

Briefs: Survey shows record U.S. video-game sales

The sale of video games in the United States set a record last year with a 6-percent increase over 2004 to more than \$10 billion, a recent survey concluded.

The portable gaming market stoked overall software and hardware to \$10.5 billion in 2005, compared to just under \$10 billion last year and the previous record of \$10.2 billion set in 2002.

Market researchers NDP Group said spot shortages of Xbox 360 at the retail level put a slight damper on the home video-game market as consumers put off purchases for their current systems but were unable to upgrade to the new Xbox during the Christmas season.

NDP analyst Anita Frazier told CNN that the pending launch of new consoles by Nintendo and Sony should give the market additional momentum in 2006.

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