

Latin America & Caribbean



# Mobile Internet Connectivity 2021 Latin America and Caribbean Key Trends

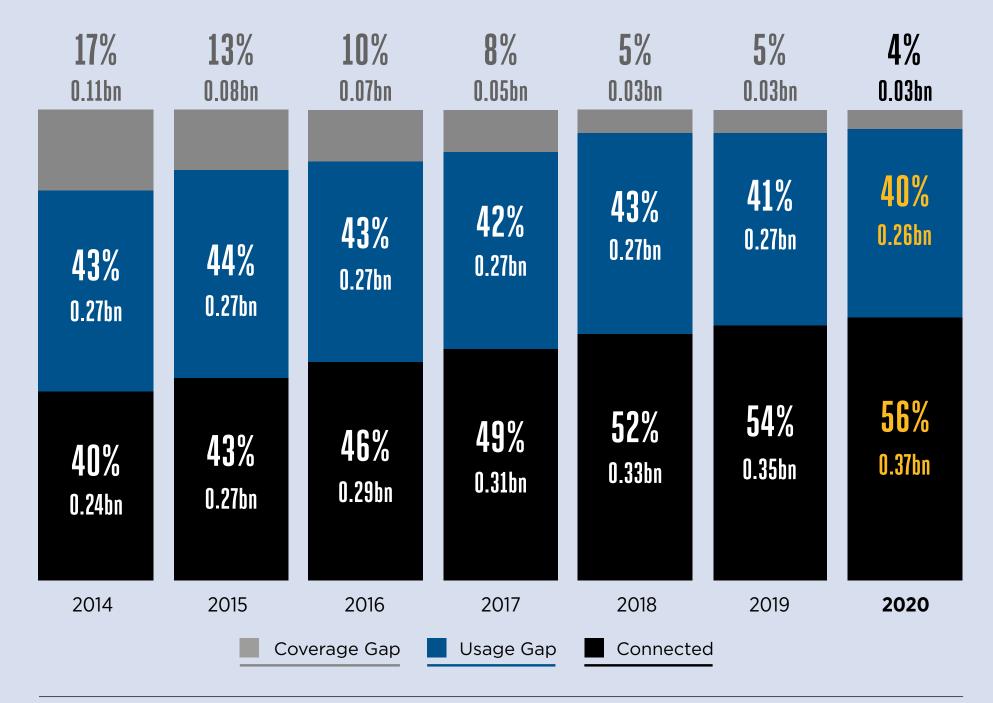
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### **Mobile internet connectivity in Latin America and Caribbean:** Connected, coverage gap and usage gap statistics





Source: GSMA Intelligence. 'Usage gap' refers to populations that live within the footprint of a mobile broadband network but who are not using mobile internet. 'Coverage gap' refers to populations that do not live within the footprint of a mobile broadband network (3G or above).

NB: totals may not add up to 100% due to rounding.



 With 260 million people covered but not connected, the usage gap is 10 times the size of the coverage gap.



#### **Mobile internet connectivity in Latin America and Caribbean:** Coverage and download speed statistics



3G	4G	<b>5G</b>	
COVERAGE	COVERAGE	COVERAGE	DOWNLOAD SPEEDS
<u>83%</u> 2014	<u>31% 2014</u>	<b>0%</b> 2014	<u>3.3 Mbps 2014</u>
<u>87% 2015</u>	<u>49% 2015</u>	<mark>0%</mark> 2015	5.4 Mbps 2015
<u>90% 2016</u>	<u>61% 2016</u>	<mark>0%</mark> 2016	<b>7.8</b> Mbps 2016
<u>92% 2017</u>	<u>76% 2017</u>	<u>0% 2017</u>	<b>9.3</b> Mbps 2017
<u>95% 2018</u>	<u>81% 2018</u>	<mark>0%</mark> 2018	<b>10.6</b> Mbps 2018
<u>95% 2019</u>	<u>85% 2019</u>	<mark>0%</mark> 2019	12.2 Mbps 2019
<u>96% 2020</u>	<u>87% 2020</u>	<u>4% 2020</u>	14.2 Mbps 2020



 4G coverage has almost trebled in last six years and is getting close to the level of 3G coverage.



### **Mobile internet connectivity in Latin America and Caribbean:** Affordability statistics in LMICs



COST OF					
<b>1GB</b> as a % of monthly GDP per capita	2.1%	2.1%	1.9%	2.3%	3.0%
COST OF					
\$ 5GB as a % of monthly GDP per capita	5.6%	4.1%	4.4%	3.9%	3.2%
COST OF					
Cheapest internet -enabled device as a % of monthly GDP per capita	10.4%	8.6%	11.7%	9.4%	12.7%
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020



 Large contractions in the economy due to the COVID-19 pandemic have caused affordability of internet-enabled handsets and 1GB of data to worsen.



The GSMA represents the interests of mobile operators worldwide, uniting more than 750 operators with nearly 400 companies in the broader mobile ecosystem, including handset and device makers, software companies, equipment providers and internet companies, as well as organisations in adjacent industry sectors. The GSMA also produces the industryleading MWC events held annually in Barcelona, Los Angeles and Shanghai, as well as the Mobile 360 Series of regional conferences.

For more information, please visit the GSMA corporate website at www.gsma.com

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#### **GSMA Connected Society**

The Connected Society programme works with the mobile industry, technology companies, the development community and governments to increase access to and adoption of mobile internet, focusing on underserved population groups in developing markets.

For more information, please visit www.gsma.com/connected-society

To get in touch with the Connected Society team, please email connectedsociety@gsma.com

## Intelligence

GSMA Intelligence is the definitive source of global mobile operator data, analysis and forecasts, and publisher of authoritative industry reports and research. Our data covers every operator group, network and MVNO in every country worldwide — from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe. It is the most accurate and complete set of industry metrics available, comprising tens of millions of individual data points, updated daily.



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