

SME Telecommunications Services Study 2003

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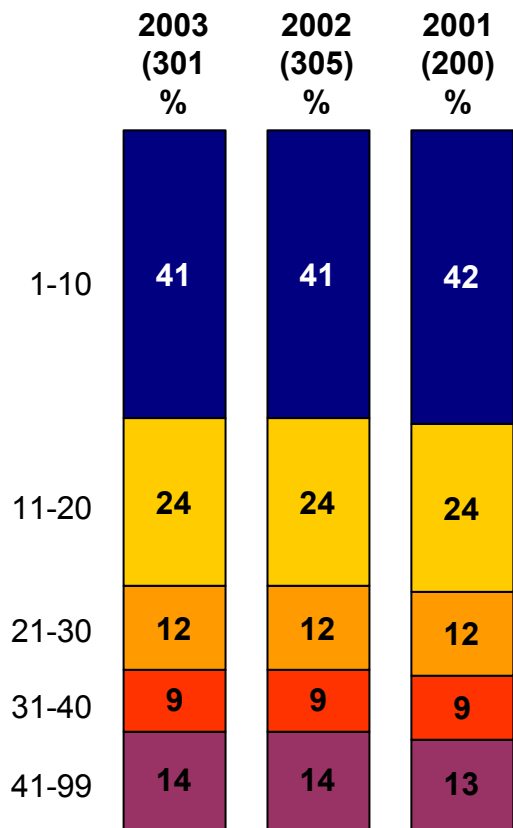
Introduction

Charted Findings

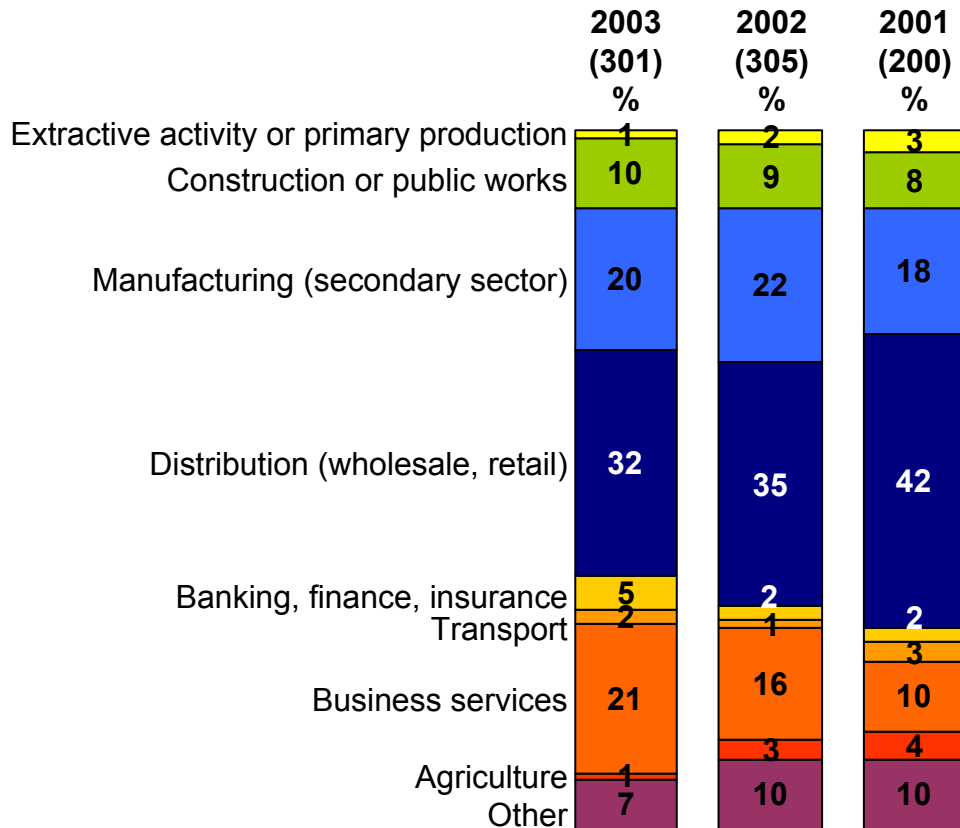
Company Profile - I

Base: All Respondents: 301

No. Of Employees In Ireland



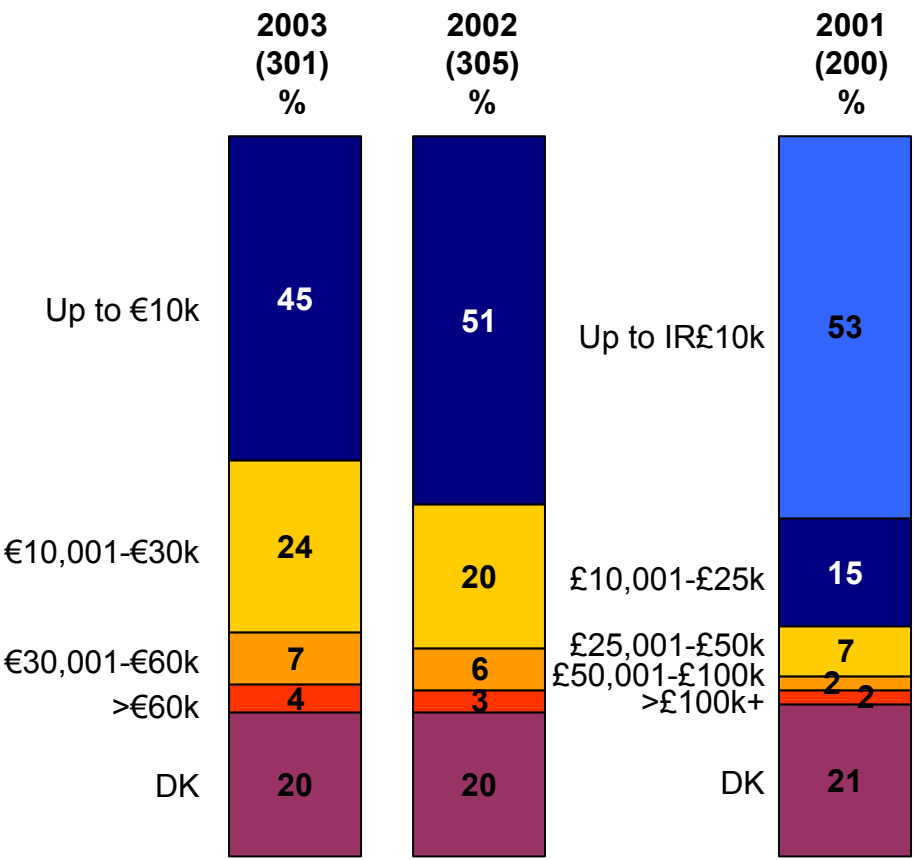
Industry Sector



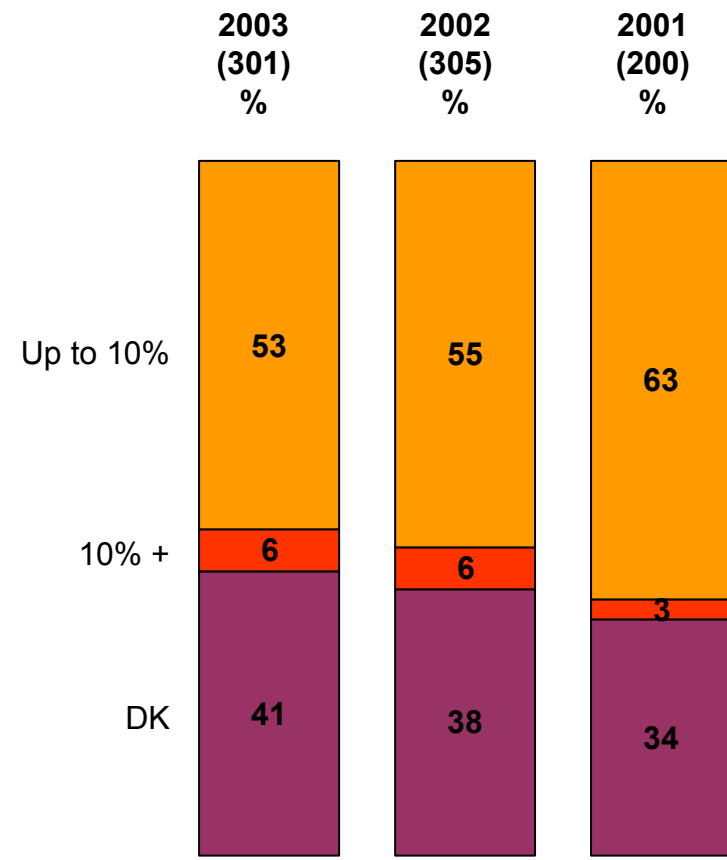
Company Profile – II

Base: All Respondents: 301

Amount Spent On Telecommunications



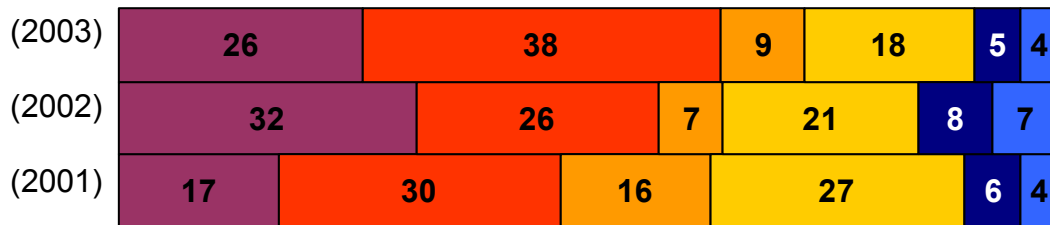
Proportion Of Company's Total Costs



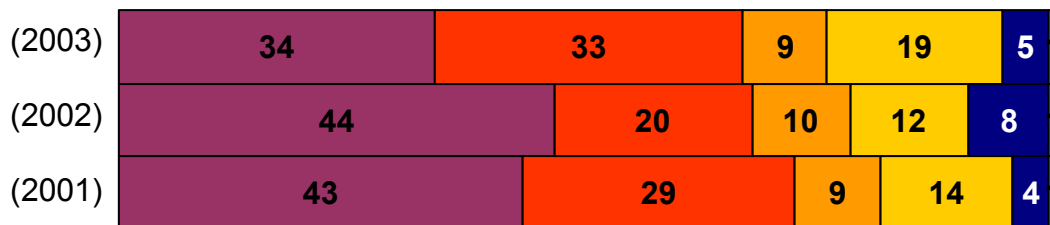
General Attitudes To Telecommunications

Base: All Respondents; 2003 (301); 2002 (305); 2001 (200)

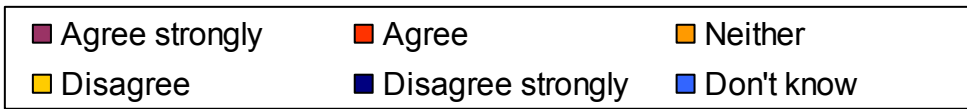
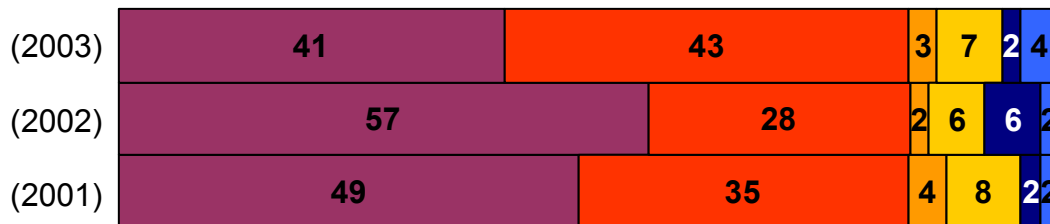
I believe there are savings to be gained by changing my telecommunications supplier



When choosing a telecommunications supplier, I place more importance on the quality of service than the price

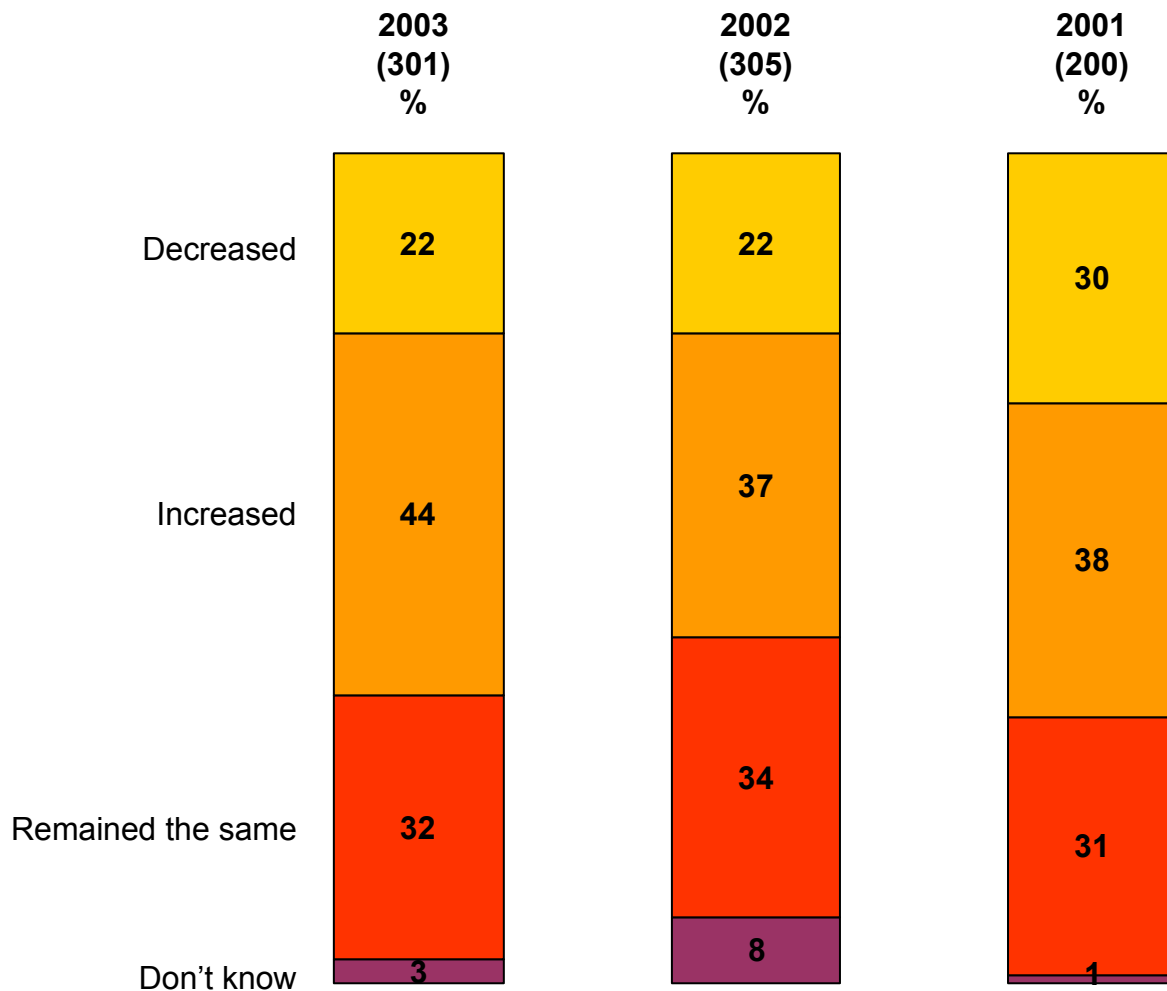


I believe the telecommunications market is more competitive than it was 12 months ago



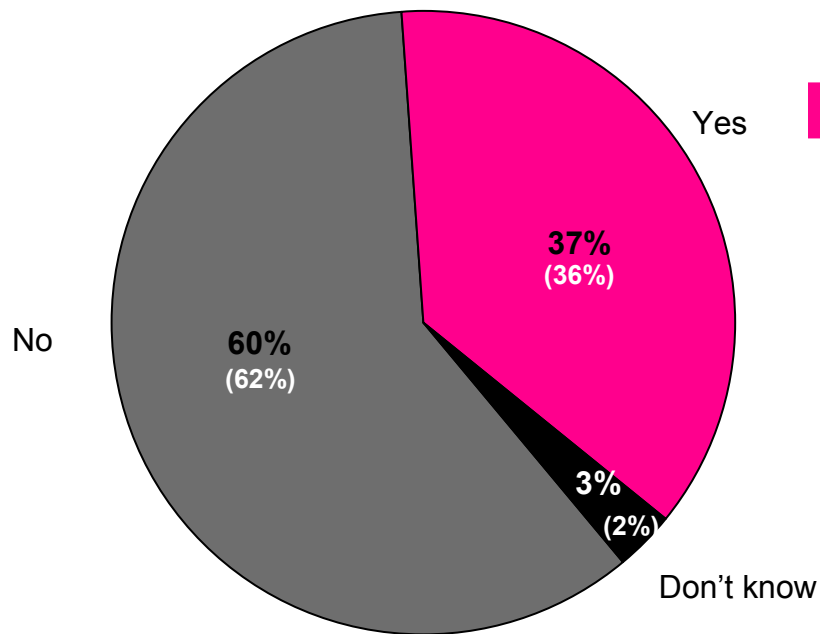
Telecommunication Costs In The Past Year

Base: All Respondents: 301



Whether Intend To Invest More Or Less In Telecommunications Or E-Commerce In Coming 12 Months

Base: All Respondents: 301



Services Likely To Invest In

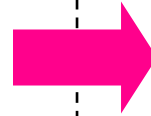
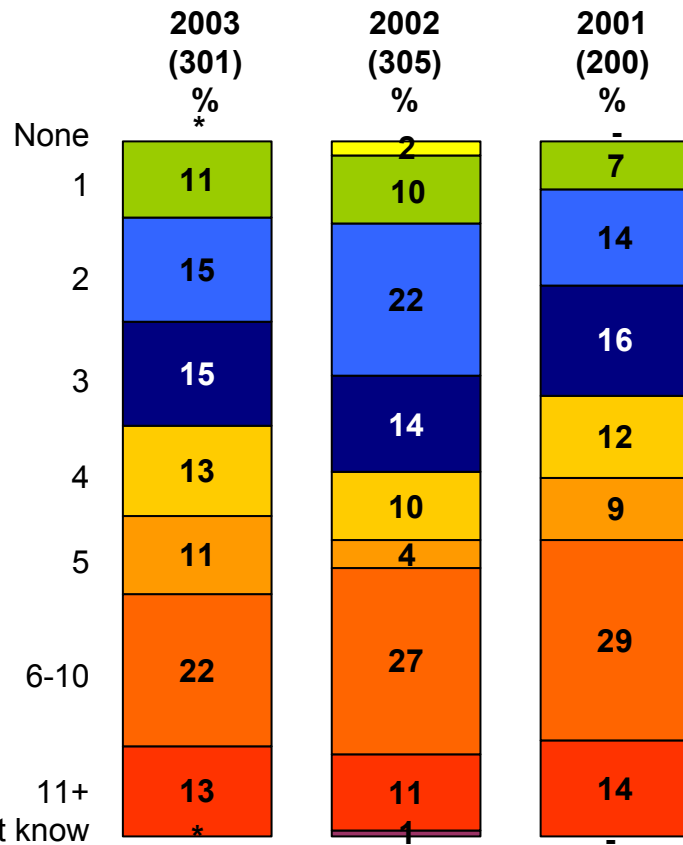
Base:	(112) %	(2002 = 109)
Internet/web development	62	(70)
More computers/hardware	61	(61)
New phones system/ upgrading existing system	37	(47)
Mobile telephony	34	(37)
Fixed ISDN telephone line	25	(35)
Leased line(s)	13	(22)
DSL (Digital Subscriber Line)	46	(18)
Other	6	(2)
Don't know	4	(4)

Use Of Telecommunication Devices Or Services

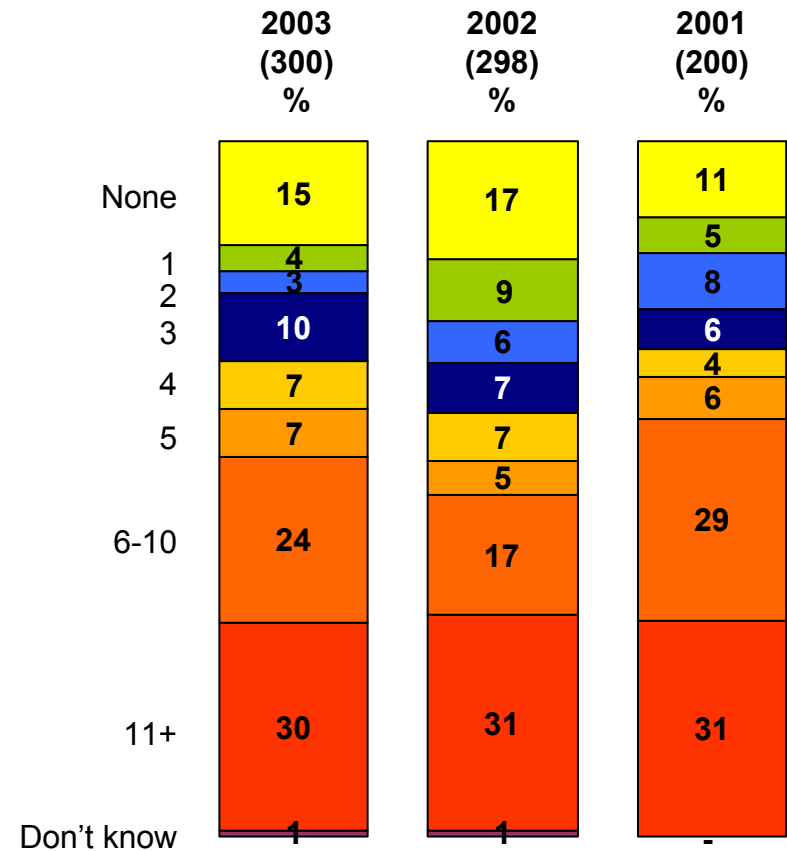
Number Of Telecommunication Devices Or Services Owned – Fixed Traditional

Base: All Respondents: 301

Fixed Traditional Telephone Lines



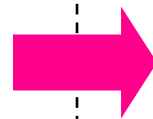
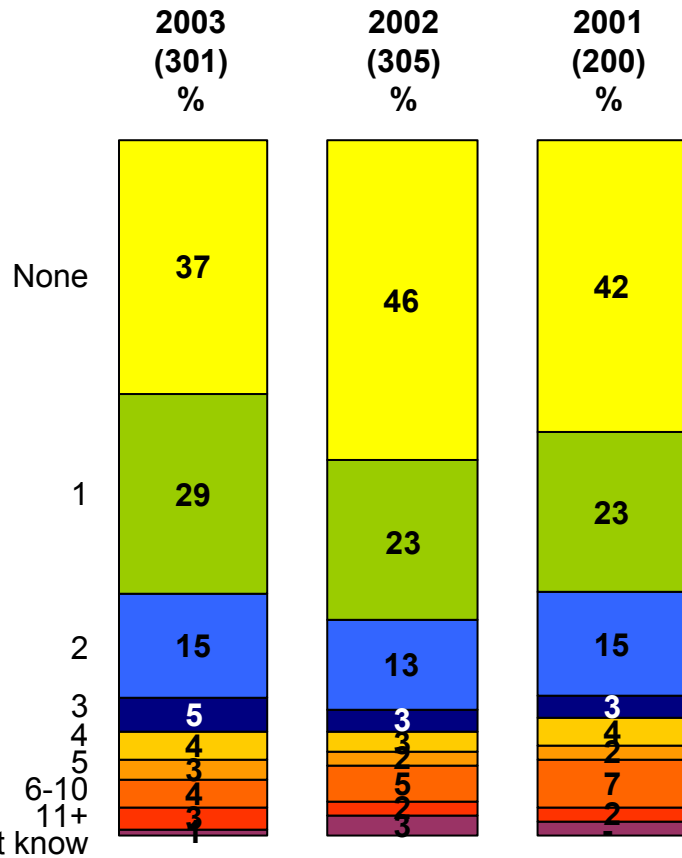
Number Of Extensions



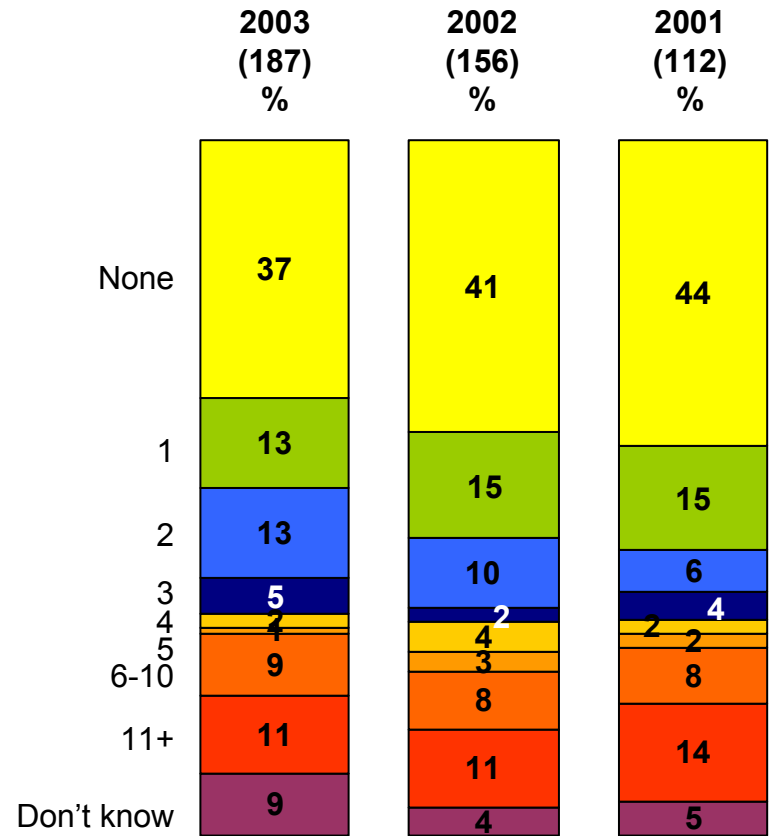
Number Of Telecommunication Devices Or Services Owned – Fixed ISDN

Base: All Respondents: 301

Fixed ISDN Telephone Lines



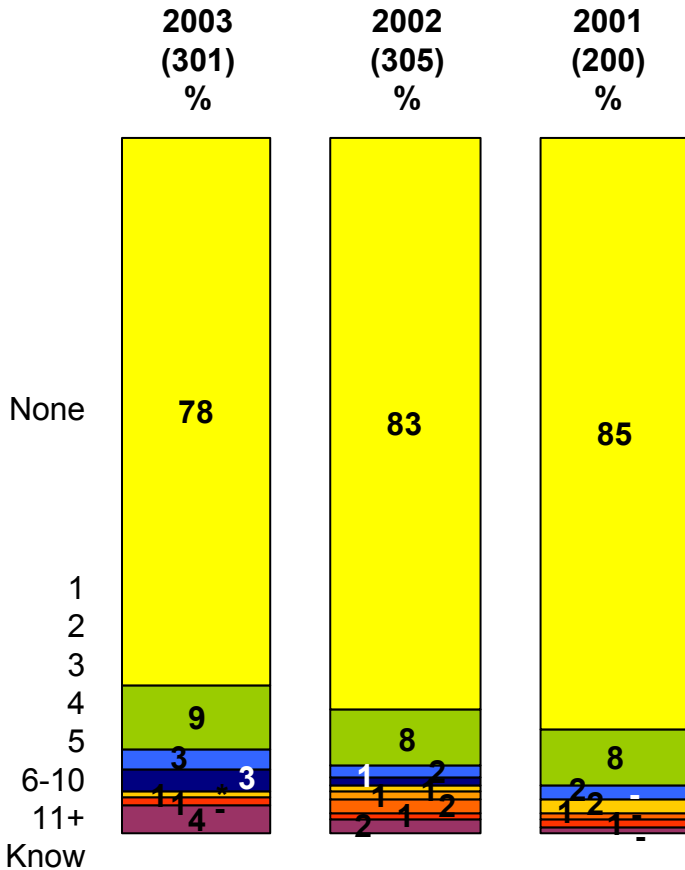
Number Of Extensions



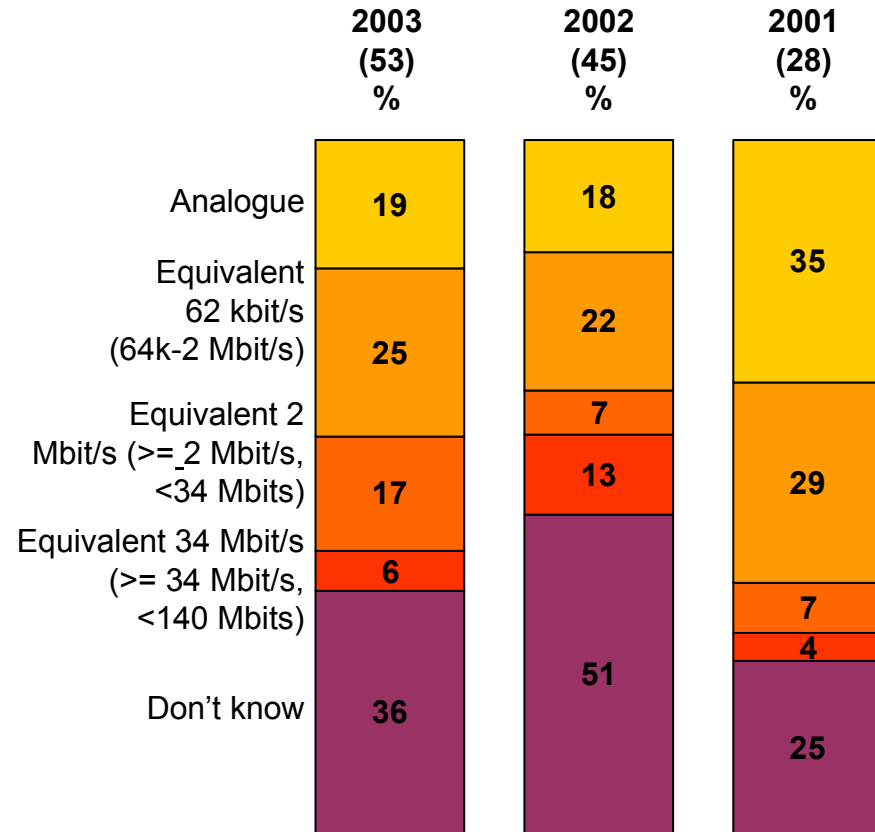
Number Of Telecommunication Devices Or Services Owned – Leased Lines

Base: All Respondents: 301

Leased Lines



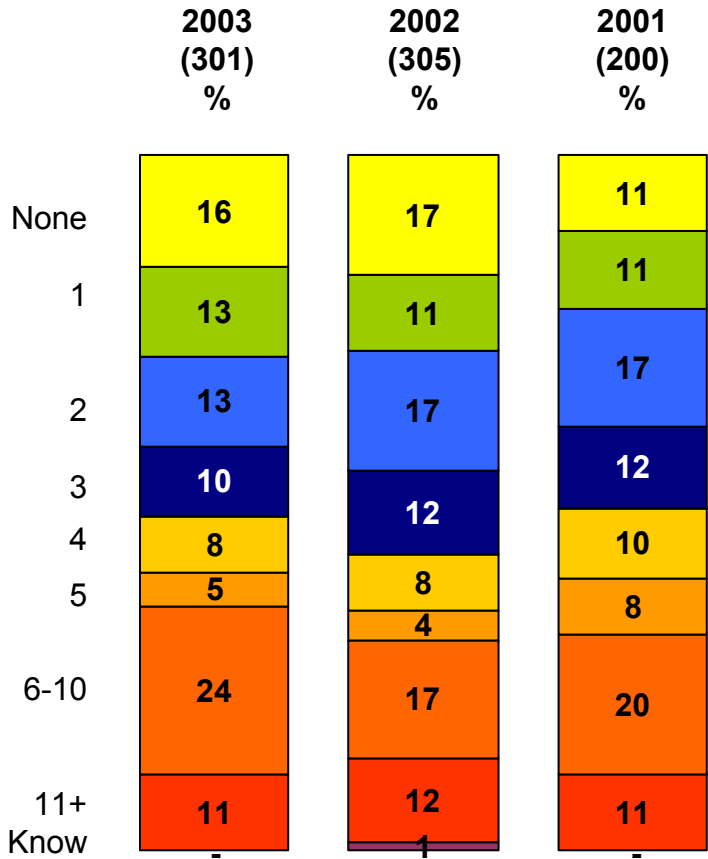
Leased Line Bandwidth



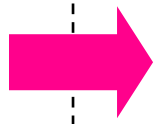
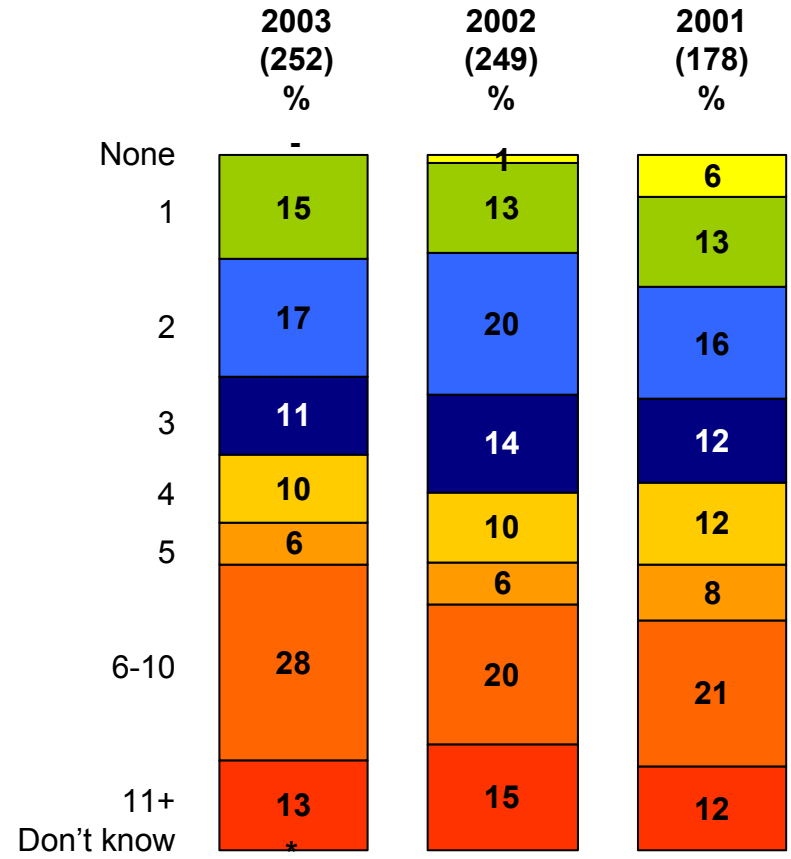
Number Of Telecommunication Devices Or Services Owned – Mobiles

Base: All Respondents: 301

Mobile Phones



Used By How Many Employees

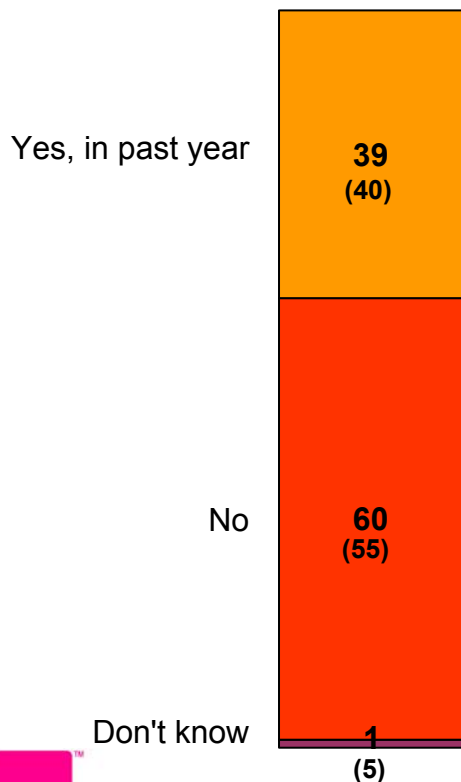


Installation/Purchase Of Telecommunication Devices Or Services In The Past 12 Months

Base: All With Devices Or Services

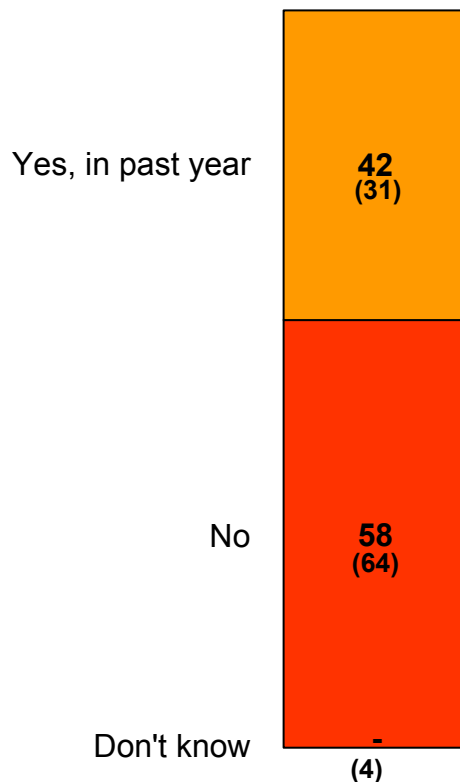
Fixed ISDN Lines

Base
191
%



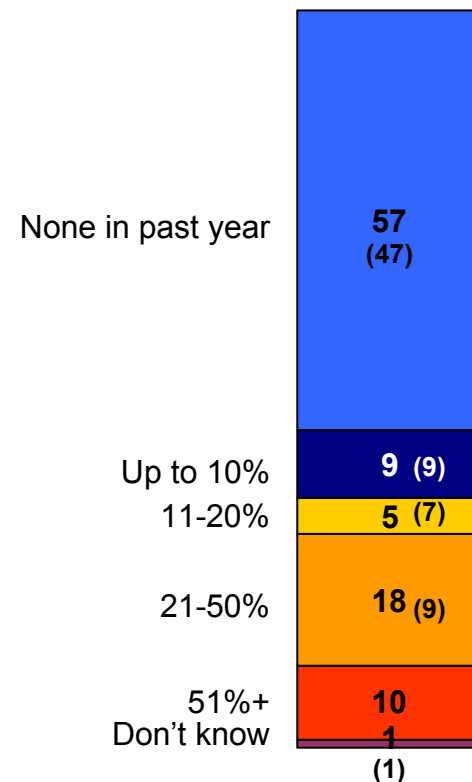
Leased Lines

Base
53
%



Mobile Telephones

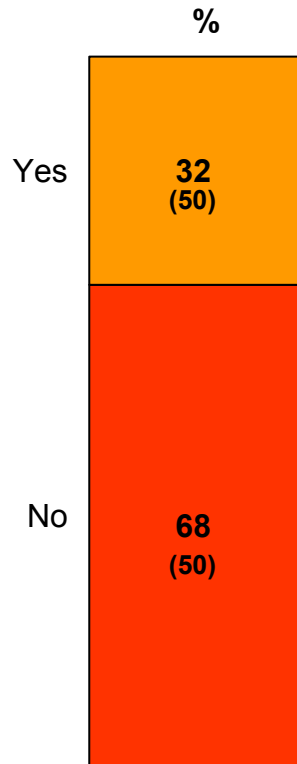
Base
252
%



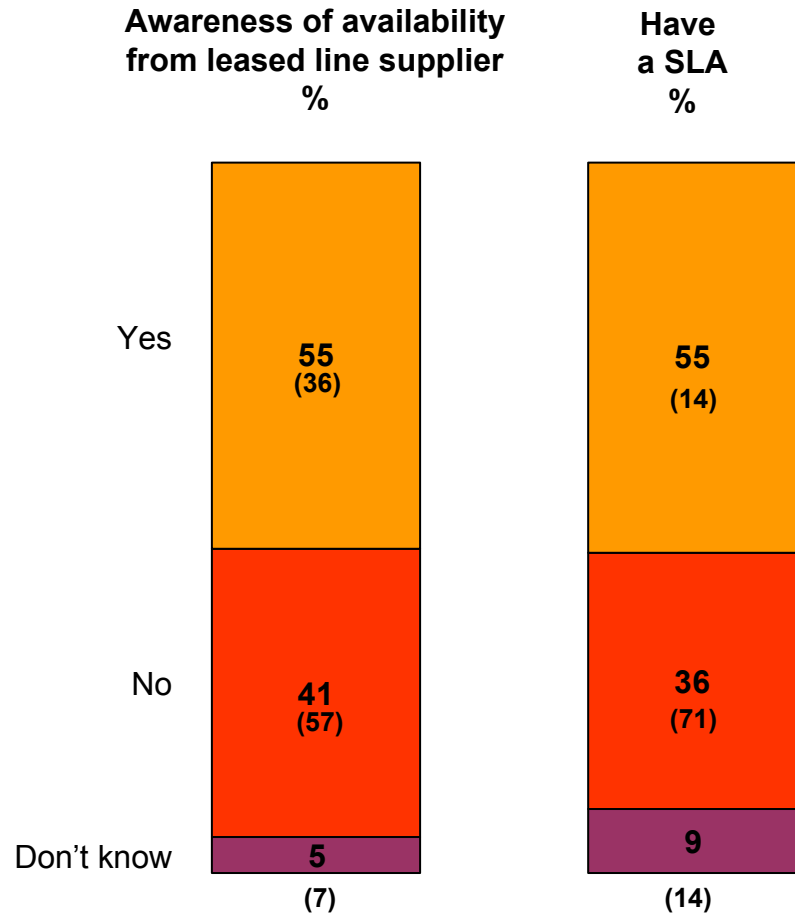
Leased Lines

Base: Companies Where Installed In Past 12 Months: 22*

Difficulties Experienced With Delivery

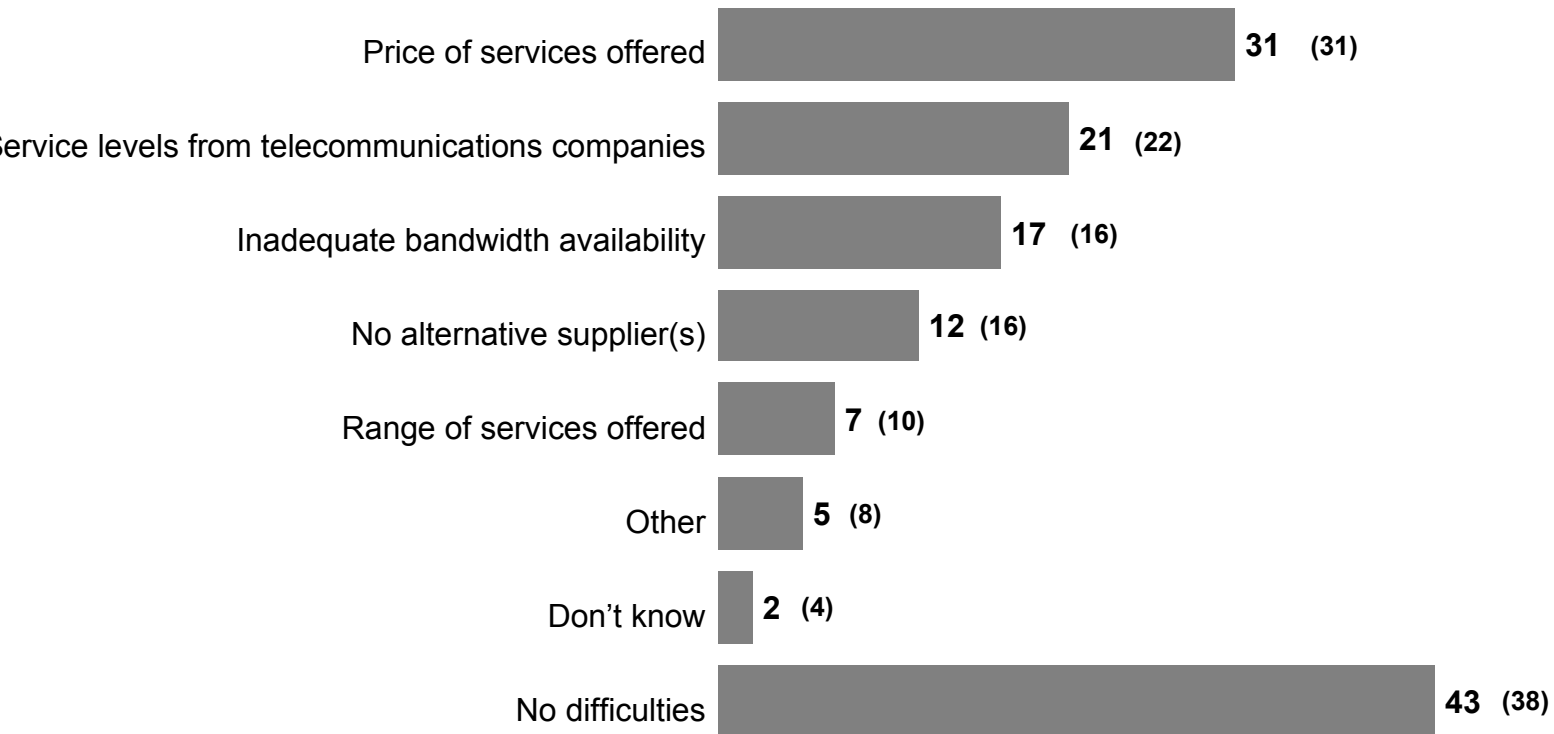


Service Level Agreement (SLA)



Difficulties With Services To Points Of Operation

Base: All Respondents: 301



Suppliers Used & Switching Behaviour

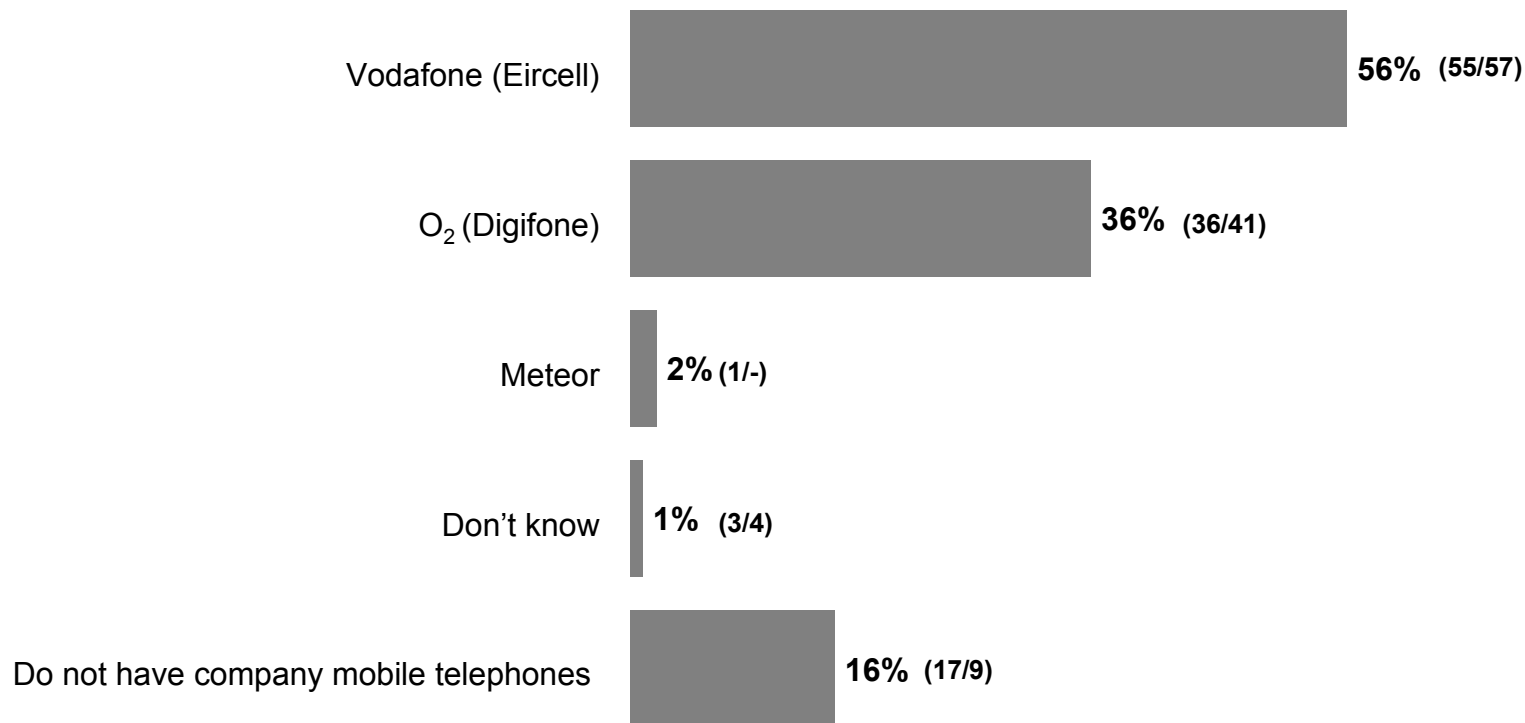
Suppliers Used For Different Call Types

Base: All Respondents: 301

	Local Landline Telephone Calls		National Landline Telephone Calls		International Landline Telephone Calls		Leased Lines		Fixed ISDN Telephone Lines	
	%	2002/ 2001 %	%	2002/ 2001 %	%	2002/ 2001 %	%	2002/ 2001 %	%	2002/ 2001 %
Eircom	75	(77/84)	75	(76/81)	73	(74/77)	14	(10/12)	51	(41/49)
East BT (Clear)	7	(10/8)	7	(10/8)	9	(10/8)	1	(1/1)	5	(5/3)
WorldCom	4	(5/7)	4	(6/7)	4	(7/7)	1	(1/1)	1	(1/2)
Other operators	13	(5/12)	13	(4/10)	13	(3/12)	2	(1/5)	3	(-/2)
Don't know	1	(7/-)	1	(7/2)	1	(7/3)	-	(1/2)	2	(3/2)
Not applicable	-	-	-	-	-	(1/3)	82	(87/83)	38	(50/44)

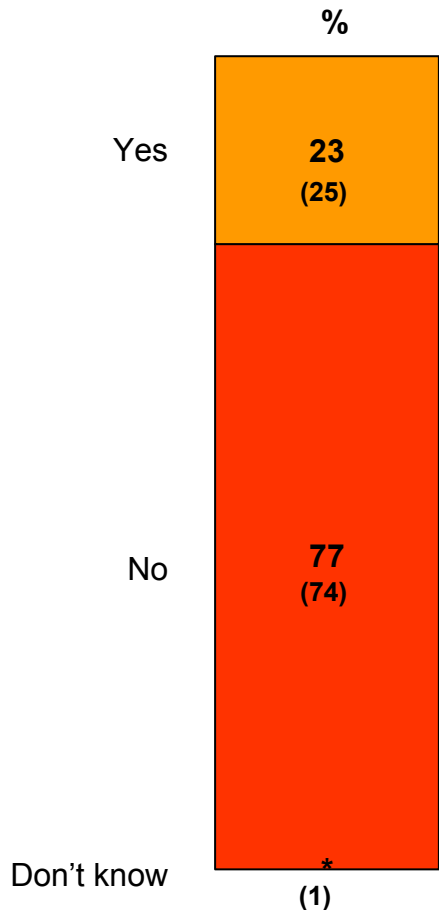
Company's Supplier For Mobile Telephone Calls

Base: All Respondents: 301



Switched Supplier For Local Landline Telephone Calls In Past 12 Months

Base: All Respondents: 301



Main Reason(s) For Switching	
Base:	69%
Cheaper/cost savings	86
Poor service – sought better service	7
Other	13
Don't know	1

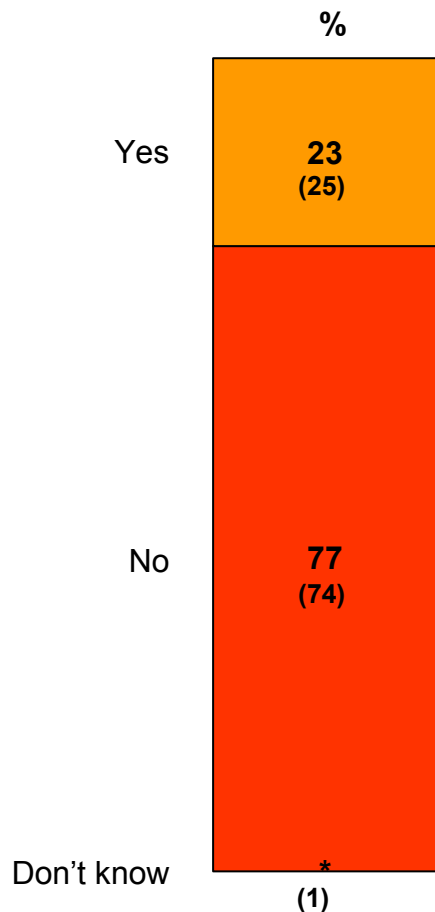
Difficulties Encountered	
Base:	69%
None	80
Service levels were poor/inadequate	3
Cost/rates not cheaper	6
Other	10
Don't know	3

Don't know

(1)

Switched Supplier For Local Landline Telephone Calls In Past 12 Months (Cont'd)

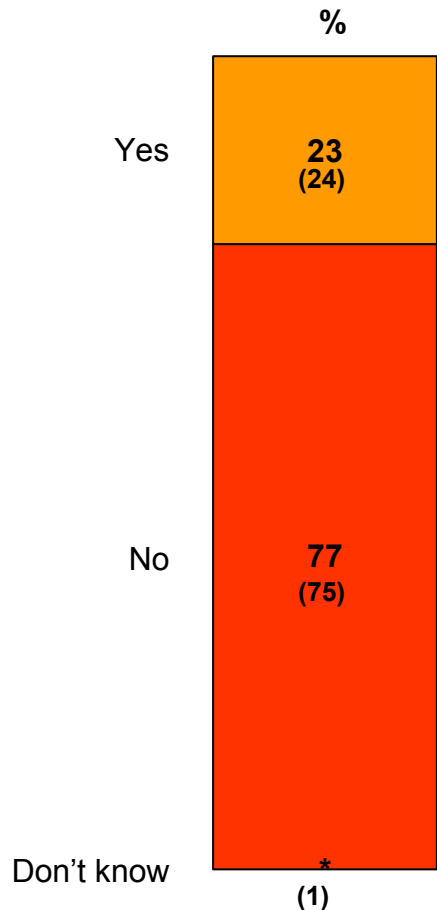
Base: All Respondents: 301



Reason(s) Why Not Considered Changing Supplier	
Base:	231
	%
Satisfied with current supplier/level of service	32
Believe getting the best value for money with current supplier	5
Deals not worth it	5
Too busy – haven't got round to it	1
No alternative carrier has approached	4
Did change, but changed back	7
Currently changing/considering changing	7
Lazy – couldn't be bothered/hassle	8
Unwilling to risk change/uncertain	1
Not aware of options open/lack of information	4
Business too small/low usage/no need/benefit	6
Cost	2
Did consider – decided against it	2
No particular reason	4
Other	8
Don't know	10

Switched Supplier For National Landline Telephone Calls In Past 12 Months

Base: All Respondents: 301

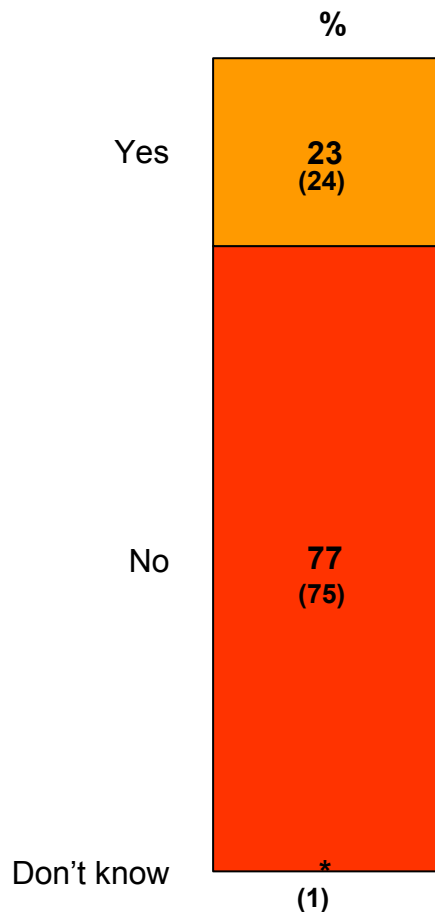


Main Reason(s) For Switching	
Base:	69 %
Cheaper/cost savings	83
Poor service – sought better service	6
Other	9
Don't know	9

Difficulties Encountered	
Base:	69 %
None	80
Service levels were poor/inadequate	1
Cost/rates not cheaper	1
Other	10
Don't know	7

Switched Supplier For National Landline Telephone Calls In Past 12 Months (Cont'd)

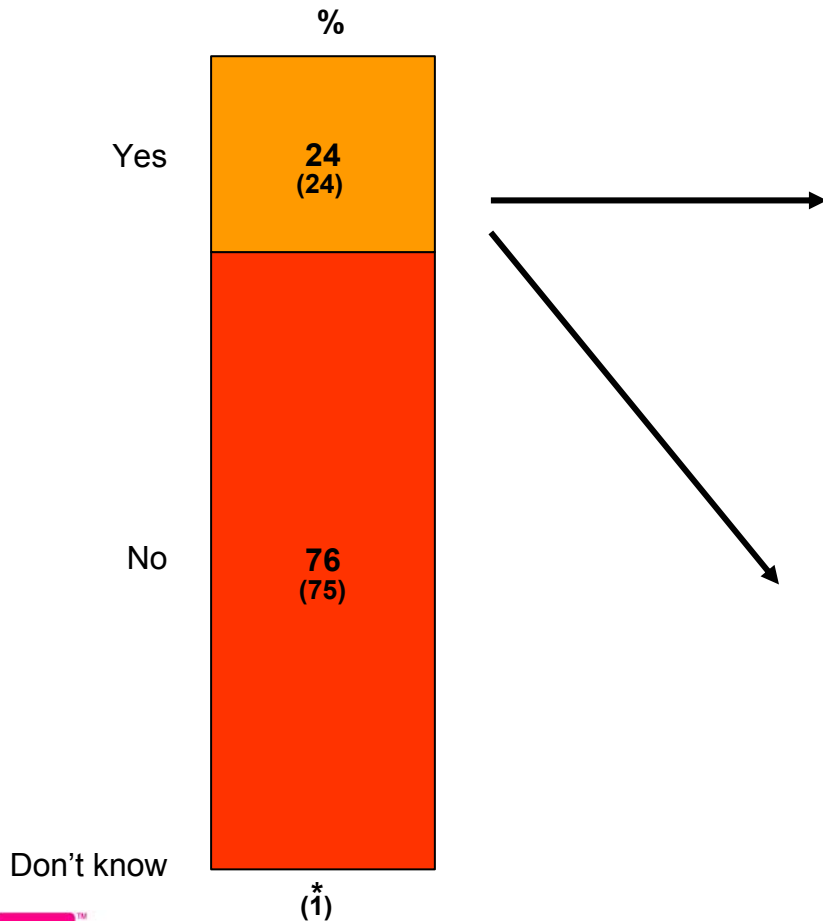
Base: All Respondents: 301



Reason(s) Why Not Considered Changing Supplier	
Base:	231 %
Satisfied with current supplier/level of service	25
Believe getting the best value for money with current supplier	5
Too busy – haven't gotten round to it	2
No alternative carrier has approached	4
Currently changing/considering changing	7
Deals not worth it	6
Did change but changed back	6
Lazy – couldn't be bothered/hassle	7
Too awkward to change	1
Business too small/low usage/no need/benefit	5
Unwilling to risk change/uncertain	2
Lack of information/not aware of options	3
Cost	1
Did consider – decided against it	2
No particular reason	3
Other	6
Don't know	20

Switched Supplier For International Landline Telephone Calls In Past 12 Months

Base: All Respondents: 301

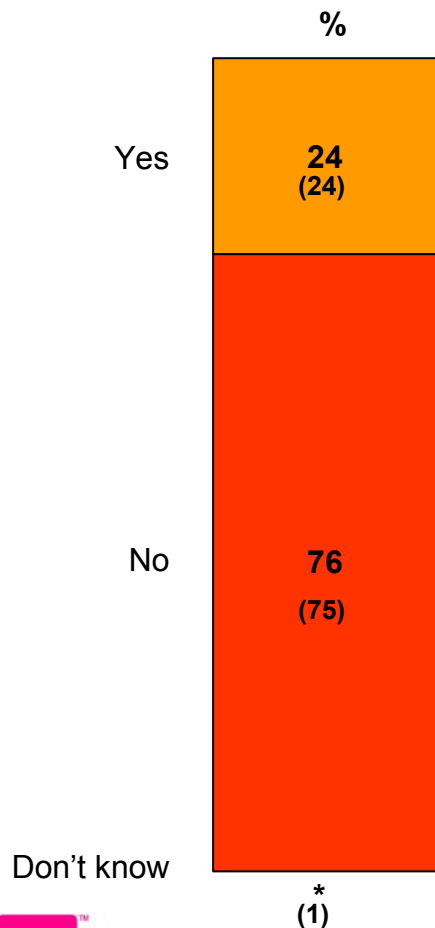


Main Reason(s) For Switching	
Base:	71%
Price – cost reduction	79
Poor service – sought better service	7
Other	10
Don't know	7

Difficulties Encountered	
Base:	71%
None	87
Service levels were poor/inadequate	3
Cost/rates not cheaper	-
Other	6
Don't know	4

Switched Supplier For International Landline Telephone Calls In Past 12 Months (Cont'd)

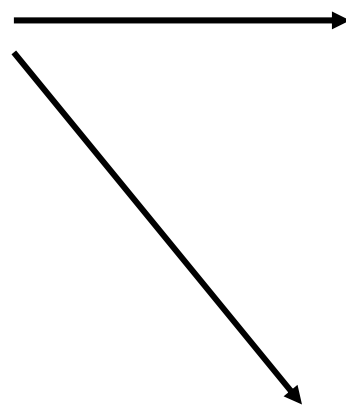
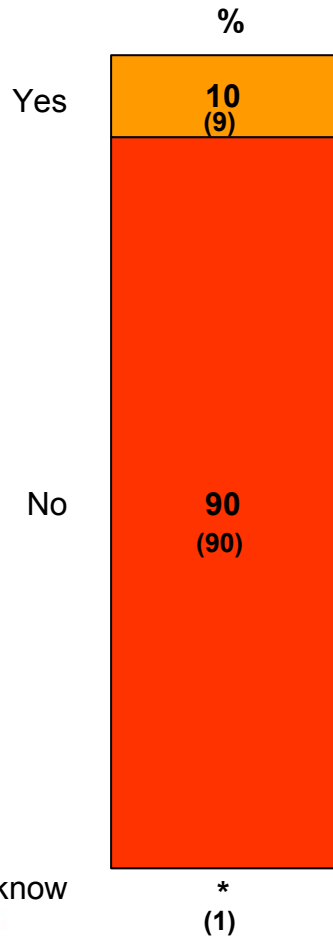
Base: All Respondents: 301



Reason(s) Why Not Considered Changing Supplier	
Base:	229
	%
Satisfied with current supplier/level of service	23
Believe getting the best value for money with current supplier	3
Deals not worth it	4
Too busy – haven't gotten round to it	2
Did change but changed back	7
Currently changing/considering changing	8
Too awkward to change	1
No alternative carrier has approached	3
Lazy – couldn't be bothered/hassle	6
Unwilling to risk change/uncertain	2
Lack of information/not aware of options available	3
Business too small/low usage/no need/benefit	9
Cost	1
Did consider – decided against it	2
No particular reason	3
Other	5
Don't know	21

Switched Supplier For Mobile Calls In Past 12 Months

Base: All Respondents: 301



Main Reason(s) For Switching	
Base:	25 %
Cheaper/cost savings	60
Reception/coverage	16
Other	8
Don't know	20

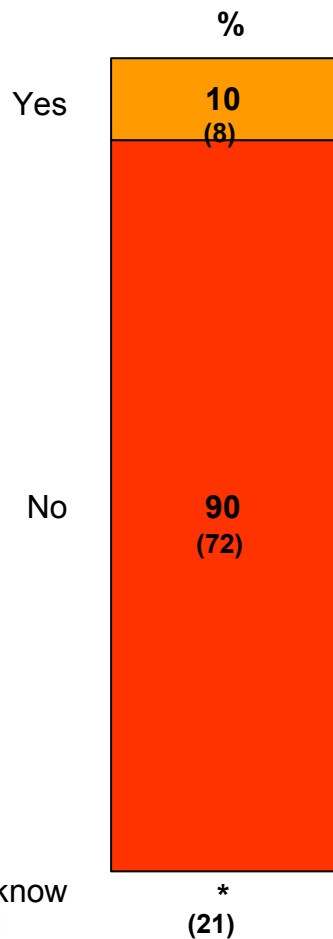
Difficulties Encountered	
Base:	25 %
None	44
Service levels were poor/inadequate	16
Other	16
Don't know	24

Don't know

*
(1)

Switched Supplier For Mobile Calls In Past 12 Months (Cont'd)

Base: All Respondents: 301



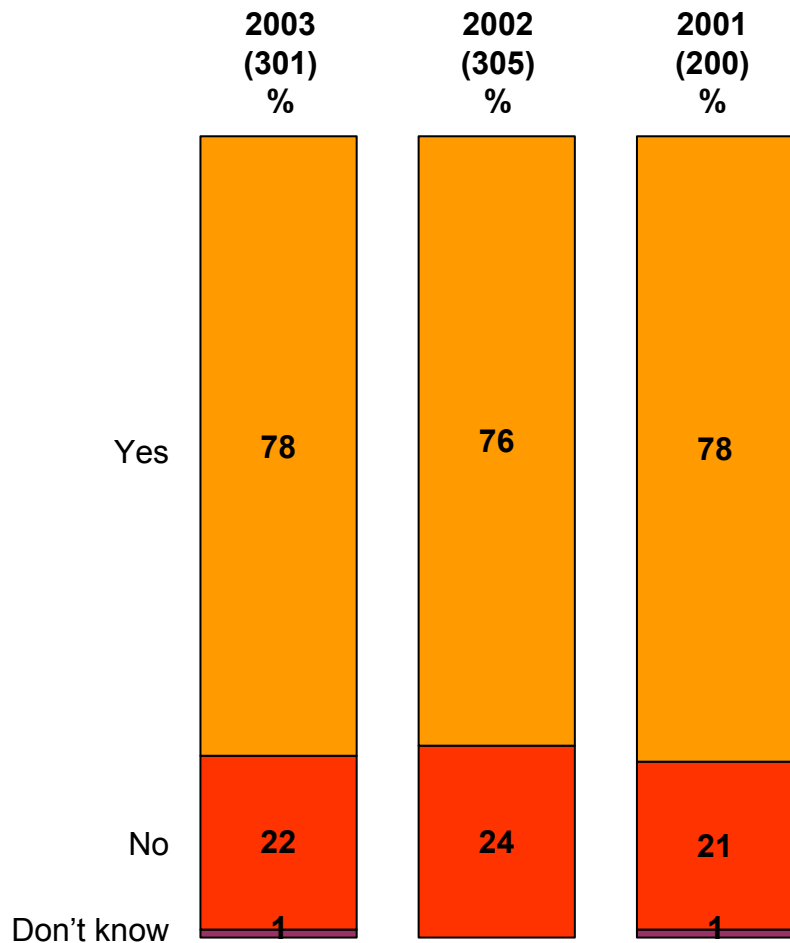
Reason(s) Why Not Considered Changing Supplier	
Base:	226
	%
Satisfied with current supplier/level of service	33
Believe getting the best value for money with current supplier	6
No alternative carrier has approached	2
Currently changing/considering changing	4
Too busy – haven't got round to it	1
Deals not worth it	2
Lazy/couldn't be bothered/hassle	4
Have one from each network	4
Other suppliers lack coverage	4
Business too small/low usage/no need/benefit	9
Did consider – decided against it	2
No reason in particular	3
Cost	1
Other	10
Don't know	18

Don't know

*
(21)

Awareness Of Carrier Pre-Selection

Base: All Respondents: 301

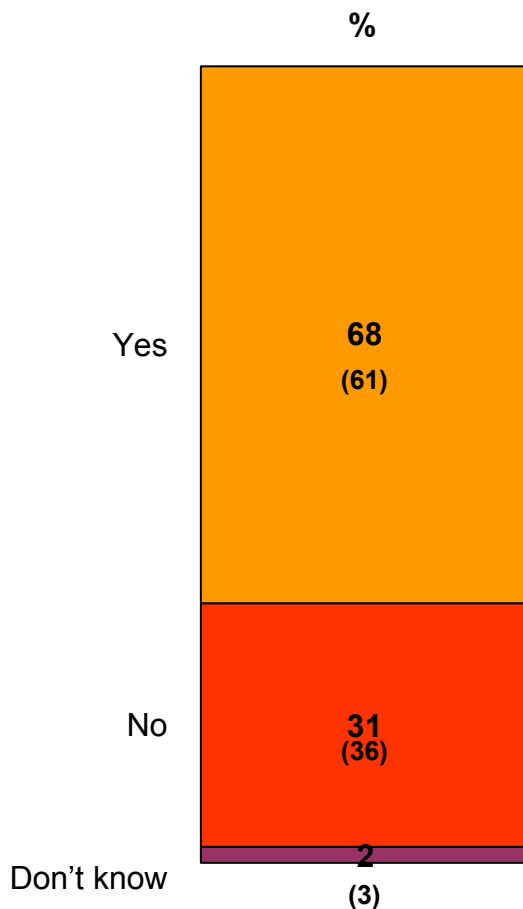


Spontaneous Awareness Of Operator Who Offers Carrier Pre-Selection

Base:	301 %
Esat BT	39
WorldCom	19
Newtel	3
ntl	5
BT	3
Euphony	6
Cable and Wireless	1
Switchcom	3
GTS	1
Atlas	1
Don't know	30

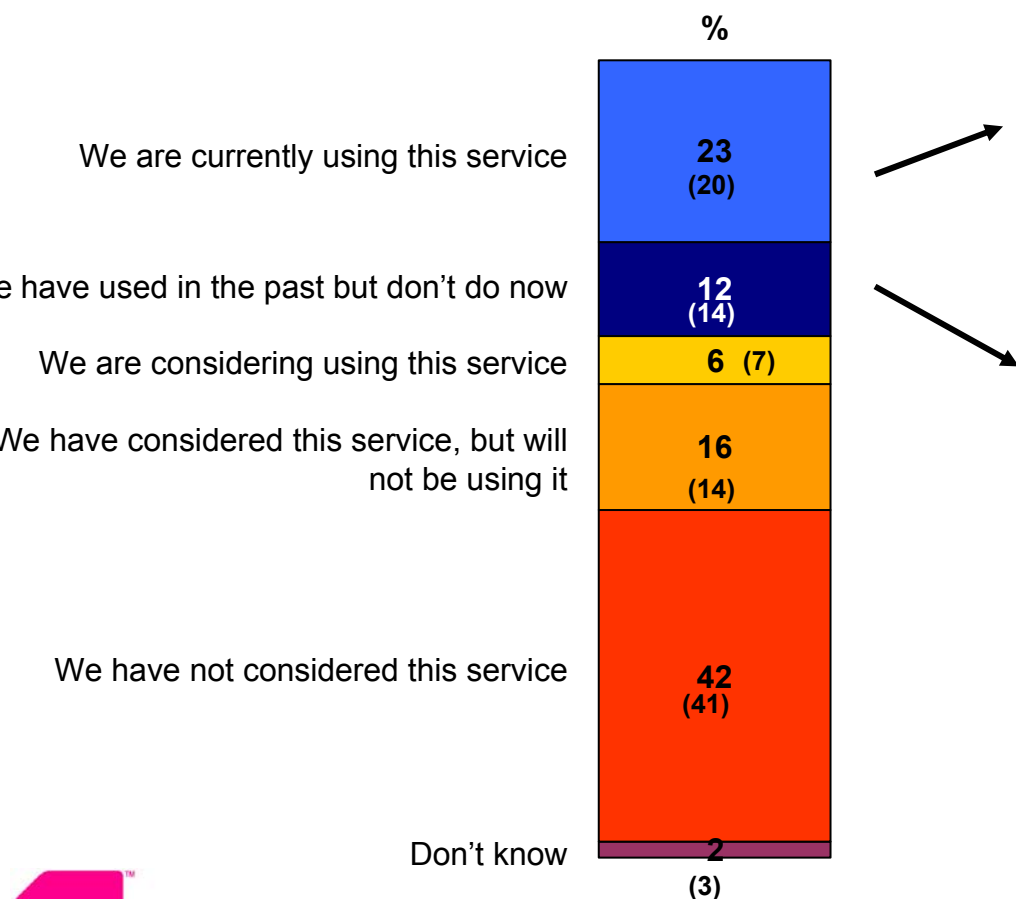
Whether Approached By A Supplier Other Than Eircom To Switch Part/All Of Fixed Line Call Business In The Past Year

Base: All Respondents: 301



Use Of Carrier Pre-Selection

Base: All Respondents: 301

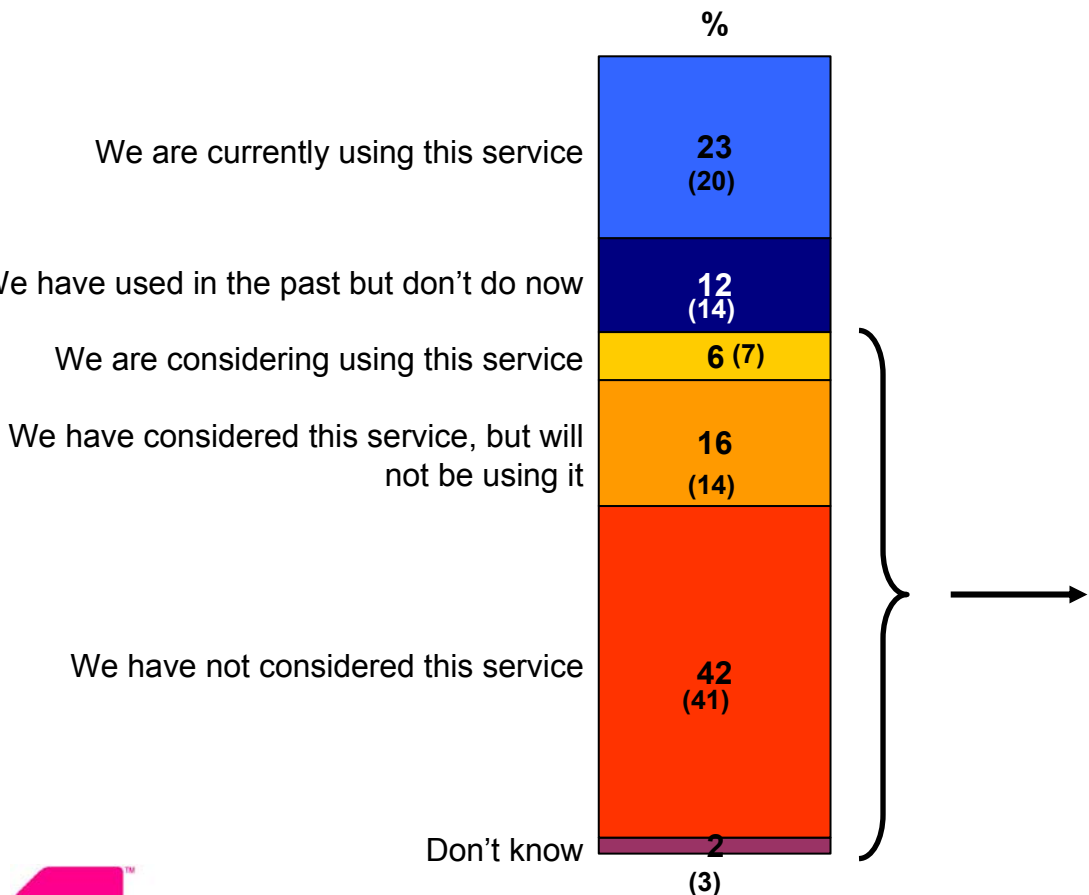


Approached To Go Back To Eircom	
Base:	68 %
Yes	53
No	46
Don't know	1

Reason(s) For No Longer Using	
Base:	36 %
Eircom came back to us with a cheaper rate/better deal	33
Price – no difference	11
Service was poor/unreliable	25
Better to have one supplier	11
Other	22
Don't know	8

Use Of Carrier Pre-Selection (Cont'd)

Base: All Respondents: 301



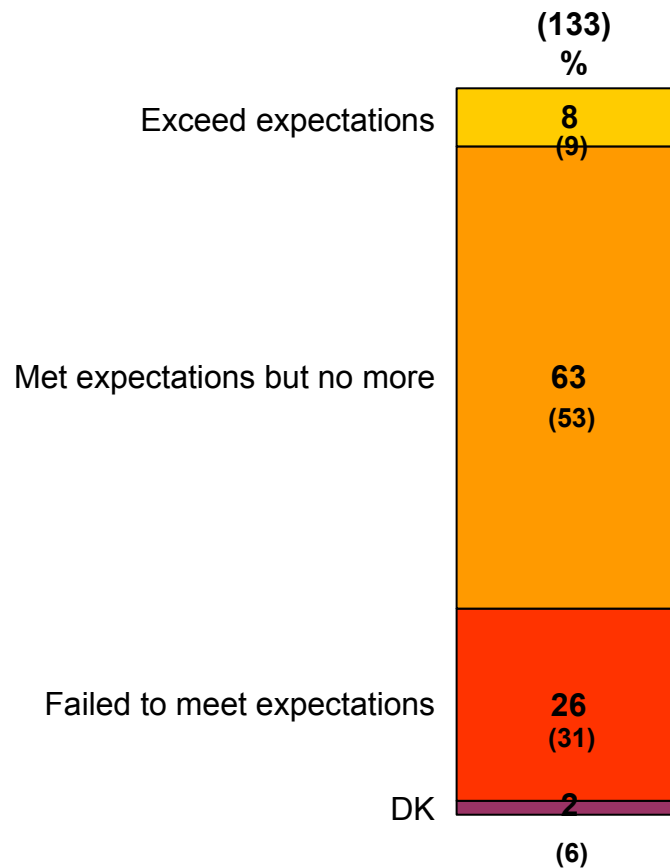
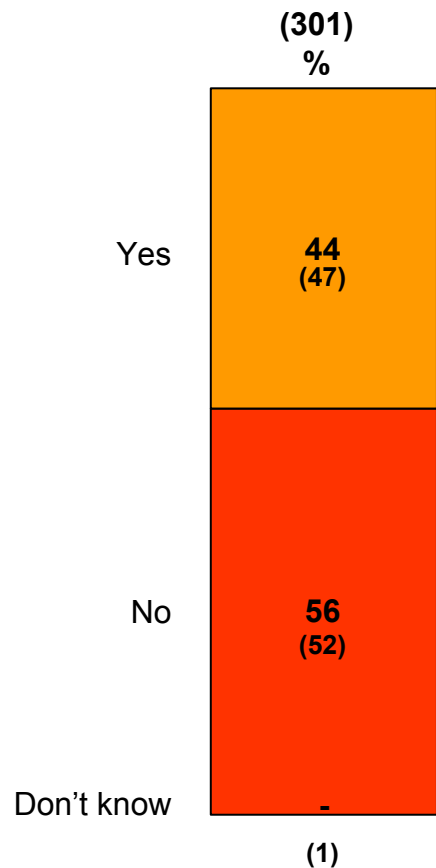
Reason(s) For Not Currently Using	
Base:	191
	%
Not aware/lack of information	13
Happy with current suppliers	15
Usage/bills not that high/no incentive	13
Have considered – decide to stay as we are	1
Changeover too much hassle	7
Considering at present	2
Risk of unknown/bad experience	3
Not cheaper	6
No particular reason	11
Other	5
Don't know	26

Switching Of Any Part Of Fixed Line Telephone Call Business - I

Base: All Respondents: 301

Level Of Service Provided
By First Non-eircom Supplier

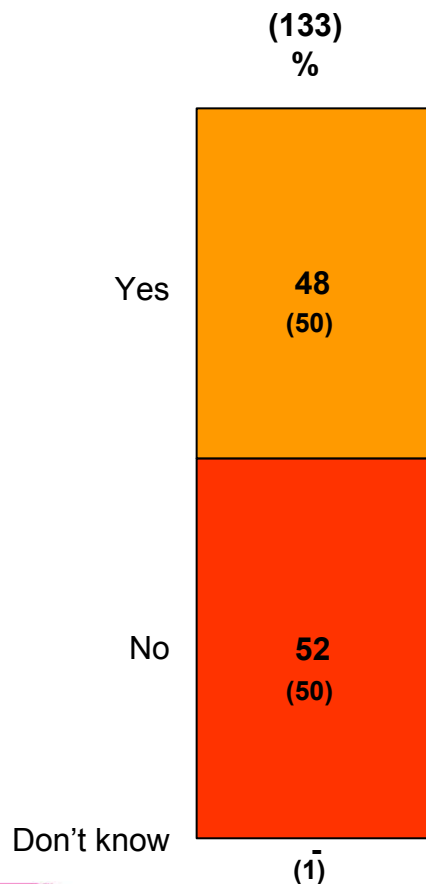
Ever Switched From Eircom



Switching Of Any Part Of Fixed Line Telephone Call Business – II

Base: All Switching Away From Eircom: 133

Ever Switched Back To Eircom

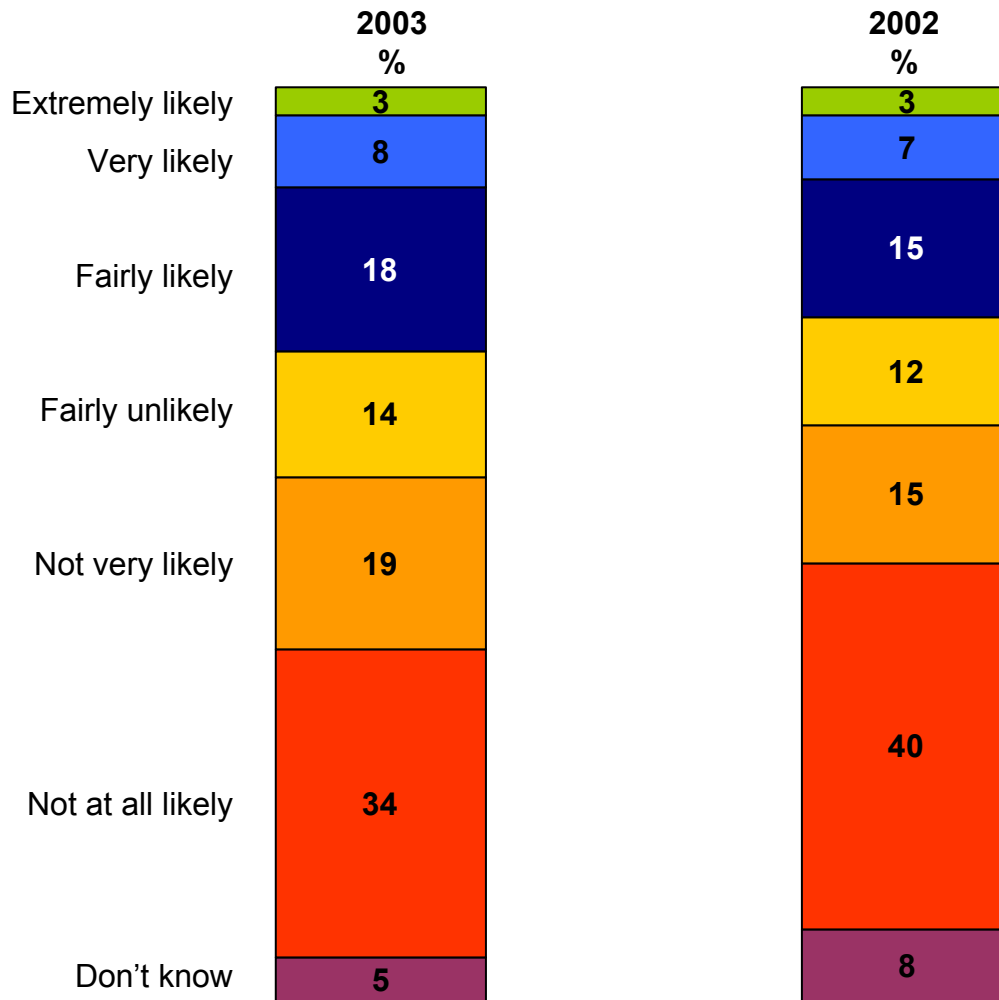


What Prompted Switching Back To Eircom?

Base:	64%
Visit from a sales person (original telecom supplier)	36
Telephone call from a sales person (original telecom supplier)	20
Advice from internal staff with knowledge	3
Advice from family/friends, general word of mouth	3
Advice form a consultant	2
Direct mail, brochures etc	6
General media	3
None of these	47

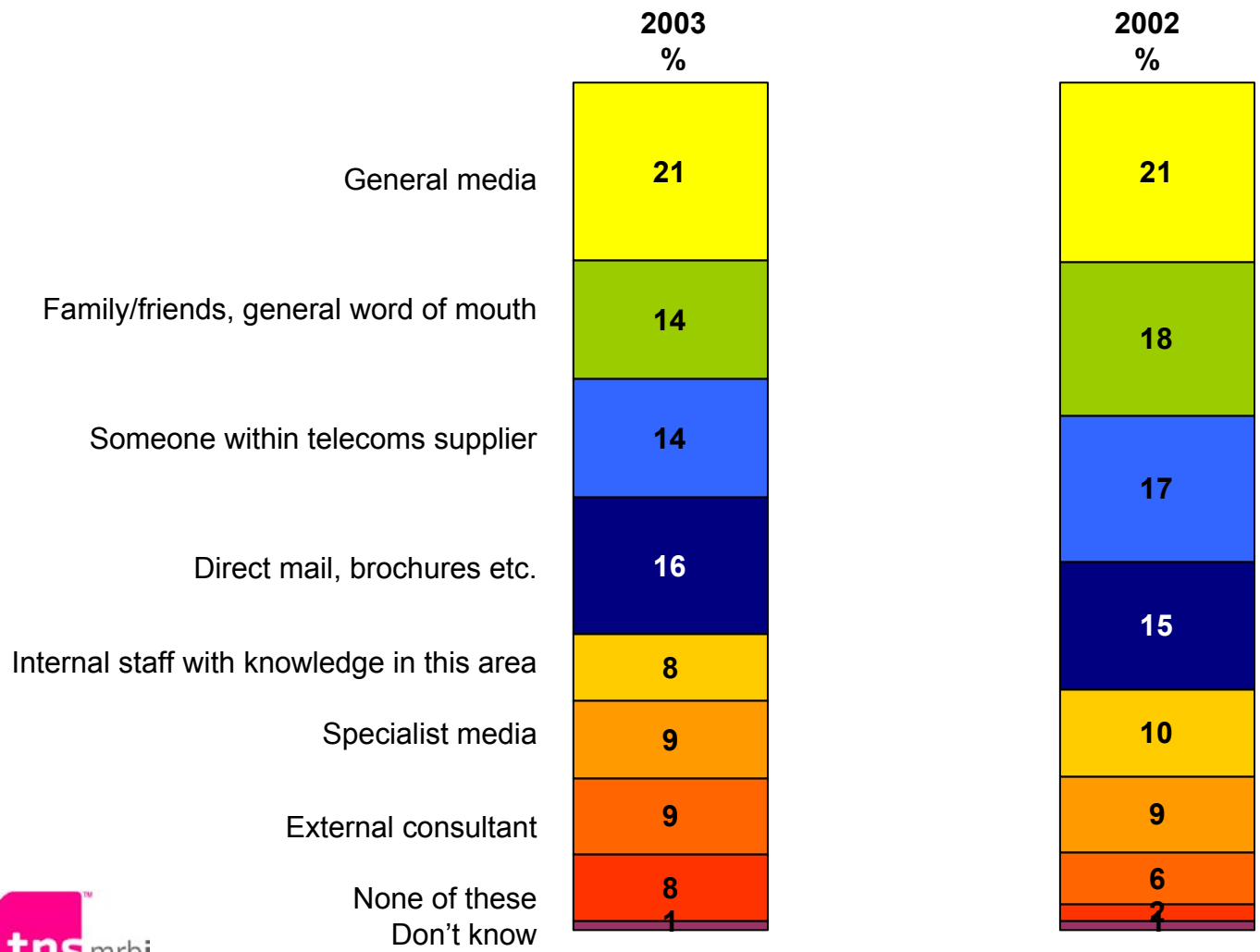
Likelihood Of Switching Fixed Line Telecoms Supplier In The Next 12 Months

Base: All Respondents: 301



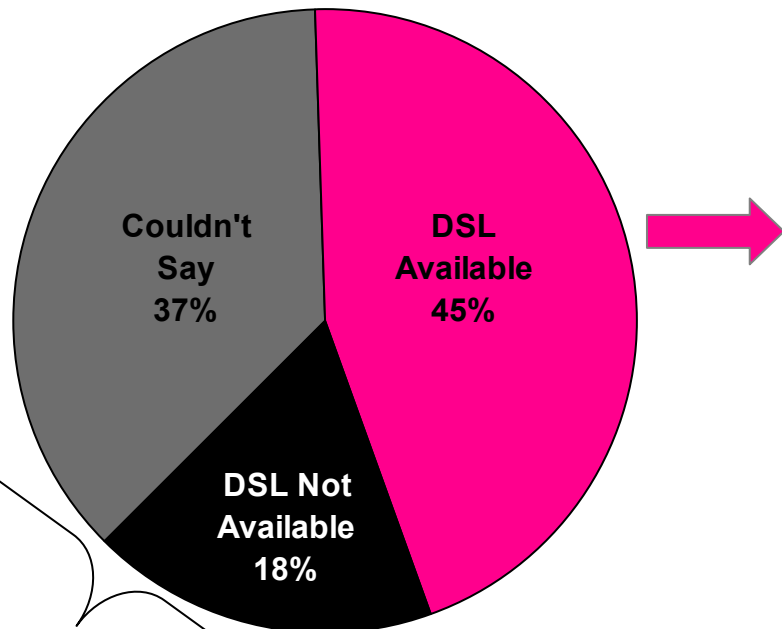
Sources Of Information Used To Find Out About Telecoms Services – Share of Voice

Base: All Respondents: 301



Availability Of DSL

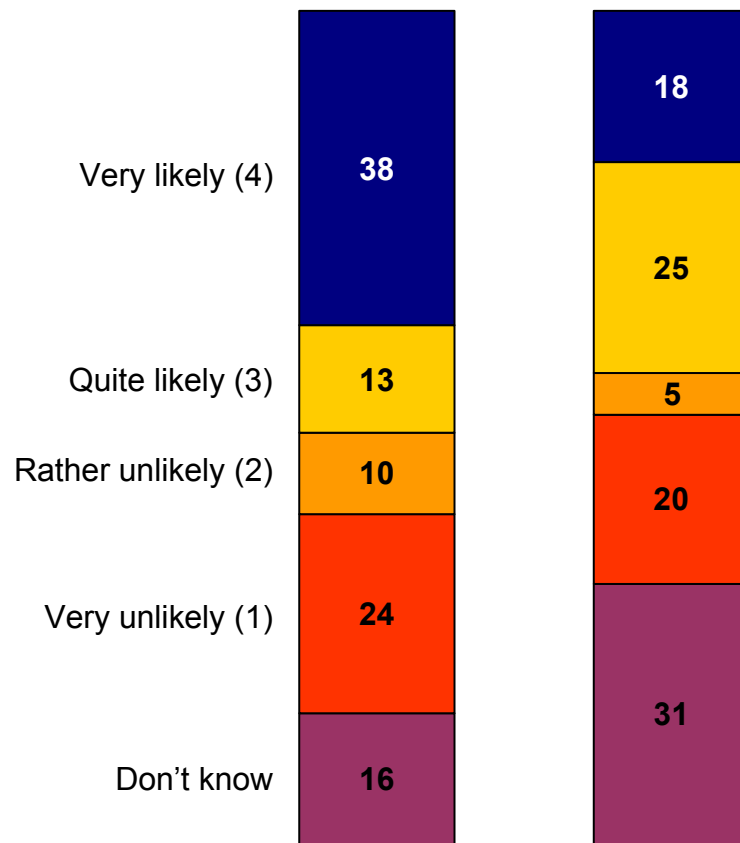
Base: All Respondents: 301



Likelihood Of Subscription

Where DSL is available
%

Where DSL not available
%



Mean Score 2.77

2.59

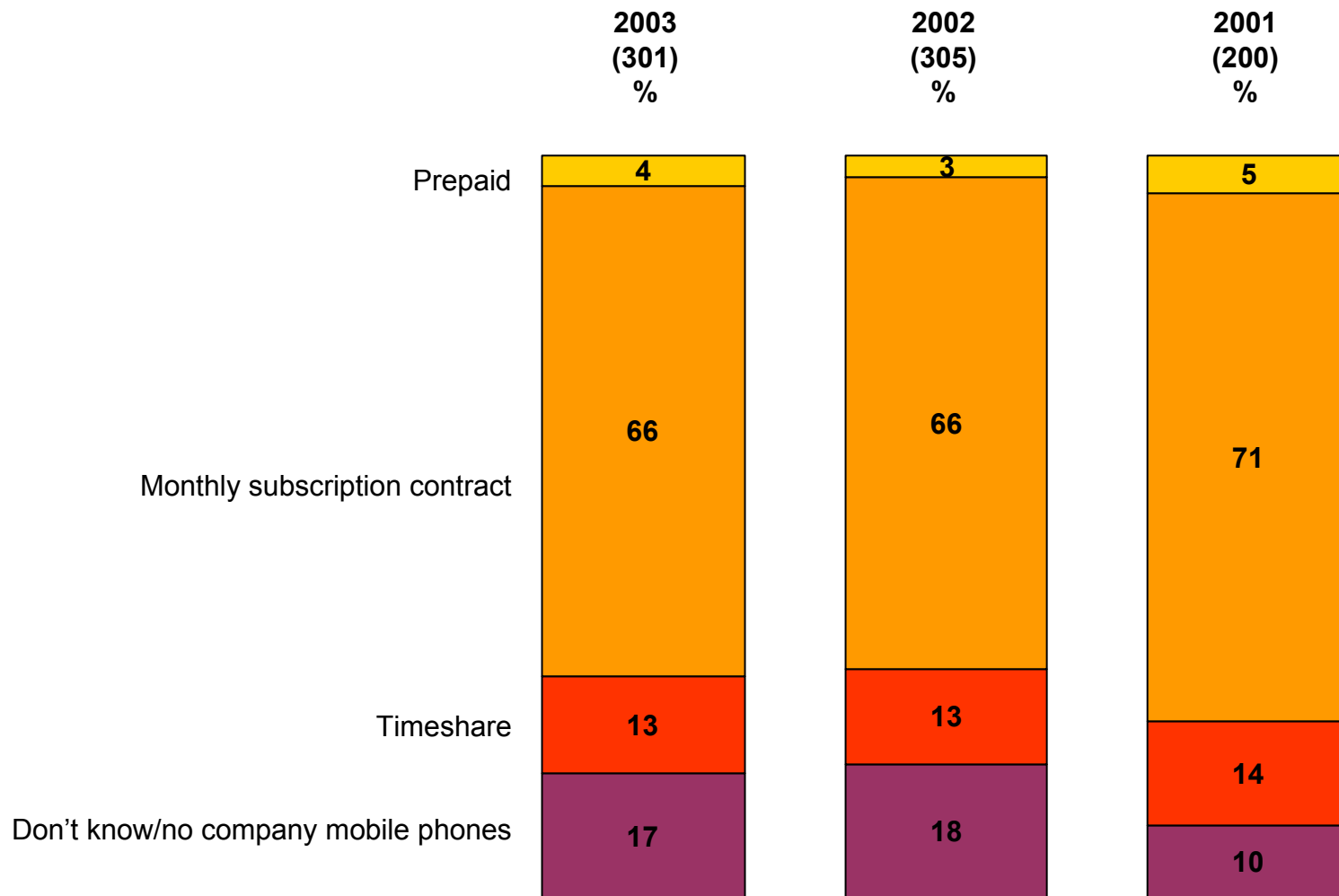
Whether Lack of DSL a disadvantage to business

Response	Percentage
Yes	22%
No	45%
Don't know	33%

Mobile Telephone Services

Mobile Phone Package Used

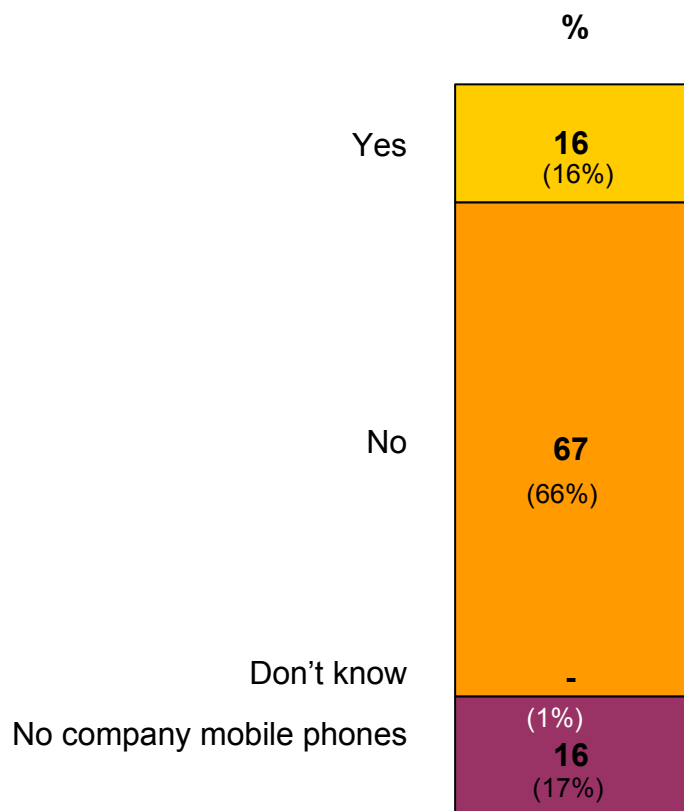
Base: All Respondents: 301



Quality Of Service From Mobile Operators

Base: All Respondents: 301

Any Difficulties Experienced?



Types Of Difficulty Experienced?

Base:	49
	%
Poor coverage	49
Problems with reception/signal	20
Dropped calls	14
Network poor/busy	16
Prices/high charges	8
Cutting off – no reach	8
Poor service/response	4
Other	12
Don't know	2

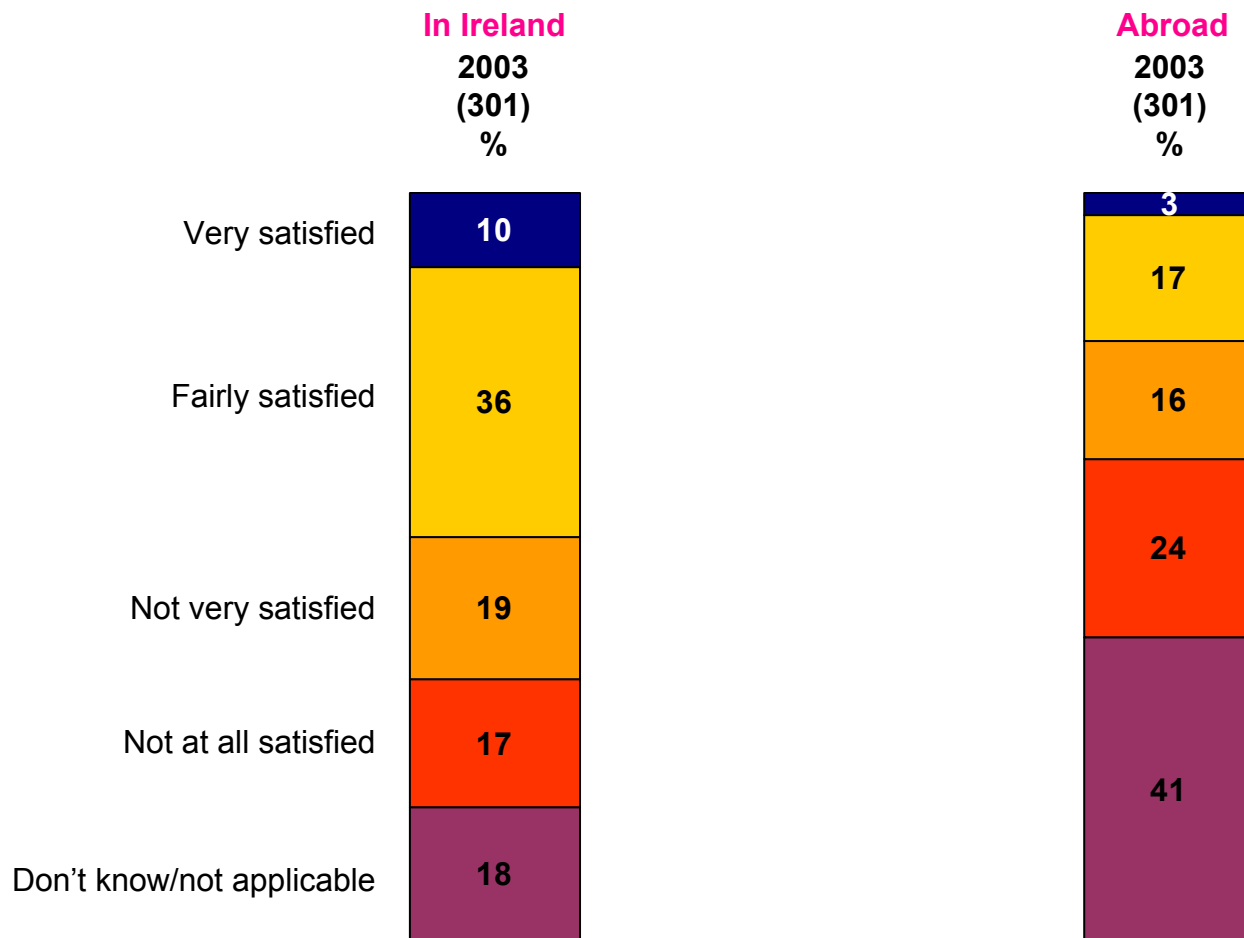


Whether Complaint Made To Operator

Base:	49
	%
Yes	35
No	63
Don't know	2

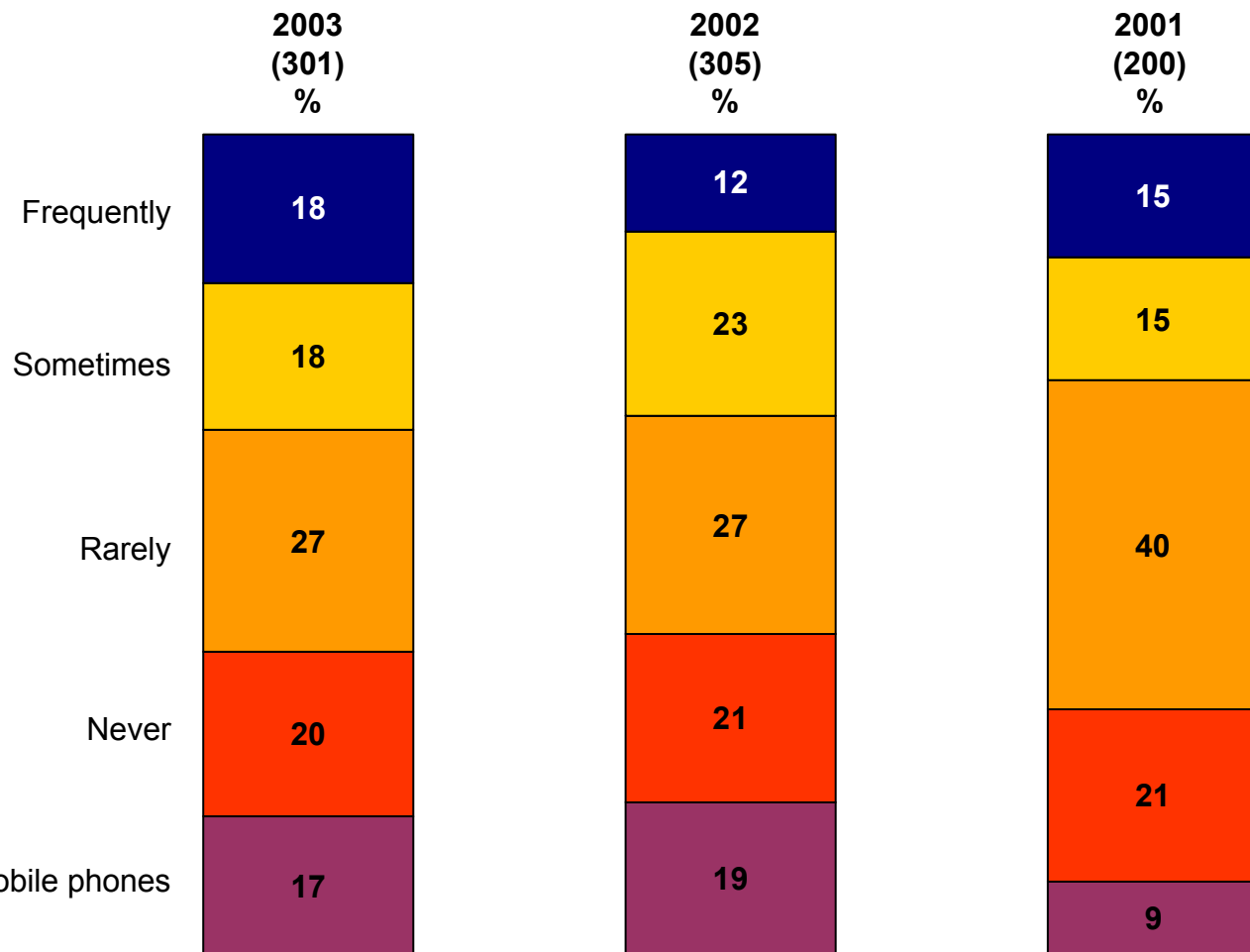
Satisfaction With The Cost Of Using Mobile Phones In Ireland/Abroad

Base: All Respondents: 301



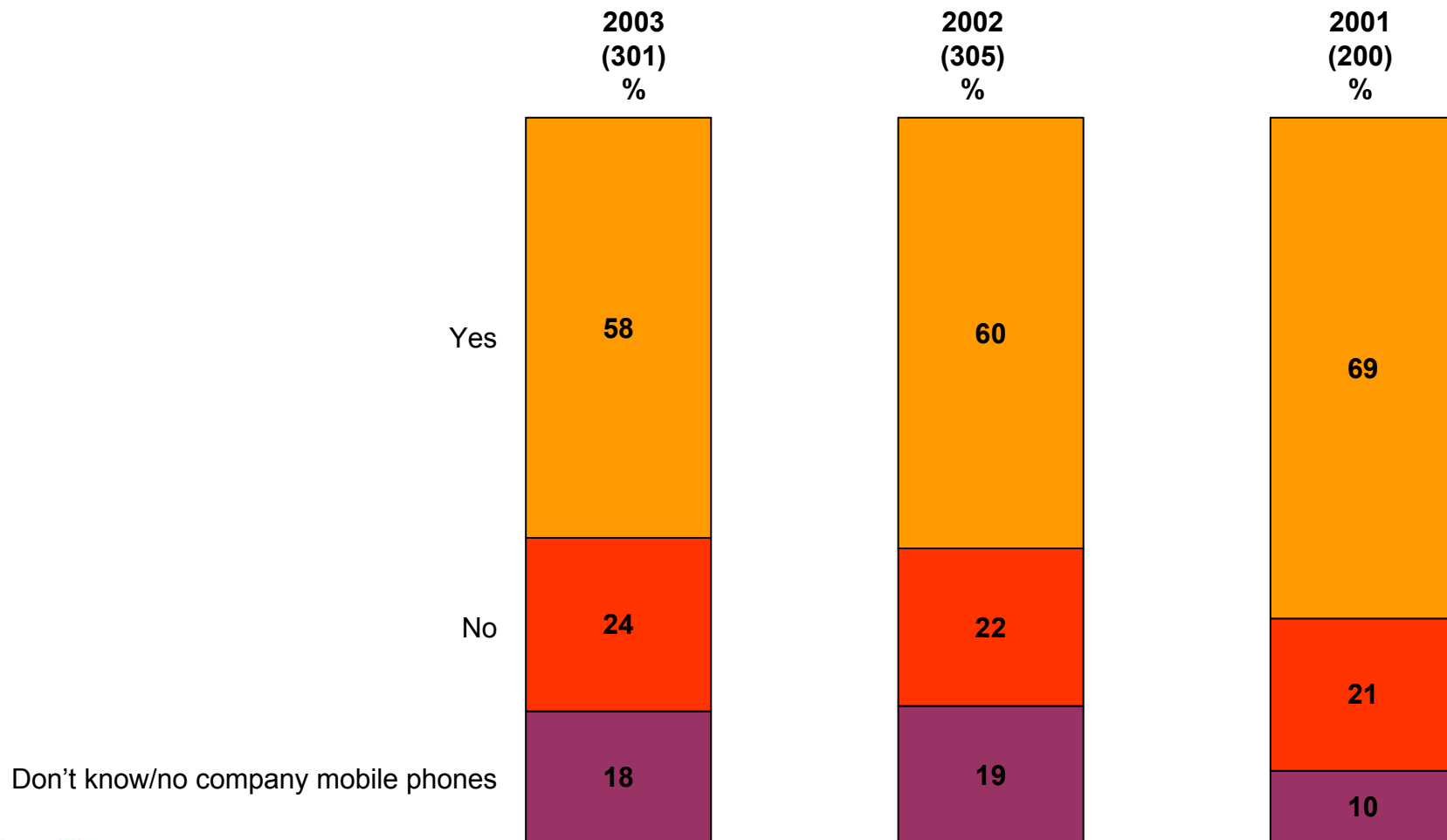
Mobile Phone Use Aboard

Base: All Respondents: 301



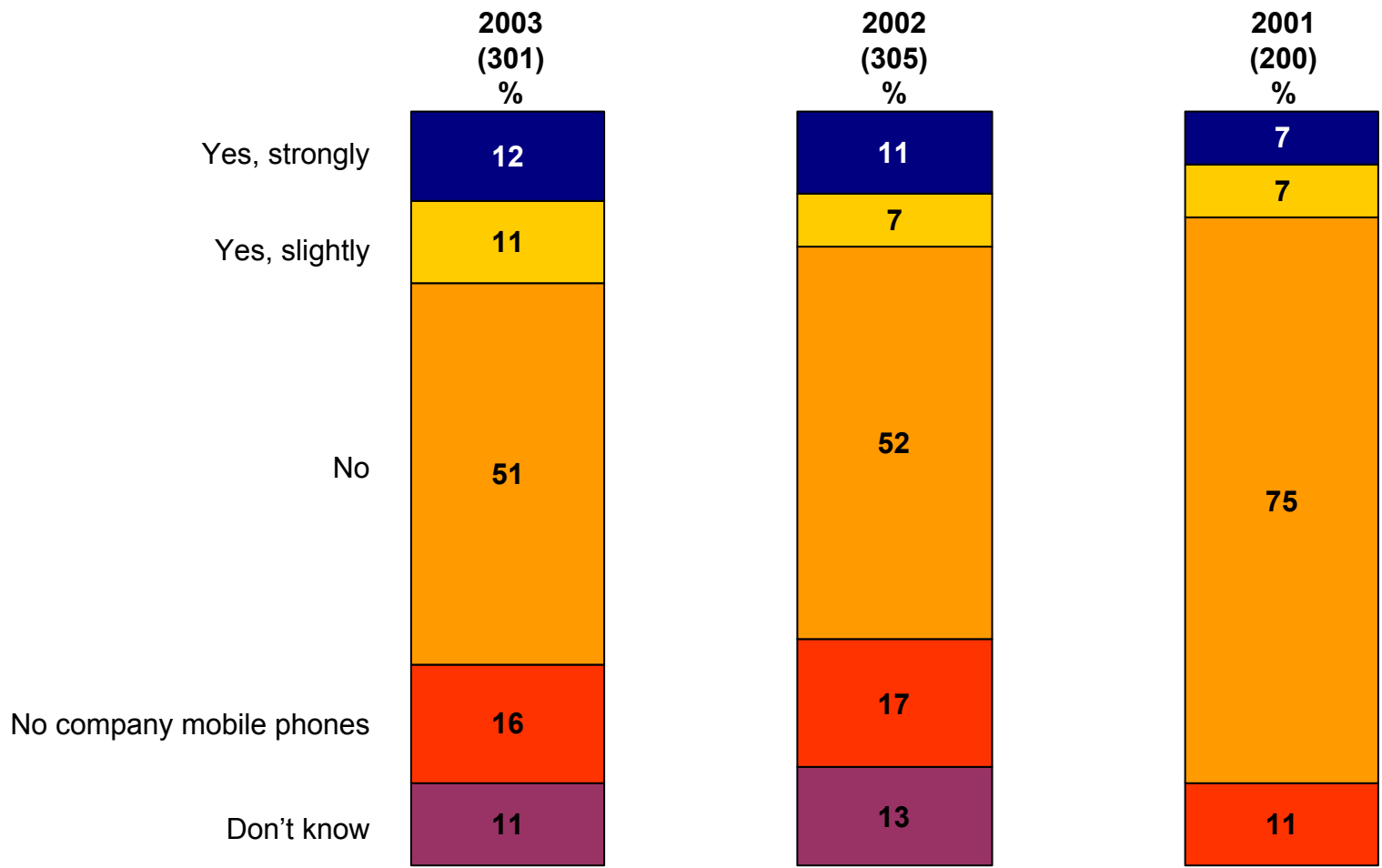
Awareness Of Difference In Cost Of Calling Another Mobile Network

Base: All Respondents: 301



Encourage Text Messaging

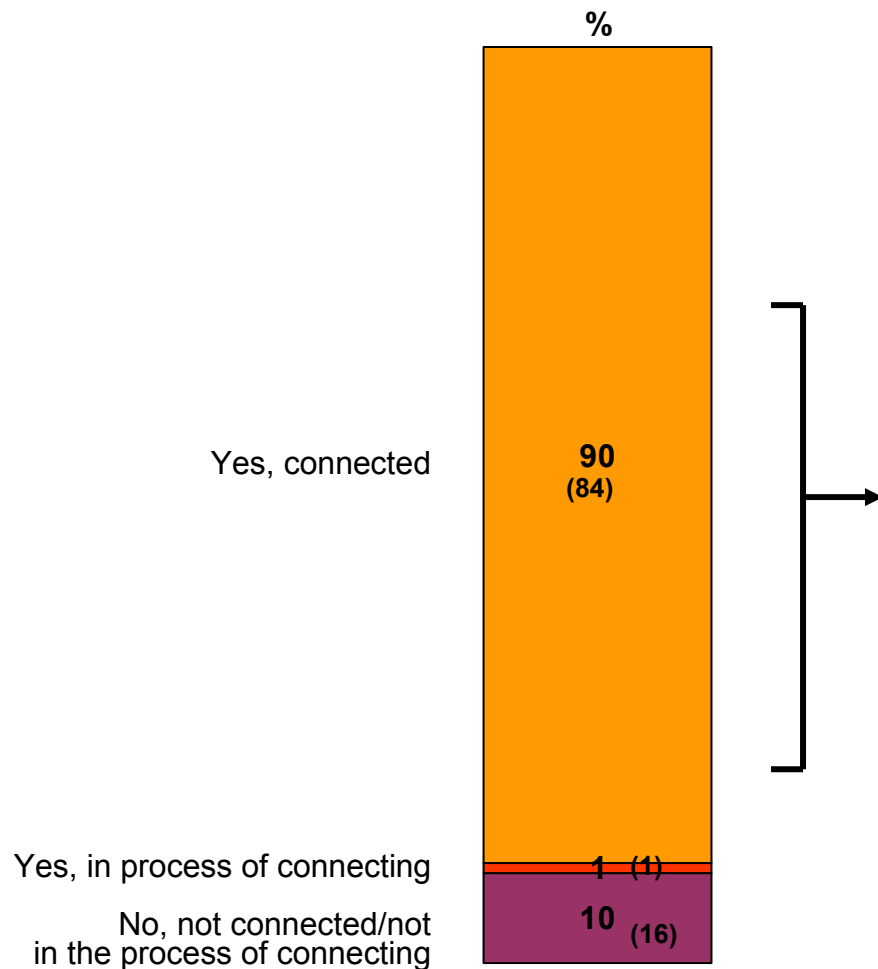
Base: All Respondents: 301



Internet Usage

Connection To The Internet

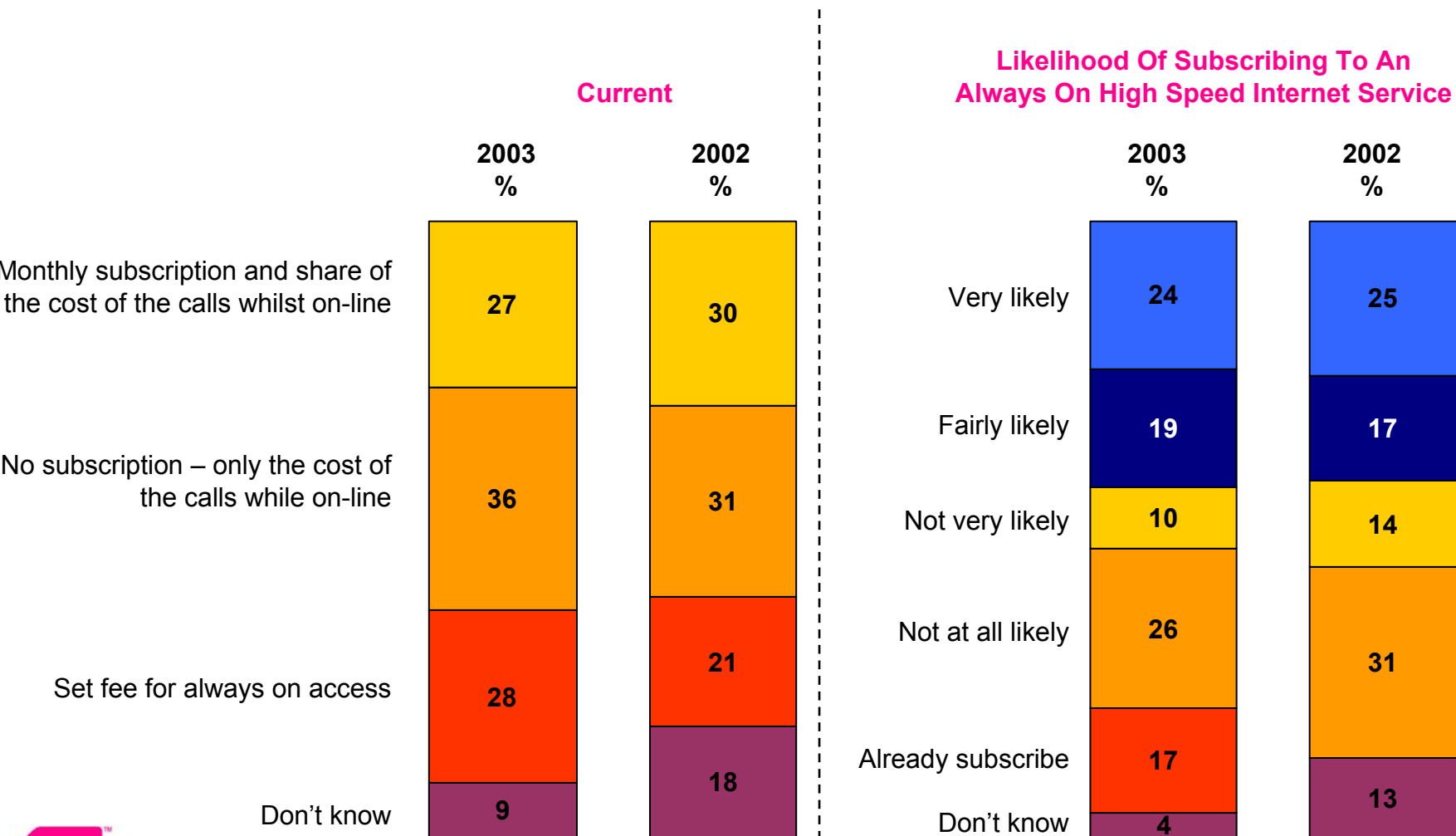
Base: All Respondents: 301



Internet Connection Speed	
Base:	(272)
	%
Ordinary phone line/dial up access	39
ISDN line	46
Dedicated lease line	8
DSL	10
Other	4
Don't know	1

Type Of Internet Package Used

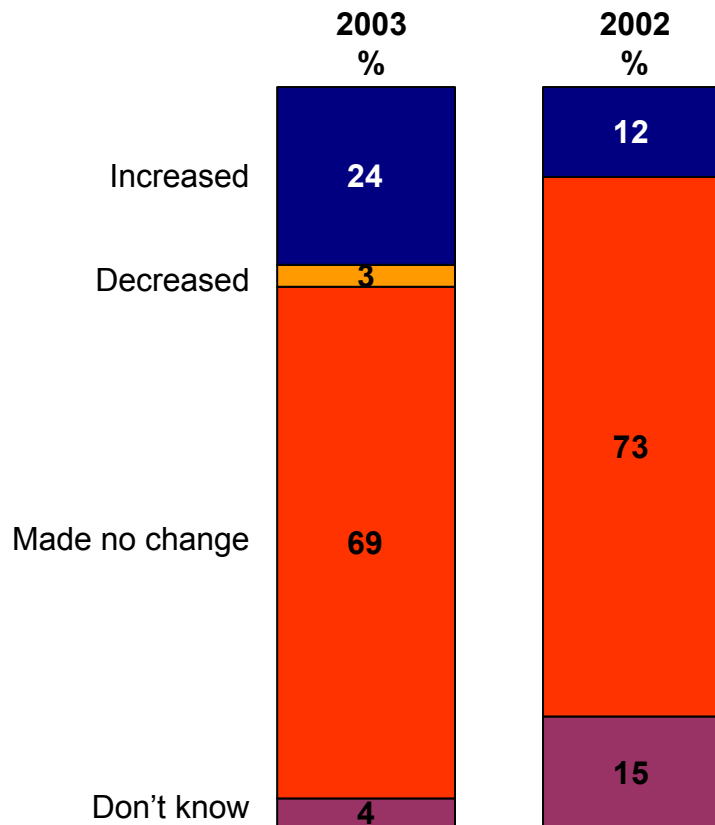
Base: All Connected To The Internet: 272



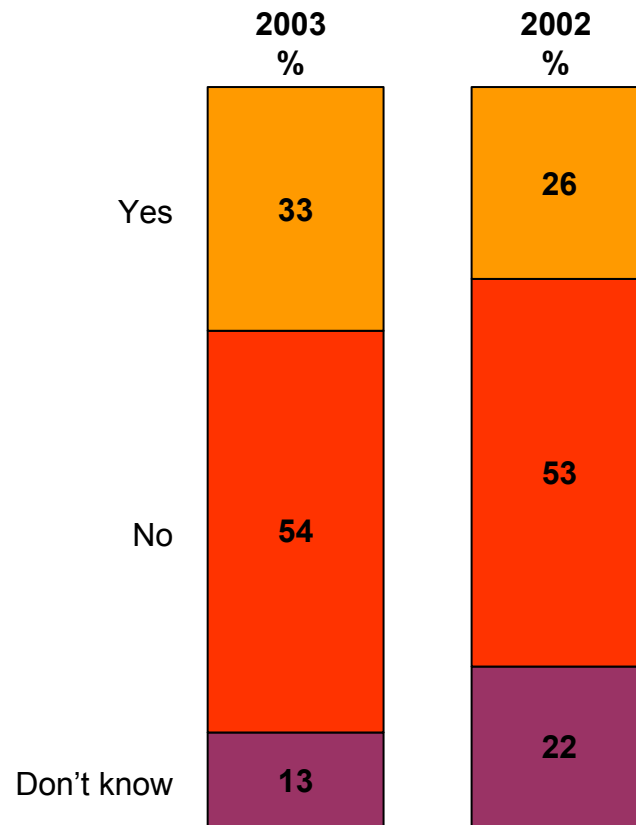
Bandwidth Connection

Base: All Connected To The Internet: 272

Changes To Bandwidth Connection In The Past 12 Months



Whether Plan To Increase Bandwidth Connection In The Next 12 Months



E-Business Applications Requiring Internet Use

Base: All Connected To The Internet: 272

	2003 (272) %	2002 (259) %	2001 (183) %
Email with suppliers/customers	87	79	80
Booking travel/accommodation	53	61	n/a
Sourcing competitor, market or other information from websites	61	58	84
On-line banking	60	56	49
E-mail within company	54	44	45
On-line purchasing from suppliers/orders from customers	41	39	32
On-line payments to suppliers/from customers	29	27	25
Communicating with newsgroups	19	21	14
Video conferencing	6	3	1
Other	2	1	1
Don't know	-	7	4

Internet Sites Used Most Regularly By Business, Excluding Search Engines

Base: All Connected To The Internet: 272

	2003 %	2002 %
Supplier websites	7	12
Ryanair	5	8
Aer Lingus	4	5
Travel and accommodation (general)	10	7
Banking	21	7
Media/news	3	6
Revenue On-line	3	3
Financial sites	2	-
Other Government	2	3
Business and industry related	12	3
Own website	2	-
Professional bodies	1	3
Eircom	3	2
Email	2	-
Other	16	14
Don't know	25	48

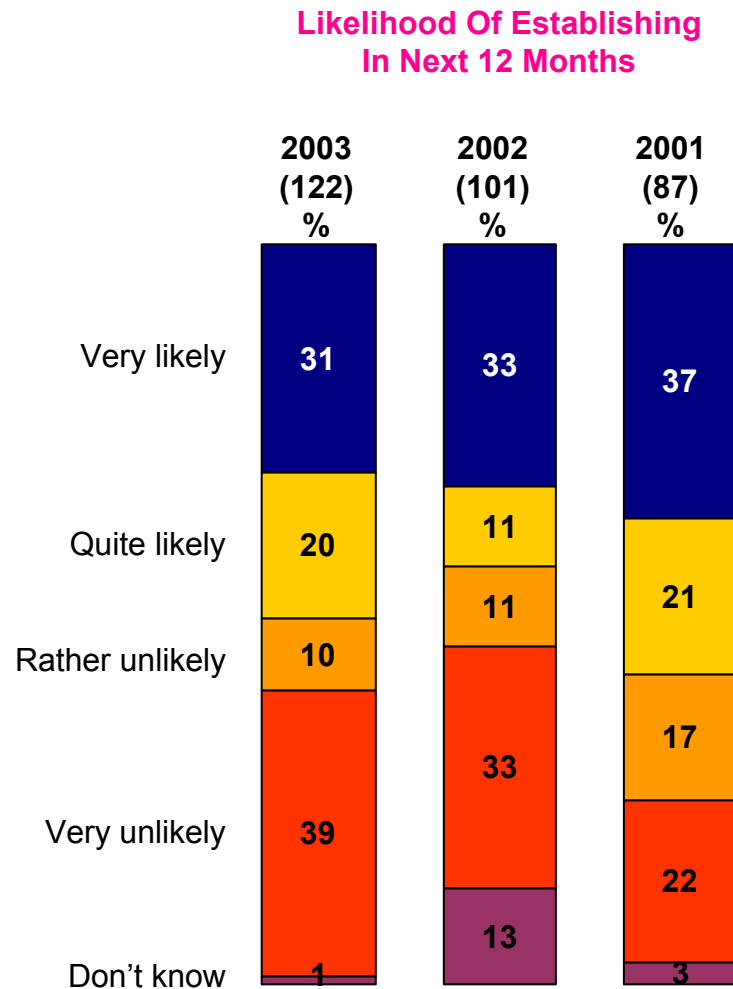
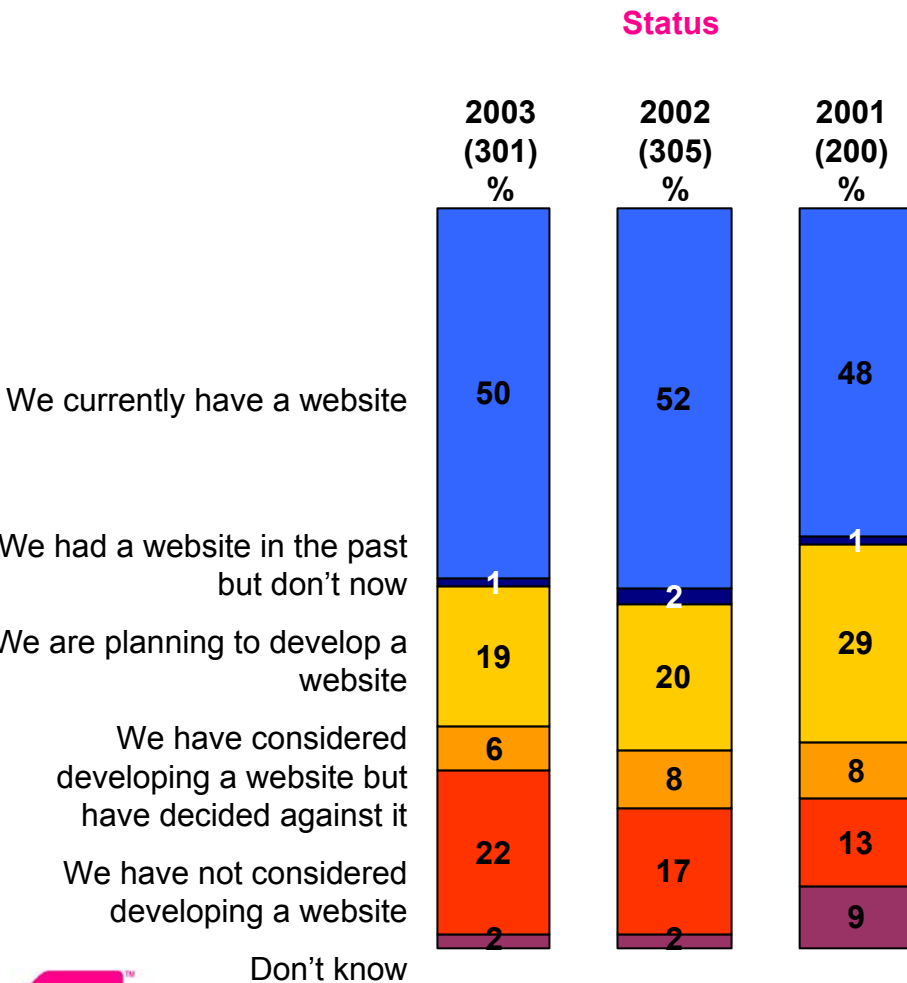
Effect Of Internet Sites Used On How Company Does Business

Base: All Connected To The Internet: 272

	2003 %	2002 %
Useful information tool/provides quick up to date info	12	14
Improves efficiency	6	8
Enhances selling and marketing	6	7
Time/labour saving	9	5
Provides helpful ideas and suggestions	3	3
Reduces paperwork	*	3
Easier/convenient	7	3
Cost effective	2	2
Makes travelling abroad easier	-	2
Big impact/positive influence in general	14	4
Marginal effect only	4	6
Nothing in particular	13	7
Other	1	3
Don't know	33	49

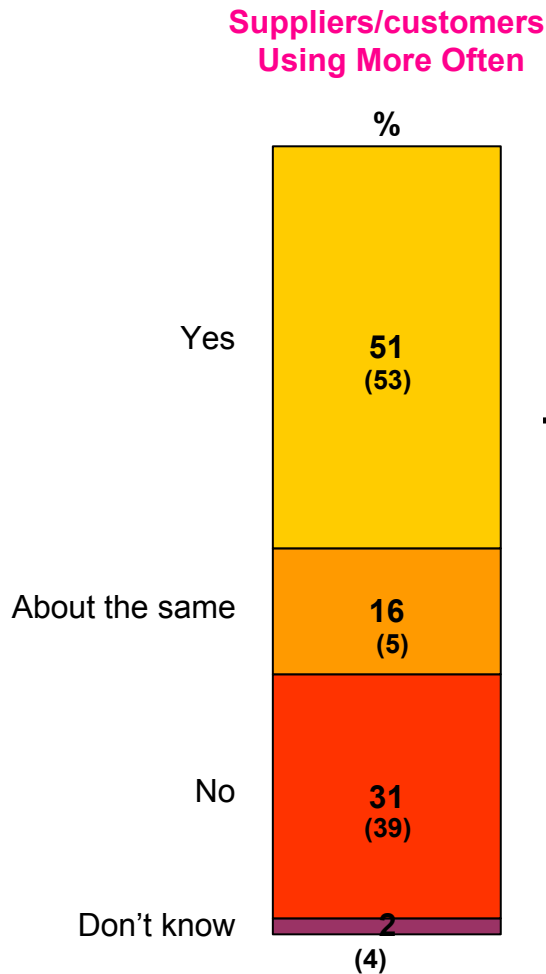
Company Website

Base: All Respondents: 301



Increased Use Of Internet By Suppliers And Customers

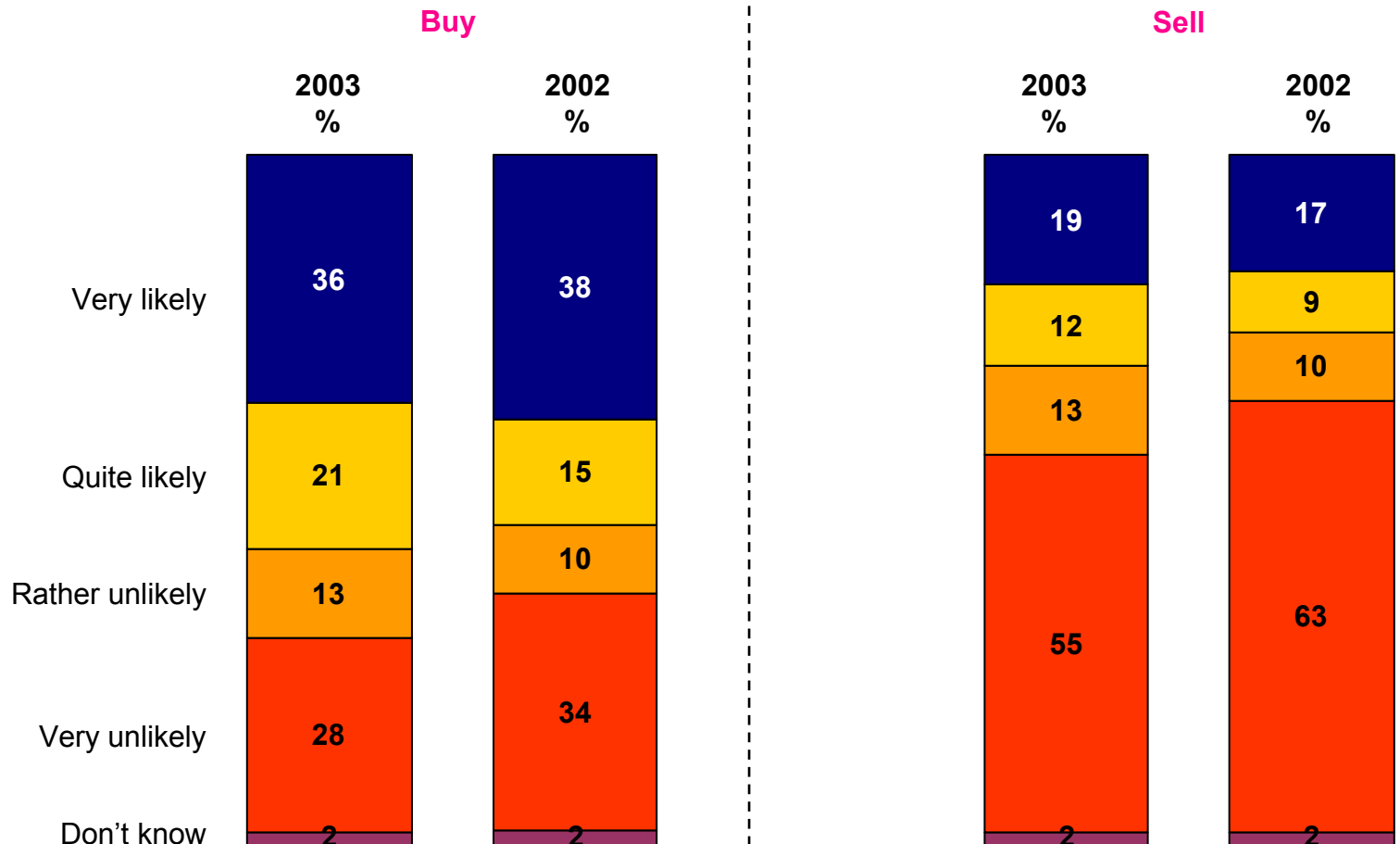
Base: All Respondents: 301



Customer/supplier Companies	
Base:	(155)
	%
Mainly domestic	55
Mainly international	12
Both	32
Don't know	1

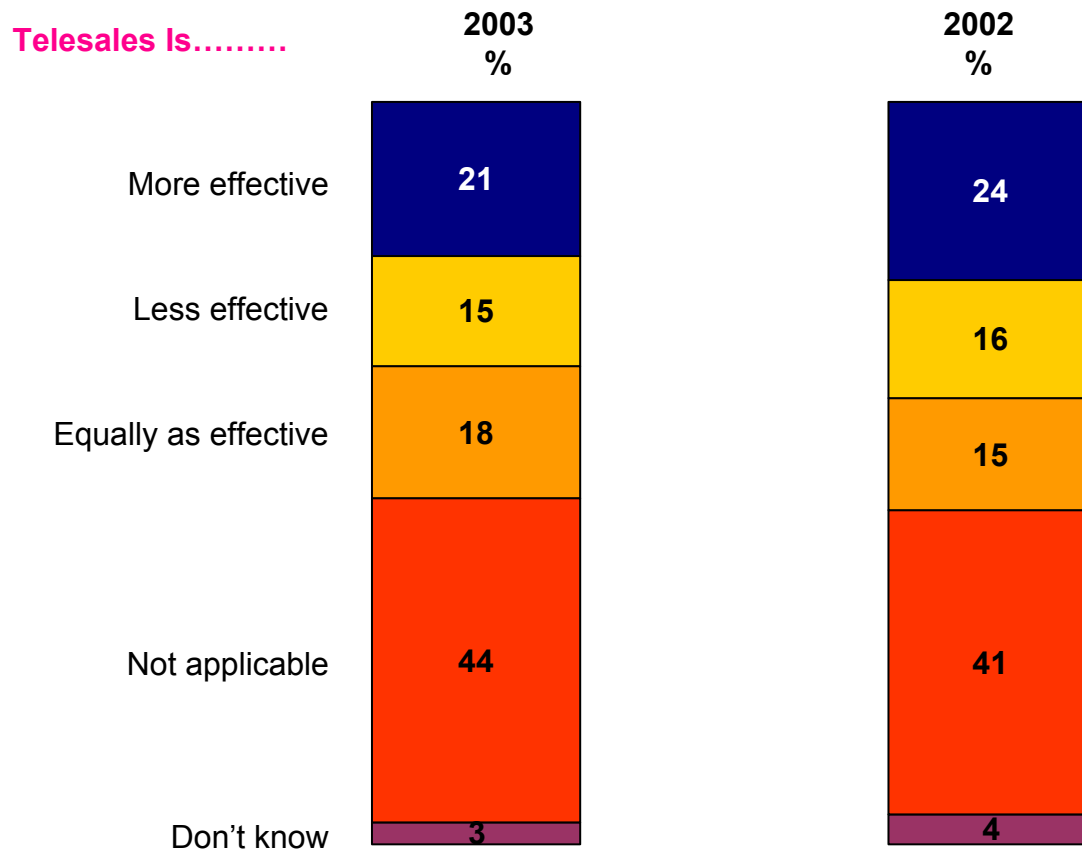
Likelihood Of Company Buying/Selling Something Over The Internet In The Next 12 Months

Base: All Respondents: 301



Comparison Between Telesales And The Internet For Selling Business

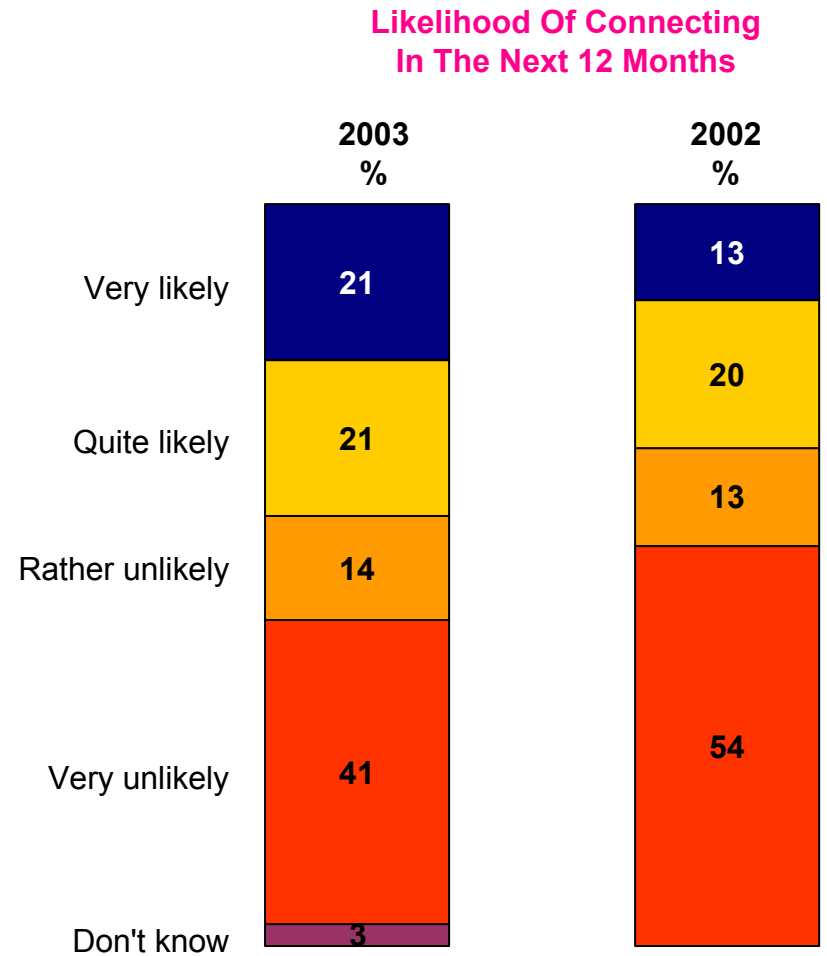
Base: All Respondents: 301



Reasons Why Not Connected To The Internet And Likelihood Of Connecting In Next 12 Months

Base: All Respondents Not Connected: 29*

Main Reason For Not Connecting To The Internet	Likelihood Of Connecting In The Next 12 Months	
	2003 %	2002 %
Internet could not assist the business in any way	28	(30)
Content and uses of the Internet are not relevant to the work the company carries out	24	(28)
Lack of knowledge about the equipment needed and how to use it	10	(7)
Security fears		(4)
Cost of the equipment	3	(4)
Call/subscription costs	-	(2)
Other	24	(17)
Don't know	10	



* Caution: Small base size

() = 2002 figures