Since its initial launch in 2019, 5G networks promised a future of fast speeds and low latency internet. Now, the technology is beginning to take shape. The beginning of 2022 marked the first time since its debut that 5G smartphone sales surpassed 4G LTE phones. Telecommunication companies have developed 5G services in several countries since 2020. The trade group 5G Americas predicts 5G subscriptions will reach almost 3 billion worldwide by 2024.

While the future of 5G is promising, the deployment of these networks is still in development. Not all download speeds are the same everywhere, as the frequency used by the operator, the built-up environment, and the proximity to infrastructure can impact performance. The fastest 5G connections are found in South Korea, with an average download speed of 380.5 Mbps. In Europe, Finland leads the way with 221.4 Mbps. In the U.S., the average download speeds are 105.6 Mbps.

Learn more about the state of 5G in the charts below.

The State of 5G

- Estimated worldwide 5G adoption as a share of total mobile connections (excl. IoT)
- National 5G adoption
  - China: 43%
  - South Korea: 16%
  - USA: 10%
  - Germany: 11%
  - Japan: 9%
- North America
- Europe
- Middle East & North Africa
- Rest of the World

* Commonwealth of Independent States, a group of nine post-Soviet republics including Russia.

Source: GSMA

Top 5G Industries in the Next Five Years

- Information/Communications
- Real estate
- Business services
- Manufacturing
- Finance/Insurance
- Healthcare
- Automotive
- Public admin/Defense

Source: Accenture

The Companies Connecting the World

- Top 8 telecom infrastructure companies by brand value (in billion U.S. dollars)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Value (billion U.S. dollars)</th>
<th>Annual growth rate</th>
<th>Growth vs. previous year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AT&amp;T</td>
<td>20.1</td>
<td>14.9</td>
<td>+14.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qualcomm</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>-5.3</td>
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<td>Nokia</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>18.8</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZTE</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>4.1</td>
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<td>Ericsson</td>
<td>2.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juniper</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>14.0</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* As of Feb 2021

Source: Brand Finance