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Measuring ICT

*Statistics New Zealand's Experience:
Some Trends & Challenges*

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Our Information & Communication Technology Statistics Programme

- ⊙ Statistics New Zealand operationalised its suite of ICT surveys in 2005/6, with a range of collections to cover both the supply and demand of ICT goods and services.
- ⊙ Coordination is led by Statistics NZ and accomplished through stakeholder engagement.
 - We intend to seek agreement to a "Domain Plan"

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Internet Service Providers

- ⊙ Annual survey that collects information on internet subscription numbers, speed, and types of connection.
- ⊙ More than half of New Zealanders are connecting to the internet via mobile phone.
- ⊙ Challenge – reporting differences amongst ISPs.

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Information & Communication Technology Supply

- ⊙ Measures the sale of goods and services from businesses associated with ICT industries.
- ⊙ Domestic and export ICT splits are released.
- ⊙ Run every two years.
- ⊙ Biggest challenge is definitional – eg combined technologies.

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Household Information & Communication Technology

- ⊙ Household Use of ICT (HHICT) Survey run every three years as a supplement to our Household Labour Force Survey .
- ⊙ Collects data from households about access to and use of computers, the internet, and mobile phones.
- ⊙ Challenge – frequency and detail.

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Business Use of Information & Communication Technology

- ⊙ ICT use by NZ businesses collected every 2 years.
- ⊙ One of three modules within Statistics New Zealand's annual Business Operations Survey.
- ⊙ Interest increasingly directed to how businesses use ICT and the resulting benefits for them.
- ⊙ Challenge – collected as part of business practices; has power but lacks detail on specific technologies and impacts.

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Government Use of Information & Communications Technology

- ⊙ Government Use of ICT Survey designed to build an informed picture of ICT use in the public sector.
- ⊙ The survey was run once, in 2006.
- ⊙ Challenge – cost and administration focused rather than wider use benefits and barriers.

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Overarching Challenges

- ⊙ Maintaining relevance - rapid change which makes time series consistency problematic
- ⊙ Convergence of technologies and devices
- ⊙ Understanding impacts
- ⊙ E-commerce - affects other collections
- ⊙ Conceptual issues - quality, vol., price, domestic/foreign
- ⊙ Film industry example.

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