

## Canadian Students Say Technology Rules!

*Homework ranks as the number one use for technology, according to new survey released by Microsoft Canada*

**Mississauga, ON É April 5, 2006** . Technology has made deep inroads among Canadian students as more than half of respondents said it is important or extremely important to have the latest and greatest technology, according to survey results released today by Microsoft Canada Co. The survey also indicates that students ranked homework as their number one use of technology (99 per cent), overshadowing communicating online via email, chat and IM (96 per cent), and listening to music (87 per cent).

Survey results also show students are using technology in devious ways; almost half of respondents had tried downloading an essay to hand in as their own, hacking into a secured network, downloading music illegally, stealing wireless signal, or downloading pornography. Beyond the traditional desktop, CD players and mobile phones, students are also exploring newer technologies including PVRs (16 per cent), high definition TV (11 per cent) and VoIP (nine per cent). Some students have taken technology to a new social level as 19 per cent of respondents admitted to dumping their boyfriend or girlfriend online.

According to the survey, male and female students are equally comfortable using technology, however, 10 per cent more males than females claimed to be proficient at using computers. Male students also showed more eagerness to test the technology waters as 61 per cent said they were most knowledgeable about learning new software, compared to females at 53 per cent. Unlike males who favoured technology for entertainment purposes, building Web sites and programming, females were more likely to use the computer for blogging and job searching.

Students also pointed to the need for better technology in academic institutions. When asked what would be most important to them in a new school, 61 per cent of male students said "Acquiring better software and having wireless access was more important to male students than females."

This survey underscores the fact that students are embracing technology and are hungry for more. This tech-savvy generation will bring a range of beneficial skills to the workplace when they graduate, helping to boost the technology sector and the Canadian economy. Academic Program Manager, Microsoft Canada.

Microsoft is committed to working with schools and students to increase exposure to advanced technology and leading software and prepare them for the technology-driven future.

The online survey of nearly 1,000 Canadian students from grade 11 to second-year university and college students from ages 17. 20, was conducted by Youthography.

### Other interesting findings:

- 94 per cent of students say technology has improved doing research for school
- 43 per cent of respondents have downloaded music illegally; 40 per cent say they do it often

- The most common excuse used by students for not doing their homework is "I forgot" at 55 per cent; "I don't have time" is second for females at 30 per cent, whereas 28 per cent of males used the "I forgot" excuse next most often
- 43 per cent of respondents agreed that technology has improved their awareness of world events
- Almost 13 per cent have downloaded pornography; 22 per cent say they do it often

### **About Microsoft Canada**

Established in 1985, Microsoft Canada Co. is the Canadian subsidiary of Microsoft Corporation (Nasdaq "MSFT") the worldwide leader in software, services and solutions that help people and businesses realize their full potential. Microsoft Canada provides nationwide sales, marketing, consulting and local support services in both French and English. Headquartered in Mississauga, Microsoft Canada has 10 regional offices across the country dedicated to empowering people through great software - any time, any place and on any device. For more information on Microsoft Canada, please visit [www.microsoft.ca](http://www.microsoft.ca)

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