

Belgium

Key indicators

Population (millions), 2007.....	10.6
GDP (PPP) per capita (int'l \$), 2007	35,388
Internet users per 100 population, 2007	49.9
Internet bandwidth (mB/s) per 10,000 population, 2005.....	111.8
Mobile telephone subscribers per 100 population, 2007.....	97.8

Networked Readiness Index

Edition (number of economies)	Rank
2008–2009 (134)	24
2007–2008 (127)	25
2006–2007 (122)	24
Global Competitiveness Index 2008–2009 (134)	19

Environment component 23

Market environment 28

1.01 Venture capital availability.....	25
1.02 Financial market sophistication	16
1.03 Availability of latest technologies	18
1.04 State of cluster development.....	27
1.05 Utility patents, 2007*	21
1.06 High-tech exports, 2006*	31
1.07 Burden of government regulation	106
1.08 Extent and effect of taxation.....	132
1.09 Total tax rate, 2007*	106
1.10 Time required to start a business, 2008*	4
1.11 No. of procedures required to start a business, 2008*	4
1.12 Intensity of local competition	6
1.13 Freedom of the press.....	13
1.14 Accessibility of digital content.....	18

Political and regulatory environment 22

2.01 Effectiveness of law-making bodies.....	58
2.02 Laws relating to ICT	29
2.03 Judicial independence	19
2.04 Intellectual property protection	20
2.05 Efficiency of legal framework.....	35
2.06 Property rights.....	19
2.07 Quality of competition in the ISP sector	41
2.08 Number of procedures to enforce a contract, 2008*	4
2.09 Time to enforce a contract, 2008*	54

Infrastructure environment 19

3.01 Number of telephone lines, 2007*	23
3.02 Secure Internet servers, 2007*	27
3.03 Electricity production, 2005*	18
3.04 Availability of scientists and engineers.....	20
3.05 Quality of scientific research institutions	5
3.06 Tertiary enrollment, 2006*	23
3.07 Education expenditure, 2006*	19

Readiness component 16

Individual readiness 5

4.01 Quality of math and science education.....	3
4.02 Quality of the educational system.....	4
4.03 Internet access in schools.....	24
4.04 Buyer sophistication	17
4.05 Residential telephone connection charge, 2006*	26
4.06 Residential monthly telephone subscription, 2006*	44
4.07 High-speed monthly broadband subscription, 2006*	17
4.08 Lowest cost of broadband, 2006*	16
4.09 Cost of mobile telephone call, 2006*	35

Business readiness 7

5.01 Extent of staff training.....	13
5.02 Local availability of research and training services.....	11
5.03 Quality of management schools.....	5
5.04 Company spending on R&D.....	14
5.05 University-industry research collaboration.....	8
5.06 Business telephone connection charge, 2006*	25
5.07 Business monthly telephone subscription, 2006*	27
5.08 Local supplier quality	5
5.09 Local supplier quantity.....	12
5.10 Computer, comm., and other services imports, 2007*	21

Government readiness 35

6.01 Government prioritization of ICT	58
6.02 Gov't procurement of advanced tech products.....	41
6.03 Importance of ICT to government vision of the future	59
6.04 E-Government Readiness Index, 2008*	24

Usage component 23

Individual usage 19

7.01 Mobile telephone subscribers, 2007*	41
7.02 Personal computers, 2006*	25
7.03 Broadband Internet subscribers, 2007*	11
7.04 Internet users, 2007*	30
7.05 Internet bandwidth, 2005*	8

Business usage 19

8.01 Prevalence of foreign technology licensing.....	18
8.02 Firm-level technology absorption	25
8.03 Capacity for innovation	15
8.04 Availability of new telephone lines	17
8.05 Extent of business Internet use	24

Government usage 40

9.01 Government success in ICT promotion.....	54
9.02 Availability of government online services	33
9.03 ICT use and government efficiency	53
9.04 Presence of ICT in government offices.....	51
9.05 E-Participation Index, 2008*	27

* Hard data

Note: For further details and explanation, please refer to the section "How to Read the Country/Economy Profiles" at the beginning of this chapter.