

Special Report

Did You Know?

August 2007

DID YOU KNOW?

In the time it takes to read this document:

- 60 babies will be born in the U.S.
- 244 babies will be born in China.
- 351 babies will be born in India.

Sometimes Size *Does* Matter:

- China will soon become the country in the world with the largest number of English speaking people.
- If you're "one-in-a-million" in China, there are 1,300 people just like you.
- In India, there are 1,100 people just like you.
- If you took every single job in the U.S. today and shipped it to China, that nation still would have a labor surplus.
- The 25% of the Chinese population that has the highest IQs exceeds the population of North America.
- In India, it's 28% of the population.
- **Translation for Teachers:** They have more honors kids than we have kids.

DID YOU KNOW?

According to the U.S. Department of Labor:

- Someone entering the labor market today will have 10 to 14 jobs by age 38.
- 1 out of 4 workers today is working for a company for which he, or she, has been employed less than one year.
- More than 1 out of 2 are working for a company for which he, or she, has worked less than five years.

According to former Secretary of Education Richard Riley:

- The top 10 jobs that will be in demand in 2010 most probably did not exist in 2004.
- We are currently preparing students for jobs that do not exist yet, using technologies that haven't yet been invented, in order to solve problems we don't even know are problems yet.

On The Internet:

- The U.S. is a woeful 20th in the world in broadband Internet penetration (Luxembourg just passed us).
- 1 out of every 8 couples married in the U.S. last year met on-line.
- There are over 120 million registered users of MySpace as of August, 2007.
- If MySpace were a country, it would be the 11th largest in the world (between Japan and Mexico).
- On average, MySpace pages overall are visited 30 times a day.

NAME THIS COUNTRY

- Richest in the world;
- Largest military;
- Center of world business and finance;
- Strongest education system;
- World center of innovation and invention;
- Currency, the world standard of value;
- Highest standard of living.
- **England—but back in 1900!**

DID YOU KNOW?

We are living in exponential times:

- There are over 2.7 billion searches performed on Google each month. To whom were these questions addressed B.G. (Before Google)?
- The number of text messages sent and received every day exceeds the population of this planet.
- There are about 540,000 words in the English language—about five times as many as during Shakespeare’s time.
- More than 3,000 new books are published daily in the U.S.

- It is estimated that a week's worth of The New York Times contains more information than a person was likely to come across in a lifetime in the 18th century.
- It is estimated that 1.5 exabytes (1.5 x 10¹⁸) of unique new information will be generated worldwide this year. That's estimated to be more than in the previous 5,000 years.
- The amount of new technical information is doubling every two years. For students starting a four-year technical or college degree, this means that much of what they learn in their first year of study may be outdated by their third year of study. It is predicted to double every 72 hours by 2010.
- Third-generation fiber optics has recently been tested by both NEC and Alcatel, able to push 10 trillion bits per second down one strand of fiber. That's 1,900 CDs or 150 million simultaneous phone calls every second. It is currently tripling about every six months and is expected to do so for at least the next 20 years. The fiber is already there—they're just improving the switch ends, which means the marginal cost of these improvements is effectively \$0.
- Predictions are that e-paper will be cheaper than real paper.
- 47 million laptops were shipped worldwide last year. The \$100 Laptop Project is expecting to ship between 50 to 100 million laptops a year to children in underdeveloped countries.
- Predictions are that by 2013 a supercomputer will be built that exceeds the intellectual capability of the human brain.
- By 2023, when today's first graders will be just 23 years old and beginning their first careers, a \$1,000 computer will be able to exceed the capability of the human brain.
- And while technology predictions further out than 15 years are hard to make, some experts believe that by 2049 a \$1,000 computer will exceed the reasoning capabilities of the human race.

Now You Know!