Table 16 presents households in housing units by type of housing unit, availability of communication technology devices/access to Internet by urban/rural location for the latest available year between 1995 and 2010.

Definitions

Household: The concept of household is based on the arrangements made by persons, individually or in groups, for providing themselves with food and other essentials for living. A household may be either (a) a one-person household, that is to say, a person who makes provision for his or her own food and other essentials for living without combining with any other person to form a multi-person household or (b) a multi-person household, that is to say, a group of two or more persons living together who make common provision for food and other essentials for living. The persons in the group may pool their resources and may have a common budget; they may be related or unrelated persons or constitute a combination of persons both related and unrelated. This concept of household is known as the “housekeeping concept”. It does not assume that the number of households and housing units are or should be equal. Although the concept of housing unit is a separate and independent place of abode that is intended for habitation by one household, but that may be occupied by more than one household or by a part of a household (for example, two nuclear households that share one housing unit for economic reasons or one household in a polygamous society routinely occupying two or more housing units).

Although the general concept of a household falls within the boundaries listed above, national definitions differ. For a detailed list, please see section on General Notes.

Information and communication technology devices

A radio set is a device capable of receiving broadcast radio signals, using popular frequencies in the FM, AM, LW and SW ranges. A radio set may be a standalone device, or it may be integrated into another device, such as a Walkman, a car, or an alarm clock.

A television set is a device capable of receiving broadcast television signals, using popular access means such as over-the-air, cable and satellite. A television set is typically a standalone device, but it may also be integrated into another device, such as a computer or a mobile device.

Fixed-line telephones refer to telephone lines, typically copper wires, which connect a customer’s terminal equipment, for example, a telephone set or facsimile machine, to a public switched telephone network (PSTN), and have a dedicated port on a telephone exchange.

Mobile cellular telephones refer to portable telephones using cellular technology that provides access to PSTN. Mobile cellular subscribers refer to users of such telephones with either post-paid subscriptions or pre-paid accounts.

The personal computer (PC) is a generic term that refers to any computer designed primarily for use by one person at a time at home, office, or school. PCs, whether desktops or notebooks, comprise any combination of processors, input/output devices, storage drives and network interface cards; are run by a variety of operating systems; and may be connected to other PCs or to the Internet. They exclude terminals connected to mainframe computers for data processing, and midrange multi-user systems that are primarily intended for shared use. Devices such as handheld personal digital assistants (PDAs) and smart telephones are usually not considered PCs, as they have only some, but not all, of the components of the PC, such as, for instance, standard keyboard and large screen. Internet-enabled telephones, which essentially perform a similar service as the PC but for mobile networks, are also not considered PCs.

Internet access from home refers to the ability of the household to connect to the public Internet using TCP/IP protocols.