This document is a scheduled update to the quarterly subscription and traffic data section in the Ericsson Mobility Report, released in June 2018.

To view or download a copy of the original report, please visit: www.ericsson.com/mobility-report
Mobile subscriptions Q2 2018

In Q2 2018, the total number of mobile subscriptions was around 7.8 billion, with a net reduction of 13 million subscriptions globally.

Global mobile penetration was 103 percent. Other interesting developments include:

- Mobile subscriptions grew around 2 percent year-on-year.
- China had the greatest net addition during the quarter (+37 million), followed by South Africa (+2 million), the Philippines (+2 million), Myanmar (+2 million) and Pakistan (+2 million).
- In the Asia-Pacific region (excluding China and India), the number of subscriptions declined by 37 million. This was mainly due to the recent implementation of SIM card registration rules in Indonesia.
- In India, the number of subscriptions has also declined by 37 million. This is likely due to the removal of inactive subscriptions following operator consolidation.
- The number of mobile broadband subscriptions grew by around 170 million in Q2 to reach around 5.5 billion. This reflects a year-on-year increase of around 15 percent.
- LTE subscriptions increased by approximately 150 million to reach a total of around 3 billion, while WCDMA/HSPA subscriptions grew by around 40 million. The majority of 3G/4G subscriptions can use GSM/EDGE as a fallback. GSM/EDGE-only subscriptions declined by 190 million during the quarter, and other technologies\(^1\) declined by around 13 million.
- Around 345 million smartphones were sold in Q2, which equates to 85 percent of all mobile phones sold in the quarter. Subscriptions associated with smartphones now account for 60 percent of all mobile phone subscriptions.

There are now 5.5 billion mobile broadband subscriptions globally.

The number of unique mobile subscribers is around 5.4 billion. The difference between the number of subscriptions and the number of subscribers is due to inactive subscriptions, multiple device ownership and/or optimization of subscriptions for different types of calls.

\(^1\) Mainly CDMA2000 EVDO, TD-SCDMA and Mobile WiMAX
103% global subscription penetration in Q2 2018.

Top 5 countries by net additions Q2 2018:

1. China +37 million
2. South Africa +2 million
3. Philippines +2 million
4. Myanmar +2 million
5. Pakistan +2 million

New mobile subscriptions Q2 2018 (million):

- North America: 2
- Latin America: 3
- Western Europe: 0
- Central and Eastern Europe: 3
- Middle East: 2
- Africa: 14
- APAC (excluding China and India): 37
- China: 37
- India: -37

*excluding China and India

Subscription penetration Q2 2018 (percent of population):

- North America: 108%
- Latin America: 107%
- Western Europe: 123%
- Central and Eastern Europe: 142%
- APAC*: 82%
- Africa: 112%
- Middle East: 85%
- China: 108%
- India: 85%
Mobile traffic Q2 2018

Mobile data traffic grew by 52 percent between Q2 2017 and Q2 2018.

Traffic growth is driven by both the rising number of smartphone subscriptions and expanding average data volume per subscription, fueled primarily by more viewing of video content at increasingly higher resolutions.

The graph below shows total global monthly data and voice traffic from Q2 2013 to Q2 2018, along with the year-on-year percentage change for mobile data. This curve illustrates a typical moderating growth rate as the market evolves over time.

In Q2 2018, mobile data traffic grew by around 52 percent year-on-year and 9 percent quarter-on-quarter. There are large differences in traffic levels between markets, regions and operators.

Source: Ericsson traffic measurements (Q2 2018)