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Over the past year, the number of broadband subscribers in the OECD increased 26% from 157 million in December 2005 to 197 million in December 2006. This growth increased broadband penetration rates in the OECD from 13.5 in December 2005 to 16.9 subscriptions per 100 inhabitants one year later. The main highlights for 2006 are:

European countries have continued their advance with high broadband penetration rates. In December 2006, eight countries (**Denmark, the Netherlands, Iceland, Korea, Switzerland, Finland, Norway and Sweden**) led the OECD in broadband penetration, each with at least 26 subscribers per 100 inhabitants.

Denmark and the Netherlands are the first two countries in the OECD to surpass 30 subscribers per 100 inhabitants.

The **strongest per-capita subscriber growth** over the year comes from Denmark, the Netherlands, New Zealand, and Ireland. Each country added more than 5.8 subscribers per 100 inhabitants during the past year.

Operators in several countries continue with their upgrades to fibre. Fibre-to-the-home (FTTH) and Fibre-to-the-building (FTTB) subscriptions now comprise nearly 7% of all broadband connections in the OECD and the percentage is growing. Korea and Japan each have more than 6 fibre-based broadband subscribers per 100 inhabitants.

Japan leads the OECD in fibre connections directly to the home with **7.9 million fibre-to-the-home subscribers** in December 2006. **Fibre subscribers** alone in Japan **outnumber total broadband subscribers in 23 of the 30 OECD countries**.

The total number of ADSL subscriptions continues to fall in **Korea and Japan** as more users upgrade to fibre-based connections.

DSL continues to be the **leading platform** in 28 OECD countries. Cable modem subscribers outnumber DSL in Canada and the United States.

The **United States** has the **largest total number of broadband subscribers** in the OECD at 58.1 million. US broadband subscribers now represent 29% of all broadband connections in the OECD.

Canada continues to lead the G7 group of industrialized countries in broadband penetration

The breakdown of broadband technologies in December 2006 is as follows:

- DSL : 62%
- Cable modem : 29%
- FTTH/FTTB : 7%
- Other (e.g. satellite, fixed wireless, powerline communication) : 2%

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Key notes on broadband figures for December 2006 :

Broadband connections included in OECD data must have download speeds equal to or faster than 256 kbit/s.

The new FTTH/FTTB category includes fiber-to-the-home subscribers and fiber-to-the-building subscribers who are connected to the fibre in the building via LAN type technologies (e.g. Ethernet). The category does not include VDSL, which is included in DSL figures.

The "other" broadband category includes satellite, fixed wireless and power line communications. It does not include 3G mobile technologies.

Data is sometimes updated after publication if official figures are available to replace estimates. This can lead to differences in time series data from what may have been published earlier.

Population data used to calculate "per capita" figures is typically from the previous year. Current-year population data is inserted once it is available and will have an effect on historical data.

Data December 2006

Broadband subscribers per 100 inhabitants, by technology, Dec. 2006

	DSL	Cable	Fibre/LAN	Other	Total	Rank	Total Subscribers
Denmark	19.6	9.4	2.6	0.4	31.9	1	1 728 359
Netherlands	19.5	12.0	0.4	0.0	31.8	2	5 192 200
Iceland	28.8	0.0	0.2	0.6	29.7	3	87 738
Korea	11.4	10.7	7.0	0.0	29.1	4	14 042 728
Switzerland*	18.8	8.8	0.0	0.9	28.5	5	2 140 309
Norway	21.7	3.8	1.5	0.6	27.7	6	1 278 346
Finland	23.5	3.5	0.0	0.3	27.2	7	1 428 000
Sweden*	16.0	5.2	0.0	4.8	26.0	8	2 346 300
Canada	11.4	12.3	0.0	0.1	23.8	9	7 675 533
Belgium	14.0	8.4	0.0	0.1	22.5	10	2 353 956

United Kingdom	16.5	5.1	0.0	0.0	21.6	11	12 993 354
Luxembourg	18.2	2.2	0.0	0.0	20.4	12	93 214
France	19.1	1.1	0.0	0.0	20.3	13	12 699 000
Japan	11.1	2.8	6.2	0.0	20.2	14	25 755 080
United States	8.5	10.3	0.3	0.6	19.6	15	58 136 577
Australia*	15.0	3.3	0.0	1.0	19.2	16	3 939 288
Austria	10.6	6.4	0.0	0.3	17.3	17	1 427 986
Germany*	16.4	0.5	0.0	0.1	17.1	18	14 085 232
Spain	12.1	3.1	0.0	0.1	15.3	19	6 654 881
Italy*	13.8	0.0	0.4	0.6	14.8	20	8 638 873
New Zealand	12.7	0.6	0.0	0.7	14.0	21	576 067
Portugal	8.7	5.1	0.0	0.0	13.8	22	1 460 341
Ireland	9.1	1.3	0.0	2.0	12.5	23	517 300
Hungary	6.1	3.8	0.0	2.0	11.9	24	1 198 709
Czech Republic**	4.8	2.1	0.0	3.7	10.6	25	1 086 620
Poland	5.2	1.6	0.0	0.1	6.9	26	2 640 000
Slovak Republic	3.4	0.7	0.9	0.2	5.1	27	274 108
Greece	4.4	0.0	0.0	0.2	4.6	28	512 000
Turkey	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.8	29	2 773 685
Mexico*	2.7	0.8	0.0	0.0	3.5	30	3 728 150
OECD	10.5	4.9	1.1	0.3	16.9		197 463 934

Notes:

* Data for Australia, Germany, Italy, Mexico, Sweden and Switzerland are preliminary estimates based on September 2006 data.

** The OECD statistics for the "Other Broadband" category of the Czech

Republic include a large number of fixed wireless broadband connections provided over mobile networks. Broadband subscriptions over 3G networks are not included for other countries but an exception was made for the Czech Republic because the connections make use of "fixed" equipment in a home (are not mobile) and offer speeds greater than 256 kbit/s to individual users. The Czech market is particular due to the high number of these wireless broadband connections as a percentage of total connectivity. It is important to note that there is continuing debate in international circles as to whether this type of wireless connection should be included in international broadband comparisons. The OECD will begin to collect a separate category of wireless/portable broadband in the future.

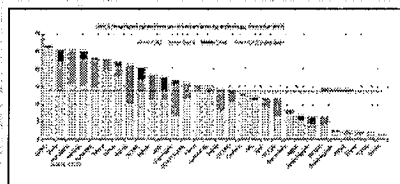
Time Series

Broadband subscribers per 100 inhabitants, 2001-2006

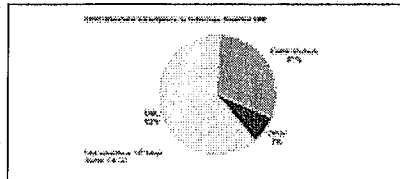
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Australia	0.9	1.8	3.5	7.7	13.8	19.2
Austria	3.6	5.6	7.6	10.1	14.3	17.3
Belgium	4.4	8.7	11.7	15.5	18.2	22.5
Canada	8.9	12.1	15.1	17.6	21.0	23.8
Czech Republic	0.1	0.2	0.5	2.5	6.4	10.6
Denmark	4.4	8.2	13.0	19.0	24.9	31.9
Finland	1.3	5.5	9.5	14.9	22.4	27.2
France	1.0	2.8	5.9	10.5	15.1	20.3
Germany	2.3	4.1	5.6	8.4	13.0	17.1
Greece	0	0	0.1	0.4	1.4	4.6
Hungary	0.3	0.6	2.0	3.6	6.3	11.9
Iceland	3.7	8.4	14.3	18.2	26.4	29.7
Ireland	0	0.3	0.8	3.3	6.7	12.5
Italy	0.7	1.7	4.1	8.1	11.8	14.8

Japan	2.2	6.1	10.7	15.0	17.6	20.2
Korea	17.2	21.8	24.2	24.8	25.2	29.1
Luxembourg	0.3	1.5	3.5	9.8	14.9	20.4
Mexico	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.9	2.2	3.5
Netherlands	3.8	7.0	11.8	19.0	25.2	31.8
New Zealand	0.7	1.6	2.6	4.7	8.1	14.0
Norway	1.9	4.2	8.0	14.8	21.8	27.5
Poland	0.1	0.3	0.8	2.1	2.4	6.9
Portugal	1.0	2.5	4.8	8.2	11.5	13.8
Slovak Republic	0	0	0.3	1.0	2.5	5.7
Spain	1.2	3.0	5.4	8.1	11.5	15.3
Sweden	5.4	8.1	10.7	14.5	20.2	26.0
Switzerland	2.0	5.6	10.1	17.5	24.1	28.5
Turkey	0	0	0.3	0.7	2.1	3.8
United Kingdom	0.6	2.3	5.4	10.5	16.4	21.6
United States	4.5	6.9	9.7	12.9	16.3	19.6
OECD	2.9	4.9	7.3	10.2	13.5	16.9
EU15	1.6	3.4	5.9	9.7	14.2	18.6

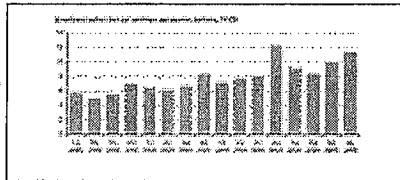
Graphs



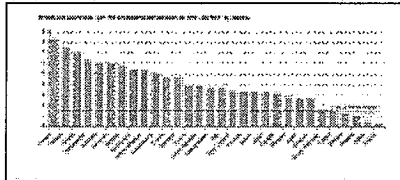
Broadband subscribers per 100 inhabitants, by technology, Dec. 2006



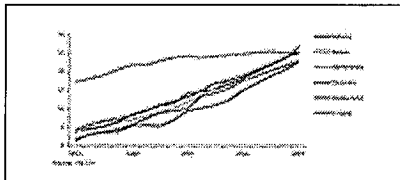
OECD broadband subscriptions, by technology, Dec. 2006



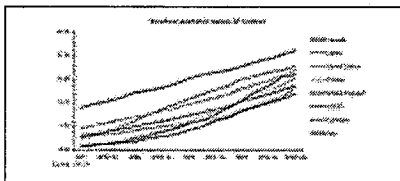
Broadband subscriber net additions per quarter, millions, OECD



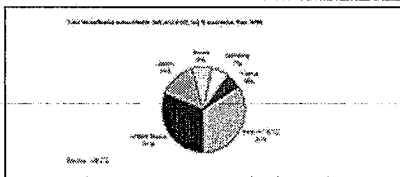
OECD Broadband penetration (per 100 inhabitants) net increase Q4 2005-Q4 2006, by country



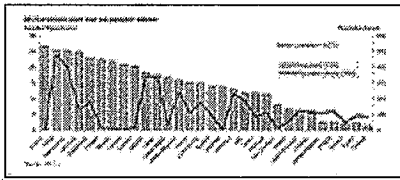
Broadband penetration, historic, top five OECD countries, Dec. 2006



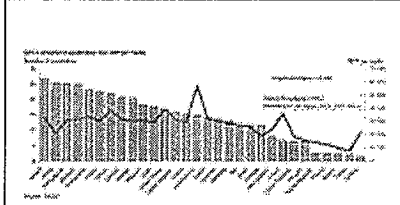
Broadband penetration, historic, G7 countries



Total broadband subscriptions, percentage of OECD, top 5 countries, Dec. 2006



OECD broadband penetration and population densities



OECD broadband penetration and GDP per capita



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