

**TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA**New Delhi, 20th October, 2021

(www.traigov.in)

Highlights of Telecom Subscription Data as on 31st August, 2021

Particulars	Wireless	Wireline	Total (Wireless+ Wireline)
Total Telephone Subscribers (Million)	1186.72	22.86	1209.58
Net Addition in August, 2021 (Million)	-0.11	0.25	0.13
Monthly Growth Rate	-0.01%	1.09%	0.01%
Urban Telephone Subscribers (Million)	650.39	20.91	671.31
Net Addition in August, 2021 (Million)	0.30	0.26	0.56
Monthly Growth Rate	0.05%	1.27%	0.08%
Rural Telephone Subscribers (Million)	536.33	1.95	538.28
Net Addition in August, 2021 (Million)	-0.41	-0.02	-0.43
Monthly Growth Rate	-0.08%	-0.89%	-0.08%
Overall Tele-density* (%)	86.78%	1.67%	88.45%
Urban Tele-density* (%)	137.11%	4.41%	141.52%
Rural Tele-density* (%)	60.05%	0.22%	60.27%
Share of Urban Subscribers	54.81%	91.49%	55.50%
Share of Rural Subscribers	45.19%	8.51%	44.50%
Broadband Subscribers (Million)	789.18	24.29	813.47

- ❖ In the month of August, 2021, 11.28 million subscribers submitted their requests for Mobile Number Portability (MNP). With this, the cumulative MNP requests increased from 616.87 million at the end of July-21 to 628.15 million at the end of August-21, since implementation of MNP.
- ❖ Number of active wireless subscribers (on the date of peak VLR#) in August, 2021 was 991.71 million.

Note:

- Information in this Press Release is based on the data provided by the Service Providers
- * Based on the projection of population from the 'Report of the Technical Group on Population Projections for India and States 2011 – 2036', which is available under the link https://main.mohfw.gov.in/sites/default/files/Population%20Projection%20Report%202011-2036%20-%20upload_compressed_0.pdf
- # VLR is acronym of Visitor Location Register. The dates of peak VLR for various TSPs are different in different service areas.

I. Total Telephone Subscribers

- The number of telephone subscribers in India increased from 1,209.45 million at the end of July-21 to 1,209.58 million at the end of August-21, thereby showing a monthly growth rate of 0.01%. Urban telephone subscription increased from 670.75 million at the end of July-21 to 671.31 million at the end of August-21 however, the rural subscription decreased from 538.70 million to 538.28 million during the same period. The monthly growth rates of urban and rural telephone subscription were 0.08% and -0.08% respectively during the month of August-21.



- The overall Tele-density in India decreased from 88.51% at the end of July-21 to 88.45% at the end of August-21. The Urban Tele-density decreased from 141.62% at the end of July-21 to 141.52% at the end of August-21 and Rural Tele-density also decreased from 60.33% to 60.27% during the same period. The share of urban and rural subscribers in total number of telephone subscribers at the end of August-21 was 55.50% and 44.50% respectively.

Overall Tele-density (LSA Wise) – As on 31st August, 2021



- As may be seen in the above chart, eight LSA have less tele-density than the all India average tele-density at the end of August-21. Delhi service area has maximum tele-density of 278.27% and the Bihar service area has minimum tele-density of 53.81% at the end of August-21.

Notes: -

- Population data/projections are available state wise only.
- Tele-density figures are derived from the telephone subscriber data provided by the access service providers and the projection of population from the "Report of the Technical Group on Population Projections for India and States 2011 – 2036, which is available under the link https://main.mohfw.gov.in/sites/default/files/Population%20Projection%20Report%202011-2036%20-%20upload_compressed_0.pdf
- Telephone subscriber data for Delhi, includes, apart from the data for the State of Delhi, wireless subscriber data for the areas served by the local exchanges of Ghaziabad & Noida (in Uttar Pradesh) and Gurgaon & Faridabad (in Haryana).
- Data/information for West Bengal includes Kolkata, Maharashtra includes Mumbai and Uttar Pradesh includes UPE & UPW service area(s).
- Data/information for Andhra Pradesh includes Telengana, Madhya Pradesh includes Chhatisgarh, Bihar includes Jharkhand, Maharashtra includes Goa, Uttar Pradesh includes Uttarakhand, West Bengal includes Sikkim and North-East includes Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland & Tripura States.

II. Category-wise Growth in subscriber base

Circle Category-wise Net Additions in Telephone Subscribers in the month of August 2021

Circle Category	Net additions in the month of August, 2021		Telephone Subscriber base as on 31 st August, 2021	
	Wireline segment	Wireless segment	Wireline segment	Wireless segment
Circle A	1,07,752	-1,26,904	87,64,634	40,33,52,016
Circle B	37,139	3,21,767	51,86,418	48,27,62,006
Circle C	38,618	-2,20,340	13,02,755	18,27,35,313
Metro	62,145	-87,427	76,05,419	11,78,74,856
All India	2,45,654	-1,12,904	2,28,59,226	1,18,67,24,191

Circle Category-wise monthly and yearly Growth Rates in Telephone Subscribers in the month of August 2021

Circle Category	Monthly growth rate (%) (July-21 to August-21)		Yearly growth rate (%) (August-20 to August-21)	
	Wireline Segment	Wireless Segment	Wireline Segment	Wireless Segment
Circle A	1.24%	-0.03%	13.58%	2.90%
Circle B	0.72%	0.07%	17.76%	3.69%
Circle C	3.05%	-0.12%	55.52%	4.04%
Metro	0.82%	-0.07%	9.76%	2.74%
All India	1.09%	-0.01%	14.94%	3.38%

Note: Circle Category-Metro includes Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata. Data for Chennai has been included in Circle Category-A, as part of TamilNadu.

- As can be seen in the above tables, in wireless segment, on monthly basis only circle 'B' category showed growth rate in their subscribers during the month of August, 2021. On yearly basis, all circles have registered growth rate in their subscriber base.
- In Wireline segment, both on monthly and yearly basis, Circles of all categories have registered growth rate in their subscriber base.

III. Wireless subscriber

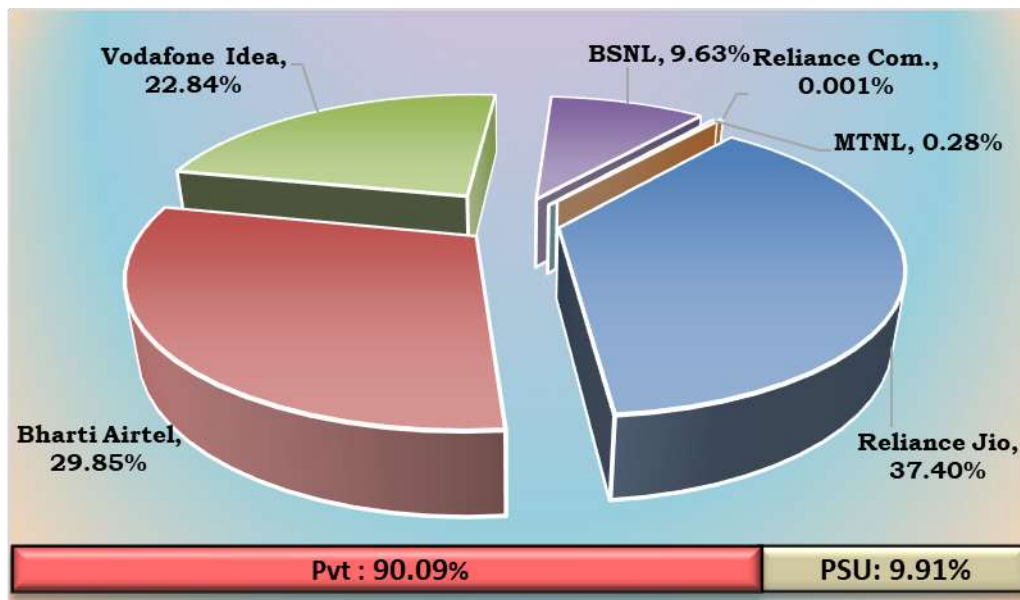
- Total wireless subscribers decreased from 1,186.84 million at the end of July-21 to 1,186.72 million at the end of August-21, thereby registering a monthly decline rate of -0.01%. Wireless subscription in urban areas increased from 650.10 million at the end of July-21 to 650.39 million at the end of August-21 however, wireless subscription in rural areas decreased from 536.74 million to 536.33 million during the same period. Monthly growth rates of urban and rural wireless subscription were 0.05% and -0.08% respectively.



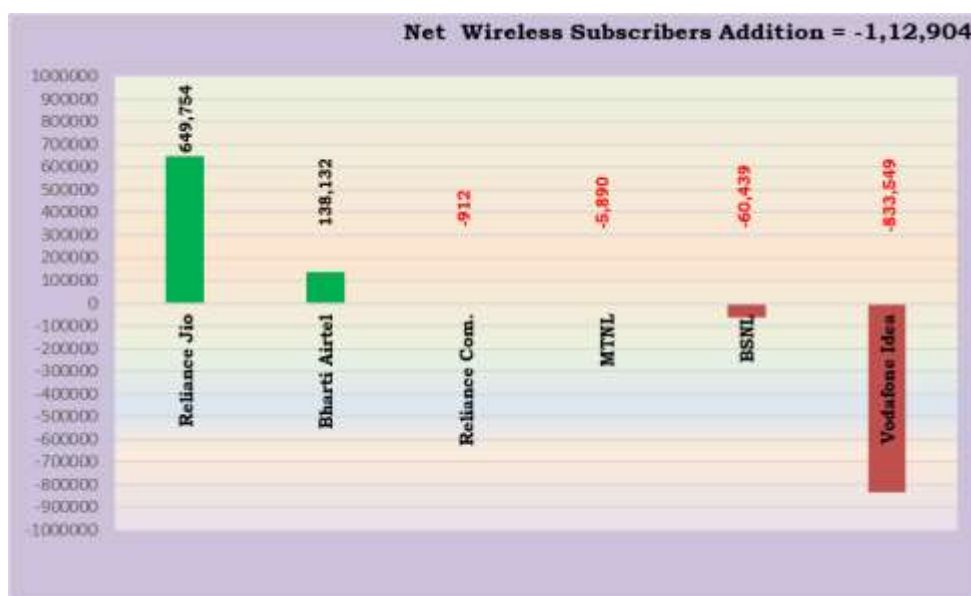
- The Wireless Tele-density in India decreased from 86.85% at the end of July-21 to 86.78% at the end of August-21. The Urban Wireless Tele-density decreased from 137.26% at the end of July-21 to 137.11% at the end of August-21 and Rural Tele-density also decreased from 60.11% to 60.05% during the same period. The share of urban and rural wireless subscribers in total number of wireless subscribers was 54.81% and 45.19% respectively at the end of August-21. Detailed statistics of wireless subscriber base is available at **Annexure-I**.

- As on 31st August, 2021, the private access service providers held 90.09% market share of the wireless subscribers whereas BSNL and MTNL, the two PSU access service providers, had a market share of only 9.91%.
- The graphical representation of access service provider-wise market share and net additions in wireless subscriber base are given below: -

Access Service Provider-wise Market Shares in term of Wireless Subscribers as on 31st August, 2021



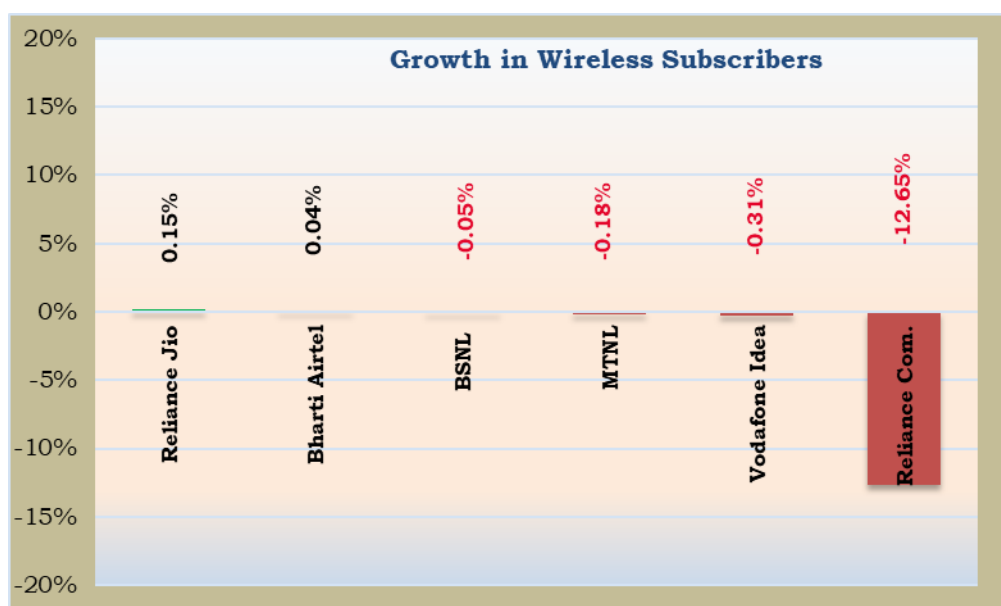
Net Addition/decline in Wireless Subscribers of Access Service Providers in the month of August, 2021



- Note:**
- M/s Bharti Airtel Ltd has reported the wireless subscribers including the subscribers of M/s Tata Teleservices Ltd.
 - Virtual Network Operator (VNO) of BSNL has started reporting of its subscribers from the month of October, 2018 and the same has been included in the subscriber base of BSNL.

IV. Growth in Wireless Subscribers

Access Service Provider-wise Monthly Growth Rate of Wireless Subscribers in the month of August, 2021



Note: BSNL includes its Virtual Network Operator (VNO).

Service Area-wise Monthly Growth Rate of Wireless Subscribers in the month of August, 2021

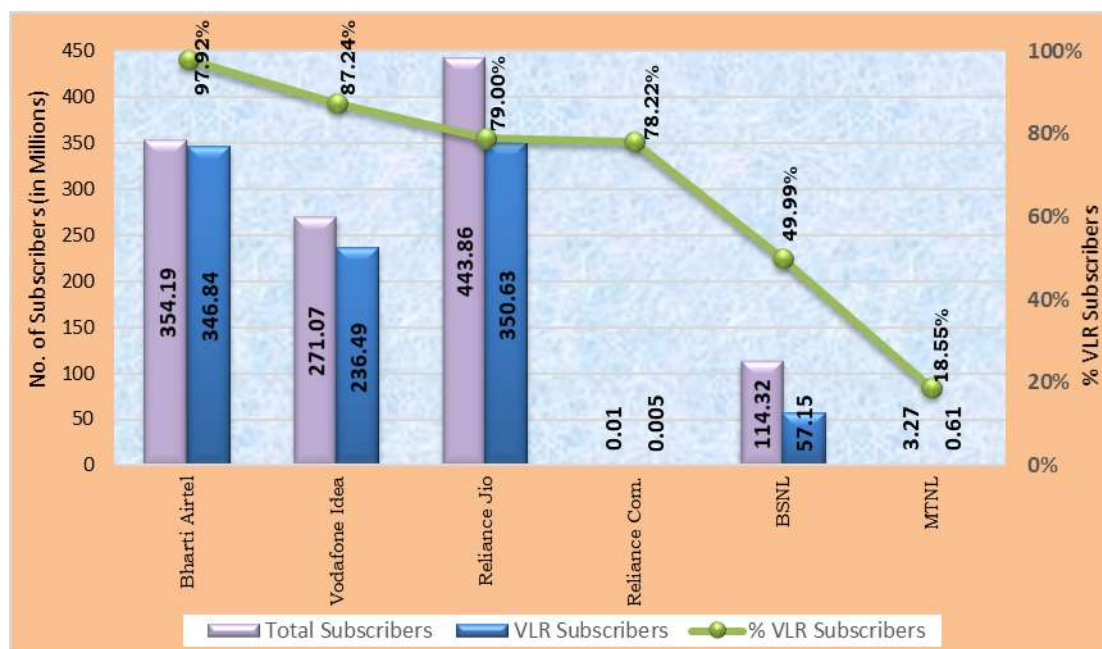


- Except Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Rajasthan, Kolkata, U.P.(E), Delhi, Maharashtra, Odisha and Gujarat service areas, all service areas showed growth in their wireless subscribers during the month of August-21.

V. Active Wireless Subscribers (VLR Data)

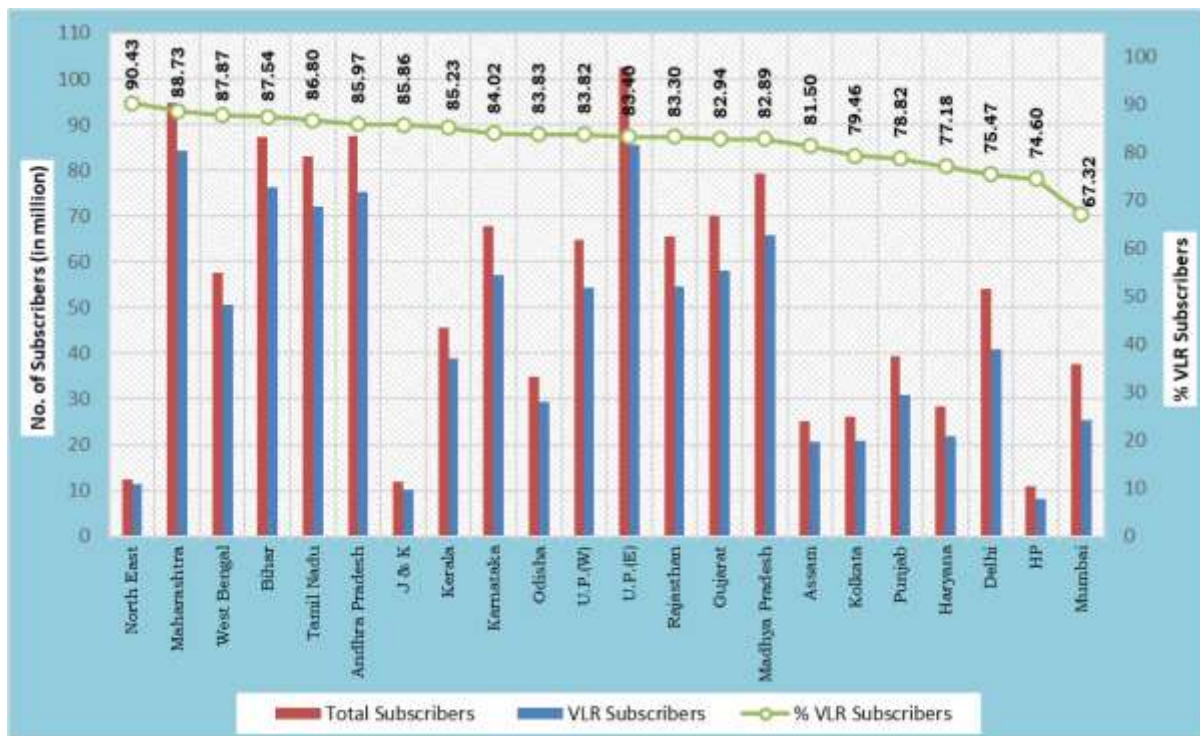
- Out of the total wireless subscribers (1,186.72 million), 991.71 million wireless subscribers were active on the date of peak VLR in the month of August-21. The proportion of active wireless subscribers was approximately 83.57% of the total wireless subscriber base.
- The detailed statistics on proportion of active wireless subscribers (also referred to as VLR subscribers) on the date of peak VLR in the month of August-21 is available at **Annexure-II** and the methodology used for reporting VLR subscribers is available at **Annexure-IV**.

Access Service Provider-wise Percentage of VLR Subscribers in the month of August, 2021



- Bharti Airtel has the maximum proportion (97.92%) of its active wireless subscribers (VLR) as against its total wireless subscribers (HLR) on the date of peak VLR in the month of August-21 and MTNL has the minimum proportion of VLR (18.55%) of its HLR during the same period.

Service Area wise percentage of VLR Subscribers in the month of August, 2021



VI. Mobile Number Portability (MNP)

- Intra-service area Mobile number portability (MNP) was implemented first in Haryana service area w.e.f. 25.11.2010 and in the rest of the country w.e.f. 20.01.2011. Inter-Service Area MNP has been implemented in the country w.e.f. 03.07.2015. Now, the wireless telephone subscribers can retain their mobile numbers when they relocate from one service area to another.
- During the month of August-21, a total of 11.28 million requests were received for MNP. Out of total 11.28 million new requests, 6.49 million requests received from Zone-I and 4.79 million requests received from Zone-II. The cumulative MNP requests increased from 616.87 million at the end of July-21 to 628.15 million at the end of August-21, since the implementation of MNP.
- In MNP Zone-I (Northern and Western India), the highest number of requests till date have been received in Maharashtra (about 51.76 million) followed by Rajasthan (about 45.43 million) service area.

- In MNP Zone-II (Southern and Eastern India), the highest number of requests till date have been received in Karnataka (about 50.13 million) followed by Andhra Pradesh (about 48.23 million).

Service Area Wise MNP Status					
Zone - 1			Zone - 2		
Service Area	Number of Porting Requests (in Million)		Service Area	Number of Porting Requests (in Million)	
	July-21	August-21		July-21	August-21
Delhi	30.18	30.64	Andhra Pradesh	47.70	48.23
Gujarat	41.52	42.43	Assam	4.32	4.37
Haryana	20.79	21.06	Bihar	29.48	30.29
Himachal Pradesh	2.86	2.89	Karnataka	49.60	50.13
Jammu & Kashmir	1.37	1.39	Kerala	16.37	16.67
Maharashtra	50.71	51.76	Kolkata	13.06	13.18
Mumbai	26.10	26.29	Madhya Pradesh	44.33	45.38
Punjab	23.24	23.54	North East	1.61	1.63
Rajasthan	44.74	45.43	Odisha	12.01	12.20
U.P.(East)	43.40	44.84	Tamil Nadu	46.46	46.93
U.P.(West)	34.87	36.00	West Bengal	32.15	32.88
Total	319.78	326.27	Total	297.09	301.88
Total (Zone-1 + Zone-2)				616.87	628.15
Net Addition (August, 2021)			11.28 million		

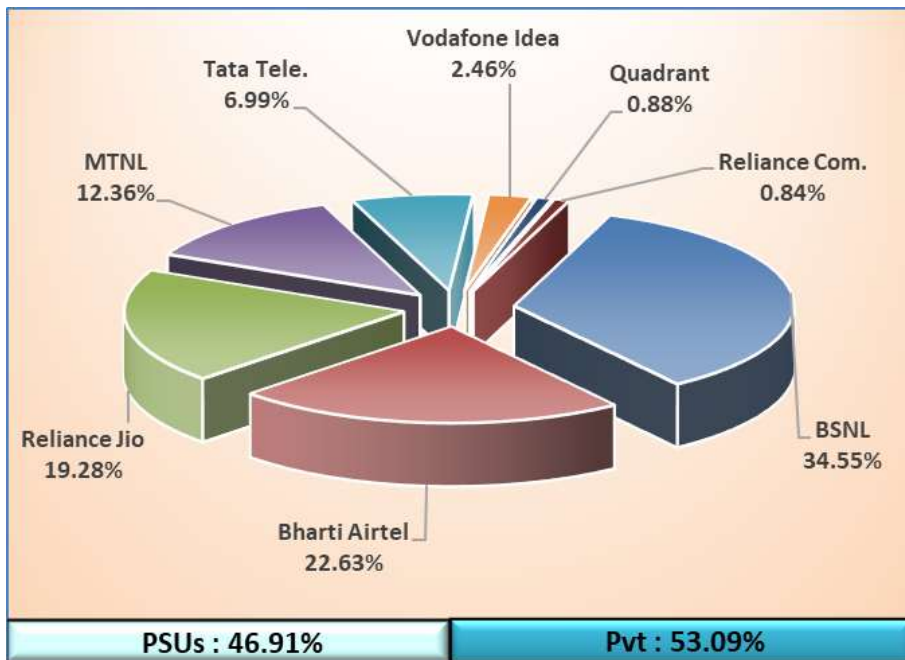
VII. Wireline Subscribers

- Wireline subscribers increased from 22.61 million at the end of July-21 to 22.86 million at the end of August-21. Net increase in the wireline subscriber base was 0.25 million with a monthly growth rate of 1.09%. The share of urban and rural subscribers in total wireline subscribers were 91.49% and 8.51% respectively at the end of August, 2021.
- The Overall Wireline Tele-density in India, increased from 1.65% at the end of July-21 to 1.67% at the end of August-21. Urban and Rural Wireline Tele-density were 4.41% and 0.22% respectively during the same period.

- BSNL and MTNL, the two PSU access service providers, held 46.91% of the wireline market share as on 31st August, 2021.

Detailed statistics of wireline subscriber base are available at **Annexure-III.**

Access Service Provider-wise Market Share of Wireline Subscribers as on 31st August 2021



Access Service Provider-wise Net Addition/Decline in Wireline Subscribers during the month of August, 2021



VIII. Broadband (\geq 512 Kbps download)

- As per the information received from 499 operators in August 2021 in comparison to 455 Operator in July 2021, the total Broadband Subscribers increased from 808.60 million at the end of July-21 to 813.47 million at the end of August-21 with a monthly growth rate of 0.60%. Segment-wise broadband subscribers and their monthly growth rates are as below:

Segment-wise Broadband Subscribers and Monthly Growth Rate in the month of August, 2021

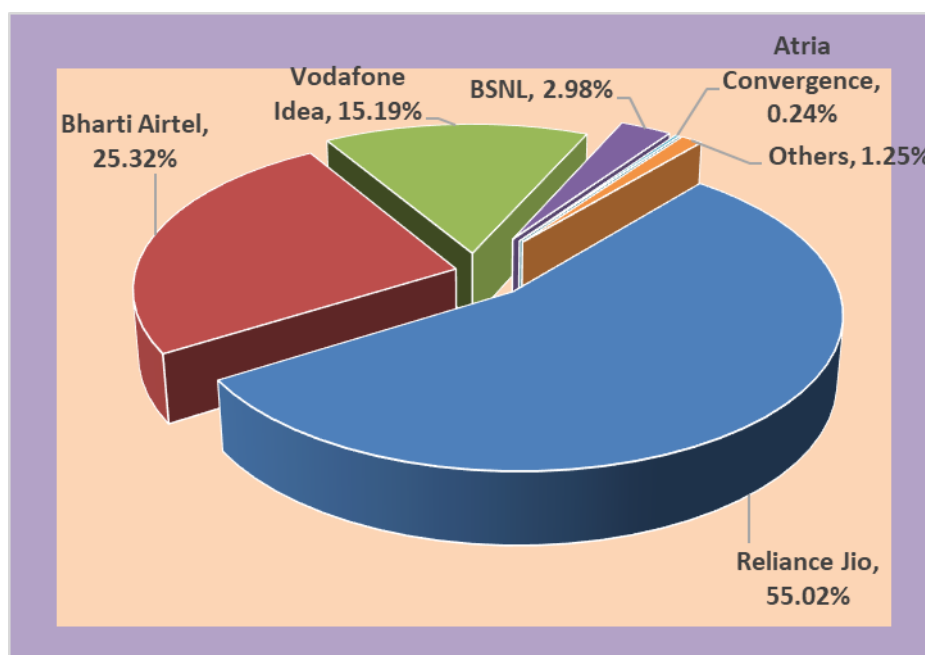
Segment	Broadband subscribers (in million)		Monthly growth rate in the month of August-21
	As on 31 st July, 2021	As on 31 st August, 2021	
Wired subscribers	24.01	24.29	1.14%
Mobile devices users (Phones and dongles)	783.39	787.94	0.58%
Fixed Wireless subscribers (Wi-Fi, Wi-Max, Point-to-Point Radio & VSAT)	1.19	1.24	3.92%
Total	808.60	813.47	0.60%

- Top five service providers constituted 98.75% market share of the total broadband subscribers at the end of August-21. These service providers were Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd (447.57 million), Bharti Airtel (205.96 million), Vodafone Idea (123.53 million), BSNL (24.28 million) and Atria Convergence (1.95 million).

Note: Some wireless service providers exclude incidental data users from their subscriber base, based on minimum usage decided by them.

- The graphical representation of the service provider-wise market share of broadband services is given below: -

**Service Provider-wise Market Share of Broadband
(wired + wireless) Services as on 31st August 2021**



- As on 31st August, 2021, the top five Wired Broadband Service providers were BSNL (5.49 million), Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd (3.71 million), Bharti Airtel (3.69 million), Atria Convergence Technologies (1.95 million) and Hathway Cable & Datacom (1.08 million).

As on 31st August, 2021, the top five Wireless Broadband Service providers were Reliance Jio Infocom Ltd (443.86 million), Bharti Airtel (202.27 million), Vodafone Idea (123.52 million), BSNL (18.19 million) and Tikona Infinet Ltd. (0.30 million).

Contact details in case of any clarification: -

Shri Amit Sharma, Advisor (F&EA),
Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
Mahanagar Doorsanchar Bhawan
Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg,
New Delhi – 110002,
Ph: 011-23234367 Fax: 011-23235249
E-mail: advfea2@traf.gov.in

**(V. Raghunandan)
Secretary, TRAI**

Wireless Subscriber Base																Annexure-I	
Circle	Bharti Airtel (including Tata)		Reliance Com.		Vodafone Idea		BSNL		BSNL (VNO's)		MTNL		Reliance Jio		Total		Net Addition
	Jul-21	Aug-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	
Andhra Pradesh	31194757	31186566			14956508	14897868	9008391	9040658					32486949	32509911	87646605	87635003	-11602
Assam	9536464	9563472			2984940	2942512	3074693	3085783					9652767	9647154	25248864	25238921	-9943
Bihar	36548063	36455259			11140519	11076397	5599488	5592809					34056245	34082403	87344315	87206868	-137447
Delhi	15845703	15797812	408	348	15974356	15803961					2157882	2156829	20346740	20370041	54325089	54128991	-196098
Gujarat	12079135	11967790	167	167	24630448	24454206	5741484	5669105					27924732	27961726	70375966	70052994	-322972
Haryana	5620344	5652243	63	57	8085459	8052386	4959557	4974750					9565477	9605082	28230900	28284518	53618
Himachal Pradesh	3296585	3314396	95	93	619651	612917	2680561	2693275					4312370	4337880	10909262	10958561	49299
J & K	5472230	5487137	0	0	466086	469335	1277729	1285096					4707819	4703972	11923864	11945540	21676
Karnataka	30034027	30109015	1505	1241	8537545	8570817	7034516	7040501					22100924	22137644	67708517	67859218	150701
Kerala	7116902	7253904	386	337	16517307	16506993	10837006	10740162					10953447	10988173	45425048	45489569	64521
Kolkata	5678490	5613894	23	23	6483832	6477190	2325155	2328786					11683804	11703505	26171304	26123398	-47906
Madhya Pradesh	15523928	15540168	0	0	20849927	20896193	6038365	6065226					36694297	36738811	79106517	79240398	133881
Maharashtra	19853414	20019125	0	0	30300652	29797552	6667731	6614804					38373765	38410784	95195562	94842265	-353297
Mumbai	9461983	9455415	2296	2208	11378699	11521563					1122218	1117381	15500694	15525900	37465890	37622467	156577
North East	5383492	5389862	0	0	1302005	1287316	1374861	1358947					4422734	4455087	12483092	12491212	8120
Odisha	11176558	11074630	163	152	2125221	2086594	6429442	6387974					15314872	15344861	35046256	34894211	-152045
Punjab	11453379	11438251	293	243	8558314	8781165	5388587	5345093					13708776	13739361	39109349	39304113	194764
Rajasthan	21745308	21681220	269	233	11681290	11650429	5992521	5972642					26171099	26168784	65590487	65473308	-117179
Tamil Nadu	27124804	27349057	520	481	18463671	18469158	10540408	10685173	51608	52947			26371259	26405720	82552270	82962536	410266
U.P.(E)	36612905	36600020	0	0	21207994	20915562	11127179	11138641					33785361	33838226	102733439	102492449	-240990
U.P.(W)	17847212	17899301	194	174	19201671	19325518	5694165	5696082					21885956	21923694	64629198	64844769	215571
West Bengal	15447332	15342610	825	538	16435586	16472500	2540155	2554709					23191403	23262525	57615301	57632882	17581
Total	354053015	354191147	7207	6295	271901681	271068132	114331994	114270216	51608	52947	3280100	3274210	443211490	443861244	1186837095	1186724191	-112904
Net Addition		138132		-912		-833549		-61778		1339		-5890		649754	0	-112904	
Rural Subscribers	171311070	170770426	0	0	138612404	137959223	36762129	36674991	0	0	45100	45078	190009038	190881907	536739741	536331625	-408116

Note: 1. The subscribers of M/s Bharti Airtel includes subscribers of M/s Tata Teleservices Ltd.

2. Virtual Network Operator (VNO) of BSNL has reported its subscriber number from the month of October, 2018.

Proportion of VLR on the date of Peak VLR in the month of August-21 (%)							Annexure-II
Circle	Bharti	BSNL	Vodafone Idea	MTNL	Reliance Com.	Reliance Jio	Total
Andhra Pradesh	100.28	58.75	90.58		-	77.69	85.97
Assam	97.76	45.25	87.17		-	75.25	81.50
Bihar	93.24	43.60	84.89		-	89.51	87.54
Delhi	96.16		72.99	11.47	132.76	68.12	75.47
Gujarat	100.54	44.50	90.90		88.62	76.23	82.94
Haryana	108.70	32.79	88.26		91.23	72.33	77.18
Himachal Pradesh	105.13	38.29	105.80		31.18	69.41	74.60
J & K	97.43	53.94	84.55		-	81.21	85.86
Karnataka	95.91	48.50	84.77		107.25	78.84	84.02
Kerala	103.19	68.26	94.43		64.39	76.16	85.23
Kolkata	97.23	42.25	87.43		65.22	73.94	79.46
Madhya Pradesh	94.47	42.52	83.05		-	84.56	82.89
Maharashtra	101.94	56.56	90.56		-	85.96	88.73
Mumbai	83.11		71.39	32.20	49.86	57.21	67.32
North East	104.22	62.75	87.65		-	82.99	90.43
Orissa	98.88	56.92	91.22		26.97	83.17	83.83
Punjab	106.14	41.32	85.57		48.56	66.35	78.82
Rajasthan	98.49	44.19	90.23		57.94	76.56	83.30
Tamil Nadu	97.14	65.53	93.78		225.57	79.86	86.80
U.P. (E)	96.77	34.29	87.93		-	82.32	83.40
U.P. (W)	102.51	37.92	84.85		12.64	79.57	83.82
West Bengal	96.88	67.38	90.20		31.23	82.53	87.87
Total	97.92	49.99	87.24	18.55	78.22	79.00	83.57

Note: Peak VLR figures in some circles of some of the service providers are more than their HLR figures due to a large number of inroamers.

Wireline Subscriber Base																		Annexure-III		
Service Area	BSNL		MTNL		Bharti Airtel		Reliance Com.		Tata Tele.		Quadrant		Vodafone Idea		Reliance Jio		Total		Net Addition	
	Jul-21	Aug-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Jul-21	Aug-21		
Andhra Pradesh	702597	698874			293951	301952	21106	20937	156408	155578			60855	60915	467224	499310	1702141	1737566	35425	
Assam	102,856	104,043											3450	3450	64292	68442	170598	175935	5337	
Bihar	177,345	181,329					20	20	7911	7887			1770	1770	152755	166071	339801	357077	17276	
Delhi			1307975	1304742	1611771	1639979	31233	30972	134551	137500			91899	93329	452106	455230	3629535	3661752	32217	
Gujarat	471862	464275			130994	133296	3957	3859	78432	77885			43447	44797	277652	295094	1006344	1019206	12862	
Haryana	181114	180162			34800	37141	0	0	35192	35036			360	360	48226	51034	299692	303733	4041	
Himachal Pradesh	89751	89745			0	0	0	0	1616	1620			30	30	18470	20267	109867	111662	1795	
J & K	110418	108249			18207	18494	0	0	0	0			0	0	100486	105450	229111	232193	3082	
Karnataka	884831	884811			816447	818411	24625	24486	245055	243281			98302	98602	324166	348001	2393426	2417592	24166	
Kerala	1170435	1118157			69567	71767	5424	5314	18480	18289			8750	8780	97045	104293	1369701	1326600	-43101	
Kolkata	458253	456061			155447	159157	7238	7220	46382	46250			15270	15300	170081	188146	852671	872134	19463	
Madhya Pradesh	308750	301596			298452	308918	5	5	10974	10930			2715	2765	234553	252270	855449	876484	21035	
Maharashtra	792722	780476			186705	195328	11656	11606	220218	218301			28193	28853	119819	125150	1359313	1359714	401	
Mumbai			1540438	1520887	425947	436685	60342	57704	480728	479823			112355	112475	441258	463959	3061068	3071533	10465	
North East	82628	82871											330	330	51074	55526	134032	138727	4695	
Odisha	195849	196034					6	6	8180	8477			6570	6570	70123	76074	280728	287161	6433	
Punjab	262454	260335			165479	168903	1724	1722	13004	12719	203533	200596	2235	2265	116816	123081	765245	769621	4376	
Rajasthan	302164	300591			94192	97996	4208	4142	11982	12099			13190	13190	150264	160063	576000	588081	12081	
Tamil Nadu	1074904	1073624			602454	616360	24615	24406	118408	118008			37225	37975	338052	360183	2195658	2230556	34898	
U.P.(E)	186324	185182			95325	99512	22	21	8081	8060			20580	23580	182949	194183	493281	510538	17257	
U.P.(W)	206749	203329			65085	69072	7	7	4272	4269			7260	7320	190801	203445	474174	487442	13268	
West Bengal	227174	228585					12	12	2416	2424			120	120	86015	92778	315737	323919	8182	
Total	7989180	7898329	2848413	2825629	5064823	5172971	196200	192439	1602290	1598436	203533	200596	554906	562776	4154227	4408050	22613572	22859226	245654	
Net Addition		-90851		-22784		108148		-3761		-3854		-2937		7870		253823		245654		
Rural Subscribers	1863403	1841444	0	0	0	0	180	180	39093	38756	25899	25216	0	0	34869	40348	1963444	1945944	-17500	

Note: - BSNL-FTTH Voice-connections have also been incorporated from the month of May 2021

VLR Subscribers in the Wireless Segment

Home Location Register (HLR) is a central database that contains details of each mobile phone subscriber that is authorized to use the GSM core network. The HLRs store details of every SIM card issued by the service provider. Each SIM has a unique identifier called an International Mobile Subscriber Identity (IMSI), which is the primary key to each HLR record. The HLR data is stored for as long as a subscriber remains with the service provider. HLR also manages the mobility of subscribers by means of updating their position in administrative areas. It sends the subscriber data to a Visitor Location Register (VLR).

Subscriber numbers reported by the service providers is the difference between the numbers of IMSI registered in service provider's HLR and sum of other figures as given below: -

1	Total IMSI's in HLR (A)
2	Less: (B = a + b + c + d + e)
a.	Test/Service Cards
b.	Employees
c.	Stock in hand/in Distribution Channels (Active Card)
d.	Subscriber Retention period expired
e.	Service suspended pending disconnection
3	Subscribers Base (A-B)

Visitor Location Register (VLR) is a temporary database of the subscribers who have roamed into the particular area, which it serves. Each base station in the network is served by exactly one VLR; hence a subscriber cannot be present in more than one VLR at a time.

If subscriber is in active stage i.e. he is able to send/receive calls/SMSs he is available both in HLR and VLR. However, it may be possible that the subscriber is registered in HLR but not in VLR due to the reason that he is either switched-off or moved out of coverage area, not reachable etc. In such circumstances he will be available in HLR but not in VLR. This causes difference between subscriber number reported by the service providers based on HLR and numbers available in VLR.

The VLR subscriber data calculated here is based on active subscribers in VLR on the date of Peak subscriber number in VLR of the particular month for which the data is being collected. This data is to be taken from the switches having the purge time of not more than 72 hours.