Since the Census Bureau first started collecting information on computers nearly thirty-years ago, America’s relationship with computers has radically changed. Data from the Current Population Survey (CPS) helps us to better understand this technological evolution.

For the first time ever, the 2013 American Community Survey collected data on:

- Types of Internet subscriptions (dial-up, DSL, cable, fiber-optic, mobile broadband, satellite, or some other service)
- Ownership or use of computers (laptop vs. desktop vs. smartphone vs. other device)
- Access to the Internet with or without a subscription

Beginning in the fall of 2014 the ACS will provide yearly data on Internet use not only for the nation and states, but smaller geographies as well, such as certain cities and counties.

**Source:** U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, Selected Years

**Release Date:** 02/03/14

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**Why No Internet at Home**

As computing and internet technology have evolved, many people have started accessing the Internet via smart phones.

**Browse the Web**

**Send Email**

**Use Social Media**

**Use Maps**

**Use Social Media**

**Download Apps**

**Listen to Music**

**Play Games**

45.3% of individuals 25 and older were using smartphones in 2012

**Internet and Smartphone Use**

The “digital divide” is smaller for smartphone use than for Internet use across race and Hispanic origin. Across age groups, smartphone use has a difference as large, or larger, than Internet use.

*Note: The difference between age groups 45-64 and 65 and over in smartphone use is not statistically different from the difference in Internet use. The smartphone estimates for white non-Hispanics, Blacks, and Hispanics are not statistically different from one another.

Statistics from surveys are subject to sampling error and nonsampling error. Current Population Survey technical documentation can be located at: [http://www.census.gov/cps/methodology/techdocs.html](http://www.census.gov/cps/methodology/techdocs.html)

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**Future Data Collection**

For the first time ever, the 2013 American Community Survey collected data on:

- Ownership or use of computers (laptop vs. desktop vs. smartphone vs. other device)
- Access to the Internet with or without a subscription
- Types of Internet subscriptions (dial-up, DSL, cable, fiber-optic, mobile broadband, satellite, or some other service)

Beginning in the fall of 2014 the ACS will provide yearly data on Internet use in the nation and states, but smaller geographies as well, such as certain cities and counties.