

## 2. Users/Clients

The tables and graphs in this section together give an impression of the users/clients of the NRENs.

Tables 2.1 through 2.5 list information about the number of institutions connected to NRENs as well as about the bandwidth at which institutions are connected. A number of things are important to note in this context:

The setup of Universities and other institutes can be very different from country to country. For example, in some countries Research Institutions are part of Universities; in other countries, they are not. Some countries have relatively few but large Universities, others have relatively many, but smaller ones. Also, some countries have listed entire Universities as one institution, others have counted faculties or schools that form part of a University but are geographically at different locations as different institutions.

Absolutely no conclusion can be drawn about the situation in countries not included in the tables. Various cases may apply:

- \* The NREN may connect the relevant institutions, but may not have been able to answer these questions in the survey;
- \* The Institutions may be connected through a different organisation. For example, secondary schools in many countries are connected to the Internet through separate organisations, federated in the European Schoolnet; <http://www.eun.org> provides more information about this;
- \* Institutions may be connected through commercial ISPs;
- \* Institutions may not be connected to the Internet at all.

The graphs in section 2.6 give an overview of the percentage of Universities connected at different bandwidths in different parts of Europe.

In addition to the absolute number of connected institutions, it is of course interesting to know the 'market share' of the NRENs: what percentage of the institutions of a certain type in a given country do they connect? Information about this aspect is provided in section 2.7.

In addition to knowing the number of institutions connected, it is also interesting to have an estimate of the percentage of students at those institutions that can actually have access to the Internet through the NREN. Information about this aspect is provided in section 2.8.

Finally, section 2.9 gives information about the Acceptable Use Policies of the NRENs. This includes both information about what types of institutions the NRENs are allowed to connect and about any traffic or usage restrictions applied.

Taken together, the information in this section gives a reasonable indication of the policies regarding users, the user base and the market shares of the NRENs that have provided the relevant information.