



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

PR00-288
21-12-2000
9:30 AM

Business world expects number of websites to increase

By the end of next year almost 6 out of 10 companies will have access to an electronic network such as the Internet, and have their own website to present information about their own company. By the end of 1999 this was 4 out of 10 companies, according to a study by Statistics Netherlands about entrepreneurial expectations.

Companies use electronic networks mainly for 'websurfing', e-mail and banking. Half the companies with access to the electronic networks are also active in these networks as suppliers of goods and services.

Smaller companies catching up

In 1995 about 6% of the small companies had access to the Internet. Three years later their share had increased to almost 20% according to Statistics Netherlands. The expectation is that by the end of 2001 nearly 60% of all small companies will have access to the Internet. Half of the large companies had access to the Internet by 1995, and by 1998 this had increased to over 75%. The saturation level may be reached in 2001 when 90% of the larger companies is expected to have Internet access.

General use predominantly

The Internet and other electronic networks are mainly used for 'web-surfing', e-mail and financial transactions such as telebanking. About 7 in 10 companies use these facilities according to Statistics Netherlands. The highest scoring specific use is presenting one's own company on a website. Almost 40% of all companies are involved in this. About 15% of all companies uses e-networks for hiring personnel. One in five companies uses the e-networks to exchange information with government agencies such as the tax authorities. The number of companies that use the e-networks to buy goods and services (30%) is slightly greater than the number that uses them for selling (27%). Half the companies that offer electronic ordering also offer the possibility to pay electronically.

Statistics Netherlands
Press Office

P.O. Box 4000
2270 JM Voorburg
The Netherlands
tel. +31 70 337 58 16
fax +31 70 337 59 71
e-mail:
persdienst@cbs.nl

Statistics Netherlands
is a department of
the Ministry of
Economic Affairs

Half the companies provide

Half the companies with access to the Internet or other e-networks is active as electronic supplier of goods and services. These companies usually created their own facilities, such as their own website, the possibility to order goods and services, paying electronically, or helpdesks for their clients.

The other half form the pasive users of e-networks. They use the facilities created by others. These companies did not create any facilities, but merely created access to the Internet.

Larger companies are more often active in providing goods and services than smaller companies.

A.D. Kuipers, tel. (070) 337 43 41.