



**“Gender and ICT”**  
**World Summit on the Information Society Forum**  
**10 May 2009**  
**Geneva**

**ICT and gender session**

**ICTs and gender: statistical evidence**

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**The Geneva Plan of Action (§ 28) calls for the establishment of comparable indicators, including (...) gender-specific indicators (...) monitoring of the digital divide...**

## **Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development**

### **Core ICT indicators by gender**

- ❖ Individuals who used a mobile cellular telephone
- ❖ Individuals who used a computer
- ❖ Individuals who used the Internet
  - Location of individual use of the Internet
  - Internet activities undertaken by individuals
  - Frequency of individual use of the Internet
    - ✓ Urban/Rural
    - ✓ Age
    - ✓ Level of education
    - ✓ Labour force status
    - ✓ Occupation



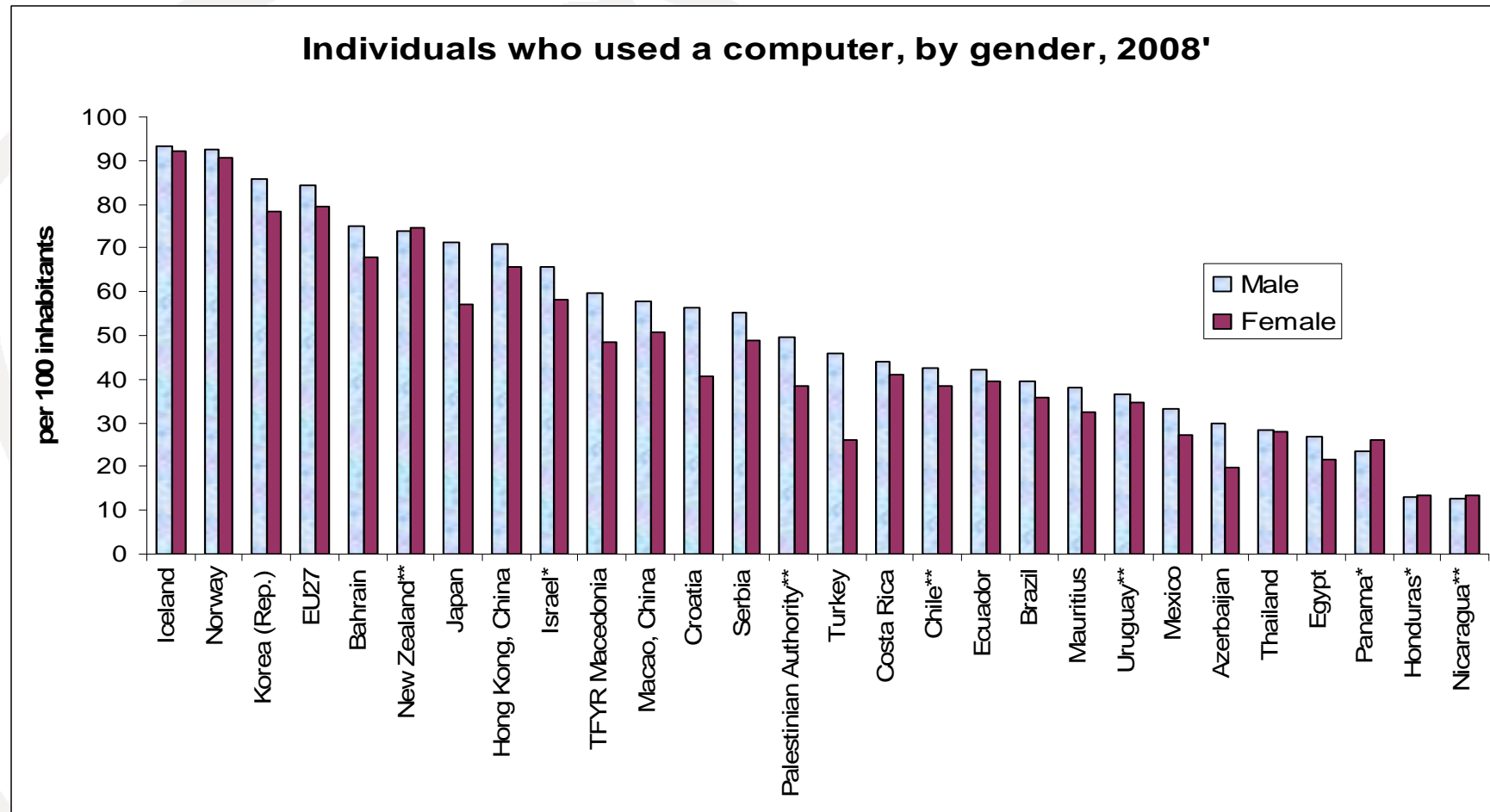
**The Geneva Plan of Action (§ 28) calls for the establishment of comparable indicators, including (...) gender-specific indicators (...) monitoring of the digital divide...**

## **Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development**

### **Core ICT indicators by gender**

- ITU collects since 2005 ICT access and usage statistics.  
“Questionnaire on ICT Access and Use by Households and Individuals”
- Around 70 economies have collected all or some of the ICT usage data between 2005 and 2008 (30% of all economies of the world).
- Around 43% of those collecting ICT use statistics are developing economies. However, 77% of all economies in the world are developing.

# Men tend to use more a **computer** than women

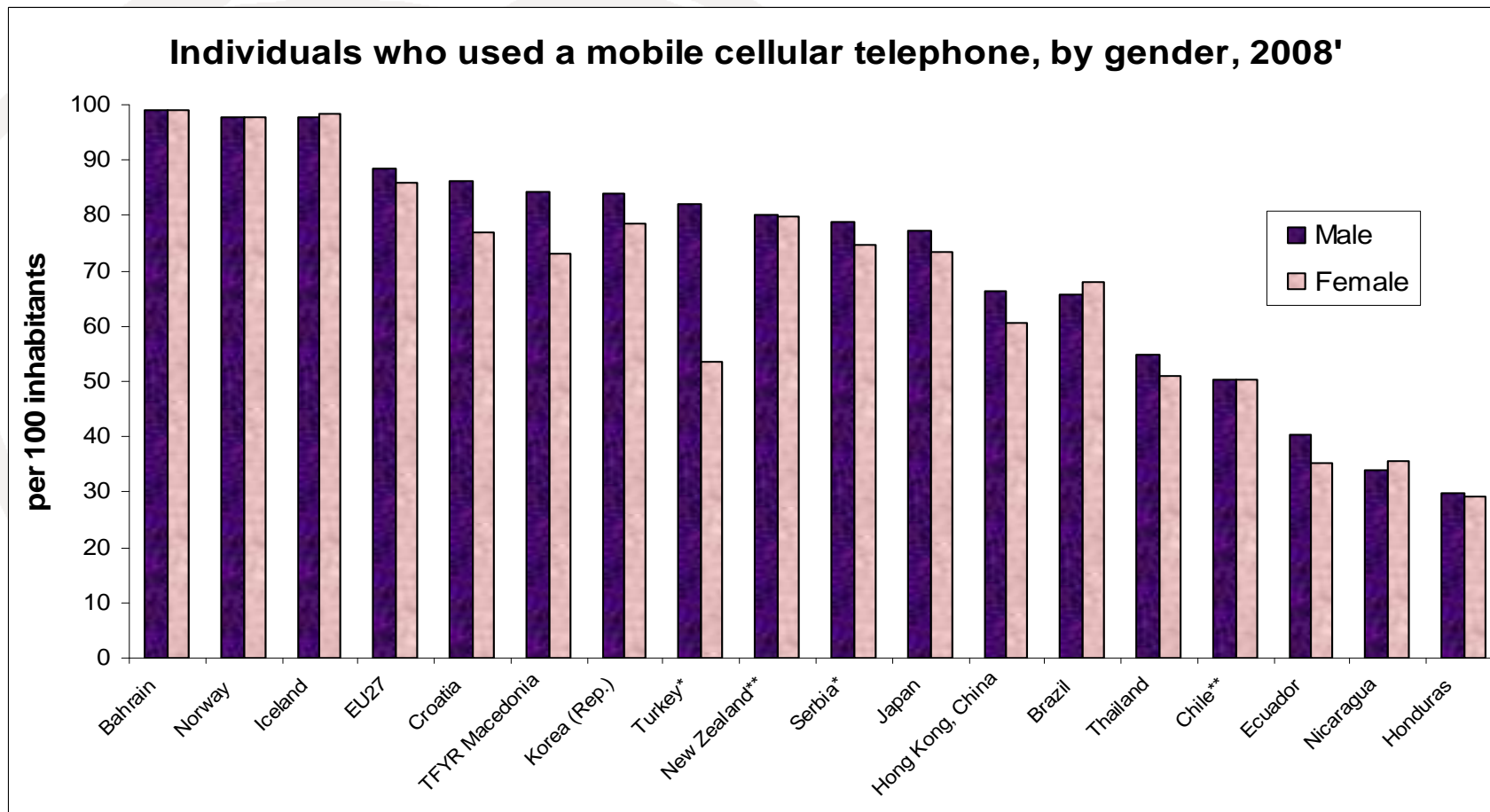


Notes: 'or latest year available: \*2007, \*\*2006; Beware, the age scope varies by country (see Yearbook of Statistics, 1999-2008, ITU).

Source: ITU

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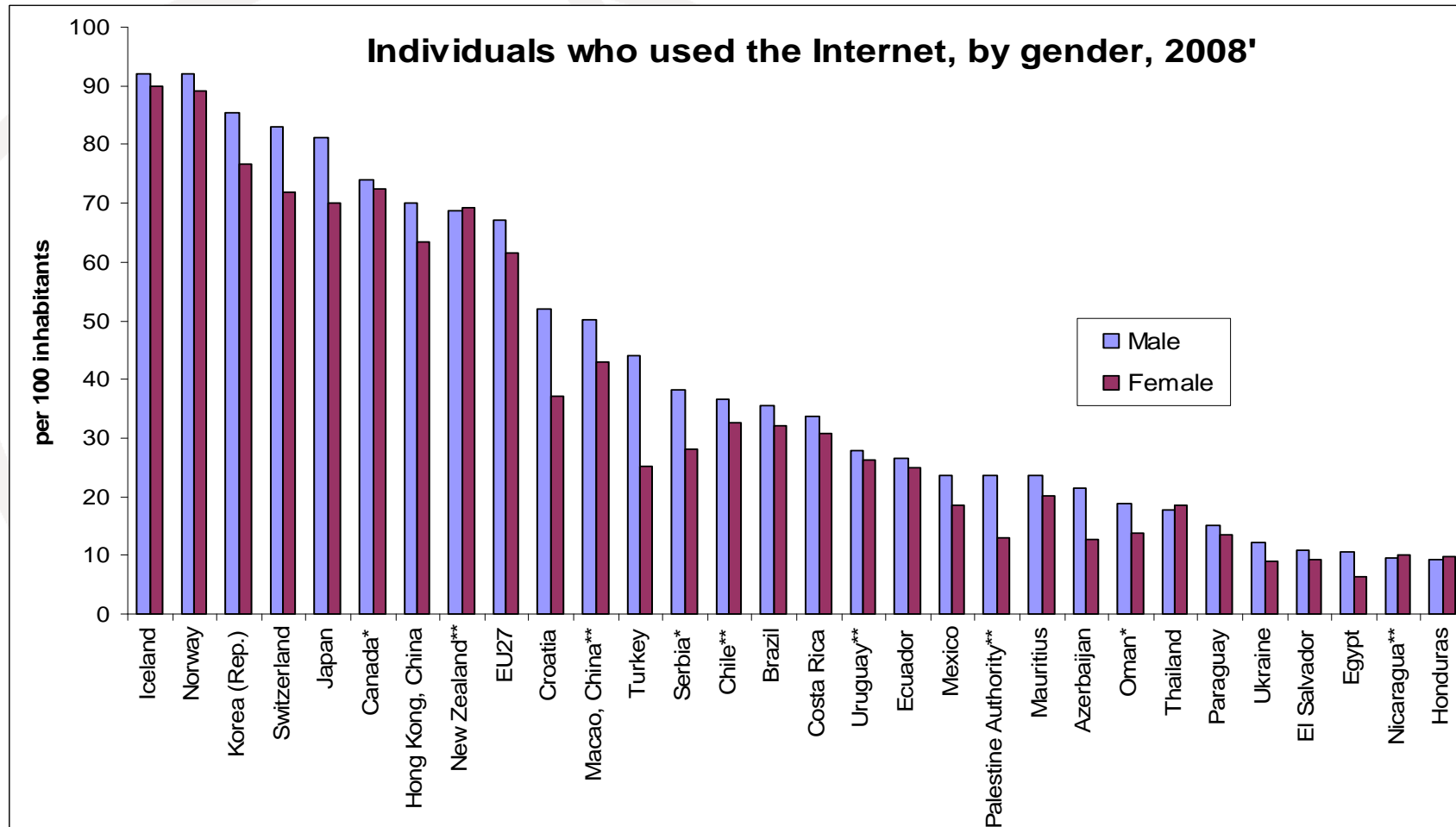
## Men tend to use more a **mobile** than women



**Notes:** 'or latest year available: \*2007, \*\*2006; Beware, the age scope varies by country (see Yearbook of Statistics, 1999-2008, ITU).

Source: ITU

# Men tend to use more the Internet than women



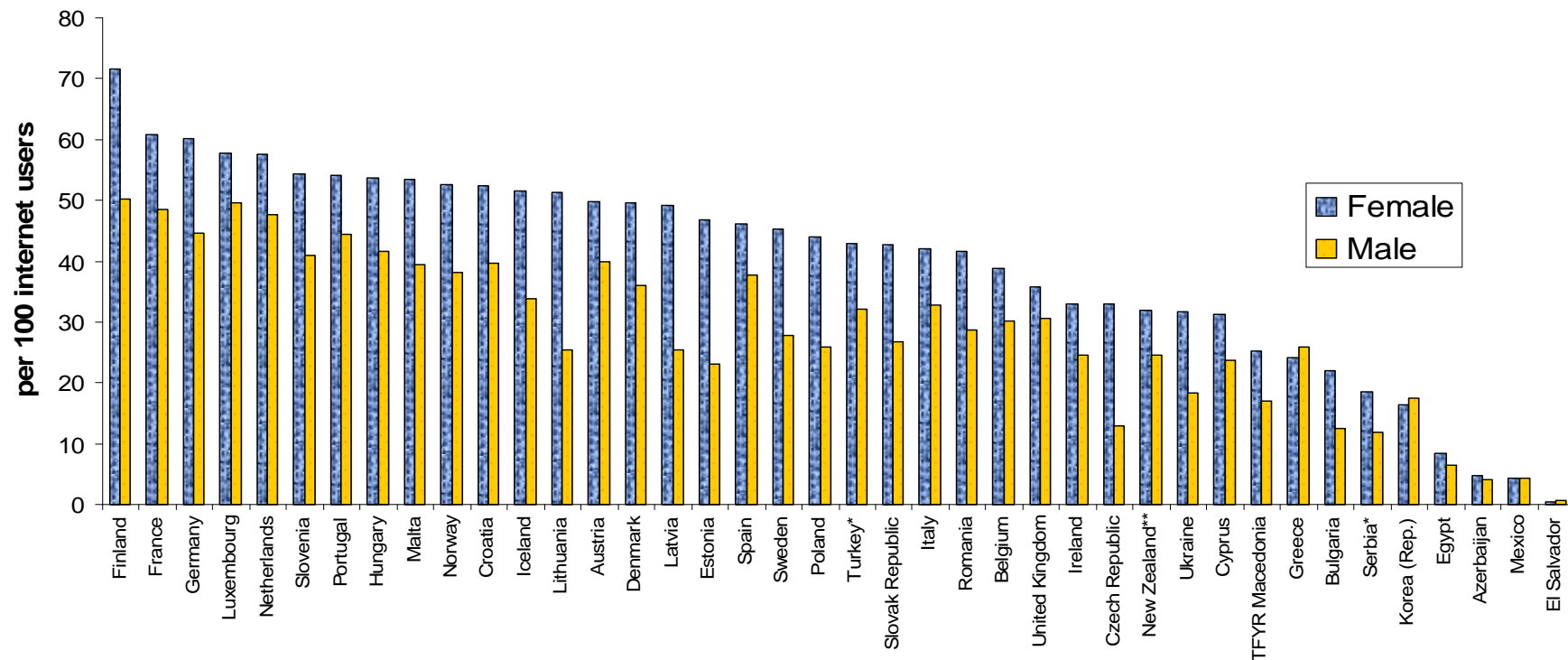
Notes: 'or latest year available: \*2007, \*\*2006; Beware, the age scope varies by country (see Yearbook of Statistics, 1999-2008, ITU).

Source: ITU

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## Relatively more female than male Internet users, go online to obtain health related information

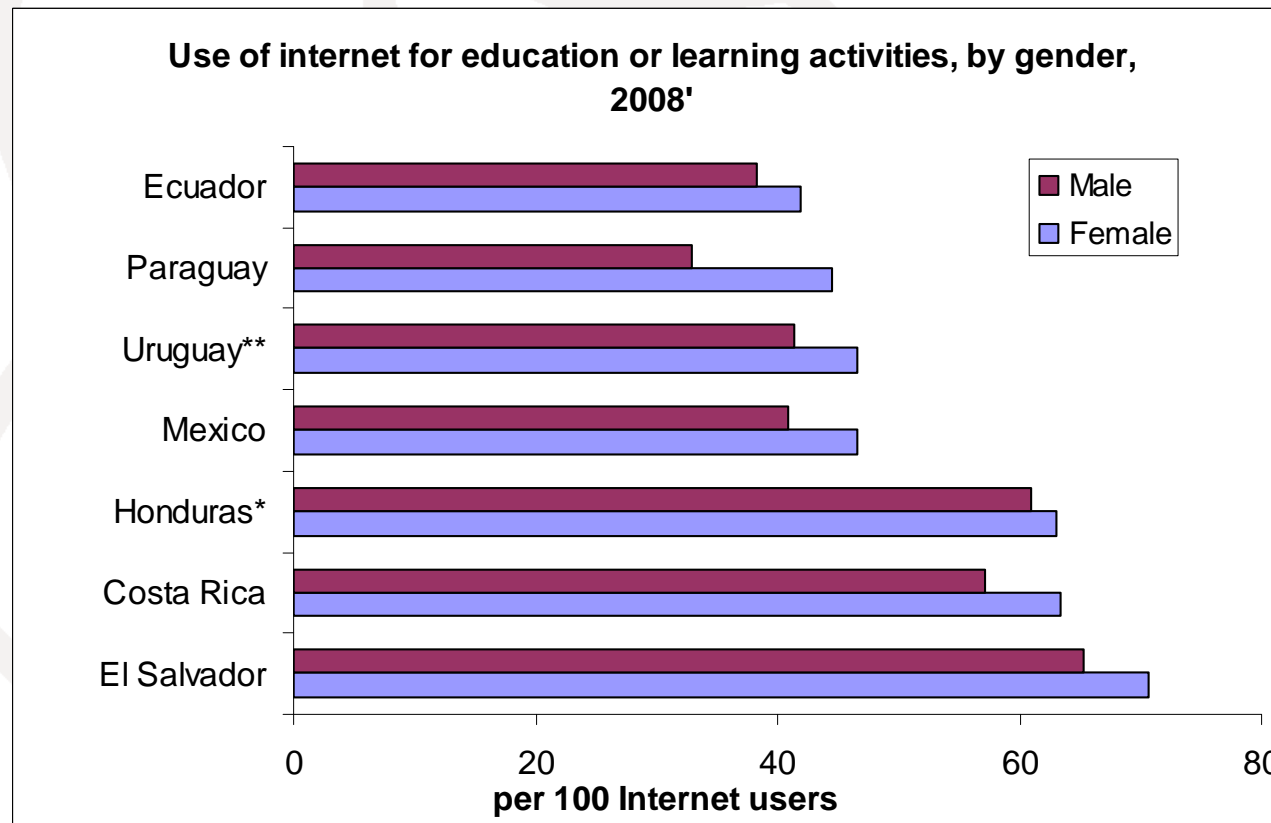
**Internet users getting information related to health or health services, by gender, 2008'**



Notes: 'or latest year available: \*2007, \*\*2006; Beware, the age scope varies by country (see Yearbook of Statistics, 1999-2008, ITU).

Source: ITU

## For Latin American Internet users, relatively more women than men use the Internet for educational purposes



**Notes:** 'or latest year available: \*2007, \*\*2006; Beware, the age scope varies by country (see Yearbook of Statistics, 1999-2008, ITU).

Source: ITU

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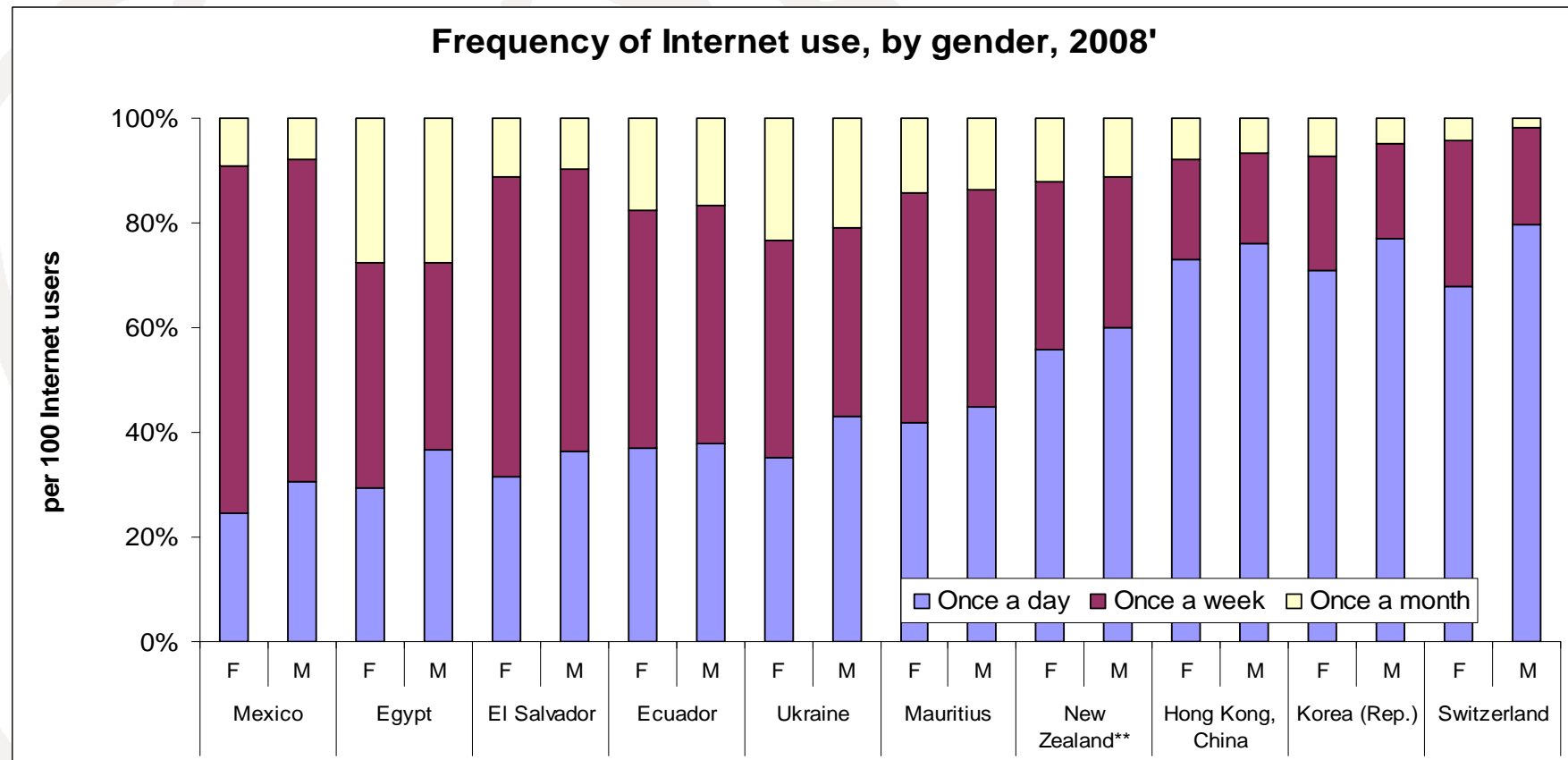




## Female Internet users...

- In most countries, their share using the Internet for “communication purposes” is relatively higher than for men.
- In 12 out of 37 developed countries, they are greater users of e-government services, contrary to in developing countries.
- In most countries, their share using the Internet for e-banking is relatively lower than for men.

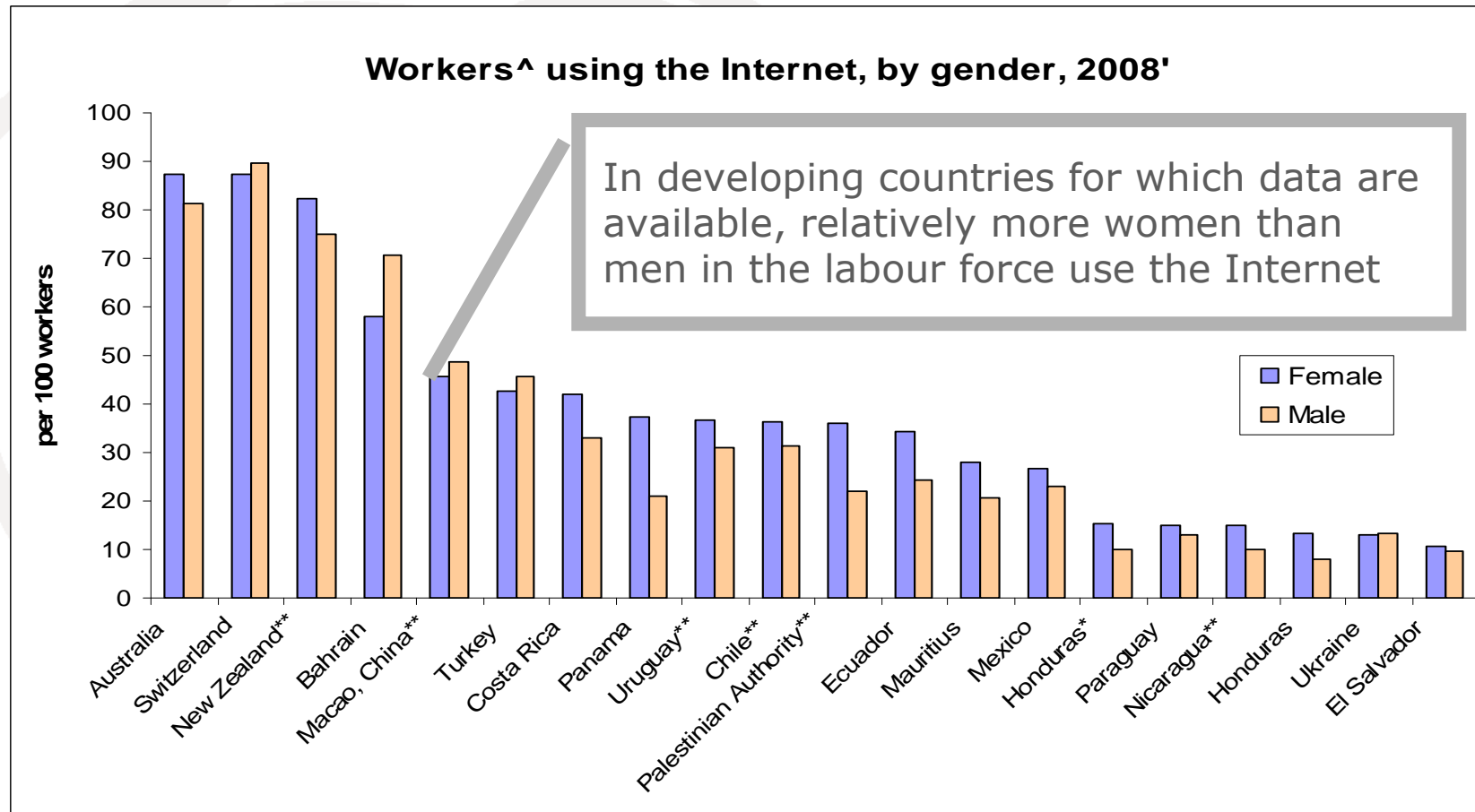
## Frequency of use is relatively lower for women However, nothing is known about the intensity of use



Notes: 'or latest year available: \*2007, \*\*2006; Beware, the age scope varies by country (see Yearbook of Statistics, 1999-2008, ITU); F: female, M: male

Source: ITU

## Once in the labour force, women tend to use the Internet more than men



Notes: 'or latest year available: \*2007, \*\*2006; Beware, the age scope varies by country (see Yearbook of Statistics, 1999-2008, ITU). <sup>^</sup>Includes the following ICSE-93 categories: employees, employers, own account workers, members of producers' cooperatives and contributing family workers.

Source: ITU

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# Some considerations about ICT statistics by gender

- **Collection of ICT data by gender is increasing**
- **Very few stand alone ICT surveys - mainly European countries.**
- **For now, care should be taken with the interpretation of the results due to sample design and lack of international harmonisation.**
- **Similar patterns at regional levels or for developed /developing countries.**



# Conclusions

## ➤ Women...

- ✓ are less likely to use ICTs than men;
- ✓ are using the Internet less frequently than men;
- ✓ tend to use the Internet for communication purposes, getting information about health and for education purposes **MORE THAN MEN DO;**
- ✓ tend to use it for entertainment purposes, reading news, downloading movies, music, software, and for e-banking **LESS THAN MEN DO;**



## Conclusions (cont')

- No gender divide when *only working or students population* is taken into account
- Women using ICTs have more options to
  - ✓ *educate themselves*
  - ✓ *take better care of their health and that of their family members*
  - ✓ *maintain contact with support networks*
  - ✓ *have access to more information.*
- More comparative analysis of available survey results is needed.



**Thank you!**

**More information at:  
[www.itu.int/ict](http://www.itu.int/ict)**

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