

Computer and Internet Use Survey

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1. Introduction

Recently, Korea is changing to an information society; there have been a sharp increase in the number of household Internet users in Korea with increasing PC penetration. Information and its utilization are becoming the main and key factors that determine the competitiveness of people, firms and nations.

To meet the demand for the data on information and telecommunication (IT), National Statistical Office (NSO) produced this data based on Social Statistics Survey (SSS) in 1997 and 2000. SSS consists of twelve sections; Family, Labor, Health, Environment, Education, Income & Consumption, Housing & Transportation, Information & Telecommunication, Welfare, Culture & Leisure, Safety and Social participation. SSS conducts two or three survey sections every year, alternating section selection annually.

In order to reflect the rapid changes in IT, it is necessary for NSO to produce this data with a separate survey per year. National Statistical Office has developed the Computer and Internet Use Survey (CIUS). Social Statistics Division, National Statistical Office conducted CIUS in March 2001 for the first time.

2. Purpose

The annual CIUS collects detailed data on the IT activities of Korean households. It will report on the penetration of PC and other IT's equipment and Korean's using the internet such as frequency and hours of use, their reason for using or not using the internet. CIUS will also provide data on e-transaction in households. This will show the extent of household ordering products or services over the internet for non-work use. This data compiled by CIUS will provide basic frames and figures for government information policy.

3. Coverage & Sample

The survey covers approximately 80,000 persons aged 6 and over who usually reside in about 30,000 sample households. The sample of CIUS is that of Economically Active Population Survey(EAPS) which is a monthly household survey. The purpose of EAPS is to collect up-to date information on the economic status of the population and on changes in the activity pattern of the labor force.

The data and materials come from approximately 22,029 ordinary enumeration district (ED'S), which are 10% of the 1995 Population and Housing Census. Island and social institutions are excluded from the sample selection. There are three stages for selecting the sample; the Selection of Primary Sampling Unit (PSU), the Selection of Secondary Sampling Unit (SSU) and Ultimate Sampling Unit(USU). In each stratum with self-weighting, ED's(PSU) are systematically selected. As a result, 30,000 households out of 1,231 ED's were selected with the overall-sampling rate of about 1/430.

4. Periodicity & Reference Period

- Periodicity : Annual(The survey is conducted from 2001)
- The Reference Period : The week containing 29th of March

5. Staff of Survey

NSO has 47 local offices and local branch offices. They employ about 630 part-time interviewers for the survey

6. Collection & Processing of data

NSO part-time interviewers are given training survey procedures. Each interviewer contacts approximately 50 households of respondents during the survey week. They visit to ask each respondent directly and fill in the questionnaires.

If they don't meet all respondents in household, they leave questionnaires to be filled out later –

usually with the person at home when the interviewers visit. During the survey, all interviewers are under the supervision of staff in local offices and local branch offices.

After completing the survey, local offices send the stacks of questionnaires to NSO and then NSO do an outside order to feed a computer with data. NSO will check and edit the data to analyze and make result

7. Items of Survey

- ◆ Basic items (10 items) : name, relationship to household head, sex, age, educational attainment, marital status, major activity during last week, industry, occupation, employment Status
- ◆ Special items(22 items)
 - For household(5 items) : equipment, software expense, monthly expense of equipment, plan to buy Computer within 6 months, income
 - For household members(17 items) : education for information, the main reason to have education, the main reason not to have education, ability to use computer, hours used and use for, whether or not access to internet, what use for with internet, the main reason not to access to internet, whether or not e-commerce transaction, number of transaction, product or service of e-commerce transaction, the main reason not to use internet purchase, government support, application after government support, wanting government support, effect of information society, the means of getting information

8. Definition of Internet user

Those who access to internet at least a time in month regardless of whether that use was from work, home, school, or some other location.

9. Scheduled Publication

The results of the 2001 Computer & Internet Use Survey will be announced in October 2001.