

## Geography report

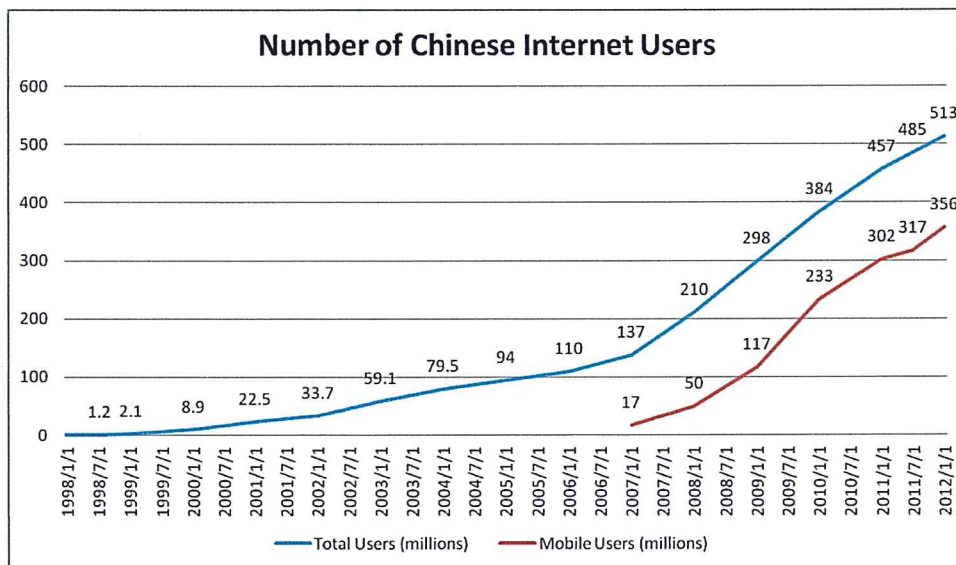
## China and Iceland

The internet. A place where information is shared, searched for and found by it's users. It has drastically changed the way of living in our society, increasing the speed of our lifestyle and information flow. Patiently waiting for a letter to arrive by a friend or searching for a book in the library is something people rarely still do. Online chatting and search machines have rapidly replaced these, among other ways of communication. However, how has the internet affected certain countries and what does the future hold for them?

## CHINA

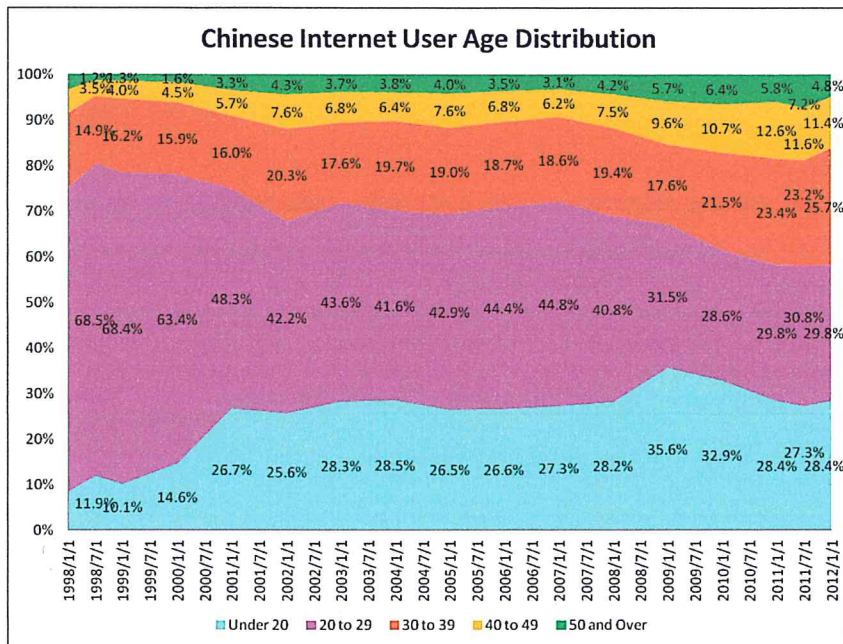
September 20, 1987, was a revolutionary day for China, a day marked in history as the start of a new era. The internet era. It was when the first connection of China with the internet was established, between ICA Beijing and Karlsruhe University in Germany. In 2013, it was recorded that 45.8% of the Chinese population uses the internet nowadays. Even though 96.5% Iceland's population uses the internet for example, China still has grown to host the largest base of net users in the world.

FORMAT



Graph 1 CN

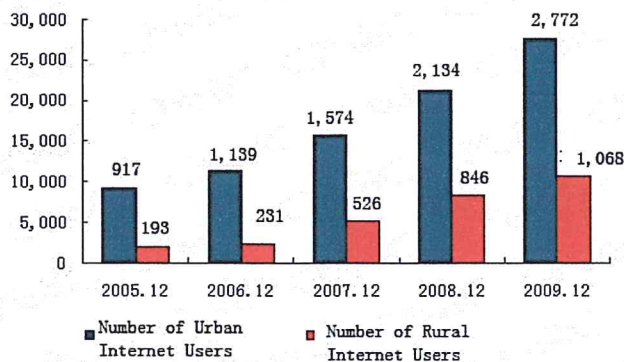
ENSURE TO ADD A DESCRIPTION  
TO ANY GRAPH.



SOURCE NEEDED.

Graph 2 CN

The graph above furthermore shows how the age is an important factor when analyzing internet users. There is only a small difference in the gender that most uses the internet, with a slightly higher percentage of males than females. However as you can see, over half of internet users are under 30 years old, with the age group of 20-29 year old being the dominant one. Very few people that are over 50 use the internet, comparing to the other age groups. WHY?



SOURCE NEEDED.

Graph 3 CN

By the end of 2009, the number of rural internet users in China had increased 26% from the previous year. In urban areas, 45% of the people use the internet, while in rural areas only 15%. However these numbers keep increasing every year. The lack of internet

WHAT MIGHT THIS MEAN? BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE?

users in rural areas is due to lack of infrastructure, knowledge about the internet and how expensive it is relative to the amount of income that people in the rural areas get.

What China's future internetwise holds for them is simple: more internet users. Especially from people in rural areas. However the number of users will still be differentiated by gender, with more male users. Furthermore, the amount of internet usage through mobile phones will also drastically increase.

POPULATION STRUCTURE?  
HOW WILL THAT AFFECT THEIR USES?

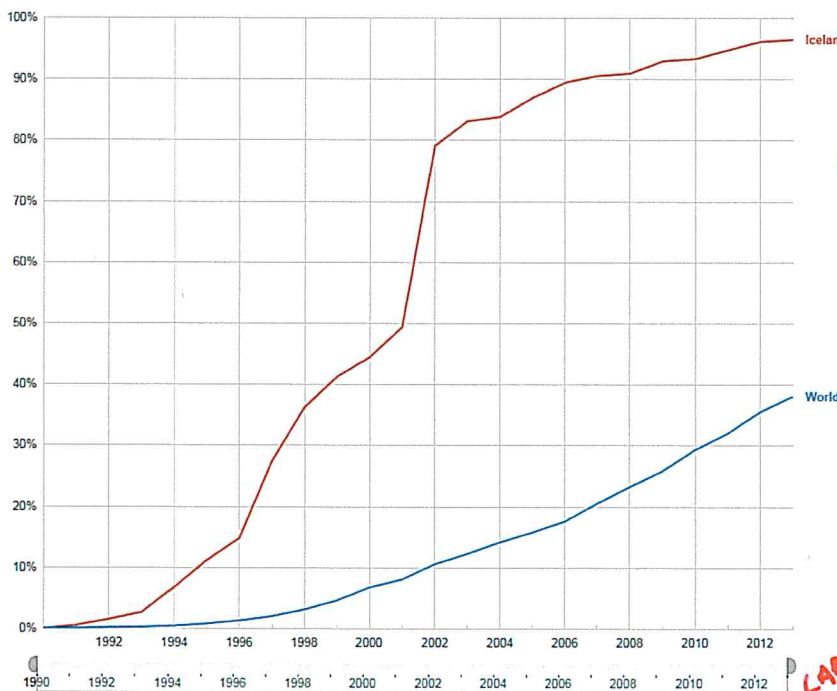
### ICELAND:

Iceland is one of the biggest internet pioneers of modern history, it quickly adapted to the new technology and nowadays has one of the worlds highest levels subscriptions and service providers per capita. The glorious foundation of Icelandic internet usage was set in 1986, when Iceland obtained a UUCP connection between a Marine Research institute in Iceland to the EUnet headquarters located in Amsterdam. This not only did this push the research of the European Unix Network further on, but also the development of internet usage in iceland. After almost a decade of dedicated work, finally in 1994 the internet was opened to the icelandic population to be freely used in their homes, and explore the depths of the new media for the first time. Since September 2009 Iceland is equipped with a the submarine communication fibre cable called DANICE, which enables the internet user enjoy a at least 16 Terabit/s fast design capacity connection.

WHY IS THIS SO IMPORTANT?

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF ICELAND.

Graph 1 IS : Internet users as percentage of population: World vs Iceland



ADD DESCRIPTION.

LABEL.  
SOURCE.

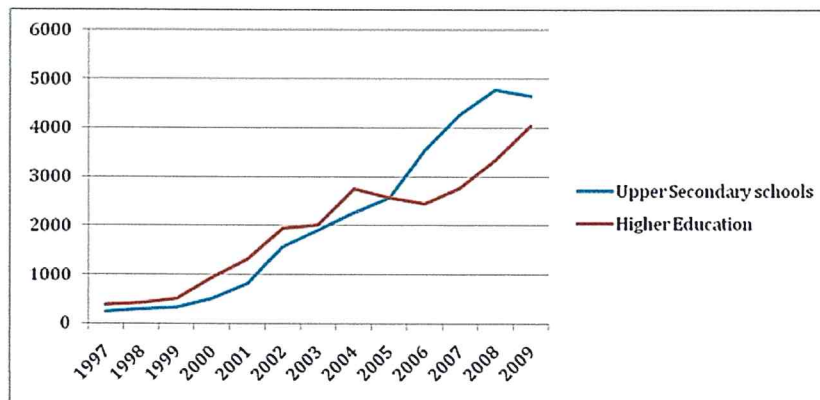


Graph 1 IS shows the number internet users as percentage of the worlds and icelandic population. You can easily see that the worlds line is significantly more flat than the steep icelandic line. Also one can observe that there is a steady growth shown in the worlds line, whereas the Icelandic line representing the explosive growth of internet users in a steep line, that is close to vertical during the years 2000-2002. We concluded that the the worlds line only grows at a slow steady tempo, due to less developed countries such as Eritrea or Burundi dragging down the average, due to their low internet connectivity and consequently low internet user rate.

For Iceland it is very hard to compare different regions internet usage due to lacking data. Iceland has a population of only 325,671 people living on a area of 103,001 km<sup>2</sup>, therefore making their population density only 3.1/km<sup>2</sup>. Generally one can definitely state that the intensity of internet users is located in big cities with major international businesses such as Reykjavík and the Capital area, Akureyri and Ísafjörður. Less inhibited areas will predictably have a lower internet user rate such as Vik and Heimaey, which are little villages mainly living off quiet tourism.

Currently Iceland is also the leading country in the OECD broadband use with 26.7% per capita, which is a good example for the modern lifestyle of Icelanders. Icelandic children are familiarised with the internet and general computer technology early, due to their usually very modern school education. Also a fraction of Icelandic students are dependent on distance education, due to the lack of school accessibility in their areas.

**Graph 2 IS : Distance education**



**Figure 2.** Total number of students participating in distributed learning (Source: Statistics Iceland, 2009).

In this graph we can see the number of Students that have access distance education increasing steadily since 2000. However you can sadly observe that less people chose to continue their education after upper secondary school, than graduate from these, this is due

to children in the rural areas tending to start working directly after their upper secondary school graduation.

**Table 1 IS : Number of Students attending Universities**

**Table 1**

*Total Students at University Level in Iceland*

| Universities      | 2002   | 2004   | 2006   | 2008   | 2009   |
|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Total students    | 13,900 | 16,096 | 16,738 | 18,104 | 18,226 |
| Day courses       | 11,807 | 13,089 | 14,536 | 14,514 | 14,592 |
| Evening courses   | 456    | 437    | 196    | 157    | 369    |
| Distance learning | 1,936  | 2,751  | 2,439  | 3,340  | 4,047  |

In table 1 we can observe the steady growth of Icelandic distance education university students from 2002 to 2009. In 2009 the percentage of distance learning university students grew to 22.2%, which consequently forced the Icelandic government and educational institutions to expand the opportunities and possibilities for these students.

Iceland's internet future will be more concentrated on education and business which will increase their internet user rate and help students in rural areas be able to major in their chosen profession. Since Iceland has one of the best internet connectivity rates in the world, one can generally say that Iceland can and will still improve, however they are already close to perfect.

**ICELAND SOURCES:**

- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet\\_in\\_Iceland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet_in_Iceland) (History, 28.10.14)
- <http://www1.american.edu/carmel/cn9463a/InternetDiffusion.html> (History, 28.10.14)
- [http://www.google.com/publicdata/explore?ds=d5bncppjof8f9\\_&ctype=l&met\\_y=it\\_net\\_user\\_p2&hl=en\\_US&dl=en\\_US#!ctype=l&strail=false&bcs=d&nselm=h&met\\_y=it\\_net\\_user\\_p2&scale\\_y=lin&ind\\_y=false&rdim=region&idim=country:ISL&ifdim=region&tdim=true&hl=en\\_US&dl=en\\_US&ind=false](http://www.google.com/publicdata/explore?ds=d5bncppjof8f9_&ctype=l&met_y=it_net_user_p2&hl=en_US&dl=en_US#!ctype=l&strail=false&bcs=d&nselm=h&met_y=it_net_user_p2&scale_y=lin&ind_y=false&rdim=region&idim=country:ISL&ifdim=region&tdim=true&hl=en_US&dl=en_US&ind=false) (Graph 1 IS, 28.10.14)
- <http://www.holdur.is/en/visit-iceland/major-towns-and-cities> (Different areas in Iceland, 30.10.14)
- <http://www.frommers.com/destinations/iceland/254369#sthash.KePK8cJH.yhmuXHNF.dpbs> (Village names, 30.10.14)
- <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/technology/4903776.stm> (Current situation, 31.10.14)
- <http://www.irrodl.org/index.php/irrodl/article/view/871/1800> (Graph 2, Table 1+ Educational facts 31.10.14)

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- <http://www.nanjingmarketinggroup.com/blog/chinese-internet-user-demographics-jan-2012#>
- <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/IT.NET.USER.P2>

*Range of sources used.*

*from TARGET: ENSURE TO ADD A CONCLUSION.*

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<https://www.techinasia.com/cnniic-china-web-mobile-user-data-for2013>