

Firefox Inches Ahead One More Point

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Neither Microsoft's news of an upcoming Internet Explorer upgrade nor reports of potential Mozilla security holes appears to have dampened user enthusiasm for the Firefox browser.

The open-source Web browser has gained one more percentage point in U.S. user share against Microsoft Corp.'s IE browser during the past two months, reported WebSideStory Inc. on Tuesday.

As of the end of April, Firefox rose to 6.8 percent of browser usage, while IE dropped one percentage point to 88.9 percent, according to WebSideStory.

The Web analytics and digital marketing company, based in San Diego, Calif., tracks browser usage based on the percentage of unique browsers hitting its network of sites, which reach more than 30 million Internet users each day.

Since WebSideStory began tracking Firefox in November, the browser has more than doubled its user share, while IE has fallen below 90 percent for the first time in three years.

As for other Web browsers, they showed little shifting in WebSideStory's latest numbers. Netscape and non-Firefox Mozilla browsers accounted for 2.2 percent usage, while browsers such as Opera and Safari made up a 2.1 percent share.

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