



## Shorter Notices

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### **The Economic and Social Impact of Electronic Commerce: Preliminary Findings and Research Agenda**

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

*Paris, February 1999, US\$22, 168 pp., paperback ISBN 92 64 16972 5. Also available free of charge from <http://www.oecd.org//dsti/sti/it/index.htm>*

This book was prepared as a background document for the OECD Ministerial Conference on 'A Borderless World: Realising the Potential of Global Electronic Commerce' held in Ottawa, Canada, October 1998. It analyses the role of electronic commerce in the broader economy, addressing a wide range of issues. According to its authors, the book can serve as a basis for informed policy debate, although it generates more questions than answers. A potential future research agenda is outlined. There are five chapters. They focus on the impact of electronic commerce on economic growth, economic efficiency, organisational change, employment, and broader social issues. Other conference background reports are also available from the website.

### **OECD Forum on Electronic Commerce: Report on the Forum**

Directorate for Science, Technology and Industry, OECD

*Paris, November 1999, SG/EC(99)12, 35 pp., no ISBN, available from [http://www.oecd.org//dsti/sti/it/ec/act/paris\\_ec/index.htm](http://www.oecd.org//dsti/sti/it/ec/act/paris_ec/index.htm)*

The report documents the OECD Forum on electronic commerce, held in Paris on 12–13 October 1999, which was the follow-up of the 1998 Ottawa conference. It provides notes to the forum programme, brief discussions of the main forum documents, the concluding remarks, outcomes of the forum, and a summary of the working sessions. Links to Forum documents, all publicly available via the internet, are given at the website.

### **OECD Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard 1999: Benchmarking Knowledge-based Economies**

Directorate for Science, Technology and Industry, OECD

*Paris, 1999, 180 pp., US\$43, Paperback or electronic book*

This publication examines the knowledge-based economy, globalisation, economic performance and competitiveness in OECD countries, discussing many related topics. In comparison to previous editions, it contains a range of additional new indicators, e.g. intangible investments, computer penetration and electronic commerce activity, to better assess the OECD economies' profiles. Together with such indicators as, e.g. R&D

intensity, import penetration and productivity measures, the publication is assumed to enable comparison of an OECD country's performance in the knowledge-based economy to that of other countries, and to highlight in what areas greater efforts are needed.

### **Measuring the Internet Economy**

Cisco Systems and University of Texas

*Austin, October 1999, 83 pp., no ISBN, downloadable free of charge from <http://www.internetindicators.com>*

This is the second report on measuring the internet economy commissioned by Cisco Systems and conducted by the Center for Research in Electronic Commerce, University of Texas at Austin. Using a four layered model of the internet economy with separate indicators for each layer (infrastructure, application, intermediary and internet commerce indicators), the report finds that the US internet economy grew by 68% between the first quarter of 1998 and the first quarter of 1999. The economic commerce layer grew by over 120%. Appendices define the internet economy model used, discuss measurement issues and future directions for research. The ultimate aim of the report is to help readers appreciate the impact of the internet economy, and to inspire further research on its measurement.

*H.-J. Engelbrecht  
Massey University  
Palmerston North, New Zealand*