

5.3.4 Country profile – Finland



With an average of 68 index points in the global ranking of the top 15 ICT nations in 2008, Finland gained sixth place relative to the global market leader, the USA. Its ranking was unchanged over the previous year. Finland is the global leader in two key performance indicators (“ICT R&D expenditure as a proportion of GDP” and “ICT patent applications”).

Market development – 4th place ↓

Finland's performance in “Market development” deteriorated due to a downturn in “ICT expenditure as a proportion of GDP” (down from 6.2 percent in 2007 to 5.8 percent in 2008) and “Growth in IT turnover” (down from three to 2.7 percent). This resulted in Finland falling one place to fourth place in the average index for “Market development”, with 51 index points. Finland maintained its position as world leader in the key indicators “ICT R&D expenditure as a proportion of GDP” and “ICT patent applications”. In terms of sales and exports, Finland is of little significance on the global market.

Infrastructure – 5th place →

In the category “Infrastructure”, Finland's relative performance rose two index points to 22. However, this did not affect its ranking, and Finland remained in fifth place. The strongest percentage growth in real terms was achieved in “Mobile phone penetration in the population”, which gained 14 percentage points, rising to 129 percent. However, in “SSL server penetration” Finland clearly still has some catching up to do.

Applications – 10th place →

Despite improving its relative performance by one index point to 74 index points in the national index, Finland stayed in tenth place in the category “Applications”. Even though its “Internet penetration rate in the population” was already high, Finland still managed to improve its performance to 82.6 percent in 2008 (78.9 percent in 2007). This positive development may be one of the reasons why “e-Commerce user penetration” also rose three percentage points, to 51 percent.

Fig. 5.3.4a: Significance of the Finnish ICT market as of 2008

Finland leads in R&D and Patents

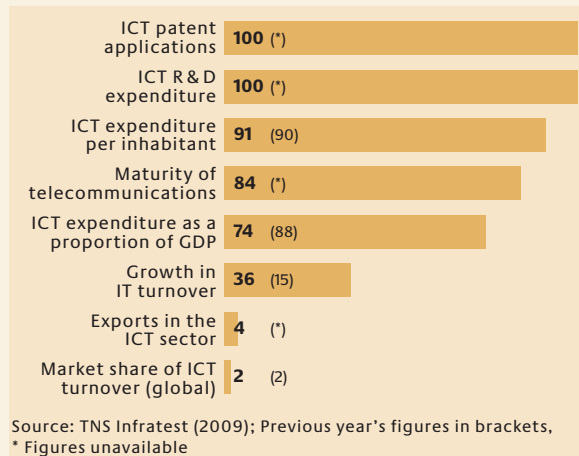


Fig. 5.3.4b: State of development of Finland's infrastructure as of 2008

Finland's infrastructure well to very well developed, except for SSL servers

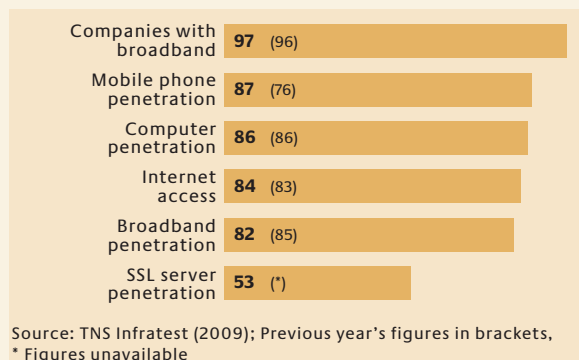


Fig. 5.3.4c: Maturity of the Finnish applications sector as of 2008

Only moderate performance in the categories “Sales / Purchases by companies via the Internet”

