



Empowering Netizens

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India



One World, One Internet

Digital Divide



UNEQUAL OPPORTUNITIES TO ACCESS INFORMATION

Digital Divide: The Need To Discuss

With 2.7 billion people still offline, the Digital Divide leads to the following,

Inequality

Creating and perpetuating **socio-economic inequality**, as those lacking access to technology, are at a disadvantage to education, job opportunities, and access to services and information

Social Exclusion

Lack of access to technology excludes sections from socio-political participation, engaging in online forums, accessing online services, or participating in digitally enabled democratic practices

Economic Growth

Digital access is essential for economic growth, enabling innovation, productivity, and competitiveness. Lack of digital access leads to limiting opportunities for the marginalised

Health & Well-Being

COVID-19 showed the importance of digital platforms for telehealth, and social interactions. Digital divide leads to negative consequences for people's health and well-being

Digital Divide: Variants

Fundamental Availability

- **Infrastructure:** Availability of physical resources in spreading and accessing the internet
- **Cost:** Last mile cost of access at a per user level
- **Reachability:** Span of reach of the internet for both information and service access

Data

- **Open/Restricted:** Citizen friendly regulations in defining what is confidential vs. easily available
- **Data Protection/Cross-Border:** keeping data safe from external threats and any untoward event
- **Personal/Official/Public:** Labelling data for policy drafting

Gender Divide

- **Gender equality** as a UN SDG makes female internet access a gap, with literacy, affordability and safety concerns
- 58% women use mobile internet, still the M/F gap is 234 million, and 143 million fewer women than men own a mobile

Social

Rural/Urban Divide: Cost per acquisition and revenue parameters often limit private players to spread the internet to rural areas, this digital divide leads to lack of access at the rural levels, thus marginalising the last-mile citizenry further

Economic

- **Industry Policy:** Spread of internet access to the last mile
- **Advanced Technology:** Spreading the benefits of high-end technology for rationalising costs
- **Tech Stack:** Making technology access and usability simpler

Cyber Resilience

Maintaining access, business and digitally enabled governance continuity towards intended deliveries and outcomes despite experiencing challenging events like cyber threats or attacks, natural disasters, etc.

India as of Now

Figures in Millions

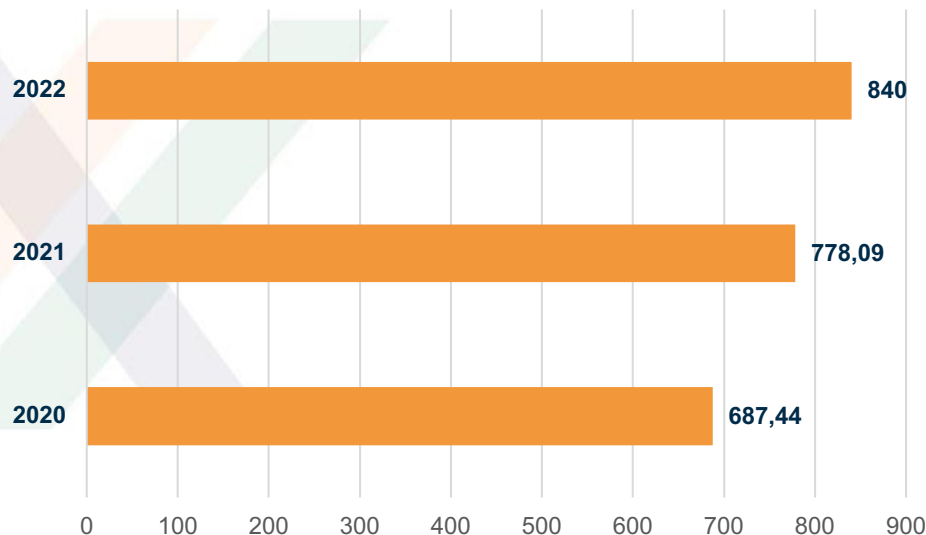
S.No.	Parametres	2020	2021	2022
1	Access to Broadband	687.44	778.09	840
2	Smartphone Ownership	439.42	606.57	659.00
3	Mobile and Fixed Phone Subscription	1157.67 19.13	1180.64 20.24	1142.02 24.82
4	Mobile Network Coverage	78%	96%	99%
5	Male/Female %age having access to Internet	M: 24 F: 33	M: 55 F: 78	M: 90 F: 56
6	Internet Broadband Coverage (Urban & Rural)	U: 323 R: 299	U: 420 R: 313.95	U: 497.69 R: 336.6

India as of Now

Access to Broadband

Figures in Millions

Parametre	2020	2021	2022
Access to Broadband	687.44	778.09	840

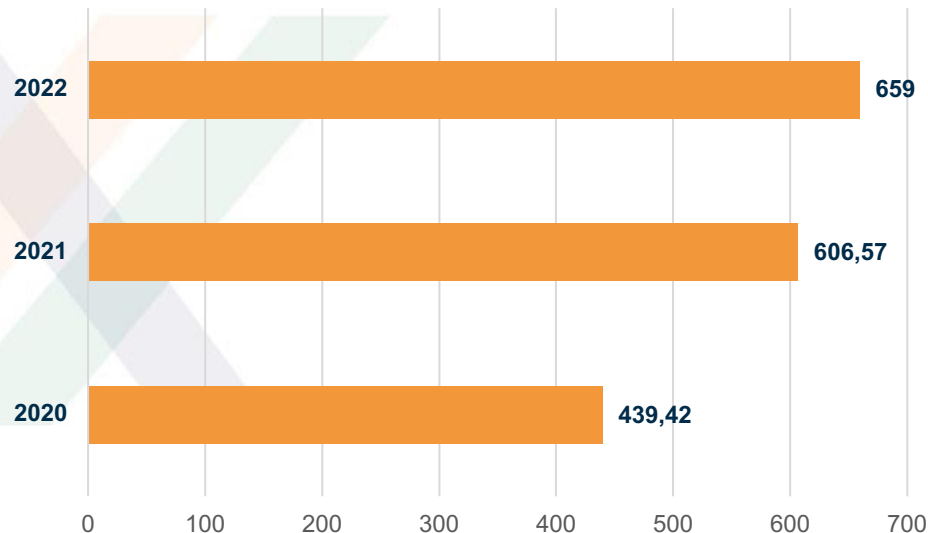


India as of Now

Smartphone Ownership

Figures in Millions

Parametre	2020	2021	2022
Smartphone Ownership	439.42	606.57	659.00



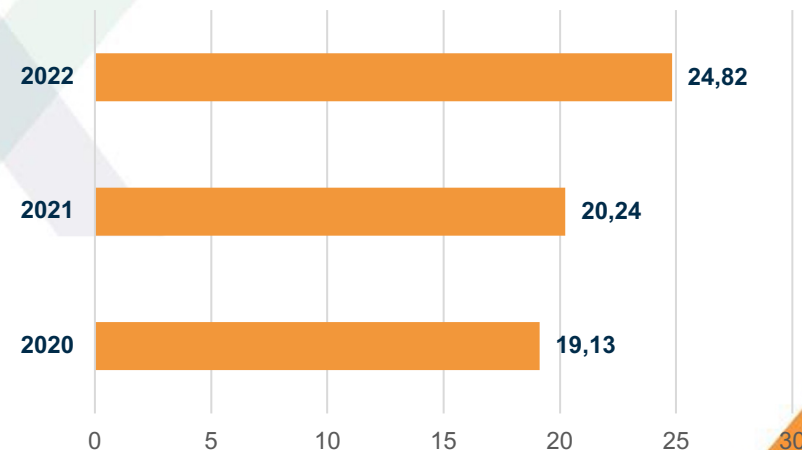
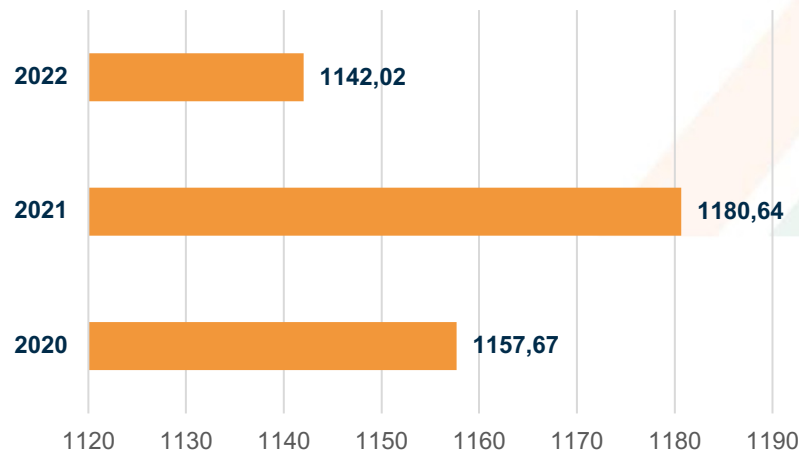
India as of Now

Mobile and Fixed Phone Subscription

Parametre	2020	2021	2022
Mobile Phone Subscription	Mo: 1157.67	Mo: 1180.64	Mo: 1142.02

Parametre	2020	2021	2022
Fixed Phone Subscription	Fi: 19.13	Fi: 20.24	Fi: 24.82

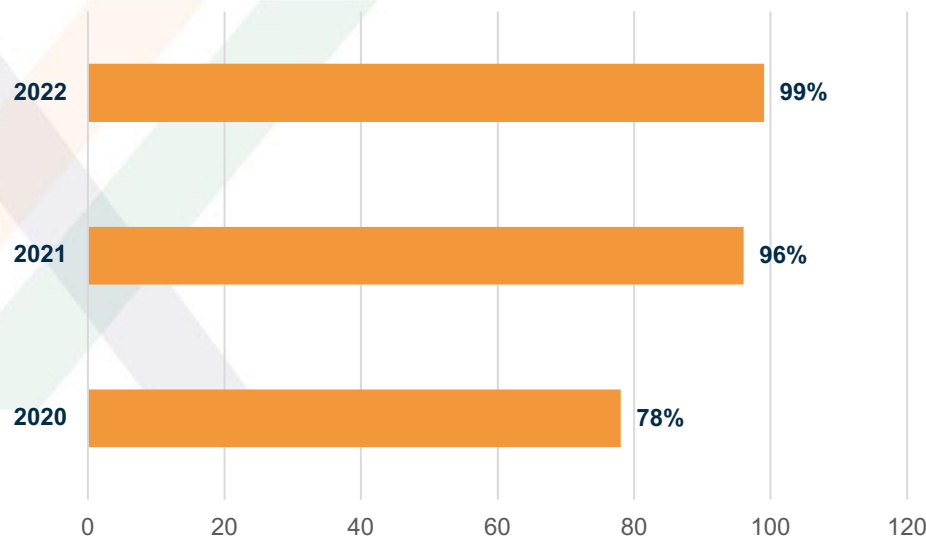
Figures in Millions



India as of Now

Mobile Network Coverage

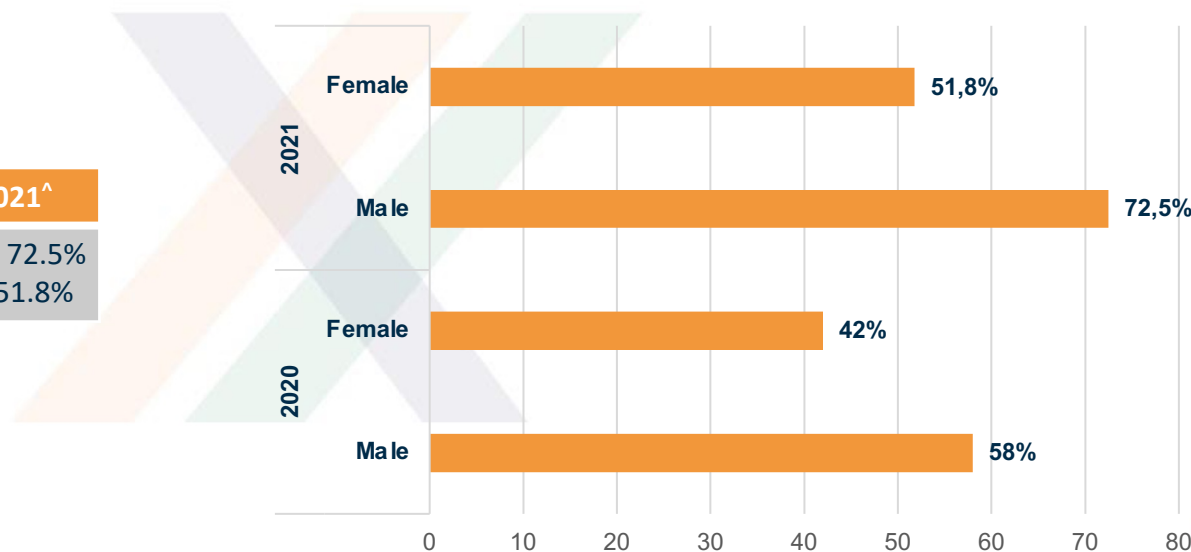
Parametre	2020	2021	2022
Mobile Network Coverage	78%	96%	99%



India as of Now

Male/Female %age Having Access to Internet

Parametre	2020 [#]	2021 [^]
Male/Female %age having access to Internet	M: 58% F: 42%	M: 72.5% F: 51.8%

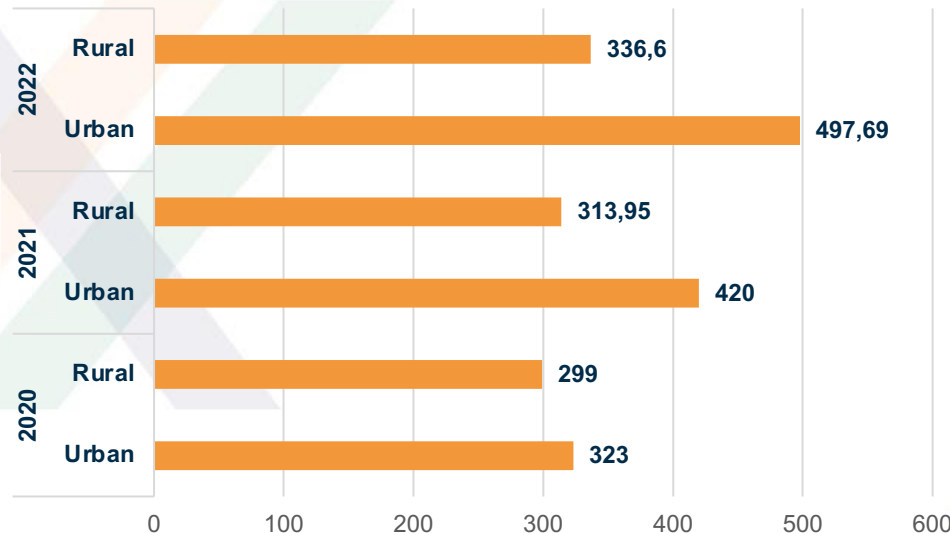


India as of Now

Internet Broadband Coverage (Urban & Rural)

Figures in Millions

Parametre	2020	2021	2022
Internet Broadband Coverage, Urban & Rural	U: 323 R: 299	U: 420 R: 313.95	U: 497.69 R: 336.6



NIXI's Efforts

1. Reaching out to women, the elderly and the specially enabled
2. Making IDN ccTLD I all 22 official languages
 - Free IDN ccTLD with ccTLD
 - Offering free email with every domain
3. Building digital identity of all 6,00,000+ villages
4. Offering free domain and email to all newly registered MSMEs
5. Providing ISPs and startup with specially priced IPs (free IPv6 with IPv4)
6. Capacity building exercises at academia, organisations

Challenges Faced By NIXI

1. Reachability, owing to vast geography
2. Difficulty in finding registrars
3. Limited vendors to work on UA related products
4. Largest unconnected nation globally, thus socio-economic disparity in health & education
5. Cyber attacks are reducing the '*trust*' factor in early adopters

Global Efforts Where INDIA Is Leading

1. Global Digital Compact (GDC) by the United Nations
2. Global Universal Acceptance (UA) Day celebrations, 28th March
3. National Internet Resilience Project, in progress
4. Support '*open*' and not '*fragmented*' internet



Thank You