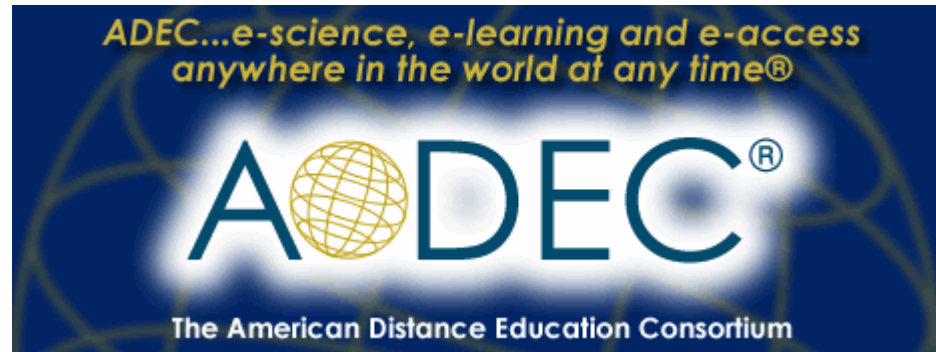


Rural Learners: Internet Uses Through Broadband Connections

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My Role as a Concurrent Session Speaker



- To Entertain
- To Encourage/
Enliven/Inspire
- To serve as an
Expert/Sage

I remember, though, this one definition of an expert:

- “EX” \ *prefix* \ used to be, defunct, no more, or gone away
- “SPURT” \ *n* \ drips under pressure; or \ *vb* \ gushes forth



Or Nicholas Murray Butler's oft-cited definition of an expert

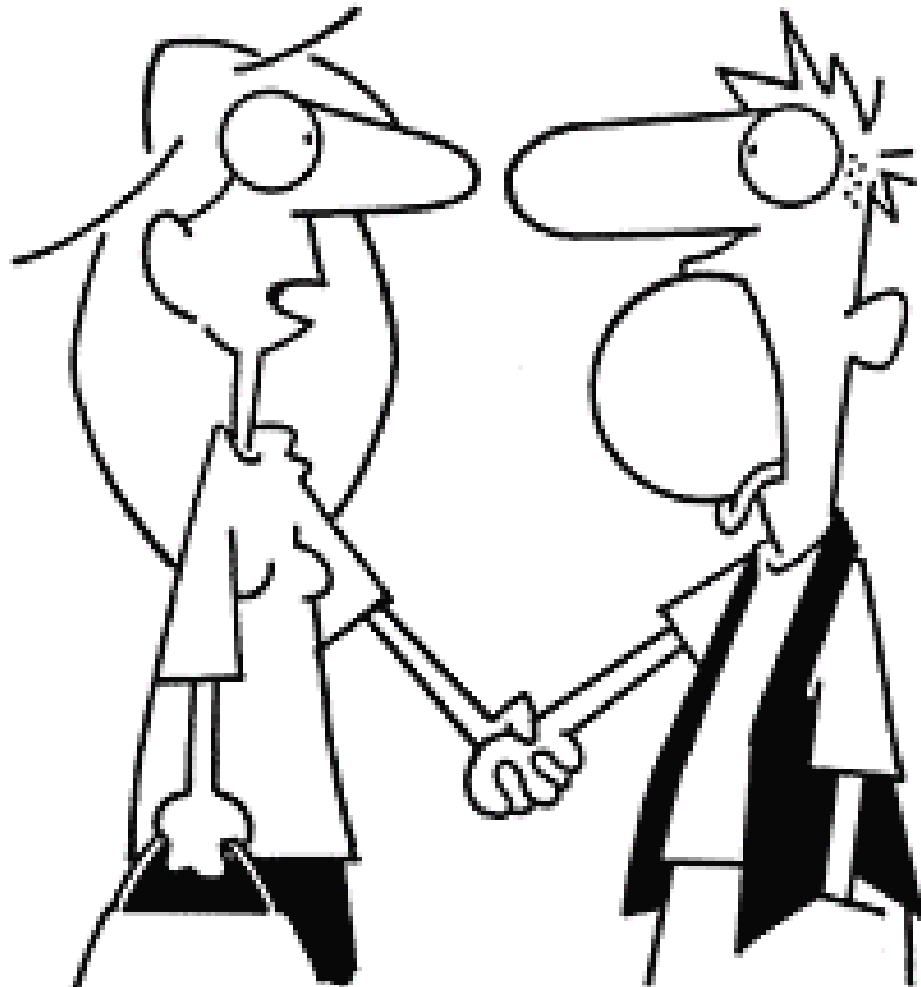


Someone who
knows more and
more about less
and less until the
person knows
absolutely
everything about
nothing

But, I prefer Webster's standard
definition:

One who has
acquired
special skill or
knowledge on
a subject; an
experienced
person





" I GOT YOU A BIGGER TONGUE STUD BECAUSE
IT LOOKS REALLY COOL...PLUS IT STOPS YOU
FROM TALKING ABOUT YOURSELF ALL THE TIME."

Figure 1: WWW Growth; 1996-2005
 (Web Sites or No. of Web Servers)

Hobbes' Internet Timeline Copyright ©2005 Robert H Zakon
<http://www.zakon.org/robert/internet/timeline/>

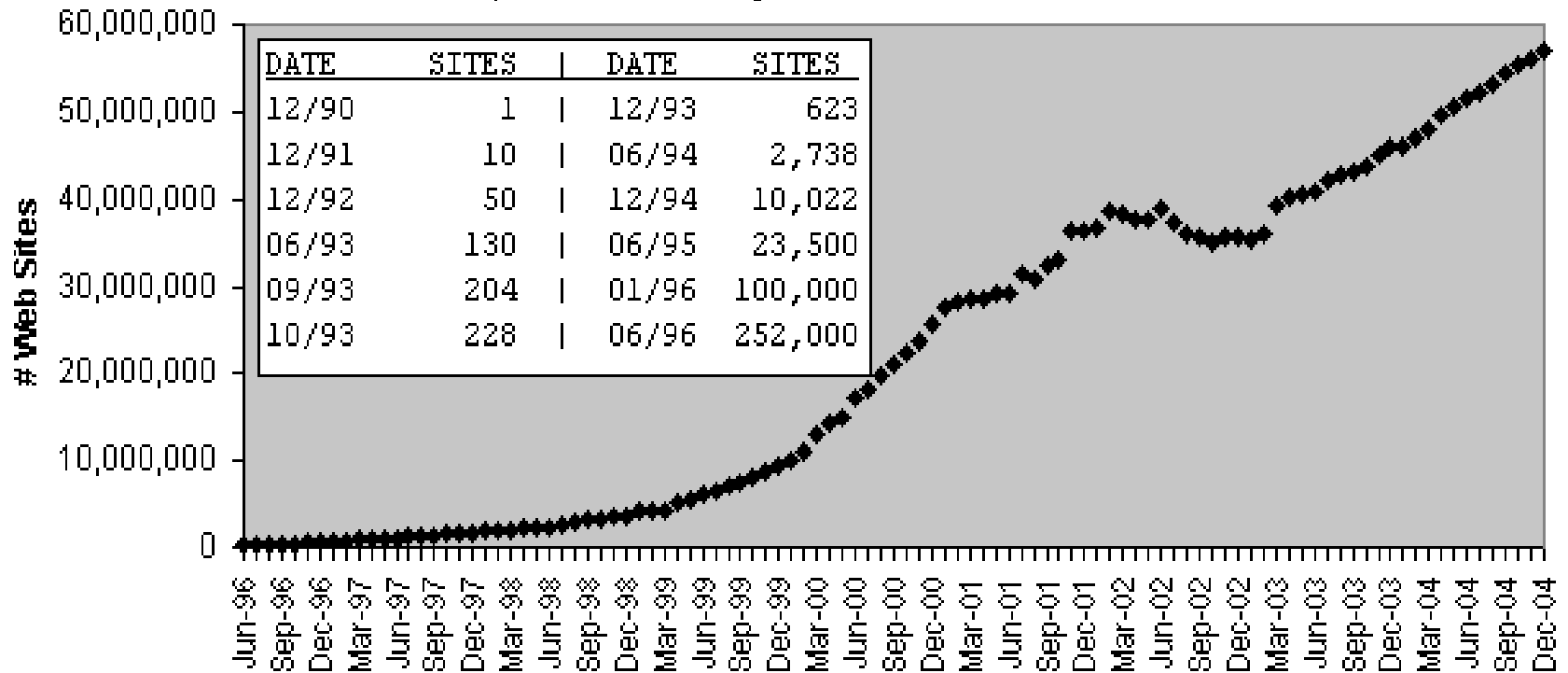
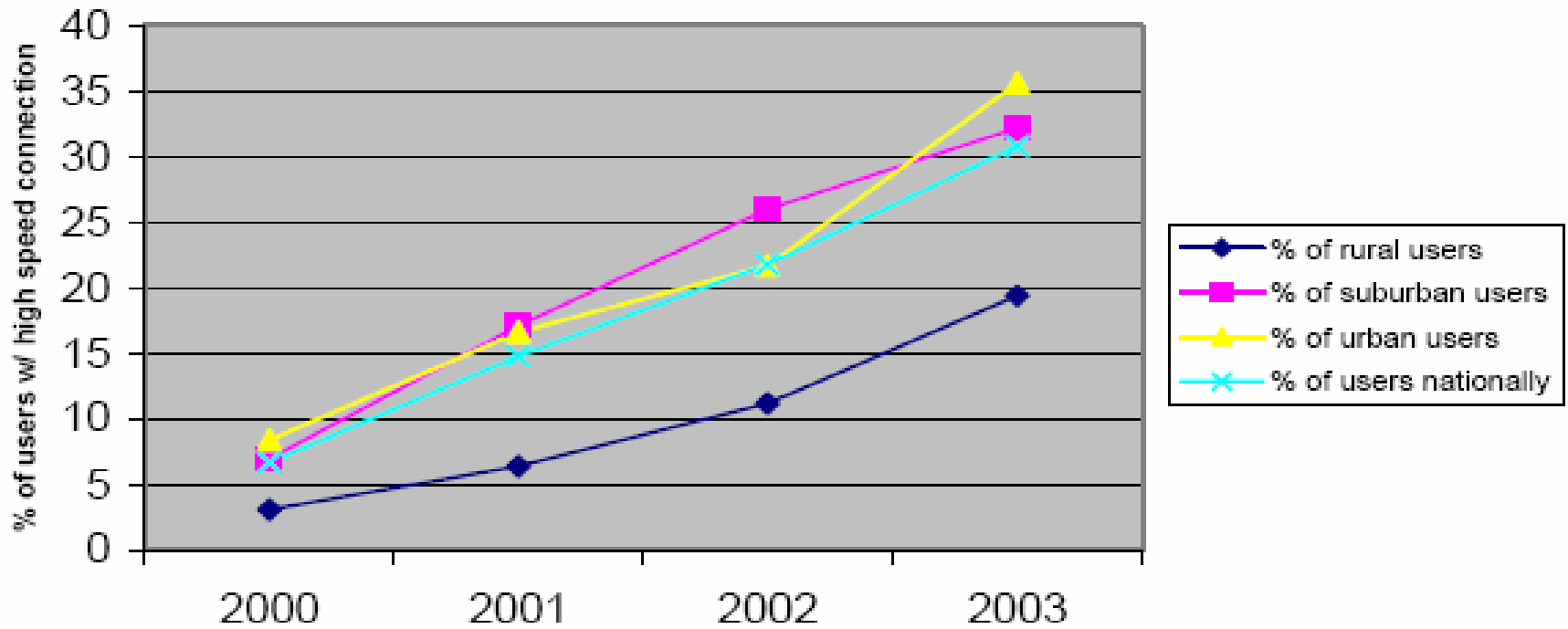
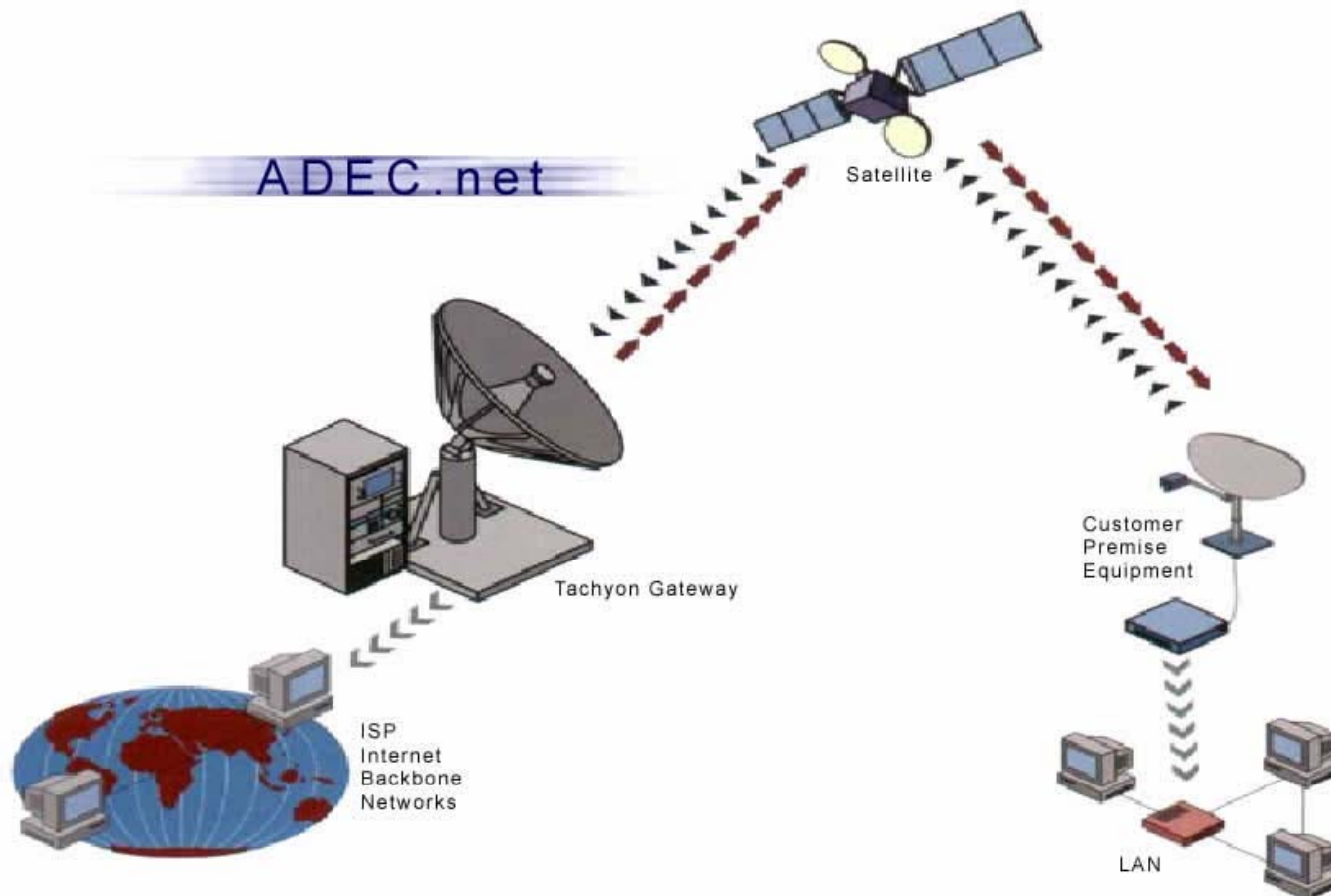


Figure 2.
Broadband Growth for Home Users



Source: Bell, Reddy, Rainie, 2004.

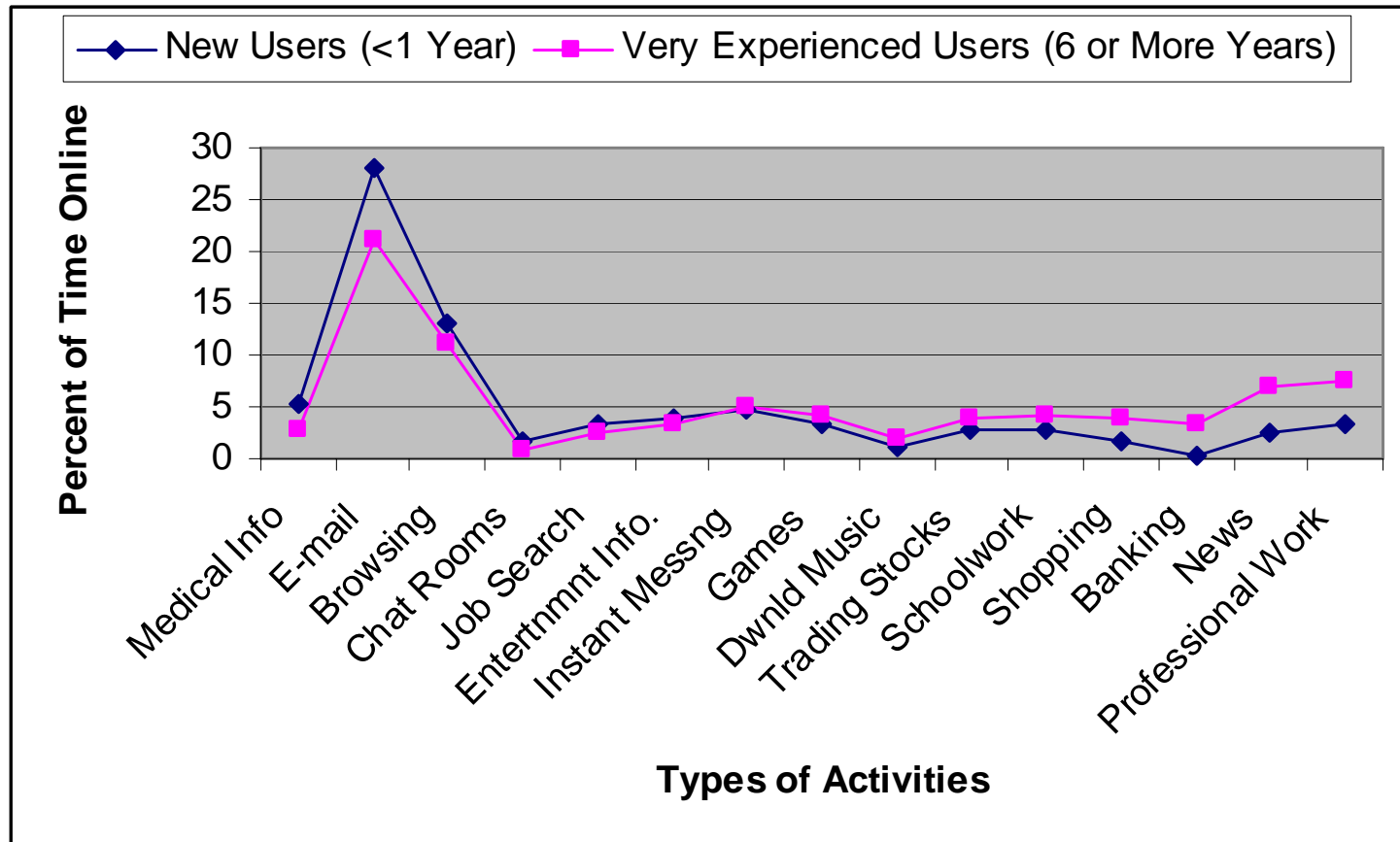
The NSF Advanced Internet Satellite Extension Project





Marsing, Idaho

Figure 3:
Use of the Internet: Online Activities.



Source: Lebo, 2004.

Figure 4.

Use of the Internet by Rural Subjects: Online Activities.

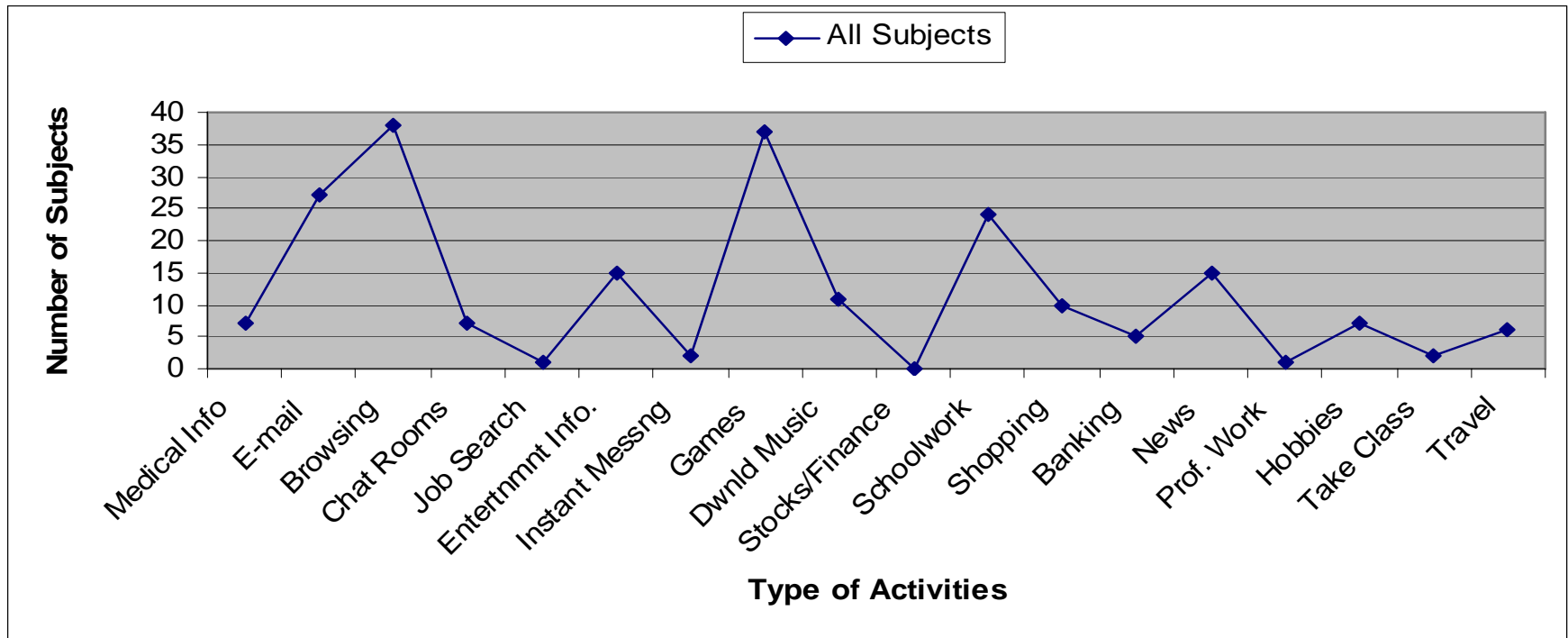
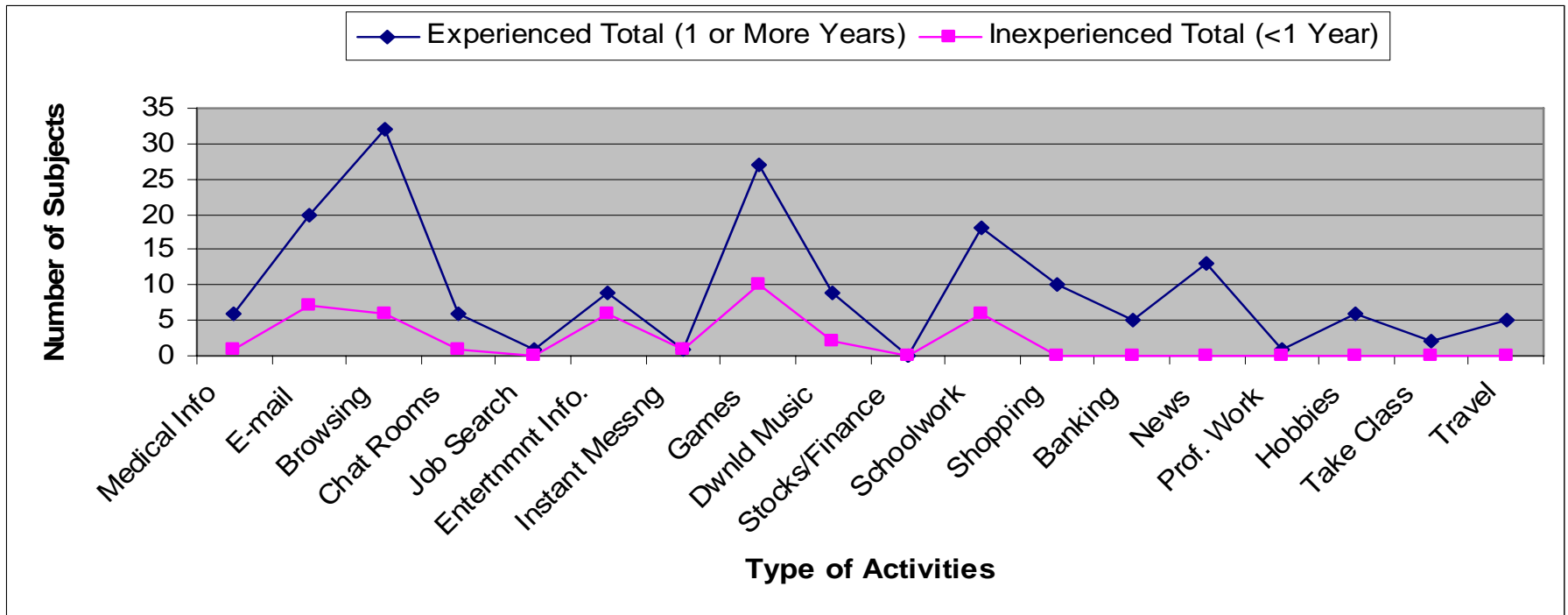


Figure 5.

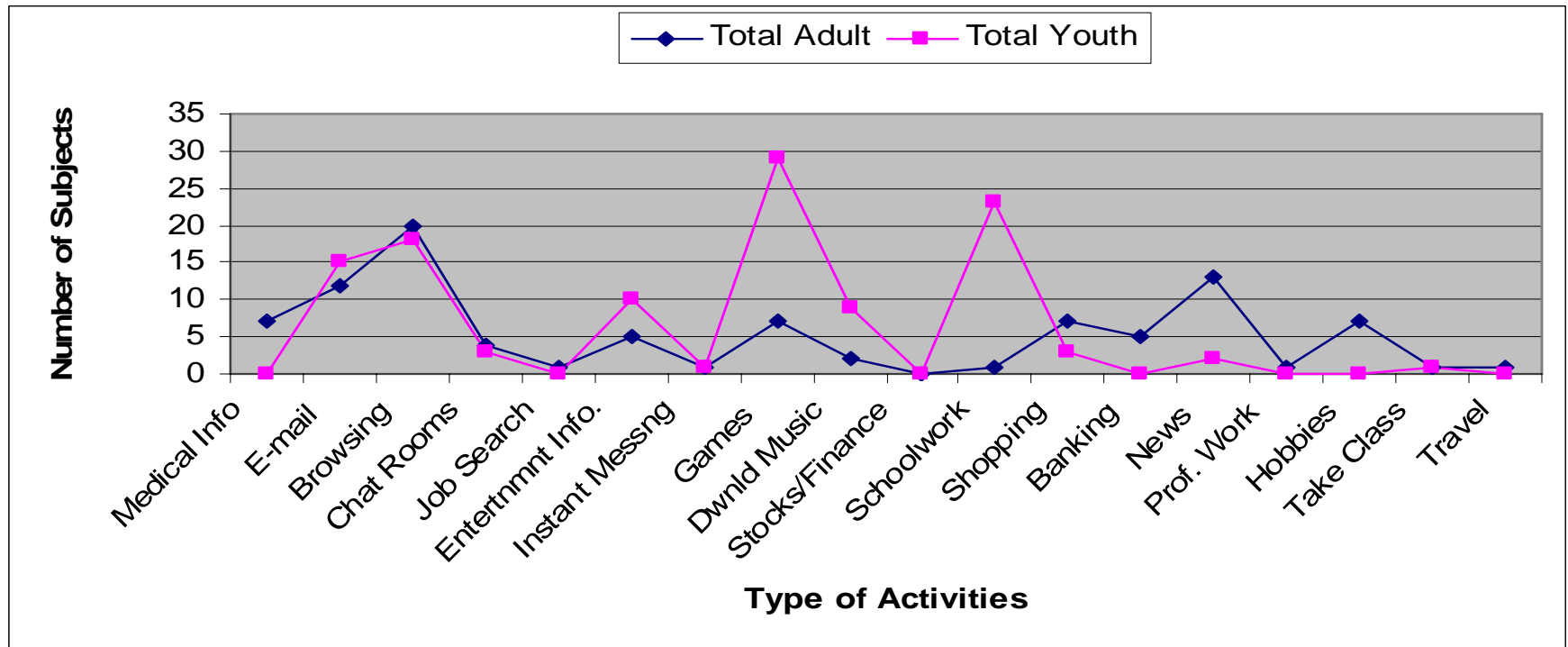
Use of the Internet by Rural Subjects: Experienced and Inexperienced User Comparisons.



Spearman rank correlation coefficient is .692; significance is less than .01.

Figure 6.

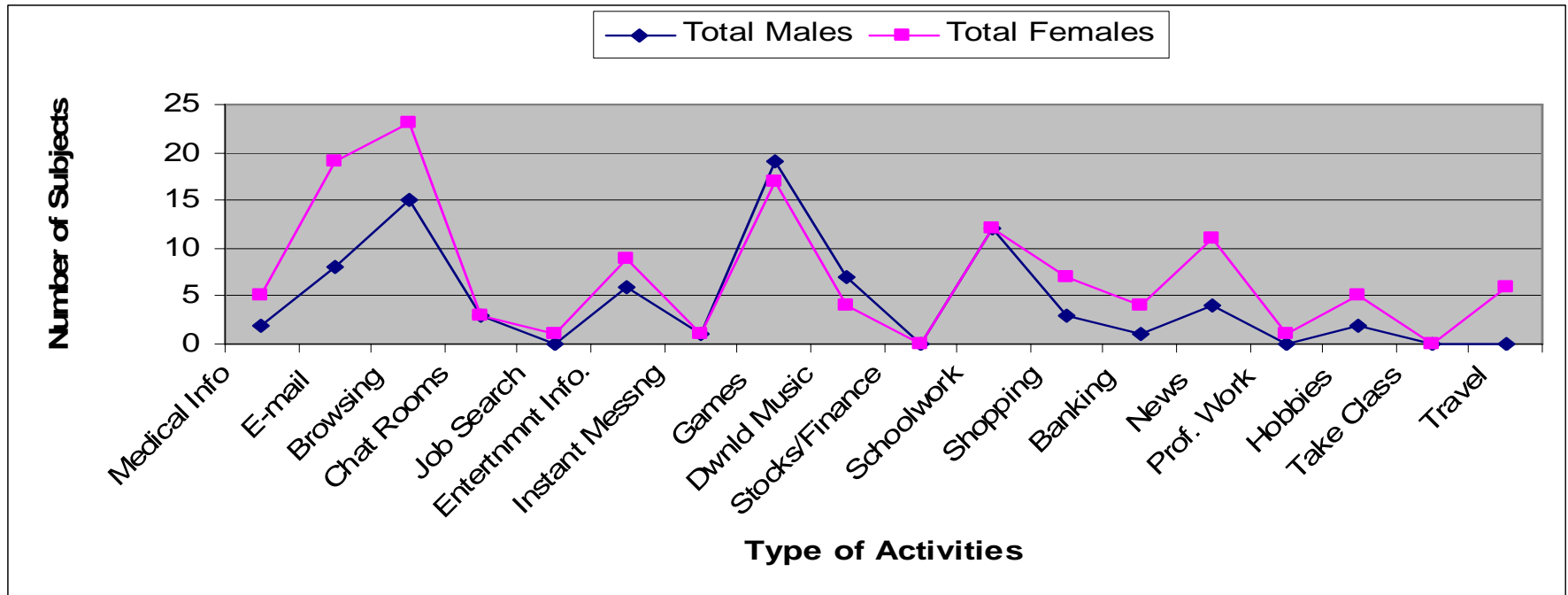
Use of the Internet by Rural Subjects: Adult and Youth Comparisons.



Spearman rank correlation coefficient is .408; significance is greater than .05.

Figure 7.

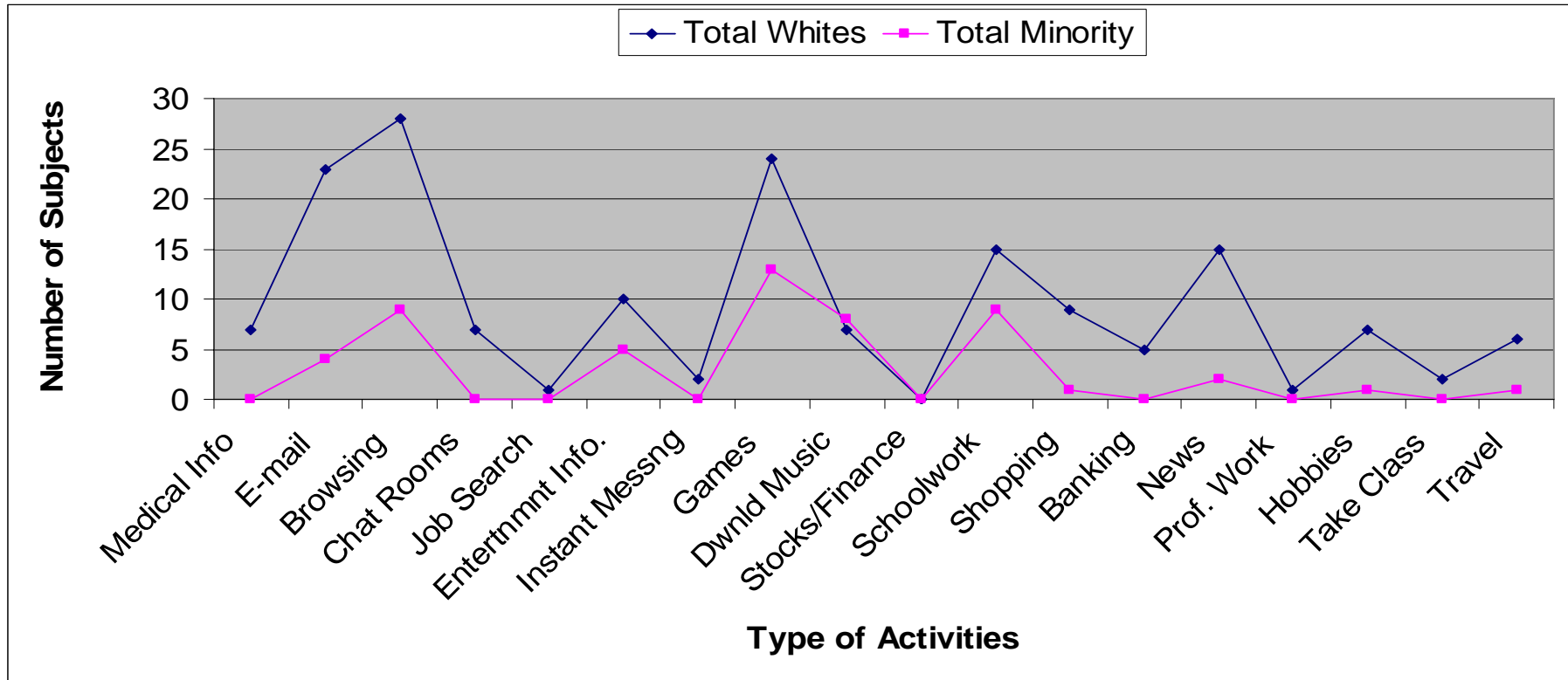
Use of the Internet by Rural Subjects: Male and Female Comparisons.



Spearman rank correlation coefficient is .846; significance is less than .01.

Figure 8.

Use of the Internet by Rural Subjects: White and Minority Comparisons.



Spearman rank correlation coefficient is .852; significance is less than .01

FINALLY



What Can You Take Home From
My Presentation?

Here are some of my ideas...

IMPLICATIONS



- Rural learners will network, collaborate, find resources, & take online courses
- New distance learning opportunities
- Use live and archived web casts
- Build learning around popular web sites
- Use learners' web site evaluation data
- Train learners for effective searching

IT IS YOUR TURN!



Now let's dialogue about your
ideas!

My Thanks for Listening!



Have a safe
journey home
and stay the
course. It is worth
it!