

### III. TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Ethiopian Telecommunication Corporation (ETC) is the sole state-owned telecom service provider in the country. According to the ETC's Annual Statistical Bulletin (2003/04, 39<sup>th</sup> issue), the Corporation provides national and international telecommunications services using various media of communication such as Satellite, Microwave Digital Radio Multi-access System (DRMAS), VSAT, UHF, VHF, Long Line and HF Radio. Currently, ETC is serving the public with its 904 public stations and exchanges, which showed 4.85 percent annual growth vis-à-vis the previous year. Consequently, the total number of fixed telephone subscription (residential, business, government and others) has increased from 610,347 in 2004/05 to 725,046 in 2005/06 revealing 13.25 percent annual increase over that of the previous year. The number of waiting list for fixed telephone subscribers, however, has decreased by 5.41 percent from 58,755 in 2004/05 to 56,053 in 2005/06 (Table 3.1).

At the same time, the number of mobile subscribers reached 866,700 in the review year demonstrating 100.13 percent growth over the previous year level of 410,630 subscribers.

In a related development, the number of Internet subscription went up from 17,710 in 2004/05 to 25,724 in the review year registering 42.8 percent increase.

Reflecting the increased performance in fixed telephone, mobile and Internet subscription, the country's telecommunication penetration rate (Tele-density excluding mobile or the number of telephone subscribers per 100 inhabitants) has increased from 0.83 in 2004/05 to 0.98 in 2005/06. The penetration rate was higher (2.14 per 100 inhabitants) when mobile subscriptions are included.

With respect to telephone traffic, the registered domestic traffic picked up by 13.44 percent from 2,341.99 million pulses in 2004/05 to 2,475.56 million pulses in 2005/06. Similarly, the outgoing international telephone traffic calls has increased from 8.6 million in 2004/05 to 11.48 million in 2005/06.

In the Country's five year development strategy "Partnership for Accelerated and Sustainable Development to End Poverty", (PASDEP), it is planned to increase the number of fixed line subscribers from 830,000 in 2005/06 to 3.2 million by the end of 2009/10. The number of Mobile subscribers and internet users, on the other hand, is expected to pick up to a respective 6.76 million and 193,100 by the end of the plan period from 1.465 million and 48,970 in 2005/06.

**Table 3.1: SUMMARY OF BASIC TELECOM STATISTICS**  
**[1983 - 1998 E.F.Y (1990/91 - 2005/2006 G.C)]**

No.	ITEM	1983 (1990/91)	1984 (1991/92)	1985 (1992/93)	1986 (1993/94)	1987 (1994/95)	1988 (1995/96)	1989 (1996/97)	1990 (1997/98)	1991 (1998/99)	1992 (1999/00)	1993 (2000/01)	1994 (2001/02)	1995 (2002/03)	1996 (2003/04)	1997 (2004/05)	1998 (2005/06)	Annual Growth (%)
<b>1</b>	<b>PUBLIC STATIONS &amp; EXCHANGES (1.2+1.3+1.5)</b>	512	466	475	486	512	536	548	563	573	606	649	700	770	784	865	<b>904</b>	4.85
1.1	Automatic Exchanges	38	35	36	37	40	44	47	53	82	112	129	150	156	171	273	<b>423</b>	19.48
1.2	Automatic Stations	24	21	22	23	26	30	32	37	58	79	93	105	122	142	242	<b>391</b>	23.23
1.3	Manual Exchanges (Stations)	388	367	375	388	403	403	403	403	390	382	356	347	341	335	256	<b>136</b>	-6.85
1.4	Manual Stations with Semi-Auto. Facility	-	-	55	74	113	153	155	175	181	331	259	306	313	310	239	<b>131</b>	6.90
1.5	Pay Stations & R.R.C	100	78	78	75	83	103	113	123	125	145	200	248	307	307	368	<b>378</b>	11.93
1.6	Total Exchange Capacity	175653	164273	169622	172742	179094	190177	196322	211108	372885	458247	511474	600337	649593	722548	872228	<b>1,022,399</b>	13.95
1.7	Automatic Exchange capacity	148908	137708	142756	143756	150556	161180	167252	182911	348644	433299	490724	579,589	629,477	703,160	857,374	<b>1,016,111</b>	15.34
1.8	Manual Exchange capacity	26745	26565	26866	28986	28538	28997	29070	28197	24241	24948	20750	20,748	20,116	19,388	14,854	<b>6,288</b>	-9.78
1.9	% Digital by Capacity	-	-	-	37.20	35.88	34.33	34.82	40.51	67.49	73.60	80.30	83.22	89.64	97.18	98.30	<b>99.38</b>	8.53
1.10	% Digital by Total Connected Lines / DEL /	-	-	-	39.34	38.87	38.15	37.95	39.88	51.98	61.90	74.02	80.9	89.9	97.80	93.84	<b>98.24</b>	7.92
<b>2</b>	<b>SUBSCRIPTION</b>																	
<b>2.1</b>	<b>Telephone Subscriber Lines</b>	133091	127041	132478	137731	142452	148739	156538	164140	194494	231945	283683	353,816	404790	484368	610347	<b>725,046</b>	13.25
2.2	Waiting list for telephone	123140	122066	141035	160939	178992	193499	206562	230225	224788	196883	155208	139,095	146,062	156,963	58,755	<b>56,053</b>	-5.41
2.3	DEL's	136945	130609	136102	141650	146566	153001	160861	168639	199474	238495	290887	361,688	413,186	494,008	620,661	<b>738,805</b>	13.18
2.4	PBX's	1280	1179	1251	1271	1317	1338	1476	1544	1615	1241	1419	1386	1322	1348	-	-	1.12
2.5	Coin Boxes	1027	964	988	997	1005	1010	1008	1014	1016	957	935	1,610	1,759	1,813	2,585	<b>4,294</b>	11.26
2.6	Number of facsimile subscriber's	247	506	745	1039	1424	1604	2012	2476	3010	3555	3858	4231	4601	4925	-	-	20.88
2.7	Number of facsimile machines	261	520	762	1057	1445	1624	2038	2502	3034	3594	3890	4271	4649	4978	-	-	20.71
2.8	Number of Internet Subscribers	-	-	-	-	-	-	1042	2068	2163	2461	4073	6740	9534	12155	17,710.00	<b>25,724</b>	42.80
2.9	Mobile Telephone Subscription	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6740	17757	27532	42910	51234	155,534	410,630	<b>866,700</b>	100.13
2.10	Percentage of lines residential/business	61.3/19.7	62/19.6	62.4/19.6	63.4/17.7	62/18	62/19	62/20	61/20	62/19	63/20	67/19	70/17.7	70.5/16.5	72.5/16.6	74/16.5	<b>71.2/15.8</b>	-
2.11	Number of Digital Data Circuits	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	129	178	-	-	37.98
2.12	Number of Digital Data Customers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	65	91	-	-	40.00
<b>3</b>	<b>TELEPHONE TRAFFIC (millions)</b>																	
3.1	Metered (pulses)	395.9	423.5	470.8	523.6	540	568.3	619.45	704.4	786.42	1010.21	1253.41	1573.99	1890.37	2,225.14	2,341.99	<b>2,475.56</b>	13.44
3.2	Interurban calls (via operator)	4.4	3	3.7	4.4	5.4	6.08	6.65	7.22	6.78	7.72	10.37	12.73	14.18	15.57	-	-	14.71
3.3	International calls (OG)	1.7	2.1	2.8	3.1	3.1	3.41	3.56	3.94	4.08	4.36	4.62	4.62	4.93	6.67	8.57	<b>11.48</b>	12.90
3.4	International minutes (OG)	8.9	10.1	10.9	11.5	10.5	10.35	10.69	11.84	12.45	13.42	13.42	12.88	14.31	17.70	20.59	<b>28.68</b>	7.74
3.5	International calls (IC)	2.7	3.24	4.09	4.49	5.45	6.47	6.76	7.11	8.15	7.68	8.63	<b>8.71</b>	-	-	-	-	10.39

**Table 3.1: SUMMARY OF BASIC TELECOM STATISTICS**

cont.. [1983 - 1998 E.F.Y (1990/91 - 2005/2006 G.C) ]

No.	ITEMS	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	Growt h
		(1990/91)	(1991/92)	(1992/93)	(1993/94)	(1994/95)	(1995/96)	(1996/97)	(1997/98)	(1998/99)	(1999/00)	(2000/01)	(2001/02)	(2002/03)	(2003/04)	(2004/05)	(2005/06)	(%)
3.6	International minutes (IC)	17.92	20.76	22.88	23.17	26.15	32.5	38.14	38.8	38.59	36.73	42.71	35.56	54.81	133.68	199.12	240.01	19.10
<b>4</b>	<b>Mobile Telepand Internet Traffic</b>																	
4.1	Mobile -Local (million mins.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26.76	60.80	77.01	120.75	165.76	N.A.	N.A.	57.76
4.2	Mobile -International (million mins.)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.41	2.43	2.45	3.34	3.83	N.A.	N.A.	28.38
4.3	Internet Traffic ( ' 000 hours )										334.60	577.11	622.05	2,325.33	3,285.74	N.A.	N.A.	77.02
<b>5</b>	<b>TELEGRAPH MESSAGES (Thousands)</b>																	
5.1	National	257.6	142	152.4	153.5	165.9	183.3	158.2	124.3	126	107.2	102.6	85.9	80.3	64.34	55.04	-	-7.03
5.2	International (OG)	11.7	6.5	5	3	3	2.7	2.3	1.6	1.2	1.4	0.66	0.41	0.95	0.36	0.109	-	-26.98
<b>6</b>	<b>INTERNATIONAL CIRCUITS</b>																	
6.1	Satellite Telephone Circuits	189	191	247	346	345	369	350	386	386	380	427	430	514	802	1816	1,749	17.14
6.2	Microwave Telephone Circuits	67	69	49	91	91	186	193	25	25	26	53	53	109	109	137	167	6.52
6.3	Submarine Cable	18	18	18	18	24	24	24	-	-	-	25	73	102	101	250	578	28.12
<b>7</b>	<b>PERSONNEL</b>																	
	Male	3969	3639	3434	3352	3514	3470	3582	3861	4267	4607	4868	5058	5416	5987	6763	7,764	5.56
	Female	2035	1853	1862	1870	1982	1993	2037	2225	2306	2476	2502	2522	2497	2632	3015	3,470	4.58
	Total	6004	5492	5296	5222	5496	5463	5619	6086	6573	7083	7370	7580	7913	8619	9778	11,234	5.24
<b>8</b>	<b>FINANCE</b>																	
8.1	Income (Millions Birr)	187.10	192.00	253.40	292.10	445.80	496.73	551.80	624.34	624.09	720.37	932.19	914.82	1042.66	1241.76	1820.00	N.A	18.89
8.2	Expense (Millions Birr)	145.90	148.40	154.30	179.20	194.46	199.98	222.30	280.86	285.64	371.12	718.74	468.40	487.43	638.42	826.46	N.A	14.12
8.3	Gross Profit (Millions Birr)	41.20	43.60	99.10	112.90	251.34	296.75	329.50	343.48	338.45	349.25	213.45	446.42	555.23	603.34	993.54	N.A	27.19
8.4	ASSETS (Millions Birr)																	
8.5	Fixed Gross (Millions Birr)	479.10	493.20	536.80	573.20	603.49	695.34	731.35	837.47	911.46	1218.92	1611.42	1818.60	2340.06	2596.34	2806.21	N.A	14.31
8.6	Depreciation (Millions Birr)	252.10	276.80	302.10	326.10	348.65	376.35	408.26	442.62	483.4	544.72	630.09	748.28	918.89	1101.38	1256.37	N.A	12.34
8.7	Net Asset (Millions Birr)	227.00	216.40	234.70	247.10	254.84	318.99	323.09	394.85	428.08	674.20	981.33	1070.32	1421.17	1494.96	1549.84	N.A	16.35
<b>9</b>	<b>Population /in millions/</b>	-	49.90	51.43	53.02	54.65	56.37	58.12	59.88	61.67	63.49	65.3947	67.22	69.13	71.10	73.20	75.2	2.97
<b>10</b>	<b>Teledensity</b>	-	0.25	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.27	0.27	0.32	0.37	0.43	0.53	0.59	0.68	0.83	0.98	10.11
<b>11</b>	<b>Teledensity Including Mobile</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.33	0.39	0.48	0.59	0.66	0.90	1.39	2.14	30.82

Source: Ethiopian Telecommunication Corporation, Annual Statistical Bulletin, 2005/2006

Note: Annual growth is computed for the years 1984 - 1998 E.F.Y.