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## ERICSSON MOBILITY REPORT: 5G MOBILE SUBSCRIPTIONS TO HIT 150 MILLION BY 2021

- March towards 5G to open up opportunities for new industries and verticals
- Significant increase in mobile video consumption drives around six times higher traffic volumes per smartphone in North America and Europe by 2021
- Mainland China becomes largest LTE market in the world with nearly 35 percent of all LTE subscriptions
- Mobile subscriptions in Africa to reach one billion by end of 2015
- By 2030, ICT could enable reductions in greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to the current carbon footprint of the US and EU combined

Launched today, the latest edition of the Ericsson (NASDAQ: ERIC) [Mobility Report](#) provides insight into the future of 5G networks, including a forecast of 150 million 5G mobile subscriptions by 2021.

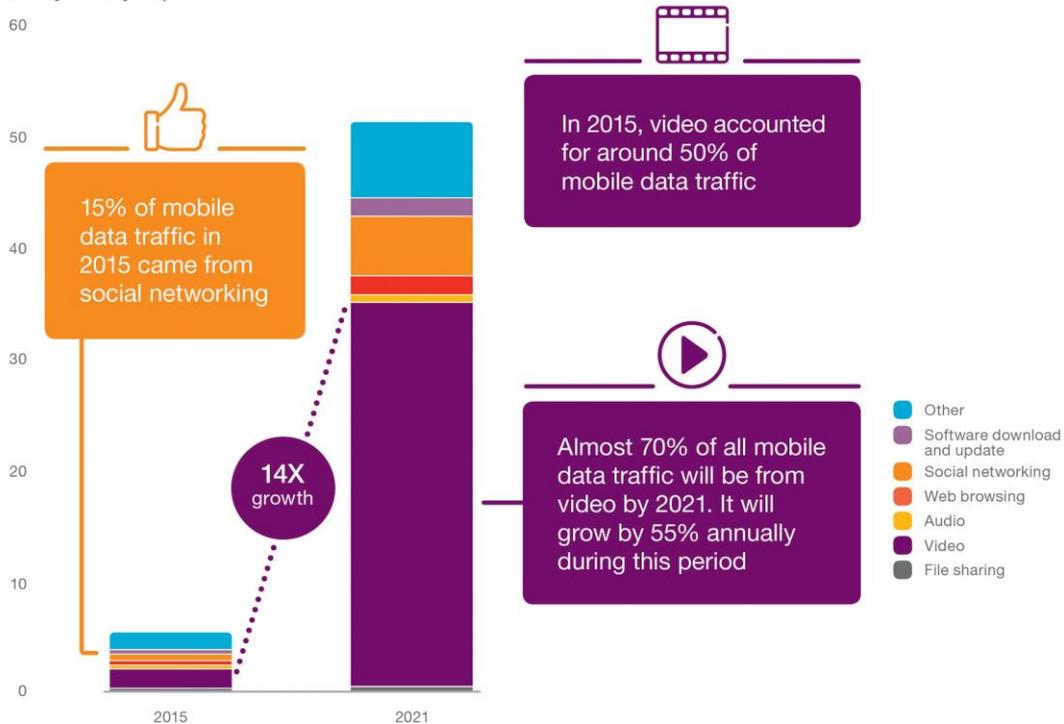
South Korea, Japan, China and the US are predicted to lead with the first, and fastest, 5G subscription uptake. 5G will connect new types of devices, enabling new use cases related to the Internet of Things (IoT); the transition will open up new industries and verticals to ICT transformation.

The report, a comprehensive update on mobile trends, reveals a significant increase in mobile video consumption, which is driving around six times higher traffic volumes per smartphone in North America and Europe (2015 to 2021). North America data traffic per active smartphone will grow from 3.8 to 22 GB per month by 2021; in Western Europe, the increase is from 2 to 18 GB per month.

With 20 new mobile broadband subscriptions activated every second, global increase in mobile subscriptions is another clear driver for data traffic growth. As of now, there are the same amount of mobile subscriptions as there are people on the planet; in 2016 we will reach the four billion mark for smartphone subscriptions alone.

Rima Qureshi, Senior Vice President & Chief Strategy Officer, Ericsson, says: “5G is about more than faster mobile services – it will enable new use cases related to the Internet of Things. For example, Ericsson has built a prototype testbed for applying 5G networking functions and data analytics to public transport, which can save resources, reduce congestion, and lower environmental impact. ICT transformation will become even more common across industries as 5G moves from vision to reality in the coming years.”

Mobile data traffic by application type  
(monthly ExaBytes)



Other highlights from the latest Ericsson Mobility Report include:

- **Video dominates data traffic:** Global mobile data traffic is forecast to grow ten-fold by 2021, and video is forecast to account for 70 percent of total mobile traffic in the same year. In many networks today, YouTube accounts for up to 70 percent of all video traffic, while Netflix's share of video traffic can reach as high as 20 percent in markets where it is available.
- **Mainland China overtakes the US as world's largest LTE market:** By the end of 2015, Mainland China will have 350 million LTE subscriptions – nearly 35 percent of the world's total LTE subscriptions. The market is predicted to have 1.2 billion LTE subscriptions by 2021.
- **Africa becomes an increasingly connected continent:** Five years ago (2010) there were 500 million mobile subscriptions across Africa; by the end of 2015 this number will double to 1 billion. Increased connectivity improves the prospect of financial inclusion for the 70 percent unbanked through mobile money services starting to take form across Africa.

- **ICT powers the low-carbon economy:** ICT will enable savings in energy consumption and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions across all other industrial sectors. The total emission reduction could be up to 10 gigatonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e, representing about 15 percent of global GHG emissions in 2030 – more than the current carbon footprint of the US and EU combined.

New to the report is the Mobile Business Trends appendix. The appendix outlines eight trends that detail how successful mobile operators are using different ways to monetize the explosion in data consumption and growing demand for mobile services.

The Ericsson Mobility Report is one of the leading analyses of data traffic available, providing in-depth measurements from live networks spread around the globe. The report uses these measurements and analysis, together with internal forecasts and other relevant studies, to provide insights into current traffic and market trends in the Networked Society.

The [Traffic Exploration Tool](#), which accompanies the report, can be used to create customized graphs and tables using the newly published data. The information can be filtered by region, subscription, technology, traffic and device type.

#### NOTES TO EDITORS

The full Ericsson Mobility Report, [Traffic Exploration Tool](#), Mobile Business Trends appendix and regional reports for Europe, South East Asia & Oceania (launched November 24th), North East Asia (launched early December), North America, Middle East & North East Africa, Latin America & the Caribbean, and Sub-Saharan Africa can be downloaded at [www.ericsson.com/mobility-report](http://www.ericsson.com/mobility-report)

[Biography and photos of Rima Qureshi](#)

For media kits, backgrounders and high-resolution photos, please visit [www.ericsson.com/press](http://www.ericsson.com/press)

*Ericsson is the driving force behind the Networked Society – a world leader in communications technology and services. Our long-term relationships with every major telecom operator in the world allow people, business and society to fulfill their potential and create a more sustainable future.*

*Our services, software and infrastructure – especially in mobility, broadband and the cloud – are enabling the telecom industry and other sectors to do better business, increase efficiency, improve the user experience and capture new opportunities.*

*With approximately 115,000 professionals and customers in 180 countries, we combine global scale with technology and services leadership. We support networks that connect more than 2.5 billion subscribers. Forty percent of the world's mobile traffic is carried over*

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*Ericsson networks. And our investments in research and development ensure that our solutions – and our customers – stay in front.*

*Founded in 1876, Ericsson has its headquarters in Stockholm, Sweden. Net sales in 2014 were SEK 228.0 billion (USD 33.1 billion). Ericsson is listed on NASDAQ OMX stock exchange in Stockholm and the NASDAQ in New York.*

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