

ISPA BELGIUM INTERNET MARKET SURVEY N°36

Q2 - 2008

The total number of active Internet connections in Belgium increased by 0.31% during the first quarter of 2008 and reached 2,716,288 connections.

The first trimester of 2008 was characterised by an increase of only 0.31% of the number of Internet connections in Belgium. This stagnation is mainly due to the further drop in the number of dial-up connections (-23.03%). The increase of broadband connections (cable and DSL) was 1.38%; which is 1% lower than the increase in the same trimester in 2007.

In the residential market, the total number of connections has stagnated at 2,221,208 (-0.01%), due to a further downturn of the dial-up connections (-26.10%). The number of broadband connections increased by 1.35%, which represents 28,513 new connections. Broadband connections represent 96.33% of all residential connections. The first semester of 2008 was mainly characterised by movement of customers between the different Internet providers rather than entirely new customers. ISPA ascribes this tendency to the weak PC penetration in Belgium, which constitutes a major brake on the growth of connections.

In the business market, a growth of 1.76% was noted (495,080 connections). The number of broadband connections, which accounts for 97% of the total business market, increased by 7.673 lines. There remain only 11.774 dial-up connections, of which more than 93% are free connections.

ISPA Belgium is the Belgian Internet Services providers association. Founded in 1997, ISPA aims to stimulate the growth of Internet and its related services in Belgium.

The following companies contributed to this survey:

Belgacom, Belnet, Brutele, Colt, Clearwire Belgium, Easynet, EDP Net, Evonet, KPN Belgium, Mobistar, Perceval, Proximedia, PSI Net, Scarlet, Telenet, Verizon Business.

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