

LTE in China—The Next Goldmine After 3G

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Report Summary

The Chinese government has awarded 3G licenses for TD-SCDMA, WCDMA, and CDMA 2000 to China Mobile, China Unicom, and China Telecom, respectively, effectively bringing China into the 3G era. From the point of view of technical evolution, what's next for 3G? In China, the situation is clear, as both the Chinese government and the three principal telecommunication operators have announced their support of LTE. However, the LTE strategy of each operator varies according to their current positions in the telecommunications market and their currently adopted 3G technologies.

In this report, we first provide an overview of the current mobile telecommunications market both globally and in China, followed by a brief introduction to LTE technology and In-Stat's analysis of the Chinese government's possible spectrum allocation plan for LTE. The report then analyzes in detail the driving forces behind LTE and the challenges it faces in penetrating the Chinese market. We also analyze the LTE strategies of each of China's three principal operators. Finally, we provide forecasts for LTE terminal shipments and subscribers in China for the years 2009 to 2013.

The report also provides a brief introduction to infrastructure, terminal, and chipset vendors who are involved in the LTE industrial chain.

HIGHLIGHTS

- LTE is the only route to 4G in China. TD-LTE, one of the LTE technologies, will receive much more support than LTE-FDD.
- In 2010, China Mobile will use TD-LTE to construct a pre-commercial LTE network. In 2011, it will launch commercial LTE network construction on a small scale.
- China Unicom and China Telecom will begin LTE network construction later than China Mobile, likely in 2012.
- In-Stat predicts that China's LTE subscribers will number no more than 500,000 by 2013, and that 80% of these will be China Mobile subscribers.

For more information or to purchase, see the [report online](#) or call 1.480.483.4441.

Whose needs does this report address?

- Mobile telecommunications operators
- LTE infrastructure vendors
- LTE terminal and chipset vendors
- Value-added services provided by mobile broadband operators

What issues does this report address?

- The current status of the mobile telecommunications market worldwide and in China
- The current state of LTE technology
- The spectrum assignment for LTE in China
- Driving forces and challenges for LTE in China
- The current status of China's mobile telecommunications operators and their strategies on LTE
- LTE subscriber forecasts
- LTE terminal shipment forecasts

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