

Central Asia + Information and Communication Technologies (CA+ICT) Project

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<http://depts.washington.edu/caict/>

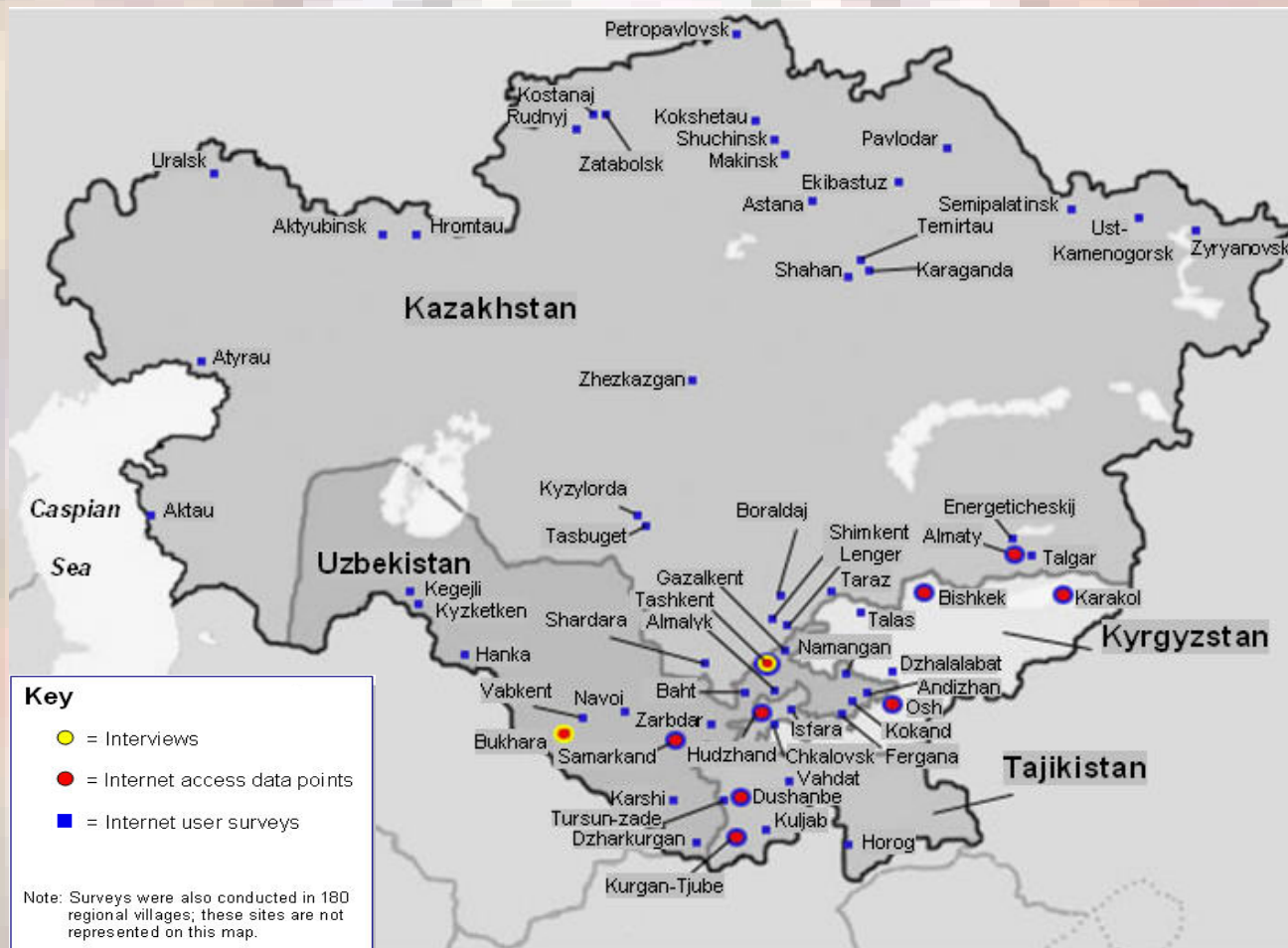
What is the CA+ICT Project?

- **Multi-year investigation of Internet and related technology developments in the five former Soviet Central Asian republics: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan**
- **Began in 2000; continues until 2008**
- **Based out of the Technical Communications department (College of Engineering)**
- **Explores how information technology affects life in Central Asia**
- **Examines novice users' adoption patterns**

Current Project Activities

- **Analyzing regional chat sites and cataloging forum usage to examine Internet culture**
- **Conducting regional surveys of Internet users and nonusers to determine how regional culture affects Internet usage and adoption**
- **Recording usage patterns and user statistics of regional Internet cafes to understand who uses computer technology and the types of technology available**
- **Interviewing teachers, health professionals, IT professionals and business people about Internet use to learn how they utilize the Internet in their professions**

Map of CA+ICT Activities in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan

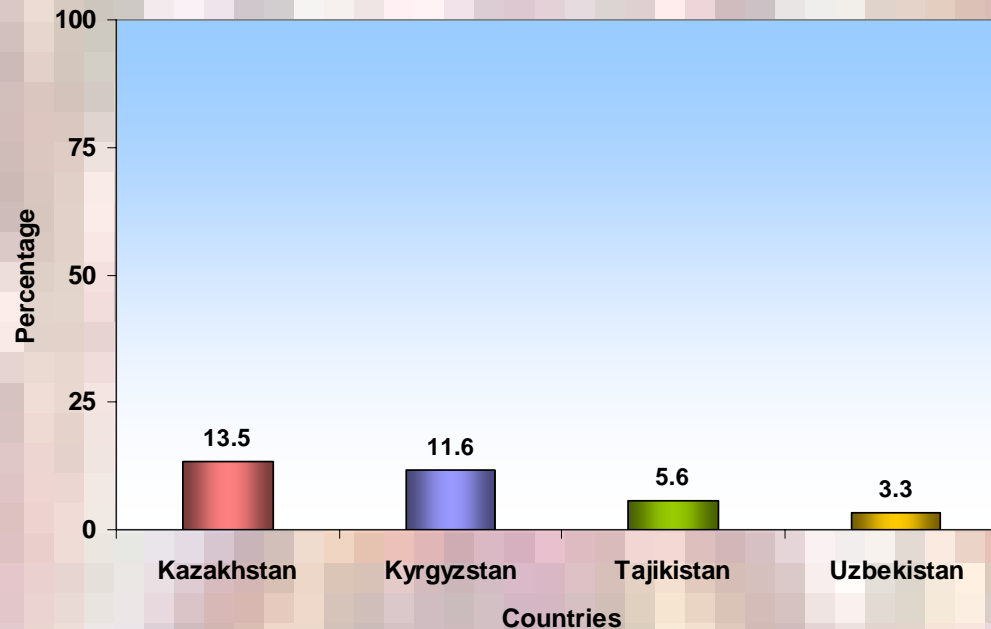


Turkmenistan not shown but being researched remotely

Internet Usage Surveys

- **Created and implemented a survey to study the effects of the Internet on culture in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan**
- **Survey questions asked respondents a variety of questions, including their views and trust of media and technology, information sources, and usage patterns of computers, mobile phones and other technology.**
- **Survey was conducted by BRIF, a Central Asian surveying firm, in January-March 2006. BRIF surveyed 1000 randomly selected households in cities and villages throughout each country. Survey will be repeated annually for the next three years.**

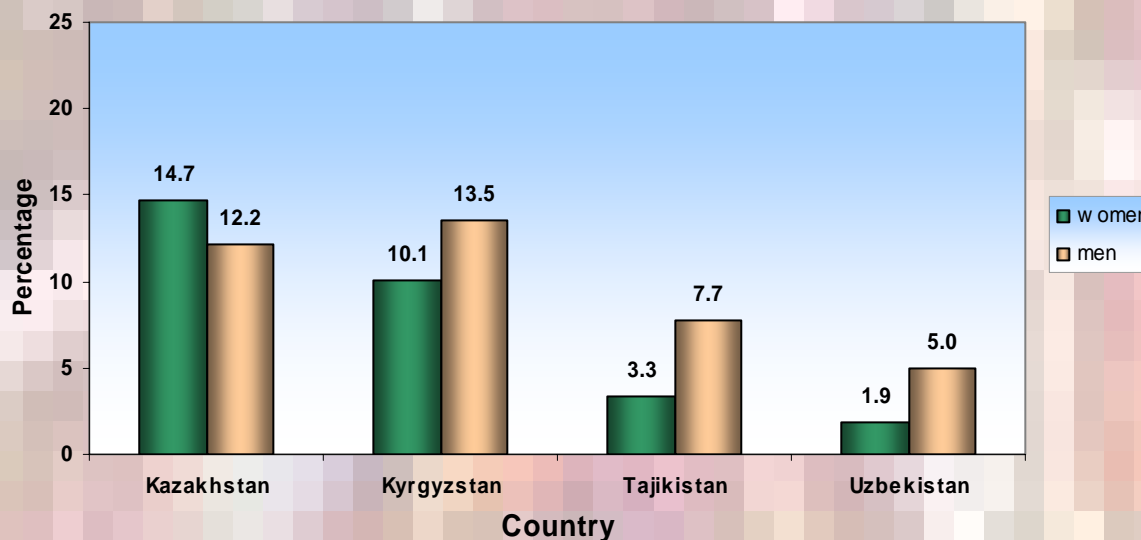
Internet Users by Country



Percentage of those sampled who responded that they use the Internet at least occasionally

N = 1000 for all countries

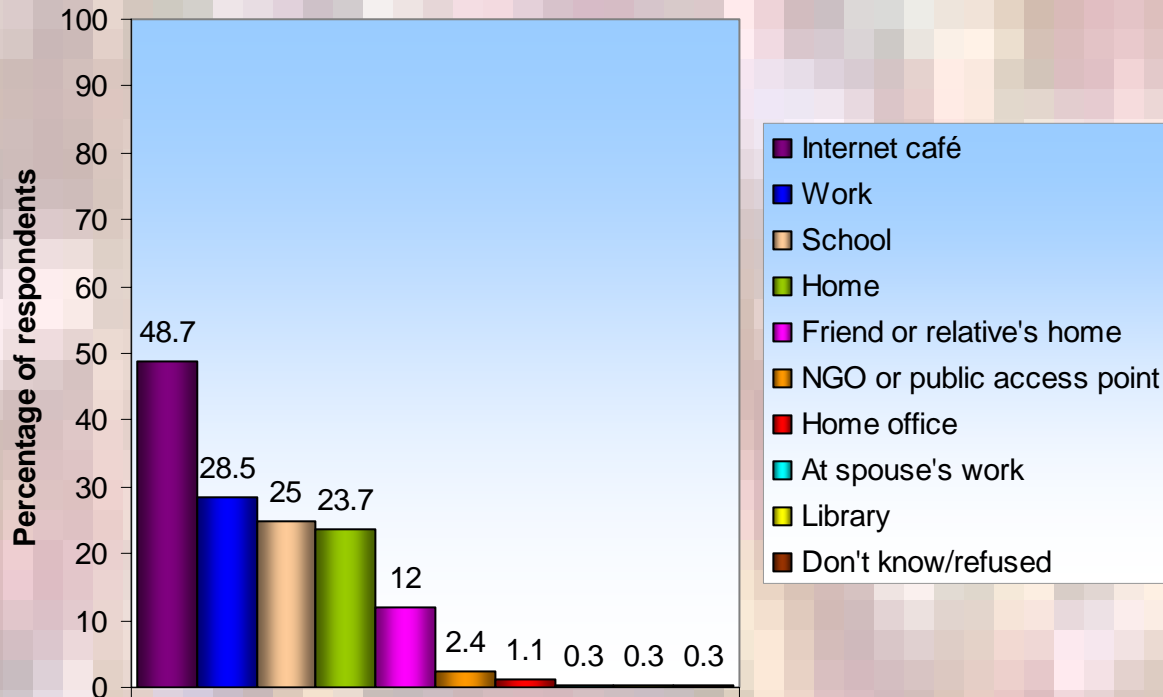
Internet Users by Gender



**Percentage of sampled men and women
who are Internet users, by country**

Source: BRIF survey, 2006

Internet Usage Locations



Internet use by location

N = 1000 interviewees for each country

Internet Access Point Surveys

- **Internet cafes are one of the primary locations for online access and gaming in the region.**
- **Regional research assistants visit Internet cafes and other access points on a monthly basis to report on customer volume, types of customers, and customer activities.**

Interviews with Professionals on how they use Computers and the Internet

- **2002 --Internet café system administrators in Uzbekistan**
- **2004 --Teachers in Uzbekistan who were part of a national online Connectivity Program and those not part of this program**
- **2005 --Medical and business professionals in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan**
- **2006 --IT professionals and NGO representatives in Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan**

Project Goals

- **Document and understand information-seeking behavior in regional populations**
- **Provide insight into how diverse communities adapt IT for their needs**
- **Create ICT for development projects**
- **Inform design processes in Central Asia or other emerging markets**
- **Develop localized software and recommendations for regional customization of Internet access points and communications technologies**