

# Part II

## Update on ICT and Policy Outlook

### Chapter 4

#### Current State of ICT

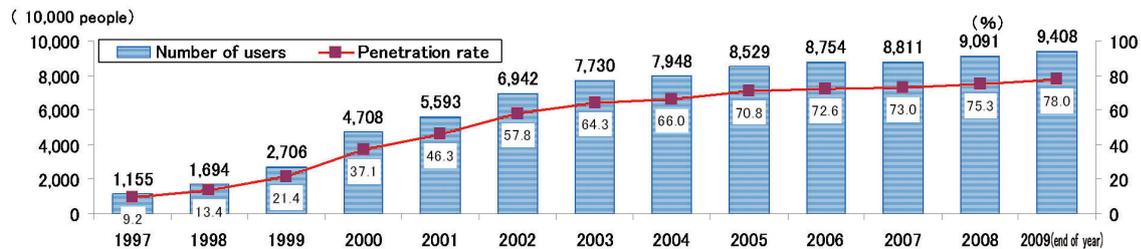
#### Section 1

##### Internet Usage Trends

##### 1. Status of Internet utilization

The number of Internet users reached 94.08 million people as of the end of 2009, an increase of 3.17 million people from 2008 (year-on-year increase of 3.5%), with an Internet penetration rate of 78.0% (a 2.7 percentage-point increase from the previous year) (figure 4-1). With respect to terminals for Internet use, users of mobile terminals increased by 5.04 million people from the end of 2008, reaching 80.1 million people. The number of PC users increased by 25.9 million people, reaching 85.14 million people.

Figure 4-1 Changes in the number of Internet users and the penetration rate

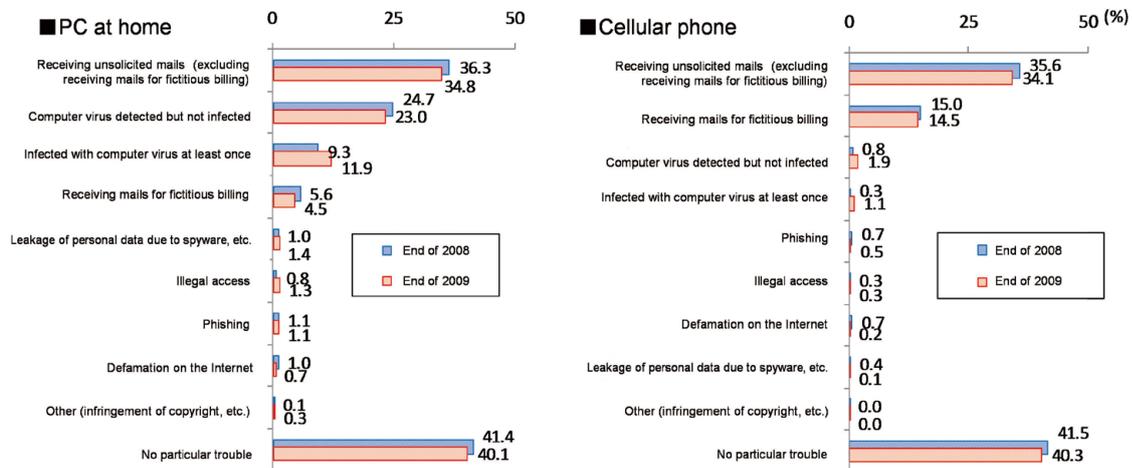


(Source) Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications “Communications Usage Trend Survey” (2009)

##### 2. Issues for safe and secure Internet utilization

With respect to problems associated with using the Internet at home, “receiving nuisance e-mails” is the most frequently cited response at 34.8%, followed by “computer virus detected but not infected” (23.0%) (figure 4-2). As for problems associated with cellular phones, “receiving nuisance e-mails” is the most frequent response at 34.1%, followed by “receiving mails for fictitious billing” at 14.5%.

Figure 4-2 Problems associated with Internet utilization in households



(Source) Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications “Communications Usage Trend Survey” (2009)