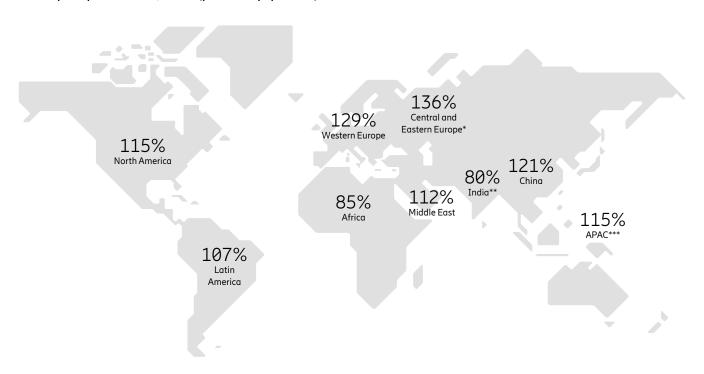


## Mobile subscriptions Q4 2023

In Q4 2023, 5G reached close to 1.6 billion subscriptions globally.

- In Q4 2023, the number of mobile subscriptions totaled close to 8.5 billion, with a net addition of 39 million subscriptions during the quarter.
- India accounted for the most net additions during the quarter (+10 million), followed by China (+4 million) and the US (+3 million).
- Global mobile subscription penetration was 105 percent.
- The number of mobile broadband subscriptions grew by about 90 million during the quarter, totaling 7.6 billion, a year-on-year increase of 5 percent. Mobile broadband now accounts for 89 percent of all mobile subscriptions.
- 5G subscriptions¹ grew by 154 million during the quarter, lifting the total to close to 1.6 billion. This represents 19 percent of all mobile subscriptions. More than 290 communications service providers have launched commercial 5G services and over 40 have deployed or launched 5G standalone (SA) networks.²
- 4G subscriptions declined for the first time. The total was reduced by 12 million during the quarter to around 5.1 billion, representing 61 percent of all mobile subscriptions. WCDMA/HSPA subscriptions declined by 48 million and GSM/EDGE-only subscriptions decreased by 55 million during the quarter.
- The number of unique mobile subscribers is 6.4 billion. The difference between the number of subscriptions and the number of subscribers is due to inactive subscriptions, multiple device ownership and/or the optimization of subscriptions for different types of calls.

## Subscription penetration Q4 2023 (percent of population)



 $<sup>^{\</sup>mathrm{1}}$  A 5G subscription is a 5G service agreement and an associated 5G-capable device.

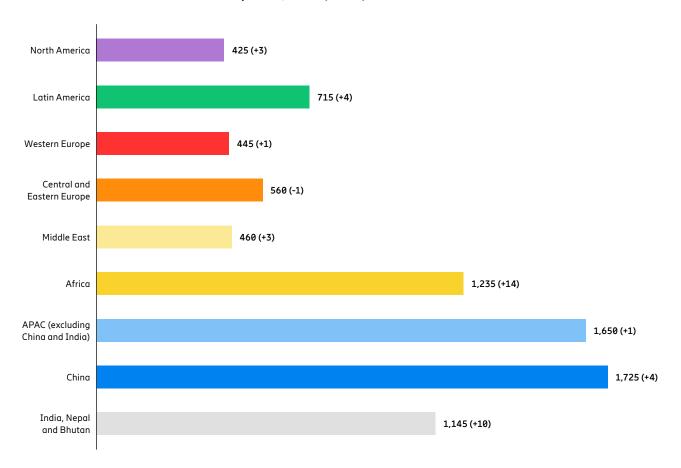
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Ericsson and GSA (January 2024).

<sup>\*</sup>Central and Eastern Europe region includes Russia.

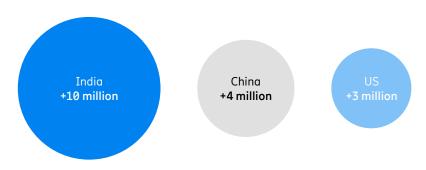
<sup>\*\*</sup>India region includes India, Nepal and Bhutan.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Excluding China and India.

#### Total<sup>3</sup> and net additions for mobile subscriptions Q4 2023 (million)



## Top three countries by net additions Q4 2023



There are now 8.5 billion mobile subscriptions globally. 5G subscriptions have nearly reached 1.6 billion.

Mobile broadband accounts for 89 percent of all mobile subscriptions.

3.5<sub>bn</sub> 1.6<sub>bn</sub> 89%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Historical data is revised if the underlying data changes, for example if service providers report updated subscription figures.

# Mobile network traffic Q4 2023

Mobile network data traffic grew 28 percent between Q4 2022 and Q4 2023, reaching 152 EB per month.

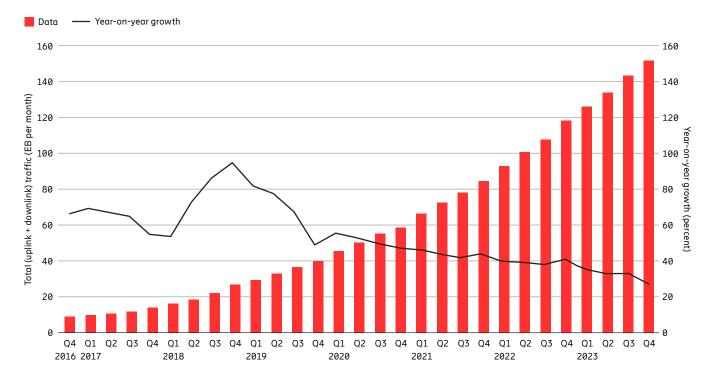
The quarter-on-quarter mobile network data traffic growth between Q3 2023 and Q4 2023 was around 6 percent.

Long-term traffic<sup>4</sup> growth is driven by continued strong uptake of smartphone subscriptions and an increasing average data volume per subscription, fueled by data-intensive services such as video.

There are large differences in traffic levels between markets, regions and service providers.

The graph below shows the total global monthly network data traffic from Q4 2016 to Q4 2023, along with the year-on-year percentage growth for mobile network data traffic.

### Global mobile network data traffic and year-on-year growth (EB per month)



Source: Ericsson traffic measurements (Q4 2023).

Note: Mobile network data traffic also includes traffic generated by Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) services.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Traffic does not include DVB-H, Wi-Fi or Mobile WiMAX. VoIP is included.