

Most web applications prioritize their compatibility with Firefox, Chrome, and Safari based on research of market usage. These browsers provide a better viewing experience and performance level than Internet Explorer.

Usage Percentage of Web Browsers

2013	Internet Explorer	Firefox	Chrome
May	12.6 %	27.7 %	52.9 %
April	12.7 %	27.9 %	52.7 %
March	13.0 %	28.5 %	51.7 %
February	13.5 %	29.6 %	50.0 %
January	14.3 %	30.2 %	48.4 %



[http://www.w3schools.com/browsers/browsers\\_stats.asp](http://www.w3schools.com/browsers/browsers_stats.asp)

### Reasons to Utilize Other Browsers:

- **There is no Mac version of Internet Explorer** and with the increased use of Mac computers in academic and certification bodies, it makes design for Internet Explorer impractical, as both Firefox and Chrome have versions for both platforms.
- **Microsoft trails behind current Internet standards and technology**, instead relying on outdated and vulnerable formats such as ActiveX and Flash technologies, both of which have been targets of attacks for years.
- **Most all current websites are moving to HTML5 and Java scripting language standard, which Microsoft does not fully support** and has given no indication of doing so at any point in the immediate future.
- According to securityfocus.com, **Internet Explorer currently has a total of 583 known unpatched security vulnerabilities**, spread across IE 6, 7, 8 and 9. IE 6 has the most at 473 with ones dating back to 2000, IE 7 with 26, IE 8 with 62 and IE 9 with 22. This compared to Mozilla Firefox and Google Chrome who both have zero currently known unpatched vulnerabilities.
- Microsoft fixes bugs in Internet Explorer on a fixed schedule, but bugs are not discovered on a schedule which means **Internet Explorer users remain vulnerable to known bugs until the next scheduled bug fix roll-out. Neither Firefox nor Chrome is locked into a schedule.**
- **Internet Explorer uses an excessive amount of system memory and processor ability**, at times almost triple what is used in Firefox and Chrome. This leads to overall system slowness and poor performance of the browser and other open applications.
- **Overall browser performance has been shown to be slower in Internet Explorer.** Industry web sites have shown that basic plugins such as the JavaScript engine perform two times slower in Internet Explorer than in Chrome or Firefox.