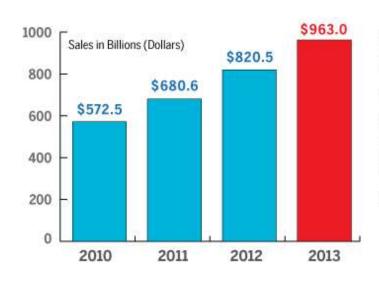
# **Internet Economics**



# Global e-commerce sales are growing at more than 19% a year

Worldwide retail web sales will reach nearly \$1 trillion by 2013, predicts Goldman Sachs. E-commerce is growing at 19.4%, the investment bank says.

Source: Goldman Sachs, Sales in billions of dollars.

#### **Contents**

**Evolution** 

Technology

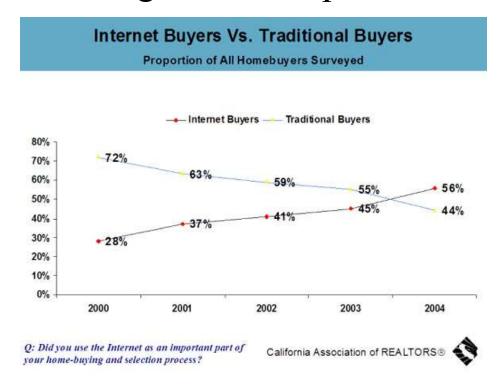
Access, Pricing and Competition in ISP market Information and the Internet Economy

Taxonomy

#### 1. Introduction

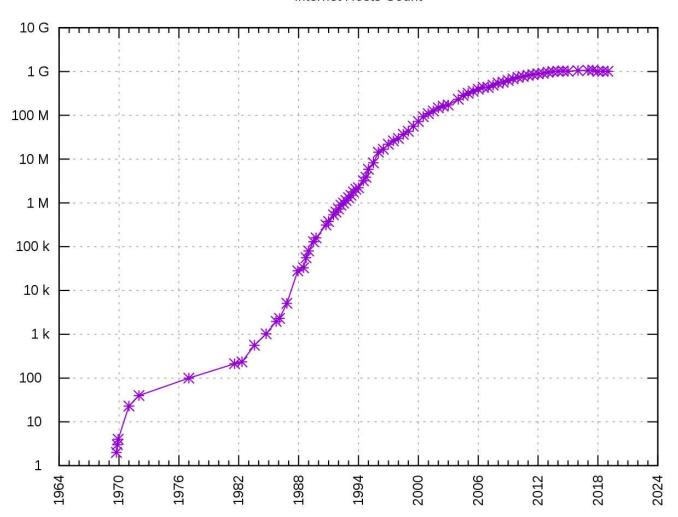
Internet Economy

"The study of how **society** allocates its scarce Internet resources among needs and preferences"



#### 2. Evolution of the Internet





#### WORLD INTERNET USAGE AND POPULATION STATISTICS 2023 Year Estimates

World Regions	Population ( 2022 Est.)	Population % of World	Internet Users 31 Dec 2021	Penetration Rate (% Pop.)	Growth 2000-2023	Internet World %
<u>Africa</u>	1,394,588,547	17.6 %	601,940,784	43.2 %	13,233 %	11.2 %
<u>Asia</u>	4,352,169,960	54.9 %	2,916,890,209	67.0 %	2,452 %	54.2 %
<u>Europe</u>	837,472,045	10.6 %	747,214,734	89.2 %	611 %	13.9 %
<u>Latin America / Carib.</u>	664,099,841	8.4 %	534,526,057	80.5 %	2,858 %	9.9 %
North America	372,555,585	4.7 %	347,916,694	93.4 %	222 %	6.5 %
<u>Middle East</u>	268,302,801	3.4 %	206,760,743	77.1 %	6,194 %	3.8 %
Oceania / Australia	43,602,955	0.5 %	30,549,185	70.1 %	301 %	0.6 %
WORLD TOTAL	7,932,791,734	100.0 %	5,385,798,406	67.9 %	1,392 %	100.0 %

#### 3. Internet Technology

Circuit and packet switching is important for access pricing

Circuit switching

End-to-end dedicated connection

Guarantees quality

Easy to meter and account (bill) for calls

Packet Switching

Shared capacity

Efficient use of network

Problems with delay, metering and billing

## 4. Access, Usage, Pricing and Competition

(i) Access and usage

Unique

Service not consumed in isolation (network)

Must have access to the network before use

Historically access through employment and education organizations

Commercialization allowed home access through ISPs

## 4. Access, Usage, Pricing and Competition

(ii) ISP pricing

Flat rate: fixed price for unlimited usage

Usage sensitive

Combination of flat and usage sensitive rate

Flat rate is popular

Easy to administer

Attracts customers (search the www freely)

Encourages congestion

### 4. Access, Usage, Pricing and Competition

(iii) Competition Low entry barriers prevent monopolization 100s ISPs in a country Must look at market **concentration** Regulations must be vigilant Monitor structure and performance e.g., # of ISPs in concentration pricing, productivity, profits, QoS, ... Maximize network effects

(i) Information goods = digital Goods

Can be digitized

Large FCs, low MCs

Cost based pricing not appropriate?

Use value-based pricing

(ii) Value-based pricing

Extract value (CS) from buyer

Dynamic pricing

Personalized pricing

Group pricing

Versioning

Use Internet and IT to sort buyers according to the WTP

Charge different prices according to the WTP

ex: Amazon

(iii) Information, Digital and Internet Economy

Information Economy refers to the broad long-term
trend toward the expansion of information and
knowledge based assets and values relative to
tangible assets and goods associated with the
traditional agriculture, mining and manufacture
sectors

<u>Digital Economy</u> refers specifically to the recent and still largely unrealized transformation of all sectors of the economy by the computer-enabled digitization of information

Internet Economy 
☐ Digital Economy

Comprises of individuals and companies that
generates all or some of their goods and/or
services from the Internet or Internet related goods
and services

E-commerce is the production, advertising, sale and distribution of goods and services online over the Internet

- (iv) Taxonomy of the Internet Economy Infrastructure
  - a. Internet infrastructure
  - b. Applications infrastructure

**Economic Activity** 

- c. Intermediaries
- d. e-commerce

a) Internet infrastructure
Free-to-Air (Broadcast TV) and Cable TV
Wireless and Satellite networks
Internet backbone providers (MCI)
ISPs (AOL)
Network equip providers (Cisco, Lucent)
Server and client hardware (Dell, Compac, HP)

b) Applications infrastructure
Consultant and providers of e-commerce and
multimedia applications (Microsoft, Sun, IBM)
Web development and search engine software
(Adobe, Google, Yahoo)
Web-enabled database (Oracle)

c) Intermediaries
Online brokers (Travelocity, E\*trade, Enron?)
Online auctions (eBay)
Peer-to-peer online music sites (Napster)
Portals, virtual malls (Yahoo, Excite, Lycos shopping)

d) e-commerce
e-tailers (Amazon.com)
Transport and shipping (Fedex, Southwest)
Manufacturers direct to customers (Dell)

Vertical alliance among a), b), c) and d) Why?

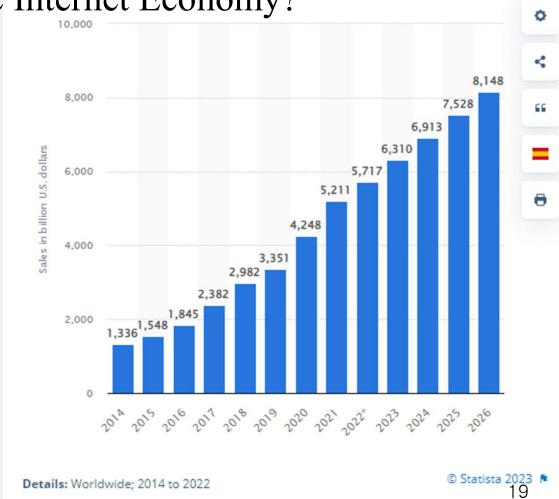
- 1. Reduce cost
- 2. Gain large market
- 3. Opportunity to bundle service and goods together

#### 5. Information

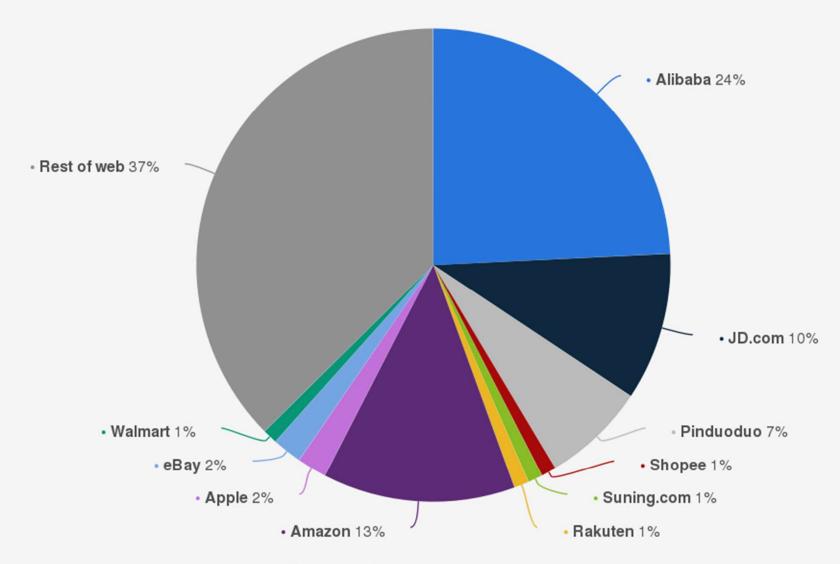
#### Retail e-commerce sales worldwide from 2

(in billion U.S. dollars)

(v) How big is the Internet Economy?



#### E-commerce market share of leading e-retailers worldwide in 2021, based on GMV



#### Sources

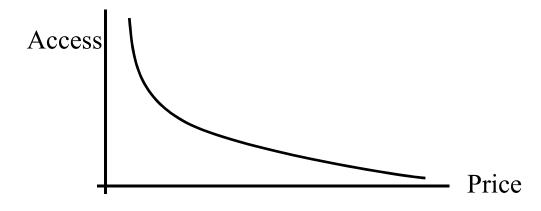
Activate; eMarketer; Digital Commerce 360; Internal Revenue Service; Various sources (Copmany data) © Statista 2022

#### Additional Information:

Worldwide; Activate; eMarketer; Digital Commerce 360; Internal Revenue Service; Various sources (Company data); 2021 volume (GMV)

(vi) Internet demand primerInternet access drives e-commerceWhat drives accessprices, income, technology, contents, externality, competition, regulation

**Internet Demand Curve** 



#### Summary

Access, Pricing and Competition in ISP market

Flat rate ISP pricing

ISP competition by market concentration

Internet Economy

Internet infrastructure

Applications infrastructure

**Intermediaries** 

e-commerce

Vertical Alliance