PORTUGAL

i2010
Annual Report 2007

i2010
Information Space
Innovation & Investment in R&D
Inclusion

Portugal has had a lower than average development in most information society indicators, but performs notably well in 3G adoption and eGovernment. In Portugal, online media use is better than any other form of use.

Portugal Today

Conversion to broadband in Portugal was relatively good the last year but overall internet use is low and broadband connection rates are still a bit below the EU average. Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) accounts for more than half of broadband connections. Usage of online services among citizens is somewhat lower than connectivity levels would imply and, with exception of online media use, in the lowest part of the scale. 3G adoption is one of the highest in Europe, and digital television is in the top ten.

The availability of eGovernment is very good for enterprise services and above average for citizens. Use of these citizens and enterprises services is slightly below average but those who use them tend to be more advanced users, for example, the proportion return completed forms online is above average. Growth rates in service use are around average. A higher than average number of schools have broadband connections, and a fair number of teachers use computers in the class for teaching, but the number of available computers for students is still low.

Skill levels in the workforce are low, but both internet use at work and the number of employed persons with ICT specialist skill is improving. The overall picture for enterprise use is more complex. Growth in enterprise connectivity last year has not kept up with other countries after a couple of years of good growth.

Portugese ICT Policy

ICT issues are treated in the Ligar Portugal action plan which lists several measures undertaken in 2006.

Promotion of ICT use: Since December 2005 the purchase of computers has been supported through tax rebates for families with students. Additional projects with a budget of €200 million are underway to promote ICT take-up and ICT industries.

eGovernment: Enabling legislation for a public key infrastructure and the digitalisation of the Portuguese official journal was passed in May 2006. One-stop-shop electronic kiosks for company registration have been in use since July 2005 and work is underway for online equivalents. A newly established eGovernment portal for companies offers advanced applications like online company registration through lawyers and notaries. In 2007 a pilot project for an integrated eID card started and electronic invoicing was to be used by public authorities.

Infrastructure: In 2005 the bandwidth of the connections of the Portuguese fibre optic grid to international backbones was doubled, and Spain and Portugal agreed to link their fibre optic networks to the same effect.

Digital Skills: Measures included the training of teachers in ICT and the integration of ICT in their curricula. In 2005 all public schools were connected to broadband.

See Table Overleaf

Broadband	2003	2004	2005	2006	EU25	Rank
Total DSL coverage (as % of total population)	84.0	92.0	92.6		87.4	9
DSL coverage in rural areas (as % of total population)			79.0		65.9	9
Broadband penetration (as % of population)	4.1	7.2	10.8	13.5	15.7	14
DSL penetration (as % of population)	1.4	3.3	6.1	8.4	12.8	14
Predominant download speed			1-2Mbps			
Households having broadband (as % of those having access to the internet at home)	36.3	47.0	62.7	68.3	62.1	12
% of enterprises with broadband access	31.0	48.6	62.8	65.9	74.5	18
Number of 3G subscribers per 100 inhabitants			9.0		5.0	3
Digital Television in households			20.2		30.6	9
Music: number of single downloads per 100 inhabitants			6.9			12
Internet Usage						
% population who are regular internet users	21.9	25.1	27.8	31.4	46.7	24
Take up of internet services (as % of population)						
Sending emails	19.9	23.7	25.8	28.8	43.8	24
Looking for information about goods and services	21.0	23.2	25.9	29.8	42.9	21
Internet telephoning or videoconferencing	2.5	3.1	3.2	5.5	7.1	22
Playing/downloading games and music	11.1	13.3	14.1	16.2	18.2	21
Listening to the web radio/watching web tv	5.9	8.1	9.0	10.7	11.8	16
Reading online newspapers/magazines	12.7	14.7	16.4	15.8	19.0	21
Internet banking	6.1	7.6	8.4	9.8	22.0	21
Places of access						
% at home	14.6	17.1	19.5	23.2	42.6	26
% at work	12.5	14.6	15.5	16.3	23.0	24
% at educational place	6.6	7.2	7.8	8.0	8.0	17
% at PIAP	7.2	8.4	4.7	5.4	6.8	15
eGovernment Indicators						
% basic public services for citizens fully available online	18.2	25.0		41.7	36.8	11
% basic public services for enterprises fully available online	62.5	62.5		87.5	67.8	3
% of population using e-Government services		12.5	14.0	16.5	23.8	18
of which for returning filled in forms	5.2	7.6	9.0	11.5	8.1	10
% of enterprises using e-Government services		57.2	57.9	60.3	63.7	19
of which for returning filled in forms	42.5	50.1	52.5	53.7	44.8	12
ICT in schools						
Number of computers connected per 100 pupils				5.4	9.9	25
% of schools with broadband access				73.0	67.0	16
% of teachers having used the computer in class during the last 12 months				69.5	74.3	17
e-Commerce						
E-commerce as % of total turnover of enterprises	1.6	4.9		8.2	11.7	11
% enterprises receiving internet orders	2.1	6.0	6.3	5.4	13.9	22
% enterprises purchasing on the internet		16.1	19.4	19.6	37.9	20
e-business. % enterprises:						
with integrated internal business processes	21.3	33.1	36.7	28.1	37.3	16
with integrated external business processes					13.5	
Security: % enterprises using Secure servers	34.8	28.8	18.4	21.5	41.0	19
% using digital signatures for authentication	7.6	5.4	9.3	9.7	14.3	19
Employment and Skills						
% employees using computers connected to the Internet	17.8	18.8	21.4	24.5	36.1	23
% of persons employed with ICT user skills.	12.1	13.4	12.4	12.3	18.5	25
% of persons employed with ICT specialist skills	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.7	3.1	19
Indicators on growth of ICT sector and R&D						
ICT sector share of total GDP	4.5				5.5	18
ICT sector share of total employment	1.7				4.0	19
ICT sector growth (constant prices).	2.7				3.6	10
R&D expenditure in ICT by the business sector, as % of GDP	0.1				0.3	14
=== as % of total R&D expenditure	21.5				25.7	10