### (Press Release No.44/2021)

Information Note to the Press





### TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA

New Delhi, 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2021 (www.trai.gov.in)

### Highlights of Telecom Subscription Data as on 31st July, 2021

Particulars	Wireless	Wireline	<b>Total</b> (Wireless+ Wireline)
Total Telephone Subscribers (Million)	1186.84	22.61	1209.45
Net Addition in July, 2021 (Million)	6.01	0.88	6.88
Monthly Growth Rate	0.51%	4.04%	0.57%
Urban Telephone Subscribers (Million)	650.10	20.65	670.75
Net Addition in July, 2021 (Million)	3.80	0.85	4.65
Monthly Growth Rate	0.59%	4.28%	0.70%
Rural Telephone Subscribers (Million)	536.74	1.96	538.70
Net Addition in July, 2021 (Million)	2.20	0.03	2.23
Monthly Growth Rate	0.41%	1.56%	0.42%
Overall Tele-density*(%)	86.85%	1.65%	88.51%
Urban Tele-density*(%)	137.26%	4.36%	141.62%
Rural Tele-density*(%)	60.11%	0.22%	60.33%
Share of Urban Subscribers	54.78%	91.32%	55.46%
Share of Rural Subscribers	45.22%	8.68%	44.54%
Broadband Subscribers (Million)	784.59	24.01	808.60

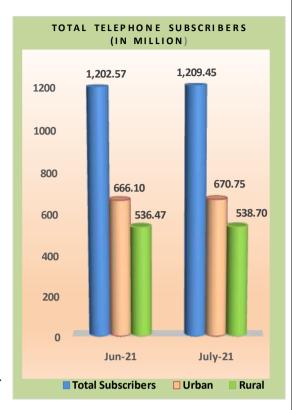
- ❖ In the month of July, 2021, 10.99 million subscribers submitted their requests for Mobile Number Portability (MNP). With this, the cumulative MNP requests increased from 605.88 million at the end of Jun-21 to 616.87 million at the end of July-21, since implementation of MNP.
- Number of active wireless subscribers (on the date of peak VLR\*) in July,
   2021 was 989.34 million.

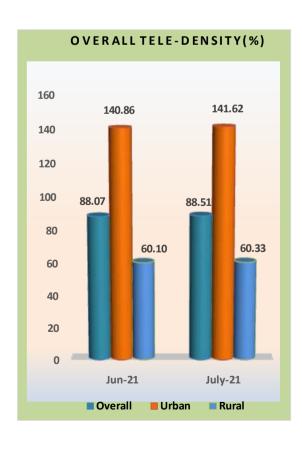
#### Note:

- 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 <a href="https://main.mohfw.gov.in/sites/default/files/Population%20Projection%20Report%202011-2036%20-%20upload\_compressed\_0.pdf">https://main.mohfw.gov.in/sites/default/files/Population%20Projection%20Report%202011-2036%20-%20upload\_compressed\_0.pdf</a>
- # 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

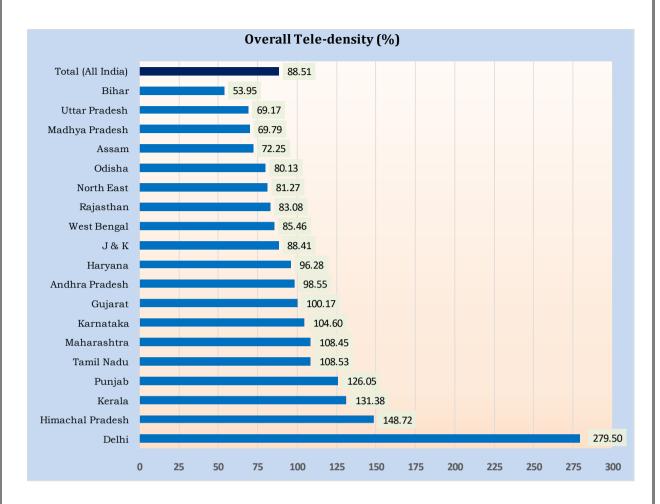
• The number of telephone subscribers in India increased from 1,202.57 million at the end of June-21 to 1,209.45 million at the end of July-21, thereby showing a monthly growth rate of 0.57%. Urban telephone subscription increased from 666.10 million at the end of Jun-21 to 670.75 million at the end of July-21 and the rural subscription also increased from 536.47 million to 538.70 million during the same period. The monthly of urban growth rates and rural telephone subscription were 0.70% and 0.42% respectively during the month of July-21.





• The overall Tele-density in India increased from 88.07% at the end of Jun-21 to 88.51% at the end of July-21. The Urban Tele-density increased from 140.86% at the end of Jun-21 to 141.62% at the end of July-21 and Rural Tele-density also increased from 60.10% to 60.33% during the same period. The share of urban and rural subscribers in total number telephone subscribers at the end of July-21 was 55.46% and respectively.

### Overall Tele-density (LSA Wise) - As on 31st July, 2021



• As may be seen in the above chart, nine LSA have less tele-density than the all India average tele-density at the end of July-21. Delhi service area has maximum tele-density of 279.50% and the Bihar service area has minimum tele-density of 53.95% at the end of July-21.

#### Notes:

- 1. 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 <a href="https://main.mohfw.gov.in/sites/default/files/Population%20Projection%20Report%20">https://main.mohfw.gov.in/sites/default/files/Population%20Projection%20Report%20</a>
   2011-2036%20-%20upload\_compressed\_0.pdf
- 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 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 July 2021

Circle	Net additions of July	in the month , 2021	Telephone Subscriber base as on 31st July, 2021					
Category	Wireline segment	Wireless segment	Wireline segment	Wireless segment				
Circle A	379,707	758,124	8,656,882	403,478,920				
Circle B	234,116	4,029,680	5,149,279	482,440,239				
Circle C	51,112	1,194,019	1,264,137	182,955,653				
Metro	212,680	23,896	7,543,274	117,962,283				
All India	877,615	6,005,719	22,613,572	1,186,837,095				

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

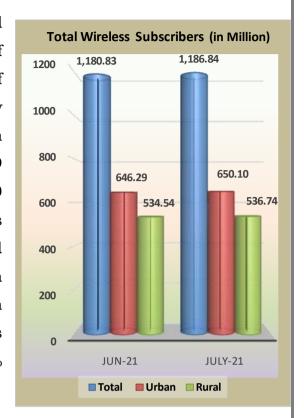
Circle		rowth rate (%) l to July-21)	Yearly growth rate (%) (July-20 to July-21)					
Category	Wireline Segment	Wireless Segment	Wireline Segment	Wireless Segment				
Circle A	4.59%	0.19%	12.79%	3.52%				
Circle B	4.76%	0.84%	17.31%	3.62%				
Circle C	4.21%	0.66%	52.04%	4.77%				
Metro	2.90%	0.02%	8.94%	3.29%				
All India	4.04%	0.51%	14.09%	3.73%				

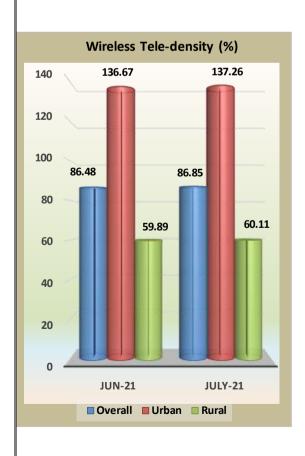
Note: Circle Category-Metro includes Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata. Data for Chennai has been included in Circle Category-A, as part of TamilNadu.

- As can be seen in the above tables, in wireless segment, both on monthly
  and yearly basis Circles of all categories have registered growth rate in
  their subscriber base.
- In Wireline segment too, both on monthly and yearly basis, Circles of all categories have registered growth rate in their subscriber base.

#### III. Wireless subscriber

Total wireless subscribers increased 1.180.83 million at the end of June-21 to 1,186.84 million at the end of July-21, thereby registering a monthly growth rate of 0.51%. Wireless subscription in urban areas increased from 646.29 million at the end of June-21 to 650.10 million at the end of July-21 and wireless subscription in rural areas also increased from 534.54 million to 536.74 million during the same period. Monthly growth of rates urban and rural wireless subscription 0.59% and 0.41% were respectively.

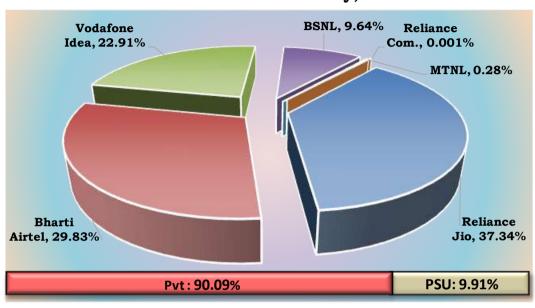




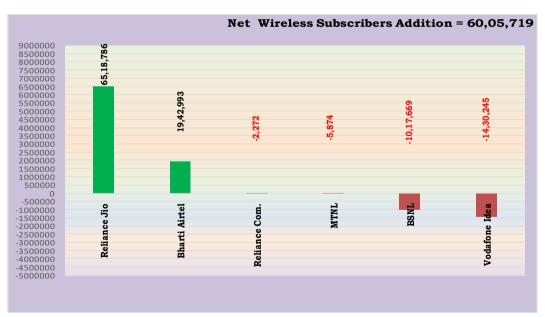
• The Wireless Tele-density in India increased from 86.48% at the end of June-21 to 86.85% at the end of July-21. The Urban Wireless Tele-density increased from 136.67% at the end of June-21 to 137.26% at the end of July-21 and Rural Tele-density also increased from 59.89% to 60.11% during the same period. The share of urban and rural wireless subscribers in total number of wireless subscribers was 54.78% and 45.22% respectively at the end of July-21. Detailed statistics of wireless subscriber base is available at **Annexure-I**.

- As on 31st July, 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 July, 2021



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

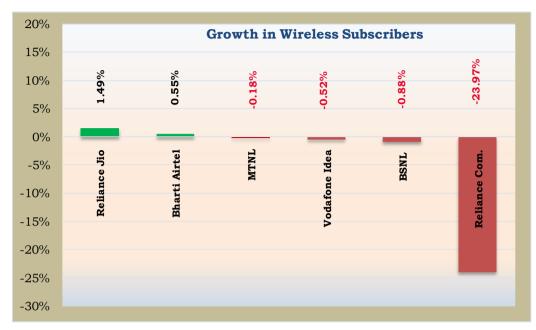


**Note:** 1. M/s Bharti Airtel Ltd has reported the wireless subscribers including the subscribers of M/s Tata Teleservices Ltd.

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. Growth in Wireless Subscribers

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



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

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

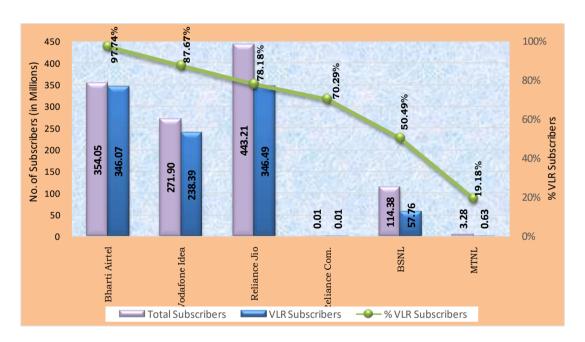


• Except Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, North East, Karnataka, Delhi and Kolkata service areas, all service areas showed growth in their wireless subscribers during the month of July-21.

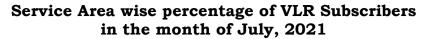
# V. Active Wireless Subscribers (VLR Data)

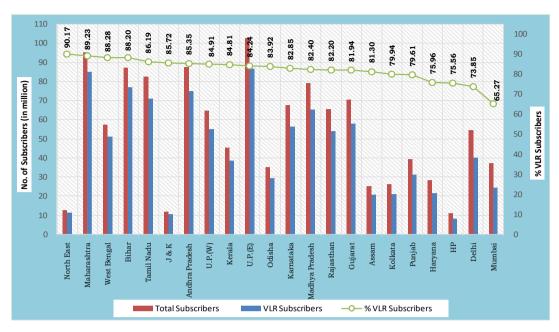
- Out of the total wireless subscribers (1,186.84 million), 989.34 million wireless subscribers were active on the date of peak VLR in the month of July-21. The active wireless proportion of approximately subscribers was 83.36% of the total wireless subscriber base.
- The detailed statistics on proportion active of wireless subscribers (also referred to as VLR subscribers) on the date of peak VLR in the month of July-21 is available at **Annexure-II** and the methodology used reporting **VLR** subscribers is available at Annexure-IV.

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



- Bharti Airtel has the maximum proportion (97.74%) of its active wireless subscribers (VLR) as against its total wireless subscribers (HLR) on the date of
- peak VLR in the month of July-21 and MTNL has the minimum proportion of VLR (19.81%) of its HLR during the same period.





## 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 July-21, a total of 10.99 million requests were received for MNP. Out of total 10.99 million new requests, 6.28 million requests received from Zone-I and 4.71 million requests received from Zone-II. The cumulative MNP requests increased from 605.88 million at the end of June-21 to 616.87 million at the end of July-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 50.71 million) followed by Rajasthan (about 44.74 million) service area.
- In MNP Zone-II (Southern and Eastern India), the highest number of requests till date have been received in Karnataka (about 49.60 million) followed by Andhra Pradesh (about 47.70 million).

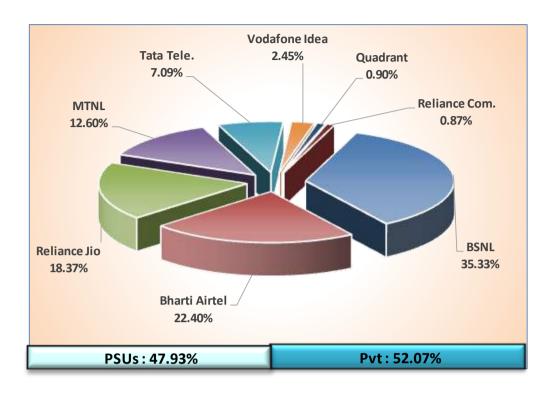
Service Area Wise MNP Status								
Zo	ne -1	Zone – 2						
Service Area	Number of Requests (i	_	Service Area	Number of Porting Requests (in Million)				
	June-21 July-21			June-21	July-21			
Delhi	29.74	30.18	Andhra Pradesh	47.16	47.70			
Gujarat	40.61	41.52	Assam	4.27	4.32			
Haryana	20.54	20.79	Bihar	28.68	29.48			
Himachal Pradesh	2.83	.83 2.86 Karnataka		49.04	49.60			
Jammu & Kashmir	1.35	1.37	Kerala	16.07	16.37			
Maharashtra	49.68	50.71	Kolkata	12.94	13.06			
Mumbai	25.93	26.10	Madhya Pradesh	43.37	44.33			
Punjab	22.93	23.24	North East	1.60	1.61			
Rajasthan	44.09	44.74	Odisha	11.85	12.01			
U.P.(East)	41.99	43.40	Tamil Nadu	45.98	46.46			
U.P.(West)	33.82	34.87	West Bengal	31.43	32.15			
Total	313.50	319.78	Total	292.38	297.09			
Total (Zone-1 +	Zone-2)			605.88	616.87			
Net Addition (July,	2021)			10.99	million			

#### VII. Wireline Subscribers

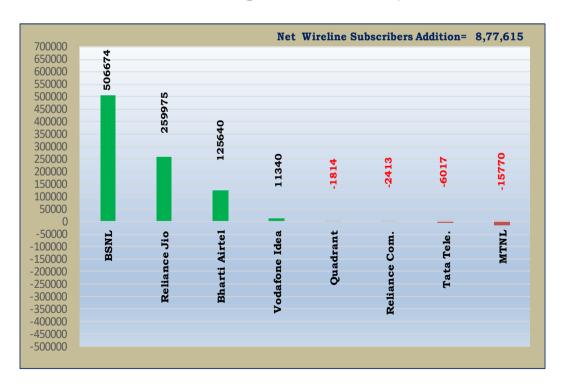
- Wireline subscribers increased from 21.74 million at the end of June-21 to 22.61 million at the end of July-21. Net increase in the wireline subscriber base was 0.88 million with a monthly growth rate of 4.04%. The share of urban and rural subscribers in total wireline subscribers were 91.32% and 8.68% respectively at the end of July, 2021.
- The Overall Wireline Tele-density in India, increased from 1.59% at the

- end of June-21 to 1.65% at the end of July-21. Urban and Rural Wireline Tele-density were 4.36% and 0.22% respectively during the same period.
- BSNL and MTNL, the two PSU access service providers, held 47.93% of the wireline market share as on 31st July, 2021.
   Detailed statistics of wireline subscriber base are available at Annexure-III.

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



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



## VIII. Broadband (≥ 512 Kbps download)

• As per the information received from 455 operators in July 2021 in comparison to 440 Operator in June 2021, the total Broadband Subscribers increased from 792.78 million at the end of June-21 to

808.60 million at the end of July-21 with a monthly growth rate of 2%. Segment-wise broadband subscribers and their monthly growth rates are as below: -

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

	Broadband s	Monthly growth rate in	
Segment	As on 30 <sup>th</sup> June, 2021	As on 31st July, 2021	the month of July-21
Wired subscribers	23.52	24.01	2.09%
Mobile devices users (Phones and dongles)	768.61	783.39	1.92%
Fixed Wireless subscribers (Wi-Fi, Wi-Max, Point-to- Point Radio & VSAT)	0.65	1.19	83.53%*
Total	792.78	808.60	2%

<sup>\*</sup>Major changes due to increase in BSNL's Wi-Fi subscribers

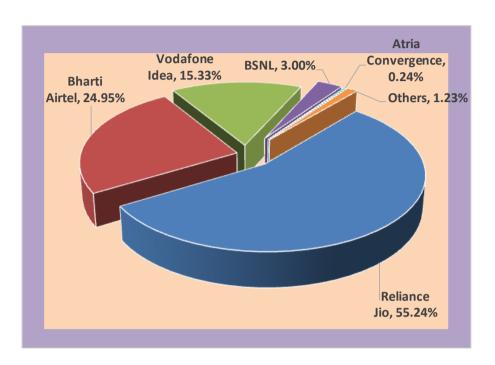
• Top five service providers constituted 98.77% market share of the total broadband subscribers at the end of July-21. These service providers were Reliance Jio

Infocomm Ltd (446.68 million), Bharti Airtel (201.77 million), Vodafone Idea (123.97 million), BSNL (24.26 million) and Atria Convergence (1.93 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 July 2021



As on 31st July, 2021, the top five Wired Broadband Service providers were **BSNL** (5.83)Bharti Airtel million), (3.54)million), Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd (3.47)million), Atria Convergence Technologies (1.93) million) and Hathway Cable & Datacom (1.07 million).

As on 31st July, 2021, the top five Wireless Broadband Service providers were Reliance Jio Infocom Ltd (443.61 million), Bharti Airtel (198.23 million), Vodafone Idea (123.97 million), BSNL (17.89 million) and Tikona Infinet Ltd. (0.31 million).

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(V. Raghunandan) Secretary, TRAI

#### **Wireless Subscriber Base** Annexure-I **Bharti Airtel** BSNL (VNO's) MTNL Reliance Com. Vodafone Idea BSNL Reliance Jio Total (including Tata Tele.) Net Circle Addition Jul-21 Jul-21 Jun-21 Jun-21 Jul-21 Jun-21 Jul-21 Jun-21 Jul-21 Jun-21 Jul-21 Jun-21 Jul-21 Jun-21 Jul-21 Jun-21 Andhra Pradesh -33020 Bihar -109507 Delhi Gujarat Harvana Himachal Pradesh J & K -108552 Karnataka Kerala -94735 Kolkata Madhya Pradesh Maharashtra Mumbai -8990 North East Odisha Puniab Rajasthan Tamil Nadu -41607 U.P.(E) U.P.(W) West Bengal Total **Net Addition** -2272 -1430245 -5874 -1018201

Rural Subscribers

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

<sup>2.</sup> 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 July-21 (%) Annexure-II

Circle	Bharti	BSNL	Vodafone Idea	MTNL	Reliance Com.	Reliance Jio	Total
Andhra Pradesh	99.52	59.66	90.35		-	76.57	85.35
Assam	98.43	45.56	88.55		-	73.51	81.30
Bihar	94.71	45.37	83.91		116.42	89.67	88.20
Delhi	94.45		71.47	11.25	88.62	66.30	73.85
Gujarat	99.32	44.54	90.46		88.62	74.59	81.94
Haryana	109.87	33.63	88.57		85.71	67.31	75.96
Himachal Pradesh	106.28	39.15	109.92		31.58	69.77	75.56
J & K	97.87	54.56	85.51		-	80.07	85.72
Karnataka	95.30	48.74	85.28		92.03	75.85	82.85
Kerala	102.62	67.72	95.06		56.99	74.70	84.81
Kolkata	94.75	42.58	87.02		-	76.25	79.94
Madhya Pradesh	95.04	43.41	83.68		-	82.74	82.40
Maharashtra	101.13	56.53	90.29		-	87.91	89.23
Mumbai	80.12		71.23	34.41	49.00	54.06	65.27
North East	103.64	62.44	87.82		-	83.09	90.17
Orissa	98.70	57.28	92.29		26.99	83.15	83.92
Punjab	105.26	41.42	88.41		41.98	67.70	79.61
Rajasthan	97.86	43.84	90.08		52.42	74.46	82.20
Tamil Nadu	96.39	66.24	93.51		211.92	78.58	86.19
U.P. (E)	98.08	35.33	89.74		-	81.89	84.24
U.P. (W)	101.94	38.96	90.21		12.89	78.33	84.91
West Bengal	97.79	69.13	88.82		21.70	83.66	88.28
Total	97.74	50.49	87.67	19.18	70.29	78.18	83.36

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

	BS	NL	M'	rnl	Bhart	i Airtel	Relianc	e Com.	Tata	Tele.	Quad	rant	Vodafor	ne Idea	Reliano	e Jio	Tot	al	Net
Service Area	Jun-21	Jul-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Addition
Andhra Pradesh	666598	702597			283986	293951	21514	21106	157413	156408			60585	60855	430973	467224	1621069	1702141	81072
Assam	1,00,503	1,02,856											3450	3450	60021	64292	163974	170598	6624
Bihar	1,72,598	1,77,345					20	20	7879	7911			1740	1770	138265	152755	320502	339801	19299
Delhi			1311468	1307975	1580518	1611771	31437	31233	136165	134551			91069	91899	439383	452106	3590040	3629535	39495
Gujarat	439640	471862			128028	130994	4014	3957	79571	78432			40757	43447	263360	277652	955370	1006344	50974
Haryana	159000	181114			35798	34800	2	0	35195	35192			360	360	45284	48226	275639	299692	24053
Himachal Pradesh	86867	89751			0	0	0	0	1619	1616			30	30	16705	18470	105221	109867	4646
J & K	109641	110418			17996	18207	0	0	0	0			0	0	95686	100486	223323	229111	5788
Karnataka	826670	884831			805018	816447	25143	24625	245123	245055			94472	98302	295018	324166	2291444	2393426	101982
Kerala	1159092	1170435			67874	69567	5376	5424	18536	18480			8570	8750	88288	97045	1347736	1369701	21965
Kolkata	311405	458253			151434	155447	7545	7238	46260	46382			15230	15270	159565	170081	691439	852671	161232
Madhya Pradesh	289803	308750			284282	298452	5	5	11410	10974			2535	2715	215855	234553	803890	855449	51559
Maharashtra	745862	792722			177703	186705	11941	11656	221850	220218			27793	28193	113095	119819	1298244	1359313	61069
Mumbai			1552715	1540438	416301	425947	60712	60342	481892	480728			110665	112355	426830	441258	3049115	3061068	11953
North East	83514	82628											330	330	46431	51074	130275	134032	3757
Odisha	191356	195849					6	6	8153	8180			6570	6570	63645	70123	269730	280728	10998
Punjab	252516	262454			162000	165479	1734	1724	12702	13004	205347	203533	2235	2235	110368	116816	746902	765245	18343
Rajasthan	284323	302164			89485	94192	4176	4208	11615	11982			13010	13190	141653	150264	544262	576000	31738
Tamil Nadu	1024626	1074904			586977	602454	24946	24615	118144	118408			36595	37225	319760	338052	2111048	2195658	84610
U.P.(E)	176504	186324			90562	95325	22	22	8065	8081			20580	20580	170319	182949	466052	493281	27229
U.P.(W)	176413	206749			61221	65085	8	7	4313	4272			6870	7260	175279	190801	424104	474174	50070
West Bengal	225575	227174					12	12	2402	2416			120	120	78469	86015	306578	315737	9159
Total	7482506	7989180	2864183	2848413	4939183	5064823	198613	196200	1608307	1602290	205347	203533	543566	554906	3894252	4154227	21735957	22613572	877615
Net Addition		506674		-15770		125640		-2413		-6017		-1814		11340		259975		877615	
Rural Subscribers	1836351	1863403	0	0	0	0	210	180	39399	39093	26350	25899	0	0	31060	34869	1933370	1963444	30074

 $\textbf{Note:} \ - \ \ \text{BSNL-FTTH Voice-connections have also been incorporated from the month of May 2021}$ 

## 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.