One of the earliest computers was the abacus - a counting device using beads. The first modern commercial computer was purchased only 55 years ago. Since, rapid reductions in the cost, physical size, and ever greater increases in speed and memory have heralded what is now a huge annual flow of computers around the world.

As with many imports, the United States imports more than any other territory. In this instance almost five times more net computer imports are received in the United States than in any other territory.

Territory size shows the proportion of worldwide net imports of computers (in US$) that are received there. Net imports are imports minus exports. When exports are larger than imports the territory is not shown.

“... the short lifetime of today’s IT equipment leads to mountains of waste ...” Tim Hirsch, 2004