



सत्यमेव जयते

TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIANew Delhi, 18th June, 2021

(www.trai.gov.in)

**Highlights of Telecom Subscription Data as on 31st March, 2021**

Particulars	Wireless	Wireline	Total (Wireless+ Wireline)
Total Telephone Subscribers (Million)	1180.96	20.24	1201.20
Net Addition in March, 2021 (Million)	13.25	0.05	13.30
Monthly Growth Rate	1.13%	0.26%	1.12%
Urban Telephone Subscribers (Million)	645.20	18.57	663.77
Net Addition in March, 2021 (Million)	5.96	0.10	6.06
Monthly Growth Rate	0.93%	0.53%	0.92%
Rural Telephone Subscribers (Million)	535.75	1.67	537.42
Net Addition in March, 2021 (Million)	7.29	-0.04	7.24
Monthly Growth Rate	1.38%	-2.60%	1.37%
Overall Tele-density*(%)	86.68%	1.49%	88.17%
Urban Tele-density*(%)	137.08%	3.95%	141.03%
Rural Tele-density*(%)	60.08%	0.19%	60.27%
Share of Urban Subscribers	54.63%	91.76%	55.26%
Share of Rural Subscribers	45.37%	8.24%	44.74%
Broadband Subscribers (Million)	755.35	22.75	778.09

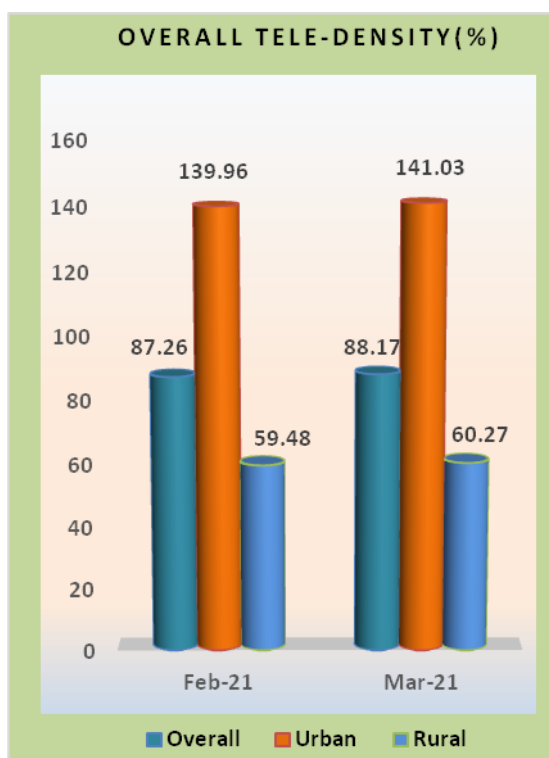
- ❖ In the month of March, 2021, 12.74 million subscribers submitted their requests for Mobile Number Portability (MNP). With this, the cumulative MNP requests increased from 563.92 million at the end of February-21 to 576.67 million at the end of March-21, since implementation of MNP.
- ❖ Number of active wireless subscribers (on the date of peak VLR#) in March, 2021 was 993.92 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', Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
- # VLR is acronym of Visitor Location Register. The dates of peak VLR for various TSPs are different in different service areas.

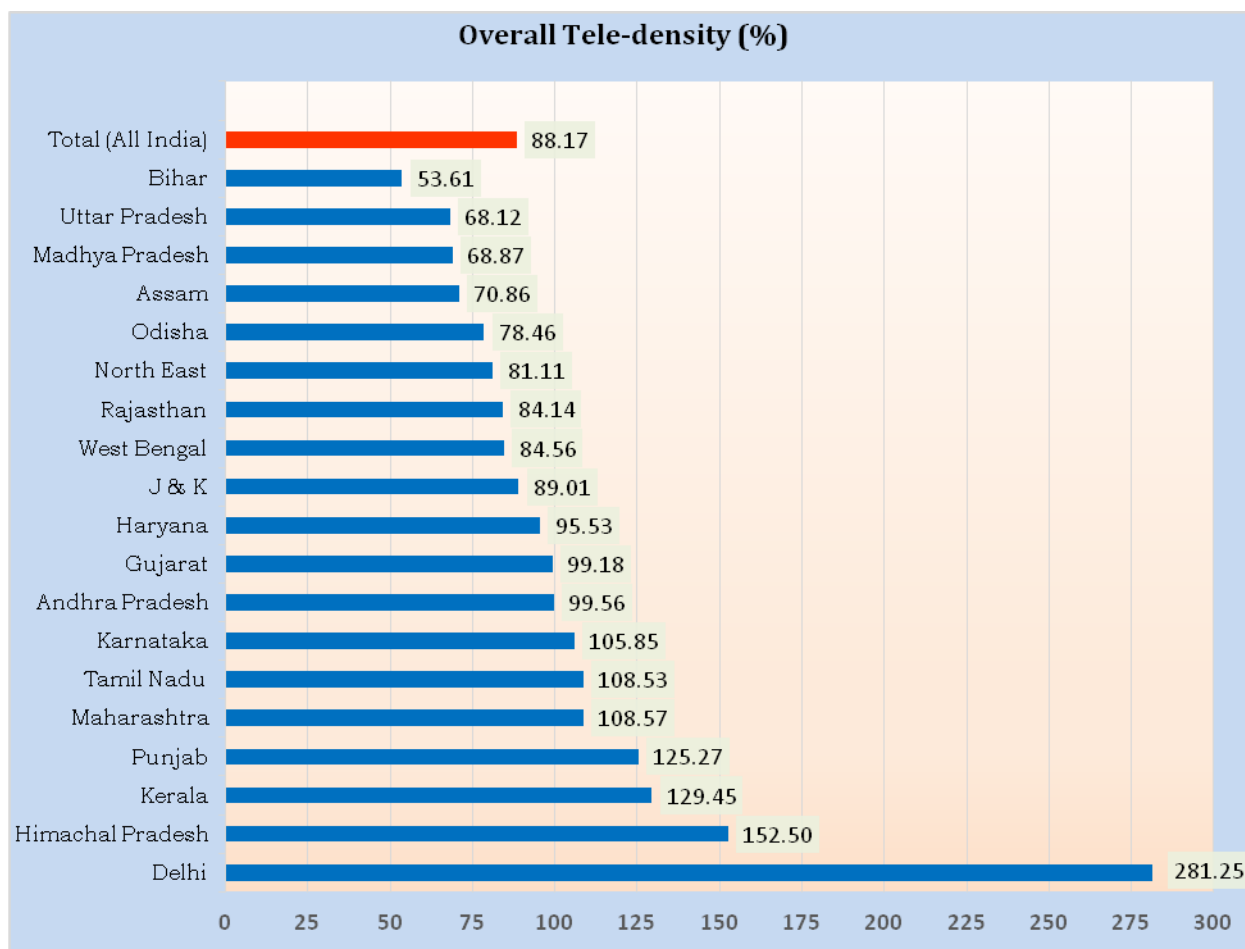
I. Total Telephone Subscribers

- The number of telephone subscribers in India increased from 1,187.90 million at the end of February-21 to 1,201.20 million at the end of March-21, thereby showing a monthly growth rate of 1.12%. Urban telephone subscription increased from 657.72 million at the end of February-21 to 663.77 million at the end of March-21 and the rural subscription also increased from 530.18 million to 537.42 million during the same period. The monthly growth rates of urban and rural telephone subscription were 0.92% and 1.37% respectively during the month of March-21.



- The overall Tele-density in India increased from 87.26 at the end of February-21 to 88.17 at the end of March-21. The Urban Tele-density increased from 139.96 at the end of February-21 to 141.03 at the end of March-21 and Rural Tele-density also increased from 59.48 to 60.27 during the same period. The share of urban and rural subscribers in total number of telephone subscribers at the end of March-21 was 55.26% and 44.74% respectively.

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



- As may be seen in the above chart, eight states have less tele-density than the all India average tele-density at the end of March-21. Delhi service area has maximum tele-density of 281.25% and the Bihar service area has minimum tele-density of 53.61% at the end of March-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, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare”.
- 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 March 2021

Circle Category	Net additions in the month of March, 2021		Telephone Subscriber base as on 31 st March, 2021	
	Wireline segment	Wireless segment	Wireline segment	Wireless segment
Circle A	-39,123	4,576,387	7,666,196	404,454,627
Circle B	19,871	4,412,703	4,504,217	476,413,100
Circle C	22,237	1,976,755	943,858	181,211,292
Metro	50,051	2,281,705	7,125,398	118,877,118
All India	53,036	13,247,550	20,239,669	1,180,956,137

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

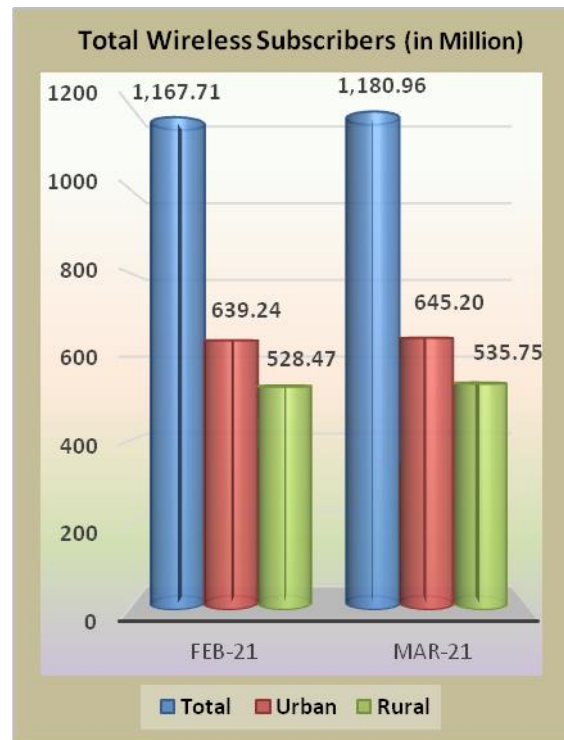
Circle Category	Monthly growth rate (%) (February-21 to March-21)		Yearly growth rate (%) (March-20 to March-21)	
	Wireline Segment	Wireless Segment	Wireline Segment	Wireless Segment
Circle A	-0.51%	1.14%	-2.07%	1.57%
Circle B	0.44%	0.93%	-1.36%	2.18%
Circle C	2.41%	1.10%	13.92%	2.77%
Metro	0.71%	1.96%	1.86%	1.64%
All India	0.26%	1.13%	0.11%	2.00%

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 and on yearly basis Circles of all category showed growth rate in their subscribers during the month of March, 2021.
- In Wireline segment, on monthly basis except Circle 'A', circle of all categories showed growth rate in their number of wireline subscribers during the month of March, 2021. On yearly basis only Circles C and circle Metro have registered growth rate in its subscriber base.

III. Wireless subscriber

• Total wireless subscribers increased from 1,167.71 million at the end of February-21 to 1,180.96 million at the end of March-21, thereby registering a monthly growth rate of 1.13%. Wireless subscription in urban areas increased from 639.24 million at the end of February-21 to 645.20 million at the end of March-21 and wireless subscription in rural areas also increased from 528.47 million to 535.75 million during the same period. Monthly growth rates of urban and rural wireless subscription were 0.93% and 1.38% respectively.



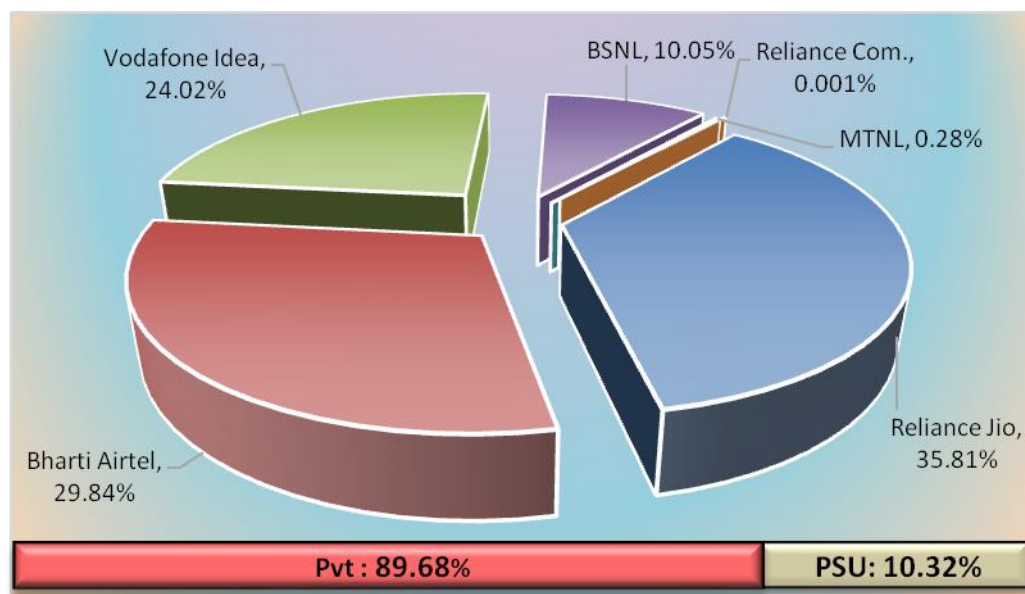
• The Wireless Tele-density in India increased from 85.78 at the end of February-21 to 86.68 at the end of March-21. The Urban Wireless Tele-density increased from 136.03 at the end of February-21 to 137.08 at the end of March-21 and Rural Tele-density also increased from 59.28 to 60.08 during the same period. The share of urban and rural wireless subscribers in total number of wireless subscribers was 54.63% and 45.37% respectively at the end

of March-21. Detailed statistics of wireless subscriber base is available at

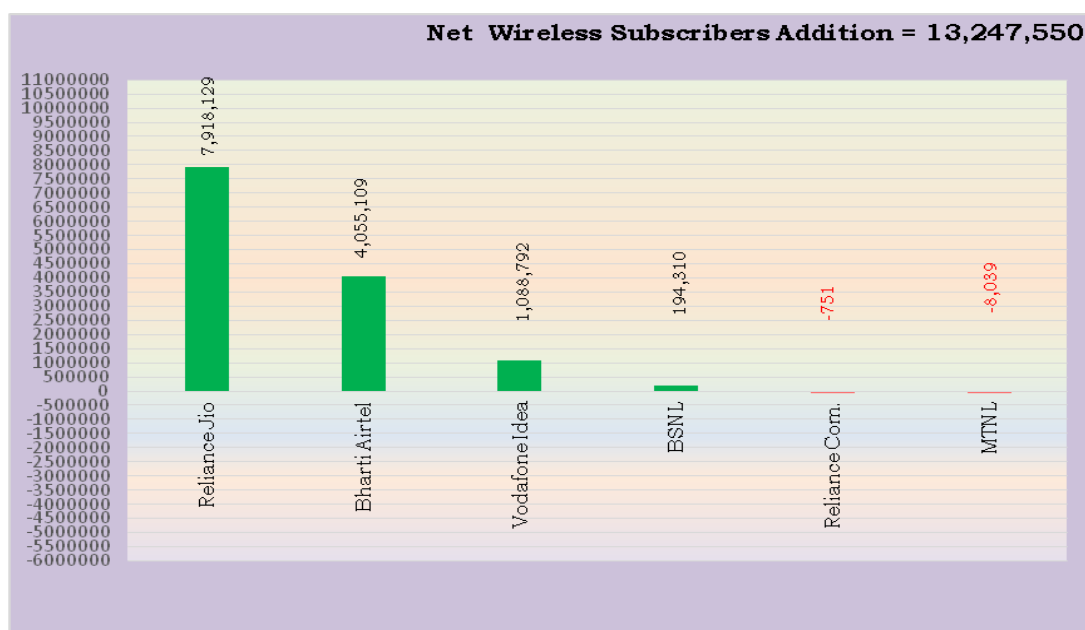
Annexure-I.

- As on 31st March, 2021, the private access service providers held 89.68% market share of the wireless subscribers whereas BSNL and MTNL, the two PSU access service providers, had a market share of only 10.32%.
- 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 March, 2021



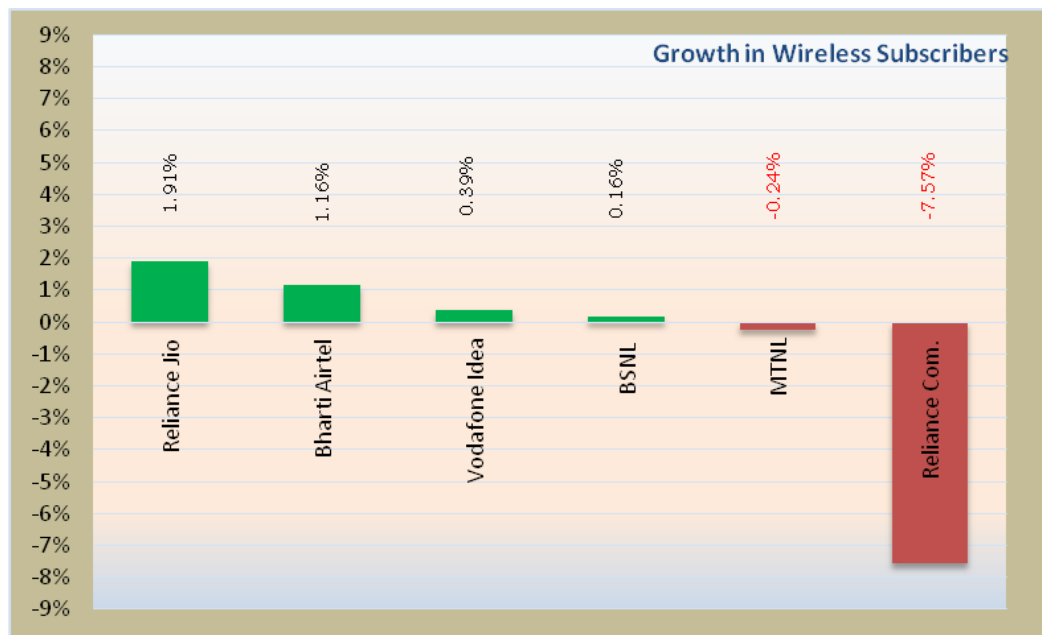
Net Additions/decline in Wireless Subscribers of Access Service Providers in the month of March 2021



- 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.

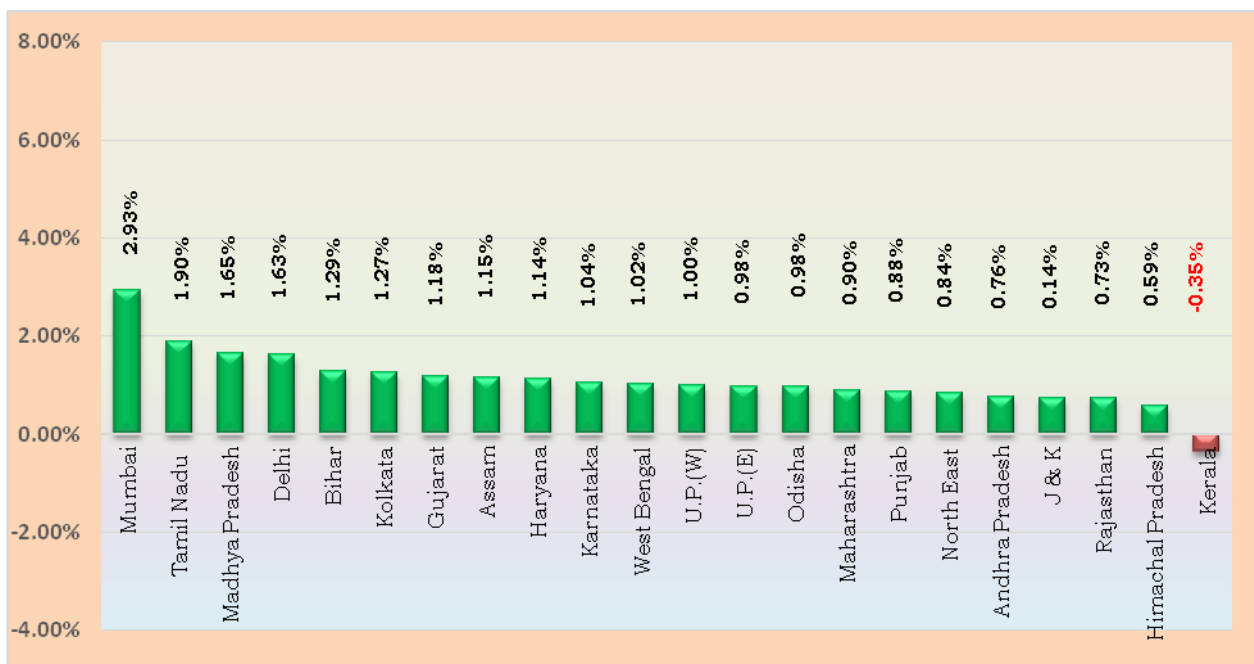
IV. Growth in Wireless Subscribers

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



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

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

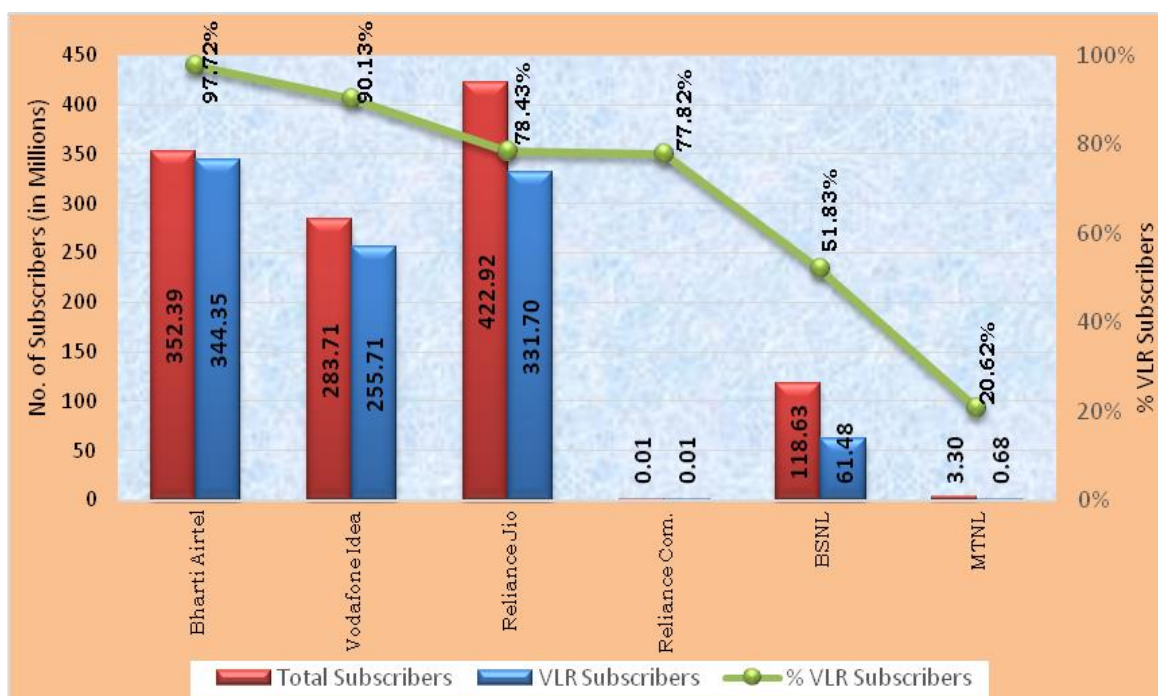


- All service areas except Kerala showed growth in their wireless subscribers during the month of March-21. Mumbai area showed maximum growth of 2.93% in its wireless subscriber base during the month.

V. Active Wireless Subscribers (VLR Data)

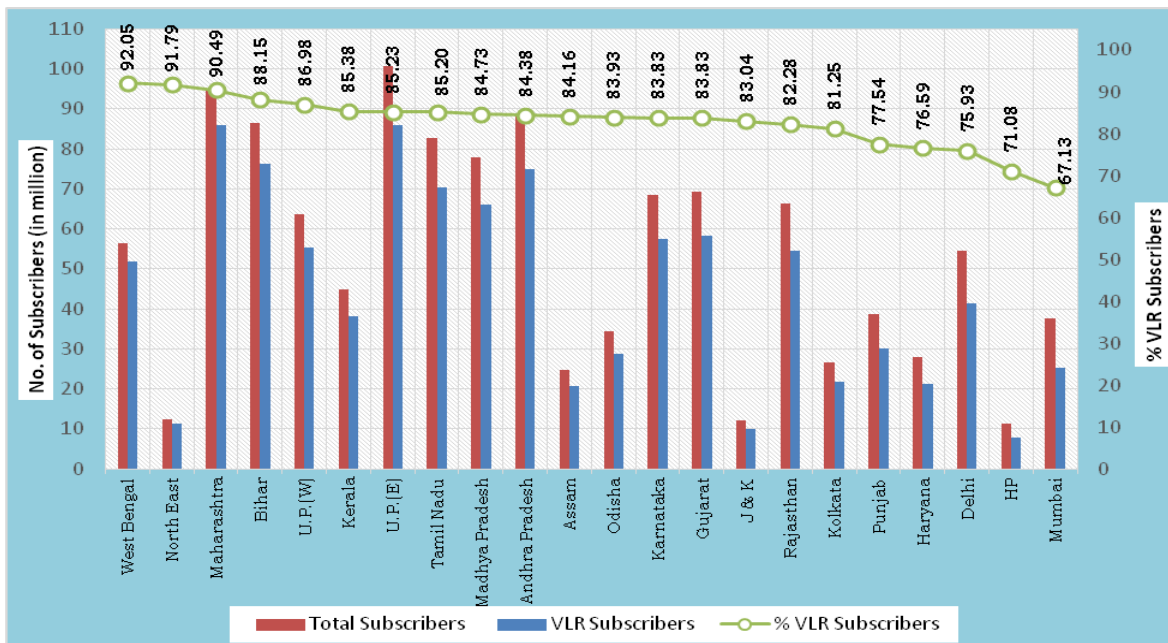
- Out of the total wireless subscribers (1,180.96 million), 993.92 million wireless subscribers were active on the date of peak VLR in the month of March-21. The proportion of active wireless subscribers was approximately 84.16% of the total wireless subscriber base.
- The detailed statistics on proportion of active wireless subscribers (also referred to as VLR subscribers) on the date of peak VLR in the month of March-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 March 2021



- Bharti Airtel has the maximum proportion (97.72%) of its active wireless subscribers (VLR) as against its total wireless subscribers (HLR) on the date of peak VLR in the month of March-21 and MTNL has the minimum proportion of VLR (20.62%) of its HLR during the same period.

Service Area wise percentage of VLR Subscribers in the month of March 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 Mar-21, a total of 12.74 million requests were received for MNP. Out of total 12.74 million new requests, 7.35 million requests received from Zone-I and 5.40 million requests received from Zone-II. The

cumulative MNP requests increased from 563.92 million at the end of February-21 to 576.67 million at the end of March-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 47.14 million) followed by Rajasthan (about 42.42 million) service area.
- In MNP Zone-II (Southern and Eastern India), the highest number of requests till date have been received in Karnataka (about 48.05 million) followed by Andhra Pradesh (about 45.94 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)	
	Feb-21	Mar-21		Feb-21	Mar-21
Delhi	28.06	28.64	Andhra Pradesh	45.30	45.94
Gujarat	37.79	38.59	Assam	4.09	4.15
Haryana	19.52	19.84	Bihar	25.36	26.37
Himachal Pradesh	2.69	2.73	Karnataka	47.53	48.05
Jammu & Kashmir	1.30	1.32	Kerala	15.16	15.40
Maharashtra	46.05	47.14	Kolkata	12.43	12.59
Mumbai	25.27	25.49	Madhya Pradesh	39.80	40.89
Punjab	21.63	21.98	North East	1.55	1.56
Rajasthan	41.57	42.42	Orissa	11.05	11.31
U.P.(East)	36.13	37.93	Tamil Nadu	44.50	44.97
U.P.(West)	29.01	30.27	West Bengal	28.15	29.07
Total	289.02	296.36	Total	274.91	280.30
Total (Zone-1 + Zone-2)				563.92	576.67
Net Addition (March, 2021)			12.74 million		

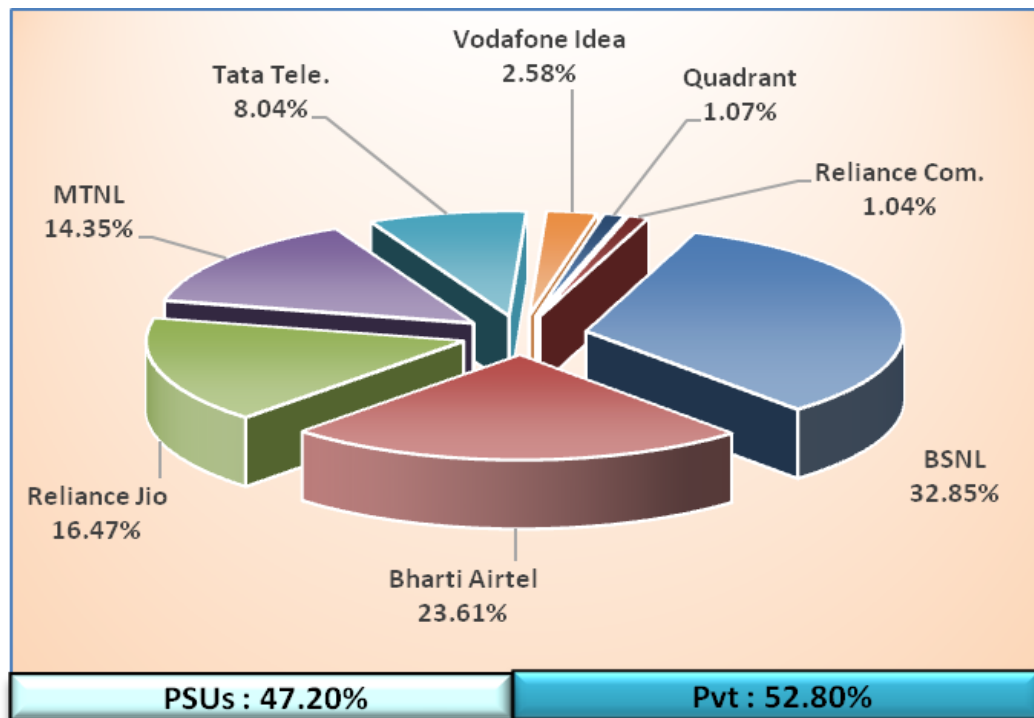
VII. Wireline Subscribers

- Wireline subscribers increased from 20.19 million at the end of February-21 to 20.24 million at the end of March-21. Net increase in the wireline subscriber base was 0.05 million with a monthly growth rate of 0.26%. The share of urban and rural subscribers in total wireline subscribers were 91.76% and 8.24% respectively at the end of March, 2021.
- The Overall Wireline Tele-density increased from 1.48% at the end of

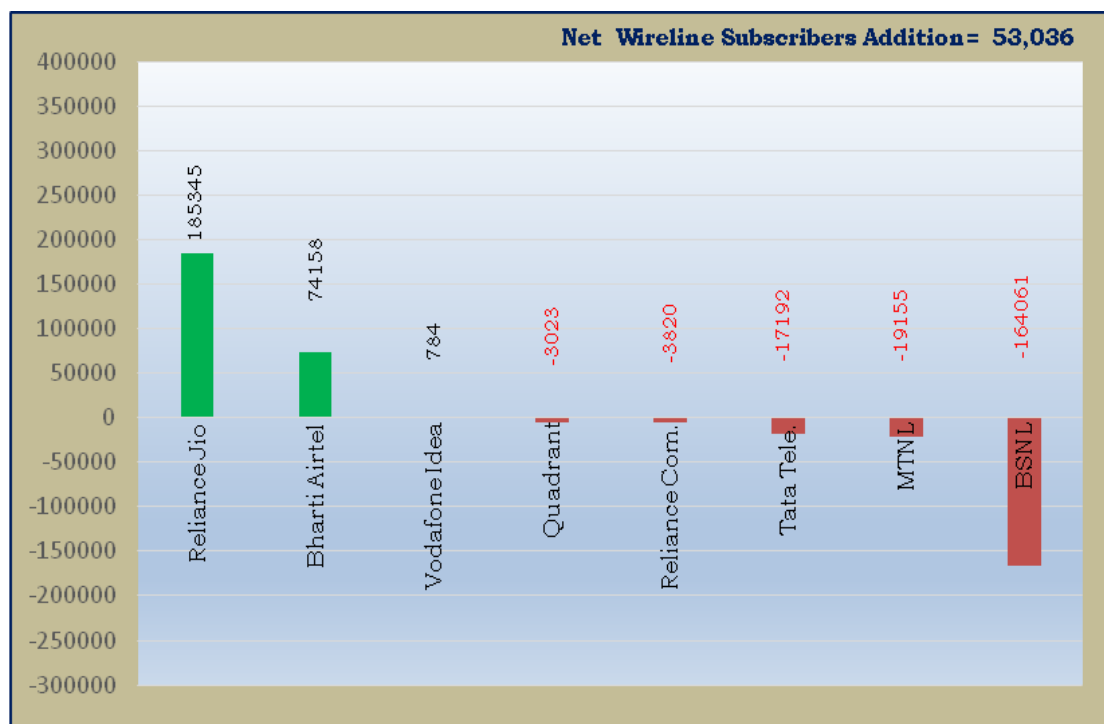
February-21 to 1.49% at the end of March-21. Urban and Rural Wireline Tele-density were 3.95% and 0.19% respectively during the same period.

- BSNL and MTNL, the two PSU access service providers, held 47.20% of the wireline market share as on 31st March, 2021. Detailed statistics of wireline subscriber base are available at **Annexure-III**.

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



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



VIII. Broadband (\geq 512 Kbps download)

- As per the reports received from 421 operators in the month of March, 2021, the number of broadband subscribers increased from 765.09 million at the end of February-21 to 778.09 million at the end of March-21 with a monthly growth rate of 1.70%. Segment-wise broadband subscribers and their monthly growth rates are as below: -

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

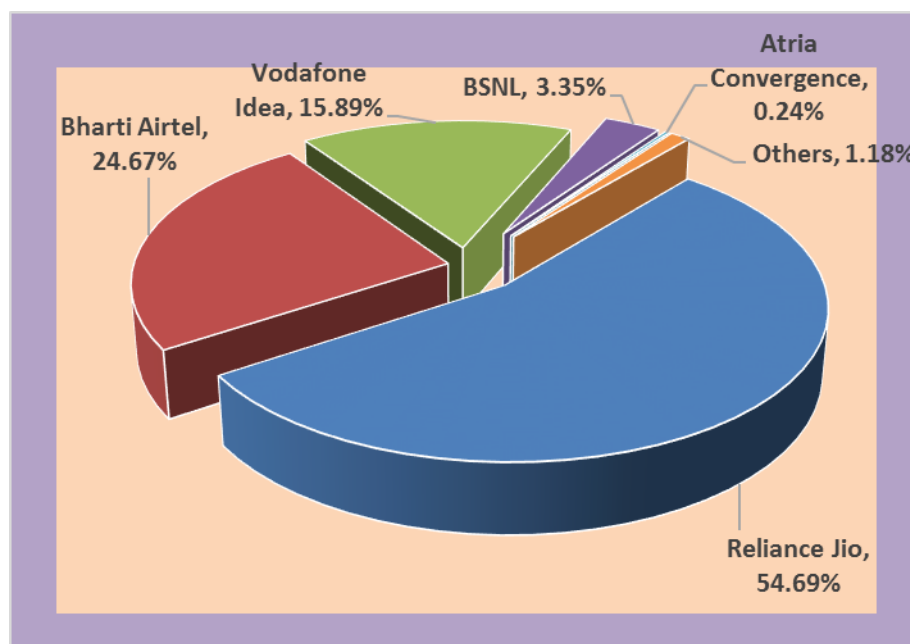
Segment	Broadband subscribers (in million)		Monthly growth rate in the month of March-21
	As on 28 th February, 2021	As on 31 st March, 2021	
Wired subscribers	22.26	22.75	2.22%
Mobile devices users (Phones and dongles)	742.19	754.67	1.68%
Fixed Wireless subscribers (Wi-Fi, Wi-Max, Point-to-Point Radio & VSAT)	0.65	0.67	3.48%
Total	765.09	778.09	1.70%

- Top five service providers constituted 98.82% market share of the total broadband subscribers at the end of March-21. These service providers were Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd (425.51 million), Bharti Airtel (191.93 million), Vodafone Idea (123.61 million), BSNL (26.04 million) and Atria Convergence (1.85 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 March 2021**



- As on 31st March, 2021, the top five Wired Broadband Service providers were BSNL (6.82 million), Bharti Airtel (3.09 million), Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd (2.60 million), Atria Convergence Technologies (1.85 million) and Hathway Cable & Datacom (1.07 million).

As on 31st March, 2021, the top five Wireless Broadband Service providers were Reliance Jio Infocom Ltd (422.92 million), Bharti Airtel (188.84 million), Vodafone Idea (123.60 million), BSNL (19.22 million) and Tikona Ininet Ltd. (0.32 million).

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Secretary I/C, TRAI

Wireless Subscriber Base

Annexure-I

Circle	Bharti Airtel (including Tata Tele.)		Reliance Com.		Vodafone Idea		BSNL		BSNL (VNO's)		MTNL		Reliance Jio		Total		Net Addition
	Feb-21	Mar-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	
Andhra Pradesh	31031131	31320614	1129	1029	15818541	15752480	9662168	9686428					31551417	31972495	88064386	88733046	668660
Assam	9100301	9238358			3235350	3203509	3009116	3033066					9092078	9243798	24436845	24718731	281886
Bihar	35605997	35992515	176	169	12122243	12113773	5882003	5845757					31754296	32515243	85364715	86467457	1102742
Delhi	16185271	16429584	511	473	15856412	16219011				2165334	2161329		19470227	19743775	53677755	54554172	876417
Gujarat	11986907	12097288	196	196	25082556	25254129	5898496	5906595					25631164	26151330	68599319	69409538	810219
Haryana	5386412	5479581	86	84	8118660	8256208	5061363	5055231					8998423	9087484	27564944	27878588	313644
Himachal Pradesh	3341977	3363193	96	96	683441	674361	3013128	3021606					4087620	4132426	11126262	11191682	65420
J & K	5594198	5623564	0	0	497391	499253	1263252	1270192					4593889	4645034	11948730	12038043	89313
Karnataka	30393391	30624712	1891	1776	9179916	9219033	7232679	7214006					21123209	21577501	67931086	68637028	705942
Kerala	6725494	6793854	479	461	17282799	16934704	10927773	10912516					10060424	10196287	44996969	44837822	-159147
Kolkata	5918026	5916041	28	28	6872486	7003470	2492335	2536248					11055992	11218010	26338867	26673797	334930
Madhya Pradesh	15239572	15417273	509	358	21393666	21630851	6258650	6310875					33716180	34515319	76608577	77874676	1266099
Maharashtra	18857112	19104894	453	413	32290387	32234994	6868164	6824196					36046728	36747170	94062844	94911667	848823
Mumbai	10025049	10082609	924	869	10472239	11327047					1138726	1134692	14941853	15103932	36578791	37649149	1070358
North East	5374480	5430407	0	0	1428357	1407306	1373933	1370848					4170356	4242689	12347126	12451250	104124
Odisha	11113045	11177746	217	201	2417391	2364640	6427012	6476145					14053194	14325397	34010859	34344129	333270
Punjab	11537940	11651761	349	345	8628408	8683278	5791161	5759876					12540321	12739934	38498179	38835194	337015
Rajasthan	21809479	21955246	319	309	12239089	12248986	6392508	6398967					25377992	25693559	65819387	66297067	477680
Tamil Nadu	26568948	27090503	936	762	19078428	19285654	10886270	10998776	97884	98835			24588139	25288818	81220605	82763348	1542743
U.P.(E)	34698177	35273025	422	409	22916343	22693255	11555798	11480009					30607236	31311492	99777976	100758190	980214
U.P.(W)	16596231	16936781	262	261	19945229	19763003	5814474	5876920					20629748	21039748	62985944	63616713	630769
West Bengal	15249529	15394227	943	936	17065473	16944652	2526005	2551390					20906471	21423645	55748421	56314850	566429
Total	348338667	352393776	9926	9175	282624805	283713597	118336288	118529647	97884	98835	3304060	3296021	414996957	422915086	1167708587	1180956137	13247550
Net Addition		4055109		-751		1088792		193359		951		-8039		7918129	0	13247550	
Rural Subscribers	164886315	168627301	0	0	150140922	149930551	37798661	37838495	0	0	45255	45172	175594997	179312359	528466150	535753878	7287728

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 March-21 (%)							Annexure-II
Circle	Bharti	BSNL	Vodafone Idea	MTNL	Reliance Com.	Reliance Jio	Total
Andhra Pradesh	96.02	58.20	90.69		108.55	77.81	84.38
Assam	99.73	46.54	91.23		-	78.49	84.16
Bihar	97.08	48.42	81.26		103.38	87.97	88.15
Delhi	92.73		76.51	13.15	78.06	68.33	75.93
Gujarat	100.15	51.35	92.24		78.06	75.49	83.83
Haryana	109.05	35.77	89.55		71.43	67.96	76.59
Himachal Pradesh	100.40	35.73	101.72		32.29	68.06	71.08
J & K	94.21	55.65	86.02		-	76.68	83.04
Karnataka	93.29	51.10	88.22		79.73	79.47	83.83
Kerala	100.81	67.58	96.14		50.33	76.28	85.38
Kolkata	94.33	37.96	84.52		-	82.10	81.25
Madhya Pradesh	96.52	45.28	86.00		95.81	85.89	84.73
Maharashtra	103.51	58.56	96.78		108.47	84.12	90.49
Mumbai	77.94		76.05	34.84	102.53	55.64	67.13
North East	103.40	66.63	88.35		-	86.19	91.79
Orissa	100.40	59.74	92.65		24.38	80.57	83.93
Punjab	102.21	41.60	91.79		39.13	61.53	77.54
Rajasthan	98.04	45.05	91.90		49.51	73.51	82.28
Tamil Nadu	95.12	66.25	92.89		149.34	77.02	85.20
U.P. (E)	100.92	36.79	88.60		45.97	82.88	85.23
U.P. (W)	106.11	43.52	92.65		12.26	78.40	86.98
West Bengal	97.40	74.49	98.60		20.62	85.13	92.05
Total	97.72	51.83	90.13	20.62	77.82	78.43	84.16

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
	Feb-21	Mar-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	
Andhra Pradesh	569252	561771			255015	259061	22522	22340	159764	159486			54390	51180	332909	356143	1393852	1409981	16129
Assam	82846	82206											3420	3390	44042	47332	130308	132928	2620
Bihar	129507	130408					20	20	7353	7469			1770	1740	90851	99896	229501	239533	10032
Delhi			1323967	1319143	1541281	1556389	34968	34006	139643	137712			68294	86514	250723	260128	3358876	3393892	35016
Gujarat	489127	466470			120160	121065	4700	4567	80591	79722			35792	39767	231532	239304	961902	950895	-11007
Haryana	129408	127004			30828	31502	3	2	35840	35504			360	360	112464	120641	308903	315013	6110
Himachal Pradesh	76575	75707				0	3	3	1706	1709			30	30	10122	11586	88436	89035	599
J & K	87797	87435				0	0	0	0	0			0	0	76648	80841	164445	168276	3831
Karnataka	730480	721542			802874	812574	27048	26395	258465	249104			97552	86462	251652	259694	2168071	2155771	-12300
Kerala	1057548	1033144			66490	67176	5724	5699	19066	18969			7490	8390	68879	73093	1225197	1206471	-18726
Kolkata	320102	316756			149702	153326	7169	7659	46673	46249			13460	14930	128335	135866	665441	674786	9345
Madhya Pradesh	263061	255109			267522	271690	5	5	11233	11220			3645	2360	169731	179532	715197	719916	4719
Maharashtra	785288	737346			152521	159620	12621	12530	226790	226181			29008	26998	91439	99663	1297667	1262338	-35329
Mumbai			1598777	1584446	396086	403492	65962	64202	490990	488125			123672	120041	375543	396414	3051030	3056720	5690
North East	68088	67455											270	330	31543	34738	99901	102523	2622
Odisha	149969	148145					6	6	8078	8116			6510	6540	44467	48756	209030	211563	2533
Punjab	231578	227116			149815	152738	1993	1995	12464	12381	219451	216428	2280	2175	89704	93576	707285	706409	-876
Rajasthan	252667	246388			77253	82247	4605	4576	11796	11746			8490	7510	110559	118267	465370	470734	5364
Tamil Nadu	870785	857270			565496	573648	26765	26289	118979	118390			38420	35300	263382	276314	1883827	1887211	3384
U.P.(E)	171291	162235			79694	81891	23	23	7551	7642			19820	20460	131839	139826	410218	412077	1859
U.P.(W)	147246	145503			49395	51871	8	8	4407	4450			5780	6760	190827	205746	397663	414338	16675
West Bengal	200885	200429					3	3	2328	2350			120	120	51177	56357	254513	259259	4746
Total	6813500	6649439	2922744	2903589	4704132	4778290	214148	210328	1643717	1626525	219451	216428	520573	521357	3148368	3333713	20186633	20239669	53036
Net Addition		-164061		-19155		74158		-3820		-17192		-3023		784		185345		53036	
Rural Subscribers	1621689	1575018	0	0	0	0	180	180	40259	40146	28628	28107	0	0	21435	24292	1712191	1667743	-44448

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.