Telecommunication Markets in the Nordic Countries

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Finnish Communications Regulatory Authority





IT- og Telestyrelsen Ministeriet for Videnskab Teknologi og Udvikling







About the Nordstat database



- Established 2007
- A descriptive database
- A selected number of variables that is comparable between the Nordic countries
- A dynamic database that will change and grow with developments in the telecom markets
- If not stated otherwise the sources for all figures are the NRA and national statistical agency of each country
- If not stated otherwise graphs includes figures for both private and business
- The figures are collected and controlled by the Nordic working group on statistics and definitions Nordstat

Mobile Services



Mobile subscriptions¹ per capita





Number of mobile subscriptions is still growing smoothly in every Nordic country. The increase in difference between the countries can be explained by the development of mobile broadband subscriptions. Iceland was adopting mobile broadband later than other Nordic countries.

¹Includes both private and business GSM/UMTS subscriptions. Pre-paid subscriptions should be active last 3 months.

Mobile call minutes per subscription¹ in a year



subscription, but the highest use of SMS messages.

¹ Subscriptions is the average of the number of subscriptions at the beginning and end of each year. Exclusive mobile broadband subscriptions

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Average number of SMS messages sent per subscription¹ in a year



Average number of SMS messages send per subscription in a year are decreasing in Denmark after a strong growth during the beginning of the decade. Number of SMS are also decreasing in Norway. Number of SMS messages send t has been increasing fast in Sweden, but the last year shows slower growth. In Finland and Iceland the use of SMS messages have been quite modest.

¹ Subscriptions is the average of the number of subscriptions at the beginning and end of each year. Exclusive mobile broadband subscriptions

Data volume transferred over mobile networks, average Gbyte per subscription¹



Data volume transferred over mobile networks have increased fast in every Nordic country. The growth in data traffic is close to or above 100 percent in all the countries except in Norway. It is the dedicated data subscriptions that generates most of the data traffic in mobile networks. Norway and Iceland has the lowest number of these types of subscriptions per capita, and Finland and Sweden the highest. This may be one of the reasons behind the relatively large difference in Gbyte per subscription. Sweden and Finland has a lower number of fixed broadband subscriptions per capita than the other countries, and possibly a larger share of customers that has substituted their fixed broadband with mobile broadband.

¹Includes subscriptions and traffic for both mobile and mobile broadband.

Growth in data traffic in mobile networks

(% growth in number of Gbytes)





Data volume transferred over mobile networks, average Gbyte per mobile broadband subscription¹





Fixed Call Services



Fixed telephony subscriptions¹ per capita



¹Includes both private and business suscriptions. Includes PSTN, ISDN and broadband telephony (VoIP)

Broadband telephony (VoIP) subscriptions per capita







Per capita

Share of broadband telephony (VoIP) of all fixed telephony subscriptions¹



The share of broadband telephony of all fixed telephony subscriptions in the end of the year were over 35 percent in Denmark, over 30 per cent in Norway and almost 25 per cent in Sweden. In Finland and Iceland the share of broadband telephony of all fixed telephony subscriptions were relatively modest.

¹All fixed telephony subscriptions is PSTN+ISDN+broadband telephony

Number of fixed call minutes per subscriptions¹ in a year

Minutes per year



15

Share of mobile minutes of all originated minutes (incl. dial-up¹)



The graph shows that the usage of mobile telephony are more and more dominant in terms of minutes. The share of mobile minutes of all originated minutes is almost 90 percent in Finland. The share of mobile minutes of all originated minutes in Denmark and Norway where approximately 65 percent and in Sweden and Iceland where 53 and 55 percent respectively.

¹All originated minutes are the sum of all fixed minutes including dial-up internet and all mobile minutes

Internet Services



Number of fixed broadband subscriptions¹ per capita





¹Including both private and business subscriptions

Number of broadband subscriptions¹ per capita (incl. mobile broadband)



¹Includes both private and business subscriptions



¹Many subscriptions are advertised with speeds up to for example 12 Mbit/s. Actual speed depends on factors like distance from 20 central exchange. We believe that this is the case for xDSL subscriptions also elswhere in the Nordic countries.

Number of mobile broadband subscriptions per capita



population. About 30 out of a 100 inhabitants has a mobile broadband subscriptions in Finland, 18 in Sweden, 14 in Denmark, 12 in Norway and 11 in Iceland. The growth rate for subscriptions in 2010 is 80 percent in Finland, 72 percent in Iceland. And in Denmark, Sveden and Norway 36, 30 and 33 percent respectively.



Number of mobile broadband subscriptions+ "add-on" data packages per capita



Share of broadband technologies in 2010 (all technologies incl. mobile broadband)



Sweden has the highest share of fibre. The number of xDSL subscriptions has fallen in all the Nordic countries for the first time.

Fibre incl. "fibre + LAN" and "Ethernet + LAN"

Share of broadband technologies end of year 2010 (fixed broadbands)



Market Shares



Market shares of mobile subscriptions¹, two largest operators



Sweden		Norway		Finland		Denmark		Iceland	
TeliaSonera	40,5 %	Telenor	50,3 %	Elisa	39,0 %	TDC (incl. subsidiaries)	41,2 %	Síminn	41,8 %
Tele2 (incl Optimal)	31,7%	NetCom & Chess	26,2 %	TeliaSonera	36,0 %	Telenor (incl. subsidiaries)	26,1 %	Vodafone	30,9%
Sum	72,1 %		76,5 %		75 %		67,3%		72,7 %

¹Includes both private and business subscriptions and mobile broadband subscriptions. Includes subsidiaires

Market shares of fixed broadband subscriptions¹, two largest operators



Sweden		Norway		Finland		Denmark		Iceland	
TeliaSonera AB	37,8%	Telenor	49,3 %	Elisa	34%	TDC (incl subsidaries)	61,6 %	Síminn	52,2 %
Telenor (incl Glocalnet, B2 Bredband)	17,9 %	NextGenTel	11,3 %	TeliaSonera	32 %	Telenor (incl subsidaries)	12,1 %	Vodafone	30,4 %
Sum	55,6 %		60,6 %		66 %		73,7 %		82,6 %

¹Includes both private and business subscriptions

Market shares of fixed telephony subscriptions¹, two largest operators



Sweden		Norway		Finland		Denmark		Iceland	
TeliaSonera AB	62,9%	Telenor	66,7 %	Elisa	38%	TDC	73,2 %	Síminn	70,3 %
Tele" (incl Optimal)	17,9 %	Telio Telecom	5,9 %	TeliaSonera	22 %	Telia (incl. DLG Tele)	6,7 %	Vodafone	23,6 %
Sum	74,7 %		72,6 %		60 %		79,9 %		93,9 %

¹Includes both private and business subscriptions. Includes VoIP subscriptions.