(Press Release No.44/2020)

Information Note to the Press





TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA

New Delhi, 29th June, 2020 (www.trai.gov.in)

Highlights of Telecom Subscription Data as on 29th February, 2020

Particulars	Wireless	Wireline	Total (Wireless+ Wireline)
Total Telephone Subscribers (Million)	1160.59	20.26	1180.84
Net Addition in February, 2020 (Million)	4.15	-0.33	3.82
Monthly Growth Rate	0.36%	-1.58%	0.32%
Urban Telephone Subscribers (Million)	643.24	17.98	661.23
Net Addition in February, 2020 (Million)	-1.29	-0.23	-1.52
Monthly Growth Rate	-0.20%	-1.26%	-0.23%
Rural Telephone Subscribers (Million)	517.34	2.28	519.62
Net Addition in February , 2020 (Million)	5.44	-0.10	5.34
Monthly Growth Rate	1.06%	-4.07%	1.04%
Overall Tele-density*(%)	86.15%	1.50%	87.66%
Urban Tele-density*(%)	139.68%	3.91%	143.59%
Rural Tele-density*(%)	58.35%	0.26%	58.61%
Share of Urban Subscribers	55.42%	88.76%	56.00%
Share of Rural Subscribers	44.58%	11.24%	44.00%
Broadband Subscribers (Million)	662.04	19.07	681.11

- ❖ In the month of February, 2020, 6.18 million subscribers submitted their requests for Mobile Number Portability (MNP). With this, the cumulative MNP requests increased from 475.40 million at the end of Jan-20 to 481.58 million at the end of Feb-20, since implementation of MNP.
- Number of active wireless subscribers (on the date of peak VLR*) in February, 2020 was 986.82 million.

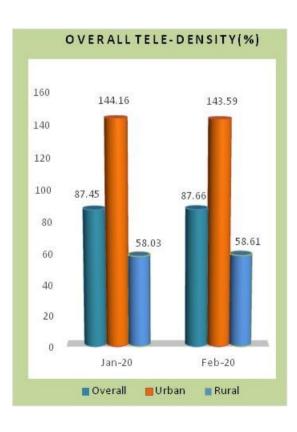
Note:

- Information in this Press Release is based on the data provided by the Service Providers
- * Based on the data of Census of India 2011, Population Projections for India and States, 2011 -2036.
- # 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 1,177.02 million at the end of Jan-20 to 1,180.84 million at the end of Feb-20, thereby showing a monthly increase rate of 0.32%. Urban telephone subscription decreased from 662.75 million at the end of Jan-20 to 661.23 million at the end of Feb-20, however the rural subscription increased from 514.27 million to 519.62 million during the same period. The monthly of urban growth rates and telephone subscription were -0.23% and 1.04% respectively during the month of Feb-20.





• The overall Tele-density in India increased from 87.45 at the end of Jan-20 to 87.66 at the end of Feb-20. The Urban Tele-density declined from 144.16 at the end of Jan-20 to 143.59 at the end of Feb-20. Rural Tele-density increased from 58.03 at the end of Jan-20 to 58.61 at the end of Feb-20. The share of rural and urban subscribers in total number of telephone subscribers at the end of Feb-20 was 44% and 56% respectively.





• As may be seen in the above chart, nine states have less tele-density than the all India average tele-density at the end of Feb-20. Delhi service area has maximum tele-density of 281.72 and the Bihar service area has minimum tele-density of 53.13 at the end of Feb-20.

Notes:

- 1. Population data/projections are available state wise only.
- 2. Tele-density figures are derived from the telephone subscriber data provided by the access service providers and the Projections of Population of the CENSUS OF INDIA 2011.
- 3. 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).
- 4. Data/information for West Bengal includes Kolkata, Maharashtra includes Mumbai, Tamil Nadu includes Chennai, Jammu & Kashmir includes Ladakh and Uttar Pradesh includes UPE & UPW service area(s).
- 5. Data/information for Andhra Pradesh includes Telengana, Madhya Pradesh includes Chhatishgarh, 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 February, 2020

Circle		is in the month uary, 2020	Telephone Subscriber base as on 29 th February, 2020				
Category	Wireline segment	Wireless segment	Wireline segment	Wireless segment			
Circle A	-1,08,852	7,18,918	78,37,950	39,88,23,724			
Circle B	-1,90,258	17,66,171	46,04,862	46,76,92,567			
Circle C	-2,818	10,67,823	8,29,147	17,64,78,200			
Metro	-23,280	5,93,547	69,87,588	11,75,90,737			
All India	-3,25,208	41,46,459	2,02,59,547	1,16,05,85,228			

Circle Category-wise monthly and yearly Growth Rates in Telephone Subscribers in the month of February, 2020

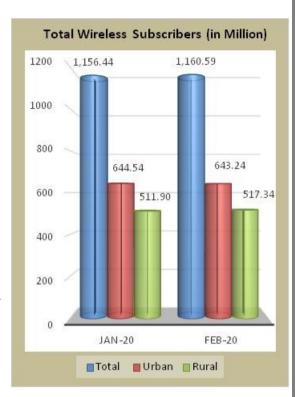
Circle	Monthly gro (Jan-20 t	wth rate (%) to Feb-20)	Yearly growth rate (%) (Feb-19 to Feb-20)					
Category	Wireline Segment	Wireless Segment	Wireline Segment	Wireless Segment				
Circle A	-1.37%	0.18%	-8.12%	-1.70%				
Circle B	-3.97%	0.38%	-14.69%	-2.92%				
Circle C	-0.34%	0.61%	-8.19%	-1.53%				
Metro	-0.33%	0.51%	1.50%	0.53%				
All India	-1.58%	0.36%	-6.71%	-1.95%				

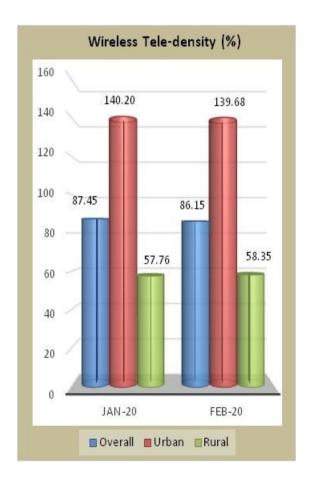
Note: Circle Category-Metro includes Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata. Data for Chennai has been included in Circle Category-A, as part of TamilNadu.

- As can be seen in the above tables, in wireless segment, Circles of all Categories showed monthly increase rate in their subscribers during the month of Feb-20. On yearly basis, only Metro Circles showed growth in their number of wireless subscribers.
- In Wireline segment, Circles of all Categories showed monthly decline rate in their subscribers during the month of Feb-20. On yearly basis, only Metro Circles showed growth in their number of wireline subscribers.

III. Wireless Subscribers

• Total wireless subscribers (2G, 3G & 4G) increased from 1,156.44 million at the end of Jan-20 to 1,160.59 million at the end of Feb-20, thereby registering a monthly increase rate of 0.36%. Wireless subscription in urban areas decreased from 644.54 million at the end of Jan-20 to 643.24 million at the end of Feb-20 and wireless subscription in rural areas increased from 511.90 million at the end of Jan-20 to 517.34 million at the end of Feb-20. Monthly growth rates of urban and rural wireless subscription were - 0.20% and 1.06% respectively.

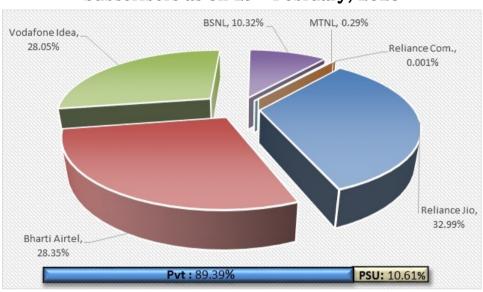




The Wireless Tele-density India decreased from 87.45 at the end of Jan-20 to 86.15 at the end of Feb-20. The Urban Wireless Teledensity declined from 140.20 at the end of Jan-20 to 139.68 at the end of Feb-20, however, Rural Wireless Tele-density increased from 57.76 to 58.35 during the same period. The share of urban and rural subscribers wireless in total number of wireless subscribers was 55.42% and 44.58% respectively at end of Feb-20. Detailed the statistics of wireless subscriber base is available at Annexure-I.

- As on 29th February, 2020, the private access service providers held 89.39% market share of the wireless subscribers whereas BSNL and MTNL, the two PSU access service providers, had a market share of only 10.61%.
- 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 29th February, 2020



Net Additions in Wireless Subscribers of Access Service Providers in the month of February, 2020



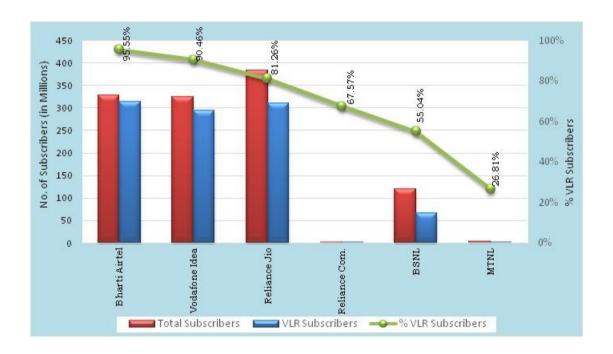
Note: 1. M/s Bharti Airtel Ltd has reported the wireless subscribers including the subscribers of M/s Tata Teleservices Ltd.

2. 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. Active Wireless Subscribers (VLR Data)

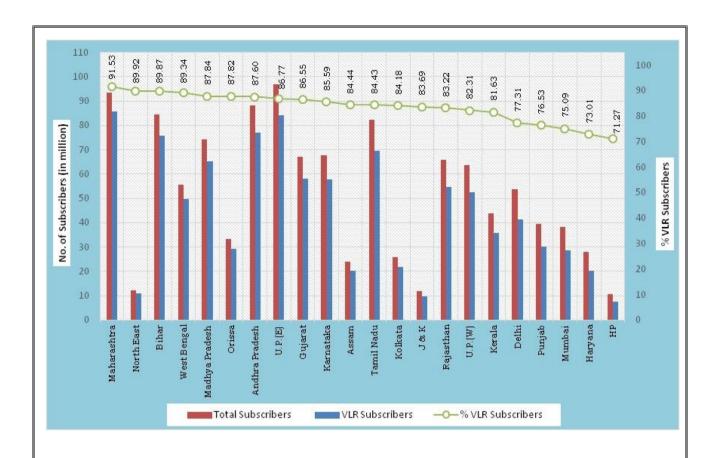
- Out ofthe total wireless subscribers (1.160.59)million). 986.82 million wireless subscribers were active on the date of peak VLR in the month of Feb-20. The proportion of active wireless subscribers was approximately 85.03% of wireless the total subscriber base.
- The detailed statistics on proportion of active wireless subscribers (also referred to as VLR subscribers) on the date of peak VLR in the month of Feb-20 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 February, 2020



- Bharti Airtel has the maximum proportion (95.55%) of its active wireless subscribers (VLR) as against its total wireless subscribers (HLR) on the date of
- peak VLR in the month of Feb-20 and MTNL has the minimum proportion of VLR (26.81%) of its HLR during the same period.

Service Area wise percentage of VLR Subscribers in the Month of February, 2020

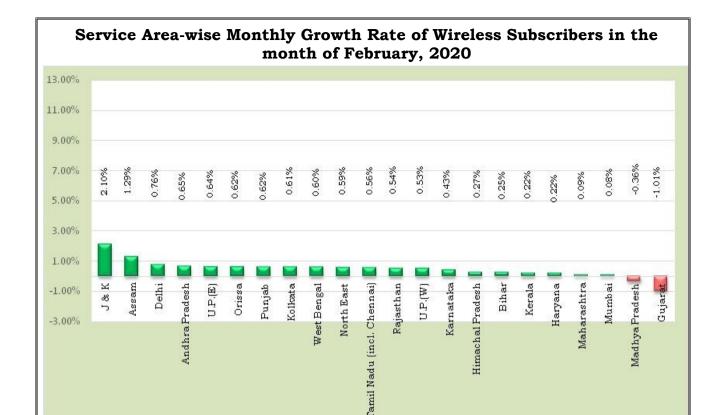


V. Growth in Wireless Subscribers

Access Service Provider-wise Monthly Growth Rate of Wireless Subscribers in the month of February, 2020



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



 All service areas showed increase except Gujarat and Bihar in their wireless subscribers during the month of Feb-20. Jammu & Kashmir service area showed maximum growth of 2.10% in their wireless subscriber during the month.

VI. Mobile Number Portability (MNP)

- Intra-service area Mobile number portability (MNP) was implemented first in Harvana 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 Feb-20, a total of 6.18 million requests were received for MNP. Out of total 6.18 million new requests, 3.34 million requests received from Zone-I and 2.84 million requests received from Zone-II. The cumulative **MNP** requests increased from 475.41 million at the end of Jan-20 to 481.59 million at the end Feb-20, 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 37.15 million) followed by Rajasthan (about 37.10 million) service area.
- In MNP Zone-II (Southern and Eastern India), the highest number of requests till date have been received in Karnataka (about 43.37 million) followed by Andhra Pradesh (about 40.42 million).

Service Area Wise MNP Status										
Zon	e -1		Zone – 2							
Service Area	Number o Reque Mill	sts (in	Service Area	Number of Porting Requests (in Million)						
	Jan-20	Feb-20		Jan-20	Feb-20					
Delhi	24.52	24.78	Andhra Pradesh	39.95	40.42					
Gujarat	31.71	32.14	Assam	3.63	3.67					
Haryana	17.14	17.33	Bihar	19.51	19.88					
Himachal Pradesh	2.32	2.35	Karnataka	43.06	43.37					
Jammu & Kashmir	1.15	1.16	Kerala	12.03	12.21					
Maharashtra	36.54	37.15	37.15 Kolkata 11.20		11.31					
Mumbai	23.74	23.91	Madhya Pradesh	31.51	32.07					
Punjab	18.35	18.58	North East	1.41	1.43					
Rajasthan	36.76	37.10	Orissa	9.47	9.57					
U.P.(East)	26.90	27.50	Tamil Nadu	39.60	39.98					
U.P.(West)	21.65	22.10	West Bengal	23.27	23.57					
Total	240.77	244.11	Total	234.64	237.48					
Total (Zone-1 + Z	one-2)			475.41	481.59					
Net Addition (Febru	ary, 2020)	6.18 million								

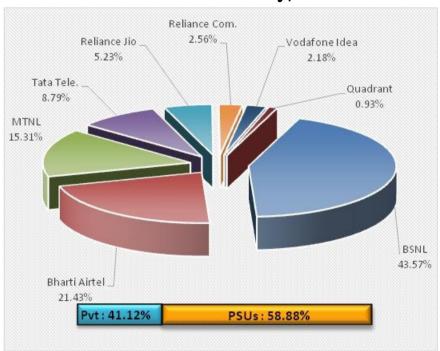
VII. Wireline Subscribers

• Wireline subscribers decreased from 20.58 million at the end of Jan-20 to 20.26 million at the end of Feb-20. Net decline in the wireline subscriber base was 0.33 million with a monthly decline rate

of 1.58%. The share of urban and rural subscribers in total wireline subscribers were 88.76% and 11.24% respectively at the end of Feb-20.

- The Overall Wireline Tele-density declined from 1.53 at the end of Jan-20 to 1.50 at the end of Feb-20. Urban and Rural Wireline Tele-density were 3.91 and 0.26 respectively during the same period.
- BSNL and MTNL, the two PSU access service providers, held 58.88% of the wireline market share as on 29th February, 2020. Detailed statistics of wireline subscriber base are available at **Annexure-III**.

Access Service Provider-wise Market Shares of Wireline Subscribers as on 29th February, 2020



Access Service Provider-wise Net Additions/declines in Wireline Subscribers during the month of February, 2020



VIII. Broadband (≥ 512 Kbps download)

 As per the reports received from 341 operators in the month of February, 2020, the number of broadband subscribers increased from 673.40 million at the end of Jan-20 to 681.11 million at the end of Feb-20 with a monthly growth rate of 1.15%. Segment-wise broadband subscribers and their monthly growth rates are as below: -

Segment-wise Broadband Subscribers and Monthly Growth Rate in the month of February, 2020

	Broadband s	Monthly growth		
Segment	As on 31 st January, 2020	rate in the month of Feb-20		
Wired subscribers	19.08	19.07	-0.04%	
Mobile devices users (Phones and dongles)	653.71	661.45	1.18%	
Fixed Wireless subscribers (Wi-Fi, Wi-Max, Point-to- Point Radio & VSAT)	0.60	0.58	-1.72%	
Total	673.39	681.11	1.15%	

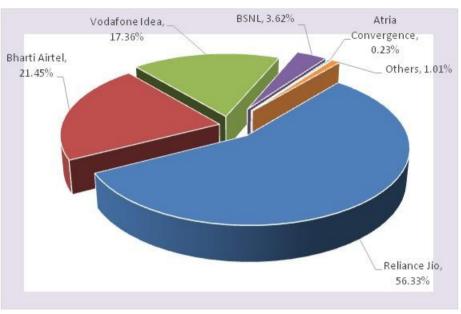
• Top five service providers constituted 98.99% market share of the total broadband subscribers at the end of Feb-20. These service providers were Reliance Jio

Infocomm Ltd (383.67 million), Bharti Airtel (146.10 million), Vodafone Idea (118.25 million), BSNL (24.67 million) and Atria Convergence (1.56 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 29.02.2020



- As on 29th February, 2020, the top Wired Broadband five Service providers were BSNL (8.11 million), Bharti Airtel (2.45 million), Atria Convergence Technologies (1.56)million), Hathway Cable & (0.94)million) Datacom and Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd (0.84 million).
- As on 29th February, 2020, the top five Wireless Broadband Service providers Reliance Jio were Infocom Ltd (382.83)million), Bharti Airtel (143.65)million), Vodafone Idea (118.23 million), BSNL (16.55 million) and MTNL (0.18 million).

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					Wireless	Subscribe	er Base									Annex	ure-I
Circle	Bharti (including	Airtel Tata Tele.)	Reliano	ce Com.	Vodafo	Vodafone Idea		NL	BSNL (VNO's)		MTNL		Relian	ce Jio	Total		Net Addition
Circie	Jan-20	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-20	Net Addition
Andhra Pradesh	29073195	29401184	2233	2213	18794095	18581845	9891040	9897992					29724407	30170146	87484970	88053380	568410
Assam	8315900	8344039	0	0	4539372	4658150	2761008	2778094					8023651	8165090	23639931	23945373	305442
Bihar	35198140	35124320	383	381	14823964	14563927	5459122	5551247					28740101	29195038	84221710	84434913	213203
Delhi	15624496	15691909	1810	1789	17646831	17743366					2184561	2182809	17756333	18000340	53214031	53620213	406182
Gujarat	11070661	11061517	615	605	27359352	26374653	6097309	6111291					23387210	23679880	67915147	67227946	-687201
Haryana	4493585	4541532	140	136	9083847	9050170	5039948	5046554					9299386	9339766	27916906	27978158	61252
Himachal Pradesh	3384752	3366740	105	104	905435	885017	2971171	2983302					3527200	3582892	10788663	10818055	29392
J & K	5602821	5846046	0	0	649280	610300	1271939	1261136					4003971	4052254	11528011	11769736	241725
Karnataka	28726293	28789394	1549	1540	11737915	11640204	7327006	7328042					19621752	19945174	67414515	67704354	289839
Kerala	5567226	5618292	634	632	18441748	18366590	10972574	10975611					8693941	8811746	43676123	43772871	96748
Kolkata	6326162	6297202	36	36	7600548	7567960	1946039	2030138					9788521	9921868	25661306	25817204	155898
Madhya Pradesh	14640460	14598227	758	750	24141435	23262800	6315980	6356537					29511247	30122380	74609880	74340694	-269186
Maharashtra	16086073	16187603	1077	1050	39550093	39037114	7241522	7192711					30519389	31065417	93398154	93483895	85741
Mumbai	9877605	9954018	2471	2397	13288940	13124525					1186107	1182023	13766730	13890357	38121853	38153320	31467
North East	5218385	5242050	0	0	1878271	1863866	1409289	1407763					3554006	3617709	12059951	12131388	71437
Orissa	11618841	11535226	368	364	3370789	3341790	6100003	6175768					12082110	12325587	33172111	33378735	206624
Punjab	10326810	10347907	319	316	9609814	9581610	5764539	5776616					13432899	13669665	39134381	39376114	241733
Rajasthan	21260045	21282306	372	368	13898382	13943032	6198319	6207245					24194554	24474431	65551672	65907382	355710
Tamil Nadu (incl. Chennai)	25456293	25352753	3226	3133	20962158	21049736	12468041	12553826	91544	91660			22910758	23303041	81892020	82354149	462129
U.P.(E)	30873212	31004679	853	866	26443773	26365167	11768215	11715869					27243790	27859162	96329843	96945743	615900
U.P.(W)	13664867	13826814	305	301	24599457	24351921	5971430	5989988	_	•			19173890	19573971	63409949	63742995	333046
West Bengal	15746165	15661175	815	809	19663708	19558071	2271223	2345305					17615731	18063250	55297642	55628610	330968
Total	328151987	329074933	18069	17790	328989207	325521814	119245717	119685035	91544	91660	3370668	3364832	376571577	382829164	1156438769	1160585228	4146459
Net Addition		922946		-279		-3467393		439318		116		-5836		6257587	0	4146459	
Rural Subscribers	147706388	150437858	0		170769483	168051655	37756939	40083083	0	0	45657	45621	155623117	158722801	511901584	517341018	5439434

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.

Proportion of V	of Feb-20 (%)	An	nnexure-II				
Circle	Bharti	BSNL	Vodafone Idea	MTNL	Reliance Com.	Reliance Jio	Total
Andhra Pradesh	105.37	64.81	90.22		58.56	76.14	87.60
Assam	97.76	52.63	81.74		-	83.19	84.44
Bihar	93.49	50.19	86.50		98.83	94.73	89.87
Delhi	86.46		81.32	17.57	29.26	72.64	77.31
Gujarat	94.69	51.10	97.46		29.26	79.74	86.55
Haryana	101.47	37.56	88.26		52.94	63.56	73.01
Himachal Pradesh	97.26	38.91	94.20		33.65	68.13	71.27
J & K	93.93	57.85	88.23		-	76.27	83.69
Karnataka	93.86	58.68	92.60		88.44	79.46	85.59
Kerala	95.62	67.32	92.83		28.48	67.22	81.63
Kolkata	93.92	52.01	90.65		-	79.66	84.18
Madhya Pradesh	93.30	48.77	90.93		47.87	91.06	87.84
Maharashtra	101.99	60.18	95.14		49.43	88.80	91.53
Mumbai	77.84		78.05	43.85	126.91	72.98	75.09
North East	97.43	75.95	80.59		-	89.27	89.92
Orissa	96.89	66.45	94.71		13.46	88.18	87.82
Punjab	97.84	42.45	86.21		21.20	68.03	76.53
Rajasthan	95.68	48.14	91.41		36.14	76.63	83.22
Tamil Nadu (incl. Chennai)	93.64	66.99	90.74		72.45	78.17	84.43
U.P. (E)	97.68	38.80	93.86		38.11	88.09	86.77
U.P. (W)	96.34	44.02	88.16		11.63	76.85	82.31
West Bengal	94.12	81.39	89.94		27.07	85.57	89.34
Total	95.55	55.04	90.46	26.81	67.57	81.26	85.03

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	Subscri	ber Base	:								Annexur	e-III	
Samilas Ansa	BS	NL	МТ	'nL	Bharti Airtel		Reliance Com.		Tata Tele.		Quadrant		Vodafone Idea		Reliar	ice Jio	Total		Net
Service Area	Jan-20	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-20	Jan-20	Feb-20	Addition
Andhra Pradesh	770343	756922			207678	208792	31428	30371	170325	168529			49025	51315	100170	97292	1328969	1313221	-15748
Assam	96405	95443											3420	3420	11359	12218	111184	111081	-103
Bihar	149363	146849					2206	2092	8528	8444			1920	1980	15401	16465	177418	175830	-1588
Delhi	0	0	1401938	1398989	1482973	1487412	71165	69477	148611	148121			72630	76755	81885	86395	3259202	3267149	7947
Gujarat	738535	664016			97489	97649	10571	10173	85666	85910			33097	31782	139027	132800	1104385	1022330	-82055
Haryana	180830	178089			22086	22247	1766	1598	38547	38508			360	360	24030	24698	267619	265500	-2119
Himachal Pradesh	96638	95403					1239	1178	1896	1926			60	60	719	752	100552	99319	-1233
J & K	124172	122309						0		0				0	9709	12160	133881	134469	588
Karnataka	881273	868598			732935	745374	101270	98612	275165	275265			61027	79977	57417	51705	2109087	2119531	10444
Kerala	1503220	1459835			63345	63469	11002	10464	19643	19705			5610	5640	13258	14099	1616078	1573212	-42866
Kolkata	401784	395948			133968	134767	34192	33844	50105	49019			10220	11480	33627	32321	663896	657379	-6517
Madhya Pradesh	471643	360002			241127	241403	5043	4864	13614	13363			2250	2280	49626	49253	783303	671165	-112138
Maharashtra	901303	889585			109369	111503	37970	36927	260742	259341			30733	29503	37002	36610	1377119	1363469	-13650
Mumbai	0	0	1706484	1703443	393304	395256	146722	141314	543608	540146			91271	77476	206381	205425	3087770	3063060	-24710
North East	92235	91944											270	270	4948	5724	97453	97938	485
Orissa	188192	186829					1711	1651	8620	8667			5730	5730	7224	7633	211477	210510	-967
Punjab	325322	319377			138705	139025	9873	9776	12411	12298	192339	189283	3060	3030	39237	36137	720947	708926	-12021
Rajasthan	369595	362816			57340	57538	13403	12825	11459	11558			10221	9810	41266	38981	503284	493528	-9756
Tamil Nadu (incl. Chennai)	1190911	1172524			547173	548407	49968	47341	123464	123527			31450	32305	84276	95295	2027242	2019399	-7843
U.P.(E)	288185	284198			62681	63086	3068	2888	8200	8361			20040	13330	33812	67778	415986	439641	23655
U.P.(W)	216687	212806			24782	25248	2216	2213	4924	4924			5550	5550	56998	26858	311157	277599	-33558
West Bengal	164547	163120					1615	1615	2447	2444			120	120	8017	7992	176746	175291	-1455
Total	9151183	8826613	3108422	3102432	4314955	4341176	536428	519223	1787975	1780056	192339	189283	438064	442173	1055389	1058591	20584755	20259547	-325208
Net Addition		-324570		-5990		26221		-17205		-7919		-3056		4109		3202		-325208	
Rural Subscribers	2285459	2189498	0	0	0	0	972	972	46916	46896	37237	36531	0	0	2520	2619	2373104	2276516	-96588

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.