

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

From the results of the 2002 Population and Housing Census, recently published by the National Institute of Statistics, a global vision can be obtained of the penetration of the main telecommunications services and Information Technologies in the home. The indicators related to the telecommunications sector, contained in the 2002 Census, correspond with the amount of homes with a fixed telephone line and the amount of homes with mobile phones (cellular phones). In virtue of the incorporation of new inquiries in the census questionnaire, appropriate with the existence of the computer, Internet connection and television connection by cable or satellite, that which facilitated in this form of measuring the access of these to technology.

The results obtained indicate that in the last decade telecommunication services have recorded a great advance. In fact, to compare these two points in time, the 1992 Census and the 2002 Census, an important growth of the percentage of homes with fixed telephone lines and mobile phones was observed. In the first case, the penetration increased from 23,6% of the homes to 51,5%. Meanwhile in the second, the incorporation of mobile technology grew in homes from 1% to 51%. With respect to the rest of the indicators at the national level, 23,9% of homes possess television connection by cable or satellite, 20,5% have a computer, and 10,2% have an Internet connection.

In accordance with home distribution according to urban and rural areas, a high penetration of services in urban areas was observed, the fixed telephone having the largest penetration with 58,1% of homes possessing a fixed telephone. As for homes in rural areas, the service of largest penetration corresponds with the percentage of homes with mobile telephone service at 41,0%.

