

**Figure 2: Level of Internet access: households - Percentage of households, who have Internet access at home, 2007**



Source: Eurostat, ICT usage in households and by individuals.

**Figure 3: Percentage of households, who access Internet via broadband at home, 2007**



Source: Eurostat, ICT usage in households and by individuals.

## Broadband penetration: increase continues

Table 3: Broadband penetration rate: Number of broadband lines subscribed in % of population

	Jan. 2005	Jul. 2005	Jan. 2006	Jul. 2006	Jan. 2007	Jul. 2007
<b>EU-27</b>	:	:	:	:	<b>16.2</b>	<b>18.2</b>
<b>EU-25</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>16.9</b>	<b>19.0</b>
<b>EU-15</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>14.3</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>18.6</b>	<b>20.8</b>
BE	15.6	17.4	19.1	20.7	22.2	23.9
BG	:	:	:	:	4.5	5.7
CZ	1.6	4.3	6.3	8.4	10.6	12.2
DK	17.9	22.0	24.6	29.6	31.3	37.2
DE	8.4	10.2	12.8	15.3	18.1	21.1
EE	10.3	11.1	13.3	16.6	18.4	20.0
IE	3.4	4.4	6.6	8.8	12.0	15.5
EL	0.5	0.8	1.4	2.7	4.4	6.8
ES	8.2	10.0	11.5	13.2	15.0	16.8
FR	11.3	13.9	15.8	18.0	20.2	22.3
IT	8.1	9.5	11.7	13.1	14.4	15.9
CY	2.6	2.7	6.1	6.6	8.7	11.1
LV	2.4	3.7	5.7	6.8	10.6	11.6
LT	3.7	5.0	6.9	8.4	10.6	12.7
LU	8.2	11.7	15.3	17.4	20.7	24.6
HU	3.6	4.5	6.2	7.5	9.9	11.6
MT	9.5	10.4	12.7	12.8	12.4	13.9
NL	19.0	22.4	25.2	29.0	31.7	33.1
AT	10.2	11.6	14.2	15.8	17.4	18.4
PL	3.3	1.9	2.7	3.9	5.2	6.8
PT	8.2	10.1	11.6	12.9	13.9	14.8
RO	:	:	:	:	5.0	6.6
SI	5.9	7.8	9.8	11.4	13.9	15.3
SK	1.0	1.5	2.6	4.0	5.2	6.9
FI	14.9	18.7	22.3	24.9	27.0	28.8
SE	15.3	17.1	20.6	22.9	25.8	28.3
UK	10.3	13.5	16.4	19.2	21.5	23.8

Source: European Commission, DG INFSO, National Regulatory Authorities

## Number of Internet Service Providers varies considerably in the EU

Table 4: Number of Internet service providers

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
BE	99	104	93	100	101
BG	200	46	189	327	431
CZ*	:	:	:	:	:
DK	36	41	51	70	:
DE	750	800	900	:	:
EE	128	42	78	75	79
IE	:	:	20	45	120
EL	168	173	170	187	:
ES	642	157	172	183	185
FR	:	:	39	46	46
IT	333	:	:	:	:
CY	17	17	15	10	12
LV	11	101	129	:	:
LT	39	60	98	115	115
LU	32	31	32	33	35
HU	62	71	100	223	231
MT	14	14	14	13	:
NL	:	:	:	:	96
AT	200	220	165	:	253
PL	:	:	108	:	615
PT	32	26	30	30	29
RO	269	233	515	981	:
SI	51	73	61	59	53
SK	143	145	160	170	145
FI	51	98	120	134	125
SE	100	120	150	165	:
UK	700	:	:	:	:
CH	125	131	152	150	160
IS	12	12	12	12	12
NO	117	77	128	130	130
HR	:	:	14	53	41
TR	66	91	89	74	72

Source: Eurostat, Annual Telecommunication Inquiry 2007. Data source: National Statistical Institutes and National Regulatory Authorities.

Notes: CZ: registered licence holders: 2002: 1228; 2003: 1810; 2004: 2934; 2005: 688; 2006: not available.

## Employment in the telecommunication sector

**Table 5: Employment in telecommunications (in full-time equivalents, FTE)**

						Average annual increase (%)	change (%)
	1997	2003	2004	2005	2006	2006/1997	2006/2005
<b>EU-27</b>	<b>1,144,305</b>	<b>1,151,797</b>	<b>1,103,839</b>	<b>1,101,139</b>	<b>1,049,919</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>-4.9</b>
<b>EU25</b>	<b>1,052,747</b>	<b>1,064,632</b>	<b>1,022,100</b>	<b>1,024,710</b>	<b>981,340</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>-4.0</b>
<b>EU15</b>	<b>955,660</b>	<b>986,830</b>	<b>949,975</b>	<b>953,948</b>	<b>913,554</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-4.2</b>
BE	21,000	23,291	23,901	22,425	21,284	0.2	-5.1
BG	27,908	33,551	34,201	28,891	25,390	-1.2	-12.1
CZ	29,276	23,260	20,334	19,527	17,374	-6.3	-11.0
DK	17,170	20,471	19,739	16,693	16,597	-0.3	-0.6
DE	219,200	230,600	225,300	224,000	214,600	-0.4	-4.2
EE	4,419	2,845	2,865	3,069	3,152	-4.1	2.7
IE	10,995	14,700	14,500	13,300	13,000	2.1	-2.3
EL	23,841	26,600	26,900	26,200	26,000	:	:
ES	96,266	85,169	88,005	88,519	88,766	-1.0	0.3
FR	165,042	138,716	138,450	136,500	133,000	-2.7	-2.6
IT	94,101	99,582	101,612	102,802	102,132	1.0	-0.7
CY	2,379	2,409	2,772	2,806	2,895	2.5	3.2
LV	7,994	5,421	5,418	5,833	5,355	-4.9	-8.2
LT	10,528	6,482	5,003	5,781	6,191	-6.4	7.1
LU	1,500	1,660	1,680	1,550	1,400	:	-9.7
HU	20,846	19,508	19,086	17,220	16,339	-3.0	-5.1
MT	1,812	1,613	1,587	1,626	1,600	:	:
NL	33,753	:	:	:	:	:	:
AT	17,600	19,900	19,800	18,765	17,940	0.2	-14.0
PL	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
PT	18,786	15,186	14,517	13,718	13,000	-4.5	-5.2
RO	63,650	53,614	47,538	47,538	44,330	-4.4	-6.7
SI	3,363	4,712	4,182	4,635	4,633	4.1	0.0
SK	16,470	11,552	10,878	10,265	10,247	-5.8	-0.2
FI	17,976	17,433	17,422	16,385	14,487	-2.7	-11.6
SE	33,930	20,087	18,914	19,070	19,057	-7.0	-0.1
UK	184,500	242,435	209,235	225,021	202,950	1.2	-9.8
CH	22,145	23,007	21,900	22,336	22,603	0.3	1.2
IS	1,093	1,568	1,555	1,516	1,440	3.5	-5.0
NO	21,268	13,102	12,656	13,038	12,573	-6.4	-3.6
HR	:	10,201	9,872	10,250	9,950	:	-2.9
TR	73,177	70,333	60,981	60,631	49,792	:	:

Source: Eurostat, Annual Telecommunication Inquiry 2007. Data source: National Statistical Institutes and National Regulatory Authorities.

Notes: Data of EL (2006), LU (1997) and MT (2006) are estimated.  
Data of BE (2006), EE, ES, FR (2006), IT, LV (2004-2006), MT, SI (2005-2006), NO, UK are not expressed in FTE, but in head counts. These data refer for most of the countries to Structural Business Statistics, NACE class 64.2.  
NL and PL are not included in the EU aggregates. No estimates done.

## Stagnation in prices for local calls, but considerable drop of prices for calls to the USA

Table 6: Price for local, national long distance calls and calls to USA (in EUR)

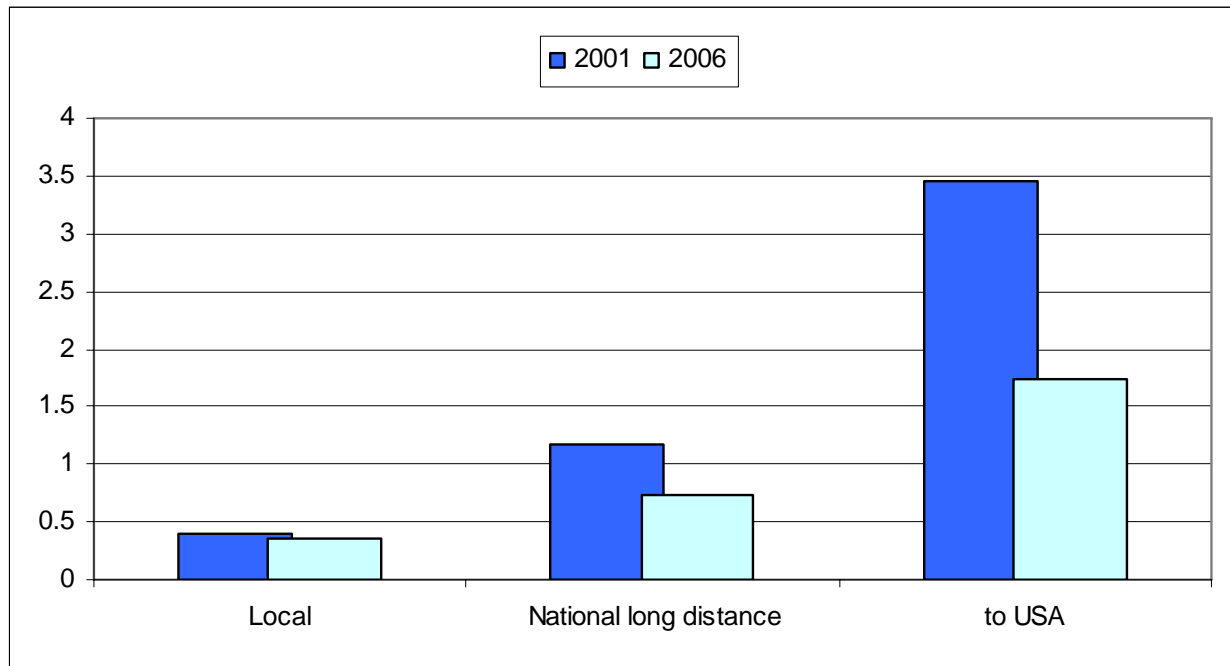
	Local calls		National long distance calls		Call to the United States	
	2001	2006	2001	2006	2001	2006
<b>EU-25</b>	0.39	0.36	1.17	0.74	:	1.79
<b>BE</b>	0.54	0.57	0.54	0.57	1.84	1.98
<b>BG</b>	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>CZ</b>	0.40	0.56	2.44	0.56	:	2.02
<b>DK</b>	0.41	0.37	0.41	0.37	2.71	2.38
<b>DE</b>	0.43	0.39	1.23	0.49	1.23	0.46
<b>EE</b>	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	:	2.13
<b>IE</b>	0.51	0.49	0.94	0.82	1.91	1.91
<b>EL</b>	0.36	0.31	0.98	0.74	2.91	3.49
<b>ES</b>	0.28	0.19	1.60	0.85	4.25	1.53
<b>FR</b>	0.39	0.36	0.96	0.89	2.97	2.32
<b>IT</b>	0.25	0.22	1.44	1.15	2.79	2.12
<b>CY</b>	0.16	0.22	0.40	0.22	3.82	0.66
<b>LV</b>	0.36	0.36	1.03	1.03	5.92	5.94
<b>LT</b>	0.35	0.39	1.20	0.79	11.96	4.07
<b>LU (1)</b>	0.31	0.31	:	:	1.44	1.37
<b>HU</b>	0.35	0.40	1.23	1.04	4.29	2.88
<b>MT (1)</b>	:	0.25	:	:	:	1.64
<b>NL</b>	0.32	0.33	0.48	0.49	0.78	0.85
<b>AT</b>	0.69	0.49	0.77	0.59	4.32	1.90
<b>PL</b>	0.35	0.50	1.22	1.00	10.58	1.23
<b>PT</b>	0.30	0.37	1.13	0.65	2.89	3.11
<b>RO</b>	:	:	:	:	:	:
<b>SI</b>	0.17	0.26	0.17	0.26	2.98	1.40
<b>SK</b>	0.42	0.60	1.17	1.29	8.92	1.23
<b>FI</b>	0.23	0.24	0.88	0.94	4.80	4.90
<b>SE</b>	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.29	1.10	1.18
<b>UK</b>	0.59	0.44	1.17	0.44	3.50	2.23
<b>NO (2)</b>	0.33	0.34	0.34	0.34	1.18	0.77

Source: European Commission, DG INFSO, Teligen Ltd.

Notes: LU, MT: Due to geographic size of the countries, all calls are local. NO: no figures available for 2006. The figure shown refers to 2005. The EU aggregates are population-weighted. The indicator gives the price (including VAT) in Euro of a 10 minute call at 11 am on a weekday for a local call (3 km), national long distance call (200 km) and an international call (to USA). The prices refer to the month of August each year.



**Figure 4: Trends in the Telecommunication prices (EU-25)**



Source: European Commission, DG INFSO, Eurostat

Notes: The population-weighted aggregates are calculated by Eurostat. The population-weighted EU aggregates for the price of a call to the USA excludes CZ and MT.

## Comments

The present Data in Focus (DIF) on "Telecommunications in Europe" is the continuation of the series "Statistics in Focus (SIF)" with the same title. The last SIF version of this publication was issued in 2006, issue number 9/2006.

## Methodology

### Country codes: Current EU Member States

BE: Belgium	IE: Eire/Ireland	LV: Latvia	AT: Austria	FI: Finland
BG: Bulgaria	EL: Greece	LT: Lithuania	PL: Poland	SE: Sweden
CZ: Czech Republic	ES: Spain	LU: Luxembourg	PT: Portugal	UK: United Kingdom
DK: Denmark	FR: France	HU: Hungary	RO: Romania	
DE: Germany	IT: Italy	MT: Malta	SI: Slovenia	
EE: Estonia	CY: Cyprus	NL: Netherlands	SK: Slovakia	

### Country codes: Other countries

CH: Switzerland	IS: Island	NO: Norway	HR: Croatia	TR: Turkey
-----------------	------------	------------	-------------	------------

### EU-Aggregates:

**EU-27:** European Union, including 27 Member States: BE, BG, CZ, DK, DE, EE, IE, EL, ES, FR, IT, CY, LV, LT, LU, HU, MT, NL, AT, PL, PT, RO, SI, SK, FI, SE, UK.

**EU-25:** European Union, including 25 Member States: BE, CZ, DK, DE, EE, IE, EL, ES, FR, IT, CY, LV, LT, LU, HU, MT, NL, AT, PL, PT, SI, SK, FI, SE, UK

**EU-15:** European Union, including 15 Member States: BE, DK, DE, IE, EL, ES, FR, IT, LU, NL, AT, PT, FI, SE, UK.

**Symbols:** ":" non available

**Data source:**

All variables used were collected in the context of the "Annual Telecommunication Inquiry 2007", on the basis of an annual questionnaires sent to the National Statistical Institutes and/or National Regulatory Authorities in the participating countries, except for the data on Internet and broadband access of households (Source: Eurostat, ICT household survey), broadband penetration rate (source: DG INFSO, National Regulatory Authorities) and telecommunication prices (source: DG INFSO, Teligen Ltd.).

**Definitions of the variables used**

**Main telephone lines:**

A main line is a telephone line connecting the subscriber's terminal equipment to the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN), which has a dedicated port in the telephone exchange equipment. This term is synonymous with the term "main station" or "Direct Exchange Line (DEL)" that are commonly used in telecommunication documents. It may not be the same as an access line or a subscriber. The indicator includes fixed wireless subscribers.

**Mobile phone subscriptions:**

Subscriptions to public mobile telecommunication systems of cellular technology include the number of pre-paid cards active during a period of 90 days, GSM, GPRS, NMT and exclude 3G (UMTS). Mobile telephone subscriptions per 100 inhabitants show the number of subscriptions related to the population. One person may have more than one mobile subscription and the number of subscriptions can therefore be higher than the population of a country.

**Broadband lines:**

Are defined as those with a capacity equal or higher than 144 Kbits/s. Various technologies are covered: ADSL, cable modem as well as other types of technologies.

**Internet service providers:**

Internet Services Providers can be defined as companies that provide to other companies or individuals access to or presence on the Internet.

**ICT usage in households and by individuals:**

Eurostat collects this data via an annual questionnaire sent to the National Statistical Institutes. Survey type: household survey. Data shown in this publication refer to the following periods: survey period: second quarter 2007, reference period: first quarter 2007. Total sample size for all 27 EU Member States: 150,000 households and 228,000 individuals. Age limits for the survey of individuals: lower age limit: 16 years, upper age limit: 74 years.

**Telecommunication prices:**

The indicator gives the price (including VAT) in Euro of a 10 minute call at 11 am on a weekday for a local call (3 km), national long distance call (200 km) and an international call (to USA). The prices refer to the month of August each year. Data are collected by Directorate General Information Society and Media (DG INFSO), of the European Commission, via the company Teligen Ltd. All EU-aggregates shown are population-weighted and were calculated by Eurostat.

## Further information

**Data:** [EUROSTAT Website/Industry, Trade and Services](#)

**Industry, trade and services**



---

**European Statistical Data Support:**

Contact details for this support network can be found on our Internet site:

<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/>

---

Manuscript completed on: 14.05.2008

Data extracted on: 13.02.2008

ISSN 1977-0316

Catalogue number: KS-QA-08-012-EN-N

© European Communities, 2008