

China's Internet users world's largest

China has overtaken the US and now has some 221 million web users - the world's largest Internet using population.

The number was 210 million by the end of last year, trailing the US by some five million, figures issued by the China Internet Network Information Centre showed.

Despite a rapidly increasing Internet population, China's ratio of Internet users to the total population is still lower than the global average, the ministry said.

It said 16 percent of the Chinese population used the Internet at the end of 2007, compared to 19.1 percent of the world average.

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