

# Android's market share rises

WASHINGTON, USA: Global sales of tablet computers edged higher in the second quarter, in the slowest growth since 2009, research firm Strategy Analytics said.



Strategy Analytics Researcher Peter King says Android has consolidated its position because so many manufacturers are using its operating system. Image: Strategy Analytics

The research firm said global tablet shipments reached 52.9m units, up just six percent from the same period a year ago. Growth was led by devices using the Google Android operating system.

Android tablet sales rose 11% to 36.8m units in the March-June period, the survey found, and grabbed a 70% market share.

Apple iPad sales fell from a year earlier to 13.3m, according to Strategy Analytics' figures which were above Apple's own report this week showing 12.3m.

The research firm said Apple's market share slipped to 25% based on the latest decline.

Windows-powered tablets accounted for five percent of the market, with unit sales up 28% at 2.7m, the survey found.

"Android consolidation continued as it was the chosen OS (operating system) for seven out of 10 tablets shipped in the market," says Strategy Analytics Researcher Peter King.

"Android is continuing to make steady progress because of the wide range of vendors and wide range of screen sizes and price-points," he added.

Several analysts have said the tablet market has become saturated in many developed countries and that large-screen smartphones or "phablets" are often being used instead.

Source: AFP via I-Net Bridge

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