

# Communications News

Newsletter of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications(MIC), Japan

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# Results of 2016 Communications Usage Trend Survey

The Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) has summarized the results of a fiscal 2016 survey of communications utilization trends to report the status of telecommunications services used in homes and businesses as of the end of September 2016. MIC will post the detailed results of the survey in the Information & Communications Statistics Database (URL: <http://www.soumu.go.jp/johotsusintokei/statistics/statistics05.html>) and make the posted data available in CSV format for machines to read it easily.

### [Points of Survey Result]

#### 1. Internet Utilization Trends

(1) The proportion of individuals utilizing the Internet reached 83.5%, a rise from 83.0% in 2015.

(2) On the basis of income segmentation, approximately 90% of households with an annual income of 4 million yen or more were Internet users.

(3) On the basis of generation segmentation, more than two-thirds of the people in their twenties were social networking service (SNS) and video posting users.

(4) The proportion of companies using social media service reached 22.1%, which remained almost the same as the rate of the previous year, but the utilization rate of corporate social media services related to the finance and insurance industries rose to 34.1%.

#### 2. Utilization Situation and Possession Rate of Smartphones

(1) The share of Internet users via smartphone reached 57.9%, a rise from 54.3% in 2015.

(2) The share of individual smartphone users reached 56.8%, a rise from 53.1% in 2015.

(3) The share of households owning smartphones reached 71.8%, and the difference in the share from households owning personal computers (73.0%) decreased by 1.2 points (from 4.8 points in 2015).

#### 3. ICT and Labor Productivity

The labor productivity of each company utilizing ICT was higher than that of any company not utilizing ICT.

## Results of 2016 Communications Usage Trend Survey

- Telework: 1.6 times that of companies with no introduction
- ICT Education: 1.3 times that of companies with no implementation
- Cloud services: 1.3 times that of companies with no utilization
- Wireless systems/ tools: 1.2 times that of companies with no introduction

### [Outline of Survey]

In accordance with the Statistics Act (Act No. 53 of 2007), the survey of communications utilization trends targeting households (including the members of each household) and companies has been conducted annually as a general statistical survey since 1990 (specifically, companies have been targeted since 1993 and surveyed annually except for 1994 while household members have been targeted since 2001) and surveyed on a prefecture-by-prefecture basis since 2010.

	Households*	Companies
<b>Survey period</b>	November through December 2016	
<b>Target area</b>	Nationwide	
<b>Sampling range and targets</b>	Households with a head of household aged 20 years or over (as of April 1, 2016) and their members aged 6 or over	Companies with 100 or more regular in non-public industries
<b>Sample size [Effective number of questionnaires distributed]</b>	40,592 households [38,565 households]	5,140 companies [4,133 companies]
<b>Effective number of questionnaires collected [Rate]</b>	17,040 households (44,430 household members) [44.2%]	2,032 companies [49.2%]
<b>Survey items</b>	Usage status of communication services, status of ownership of information and communications equipment, and others	
<b>Survey method</b>	Distribution and retrieval of questionnaires by surface mail and on-line e-mail.	

\*In the 2016 survey of communications utilization trends targeting households was conducted with simple questionnaires that restricted survey items in addition to a conventional survey form in order to improve the collection rate. These two types of questionnaires were collected as shown below.

Types of questionnaires	Sample size [Effective number of questionnaires distributed]	Effective number of questionnaires collected [rate]
<b>Conventional version</b>	6,608 households [6,211 households]	2,506 households (6,472 household members)[40.3%]
<b>Simple version</b>	33,984 household [32,354 households]	14,534 households (37,959 members)[44.9%]

# Signing of Memorandum of Cooperation between the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan and the Ministry of Digital Economy and Society of the Kingdom of Thailand in the field of Information, Communication and Digital Technology

Minister Sanae Takaichi for Internal Affairs and Communications and H.E. Dr. Pichet Durongkaveroj, Minister of Digital Economy and Society of the Kingdom of Thailand (hereinafter referred to as Minister Pichet), signed Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan and the Ministry of Digital Economy and Society of the Kingdom of Thailand in the field of Information, Communication and Digital Technology on June 7, 2017.

## 1. Background

(1) In April 2015, Minister Takaichi visited Thailand, held talks with H.E. Mr. Pornchai Rujiprapa, then Minister of Information and Communication Technology, and they issued Joint Statement of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications of Japan and the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology of the Kingdom of Thailand on the Cooperation in the field of Information and Communications Technology. In May 2017, State Minister Jiro Akama for Internal Affairs and Communications visited Thailand, held talks with Minister Pichet, and agreed to consider the MoC on the cooperation between the two countries.

(2) The Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) and the Ministry of Digital Economy and Society (MDES) continued working-level discussions toward cooperation after the above talks.

(3) Recently, both countries agreed on the contents of the MoC. Accordingly, Minister Takaichi and Minister Pichet signed the MoC, and State Minister Akama and Minister Pichet exchanged the original copies of the MoC in the presence of H.E. Mr. Somkid Jatusripitak, Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand.

## 2. Outline of MoC

MIC and MDES agreed to promote the cooperation in the cybersecurity field, for promoting usage of information and communication technology and related data in areas such as weather observation, and in the postal field and other areas.

## 3. Future Plans

MIC will further promote its cooperation with MDES in the field of Information, communication and Digital Technology based on the MoC.