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Truly a World Wide Web
GLOBE GOING DIGITAL
2005 Pew Global Attitudes Survey

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Truly a World Wide Web
GLOBE GOING DIGITAL

As the pace of modernization accelerates around the globe, so too has computer usage and access to the internet. The latest Pew Global Attitudes poll found substantially more people using a computer and going online now than in 2002. And it is not just the young who are increasing their use of technology; in many countries computer use has accelerated most rapidly among people over 50.

In each of the 13 countries for which historical comparisons can be made, more people now use computers at home, school or work than in 2002. The rise is dramatic in Turkey, Russia, India and Poland, where the number of those who say they use a computer at least occasionally has risen by 13 percent to 16 percent in the three years between surveys.

Great Britain has seen the largest increase in computer use, up 17 percent since 2002.

More modest gains have been made in the U.S. and the rest of Western Europe, where majorities already reported using computers in 2002 although even in these countries the use of such technology has increased significantly.

Among those nations surveyed in 2005, the Netherlands leads in computer usage with fully 84% now saying they use a computer either at home or in the workplace. Nearly eight-in-ten (79%) Canadians find themselves sitting in front of the computer screen at least occasionally, while just over three quarters of

	2002	2005	Change
	%	%	%
Netherlands	--	84	--
Canada	75	79	+4
Great Britain	59	76	+17
United States	74	76	+2
Germany	63	67	+4
Spain	--	64	--
France	60	61	+1
Lebanon	50	53	+3
Morocco	--	47	--
Poland	33	46	+13
Turkey	23	39	+16
Russia	19	35	+16
Jordan	30	31	+1
India	6	21	+15
Indonesia	12	16	+4
Pakistan	7	9	+2
China	35	--	--

Question wording: "Do you use a computer at your workplace, at school, at home, or anywhere else at least on an occasional basis?"

	Total	Men	Women	Men-Women diff.
	%	%	%	
Netherlands	84	87	81	6
Canada	79	79	79	0
Great Britain	76	77	75	2
United States	76	77	75	2
Germany	67	72	64	8
Spain	64	68	60	8
France	61	66	57	9
Lebanon	53	53	53	0
Morocco	47	58	36	22
Poland	46	50	43	7
Turkey	39	46	33	13
Russia	35	37	34	3
Jordan	31	33	28	5
India	21	28	14	14
Indonesia	16	20	13	7
Pakistan	9	14	4	10
China	NA			

Americans (76%) do likewise. Britain, once lagging behind America and Canada, has seen a 17 point increase in computer users from 59% in 2002 to 76% today.

Women have accounted for much of Britain’s increase in computer users. In 2002 just over half (55%) of British women utilized computer technology, now three quarters say they do, only two percentage points fewer than men.

Still, men use computers more than women in 14 of 16 countries surveyed; only in Canada and Lebanon do the genders share the same amount of computer activity. Pakistan has the lowest number of computer users with only 14% of men and 4% of women reporting they use a computer even occasionally. And despite India’s thriving computer-related industries, only 28% of men and 14% of women employ computers either at home or at work. The largest disparity between men and women computer users is found in Morocco where over half (58%) of men use them, but only 36% of women share in this activity.

The Internet Divide

Internet use is also on the rise in both industrialized societies and developing countries, with the greatest increases among the British, Poles and French. However, there is a stark divide between those countries with high rates of internet use and those with less access to this technology.

Solid majorities in the U.S., Canada and Western Europe are internet savvy, but in Pakistan and Indonesia, fewer than 10% say they go online as do only 15% of Russians and 14% of Indians. About a third in Poland, Turkey and China say they access the internet.

Unsurprisingly, in all societies, education level and income are the predominant determinants of those who use technology, with those who have higher education levels and larger incomes more likely both to use computers and to access the internet. For example, in India, the rate of computer usage ranges upward from 36% among those with at least some college education, compared with rates ranging downward from 14% among those with less education. In Spain, fewer than a third of

	2002	2005	Change
	%	%	%
Netherlands	--	72	--
Great Britain	47	71	+24
Canada	68	71	+3
United States	64	70	+6
Germany	47	60	+13
France	41	57	+16
Spain	--	53	--
Morocco	--	41	--
Poland	20	38	+18
Lebanon	36	37	+1
China	24	33	+9
Turkey	18	32	+14
Jordan	25	20	-5
Russia	7	15	+8
India	3	14	+11
Indonesia	5	7	+2
Pakistan	4	5	+1

Question wording “Do you ever go online to access the Internet or the World Wide Web or to send and receive email?”

those with a primary level education or less use a computer while usage rates range upward from 61% among those with a secondary level or higher degree. In the Netherlands, however, computer users number more than six-in-ten even among those with little or no education and are nearly universal at the highest education levels.

The “Net” Not Just For the Young Anymore

While the internet user population in 2002 was dominated by younger people, since then the growth rate for adults over 50 has outpaced that for young adults both in the United States and throughout Western Europe.

In 2002, more than eight-in-ten of those under 30 years of age in the U.S., Germany and Canada reported going online to access the internet. Those numbers have risen in all countries surveyed, but most dramatically in Poland, France and Great Britain.

However, the increase in internet access has been still greater among 50-64 year olds, averaging nearly 20 percentage points for that age group in Western Europe, the U.S. and Canada. Steady but slower increase in internet use was registered among those 65 and older.

Still, in countries around the world with relatively low overall internet use, the most dramatic increase occurred among the young. In China and India, the rate of internet use rose 15% among those under 30. Young Turks made the most progress; whereas only about a third (33%) of people in Turkey under the age of 30 said they went online in 2002, today a 56%-majority accesses the internet.

<i>Internet Users in 2002</i>				
	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
	%	%	%	%
Canada	86	80	62	23
Germany	81	62	33	9
United States	80	78	56	20
Great Britain	72	63	30	10
France	71	53	30	5
Poland	46	21	9	0
Russia	17	6	3	0

<i>Internet Users in 2005</i>				
	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
	%	%	%	%
Canada	91	83	68	31
Germany	85	79	53	16
United States	81	83	68	32
Great Britain	89	84	67	24
France	92	66	52	12
Poland	70	44	22	4
Russia	32	18	3	1

Figures represent the percent in each age group who say they go online or access the internet to send and receive email.

The *Pew Global Attitudes Project* is a series of worldwide public opinion surveys. Since its inception in 2002, the Pew Global Attitudes Project has surveyed over 90,000 people in 50 countries. Surveys were conducted by local organizations under the direction of Princeton Survey Research Associates International. Full details about the surveys, and the project more generally, are available at www.pewglobal.org

Pew Global Attitudes Project: Spring 2005 Survey

<p>United States – May 18 - May 22, 2005 (N=1,001) Canada – May 6 - 11, 2005 (N=500) Great Britain – April 25 - May 7, 2005 (N=750) France – May 2 - 7, 2005 (N=751) Germany – April 27- May 4, 2005 (N=750) Spain – April 20 – April 28, 2005 (N=751) Netherlands – April 27 – May 11, 2005 (N=754) Russia – April 28 – May 13, 2005 (N=1,002) Poland – April 27 – May 29, 2005 (N=1,024)</p>	<p>Turkey – April 27 – May 14, 2005 (N=1,003) Indonesia – April 30 – May 16, 2005 (N=1,022) India – May 1 – May 29, 2005 (N=2,042) Pakistan – May 2 - 24, 2005 (N=1,225) Lebanon – May 3 - 24, 2005 (N=1,000) Jordan – May 3 - 24, 2005 (N=1,000) Morocco – June 6 - 16, 2005 (N=1,000) China – May 21 - 31, 2005 (N=2,191)</p>
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NOTE: Data based on national samples except in China, India, Morocco and Pakistan where the sample was disproportionately or exclusively urban. NOT ALL QUESTIONS WERE ASKED IN CHINA

PROCEDURAL NOTE: The following topline data is based on two questionnaires, one in the six predominantly Muslim countries (Turkey, Indonesia, Pakistan, Lebanon, Jordan and Morocco) and the other in the eleven countries where Muslims are not the majority population. For question ordering of both questionnaires, see the global attitudes website: www.pewglobal.org.

[ASK ALL:]

D10 Do you use a computer at your workplace, at school, at home, or anywhere else at least on an occasional basis?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Don't know/ Refused</u>
United States	76	24	*=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	74	26	*=100
Canada	79	21	*=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	75	25	0=100
Great Britain	76	24	*=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	59	41	0=100
France	61	39	*=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	60	40	0=100
Germany	67	32	*=99
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	63	37	*=100
Spain	64	36	*=100
Netherlands	84	16	*=100
Russia	35	65	*=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	19	81	*=100
Poland	46	53	1=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	33	67	0=100
Turkey	39	60	1=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	23	77	*=100
Pakistan	9	87	4=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	7	90	3=100
India	21	79	0=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	6	93	1=100

Lebanon	53	47	0=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	50	50	*=100
Jordan	31	69	0=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	30	69	1=100
Morocco	47	53	0=100
Indonesia	16	83	1=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	12	88	*=100
China	NA		
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	35	65	*=100

[ASK ALL:]

D11 Do you ever go online to access the Internet or the World Wide Web or to send and receive email?

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No/doesn't Use Computer</u>	<u>Don't know/ Refused</u>
United States	70	29	1=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	64	36	*=100
Canada	71	28	*=99
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	68	32	0=100
Great Britain	71	29	*=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	47	53	0=100
France	57	43	*=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	41	59	0=100
Germany	60	40	*=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	47	53	0=100
Spain	53	47	*=100
Netherlands	72	28	*=100
Russia	15	84	*=99
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	7	93	*=100
Poland	38	62	0=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	20	80	0=100
Turkey	32	65	3=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	18	82	0=100
Pakistan	5	90	5=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	4	96	0=100
India	14	83	3=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	3	97	*=100
Lebanon	37	63	*=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	36	64	*=100
Jordan	20	80	0=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	25	75	*=100
Morocco	41	58	*=99
Indonesia	7	90	3=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	5	95	0=100
China	33	63	4=100
<i>Summer, 2002</i>	24	76	*=100