

WI-FI – FACTS AND FIGURES EUROPE

GLOBAL	
Wi-Fi devices in use today:	More than 18 billion ¹
Wi-Fi devices shipped every year:	4.4 billion ¹
Public Wi-Fi hotspots in 2023:	628 million (up from 169 million in 2018) ²
Value generated by Wi-Fi in 2021:	€2.9 trillion ³
Value generated by Wi-Fi in 2025:	€4.2 trillion (with access to more spectrum) ³
The average time spent on Wi-Fi has increased by 2.5 hours per day during the pandemic ⁴ .	
EUROPE	
Proportion of IP traffic carried by Wi-Fi in 2021:	88%

Sources: BNetzA and ASSIA (based on fixed/mobile traffic data from Germany)

Economic value generated by Wi-Fi – selected countries

<p>EUROPEAN UNION</p> <p>2021 2025 €395 €550 BILLION BILLION</p>	<p>FRANCE</p> <p>2021 2025 €54 €90 BILLION BILLION</p>	<p>GERMANY</p> <p>2021 2025 €117 €149 BILLION BILLION</p>
<p>POLAND</p> <p>2021 2025 €14 €19 BILLION BILLION</p>	<p>SPAIN</p> <p>2021 2025 €35 €47 BILLION BILLION</p>	<p>UNITED KINGDOM</p> <p>2021 2025 €85 €94 BILLION BILLION</p>

About Wi-Fi 6E

- Wi-Fi 6E (Wi-Fi 6 in the 6 GHz band) can support data rates of up to 9.6 Gbps, compared with 1.3 Gbps for Wi-Fi 5.
- Wi-Fi 6E will support a range of advanced applications, such as e-learning/home schooling, connected healthcare, automated factories and AR/VR.
- About 500 commercial devices and access points now support Wi-Fi 6E.
- 350 million Wi-Fi 6E devices will be sold globally in 2022⁵.
- Brazil, Canada, Chile, Saudi Arabia, South Korea and the U.S. are making the entire 1200 MHz in the 6 GHz band available for licence-exempt Wi-Fi use.
- The EU, Morocco, the UAE, the UK and Australia have decided to initially open the lower 6 GHz band (5925-6425 MHz) to Wi-Fi and other radio local area networks.
- In Europe, CEPT (the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations) has initiated a study of the possible technical conditions under which Wi-Fi could operate and coexist with existing services in the upper 6 GHz (6425-7125 MHz) band.
- Taiwan, Singapore, Mexico, Japan and New Zealand are working towards making the 6 GHz band available for Wi-Fi.
- In all three ITU Regions, cellular communications has access to at least 1348 MHz of prime spectrum below 5 GHz – far more than is available for Wi-Fi.

¹ Source: IDC

² Source: Cisco

³ Source: The Wi-Fi Alliance/Telecom Advisory Services

⁴ Source: A survey of 11,000 people across 11 countries (Brazil, China, France, Germany, India, Italy, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, the UK and the US) by Ericsson Consumer & Industry Lab

⁵ Source: The Wi-Fi Alliance/IDC

⁶ <https://www.ofcom.org.uk/consultations-and-statements/category-2/improving-spectrum-access-for-wi-fi>