



TÉRAL RESEARCH
— WIRELESS INDUSTRY ANALYSIS —



CHINA WIRELESS INFRASTRUCTURE 2022 – JULY 2023

From Economic Power to 5G Superpower



Table of Contents

ABSTRACT	3
KEY TAKEAWAYS	4
DESPITE SEVERE ECONOMIC WOES, CHINA IS PURSUING ITS ECONOMIC ASCENSION AND SECURING ITS 5G SUPERPOWER STATUS	5
THE 5% YOY GDP GROWTH TARGET REMAINS DOABLE	6
<i>In this gloomy 2Q23 reading, industrial output was a rare bright spot.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>The Chinese government sees 5G as a key enabler of China’s digital economy</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>While many G7 telcos struggle to sustain revenue growth, China is chugging along</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>In 2022, the 3 Chinese service providers registered growing traction in the lucrative industrial sector.....</i>	<i>7</i>
FROM ECONOMIC POWER TO 5G SUPERPOWER.....	8
<i>By far, China boasts the world’s largest BTS footprint.....</i>	<i>9</i>
...AND THE WORLD’S LARGEST TOTAL MOBILE AND 5G SUBSCRIBER BASE.....	9
2023 WILL SEE A LOWER LEVEL OF 5G UNIT ACTIVITY THAN LAST YEAR, MARKING THE START OF A DECLINING TREND THROUGH 2028	11
<i>However, the rollout history suggests that the 3 service providers typically beat the target.....</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Despite the decline in 5G BTS, total capex will rise 3% this year, driven by a shift to enterprise</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>As a result, the whole RAN market will decline 31% this year</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>In 2024, China will issue millimeter wave licenses to conduct testing; actual deployments will follow in 2025</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>In 2026, we expect China to kick off 6G rollouts.....</i>	<i>13</i>
TOGETHER, HUAWEI AND ZTE COMMAND 83% OF THE DOMESTIC MARKET	14
<i>Huawei and ZTE have been dominating the market at the expense of Ericsson and Nokia.....</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>There is no end in sight, in June 2023, China Mobile awarded the bulk of its 5G contract to Huawei.....</i>	<i>16</i>

Abstract

This report focuses on 5G developments in China, including macroeconomics, geopolitics, and technology. The publication date is scheduled a few weeks after the 4 service providers (China Broadcasting Network, China Mobile, China Telecom, China Unicom) provide their annual reports, so that we can gather many details about 2022 and provide a 2023 outlook and a 5-year forecast. This report also includes RAN vendor market shares and analysis.