

On the occasion of the International Day of Information Society, May 17

Ms. Ola Awad, President of PCBS: Continuous increase in the access of households to Information and Communication Technology (ICT)

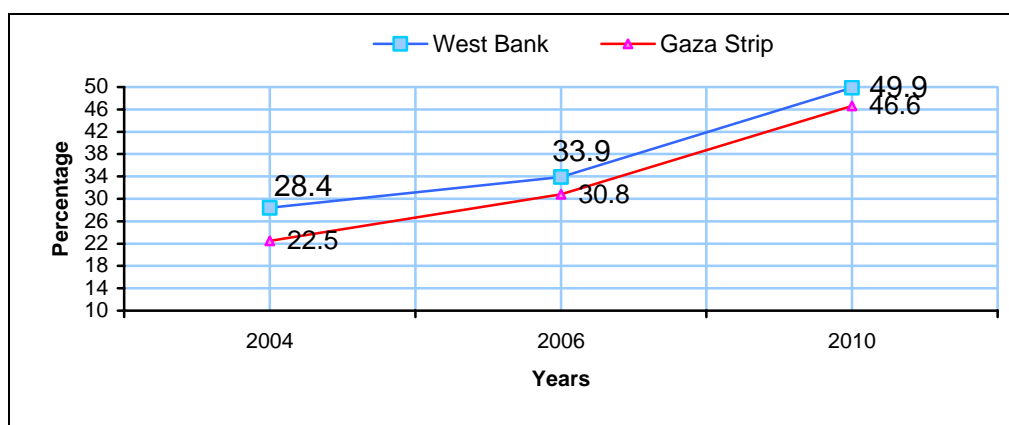
The Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) issued a press release about the main characteristics of the Information Society in the Palestinian Territory. As the ICT sector has become an important driver of the Palestinian economy, PCBS collects and disseminates official statistics about ICT on regular basis to highlight progress made towards knowledge-based society.

Half of Palestinian households have computers

The percentage of households that have a computer in the Palestinian Territory in 2010 was 48.8%, of which 49.9% in the West Bank and 46.6% in Gaza Strip, compared with about one quarter of households had computers in 2004.

As for Internet connection, the results showed that 29.1% of households in the Palestinian Territory in 2010 had an Internet connection compared with 9.2% of households in 2004.

Percentage of households that Have Computer by Region, Selected Years



Majority of households have TV dish

The percentage of households that have TV dish in the Palestinian Territory in 2010 reached 91.4%, of which 91.6% in the West Bank and 90.9% in Gaza Strip, compared with about three quarters of households owned TV dish in 2004.

Most households own mobile phone

About 93.8% of households owned a mobile phone in the Palestinian Territory in 2010 compared with 72.8% in 2004. On the other hand, 45.5% of households in the Palestinian Territory had a phone line in 2010 compared with 40.8% in 2004. As for the West Bank, 48.5% of households had a phone line in 2010 compared with 39.7% in Gaza Strip.

One of every ten households has a member who owns a website

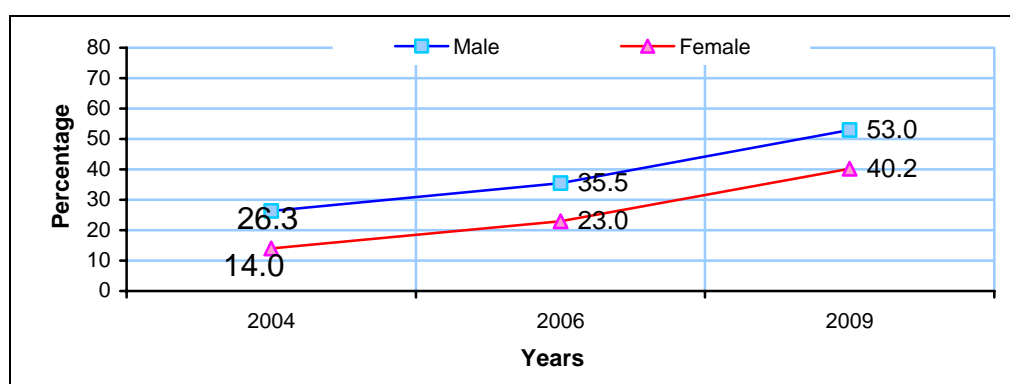
About 9.1% of households in the Palestinian Territory in 2009 have at least one member who owned a Web site compared with one fifth of households had a member who owned a website in 2004.

More than half of the persons (10 years and over) in the Palestinian Territory used computer in 2009 compared with 35.7% in 2004. In addition, about one third of persons (10 years and over) in the Palestinian Territory in 2009 use Internet (32.7% in the West Bank and 31.5% in Gaza Strip) compared with 11.9% in 2004. From gender perspective, variations exist in the use of Internet among males and females where 38.2% of males use the Internet compared to 26.2% for females.

Majority of youth use computers

About 87.9% of youth (15-29) Years in the Palestinian Territory use computers compared with 47.6% in 2004. From gender perspective, there is still a gap where 91.0% of male youth use computers compared with 84.4% for female youth in 2009. As for the use of Internet, about 46.7% of youth in the Palestinian Territory in 2009 use the Internet (53.0% for males and 40.2% for females) compared with 20.3% in 2004.

Percentage of Youth Who Use the Internet by Sex, Selected Years



As for the purpose behind using the Internet by youth in the Palestinian Territory in 2009, 87.3% of youth use the Internet for information and knowledge, 68.2% for study-related purposes, 60.8% for communication, 75.1% for recreational purposes, while 11.8% of youth use the Internet for work-related purposes.

About one third (32.9%) of youth in the Palestinian Territory own email compared with only one fifth of youth in 2004.

Regarding mobile phones, about 63.2% of youth in the Palestinian Territory in 2009 owned mobile phones (72.7% for male youth and 53.3% for females) compared with 34.9% in 2004.

One third of establishments use computers

About 29.6% of establishments in the Palestinian Territory used computers in 2009 compared with 21.3% in 2007. In addition, about 20.4% of total establishments in 2009 used Internet compared with 12.7% used Internet in 2007.

About 4.2% of total establishments in 2009 conducted electronic business transactions compared with 2.3% in 2007.

275 Researcher per million inhabitants

The number of researchers in research and development in the Palestinian Territory in 2009 was 2,512. The number of researchers according to the definition of Full-Time Equivalent

reached 1,098. Studies comprised about 66.3% of the activities of Research and Development. Expenditure on research and development reached about 45.5 million in 2009.

Researchers per one million inhabitants

