



The State of Mobile Internet Connectivity 2023

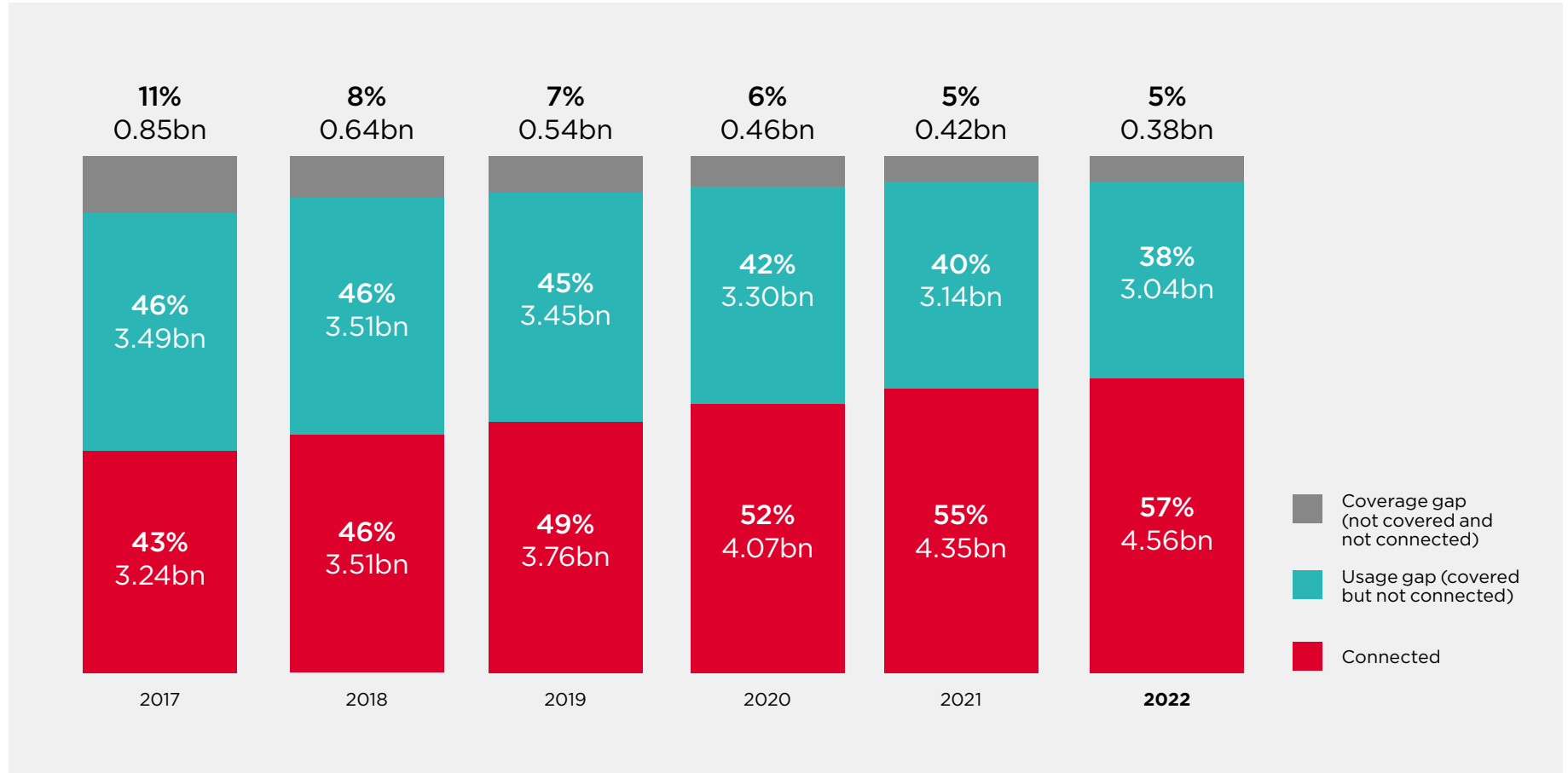
Global key trends

Global mobile internet connectivity

→ In 2022, 200 million additional people started using mobile internet, with 57% of the population now using mobile internet. However, the growth rate at which people are adopting mobile internet slowed in 2022.

→ 5% of the world's population – almost 400 million people – are still not covered by a mobile broadband network.

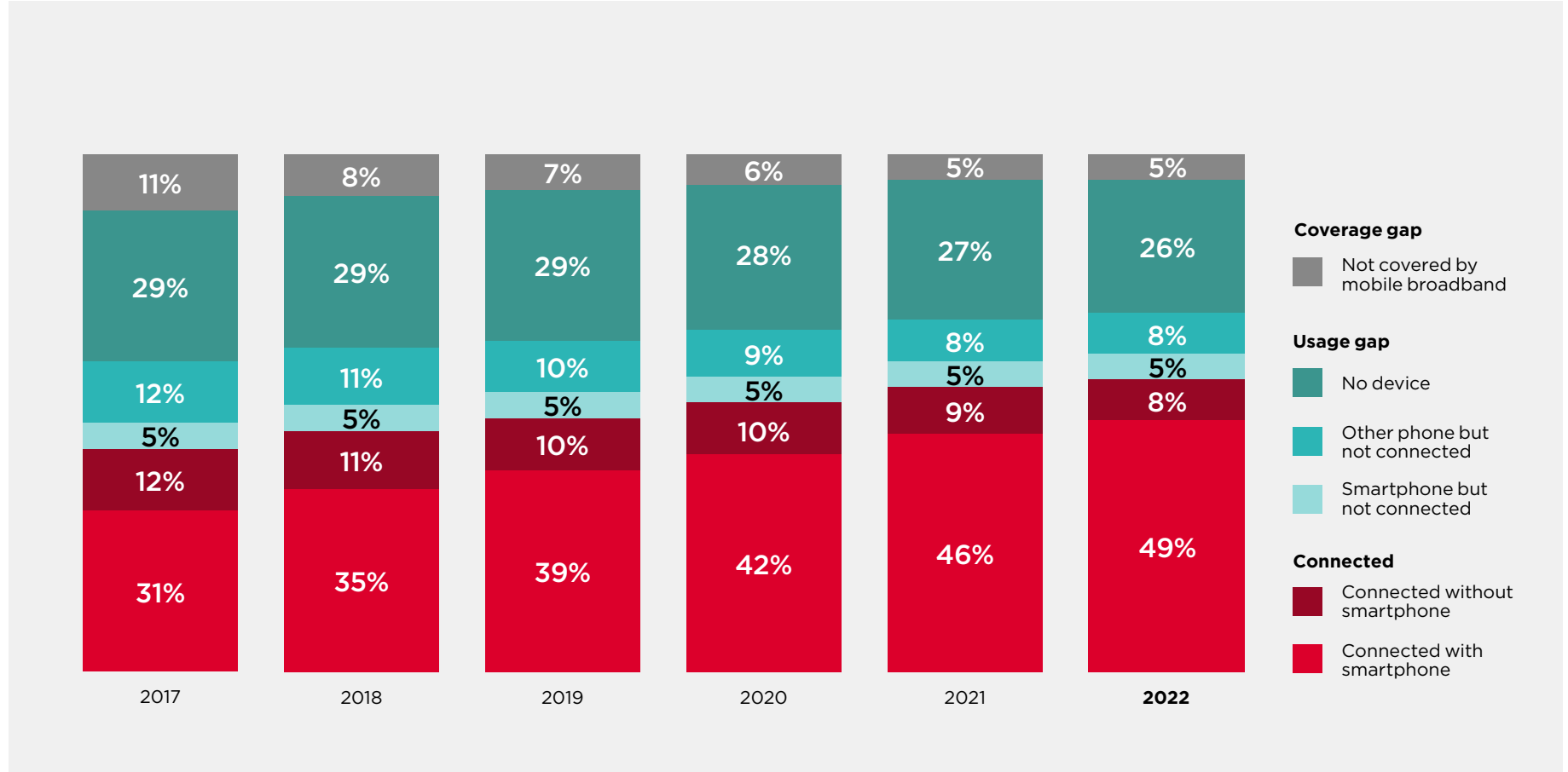
→ 38% of the world's population – 3 billion people – are not using mobile internet despite living in areas with mobile broadband coverage. This usage gap remains almost eight times the size of the coverage gap.



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.

Global mobile internet connectivity breakdown

- At the end of 2022, 49% of the global population was using mobile internet on a smartphone.
- Yet 350 million smartphone owners – 5% of the global population – were not using mobile internet.
- 8% of the global population were accessing the internet via a feature phone, equivalent to roughly 600 million people.
- Around two-thirds of those covered by mobile broadband but not using it (i.e. the usage gap) have no mobile device.



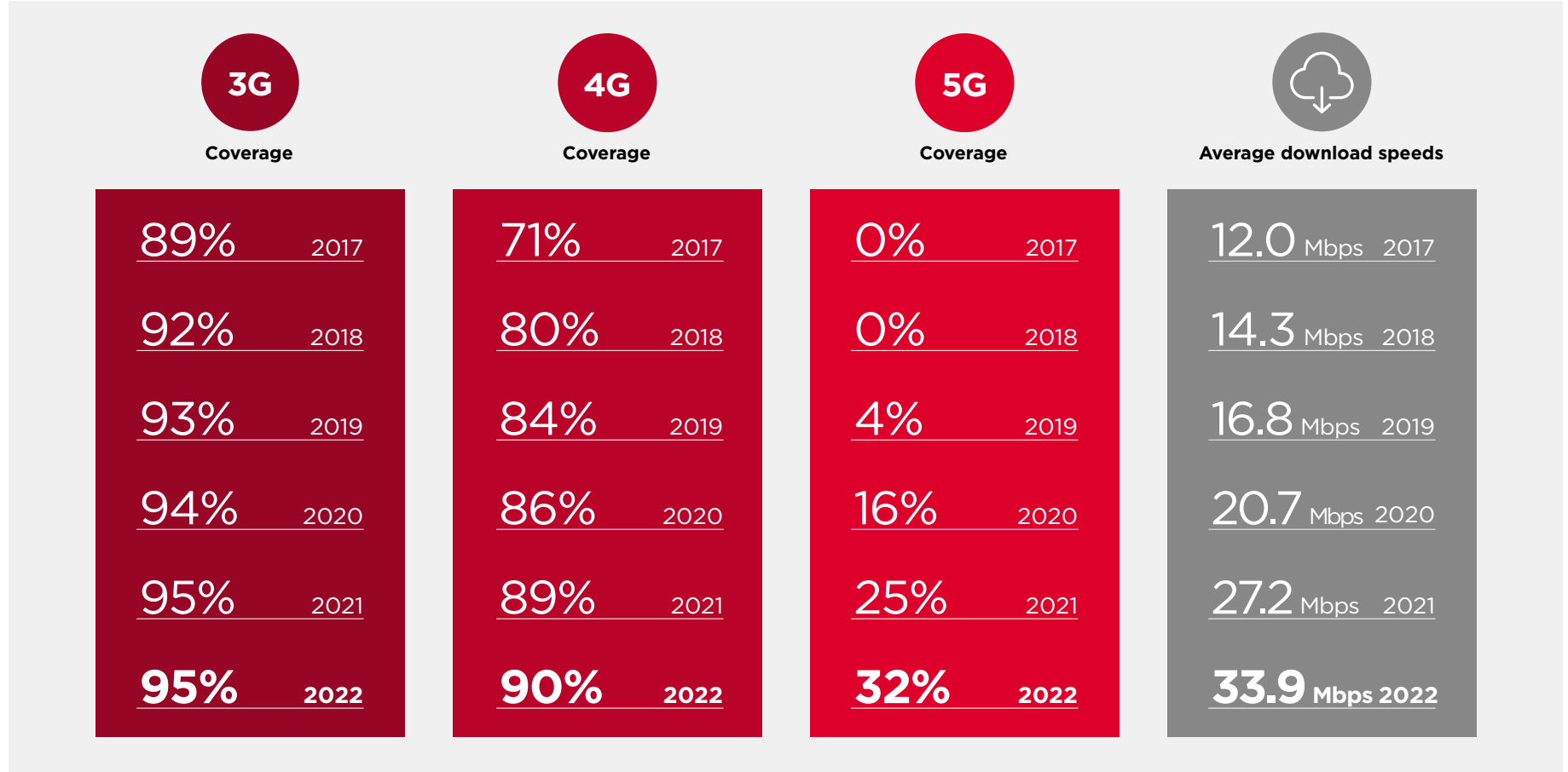
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Global coverage and download speeds

→ At the end of 2022, 32% of the global population – equivalent to 2.6 billion people – were covered by a 5G network.

→ The gap between 3G coverage and 4G coverage continues to narrow, having decreased from 18% in 2017 to 5% in 2022.

→ Average download speeds have almost tripled in the last five years, from 12.0Mbps in 2017 to 33.9Mbps in 2022.

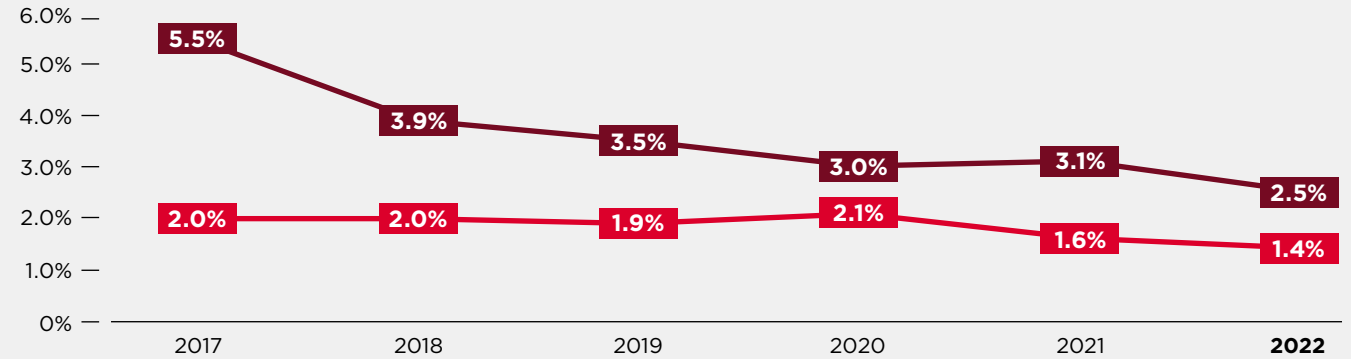


Affordability of data plans and cheapest internet-enabled handsets across low- and middle-income countries

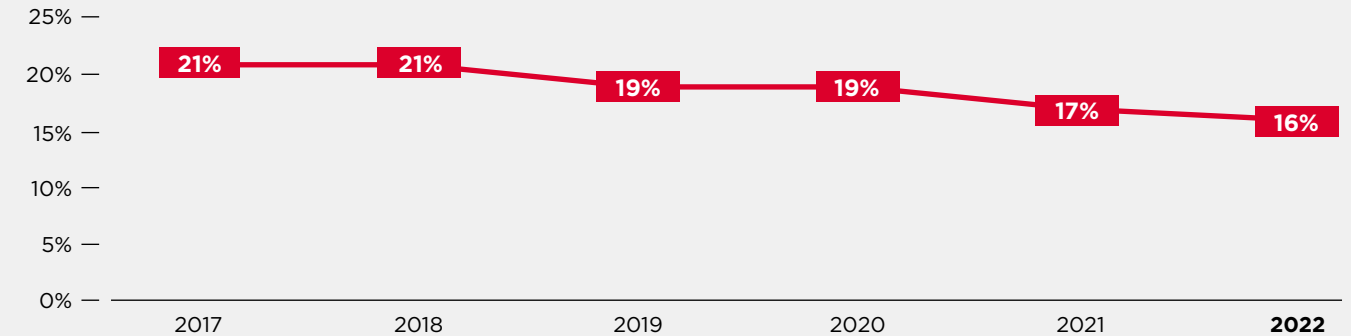
- In 2022, the affordability of data continues to improve across most regions.
- Globally, the affordability of an entry-level internet-enabled handset has reduced since 2017 but remained relatively unchanged in 2022 at 16% of monthly income.

Cost of 1GB and 5GB of data as % of monthly GDP per capita

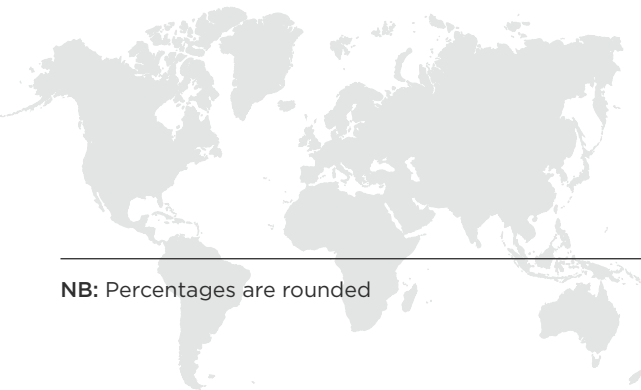
— 1GB
— 5GB



Cost of cheapest internet-enabled handset as % of monthly GDP per capita

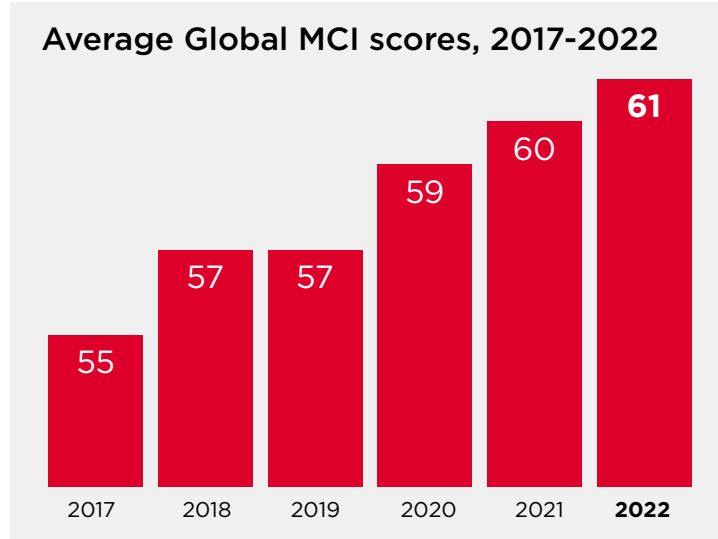


NB: Percentages are rounded



Global Mobile Connectivity Index scores

The **Mobile Connectivity Index (MCI)** measures the performance of 170 countries against the four key enablers of mobile internet adoption: infrastructure; affordability; consumer readiness; and content and services. The index is built up through 32 indicators feeding into 11 dimensions that are aggregated to give a score for four enablers. Scores fall within a range of 0-100.



Countries at the top of the MCI in 2022

1	Singapore
2	Switzerland
3	Denmark
4	Australia
5	Finland



<https://www.mobileconnectivityindex.com/>

GSMA

The GSMA is a global organisation unifying the mobile ecosystem to discover, develop and deliver innovation foundational to positive business environments and societal change. Our vision is to unlock the full power of connectivity so that people, industry and society thrive. Representing mobile operators and organisations across the mobile ecosystem and adjacent industries, the GSMA delivers for its members across three broad pillars: Connectivity for Good, Industry Services and Solutions and Outreach. This activity includes advancing policy, tackling today's biggest societal challenges, underpinning the technology and interoperability that make mobile work and providing the world's largest platform to convene the mobile ecosystem at the MWC and M360 series of events.

We invite you to find out more at [gsma.com](https://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/connectedsociety

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

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GSMA Intelligence

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GSMA Intelligence is relied on by leading operators, vendors, regulators, financial institutions and third-party industry players, to support strategic decision-making and long-term investment planning. The data is used as an industry reference point and is frequently cited by the media and by the industry itself. Our team of analysts and experts produce regular thought-leading research reports across a range of industry topics.

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