

Section 8 Overseas Trends

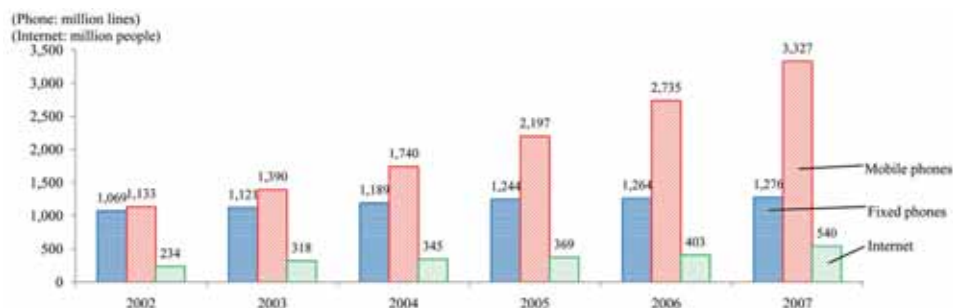
1. Penetration of global communications services

The number of lines for fixed phones in 2007 was 1.28 billion lines, with an average growth rate of 3.6% per annum over the period 2002-2007. The number of mobile phone subscriptions was 3.33 billion lines, with an average growth rate 24.0% per annum over the period 2002-2007 (figure 4-14).

2. Internet penetration rate by region

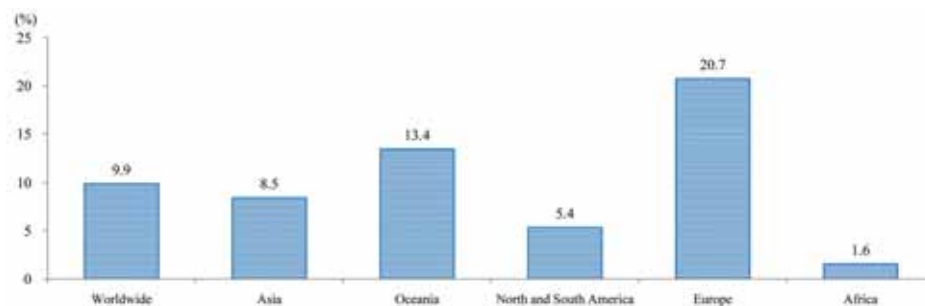
The number of Internet users worldwide was 540 million in 2007, with an average growth rate of 18.2% per annum over the period 2002-2007. The average international internet penetration rate in the world is 9.9%. By region, Europe has the highest penetration rate, at 20.7%, followed by Oceania (13.4%) and Asia (8.5%) (figure 4-15).

Figure 4-14 Number of subscriptions to fixed phones, mobile phones and the Internet



Compiled from World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators database 2008 (12th Edition, Updated on February 2009), ITU (2009)

Figure 4-15 Internet penetration rate by region (2007)



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